

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

NEWSLETTER— FEBRUARY 2018



My dear friends,

Two weeks ago we had our 202nd Annual Meeting. That's a lot of annual meetings! I can't help reflecting on the changes, both inside the church and out in the world, that these meetings must have witnessed. As the years go by so much changes, but the essentials stay the same. Our essentials: St. James is here in Batavia. We are here to worship, spread the Gospel and care for the world. 1815 or 2018 that remains true. As we discussed at our meeting, 2018 brings new challenges and new opportunities in our ministry. In my address to St. James, I focused on the areas of Worship, Outreach, and Finances. We start in worship and are strengthened to go out into the world with loving hearts and helping hands. These two are (and should be) our primary focus.

As spiritual people, as Christians, we cannot ignore the reality of what it takes to fund and support our mission. Our projected budget for 2018 is based on the willingness of all of St. James to step forward and join in new fundraising efforts and to consider raising their pledge. Our budget is not lavish; it merely reflects our programs, staff and the demand to care for our 108 year-old building. Can you help? Consider two things:

- Will you join in new fundraising efforts? I am forming a new fundraising team for this purpose. If you are interested, please let me know.
- Will you look at your pledge with prayerful intent? Have you raised it over the years? Can you raise it now? For each person and family this will be a financial question as well as a spiritual one. Our spiritual growth includes how we manage our finances, as individuals, as families and as a parish church. Look at how the costs that you pay have risen, and remember that the church is not exception to the rising cost of living.

I am excited about all of the opportunities that 2018 promises. I know that it will be a year of growth, exploration and success. 203 years of worship and service in Batavia is quite a legacy! And as our warden Russ Dvoroznak said when the Bishop asked for three words to describe our parish, we are "Not Stopping Now!"

Your sister in Christ,
Mother Bonnie+

Today – Last Soup Sunday of the season

Be sure to stay for the coffee hour after service today. There will be soups, rolls, desserts, and good friends for your pleasure. Take time to enjoy your Saint James' Community.



Happy Birthday to Our February Birthdays!

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

Debbie Barone 2/12,
Nicholas Bestine 2/12
Joe Blatchley 2/12

Diakonia Musings **Deacon Diana's Message**

Those of us taking EFM, have been discussing the prophets of the Old Testament and Jesus of the New Testament and how they give us hope for today.

What is a prophet? It is someone who listens to the word of God and speaks the message to the world. They tell us *who* God is, *what* God wants from us and *how* we are to bring peace and justice to the world. They challenge old assumptions within the cultural community. They are the voice of those who have no voice and they always take us back to unity with God, not away.

Contemplative Richard Rohr said "Prophets turn our ideas of success and belonging on their head, emphasizing God's unconditional and unmerited love in response to our shortcomings. God is always breaking the approved "rules of God" by forgiving sinners, choosing the outsider or the weak, showing up in secular places."

Jesus was a prophet who challenged and critiqued the status quo of the times. He invited the disciples to follow Him and we believe that He invites us today.

While we are not prophets of old who risked all that they had to bring God's message to His people, we are the people who God is counting on to listen to the message and take it to our own small corners of the world. We are the people who can take action to change the status quo and establish God's kingdom of justice and peace right here. We can take the truth of God's grace into a community that is suffering. We can bring hope to the hopeless by being present with them and encouraging them to become who they have been called by God to be. We can become the hands and feet of Christ in the world, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

As we move through the Lenten season this year, there will be opportunities at St. James to hear God's message and experience God's love and grace through worship, study, and outreach within the church. We will live, die, and rise with Christ. These opportunities will feed our spirit and fill our cups to the brim. But, we will also spend much of our time with our families, friends, and in the secular world. It is here in the outside world of the "prophets" that we can literally take the message of God's unconditional love for ALL His people to the streets because we have the hope and truth of the resurrected Christ to share.

In His love,
Deacon Diana

January 2018 Vestry Highlights:

Vestry Members were thanked for their service in 2017 especially Ronald Fancher who is leaving the Vestry. Reports from the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden (Adopt-A-Project) were reviewed. The Budget's for 2018 were approved by the Vestry for the ECW and the Rupprecht Fund. Establishment of a Fund Raising Committee to be chaired by Dorian Ely, and a Purchasing Policy for St. James is being looked into by the Rector.

Cathy Judkins, clerk



Prayer Corner

When offering your prayers to the Lord at home please include the following people who are loved ones of our parish family:

Especially Tim, Matt, Glenn, Aiden, David, Carol, Rilee, Susie, Fern, Carter, Carla, Erik, Mark, Sally, Diana, Tom, Susan, Casey, Tonya, Dorothy, Danielle, Lucas, Pauline, Arlene, Esther, Jykillia, Diane, Janet, John and Trinity.

