



Hilltop Views

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

According to Forbes Magazine, this is number 14 on our countdown of 40 things you should say to yourself (and maybe others) before you die: **“Tell Me More.”** Recently, I saw the value of “tell me more” in two very vivid and captivating ways.

The first was when we were on our church’s mission trip at the end of September in Osteen, Florida when one of the team approached the homeowner to say she could not get the water to come out of the bathroom sink. To which the homeowner responded, “It doesn’t work.” At which time I asked, “Do you not have any water just in the sink, or is there no water in other parts of the house?” She quietly said, “I haven’t had any water in this house for two years, since Matthew” (the hurricane two years ago). I was floored and speechless.

I shared with the rest of the team that the house had no water and that the homeowner periodically gets two half gallons of water from her daughter’s home.

We informed the on-site supervisor from the non-profit we were working with and he said he didn’t know she did not have any water because she didn’t say anything about it. How often we don’t say, because people don’t ask.

Because of “tell me more” we were able to come up with the money she needed to have a new pump installed for her well, and our generosity called forth further generosity from a plumber who came to check out all her plumbing to determine whether it was safe to turn the water on. When he heard of our generosity he donated all the parts and labor for free. We found out on Tuesday, and because of “tell me more” she had water running in her house by Monday for the first time in two years.

On October 3rd, I was scheduled to lead a Bible Study on Elwyn’s main campus in Media at Harmony Hall. Since it was the third anniversary of my father’s death, and one of the residents had been struggling with depression for a year upon the death of his mother, I thought it timely to do a Bible Study on death, grief, and eternal life. The group was totally engaged during our hour together, and I encouraged them throughout that hour to “tell me more”. One of the men who talked about his parent’s death said to me as I left, “Thanks for listening to me.”

So much healing and so many problems can be solved by just asking people to tell us more, and then us listening, really listening. There are two things I believe we all can do to become better



listeners. They are: ask good questions, and don’t jump to conclusions unless the person’s words verify your assumption. Saying several times “tell me more” gets at both of those things we must do to become better listeners. It allows us to hear

more information, and thus we see what is going on more accurately and thus can be part of a real solution, not just what we guess will work.

So, over these next two months, I hope we will all be heard to say at least a handful of times and maybe more, “Tell me more.”

Pastor Lynn

WORSHIP

WORSHIP/PREACHING SCHEDULE

Church’s New Logo (October 14 - November 25)

We continue with our series which unpacks the many powerful and inspiring symbols in our new church logo by exploring their usage in scripture and the Church.



November 4 - Leaves and Nest (Psalm 1:3, Matthew 13:31-32, Rev. 22:1-2), Holy Communion

November 11 - Heart, (Proverbs 4:23, Psalm 73:26)

November 18 - Dove (Genesis 8:10-12, Matthew 3:16-17, Matthew 10:16, John 2:13-16)

November 25 - Crown (Matthew 27:29, Hebrews 2:9, 1 Peter 5:4, Rev. 14:14)

“Angles Among Us” (December 2-30)

“Do not be afraid.” - The Angels

The angels that appear in the story of Jesus’ birth would have been very comfortable in our world of tweets and hashtags. Their



messages were often short and to the point—their favorite line being #DoNotBeAfraid. As we look at the stories of these winged messengers to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the

Shepherds and their reactions to them, we will contemplate what messages we can offer that will counteract a culture of fear and bring #morehope, #morepeace, #morejoy, and #morelove to the world.

December 2 - “Make Ready Your People: #MoreHope” (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80), Holy Communion

December 9 - “Nothing Is Impossible: #MorePeace” (Luke 1:26-56) Baptism

December 16 - “Do Not Be Afraid: #MoreJoy” (Matthew 1:18-25) Children’s Pageant

December 23 - “There Will Be a Sign: #MoreLove” (Luke 2:1-20)

December 24 (Christmas Eve: 5:00 PM)- Flying in the Face of Fear: #DoNotBeAfraid” (Matthew 2:1-23)

December 30 - “Get Up and Go” #MoreLife”

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT FAMILY SERVICE

Monday, 5:00 p.m.

