

# the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • MAY 2010

## Pastor's Message

***"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation"*** (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5: 17-18).

By the time you will be reading this, I (along with about 18 others) will either be shortly on my way, or already arrived at, the city of New Orleans. Not on vacation, but on our church's annual 'Mission Trip'. While there, we will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild or build homes for victims of past hurricanes. Most of you know about that good work that we do and many have gone or wish to go someday. And the trip participants always appreciate your support of financial gifts, attendance at the spaghetti dinners, and simply praying for those who go on the trip.

But the above bible quote really sums up what the entire ministry of all God's people is about: that is, fixing what is broken. Helping to fix broken homes, yes,...but also helping to fix broken relationships, broken dreams, broken lives. That is what the God who resurrected Christ is all about! Because grown ups who are mature in their faith know that life has its storms, its divorces, its job losses, its cancers and its deaths. But the God who raised Jesus from is always busy restoring, rebuilding and reconciling lives that have become torn apart.

Only thing is; God does not work solo, but uses us to help him. Just as the mission trip needs many hands to help do the good work we do, so does God employ our hands to help do his good work in the world. So the point is, that even if you are not on the mission trip in New Orleans, you can still be on a mission trip and help God do the work of reconciliation, rebuilding and restoration wherever you are! You don't need to do it with hammers and nails, but with the things that Jesus (the carpenter's son) most often used. Show compassion to someone who is hurt, give some peace to one who is filled with anxiety, share love with one who has a bad diagnosis from the doctor, and forgive someone who has hurt you. And a Christian's mission trip should not be only to people we know and love, but like with Jesus, to people unknown to you and even people who might be offensive.

God has given to all of us the ministry of reconciliation. So while some of us are away in another city and state getting our hands dirty doing some restoration for God there,...you can just as much go on a mission trip right here at home! Roll up your sleeves and put yourself out to help reconcile and restore the lives of others with the tools of Jesus.

See you on the job site

## Sunday Schedule

### Worship

8 and 10:45 a.m.

### Coffee Fellowship

9 a.m.

### Youth Choir Rehearsal

10:10 a.m.

### Children's Church

10:45 a.m.

### Holy Communion Weekly

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## OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday**  
9 a.m. – noon  
**Friday**  
CLOSED

## TELEPHONE

610-326-2810  
www.stjamespottstown.org

## STAFF

### **Ministers**

Each and Every Member of St. James

### **Pastor**

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson  
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### **Missionaries**

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson  
Kathmandu, Nepal

### **Newsletter Editor**

Dawn Detweiler  
contact: newsletterstj@wi.rr.com

## OFFICE NOTES

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### **Newsletter Deadline for June 2010 Edition: May 15, 2010**

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to [newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org) or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

### **Master Calendar / Room Scheduling**

All room reservations, including committee meetings and private gatherings, should be made with Suzanne by calling the office. Please indicate to her any need for room rearrangement, (extra chairs, tables) so proper preparations can be made.

### **Altar Flowers, Eternal Light, Bulletin Sponsorships**

The cost of each sponsorship is \$15 for eternal light, \$30 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table. Cash or check payment can be placed in offering or turned in to the office. Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone interested.

### **Update on New Director of Music**



A search team is forming to start the process of finding a new Music Director to replace Sharon. The group will meet in the near future to begin plans for finding a suitable replacement. In the interim, we have agreed to employ the services of Phyllis Rinehart as our Sunday organist. Phyllis is a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Pottstown and has played for us as a supply organist in worship and for weddings and funerals in the past. She has played in the past at several Lutheran churches, including Transfiguration for three years and at Emmanuel for a six-month period during their recent search for a new organist. Please welcome Phyllis when she arrives on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and keep praying for our efforts to secure a long-term replacement for Sharon. Thank you.

## Sending of the Work Mission Team May 2, 2010

On Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be sending our Work Mission Team during worship as they will be leaving the following day and traveling to New Orleans to continue to help with the rebuilding of that area. Members of the team include: Pat and Ted Baer, Bob and Tracie Rheel, Larry Wert, Barb and John Ungerman, Dave Garner, Joseph (Chris) Howard, Mike Lunn, David Hartzman, Diane Mitchell, Pastor and Debbie Hutchinson, Cyndi Krasley, Colleen and Cary Hendricks, Lisa Brown and Andrew Asbury.



## Ascension of our Lord and Good-Bye to Sharon MacCabe May 16, 2010

The Ascension of our Lord will be **celebrated at St. James on Sunday, May 16**. We will also be saying farewell to Sharon MacCabe our director of music and organist, who has accepted a full-time position as Music Director at The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in Emmaus, PA.

All are also invited to the **Ascension of our Lord worship on May 13** at either **St. John Lutheran Church** (75 East Main Street) at 7 p.m. or to **Grace Lutheran Church** (660 Charlotte Street) at 7 pm followed by Root Beer Float Social.

