



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

NEWSLETTER—JULY 2016

My dear friends,

Let's talk about Brussel sprouts.

I had to eat them once when I was a kid and they were awful. I mean really bad. Over-boiled, mushy and bitter. But I didn't have a choice. I ate them. We were visiting and they were put before me, and I ate them. So, after this gastronomical disaster, I wouldn't even consider eating that awful cruciferous menace if I had any other option. Flash forward about 42 years. I had been invited to dinner at a friend's house. The weather was cold and snowy, but inside was welcome, warmth and friends. About 10 of us gathered around the beautifully set table and I saw the delicious meal set before us—it was heavenly! Until I saw the vegetables. You got it—Brussels sprouts. The voice of my kind and gentle mother echoed—"eat what is put before you". Does this sound familiar?

When Jesus sent the disciples out into the world in pairs to tell everyone about the Good News of God's love for all people, he gave his disciples some instructions. "Don't take any money; don't stay in hotels—if you are invited into a house, stay there. Eat the food they give you." He wanted his disciples to accept the generosity and hospitality of the people they were serving—to become a part of that community. I think that there is another message here as well. Sometimes our lives are filled with unpleasant, negative or hurtful things. Some things we can change. Some things we can't. Jesus reminds us over and over again that God is with us, we are with God. When faced with trouble we look to God for courage and patience to endure the difficult times and situations. Always look for the grace. And grace will be there.

Let me tell you the end of the dinner story. I tasted the Brussels sprouts put before me. They were perfectly roasted, wonderfully seasoned and absolutely delicious. It was all in the cooking, I realized. That hated vegetable became a favorite, transformed by care, love and the right recipe. God's love is like being served Brussels sprouts. God does not guarantee that our lives will be free of trouble. God's promise is that God's love is always with us, that God's grace abounds to transform us, to transform the reality of our experience from bitter to blessed.

Your Sister in Christ,
Mother Bonnie+

Senior Warden's Report

We are well into our "summer mode" – no choir, soon the altar will be at floor level and the front doors are open for air circulation. Also, the windows in the church hall can now be opened, which is a blessing with temps near 90 last Sunday. And Russ has finished the entrance near the far west drive. It is a thing of beauty and looks so much more welcoming than before. Well done Russ, and thank you!

We are well on our way to setting up our new system for dealing with maintenance. Our maintenance team is being formed up. This group of individuals will be able to address "minor" maintenance issues before they escalate without extensive meetings. Russ and his group will be able to identify and fix problems in a timely and cost effective manner. On the other hand the Building & Grounds Committee will revert to its original name of Property Committee. It will be charged with tackling more complex issues that will need more time to plan, cost more and require outside professionals to accomplish. If anyone is interested in serving on the Property Committee please see me, Russ or Mother Bonnie.

The Wardens and the Rector have also decided to start planning for elections over the summer. Hopefully this will avoid trying to round up candidates around the holidays. This year the vestry positions of Lilo Townsend (eligible for another term), Jim Ellison (not eligible for another term) and Liz Findlay (does not desire another term) are up for election. Also, the position of Junior Warden, currently held by Russ Dvoroznak, (wardens currently have no term limits) is up for election. A nominations committee is currently be formed. As soon as it is they will be seeking candidates for the elections at our annual meeting this coming January. If you are interested in running, please see me, any vestry member or Mother Bonnie for more information about what's involved.

Thanks,

Jim Neider, Senior Warden



Happy Birthday to our July Birthdays!

We pray God's blessing be with you on your special day and every day.

Bette Rung 7/2 Ann Chilano 7/3 Carol McManis 7/9
Richard Rung 7/9 Maureen Scoville 7/16 Shirley LeSeur 7/16
Amy Cassidy 7/16 Leah Rosenbeck 7/26

Music at St. James during the Summer

Our wonderful and hardworking choir is taking a well-deserved break during the summer months. In addition to the music of Dave Lange, our organist, we will be treated to guest soloists—both vocalists and instrumentalist. Come and enjoy the beauty as these talented individuals beckon us into the worship of our Lord God. **We have a special treat in store for July 10th, Emily Tworek-Helenbrook will be our soloist! Don't miss it!**

HAVE YOU NOTICED...

