
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
November 10, 2023**



My friends, good things are happening! When God’s people gather and work together, amazing things happen. The last two weeks are just the beginning! The viewing of *Coco*, the Ofrenda where we are remembering those “we love but see no longer” – they are just the beginning! Our worship and our common life are enhanced by these experiences. Such occasions fill our hearts and soul and empower us to go into the world to live as God’s own.

The coming year is being planned with many more opportunities. As the holidays approach, our attention is focused on spreading the Good News of the birth of our Saviour. **Mark your calendars!**

- We will be collecting food for families at Richey School.
- We will be honoring The Rev. Margie Pumphrey by decorating the tree with socks, hats, mittens, and gloves for local children.
- In the midst of outreach to others, we may count the blessings of life, noting the many blessings on ornaments which will be displayed.
- On Thanksgiving, we can “Pluck the Turkey” as a means to stock our pantry shelves for Coffee Hour.
- To feed our souls during Advent worship in December, we will have a special Lessons and Carols with St. James Millcreek, and then an evening of respite in a Quiet Christmas.
- On Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 pm, plan on joining in a festive evening at **Tony’s Bistro**. We will gather, laugh, give thanks for one another, and have a gift exchange. Everyone is welcome.

Wow! That’s a lot! But hopefully all of this is a balance of worship, care, and fellowship.

I look forward to this season of thanksgiving and the welcoming of the Christ child, most especially celebrating this with you.

Faithfully,

Sarah



MUSIC MINISTRY WEEKLY NOTES
from Dr. Michael Larkin, Director of Music Ministry

My St. James Friends,

I have received several very positive, appreciative comments regarding the choir anthem last Sunday, “Headin’ to the Promised Land.” I thank you, and the members of the choir thank you, and we are glad the anthem was appreciated and had meaning.

I spend a great deal of time each week choosing and preparing the music, organ music, hymns, and choir anthems for each Sunday. I make every effort to make sure that all the music for a particular Sunday is relative to the scriptural themes for that Sunday. At times, it can be a bit of a challenge, but it is important that the music continues and enhances the liturgical flow of each worship experience.

I would like to mention again our planned, combined Advent Lessons and Carols service with the St. James Millcreek choir and clergy. The service is at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10. The next combined program between our two churches will be held in our Sanctuary. Mark your calendars now and definitely plan to attend this meaningful Advent music and liturgical experience.

The choir anthem for this coming Sunday is John Leavitt’s upbeat choral setting of the African American spiritual tune, “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning.” Many of these wonderful spiritual tunes have become an important part of the contemporary church’s musical repertoire.

See you Sunday.

Blessings,

Dr. Michael Larkin

THE 24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

SUNDAY'S LITURGIES – *Old Testament:* Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; *Psalm:* 78:1-7;
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; *Gospel:* Matthew 25:1-13.



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.

LAY MINISTERS –

Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Michael Larkin
Worship Leader: George McDowell
Old Testament Reader: Marti LaRue
New Testament Reader: Lisa Bowe
Acolyte: Tom Reilly

Greeter: Carol McDowell
Usher: Andi Bender
Altar Guild: Dawn Martinez
Counters: Tom Reilly & Marti LaRue

FOLDING OF THE AMERICAN FLAG will be part of the 10:00 am worship service this Sunday. Veterans from our parish will proudly fold the American Flag while another Veteran reads to the congregation what each of the thirteen folds mean. It will be a very powerful part of our service and all are invited to join us this Sunday to be part of this compelling experience.



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 Patti, Penny, & David Edwards, Carmen Scott, Diane Geist, Lindsey, Kira, Preston, Cindy, Dave. Pray for those who have died.

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Becky Purdy, Jim Bender, Amber Luckey, Anna Sheesley, Brad Pastore, Jr., Cavin Luckey.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the Wilson family. Please remember to pray for Scott, Jessi, Benjamin, and Joan during the service on Sunday and keep them 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.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER – Pray for Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for the 239th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware.

MEETINGS



BIBLE STUDY (Weekly) – Join us every Wednesday at 10:00am in the Lounge. *See the Schedule on page 5 under “Meeting.”*



ST. JAMES VESTRY MEETING (Monthly) – The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 19 after the 10:00 am worship service.

... AND OPPORTUNITIES



BAKERS NEEDED!

Do you LOVE to Bake? Do you have a favorite Christmas Cookie recipe? We would like to put together boxes/bags of cookies to sell to the Veterans on Pearl Harbor Day. We would like to have a good selection of cookies to put in each box – a **Sign-up Sheet will be posted** so we don't end up with 10 dozen Chocolate Chip Cookies? 😊 All cookies will need to be delivered to church by December 3 so we can assemble the boxes. Please see Tina if you have questions.



