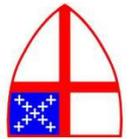


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St. James' Episcopal Church
9 Williams Street
Clinton, NY 13323



Mark your calendars!!!!

Tuesday, February 9 • 5:30-7pm

Shrove Pancake Supper

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, maple syrup,
coffee, tea and juice

\$7 per person/\$20 max per family

Hosted and served by St. James' Youth Groups

Please come to dinner, bring a canned good
and support the Country Pantry!

See you there!

St. James' Episcopal Church

N E W S L E T T E R

February 2016

St. James' Episcopal Church
9 Williams Street • Clinton, New York 13323 • 315-853-5359
www.stjamesclinton.org • office@stjamesclinton.org

REGULAR SERVICES:

Saturday, 4pm • Sunday, 9:30am, nursery provided, Sunday School 9:30am

Church office hours:

Mon., Wed. & Fri: 9-Noon; Tues.: 9-11am, Thurs.: 9-2pm.

Staff:

Minister of Music: Mr. Richard Lloyd • Godly Play Program Director: Ms. Linda Lark
Sexton: "Mujo" Salkic • Administrative Assistant: Ms. Laura Stoll

Vestry:

vestry@stjamesclinton.org

Senior Warden: Patty Fox • Junior Warden: John Pick
Kathy Collett • Chris Fox • Randy Grant • Sue Hecklau
Ken Iles • Deb Lucas • Sharon Pick • Werner Schmalz

Treasurer: Jan Wilson

Webmistress: Patricia Jue

Newsletter: Pat Evans

Leadership Group Chairs:

Outreach: Pat Evans

Finance Committee: Mike Baldwin

Investment Committee: Craig Heuss

Communications Committee: Kathy Collett

Fellowship Committee: Terry Neil

Search committee: Karen Anderson & Randy Wilson



St. James' is a community where we come together in Christ to develop spiritually; find opportunities for outreach; receive comfort when in need; and engage in sacred experiences through our liturgy, music, fellowship, and mutual ministry."

Worship & Formation

Lent Madness is a fun, engaging way to learn about some of the men and women who appear in the church calendar of saints. Thirty two saints are arranged in a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each day, at www.lentmadness.org you can learn about two saints and can cast a vote for one. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the saints and the 16 “winners” make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen. Of these, eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the “coveted” Golden Halo.

Consider using Lent Madness as a way to learn about some amazing people and to think about the interplay between faith and action. In the words of the Lenten Madness creators, “If this helps people connect with the risen Christ during this season of penitence and renewal, and have a bit of fun in the process, then it continues to be worthwhile.”



Women's Spirituality Group

All meetings begin at 7pm in St. James' library. All women are invited! Schedule is subject to change but tentative meetings include:

The Muslim Next Door: The Qur'an, the Media, and That Veil Thing by Sumbul Ali-Karamali, chapters 1-5 on February 15 and chapters 6-11 on March 21

Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People by Nadia Bolz-Weber on April 18

The Spiritual Practice of Remembering by Margaret Bendroth on May 16

Other potential books are *All the Light We Cannot See: A Novel* by Anthony Doerr and *Grounded: Finding God in the World - A Spiritual Revolution* by Diana Butler Bass with dates and times to be announced.

For more information, contact Kathy Collett.

Shrove Tuesday, the Great Litany and Lent

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is just around the corner! This pancake meal finds its roots in the tradition of using up all the rich foods – eggs, butter, sugar – before the fast of Lent. But if we focus on the pancakes, we miss some of the significance. Shrove Tuesday is not just about cleaning out the kitchen. It is also about cleaning out the heart. Shrove is the past tense of shrive, which means to confess sins and to have sins absolved. Old words, but they still hold power.

On Ash Wednesday we outwardly mark this inward confession. Then at our first worship service of Lent, we pray the Great Litany responding “Good Lord, deliver us.” “We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.” More old words, but I invite you to listen closely to this ancient rite. Allow the words to work into your heart. They are an expression of our deep dependence on God for all that we are. They remind us that prayer is central to our life together and our mission in the world. Together, in prayer, we enter a time for intentional reflection, reconciliation and discernment. We are called, in our personal life and in our corporate practice through liturgy, to prepare for the saving mystery of our Lord's life and death.

