



# STEEPLE NOTES

## *Newsletter for the family and friends of St. James' Episcopal Church*

*The Rev. Robin Martin, Interim Rector*

*The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel 3rd, Bishop Provisional*

409 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335

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## *June 2014*

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; \* I will praise my God while I have my being.

~ Psalm 104:34

### ***From the Interim Rector...***

One of the things the Alabama Plan of Stewardship education that I referenced in the May *Steeple Notes* highly recommended was the use of lay witnesses during worship on a Sunday or two during the fall pledge campaign. The point was to let people who had thought seriously about their own stewardship as a theological matter rather than as a purely financial decision have the chance to share their thoughts with fellow members of the congregation. It is a practice we adopted at the Church of the Advent during my years as rector, and I have to tell you I've heard some wonderful stories through the years. But last month I promised to tell you about Lex

Lex Grainger was a parishioner at St. Alban's in Birmingham, Alabama where my husband John served as rector before we moved to Philadelphia. That would make this story at least thirty-five years old. Lex and Barbara had children about the same ages as our sons, and Barbara and I quickly became friends. At some point Lex was elected to the Vestry, and one year he was asked to talk about stewardship as I described above. I've never forgotten his talk.

Actually I *have* forgotten most of what he said, but I've never forgotten what he did. At some point he pulled out a crisp one dollar bill and told us how he came to grips with returning a proportion or percentage of his income to God with the tithe of 10% as the goal. I can no longer remember the numbers he used, and they would seem laughably small after all these years anyway. But he held up that dollar bill and worked his way through a summary of their monthly expenses of things like food, utilities, mortgage payment, pledge to the church etc. As he named each category and approximately how much it cost he very carefully tore off a strip of that dollar bill that was sized in relationship to the percentage of his income each of those expenses represented. The congregation was mesmerized.

The crowning moment of this little exercise in the willful mutilation of U.S. currency came when he tore off a strip of that dollar to represent what he paid each month in dues to the Mountain Brook Country Club where he was a member. The crux of Lex's stewardship witness was realizing how much *more* of his money he gave to preserve his privileges at the club than he gave to further the work of God's kingdom through St. Alban's Church where his children had been baptized and came weekly to learn about God in worship and Sunday School, and where he and Barbara focused many of their efforts to serve God in the world.

I've never forgotten that day because when we talk about stewardship we're talking about conversion. When we talk about conversion, we're talking about what is for many, if not most of us an often gradual process of turning

*(See Rector on page 3)*

## SUNDAY “MATTERS”!

Matter (n.) a situation, state or business Matter (v.) to be of importance

It was early on a beautiful Easter morning. The new doors were wide open for the first time to welcome everyone into the building. Pat Wood, the greeter at the early service that day, arrived in plenty of time to station herself by the visitor’s book at the far end of the hall to...well, “greet” people as they entered. She was doing a splendid job. At some point I was standing and chatting with her when a couple I recognized came in and drew near. Pat greeted them enthusiastically and asked if they were visiting. For a split second they looked startled, but quickly recovered and responded that they normally came to the late service, but were worshipping early because they had to be somewhere else later that morning. I giggled and said to them that I thought Pat was joking with them because I’m still new enough here that I don’t expect to “know” people who long-timers in the parish like Pat don’t recognize.

I’m sharing this with you because it is a great example of how things *should* work.

So many times through the years when I have encouraged and sometimes chided the people in my former congregation to be proactive in greeting and engaging people in addition to their regular cohorts, the response was often that they were afraid they would offend someone who had been in the congregation longer than they had, someone whose name they “ought” to know. The great thing about the incident here at St. James on Easter morning just passed is that Pat didn’t miss a beat. She welcomed them anyway. And the couple who I can see in my mind this very minute but whose names I cannot retrieve (and whose pictures I cannot find in the parish directory, **hint, hint!**), were not offended, just glad to be welcomed.

