



Hilltop Views

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

MARCH / APRIL 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

40 THINGS TO SAY BEFORE YOU DIE. Here goes #18 more than half-way done): "This is who I am". Whenever I get stymied thinking about who I am, I either read scripture to remind me, or play Jason Gray's official music video of "Remind Me Who I Am" on Youtube.com.

Sometimes we think of ourselves in very negative or at best with limiting words. And in the video Gray shows us just that with people holding up cards that say, "victim, addict, angry, weak, refugee, I cheated on them too, my life doesn't count, betrayed, rejected..."

Then we see each of them in photos with new signs, all of which say, "beloved". All of their photos are stuck to his guitar as he sings, "When I lose my way, And I forget my name Remind me who I am. In the mirror all I see Is who I don't wanna be. Remind me who I am. In the loneliest places. When I can't remember what grace is

Tell me, once again Who I am to You, who I am to You
Tell me, lest I forget. Who I am to You, that I belong to You To You
When my heart is like a stone, And I'm running far from home.
Remind me who I am
When I can't receive Your love. Afraid I'll never be enough.
Remind me who I am
If I'm Your beloved. Can You help me believe it. Tell me, once again
Who I am to you, who I am to You, whoa. Tell me, lest I forget
Who I am to you, that I belong to You. To You
I'm the one You love. I'm the one You love.
That will be enough. I'm the one You love.
Tell me, lest I forget. Who I am to you, that I belong to You, whoa. Tell me, once again. Who I am to You, who I am to You.
Tell me, lest I forget. Who I am to You, that I belong to You. To You. To You."



So, let's not forget who we are. We are God's beloved. And when you believe that, nothing or no one can cause you permanent harm. Rather, you will go on to do great things, because you know you are great, because of God's great love for you, "Beloved". Say it often and say it loud, many times before you die. "I am God's Beloved!" Because, when you do, it changes everything, especially how you see yourself.

Pastor Lynn

WORSHIP

WORSHIP/PREACHING SCHEDULE

ROLL DOWN, JUSTICE! (February 14 - April 1)

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." (Amos 5:21-24)

Lent is a time of reminding ourselves who we are called to be in this world. Our Lenten series is inspired by Amos, a prophet whose message is that God calls us to let "justice roll down like waters." Worship without justice is not acceptable, rather our songs must move us to action on behalf of the oppressed. Through the powerful music of Mark Miller and the remembrance of our rituals of baptism (the origins of Lent), this season will offer us reflection and renewed inspiration to let our voices be tuned to the heart of the Gospel - proclaiming God's love for all people.

March 4 - "I Dream of a Church: Christ's Representatives"

(Matthew 35:31-40) CEB, Holy Communion

At our baptism, we promise to nurture others and are reminded that we are to "serve as Christ's representatives in the world." Today we ask the question, "Do we as the church look and act like Jesus?" Our song of justice today invites us to dream of a church "where justice is flowing with hope and peace to grow in and through our lives and this church?"

March 11 - "I Choose Love: Communities of Forgiveness"

(Luke 23:32-43) CEB

Each time someone is baptized, the whole church body that gathers also makes vows. One of the things we promise is to be a community of love and forgiveness. Each day we must choose between letting the difficult things about life create resentment in us or allowing the world of forgiveness to make way for love. Our song of justice this week was written as a response to a wonderful act of forgiveness that reminds us of the power of Jesus' forgiveness, even on the cross.

March 18 - "God Has Work for Us to Do: Faithful Disciples"

(Isaiah 58:6-12) CEB

Our featured scripture this week speaks of being a "well-watered garden like a spring of water that won't run dry." Baptismal waters continue to feed the streams of justice as we allow the Holy Spirit to work within us every time we set our hands and feet to the work God has for us to do. We are called to be faithful disciples, setting a table and inviting all to the feast.

March 25 (Palm/Passion Sunday)- "The Day Is Coming: We Are One"

(Isaiah 35:1-3, Matthew 21:1-11) CEB
The entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem was a vision of a coming day when power is displayed not with military might but through the solidarity of all people in the name of love and justice. We pray this day for a time when we are one and we support one another on the road of life, not tear one another down because of differences. We will affirm our oneness with the whole human family this day. In addition, we will hear the stories of the last week of Jesus earthly life on the way to the cross and the tomb.