Together, we journey through Lent, a season of repentance, grace, and renewal, towards Easter, when we will once again renew our baptismal vows. (He is risen, so we can be shriven.) It all begins with the Shrove Tuesday and Great Litany.

Lenten Series

The Clinton Ministerium is presenting its annual Lenten study series this year at Clinton United Methodist Church on Thursday evenings at 6pm from February 18 through March 17. The theme this year is “Who is this Man? The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus” by John Ortberg. There will be a soup and bread dinner followed by the program. All are welcome!

Planning ahead: Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday March 20 • 9:30am

Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist (Bring bells)

Maundy Thursday March 24 • 5:30 pm Communal meal, the Lord's Supper (Eucharist) and Stripping of the Altar.

Good Friday March 25 • 7pm Good Friday service

The Great Vigil of Easter March 26 • 7pm with Eucharist (Bring bells to ring)

Easter Sunday service March 27 • 9:30am

Thanks

to Judy Logan for her dedication to the Pastoral Care Committee. She keeps us informed of parishioners who are unable to attend services and arranges home eucharists. If you know of someone who would like to be contacted, please call Judy Logan at 822-0130.

Vestry News

I very vividly remember last year's Annual Meeting, when Mark handed me the Junior Warden's pin and I joyfully and optimistically exclaimed to him that it was going to be a great year. In my wildest imagination, I could not have envisioned the events that were about to transpire over the next several months. But, all things considered, it really was a great year! As Mark so eloquently stated last month, we have proved that we are resilient and capable of conquering the challenges that face us. We have confirmed yet again that we are defined by so much more than the priest who serves as our leader. We are a parish of talented, tireless, giving people.

Throughout this past year, we continued to hold beautiful services: Eucharist, thanks to the assistance of our wonderful supply priests (Elizabeth, Joell, Nelson, Jackie); and Morning and Evening Prayer, thanks to the ministry of an amazing cadre of lay worship leaders (Matt and Wendy Weber, Karen Anderson, Patricia Jue, Kathy and Brian Collett, Mike Baldwin). We have enjoyed beautiful music, a well-tended building, an efficient office, a notable website, newsletter, e-letter and other communications, a proficient control of our finances and investments, and an inspiring youth program, all due to our diligent staff and remarkable volunteers. We have enjoyed wonderful fellowship at events such as the Bishop's visit, the annual picnic (including a visit from Pere Fred!), potluck suppers, the Epiphany party, wine and cheese gatherings, and coffee hours. Our ministries and committees have not only flourished, but have strengthened and increased in number. I am confident that a new priest will not find a church in need, but one that he or she would love to join and lead.

This coming year will bring its own challenges, which I know we'll face with grace and determination equal to that of last year. The Search Committee faces a very arduous task, and it will need our input, enthusiasm and prayers. I hope that each of us will support it in every way possible.

We on the Vestry were very sad to say goodbye to Mark, Karen, Richard, Laura, and Irma, whose Vestry terms ended. Their service is greatly appreciated, and their leadership in discussions and decisions invaluable. I would like to thank them one more time. I am so very pleased to welcome John Pick as Junior Warden and Randy Grant, Deb Lucas, and Sharon Pick as our new Vestry members. They bring a wealth of experience to the group, and will be instrumental in the decisions that still lie ahead of us.

I hope that you will also join us on our journey, by volunteering for committees, participating in events and sharing your opinions. Please contact John or me at any time.

— Patty Fox

A copy of the financial report presented at the annual meeting is available in the black binder on the table by the church kitchen. Or, contact the church office by phone at 853-5359 or e-mail at office@stjamesclinton.org.

Fellowship

The Handiwork Group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:30am, in the library. We work on making prayer shawls and lap robes for shut-ins of our parish family, friends, and long-term care residents, and baby and tot hats and sweaters to sell at the Lutheran Care Store here in Clinton. Our patterns are simple and we would be happy to help you get started! All are welcome to attend! Questions? Call Terry Neil, 368-4151.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

February 19
7-8:30 pm

St. James Church
9 Williams Street, Clinton

Admission: \$10 per family

Proceeds benefit St. James' youth programs

**FOOD, FUN
AND PRIZES
FOR ALL
AGES**



Save the Date!

