



Hillstop Views

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Forbes magazine in suggesting the 50 things we should say before we die has as number seven in their countdown, “**I trust you.**”

Trust is the glue that holds relationships together. It allows us to feel safe enough to be vulnerable in emotionally connecting with another person.

Trust is often given early as part of an unspoken code of honor. As we begin relationship we assume the other person is trustworthy until proven otherwise. Over time, as we get to know the other person trust deepens. When this trust is broken, it becomes important that trust is re-established. Here are some steps you can take **when trust is broken:**

1. Forgive yourself – the other person’s behavior was their choice and reflects who they are, not who you are.
2. Forgive the other person – forgiveness is not about the other person, but it is about your emotional freedom. Forgiveness is not about letting the other person off the hook for his or her

bad behavior. See the other person as a whole person, not just as their bad behavior. Recognize we all have flaws and everyone makes mistakes (us included).

3. Trust yourself – those who have been betrayed are afraid to extend trust again fearing they will experience shame and humiliation if they are duped again. Instead of focusing on why you won’t be okay if that happens again, focus instead on you will be fine and still be able to live a good life without the other person, if that is the inevitable outcome.
4. Trust the other person – the truth about trusting someone else is that the only certainty is that there is no certainty. There is always an element of faith in the trust we give to someone. After a betrayal, all you can do is assess the situation and make an appraisal about what you think is likely behavior in the future. Does the person seem sincerely apologetic and willing to make amends? Does the person act with integrity in other areas of their life? Were there circumstances that played a role, or does the betrayal seem to reflect their overall character? Has he or she broken your trust in similar ways in the past? In the big picture, is there more good than bad in the relationship? If the answers to these questions affirm the positive, the choice in front of you is whether or not you can accept the flaws of the other person and again trust that they will act in the best interest of your relationship. There are never any guarantees when it comes to other people. Only time will show whether trust is deserved. However, withholding trust out of fear or anger will prevent you from emotionally reconnecting with a person and keep your relationship from moving forward in a healthy way.



Relationships are vital to our well-being and quality of life. Without the difficult times, we wouldn’t be able to appreciate the good times. Working through a ruptured relationship offers you the opportunity to grow as a person and perhaps find a deeper meaning in the relationship itself.

Pastor Lynn

WORSHIP

READERS:

Sept 1 – Marian McKenzie	Oct 6 – Keenan McGurk
Sept 8 – Lisa Baglione	Oct 13 – Emma Gonsalves
Sept 15 – Kathy Pioggia	Oct 20 – Dave Winters
Sept 22 – Caroline Fuimano	Oct 27 – Jay Vasell
Sept 29 – Carlyne McGurk	



MUSIC

As I reflect back on my first year at St. James, as I have over the summer, I feel an enormous sense of gratitude – for the eagerness of the choir and the support of the congregation. I’m looking forward to begin another full season of choir, handbells, more!

As we head into fall, we’ll resume choir rehearsal, beginning **Sept. 8 at 11:50am**. Our first performance in church will be the following Sunday, **Sept. 15**.

Something I’m really looking forward to is the celebration of our 75th anniversary on **Nov. 17**. Leading up to that Sunday, we’ll hear music from important dates and decades from the church’s history. From George Root’s smash hit of 1854, “There’s Music in the Air”, to “You’ll Never Walk Alone” from *Carousel* (1945), to “Soon and Very Soon” from the 1970s, we’ll hear a bit of everything. As we celebrate our anniversary on Nov. 17, we’ll hear a brand new piece, composed *this* year, which I have been commissioned to write for this occasion.



Looking forward to Advent: if you’re interested in joining the handbell choir for our seasonal piece, go ahead and mark your calendars: rehearsals are **Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 8, 15 from 9:15-10am**. The performance will be during our service of worship on Sunday, **Dec. 15**.

