

Give me my scallop-shell of quiet My staff of faith to walk upon,... and thus I'll take my pilgrimage. — Sir Walter Raleigh

# The Staff

Jesus said, "I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you."



August 2019

Luke 6:27-28 (English Standard Version)

Anglican worship of Jesus Christ and Biblical preaching of the Good News.

DIOCESE OF THE RIO GRANDE Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church* The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Hunn, *Bishop* The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Vono, Retired *Bishop* The Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb (ret), *Assisting Bishop* The Rev. John Tober, *Rector* The Rev. Dr. Frank Williams, *Assisting Priest* 

" and when a horror turns up you will then be given Grace to help you. ] don't think one is usually given it in advance. "Give us this day our daily bread' (not an annuity for life) applies to spiritual gifts too; the little daily support for the daily trail. Life has to be taken day by day and hour by hour.



-C. S. Lewis

From the Rector's Desk

Dear St. James family—

As we move toward the end of Summer and with it, the beginning of monsoon season, there seems to be a lot of anxiety in the air—maybe it's just the humidity, but maybe there's more to it.

It's an anxious season: a new school year is about to start; do the Twins have a shot at the World Series; only 140-odd shopping days until Christmas; etc. On the other hand, there is much to savor: it's almost chili harvest season in Hatch; outdoor activities in the evenings are starting to fire up and cooler evenings make for beautiful sunsets.

I think it's a wonderful time of year,



and this change brings to mind the passage from Ecclesiastes—or the song by The Byrds—"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."(For the whole list, see Ecclesiastes 3:1-8) The approach Solomon in his wisdom endorsed in his book Ecclesiastes was a generosity of patience, more so than merely acceptance of the inevitable. And work: There's a time to be born, but it takes a baby a long time to develop to the point where s/he is ready to be born, and usually (God willing) it takes a long time to die, as well. There's a time to plant, but planting takes time in planning and doing the work of planting, and it takes time for plants to develop for the harvest, and so forth.

On the other hand, there's also a time for rest. We need to be cognizant of our work load—even our volunteer work load—and shepherd that time, and talent, and treasure. Everyone needs a break once in a while. There's an old story about 2 men who go out to chop wood. One is super enthusiastic and industrious, but every time he looks around, he notices his friend is taking a break, so he works harder to make up for his lazy friend. At the end of the day, he discovers the other man has chopped just as much wood as he. When he asks his friend about all the breaks, the second man says, "Yes, but every time I took a break, I sharpened my axe." I hope all of our axes are sharp, because there is a lot of need in the community, and a lot we can do together to help that need. But maybe some people need time to take a break, recharge, re-energize, and sharpen their axe; and that's OK, too.

In this new season, St James Stewardship Committee has some ideas about presentations and activities, that I hope will be entertaining and thought-provoking. I ask you to meet these offerings with the same open minds and generosity of spirit that you met Amy and me on our first Sunday at St. James'. Welcome to the start of a new year! I predict it will be wonderful!

## **EVANGELISM OUTREACH AND MISSIONS UPDATE**

By Terry Meyer, Chairperson, EOM Committee

Our EOM committee has remained committed to the Farmers Market project. We've had our monthly booth display on the first Saturday of each month over the past four months. We are also now passing out free bottles of water as a way of introducing Saint James to passersby. We also have our church brochure, mission statement, and bookmarks available for those who show interest in our church. Our last Farmers Market Outreach was July 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks very much to all our volunteers: Rick Marshall, Phala White, Diane Indorf, Everett Campbell, Mary Garnier and John Kirkland. A special thanks to our new Rector, Fr. John, and his lovely wife, Amy, who spent a good deal of time at the July booth. Our next Outreach will be August  $3^{rd}$ , 8:30 - 1:00 pm. Thanks very much to those who have already volunteered for the August



event. They include: Rick Marshall, Phala White, Johanna Binneweg, Everett Campbell, Willard Lam and John Kirkland. Please stop by the booth and say hello to us if you are in the neighborhood.

