



Hilltop Views

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Yes, I am continuing my multiyear series on the 40 things we should say before we die. #19 (which means I have already discussed 21 things we should say to date) is “hold the mayo”.



“Hold the mayo” is a way of saying “no”. There are times in our lives when “no” is the most important word we can say.

You may not be able to deter or prevent something from happening to you, but you can arrange for whatever is coming your way to be received and responded to in a particular way – the way you choose. You can choose the attitude you will have, even when you cannot choose what is happening to you. We always have the option of choosing our response.

“Hold the mayo” is also another way of saying what we do not want. Could it be that we have accepted life as one would a

McDonald’s Big Mac (two all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onion on a sesame seed bun)? You deserve a break today, but you aren’t going to find it at McDonalds. Sometimes, the break comes when you say “no” to what is being handed to you or dished out to you. Like not accepting someone yelling at you, or crossing boundaries, or speaking to you in a way that is pejorative or demeaning.

Could 2018 be the year when you say (not once, not twice, but many times) “hold the mayo” so you can live the life you want and for which you have dreamed? Maybe you will say this year, “hold that sports activity for the kids”, “hold that purchase that everyone else has bought”, “hold that demand”, “hold that request”... The truth is, we are often more in control of our lives than we may think. We can steer what direction a conversation goes, what way a request or demand goes, or an opportunity or possibility goes (you know, you can say “no” to those too). Let’s begin (or for some, continue) saying “no”, so we can live life as we want it, and I might add, as I think God intends for us.

And lastly, let me recommend when you say “no” (“hold the mayo”), that you don’t feel obligated to tell the chef why. You should not feel obligated to explain yourself to someone to whom you have said “no”. Our feeling the need to explain and dreading doing so, is what sometimes keeps us from saying “no”. Rather, let’s be more biblical, for the Bible says, “let your ‘yes’ be ‘yes’, and your ‘no’ be ‘no’” (Matthew 5:37). May God help us do just that.

Pastor Lynn



WORSHIP

WORSHIP/PREACHING SCHEDULE

SAD: Spiritual Affective Disorder (December 31, 2017 - February 11, 2018)

"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Isaiah 60

Winter can be a time of Seasonal Affective Disorder, when the lack of sunlight affects our moods and ability to cope effectively. But *Spiritual Affective Disorder* can also be a factor as we lead lives that are too crowded, busy, overcommitted, sometimes disturbing and uncertain. At the turn of this new year, we will explore everyday life activities that can become spiritual practices - deepening our experience of a meaningful life and make us more "light-hearted."

December 31 - "Flip the Switch" (Isaiah 60:1-6)

January 7 - "Soothe a Savage" (Psalm 40:1-11), Holy Communion

January 14 - "Lighten Up" (Isaiah 9:1-4); Ordination & Installation of Elders, Deacons

January 21 - "Make My Day" (Micah 6:1-8)

January 28 - "Altars, Altars Everywhere" (Psalm 112:1-9)

Remembrance Day – honoring our members and others we knew and loved who died in 2017; Guest Vocalists from Drexel Hill Middle School.

February 4 - "Walk This Way" (Psalm 119:1-8)

February 11 - "Leave Room for Dessert" (Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18)



ASH WEDNESDAY February 14, 2018
7:00 p.m. Service of Worship

READERS:

Jan 7 – Mary Beck

Jan 14 – Jay Vasell

Jan 21 – Marian McKenzie

Jan 28 – Bobbie-Lou Krok

Feb 4 – Walter Smith

Feb 11 – Lynne Major

Feb 18 – Cheryl Trump

Feb 25 – Dick Beck

CHILDREN

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: Many thanks to all who participated in, supported and spread the word of this awesome St James event.

We had a fabulous turn out with many new people stopping by and a great many children happy to be hanging with Santa while enjoying a delicious breakfast. The first snow of the season didn't stop people from piling in the door and gave a special 'North Pole' feel to the occasion. Proceeds benefited adult mission trip.



Ho! Ho! Ho! We all know St James is the place to kick off the Christmas Season!

