



**ST. JAMES' IN-THE-CITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Respecting the dignity of every human being

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2017

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**Saint James' in the City
Los Angeles, California
The Right Reverend Catherine S. Roskam
Bishop-in-Charge**

**The Annual Meeting
Agenda
Sunday, January 29, 2017
12:15pm, Parish Hall**

- Welcome, Reflection, and Sharing the Good News
The Right Reverend Catherine S. Roskam

- Senior Warden

- Vestry Election

- Diocesan Convention Delegates

- Financial Presentation – Spencer Hong, Treasurer
 - Year End 2016
 - Budget for 2017

- Other Business

- Adjournment

BISHOP-IN-CHARGE

Dear Members of St. James',

Welcome to our Annual Meeting, the yearly gathering of the St. James' family to review the year past and to look together to the year ahead.

It continues to be a privilege and a pleasure to be a part of the St. James' family as Bishop in Charge, as I have been for the past two years and a half years.

As you listen to the presentations at the meeting and read the reports in this booklet, I hope you will have a sense of how far we have come together in terms of serving God's mission and ministry, whether in the parish in support of our common life or in the interface with the wider world.

And of course there is more ahead, not the least of which is the search for a new Rector.

Our abundant life rests on Christ and on your commitment of time, talent and treasure in his service and in the service of the world for which he gave himself.

May God bless us and all we undertake in Christ's name.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, starting with a small cross symbol followed by the name "Catherine".

The Right Reverend Catherine S. Roskam
Bishop-In-Charge

A Message from the Senior Warden

Stephen Yeazell

As you likely know, this year our parish will conduct a search for a new rector.

The search process has three phases. On February 4, the vestry will have an all-day retreat at the Cathedral Center, where we will meet both with Canon Joanna Satorius and other diocesan officers and begin conversations about the shape of the search.

Then—and this is where we need everyone’s help—in a series of “Second Sunday Town Meetings” the whole parish will meet after the 10:30 service under the expert guidance of Canon Eric Law, who will take us through an exploration of where we have been as a parish and where we hope collectively to go. I earnestly invite all of you to attend as many of these sessions as possible: only when we hear all voices can we be sure that the Holy Spirit is working among us. The result of these events will be a parish profile, which will be posted on the web site of the national church (as well as on St. James’s site). The posting of that profile opens the process in which clergy can indicate their interest in the rectorship. At this point all members of the parish are welcome and invited to put forward candidates they think would be a good fit.

Culminating these two stages will be a special Pentecost service on Sunday June 4 at which former Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold will preach and bless our search.

In the third phase, the vestry and search committee will interview candidates, and prayerfully seek to discern who might best move this parish forward to the next stage of our mission. The Rev. Betsy Anderson, a lifelong member of this parish now retired from St. Mathews Pacific Palisades, has offered to serve as Chaplain to the search, for which we are immensely grateful.

Our goal is to have a new rector “called” by the end of 2017, though it’s possible that she or he may not physically be present until sometime after that; meanwhile, Bishop Catherine has kindly agreed to guide us until we call a new rector.

Two words about transparency and confidentiality are in order. The first stages of the search, particularly the Town Meetings are open to all. Once we begin to interview individual candidates, however, confidentiality is necessary: no worthy candidate will want to undergo a public process, and we shall respect that need for confidentiality. Nevertheless, throughout the process we’ll regularly brief the whole congregation about the stage of the search and solicit your prayers—and we will once again invite all to welcome a new rector!

St. James' School is alive and well! We are, in fact, more active, robust, and engaged than ever before. Not only do we now count 372 students in our St. James' school family, but we are also confident that the children are happily thriving in a dynamic and stimulating learning environment.

Though we still produce dozens of well disciplined, impeccably educated graduates to populate Los Angeles' middle schools every year, we offer a more child-centered, holistic and engaging experience every year. The high-tech, high-touch environment of our new SmartLab has intrigued adults and students alike with its model of collaborative problem solving using the latest technology. Our science program stresses hands-on, multi-dimensional experiments to cultivate the children's' higher level thinking skills and catalyze their scientific curiosity. From second grade onward they hypothesize, analyze and synthesize; collect and evaluate data; and reach mature conclusions that would make Einstein proud and bring Marie Curie to her feet, cheering. Our English program focuses on great literature, and fluent, fluid writing of quite astounding quality. Musically, we are soaring. Not only does our children's choir elevate our weekly worship services, but our band stresses the art of the ensemble. Our plays and musicals (this year "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat") continue to pack in audiences, inspire the children's creativity, and nurture their self-confidence. Three years ago we added dance to our curriculum for all students, boys and girls, Kindergarten through 6th grade; and we have never regretted the decision to open up this new pathway for self-expression. We firmly believe that brains work better when all types of intelligence are stimulated, nurtured, and intentionally programmed into the students' day. Perhaps that is why our Singapore Math program has been so successful and rewarding.

