



Koinonia

"Christian fellowship or communion, with God or, more commonly, with fellow Christians."

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

October 5, 2018

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Pastoral Care Update

St. James' deacons and rector will be at Clergy Conference this Sunday afternoon through Tuesday. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please contact our Senior Warden, Debbie Matticks at (801) 597-1776 or deborahmatticks@gmail.com. Thank you!

Welcome to this edition of Koinonia!

What?

St. James is entering a new season and, in consultation with church leaders, this is a good time to embrace a new newsletter name to honor the change.

The previous name was very important for clarification of parish identity and leadership. St. James has done great work to bring those goals forth and create a healthy culture with excellent communication, transparency, and broader church participation. That work leads us to *Koinonia*.



Koinonia (koy-nohn-ee'-ah) is a biblical Greek word that is used 19 times in the New Testament, meaning fellowship, sharing, and participation. I see koinonia strongly demonstrated at Sunday's liturgies, in the support of our office volunteers, when parishioners come over to clean the kitchen and repair the shed, by those who harvest the garden and run the Food Bank, through the fellowship and community that occur in the women's group, men's group, and teen forum, and by the welcome that St. James shares with 12-Step groups, the LDS home school community, and the grief group that began meeting here for the next seven weeks and will return in the spring.

Carol Gentner told me that St. James used to have Koinonia dinners, so this name change connects with our parish history.

You may remember the first time I wrote to you and shared from the First Chapter of Philippians: *"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing (koinonia) in the gospel from the first day until now."* (verses 3-5)

Thank you, all, for the ways you participate to make the New Testament values of koinonia alive here and now at St. James and in our larger community.

God's blessings,
Father Christopher

P.S. If you are interested in learning more, please check out this link: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/nas/koinonia.html>

Vestry Corner

Dear St. James Family--

Now (while we are all collectively breathing a sigh of relief that Fr. Christopher is with us) is a great time to gear up for the future! We are heading into our annual stewardship campaign to prepare the budget process for 2019. Keep in mind that stewardship is not only financial, encouraged to give our time and talent as well - Be thinking about where you can give!



but we are

Debbie Matticks--Sr Warden

Dear Parishioners,

This week we begin our spiritual journey of Stewardship. It is an all-year event really and has so many different missions. Each Sunday for the next few weeks, we will be listening to many parishioners who tell their story of why they are at St. James, their journey here, and why they believe it is important to give. Our Fall Pledge campaign is part of our ability to do so many wonderful things for our community and for our own parish. Our beautiful church and grounds are a resource to many beyond our services on Sunday. Please consider what you can give as a financial pledge as we continue on this remarkable journey together.



Thank you all, so very much.

Tim Burkett & Tom Harrison Stewardship Co-chairs

Rector's Thoughts

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NRSV)

Years ago, when I ministered with homeless people in inner-city Washington, D.C., my supervisor Rhoda told me, "You can't just talk the talk, you've got to walk the walk." That, along with the Scripture passage above, inform my understanding of stewardship.



I see St. James living out the daily values of the Gospel, through pastoral care, outreach to the larger community, religious education, a commitment to people of all ages, meaningful music and worship, and making the building available for many reasons, including education, St. James Food Bank, and 12-Step meetings. These are some of the reasons I am going beyond talking the talk to walking the walk of making a personal pledge during this Stewardship Campaign.

I invite you to join me supporting the work of the Holy Spirit through St. James Episcopal Church in Midvale, Utah.

Faithfully, in Christ,
Father Christopher Szarke
Rector



A Blessing of the Animals

The Annual Blessing of the Animals will be in St. James Parish Hall at **9 am Sunday, October 7th**. Please bring your pet, companion, and working animals. You are welcome to bring photos of animals that are difficult to transport. You are also welcome to bring photos, collars, and other remembrances of deceased

animals for a memorial blessing.

Animals are welcome to attend the 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. liturgies. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors. All animals are welcome, regardless of the religious practice -- or no religious practice -- of their humans.

This date is the Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, who is known for his love of animals.

Games Night for Adults!

When: **Friday, Oct. 12 at 6:00 pm**

Where: **Parish Hall**

Hosts: **Nancy & Ric Tanner
Preston & Sandy Motes**



Our hosts will be providing ham. Please let them know what you would like to bring-- appetizers, salads, potato dishes, vegetables, bread, desserts, and game snacks. Thank you!

Our Garden of Eatin'!

It is great to have Petey and Mac McKnight back in Utah and joining us at St. James for a variety of reasons. One of the many.... they are working hard day after to day to make sure nothing goes to waste as the Garden of Eatin' blooms all at once. Day after day they are picking peppers, tomatoes, tomatillos, squash and zucchini. It is all headed to the St James food pantry for distribution. Thank you!





Light The Night Walk

October 13, 2018

5 pm

Salt Lake City, UT

Liberty Square Park

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light The Night Walk funds treatments that are saving the lives of patients today. LLS is making cures happen by providing patient support services, advocating for lifesaving treatments and pioneering the most promising cancer research anywhere. And it's all happening now. Not someday, but today.

Friends, families, and co-workers form fundraising teams, and consumers help by donating at retail outlets. These efforts culminate in inspirational evening walks in nearly 200 communities across North America.

[Click here for more information on their website.](#)

Youth Ministry Happening Event 2018



When: Friday, November 30th at 7 pm until Sunday, December 2nd at Noon.

For: Senior High Youth (Grades 09-12)

Registration Fee: \$65 (Registration closes on Monday, November 26th)

What is "Happening - A Christian Experience"?

Happening, is a renewal weekend for high school youth. It is unique because it is a retreat primarily led by teenagers for teenagers. It is an inspirational retreat, full of music, discussion, surprises, laughter and new friends.

Please visit camptuttle.org website under registration tab or [click here](#). If you have attended a previous Happening event, you are eligible to be a youth leader. Please contact Karen Gleeson to be a part of this awesome event! kgleeson@episcopal-ut.org or 801-322-4131.

The week ahead at St. James

Oct 7	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Blessing of the Animals
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
Oct 9	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Rm
Oct 10	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
		5:30 pm	Finance Meeting-Office
Oct 11	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
Oct 12	Friday	6 pm	Games Night-Parish Hall Hosts: Tanners & Motes
Oct 13	Saturday	Noon	Food Bank Delivery/Restock

The Following Week

Oct 14	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen's Forum
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
Oct 16	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
		6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting-Office
Oct 17	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
Oct 18	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary



Click the links below:

St. James Website
National Episcopal Church Website
Utah Episcopal Diocese Website
Utah Diocese Newsletter

Straight Talk is published weekly. Please submit your articles ideas and photos to wendy@stjamesutah.com by Wednesday noon.

We appreciate your input on the newsletter.

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