March 29 (Thursday 7:00-7:30 PM) Tenebrae Service

This service will consist of readings from the gospels regarding the last week of Jesus life leading up to his crucifixion. As each reading concludes a candle will be extinguished till the service ends, leaving us in complete darkness which will then provide us with some moments for quiet reflection before we leave at the end of our 30 minute service.



GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP

An ecumenical Christian Service
sponsored by Haverford Township Ministerium

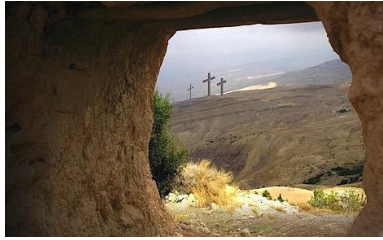


Friday, March 30 - 2PM
MANOA COMMUNITY CHURCH
153 N. Eagle Road
(Corner of Eagle & Sunnyhill)
Havertown, PA

The offering taken at the service will benefit
the Interfaith Hospitality Network

April 1 (Easter) 7:00 AM and 10:30 AM-
"Welcome, the New Jerusalem" (Jeremiah 31:1-6, Resurrection narrative)

This is the day we proclaim that justice does indeed roll down in a stream of love that cannot be stopped! No matter what, we will continue to work to invite and welcome all people to "a city built on love and light, the new Jerusalem." For it is in walking together, talking together, and dreaming together that we are all saved from the things of death and made heirs to life as we create a better, safer and more hospitable world.



EMERGE (April 8 - May 27)

"Get out bed, Jerusalem! Wake up. Put your face in the sunlight...The whole earth is wrapped in darkness, all people sunk in deep darkness, but God rises on you, God's sunrise glory breaks over you." (Isaiah 60:1-6)

April 8 - "Tombs and Cocoons" (John 20:1-18), Holy Communion; Rev. Sharell Shippen preaching.

The butterfly has long been a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus as well as the resurrection of believers as we emerge from the power of death. In this Easter season, we will examine our own transformations from cocoons and tombs to the unfurled beauty of all God calls us to be.

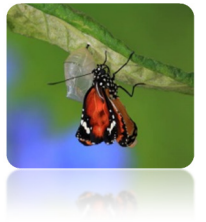
April 15 - "Coming Out: Leaving Comfortable Places" (Luke 1:26-38)

At some point, we cannot contain our selves – the selves God has created us to be. Coming out as people and as a church from what we have known into a new identity is filled with anxiety, unknowing and hope. The caterpillar's instincts about cocooning-entering the nurturing dark of gestation – is paralleled in the story of Mary's pregnancy, the dark of the tomb and our own willingness for transformation. All along the way we hear this repeated, "Do not be afraid."

April 22 - "Open: Into the Light" (Genesis 17:1-7, 15-27)
Sacred traditions and texts are filled with stories of those who opened to new life and purpose. The story of faith is not one of arrival but of journey. The new butterfly's struggle to push out of its confines produces a fissure that cannot be undone. We look to the willingness of Abraham and Sarah to take on new names, a new family and a new mission for their lives. Let us open into the light of a new day.

April 29 - "Unwrap: Waking Up" (John 11:1-44)

In the opening of the tomb of Lazarus, in the unwrapping of his funeral clothes, the community had to face their unknowing – and perhaps disbelief – and trust that the resurrection Jesus had facilitated was real. The range of emotions was vast. As the butterfly's cozy environment cracks further open still, it is the participation of the whole community that will make change possible – waking up, rolling away the stone, unwrapping what will be.



READERS:

March 4 – Dave Winters

March 11 – Marian McKenzie

March 18 – Lisa Baglione

March 25 – Lynne Major

April 1 – Walter Smith

April 8 – Kathy Pioggia

April 15 – Lisa Baglione

April 22 – Bobbie-Lou Krok

April 29 – Ray Leonardo

CHILDREN

Hello St. James Families! Spring is almost here and with it brings new beginnings and renewal!

We will be celebrating Easter with the children on April 1. The children will be singing a song during the service and we will hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt as well. This year we will again hold the hunt at the Grange Estate immediately after the service so that families can join us for the fun and excitement.



In our Sunday School classes, the children have moved into the New Testament. We have been talking about baptism and are working on a poster where each child brings in a picture of their baptism or other picture of them when they are a bit younger than today. We will also be adding current pictures and celebrating the message that God loved us then, and loves us now! Our Youth have been participating in various community service projects. Most recently, they made dog treats for the pet therapy dogs who come to St. James through the PAWS program.