The distribution of the Esperanza Bags for the homeless continues. Thanks to Margo and Patrick Lamb's leadership as well as our church members who help with the distribution. We've probably distributed about 65 bags. We will be continuing the project as long as we can count on everyone helping with the distribution.

Elsie Bonfantini continues with her advocacy/evangelism for the Gospel Rescue Mission. Thanks to all who continue to faithfully donate foods and supplies to the program. Catherine Fern has recently spent many hours volunteering at Gospel Rescue to assist with the care of the immigrants who have made their way to Las Cruces. Thank you, Catherine for your special kindness and empathy for those less fortunate than us.

Carol Baker continues to participate with the Life Quest program to bring Jesus's message to the inmates of the J. Paul Taylor Detention Center. She also faithfully continues to bring birthdays cards to those celebrating their birthdays, with special messages written on the cards by various members of the congregation. Thank you, Carol.

The Daughters of the King, under the leadership of Johanna Binneweg, have made beautiful shower bags, and many of our church members have contributed hygiene supplies, for our "Tent City Shower Bags" project. The items included in the bags are shampoo, shaving cream, toothbrushes, sunscreen, etc.. Approximately 50 bags will be delivered to Tent City for distribution to the homeless.

A number of our members, under the loyal leadership of Phala White and Mary Anker, will be preparing the food, and serving the food to the needy at El Caldito on Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. The volunteers besides, Phala and Mary include Dottie Storey and John Fitzgerald, Tom and Glenna Lowe, Maddie Sundoep, Margo Schultz, and Mary Armistead. There will likely be others whose names I do not have at the time of this publication.

Our work in Evangelism and Outreach at Saint James takes on many forms. We are "reimagining evangelism". The above are just a few of examples of the many ways to we can all invite both strangers and friends to take a spiritual journey with us in service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Junior Warden's Report**

Jr. Warden Report for August 2019 respectfully submitted by Manny Terrazas

## Your Tithes at Work

There are several new developments around our facility.

It has been a busy month. By the time you read this, all the repairs reported in the last newsletter have been completed. These include:

- A new foam coated roof on the office Complex
- The ground water well is up and running with a new pump and components
- A completely new HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) system in the church



Many thanks to the anonymous donors who paid for half of the HVAC project, it saved St. James so much money, thanks are not enough, but must suffice.

Another donor stepped forward and gave money towards replenishing the very depleted Building and Grounds fund. Many thanks to them as well.

The B&G committee spent many hours and days researching vendors, inquiring about plans and steps involved, making phone calls, & researching customer satisfaction ratings. More meetings were held and finally a decision was made to present a recommendation to the Vestry on the proposed work. All financial expenditures always go through the proper channels. First companies are contacted to give us bids, once bids are received, the background work is done to ensure that the highest quality of workmanship and materials are obtained, while being mindful of our budget and available funds. Once the B&G committee has met, a decision will be made concerning what company's bid will be forwarded to the Vestry for consideration. But, before the Vestry gets the name of the company, the projected cost, and the nature of the work, the Finance Committee must convene and ensure that the funds are available. Once both committees have their respective recommendations for the Vestry, the Vestry is then asked to vote yay or nay to proceed with any proposed work. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes and sincere appreciation to all involved, but especially the dedicated members of the B&G committee who are: Godfrey Crane, Wayne Indorf, Rick Marshall, Susan Smith and the Jr. Warden.

The next project by the B&G committee will be a planned structure to protect and secure the new well equipment. Once that is complete, we hope to begin serious discussions on the proposed work for the Sunday School room and its' improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

Manny Terrazas



## St James Episcopal Church Financial Report Summary JUNE 2019

#### Citizens Bank Account Balances at the end of the month from Balance Sheet:

ACCOUNTS	Current Month	Previous Month
Operating Account	\$ 57,943.16	\$ 54,112.11
Restricted Account	\$ 30,789.92	\$ 37,553.89
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 2,677.26	\$ 2,677.26