## Summer Worship Schedule

Our summer worship schedule begins June 6 with one worship service at 9 a.m.

## The Day of Pentecost May 23, 2010



The Day of Pentecost will be celebrated on Sunday, May 23, 2010 as **we rejoice in the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Church**. The Holy Spirit is the resurrected Jesus in our midst, claiming us in baptism, feeding us at the Eucharist, and sending us into the world as bearers of the Gospel.

**Wear red** to mark the occasion and to liven up the celebration.



## Festival of the Holy Trinity May 30, 2010

The **festival of the Holy Trinity celebrates the mystery of God, both transcendent and immanent**. Though the nature of God is beyond our rational explanation, we ascribe glory to the one who is holy. Christians have held a festival in honor of the Holy Trinity since the ninth century and in the fourteenth century the festival was added to the calendar and has been celebrated throughout the world since that time. To mark this day **we will be using the Athanasian Creed**. This creed communicates two essential points of Biblical teaching: that God's Son and the Holy Spirit are of one being with the Father; and that Jesus Christ is true God and true man in one person. **Traditionally it is considered the "Trinitarian Creed"** and in many congregations it is read aloud in corporate worship on Trinity Sunday, the Sunday after Pentecost.



**Next Rejoicing Spirits Worship is May 12<sup>th</sup>  
at 7 p.m.  
All are welcome!**

Please remember that even though Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities it is also open to everyone in the community. If you have not had a chance to come and worship with us, give it a try and see for yourself the love and joy that is shared among all who attend.

### **Sunday Morning Adult Education**

The following is a schedule of the adult education opportunities for May:

- "From Beginning to End: Studies in Revelation," a study led by Suzanne Rigg in the Blue Room on May 2, 9 and 16.
- "Understanding the Feast Days of Pentecost and the Holy Trinity," a study led by Suzanne Rigg in the Blue Room on May 23 and 30.
- Bible study on the lessons heard each week in worship in the Adult Study Class all of the month of May

**Both of these classes meet at 9:30 a.m.  
Please feel free to attend either one at  
anytime.**

### **Third Sunday Offering MAY Recipient Pottstown Volunteer Home Care**

Volunteer Home Care (VHC) is an interfaith outreach ministry offering assistance to individuals and families of all faiths through support of spiritually enriched volunteers. VHC has trained and caring volunteers who may be able to help someone through a difficult time in his or life at no cost by providing non-medical and non-professional services. Several members of St. James are volunteers for VHC.

Short-term, temporary assistance may be available with transportation, errands, light household chores, meal provision, outdoor chores, and minor repairs. Volunteers may also offer friendly visiting to a shut-in or telephone reassurance to someone living at home.

VHC may assist other professional and supportive services to provide care. VHC will join the network of family, friends, neighbors, and churches to help someone through a difficult time.

Pottstown Area VHC serves the communities of Pottstown Borough, Upper Pottsgrove, Lower Pottsgrove including Sanatoga, West Pottsgrove including Stowe, North Coventry, South Coventry, East Coventry, Spring City, Limerick and Royersford. VHC is an interfaith outreach ministry administered by The Lutheran Home at Topton, Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries. Please consider a gift to VHC through this month's Third Sunday Offering.

### **2010 Third Sunday Offering Schedule**

JUNE - Salvation Army  
JULY - School supplies for children (Cluster Outreach Center)  
AUGUST - Homeless Ministries of Pottstown  
SEPTEMBER - Lutheran World Relief  
OCTOBER - Cluster Outreach Center  
NOVEMBER - Lutheran Theological Seminary (Seminary Sunday)  
DECEMBER - ELCA World Hunger

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## Bible Study with Pastor

Jesus tells us just to forgive each other, as God forgives us. "Sure, that's maybe easy for him to do" we end up saying. But the truth is that it's hard for us to forgive, even though God forgives us. And yet, it's in our own interest (as well as Christ's) for us to practice forgiveness. The thing is, maybe we need to better understand what forgiveness does (and doesn't) mean and to learn better how to do it. So come to Pastor's **bible study on Forgiveness**.

We will be meeting on Tuesday nights at the church at 7 PM and on Thursday mornings at Sanatoga Ridge Retirement Community at 10:00 AM. The first meeting for TUESDAYS will actually begin the first week on MONDAY, May 17<sup>th</sup> and then run every Tuesday until June 21. The first meetings ON THURSDAY will begin on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and run until Thursday, June 24.

## Salvation Army Community Lunch

Each second Wednesday of the month a group of volunteers from St. James prepares and serves the community lunch at the Salvation Army. **This month it will be held May, 12.** Help is needed at different times between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.



