

St. James' E-pistle

September 19, 2014

Pulpit Notes

Brothers and Sisters:

What a weekend we had last week on the Rail Trail Pilgrimage! We started out meeting at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church where we dropped off sleeping bags and food for our evening meal. Many thanks to St. Andrews for their gracious hospitality! Thanks also to Leslie Quick for her delicious dinner which she made for us!

We then got ourselves caught up in a detour just as we were about to reach our starting point in Hopewell Junction. Instead, the police moved us several miles out of the way in snail-speed traffic. Thus, we started about an hour later than we intended. Nevertheless, we got there, had our commissioning of pilgrims liturgy, and started walking.

Then the rain moved in. I'm beginning to think that a Rail Trail Pilgrimage cannot exist without rain (remember, our Lenten Pilgrimage had freezing rain both days!). Still, pilgrims were prepared and sanguine. All walked in the relative peace and quiet of the nearly empty Dutchess Rail Trail with nary a complaint.

On that first day, Skip Doyle (a participant in the first pilgrimage in March) gave spiritual reflections through his program called "Spiritual Directions." At each stop, he led a meditation on the directions of the compass.

That evening when we arrived at St. Andrew's, we spread out our wet clothes, put on warm dry togs and went about preparing our evening meal. We couldn't figure out the main lights in the hall where we ate and slept, but we were able to get a spotlight to work. So we set up tables under that and ate in beautiful, sedate lighting, much like a candlelight dinner family style. After that, we slept!

The next morning, sunshine greeted us! We said morning prayer and were on the road by 9:15 with a new spring in our steps, even if our muscles were complaining a bit.

That day, we stopped every couple of miles to participate in the ancient pilgrim tradition of reading scripture and praying. When we stopped at the eastern end of the Walkway Over the Hudson, we were surprised to find a large crowd rallying and marching to end gun violence. Without really meaning to, we found ourselves walking with them and even meeting friends among the marchers.

At the western end, marchers and pilgrims parted ways, as the marchers headed back across the bridge, and we continued west. There were many small, wonderful moments - like finding

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pine needles on the ground that had fallen in such a way that they formed a fish - just like the kind you see on cars - which is the symbol of Christ.

Then it was over. We reached Tony Williams Park and celebrated the Eucharist. One pleasant moment was when three teenage boys wandered into the pavilion where we were preparing to worship. They were waiting for a friend but eventually began talking with us. Before they left, one of them said, "I wish my church would do stuff like this."

My sense is that the pilgrims felt blessed by this pilgrimage. Some certainly told me as much. Now the question arises: will we do it again? Based on their responses, I would think so. But if I do, I'm packing my rain gear!

In Christ,

Chuck+

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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.diocesen.org> and click under "Beliefs and Practices."

September

- 21 On the feast day for Saint Matthew we pray for increased courage in sharing our faith with others.
- 22 Sacristans and altar servers in the diocese
- 23 The Social Concerns Commission
- 24 Merricat's Castle School, Manhattan
- 25 St. Andrew's Church, Hartsdale
- 26 The Chaplaincy at New York University
- 27 Westchester Medical Center Chaplaincy, Valhalla

STILL PRAYING:

Most of the Nigerian girls kidnapped by the terrorist group Boko Haram are still in bondage. Please consider this prayer in your daily devotions.

Prayer for the kidnapped Nigerian girls May 2014

O God, we cry out to you
for the lives and the freedom
of the 276 kidnapped girls in Nigeria.
In their time of danger and fear,
pour out your strong Spirit for them.
Make a way home for them in safety.
Make a way back for them
to the education that will lift them up.
Hold them in the knowledge
that they are not captive slaves,
they are not purchased brides,
but they are your beloved daughters,
and precious in your sight.
Change the hearts and minds of their kidnappers
and of all who choose violence against women and girls.
Cast down the mighty from their seat,
and lift up the humble and meek,

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through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALSO STILL PRAYING FOR ISRAEL AND GAZA:

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:

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,

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May this be your will
And let us say Amen.

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

The News of the Church

Sunday School Program Begins: Sunday School begins this Sunday at the beginning of the 10 a.m. service and will run until 1 p.m. A flyer is attached at the end of this E-pistle.

Quarterly 8:00 Chapel Service Sunday: The Quarterly 8:00 AM Chapel Service will be this Sunday, September 21. We'll return to the church the following Sunday.

September Music Information: Spirit of Unity joins us on September 28th.

Wanted: New Acolytes: As the school year draws to an end, we will say goodbye to our graduating acolytes (and wish them luck in college!). This opens up a couple of spots on the acolyte list, and we want you! New acolytes need to be at least 9 years old and willing to be trained. Please see me (Fr. Chuck).