**BETHANY CHILDREN’S HOME
OFFERING**



READERS:

Nov 4 – Cindy Keaveney

Nov 11 – Kathy Pioggia

Nov 18 – Dave Winters

Nov 25 – Marian McKenzie

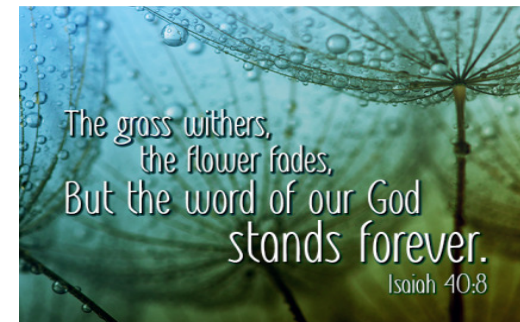
Dec 2 – Walter Smith

Dec 9 – Bobbie-Lou Krok

Dec 16 – Joanne Jones

Dec 23 – Dave Winters

Dec 30 – Lisa Baglione



MUSIC



I'm looking forward to an exciting holiday season at St. James! The choir will be singing a festive selection of familiar tunes as we prepare for Christmas. You can also look forward to the kids' pageant on December 16th, as well as vocal solos, instrumental solos, and hand bells!

Mark your calendars for Second Sunday Sing: 11/11 and 12/9.
Hope to see you all then!

John Callahan

CHILDREN

As the weather finally turns cooler, we are settling into routines and lessons downstairs in Children's Ministry! Our Sunday School and Nursery children have been busy exploring stories from Genesis and Exodus. They learned about the "Pentateuch" and the Sunday School kiddos had fun thinking of other words that begin with "pent". We learned the story of Baby Moses and The Burning Bush and had fun remembering about the Ten Commandments and the modern "tablets" we created in the summer.

As we begin November, we will also begin working with Mr. John on our Music Program. We will be rehearsing a Thanksgiving Poem to be presented on November 18! We are also getting ready for our biggest show of the year ... the Christmas Pageant! Rehearsals will start in the beginning of November and continue all the way through until our dress rehearsal on December 9 and our performance on December 16.



Thank you for sharing your children with us each Sunday as we learn and grow together!

Allison Fineberg

CONFIRMATION CLASS for ages 12 & 13 will meet in the Pastor's Study at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **November 11** and 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, **December 13**.

ADULTS & FAMILIES

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES GROUP will meet in the pastor's office on Sunday, **November 4**, 9:00 a.m.

SCRIPTURE, CONVERSATION AND PRAYER WITH HARMONY HALL Join Pastor Lynn for this Bible Study at Elwyn, in Media, PA, on Wednesdays, **November 7** and **December 5**, 9:30 a.m.

CONSISTORY will meet on Wednesday, **November 14** for its regular monthly meeting. They will meet again on Friday, **December 14**, (to be determined) at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Pastor Lynn and Lynne Major. It will be a Christmas party!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held Sunday, **November 18**, 2018, following worship. At that meeting we will approve a budget for 2019, plus a slate of new members for the Consistory. A mailing will be sent to the congregation with further information about this meeting.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

BOOK CLUB

We are coming into one of the busiest (and 'funnest') times of the year. So the St. James Book Club is reviewing two relatively fast-readings:

November 12th is **Believe It** by Nick Foles. An inspirational book.

December 10th is **The Last Christmas in Paris** by Hazel Gaynor

Both meetings begin at 7pm. Please join us!!
Joanne Morris



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL GUIDES prepared by the United Church of Christ will be put in everyone's church mailboxes on Sunday, **November 25**. We are happy to provide this prayer tool for your use as you prepare for the coming of Christ on Christmas.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS will be on **Saturday, December 1**, beginning at 11:30 a.m. We will have a movie for the children, "The Star," plus refreshments for all. Please plan on lending a helping hand to make our sanctuary lovely for Advent and Christmas!

