

# *A Letter from St. James*

*Mill Creek Hundred*

*Summer 2012*

## *RECTOR's RAMBLINGS . . .*

### ***“Summertime, and the living is easy”***

Many of you will recognize the above words as the opening line of the song *Summertime* from the 1935 American opera “Porgy and Bess.” There are over 25,000 recordings of this song by a wide range of artists including Billie Holliday, Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, The Marcells, Janis Joplin, and The Zombies. Not that it ever went away, but the song is having a bit of a resurgence with the recent Broadway revival of the opera.

Well, the sentiments of the song aside, the living has been anything but easy so far this summer. In the June newsletter I wrote about how it had been hot around here lately. What I didn't know at the time was how hot or for how long we would be challenged by the weather. The extreme heat has caused a great deal of misery for people, not just here in Delaware but across much of our land. Coupled with summer storms, dry conditions and wildfires, places like Colorado and Montana have suffered the loss of lives and homes.

It can be easy for any of us, as we leave town for a few days or a few weeks, to become less mindful of the day-to-day, week-to-week ministries and worship that are being carried out “back home” or around the country. Our ministry as Christians to respond to the needs of others neither takes a vacation nor is limited to certain seasons of the year. Even during the summer months there is the need to stay connected with our calling to love one another as God loves us. Even when away we can respond by sending donations to relief agencies and, of course, to remember to pray for the needs of others as you become aware of them.

### ***Closing of the Cathedral***

The Cathedral Church of St. John will hold its final worship service on July 29<sup>th</sup>. This is a sad and difficult time for the congregation who desperately hoped to continue their ministry in that part of the City of Wilmington. Please continue to hold them up in your prayers. Many of the people will be joining other parishes and the urban Episcopal churches will be meeting to explore ways to go forward in ministry. In August we will be given the ‘St. James’ Millcreek’ kneeler that was used in the main nave of the Cathedral (see the photo below). We will find a place to proudly display the kneeler in honor of the faith and life of the people of St. John's.

*– Blessings and Peace, Fr. Jim Bimbi*



In celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Cathedral of St. John, the churches in the diocese were asked to make kneelers to be used at the cathedral.

Jack Parker made the beautiful kneeler you see on the left as St. James' gift to the Cathedral Association. It was dedicated on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2006.



**Mighty Volunteers:** In case you haven't noticed, an industrious group of volunteers have recently torn off and replaced over 300 feet of the wooden top of the wall that surrounds our church and cemetery. Additional sections are also getting some attention and patch work. Many thanks to Jack Parker, Dick Prettyman, Larry Heinold and Larry Goldstone for all their hard work!

### HELP WANTED! Are you a good coordinator?

We are looking for someone to chair our annual turkey dinner. Last year's chair Jerry Clark is updating the procedure manual and will be happy to talk to the new chair about the event. Talk to Father Jim or call the office if you are willing to serve. You'll get lots of help from others in the parish. This year's dinner will be held on November 3, 2012.



If you have questions about the **Tercentennial Quilt** or you would like to **sign up for a star**, please see Fran Mayhew in the Parish House lobby. She plans to be available on most Sundays after each Worship Service.

Recognition and documentation of "**Loved Ones**" who have been affiliated with Saint James' Mill Creek Hundred but have moved out of the area or been laid to rest; as well as those who have been baptized, confirmed or married here can also be recorded at the same time. This information will be gathered until December, 2012.



Bring your checkbooks on Sunday to purchase a Delaware Episcopal license plate. We will have applications, assist in completing the application and place the check and application in the mail for you. A simple way to evangelize and show your pride as an Episcopalian!



**Food Shelf and Sundry Closet** -- If you would like to donate items to the St. James' food closet, the following would be very helpful: peanut butter, tuna, fruit in easy-open containers, small canned meats, cereal, mac & cheese, toilet paper, crackers and cookies in individual packs. Donations are welcome any week during the month. Thanks very much.