Will you help us "serve fish"?

St. James Fish Fries start on Friday, February 16th and continue through Friday, March 23rd. We are looking forward to Feeding the Body and the Soul of the community and raising funds again this year. There are lots of ways that you can help. Just to name a few: waiting on tables in the dining room, preparing food in the kitchen, delivering take-outs, or cleaning up! Volunteers are encouraged to sign-up for as many Fridays as possible but keep in mind that you don't have to commit to all 6 Fridays in Lent to be a part of our team. We appreciate any and all time that you can commit to! If you are ready to enjoy the camaraderie, please see Wayne Judkins or Jim Ellison to sign up.

Fish Fry Time

Fish Fry time is just around the corner and we need to think Desserts. We would appreciate any donations of flour, sugar, cocoa, Jif peanut butter, Peter Pan peanut butter, instant lemon pudding, confectionary sugar, crushed pineapple, baby food jars of carrots, raspberry pie filling and blueberry pie filing. We will keep everyone posted for baking days. Thank you Sue Best and the ECW.

Scrip Gift Cards

Do you still go to the grocery store? To the pharmacy? To Walmart? To Tim Horton's? Order on Amazon? To Applebee's or Olive Garden? What about shopping at Kmart? Wendy's or Target? I am sure you get the idea. Sunday mornings get the cards for the places you will be shopping during the coming week. It is an easy way to support St. James fundraising.

Property Committee Report

Capital projects to be scheduled for completion during 2018, per St. James 12-Year Capital Improvement Plan, are as follows, listed in descending priority order:

- #1 Church, masonry repairs
- #2 Re-coat low pitched/rolled roofing sections of the church roof
- #3 Handicap accessibility

- #4 Paint Parish Hall exterior masonry walls
- #5 Paint exterior stucco/wood portion of office and choir room area, including second and third floors (exterior only)
- #6 Insulate and ventilate rectory attic
- #7 Replace rectory hot water heater
- #8 Seal east parking lot

The Vestry has approved #3 and #4, and has allocated funding necessary to progress the work.

#6 has been recommended to the Vestry, but no decision has been made as of this writing.

The Property Committee is currently in the process of identifying masonry repair priorities and will be recommending the project to the Vestry for approval. We need to have a contract in place in order to begin work on #1 as soon as weather and contractor’s scheduling permit.

Other projects will be developed and recommended to the Vestry later in the year.

NOTE: A number of listed projects are arguably not “capital improvement” projects. They are maintenance efforts, by classical definition, and are included in the 12-Year Capital Improvement Plan because they are considered fundamentally necessary to preserve and extend service life of critical elements of church infrastructure.

Please see me, or any member of the Property Committee, if you have any questions regarding Plan implementation.

Dave Lange
Property Committee Chair

Financial Summary for St. James Episcopal Church as of January 31, 2018

	2018 Year to Date	2017 Year to Date
Operating Income		
Parishioner Giving	25,572	10,712
Non-Pledge Giving	945	1,120
Income from Investments	-	1,371
Other Income	905	2,113
Total Income	27,422	15,316
Operating Expenses		
Diocesan Pledge	1,978	1,746
Outreach Expense	-	-
Personnel	6,683	15,508
Worship and Program Expense	1,061	2,407
Administrative Expenses	2,210	1,107
Building Expenses	5,922	8,242
Total Expenses	17,854	29,010
Difference	9,568	(13,694)

Mid-Week at St. James.

Come join our service of Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Prayers of healing are always included in this quiet, lovely service. It's amazing what a half an hour can do for your state of mind! Stay for Bible Study—at noon in the Rector's Office.

Focus on Outreach at St. James

CHERA—As I write this report our parishioners are busily preparing for the Chocolate for CHERA event. By the time you read this, I'm sure that we will all agree that it was a deliciously successful event to help raise money for our A-Maize-ing Milling project in Uganda. Stay tuned for more exciting events and more ways to join into the fun and fellowship of supporting this program.

CONNECTIONS—This ecumenical group in Batavia started from the roots of UMTOO—an effort of the United Methodist Church on Lewiston Road. It has now blossomed into a group of interested, lively people from several different churches around Batavia. In December, this group decided to center its efforts in Migrant Ministry—working to help the people who come from other countries to the Genesee area to work. The population that we are serving is mostly from Mexico and Honduras, and is working on farms in our area. Some come with families, some come alone. Some stay all year, some from May through November. Most have legal working papers, some do not. All are in need of help, friendship and compassion. **CONNECTIONS** has decided to work with Fr. Ivan Trujillo, who is well known for his tireless and compassionate efforts with migrant workers. There are so many ways to help. Please join us!

