
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 September 1, 2023



Collecting school supplies and putting together backpacks reminds me of the years that I prepared my own children for the start of a new school year. It seems part of the season. Buy crayons. Choose folders. In the day, purchase new school shoes. There is both a twinge of sadness as the summer comes to an end but an excitement at what the new year will bring.

It is much the same in the church. Our summer, focusing on the Old Testament and the stories of the patriarchs and matriarchs of our faith, I have found compelling and really interesting. It is fascinating to see Abraham and Sarah, Jacob and Rebekah, Joseph and his brothers as part of the sweep of history, and how God is working out God's plan of salvation. We have watched through history now coming to God's plan of leading God's people to the promised land. But we know that this is only a portion of the story – much, much more lies ahead. There is a bit of melancholy as we leave behind this collecting of cards, each containing a person that God uses to care for God's people.

There is also excitement about what is to come! In two weeks, we will begin the Season of Creation, soon to be followed by the final Sundays of the church year. In December, the new church year begins, this year through the eyes of the first Gospel, the Gospel of Mark. Like new notebooks and markers, a new year is beginning.

We know that God is always seeking us. God is always extending an invitation to draw us closer. At this time of endings and new beginnings, there is an opportunity to prayerfully wonder where God is speaking to you. In our community of worship, is this the time to return to what you have already invested in or is something new beckoning you? Would you be interested in reading in worship or organizing a food drive for local families for the holidays? Would you like to host a Coffee Hour after a worship service? There are so many opportunities – some identified and some that you probably have not thought about.

I spoke this week in my sermon about the Hound of Heaven. The gist of the story is that when God calls, no matter how much we attempt to avoid that call, God pursues us until we are found. There is that wonderful line from our Eucharistic prayer, "that in seeking you, we might be found by you." My friends, as we seek a closer walk with the divine, may we be found by our loving, faithful, and ever gracious God.

Faithfully,
Sarah



Music Ministry Notes

Dr. Michael Larkin, Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Larkin has been recuperating for several weeks since his surgery. We welcome him back next Sunday, September 10th! We thank John Grim for “filling in at the organ”! Great job, John!

The Parish Choir’s first rehearsal will begin at 9:00 am on September 10th as well. We look forward to their first anthem the following week.

Do you like to sing? You’re encouraged to join us and come to the choir’s first rehearsal on the tenth! Not a singer but play an instrument? Please contact Dr. Larkin at mlarksing@aol.com.

**Have a Safe
Holiday!**



THE 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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.

SUNDAY’S LITURGIES –

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 3:1-15; **Psalm:** 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; **Gospel:** Matthew 16:21-28.

LAY MINISTERS –

Worship Leader: Mary Hammond; **Reader:** Lisa Bowe; **Acolyte:** Tom Reilly;

Greeter: Penny Geist; **Usher:** Marti LaRue; **Altar Guild:** Janice Fischbach; **Counters:** Tom Reilly.



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, Diane Geist. Pray for those who have died.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER – Pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for the Members of the Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and Trustees in The Episcopal Church in Delaware.

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Savannah Temme.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the Shearer Family. Please remember to pray for Dorothy during the service on Sunday and keep her 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.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, & OPPORTUNITIES

COME JOIN OUR



BIBLE STUDY STARTING UP AGAIN! Please join us beginning Wednesday, September 13th at 10:00 am in the Lounge. *See the new Schedule on next page Study under “Fellowship.”*



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!

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>

FELLOWSHIP

BIBLE STUDY

September 13th – December 27th, 2023

As Christian people we set ourselves on a lifelong course of increasingly learning about our God and God's purpose for our lives. We know many of the stories and we know about God's plan of salvation. Truly, this is a life-long task.

As we “read, mark and inwardly digest” the words of scripture, we know that God continues to speak to us each and every day. Because God continues to reveal God's self, we turn our hearts to be open and respectful to what God is saying. Throughout history, Christians have engaged in the practice of reading and studying scripture. Beginning on Wednesday, September 13th, you are invited to join in a study of scripture with others seeking to know God. Each Wednesday we will gather at 10:00 am in the Lounge to consider the words of the Gospel for the coming Sunday. While we will be meeting in person, if you would like to join us by Zoom, please let the office know.

I hope that you will join us.

Sarah

September 13 – Earth Sunday – John 1: 1-14
September 20 – Sky Sunday – Mark 15:33-39
September 27 – Mountain Sunday – Mark 16: 14-18

October 4 – Humanity Sunday – Mark 10: 41-45
October 11 – Saint Francis – Matthew 11:25-30
October 18 – Matthew 22:15-22
October 25 – Matthew 22:34-46

November 1 – All Saints – Matthew 5: 1-12
November 8 – Matthew 25: 1-13
November 15 – Matthew 25: 14-30
November 22 – **No class**
November 29 – Mark:13:24-37

December 6 – Mark 1:1-8
December 13 – John 1: 6-8, 19-28
December 20 – **No class**
December 27 – **No class**

Then on to 2024!

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY ...

“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.”**

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.

YOUTH EVENTS AT ST. JAMES

Oh, my! The summer has come to a close, and the kids have gone back to school. Sports camps, dance camps, and pre-season workouts were fun and memories now fill our minds! We can look forward to *next year!*

But now what? We have one last event planned just for the kids 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>
<p>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!</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>

CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

– Labor Day Weekend –

Worshp Service 10:00 am

Healing Service after 10 am service

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Choir's 1st Rehearsal 9:00 am

Worshp Service 10:00 am

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Bible Study 10:00 am Lounge

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

CREATION 1 – EARTH SUNDAY

Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am

Worshp Service (w/ Choir) 10:00 am

Vestry Meeting – in Lounge after service

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Bible Study 10:00 am Lounge

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

CREATION 2 – SKY SUNDAY

Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am

Worshp Service 10:00 am

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Bible Study 10:00 am Lounge

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

CREATION 3 – MOUNTAIN SUNDAY

Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am

Worshp Service 10:00 am

Healing Service after 10:00 am

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



3 – Savannah Temme
10 – Gracelynn Ruggieri
11 – Anna Kelley
11 – AJ Luckey
18 – Nancy Walls
21 – Alex DeMaio
22 – Dave Mahoney
26 – Nicholas Azwol
28 – Emma Warrington

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Simple Formula for Living (Part 3 of 4):

- ✓ *Take time to be alone.*
- ✓ *Cultivate good manners.*
- ✓ *Be humble.*
- ✓ *Realize and accept that life isn't fair.*
- ✓ *Know when to keep your mouth shut.*
- ✓ *Go an entire day without criticizing anyone.*



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

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.*