



Koinonia

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

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

December 7, 2018

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Reminder:

Games Night FOR ALL!

This Friday, Dec 7 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall.

Hosts: Clive & Norma Oliver

Come for FUN! You deserve it!!



St. Nicholas this Sunday

Thank you to Barry Wirth, who has arranged for St. Nicholas of Myra to visit and preach at the 8 and 10 a.m. liturgies at St. James, the closest Sunday to his Feast Day on December 6th. This is a long-time beloved tradition at St. James.

For more information about St. Nicholas, please click the link below:
[click here](#)

Vestry Corner

Happy Advent to all! I hope you have been able to take some quiet contemplation time during the rush of this busy season - seems to get worse every year!

While you are contemplating, please, if you haven't already, consider getting your pledge card in and hopefully increase your pledge as well. We have so many wonderful things we could be doing on top of just keeping the building up and running! Think of the programs we could run! We could do more for our youth and we could provide more opportunities for Christian Education for all ages. As of this writing we are at 64% of our dollar goal and 69% of our pledger goal. Our total is \$192,973. IF we get in all the pledges that are outstanding AND if you increase your pledge just a little, we can make that \$275,000 goal! Remember, every little bit helps!



Please feel free to contact us at the confidential pledge email of pledges@stjamesutah.com

- You may make your pledge here
- You may tell us that you are not making a pledge at this time
- You may ask questions!

Either way, we would like to know - this email is completely confidential - only the pledge recorder has access to it so privacy is assured. And remember in Advent to take a breath, take some time...and rejoice in the coming season!



Debbie Matticks
Sr. Warden

Rector's Thoughts

One of the aspects of St. James that I particularly appreciate is our wide age range. We are blessed to have founding members who have been with us since 1963 -- and earlier before St. James became a mission of All Saints.

At the other end of the spectrum, we have a lot of energy from our young families and children. The photo to the right was taken at last Sunday's 10 a.m. liturgy while the photo below is from a recent Meet the Rector dinner at the home of Angela and Louie Steinbach and their family. As you may imagine, it was a lively evening!



I've seen, in some parishes, where a focus on "bringing in young families" leads to ignoring the needs of parishioners at other stages of life, especially when people become homebound because of health. It may also have a consequence of ignoring the young families and children that are already present.

The Vestry meeting last month included a process called Appreciative Inquiry, where we identified the things that go well and how we may add positive contributions to where we are faithful in ministry. Our parishioner, David James, who is one of the people who lead Teen Forum, was present and shared from his perspective. David then brought the Appreciative Inquiry process to the youth to ask them the same questions. He met with me this week to

share the feedback. I'm excited to be reminded about the faithfulness and commitment of our youth and consider how the Vestry and all of us may minister with our young leaders.

My commitment is to keep connected to the youth and their families, the adult leaders who minister with them, to bring their ideas and perspectives to the Vestry (including at our Vestry Retreat early in 2019), and to affirm the full membership of all our parishioners -- including those who are homebound, all ages, and recognizing that we come from all family backgrounds, including single, married, partnered, divorced, separated, and widowed. Each of us make up an essential part of the Body of Christ at St. James.

Thank you for keeping the ideas coming forward for ways to minister with parishioners of all ages and backgrounds, for actively participating in leadership and ministry, how we support all who are present while welcoming people into faith community, and for your loving care of one another.

Advent blessings,

Father Christopher



The Happening Happened





The lower photo includes the two St. James youth, Preston Palmer & William Steinbach, who participated for the first time (and makes them eligible to be youth leaders next time), Bishop Scott Hayashi, diocesan youth ministry staff Karen Gleeson, the Rev. Jennifer Tucker of Camp Tuttle, and St. James adult leaders, Terry Palmer, Kim Smart, and Fr. Christopher.

* * * *

The Happenings Youth Event took place this past weekend at St. James. The kids spent 2 nights and 3 days using our building to host their event. It was a success! They left a sweet thank you note (we will post it on the bulletin board) to us.

The Happening Youth Event was started in the 1970's by a group of young people. These events now happen around the globe. They are events planned and presented by youth, with help from their adult clergy leaders. They meet and hear talks to strengthen their relationship with God. They have activities, food, fun, and get very little sleep.

A lot of work goes into these weekends but all involved say it's something they look forward to every year.

If you'd like more information on the Happening Youth Event click [here](#).

P.S. The two cooks, who have been involved with Happening and other diocesan events for several years, described St. James kitchen as "the cleanest and most organized in the diocese." Thank you to all of the Kitchen Angels who have been diligent with your ongoing care of the kitchen and pantry.

Commissioning of a New Ministry

Priscilla Astling, who joined St. James this fall, recently began a volunteer position with the Spiritual Care team as a volunteer at Huntsman Cancer Institute. She visits patients on the two in-patient floors once a week for 3 hours under the direction of the two regular chaplains to help them with their spiritual service. Priscilla attended several weeks of training from the chaplains. She also received training from and am a part of the local Community of Hope which meets at the Cathedral of St. Mark's once a month.



Priscilla writes, "I respectfully request prayers of support from St. James as my community of faith in this lay ministry to the sick at Huntsman."

As part of St. James support for Priscilla's new ministry, we will include a formal commissioning with blessings and prayers during this coming Sunday's 8 a.m. liturgy.



Children's Christian Education

Angela Steinbach and other parishioners have led Children's Christian Education using the Godly Play curriculum in recent years. Angela will continue in this leadership role through the end of this school year, but we are in need of more people interested in substituting or leading this ministry. Many of you have stepped

up to volunteer, Thank you! We just have a few more spots to fill.

If you are interested in offering yourself to this ministry, please contact Angela or our Vestry liaison, Stacie Kulp. They will give you information for participating in this during this year, receiving training to be a leader during the next school year after Angela completes her term, or have additional ideas about how to support this ministry. Thank you!

Winter is Here... So Let's Think About Spring!

The spring camping outing has been scheduled.
Here are the details:



We are headed to Capitol Reef, staying at Wonderland RV Park the weekend of **June 1 & 2.**

The website is <https://capitolreefrvpark.com/> . There is no way to reserve particular sites online so a telephone call is required (435-425-3665). The park is wide open right now for those dates. Many of us will book Thursday May 30 through Sunday night June 2. The park has pull through sites (\$48/night) and back-in sites (\$40/night) It also has tent sites and cabins.

So, everyone is responsible for making their own reservations. If we reserve in the middle of the park, we should all be fairly close to each other. Pull through site #'s 5-9, back-in 22-26. The tent sites and cabins are in the middle as well.

The park will fill up, so reserve as soon as you can.

The week ahead at St. James

Dec 8	Saturday	Noon	Food Bank Delivery & Restock
Dec 9	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship-Advent 2
		9 am	Church School & Teen Forum
		9 am	Coffee Hour in the Narthex
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall
		12:45 pm	Food Bank Distribution
Dec 11	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Rm
Dec 12	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target

Dec 13 Thursday 7 pm Choir Practice-Sanctuary

The Following Week

Dec 16	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship
		9 am	Church School & Teen's Forum
		9 am	Coffee Hour in the Narthex
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall
Dec 18	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
Dec 19	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
Dec 20	Thursday		Choir Practice-Sanctuary

Around the Diocese



Christmas Food Giveaway Saturday, December 22nd 10 am-2 pm

If you know someone who may need food, let them know about this opportunity at Rowland Hall School, 970 E. 800 S., Salt Lake City.

They must bring ID for ALL family members, no exceptions. More information can be found on the window by the entrance of our St. James Food Bank.



Click the links below:

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

Koinonia 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