#### Operating Income and Expense Summary for the month:

	Current	Current	Year to Date	Year to Date	Annual
	Month	Mo. Budget		Budget	Budget
Income	18,225.96	17,933.33	106,717.68	108,099.98	218,000.00
Expense	14,394.91	14,194.75	90,348.05	101,314.75	214,221.88
Variance	3,831.05	3,738.58	16,369.63	6,785.23	3,778.12

### **Restricted Account with Entries**

ACCOUNT	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
Mission and Outreach	7,736.76	100.00		7836.76
Memorial Fund	17,252.02			17,252.02
Organ-Piano Fund	410.00			410.00
Organ Fund	3,947.81			3,947.81
Building Fund	6,679.18	500.00	-5396.74	1,782.44
BLDG – Sunday School Room	1,792.00			1,792.00
PH Interior Refurbishment	7,803.76			7,803.76
Flowers for Altar	2,034.77	124.63		2,159.40
Rector Discretionary Fund	2,677.26			2,677.26
Vestry Designated Fund	12,007.29			12,007.29
BLDG – New Roof	2091.86		-2091.86	0.00

### Fair Share Information

FAIR SHARE	Current Month	
Total Income	\$ 18,950.96	
Total Exclusions	\$ 725.00	
Net Disposal Income	\$ 18,225.96	
Fair Share Paid for Reported Month	\$ 2,870.59	
Year to Date Fair Share Paid	\$ 20,935.92	

## **Daughters of the King News!**



The Daughters of the King have successfully completed their annual Community Service project of supplying 35 hand-sewn shower bags filled with all the supplies needed. The bags were donated to the residents of Tent City. We thank all those parishioners who sewed and gave generously to this project!

Included in the bags were Soap Sacks, donated by a group of women here in Las Cruces who crochet the sacks, enclose a bar of soap, and donate them to the homeless. Though the members of the group wish to remain anonymous, we Daughters are very grateful for their inspiration, generosity and good wishes in assisting us with this project.

Now it is time to think about the Diocesan Daughters Annual Assembly. It will be held at the Diocesan Bosque Retreat Center in Albuquerque. The center is an all-encompassing venue: All resting, sleeping, and eating requirements are under one roof, so little time need be spent traveling between hotel, eating, and meeting spaces. The cost is very reasonable: the whole package (food, lodging, meeting space) costs each attendee less than a room at a mid-range hotel, including group discount. As many of our Daughters are pensioners, this is quite a boon. Last year, 85 Daughters attended; many came from near-by churches, and paid only for their lunch. We intend to keep the Annual Assembly at the Center for the near future.

Of course, there is the usual grumbling about "how come we always have to travel so far?" from the Daughters in the far-flung corners of the Diocese (ours is the largest-area diocese in the continental U.S.). The Annual Assembly used to be held in a different church each year, giving each DOK chapter the opportunity to host others, and for others to get an idea of the different churches in our Diocese. However, the main point of the Annual Assembly is to gather as many Daughters in one place to hear a specially-chosen inspirational speaker, and to participate in the business meeting. However, at all of the Daughters of the King Annual Assemblies I've attended, only about 20-25 Daughters from chapters close by ever attended. So, having Assembly in a more central location makes a certain amount of sense. Plans are under way to hold mini-Assemblies at the Deanery level, at other seasons of the year.

This year's Assembly is open to all women of the Diocese. It is to be held on Friday-Saturday, August 16-17. Our speaker is the Rev. Meg Hunn, wife of our new Bishop, speaking on "Playful Prayer/Prayerful Play." You could drive up for just the Saturday activities: (Friday is just for gathering and registering). Rev. Hunn gives her first of three talks at 10:30 AM; the final Eucharist is at 3:00 PM, allowing plenty of time for safe travel. If you'd like to attend, speak to Johanna Binneweg about how to register for lunch.

For His Sake and in His love,

Johanna Binneweg, Nancy Cain, Kathy Fisher, Judith Forney, Lucy Gray, Chickie Lerdal, Jane Madrid, Charlene McKinney.

