

**ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
405 EAST MAIN STREET
BATAVIA, NEW YORK**

NEWSLETTER — DECEMBER 2016

***Advent is the Coming of Our Beginning
Rooted in our Creation***



*A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the
peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be
glorious.
Isaiah 11: 1-2, 10*

A Jesse Tree is an ancient Advent tradition that shows the figures and stories of the Old Testament as leading up to the birth of Christ. Jesse, the father of King David is shown at the root of the tree.

A Jesse-Tree c. 1535,
Attributed to Girolamo Genga

My dear friends,

In Advent we hear readings from the ancient prophecies of Isaiah and also read about John the Baptist. Isaiah impels us to recall our beginnings—our nature as beloved children of God who have rebelled and often gone astray. John the Baptist points directly at Jesus and says “This one is the Son of God, and he will take away your sins.” He is your future.

Advent is an invitation to move into our future. Walter Brueggemann, a prominent theologian, said “Advent is our decision to trust the new wind against the hopeless stump of what has failed.” Advent is our opportunity to move boldly into our future, into the new life that God has prepared for us. Join with me in this exciting season, as we welcome the Christ Child into the world and into our hearts.

Your sister in Christ,
Mother Bonnie+

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Much is being done at St. James as the year winds down. It is now Advent, soon Christmas and after that our annual meeting in January. In that period of time we have much to do while we make preparations for the coming of Christ.

Of course the grandest news of this season was the Vestry vote to offer the permanent full time position of Rector to Mother Bonnie. In nearly a year as your Senior Warden this was hands down the easiest decision the Vestry and Wardens had to make. All eleven of us knew that she was and is a gift to St. James from God, which we gladly accepted in the name of the congregation. Over the next ten months or so the Vestry and Wardens will be working hard to put together an agreement between St. James and Mother Bonnie to take effect in September when the current agreement is up.

The Finance Committee is hard at work preparing the budget for 2017. There have been and will be some major changes which will have to be considered such as the rental income from the Rectory, a full time Rector, some routine physical improvements and the possibility of a bookkeeper to assist the parish administrator and treasurers.

In the realm of finances, we have been receiving a number of donations to make specific improvements on campus. Some are from named donors, some anonymous. This program of Adopt-a-Project has snowballed from two such donations this past summer. Recently, the northwest nave entrance had new handrails installed. These were necessary to use that door. The center handrail at the old office entrance will be removed and reinstalled to the side and a new one added to the other side. Also, the ramp to the handicapped entrance will be refurbished. Work is also being done to improve the "Turner" entranceway. Much of this can be done because of the generosity of members of the congregation. Mother Bonnie, Russ and I appreciate so much this commitment of both financial resources and volunteer work that has been provided.

Lastly, St. James has been notified by the Diocese that we will be assigned a Permanent Deacon, one of just two. Once again we have been blessed with another individual to contribute to the lasting success of St. James.

In closing, may all of you have a blessed and holy Christmas filled with the love of Christ.

Jim Neider, Senior Warden

FROM THE JR. WARDEN:

St. James Adopt-a-Project

The St. James Maintenance Team has put together an “Adopt-a-Project” Program. We will let parishioners know what needs to be done around our buildings and grounds, and invite any interested people to help fund these projects. You can adopt all or part of any project. If you have a “special-to-you” area that you would like to fund, please let me know.

Please note that funding these projects is in addition to your pledge or weekly plate donation. As a donor you can request that we make know that YOU donated for this project or you can choose to be anonymous, it’s up to you.

Projects for Adoption:

1. Painting of the Parish Hall and kitchen exterior doors, frames and inside trim, three doors in total. Project Quote: \$145 for labor and materials
2. Cleaning off the outside steel landing and stairs from the kitchen entrance, repainting with special exterior paint. Project Quote: \$600 for labor and materials.
3. Handicap ramp project. Cut out old steel deck and replace with a new mesh deck. Re-weld needed supports; add new supports for mesh style deck. Also included are any necessary repairs to supports, railings, foundation posts etc., as needed. Complete new paint job to the entire handicap ramp and frame work. Project Quote: \$2,156 for labor and materials.
4. Buy new floor mats for the entrances. Vary in length and numbers for various entrances. Quote for each 6 foot mat: \$50. You can fund one or as many as needed.
5. Stairlifts for the stairs between the nave and the choir room and for the stairs into the Parish Hall. If new, the cost is \$3,000 each. Occasional a refurbished unit is available for roughly half that.