If you’re interested in singing with the choir, we’d love to hear from you! A great opportunity to sing with us is **Second Sunday Sing**. Join us at 10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to get familiar with the anthem for that day, which will be accessible and easy to pick up. Upcoming Second Sunday Sing dates: **Oct. 13 and Dec. 8**. Note: there will be no Second Sunday Sing on **Nov. 10th**, as the **Girls Ensemble from Drexel Hill Middle School** will be leading music during worship that day. Another option is to observe a choir rehearsal or two. We’d love to have you! Please see me at the piano after the service and we’ll set up a time for you.

Looking forward to a season of music and fellowship with you all.
- John

CHILDREN

It’s hard to believe that summer has come and gone so quickly! Exciting things are happening this fall at St. James Children’s Ministry. We have a large group of kiddos moving up from Nursery to Sunday School! Our largest numbers are now in first grade and fourth grade and with this gap, we are moving to a newly released version of our Sunday School Curriculum. Spark has just created a mixed-age edition of the materials we are already using. These are specifically designed for churches just like ours, with all ages in one room, and lots of opportunity for group work and conversing with our peers.



Our Kids' Service Sunday on September 29 will be focusing on pets in shelters. Keep your eyes out for a list of donations needed as the children make their plans for the project. October 13 will bring our Bible Milestone with lots of new children receiving their first bible! As always, please reach out to me at any time with thoughts or questions!

Ms. Andrea and I are so excited to be spending another year growing and learning alongside your children.

Allison Fineberg

**FAITH FORMATION:
GROWING IN FAITH**

BIBLE STUDY AT HARMONY HALL (Elwyn: Media, PA)

- Wednesday, **September 4** (9:30-10:30 AM)
“Wholehearted: Cultivating a Resilient Spirit and Letting Go of Numbness and Powerlessness”
- Wednesday, **October 2** (9:30-10:30 AM)
“Wholehearted: Cultivating Gratitude and Joy and Letting Go of Scarcity and Fear of the Dark”

CENTERING PRAYER (Penn Resource Room)

1st, 3rd, 5th Thursday of each month All are welcome to learn and pray.

- **September 5, 19** (7:00-8:30 PM)
- **October 3, 17** (7:00-8:30 PM)



WAY OF LIFE: BIBLE STUDY, REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Sundays: (9:00-10:00 AM)

- Sept. 8** – A Better Way to Be Christian
- Sept. 15** – From a System of Belief to a Way of Life
- Sept. 22** – Toward a Loving God of Liberation
- Sept. 29** – For the Common Good

NEW TO ST. JAMES GATHERING

Those who have become members or started attending St. James over the last year or so will 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 first gathering will be Sunday, **September 29**, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. in the choir loft of the sanctuary.



FALL RETREAT: “SOCIAL JUSTICE: TAKING ACTION”

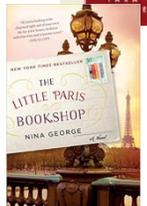
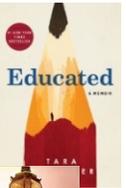
Saturday, **October 26** (10:00 AM – 1:00 PM)

We will be utilizing scripture, and the movie “Woman at War” for reflection and discussion. “Woman at War” is about a woman who appears to lead a life filled with quiet routine, although she is secretly raging a one-woman war against the local aluminum industry. This film is inspiring, funny, and quite provocative. Our aim for this retreat is to give some time to thinking about our own activism or our need to become more socially active in the living out of our faith. **Registration is required by October 20.** Please contact Pastor Lynn at 610.733.1502 (text) or lplampman@comcast.net(email) if you plan to attend.

ADULTS & FAMILIES

BOOK CLUB

With summer quickly winding down, the book club will hold its September meeting on the outdoor patio of Starbucks (2200 West Chester Pike). We met there during the summer months of July and August, and it was delightful to sit outside while some folks enjoyed a cool drink. So, on Monday, **September 9** at 7 pm we will gather for our last outdoor meeting of the year. Our book for September is Educated by Tara Westover. Our **October 14** meeting will find us back at St. James in the Penn Room. Our book for the evening will be The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George. The meeting time is 7 pm.