Peace and Love
Cheryl T

MUSIC

On Sunday, January 28, St. James will welcome some special guests to our Sunday worship. The Drexel Hill Middle School Girls Ensemble is a select group of seventh- and eighth-grade students who are chosen through an audition process. These enthusiastic students are committed to becoming the best vocalists they can be, and their participation in the group requires being part of three distinct vocal groups at the school: Girls Ensemble, Concert Singers, and the Chorus, all of which perform different songs for various public performances throughout the year.

These young ladies willingly arrive at school early every day in order to learn and rehearse the pieces for these three groups. Their talent is only matched by their dedication and commitment to

making beautiful music together. In addition to school performances, the Girls Ensemble shares their gifts with the larger community, performing at the annual Upper Darby tree lighting ceremony, singing at nursing homes and senior centers, and caroling in the neighborhood.



They also participate in adjudicated festivals and receive superior ratings.

Our own Emma Gonsalves, a member of both the Chancel Choir and the Jubilant Ringers here at St. James, is a part of this group, and helped organize their participation in our worship service. We hope you will be able to attend and enjoy the beautiful sounds of this talented group!

ADULTS & FAMILIES

WHAT TO SAY AND DO FOR THOSE WITH CANCER

A video on this subject will be emailed to everyone on Friday, **January 5**. This is in conjunction with St. James' focus on helping those with cancer through our Cancer Care Packages outreach. Video will be posted on the St. James website and also emailed to the congregation.



BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will continue to meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Our next two meetings are **January 8** and **February 12**. We are a bit behind in our discussions as we had to cancel a couple of meetings due to illness. Our January book will be Framed by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. This is a non-fiction recommendation. February's book is The Lilac Girls by Martha

Hall Kelly. The book is historical fiction. Reserve it from your library now – it's a bit hard to get, as it is still on the best seller list. Our choices are member driven, and decided by the entire group. We invite everyone to join us. You needn't have read the book- just come listen and join in the discussion.

Please Note: If the weather is a bit iffy, we will cancel. Several members drive quite a distance, so we take no chance with the weather. If you have a question, call or text me at 610-742-8509. Happy Reading!!!

Joanne Morris

TEAMS AND COMMITTEES:

Consistory, **Wednesday, January 17**, 6:30 p.m.

Consistory, **Wednesday, February 21**, 6:30 p.m.

LGBT Workshop

Saturday, January 20, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. (Snow Date: Saturday, January 27). We will be offering an affirming and

practical workshop for LGBT couples who are seeking to deepen and strengthen their relationship. The problem is not that we want too much from our relationships, but rather that we want too

little. Come and join us for what will be a fun, meaningful, and helpful day in which there will be great takeaways for couples on how to communicate more effectively, "fight" fair, and the importance of gratitude and appreciation in your relationship. Our desire is to provide a place where your commitment to one another is celebrated and you feel safe and affirmed by just spending time with those who understand you and your story, because it is their story too. The workshop is free. Registration is required (pastor@stjamesucc.org). Deadline for registration is January 15.

POTLUCK FOR BODY AND SOUL will immediately follow worship on Sunday, **January 28**. Our theme for this winter meal sharing is "Everyone Working Together." Bring a dish to share, and enjoy good conversation and company with your church family.



Financial Peace University

Will be held in **February and March 2018**, and dates and time will be determined by participants. This 9-lesson course by Dave Ramsey includes both online viewing of the weekly session, and a weekly face-face gathering for discussion with Lynne Major as the facilitator. The nine lessons include: super saving, relating with money, cash flow planning, dumping debt, buyer beware, the role of insurance, retirement and college planning, real estate and mortgages, and the great misunderstanding (generous giving). The cost for the course is \$129. Scholarships are available upon request. Registration is required (lamajor1@comcast.net). Final date for registration is January 15.



5-MINUTE BIBLE STUDY: SIX VERSES YOU CAN'T LIVE

WITHOUT is a weekly video on six consecutive Fridays beginning **February 16**. These are short videos by the pastor with background regarding the text, and interviews with people who find those texts meaningful for their lives. Videos will be posted on the St. James website (www.stjamesucc.org) and also emailed to the congregation.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held following



worship on Sunday, **February 18**, 2018. At this time, annual reports of the various ministries and missions will be reviewed. Leaders of the various church committees, teams, etc. are asked to submit their Annual Report to the church office no later than Tuesday, February 6.