Some wonderful repairs and improvements have been made to our St. James buildings and grounds!

THANK YOU TO...

Russ Dvoroznak, Gary Hammond, Jack Kershner, and Dawn Mark for our beautifully restored double grey door entrance way.

Dawn Mark for the stone pathway and shrubbery maintenance in the loop.

Gary Hammond for the radiator cover in the back of the Nave, which he fashioned using wood from the pews that were removed to give more space in the crossing.

There is always more to! Talk to Jim Neider, Sr. Warden, or Russ Dvoroznak, Jr. Warden about joining the maintenance team, or about contributing time, supplies or funds to support these jobs.

Paint Can Fund



Around the church you will see paint cans. Another way to help with our improvements is to put a few dollars into the collection can. These funds will be used to make small repairs and improvements before they become major jobs.

Vacation

Mother Bonnie will be on vacation for the last two weeks in July. Pastor Carole Grant-White will be our celebrant at our services on July 17th and 24th. She will also be on-call for pastoral emergencies.

Diocese of Western New York Family Camp

September 2-4, 2016 -- Labor Day Weekend

Camp Asbury

16 Lakeside Ave.

Silver Lake, NY

(near Letchworth State Park)

A time to relax, have fun, explore faith & enjoy time with other Episcopalians

The weekend combines, fun, games, and worship

The program begins Friday evening and goes through Sunday morning.

Cost: \$60 adult, \$35 teen, \$25 child (4-12), under 4 free.

For information email Wendy Schumacher at weschumacher@episcopalwny.org

Rector's Discretionary Fund.

As has long been the tradition at St. James, the loose cash offering on the first Sunday of each month is dedicated to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Mother Bonnie uses this fund to help people in need. She says "There are always people in need, and it is a blessing and a privilege to me that our parish family entrusts me with the funds and ability to help and show God's love to individuals, families and organizations as need and circumstance arise. Please continue to place loose cash in the plates on the first Sunday of each month. If you would like to make a specific donation to the fund at any time, please write a check with "Rector's Discretionary Fund" in the memo line, or place cash in an envelope marked for the fund. Thank you very much for your willingness to help the people of our community, region and world."

Phone chain for announcements

We are working hard at St. James to make sure that we communicate all important information to our parish family in timely and accessible ways. We will continue to use our printed weekly bulletins and monthly newsletter as primary vehicles of information. We will also send out parish-wide emails for important reminders and notices of happenings during the week. Some of our parishioners don't use email – and – just as ALL ARE WELCOME, we believe that ALL ARE IMPORTANT and should get all of the news. To that end, we would like to create a phone chain for announcements for timely and important events such as deaths in our parish family, time changes, special events. Can you help? With little effort we can make sure that all of our parishioners are included in important information. If you would like to be on the phone chain, please contact Barb King in the office, 343-6802 or saint.james2@outlook.com

St. James Income and Expense Comparison

| Income for Jan-June 2016 | | Expenses for Jan-June 2016 | Net for Jan- June 2016 |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pledges, donations | 64,198 | | |
| Fundraising Income | 7,576 | | |
| Endowment Draw | 25,000 | | |
| Total | 96,775 | 102,813 | (6,038) |
| Income for Jan-June 2015 | | Expenses for Jan-June 2015 | Net for Jan- June 2015 |
| Pledges, donations | 65,953 | | |
| Fundraising Income | 6,600 | | |
| Endowment Draw | - | | |
| Total | 72,553 | 81,506 | (8,953) |

(2016 amounts are through June 29, 2016)

We all love (and deserve) a summer vacation.
Please don't forget your pledge to St. James during the summer months.
Our expenses don't take a vacation!

Crossroads House Upcoming Events

- **6th Annual Jerry "Rat" Cone Memorial Run**—July 9, 2016. Registration is at 9:15 AM, the ride begins at 11:00 AM. It is a relaxing motorcycle ride from Stan's Harley Davidson through the countryside and ends back at Stan's. Cost is \$20 for drivers and \$5 for riders. Your donation includes pancake breakfast, tailgate grilling after the ride and one raffle ticket. Music has been added this year from 1:00-3:00 p.m., provided by Bill Pitcher and friends. For more information call Jim at (585) 219-4826.
- **Annual Garage Sale** July 28, 29, and 30 at School Street behind Ficarella's. To arrange for donations call Val at 547-3347
- **16th Annual Van Hulburt Memorial Golf Tournament**—August 18th at Batavia County Club sponsored by the Hesperus Lodge of Bergen. Contact Marty at 494-2147.