## **Solution aint of the Month** The Right Kind of Evangelist: Aidan of Lindisfarne, August 31

I got the story of our beginnings a little out of order; Aidan started work a few years before the Synod of Whitby and Theodore's arrival.

We're told to evangelize, and it's right. But there's a right and a wrong way of doing it. Have you ever been bothered by a Gospel salesman? One of those people who aggressively demands that you be converted, without bothering to notice whether this has already happened? They don't pester me much now—I suspect my uniform scares them—but I tell you, when I was in seminary at Nashotah, I felt they were always on my back.

Well, anyway...You remember the Island of Iona, off the west coast of Scotland? St. Columba founded it, and it was a center for the training of missionary monks, who went through the length of northern England making converts to Christianity? In general they were successful but it couldn't have been very deep, and in the late 500s, when England was invaded by armies of Angles from



north Germany, people tended to abandon Christianity and adopt the religion of their conquerors. Why not?—the people who won the war must have the strongest gods. Compare the Indians of Mexico after the conquest.

The monks at Iona were unhappy about this and when one Oswald, who had been raised there, became King of Northumbria, he asked Iona for missionaries. Northumbria in modern terms is Yorkshire, along the northeast coast of England north of the Umber river. It had been the most Christian part of the country and its loss was upsetting.

So they selected a missionary. His name was Corman, and he was an idiot. His attitude was, "I Am The Boss," and he marched into Northumbria and demanded that the people return to their old allegiance. Well, you can imagine how well that went

over—not very. After a while he returned to Iona and said, "It's no good; those folks are just too stubborn to return to the faith."

Some took him seriously, but not all. One who was very critical of him was Aidan, and Aidan was appointed the next missionary. Oswald named him bishop of Northumberland. A bishop needs a cathedral; for his cathedral, he founded a monastery on an island just off the coast, and near Oswald's capital. Its name was Lindisfarne, but people called it The Holy Island, and that's the way I learned it. Like Iona it included a school, which trained missionaries and incidentally introduced literacy into Northumbria.

But Aidan didn't stay on the holy island. I doubt that he was much good as an administrator, but administration wasn't what was needed. Aidan went out—you know, I think "went forth" is a better way of saying it—he went forth to reconvert Northumbria, slowly, politely and thoroughly. He traveled on foot; he preferred not to use the (aristocratic) horse. When he went into a village he would tell them nicely about our Lord, and if there were anything he could do to help their affairs, he would. The same at the homes of Angle nobility. If the nobles invited him to dinner he would bring a few brethren with him, eat a small quick meal and excuse himself. And—this impresses me the most—when he met anyone on his trips he would go up to them, ask them nicely if they had heard of our Lord and, having received their permission, tell them about him. And when he was given money he used it for the relief of the poor, or to buy people out of slavery. Altogether he was the right kind of Gospel salesman, and he founded churches and schools all over the country. Slowly, a little at a time, he succeeded; Northumberland returned to the Christian faith.

Meanwhile other things were happening. The Synod of Whitby was held in 645 under Oswald's successor, Wilfrid made a powerful speech in favor of observing the Roman date of Easter, and this became the caase. The Pope appreciated Aidan's work, but he still decided to make Wilfrid bishop of Northumbria (did he feel they needed an administrator?) What about Aidan? He said, "Certainly," and stepped down with no fuss. This really impresses me. Aidan was completely uninterested in an office or a title; he simply wanted to work for Christ, and he kept right on doing it.

In the 650s he died as he'd lived. He was on one of his constant trips and at evening, tire, he reached a town where there was a church. He leaned his hand on its wall, sank down, and was gone, As it's been said, he was a soldier, and he died a soldier's death, on his chosen field of battle.

