
The Weekly Parish Light 2023

St. James Episcopal Church · 2 S Augustine St. · Wilmington DE 19804 · 302-994-2029

**From the Rector – The Rev. Sarah Nelson
August 18, 2023**



At one time I enjoyed this TV program entitled “Touched by an Angel.” For an hour, seemingly ordinary people encountered a series of obstacles and *miraculously*, in under an hour, their problems, once insurmountable, are solved. I especially loved the end of the show when the angelic quality of the characters was revealed as a light radiated from around them. Angels and miracles...in the Bible, on television, and even now, they just seem to go together.

How often do you say or have you heard said, “Please pray for a miracle” or “I just need a miracle”? Miracles seem to be what we seek when we human beings just can’t figure out a path to free ourselves from a current situation. Miracles are what we seek when we have come to the end of our human capabilities. Miracles are what we seek when we find ourselves in need of God.

Often in our prayers, we ask to be aware of God’s presence in our lives. We know – at least intellectually or in our heads – that God is always with us and yet we seek miracles to ask for God’s help. Today we hear about mindfulness, to be in this moment. If living simply in the moment, we might know God’s presence.

This morning I woke up. We might not readily think of waking up as a miracle, but recognizing how our bodies are comprised of random cells, this is a miracle. Ask anyone struggling with an illness or injury, waking up, walking, talking, breathing...yes, they are all miracles.

Last week a consumer craft took four people into space. For a few moments, these people could gaze upon the earth as one majestic orb. No divisions by country, language, or race. Just one orb – blue and green – in the midst of the vastness of space! Those people talk about their lives being forever changed. They have witnessed the miracle of life and a creation that supports life. A miracle.

I write this in gratitude for all the miracles that grace my life, even without the angels revealing themselves in radiant glow. Sometimes it is a tomato, fresh from the garden ... a miracle. Sometimes it is a call from a friend just at the right moment ... a miracle. Sometimes it is a golden orange sunset ... a miracle. Miracles surround us always. Our challenge is to seek those miracles and not simply when we have run out of human options. For we know that we can do nothing without God. Our very human capabilities – they, too, are miraculous gifts from God.

So, my friends, whether it be a flower on the plant, a smile from a stranger, the birth of a child, good news from the doctor – each is a miracle! Let us all seek miracles and be thankful that they abound.

Faithfully,
Sarah



Music Ministry Notes

Dr. Michael Larkin, Director of Music Ministry

Please keep Dr. Larkin in your thoughts and prayers as he recuperates from hand surgery that he recently had. He will be returning on Sunday, September 10th.

THE 12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Sunday School is available for all children during the 10:00 am worship service. Sunday School Lessons are planned to match the Lectionary reading for the week. A discussion about the lesson and a craft or activity will follow. The children join their families in church for the Eucharist, or if Miss Tina is singing in the choir, the children will come in during the peace. All children are welcome to attend our class, even if they are not here every week or are just visiting. Please ask a Greeter to direct you to the classroom.

NO CHOIR REHEARSALS UNTIL SEPTEMBER –

The Parish Choir will return on September 10th. Think about joining the Choir in the Fall! We'd love to have you!

SUNDAY'S LITURGIES –

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 45:1-15; Psalms: 133; Gospel: Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28.

LAY MINISTERS –

Worship Leader: Dawn Martinez; **Reader**: Lisa Bowe; **Acolyte**: Tom Reilly;

Greeter: Sandy Grim; **Usher**: Marti LaRue; **Altar Guild**: Andi Bender;

Counters: Tom Reilly, Tom Hall.



PARISH PRAYER LIST – Please see the last page of this newsletter and pray for those in need of our prayers for strength, guidance, or healing especially Dave & Patti Edwards, Penny Edwards, Carmen Scott, the Purdy Family. Pray for those who have died, especially Pat Purdy.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER – Pray for The Church of England.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for the Mission to the Diocese of Bo, Sierra Leone, Canon Joseph Tucker and Mrs. Maria Tucker.

(Continued next page)

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS (Continued from page 2)

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Penny Edwards, Tom Reilly, Caroline Luckey, Adrienne Bush, Sarah Brase-Davis.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the Scotten Family. Please remember to pray for Arthur during the service on Sunday and keep him in your thoughts during the week.

A Prayer for Families: Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we humbly pray to you to guide and govern us by the Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget you, but remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EVENTS

STILL WORKING ON BLANKETS FOR CORAL SPRINGS AND EASTER SEALS!

