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Despite what some Christians assert, there are rarely easy or obvious applications of our faith to the major issues of the world.

The St. James' Epistle

September 2011

Whole World; Whole Faith

“Seamless Web” is the name of a New York City based food delivery business. It is not the focus of this piece but the phrase, “seamless web,” came to me this summer as I read the news. News has been hard to ignore this summer. It’s still August as I write, but so far we’ve had drought in much of the country after a spring of deadly tornadoes; the horror of homegrown terrorism in Norway; pictures of starving Somalis; the worst week for United States casualties since the start of the war in Afghanistan; a paralyzing “let’s see who will blink first” fight over the debt ceiling in Congress; a stock market that appears to be making a pattern of 500 point daily swings; riots in England; and the revelation of the Japanese government’s decision to withhold information about radiation levels. And in much of the country and certainly here in New York City there is the awareness at least at the periphery of our consciousness that the 10th anniversary of September 11 is almost upon us. The campaigns for the Presidential election more than a year away have begun as well.

My immediate and visceral response to most of this summer’s news has been to try and block it out. I know I am not alone in this and know, too, that the church and religious faith are sometimes used to try and keep the world at bay. Withdrawing to a place apart makes all kinds of sense, as Jesus makes clear throughout his ministry when he repeatedly withdraws from the crowds to pray. We keep St. James’ doors open (though not as often as I wish we could) so people, whether parishioners or passersby, can walk in out of the noise and crowds of Madison Avenue into a place

both beautiful and quiet. But that is and is meant to be a temporary respite. Using the church and our faith as a way to disconnect from the world, even a world rent by pain and confusion, is not our calling. It is a temptation.

Fortunately, after the decidedly 21st century phrase “seamless web” came to mind, a quote came to me from a very different era. They were words spoken by an Archbishop of Canterbury who was born in the 19th century and died in 1944, years when webs belonged only to arachnids. William Temple said that “the church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.” The reality is that every item in that litany of the summer’s news matters to us as people of faith. Not just the items that affect us directly, but all of them. Neither the world nor our lives are meant to be divided into areas labeled religious, political, personal, economic, sacred, professional, environmental or secular. Even the most cursory reading of the Bible (and we plan to provide a great deal more than that in launching The Bible Project) makes it clear that God is in the midst of it all. Even more, God intends to be in the center of it all, and in the center of our discerning response to what we hear and read, see and live. It really is a seamless web. Making distinctions between one arena and another may be useful shorthand for us, but we dishonor God when we pretend that we can restrict faith to one part of our life.

It is also true that seeking to put God and God’s son, Jesus, at the center of our decisions and our responses to the life of the world will make our life more difficult, more demanding, though also, thankfully, more rich. Despite what some Christians assert, there are rarely easy or obvious applications of our faith to the major issues of the world. That doesn’t mean we should stop trying to discern God’s will, but does suggest we undertake such discernment with humility.

This is where I find Archbishop Temple’s words so helpful. He cautions us

continued on p. 2

Requiem for 9/11

Sunday, September 11

On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, as we watched what was then unimaginable violence and tragedy unfold in our city and nation, St. James' did what it was called to do: we welcomed all who came to our doors and kept this house of prayer open around the clock with clergy and volunteers present for prayer, counsel and comfort. On September 11, 2011, the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks, we will again gather for worship and prayer. Because this tenth anniversary falls on a Sunday, our prayers and preaching will be focused by the anniversary. The Fauré *Requiem* will provide the setting for the Eucharist, lending its beauty and solemnity to this commemorative service. Please join us and know that now, as then, all are welcome here.

Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, September 18

Our annual parish picnic will take place on 71st Street immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist. Everyone is invited to join in the fun, food, and fellowship! There will be lots of activities for the children of the parish, including an extraordinary balloon artist, spin art, games, and more. The local fire station will also pay a visit with one of their fire trucks.

To make Homecoming special, all we need is good weather and many volunteers. If you can help for an hour or for the day, contact Susanne Blackstock at 212-535-5631 or sblackstock@verizon.net.

A Moment in Mindanti

A report from Malawi by Anne Strassner

Mindanti, as past Partners in Mission trip participants know, is a small village in Malawi that straggles across a sun-smitten plain. We made a quick visit there on the last day of this summer's trip, to inspect two partly-built St. James' projects. Stumbling out of the van into the shade of one of the few trees, we met the children of the village, come to inspect us. They were young and did not understand English. We couldn't really communicate, although when I asked the boy with the bundle of rags under his arm — something I recognized as a soccer ball only because of an article I had read in *The New York Times* — if he liked football, he nodded enthusiastically.

I took pictures of the children on my phone and showed the photos to them. In search of other ways to entertain, I showed them a photo of my son holding a pet rabbit, and my daughter with our dachshund, Franklin. Then a solo portrait of Franklin. Something about this exchange worked as an enchantment and caused us to fall in love with each other. It was like *A Midsummer Night's Dream* — but in broad daylight and without a forest.