Other Projects being planned:

1. Replacement windows for the choir room
2. Cleaning, sanding and painting of the red square floor area of the nave
3. Refinishing and painting of the Parish Hall floor

4. New lighting for a number of areas around the church
5. Paining of various areas.

Thank you St. James! These projects have already been funded.

1. Paining of walls, ceiling and necessary repair (covers) to exposed pipes in the old robe room, basement level. Project Quote: \$185 for labor and materials
2. Build two railings (same style as rest of church entrances) for the N.W. exterior steps. Paint the new railings and install them on the steps. Project Quote: \$500 for labor and materials
3. Re-do the Turner entrance inside. Repair walls and ceiling, remove old fire alarm system. Custom build a wood cabinet under the window. Build a shelf unit each side of the window, with and including a coat hanger system. Paint entire inside entrance area to top of stairs. Paint self, coat racks and cabinet. Install a new ceiling light. Project Quote: \$1,000 for labor and materials.

If you have suggestions for Adopt-a-Project, please let me know.

As you know, this idea has gone over well to date, and we have hand donors for the front door project, painting of the wall by the front doors, stains glass sill repairs, repairs on the slab at the Turner entrance and wall, drain line repairs, painting of railings, weather strips to doors, repair and rebuild of the steps outside the N.W. entrance, drop pins on doors, Formica repairs, repairs on Parish Hall outside bottom blocks with black-top repairs, sealing of the entire east parking lot, and parking stripes, poured concrete entrance to the thrift store stairwell, railing painted---and many more.

Thank you to all those who have donated funds and/or labor for all of these projects. The funds donated here save us from taking that amount out of our operating budget for the church.

Thanks,
 Russ Dvoroznak
 Jr. Warden/Maintenance Team/Property Committee
 Phone: 585-737-1577
 Email: bonnie3473@yahoo.com or russ3473@yahoo.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

We pray God's blessing be with you on your special day and every day.
Nancy Harrington 12/1 Lilo Townsend 12/9 Theresa DeMars 12/14
Charles Bradley, Jr. 12/22 Peg Abrams 12/23 Wayne Judkins 12/23
Gregg Ely 12/28 James Bestine 12/29



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS AT ST. JAMES



Advent Potluck Dinners and Bible Study

Thursdays in Advent: 6:00 p.m.

Dec 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Bring a dish to pass and join in the conversation.

Dinner at 6, clean up at 6:45, bible study at 7,
closing prayer at 8.



Genesee Chorale Christmas Concert "The Rose"

Friday, Dec. 9th 7:00 p.m.



Christmas Concert

featuring

Emily Tworek-Helenbrook

Friday, Dec. 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Admission: \$10,

\$8 for students and seniors,

\$25 for a family



Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 18th at 4:00 p.m.

Followed by our **Parish Christmas Party**, 5:00 p.m.



Christmas Eve

Family Holy Eucharist with candle light at 5:30 p.m.

Brass and organ prelude at 10:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist with candle light, brass and organ at 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day:

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.



NEWS FROM ST. JAMES

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE Check the back of the church and you'll see a small Christmas tree. This year we are decorating it with hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks for those in need. If you would just drop a donation off on the tree or in the box we will see that it is delivered to an appropriate agency in time for Christmas. Please bring in your contribution by Sunday, December 18th.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE BAKING DAY Our annual baking day will be on Saturday, December 17th. Bakers will be there at 9:00 AM. Come whenever you can and stay for as long as you can. All the basic ingredients will be provided. If your recipe calls for something unusual, please bring it along or let us know so we can pick it up for you. There will be cookbooks and recipes available. Or perhaps you have a favorite cookie you'd like to bake. Lots of cookies are needed this year. We will be serving them on Sunday, the 18th, after morning service at Coffee Hour and after Lessons and Carols that evening. Also some will be packaged in cookie tins and delivered to our fellow parishioners who can't get out to come to church. Always a good time. Hope to see many people there.

THINK CHRISTMAS WITH SCRIP CARDS – Have Christmas Gifts to buy? Yes, me too! Do your annual shopping the easy way and support St. James at the same time! Information on ordering cards will be available at coffee hour and from the church office.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate: By the Grace of God and with the consent of the people The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin, Bishop of Western New York will ordain Susan Lee Firestine and Diana Lousie Leiker to the Sacred Order of Deacons Saturday December 10, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral, 139 Pearl Street Buffalo, New York. Your prayers and presence are requested

DeVeaux Scholarship – the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York and Niagara University offer this scholarship to high school seniors who are considering entrance to Niagara University. This is a average of \$3,000, depending on financial aid and also the number of applicants. If your student/child is interested, it is simple to apply for this scholarship; all you need is a letter of recommendation from either Mother Bonnie or a church warden. The deadline for this scholarship is January 15, 2017.