Habitat for Humanity Update: Our Church is committed to the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build at 125 Garden Street. Construction has started and needs volunteers. Construction occurs on Fridays and Saturdays 8:30 – 3:30. Please visit the website <http://www.habitatdutchess.com/> to sign up and volunteer. Select the Volunteer Opportunities box and follow the prompts. Also, follow Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County on Facebook for pictures and schedules. In addition, churches are needed to sign up to provide lunches for the construction teams of 10 to 15 people. Lunch can be sandwiches, pizza or casseroles, fruit and or salads, dessert and some drinks. Please contact Judy Walters (845-297-1530) if you can get a group together to provide lunch on either a Friday or a Saturday.

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The Build Captain, Alberto Sanchez, has stated that work on the site will take place each Friday and Saturday.

I stopped by last Sunday on my way to church. The foundation is in and is now waiting for helping hands to continue building this house. Won't you please consider offering your hands?

Any questions, please contact Deb Belding or Deacon Gail.

Quarterly 8:00 Chapel Service Postponed: Ordinarily, this Sunday, September 14, would be the Quarterly 8:00 Eucharist at the Chapel. However, because Fr. Chuck is away on the Rail Trail Pilgrimage, we will postpone the service until the following Sunday, September 21.

Outreach Meeting: Our next Outreach meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24 in the Parish Hall at 7:00.

We need cooks to make the Hillcrest House meal on October 11, November 8 and December 13. We strongly suggest teams of 3 to make these meals, which needs to figure on feeding 60 people in total. Meals consist of a hot entrée, salad, condiment, bread and desserts (usually cookies).

Outreach does help offset the cost of buying the food with a monthly stipend of \$50.

Please email Deb at Deborah.belding@yahoo.com or call me at (845) 240-3194 for more information or to volunteer!

Also, we still need plastic bags for the Hyde Park Food Pantry when we are there with our vegetables The bin is in the Narthex. Our last donation for the season to the Food Pantry with the vegetables will be Friday, October 24.

Book Now On Sale: Fr. Chuck's book, "God, Life, and Everything" is now available for purchase! It will be in the parish hall after church at a cost of \$12.95 (plus \$1.05 tax). Checks should be made out to "The Hudson Valley News." Come on over to coffee hour and meet the author! He will be happy to autograph it if you wish.

Youth Group Overnight: On Saturday, September 27, the St. James' Youth Group will gather in the Parish Hall for the first of what we hope will be monthly overnights. The idea is to have enough time together to goof around but also do some worship and more serious conversation as well as plan some trips and service projects together. We get together at 5:00

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and will eat dinner together. For this first meeting, pizza's on me. Bring your friends! The more the merrier (though I would like to get a rough count so I know how much pizza to get).

Tea Room Coming: The world famous St. James' Tea Room is coming in just a few weeks! The Tea Room is on Saturday, October 18 and will draw hungry folks from all over the area. As we do every year, we are looking for help with baking and serving. There is a set menu of proven goodies, so you don't have to wonder what to bake - just contact Deirdre Mae Micker or look for the Tea Room clip board and sign up. Servers are of all ages, so go ahead, sign up! If you can't bake or serve, you can always come and eat! Whichever way you choose, we look forward to seeing you there.

Hudson Valley Home Matters: Hudson Valley Home Matters is seeking both volunteers and members. It is an organization devoted to providing simple services to adults over 50 through volunteers. There is an annual fee for membership. If you are interested in volunteering or seeking the services of Hudson Valley Home Matters, you can get more information from their website at <http://www.hvhomematters.org> or by calling at 845-452-4846. If you know Herb and Barbara Sweet, they are volunteers. You can contact them as well.

The People's Climate March - Sunday, September 21, 2014 - 11:30 am

Interfaith Service - Cathedral of St. John the Divine - 6pm

Did you know that the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has called upon Heads of State to join him at the United Nations on September 23, to discuss and to commit to bold actions that will address the climate crisis. Secretary Ki-moon considers this forum different from others United Nation climate forums because this forum will involve Heads of State rather than delegates and negotiators as they work to reduce global warming pollution.

With the United Nations Forum as a backdrop, our brothers and sisters around the world, some of whom are hard hit by climate change, are gathering in their communities to push our elected officials towards the political will to make hard decisions.

The largest climate march in history will take place on Sunday, September 21 beginning at 11:30 am in New York City, joining our brothers and sisters around the world. This is a collaborative effort by many including leaders from our Diocese. If you are interested in joining this massive effort or to learn more about this special event, please visit the People's Climate March website: <http://peoplesclimate.org/march>.

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Later that same day (Sunday, September 21), there will be an Interfaith Service at our Cathedral of St. John the Divine beginning at 6:00 pm.

