



Hilltop Views

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

In our countdown of Forbes magazine's list of the "40 Things You Should Say Before You Die" we are on #6 "I don't know how to do this" and #5 "I'm terrified".

Well, that pretty much describes my September and October. When it came to the two things I felt like I did not know how to do: my first solo gallery show and my first juried show in which I had more than a piece or two.

Yet, that wasn't the truth. I was being blinded by my own fear. I did know how to take good photos (check) and I did know how to give a talk, given I have done it nearly weekly for decades (check). And, I did know how to describe my art given I have done so for the last year on my website (check).

Initially, I was terrified by it all. Then, I made a list of what I did not know and began finding out who did know and learn and seek advice from them. Yes, I did not know how to "professionally" hang my photos. So, YouTube became my mentor, as I watched

how to mat, wire, and hang photos. I did not know how much of a salesperson to be or whether to be less engaged with people who were looking at my art. So, I watched the other artists at the show and determined which of their tactics would be the best fit for me.

Through it all, and amidst several not-so-good sleep nights, I came to realize I knew more than I thought I knew. And, when it comes to being terrified, I discovered how important it is to try and alleviate the fear by getting to know what you need to know, and when you are not able to do that, press on anyways.

Both the gallery and art shows were worth everything I had poured into them. They gave me a newfound confidence and helped me to learn once again, I should not let the unknown stop me in my tracks. But rather, acquire when possible, and plow ahead, even when you think you cannot get what you think you need. Because many a time, there are other forces at work other than yourself that will help everything turn out all right. And, there were, and it did.

Pastor Lynn



The Haverford Township
Ministerium presents
Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service
Sunday, November 24 6:00 p.m.
Worship Sharing at
Old Haverford Friends Meetinghouse
235 E Eagle Rd, Havertown PA 19083
*"Praise the Lord, Give thanks to the Lord,
who is good; God's love endures forever."*
-Psalm 106:1

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT FAMILY SERVICE

Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.

BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME OFFERING



READERS:

Nov 3 – Joanne Morris

Nov 10 – Lisa Baglione

Nov 17 – Kathy Pioggia

Nov 24 – Kathy Pioggia

Dec 1 – Marian McKenzie

Dec 8 – Walter Smith

Dec 15 – Bobbie-Lou Krok

Dec 22 – Joanne Jones

Dec 29 – Dave Winters

MUSIC

THE CHOIR FROM DREXEL HILL MIDDLE

SCHOOL will be joining us on Sunday, **November 10**, bringing their lovely voices to add to our worship service. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to hear these talented young vocalists.



HANDBELL CHOIR

If you're interested in joining the handbell choir for our seasonal performance, please mark your calendars:

Rehearsals:

- 11/24 – 9:15-10am

- 12/01 – 9:15-10am

- 12/08 – 9:15-10am

- 12/15 – 9:15-10am

Performance:

- 12/15 during the service



CHILDREN

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – Mark your calendar for Saturday, **December 7, 9 AM – 11:30 AM** for this year's Breakfast with Santa. There will be a delicious breakfast buffet, crafts for the children, and opportunity to take your own pictures with Santa (and Mrs. Claus!). The cost for the buffet is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 2 – 12 years old. Proceeds benefit 2020 service trip to Puerto Rico.

Would you like to help with this fun event? Please contact Cheryl Haley, cmhaley57@comcast.net. We need some help Friday afternoon Dec. 6 and Saturday morning.



You have an opportunity to sponsor a Food Pantry family for this event. A donation of \$22 will sponsor two adults and three children. Please mark your check Breakfast with Santa/Food Pantry. Donations should be in to the church no later than Sunday, December 1.

FAITH FORMATION: GROWING IN FAITH

HARMONY HALL BIBLE STUDY, Wednesday, **November 6**, and Wednesday, **December 4**, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Pastor Lynn always welcomes anyone who would like to go with her.

CENTERING PRAYER (Penn Resource Room) 1st, 3rd, 5th Thursday of each month All are welcome to learn and pray.

- **November 7 & 21** (7:00-8:30 PM)
- **December 5 & 19** (7:00-8:30 PM)

NEW TO ST. JAMES GATHERING

Those who have become members or started attending St. James over the last year or so meet throughout the academic year to get to know each other better, be introduced to a spiritual practice that can help us grow in faith, and learn about one of the outreach or missions of St. James. Our second gathering will be Sunday, **November 10**, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. in the choir loft of the sanctuary.



ADULTS & FAMILIES

BOOK CLUB

We are fast approaching the busiest time of the year, and yet we keep reading!

