

ST. JAMES Good News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6

July-August 2008

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Taos, New Mexico



ST. JAMES MISSION

Sharing ourselves and our faith with others ... St. James is a Christian community which welcomes all with respect for the inherent dignity and value of every person. We strive to enable spiritual growth through worship, education, outreach and stewardship for the purpose of restoring all people to unity with God and each other.

WHAT'S INSIDE

This issue combines two months of church life — much of our summer schedule. Check its content for news of upcoming events, and watch Sunday's In Brief in the bulletins for updates.

- 2 News & Announcements
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Calendars for July & August Church Life

New Website Going “Live”

from WINN KALMON

During July you will be able to get and share all the good information about St. James on our newly designed website. Our website address is stjamestaos.org—just type that in your Internet browser address line, and hit Enter. And prepare yourself for an enjoyable and fruitful experience of learning and entertainment.

The website homepage has all the basic data—address and phone number, worship times, our mission statement, a mapping function and directions for out-of-town visitors, and so on, with an album of photos to enjoy. Other pages feature the diverse and comprehensive programs and activities that we enjoy together. For example, the “Fellowship” page describes our agape groups and the range of social activities we share, with contact names, numbers, and live e-mail addresses, plus photos of some of our skiers and hikers on the slopes and trails. And the “In the Community” page features the broad range of outreach activities and fundraising events that support our community programs.

Useful forms and informational documents are also available on the website. For example, the schedule of servers, ushers, acolytes, and greeters is available instantly for all who are working with Lou and Bambi Sturbois to keep our Sundays going smoothly.

A beautifully designed packet of information about having a wedding at St. James is also available, as well as a description of the columbarium and cenotaph.

A description of the Barela woodcarvings of the stations of the cross is also available.

There are even forms for making financial donations, or contributing time and talent to committees and activities.

All of these documents, and more as they are developed, are available as PDF files; with a single click, you can bring them up on your computer and print them at home.

A team of people is being developed by Father Rocky to keep the website information current and useful. We welcome volunteers for this important communications team. Just call the office to offer your time and talent for making monthly updates to the website, which can be done at home after training.

Celebrate the 4th of July with Us

Join the parish family in celebrating Independence Day in the parish hall. We will meet at 4 p.m. on the 4th for fun with family and friends. Everyone is welcome.



2 News & Announcements

Good News

July-August 2008

Novel Theology

from GLORIA BJERK

Our July meeting is at the home of Betty Simanton on Thursday, July 24, at 1 p.m. The book is *The Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson.

The “kid” is Bryson himself; his memoir of growing up in Des Moines, Iowa in the fifties describes a strange time in a wonderfully funny way of writing about the ordinary and extraordinary of life in a small midwestern city. Get ready to laugh out loud while also crying from cover to cover while you nurse a feeling of nostalgia for a simpler, sweeter time.

■ For directions to Betty's home in Des Montes: Betty, 776-1546.

The August get-together is at the home of Joella Knapp on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 1 p.m. We'll discuss *Blood and Thunder* by Hampton Sides. This nonfiction book of the conquest of the West and the legendary characters like Kit Carson, President James K. Polk, and Native American leaders who shaped it is aptly described as “an epic of the American West.” Tony Hillerman, author of many mysteries set on the New Mexico-Arizona Navajo reservation, describes the book as “a vivid account of how ‘The New Men’ swept away the thriving civilizations of the Native Americans in their conquest of the West.” Another reviewer writes, “This master storyteller has bequeathed us a majestic history.”

Please bring a question for discussion as there is no study guide for this book.

■ For directions to Joella's home in the Weimer foothills: Joella, 751-3059

Brown Bag Theology

The group meets every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the Santiago Room to discuss a book selected by the group. See the Sunday bulletin for the current book. People are encouraged to bring their lunches.

■ For further information, contact Norm Ferguson, 751-0049.

Episcopal Peace Fellowship

from JANELLE SPEROW PALMA

The Episcopal Peace Fellowship commitment statement reads like this:

“In loyalty to the person, teaching, and Lordship of

Jesus Christ, my conscience commits me to his way of redemptive love: to pray, study and work for peace, and to renounce, as far as possible, participation in war, militarism, and all other forms of violence.”

Let us discover and create alternatives to violence and to build a culture of peace together. An active EPF group at St. James would help us explore our behavior personally and collectively when confronted with conflict; and how conflict within communities and nations can be affected by prayer, intention, and our active involvement in the process of peace.