I am looking forward to a new season of growth for all here in St. James Children's Ministry. As always, please contact me by e-mail (AllisonFineberg@aol.com) or phone (610-804-5549) if you have any questions or would like to talk!
Allison Fineberg



Girl Scout Sunday will be celebrated at St. James during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 11. Any Girl or Boy Scout is invited to join us on that day and be honored during the service.

MUSIC

Thank you card from Anna Schneider, Music Director
Drexel Hill Middle School Girls Ensemble
Maggie,
Dropping you a note to say you're thought of...and that we are grateful to you and St. James for such a splendid and welcoming day. Looking forward to a rerun performance!
Musically yours, Anna
P.S., Thank you! *Thank You!*



ADULTS & FAMILIES

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

WITHOUT is a weekly video designed for Lenten reflection. 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 featuring Maggie, Cheryl, Marian, and Walter will be emailed to the congregation each Tuesday.



COMMUNITY DINE AROUND: The next luncheon will be held on **March 12**, at Annunciation BVM Church, 12:00 noon. It will be a St. Patrick's Day celebration. The cost is \$7.00 per person. Please let the church office know if you would like to attend by calling 610-446-3036 by Wednesday, March 7.

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

BOOK CLUB The book club will hold its next meeting on Monday, **March 12** at 7pm. Our book for March is 'Big, Little Lies' by Liane Moriarty. Just this season HBO did a mini series on the book. The series stuck pretty close to the book, so if you can't read the book, do try to catch the movie version. Please feel free to join us if you are interested in the book. I think you will enjoy the conversation. The group will be meeting the second Monday of the month throughout the summer, and we always welcome visitors. I've included a list of our books through August. Hope to see you there!! Happy Reading!!

Joanne Morris
610-42-8509 morrisjoanne16@gmail.com

March	'Big Little Lies' by Liane Moriarty
Apr.	'Me Before You' by JoJo Moyes
May	'Leaving Time' by Jodi Picoult
June	'Chaperone' by Laura Moriarty
July	'Camino Island' by John Grisham
Aug.	'Personal History' Autobiography by Katherine Graham

TEAMS AND COMMITTEES:

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

Consistory, **Wednesday, April 18**, 6:30 p.m.

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Please join our cleaning volunteers to
have our church looking
its finest for Palm Sunday and Easter.
Coffee and donuts provided.



BIBLE STUDY: PROPHETS AND TODAY'S NEWS:

Weekly news headline and a reading from the prophet reflection by the pastor posted on Facebook in April and May, with the chance for comments by those who check out and follow our Facebook page.



FAMILIES WITH ADDICTION WORKSHOP will be held 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. Space is limited.

MISSION/OUTREACH

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING. It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we look at all the areas of need in God's world: there is hunger, sickness, and injustice in so many communities. It is easy to feel there is nothing we can do to help. We can feel trapped by

hopelessness and fear that what little we can do—won't have an impact. But there is hope! Better yet: we are that hope! As the Apostle Paul writes, "by the power at work within us," God is able to "accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20). "We are the agents of transformation that God uses to transfigure this world" (Archbishop Desmond Tutu). Wishing and dreaming of a better world means nothing if we don't realize that God gives us community to practice love and compassion. We cannot only care for ourselves, but we must also care about those around us, both near and far. Our One Great Hour of Sharing gifts become part of a loving legacy in ways we can't foresee. Our gifts become blessings to people we don't know and blesses in ways we can't expect. We can make a difference beyond what we can imagine.



Our annual One Great Hour of Sharing Lenten offering takes place on **Sunday, March 11**. Thank you for your generous support.

SAM'S KITCHEN:

Our next serving date is Wednesday, **March 14**. We'll plan to cook at 4:00 p.m., and put the finishing touches on the meal and drive to the Life Center at 6:00 p.m. 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. Do you or someone you know knit or crochet? "Dorcas Ministry," St. James' prayer shawl ministry group, welcomes new participants from our church and our community. Stop by a meeting for the camaraderie while we



“stitch” or you can craft from home. Our next meetings are Mondays, **March 19** and **April 16** from 7:00pm to 8:30pm downstairs in the Penn Resource Room. We have plenty of supplies so there’s nothing to buy. Feel free to bring a friend!

PET THERAPY

The **PAWS reading program** will be held on Tuesday, **March 20**, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Our April session will be Tuesday, **April 24**, 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, **March 22** and **April 19** (6:30-7:30 PM). If you would like to get to know these wonderful women and help out, please be in touch with Pastor Lynn.