The children came with us across the dry streambed to visit the village's windmill water pump. Mindanti, though, is a village that can't seem to catch a break: the water that the windmill brings is too salty for drinking or cooking, and too salty for making bricks.

My sadness was lifted, though, when the children suddenly started singing as they walked. No adult had instructed them to do it. They were simply amusing themselves, and their singing was lovely.

Mindanti might have been the low point of the trip: dust-dry, isolated, inaccessible, naturally unendowed. But the stop there transformed the trip for me, and I think about those children, and the mystery of our connection, almost every day.

Anne Strassner participated in this past summer's Partners in Mission trip to Malawi. For more information and photos about the mission, visit <http://bit.ly/MalawiBlog> (cap sensitive).



Seamless Web (continued from page 1)

against self-interest, as a church and as individuals. When we get into what we identify as the political and economic spheres, we are prone to want policies or politicians that will give us what we want. We will likely never all agree on any of these issues, nor would I wish to serve a church where we did, but we will be a much more faithful and Christ-centered community when we accept that every issue is an issue of faith and that we are called to care for the whole world. Would we view these matters differently if we put the well-being of others at the forefront of our consideration of various decisions or particular legislation? We can say that starvation in Somalia has nothing to do with us, but not if we believe the people of Somalia, like all people, are made in God's image. We might notice droughts in this country only because of the rising cost of groceries that follow in their wake, but if climate change has something to do with drought here (and famine in Africa) then we must think not just about famine relief but also about personal, political and economic decisions. Even and maybe especially when we consider the life of the faith, we must be on guard against self-interest. September 11 horrified us because of the misappropriation of religion; Norway's tragedy and the unrepentant perpetrator of that violence remind us that such misappropriation is not the province of any one group or of any single faith.

We start a new year in our life as a parish in an unsettled world. But we enter this new year together with each other and with God; praying and working that God's will might be done on earth, as it is in heaven. For us and for all. That is a holy calling. It is our calling.

—The Rev. Brenda G. Husson, Rector

Fall Programming for Children

This year's new and revised programs

Children's & Family Ministries at St. James' strives to include and involve all of the children and families who come through our doors. Our comprehensive programming is described in the Children's & Family Ministries brochure which was mailed this summer. If you have not gotten one, please pick one up the next time you are at the church or view it online at StJames.org/families. Below is a brief description of some new (or not so new, but with a new twist) opportunities for children and families.

September Start

On Sunday, September 11, please come to the Primary room at 10:30 a.m. to help get ready for Homecoming Sunday on the 18th. We'll make banners and decorations to welcome everyone back for another great year at St. James'. The nursery and toddler rooms will be open for children under 4 and the rest of us will get the work done and join the 10:30 a.m. service at the Peace, shortly before communion.

Church School begins September 25

After the 9:10 a.m. service, Children's & Family Ministries will offer Church School orientation, and students will head to their classrooms.

Drama on Thursdays

At 4:00-4:45 p.m., a class for children who have aged out of We Love to Sing! and who want to express their creative energies through drama. Drama on Thursdays meets simultaneously with We Love to Sing (ages 0-4 or 5) and the St. Cecilia Choir (grades 1 and 2) and they are followed by Thursdays at St. James' (4:45-6:00 p.m.) our weekday education/activity and dinner program. Together, these activities provide a wonderful afternoon of learning and fun with other St. James' families and friends. All that's left of the day is to bathe the children and get them to bed.

Online payment for

Thursdays at St. James' Meals

Thursdays at St. James' is a great family program. Over the years, parents and caregivers have been frustrated trying to remember to bring the money for dinner. Now you have options. Meals can be paid for each week in person or they can be paid for online at stjames.org/families. Click on "register for family programs" towards the bottom of the page. There you will find several options. Choose the one that meets your needs.

Family Fridays

Bingo, Movies, Lego building and Dance, Dance Fever will be the program for our Family Fridays from 6:00-8:00 p.m., hosted monthly throughout the year. Pizza will be served. Watch your email and notices in the Sunday leaflet for Family Friday dates.

For Parents

The Adult Education Forum welcomes parents at 10:30 a.m. each week. This year we are adding occasional Sunday morning parenting forums and discussions. Watch the E-news, the Sunday announcements and *The St. James' Epistle* for information and dates.

Education & Bible Study for Parents

Beginning in late September, we will read the Old Testament from start to finish over the course of the academic year. See the back page of *The St. James' Epistle* to learn more about The Bible Project and times for study groups.

Upcoming Acolyte Training Dates

If you are in the 3rd grade or older and are interested in acolyting this year or just want to learn about what the acolytes do at the 9:10 a.m. service, please come to either one of the training sessions, Saturday, September 10 or Saturday, September 17, 10:00-11:30 a.m. There are seventeen items for acolytes to carry in the processions and twelve jobs for acolytes to perform during the service. Here is a chance to learn about and try them all. Questions? Contact Vicki at 212-774-4232 or vhall@stjames.org.

St. James' Youth

Kate Salisbury, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, is on maternity leave until early November. In her absence, the Rev. Ryan Fleenor will help provide staff support for these ministries.

