



# *Straight Talk*



A newsletter of life and ministries at St. James Episcopal Church

Dec 15, 2017

*In this issue:*

3rd Advent- "A blessed new year"  
Bishop Hayashi's Christmas Message  
Bishop Curry's Christmas Message  
Search Committee  
Bake Sale This Sunday!  
Feast of St. Nicholas  
Sub For Santa "Operation Chimney Drop"  
Diocesan Christmas Event  
A Night of Mexican Christmas Traditions & Tamales  
St. James Calendar

***Advent 3 - Perhaps you are struggling with an Advent 'spirit' - getting caught up in the 'season' of lists, purchases, crowds and traffic. But know there's an 'Advent Conspiracy' - a way to savor this time of year and have a most wonderful Christmas (and life).  
Take a look:***

## [Advent Conspiracy Journal](#)

**Here are a few Advent resources:**  
[A quirky Advent calendar](#) [Intro to Advent](#)

[Advent in 2 Minutes](#)  
[Advent Word-a daily reflection during Advent](#)  
[Advent For Families](#)

---

## **Bishop Hayashi's Advent Message For You**

Bishop Scott B. Hayashi shares a message for the holy season of Advent. As uncertainty abounds, he urges us to adhere closely to God and rise above the ongoing turmoil. He encourages reflection and prayer as we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas.



[Click here for the Bishop's Advent message.](#)

---



Click here for  
**Bishop Curry's Christmas 2017**  
**Message**

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/presiding-bishop-currys-christmas-message-2017>

---

## Search Committee

### *Prayer for the search for our next Rector*

*Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. James.  
Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our parish.*

*May our new spiritual leader be one who is an upright  
and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.*

*We ask your direction and guidance for the Search Committee,  
our vestry and wardens who shall choose candidates and our next rector.*

*Grant them perception, faithfulness and joy,  
so that they may hear your voice in all their deliberations.  
And, grant us all the desire and the ability to truly hear each other  
and those to whom we have entrusted this process.*

*Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.*

*Come Holy Spirit.*

*We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

---

## Bake Sale!

It is that time of year again! The Christmas Bake Sale is **Sunday, December 17th**. Please bake your favorite holiday treats and bring



them to church...and bring your checkbook so you can buy something for yourself. If you want to exchange Christmas treats with friends and neighbors but you don't want to bake, this is a perfect opportunity! The Christmas Bake Sale benefits St James outreach efforts.

---

## **Feast of St. Nicholas (AKA: Barry Wirth in shorts)**



Barry Wirth delivered his annual message, dressed as St. Nicholas. This year he donned shorts and a Hawaiian shirt to highlight our need to follow St. Nicholas' giving example all through the year...not just when we see the usual outward symbols of his attire. His message is clear, give and love continually, not just during this season.

---



## **Sub For Santa "Operation Chimney Drop"**

Thank you to everyone at St. James for your generous support of this project. After running out of tickets, because of your good hearts, we had to add more children to help! It was a banner year!



## Christmas at St. Mark's Tower and St. Mark's Millcreek

Diocesan staff is collecting Christmas gifts for the residents of St. Mark's Tower and St. Mark's Millcreek, federally subsidized apartments owned by the Episcopal Management Corporation. The residences provide physically disabled and low income seniors 62 and older affordable housing in a comfortable, spiritually uplifting setting.

If you would like to contribute, please contact Monica by December 15th:  
[mdaly@episcopal-ut.org](mailto:mdaly@episcopal-ut.org) or 801-322-4131.

### Gifts Suggestions

Clothing Items: Mittens/gloves of all kinds, socks, scarves, hats, small blankets.

Money Donations: Rev. Susan Toone, Chaplain, will use money donations to purchase Smith gift cards for residents.

Your Time : Join (at the Tower) on **December 18, 10 am**, to visit with the residents.

Business Donations: Many businesses generously donate items during the Christmas season. If you want to arrange a donation from a

business,  
see Monica for a Thank You/Tax ID form.

---

## Mexican Christmas Traditions-An Invitation

You are cordially invited to Iglesia Episcopal de San Esteban, 4615 S 3200 W, West Valley City, to hear The Most Rev. Carlos Touché-Porter (Bishop Carlos), from our companion diocese in Mexico, talk about Mexican Christmas traditions.

Enjoy homemade tamales and a children's piñata following the presentation.

**DATE: Saturday, December 23, 2017**

**TIME: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**PLACE: Iglesia Episcopal de San Esteban  
4615 S 3200 W  
West Valley City UT 84119**

*RSVP: By Wednesday, December  
20th: [sanesteban1@aol.com](mailto:sanesteban1@aol.com)*



Margaret Metcalfe

---



More food for the pantry from LDS neighbors! Tis' the season!

Donations of ziploc bags (gallon, quart, sandwich) are needed in our church kitchen. Thank you!



## The Week Ahead at St. James

Dec 16	Saturday	12 noon	Food Pantry Restocking <i>*Special date because of Christmas</i>
Dec 17	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship-3rd Advent
		9 am	Church School & Teen Forum
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour-Special farewell & thank you to new Arizonan, Debby Carapezza
		1 pm	Food Pantry Distribution-Volunteers Welcome (13+ ages)! <i>* Special date because of Christmas</i>
Dec 18	Monday	5:30 pm	EFM Group-Common Room

Dec 19	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
		6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting-Office
Dec 20	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		7 pm	Search Committee-Office
Dec 21	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal

### **The Following Week**

Dec 24	Sunday	9 am	Worship-4th Advent
		5 pm	Worship - Family Service
		10 pm	Hymn Sing & Festive Eucharist
Dec 25	Monday	9 am	Worship
			Office Closed Today
Dec 26	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee- Common Room
Dec 27	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		7 pm	Search Committee-Office
Dec 28	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal

### **Christmas Services**

**Sunday, Dec 24: Advent 4 - One morning service at 9 am**

**Christmas Eve - Family Service at 5 pm**

**Christmas Eve - Festive Eucharist, Hymn singing 10 pm; Worship at 10:30 pm**

**Monday, Dec 25: Christmas Day - One service at 9 am**



Click the links below:

**St. James Website**  
**National Episcopal Church Website**  
**Utah Episcopal Diocese Website**  
**150th Anniversary Website**  
**Utah Diocese Newsletter**

---

Straight Talk is published weekly. Please submit your articles ideas and photos to [wendy@stjamesutah.com](mailto:wendy@stjamesutah.com) by Wednesday noon.

We appreciate your input on the newsletter.

Wendy Ormsby, editor / Carol Gentner, editor's editor