

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The SEASONS Of St. James

News Features:

- Associate Rector Goodbye
- Summer Speaker Series
- Parents of Youth Asked for Input



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EXPANDING

By The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt, Rector

As we say farewell to The Rev. Sarah Stewart and experience a growth of expression in our liturgical language, I feel called to pause and give thanks for the beautiful way God continues to be at work in my life and among us. The fruits borne by the variety of clergy serving St. James, and the loving, open-hearted nature of our congregation are seen in the expansion of our horizons. Perhaps paradoxically, stretching ourselves comes with belonging. We can't see too far into the future, but as life's changes and chances appear for us, we are resilient because we are not stuck in our ways. We feel the promise of possibility when things change because our history tells us we secure, and we know by faith that God is perfectly present, whether bidden or not.

If you've been to church since Easter, you've worshiped with the Episcopal Church's approved use of expansive language in liturgy. If you're not sure whether you recognized a change or not, let me suggest a few things to look for which might make this shift easier to identify, because in many ways very little has changed.

Mainly you will notice a breadth of expression of God's qualities. God is still almighty, and God is also ever-loving and all merciful. God has been recognized as powerful through the use of words like: king, kingdom, and lord. Our new language also recognizes that God's rule of peace, mercy and freedom are divine leadership attributes. We include these alternate descriptions of God because they do not limit us to the use of male pronouns nor keep us bound to the notion that God rules by physical force or prowess. God is great in more ways than we can count.

For me, a couple of places in the service where I really have to concentrate are at the announcement of the gospel when the one proclaiming the Word of God proclaims: "The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ..." Changing what we have known by heart is not necessarily easy, even when the change is desired. You might be like me during a few lines of the Nicene Creed. I have to pay close attention to my bulletin while saying: "For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human." Near the conclusion we now say: "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets..."

These changes move us from [a stagnant?] habitual belief to the practice of theology which is alive and more likely to set the world on fire. Believing that God is leading us into new ideas, expressions and ways of being is what gives hope and joy to our mission ... and makes all things possible for the church of the future ... The Church just a little bit further down the road. AMEN.

WITH US ALWAYS

By Sarah C. Stewart, Associate Rector

Lofting a blow-up choose-your-adventure-in-the-biblical-story ball was the easiest part of our lawn games that Sunday morning. We watched expectantly as the rainbow-striped sphere descended, into the hands of a little one. Waiting for a precocious young reader to proclaim our assignment, I wondered: Would we wish it had been a hot potato tossed around instead of a biblical challenge? Would the kids recall the narrative’s details? The instructions dared us: Act out the story. “How can we do that? Have any of you ever floated up into the clouds?” I asked, inviting their creativity. I didn’t believe the kids could help me much with our gravity-defying project. But as we landed on lifting up the smallest, a mini-Jesus among us, to enact the physical ascension of Jesus into heaven—while we, gobsmacked disciples, stared upward—I felt the imaginative expansiveness of the moment.

Ignatius of Loyola might not have been the first to commend this playful manner of seeing our way into the biblical story. But his method of praying with Scripture (poetically called “imagination contemplation”) has helped generations of Christians to lay hold of its beautifully embodied wisdom: as followers of the Risen Christ, we are swept up into Jesus’ continually unfolding story, which often carries us to places we scarcely imagine. Sometimes I resist this life-giving reality. Jesus’ mission, entrusted to his stunned friends after his ascension into heaven and fueled by the Holy Spirit’s advent at Pentecost, disrupts familiar habits and cherished connections to which I often cling. Still, the Gospel’s significant sway pulls me in, often in spite of myself, opening me to unexpected adventures that unfold whenever I am willing to see myself in that part of my Savior’s story. In those moments, my faith propels me beyond the vortex of intellectual ideas and personal pieties with a centrifugal-spiritual force that flings me into new spaces, where I rediscover Christ’s

abiding presence, with me always.

Unlike Jesus’ ascent, there are no convenient Uber clouds waiting to whisk me away this summer, in the upcoming cross-country move to my new ministry context (not even the recent tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service). I remain keenly aware of many intense emotions swirling around this season of farewell—grief about saying goodbye to this beloved community, stress in juggling layers of logistics necessary to arrive safely in Atlanta, and gratitude for the fruit of the faithful Spirit who has sustained us during these years of learning, serving, and growing together as friends and followers of Jesus. As one whose family moved often during her formative years (and who, consequently, hates moving to this day!), I never imagined exiting Wichita in quite this way. But Jesus’ lively story lingers, daring every one of us to see ourselves swept up in it. We, too, are called to act out the story, transforming every corner of our universe by boldly sharing the Good News of the Risen Christ.

I have been blessed and uplifted, during my time as a Kansas transplant and in my ministry in this diocese, by the kindness, generosity, and joy that characterizes our spiritual family at St. James. Here the awestruck wonder of gazing upward (even at our state’s stunning sunset-bedecked skies!) fades against a greater glory—the breathtaking beauty of Christ’s abiding presence, glimpsed in one another. Freed to rejoice in our enduring bonds of affection, we take courage as we surrender ourselves and our futures to the everlasting divine love that no temporal transition ever could sever or diminish. For Jesus indeed is with us always, even to the end of the age.



WELCOME TO ST. JAMES!