Financially the school is solid as a rock with balanced budgets, reasonable reserves, prudently tended investments, and a growing endowment. Our successful capital campaign called "Believe!" is now 85% of the way to goal; and we will break ground on a renovation of our buildings this summer. By the year of our 50th anniversary in 2018, our school will look brand, spanking new! But at our core, we are still the same St. James' that Father Sam D'Amico founded as a mission of St. James' Church almost 50 years ago. We care deeply for others and serve our community through our participation in the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry; and we are deeply invested in our sister schools in Haiti and Korea. We live out our mission and our core beliefs as have the many generations that preceded us. And when we gather in Chapel, we are a joyful and inclusive learning community that worships together as one. Our hearts are forever bound together, not only with every other member of the school community, but with every member of the St. James' congregation as well. Thank you for your guidance and love all these years. We couldn't have done any of it without you. We hope we are your "beloved mission" *...in whom you are well-pleased.*

MINISTRY AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Liturgy, Formation & Spiritual Life

Submitted by the Rev. Jenifer Chatfield

This past year saw the continuation of new opportunities for the formation and spiritual life for both adults and children. As we continued to discern Bishop Catherine's call for us all to articulate our "hopes and dreams" for the parish from the previous year, 2016 saw an integration of formation and an emphasis on outreach in our Sunday liturgies; with informative, inspired preaching from guest preachers to our concerted effort to incorporate spiritual formation in sermons and prayer offerings.

HEARTS FOR GOD aka Sunday School

In 2016 we were blessed to have dedicated parishioners who committed themselves to creating a Sunday School program for children ages 5-12 during the 10:30 service. Since the fall of 2014 we have had a continual Sunday School offering year-round. While it has been a challenge to find permanent instructors to fully invest in this ministry, we decided to develop a program that fit our children's talents as we continued to meet this challenge. Recognizing that our kids love to sing and perform, in August we developed *HEARTS FOR GOD* in response to our Children's love for creative expression. With this original program, Children learn about the church seasons and specific lessons and then respond to these teachings by learning hymns, creating art projects, and preparing dramatic expressions. They sang for us on September 11th, taught us about the Saints in October, created an Advent meditation in November, and charmed us with a Christmas pageant on Christmas Eve. We will continue this program in 2017 with the help of professional artists where the children will explore Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Choir Camp during the summer.

CHILDCARE

Going with the premise that all children benefit when exposed to Christian formation, even our littlest one's get to participate. Childcare is offered in the Parish Hall during the 10:30 service alongside Sunday School. This not only affords parents easy accessibility to their children during the service if needed, but it also enables toddlers to mingle at their own leisure and participate in their own way with what is happening with Sunday School and the "bigger" kids. We continue to provide vetted childcare workers who have extensive experience to watch children under five years of age every Sunday.

ADULT FORMATION

Not only did we make a concerted effort to focus on our Sunday liturgies as spiritual formation, but there was an intentional focus on outreach. Along with this aspect of liturgical preparation we continued to offer forums and classes which spoke not only to personal spiritual growth, but also sought to help us think about what God may be calling us to do within our community and in the world. We continued to offer Confirmation Classes, Marriage Preparation and Baptism Instruction when needed. We presented an *Instructed Eucharist*, joined the Trinity Institute in New York for *Conversations for Racial Justice*, brought attention to *Homelessness*, facilitated a discussion with *Muslim Women* and we welcomed the Rev. Eric Law who enlightened us about stewardship through *Holy Currencies*. Parishioners met in classes and in groups to learn about the Book of Common Prayer, to talk about Grief, to pray with *Anglican Prayer beads*, and to meditate with *Contemplative Prayer*. Bishop Catherine's *Young Adult Prayer Group* met faithfully and our *Education for Ministry* (EFM) group continued to be a staple for adult formation. We look forward to expanding and exploring in 2017!

LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Our spiritual life at St. James continues to revolve around, and is informed by our worship together. Worship has implications for the whole of life, as we participate in liturgies to proclaim God's redemptive actions in creation. We offered special liturgies throughout the year as we celebrated our African and Korean Fellowships, our Scouts, Martin Luther King, Baccalaureate Sunday, Michaelmas, and everyone's favorite, the Blessing of the Animals.

Because we are a wonderfully diverse parish, we are always looking for ways to offer worship services which will speak to our diversity. In 2016, the 2nd Sunday of the Month continued to offer a service where the 10:30 service was joined by our Korean Speaking congregation, the Korean Choir and the Saint James School Choir. With this service, the gospel was read in Korean and English along with other aspects of the liturgy at times spoken in Krio and Igbo. The 4th Sunday of each

month we pulled out the stops with a Solemn Eucharist which included incense and rich choral Settings. Because we are always discerning the needs of the parish and how we can reach out to our community, in 2016 we began an exploration of how we can best meet the needs of families with children as well as the St. James' school families. This has led to the addition in 2017 of a "Family Service" from 9:30-10:15 on the 2nd Sunday of the month which will be geared toward families with children (but of course ALL ARE WELCOME!). Following this service, we will continue to offer our usual 10:30 joint service with the Korean congregation on 2nd Sundays.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

With the success of the Ministry Fair, many expressed interest in serving in various roles as acolytes, chalice bearers, ushers, readers, greeters, crucifers, vergers and Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Training followed throughout the year and will continue in the new year to accommodate all who wish to serve.

PASTORAL CARE

The clergy are always on call for pastoral emergencies and for pastoral counseling. Along with clergy home visits, office visits and hospital visits, our Lay Eucharistic Visitor Team has also been an essential part of meeting the needs of those who are homebound. Throughout the year there were numerous visits by LEVS who brought news, communion and fellowship to homebound parishioners. In 2017 we will continue to look at ways to expand lay participation in pastoral care ministries. Our Intercessory prayer team of over 60 participants continues to be a vital 'behind the scenes' ministry—bringing the power of prayer and faith to those who ask for prayers.