The fact is, the task of greeting people in God’s house is everyone’s business not just a job for designated persons on specific dates. Below is the “job” description for a scheduled greeter at any service on Sunday morning. Except for the part about arriving in a timely fashion these are marching orders for everyone in the congregation from the youngest to the oldest among us. If you would like to take on formal responsibility as a scheduled greeter, let me know with a call or an email [sjcrector@verizon.net](mailto:sjcrector@verizon.net) As always, comments are welcome.

*Robin+*

### GETTING READY

Arrive **20 minutes before the service begins.**

Put on your name tag.

Position yourself at the entry doors.

Welcome people as they enter and help them if they need it.

If they are new to the church, direct them toward the church. Don’t hesitate to deputize others to help you with this.

Stay at your post until about five minutes after the service begins.

Join the service in progress.

### GETTING OUT

After taking communion, move to the back of the church.

After the final blessing, move into the chapel and join the rector in greeting people as they leave.

If someone new comes through the line, ask them if they would like coffee and ask a parishioner to escort them to Bartholomew Hall.

Before you leave take off your name tag and replace it on the board.



Weer'e back. Yes finally the shop has opened to eager attendance after the closure of many weeks of construction. The first few days were slow but the advertising on WCHE radio station and Craig's List brought eager shoppers back to St.

James. Our customers were so happy that we opened and heard positive and encouraging comments. We were really missed.

During the absence we took the opportunity to eliminate all the fall winter paraphernalia and remove all the household items off the shelves. We replaced everything with spring items which includes quite an array of ladies capris and short sleeve items. The men's department was also stocked with summer weight khakis and t-shirts as well as light weight dress shirts. There is an abundance of baseball hats and straw hats as well.

We were still able to receive glassware and household items from the Palm Tree at Paoli so that we have quite a selection of new articles. Not being able to use our entrance was somewhat tricky getting things downstairs but it was accomplished.

During our closing we had two storms which flooded the thrift shop. Thanks to Martin who salvaged everything except a few stuffed animals. There was a silver lining to this event in that when the shop vac sucked up the water along came the debris which made the shop a lot cleaner.

With the front entrance inaccessible the Mennonites were unable to pick up our unused clothing. We generated quite a pile of black bags to be relegated to the shed. We are grateful that Judy Benne rounded up several volunteers to do this heavy job. We want to thank John Bartholomew, Sam Benne, Rich Carango, Ed Engel, Bill Kirk and Tripp Tyner. This effort was definitely appreciated.

As you are aware of the new traffic patterns in front of the shop be aware that you can still drop off your items directly in front of our door but no longer on the side of the entrance. These parking spaces have been eliminated.

Thank you for your support. Hope to see you shopping or donating.  
*Anna Filoromo*

*(Continued from page 1)*

our hearts and minds and resources more and more toward God. Conversion, lasting conversion, always involves a reordering of our priorities so that what we say we believe becomes what we do.

No matter how gifted you and I might be, no matter how hard we work, conversion to a deeper faith means recognizing that God has given us everything we are and everything we have. No matter how much or how little we have, that's 100% of what we have to work with and manage as stewards of those gifts.

*Robin Martin+*

**DO YOU LIKE COFFEE?  
CAN'T GET THE MORNING  
STARTED WITHOUT IT?  
THEN TRY OUR  
GUATEMALA COFFEE!**

The delicious coffee that is served at Coffee Hour and most gatherings at St. James' is Juan Ana Coffee from San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala; it is purchased as part of our outreach program. It is farmed and produced by individual families. The farmers previously worked on large plantations, but now can own the land they farm to support their families. Donations at coffee hour help to pay for this coffee. You may also buy the coffee for your own use. It also makes a lovely gift and comes in an attractive bag. The cost is \$9 for a 17 ounce bag and is available in regular ground, regular whole bean, and dark roast whole bean. For more information contact Barb Monaghan at [monaghanbarbara@hotmail.com](mailto:monaghanbarbara@hotmail.com)