By The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, Assoc. Rector

I wish I had a penny for every story I’ve heard recounting visits to unfamiliar faith communities (and a dime for the many welcome materials that find a way into my hands... to date, not a chocolate bar like St. James’ among them)! Sincerely, it takes courage to be a visitor. Even more so when you hope to encounter the presence of God in a particular place. Such stories and mementos remind me that it is the people themselves—who channel genuine warmth and gentle curiosity when encountering someone new in holy spaces—who put us in touch with the sacred truth of reality: God incarnate comes among us often, especially in the faces of strangers.

Even if we don’t yet know it, we’re all welcome people. Whenever we extend a safe and caring handshake/fist bump/high five, we share God’s shalom. St. James is building a welcome team that needs you, too. We are recruiting folks to offer authentic greetings at the font after services, welcoming newcomers & visitors on behalf of St. James and fielding simple questions they may ask about our church, our building, and our community. Think of the many times you have been welcomed in new places and, in gratitude for all the welcome people who have blessed your spiritual journey, please consider participating. I promise, you won’t have to baptize anyone at the font! We’ll simply ask you to smile and be present, wearing your name tag, on your assigned Sunday (or Saturday). Please contact Diana Morton (dianamorton12@sbcglobal.net) or Helen Haskins (hhaskin@cox.net) for more details and to get involved.



CHOIR RECOGNITION

By Marlene Hallstrom

Choristers

Congratulations to these Choristers who have completed another season and received their Royal School of Church Music Awards.

- Catelyn Fletcher** - first year, light blue
- Alexis Fletcher** and **Jason Fletcher** - second year, dark blue
- Leia Pameticky** and **Aidan Petty** – third year, red
- Lauren Schmeidler** – sixth year, yellow
- William Compton** and **Talia Halley** – seventh year, loyal service award

Thank you, Choristers, for your music!



Not pictured, Aidan Petty

The Choristers include singers from grade 3 through middle school. During weekly rehearsals the Choristers learn about proper vocal technique, music reading skills, worship participation, choral literature and community building. We always welcome new members and invite others to join Choristers for the 2019-20 season. The Choristers rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:00-7:00 p.m. and sing on the second Sunday of each month and some special services.

Handbell Choir

The Handbell Choir completed the 2018-19 season on May 5. There were seven members in the group this year, including two new members, and they were able to prepare and perform music in worship about once each month. The choir rehearses on most Tuesday evenings, and new members would be welcome for the next season. A tutorial session will be offered this summer for anyone interested in learning about how to ring handbells. Please contact Marlene Hallstrom for information.

- Anne Clark**
- Bert Clark**
- Mary Druding**
- Adrienne Edwards**
- Robin Henry**
- Connie Timmons**
- Racine Zakula**



St. James Choir

The St. James Choir has once again shown its dedication to the ministry of music at St. James by providing musical leadership and choral anthems at the 10:45 serve on many Sundays and special services, September through May. Small groups and soloists from the Choir sang several times as well. Choir members are active in the life of St. James in many ways, and in addition to leading congregational singing and providing other music to adorn worship, the Choir also serves as a community of people who care for one another. Those who participated in the Choir this year are:

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Andrew Aitken | Tim Garrels | Dalton Nelson |
| Celia Blair | Mary Halley | Nancy Powers |
| Richard Bowman | Randy Harrison | Gene Rollins |
| Kenneth Breeden | Matthew Kroeker | Cheryl Schmeidler |
| Angee Carroll | Rich Milhon | Shirley Seminoff |
| Erin Compton | Kate Miller | Jacqueline Snyder |
| Rob Compton | Todd Miller | Rick Wulf |
| Adrienne Edwards | Joan Moore | |

The St. James Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 September through Pentecost. New members, high school age and older, are welcome.



2019 St. James Easter Choir

Instrumentalists

Several of our members and friends of St. James are willing and capable instrumentalists, and we are grateful for their contributions to worship throughout the year:

- Pam Young, flute; Jeanne Kroeker, oboe; Rick Milhon, clarinet; Matthew Kroeker & Jayden Brookins, saxophone; Talia Halley, trumpet; Paul McCausland, violin; Blythe Black, violin and viola; Daniel Dye, cello; Dylan Carroll, bass; Shari-lyn King, Kenneth Breeden, piano; Matthew Kroeker, piano & organ, Colin Carroll, percussion, Jane Hyde, harp, Ethan Moulds, organ.

Please take a moment to thank the members of these groups for their music. Anyone who is interested in learning more about any of these ensembles is invited to speak with Marlene Hallstrom, Director of Music at St. James. (music@stjameswichita.org or 683-5686)

Summer Music

During the summer of 2019, singers and instrumentalists are invited to share their talents during worship. Soloists and small groups are welcome. A Sunday morning choir will sing once or twice during the summer. Watch for more information in the bulletin and E-Tower. Rehearsals will be in the Music Room. Please talk with Marlene Hallstrom to volunteer.



HEALING IN THE HEARTLAND

By The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, Assoc. Rector

In 1986, the Kansas Dominican Sisters (now Dominican Sisters of Peace) decided to begin a new ministry committed to the care of the earth and to modeling sustainability. Heartland Farm was an 80 acre tract of land the sisters acquired the following year. The three Dominican Sisters—Betty Jean Goebel, Imelda Schmidt, and Roserita Weber—enlisted the help of a farm manager, and his family, to launch a community committed to healing the Earth and caring for its inhabitants.