HARMONY HALL HOLIDAY PARTY will be Wednesday, **December 5**, 5:00 p.m. at Harmony Hall at Elwyn in Media. We will provide gifts, activities, and a festive meal for our friends at Harmony Hall as well as the four Ladies of South Croft. We need volunteers for this endeavor. Please let Pastor Lynn know if you would like to help.



Please see the ADVENT GIVING TREE in the narthex, where you can pick out a specific gift for one of the party guests. Gifts should be wrapped, tagged, and returned to the church by **November 25**.

COMMUNITY DINE AROUND will be on **Monday, December 10**, 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 5.



The 2018-2019 Dine Around schedule is:

Dec 10	Temple Lutheran Church	Christmas Celebration
March 11	Annunciation BVM Church	St. Patrick's Day
May 13	St. James UCC	Spring Picnic

MISSION/OUTREACH

PET THERAPY

- The **PAWS reading program** continues in November and December on the following dates:

- Tuesday, **Nov. 13** (4:30-5:30 PM)
- Tuesday, **Nov. 20** (6:30-7:30 PM)
- Tuesday, **Dec. 11** (4:30-5:30 PM)
- Tuesday, **Dec. 18** (6:30-7:30 PM)



- PAWS Training and Orientation will be held at St. James on Saturday, **November 3 and 17**.
- Our Ladies of South Croft will meet at St. James on Thursday, **November 8**, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. for Pet Therapy, snack and activity.
- Wednesday, **November 28**, 2:30 p.m. Pet Therapy at Harmony Hall.
- Wednesday, **December 19**, 2:30 p.m. Pet Therapy at Harmony Hall.

SAM'S KITCHEN:

Our next cooking and serving date is Wednesday, **November 14**, meeting at St. James at 4:30 p.m. for cooking, and 6:00 p.m. for traveling to the Life Center to serve. Would you like to help with the cooking or the serving? 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




BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: Mark your calendar for Saturday, **December 8**, 9 AM – 11:30 AM for this year's Breakfast with Santa. There will be a delicious breakfast buffet, craft table for the children, and photos with Santa (and Mrs. Claus!). The cost for the buffet is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 2 –12 years old. Proceeds

benefit 2019 youth mission trip. Would you like to help with this fun event? Please contact Cheryl T, cmtrump@comcast.net. We need some help Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.



 Also, 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 2.

DORCAS YARN MINISTRY.

 Sitting by the fireplace, cup of hot chocolate next to you and a prayer shawl on your lap that you are knitting as a gift to someone who will benefit by wrapping up in this item crafted by one of God's people. What better way is there to keep warm on a cold winter night? If you knit or crochet, or would like to learn, we welcome you to be part of St. James' Dorcas Ministry. No need to buy anything as we have plenty of supplies. You can enjoy the company of other "stitchers" on Monday nights, **November 19** and **December 17** in the Penn Resource Room 7pm – 8:30pm. Shawls in the sanctuary are available for you to gift to someone experiencing a health crisis or loss. We appreciate your continued prayers and support of Dorcas. Contact Joanne Morris or Connie George if you have any questions.

FOOD PANTRY

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" Matthew 25:35

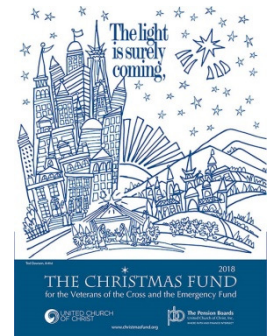
This scripture sums up for me St. James' ongoing commitment to our food pantry. Consistently over these many years there has been a dedication to providing food for those in our community. But in addition to food we have been a welcoming place that shows love and care when times are difficult. As we move into the holiday season the food pantry becomes even more of a lifeline for

those who struggle to make ends meet. All donations to the pantry will help those we care for in our community have a brighter holiday and feel loved at times that can cause great struggle. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and love for others in the spirit of Christ's love and care for all people.