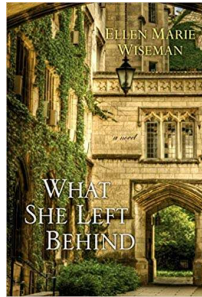
The November meeting will gather in the Penn Room on **November 11** at 7 pm. Our book for the month is What She Left Behind by Ellen M. Wiseman.

In December we will discuss Winter Garden by Kristen Hannah, **December 9**,



7:00 p.m. All our meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of the month year round. At times we will cancel a meeting for illness or weather. If you are planning to attend and are in doubt, please feel free to call me to check. I would never want someone to arrive at church only to find that we had to cancel. We will always cancel for snow as I refuse to drive in snow and/or ice. That being said, all are invited and encouraged to join us. It's a fun evening of discussion, laughter, friendship. Hope to see you there.

Joanne Morris
610-742-8509



75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Come join us for what promises to be an inspiring and enjoyable celebration of St. James 75th anniversary on Sunday, **November 17**. The Rev. Billy Worley (Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ) will be our guest preacher to both inspire and challenge us as a church (we love a good challenge don't we).



Also, during the 10:30 AM service of worship we will be seeing a pictorial video compellation of our 75 years of history. In addition, our very talented Director of Music, John Callahan, will be presenting for the first time the commissioned piece he wrote for

our 75th anniversary which will be presented by our choir. Please bring to the service of worship your anniversary gift card that you received in the mail. Additional cards will be provided that morning. Then, immediately following worship we will be feasting together and sharing stories at a reception which you won't want to miss. The congregation is encouraged to bring a dessert to share.

CONSISTORY meets Wednesday, **November 20**, 6:30 p.m. The December meeting will be a Christmas Celebration at Pastor Lynn & Lynne's home on Wednesday, **December 4**, 6:00 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: NOVEMBER 24, 2019

Sunday, **November 24th**, immediately following worship, the congregation will be meeting to review and vote on the 2020 budget, and vote on the nominees for Jr. Deacon and Deacon on the Consistory:

Carlyne McGurk (2020) – Junior Deacon
Caroline Fuimano (2020) – Junior Deacon
Matthew George (2020) - Deacon
Pearl Heil-Dolmatz (2020-2022) - Deacon
Roxanne Ryan(2020-2022) – Deacon



DECORATE THE CHURCH for Advent and Christmas on Saturday, **November 30**, at 10:00 a.m. There will be a movie for the children, and we will prepare our church for the blessed season of Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work.

COMMUNITY DINE AROUND will be on **Monday, December 9**, at Temple Lutheran Church, 12:00 noon. This will be a Christmas celebration, and is for all ages. The cost is \$7.00. Please call the St. James Church office (610-446-3036) to make your reservation by Wednesday, December 4.



MISSION: COMING TOGETHER IN SERVICE

TWO FUNDRAISERS for the Adult Mission Trip to Puerto Rico in March 2020:

- **SOUP SALE Sunday, November 3** after worship. Back by popular demand. Delicious homemade soups and chilis.
- **Wawa Shortie Hoagie Coupons**, \$4 each. They make great little thank you gifts. Please see Cheryl Haley.



HELP NEEDED AT HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS PARTY AT HARMONY HALL

We will be hosting a holiday party for Harmony Hall at Elwyn in Media on Monday, **December 16**. Here's how can you participate and help:

- Make your favorite Christmas food (should not be the turkey) and drop it off in the church kitchen on Sunday, December 15th. If you are not able to cook, please feel free to buy an item you would use on your Christmas table.
- Help serve the dinner at 5 PM, and stay for clean-up. We encourage people to eat with the residents, whenever possible.
- Come at 5:45 PM for karaoke Christmas carols.



We will be giving a \$20 gift card, and another small item for every resident, and a large gift for the house (a karaoke machine and songs). We will not be doing items personally requested by the residents as in 2018. This year, a gift for the entire residence was requested which will be used every week as a regular residents activity. Hope everyone at St. James will join us one way or another.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Sundays, **December 1 and 8**, immediately following worship. A chance to give a meaningful gift in honor of a friend, colleague, neighbor or family member for the holiday. This year, we will be featuring the following two organizations along with two more who will be named before market day:

The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education,
St. James UCC Service Trip to Puerto Rico

SAM'S KITCHEN



Our next cooking and serving date is Wednesday, **November 13**, meeting at St. James at 4:30-6:00 p.m. for cooking, and 6:00-8:00 p.m. for traveling to the Life Center to serve. Please contact Ed Hart at hart.edwardm@gmail.com or 610-449-3728 to volunteer.