As always, everyone is invited to join us for either or both meetings. Never feel that you must read the books. Sometimes a title will grab you and you are interested in the book and simply want to hear a bit about it. If so, come join us for the evening!! I can guarantee an interesting conversation and loads of laughter! If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach me at 610-742-8509.
Joanne Morris

STRATEGIC PLANNING POTLUCK: SHAPING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS OF ST. JAMES

The Consistory has been working throughout the spring and summer to find the answer to two important questions: Who are We? Who Is Our Neighbor?



On Sunday, **September 22** (immediately following worship) the entire congregation is invited to hear their findings that will be shared via a multi-media presentation during a **potluck lunch**. Each person in attendance will be asked to write three things about the presentation that interested them or about which they have questions. Everyone will take their cards home and pray about those three things written on their index card and listening for what God would have to say about those things.

Then, we will gather as a congregation again on Sunday, **October 20** (immediately following worship) for another **potluck lunch** to share one thing from our index card (which was presented on Sept. 22), why we think it is important and what the Spirit has been saying to us regarding that one thing.

The Consistory will then see the patterns and themes that emerge from our Oct. 20th meeting and then develop a five year plan given the congregation's input from Oct. 20th. This plan will be presented at the annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, November 24 (immediately following worship)**

75TH ANNIVERSARY

Beginning on September 15th, the congregation will **hear music**

from each decade of St. James history.

- Sept 15 – Piece composed in 1854 (when the church building was constructed)
- Sept 22 – Piece composed in 1944 or 1948
- Sept 29 – Piece composed in 1950's
- Oct 6 – Piece composed in 1960's
- Oct 13 – Piece composed in 1970's
- Oct 20 – Piece composed in 1980's
- Oct 27 – Piece composed in 1990's
- Nov 3 – Piece composed in 2000 - 2009
- Nov 10 - Piece composed 2010-2018
- Nov 17 – **Commissioned Choral Piece** composed by our own John Callahan for our 75th Anniversary



On Sunday **November 17** (10:30 AM), for our 75th Anniversary we will have as our **guest preacher The Rev. Bill Worley,**

Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ who will provide us with an inspiring message, a **multimedia presentation by Ed Hart of our history**, and the **dedication of gifts for 75th anniversary fund** which will be used for future programs, mission, outreach, and community engagement at St. James. **After worship**, we will gather in our Social Hall for a fabulous **luncheon and reception** where all will be invited to share their stories of St. James and enjoy one another's company.



**MISSION: COMING TOGETHER
IN SERVICE**

FOOD PANTRY

Wednesdays: **Sept 4, 11** (9:00-11:00 AM), **Sept 25** (6:00-7:00 PM)
Wednesdays: **Oct 2, 9** (9:00-11:00 AM) **Oct 23** (6:00-7:00 PM)

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

We have hopefully had some opportunities for rest over the summer months and now everyone starts to ramp up for the fall with new beginnings... school, new schedules, etc. As we get busier let's remember those who continue to struggle to make ends meet and have needs that we can meet. Our food pantry continues to be a source of comfort and sustenance for those who use it. We appreciate everyone who continues to contribute to this ministry, both our members at St. James, friends and community partners and those we haven't met yet... Please know that donations are always welcome. We highlight the food pantry on the first Sunday of each month. As many of you are taking stock of what you need for your new schedule, back to school, etc. - stock has been taken in the food pantry and all donations are welcome but there are some things we have abundance of and things we are always in short supply of, so a list is included that highlights these things. But all donations are greatly appreciated:

We are in need of:

- Pasta sauce
- Tuna
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Oatmeal
- Pancake mix/syrup
- Soup

We have abundance of :

- Canned vegetables
- Mac and Cheese



SAM'S KITCHEN



Our next cooking and serving date is Wednesday, **September 11**, 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) **September 10, October 8.**
- Third Tuesday of the **September 17, October 15.**



COUNCIL FOR AMERICAN INDIAN MINISTRY OFFERING will be taken on Sunday, **September 15**. One household of our congregation who holds this social issue close to the heart has generously offered to match any gifts made during the month of September. A special CAIM offering envelope can be found in your box of offering envelopes. Thank you for your generosity.



