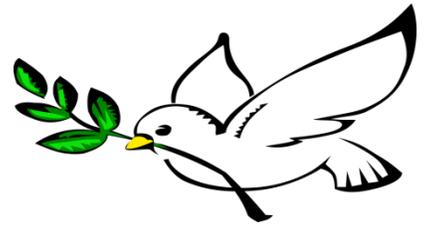


The MESSENGER

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH



JANUARY 2017

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 29th.
Our annual meeting will be held after church on January 29th. It will be followed by a pitch in lunch. Please plan to attend so that we may have a quorum for the election and budget approval. All reports should be in the office by January 25.

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30 pm at church. Pat Carter and Ron Godsey are leaving the BC this year. Those willing to run for a 3 year term can contact Father Whitney or any B.C. member

GUEST PREACHER ON JANUARY 15TH

Father Whitney has asked his friend, Rev. Jean M. Smith to be our guest preacher on Sunday, January 15th. She will be talking about Exodus in honor of Martin Luther King day on the 16th.

MLK LUNCHEON MONDAY, JAN. 16TH

Deacon Barry has invited several church leaders in the community to meet at St. James from 11:30-1 for lunch on Martin Luther King day to discuss social concerns. We will be providing lunch.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO OUTREACH

St. James donated \$1000.00 each to Habitat for Humanity and to The Guest House from our inheritance from Erma Rich. Both organizations were very grateful.

VOLUNTEERING WITH HABITAT

The current project is under roof and the interior work is progressing. If you want to help, they meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am to noon at the house at 2302 I Ave.

THE GUEST HOUSE

If you have any donations for the guest house, you can bring them to church and they will be delivered.

LITURGICAL CALENDARS AVAILABLE

There are calendars for sale on the table in the narthex. They are \$5 each.

NEW SIGN IS UP

Have you noticed our new directional sign at the corner of SR 3 and Bundy Ave? Thanks to Sonny Carter for hanging it.

ADOPTED A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS



Thanks to the generosity of the St. James family, Vivian Simpson's tenant and her 2 girls had a VERY nice Christmas. Thanks to Imogene and Cindy for helping wrap presents with Vivian and Terri.

OUR SYMPATHIES

Our prayers are with Wes and Carolyn Shupert as they mourn the loss of her brother, Jerry Bedel, Sharon and Ron Godsey as they mourn the loss of her mother, Opal Vaught and also, with Imogene Carpenter with the loss of Larry Tucker. A memorial service is being planned for Larry.



EPIPHANY SERVICE

Father Whitney will be at St. James on Friday, January 6 to celebrate the Eucharist for Epiphany. This will begin at 4:30 PM.

TREE BURNING FOR EPIPHANY

Following our service, First Christian Church is holding their second annual tree burning at 5:30pm. Take your old trees to their church and throw on the pile. Refreshments are served during the bonfire. The community is invited.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone that helped to make this Christmas Eve service very special. The church was beautiful as was the special music of Father Whitney Smith, Isaiah Bullard, and Olivia Bullard in their first appearance as a brass trio. There are so many of us working behind the scenes to make sure everything is the way it needs to be. Thank you for your labors of love!





For some churchgoers, Christmas may be a hard act to follow. Our Christmas Eve service at St. James, New Castle, was a very uplifting and spiritual celebration of the Christ child's birth. It was my first Christmas Eve as a Priest, and I can't begin to tell you what a joyous experience it was to worship with you. Blessed by unseasonably warm weather, we were happy to welcome the largest congregation I've seen at St. James so far, not to mention a very enthusiastic group of worshipers. Thanks to everyone who attended, and to everyone who brought or invited family or friends. We were blessed by special music from organist Cindy Bullard, the parish's first-ever brass trio, and a heartwarming amount of giving to those less fortunate than us.

It's my hope and prayer that January at St. James won't be anti-climactic. One of my goals is that there will be enough going on that anyone planning a get-away might feel they'd miss something special.

St. James will have Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10 a.m. on **New Year's Day, January 1, 2017**. January 1 is the Feast of the Holy Name. Considering the name of Jesus Christ in the spirit of new beginnings is a great way to start a new year. After the service, St. James will offer the fourth in our five-part **Marks of Mission** forums, led by Deacon Barry Cramer. Developed by the Anglican Consultative Council in the 1980s, the Five Marks of Mission are to: 1) Proclaim the good news of the kingdom; 2) Teach, baptize and nurture new believers; 3) Respond to human need by loving service; 4) Seek to transform unjust structures of society and 5) Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew life of Earth.

With the Feast of the Epiphany falling on a Friday in 2017, we will offer an informal **Epiphany Service** at 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, January 6**. Let's keep it simple, and gather at the tables in our fellowship area. We can sing an Epiphany hymn or two. I'll give a brief meditation about the significance of Epiphany. We will also have Eucharist.

On Sunday, January 15, St. James will welcome a guest preacher and presider, the **Rev. Jean M. Smith**. A retired Episcopal priest in the Diocese of Indianapolis, Jean has been Rector of St. Alban's, Indianapolis, co-led services at St. Phillip's, Indianapolis, and served in other parishes. She had careers in journalism and banking before leading the Clergy Renewal Program at Lilly Endowment. Rev. Jean plans to preach on Exodus in connection with the legacy of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

January at St. James will wrap up with Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. **January 29**, followed by the parish's **Annual Meeting**. Please join us for both.

Blessings to each and every one of you for a Happy, Healthy and Christ-filled 2017.

Father Whitney +

FROM DEACON BARRY

St. James will host an observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday on Monday, January 16, 2017,--the observed national and state holiday--from 11:30 until about 1:00.

The working title for this event is "Human Relations in a New Era----Advancing the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr."

We will not only "remember" Dr. King, but will be asking ourselves how to "re-engage" his movement for social equality in our community in the present environment. It will provide opportunity for a group conversation and panel discussion.

Sandra Jones of Bethany Tabernacle and Deacon Barry have had a preliminary discussion to bring the planning to this point and will meet again on Tuesday, Jan. 3 to work our further details. Sandra was was our guest speaker at the Deacon's Forum two years ago.

ENERGY FIELD TRIP

The solar-panel installation on the Winchester First Friends Church and The Shalom Center food pantry and will be the subject of a "field trip" on Tuesday, January 24, 2017, from 1:00 to 2:30 in Winchester. It is open to the Vestry and other interested persons. The Shalom Center is a high-energy-efficiency building built largely with volunteer help. First Friends Meeting's solar panel installation was accomplished with grant assistance. The purpose of the trip is to familiarize ourselves with others' experiences in attempting to be more sustainable in their ministries while furthering their missions. Our hosts will be Pam and Ron Ferguson, co-pastors of Friends Friends Church who are also heavily involved in the Shalom Center. Snow date is January 31. Our interest stems from the visit of Mike Oles from Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light at one of our earlier Deacon's Forums. More details will be coming. Contact Barry Cramer if you are interested.