Originally, this land in Kansas had been settled under the Homestead Act in the 1870s, when both farmhouse and barn (still in use today) were built. Over the years, two straw bale structures have been added, one a hermitage and the other a large gathering space that includes an art studio, harvest room, and meeting area. An outdoor pavilion, greenhouse, and high tunnel also have been added to Heartland Farm in order to enhance its ministry.

The 30-year history of the Heartland Farm community includes sisters, volunteers (of all ages, backgrounds, and nationalities), as well as paid staff members who strive to work together in a collaborative environment, honoring each one's gifts while working to support the communal endeavor. Currently, three Dominican Sisters of Peace, the organic farm manager and family, along with long and short-term volunteers, reside on the farm. Retreatants, like our group of young adults from St. James Wichita, come to Heartland Farm to experience the oneness with the earth that heals and sustains us on our journeys together. Members of St. James stayed with the Sisters of Peace, May 18-20 on their spring retreat.



FINDING MY DEEP GLADNESS*By Chelsea Whipple, Director of Christian Formation*

“The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” I received those words of encouragement on a simple Hallmark card from my Grandmother at my high school graduation. Little did she or I know the inner conflict that began as I wrestled with that quote. This singular quote from Frederick Buechner shaped my entire life and one that never left me. Ironically, I probably threw the card away but never forgot the quote and what it meant. I spent the next decade and a half searching for my deep gladness in my life, what I quantify as my personal calling. When I look back at my life I see the threads interweaving as I took different paths that all led me to where I am. I do not feel I am unique as I believe we all are on a journey of our own personal calling. This fall, I led a small group rightly named, Called to Life. There I was on an intentional journey, along with two other people, to search for where we felt God was calling us. Those nine months led to a lot of introspective reflecting and intentional listening to where I was being led. I started to slowly see a new way of looking at this big wide open world.

Since I graduated with my Master’s degree over eight years ago, I have been discerning a call to more education that would lead me to deeper spiritual growth. Since that time, as I continued to grow spiritually and personally, life has taken many ups and downs and twists and turns but it all led me to the same place. My deep desire to find the world’s deep hunger.

As I finally accepted my call to further my education, I immediately found a program at Fuller Theological Seminary concentrated on Spiritual Direction that opened my eyes to that deep gladness. On a whim and a prayer, I applied to the program about two months too late. They assured me that they would at least look at my qualifications and accept my application but the best they could guarantee was to be placed on the waiting list. It didn’t seem very hopeful and I really only had four days to complete the application. But there was something that kept pushing me to at least try. I spent the weekend writing more self-reflections about myself and my spirituality than I ever have and it was a struggle but opened my eyes to who I think I am compared to who I really am. It felt like the story of Jesus healing the blind man by wiping mud on his eyes and then gently washing the mud off and the person could now see. My mud on my eyes was being washed away and I could start to see clearly.

A few weeks after I sent in my application, Fuller accepted me into the actual program and I was able to bypass the waiting list. This program specifically is designed for working people already in the field of ministry to continue what we are doing and enhance how we can minister to the world. It is considered a hybrid program where for three years (or until I finish), I spend small concentrated time, not more than eleven days in California and the rest of the year is through an online module. I will continue working at St. James and using what I learned to implement here for the benefit of all of us. So now we are all on a journey together searching for each of our deep gladness.

My focus, among other things, is how we can all minister to the world and how the church can train each of us to discover our deep gladness and where the world’s deep hunger meet. Similar to Mother Sarah’s class this past Winter on ‘Finding Our Spiritual Gifts’, I hope to use this model so that each one of us discovers our God given gifts and talents to use...

...Where The World’s Hunger Meet.

Stay tuned to find out how we will each discover our unique gifts...

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING*By The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, Assoc. Rector*

We are grateful for the diverse gifts with which our young people have blessed our faith community through the years. With love and joy we congratulate this year’s graduating seniors— Dylan Carroll, Fiona Halley, Matthew Kroeker, and Abby Ottaway—knowing that the Holy One goes with you, blessing you on your way that you might be a blessing to the wider world, in all the years to come!

THE MAP YOU MAKE YOURSELF*By Jan Richardson*

You have looked
at so many doors
with longing,
wondering if your life
lay on the other side.

For today,
choose the door
that opens
to the inside.

Travel the most ancient way
of all:
the path that leads you
to the center
of your life.

No map
but the one
you make yourself.

No provision
but what you already carry
and the grace that comes
to those who walk
the pilgrim’s way.

Speak this blessing
as you set out
and watch how
your rhythm slows,
the cadence of the road
drawing you into the pace
that is your own.

Eat when hungry.
Rest when tired.
Listen to your dreaming.
Welcome detours
as doors deeper in.

Pray for protection.
Ask for guidance.
Offer gladness
for the gifts that come,
and then
let them go.

Do not expect
to return
by the same road.
Home is always
by another way,
and you will know it
not by the light
that waits for you

but by the star
that blazes inside you,
telling you
where you are
is holy
and you are welcome
here.

