

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Pulpit Notes

Brothers and Sisters:

Failure is always an option. I won't say losing. Losing happens when opponents try to beat each other, to "win." It necessarily involves an adversarial relationship.

Failure does not necessarily involve losing. In fact, you can often fail even in the process of winning. That's because to fail means to try something, and it doesn't work out the way you want. It can be a small failure or a fiasco.

For us, the question isn't the size of the failure, but whether or not we can find some spiritual learning in it all.

This is on my mind because last weekend's Rail Trail Pilgrimage could fairly be described as a failure. At the very least, it did not go the way I planned. Not remotely.

This being the third Rail Trail Pilgrimage, I had reason to believe it would be successful. The previous pilgrimage had attracted good attendance, and in the past months it had gotten good publicity. An article in the Episcopal New Yorker garnered several positive e-mails. Several people said they would like to take part.

However, not nearly as many actually registered. Then, some who intended to register had to back out for one reason or another. Then, even those who registered, found circumstances such that they could not attend. Even on the morning of the pilgrimage, one had to back out for entirely legitimate reasons.

In the end, that left five of us - the same number we walked on the first pilgrimage. Not what I had hoped for, but the Spirit works in small numbers too. Only, one of them, a priest, received word that she would only be able to walk the first day after all. And then, not two miles in, it became evident that another pilgrim would not be able to finish for health reasons.

She labored on through the entire first day, but at the end, she - and her sister who walked with her - said they were going home. I called later, and she is recuperating nicely.

But that meant, at the end of the first day, there were only two of us left. We said concluding prayers with the departing pilgrims and called it a day.

However, I was still obligated to celebrate at St. Andrew's where we were to have spent the night. Furthermore, St. James' had contracted with Fr. Farrell, our supply priest, so we couldn't not pay him.

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Thus, I celebrated the eucharist with the good people of St. Andrew's even though there were no pilgrims to walk. I confess - after that, I did not continue on alone. I went home and sulked.

This brings me back to the question of what spiritual learning can come from failure. Sometimes, it's hard to know. I learned some practical things in the aftermath of this failure, including that May is a terrible time to try to get people together for two days. But spiritual?

How about this: Failure is part of the journey. Pain, anguish, fear, stumbling and outright falling on one's face are all part of being a pilgrim. The pilgrimage is long and ongoing - it is our entire life. When we walk toward the House of God, we are on pilgrimage, and we will fail unless God's Holy Spirit shows us the way.

Whether any of that learning will lead to another Rail Trail Pilgrimage or not, I can't say. I do intend to go on personal walking pilgrimages in the future, but who knows about leading a group. I guess I'll leave that up to the Spirit's guidance.

One of my favorite aspects of pilgrimage is that we walk by ourselves, but never alone. That is our life as followers of Christ. So, we walk this pilgrimage of life together, and occasionally we fall on our faces. I hope that you and I will stop when we see others down, and we will help each other up so that we can carry on together.

In Christ,

Chuck+

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

The News of the Diocese

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for these diocesan ministries this week. If you want to check out the entire year's calendar for intercession, it's simple to find - go to <http://www.diocesenyn.org> and click under "Beliefs and Practices."

7 St. Stephen's Church, Woodlawn, The Bronx

8 St. Andrew's Church, Brewster

9 On this day we give thanks for The First Book of Common Prayer, 1549.

10 The Church of St. John in the Wilderness, Stony Point

11 On the feast day for Saint Barnabas the Apostle, we give thanks for all who live quiet lives of faithfulness.

12 St. Luke's Church, Eastchester

13 The Church of the Ascension, Mount Vernon

Praying For Peace Everywhere:

Let us continue to light a candle for peace in the Holy Land - and everywhere. Prayer is our most potent antidote to hatred.

1. Candle for Peace

Please also light a candle on Fridays - holy to both faiths - for Peace

Let us Light Candles for Peace

Two mothers, one plea:

Now, more than ever, during these days of so much crying,

on the day that is sacred to both our religions, Friday, Sabbath Eve

Let us light a candle in every home - for peace:

A candle to illuminate our future, face to face,

A candle across borders, beyond fear.

From our family homes and houses of worship

Let us light each other up,

Let these candles be a lighthouse to our spirit

Until we all arrive at the sanctuary of peace.

2. The Mothers Prayer:

God of Life:

You who heals the broken hearted, binding up our wounds.

Please hear this prayer of mothers.