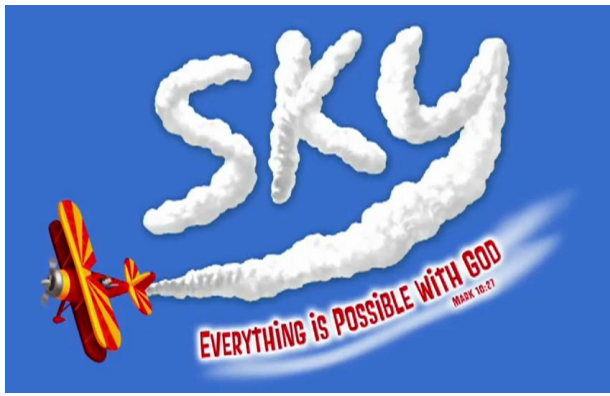
### Education for Ministry (EfM) Class

Do you . . .

- \* Have an interest in learning more about the Bible, especially stories not read in church that are important to the scriptures,
  - \* Want to zero in on your own personal ministry,
  - \* Want to learn how to reflect theologically, gaining insights into the moral dilemmas of life today. . . .
- all while sharing fellowship and laughter in the process? As member Paul Miles (former Sr. Warden, Grace) says: *"This is the most fun I've ever had examining the Bible, my faith and myself. I highly recommend it."*

We are looking for new members to join us for the 2012-2013 season beginning in Sept.

Think about joining us on Monday evenings at Grace Church, 4900 Concord Pike. There is a fee of \$350 for the year, but funding can be found to help if needed. Our class mentors are Brenda Trageser (Grace) and Linda Owens (St. David's). For more information, contact Linda Owens in the Grace Church office (302) 478-9533.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JULY 16-JULY 20 9AM – Noon**

**Children 3 years old and up. 12 and over can serve as junior counselors.** Cost is \$10 for the week (*scholarships available*). Register early so that we know how much to order. The kids always have a great time! Tracey McCracken is coordinating the program for us. If you can volunteer to help, call her or Genia in the office. There will be crafts, games, Bible stories, music, and snacks. **Call the church office to register your children and grandchildren. Let them invite their friends, too.**

**A great time will be had by all!**



### **Ronald McDonald House of DE – Pop Tabs**

763 Pop Tabs equal one pound (they counted!). After the tabs are collected, the local RMHC Chapter brings the collection to local recycling centers, where they are weighed to determine their value (values can vary significantly). The recycling center then sends the local RMHC Chapter a check for the total value. The average cost to host a family for one night is \$85. Families are asked to pay \$25 per night if they can- no one is turned away for inability to pay.

St James' Mission/Outreach committee coordinates our efforts at collecting these tabs and periodically taking them to our local Ronald McDonald House. It's an easy way we can all help others and the environment.

### **CHAPEL CHOIR OF SELWYN COLLEGE/CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY TO SING IN WILMINGTON AS PART OF 8-CITY U.S. TOUR**

The Chapel Choir of Selwyn College of the University of Cambridge, UK will conduct an Eastern U.S. tour this summer, singing in Wilmington, DE after concerts in New York and New England.

The choir will be heard on **Wednesday 18 July 2012, 7:30 p.m.** at Immanuel Episcopal Church, Highlands, 2400 W. 17th St., Wilmington DE.

The concert is open to the public and a free will offering will be accepted. You are invited to attend! Comprised of 25 voices, accompanied by two organ scholars and led by Director Sarah MacDonald, the choir will present music of English composers with a Cambridge connection. The program, titled "My Beloved Spake" will feature works of Byrd, Tallis, Dering, C.V. Stanford, Patrick Hadley, Charles Wood, Giles Swayne, Gerald Finzi, and Paul Mealer.