CALLING ALL KIDS!

It is our favorite Time of Year **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT TIME!!!** Rehearsal/Part Selectioni **will start THIS SUNDAY, NOV. 12th.** That gives us 5 weeks to practice. Mrs. Tina picked a really cute Pageant that we can have a lot of fun with! BUT she needs your Commitment and ATTENDANCE to make it work!



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED ONCE A MONTH!! If you enjoy sharing coffee, a snack, 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. Come early – it takes about 15 minutes to set up and 15-20 minutes to clean up. If you're interested, please contact Carol Hall or Marti LaRue or see them on Sunday! Pick a Sunday in a month that you (and a friend) would like to be Hosts for Coffee Hour!

MEETING

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 10:00am 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

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 2023 SCHEDULE

~~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 (cancelled)~~
~~October 25 – Matthew 22:34-46 (cancelled)~~

~~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!

EVENTS

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>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIRCLE OF BLESSINGS

Parishioners will soon be given details about a project in which we will all be invited and encouraged to participate. There will be ornaments that we will write our reflection on how God has blessed our lives (it will not be necessary to sign your name). It is our vision that this *Circle* will be kept up for the rest of the year, perhaps longer – we always have blessings, not just at Thanksgiving. Sponsored by the Hospitality Team.

PLUCK A TURKEY

Because we need to replenish our supplies in the Kitchen, each “feather” (leaf) on the turkey will have an item that the kitchen needs. Pluck as many feathers as you would like and then start bringing in your “donations”!

MARGY'S TREE

We will be honoring The Rev. Margy Pumphrey again this year by decorating the Christmas tree with socks, hats, mittens/gloves for local children. Betty & Butch VanHekle will be spearheading this project.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

We will be collecting food for families at Richey School. More details and a list of food items that are needed will be forthcoming.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

October 6, 2023 – Issue 2 (Updated November 10, 2023)



Congratulations

As announced in last week's Issue, Nazeef Bush, a freshman at William Penn High School, is now running on the Varsity Cross-Country Team!

He also recently won the State Championship – Division I Cross-Country, and will be running this Saturday, November 11 at 10:00 am at the Brandywine Creek State Park! All are welcome to go to the Meet! If you're not able to attend, please congratulate Nazeef if you see him at church!



I hope that you will share things about young people you know. This will also give each of us something to talk about when we encounter these members of our church.

To submit details about your Young Person, please email information (and if you desire, a picture) to: martilarue828@gmail.com. Please know that by sending us a picture, you will be authorizing and agreeing to having your youth's picture appear in our newsletter.

MISCELLANEOUS

PLEASE TAKE NOTE!

Thank you to everyone who saved and donated all their plastic items (bottle caps, bottles, etc.)! We have met the maximum discount that we can receive for the bench, so there is no need to collect any more.

CHURCH EXPENSES

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!

ALTAR FLOWERS

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: St. James Church. 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.

CORAL SPRINGS NURSING HOME

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.

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.

CALENDAR – NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 12

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service (with choir) – 10:00 a.m.

Folding of the American Flag as part of our service for Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 15

Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. in Lounge

Sunday, November 19

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service (with choir) – 10:00 a.m.

Baptism during service

Vestry Meeting – in Lounge after worship service

Wednesday, November 22

Bible Study – **NO CLASS**

Thursday, November 23

Have a Happy & Safe Thanksgiving!


Sunday, November 26

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service (with choir) – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 29

Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. in Lounge

<p><u>NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS</u></p> 	1	– Owen Geist	24	– Kristi Pham
	13	– Becky Purdy	26	– Ike Hammond
	15	– Jim Bender	26	– Jennifer Erdman
	17	– Amber Luckey	27	– Christopher Luckey
	17	– Anna Sheesley	27	– Jen Wills McClellan
	18	– Brad Pastore, Jr.		
	18	– Cavin Luckey		
	19	– Art Scotten		
	19	– Jim Biggs		
	22	– Lisa Bowe		

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK :

For Veterans Day: “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” – *John F. Kennedy*

ST. JAMES VESTRY

Sr. Warden: George McDowell

Jr. Warden: Tina Geist

Christian Education Chair: Tina Geist

Finance: George McDowell/Tina Geist

Outreach Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Janice Fischbach

Pastoral Care Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Marti LaRue

Property Chairs: Tom Reilly and Andi Bender

Hospitality/Fellowship Chairs: Marti LaRue and Carol Hall

Worship Chairs: John Grim and Dawn Martinez

Recording Secretary: Marti LaRue

Clerk of the Vestry: Janice Fischbach



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

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.*

Rev. 10/20/23