You did not create us to kill each other

Nor to live in fear or rage or hatred in your world. You created us so that we allow each other to sustain Your Name in this world:

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Your name is Life, your name is Peace.
For these I weep, my eye sheds water:
For our children crying in the night,
For parents holding infants, despair and darkness in their hearts.
For a gate that is closing – who will rise to open it before the day is gone?
With my tears and with my constant prayers, With the tears of all women deeply pained at these harsh times
I raise my hands to you in supplication: Please God have mercy on us.
Hear our voice that we not despair That we will witness life with each other, That we have mercy one for another, That we share sorrow one with the other, That we hope, together, one for another.
Inscribe our lives in the book of Life
For Your sake, our God of Life Let us choose Life.
For You are Peace, Your world is Peace and all that is Yours is Peace,
May this be your will
And let us say Amen.

Sheikha Ibtisam Mahameed and Rabba Tamar Elad-Appelbaum
English Translation Amichai Lau-Lavie

Rural and Migrant Ministry - Annual Walk-a-thon: On **Saturday, June 6th** beginning at 10am here at St. James' Church, Rural and Migrant Ministry will host its Annual Walk-a-thon to support its 26th season of Summer Overnight Leadership Camp. Please consider joining us as we walk the Vanderbilt loop followed by a barbecue luncheon served by the Christian Fellowship of the Culinary Institute of America. Or, if you are unable to walk, please consider sponsoring a walker or making a donation to the Rural and Migrant Ministry Overnight Summer Camp.

Rural and Migrant Ministry “works for the creation of a just, rural New York State through: nurturing leadership, standing with the disenfranchised, especially farmworkers and rural workers and changing unjust systems and structures.”

The two program areas that RMM has developed to implement its mission is ACCOMPANIMENT and YOUTH EMPOWERMENT.

The Youth Empowerment Program creates opportunities for rural youth to develop leadership skills. The Summer Overnight Leadership Camp is part of the Youth Empowerment Program.

The Summer Overnight Leadership Camp began in 1989 to provide a camping experience for rural and migrant children. The camp is funded entirely through donations, like donations received from the Walk-a-thon and from foundations. This year the camp is being held from August 23rd through August 29th at the Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center in Holmes, NY. Many of the staff are former campers.

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

This Overnight Camp focuses on skill-building and leadership development activities for campers, ages 8-17. The camp welcomes over 100 campers with diverse backgrounds - 40% Latino, 40% African-Americans and 20% European-Americans.

What a difference a camping experience can make in the life of a child!

Peace, Deacon Gail

The News of the Church

Take Some Business Cards: We have created some Business Cards for St. James' Church, and we want you to take them. These cards have our service times and contact information for the church office, but no personal names. Carry them around with you because you never know when you might have a conversation that leads you to talk about Christ and your church. If you have a card with you, you can simply give it to them and let them know it has all the information they might want to get started exploring St. James'. When we run out, we can always get more, so please take a handful this Sunday!

Important Note For Committee Chairs: Effective **July 1**, all Committee and Organization leaders will need to formally seek permission from the Vestry before scheduling any fundraiser or public event. This can be done by filling out a simple form available at the parish office. The Vestry will go over each request at its monthly meeting (third Tuesday of every month. But note, there is NO meeting in August, so you would need to make sure you have your September event request in for the July meeting). Events that are already on the calendar as of May 21 will be "grandfathered" in. This permission methods was seen as necessary to make sure Vestry members know what is going on at the church and to help avoid scheduling confusion.

Food Truck Festival Music! Come to the Food Truck Festival on **Sunday, June 7** to hear music provided by Doug Belding and members of the Bethlehem Boys Band - now called the Plan Bee's.

Nursery School News: On **Friday, June 12**, the Nursery School will end its school year with a moving up ceremony for the departing children. Keep them in your prayers.

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Wellness Fair: A Wellness Fair fundraiser for the Hyde Park Community Garden will be held on **Saturday, June 13** from 10-4 on the grounds of St. James Church

Please come out and support the vendors that will be there that day to offer various services and products promoting healthy living!

Food will be offered for sale from students at the Culinary Institute of America.

Music provided by the Plan Bee's and other guests!

Free admission.

For further information about vendor space, call Deb Belding at (845)240-3194.

Recognition Sunday: Please be sure to come to church on **Sunday, June 14** for RECOGNITION SUNDAY and Ice Cream Social. Not only do we recognize our students and acolytes, but we say thank you to our hardworking and dedicated Sunday School teachers. And we give our graduating seniors a blessing and a joyful send-off into the world!

If you have a graduating High School or College student (Associates, Bachelors, Masters or Doctoral), please let me (Fr. Chuck) know so we can properly acknowledge them.

Invitation to a Parish Celebration: Brian Rance and Melinda Harris cordially invite you to attend a second annual parish celebration of faith and friendship at their home at 9 Marshall Road (corner of Netherwood) from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. on **Saturday, June 20th**. Dinner and refreshments will be served. Parents should feel free to bring children. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to brian.rance@freshfields.com or by phone to 212-360-1854. Please indicate the number attending. Please don't feel obliged to bring any food or gifts. There should be plenty for everyone.