*From Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons
(Orlando: Wanton Gospeller Press, 2015).*

YOUTH PLANNING

Dear Friends,

What an incredible year this has been! St. James' youth again have drawn our whole faith community into new spaces, to seek the Risen Christ. It has been inspiring for all of us (volunteers and staff) who have had the privilege of nurturing these emerging leaders among us, as our young people sparked community-wide exploration of ways to expand our witness to God's inclusive love in Wichita, especially at Open Streets ICT and the PRIDE Festival.

Throughout our times together, whether at Youth Group on Wednesday nights or during Fruity Formation Sunday mornings, Holy Week/Advent/Christmas liturgies, service project traditions, trying out contemplative prayer practices like the labyrinth, or simply enjoying fellowship and fun together, we have rejoiced in the love of God that draws all of us into its generous embrace.

As we give thanks for the beauty and joy of life together in this faith community, we also are starting to plan for next year's opportunities to grow together. This summer we will bid goodbye to Mother Sarah. At the same time, we will be brainstorming with Mother Dawn, Chelsea, Deacon Jeff, and Anne, who need to know your hopes and desires for youth programming in the coming years.

Two separate listening sessions (the first for parents/advocates and the second for youth) will be hosted in the coming months, to help us all think together in this season of change. We are especially interested in a) your impressions of what your youngsters are experiencing at St. James, b) how your faith shows up day to day in family life, and c) what you want your children to get out of our parish youth programs in the coming year. We also hope to touch base about an exciting labyrinth project we are hatching as a youth-driven endeavor during next year's 100th Anniversary festivities at St. James. Your vision, passion, and energy is crucial to this conversation as we seek to adapt our youth ministries in life-giving ways.

In addition to attending these sessions (Parents/Advocates on Thursday, May 30, 7-8pm in the Lounge; Youth the weekend of August 24/25), you are invited to provide written feedback to Mother Dawn and Chelsea at formation@stjameswichita.org. Please also note, we will be seeking to forge a Youth Advisory Council, including youth, parents of young people, and other communal stakeholders, to help us shape programmatic decisions around youth at St. James in the coming years. If you have an interest in lending your efforts to this steering committee, please also convey that by email.

Our young people challenge and surprise us every day. No one appreciates that more than you, the families that nurture and guide them, especially as you encourage them to participate in the life of the church. Thank you for your commitment to their formation. Nurturing them to flourish in life is a sacred privilege for all who participate in this journey of faith together! During the past few years at St. James, we have been blessed by the many gifts and passions of these incredible young adults. Thank you for sharing them with us (and with the world) so generously!

With gratitude and love,
St. James' clergy, staff, and youth leaders

SUMMER KIDZ ZONE EVENTS

Don't forget that Children's Sunday school and Children's Chapel continue during the summer. Kids will continue in their same classes until we resume in October, so if you have a kid moving into sixth grade they are still welcome to come until September when they move up to youth group! See flyer for details.

Kidz ZONE
ST. JAMES CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Summer: June 2, July 7 & August 4
(Starts again on Oct. 6)
Preschool—5th grade

THIS SUMMER: Sunday School
Starting at 9:30am

Fishers	Seekers	Disciples
Preschool-Kindergarten	First-Third grade	Fourth-Fifth grade

Children's Chapel
Starting at 10:45am
Kids will rejoin families in Church at the Peace

WEAVING GOD'S PROMISES
for Children
A Curriculum for Children in the Episcopal Church

VBS

Blast off with the first VBS to land on Mars!

Each day, kids will go to 'Mars and Beyond' and discover the wonder of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. Beginning in our Assembly area—an outpost on Mars - they'll lift off to distant planets on special missions to collect power sources. Along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. Add to the adventure with out-of-this-world fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine!



Where? **St. James**
 When? **June 24-27**
 What time? **6-8pm**

Register at:
www.myvbs.org/stjameswichita
 Or call **683-5686**

Open to preschool through incoming
 6th grade

Questions? contact Chelsea Whipple
formation@stjameswichita.org or 683-5686

ALTAR GUILD THOUGHTS

By Crystal Barber



As the Easter season is coming to a close, I am grateful to all those people of St. James for their wonderful support. Thank you for being generous with your time in helping make this season a success from the work that is done each and every Sunday and also to the giving of money for flowers. Each and every way helps support this ministry.

I would also like to acknowledge the frontals we used during Holy Week. These were woven by our own Father Sam Criss. He has given many more than those you saw during this time and we are grateful for his talent.

On June 22 and July 20 at 9:00 A.M. in the sacristy, there will be training on all aspects of Altar Guild. Anyone interested in learning what the altar guild does or just in seeing what we do, please know that you are welcome to attend.

I am so thankful for each and every day to be able to call St. James my spiritual home. I look forward to helping keep this church a peaceful, prayerful place for people to come. It is indeed a welcoming and calming refuge for all who seek it.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT WRAP-UP**FRUITS ALIVE (IN YOU AND ME)**

By The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, Assoc. Rector

*Fruit doesn't just grow on a tree.
 It also grows in you and me.*

Early last fall, someone left an anonymous gift outside my office door—a book entitled *9 Fruits Alive: Discovering the Fruit of the Spirit*. Little did I guess how that children's board book with 3-D plastic fruit peeking out from its pages would spark our spiritual imagination here at St. James Episcopal Church. Even if College Hill hasn't officially housed orchards and vineyards, it has provided fertile soil for growing God's life in us, as we traveled this journey together.