July Sunday Worship Participants Schedule

| | July 3 | July 10 | July 17 | July 24 | July 31 |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| Chalice 1 | Jim Ellison | Judy Essig | Barb King | Carol Queal | Jo-Ann Bestine |
| Chalice 2 | Bonnie Dvoroznak | Theresa DeMars | Bonnie Dvoroznak | Theresa DeMars | Judy Essig |
| Chalice Chantry | | | | | |
| 1st Lesson | Barb Gray | Jim Neider | Lilo Townsend | Jeff Gray | Liz Findlay |
| 2nd Lesson | Jeff Gray | Keith Price | Jack Kershner | Barb Gray | Jack Kershner |
| Prayers of People | Steve Hawley | Liz Findlay | Rose Rumery | Steve Hawley | Rose Rumery |
| Acolytes | Dean Perry | Scott Essig | Jenna Essig | Jaycob Belluscio | Jeff Tress |
| Ushers | Peg & Alan Abrams | Kathy & Larry Belluscio | Don Fox Donna Kauffman | Peg & Alan Abrams | Kathy & Larry Belluscio |
| Greeters | Wayne Townsend Russ Dvoroznak | Kathy & Larry Belluscio | Russ Dvoroznak Wayne Townsend | Larry Belluscio Russ Dvoroznak | Cathy & Wayne Judkins |
| Element Bearers | Don Fox Donna Kauffman | Don Fox Nancy Harrington | Russ Dvoroznak Dean Perry | Karen & Harold Odell | Don Fox Russ Dvoroznak |
| Nursery | Amy Cassidy | Jenna Essig | Joanne Fleming | Amy Cassidy | Jenna Essig |
| Altar Guild | Jolene Folger Patricia Roblee Nancy Harrington | Kathy Belluscio Karen & Harold Odell | Bette Rung Carol Queal Bill Coughlin | Donna Kauffman Jo-Ann Bestine Joanne Fleming | Jolene Folger Pat Roblee Nancy Harrington |
| Counters | Larry Belluscio John Swartz | Larry Belluscio Lilo Townsend | John Swartz Lilo Townsend | Larry Belluscio Liz Findlay | John Swartz Liz Findlay |
| Coffee Hour | Kathy Belluscio | Bonnie Dvoroznak | Betsy Dexheimer | Karen & Harold Odell | Kathy Belluscio |
| Flower Delivery | Debbie Barone | Karen & Harold Odell | Lilo Townsend | Dean Perry | Debbie Barone |

July Calendar

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------|--|----|----|
| Abbreviations: HE = Holy Eucharist | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 10:00 HE 11:15 Coffee Hour | 4 Fourth of July Office closed | 5 2 Bldgs & Grounds | 6 11 HE | 7 9-2 Thrift Store 2 Wardens' Mtg | 8 | 9 |
| 10 10:00 HE 11:15 Coffee Hour 1:00 Mtg/Vestry Picnic | 11 | 12 5:30 ECW | 13 11 HE | 14 9-2 Thrift Store 2 Wardens' Mtg | 15 | 16 |
| 17 10:00 HE 11:15 Coffee Hour | 18 | 19 | 20 11 HE | 21 9-2 Thrift Store 2 Wardens' Mtg | 22 | 23 |
| 24 10:00 HE 11:15 Coffee Hour ***** 31 10:00 HE 11:15 Coffee Hour | 25 | 26 10:45 HE at The Manor House | 27 | 28 9-2 Thrift Store 2 Wardens' Mtg | 29 | 30 |



St. James Episcopal Church

405 East Main Street

Batavia, NY 14020

Rector: The Rev. Bonnie F. Morris

rector.stjames@outlook.com

Director of Music: Theresa DeMars

Organist: David Lange

Administrator: Barb King

Sexton: Gerrit Wilk

The Wardens and Vestry:

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 Treasurer: Jim Ellison

Co-Treasurer: Peter Mark

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