If anyone is interested in helping put the polar fleece lap blankets together as we get them ready for our Christmas gifts to Coral Springs and Easter Seals residents, please **drop by the Lounge this Wednesday at 10:00 am.**



Cancelled Until Further Notice: We'll notify you once we are able to resume.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS WANTED ONCE A MONTH!! If you enjoy sharing coffee and conversation with friends (old and new) after the 10:00 am service, we hope you will consider being a Host for one Sunday a month. If you're interested, please add your name on the sign-up sheet on the Board in the foyer! Pick a month you (and a friend) would like to be Hosts for Coffee Hour! **Note:** This summer, we can move outside for "Lemonade in the Garden"! Won't you consider being a Host?

FUNDRAISER EVENT



WILLIAMS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION: Check out the ***Bender Twins' Team fundraising page!*** Click on the link below for more information and to donate to this wonderful Association on behalf of Samantha and Autumn! (If you are unable to open the link below, copy and paste into your URL.)

<https://events.williams-syndrome.org/team/500609>

SUMMER AT ST. JAMES

“I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY” THEME – Last summer we created a booklet entitled “Just A Closer Walk with Thee.” This summer, our theme is “I Love to Tell the Story.” There are “cards” in the foyer for you to pick up and write a short sentence about how you tell “your story” or how the “story” has been told to you. The goal at the end of the summer is to have all these “stories” compiled and shared! **See next section below for some ideas/suggestions on how we can “tell our story.”**

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY ...

After reading through the following, you will no doubt be motivated to take a card and recall ways in which YOU tell the story or that you have received the story of Jesus from others.

Marti LaRue will compile our shared Stories into a booklet for distribution.

School Supplies.

THIS SUNDAY, August 20th is the absolute Deadline to bring in your donated items. See page 6 for more info and also an updated list of items that are still needed. You may also make a monetary donation if you haven't had a chance to shop! There is a large green container in the hall foyer where you can deposit your contribution. This is a small way that we can **tell the story of Jesus**, by reaching out and supporting others who are in need. Betty VanHekle is keeping track of gathered supplies. Thank you.

We're collecting MORE THAN plastic bottle caps now!

St. James is still collecting plastic bottle caps and are nearing our first goal. The good news is that in addition to the bottle caps, we are also asking for #2, #4, and #5 plastic CONTAINERS! You can find those numbers on the bottom of the containers that are in the small recycling triangle, which are typically detergent bottles, milk jugs, and other household items that are in those kinds of containers. Note that all plastics need to be clean and label-free. This is a way that we **tell the story** by caring for the environment. Put the caps in a plastic zip bag and the containers in a larger bag and place on the table, in the foyer, or give to the Greeter. Thank you.

“Still Life”

If you missed it, you missed an evening of amazing discussion and great, tasty Bistro snacks. The Inspector imparts four sayings necessary for wisdom, not only in Three Pines but in Wilmington, Delaware! The four statements are: “I was wrong,” “I am sorry,” “I don't know,” and “I need help.” You might imagine these four points in your own life – but definitely plan on coming to Three Pines discussion #2. The second of Louise Penny's books is entitled “**A Fatal Grace.**” We will plan a Fall date to discuss this next-in-the-series book. If you did not read the first one, don't worry. Each book stands on its own. Start reading! You won't want to miss the evening! And yes – we **tell the story** by sharing our own stories and listening and reading those of others!

Memorial Garden Bricks.

Simply seeing the name of another evokes all sorts of memories, experiences, even emotions. Our Memorial Garden and the brick walkway lovingly planned and laid out by Tom Reilly and Kenny Stafford is a pleasant, peaceful place. It is a place for reflection, gratitude, and celebration. If you would like to honor someone or some occasion, or if you would like to pay tribute to someone who has finished this earthly race, you can purchase a brick, which will be laid in the Garden. There is a card on the table in the Narthex (foyer). If you'd like to purchase a brick, simply fill out the necessary information and give the card to the Greeter or place it in the offering plate. The cost is One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per brick. We continue to **tell the story** by remembering those who light our way.

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY (Continued from page 4)

Blankets for the Residents of Coral Springs and the Clients of Easter Seals.

Each Christmas, St. James makes polar fleece lap blankets for the Coral Springs and Easter Seals people. These small gifts are enthusiastically received. Thanks to some parishioners who have been meeting to help make the blankets and wrap them which will then be taken to Coral Springs and Easter Seals at Christmas. We **tell the story** in following Jesus by caring for others.

UPCOMING KIDS' EVENTS AT ST. JAMES

Oh, my! The summer is flying by? We still have a few long, lazy days in the sun. Sports camps, dance camps, and pre-season workouts. Reading great books and catching up with friends. But then what? ***Saint James to the rescue!***

We have one last event planned just for you in the fall!