Vergers, Lay Clerks, Acolytes and Lay Eucharistic Ministers for 2015

Submitted by Emily Abbott

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Canon John Thies for his years of service scheduling and organizing Lay Ministry here at St. James. Although he is still very much participating in services, scheduling duties are now in the hands of Emily Abbott. I look forward to building on the amazing work that John has done.

This group of dedicated people numbering over 50 people, volunteer their time and talents to make sure that our community worship is celebrated and God is glorified. We continue to welcome more people to our ranks. This year we served at the normal Sunday liturgies, Special Liturgies and Evensongs. We encourage all who would like to join this hardworking group to email emily.mariah.abbott@gmail.com.

Acolytes: These are the Crucifers and Torchbearers and Servers that so ably offer their service at the Sunday Liturgy. They range from 9 years of age upward and consist of the broad diversity of our parish. They not only serve on Sunday, but at special liturgies, and holidays. In addition, we have two sets of teams from St. James School that serve at the 10:30 a.m. service on the second Sundays of the month.

The Eucharistic Ministers: This group also known as chalice bearers assist by administering the chalice at the Sunday Liturgy. They are appointed by the Rector and with his/her consent licensed by the Bishop to administer the chalice. We have over 20 people serving in this ministry and in 2015 we have added a couple of young people to this group. In addition, we now 10 people who are licensed as Lay Eucharistic visitors who take the sacrament to the shut-ins on Sundays following the principle service, so they are a part of our community worship.

Vergers: This group is charged with the responsibility of seeing the services flow and that those involved are at their appointed places at the appointed moment. In essence they are the behind the scenes directors. They coordinate all ceremonial facets of the Liturgy.

Subdeacons: This group is chalice bearers who are chosen by the Rector represent to assembly at the Altar. Vested, they assist the celebrant at the liturgy by standing with the Ministers during the Great Thanksgiving, and doing other acts as designated.

These people deserve our thanks and congratulations on a job well done each and every week. Without their willingness to function in these roles our liturgy would not be complete.

Stewardship Committee

Submitted by Emily Abbott, Mumbie Fredson-Cole, and Ola Thomas

This year the Stewardship Committee started to take a more comprehensive and holistic view of our stewardship. Recognizing that Stewardship is much more than taking care of our money. It includes taking care of our time, talent and treasure. It must be admitted that we are just getting started but the baby steps taken includes the committee's work and support for the semi descriptive budget (an attempt to show that the numbers in our budget does not fully express what Saint James is all about) for this year's pledge campaign, and volunteer guides to help parishioners with questions and concerns that they had during the campaign. It is our hope that these guides will serve as the seeds from which will blossom warm and vibrant relationships that will strengthen and serve the diverse needs of our spiritual community and glorify our Father. We want to encourage every parishioner who has an interest in sharing their time, talent or treasure to contact any one of the guides so we can develop and take care of the abundant blessings at Saint James.

Communications Committee

Submitted by Justin Baker

Through an initiative and partnership with The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, Office of Communications and continued consulting through the PR firm, Fuzzy Image Media, a committee for communications was formed in November, 2015, chaired by parishioner Bob Williams. Members of this committee included: Bob Williams (chair), the Rt. Rev. Catherine S. Roskam, the Rev. Jenifer Chatfield, the Rev. John Kim, Lauren Azeltine (Parish Administrator), Canon James Buonemani (Director of Music), and Justin Baker (consultant).

Completed projects include:

- Newly designed website with over 30+ pages of visual-based content conceptualized and formatted to meet 21st Century interaction and mobile-friendly devices.
- Updated branding including newly designed logo, color scheme, text format and public online presence and clear partnership with St. James' School.
- Established new social media platform campaigns and designs: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Formulated Social Media Business Plan (SMBP) and campaign schedule.
- Newly designed business cards for all staff members including updated branding and social media.
- Created "social cards" for welcome table including all communication pathways for parishioners and visitors using unifying campaign of #AllAreWelcome.
- Developed and managed #ComingHomeLA event to include multiple faith organizations, City of LA, HOWSLA, outside speakers, celebrities, press and photo opportunities for awareness and outreach to improving homelessness efforts through HHH measure.
- Newly crafted, designed, printed and distributed Welcome cards in pews and welcome table reflecting a more genuine and lively picture of St. James' community for new comers and frequent attendees.

Ongoing:

- Maintain updated weekly events happening in parish on website and on social media platforms.
- Maintain weekly "blog" for website and social awareness.
- Maintain daily and weekly posts for social media accounts: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- Monitor and continually develop updated visual stories of St. James community through photos, videos, events and social media campaigns.
- Create online social media advertisements and postings to reach outside the walls of parish and meet larger community of Wilshire corridor. (see attached campaign results)

Great Music at St. James'

**Submitted by Canon James Buonemani,
Organist & Director of Music**

The year 2016 marked the twenty-first anniversary of our series *Great Music at St. James'* as well as the twenty-first anniversary of the rebuilding of our magnificent organ in St. James' Church.

- On January 10, 2016, we celebrated the anniversary of the David John Falconer Memorial Organ by re-dedicating it in a service of Solemn Evensong. Following evensong, a concert, co-sponsored with the Los Angeles chapter of the American Guild of Organists, featured our own Tom Mueller as organ recitalist (stepping in at the last minute to replace originally scheduled artist Stephen Tharp, suffering from illness.)
- In recognition of the success of the David John Falconer Memorial Organ and in appreciation for how it has brought together music lovers from throughout our community and beyond, the Ahmanson Foundation continues to generously provide funds for the International Laureates Organ Series. The series features recent winners of the world's most prestigious international organ

competitions alongside seasoned performers and laureate winners from years past. This current season features American organists Richard Peter Conte (Philadelphia), Dexter Kennedy (Wooster, MA), Ann Laver (Syracuse, NY) New Zealand organist Thomas Gaynor, British Organist Simon Johnson, Chinese organist Weicheng Zhao with his wife, violinist Fang Gao.