Selwyn College is one of 31 colleges at Cambridge University, and the chapel choir has led services since the founding of Selwyn in 1882. The choir has been heard on BBC radio, as well as concerts and services throughout the UK, recently singing in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. More information and sound clips are available at [www.sel.cam.ac.uk/chapel/ChoirOrgan/AboutChoir/](http://www.sel.cam.ac.uk/chapel/ChoirOrgan/AboutChoir/) Immanuel Church is located at the corner of Riverview and Seventeenth Streets in Wilmington. <http://www.immanuel-highlands.org/music/choral-evensong>

### **ST. JAMES CHURCH MILL CREEK VESTRY MEETING MINUTES June 11, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Fr. James Bimbi, Bruce Vrana, Olivia Jessup, Carolyn Joynt, Ann Kauffman, Kathy Kwiatkowski, Bob Meckelnburg, Debbie Nuss, Steve Prescott, Gail Zimmerman, Nancy Patterson

**ABSENT:** Sister B. J. Brown

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Vestry of St. James Church Mill Creek was called to order at 7:15 pm. Fr. Jim led the Vestry in an opening prayer.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Approved

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Steve Prescott presented the Treasurer's Report. So far this year the spending rate is in line with previous years. A motion was made and approved to fund the concrete work from the Memorial Fund.

Sam White would like to be relieved of her duties as Disbursing Treasurer. Steve Prescott and Bruce Vrana will contact members to see if they are interested in taking over the duties. They hope to have someone by the July Vestry Meeting.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**Thank You Notes:** Thank you notes will be sent to Valerie Bragg and Cynde Bimbi thanking them for all their hard work to make SMACA a success.

**Civil Unions:** This will be on the Vestry Retreat Agenda. General Convention will be taking this up in July. After that each diocese will discuss it.

**Family Promise:** Sr. Warden, Bruce Vrana, will meet with Family Promise to finalize the new contract.

**Vestry Retreat:** A motion was made and approved to defer the retreat until September or early October. September 8<sup>th</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup> are dates being considered.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Parochial Report:** This is an annual report that each church is required to submit. It consists of the number of members, attendance numbers and financial information. A motion was made and approved to approve the 2011 Parochial Report. The Vestry members signed the report. Once the report is submitted the Financial Advisory Committee can apply for grant money.

**Tercentennial Fundraising/Donations:** At this time there is no procedure for who approves expenditures and how we raise funds for the Tercentennial. The Tercentennial Committee (TC) needs to prioritize what expenditures they are proposing. The Vestry's role is to ensure a control and continuity for any fund raising activities.

Fr. Jim will meet with Fran Mayhew, Chairperson of the TC, before the July Vestry Meeting.

Keith St. John, Music Director, has submitted a list of suggested Tercentennial Music Plans. Volunteers are doing all the work in the cemetery. Fr. Jim has been researching the purchase of a new frontal but at this time no decision has been made.

## OTHER ISSUES:

Some parishioners have expressed concern that decisions are being made but the information is not being shared with the congregation. Vestry members were reminded that when they are confronted by parishioners they should ask them if they have talked to Fr. Jim or Bruce Vrana. They are both always available to discuss any concerns parishioners have.

## VESTRY GREETER REPORTS:

The Vestry Greeter Schedule was reviewed. Gail Zimmerman gave a brief report on new attendees.

## RECTOR'S REPORT:

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS will be held July 16 to July 20 from 9am – Noon.

**Bible Challenge:** The 90 Day Challenge is going great and is very exciting. More people are still being added. There are now more than 60 participants.

**St. Barnabas:** St. Barnabas' Church has just come through a difficult time in the life of the parish. Several years ago a complaint was filed by a member of the congregation against their rector and after a Church Court trial and several appeals a sentence was handed down on May 29<sup>th</sup>. He will be suspended 3 years for Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy and 5 years for Violation of Ordination Vows. The suspensions will run concurrently. There have been no other complaints about clergy in the diocese in the last 3 years.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**WORSHIP:** Celebrating Pentecost Sunday along with Memorial Day was well received. Simplifying the Second Service during the summer months is being considered.

**PROPERTY:** Did not meet.

**FINANCE:** The FAC met before Memorial Day Weekend. They are researching what funds are available through the Advance & Development Committee. The Committee provides assistance to parishes throughout the state. The FAC will be assigned a liaison from the Committee. It will assist the FAC with their proposal. The procedure requires a lot of paper work. The FAC will stay active all summer working with the liaison to complete the proposal.

The FAC will send an informational letter to the congregation. Fr. Jim will follow that letter with an inspirational letter. It is hoped that the letters will go out by early August.