St. James' Youth Committee
invites you to an

Italian Dinner

Saturday, February 27
at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall

Sign-up sheets and more details coming soon



Music

Over the years, we have developed numerous processions into the church for special occasions. If we start with the beginning of the church year, we have:

- The Christmas Pageant procession, with our youth and youthful adults all costumed up.
- The Christmas Eve procession of the choir from the side door after the choir prelude is sung, always to the hymn *O Come All Ye Faithful*.
- The Palm Sunday procession of the whole church after the blessing of the palms in the Parish Hall. Joyous, improvised and somewhat raucous!
- The Maundy Thursday procession, led by the choir chanting the *Pange lingua* (“Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle”), after our communal meal and before the stripping of the altar.
- The Easter Vigil procession, after the lighting of the Pascal Candle from the great flame in the Parish Hall, and the spreading of the light from candle to candle. During the procession, we gradually light up a darkened church (“The light of Christ!” “Thanks be to God!”).
- The Easter procession, from the back of the church after the choir prelude, with women and men taking turns on the verses, as everyone sings Vaughan Williams tune *Salve feste dies* (“Hail thee, festival day!”).

We are adding a new procession to our list, and that one is coming up very soon. As has become a tradition on the first Sunday of Lent, a cantor, with congregational response, will sing the Great Litany at the beginning of the service. Actually, not quite at the beginning, as we have always sung a processional hymn before the litany. On February 22, the first Sunday of Lent, there will be no processional hymn, as the choir will process with the Great Litany. This streamlines the service (as the litany is a mouthful and takes a while to sing), and also provides a certain drama to the change of season.

It’s a very short Epiphany this year. Lent will soon be with us!

– Richard Lloyd



Outreach

We’re off to a new year of St. James’ reaching out to help others both in our local community and beyond. If you missed the annual meeting in January, here’s a brief recap of how St. James Outreach funds were spent in 2015.

Of course our biggest project was Pere Fred’s St. Paul’s school in Haiti. We not only helped with the lunches and teachers’ salaries, but, with the help of a grant from the Diocese, we were able to help purchase a building to use as both their school and for church services.

We sent financial support to the Country Pantry, Hope House, the Utica Rescue Mission, Emmaus House, the Salvation Army, the ABC program, Your Neighbors, the MV Resource Center for Refugees, scholarship aid to St. James Day School, and to a Syrian children’s refugee program.

St. James parishioners also contributed food and hours to local organizations such as Your Neighbors, Country Pantry, Lutheran care, and Hope House, some of it coming from our youth groups and the Zumba classes.

We have learned that the “new” school/church in Haiti is in need of a well, and will let you know more about that soon.

– Pat Evans



A group of children and adults joined to make more than 200 pinwheels. These pinwheels are part of a fund raising project, Students Rebuild. For each pinwheel sent to Students Rebuild, \$2 will be donated to the International Rescue Committee’s “Healing Classrooms.” These classrooms provide education and emotional support to displaced Syrian refugee children in Lebanon and Iraq. Our pinwheel project continues through the season of Epiphany. Place pinwheels in the box in the parish hall or join us after worship service to make some more. They will brighten our parish hall for a couple of weeks, then be sent off in mid-February to continue bring cheer to others.



Search Committee

The Search Committee will be asking all members of St. James who are 16 years old or older to participate in our parish wide survey during February. We will begin with a poll regarding your wishes for the hire of our next priest. On February 6/7 and 13/14 we will have ballots available during the weekend services, as well as on-line for those who are unable to attend any of the services, asking whether you would prefer that the Vestry look for a full time Priest-in-Charge or a full time Rector. There will be brief discussions following each service and you will find ballots in the service bulletins. The greatest differences between the two choices have to do with tenure. A Rector is granted tenure on the first day of hire, while a Priest-in-Charge is hired for a three-year agreement. Both the Priest and the Vestry have the option to terminate the relationship at the conclusion of the term. It is also possible, that both parties will agree that the Priest-in-Charge should be elected by the Vestry as the Rector before the conclusion of the term.

Early in February we will be announcing that the Holy Cow Survey is active and awaiting your participation. This poll will be much more extensive than the one question poll we will roll out February 6th.