PET THERAPY READING

- Second Tuesday of the month (4:30-5:30 PM) **November 12, December 10.**
- Third Tuesday of the month (6:30-7:30 PM) **November 19, December 17**



FOOD PANTRY

Wednesdays: **Nov 6, 13** (9:00-11:00 AM), **Nov 27** (6:00-7:00 PM)
Wednesdays: **Dec 4, 11** (9:00-11:00 AM)

As we move into the holidays we would love to suggest a way to give to others in a very tangible way. Helping the food pantry to stay stocked for those in need. This is a sample of a reverse advent calendar you could use to create a donation. It could be done in November which would allow the pantry to use it in December or as an actual reverse advent in December which will help us replenish the first of the year.

These are suggestions of items always in need but all donations are welcome!!! Blessed holidays to all of you for your continued support and commitment to this ministry!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX. ON CHRISTMAS
EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK.

- Dec 1 - box of cereal
- Dec 2 - peanut butter
- Dec 3 - stuffing mix
- Dec 4 - boxed potatoes
- Dec 5 - macaroni and cheese
- Dec 6 - canned fruit
- Dec 7 - canned vegetable
- Dec 8 - canned tuna
- Dec 9 - package of granola bars or cookies
- Dec 10 - jar of applesauce
- Dec 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- Dec 12 - cranberry sauce
- Dec 13 - canned beans
- Dec 14 - box of crackers
- Dec 15 - package of rice
- Dec 16 - package of oatmeal
- Dec 17 - box of pasta
- Dec 18 - spaghetti sauce
- Dec 19 - chicken noodle soup
- Dec 20 - jelly
- Dec 21 - pancake mix
- Dec 22 - maple syrup
- Dec 23 - canned chili or stew
- Dec 24 - canned soup (your choice)

DORCAS YARN MINISTRY.

Do you knit or crochet or do you want to learn? Stop by Monday nights, **November 18** and **December 16**. We meet in the Penn Resource Room 7pm – 8:30pm. Your friends are welcome to join the ministry and the fun as this is open to the community, too. Feel free to contact Joanne Morris or Connie George if you have any questions.

PET THERAPY AT HARMONY HALL (Elwyn: Media, PA)

Wednesday, **November 20** (2:30-3:30 PM)

Wednesday, **December 18** (2:30-3:30 PM)



THE CHRISTMAS FUND – Sunday, **December 15**. Provides

direct financial assistance to retired and active United Church of Christ authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium supplementation, emergency assistance, and Christmas thank-you checks. This ministry of the Pension Boards of the UCC gives you the opportunity to participate in God's promise of renewal by enabling this ministry of compassion and care.



BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS OFFERING. A long

tradition for St. James Church is the Bethany Children's Home offering each year at Christmas. At our **Christmas Eve service**, please bring in to St. James your monetary gifts for Bethany. Christmas is the season when we think of God's supreme gift of the holy child Jesus to our world. How appropriate that during this Advent and Christmas season we offer our gifts to the children of Bethany in honor of Jesus. A special offering envelope marked *Bethany Children's Home* is included in your boxed set.





NOVEMBER

2 – Charlie McKenzie-Smith
13 – Lois Winsness
24 – Aimee Brackbill

6 – Matthew George
13 – Joan Hauck
14 – Amy Wenzel
18 – Jase Schlegel
20 – Loretta Dombalagian
27 – Naseer Christmas
29 – Jack McGovern
30 – Christa Farnon

DECEMBER

5 – Wendy Klein-Keane



Would you like to present a **POINSETTIA** as a memorial or in honor of a loved one this Christmas season? Fill out the form below and attach your check made payable to St. James UCC. The cost is \$5.00 per plant. **Please submit your order by Tuesday, December 17.**

POINSETTIAS

____ red ____ white

\$5.00 per plant. Please make payment at time of ordering.



Dedication: _____

YOUR NAME: _____



THE REV. LYNN P. LAMPMAN

Pastor's Phone: 610-733-1502

John Callahan, Director of Music

Allison Fineberg, Director of Children's Ministries

Andrea Angiulo, Nursery

Church Office 610-446-3036

secretary@stjamesucc.org

www.stjamesucc.org

For the children . . .

A coloring page for Christmas



PASS THIS ALONG TO A FRIEND ☺

St. James United Church of Christ

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Saturday, December 7

9 am - 11:30 am

Breakfast buffet includes pancakes, scrambled eggs,
sausage, fresh fruit and beverages.

Children's Craft Table & take your own photo with
Santa (and Mrs. Claus!)

\$7 adults, \$3 for children 2-12 years old

Proceeds will benefit the
2020 Service Trip to Puerto Rico