The food pantry is always in need of staple items like tuna, peanut butter and jelly, breakfast items like cereal, pancake mix and syrup, oatmeal, pasta sauce. In addition if you see something while you are shopping that would be special for the holidays like holiday cookies, candy, food items we would be happy to add them to the items we provide to our food pantry families.

Lynne Major

THE CHRISTMAS FUND – Sunday, December 16. 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.



2018 ST JAMES HURRICANE RELIEF DISASTER RECOVERY

MISSION TRIP Daytona Beach Area, Volusia County, Florida. The Mission Team: Rev Lynn Lampman, Lynne Mayor, Jenn Hayden, Ed Hart, Michael Fineberg, Michael Gonzalez, Cheryl T., Donna Mayforth, Gloria Broeker. Michelle Fineberg and Christine Davis just returned on September 29 from what we are calling a very successful trip. The team worked on two homes in Deltona and Osteen, Florida.

"I've been leading the adult disaster recovery mission trips for 8 years now and every trip holds a special place in my heart. This trip was by far the easiest to plan, the smoothest running trip and the most rewarding in that we were able to pretty much complete a house and change the life of the homeowner in an extremely positive way. The team worked well together and showed great compassion for the homeowners and each other. I'm still amazed at the skill everyone demonstrated during the construction process. Along with hard work we ate well as different teams prepared delicious nightly dinners, we got to relax in a hot tub, walk on the beach, dine at a couple local restaurants and worship with the local church. We made friends and developed a relationship with the homeowner in Florida. I feel blessed from this trip and hope that everyone who attended and supported us from home feels the same." Cheryl T.

Comments from the mission team members:

"Though I'm a person who likes to keep to themselves I enjoyed working with the members of the church to include Mike, Ed and Gloria as well as the others on fixing both dwellings where the owners were extremely grateful. When it came time to depart and come back home it was hard knowing that for myself I couldn't give more. But satisfied that we as a group had made a difference in the lives of those we came to help." Michael Gonzalez

"I was awed by the patience of those who needed help and humbled by their gratitude." Lynne Major

"It was such a rewarding experience to work with a great bunch of talented individuals and to be able to help two families that had waited a year or two to have their homes repaired. The home



owners were so thankful and gracious whether it was for a little repair, such as changing light bulbs that were too high for them to reach, or repairing and refurbishing whole rooms. The only way the experience could have been better, is if we could have fixed things that weren't caused by hurricanes." Donna Mayforth

"I have never been more proud of a mission team because of how they worked seamlessly together, cared beautifully for each other, and gave so sacrificially and generously. It was a very special mission trip that I will always remember with fondness and gratitude." Pastor Lynn Lampman.

"It was a fulfilling experience that left an imprint on me that I hope to pass on to my children." Mike Fineberg

"From the relationship-building on the mission trip, I got the sense of 'forging a family.' As the mission team got to know each other better, the more like family we became. Cooking for, checking in on, and taking care of each other. Working and relaxing, shoulder to shoulder. Instant rapport with the Union Congregational folks and the VIND team working towards a common goal to give our Florida families a boost of love, care and help. Our global family." Ed Hart

"So many opportunities to make a difference, too little time. BUT, I was happy to contribute towards improving the lives of those impacted by hurricane Matthew. The teamwork among all volunteers was highly effective due to excellent up front planning! Thank you, Cheryl!" Gloria Broeker

"This was the first mission trip I've ever been on, and I loved the group spirit and teamwork. Although we were diverse in terms of ages, personalities, and backgrounds, there was a mutual respect between all members of the team and real genuine care and camaraderie. We all took turns learning new skills, we all pitched in and did extra work and there was no drama, just teamwork. I think my favorite part of the week though was when I taught a salsa lesson to everyone. Out of their comfort zones, everyone was willing to give it a try and did a wonderful job! I think everyone had fun." Jenn Hayden