I am deeply grateful for the enthusiastic partners with whom I have had the privilege of collaborating in this year-long formation project, inviting us all into an immersive experience of Scripture (Galatians 5:22-23). Chelsea Whipple and Maddy Bishop are women of fervent faith, whose relentless generosity cultivates many Spirit-filled blessings in our community. Theological depth and practical wisdom have shone forth in everything they do, especially their reflections on these spiritual fruits. I have learned much from my fellow laborers and for the Spirit's fruit in their lives I give hearty

thanks. Many thanks, too, to our faithful volunteers who patiently stuffed those weekly sheets in our service leaflets! Your loving labors did not go unnoticed!

This fruity formation in Christian community has yielded diverse expressions of the Spirit's deepening life in us. I've watched little choristers beaming as they belted out joyful songs. Older brothers have chosen not pummel younger siblings (impressive self-control!) Brotherly love has benched its weight in sweat equity, while gentle tears, shed together (sometimes silently) have signaled the reality that it isn't simply the sweetness of our life that cements our affection for one another. We have extended ourselves to show God's goodness in those faithful, gentle, practical kindnesses that patiently support one another through life's many changes and chances.

What I've noticed again and again this year is how nourishing the Spirit's gifts can be in our lives, when we share them. Even if we never before dared to talk about our faith, even if we didn't get around to hanging a single piece of paper fruit in witness on that foyer tree, even if we could

never make a Fruit of the Spirit Forum, each of us have embodied God's life in this community. Each has encouraged others on this life-long journey of faith. So, don't be bashful! Harvest the fruit God's Spirit has been growing in you this year—pick an apple (or three!) off the tree of your life and share life-giving nourishment like you alone can. I, for one, know my appetite is whet by this extended experience, contemplating the Fruit of the Spirit at St. James. God alone is the One who can see how these spiritual seeds will change our world. Let's simply aspire to be faithful, allowing God's precious life to flourish in you and me, one day at a time.



ADULT CLASSES & SMALL GROUPS**The Universal Christ Retreat**

By Laura Stephenson

In recent months and years it seems that themes of division, hatred, ignorance, and violence have proliferated, and maybe, some might assume, beyond what our world has experienced in centuries past. Whether this assessment is accurate perhaps we cannot know completely. However, while we experience what appears to be an increase in what we have called “evil” throughout the news and in our own backyards, it is concurrently evident that out of the darkness, healers and teachers of many spiritual traditions continue to arise. Richard Rohr is, for many, one of those lights on a hill, and thanks to the foresight and guidance of our Director of Christian Formation, Chelsea Whipple, we at St. James were able to partake in the world-changing Universal Christ Conference held by Rohr and the Center for Action and Contemplation.

The Universal Christ Conference, following motifs highlighted in Rohr’s recently published book under the same title, was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico in the final weeks before Easter when the light often seems at its darkest. The conference was live-streamed to hundreds of groups gathered throughout the United States and throughout the globe and was later made available for continued streaming in order for groups like ours to participate. On that last weekend of the Lenten season, April 12th through 14th, a small cohort of about fifteen seasoned and new parishioners at St. James attended the Universal Christ Retreat, led by Chelsea and myself. We were guided through several hours of enlivening and inspiring video teachings by Father Rohr, Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, and Dr. John Dominic Crossan. We participated in contemplative practice, including seated and walking meditations, group practices of reflection and processing, communal meals, liturgies, and prayer, and moments of profound revelation and hope.

At a time when the world seems to be deep in shadow, Father Rohr and his constituents illuminate our often clouded understanding of who the Christ is and what Christ means for us today and throughout all time. Many of us who took part in the retreat left with our eyes opened to the One Presence in Every Thing and the call of that truth implicated upon our lives to cherish, protect, and heal Every Single Thing in our world—down to the microscopic bacteria necessary for healthy, productive soil and the glory of God crying out from even the Rocks.

St. James is in possession of the videos from the Universal Christ Conference and would love to consider showing them again, if others have interest who were unable to participate this time around. Please, be in touch with Chelsea Whipple for more information.

As we chanted in one of our liturgies, “Christ is the Rock!”

**Summer Speaker Series****Going to the Least of These: Finding Christ in Everyone and Everything**

As Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew, “...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’” This summer, during the Adult forum time (most Sundays from 9:45-10:30 a.m.) we will learn in action about those that are doing this very work with “the least of these”, the most vulnerable in our community. Come join us as we listen and learn from those that work with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the prisoners, the sick, the abused children, our vulnerable earth, and what we are called to do. A schedule will be posted and sent out in our communication streams and the first speaker will be on June 16th. Mark your calendars, it will be a life-changing series.

**Small Group Leader Training**

Interested in leading a small group? If so, we are offering a small group training this summer to give you the tools and resources on what to expect; how to prepare, lead and find a topic. As we continue to offer more small groups at St. James we’d like to find and prepare leaders to do this important and life-giving work. It is open to any adult interested in leading a small group at St. James or leading a group somewhere else and especially for those discerning a call to possibly being a group leader. We have two trainings available on July 21st from 12pm-2pm or August 7th from 6pm-8pm. Because of the nature of the trainings, spots are limited and sign-ups will be available online or the Adult Education bulletin board. You won’t want to miss this unique opportunity! For more information, contact Chelsea Whipple.