COMMUNITY DINE AROUND: None in January and February. The next luncheon will be held on **March 12**, at Annunciation BVM Church. It will be a St. Patrick's Day celebration.

March 12	Annunciation BVM Church	St. Patrick's Day
May 14	St. James UCC	Spring Picnic

MISSION/OUTREACH

SAM'S KITCHEN:

Our next serving date is Wednesday, **January 10**. We'll plan to cook the evening prior to that, Tuesday, **January 9**, at 6:00 p.m. We'll put finishing touches on the meal and pack and head down to the Life Center at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 10th. Would you like to help prepare the meal or serve at the Life Center? It will without doubt be a rewarding experience for you. Please contact me at hart.edwardm@gmail.com or 610-449-3728 to volunteer, or talk to me at church—and thank you for helping Sam's Kitchen continue to feed our community!
Ed Hart, Coordinator



DORCAS YARN MINISTRY. Looking for something to do on a winter Monday night that includes 90 minutes of hanging around with adults who like to chat and laugh? Stop by the Penn Resource Room at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, **January 15** or **February 19**. We have room at Dorcas for everyone who wishes to knit, crochet or even roll balls of yarn. We have plenty of supplies so there's nothing to buy. Feel free to bring a friend!

PET THERAPY

The **PAWS reading program** will take place on Tuesday, **January 16**, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Our February session will be Tuesday, **February 27**, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. To register a child to participate, please contact Pastor Lynn, 610-733-1502, pastor@stjamesucc.org.



Our Ladies of South Croft (a group home for developmentally disabled seniors) will have their monthly meeting, including pet therapy, here at St. James on Thursday, **January 18** and **February 15** (6:30-7:30 PM). If you would like to get to know these wonderful women, please be in touch with Pastor Lynn.

FOOD PANTRY

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:30-31

There is a sense of renewal as we enter a New Year – goals are set, resolutions are made and we review where we have been and where we are going. We as a church at St. James recently filled out our commitment cards, including our commitments to Growing in Faith and Coming Together in Service. As always St. James is a place where the community comes together to serve, to care for and to be a part of going out into the wide, wide world with love.



Thank you all who have continued to support the food pantry in many ways. In this New Year our hope is to continue to serve those in need and there are many ways to help...

- Continue to donate food
- Organize a food donation at your school or work place
- Help pack bags
- Help with shopping for the food pantry
- Pray for the food pantry families and volunteers
- Look for opportunities to share or seek support for the food pantry from friends/neighbors/local businesses

2018 will be another year of creating Community Partners, making a difference in the lives of others, sharing our faith and following the lessons Jesus taught us ...loving and caring for one another.

Lynne Major

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Many thanks for your gifts to this year's Alternative Gift Market. Donations were made to the following:

Cancer Care Packages: \$400

Heifer International: \$250

Pet Therapy: \$233

Eco Homes for Tribal Families: \$368

Total: \$1,251



God bless the people of St. James UCC for your generosity!

BAD WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

The pastor will consult with the Consistory President to determine if the service of worship should be cancelled, and the pastor will determine if other scheduled activities and events should be canceled due to bad weather. If the pastor is away, the President will make the decision regarding cancellation.



Sunday morning cancellations will be made by 7:00 AM.

Weekday and Saturday cancellations will be made 2 hours prior to the event or activity.

The pastor will notify all staff. The pastor will work with designated individuals to see that the cancellation is posted on the homepage of the church website (www.stjamesucc.org) by Connie George and its Facebook page by Cheryl Trump. All members with email should check the website or Facebook page to get information on whether the event is cancelled.

If a cancellation involves a particular group, the pastor will make sure the group is notified via homepage message on the church website. If anyone is unsure of whether an event or activity will be held, they are encouraged to call the pastor (610-733-1502).



POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

Dick Beck, in honor of Mary Beck

Joan Hauck, in memory of loved ones

*Marty and Carole Kitagawa, in memory of Arthur
and Yori Kitagawa*

*The McGurk Family, in memory of our mother and
grandmother Barbara*

Marian McKenzie and Walter Smith, in honor of our marriage

Robert Meyers, in memory of his wife Cynthia F. Meyers

Clem Piccone, in memory of Gertrude Adelhelm

Cheryl T and Pat Haley, with love to our parents in heaven



God bless our winter birthday folks!