FOOD PANTRY

“You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others”

This is from the UCC statement of faith and St. James exemplifies this in our many ministries and by being a part of community within our walls and outside our walls. We are called to do what we do for each other and for others. Thank you for continuing to live this out every day.

We were fortunate again this year to have a community partner (Temple Lutheran Church) share the bounty of a donation they coordinated with Lynnewood Elementary. Several of our children are students there and the school did an amazing job showing their love and care for others. As always, the St. James Community came forward to help pick up and then put away the donation – Thanks to everyone who helped.

With this donation our shelves are full for the time being. We have a few items that we go through quickly which are:

Pasta sauce
Peanut butter and jelly
Tuna
Baked Beans
Juice
Snacks (granola bars, cookies, crackers, etc.)
Personal care items



As always, these are just suggestions. ALL donations are accepted and appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry!

Lynne Major

"Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more - a grateful heart,
Not thankful when it pleases me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart, whose pulse may be Thy Praise."
- George Herbert



VOLUNTEER HURRICANE RELIEF MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

2018 Daytona Beach Area, Volusia County, Florida.

Hurricane Irma made landfall in Florida on Sept. 10, 2017 with record-force winds and storm surges. The storm then continued north to Georgia and South Carolina. Millions of people in Florida evacuated or moved to approved shelters before the storm hit. The storm caused extensive damage. Hurricane Matthew hit the same areas in October 2016. Hurricane Matthew passed just offshore Volusia County, Fla., on Oct. 7, 2016, and inflicted tremendous damage. Dozens of homes were destroyed and hundreds suffered major damage, with more than \$600 million in estimated losses. We will be working with **Volusia Interfaith Agencies Networking in Disasters (VIND)**.
When: Sunday September 23 to Saturday September 29



Project/Focus: Repair/Rebuild homes. Roofing, gutting interiors, replacing insulation, siding, drywall repair and painting, flooring and other interior work. Also looking into lighter duty work. We will fly into Orlando Florida on Sunday afternoon and depart Saturday morning. Work week is Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Plenty of time in the evening to explore the area. Accommodations: Housing for groups provided by Union Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) Two large classrooms of this church were renovated to provide beds and/or cots and kitchen access. Groups bring own bedding and prepare own meals. (Some meals may be provided by local churches.) Also showers, bathrooms, and lounge room for spiritual meetings and to relax.

Costs for case management, building materials, tools, and construction supervision provided through the local long-term recovery committee. Your donations to UCC One Great Hour of Sharing® help make possible the local work of the Long-Term Recovery Committee. Total cost will be around \$300-400 pp. Includes airfare. Group Size: 24 Maximum Please see Cheryl T if you are interested and for more information. cmtrump@comcast.net or 610-639-0868



MARCH BIRTHDAYS
3 – Erik Vogel
11 – Juliana Torres
17 – Helen Anderson

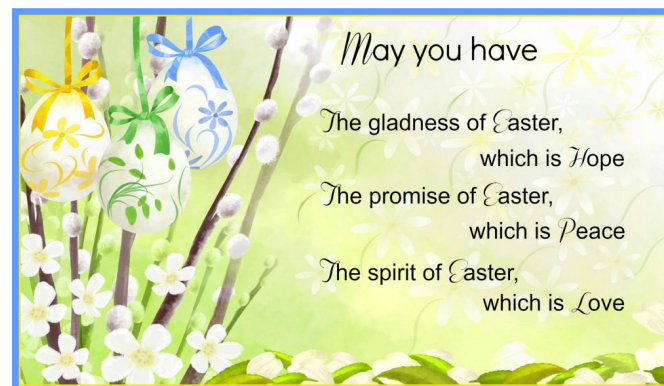


APRIL BIRTHDAYS
2 – Rev. Lynn Lampman
5 – Maria McGovern
16 – Mike McCutchan
25 – Bunni Johnston

LOOKING AHEAD:

POTLUCK FOR BODY AND SOUL– “Taking Care: A Feast of Comfort” A potluck luncheon will immediately follow worship on Sunday, **May 6**, for the purpose of getting to know one another better, and having caring conversation about faith. You are encouraged to bring your favorite “comfort” food.

