

A Letter from St. James

Mill Creek Hundred

September 2011

RAMBLINGS from The Rector . . . Buildings, Hope, and Faith

A Summer of Building Repairs

The months of July and August were filled with the sounds and smells of repair work around Old St. James Church. First, the historic church building was closed in order to take care of extensive termite damage to the floor and supports, as well as to complete some additional foundation work that needed attention. Worship services were temporarily moved to the Parish House where the Great Hall served as our place of gathering and prayer. Once the repairs were completed and services moved back into the church, the Parish House was closed so that the oak floors in the lobby and the Great Hall could be sanded and refinished. Everything is now open for business, just in time for the beginning of our fall programs. Thanks go to Fred White and the Property Committee for their planning and oversight of the work, with special thanks to Jack Parker for everything he did over an 18-month period to ensure that the repairs to the church were properly planned for and funded.

September 11, 2011 – A Day of Remembrance

Sunday, September 11th, marks the 10th anniversary of the attacks on our country by extremists who claimed to be doing “God’s work.” It takes little thought, and even less religious reflection, to see how terribly misguided – perhaps even evil – such an understanding is in light of any concept that God loves and cares for human beings. We must be firm in our resistance to any attempts to co-opt God for political, economic, or militaristic goals. We must also be vigilant in reflecting on any response (in thought, work, or deed) we might have to a group who might become victimized due to the actions of a small group of radicals. As Christians, we will gather on Sunday, September 11th, to commemorate the tragic loss of life, and also to renew our hope in God and the goodness that exists in humanity. Families are encouraged to attend worship together on that day, and to draw strength from our relationships with each other and with our Lord Jesus Christ.

“God Provides” – Sunday Morning Academy begins September 18th

This year the start of our fall Sunday Morning Academy for Children and Adults (SMACA) will begin on September 18th at 9:00am in the Parish House. For more details, look for the articles elsewhere in this newsletter. Additional information on the Adult Classes will be publicized in the near future.

Fr. Jim Bimbi



June 17, 2011

Christie Williams and Derrick Hale

Summer Weddings At St. James



July 9, 2011

Amy Prettyman and Jonathan Burns

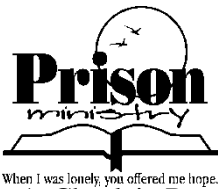
Our sincerest congratulations to both couples!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH to TAKE ON NEW MISSION for ST. JAMES

As a follow-up to their recent mission trip to Kentucky, the high school students have decided to take on a new project this year – a mission for their own church, St. James Mill Creek Hundred. Their mission: To be involved in the lives of the children of St. James and encourage them to attend SMACA and worship.

The high school students' plan is to mentor the 4th – 8th grade age children that are connected to our church, with each high schooler paired with one or two children from this age group. They will encourage the children to join them during SMACA as well as during worship, letting them know how important church has been for them through their childhood and how much fun they have had. They hope to communicate with the children via phone, text or Facebook – whatever works. In addition, transportation will be offered to each child.

The high school youth will also teach the SMACA classes for this age group on Sunday Mornings, using curriculum from The Episcopal Church. Each week one or two of the HS students will teach the younger students, while the rest meet together at Starbucks or a place of their choosing to have their own reflection time. Cynde Bimbi will be the High School youth leader and coordinate this effort. Dave Niehaus and Cynde will alternate in leading the



When I was lonely, you offered me hope.

The goal of our Prison Ministry is to deliver sundries once a month to the women's correctional institution—Baylor. Volunteers (on a rotational basis) purchase items at the Dollar Store, collect any additional items in the Prison Ministry basket in the Parish House closet and place them in a cardboard box and label it Sundries from St. James Mill Creek, c/o Chaplain Bernita Erle. It is not necessary that you deliver them to the prison, but you can if you would like. We are currently looking for volunteers for the months of January and March. The sundries include items such as roll-on deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, hair conditioner, lotion and bath soap. Travel sizes are perfect. Please do not include mouthwashes or aerosols because they are forbidden inside the institution. We suggest a maximum of \$25 spent at the dollar Store and the cost charged to Mission/Outreach. You must have your receipt in order to be reimbursed. Contact Jerry Clark (302-836-8026) to volunteer for this ministry. Cant' volunteer but want to participate? There is a basket in the Parish Hall closet marked "Prison Ministry" to collect your donations.