- Evensong continues to be sung on the second Sunday of the month (October through May). Perhaps the most characteristically Anglican of worship services, the Office of Evensong draws a loyal and diverse congregation from throughout the greater metropolitan area. The music performed at Evensong represents the pinnacle of Anglican Cathedral repertoire, both old and new. Our choir is steeped in this tradition and has become a training-ground for a number of local choral directors who have launched similar programs in their own parishes. Our special thanks to our reception host, Marlee Malone-Franklin, who coordinates the lovely receptions following our Evensongs, as well as members of the choir for their support.
- Begun in the Fall of 2001, the singing of *Compline* on the 4th Sunday of the month has emerged as one of the most unique liturgical/musical offerings in the Los Angeles area. It draws a diverse body of worshippers, believers and non-believers alike. Patterned after the monastic offices begun in the middle ages, it features music from Gregorian Chant and early polyphony to the music of modern mystics sung by the the Schola Cantorum of St. James'. This meditative service in the heart of the city is a refreshing oasis for those who attend. Services of *Compline* this past season were presented on the 4th Sundays of November, February and April.
- The ever-popular *Advent Procession of Lessons and Carols* continues to draw a capacity congregation from throughout Southern California and beyond. Our most recent service on December 11, 2016, included a premiere of a new work by yours truly. Entitled "All Heav'n in Thee", the work is written on a text by poet-priest George Herbert (1593-1633) and was commissioned by former St. James' Choir member Margaret Ecker, in honor of her father.
- Many of our musical performances can be heard in "live" recordings available online at www.stjla.org. Just click under the Great Music tab: "Listen to the music". We thank François Vaillancourt, recording archivist, for donating this ministry to the parish. New works are periodically added to this archive, and we encourage people to check back often.
- Another important service of outreach and publicity is performed by choir member Justin Baker. His photography, videography and maintenance of our Facebook page "Great Music at St. James'", has extended our reach far and wide. Thank you, Justin!
- An important educational and cultural ministry is offered by our St. James' Children's Choir. This choir continues to nurture the artistic and spiritual lives of our children. The children sing on the second Sundays of the month (Oct-May) at our main Sunday service of Holy Eucharist. A few singers from our adult choir occasionally bolster the children's performances for these services and gives the children an opportunity to sing alongside seasoned adult musicians. In addition, the children sing for "all-school" Chapel services as well as the school Christmas Pageant and at various school outings. Jim Casey continues to lead and inspire these talented children as well as instructs them with other children in musical classroom education at St. James' School.
- The Choir of St. James' is the principal choir of the parish and offers both amateur and professional musicians an opportunity to explore a rich repertoire of church music. Many thanks to the members of the choir who generously give their time and talent to enrich our worship with music. A particular congratulations to George Marks and Mary Abbott who this season are celebrating their 35th and 33rd years respectively of devoted service to the choir. We also congratulate Daniel Babcock who reached 10 years of dedicated service to the choir this past season. This current season we welcome the following new members to our choir family: Amelia Tobiason (retuning soprano after a one-year hiatus), Milena Gligic (alto), Ian Walker and Chris Downard (baritones). Finally, we bid sad farewells to members Paul Ockelmann and David Yang, who have moved to Portland, OR and Denver, CO, respectively. We wish to thank our current music librarians, Lucy Wegner and Mary Abbott, and our Choir Council Members: Choir Dean, Megan Malone-Franklin, Susie McDermid, Adam Noel, and Jae Park. These and other choir members go above and beyond the call of duty and we are truly grateful for their service.
- We are also grateful to our various cantors—Jae Park, Kara Morgan, Sarah Lynch, Michael Bannett and Dermot Kiernan, for their uplifting style of leading the chant portions of our service. To them and to the many outstanding solo singers of our choir who frequently adorn our worship with their singular talents (especially during the summer months when the choir-at-large is on vacation) – applause is due!
- In his third season with us, we are pleased to have Dr. Tom Muller as our Associate Organist. Tom is an award-winning graduate from the Eastman School of Music who is Assistant Professor of Church Music and University Organist at Concordia University in Irvine, CA. We are extremely grateful for Tom's impeccable musicianship and delighted to have his wife Kristina and daughter Isabella participate within our parish family.
- We are blessed with the talents of other musical parishioners who occasionally enrich our worship with their talents. Among our many musical parishioners we particularly wish to thank trumpeter Philip Ditmer, flutists Cathy Helm and Brice Martin. We also welcomed flutist Luisa Cartagena to our Christmas Eve service, who is the new Band Director at St. James' School.