***Dear Friends of St. James'***

*I want to thank you for your cards, prayers, and kind words after the lost of my husband, Art Tompkin. Singing in the choir at St. James' was his passion as was his other outreach activities for the church. Each week he would deliver the food from the shopping cart to the Lord's Pantry and help us in the Thrift Shop carrying boxes, taking out the trash and anything else we could think of. He loved doing for others.*

*Again, thank you for your love and support during this difficult time.*

*God bless,  
Shirley Tompkin*

# SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY MINISTRIES FOR JUNE 2014

	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Chalicians</b>	<b>Counters</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>June 1</b> <b>7:45am</b>	Bev & George Hotton	Lloyd Pettit	Scott Settle	Scott Settle Mary Anne Feeley	George Hotton (P) Scott Settle	Ron Meacham Don Vivian	Leslie Smith	Ann Anderson Cathy Weisser Luann McIlvaine	Daughters of the King	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11
<b>9:00am</b>	Hud & Kathy Voltz	Pete & Terri Silvester	Zach Lindner Zoey Lindner	Diane Umile	Pete Silvester (P) Tripp Tyner					
<b>11:00am</b>	Marita Grashof	Matt & Jenn	Bill Mason (VS)	Joe Belluso	Sandy Hodson (P)					
<b>June 8</b> <b>7:45am</b>	Shirley Tompkin	Gene Sullivan	Don Vivian	Don Vivian Gail Gilbert	John Landis (P) Chet Whiting	George Hotton Ed Miller	Jean Frank		Volunteers Needed	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39 Psalm 104:25-35, 37
<b>9:00am</b>	Ken & Peggy Leister	Ron & Karen Meacham Hud & Kathy Voltz	Zach Lindner Zoey Lindner Bill Mason (V) Zach Voltz (S) Chris Voltz (C)	Karen Meacham Sandy Hodson Peggy Leister	Rich Carango (P) Nancy Cianfrani Dick McConnell (P) Rebecca Ward					
<b>11:00am</b>	Ken & Peggy Leister	Hud & Kathy Voltz	Bill Mason (V) Zach Voltz (S) Chris Voltz (C)	Sandy Hodson Peggy Leister	Dick McConnell (P) Rebecca Ward					
<b>June 15</b> <b>7:45am</b>	Gerry & Jean Frank	Jack Mea	Chet Whiting	Chet Whiting Florence Vivian	Don Vivian (P) Scott Settle	Nancy Cianfrani Barb Monaghan	Sandy Hodson		Volunteers Needed	Genesis 1:1-2:4a Psalm 8 or Canticle 2 or 13 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20
<b>9:30am</b>	Judy Craig	Tony & Jeanie Carroll	Bill Mason (V) Essi Brink (CS) David Brink (T) Timmy Gemmell (T)	Matt Ryan JoAnne Mattia	Carl Grashof (P) Peggy Leister					
<b>June 22</b> <b>7:45am</b>	Sis Lonsdale	Chet Whiting	John Landis	Chet Whiting Dawn Filetti	John Landis (P) George Hotton	Karen Meacham Terri Silvester	Lee Edmonds			Genesis 21:8-21 or Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 86 or 69 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
<b>9:30am</b>	Peggy Bicknese	Matt & Carol Ryan	Bill Mason (V) Karen Samuelson (S) Zach Voltz (T) Chris Voltz (T)	Bruce Shipley Becky Leister	Karen Samuelson (P) Bill Mason					
<b>June 29</b> <b>7:45am</b>	Pat Wood	Luann McIlvaine	Ryan Feeley	Ryan Feeley George Hotton	Ryan Feeley (P) Chet Whiting	Marilyn Miller Bev Hotton	Leslie Smith		Men of Integrity	Genesis 22:1-14 or Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 13 or 89 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42
<b>9:30am</b>	Ron & Karen Meacham	Bruce Shipley Steve Sharamatew	Bill Mason (V) Essi Brink (CS) David Brink (T) Timmy Gemmell (T)	Dick McConnell Tripp Tyne	Dick McConnell (P) Peter Glidden					

If you are unable to serve when scheduled please try to find someone to take your place.  
You can also contact Nancy Cianfrani cnfm@comcast.net for help finding a substitute.

