

**ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
405 EAST MAIN STREET
BATAVIA, NEW YORK**

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2020



Dear Friends,

Beginnings can be daunting, can't they? Starting a new project, a new job or a new health improvement plan can seem *so overwhelming*. Finding the seed or the impulse that leads toward the goal, no matter how far off, is essential. What is the seed that starts us toward our goals? Jesus said, "Don't worry, just have faith." Then in his actions he shows us: "Throw in conviction, lots of hard work and follow your heart. Rely on God and you'll get there." There we have it: our good work starts in faith and succeeds in our willingness to keep going, step by step.

Florence Nightingale, a person of hard work in times of great adversity said "I never lose an opportunity of urging a practical beginning, however small, for it is wonderful how often in such matters the mustard-seed germinates and roots itself."*

Small Practical Beginnings – This January I have set some personal goals for myself, and I'm sure you have too. I know that I'll succeed some, and I'll fail some. (God may be having a good giggle at my plans!) What will keep us going through the ups and downs is faith. Through faith and relying on God through it all, our small beginnings will lead to germination and roots.

May this New Year bring you new practical beginnings in your walk with God!

In Christ,
Mother Bonnie+

*"The Life of Florence Nightingale" Vol. II, by Edward Tyas Cook, (p. 406), 1914.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

We pray God's blessing be with you
on your special day and every day.

Happy Birthday!

Carol Queal 1/1, Jamie Belluiscio 1/4, Beth Collee 1/6,
Nichole Essig 1/9, Susan Best 1/14, James Strang 1/17,
Marilyn Thurau 1/21, Diane Skelton 1/23, Phillip Colantonio 1/23,
Jacob Rosenbeck 1/25, Bill Hawkins 1/27, John McManis 1/28



When offering your prayers at home
please include the following people who
are loved ones of our parish family:

**Douglas, Tim, Venus, Nicholas, Pat, Joanne,
Charlene, Brian, Kristen, Margaret, Ken, Aiden,
Kathy, Tammie, Peter, Chuck, Lisa, Sharon, Gabriella,
Diana, Wendy, Rocco, Peter, Virginia, Garth and Carter**

For those serving in our military:

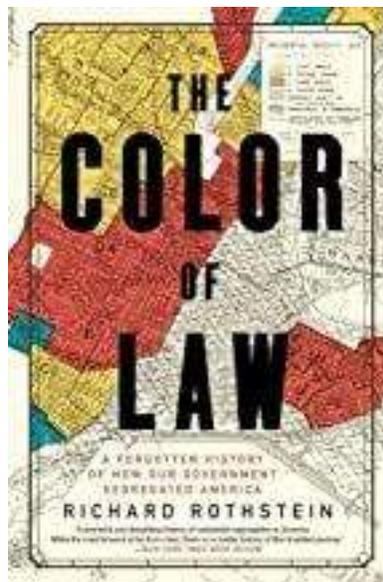
Eric, David, Paul, Brandon, Michael, Alex and Chad.

The "Color of Law" Lecture

*"To dismantle racism,
we must understand
its history."*

Date: Wednesday
January 15, 2020
reception: 6:00
talk: 7:00
(Admission is Free)

Location: Elim
Christian Fellowship,
70 Chalmers, Buffalo,
NY 14214



Description: A forgotten history of how our government segregated America. A lecture by author Richard Rothstein.
The book is available for \$10 before or at the talk. See Deacon Diana

DIAKONIA MUSINGS

A new year brings unexpected changes, challenges, joys, and peace. My prayer is that we are all able to courageously journey forwards as the Magi did, seeking Jesus, finding Him, and dropping to our knees to worship Emmanuel, God with us. Together, let us embrace new insights and epiphanies and allow the Holy Spirit to transform our lives inside and out, so that we can accomplish all that we are called to do and be.

This past season was a busy one and there are many people who worked behind the scenes to make things happen. My job as a deacon is easier because of all of you who willingly and joyfully donate your time and talents to our outreach projects and programs.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the migrant workers and participated in the Epiphany celebration. Your generosity is appreciated by the men and Father Ivan and doesn't go unnoticed.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and worked for the respite program as we offer a few hours of freedom to the caregivers and a few hours of fun and laughter for our memory loss friends. The joint christmas party we had with the volunteers from the Presbyterian church was so much fun and enjoyed by all. Mother Bonnie was a gracious Mrs. Claus, Doug a professional Santa recommended by Peter Mark, was fantastic, and Dawn Mark hit it out of the park with the bell arrangement to "Silver Bells" that everyone played like pros. We sang carols, ate too much, made ornaments, decorated trees, played bingo, and played a fun passing game orchestrated by Terry McGuire. The time flew by.