BREW & BIBLE - B & B GOES ON SUMMER BREAK

Our faithful crew of young (and young at heart) adults met weekly over the last six months, at Fairmount Coffee on Friday mornings from 8:00-9:15am, to explore Scripture and questions of faith together. Led by Paul Leeker, Laura Stephens, and Jeromiah Taylor, we have had a blast, reading the Bible “fast and furious” (the way brew & Bible is meant to be!) The summer heat is kicking up and schedules are evolving. Hence, Brew & Bible will be taking “summer break” during June & July. Look for an update in the next issue of “The Seasons” to hear more about our next incarnation (day of the week/time of day for meeting & next text we will explore). As we say on our Facebook posts every week, ALL ARE WELCOME! When we return to our regular B&B rhythms, we hope to see you there!

ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD REPORT

WANTED: Legacy Society Members

By Hew Goodpasture

During April 2019 the 2018 Annual report of the Perpetual Memorial and Endowment Fund and St. James Legacy Society was published and distributed. The report includes information regarding the history of the Fund, its purpose, the policies that govern annual distributions from the Fund, and clear explanations as to how members of St. James Church can participate. Those who didn't pick up their copy in the church foyer received their copy by mail in early May.

The Endowment Funds Board (EFB) continues to discuss ways in which we can educate the Church members on the importance of a strong, stable endowment to the future success of the programs of our church. Designating a gift from your estate (no minimum required) will help to secure the future of our parish in perpetuity. The goal of the EFB is to encourage the enrollment of at least 100 members enrolled in the St. James Legacy Society in the next year. Enrollment simply requires completion of a brief form that indicates you have included the Church in your estate planning and would like to be listed as a member of the Legacy Society (or desire to remain anonymous). An informational brochure regarding Estate planning options was distributed at the parish annual meeting. Additional copies are available from the church office.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact a member of the EFB.

PLEDGES AND WHY THEY MATTER

By Jackie Farha, Member of the Stewardship Committee

As the stewardship committee reflects on its past work and looks towards 2020, we want to thank you for your generous support of St James Episcopal Church. To date, we have received 2019 pledges from 143 households and many of you have responded to our request for additional contributions. Yet at the dawn of the second century of St James, we are mindful that stewardship pledges were received from less than half of the active members and that the church is currently operating under an unbalanced budget.

So what is a pledge and why does it matter?

A pledge is an estimate of one's giving to the church during a specific year. It is not a binding contract and it can be revised if circumstances change. All pledges

contribute to the church's income and are welcome regardless of the amount.

Pledging is an important spiritual exercise and the Book of Common Prayer (p. 856) calls on all Christians to "work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God." It is a way of giving back from the abundance that we have been given. Pledges are also critical for the financial life of the church in that they constitute the basis of planning an annual budget. The St James budget funds worship, pastoral care, Christian formation, outreach, operations and communications. Maintaining or expanding these services will be based on the ability to pay for them, which is mostly determined by pledges received from the parish.

I think of my annual pledge to St James as an expression of commitment. I know that this church, my spiritual home, exists in the physical world and I want to do my part to contribute towards its expenses. In that way, I can participate in sustaining the church for today and building the foundation for all its tomorrows.

We ask for your prayerful consideration and we wish you a blessed summer. If you would like to make a pledge to St James for the remainder of 2019, please complete the enclosed form and return it to the church office.

PMEF ~ WHAT'S THAT?

Each edition of Seasons includes news about the Perpetual Memorial and Endowment Fund (PMEF) of St. James Church. Are you aware of the opportunities and benefits of the PMEF?

Gifts to the PMEF grow in perpetuity – that is, the gift is never depleted. Only income generated by the gift is disbursed annually and spent as directed by the vestry per the spending rules adopted for the administration of the fund. Your gift will continue to grow and to empower the ministries of St. James long into the future.

You can give thanks to God for a significant event in your life, or for a loved one (or someone else) who has influenced your life by making a gift to the PMEF. There are two categories of tributes: (1) Living Tributes for those who are still living; and (2) Memorials in remembrance of the deceased.

Enrolled Gifts are reported in perpetuity in the Annual Report of the PMEF. New - and additions to previously enrolled gifts - are announced in each edition of SEASONS.

Create an Enrolled Gift by completing an enrollment form available on St. James website (or contact the parish office.) Initial gifts to the PMEF can be as small as \$100 (multiple smaller gifts can be combined.)

NEW ENROLLMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE ST. JAMES PERPETUAL MEMORIAL & ENDOWMENT FUND

Additions to Living Tributes from February 1, 2019 through April 30, 2019

<u>St. James Church</u> In thanksgiving for our parish family and the ministry of the people of God at St. James.	<u>\$5,527.76</u>
<u>The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt</u> In thanksgiving for her ministry.	<u>\$500.00</u>
<u>Dillons Community Rewards Program</u> Endowment Fund Support from enrollees in Dillons Community Rewards Program	<u>\$299.76</u>
<u>Bill Moss</u> In thanksgiving for his birthday on March 29th and his many years of faithful lay ministry	<u>\$220.00</u>

Additions to Memorial Enrollments from February 1, 2019 through April 30, 2019

<u>The Rev. Joseph A. Bayles, MDiv (1934 -)</u> <u>Patricia W. Bayles, MSN (1940 - 2016)</u> In recognition of Patricia's dedication to children as a pediatric nurse, to education as a Dean of Nursing and of Joseph as a Correctional Chaplain.	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
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To honor a loved one by making a gift, visit the Endowment page at the St. James website: stjameswichita.org for the Enrollment Forms (Living Tribute and Memorial). OR, Contact the Church office 316-683-5686. *To make "no cost" contributions to the PMEF through the Dillons Community Rewards Program enroll online at www.dillons.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow.