# \*\*\*Calendar for June 2014\*\*\*

Calendar subject to changes/additions/corrections - Contact the parish office to schedule use of the building

## Sunday, June 1, The Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary  
*Nursery care 9am to noon*  
10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in  
Bartholomew Hall  
10:00am Sunday School and Rite 13 classes  
11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Traditional

## Wednesday, June 4

9:30am Weekly Meditation Group - Chapel

## Thursday, June 5

7:15pm Forever Endeavor rehearsal - Sanctuary  
7:30pm Choir rehearsal - BH

## Saturday, June 7

9am - 1pm Thrift Shop open for sales and donations  
Bartholomew Hall in use all day

## Sunday, June 8, The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

*Don't forget to wear red, orange, or yellow*

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Contemporary  
*Nursery care 9am to noon*  
10:00am Coffee hour and fellowship in  
Bartholomew Hall  
10:00am Sunday School and Rite 13 classes  
11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II - Price Baptism

## Wednesday, June 11

9:30am Weekly Meditation Group - Chapel

*Robin will be out of town from June 11 through June 17*

## Sunday, June 15, The First Sunday after Pentecost

### Trinity Sunday

*Guest preacher and celebrant*

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
*Nursery care during the 9:30 service*  
10:30am Coffee hour and fellowship in  
Bartholomew Hall  
10:45pm Vestry Meeting

## Wednesday, June 18

9:30am Volunteers to assemble Newsletter  
9:30am Weekly Meditation Group - Chapel

## Friday, June 20

11am Book Club meets at Panera Bread in Exton

## Saturday, June 21

9am - 1pm Thrift Shop open for sales and donations

## Sunday, June 22, The Second Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
*Nursery care during the 9:30 service*  
10:30am Coffee hour and fellowship in  
Bartholomew Hall

## Wednesday, June 25

9:30am Weekly Meditation Group - Chapel

## Thursday, June 26

Bus trip to Reading Phillies baseball game  
Bus leaves St. James' parking lot at 4:30pm sharp!!  
Game starts at 7:05pm

## Sunday, June 29, The Third Sunday after Pentecost

7:45am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
*Nursery care during the 9:30 service*  
10:30am Coffee hour and fellowship in  
Bartholomew Hall



**WE NEED  
COFFEE HOUR  
VOLUNTEERS!**

**Sign up sheet is on the  
bulletin board in the  
hallway**

### **Support Group Meetings In Bartholomew Hall**

Monday	7:00pm	Monday Message Open AA
Tuesday:	8:00pm	NA
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month	8:00pm	District AA
Friday:	8:00pm	AA and AI Anon
Saturday:	6:30pm	AA

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! FROM BIRTHRIGHT

The generosity of the members of St. James' Church is beyond words for the huge outpouring of beautiful gifts for the baby shower that kicked off the Lenten Outreach Sacrifice. The Baby Bottle Drive that was distributed to the Sunday School children and the entire Church during Lent, amounted to an astounding amount of \$1,092.07 collected for Birthright of Coatesville. Plus an additional \$42 was given by Nancy Cianfrani from the sale of her handmade animals. Birthright is extremely grateful for all that everyone has done and the gifts of this Outreach went well beyond material giving.

There were three women who approached me with an interest in volunteering at Birthright. A member of the Church referred a young girl to Birthright in need of our help. Letting people know we are here to help all women is most important and after speaking with so many interested people I know that goal was achieved. Thank you to Bernice Burgess who has offered to sew, with her group, nursing coverups for our Moms. The woman who made them prior had just moved and I didn't even verbally ask for help with that need yet. God answered an unspoken prayer and has filled so many of our needs with the love and generosity of the members of St. James. The children put their little treasures, such as rings and legos, in the bottles as extra gifts for the babies. They truly have the Spirit of giving. Thank you all for sharing your time, talents and treasures with such a worthy, blessed ministry.