FOOD CLOSET REQUESTS

Thanks to your generosity, we are able to help some of our neighbors who are less fortunate than we are. Those who use our food shelves are genuinely grateful to you.

We have had to discard several items due to it being past the expiration date marked on the food container. Please check the expiration dates on the items that you donate.

In addition to non-perishable food items, there is also an occasional request for items like toilet paper and laundry detergent. Some of those we help are homeless and have no place to cook and so appreciate items that can be eaten "as is".

Don't forget to register for the **diocesan Parish Life Day** to be held in Middletown on November 19th. It consists of a wide variety of morning and afternoon workshops that touch on the arts, spirituality, ministry, worship, and just plain fun. Registration for the day (deadline is November 7th – registrations are NOT accepted at the door) can be done online by going to www.dioceseofdelaware.net and clicking on 'Parish Life Day.' The \$15 registration fee covers all the day's activities and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Among the many offerings this year are workshops by two distinguished presenters. **Marilyn Haskel**, Program Manager for Liturgical Arts at Trinity Wall Street in New York City, will offer a musical workshop as well as direct the morning and afternoon worship services. **JoAnn Balingit**, Poet Laureate of Delaware, will offer a poetry writing workshop, and will read some of her poetry as a part of the morning worship. Space is limited, so check it out and register today.



St. James Bazaar

The 2011 Bazaar is rapidly approaching. The dates are Friday, November 4th and Saturday, November 5th. Be sure to mark your calendar.

The Bazaar Ladies have been very busy. There will be something for everyone; the raffle table, many hand crafted items, wreaths, floral arrangements, homemade goodies, and delicious food. This year we have added several new items to our hand crafted jewelry selection.

A special **“Thank You”** to everyone who has donated craft supplies, yarn, fabric, and hand crafted items. Each Tuesday we find items outside our door. We have used many of the donations. They are all greatly appreciated.

The Bazaar Group meets every Tuesday from 9am to 11:30am in the Bazaar Room at the bottom of the stairs in the Parish House. We end with lunch at a local restaurant. New members are always welcome. We will be sure to find a project for you regardless of your skill level.

If you have any questions about the Bazaar please contact Nancy Patterson (239-7649) or Eleanor Bowers (737-2163).

Thank you for your continued support.

Sign Up to Help

Sign-Up sheets will be posted in the Parish Hall on Sunday, September 25th, requesting donations for the luncheon, turkey dinner, and items for the Bake Shop. There will also be sign-up sheets for servers for the luncheon, turkey dinner and for helpers in the bazaar rooms and various other bazaar activities. Everyone working together makes this a fun and successful event.

More information is coming in October about the Luncheon on Friday and the Turkey Dinner on Saturday.

ZINGO TAPES

Please remember to save your Zingo tapes. They help offset the expenses of the Bazaar supplies. They can be placed in the container marked **Zingo Tapes** located in the lobby closet in the Parish House.

The world is full of willing people; some willing to work, the rest willing to let them.

- Robert Frost

Calling all Turkey Dinner Helpers!

– Tuesday, Sept 13, at 7PM



- ``Your presence is respectfully requested at a planning meeting on
- ``Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00pm for this year's Turkey Dinner.
- ``This annual event, a part of the November Bazaar Weekend, is
- ``always a crowd pleaser (and an important part of our fundraising).

But it cannot be held without your help. Come join Jerry Clark and Fr. Jim and find out how you can help.

“God Provides” Welcome Back Sunday – Sept 18th

The first day of the SMACA 2011 – 2012 school year is upon us. Please join us at 9:00am on September 18th for the God Provides Welcome Back Sunday!! Lunch and fellowship will be provided following the 10:15am service.

Water, manna, quail, safe passage, redemption, salvation, love, comfort, strength, free will, the Holy Spirit, are just a few of the things that God provides. I am sure that if you look at your own life, you could add many more things to that list. SMACA students of all ages will gather together on the 18th to work on an art project focusing on all of the good things that God provides, with the project being displayed afterwards in the church for all to see.

The new school year brings a return to a rotational style curriculum for our younger pupils up through the third grade. In a rotational style learning environment, students learn about one particular subject using many different learning styles over several weeks. Activities will include art, music, science, videos, games, cooking, and drama. There will be a little something for everyone! This kind of learning environment really gives students the opportunity to delve deeper into each Bible story, which encourages a deeper understanding.