Dates to remember: The Outreach Team meets at 4:30 on the second Tuesday of the month (just before the ECW Board Meeting). The Connections Team meets at the First Presbyterian Church, usually on a Monday or Tuesday at 5 pm. The next meeting is Feb. 27th. Look on the St. James Calendar for meeting dates and times.
--Mother Bonnie+

Recipe Corner

Slow Cooker/Crockpot Mushroom Pork Chops

Savory pork chops cooked in a creamy mushroom sauce.

This is one of the easiest, yet tastiest crockpot meals you will every prepare.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 large bone-in rib or center-cut pork chops
- 1 can (10.75 oz) cream of mushroom soup, low-sodium preferred
- 3 tbs ranch seasoning -OR- 1 envelope ranch dressing mix
- ½ cup dry white wine (optional, can use like amount of additional milk)
- ½ cup milk
- ¼ tsp salt (optional)
- ⅛ tsp pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

- Sprinkle pork chops with salt (if using) and pepper. Place the chops in a 5-7 quart slow cooker.
- In a small bowl, mix the soup, milk, ranch seasoning and wine.
- Pour over chops.
- Cover and cook on low 3-4 hours

Note: This is one of those “dump-and-go” meals—there's no extra work involved. Of course, if you want to brown the chops first and deglaze the pan with wine, that would increase the already great taste. However, it's not at all necessary.

FROM THE DIOCESE

Rust Belt Episcopal – Conversations with the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania

The Diocese of Western New York and the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania have announced a new website and Face Book page.

**www.rustbeltepiscopal.org
www.facebook.com/rustbeltepiscopal.**

Listening Sessions Scheduled

What do you think about the proposed partnership between the Diocese of Western New York and the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania? Between now and mid-March, all members of both dioceses are invited to share their ideas, hopes and concerns at one of eight listening sessions:

- January 31, 7 p.m.: St. Luke's, Jamestown (WNY Cattaraugus/Chautauqua region)
- February 1, 7 p.m.: St. Andrews, Buffalo (WNY Central Erie region)
- February 7, 7 p.m.: St. Mark's, North Tonawanda (WNY Northern region)
- February 8, 7 p.m.: St. Matthias, East Aurora (WNY Southern Erie region)
- ***February 28, 7 p.m.: St. James, Batavia (WNY Genesee region)***
- March 1, 7 p.m.: Calvary, Williamsville (WNY Eastern Erie region)
- March 19, 6:30 p.m.: St. John's, Franklin (NWPA)
- March 20, 6:30 p.m.: St. John's, Kane (NWPA)

Bishop Sean Rowe will open the listening sessions in Western New York with brief remarks and time for questions, and then he will depart and members of the Diocese of Western New York's Standing Committee will lead the conversation. At the listening sessions in the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania, both Bishop Sean Rowe and Bishop Bill Franklin will open the meetings, and then they will depart and leave time for participants to talk with members of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania's Standing Committee. Questions? Please contact us at rustbeltepiscopal@gmail.com.

Youth/Young Adult Opportunity

Summa Theological Debate Camp at University of the South in Sewanee, TN is accepting applications from students entering grades 9-12 in fall 2018 for their July 17-25 debate camp program. Scholarships for available to students with demonstrated financial need. For more information, including how to apply, can be found on the First Thirty Ministries page of the Diocesan website.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Can also be found on www.stjamesbatavia.org
And Facebook at St. James Episcopal Church Batavia