WAYS OF GIVING

By Bert Clark

How to Sign-up for Dillons Community Rewards

1. Obtain a Dillons Plus Shopper's Card from a local Dillons store. Already have a card? Proceed to the 2nd step.
2. Create a Dillons on-line account at www.dillons.com. Already have a Dillons on-line account? Proceed to the 4th step after logging in and choose My Account. Already have a Dillons on-line account but do not remember your password? Click forgot password on the Sign-in screen.
 - Hover over Welcome Sign In and select My Account
 - Click Create Account at the very bottom
3. Fill out the form
 - Enter your zip code and click Find - assign yourself a "home" store. You don't have to exclusively shop this store for points or rewards
 - You can use any email address you own; if the email is already in use the form will tell you
 - Your Dillons password must be at least 8 characters long and contain one letter and one number
 - Enter the number from the back of your Dillons Plus Shopper's Card or enter your Alt ID
 - Click Create Account (its up to you to unselect the two check boxes)
4. Click Community Rewards under My Account
5. Enter HB310 in the box and click Search
6. Verify the organization name appearing is St. James Episcopal Church and click Enroll
7. Shop at Dillons to support St James! Thank you!

Please know that when you sign up for Dillons Community Rewards, you do not change your enrollment in fuel points. Also, Dillons Community Rewards rolls over annually so you do not have to sign-up each year.

Use Amazon Smile When You Shop on Amazon.com

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support St James every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to St James. You can choose from over one million organizations to support but we prefer you choose St James!

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

How do I select St James to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

What if I have a different organization assigned instead of St James? Can I change my charity?

Yes, you can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards St James. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account."

- Just remember to use smile.amazon.com when you shop Amazon.com so that St James receives a contribution from your purchases!

Easy Sign-up at Breakfast Sundays!

Over the next couple of months a member of the Endowment or Stewardship Committee will be hosting a sign-up station at Breakfast Sunday to assist you in the event you do not have access to a computer or need help getting signed up for these programs. We'll put an announcement in the bulletin and eTower if we are available on a non-Breakfast Sunday.

90TH ANNUAL OLDE ENGLISH TEA

By Susan Stallings

After a week of gray skies and rain, the clouds parted Saturday morning, May 4, 2019 for the 90th annual Olde English Tea...and what a beautiful day it was. All was ready to receive our guests to a transformed St. James Guild Hall. As always the flowers, tables and surroundings were breath-taking.

With the many volunteers ready, the doors opened and the gaiety began. Our guests were greeted at the entry with yummy bake goods from the Bake Shop, stunning flowers from the Flower Shop and an opportunity to view the wares of several of our vendors offering handmade jewelry, hand died silks and linens, and unique collectibles. Upon entry to the grand hall, the massive tea table with the many sweet and savory delights, complimented by coffee and tea donated by the Spice Merchant, was waiting to be enjoyed. Mimosa's were also offered to add to the joy of a beautiful day.

In the grand hall there were more vendors, antique and unusual costume jewelry for sale and the English Market Place offering a variety of fun and frivolous items and a silent auction with a selection of purses, pictures and the unusual waiting for optimistic bids. The stage was appointed with topiary trees, large rattan baskets filled with oversized pink and green daisies, a large white umbrella embellished with pink flowers and twinkle lights, provided a fine-looking background for the spectacular fashion show presented by the Assistance League of Wichita. And as always the fashion show featured many stylish outfits, worn by stunningly beautiful models, shoes and jewelry at affordable prices for all to enjoy and purchase.

The musicians that provided the background music were superb. We were serenaded by a trio of violins, Blythe Black, Kathy Massey and Sandy Cusack, pianist, Kenneth Breeden, pianist, Matthew Kroeker, a quintet of flautists, Pam Young, Meg Beck, Elaine Johnson, Sonya Maxwell and Danna Hotmar, a jazz trio of young high school men, Dylan Carroll, bass, Colin Carroll, drums and Daniel Wilson, piano, and two cellists, Daniel Dye and Coral Hartl, accompanied by pianist, Marjorie Williams closed out the day. Our door prizes this year were beautiful potted flowers from the Flower Shop. Two seating's were offered again this year and both were sold out seating approximately 290 guests for the day.

As the sun continued to shine and our guest pleased and sated, the 90th Olde English Tea came to an end. However, the success of this annual event would not be possible without the unbelievable cooperation from the many dedicated church members that volunteer each year. Kate Miller and I, as co-chairs, are honored to have been supported by so many of you, we extend a gracious, heartfelt thank-you!!

A final tea report will soon be available via church bulletin with all the details that are unknown at this time.





The fundraiser for Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services was a huge success!