Thank you to the card committee who made sure a little bit of joy was sent to all who needed to be remembered this holiday season. And thank you to the prayer chain for their continued dedication to the community through intercessory prayers.

Thank you to JoAnn and her angel tree collections and to all who brought in gloves, scarves, and socks for the Middle School and others in need.

Thank you to Diane Cox for putting in 30 hours of preparation before spending three days at Albion Prison, ministering to inmates. She was a blessing to the women inside as well as the other volunteers and it was delightful for me to share a ministry I love to do with someone from St. James.

As the new year unfolds, consider all the ministry and spiritual development opportunities that may interest you and maybe try something different. You never know what will make your heart sing.

Deacon Diana

WARDEN'S REPORT

Two thousand twenty- who would have thought. As we enter the new year we have a few things close on the horizon.

First is the Annual Meeting, Sunday January 26th, right after service. This is an opportunity to ask questions about the year just past, and more importantly about the year ahead of us. This is going to be a critical year for St. James. We are entering the last of the five years we have authorized to use a double draw on our endowment funds to maintain a full time Rector. Decisions made this year may affect St. James for years to come. We also will be electing Wardens, one, currently held by Judy Essig for one year to complete an unfinished term, and the second currently held by me for a two-year term. Also, up for election are three Vestry member positions currently held by Lilo Townsend, Jack Kershner and Dorian Ely. As you can see your participation is very important to the future of St. James, so please plan to attend.

Next is the future of the Rectory. The talks with the not for profit and a lease are taking a bit longer than was anticipated. However, that does not mean there are any snags. Progress is being made. This past Sunday the remaining board members of the organization went through the building. Their board wanted all its members to have an opportunity to see it first-hand. That has been completed and I expect a final approval to come this month.

Lastly, is the Bricks and Mortar campaign. This year we were determined to launch earlier in the year than the last two. Everyone who donated to Bricks and Mortar should have received a thank you letter from Mother Bonnie and the Finance Team outlining what this money is projected to be spent on this year. It is hoped that each of you will look inward and decide how to help this endeavor. This is an opportunity to give to maintain our property above and beyond regular Stewardship pledging.

Let us all work together to get 2020 off to a good start here at St. James.

Jim Neider, Warden

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS, DECEMBER 17, 2019:

The Fundraising Committee

- \$2,874 was earned at the pie sale/basket raffle.
- Future fundraisers include a pierogi dinner on February 21st and a vendor sale on May 2nd.

The Property Committee

- is working on updating the 12 year Capital Improvement and Major Maintenance Plan which will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

ECW

- The Guild Room carpet, kitchen floor and stove will be cleaned in January.
- ECW is supporting the January 18th men's retreat by providing breakfast and mid-morning coffee break.
- December 21 will be cookie baking day.
- A book study is being planned, perhaps on Saturdays during Lent.

Treasurer's Report:

- The final draw of \$10,000 was made from the Endowment Fund. Also the Trustee Fees (\$2,026) and Support Fees (\$7,050) were withdrawn from the Rupprecht Fund and \$2,000 was withdrawn from the Sohn's Fund.
- **Co-treasurer Keith Price once again reminded the vestry that 2020 is the last year for the double draw. A sustainable draw from the Endowment Fund is 5%. The vestry committed to five years of a 10% draw or \$90,000. Starting in 2021, the draw will be \$45,000. The congregation will have to make up \$45,000 in the budget.**
- There is enough money to start the new year with all bills paid.

New Business:

- *The Gutter Cleaning Contract* from A to Z was approved; the cost for cleaning the gutters at the Rectory will be factored separately.
- *The Rector's Housing Allowance* was approved.

Continuing Business:

- *Stewardship Drive*: 53 pledges have been received for a total of \$122,630. People who have not pledged will still try to be contacted.
- *2020 Budget*: The proposed budget was gone over line by line.
 - There are no funds in the operating budget for capital improvements as they will have a separate budget.
 - The budget presented had a deficit of \$3,431. The vestry looked at every expense to see where cuts could be made.
 - The cleaning service contract will be terminated, saving \$8,200, but that would be offset by the Sexton's salary of \$19,890, half of which would be for interior cleaning.
 - Worship and Program expenses: Christian Education was reduced by \$500; Supply Priest was reduced by two weeks. When Mother Bonnie is on vacation, Deacon Diana would be paid if she supplied, but the licensed worship leaders (Diane Cox, Barb King, and Terry McGuire) would lead Morning Prayer only on other Sundays. If anyone would like to be licensed as a worship leader, Mother Bonnie should be contacted.
 - Congregational Development was cut \$200;
 - Rector's Continuing Education was eliminated, saving \$1000;
 - Pastoral Care was reduced by \$250;
 - Stewardship expenses were reduced by \$125;
 - Under Administrative Expenses, Advertising was reduced by \$100; and Staff Continuing Education was reduced by \$125.
 - For the year 2021, the only thing left that can be reduced is the cost of a full time Rector.
 - Other Fund Raising. Mother Bonnie said the whole vestry needs to be invested in fundraising. ***Our income for 2020 and 2021 MUST go up.***