Summer Youth Conference: I strongly encourage any young people (rising 6th graders to rising college Freshmen) to attend the Summer Youth Conference at Incarnation Camp Center this summer. The dates are **August 16-22**. More information is on a flier below. I have financial aid for anyone interested. Again, I strongly urge this!

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Ruth Blanding, John Bohlmann, Susie Buhalis, Jim And Sharyn Burke, Joann Clark, Michael Day, Dottie Drake, Ross Eames, Jr., Linkin Ewalt, Steven Foote, Heather Francese, Jane Gagliardoto, Gloria Golden, Jack Gordy, Robert Guariglia, Harold Hall, Dalton K., Edie Kline, Barbara Knakal, Ashley Konym, Rosemary Leuken, Joanne Lynn, Doris Mack, Gordon Mackenzie, Virginia Mackenzie, Andrew Mendelson, Rev. Tim Millard, Charles Pardee (husband of Sally), Clifford Plass, Gerald Plass, Grace Plass, Linda Plass, Deborah Porach, John Robinson, Richard Secor, James Sheeky, Naomi Sleight, Debbie Stone, Tracy, Candace Vincent, Cassidy Way, Diane Webb, Cliff Wells and Shawn Wheeler.

Schedules

A Note about Schedules: The names you see below are those listed on their respective schedules. There are often times when, due to sickness or travel, substitutes are asked to fill in or trade positions. This will probably NOT be reflected in the lists below—so, if there is an inconsistency between what you see here and what you see on Sunday, that is alright.

Birthdays (this past week):	Thomas Ruder, Christina Wardell, Lynne Koch, Jackie Schroeder, Stephen Weaver and Wilma Tully
Birthdays (next week):	Mary Grosskopf, Samantha O'Mara and Carol Bender
Acolytes:	June 7: Jasmine Thatcher, Jaylen Thatcher and Charlie Urban- Mead June 14: Nancy Montero, Kirstin Horn and Deirdre Mae Micker
Altar Guild:	June 7: Team Number II June 14: Team Number II
8 a.m. Readers:	June 7: Angela Henry and Lynne Koch June 14: Debbie Belding and Grant Ferris
10 a.m. Readers:	June 7: Russell Urban-Mead/Paul O'Halloran June 14: Wilma Tully/Nancy Montero
Ushers:	June 7: Saira Shahani and Pat Keefe June 14: Nancy Montero and Anna Marie Pitcher

St. James' E-pistle

June 5, 2015

Pledge Clerks:	June 7: Deb and Doug Belding June 14: Janet Bright and Joanne Lown
Parish Cycle of Prayer:	June 7: Cathi, Aric and Andrea Tegtmeier, Jeff, Charlessa, Jasmine and Jaylen Thatcher and Kristen Thompson June 14: Jodi, Taylor and Travyn Triola, Wilma Tully and Russell, Wendy, Katherine and Charlie Urban-Mead
Coffee Hour Hosts:	June 7: Audrey Horne, The Halls and The Gaulins June 14: Jodi Triola, Ross & Connie Eames and Pat Rooney

This Week's Lectionary

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

Psalm 138

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

NOTE: Audio recordings of some sermons are now available on St. James' website, www.stjameshydepark.org Look under "Worship"

Sermon Preached on
First Sunday after Pentecost (Trinity Sunday)
(May 31, 2015)

The Sermon this week was preached by Fr. John Farrell. There is no written transcript available.

Hyde Park Wellness Fair

to support

The Hyde Park Community Garden

St. James' Episcopal Church

Saturday, June 13, 2015

10 am - 4 pm

Outdoor Event

Rain or Shine

6'x6' vendor space \$20

(vendor brings own tent, table, and chairs)

To register call 229-2820

AROMATHERAPY



FENG SHUI



YOGA

NUTRITION



GARDENING



MASSAGE



Join us for the 2014

SUMMER YOUTH CONFERENCE



Open to youth entering grades six through first year of college. For more information, email us at: NYYouthConference@yahoo.com

Summer Youth Conference is a spiritual retreat for teens in a summer camp setting. We come together for a week to worship, play, and sing. Our days consist of a theme-related morning program with discussion groups, daily services, swimming, boating, and sports.

Our evenings are full of activities like a dance, talent show, and campfire. At the end, we return home a little different than when we arrived; stronger for the love and friendship we've added to our lives. Please join us for the week, and make friendships that can last a lifetime!



at **INCARNATION CENTER**
Ivoryton, CT

Incarnation Center provides over 700 acres of wooded trails and a mile-long private lake for over 15,000 visitors per year. Founded by Church of the Incarnation, Manhattan, and assisted by churches in the Diocese of New York and Connecticut, Incarnation hosts over 200 church groups and thousands of campers every year.

To find out more, visit:

www.incarnationcenter.org