- The hard work of promoting, producing and organizing many of our musical activities falls on the shoulders of the members of the Parish Music Guild. They are indispensable volunteers to the success of our series *Great Music at St. James'*. Many thanks to the members of the Music Guild and to the other volunteers who make it all look "so simple": Tom Abbott, Victor Ahaiwe, John Amobi, Margaret Ecker, Ed Garren, Elizabeth Harris, Alan Heppel, David Hunter, Geri Hurley, Mike Lyons, Steve McLean, Gregory Miller, Ingrid Ralston, Kevin and Kathleen Rice, Gillian Rodriguez, Betty Stephens, Sara Jane Thies, and Thomas Tunde. This fine group is headed by Linda Whittemore, who after 20 years of service as a singer in our choir has kindly offered to devote her energies to this important ministry. (If you would like to help out, please email GreatMusic@SaintJamesLA.org.)
- We continue to be excited to have our Choir of St. James' featured in an upcoming independent documentary film entitled ***The American Chorister*** by filmmaker and chorister Justin Baker. Estimated at several more years until completion, the film examines the life of a chorister in 21st century Los Angeles. Filming is on-going at many of the choir's liturgical and concert appearances. Please visit www.AmericanChorister.com for more information on this interesting project and to offer your support.
- The Parish Budget alone cannot afford to maintain the scope of this ministry. *Friends of Great Music* was founded in 1995 to give individuals an opportunity to contribute toward our music ministry. As we rely more and more on voluntary contributions, we are truly grateful to our generous parishioners and friends of the parish who make our musical outreach possible. (You can make a donation to Great Music on our website by clicking on "Friends of Music" under the Great Music tab.)

I usually end my report with a quote from one of the heart-warming notes I receive from parishioners and friends and guests of the parish. Here is an excerpt from a note I recently received from Simon Johnson, the Organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, who was our guest recitalist on January 8, 2017:

I was really touched by Evensong before the concert. Please pass on my thanks to the choir. Sometimes we find inspiration when we least expect it - Choral Evensong sung so beautifully 5500 miles from home goes pretty high up my list!

Korean Congregation

Submitted by the Rev. John Kim

"A Goal for the Year 2016"

Worship Services

Sunday 12:15 p.m. – Rite II Korean Service

Thursday 7:00 p.m. – Rite II Korean Service

Joint Service – No Korean Service Sunday

Every 2nd Sunday include Pentecost, Christmas, Feast of St. James', All Baptism Sundays, and other special occasions.

Serve Korean Lunch every Sunday after Coffee Hour.

Outreach and Community Services

Encourage the members to serve for Altar flowers, food pantry, soup kitchen, ushers, oblation bearers, acolytes, church events and activities.

Food Pantry – 7 Korean volunteers – Tuesdays and Thursdays 8-9 a.m.

Christian Education

Korean Newcomer class & Korean Baptismal classes.

Bible Study for Korean Members – every Sunday after Korean lunch.

Pastoral care for Korean members

Conduct Home & Business Blessings, Hospital visits for patients, call and visit non-active Korean members

Send birthday cards, sending Sunday bulletins to absent members

Sacramental confession, counseling, and care for Korean members

Stewardship Training

Increase Pledge Members up to 10% & total amount increase 10%. Encourage members to pledge.

African Christian Fellowship

Submitted by Elizabeth Igwe

ACF President 2016-2017

The purpose of this fellowship is to provide a forum for all people: men, women, and children in Southern California, most especially at St. James' Church, to embrace and maintain unity, culture and values of Africans both in the United States and Africa, with emphasis on religious closeness and family values. Membership is open to all Africans and other interested people of all religions. Please feel free to join us during our regular monthly meetings which are generally held on the 1st Sunday of each month after the 10:30 am service in the school hall.

Highlights of Fellowship's Customary Activities:

- Active participation of members in different activities and committees of the church, such as the Vestry, Women's group, Intercessory prayer group, Soup kitchen, Greeters, Ushers, Lay Readers, Intercessors, Lay Representatives, Oblation Bearers, youth programs and Sunday school.
- Financial donation to St. James' Church and school, Soup Kitchen and other charities as able
- Hosting Coffee hour at least three time a year
- Attend and participate in St. James' annual church picnic
- Attend "wake keeping" for bereaved members' families.
- Celebrate monthly birthdays of members.
- Provide lunch during our monthly meetings.
- Celebrate Mothers' and Fathers' Day with special gifts.
- Celebrate the births and baptism of members' children.
- Provide lectures in a variety of topics including but not limited to Financial and Health literacy

All of these activities would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the Executive and members of the African Christian Fellowship. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

We are very grateful to Bishop Catherine, the entire St. James' Parish family, the staff of St. James' School for allowing us to use the school hall for our meetings and events. Huge thank you to the custodial/security staff for ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for our meetings

MAY GOD GUIDE AND PROTECT ALL OF YOU THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR!!!

Education for Ministry – "EFM"

Submitted by John Bassett

Education for Ministry (EFM) is a program of theological education for lay people developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South, one of the Episcopal Church's accredited seminaries. Over the course of four years, EFM gives its participants a solid grounding in Old Testament, New Testament, church history, theology, ethics, liturgics, and spirituality. EFM develops the skills of theological reflection in a small group setting and helps participants to define their ministries in the church and the world. EFM is sponsored by the diocese, but receives no financial subsidy from the parish. We meet every Tuesday night from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm from September through June. The members of the group take turns leading worship and contributing topics for reflection. While EFM is a substantial commitment of time for independent reading and class participation, members of the group report a great deal of personal and spiritual growth from participation. We always hope to expand the program, and should be providing opportunities for new members to join us in the fall.