For many of us who are not able to be in New York City for this important event, we can engage in another form of action - prayer. As our Anglican brother, Archbishop Winston of Tuvalu in the Pacific says, "We need to pray. We need to say very, very clearly to the church that we need to pray because this is something way beyond us. We need to pray that we will be empowered to speak clearly to our elected agents in government who make decisions about climate change."
--Deacon Gail

Gluten Free Communion: Remember, if you have gluten allergies/intolerance, we have gluten free communion hosts. Please let Fr. Chuck know if you would like that option.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Ruth Blanding, John Bohlmann, Susie Buhalis, Jim and Sharyn Burke, Ashley Coyne, Kathleen Craft, Michael Day, Jane Gagliardoto, Kasey Gaulin, John Golden, Jack Gordy, Robert Guariglia, Andy Hall, Harold Hall, Liz Handman, Brooke Helton, Rev. Don Hoyer, Dalton K., Barbara Knakal, Rosemary Leuken, Doris Mack, Andrew Mendelson, Rev. Tim Millard, Clifford Plass, Gerald Plass, Grace Plass, Deborah Porach, John Robinson, Pat Rooney, John Schroeder, Richard Secor, James Sheeky, Naomi Sleight, Debbie Stone, Gloria Veach, Candace Vincent, Cassidy Way, Bobbie Wells, Cliff Wells and Shawn Wheeler.

In addition:

*Pray in thanksgiving for the upcoming marriage of
Joe Cotton to Lee Fehlig*

Pray in thanksgiving for the upcoming baptism of Milena Lanette Jewel

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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 (week ending September 21):	Pat Keefe, Fred Champion and Edith Kline
Birthdays (next week):	Kathy Graff, Stephen Gaulin, Marcia Valdatta, Laurel Ardini, Bill Holland, Stephen Burkhardt and Franklin Santos
Acolytes:	September 21: Jasmine Thatcher, Charlie Urban-Mead and Jaylen Thatcher September 28: TBA
Altar Guild:	September 21: Team III September 28: Team I
8 a.m. Readers:	September 21: Angela Henry and Sue DeLorenzo September 28: Debbie Belding and Jim Smyth
10 a.m. Readers:	September 21: Russell Urban-Mead/Nancy Montero September 28: Regina Ardini/Sophie Ciferri
Ushers:	September 21: Nancy Montero and Anna Marie Pitcher September 28: Kathie Champion and Mary Gabel
Pledge Clerks:	September 21: Tanya Hall and Anna Marie Pitcher September 28: Paul Littlefield and Dean Caswell
Coffee Hour Hosts:	September 21: Deirdre Mae Micker, Leslie Quick and Susan Gausepohl September 28: The Halls and the Gaulins

This Week's Lectionary

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

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

Sermon Preached on
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
(September 14, 2014)

Guest Preacher

St. James' Sunday school invites you
to. . . .

 COME JOIN THE CIRCLE

. . .for a wonderful journey with DAVID, The Shepherd King. It will be a great way to kick off the Sunday School theme this year of Hero's of the Bible.

This extended Sunday School program will be:

Sunday September 21, 2014

10:00– 1:00

We will start in the Church at 10:00 then dismiss over to the parish hall where we will hear stories of DAVID, The Shepherd King. Discover artistic and creative ways to explore the story of DAVID. Learn about and eat food related to the story. Play fun activities and games, and come together in faith and fellowship.

Please fill out this year's Sunday School registration form and submit it to any of the Sunday School teachers, email it to vgaulin1@yahoo.com, or leave it in the parish office mail box for Valerie Gaulin.

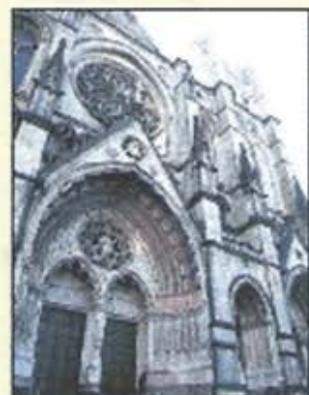
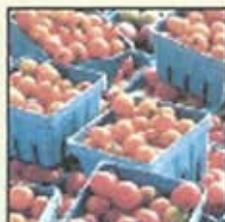
Lunch will be provided so you only need to show up in comfortable clothes to enjoy the fun!

We hope you will Come Join the Circle!

Thank-you,
St. James' Sunday school Teachers



FINDING COURAGE. FINDING HOPE.



Exploring the meaning of environmental stewardship in your church & community

Saturday, October 11, 2014 • 9am - 3:30pm

Trinity Church • 7 South Highland Avenue • Ossining, NY 10562

Parking at church • Short distance from train



Keynote speaker: Paul Gallay, President, Riverkeeper

Riverkeeper is the premier environmental watchdog organization that patrols the Hudson River to protect it from polluters and is based in Ossining, NY.

Panel Discussion on Food, Water & Energy : Taking action on your beliefs

Moderated by Rev. Jeff Gollhofer with Sr. Catherine Grace, George Potanovic, Jr. and Steve Knight.

Advance registration: \$10 by October 6th • \$15 on day of event

All Episcopalians from the Diocese of New York are welcome!

Lunch is included with vegetarian options available.



Register online at: <http://episcopaldioceseny.org/events/430>

or contact Rev. Jeff Gollhofer, Committee Chair for more information

phone: 845-532-4904 • e-mail: jmgollhofer1@earthlink.net

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