RETREAT “FOUR DAILY PRACTICES” (May 5, 12-5 PM) Come learn and experience four daily practices you can easily do which will help you get greater wisdom, clarity and joy for daily living whether it be during hard and difficult times or easy and lighter times. These four practices, once learned and used regularly, will help to make your life what you always hoped it could be. Registration is required (pastor@stjamesucc.org).



EASTER FLOWERS

Would you like to help beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday by sponsoring flowers in honor of loved ones, or in memory of someone dear to you? Please submit this order form, along with payment, by Palm Sunday, March 25. Plants are \$5.00 each.



EASTER FLOWERS

NAME _____

DEDICATION _____

____ lily ____ tulip ____ daffodil ____ hyacinth

PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$_____ (\$5.00 each)

EASTER PRAYER

Bless our table, heavenly Father,
and all who sit at it.
May our joy in the Risen Christ
show itself to all whom we meet.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

This prayer comes from the St. James Table Graces booklet. If you would like a copy, simply contact the church office.



THE REV. LYNN P. LAMPMAN

Pastor's Phone: 610-733-1502

Maggie Realley, Director of Music

Allison Fineberg, Director of Children's Ministries

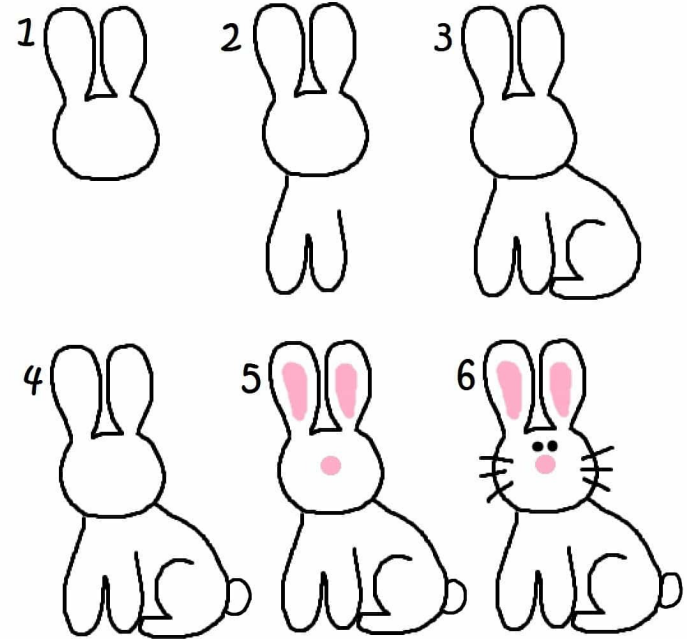
Andrea Angiulo, Nursery

Ailene Dunlap, Secretary

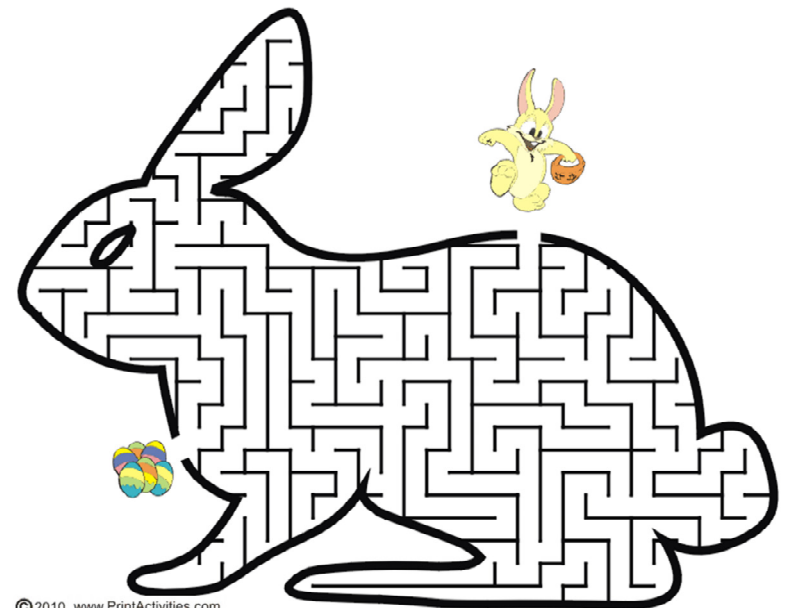
Church Office 610-446-3036

Email: secretary@stjamesucc.org

For the children . . .



Guide the Easter Bunny through the maze to find the Easter Eggs



© 2010 www.PrintActivities.com