“What a pleasure it was to have your team here and to enjoy watching you all make such a difference in our clients’ lives. Without you we could not have done all that was accomplished. VIND prides itself on being ready for our volunteers and you all made such a positive experience words cannot say. Your team listened and respected the privacy of our clients, you all adhered to some of our internal guidelines and made no promises to anyone, however when you saw an additional need you spoke up and alerted us as to our clients’ crisis. I was in tears by your volunteerism and just how much one group can accomplish in just 5 short days. Thank you all again and know that you will be remembered.” Terry (program coordinator VIND)

“Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven”

Matt 5:16

Peace, Cheryl T

“Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.” —Buddha



NOVEMBER

2 – Charlie McKenzie-Smith

13 – Lois Winsness

24 – Aimee Brackbill

13 – Joan Hauck

14 – Amy Wenzel

18 – Jase Schlegel

20 – Loretta Dombalagian

27 – Naseer Christmas

DECEMBER

5 – Wendy Klein-Keane

6 – Matthew George

29 – Jack McGovern

30 – Christa Farnon

“Although time seems to fly by, it never travels faster than one day at a time. Each day is a new opportunity to live your life to the fullest.” Steve Maraboli

OTHER NOTES:

➤ **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** ends 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning, **November 4**. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday evening.

➤ The Haverford Township Ministerium presents its annual **INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE** Sunday, **November 18** at Memorial Church of God in Christ, 747 Buck Lane, Haverford, PA 19041. Time is 6:30 p.m. All are cordially invited.



➤ 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.



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 11.**

POINSETTIAS

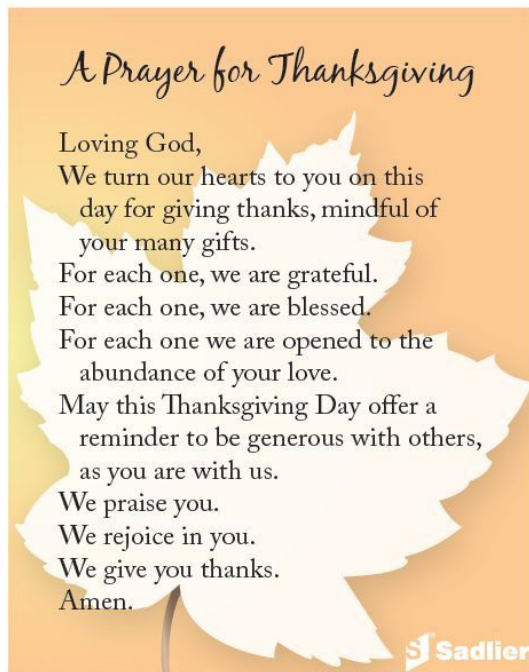
____red ____white

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



Dedication: _____

YOUR NAME: _____



A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
We turn our hearts to you on this
day for giving thanks, mindful of
your many gifts.
For each one, we are grateful.
For each one, we are blessed.
For each one we are opened to the
abundance of your love.
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a
reminder to be generous with others,
as you are with us.
We praise you.
We rejoice in you.
We give you thanks.
Amen.

 Sadlier



What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part:
Yet what I can I give Him,
Give my heart.

Christina G. Rossetti



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

Email: secretary@stjamesucc.org

Website: www.stjamesucc.org

PASS THIS ALONG TO A FRIEND ☺

St. James United Church of Christ

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org



Saturday, December 8

9 am - 11:30 am

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

Children's Craft Table & Photo with Santa (and Mrs.
Claus!)

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

**Proceeds will benefit the
2019 Youth Mission Trip.**

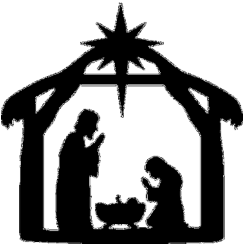


For the children . . .



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Joy to the World



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- ADVENT
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BLESSINGS
CAMELS
FRANKINCENSE
- INFANT
JESUS
JOSEPH
MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE
- MYRRH
NATIVITY
REJOICE
STABLE
STAR
THREE KINGS
WISE MEN