Meet with me on Aug. 17, at 11 a.m. after church to discuss how we might work together for the good of all.

■ For more information: Janelle, 751-9317, or janelle@taosnet.com.

Building Committee Update

from JACK NOTTINGHAM

Some of you may be thinking, why do we still have a Building Committee when the building is complete? Well, there are still numerous projects to be completed to fulfill God's plan for St. James! Just a few of the more than 29 projects on our Continuing Projects list:

- ✓ Playground yard and equipment
- ✓ Landscaping the parish hall courtyard
- ✓ Staining all latilla fencing
- ✓ Bulletin boards in the parish hall
- ✓ Landscaping the back of the church
- ✓ Volleyball court, picnic tables, and grill
- ✓ Sidewalk lighting
- ✓ Parking lot lighting

Projects take time and money! Volunteers are welcome anytime to help organize and work on the various projects. And, of course, funding contributions are needed!

If you can volunteer, or for more information: Jack, 751-7323.

Learn to Understand and Prevent Suicide

Suicide is a serious problem in our community—many of us have known friends, teenagers, or family members who have contemplated, attempted, or, sadly, committed suicide.

Learn how to recognize the warning signs and to make positive intervention that works and doesn't just drive a person farther into his or her mental anguish. The New

Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition is sponsoring a community-wide training on suicide prevention, Saturday, August 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Armory near the UNM Klauer Campus south of town. Participation is free and lunch is provided. Continuing education units are offered for law enforcement, social workers, and mental health counselors.

Featured leader is Dr. Frank Campbell, who directs the Crisis Center Foundation and is known as a lively and inspiring speaker and organizer. Registration and more information is available through Gwendolyn Packard, at 505-401-9382 or gwenpack@gmail.com.

Our parishioner Caryle Zorumski is a member of the Taos Suicide Prevention Coalition and offers to answer any questions people may have about the workshop. Contact Caryle: 751-1617 or czorumski@taosnet.com

In Gratitude for TYMS's "Perfect Year"

from ELIZABETH PACHECO

I have attended St. James since I was a week old. I also have been attending the Taos Youth Music School for four years. I was in kindergarten when I started.

The music school is a good learning experience. I have learned lots of things. I have been able to play many instruments, including the marimba, the recorder, the guitar, the drum, the ukulele, and the piano. I love trying new instruments.

The teachers are very supportive. The classes are fun. We make new friends from all over Taos. I plan on attending until I graduate from high school and then I would like to be a teacher for the music school.

This year's performance at the end of the year was perfect. The music was wonderful and we had fun. I want to thank everyone at St. James for supporting the music school and I hope that you will attend one of the performances during the upcoming year.

TYMS Fall Class Registration

Registration for fall music classes will be August 25, from 3 to 6 p.m. The school will be continuing its successful and popular classes, and adding a new Garage Band session. Classes will begin on Sept. 2.

A Recipe for St. James Day

from HEATHER LIEBMAN

In days past, before France and England became secular countries, Coquille Saint Jacques was often served on July 25, St. James Day. It was always served on a scallop shell, the symbol of St. James.

You may recall that according to one of the legends, St. James' body was cast upon the beach of northwestern Spain, covered in scallop shells.

The following recipe is one among many versions of the dish. For the shells, you can use real scallop shells that can be bought at places like Williams-Sonoma. Individual custard dishes work just as well.

Coquille Saint Jacques

Ingredients (in four groups):

2 tbsp butter	2 tbsp butter
¾ lb scallops, cut up	2 tbsp flour
1 tbsp lemon juice	½ tsp salt
	¼ tsp white pepper
2 tbsp butter	1 cup half and half
½ cup sliced mushrooms	¼ tsp paprika
1 scallion, chopped	
¼ cup white wine	3 tbsp dry breadcrumbs
	2 tsp butter, melted
	1½ cup grated Gruyere cheese

DIRECTIONS:

Combine butter and scallops in frying pan. Sauté for about 2 minutes. Stir in lemon juice. Divide among 6 coquille (scallop) shells.

Put second amount of butter in frying pan. Add mushrooms and scallion (or green onion). Sauté till tender. Stir in wine. Boil until wine is half boiled away. Transfer to a small bowl. Set aside.

Put third amount of butter in frying pan. Stir in flour, salt, and pepper. Add half and half, stirring to thicken. Add paprika. Add mushroom mixture. Mix together, and taste for salt. Spoon over scallops in shells.