- *Capital Expense:*
 - There is \$30,672 left in the Bricks and Mortar account. \$43,046 is the average of the 2018 and 2019 pledges. Therefore, \$71,900 has been put in the budget for 2020.
 - Dave Lange shared a proposal showing the priorities of the work to be undertaken in 2020. He stressed that no work would be started unless the project were fully funded.
- *ECW proposal for new chairs:* The first issue raised was whether new chairs were necessary. The second concern was that if we were going to spend money on new chairs, were these the chairs that we wanted? There will be a special ECW/Vestry meeting on January 14th at 7 pm to discuss chairs and the whole budget picture.
- *Rectory Update:* The Board of the potential lessee is expected to vote on the proposal in January.
- *Church Safety Issues:* A very informative presentation was given by the Genesee County Sherriff's office. Judy Essig reported that the committee will meet again after the first of the year.
- *Vestry Nominations for 2020:* Lilo Townsend has served two terms and is ineligible for reelection. Jack Kershner and Dorian Ely have completed one three year term and are eligible for reelection. Judy Essig must be voted on for a one year term to finish out the term vacated by Russ Dvoroznak. Jim Neider is eligible for reelection. Barb King stated that two people had expressed interest in serving on the vestry. A third name was also put forward. If you are interested in serving as vestryperson or warden, please contact Mother Bonnie, Jim Neider, Judy Essig, or Barb King.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Judkins, Clerk

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 promises to be a busy year, with an ambitious Capital Improvement and Major Maintenance program in store at St. James.

Before I continue, please be reminded that receipts credited to Bricks and Mortar are the sole revenue source for these projects. The decision was made, effective January 1, 2019, that no parishioner pledge money would support St. James' non-operating budget in 2019 and going forward.

Work to be progressed in 2020, listed in descending priority order, is as follows:

- Masonry repair, church
- Re-point vertical joints, south stained glass window, repair surface spalls and deterioration
- Repair main roof (missing, cupped shingles) west side, above organ console
- Complete corrective work, exterior painting of Parish Hall
- Complete corrective work, exterior painting office complex
- Renovate southeast entrance, including gutters, downspouts and exterior masonry repair
- Caulk/paint clerestory windows (27 each)
- Fill cracks, seal and stripe east parking lot
- Repair/re-point southeast buttress

The above work and assigned priorities were approved by the Vestry at their December meeting. WORK WILL BE PROGRESSED **ONLY** IF THERE IS A SUFFICIENT BRICKS AND MORTAR FUND BALANCE TO COVER THE COST.

That said, it is advantageous for Bricks and Mortar donations to be received early in the year, if possible, since Vestry approval of recommended work was contingent upon having necessary funding 'in-hand,' and contractors' schedules tend to fill up rapidly as the construction season progresses.

All Bricks and Mortar donations will be gratefully received and will be used efficiently.

Please contact me, or any member of the Property Committee, with questions about St. James' 12-Year Capital Improvement and Major Maintenance Plan or any of the listed projects.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Lange
Property Committee Chair



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRANDPARENTS

Sue and Corey Best welcomed a new grandson into the family on December 18, 2019, Colt Danby Zajac. Colt joins his parents, Sara and Mitchell Zajac and sisters Mackenzie and Remeé Zajac. Sarah is the daughter of Sue and Corkey. Our congratulations to all.

HEARTFELT THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of the many, many people who made our Advent and Christmas season a time of beauty and grace.

*Altar Guild and Directress Kathy Belluscio
Our Choir and Director Dillon Hirsch
Bell Choir and Director Dawn Mark
Organist- Dave Lange
All who helped with Nave, Parish Hall and outdoor decorations
Cookie Bakers and Deliverers
Living Nativity Participants, Helpers and Builders*

Thank You! It was a beautiful season! Mother Bonnie+

PLEASE LET US KNOW!



Are you sick, having surgery, facing a life challenge? Please let Mother Bonnie or the office know. Mother Bonnie is available for confidential conversation and prayer and would love to come visit you if you can't get to church! St. James cares about you!

SOUP SUNDAYS ARE BACK!