Our next Miller-Keystone Blood Drive is **Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2 – 7:30 p.m. Due to the rummage sale, Miller-Keystone will be bringing a bus.** Please remember to keep May 3<sup>rd</sup> available and contact Ellen Ibach at 610-323-4477 to make an appointment to give.

## Spring Rummage Sale May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

Please have your CLEAN, ready-to-use items packed to bring to the church Sunday, May 2. Place them in Horn Hall, in the marked area, and plan to shop!!

- Shopping for St. James members  
Monday from 4-6 p.m.
- Public sale  
Tuesday from 9-noon and  
12:30-1:30 p.m. (bag sale)

**Helpers are needed to set-up tables in Horn Hall on Sunday May 2. Help is also needed on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. to finish unpacking the rummage and set up the sale.**

**Sale helpers are needed on Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Individuals are also needed to pack up any unsold items Tuesday 1- 2:30 pm.**

**Bake items are needed for May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4.**

## Women of the ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study

The next WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study will be held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on **Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 10 a.m. with coffee at 9:30.** The leader will be Sheila Specht presenting *Wise is What is Good* (Romans 16:19).

**All women** are invited to participate in these Bible Studies based on the theme *To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans*. Study materials are found in Lutheran Women Today magazine. Subscriptions are available for \$12 per year. This is the 25th year of meeting and sharing together. Bring your friends. We welcome inter-denominational viewpoints. If you would like to attend, please contact Grace Schafer for carpooling.

## **Blood Pressure Checks** *Second Sunday of the month*

Stay well! Blood Pressure checks will be on **May 9<sup>th</sup>** after each service.

## **SCRIP News**

We've had Visa Gift Cards for our program since late last year, but we will not have them after our current supply expires. The new federal credit card act makes it very difficult, due to the business model Visa uses for anyone to issue Visa cards for a Scrip program. However, since American Express has a different business model, we will still be able to get, and will have, American Express Gift Cards (\$25 or \$100 denominations) without an expiration date or service fee. These may be used anywhere American Express credit cards are accepted as payment.

## **BACA Concert – May 16<sup>th</sup>**

The Boyertown Area Choral Association, under the direction of Margareta R. Lamb, will hold their annual Spring Concert at St. James on Sunday, **May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.**

**This will be Peg Lamb's last concert as director of B.A.C.A.** If you would like to be a sponsor of the concert or would like to bake for the reception following the concert, please contact Janis Lunn, 610-367-8762 or send your donation to Janis Lunn, 264 Buchert Rd., Gilbertsville, PA 19525. Please invite everyone to our concert.

**Save the Date**  
**June 13, 2010**



On **Sunday, June 13, 2010** we will celebrate the **three-year anniversary of our Capital Campaign.** Look for details soon.

## **News from the Pottstown Cluster**

### **Current needs for the food pantry:**

Sizes 4-6 diapers, baby wipes

### **and for the clothing closet: and housewares;**

Glad trash bags – 30 gallon size with red ties, spring and summer clothes - sizes include 2T for both boys and girls and 12 month boys, sheets (queen, king size), silverware, pots and pans.

Donations for the Cluster can be brought to St. James and placed in the basket by the lower level mailboxes located at the bottom of the stairs closest to the parking lot. Donations can also be taken directly to the Cluster.

### **Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities**

137 Walnut Street Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 970-5995

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday,  
9 AM-12 Noon

## **Relay for Life News**



**Thank you to WELCA** for buying the chocolate to make the peanut butter cups. That generous contribution allows us to pass on almost \$200.00 to the American Cancer Society.

**And thank you to all who bought peanut butter cups and nutrolls.**

**On May 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday night, our Relay team will be hosting at Friendly's Restaurant** on Shoemaker Rd. Our team will receive 10% of the proceeds from the dinner meal. Please come out and support the Relay and take a night off from the kitchen!

The **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Pottstown Relay For Life** main event is at Pottsgrove High School on **Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

## Free Monthly Forum on the Needs and Care of the Aging

**Grace Lutheran Church in Royersford** continues to host a monthly meeting/forum for people to gather, receive access to information and to ask questions of professionals to help them with the challenges of providing care for themselves or others. Presenters will include social workers, visiting nurses, doctors, lawyers, and hospice workers.

All sessions are free and will be held at **Grace Lutheran Church (6<sup>th</sup> and Main Sts. Royersford) on the third Monday of the month, from 7- 8:30 p.m. Registration is appreciated and can be done by calling the church office at 610-948-3684.**

**May 17** – Elder Law – POA vs. Guardianships, Living Wills, Estate Planning. Presenter – Esquire Robert Slutsky

### Thank You Notes

I would just like to say thank you to Pastor, Suzanne, and Dave Hartzman for blessing my unborn child and the prayers of the congregation during my pregnancy. Also, many thanks to everyone at St. James who prayed for me and Jacob after he was born. Your prayers helped me get through the hard times after he was born. I have told Jacob that he has two families, his immediate family, and his St. James Family. Peace,  
Jennifer & Jacob DuVal

Thank you to our **Lenten Hospitality Team** –and the many others who helped week to week with our Lenten Soup Suppers.