Birthright, is all volunteer, all donation and everything that is done and given, is free, to Mothers and their babies in crisis or need. It really shouldn't survive in these hard economic times but it does, with God reaching out and people like you stepping out in faith to answer His call to help His poor and those in the most need. My family feels blessed to be a part of this loving, caring, generous family of Christ-like people at St. James' Church. A special thank you to the Outreach Ministry for choosing Birthright and with Robin and Luann for all they did to help make this Lenten Sacrifice such a huge success.

With heartfelt thanks from our Mothers, babies and their families as well as all the volunteers at Birthright of Coatesville for helping us in so many ways to be able to help so many. You will be remembered in our prayers as we ask for your prayers,

## SUNDAY MINISTRIES

We have placed a small white board, titled "Ministers for the Service" on the wall next to the vesting sacristy door and across from the coat rack. We are using it as a form of communication to let us know when you are **NOT** available to serve on Sunday. Please take a moment on Sunday to enter your name on the dates you are **NOT** available to serve for the months of July and August.

We are also taking a look at the overall schedule for all the Sunday ministries and how many ministries overlap with in each service and from service to service. A couple of members have offered to do the scheduling for all the ministries each month instead of having 5 or 6 different volunteers making separate schedules and the office having to make adjustments.

If you find after the schedule has been published, you are unable to service for a Sunday you are scheduled, please try to find a substitute or contact Nancy Cianfrani at [cnfrn@comcast.net](mailto:cnfrn@comcast.net) or 484-341-8051 for assistance

Thank you for dedication to these ministries  
Robin and Luann

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### HUDSON L. VOLTZ, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

*Small Business ~ Family Law ~ Estate Planning & Probate ~ Real Estate Law*  
**THE LAIRD PROFESSIONAL BUILDING** 610-518-9500  
110 HOPEWELL ROAD, SUITE 200  
DOWNTOWN, PA 19335-1047 Fax 610-518-5316  
E-mail: [voltzlaw@comcast.net](mailto:voltzlaw@comcast.net)

Mr. Voltz is a member; serving the St. James' Community  
for Real Estate, Family, Business and Estate matters for the past 20 years

# May Birthdays

Pilar Pitalue	June 2	Nicole Kosits	June 21
Leah Umile	June 3	Barb DiOttavio	June 23
Frank Torelli	June 4	Nathaniel Johnson	June 23
Janice Keller	June 5	Zoey Lindner	June 23
Karen Samuelson	June 7	John Morgan	June 23
Alice Smith	June 8	Gwen Settle	June 23
Charlie Kimber	June 9	Chris Kerr	June 24
Precious Turay	June 10	Megan Craig	June 25
Olivia Halpin	June 11	Kyle Flanagan	June 25
Ryan Halpin	June 11	Amanda McCann	June 25
Andrew Leister	June 11	Liam Rupp	June 25
Jake Harding	June 14	Cameron Scott	June 26
Tim Edge	June 15	Ed Engel Jr.	June 28
Carys Wallace	June 15	Sis Lonsdale	June 28
Cathy Dazio	June 16	Seth Adams	June 29
Charlotte Barger	June 18	Charles Hess	June 30
Carol McConnell	June 18		