**PARISH LIFE:** Nothing new to report

**TERCENTENNIAL/HISTORY:** This was covered in the NEW BUSINESS discussion.

**MISSION/OUTREACH/FAMILY PROMISE:** Family Promise starts June 24<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets have been posted.

A number of special gifts have been received for the Food Closet. The food shelves, however, are bare and there is also a need for hygiene items. One of our area homeless people was beaten up and his things were taken.

Gail Zimmerman explained about collecting POP TABS for the Ronald McDonald House.

763 Pop Tabs = 1 lb. The rate is \$0.38 per pound. The money earned is used to offset the cost of a family's stay.

**EDUCATION:** Recognition Sunday went well. Valerie Bragg is resigning as Sunday School Chairperson after 4 years of service. We are in need of a new chairperson.

#### **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:**

The Vestry received a letter from a parishioner stating that he was not in favor of Morning Prayer. This is something that Fr. Jim and the Vestry will take into consideration.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

New Vestry members would like an update of what has been discussed previously regarding Civil Unions and other topics to be covered at the Retreat.

There being no further business, the Vestry meeting concluded at 9:05 pm with the Order of Compline.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Patterson  
Clerk of the Vestry



Our deepest sympathy to Robin Brennan and family on the death of Robin's father, **Robert Altemus, Jr.** on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The funeral was at St James' on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of **Marge Cerchio** who passed away on June 28<sup>th</sup> and was buried on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Marge was a long time member who will be missed by many – including the other members of the bazaar group.

Our sympathies are also with the families of **David W. Paca and Marian Aldred.**

David Paca a member of St. James' for many years prior to moving to South Carolina passed away on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A memorial service and interment of ashes will be held at St. James' on Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

Marian Aldred passed away recently and a memorial service and interment of her ashes will take place at St. James' on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 11AM.

## **General Convention 2012**

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church began on July 3<sup>rd</sup> in Indianapolis. Planners for this convention have made news, information and convention materials available in an unprecedented way. The official convention website is [www.generalconvention.org](http://www.generalconvention.org). During the convention this site will be the best place to see and learn about the life and work of the General Convention.

***Seen on a church signboard*** in northern Minnesota one summer: "Sure, you can worship God with a fishing pole in your hand, but when was the last time a walleye told you, 'Your sins are forgiven'?" -  
*Newsletternewsletter August 2011*



## July Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Janice Sukeena
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jesse Taylor
5 <sup>th</sup>	David Cernos
	Fr. Bill Archer
7 <sup>th</sup>	Brian Hall
	Jason Elliston
9 <sup>th</sup>	Karl Alexander
11 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Dunford
12 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Joynt
15 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Fauerbach
	Ralph Stampone
	Manny DelleDonne
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mason Rickey
17 <sup>th</sup>	John Gannett
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Chuck Haywood
24 <sup>th</sup>	Kerri Fauerbach
25 <sup>th</sup>	Victoria Loveless
26 <sup>th</sup>	Callinda Taylor
27 <sup>th</sup>	Dave Perry
28 <sup>th</sup>	Laura Adams
30 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Atz
31 <sup>st</sup>	Colton Morris

## August Birthdays

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Olivia Jessup
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lisa August
6 <sup>th</sup>	Holly Brennan
8 <sup>th</sup>	Ava Bentzinger
10 <sup>th</sup>	Joel Harrold-Mansk
	Kelby Sikes
11 <sup>th</sup>	Peg Lange
	Travis Deibert
13 <sup>th</sup>	Sam Craig
15 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Aichele
16 <sup>th</sup>	Evan Seward
17 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Dennis
	Kayleigh Dennis
18 <sup>th</sup>	Carl Page
19 <sup>th</sup>	Susan Bowser
	Alissa Bradbury
20 <sup>th</sup>	Haley August
24 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Mooney
25 <sup>th</sup>	Ali Hall
26 <sup>th</sup>	Sally Logue
	Kate Hoppenjans
27 <sup>th</sup>	Jenna Bimbi
28 <sup>th</sup>	Bob August
29 <sup>th</sup>	Borden Adams
	Emma Fauerbach
30 <sup>th</sup>	Tracy Burns