JANUARY

13 – Ophelia Klein-Keane

22 – Lynne Penn

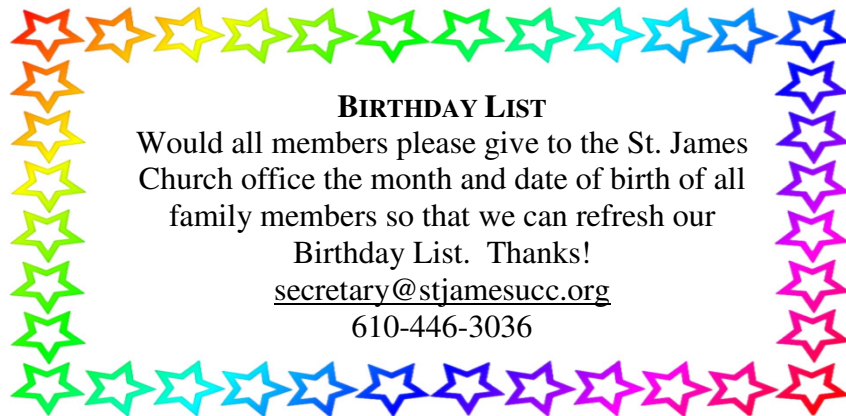


FEBRUARY

9 – Connie George

21 – Jeff Penn

"The best part of life is not just surviving, but thriving with passion and compassion and humor and style and generosity and kindness." - Maya Angelou



BIRTHDAY LIST

Would all members please give to the St. James Church office the month and date of birth of all family members so that we can refresh our Birthday List. Thanks!

secretary@stjamesucc.org
610-446-3036

LOOKING AHEAD:

St. James UCC will be offering a **FAMILIES WITH ADDICTION WORKSHOP** on Saturday, April 14, 2018, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.



This workshop is for everyone who has a family member who is struggling with an active addiction or is in recovery. Our workshop leader will help participants find ways to deal with what happens when we

have a family member with addiction. The workshop is free. Lunch is provided. Registration is required at secretary@stjamesucc.org, or 610-446-3036 by April 7, 2018.

OTHER NOTES:

- A reminder that at any time you can choose to send your offerings to St. James electronically through **VANCO**. If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving option. As the pace of life speeds up, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. It's easy to sign up – just call the church office for an Authorization Form.
- The 2018 issue of the **CHURCH DIRECTORY** will be coming out soon. Please let the church office know if your address or phone number or email address has changed.



THE REV. LYNN P. LAMPMAN

Pastor's Phone: 610-733-1502

Maggie Realley, Director of Music

Allison Fineberg, Director of Children's Ministries

Andrea Angiulo, Nursery

Maria McGovern, Nursery

Ailene Dunlap, Secretary

Church Office 610-446-3036

Email: secretary@stjamesucc.org

For the children . . .

WORD SEARCH!
WINTER FUN

FIND AND CIRCLE THE WORDS ON THE LIST...WORDS MAY BE FOUND ACROSS, DOWN, OR DIAGONALLY
--FORWARDS, BACKWARDS, AND SOMETIMES OVERLAPPING. HAVE FUN!

WORD LIST BOBSLED DOGSLED HOCKEY HUNTING ICE FISHING ICE SKATE SHOVEL SKI SKIJORING SLED SLEIGH RIDE SNOW SNOW ANGEL SNOWBALL SNOWBLOWER SNOWBOARD SNOWMAN SNOWMOBILE SNOWSHOES TOBOGGAN	W I I Z H U N T I N G L S Z K I D O G S L E D C E A L S N O W B O A R D O V G E N L O D E L S B O B E E V O E E D I R H G I E L S O W T R D G M D E L S B N H A A G E S U L I N N I O S N K R P W N B T R A B W N G S K I J O R I N G W B O E E E T M C L M W G O A W L C F W B L A B A O N L M M I O S W E N L W B S L A C N X G U Y E K C O H S N S N O W S H O E S T N T I C E F I S H I N G O O S
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By artist
JEFF KENNEDY
"Daddy said 'Happy New Year,' but
I don't think he really meant it!"