## *June Altar Flowers are offered in loving memory of*

### **June 1**

*Scott R. Smyth (Granddad) and all of our loved ones*

### **June 8**

*Michael Cianfrani*

*Mary Cross*

### **June 15**

*Gwenn Yearsley Voss and William Yearsley*

### **June 22**

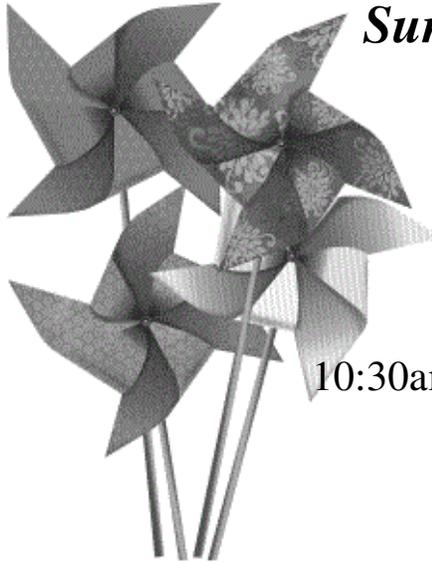
*Christine Pirro and Florence Vendetti*

*Altar Flowers can be given in memory of or in thanksgiving of a loved one. Please fill in the date you would like in the Altar Gild Flower Book located on the table by the main entrance. Envelopes for payment are next to the book.*

**Deadline for the July/August issue of the Steeple Notes is due June 10th.**

**Please submit articles and calendar events to the parish office via email**

**[sjeparishoffice@verizon.net](mailto:sjeparishoffice@verizon.net)**



## *Sunday Service Schedule for the Summer Begins June 15*

7:45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Traditional

*Nursery Care: during the 9:30am service*

10:30am Fellowship and Coffee Hour in Bartholomew Hall

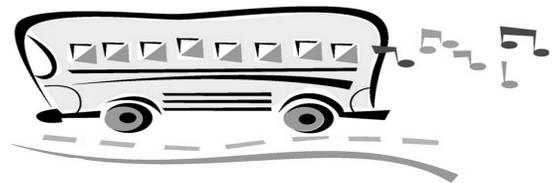
### **Celebrate Your Faith Night with the Reading Fightin Phils!**

#### **June 26th ~ Fightin Phils vs. Portland Seadogs**

**Bus leaves at 4:30pm sharp from the church parking lot.**

**Game starts at 7:05pm**

**A GREAT OUTING FOR FAMILIES!** Join us on the bus for an exciting trip to see the Reading Fightin Phils play ball. We will meet with some of the players before the game and learn how their faith has made a difference in their life. The cost is \$9 per ticket and includes a seat on the bus



#### ***Sunday Service Schedule through June 8th***

7:45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Contemporary Music

*Nursery care during the 9am and 11am service*

10:00am Fellowship and Coffee Hour in Bartholomew Hall

10:00am Christian Education Classes

11:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Traditional Music

#### ***Wednesday Meditation Group***

The group meets each Wednesday at 9:30am in the Chapel.

#### **Rector**

The Rev. Robin Martin, Interim Rector  
sjrector@verizon.net

#### **Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper**

Luann McIlvaine  
sjcparishoffice@verizon.net

#### **Christian Education Coordinator**

Beth Sharamatew  
sjcsundayschool2@verizon.net

#### **Parish Office ~ 610-269-1774**

Monday : 10am - 3pm

Tuesday – Thursday: 9:00am – 3:00pm, Closed Friday

#### **Thrift Shop ~ 610-873-7812**

Monday - Thursday: 10:00am – 3:00pm

1st & 3rd Saturdays each month: 9am - 1pm

#### **St. James Preschool ~ 610-269-0525**

www.stjamespreschool.com

#### **Vestry Members - Term 2015**

Judy Benne Home: 610-286-6141  
Rich Carango Home: 610-518-0399  
Nancy Cianfrani Home: 484-341-8051  
Brooke Giffi Home: 610-594-2712

#### **Vestry Members - Term 2016**

Tricia DeBlander Home: 703-403-9003  
Tim Gemmell Home: 610-431-7174  
Bruce Shipley Home: 215-368-0542  
Matt Wagner Home: 610-873-2419

#### **Vestry Members - Term 2017**

Laura Harting Home: 610-363-5258  
Peggy Leister Home: 610-696-5271  
Dick McConnell Home: 610-524-2447  
Ron Meacham Home: 610-269-9352