– Karen Anderson

Day School News

During February we focus on animals in winter and a favorite theme is Valentine Bears. Jan Brett is a children's author/illustrator we really enjoy during this time; her books *The Mitten*, *The Hat and Valentine Bears* are great stories featuring animals in winter.

The climber is a fun addition to the classroom during January and February also. It can be many things including a cave or a bunk bed! We continue to do activities and projects that improve the students' reading and math readiness skills as well as their fine motor skills. The class has grown a lot since September and we continue to enjoy their enthusiasm and creativity.

We go outside to play when it is not too cold and we love to play in the snow!

We have a donation wish list for the Day School. A small CD/Tape player for our "listening center" (for our audio books on tape). An old laptop computer with a CD drive (with an old floppy drive as well would be ideal) for some educational games we have for the "computer station".

Reminder: Registration for 2016-17 has started. If you know of anyone who may want information please email sjdayschool@gmail.com or put a note in the Day School mailbox or leave a phone message with the person's name and email and phone number. Thanks!

– Cindy Wirene

Behind the Scenes

Youth Committee

Last fall, St. James' Youth Committee formally came together to organize fun events for St. James' youth and invite in others from the community.

In its short tenure, the group organized a fun "trunk or treat" event at Halloween, helped with the Christmas pageant, volunteered at a gift-making workshop with St. Mary's, and more.

There are two fun events planned for February. On February 19 at 7pm, the popular bingo night will return to the Parish Hall. The evening includes snacks, fun, and prizes. Everyone is encouraged to attend and to invite friends.

On February 27, the committee will host an Italian Dinner night for the entire parish. In addition to delicious Italian dishes and desserts, there will be entertainment and fellowship. More details are coming soon but mark your calendars.

The Youth Committee is chaired by Rahel Reger and other members include Linda Lark, Alison Peto, Sue Pinto, Mary Beth Schmalz, Laura Stoll, and Annie Wadsworth.

February Vacation Activities

Looking for something to do with the kids over February break? Here are a few options:

February 16 - Open Gym at St. Mary's School for tots through second grade. Parents are asked to stay with their children.

February 18 - Open Gym at St. Mary's School for kids in grades 3-6.

February 19 - Bingo Night at St. James from 7-8:30pm. Prizes, fun, and snacks. All are welcome! Admission is \$10 per family.



When Father Pere from Haiti visited St. James last June, he brought this beautiful painting as a gift to St. James.

How you can help



tacklehunger.org

- Leave returnable cans and bottles in the boxes in the Parish Hall lobby. All proceeds will be donated to Country Pantry.
- Bring canned goods and money for Country Pantry on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7.
- Come to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 9 and bring canned goods and donations for Country Pantry.

**St. James' Youth Groups
thank you!**

Community News



We Need Your Help!

Volunteer at the ReStore

Oneida County Habitat for Humanity ReStore has a new location and we are looking for volunteers to assist with the daily operations.

The ReStore has moved to 494 French Road (old Trains and Hobbies) and we need the help of volunteers before we can open for business.



www.restoreoneidacounty.org • 315.624.9010
info@oneidacountyhabitat.org



Friends from St. James and beyond had a fun time tubing at Woods Valley on January 18. Above, a group gets their tubes linked together so they can slide down the hill together. One of the best parts of the trip was joining up with old and new friends to see who could go the fastest and maybe even break through the fence at the bottom of the hill! Below, a group takes a break from the cold for lunch in the lodge.



Stone Presbyterian Church's annual Chocolate Lover's Sale will be held on Saturday, February 13 from 10am to 2pm. We will offer all kinds of homemade chocolate treats, just in time for Valentine's Day. Also available will be chocolate items from our Fair Trade Shoppe. The proceeds from this sale will be used to support Hope House in Utica, where Utica area folks can get a hot, nutritious meal served with a smile by various volunteer groups. Come and help us celebrate Valentine's Day. You won't regret it!