Men's Group

Submitted by Alan Heppel

The Men's Group is a loose-knit volunteer organization of men at Saint James' who meet for monthly fellowship to explore their lives as Christians in this world. It welcomes the participation of each and every man in the parish. It provides a chance to get to know one another, and to engage with each other as members of this faith community. About fifty parishioners are on the mailing list. Each month about a dozen or so members from the Group gather at the home of one of the participants, for a social hour and dinner, followed by a general discussion. Conversation springs from a topic or brief reading contributed by a volunteer moderator, and often moves off in mysterious, sometimes hilarious, ways. In addition, each year has featured a weekend retreat. Last July a group of interested members went to the Mount Calvary Retreat House and Monastery in Santa Barbara, where we shared in the Brothers' daily offices, and engaged in lively discussions moderated by William Walton and Ken Robbins and informal conversations with each other. Wine was consumed. This coming July we will again go on retreat to the Mount Calvary Monastery. These retreats have been an annual highlight for many years, and the monthly meetings grew out of our desire to continue our fellowship throughout the year. We have also been

exploring ways to grow our mission. Anyone who is curious about our activities or would like to sample one of our monthly meetings or join in the monastery retreat can contact Alan Heppel (323-463-1100 or alanheppel@gmail.com).

Women's Retreat

Submitted by SaraJane Thies, Holly Holyk, and Ingrid Finley-Scott

The 2016 Women's Retreat was held April 15-17, 2016. Led by the Rev. Yein Esther Kim at the Mount Calvary Monastery and Retreat House in Santa Barbara, it was titled *Growing A Rule of Life*. Seventeen women of St. James' were guided through a workbook on developing a rule of life written by Society of St. John the Evangelist and Center for the Ministry of Teaching (Virginia Theological Seminary). The meaning of a rule of life and its relationship to creation was discussed. Then we explored how a rule of life could deepen our relationship to God, ourselves, and others. We ended up by looking at how a rule of life helps us live in rhythm with God in creation, and we each developed our own rule of life with supports for its growth. The great tradition of fellowship on Friday and Saturday evenings allowed the women to establish new relationships and deepen old ones. The cost of the retreat was \$300. One full and two partial scholarships were made available through the generosity of participants, parishioners, a modest carryover funds from last year. This year the retreat will be held March 31-April 2, and Joanne O'Donnell will lead us in a retreat about reconciliation. We have 12 spaces reserved and are happy to offer the women of St. James' a time to deepen their spiritual life in community.

OUTREACH

Food Pantry

Submitted by Cathy Helm

The Food Pantry gives food once a week to needy families and individuals. To those with cooking facilities—about three-quarters of our clients—we provide what we call our “regular bags.” The regular bag usually contains five cans of fruits, vegetables, or, occasionally, tuna or peanut butter, and four or five non-canned items such as rice, dried beans, cereal, fresh produce, frozen fruit, or yogurt. To homeless people and anyone else who does not have access to a kitchen, we give a “quick bag.” The quick bag contains foods that come in single-serving sizes. A typical quick bag will include ten or eleven non-perishable items (cereal, granola bars, pop-top cans of chicken or beef or pasta, crackers, canned fruit, cookies) and an assortment of frozen, chilled, and fresh foods, such as juice, milk, yogurt, bagels, oranges, or frozen yogurt bars.

We work at the pantry Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. On Tuesdays we prepare both our regular and our quick bags. On Thursdays, we open the doors on Wilshire Boulevard and distribute the bags to clients from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Clients are allowed to get a bag every week. We ask regular-bag clients to bring their own empty bags to the pantry, which almost all have done; that has cut down substantially on the number of plastic bags we use.

In 2016 we distributed, on average, about 750 bags per month, serving a monthly total of about 1450 people, including the family members of whoever picks up the bags. These numbers are about 15% lower than our numbers for 2015, perhaps because of an improving economy (at least so we hope).

Much of the pantry's food comes from the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. The Food Bank supplies us with free and low-cost government food, as well as grocery-surplus items. We buy most of our single-serving foods for the quick bags from a wholesaler; those purchases usually are the food pantry's largest yearly expense. Parishioners and the students and parents of St. James' School donate food to us as well.

St. James' Church gives financial support each year to HopeNet, an entity that has organized mid-Wilshire churches, synagogues, and mosques into a group that helps the needy. HopeNet in turn uses such contributions, as well as money it receives through a grant, to pay for much of our food pantry's food supply. Church members and others have contributed money, too.

Early in 2016 a very dedicated volunteer, Cecilia Atherton, died unexpectedly. Cecilia, who was witty, considerate, and generous, was a mainstay of the pantry. She had attended St. James' Church for many years, although in the years before her death she had begun to attend Church of the Advent (from which she recruited several excellent volunteers for us). We still miss Cecilia a great deal.

The food pantry is staffed entirely by volunteers. Many attend St. James' Church, but many do not. Father John Kim has been very helpful in introducing us to a number of Korean volunteers who not only participate in the normal work of the pantry but also translate as needed between Korean and English. This is a crucial contribution to the pantry because the majority of our clients speak Korean as their first language. All of our volunteers are enthusiastic and dedicated, and are a pleasure to work with. The volunteers who helped us in 2016 included the following: Young-Bong Choi, Elizabeth Hord, Chul Kim, Don Kim, Kyo-Chan Kim, Seon-Jin Kim, Tom Kim, Hyuk Lee, Tumi Mahlanza, Syria Orizaba and Wallace Richardson (both of whom came to us through AmeriCorps), Olga Page, Marcy Savage, Kermit Stratton, Kyu-Yul Suh, Bunny Svatos, Gill Wagner, Eunice Williams-Brown, and Suk-Jun Yoo. More volunteers are always welcome!