Toss breadcrumbs with melted butter. Scatter over top. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake in 400°F oven for 15–20 minutes, until browned.

Makes 6 appetizer servings.

What Stewardship Means

from HEATHER LIEBMAN

Stewardship is in the news. At vestry meetings we have spent time discussing what stewardship means to us and have developed a vestry statement. The statement is composed of an introductory paragraph and underneath each vestry member has written his or her personal stewardship beliefs. This will soon be published for everyone to see.

I decided it would be interesting to get a broader view of stewardship in our church. Much is self-evident in all

that we do to help others but, at random, one Sunday in June I asked various members what “stewardship” meant to them in either a general or specific way.

What follows are some of the statements.

“I believe that by being a member of the church I have a responsibility to financially support it and to participate in outreach programs.”

“I give what I can, both financially and my time.”

“I follow the expectation of giving but not all to St. James. I give some to the church and some to charities of my choice.”

“Stewardship is our responsibility to care for all God’s creation. Jesus’ call to us to do good works is that care in action. Contributions of time and treasure to the church and beyond to charitable organizations that address the world’s ills all satisfy this sacred obligation.”

“To me stewardship is doing what I can to make the world a better place.”

“Stewardship is doing one’s part to support the work of the church.”

“Stewardship is one of our most important forms of worship. It has more effect on us than on the beneficiaries.”

“What I give is between me and my God.”

“I believe that my mission in life is to work with the needy people in our town. I also believe that it is right to support the church financially but I do not tithe. There is no percentage rule in the New Testament.”

“I increase my pledge every year and am working toward tithing. Also, I give time to outreach programs and serve on committees.”

That sampling of responses shows me that stewardship is alive and well at

St. James. It is something we all take seriously, and in true Episcopalian fashion, we “do” stewardship our own individual ways.

How Well Do You Know Your Bible?

from JIM GLENN

Maybe you should compare your knowledge with these actual responses given by children in Bible classes around the country:

1. The first book of the Bible is Guinness, in which Adam and Eve were created from an apple.
2. Noah’s wife was called Joan of Ark.
3. Unleavened bread is bread with no ingredients.
4. Lot’s wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.
5. Moses went to the top of Mt. Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.
6. Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
7. The Seventh Commandment is Thou shalt not admit adultery.
8. Solomon had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
9. The people who followed Jesus were called the 12 decibels.
10. One of the opossums was St. Matthew.
11. A Christian should have only one wife, which is called monotony.
12. The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

A Blessing to Remember

Father Rocky has been dismissing worshippers at the end of Sunday morning services with a beautiful and meaningful blessing. Here is the Franciscan Benediction, credited by some to St. Francis.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

Financial Results at the Year's Halfway Point

from MIKE DOBBS

Well, year to date at the almost halfway mark we are managing right on target based on a modest surplus for the month of May. However, a one-time donation had positive impact on May results. I ask you again: *please make sure you keep your pledges up to date*, and if you are going away for some extended time this summer, don't even hesitate to pay your pledge in advance to keep the cash flow on track.

Enough lecturing—thanks so much for your support of St. James this year in all areas.

Record fundraising activities like the Empty Bowls event and the recent rummage sale have our outreach funds in very good shape. However, the needs of the community also have reached record levels. Our Food Pantry fed 668 people during a single week in June, the most ever for a non-holiday week distribution. Again, this is only possible because of the incredible support for our food program.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't remind everyone that we have not completely paid off the note on the new building project. So, if you have a pledge outstanding, please consider getting it in as soon as possible to get this capital program completed.

May God continue to bless St. James.

FROM THE PEOPLE'S WARDEN

Good stewardship means being aware of your church commitments. Make sure you keep your pledges up to date, and if you are going away for an extended time this summer, pay your pledge in advance to keep the cash flow on track.