Racial Equity Report—The Racial Equity Roundtable, on which Bishop Franklin is proud to serve, has issued a report on the state of our community and the benefits we could all receive from working for greater equity. You can find the report at racialeguitybuffalo.org.

RECIPE CORNER

This recipe was submitted by Diane Cox.

It was just one of the delicious dishes that we enjoyed at our first Advent Potluck Supper.

Sheet Pan Chicken Fajitas

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 red bell pepper
- 1 yellow bell pepper
- 1 poblano pepper (or sub. green bell pepper, if preferred)
- 2 jalapenos
- 1 large or 2 small onions
- 2 Tablespoons taco seasoning
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- 8-10 flour tortillas

Optional garnishes: cilantro, lime wedges, guacamole, sour cream, salsa

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Spray 13x18 sheet pan with oil.

Cut chicken breasts against the grain into $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide strips.

Cut bell and poblano peppers into long thin slices, approx. $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide.

Cut stem end from jalapenos and cut out membrane and seeds and then slice into thin rounds.

Slice onions. Scatter peppers onions and chicken onto sheet pan. Sprinkle on taco season and drizzle with olive oil. Toss to coat and spread in an even layer. Bake uncovered for 30

minutes, stirring halfway through. Wrap tortillas in foil and put in the oven with the fajita mixture for the last ten minutes of baking. Garnish with cilantro springs and lime wedges.

Serve with warm tortillas and optional toppings.

Make ahead convenience--refrigerate or freeze.

You can bake the fajitas immediately after assembly, or cover and refrigerate or freeze them for later. If you have the fridge space to accommodate a sheet pan, go ahead and get them assembled in the pan, cover them, and they're ready to bake later. They can be assembled and refrigerated a day in advance.

Please share your favorite recipe with us; whether it is for grilling, baking, cooking, or a quick-throw-together recipe. Every month we will share a recipe that is sent in. Please email them or drop them by the office.

DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICE PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULE

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25	January 1
EM 1	Jim Ellison	Terry McGuire	Theresa DeMars	Terry McGuire	Cathy Judkins
EM 2	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Jim Ellison	Jack Kershner	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Terry McGuire
EM Chantry	Russ Dvoroznak	Cathy Judkins	Barb Gray	-----	JackKershner
1st Lesson	Joan Ellison	Wayne Judkins	Jeff Gray	Theresa DeMars	Barb Gray
2nd Lesson	Chip McGuire	Joan Ellison	Keith Price	Jim Neider	Jeff Gray
Prayers of People	Steve Hawley	Liz Findlay	Jim Neider	Jack Kershner	Wayne Judkins
Acolytes	Scott Essig Jeff Tress	Alieda Blossom Diane Cox	Jaycob Belluscio Jeff Tress	Alieda Blossom	Jaycob Belluscio Diane Cox
Ushers	Diane & Kevin Skelton	Betsy Dexheimer Dean Perry	Kathy & Larry Belluscio	Chip McGuire Don Fox	Kathy & Larry Belluscio
Greeters	Wayne Townsend Russ Dvoroznak	Peg & Alan Abrams	Glen Hammond Russ Dvoroznak	Barb & Jeff Gray	Peg & Alan Abrams
Element Bearers	Don Fox Nancy Harrington	Kathy & Larry Belluscio	Barb & Jeff Gray	Barb & Jeff Gray	Bonnie & Russ Dvoroznak
Nursery		Joanne Fleming	Jo-Ann Bestine	-----	-----
Altar Guild	Bette Rung Carole Queal Bill Coughlin	Jo-Ann Bestine Joanne Fleming Donna Kauffman	Kathy Belluscio Karen & Harold Odell	Pat Roblee Jolene Folger Nancy Harrington	Bette Rung Carol Queal Bill Coughlin
Counters	Larry Belluscio Barb Pierce	John Swartz Barb Pierce	Larry Belluscio Dean Perry	John Swartz Bonnie Dvoroznak	Lilo Townsend Barb King
Coffee Hour	SOUP SUNDAY	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Terry McGuire	Dorian Ely	Jo-Ann Bestine
Flower Delivery	none	none	none	none	none