Soup Kitchen

Submitted by Elizabeth Harris

Volunteers gather in the kitchen each Friday to prepare a meal for those in need. Doors open at 5:00 pm and the serving continues for one hour. Cleaning up takes another 45 minutes. We have been averaging about 95 people to feed each time, with the numbers usually larger later in each month than at the beginning of the month. Furthermore, we have seen that the number has been somewhat greater in the summer than in the cooler months.

The menu each week centers on the soup, which one of us prepares each Friday. In addition to soup, we offer several kinds of sandwiches, salads, a pasta dish, and sometimes an additional hot vegetable dish, fruit and cookies, or other similar simple dessert, and, of course, various breads.

Some of our food is purchased from the Regional Food Bank; other items are from a commercial restaurant supplier; some is donated; and the remainder is purchased from Smart and Final.

Since preparation requires a few hours of time from several people and at least fifteen are needed to make up the serving line and to provide all the help necessary to keep that process continuing well each evening, we are always glad to have new volunteers in addition to the experienced regulars who join us when they can.

One segment of our volunteer group is always made up of young students from various area schools including St. James' School. They are devoted and enthusiastic; we look forward to having them with us each week.

One aspect of our dinner routine which continues to be popular is our First Friday Dinner Music provided by one of our guests, who treats us to some trombone solos each First Friday. A group of volunteers, who are talented musicians from St. James' School and the associated alumni, parent, and staff group, sometimes join in to create a festive background for the meal.

A portion of our Soup Kitchen hour each week is devoted to prayers in the St. James' Chapel. The opportunity to attend this chapel service is made available to those who would like to participate. The attendance at these chapel sessions has been steady and even growing.

Frequently we have used clothing to distribute to our clients. During December we had a clothing drive which provided us with many warm items to distribute. These offerings are made available during the week that they have been donated. We welcome donations! Soup Kitchen is truly a most important and definitely vibrant ministry at St. James'.

Soup Kitchen Chapel

Submitted by Sara Jane Thies

Most every Friday following our Soup Kitchen, I lead a service of compline followed by a bible reflection, discussion and personal prayer in the chapel. Our chapel is filled with as few as 6 to as many as 15 faithful souls who believe in the grace of God and find strength in this time of renewal. The ties of Christian friendship have grown strong in this small group as evidenced by our closing of the week and our time together proclaiming "Praises Go Up, and Blessings Come down!"

It was this community of prayer that led me to the idea of a Giving Tree this year. 138 Gifts were distributed, 22 for Fr. Kim's Korean Residents, 116 to Soup Kitchen neighbors. This was quite an ambitious ministry for our community to share in the 4 weeks before the very busy holidays. We were able to meet the wishes of all through gift cards and personal items so much so that we realized that the generosity was evidence of God's hand at work. The logistical details worked thanks to our church staff, Diane Gilmore and her leadership working with the Boy Scouts, a new dedicated volunteer who partnered with me weekly, and you the parishioners and friends of St James'. Our rainy delivery day, Friday 23rd Dec was made possible through the support of soup kitchen and added Gift Day Volunteers: 3 Leaders, 6 Youth, and 3 Parents. Thanks to your ongoing support this is one way in which we are serving Christ and one another at St James'!

Intercessory Prayer Group

Submitted by Anne M. Combs

In conjunction with Mary Abbott, Ingrid Finley-Scott, Alan Heppel, Holly Holyk, Emily Maverick, Donna Mills, Ingrid Ralston, Linda/David Shaw, Marsha Vargas

"God's protection and love," "Healing, strength and God's comfort," "Thanksgiving for successful treatment" are among the prayers that we say daily each month. We are some sixty women and men who pray for people and for causes that have been brought to us by parishioners, visitors to Saint James', and other members of the St. James' community. The requests come via Prayer Request Cards found in the pew racks and also through the church office and from individual Prayer Ministers. We receive a monthly Intercessory Prayer List to refer to in our prayers. We supplement the List with prayers added during the month by email, as well as by a small telephone chain for more. Our former parishioner, Mina Post, founded the Intercessory Prayer Group many years ago at the request of our then newly-arrived rector, the Rt. Rev. Kirk Smith. She kept the list each month until her move to Ohio three years ago. Since then,

a group of us has carried on Mina's work, rotating the preparation of the List and sending a card to each prayer's requester that assures that the prayer will be offered up by us.

This January's Intercessory Prayer List has prayers being said for seventy-six people, with additional prayers for the deceased, for the many programs of the parish, and we welcome more Prayer Ministers to join us for the monthly prayers offered up individually. Some may be interested in joining the emergency telephone tree. Please let Rev. Chatfield know if you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry.

Adulam Korean Residence

Submitted by the Rev. John Kim

Begun in October, 2009, Adulam Korean residence, located at 2251 21st St. in Koreatown, currently houses 16 occupants. Over the years, 80 people have benefitted from staying at the home, and left after finding new jobs, or they died, or they went back to Korea. Many of them volunteer for the Food Pantry.

Scouting

Submitted by Chris Cook and Diane Gilmore

Boy Scout Troop Ten is the oldest Boy Scout troop in the United States. Since 1914, Troop Ten of St. James' Church has introduced boys in the mid-Wilshire area to life in the outdoors, through hiking, camping, swimming, fishing, boating, and other outdoor activities aimed at developing young men whose Scout Oath pledges them to be "physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." Troop Ten also engages in a number of community service projects, including cleanup at the Taste of Larchmont, volunteering at the St. James' Soup Kitchen and the One Voice Christmas Charity (handing out presents and food to 300+ underprivileged families in East Los Angeles) and volunteering at the downtown Midnight Mission.