Operating Fund	2008 Budget	YTD 5/31	May 2008
INCOME			
Pledges	\$285,000	\$119,498	\$14,788
Donations	36,000	20,061	7,987
Plate	8,500	3,229	379
Fundraising	7,500	5,219	5,119
Facilities Use/Rental	21,700	7,285	2,340
Other Sources	750	87	14
Total Income	\$359,450	\$155,379	\$30,627
EXPENSES			
Staff	\$209,108	\$86,222	\$17,031
Music Ministry	3,336	1,407	415
Education	6,000	228	0
Programs	1,300	118	75
Building and Grounds	26,525	13,235	1,449
Insurance	18,500	12,302	0
Communications	8,680	6,885	1,348
Office/Operations	27,850	11,328	2,905
Diocese Fair Share	46,700	16,142	2,701
National Fare Share	10,800	7,047	623
Total Expense	\$358,799	\$154,914	\$26,547
OUTCOME	621	\$465	\$4,080

6 *Summer Happenings*

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Take Time for TAKE 5

from ISABELLA DRAPER

TAKE 5, a dynamic singing group from Austin, Texas, will perform at St. James on Saturday, July 5 at 8:00 p.m.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Taos Youth Music School, co-sponsored by St. James.

The music of TAKE 5 will have you tapping your toes to the tunes of Duke Ellington and Cole Porter, singing along with classics from the Beatles to Broadway. Rich vocal harmonies, stylish arrangements, and dynamic stage presence are hallmarks of this versatile group of singers, who will be accompanied by their three-piece combo.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for 12 and under, and will be available at the door or through Edie Elkjer at 751-4785.

Tai Chi Class Begins July 15

Learn the benefits and joy of Tai Chi. A 12-week class with Winn Kalmon will begin Tuesday, July 15, at 10 a.m. The class will meet once a week, in the parish hall, for an hour and a half. Come dressed comfortably for movement, and bring \$12 (only a dollar per class!) to the first class session, for the St. James rental fee.

This is not a drop-in class; we will be learning a short 26-step form, from beginning to end. Each class will feature stretching, balance, and strengthening work for 30–45 minutes at the beginning. Then we will move on to the form we are learning.

■ Information: Winn, 737-5955 or winn@kalmon.com.

St. James' "Other" Calendar

In the GOOD NEWS calendar, you often read of the many happenings that are part of our parish life each month at St. James. But you may not be aware that several community groups use our buildings regularly, as part of our outreach to our neighbors.

Among the groups whose meetings are scheduled regularly at St. James:

- **AA:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays AA groups meet here.
- **Food for Kids:** We host a free summer breakfast and lunch program for children and youth up to 18, Monday through Friday.

- **Habitat for Humanity:** From July 22 to 26, a Habitat group will stay with us—we're helping this worthwhile ministry help our neighbors in need by building affordable housing for a Taos family.

■ For more information or to learn how to volunteer with one of these programs, call the church office: 758-2790

Blessing the Pets

In August, the Pets & People Blessing service will move to the second Sunday each month. Bring your pet, or just come, to this joyful ceremony of honoring our beloved creature companions.

Outdoors in July and August

from BRUCE MARIER

Despite a request for hikes geared toward the beginning or older climber, we have not had any participants in the easy hikes. I have cancelled the hike scheduled for July 15.

Meanwhile, our other activities continue, offering a wide range of events. The remaining hikes are advanced level, the degree of difficulty based on elevation and miles traveled.

For your safety, helmets are required on all bike rides. Unless otherwise indicated, all events start at St. James. As always, friends of St. James are welcome, too.

July's Schedule

- 2** Fishing Conejos River at 7 AM
- 9** Fishing Valle Vidal Costilla at 7 AM
- 11** Hike Gold Hill via Long Canyon at 7:30 AM, TSV Parking Lot
- 18** Kayak Rio Grande, Co. Line/Embudo at 8 AM
- 23** Fishing Valle Vidal-Shuree Pond at 7 AM
- 25** Mt. Bike Brazos at 8 AM, KTAO Lot

August's Schedule

- 1** Hike Gavilan via Columbine at 7:30 AM, KTAO Lot
- 6** Fishing Cimarron River at 8 AM
- 8** Hike Italianos to Gavilan at 7:30 AM, Italianos Trailhead
- 15** Mt. Bike Brazos at 8 AM, KTAO Lot
- 22** Hike Jicarita Peak via Serpent Lake at 7 AM
- 27** Fishing Rio Chama at 7 AM
- 29** Mt. Bike Garcia Park to Black Lake at 7:AM

■ Questions or more info: Bruce Marier, 751-7458.