Check the sign up sheet posted in the Parish Hall. There is still an opportunity to bring in a pot of soup. No one has signed up to help with the clean up. Nothing difficult there. Just wash up some soup bowls and spoons. Remember to bring in a can of soup for the Food Pantry.

PIEROGI DINNER PLANNING MEETING



The fundraising Committee is planning a Pierogi Dinner on Friday, February 21, 2020. We feel this would be a unique opportunity for anyone desirous of learning the "ins and outs" involved in putting such an event together. The "fish fry crew" has their hands full when in full swing, so this one-night-only event would be a great way to get your feet wet! This is not meant to exclude anyone's help, and, as always, your fundraising committee will be asking for and greatly appreciating donations of certain items in the future! If interested in helping with this event or to ask more about it, contact Missi Smith at 343-3416.

There will be a planning meeting/Fundraising Team meeting Tuesday, January 14th, 7:30 p.m. in the Guild Room. Put the date on your calendar and join us in planning this fun evening.

UTILITY COSTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER



Here are our utilities costs paid for December usage. Please help conserve our resources by turning out lights when you don't need them. If you are the last one out of the building, please make sure the windows are shut, the lights are out and the door is locked behind you. If you have any questions at all on how to do this, please contact a warden or administrator.

Fuel - -\$1,126.80

Electric - \$223.67

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It irritates me to be told how things have always been done.

I defy the tyranny of precedent.

I cannot afford the luxury of a closed mind.

Clara Barton



BAKING FOR FISH FRY SEASON

The baking crew will begin baking for the upcoming Fish Fry Season. They will be baking on the following days; **1/9, 1/16, 1/20, 1/23, 2/4,** and **2/11**. Everyone is welcome to help. The baking will begin around 9 am. Donations of Jiff or Peter Pan peanut butter, canned blueberry pie filling, cherry pie filling, raspberry pie filling, frozen blueberries, flour, sugar, graham crackers and confectionery sugar. Any donations for fish fry season will be greatly appreciated. Thanks Sue Best

BASKET RAFFLE 2020



This past November's Basket Raffle was even more successful than the first one. The Fund Raising Committee would like to continue with another basket raffle next November. It is never too early to begin collecting items for the baskets. The more that are donated, the bigger the profits. This is an ideal time of the year to bring in things that might be perfect for a pretty basket. Since the event will be in November, Christmas baskets are most popular. Many Christmas items are drastically marked down in stores now. Pick something up and bring it in for a Christmas basket. This is also the time when we may be looking over some lovely gifts we received that are just not quite what we needed. Bring them in and we'll add them to a basket. Make a habit of picking up some bargains this year to donate and our basket raffle will be more profitable than ever. Thanks for the help.



St. James Men's Retreat

Invitation

The St. James ECW is hosting a Men's Retreat on Saturday, Jan. 18th from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

The retreat will be led by
The Rev. Steve Lane,
Rector of St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Buffalo.

The ECW will be providing breakfast and mid-morning snacks.

There is no cost to you, but please let Mother Bonnie know if you would like to attend, no later than this Sunday, Jan. 12th.

Friends are invited!
You don't have to be a member of St. James to attend.

GENESEE CHORALE BEGINNING IT'S SPRING SEASON

The Genesee Chorale will resume rehearsals on Monday, January 13th in the parish hall. The rehearsals will be at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested in joining the chorale is most welcome to meet in the parish hall of St. James on the 13th, at 7:00 pm.

DON'T FORGET!

PURCHASE SCRIP
RETURN CANS AND BOTTLES TO BATAVIA RECYCLE
East Main Plaza
BRING IN THE ALUMINUM PULL TABS FROM CANS
PUT PAPER IN THE RECYCLE BIN IN THE BACK PARKING LOT
PUT LOOSE CHANGE OR QUIET MONEY IN THE PAINT CANS
Pennies make dollars