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 8pm AA Meeting	3 10am Zumba 11:30am Lectionary Study	4 7:45am Men's Group 3:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Choir	5	6 4pm Worship Service 5pm Pinwheel Session
7 9:30am Worship Service 11am Adult Confirmation 3:30pm Youth Group	8 5pm Zumba	9 5pm Pancake Dinner 6:30pm Tapestry 8pm AA Meeting	10 Ash Wednesday 10am Zumba 11:30am Lectionary Study 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	11 7:45am Men's Group 6:30pm Property Mgmt 7pm Youth Committee 7:30pm Choir	12	13 4pm Worship Service
14 9:30am Worship Service 11am Adult Confirmation	15 5pm Zumba 7pm Women's Spirituality Group	16 6:30pm Tapestry 7pm Search Committee 8pm AA Meeting	17 10am Zumba 10:30am Handiwork Group 11:30am Lectionary Study 7pm Vestry	18 7:45am Men's Group 9:30am Fiber Arts Guild 3pm Girl Scout Sleepover 6pm Lenten Series 7:30pm Choir	19 7pm Bingo Night	20 4pm Worship Service 5pm Wine and Cheese Party
21 9:30am Worship Service 11am Adult Confirmation 11am Teen Confirmation 11am Outreach Meeting 3:30pm Youth Group	22 5pm Zumba	23 6:30pm Tapestry 8pm AA Meeting	24 10am Zumba 11:30am Lectionary Study	25 7:45am Men's Group 6pm Lenten Series 7:30pm Choir	26	27 4pm Worship Service 5:30pm Italian Night Dinner
28 9:30am Worship Service 11am Adult Confirmation	29 5pm Zumba	1 6:30pm Tapestry 8pm AA Meeting	2 11:30am Lectionary Study	3 7:45am Men's Group 3:30pm Girl Scouts 6pm Lenten Series 7:30pm Choir	4	5 4pm Worship Service

February Altar Guild: Wendy Weber & Sharon Pick

February Server Schedule

Date	Acolytes	Nursery	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers/Greeters
Sat. Feb 6	Suzie Phillips		Patty Fox	Chris Fox	Chris & Patty Fox
Sun. Feb 7	Erin Iles, Louis Pinto, Liam Schmalz	Margaret Jones Sophia Pinto	Sharon Williams	Barbara Swetman Judy Logan	Randy Wilson, Werner Schmalz
Wed. Feb 10			Mary O'Neill	Patricia Jue	Don Neil
Sat. Feb 13	Worship Leader: Karen Anderson		Matt & Wendy Weber		Matt & Wendy Weber
Sun. Feb 14		Amy Davis, Erin Iles	Jackie Medina, Mike Baldwin		Don Neil, Pat Davis
Sat. Feb 20			Sharon Pick	John Pick	Sharon & John Pick
Sun. Feb 21	Erin Iles, Mia Davis, Olivia Peto	Elizabeth Fehlner, Sydney Evans	JoElyn Wakefield-Wright	Gail Prentice, Bill Kistner	Ben Fehlner, Randy Wilson
Sat. Feb 27	Suzie Phillips		Matt Weber	Matt & Wendy Weber	Matt & Wendy Weber
Sun. Feb 28	Charlotte Jones, Elizabeth Fehlner	Margaret Jones, Henry Fehlner, Liam Schmalz	Pat Evans	Brian Collett, Kathy Collett	Karen Anderson, Wendy Seifried
Sat. Mar 5			Patty Fox	Chris Fox	Chris & Patty Fox
Sun. Mar 6	Sydney Evans, Anna Reger, Gigi Pinto	Amy Davis, Sophia Pinto	Charlotte Jones	Barbara Swetman, Randy Wilson	John & Cynthia Crossley

February Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for the families of:

- Feb. 8 Jim Sinclair, John Snodgrass, Judy Snow, Art & Janeen Spencer, Rev. Ann Stillman, Ben Fehlner & Laura Stoll
- Feb. 15 Judy Sweet, Barbara Swetman, George & Nancy Taylor, Dwight Vicks, Helen Voll, Annie Wadsworth
- Feb. 22 JoElyn Wakefield-Wright, Matt & Wendy Weber, Jim & Kathy White, Jill Wickham, Cynthia & Kevin Williams, Ernest & Sharon Williams
- Feb. 29 Hermine Williams, Marcia Williams, Jan & Randy Wilson, Diane & Jeff Wooldridge, Bill Yavornitzki, Robert & Sharon Young