July Milestones

Birthdays

- 5 Susanne Loyd
- 6 Donald Ashton,
Bob Aubrecht,
Dian Campbell
- 7 Cheri Fletcher,
Lana Green
- 10 Jim Burr
- 13 Ilse Mayer
- 15 Pat Penzel
- 16 James Rockenfield
- 23 Daniil Norbeck
- 24 Remy Franklin,
Tom Knapp
- 25 Stacey Hammond,
Mary Katherine DeLong
- 29 Su Small
- 30 Margaret Sepeda

Anniversaries

- 10 Debbie & Marty Jagers
- 12 Jim & Marcia Weatherstone
- 18 Don & Terry Pennington
- 20 Jack & Phyllis Nottingham

August Milestones

Birthdays

- 2 Dustin Sweet
- 3 Macky Franklin,
Annette Gill
- 5 John Miller,
Jonnie Sargent
- 6 Susan Streeper
- 8 Marilyn Thackray
- 10 Elise Waters Olonia
- 12 Mary Lane Leslie,
Bambi Sturbois
- 13 Judy Anderson
- 14 Judith Duncan
- 15 Tasheena Ashton, Joella
Knapp, Beatrice McVey
- 19 Eliot Phelps
- 21 Lorna Ann Keith
- 22 Christopher Wyndham
- 25 Matthew Pennington
- 27 Lorry Waugh
- 28 Barbara Stillwell
- 29 Dillon Beheler-Romero
- 31 Elisabeth Watt

Anniversaries

- 8 Jerry & Angela Pacheco
- 12 Heather & Herb Liebman
- 17 Tom & Joella Knapp
- 18 Judy & Chilton Anderson
- 19 Jim & Mary Burns
- 21 Ralph & Marcie Sweet
- 27 Lynn & Joan Lee,
Chris & Ann Wyndham
- 29 Klaus & Pat Penzel

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear, call the office, 758-2790, and have us add you to the celebration list. Thanks!

St. James Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(Father Rocky's days off: Friday and Saturday.)

Pastoral Care Emergency Numbers

For emergencies after office hours: the Rev. Rocky Schuster, 776-8581. In extreme emergency, call the Rev. Cristina Summers, 758-9035, or the Rev. Walter Allen, 758-1043.

ST. JAMES VESTRY

Rector's Warden: Dick Frankel
People's Warden: Mike Dobbs
Mary Ann Boughton
Jesse Heald
Heather Liebman
Colin Nicholls
Angela Pacheco
Stacy Quinn

DIOCESE/DEANERY

DELEGATES
Marcia Oliver
Barbara Stillwell
Caryle Zorumski

ALTERNATE

Tom Knapp

COMMITTEES

Agape Groups: Heather Liebman
Altar Guild: Anne Marie Petrokubi
Building: Wes Patterson
Columbarium: John Cain
Finance: Wes Patterson
Food Pantry: Marilyn Farrow, Jane Compton
Memorial Fund: Dee Fleming
Pastoral Care: Mary Burns
Sunday School: Monica Corral
Women of St. James: Joella Knapp

Treasurer: Wes Patterson

The Rev. Rocky Schuster, Rector
Penny Voss, Minister of Music
Marcia Shultis, Office Manager

Ruminations on the Rummage Sale

from JOELLA KNAPP

No one can imagine not having one or two rummage sales yearly at St. James. This event is a fourfold blessing for our community, and this most recent sale made the blessings more evident, because of its spectacular success (at last count, more than \$4,800 was earned).

The sale has traditionally provided: (1) a purpose for unneeded items, (2) a source for clothing and household items in good condition at modest prices, and (3) income for St. James outreach programs. Plus: (4) wonderful fellowship and good exercise (hard work) for those involved.

This year we added a “boutique” room, with the nicest and best of the donations we received. Prices were a bit higher in the boutique, but this did not hold back serious shoppers.

Jonnie Sargent, our “boss” on the project, kept us organized and fed us well. It was a wonderful group to work with, and work we did—but everyone had fun! Thanks to this great group—you all made it happen.

Our many repeat customers anticipate our rummage with pleasure and certainty that they will find good usable items. They appreciate us and our efforts and they know the prices will be right. It was a pleasure to see a line of 40-plus eager shoppers waiting to get in on our first day.

For the future: We will need to rent storage space if no free space is made available. This will curtail our collection, as we cannot afford to rent a space the size of that we have been using. It is the hope of the committee that an “angel” will appear with an offer of space or a contribution toward rental for a space. After having free use of a large storage space, we all regret having to spend money (that could go to outreach) for rental space, but this seems inevitable if we are to continue with the rummage sales.

If you have ideas, solutions, or questions, contact Joella Knapp, 751-3059, or Jonnie Sargent, 737-5420.

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