The 4th through 12th graders will be involved in a different approach, with the older youth serving as mentors and teachers (see the article on page 2). I expect we will see more great things to come from them.

Overall, in SMACA we strive to provide a place where our children, youths, and adults can get closer to God, learn the lessons that He wants us to learn, and to witness the love of God through His Word and through other Christians. Come feed your soul, come feed your body after the service, and hopefully have some fun in the process.

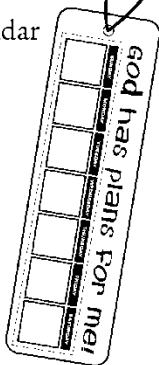
See you September 18th!! – Val Bragg

A daily reminder

Make this bookmark to remind you that God is with you every day.

What you need:

- An old calendar
- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Glue stick
- Pencil or marker
- Stickers
- Hole punch
- Ribbon or yarn



What you do:

1. Cut out the first line of squares from an old calendar, including the days of the week along the top.
2. Cut the cardstock into a rectangle a little larger than the calendar section.
3. Glue the calendar section onto the cardstock.
4. Write "God has plans for me" (Jeremiah 29:11) on the bookmark.
5. Add stickers or other decorations on the back.
6. Punch a hole on one end of the bookmark.
7. Loop some ribbon or yarn through the hole.



PUZZLE

GOD'S PLAN

When we ask God for guidance, he will show us his perfect plan for our lives.

Directions: Use the shape code to the right to write out Jeremiah 29:11, NIV.

plans know and for hope I not declares give

☆ prosper harm have the LORD you future ©

"

"

Answers: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV)

September Birthdays

3rd	Robert Sheppard
4th	Jim Healey
5th	Kenna Harrold-Mansk Nancy Patterson
6th	James Insinga
8th	Irene Udinski Christie Hale
9th	Moriah Niehaus
11th	John Bowser Nathan Minor
12th	Larry Heinold
13th	Fr. Harry Sorensen
14th	Randy Dill Sr.
16th	Les Cansler
17th	Dan Strecker
18th	Fred White David Coverdale Matthew Fauerbach
19th	Emma White
20th	Carol Harrold
21st	Donna Mosel Robert Haywood
23rd	MacKenzie McCracken
28th	Pat Minor Courtney Sheppard Hope Jennings
29th	Ruth Gooding Jim Miller
30th	John Miller Irma Shepsko Waylon Loveless



A Letter from Saint James

September Anniversaries

6th	Loretta and Bill Perry
8th	Jane and Harry White
13th	Marisa and Mark Morales
18th	Debbie & Eric Dunford
19th	Jennifer and Mark Idell
28th	Carolyn and Sean Joynt



If your birthday or anniversary or those of a family member are missing, please call the office and let us know. You are an important part of our parish family.



Summer brought us new guests at Family Promise. We would like to thank the many volunteers who helped set up, provided the food, overnight hosts, take-down crew and those who did the laundry. We were delighted with the musical talents of one of the young boys who played the piano for our hosts on Saturday night.

If you have not had the opportunity to become involved in this worthwhile ministry, there are many roles you can participate in. It is never too late to become involved and get to know your fellow parishioners. Our net host week is **September 25th**. Look for the sign-up sheet in the bull on the Family Promise bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please contact Susan Winward or Jennifer Idell for host questions, Dave Perry for dinners, Val Bragg for food donations and Gail Zimmerman for laundry needs.



St. James' Episcopal Church
2106 St. James' Church Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

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*A Letter from St. James
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Rector: The Rev. James M. Bimbi
Senior Warden: Bruce Vrana
Junior Warden: Cindy Fauerbach

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Website: stjamesmillcreek.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Monday – Thursday Closed Friday

Service Times

September 4—8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

9:00 AM Christian Education for all ages

10:15 AM Family Choral Eucharist

Wednesday

10:00 AM Eucharist & Healing Service



September 18
Lunch and
Fellowship follow
the 10:15 service.

Christian Education for all ages begins at
9AM September 18. Be sure to join us!



Join us for the
Turkey Dinner
Planning Meeting.
Tuesday, Sept 13—7 PM