	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25	March 4
EM 1	Jack Kershner	Cathy Judkins	Terry McGuire	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Barb Gray
EM 2	Russ Dvoroznak	Judy Essig	Jo-Ann Bestine	Diane Cox	Barb King
Chantry EM	Barb Gray	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Jack Kershner	Russ Dvoroznak	Terry McGuire
1st Lesson	Lilo Townsend	Keith Price	Joan Ellison	Jim Neider	Joan Ellison
2nd Lesson	Diane Cox	Wayne Judkins	Cathy Judkins	Liz Findlay	Jack Kershner
Prayers of the People	Steve Hawley	Jim Neider	Larry Belluscio	Chip McGuire	Liz Findlay
Acolytes	Diane Cox Jaycob Belluscio	Aleida Blossom Jo-Ann Bestine	Scott Essig Judy Essig	Aleida Blossom Dean Perry	Diane Cox Scott Essig
Ushers	Don Fox & Dean Perry	Bonnie Dvoroznak Russ Dvoroznak	Betsy Dexheimer Larry Belluscio	Don Fox Russ Dvoroznak	Peg & Alan Abrams
Greeters	Bonnie Smith Larry Belluscio	Diane & Kevin Skelton	Dean Perry Jeff Gray	Bonnie Smith Wayne Townsend	Cathy & Wayne Judkins
Element Bearers	Jolene & Dick Folger	Karen & Harold Odell	Jane McKenna & Rich Geitner	Paula Alker Donna Kauffman	Bonnie & Russ Dvoroznak
Coffee Hour	Soup Sunday	Paula Alker	Need a volunteer	Terry McGuire	Judy Essi
Flower Delivery	Kathy Belluscio	Dean Perry	Lilo Townsend	Karen & Harold Odell	Liz Findlay
Altar Guild	Donna Kauffman Joanne Fleming Jo-Ann Bestine	Karen Odell Harold Odell Kathy Belluscio	Pat Roblee Jolene Folger	Bette Rung Bill Coughlin	Donna Kauffman Joanne Fleming Jo-Ann Bestine

If you are unable to serve at a scheduled time, please find a sub and notify the parish office

St. James Calendar

Sun Feb 4	9:00am – 9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00am – 11:15am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00am – 10:45am	Sunday School
	11:15am – 12:00pm	Coffee Hour
	11:30am – 12:00pm	Our Faith Discussion Group
Mon Feb 5	7:00pm – 9:30pm	Gen Chorale Rehearsal - Parish Hall
Tue Feb 6	3:00pm – 4:30pm	Finance Committee Meeting
	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Property Committee Meeting
Wed Feb 7	11:00am – 11:30am	Holy Eucharist - Chapel
	12:00pm – 1:00pm	Bible Discussion Group - Rector's Office
	4:30pm – 5:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	5:30pm – 7:30pm	EFM Class – 2 nd Floor
	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thu Feb 8	9:00am – 2:00pm	Thrift Store Open
	1:00am – 2:00pm	Deadline for Vestry Agenda Items
	2:00pm – 3:00pm	Wardens' Agenda Meeting
Sun Feb 11	9:00am – 9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00am – 11:15am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00am – 10:45am	Sunday School
	11:15am – 12:00pm	Coffee Hour
	11:30am – 12:00pm	Our Faith Discussion Group - Guild Room
Mon Feb 12	7:00pm – 9:30pm	Genesee Chorale Rehearsal – Parish Hall
Tue Feb 13	1:00pm – 2:00pm	Vestry Reports Due
	2:30pm – 3:00pm	Holy Eucharist @ Premier Nursing Home
	4:30pm – 5:30pm	Outreach Meeting
	5:30pm – 7:00pm	ECW Meeting
Wed Feb 14		
Ash Wednesday	11:00am – 11:30am	Holy Eucharist -
	12:00pm – 1:00pm	Bible Discussion Group - Rector's Office
	4:30pm – 5:30pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	5:30pm – 7:30 pm	EFM Class – 2 nd Floor
	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thu Feb 15	9:00am – 2:00pm	Thrift Store Open
	2:00pm – 3:00pm	Wardens Meeting
Fri Feb 16	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Fish Fry Dinners
Sun Feb 18	9:00am – 9:45am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00am – 11:15am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00am – 10:45am	Sunday School
	11:15am – 1:30pm	Coffee Hour
	11:30am – 12:00pm	Our Faith Discussion Group - Guild Room
Mon Feb 19	7:00pm – 9:30pm	Gen Chorale Rehearsal
Tue Feb 20	10:45pm – 11:45am	Communion at The Manor House
	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Vestry Meeting
Wed Feb 21	11:00am – 11:30am	Holy Eucharist - Chapel
	12:00pm – 1:00pm	Bible Discussion Group - Rector's Office
	4:30pm – 5:30pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Choir Rehearsal



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!

The Rev. Bonnie F. Morris, Rector

rector.stjames@outlook.com

The Rev. Deacon Diana Leiker, dllart@aol.com

Choir Director: Dillon Hirsch, Organist: David Lange

Administrator: Barbara King, Bookkeeper: Paula Alker

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, Dorian Ely,
Jack Kershner, Barbara King, Dean Perry,
Harold Odell, Barbara Pierce, Lilo Townsend

Clerk of the Vestry: Cathy Judkins

Treasurers: Peter Mark and Keith Price

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