*Happy Birthday to all!*

## ♥ July Anniversaries ♥

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Georgine and John Sukeena
12 <sup>th</sup>	Dolores and John Soviak
14 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Kwiatkowski and Jim Craig
17 <sup>th</sup>	Beth and Dan Remedio
18 <sup>th</sup>	Jessica and Wes Loveland

## ♥ August Anniversaries ♥

1 <sup>st</sup>	Judy and Richard Taylor
12 <sup>th</sup>	Lisa & Bob August
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy & Dick Cornelia
17 <sup>th</sup>	Erin & Marc Sandlhauser
21 <sup>st</sup>	Allyson & Larry Heinold
26 <sup>th</sup>	Edna and Chuck Haywood
28 <sup>th</sup>	Pat & Jim Minor

*If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the office and let us know. You are an important member of our parish family.*



June saw us welcome five children into the family of Christ here at St. James.

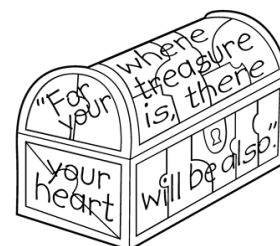
On June 10<sup>th</sup> twins **Sarah Ellen Dennis and Kayleigh Christine Dennis** and their cousin **Molly Kay Taylor** were baptized. The twins' parents are Helen and Christopher Dennis and grandparents are Russ and Ginny Dennis. Molly's parents are William and Lorna Taylor.

On June 24<sup>th</sup> **Ryan Robert Cascino** and **Ava Christin Bentzinger** were baptized. Ryans' parents are Richard & Elizabeth Cascino and Ava's parents are Nathaniel & Christin Bentzinger.

**We welcome them all into our parish family!**



**Welcome to Our Family**



While people take vacations, the church is always here for you. Expenses run year round, so please keep your support coming. Be safe when you travel.

# THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE

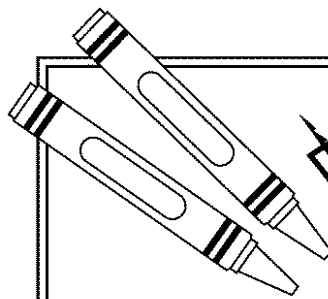
Play this game with a group of friends to remind you to follow Jesus.

## What you need:

- Large space for running
- 3 jump ropes or 9 traffic cones

## What you do:

1. Using jump ropes or traffic cones, form lines at both ends of the playing area. Also make a dividing line in the middle. Designate one side as "The Way" and the other as "The Truth." The center line is "The Life."
2. Choose one person to stand in the middle of the center line. He or she is the caller, yelling, "The way!" or "The truth!" or "The life!" The rest of the players also start on the middle line.
3. When a location is called, players run as fast as possible to the designated area. The last person to arrive switches places with the caller.
4. When "The Life" is called, players run to the center line and raise both hands. No one gets out.



## KNOW THE WAY

Thomas said to Jesus, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" (John 14:5, NIV).

**Directions:** To read Jesus' reply, shade in the letters that contain an asterisk (\*) and write them in order on the blanks below.

u n s w e r e i a m h w a  
y a n t l r u t c h l f i v e  
n o o n a e c s o x m e s  
f a z t h e r r o u c d g h  
p u m r x e s t j v g o h n

Jes \_\_\_\_ ans \_\_\_\_ d, " \_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ d the \_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ to the  
\_\_\_\_ except th \_\_\_\_."

\_\_\_\_ 14:6, NIV

Answer: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6, NIV



St. James' Episcopal Church  
2106 St. James' Church Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808

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Permit # 36  
Wilmington, DE

Rector: The Rev. James M. Bimbi  
Senior Warden: Bruce Vrana  
Junior Warden: Carolyn Joynt

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Website: [stjamesmillcreek.org](http://stjamesmillcreek.org)

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Tuesday – Thursday  
Closed Monday and Friday

Service Times

Sunday- Summer Schedule

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
9:30 AM Family Choral Eucharist

Wednesday

10:00 AM Eucharist & Healing Service  
6:15 PM Evening Prayer Service



Wherever your summer  
plans take you, have fun  
and return to us safely.