Lay Ministries Schedule for January and February 2nd

	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26	February 2
EM1	Jo-Ann Bestine	Carol Queal	Bonnie Dvoroznak	Terry McGuire	Bonnie Dvoroznak
EM2	Keith Price	Diane Cox	Russ Dvoroznak	Judy Essig	Barb Gray
Chantry EM	Terry McGuire	Barb King	Barb Gray	Jo-Ann Bestine	Russ Dvoroznak
Lesson 1	Lilo Townsend	Bette Rung	Lexie Belluscio	Bill Sofia	Jim Neider
Lesson 2	Amy Celentano	Wayne Judkins	Amy Celentano	Bill Hawkins	Joan Ellison
Prayers of the people	Larry Belluscio	Liz Findlay	Bette Rung	Steve Hawley	Wayne Judkins
Acolytes	Carol Queal Diane Cox	Judy Essig Jo-Ann Bestine	Diane Cox Jaykob Belluscio	Scott Essig Jenna Essig	Diane Cox Carol Queal
Ushers	Glenn Hammond	Nancy Harrington Bill Coughlin	Dean Perry Larry Belluscio	Paula Alker Jane McKeegan	Dean Perry Bill Coughlin
Greeters	Paula Alker Jane McKeegan	Dean Perry Russ Dvoroznak	Dave King Glenn Hammond	Kathy & Larry Belluscio	Bonnie Smith Glenn Hammond
Element Bearers	Diane & Kevin Skelton	Kathy & Larry Belluscio	Jenn Wood & Rich Geitner	Donna Kauffman & Bette Rung	Jane McKeegan Nancy Harrington
Coffee Hour	Need a volunteer	Soup Sunday & Dorian Ely	Need a volunteer	Need a Volunteer	Soup Sunday Jo-Ann Bestine
Altar Guild	Jo-Ann Bestine Joanne Fleming Donna Kauffman	Kathy Belluscio Anne Iannello Debbie Barone	Jolene Folger Karen Odell Harold Odell	Bette Rung Carol Queal Bill Coughlin	Jo-Ann Bestine Joanne Fleming Donna Kauffman
Closer	Larry Belluscio	Dave Lange	Jim Neider	Larry Belluscio	Dave Lange

Can also be found on www.stjamesbatavia.org
and Facebook at St. James Episcopal Church Batavia

If you are unable to serve at a scheduled time,
please find a sub and notify the parish office

I received very few responses to the request for availability. If you are scheduled and cannot serve please find a sub and call the parish office 343-6802 ext-1

The St. James Calendar

Sun, Jan 12	9:00 am – 9:45 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Holy Eucharist & Baptisms
	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Sunday School
	11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Soup, Cake & Coffee Hour
	11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Our Faith Discussion Group
Mon, Jan 13	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Respite Care Program
	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Finance Team Meeting
	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Genesee Chorale Rehearsal
Tue, Jan 14	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Baby Café, Parish Hall
	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Vestry Reports Due
	3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Holy Eucharist @ Genesee Permiere
	3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	EFM Meeting at Judkin's Home in Corfu
	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Outreach Meeting
	7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Fundraising Team Meeting
	9:00 am – 10:00 am	Rupprecht Fund Advisor Meeting
Wed, Jan 15	11:00 am – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Bible Discussion Group
	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thu, Jan 16	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift Shop Open
	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Fish Fry Baking Day
Sat, Jan 18	8:30 pm – 12:00 pm	Men's Retreat
Sun, Jan 19	9:00 am – 9:45 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Sunday School Class
	11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Our Faith Discussion Group
Mon, Jan 20	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Fish Fry Baking Day
	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Genesee Chorale Rehearsal
Tue, Jan 21	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Baby Café
	3:30 pm – 5:30 pm	EFM Meeting, Judkin's Home
	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Vestry Meeting
Wed, Jan 22	11:00 am – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist, Chapel
	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Bible Discussion Group
	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
Thu, Jan 23	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift Shop Open
	9:00 pm – 12:00 pm	Fish Fry Baking Day
Sun, Jan 26	9:00 am – 9:45 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am – 11:00 am	Sunday School Class
	11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Annual Parish Meeting



St. James Episcopal Church
405 East Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020

Sunday Worship Service:
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Weekday Services

Wednesday, 11 a.m. – Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

The Second Tuesday of the Month, 3:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist at the Genesee
County Nursing Home, 278 Bank Street, in the Mall Walk

The Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 10:45 a.m. – Holy Eucharist at
The Manor House, 427 East Main Street, in the Grand Parlor

Everyone is Welcome!

The Rev. Bonnie F. Morris, Rector
rector.stjames@outlook.com

The Rev. Deacon Diana Leiker, dllart@aol.com

Choir Director: Dillon Hirsch, Organist: David Lange
Administrator: Barbara King

Warden:

Warden: Jim Neider, (585) 409-8891, jmaneider@outlook.com
Judy Essig, (585) 820-2615, jessig@gvboces.org

Vestry:

Diane Cox, Bonnie Dvoroznak, Dorian Ely,
Jack Kershner, Barbara King, Dean Perry,
Harold Odell, Barbara Pierce, Lilo Townsend

Clerk of the Vestry: Cathy Judkins

Treasurers: Peter Mark and Keith Price

Office Phone: 585-343-6802

Website: www.stjamesbatavia.org

Email: saint.james2@outlook.com

Like us on Facebook at St. James Episcopal Church Batavia