A big thank you goes to the overwhelming support from the St. James Vestry, Outreach Committee, and Endowment Committee for a corporate sponsorship, plus all of the individual parishioners who attended the event and donated by way of voting. Deacon Arland Wallace from St. Johns made an impressive show and we are thrilled to announce that our own Jean Wiest received the most votes and won the DANCING CHAMPION AWARD!



ST. JAMES OUTREACH COMMITTEE

By Judy Goodpasture, Chair

Our St. James Outreach Committee will lead several projects during the summer:

- Our American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on May 19 in the Guild Hall. Chair Dottie Evans.
- Our Suitcases for Foster Children will begin in June. The suitcases will be delivered to St. Francis Community Services. Chair Sarah Robinson
- Our Water Bottle Project for the clients at Episcopal Social Services will begin in June. Chair Mary Druding
- Our collection of Box Tops for Education benefiting Jefferson Elementary continues. Chair Judy Goodpasture
- Our collection of Paper-backs for Prisoners at the Sedgwick County Jail continues. Chairs Beth and Sam Criss
- Our collection of Pop Can Pull Tabs for African women entrepreneurs continues. Chair Adrienne Edwards.
- Our Pocket Change Ministry continues to donate \$500. when accumulated to four charities in rotation: Wichita Children's Home, Kansas Children's Service League, Episcopal Social Services, and St. Francis Community Services. Chair Gary Thudium
- Back-to-School Supplies will be collected at our July meeting and delivered to The Pando Initiative. Chair Judy Goodpasture

New members and guests are always welcome at our Outreach Committee meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30.

Our committee is most appreciative of the parish support of our projects, and I am grateful for the dedication of our caring committee members: Mother Sarah Stewart, Deacon Peg Flynn, Verger Tim Flynn, Vestry Liaison Joy Marlin, Secretary Linda Smith, Marcia Wilder, Beth Criss, Mary Druding, Dottie Evans, Hew Goodpasture, Mary Klocke, Jim Petty, Sarah Robinson, Linda Smith, Marilyn Taylor, Joy Johnson-Thudium, Gary Thudium, Diana Williams, and Dick Williams.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

By Susan Stallings

An update from the 100th Anniversary Committee. Due to unforeseen circumstances it was necessary for us to cancel two of our spring steering committee meetings, but that did not deter our progress. We are mighty and the individual/specific committees have stayed busy continuing the planning process. All efforts remain on track and the calendar for our 2020 celebration is coming together. Our goal is to have the calendar of events and all projects scheduled by mid-October and we will definitely meet that goal.

Due to a date conflict with the Wichita River Festival the steering committee decided to change the date for reunion week from the first week in June to the second week in June. Reunion week will be June 8 thru June 14, with most of the festivities scheduled for the week-end dates Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14. The festivities that week will include a gala family picnic Saturday, June 13, 2020, on the church grounds with activities for the adults and children, and too many other details to include here. Sunday, June 14, 2020, will be an inspiring church service followed by a champagne reception in the Guild Hall.

We can announce that the 2020 year will kick off with "Rev. Gray Sunday" January 12, 2020. It will be a fitting celebration as Rev. Gray was St. James first rector and in honor of his commitment and service to St. James he will be notably recognized.

There is so much to share regarding our progress but not enough room for the details in this article. Please review this quick snippet...Rev. Dawn is developing a series of four quarterly presentations titled "Going Deeper Spiritually; Building and grounds is working on a grant that will help with the capital improvements and fundraising campaign; historical period church services have been planned; special Guild Hall players presentation; an exceptional Tocher lecture in honor of our 100th; monthly historical presentations highlighting our historical development; perhaps a video featuring a narrative of our history; an anthem has been commissioned for the choir; an outstanding outreach project to be given to the community is in the works; a book available for purchase of our history will be offered, children events, a special project by the youth; already mentioned above a grand reunion week celebration; and much more.

The many, many details of all the above mentioned activities are being coordinated by the steering committee. We are busy and confident that our 2020 year will be very special and we cannot wait to "open the curtains and let the festivities begin".



SUMMER

Ancient Worship, Open Minds, Come Inside, Make A Difference

The
SEASONS
of St. James Episcopal Church

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2019 DATES OF NOTE

JUNE

- 1 – Ordinations, Grace Cathedral, Topeka
- 2 – Children's Sunday School
- 2 – Farewell for Mother Sarah (picnic at noon)
- 2-8 – Mega Camp
- 6 – Breakfast Club
- 8-9 – Pentecost (wear red to church)
- 14 – On The Row production
- 15-16 – Feast of the Trinity
- 19 – VBS Volunteer Orientation
- 20 – Vestry
- 24-27 – VBS To Mars & Beyond (6-8pm)
- 28-30 – Youth, Happening #94, Good Shepherd, Wichita

JULY

- 7 – Children's Sunday School
- 9-14 – Mission Wichita, Diocese of Kansas youth
- 20 – Southwest Convocation Meeting (9:30am, Newton)

AUGUST

- 1 – Breakfast Club
- 1-4 – GHP, The Mystery of Edwin Drood
- 15 – Vestsry
- 24-25 – Back to School Weekend
- 25 – Youth Listening Session 12:15

SEPTEMBER

- 1-2 – Labor Day Weekend
- 7 – Southwest Convocation Meeting (2:00pm El Dorado)
- 8 – Start-Up Sunday