



The MESSENGER

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DECEMBER 2018

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING
December 11th at 6:30 PM (after
Eucharist)

DOK MEETING** note DATE CHANGE**
December 12th at noon. Bring lunch. We
will continue our study so bring your
books.



INVITE A FRIEND

There will be several great opportunities for St. James parishioners to welcome and invite neighbors, friends and relatives to special services in December. We will offer a three-part Tuesday Advent series with Holy Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 4, 11 and 18. Greening of the church will start at 4 p.m. Dec. 4. (For more details, see Words from Fr. Whitney). On Dec. 30, the fifth Sunday, we will have Lessons and Carols beginning at 10 a.m. See you at St. James!

HANGING OF THE GREENS (NOTE DATE CHANGE)



We will be decorating the church on the first TUESDAY of Advent, December 4th, at 4:00 PM, before the service. Soup will be provided. (We won't turn on the lights until Christmas Eve!)

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

On December 19th we will distribute food baskets to 10 families through Westminster Center. The donation list at is church and all food needs to be brought in by Sunday, December 16th.

VOICE RECITAL

Rosie Hua's voice students will be performing during a recital at St. James on Sunday, December 16th at 3 PM. All are invited to attend. Rosie is the sister of our church musician, Sam Hua.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

All interested in singing in a Christmas eve choir can come to practice on December 16th after church.

BAZZAR UPDATE

Our bazaar was a success thanks to many hard workers. Thanks to all of you! We made around \$1000 for the Ladies Guild. Our raffle basket, a \$300 value, was won by Irene Hudelson.



THANK YOU, ST. JAMES FAMILY

During coffee hour last week, I said I had adopted two girls for Christmas if anyone wanted to help. Within minutes, I had \$100 gathered in front of me. You are all very generous people.

Thank you, Pat Carter

PLEDGES DUE

If you have not returned your pledge card, please send it in as soon as possible. The finance committee will be working on the 2019 budget this month.

MARILYN CRAIG PIKE



On Nov. 25, Fr. Whitney Smith was blessed to meet and take communion to a ninety-six-year-old retired English teacher who attended St. James, New Castle, many

years ago. Mrs. Marilyn Pike, formerly Marilyn Craig, has been living in Richmond, Indiana, where she is a member of St. Paul's. Marilyn owns and prays from an 1892 edition of the Book of Common Prayer that had belonged to her father, Leonard H. Craig, who was buried from St. James in 1983. Fr. Whitney loved hearing her refer to the current St. James property, built in 1961, as "the new church."



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

7:30 PM

Reception to follow

Invite friends and family





WORDS FROM FATHER WHITNEY

As penitential seasons go, Advent isn't nearly as famous as Lent. Still, the weeks leading to Christmas Eve are a fitting time to pray, study scripture, give alms and offer penance. In keeping with the season, we'll launch a three-part series of Tuesday evening worship services from December 4th to 18th at St. James. Each Holy Eucharist service will start at 5:30 p.m., and each will have a slightly different Advent theme. At 4 p.m. on the 4th, we'll begin greening the church and have a soup supper. During worship, my reflection will be called "St. Nicholas Past and Present." I'll invite you to consider with me what little is known about the fourth-century Saint Nicholas, and what some of the legends are that persist about one of the most venerated saints of all time. Against that, we'll contrast popular holiday traditions built around Father Christmas or Santa Claus. Greening will continue after Holy Eucharist, and the Saint James Brass will perform. On December 11, during the second week of the series, the meditation will be on Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk who was based at a monastery in Gethsemani, Kentucky, and became known worldwide for his meditative theological and autobiographical writings. Since going on a recent retreat at the Abbey of Gethsemani, I've been taking inspiration from "The Intimate Merton: His Life from His Journals." On December 18, St. James musician Sam Hua will join us for vocal and instrumental music at the final Holy Eucharist of the series. As we begin a new church year, please join us for some moments of quiet reflection and seasonal music in the midst of the busyness of the holidays. A blessed Advent to you all.

--Fr. Whitney