- **Friday, October 6th and Saturday, October 7th** – National Cathedral Acolyte Festival. Leaving on Friday after school for a mini-lock-in at Immanuel Church on the Hill in Alexandria, Virginia. Saturday traveling to the National Cathedral to participate in the Acolyte Festival with acolytes from across the Nation. This is an awesome experience! \$10.00 cover charge for participation fee.

See?!? We are always thinking of you! If you haven't signed up with Tina (302-419-4655) or Sarah yet, please do so right away. We can't wait to see you and have these adventures with you!

MISCELLANEOUS

<u>CHURCH EXPENSES</u>	<u>ALTAR FLOWERS</u>	<u>CORAL SPRINGS NURSING HOME</u>
Remember that even when you are away, the church expenses are not. Our pledges are what keeps the church going and the air conditioning running. Your pledge to the ministry of the parish is much appreciated! Thank you!	If you would like to place flowers on the altar in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, flower forms are available on the table in the church foyer, or you may contact the church office. The cost for flowers is \$30.00. Checks should be made payable to: <u>St. James Church</u> . Please write "Altar Flowers" on the memo line of your check. The check can be placed in the Offering plate or dropped off at the office.	On the First Sunday of the month during our worship service, Rev. Sarah will consecrate the Host that will be distributed to the residents of Coral Springs Nursing Home on every other Monday each month.

OUTREACH

COLLECTION OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES: To date, below is the current list of what we have received. **THIS SUNDAY (Aug. 20) is the absolute deadliine to bring in your school supplies!** We hope to fill 35 backpacks, which we will do on Monday, August 21. Please meet in the Lounge at 10:00 a.m. (FYI – if you still have shopping to do, we’ve heard “through the grapevine” that Wal-Mart is having a great sale on these supplies!)

Have Received

Fruit Snacks	130
Notebook paper	11
Pencils	60
Glue Sticks	33
Pens (Black; Blue)	32
Pink Erasers (not pencil tops)	24
Two-pocket folders	68
Spiral notebooks	5
24-pack crayons	40
Highlighters	8
Post-It Sticky Notes	24 plus 1 large 25-count
Pencil Boxes	5
10-Pack Washable markers	4
Index cards, 3” x 5”	6 plue one pack of 25-count
Composition books	10

Remember to please bring your donations of supplies in to church this Sunday, Aug. 20th.

There is a collection box in the foyer in which to place your items. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, just earmark that gift and place it in the collection plate.



Anyone who would like to help assemble the backpacks, please mark your calendar to meet in the Lounge on Monday, August 21st at 10:00 a.m.

They will be delivered to Richey Elementary School Monday afternoon.

Thanks to Betty VanHekle who hs been counting and keeping tabs on our collection!

I am grateful to you for participating in this important ministry.

Thank you,
Sarah

CALENDAR – AUGUST

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

11:00 am – Patt Purdy Funeral Service will be held at Nichol-Gilmore Funeral Home where Visitation will begin at 10:00 am.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

Worship Service 10:00 am
Deadline for turning in school supplies

MONDAY, AUGUST 21

- **Assembly of Backpacks – Meet** in the Lounge at 10:00 am to assemble (35) backpacks.
- Later in the afternoon, the filled backpacks will be delivered to Richey Elementary School.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Worship Service 10:00 am

	<p><u>AUGUST BIRTHDAYS</u></p> <p>1 – Jack Reilly 1 – Daytona Grace Purdy 6 – Quinn Luckey 9 – Jason Luckey 11 – Danielle Yeatman (Grahe) 11 – Crystal Bush 12 – Lisa Bush 14 – Nalani Luckey 15 – George Fischbach 16 – Jenny Azwol 16 – Joshua Luckey 19 – Christopher Fischbach</p>	<p><u>AUG. BIRTHDAYS</u> <i>(cont'd)</i></p> <p>21 – Penny Edwards 24 – Tom Reilly 24 – Caroline Luckey 24 – Adrienne Bush 24 – Rosie Sanchez 26 – Sarah Brase-Davis 28 – Marti LaRue 30 – Danika Duffield Dillman</p>
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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Simple Formula for Living (Part 1 of 4):

- ✓ *Live beneath your means.*
- ✓ *Return everything you borrow.*
- ✓ *Stop blaming other people.*
- ✓ *Admit it when you make a mistake.*
- ✓ *Give clothes not worn to charity.*
- ✓ *Do something nice and try not to get caught.*



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

*Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby
Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell*

Prayer in the Midst of Violence

Lord, in our shock and confusion, we come before you
in our grief and despair in the midst of hate,
in our sense of helplessness in the face of violence,
We lean on you.