Currently, over 70 boys along with fourteen adult leaders, belong to Troop Ten. The Scouts have also had overnight campouts at the Malibu Creek State Park, attend Camp Cherry Valley (for the 32nd year) and attend the Log Cabin, a high adventure camp in the mountains where they teach survival and outdoor skills. The Scouts represent eight different local public and private schools and virtually every ethnic group and income level in the area.

Key to the Boy Scout program, which includes boys in the age group 11-17, is weekly repetition of and adherence to the Boy Scout Law: "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

Cub Scout Pack Ten has been sponsored by St. James' Church for over 75 years and currently has 36 boys ages 6-10. The goals of this Scouting program are to instill good character, fitness and citizenship at an early age through active adventure and service to others.

Attitude is everything for Cub Scouts. They have great fun when they complete their adventures. They participate in activities such as camping, cooking, cleaning and building the famous Pinewood Derby cars. Good citizenship, service to others and FUN underlies each adventure. Today's program encourages outdoor experiences that bring boys closer to nature and encourages both self-reliance and teamwork.



VESTRY NOMINEES

Brenda Bass-Roper

I stumbled upon St James' in the yellow pages when I was looking for an Episcopal church to attend shortly after I moved to Los Angeles from Boston in 1980. When my husband I started considering kindergarten for our 5-yr-old daughter Morgan, St James' Episcopal School was a natural first choice. I became involved in the school, volunteering in the library and then I was asked to participate on the school board. I served as the school board's secretary for two terms and following that served on the vestry. Our son, Grant, followed in his sister's footsteps four years later and joined the kindergarten class at St James'. Years later, I rejoined the St James' school board, co-managed the search for a new head of school and chaired the strategic planning committee. I continue to enjoy our beautiful church services and volunteer weekly at our soup kitchen.

Ingrid Finley-Scott

My life with St. James' began in 2000, when my husband and I attended a 10:30 service with my parents. We fell in love with the service, the music and the friendly welcoming parishioners. It has been quite a journey for me in these 16 years, some heartbreaking, with the deaths of my husband, my mom and my dad, with the community being my support and strength through the process. The other part has been my spiritual journey, with a deepening of my relationship with God. I completed the Education for Ministry Program (which I highly recommend for everyone), I served my first term on the Vestry and on the School Board, and also serving on numerous other ministries. I had no idea that when I walked into St James' that Sunday, my life was going to change so drastically, but at the same time be enriched, so wonderfully, by a church and its diverse community.

Adaobi Obijiaku

My love for the church has been deep rooted not only from my parents, Chuka and Ada Obijiaku, who are also parishioners, but also from my grandfather, the late Reverend Canon Lazarus Obijiaku who served at St. John's, Osina in Nigeria. I was baptized at St. James' in the early 80's, and as a teenager was a member of the youth group until heading off to college. After graduating, I recommitted myself to my membership and have been a regular attendee ever since and often contribute to many of St. James' giving/fundraising activities. I've been eagerly awaiting an opportunity to take on a more active role in the church and am looking forward to embarking on this new endeavor.

John Thies

I was born into St. James' Parish and baptized on St. Patrick's Day 1946. During my youth I sang in the Children's Choir, served as acolyte and an officer of the Youth Group. I met my wife SaraJane here at St. James' and we were married in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1974. Over the many years I have served as chair of Stewardship Committee, 2 ½ terms on the vestry and twice Senior Warden. In addition I served two terms on the School Board and served as Vice Chair for two years. Over the years I have directed the lay liturgical ministries, and serve as a verger and Chalice Bearer. I look forward to serving our parish in these important years of ministry.

Lisa Yang

I was born and raised in Seoul, Korea until I immigrated to New Jersey with my family at the age of nine, and was raised as a Roman Catholic. I am a business/commercial litigation partner at boutique law firm in Los Angeles. In 2006, I and my husband David Lee joined St. James' Church, and we celebrated a beautiful wedding at St. James'. I have an older daughter, Rebecca Sky, who is a third grader at St. James' Episcopal School, and a younger daughter, Molly Brooke, who is in preschool. I previously served as a member of the St. James' Vestry from 2010-2012, and have been serving as part of the St. James' Lay Ministry as a reader/intercessor for the past several years.

José Zambrana

José moved to Los Angeles in 2014 from Washington, DC and started attending St James', being drawn in by the diverse congregation, solid preaching, first-rate pipe organ, and outstanding choral program. He and his partner of 12 years, Mr. Ed McCarthy, were just married at St James' this past October. Originally hailing from New York City, José joined the Episcopal Church in 1997 and has since been an active member wherever he has attended. José is a scientist by day—working for the US Environmental Protection Agency; and, he's a church organist by weekend—currently playing for Mt Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica. As a church organist/music director for over 20 years, he has served in several parishes going through transitions and in their search committees and Christian formation programs. José has a PhD in inorganic chemistry and was honored to attend the consecration of Bishop Catherine at the Cathedral of St John the Divine back in 1996! José normally attends the 8am service at St. James' and is an avid support of the Great Music program. Although a newer member, José is strongly committed to helping St. James' grow and thrive as a community and voice of God's welcome to the people of Los Angeles.

Notes

Notes

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