The Council for American Indian Ministry is comprised of five ministries with 22 congregations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. The Eagle Butte Learning Center, an educational center designed to enhance the leadership skills among clergy and lay leaders of the American Indian UCC congregations, is also an important part of CAIM.

DORCAS YARN MINISTRY.



Do you knit or crochet or do you want to learn? Stop by Monday nights, **September 16** and **October 21**. 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. Shawls in the sanctuary are available for you to gift to someone you know who is having a hard time. Whether you are making items, blessing items, praying for Dorcas or gifting items, YOU are part of St. James' Dorcas Ministry.

PET THERAPY AT HARMONY HALL (Elwyn: Media, PA)
 Wednesday, **September 18** (2:30-3:30 PM)
 Wednesday, **October 16** (2:30-3:30 PM)



HARMONY HALL QUARTERLY GATHERING

Monday, **September 23** (10:00 AM) – Historical Re-enactment with Dave and Joanne Morris. All are welcome!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds of this offering

is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. The offering will be held on Sunday, **October 6**, which is World Communion Sunday.



THE REV. LYNN P. LAMPMAN
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For the children . . .

OTHER NOTES:

- **CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** September 12-26. Ailene away on vacation. Phone messages will be checked daily.
- **FAITH FORMATION BROCHURE** for September 2019 – June 2020 has been prepared by Pastor Lynn, and a copy is in everyone's mailbox. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office at 610-446-3036.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 – Bonnie Asbury
- 2 – Frauke Vogel
- 10 – Cindy Keaveney
- 11 – Audriana Schlegel
- 14 – Harper Klein-Keane
- 17 – Henry Brackbill
- 19 – Joanne Jones
- 19 – John Milburn
- 21 – Robert Meyers
- 26 – Barbara Adams
- 26 – Maureen McGurk
- 29 – Jenn Hayden
- 29 – Mary Beck
- 30 - Bill P. Penn



OCTOBER

- 1 – Billy Penn Jr.
- 3 – Ruth Deiss
- 7 – Nancy Benkert
- 11 – Lynne Major
- 11 – Thelia George
- 15 – Dave Winters
- 18 – Laura Hart
- 24 – Lisa Baglione
- 24 – Lisa Purcell
- 29 – Christel Abbadusky
- 30 – Justin Klein-Keane

Autumn Word Search

B	U	G	U	N	T	L	C	Z	M	A	D	A	O	F
M	Q	A	E	A	T	Y	I	Q	U	R	P	E	A	L
E	T	A	U	H	S	P	S	T	K	P	E	M	G	F
A	C	N	A	N	A	N	U	E	L	O	I	W	N	E
Y	J	N	Z	Y	R	M	I	E	R	L	I	G	F	T
S	K	G	V	O	N	D	C	P	Y	O	G	Z	U	A
S	M	X	C	M	Y	I	D	S	U	X	M	B	V	T
H	Y	A	K	S	D	S	C	D	A	M	O	S	E	X
J	E	R	Q	E	H	A	G	B	L	E	P	U	C	U
C	K	G	R	L	R	W	S	I	L	M	A	K	S	W
K	R	U	X	E	J	I	K	K	E	B	V	E	I	J
J	U	M	C	V	V	D	D	C	A	O	Q	S	P	N
S	T	R	K	A	C	D	P	D	V	T	J	O	S	X
O	O	B	O	N	F	I	R	E	E	L	U	T	A	I
W	E	D	I	R	Y	A	H	R	S	S	O	M	D	U

ACORN	FAMILY	SCARECROW
APPLE CIDER	HAYRIDE	SMORES
AUTUMN	LEAVES	TURKEY
BONFIRE	PUMPKIN	THANKS

ALWAYS ROOM FOR A FRIEND

A professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.



The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous 'yes.' The professor then produced two soda pops from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things: your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions. And if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else- the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Spend time with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and mow the lawn. Take care of the golf balls first- the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the soda pops represented.

The professor smiled and said, "I'm glad you asked. They just show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a cold drink with a friend."