-Father Frank



## Vestry Meeting Highlights for July 9, 2019

- Fr. John reports he is having Eric make appointments with all parishioners to visit and get to know them. A Celebration of new ministry looks to be on the eve of Thursday, September 12, as it is the first free date for Bishop Hunn. A reception hosted by St. James should follow. Bishop Hunn will officially recognize and receive Fr. John as our new Rector at this time. Confirmations will be held on the eve of Tuesday, October 15, again, due to Bp. Hunn's schedule. Fr. John has a new email for work: john@saintjameslc.org
- The church will have combined services quarterly to encourage fellowship and cooperation. Dates for combined services which will be held at 9:30 AM: August 11-Rite 1 (instructional eucharist-no sermon, but a dialogue explaining each step of the service and its meaning); November 10-Rite II; Feb. 9-Rite 1; May 10-Rite II
- Building and Grounds committee continues to evaluate two vendors to effect repairs to the church's refrigerated air unit. One of the options provided was to replace the entire system with all new equipment. A donor has stepped forward to foot 50% of the total bill. B&G is recommending replacing the entire system. The Financial Committee approved the maximum cost to the church of \$9000.00. Vestry voted to approve the expenditure of \$9000.00 with a match from the anonymous donor.
- On June 28, the vestry approved by electronic vote to proceed with work to repair the well's sand trap. However, the water well by church is out again, and a technician will come out 7/10 to look at it. Manny suspects it may be the pump. B&G will make a proposal and Manny will initiate electronic dialogue and vote to speed up the process.
- Roof work has been completed on the office/classroom building. The vestry will look into minor cosmetic repair to the office suite interior in the future.
- Nyeta Haines suggested moving undesignated funds from a memorial to pay for repairs to the church's A/C, which was approved.
- The latest Farmers Market display/booth was Saturday, July 3, 2019, where parishioners distributed free bottles of water to passersby and engaged about 15 people. The next date is August 3rd. The Esperanza Bags distribution has been going on since approximately May 3rd and approximately 65 bags have been distributed. Thanks to the St. James' church community for their help with distribution of the bags to the homeless. The committee received \$100.00 towards covering costs in June. Thanks to the donor.
- The Evangelism, Outreach & Missions committee is considering sponsoring a community dance sometime within the next 3-4 months. This would be a fund raiser and we would need some volunteers.
- The EOM Committee wishes to sponsor a program regarding advance healthcare directives, and general planning for chronic serious illness including death perhaps in November or early December 2019 with speakers Terry Meyer, M.D. and Linda Pribble, Board Certified Chaplain, presenting.

- The Finance committee spoke about availability of funds, specifically: Vestry designated fund, building fund, and memorial fund. Finance Committee member Carol Baker will research the memorial funds more deeply and will report back to the Finance Committee. Phala made the recommendation to proceed with further exploration of the memorial funds, Jennifer seconded, and the motion was approved.
- The Stewardship Committee will begin work on the 2019/20 Stewardship campaign soon.
- NMSU Outreach-Fr. John has spoken with St. Andrews about working together to reconstitute a Canterbury Fellowship and has also been made aware of a pre-existing relationship between NMSU and Peace Lutheran. John will be looking for volunteers from the Vestry and parish to help with this initiative.



## August 2019 Birthdays

- 1 John Judd
- 9 Judy Smith
- 10 Terrence Meyer
- 13 Dottie Storey
- 14 Dylan Sommers
- 16 Nancy Schumacher
- 17 Cheryl Wilson
- 18 Kyley Vergeer

- 27 Laura Wright
- 29 Pat Marshall
- 30 Margo Lamb
- 31 Dugan Hellyer

If your name is not listed and

should be, please call the office (526-2389) and let us know. We'd love to wish you a Happy Birthday!

## Birthday Open House

In celebration of her 95th Birthday this month, Pat Marshall would like to invite everyone to a special open house at 905 Conway (in the clubhouse) on August 24th from 2:00-4:00 p.m.



St. James' Episcopal Church P.O. Box 2427 Mesilla Park, NM 88047 Tel.: 575-526-2389, FAX: 575-526-4821

#### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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When we welcome the stranger, we welcome the Lord God himself. We welcome Jesus,

## —Bishop Michael Curry



St. James' Holy Eucharist Service Schedule

Sundays at 8:00 am Rite I Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Children's Sunday School & Nursery 10:15 am Sundays at 10:30 am Rite II Wednesdays at 10:00 am Rite I