CHRISTMAS EVE Service Participant Schedule

	December 24 (5:30 service)	December 24 (10:30 service)
EM1	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Theresa DeMars
EM2	Judy Essig	Jim Ellison
EM Chantry	Russ Dvoroznak	-----
Lesson 1	Terry McGuire	Diane Cox
Lesson 2	Jim Neider	Joan Ellison
Prayers of the People	Rose Rumery	Larry Belluscio
Acolytes	Judy Essig Scott Essig Jaycob Belluscio	Diane Cox Alieda Blossom Dean Perry
Ushers	Nancy Harrington Dean Perry	Kathy & Larry Belluscio
Greeters	Wayne Townsend Glenn Hammond	Russ Dvoroznak Glenn Hammond
Element Bearers	Peg & Alan Abrams	Karen & Harold Odell
Altar Guild	Pat Roblee Jolene Folger Nancy Harrington	Pat Roblee Jolene Folger Nancy Harrington
Counters	John Swartz Dean Perry	Larry Belluscio Bonnie Dvoroznak

December Calendar

Abbreviations: HE = Holy Eucharist Gen. Chorale = Genesee Chorale Gen. Y. Chorale= Genesee Youth Chorale Choir Reh = Choir Rehearsal, C. Hour = Coffee Hour				1 9-2 Thrift Store 2:00 Wardens' mtg 6:00 Advent Potluck & Study	2	3
4 8:30-Choir Reh 10:00 HE Sunday School 11:15 Soup Sunday 11:20 Our Faith	5 6:00 Gen Y Chorale 7:00 Gen Chorale	6 7:00 Property Maintenance	7 11 HE	8 9-2 Thrift Store 2:00 Wardens' mtg 6:00 Advent Potluck & Study	9 7:00 Genesee Chorale concert	10 10:30 Ordination of Diana Leiker and Susan Firestine at St. Paul's Cathedral 1:00 Private Piano recital
11 8:30-Choir Reh 9-Usher/Greeter/EB Training 10:00 HE, Sun Sch 11:15 C. Hour 11:20 Our Faith	12 6:00 Gen Y Chorale 7:00 Gen Chorale	13 2:30 HE @ Gen County Nursing Home 5:30 ECW	14 11 HE	15 9-2 Thrift Store 2:00 Wardens' and Treasurer mtg 6:00 Advent Potluck & Study	16 7:00Emily Tworek- Helenbrook concert	17 9:00 Cookie Baking
18 8:30-Choir Reh 10:00 HE Sunday School 11:15 C. Hour 11:20 Our Faith 4:00 Festival of Lessons and Carols 5:00 Parish Christmas Party	19 6:00 Gen Y Chorale 7:00 Gen Chorale	20 7:00 Vestry	21 11 HE	22 9-2 Thrift Store 2:00 Wardens' mtg 6:00 Advent Potluck & Study	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5:30 Family HE 10:00 Brass and Organ Prelude 10:30 HE
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30-Choir Reh 10:00 HE 11:15 C. Hour 11:20 Our Faith	26 6:00 Gen Y Chorale 7:00 Gen Chorale	27 10:45 HE @ The Manor House	28 11 HE	29 9-2 Thrift Store 2:00 Wardens' mtg	30	31



St. James Episcopal Church

405 East Main Street

Batavia, NY 14020

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Weekday Services

Wednesday, 11 a.m. – Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

The Second Tuesday of the Month, 2:30 p.m. – Holy Eucharist at the Genesee County Nursing Home, 278 Bank Street, in the Mall Walk

The Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 10:45 a.m. – Holy Eucharist at The Manor House, 427 East Main Street, in the Grand Parlor

Everyone is Welcome!

Rector: The Rev. Bonnie F. Morris
rector.stjames@outlook.com

Choir Director: Theresa DeMars, Organist: David Lange
Administrator: Barb King, Sexton: Gerrit Wilk

Wardens:

Sr. Warden: Jim Neider, (585) 409-8891, jneider@rochester.rr.com

Jr. Warden: Russ Dvoroznak, (585) 737-1577, bonnie3473@yahoo.com

Vestry:

Diane Cox, Bonnie Dvoroznak, Jim Ellison, Elizabeth Findlay,
Dean Perry, Barbara Pierce, Ron Fancher, Lilo Townsend, Barb King

Co Treasurers:

Jim Ellison and Peter Mark

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