Thank you to the many who provided the soup, bread and salads for our Lenten Soup Suppers. Your contributions were very much appreciated.



Thank you to **WELCA** for providing the soup and other foods at our March 24<sup>th</sup> Lenten Soup Supper.

Thank you to **Ted Bear** who worked the soundboard for our midweek Lenten worship.

Thank you to all who helped with the **reading of the Passion** on Palm/Passion Sunday – John Ungerman, David Hartzman, Annette Renn, Laurie O'Connell, Dottie Smith, Cyndi Krasley, Debbie Fisher, Eugene Johnson, Ron Schafer, David Gardner and Pastor Hutchinson.

Thank you to the many individuals who helped to make our Potluck Easter Breakfast a success. Thank you to the members of the **Adult Sunday School classes** and others for their labor in setting up, serving and cleaning up. Thanks also to all who provided the good food that was shared. We all ate well that morning!

Thank you to the generous individuals who supplied **the candy and prizes for our Easter Egg Hunt**. Your donations were well received by the children on Easter Day.

Thank you to the **Altar Guild** and all their work in the months of March and April transforming our worship space from Lent and the Passion to the Resurrection of the Lord and the Easter season.

Thank you to **Glenn Yerger** for adding the extra tables and chairs in Horn Hall for our Easter Breakfast and for taking down chairs in the Main Sunday School Room twice for our egg hunt.

Thank you to **Shira Schaeffer** for hiding and scattering the eggs for our egg hunt.

Thank you to **Scott and Kim Strichik** for attending our nursery on Easter Sunday and giving up their worship time to do so.

## MEMBER NEWS

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### May Birthdays

**1** – Julia Jackson; **3** – Ashley Hoffman, Barbara Shollenberger, **4** – Tracy Lapreziosa; **5** – Chelsea Hartzman; **7** – Carol Keller; **9** - Mike Mace, Kim Strichik, Leah Willow; **10** – Aimee Civera; **13** – Audrey Stine; **16** – Helen Moyer; **17** – Mabel Meloy; **18** – Nancy Garner; **21** – Tom Drauschak, Grace Schafer; **23** – Ellen Jameson; **24** – Del Mauger; **25** – Mae Erb, Justin Kirsten, Judy Swanson, Teri Widmann; **26** – Sharon Chaback; **27** - Jack Drauschak; **28** – Laura Bierman, Samuel Svanda, Colin Horger

### Know someone who is graduating?

Would you like to share information on a graduate you know from the congregation? If so, please provide their name and information to Suzanne Rigg so we may wish them our congratulations in next month's The Spirit of St. James.



### Baptisms

We welcome to the Lord's family:

**Marilyn Kay Ciacco** baptized March 28, 2010.

**Rylin Yvonne Tilling**, daughter of Jill Seascholtz and Evan Tilling, baptized April 11, 2010.

**Sarah Kate Bartecko**, daughter of Regina and Travis Bartecko, baptized April 18, 2010.



### Mark Your Calendar for Church Picnic

The annual **St. James Picnic** will be on Saturday, **July 31<sup>st</sup>** from noon – 4 p.m. at Warwick Park, Pavilion #2.



### Deepest Sympathies

*to the family and friends of **Pauline Hoehne***

*to the family and friends of **Henry Werstler**.*

## Memorial Contributions

*Alice Schindler*, from Mary Kochel and Alice P. Schindler

*Howard Snyder*, from Mr/Mrs. David Renn and Ray Yocom.

*Dot Nagy*, from Mary Kochel.

*Mary Arnt*, from Patricia Donatelli, John Martignetti, Mack and Mary McCarthy, James and Martha Welsh, Eleanor Metzler.

*Mabel Meloy*, from Charles & Liz Saylor, Larry and Barbara Meloy & Family, Barbara Thornton, Gladys Evans, David & Annette Renn, Sharon Lohr, Arlene K. Butts, Kathy Geist, Marcie & Conrad Heimbach, Cedarville United Methodist Church, LeRoy Hampton, Jeanne Sproat, Gary and Roberta Bell, Paul Casner, Lois Welsh, Kirkhoff Family, Ziegler Family, Lengyel Family, Fay Saylor, Fink Family, Schafer Family.

## Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, contact one of the following elected Council members.

Pat Baer - President 610-326-8598  
Email: [pattedbaer@verizon.net](mailto:pattedbaer@verizon.net)

Cyndi Krasley- Vice-President 484-945-0165  
Email: [nannahsdmb@gmail.com](mailto:nannahsdmb@gmail.com)

Barbara Ungerman - Secretary 610-718-9368  
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