For the families of those who have been killed, we pray.
For the shooters – *help* us to pray, Lord.
For the communities that have lost members, their anger, grief, fear,
We pray.

For the churches striving to be your light in darkness
beyond comprehension,
We pray.

Lord of all, gather us up – your creatures, your world –
and bring an end to the violence.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Amen.

*Taken from “**Prayer for mass violence**” by Grace Claus
written for faithward*

Prayer for Refugees

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness
and brought them to the promised land.
Guide us now so that, following your Son, we may
walk alongside vulnerable refugee families as
they build a new life in the county of your love and mercy. Amen.

ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST – Please use this Prayer List and include the following people in your daily prayers. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you want to keep someone on the list, add, or remove anyone, please email (stjamesnew@verizon.net) or call the church office (302-994-2029).

Abigail	Frank Dean	Carolyn Karney & Family	The Pat Purdy Family
Alan	Diana and Pevan	Juanita Kavanaugh	Reese
Alethia	Rose DelliGatti	Kathy	Neil Reilly
Alex	Henry Diaz	Melvin Kessler	The Rev. Reuben
Allysa	John DiOrio	Kiara	Rodriguez
Amy	Ross Donovan	Ritchie Kinlaw	Aaron Richers
Andrienne	Deborah Earley	Kira	The Roche Family
Anna	Vern Earley	Sara Kirk	Roy
Christina Azwol	Dave & Patti Edwards	Susan Kriznuski	Emily Ruggieri
Tony Andres	Penny Edwards	Marti & Ron LaRue	Henry Saffer
Sage Andrews	Carol Edwards & Family	John Lewis	Sally
Barbara	Ellie Rose	Liam	Daniel Sanchez
Scott Battaglia	Eli	Lilly	Gabriela Santiago
Seth Bayless	Eric	Lois	Mike Scarpetti
Jim Bender	Janice Fischbach	Allen Luckey	Scott
Trish Bender Bayless	George Fischbach	Cindy & Dave Mahoney	Carmen Scott
Jeff Biscoe	Mary Ellen	Mallory	Richard Scott
Bobbie Blevins	Kira Fix	Marie Marcinkowski	The Francis Scott Family
Eileen Borders	John & Harriet Flynn	The Martinez Family	Maria Perdikis
Barry Boulden	John	Mary Helen	Mike PierceSeth
Paula Boulden	Joan Frati	Jude Matejkovic	Linda Sheesley
Myrle Bowe	Ginny	Melvin	Earlene Smith
Ronald Boyce	Fred Geist	Missy	Dan Sommers
Doris Brown	Owen Geist	Carmen Moore	Kenny Stafford
Charles Brown	Gerike Family: Adam,	Shirley Moore	Dorothy Stephens
Eleanor Buchanan	Lindsey, & Oliver	Ann Moses	Steve
Crystal Bush	Glenn	Jay Muckle	Gavin Stiteler
Douglas Bush	Brittney Griffin	Randy Murray	Paula Szczuka
David Butters	Scott Gunn	Sara Musselman	The Szotkiewicz Family:
Fran Pearlman-Butters	Carolyn Halfen	Natalie	Joanna, Michael,
Cameryn	Ike Hammond	The Rev. Sarah Nelson	Hannah, Charles
Caroleen	Lindsay Hammond	Sue Nelson	Thomas
Carolyn	Amy & Rick Harra	Nicholas	Lorayne Titter
Cathy	Major Scott M. Harra	Noah	Jack Tucker
Wayne Chapman, Jr.	Nancy Hoffman	Cassandra Norsworthy	Shon Tucker
KayMaire Castro	Travis Hoffman	Paula Orty	Tyler
Chris	Holly	Mark Parton	Jack
Cindy	Eileen Hughes	Terri Parton	Betty Ann VanHeckle
Linda Clark	Peter Huiner and Family	Debbie Papa	Mary Wade
Clint	Kaylee Jackson	Madeline Pepe and	Nancy Walls
Bill Cole	Jennifer	Children	Valerie Warrington
Brittany Collins	Jenna & John	Pat	Missy Wieland
Christina Conaway	Jeremy	The Pease Family	Andy & Linda Wolf
Presiding Bishop	Jim	Maria Perdikis	
Michael Curry	Joe	Mike Pierce	
Daisy	Joshua John	John Pumphrey and	
Cullen Kate Deal	Sister Julian	Family	

For those serving our country: National Guard: Terron Barnes, Brad Pastore, Christina Pastore;
U.S. Army: Maj. Scott M. Harra. *Give grace, O Lord, to our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer physically and emotionally, that they may be healed. Grant them trust and love that their prayers may be answered and that they may be relieved from their suffering. Amen.*