Confirmation at St. James' Orientation Sunday September 18, 9:00 a.m.

Eighth grade church school is a confirmation class that ends with Confirmation by the bishop on June 10. For more information on the program, attend the Homecoming Sunday Confirmation Orientation for parents and 8th graders, Sunday, September 18 at 9:00 a.m. Friends are welcome to join the class with you!

Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor.

Eighth Graders & Parents Host Friday Night Dinner Program Friday, September 9, 5:30-9:00 p.m.

The one night a year when parents co-host the dinner program along with youth! All eighth graders and their parents are invited to help cook, serve and wash dishes at St. James' weekly dinner for 90 homeless and low income guests. Once they have learned the ropes, eighth graders are encouraged to continue serving in this ministry for the remainder of the year, on Youth Nights, held the second Friday of the month.

6th through 12th Grades to Focus on the Bible Sundays, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

6th-7th Grade Church School, and High School Youth Group, begin on Sunday, September 25, and will join the parish-wide Bible Project, discussing Old Testament stories throughout the year. Newcomers are always welcome to these groups, which are held immediately after the 9:10 a.m. Eucharist.

Info Session: Mission to Haiti

Sunday, October 16
at 12:30 p.m.

From January 14-21, 2012, a group of parishioners will travel in a Partners in Mission trip to Haiti.

This year we'll have the unique opportunity to work with a business college founded by the Episcopal Church. Missioners will run seminars for students interested in entrepreneurship, technology, accounting, and other business topics. We'll also work on a construction project at an Episcopal primary and secondary school. Whether you have business experience or not, there will be an opportunity to offer your gifts!

If you are curious about traveling to Haiti please attend this meeting to hear details about the trip and ask questions.

For more information contact
Lees Patriacca at 917-428-0280



A teacher and students outside St. Andre Episcopal School in Haiti. Partners in Mission-Haiti is helping with the school's renovation.



St. James' member Seth Cunningham building church pews with a lay leader from an Episcopal congregation in Haiti on a Partners in Mission trip during November 2008.

Welcome to the Fall at St. James' Church

I hope that you all had a wonderful summer and also that you look forward to cooler weather and the beauty of autumn in New York.

As I write this on a hot August afternoon, I am especially excited about:

- Homecoming at St. James' — taking Abigail and Cecily out on 71st Street for fried chicken, games and perhaps a fire engine tour.
- The return to our weekly routine of worship, Sunday School, forums, Miss Vicki and Miss Sally
- The many fall events at our church that highlight the yearly calendar in our family.

In order to maintain that wonderful schedule, I ask that each of you join me this year by reflecting on what St. James' means to you and your family and by making a new or increased financial commitment to St. James' Church.

Thus far in 2011, St. James' has raised \$1,371,628.35 in pledges and gifts from 483 households. Thank you to all who have contributed to the results thus far.

We must, however, have greater participation and increased commitments in order to exceed last year's total of \$2,058,734.00 from 681 households.

I am excited about the fall, and I look forward to another great year at St. James with my family and with all of you. Please join me in celebrating all that our church can offer by giving generously to St. James' in 2011.

Holcombe Green
Chair, Stewardship Committee

Getting into Full Swing



Ah, September! A time for fresh, clean notebooks and sharpened pencils. A time to look back on an all-too-short summer and promise to never let that happen again! A time to make new friends and rekindle old friendships. A time to adjust our body clocks — how did I ever get up this early last year? If you, like I, function on an academic calendar, September is as much a time of new resolutions as any New Year. This is the new

beginning. This is the month of re-birth.

This September brings more than the typical challenges: we have the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks and a really bothersome economic situation to cope with. We are faced with an anxious city in an anxious country in an anxious world. Don't let that anxiety become part of your family life. What can we do to keep that heightened excitement of our youth? What can we do to allow our youth to live in a place of high spirits rather than be pulled down by the world's melancholy?

Use the church! Use your community! St. James' is a community that actively shares the love of Jesus Christ... We will appropriately mark the September 11 anniversary, but we will also celebrate our community this month. Homecoming Sunday (September 18), the beginning of Sunday school and choirs, the continuation of our education forums and many more community activities are on offer. Also, "For All Saints: A Campaign for St. James' Future," will get into full swing again. St. James' has always been here for you and it will continue to be here for you. Come share the love.

—Sam Hutcheson



Make Joyful Noises!

The Choirs at St. James' are seeking singers

The Boys' & Girls' Choir

The Boys' & Girls' Choir (grades 3-12) invites you to join in making joyful noises with the chance to sing more than 500 years' worth of music in several languages. The choir helps lead the 9:10 a.m. Eucharist each Sunday, sings concerts and also takes trips and sings with other choirs—all while making new friends and gaining first-class musical training. No previous experience is necessary.



Choirs for Younger Singers

For our younger singers there are unique opportunities for core fundamental musical development in a fun and nurturing environment. Cherubs (ages 4-6) sing once a month in church and spend 25 minutes on Tuesday afternoons singing favorite Bible songs. The St. Cecilia choristers (grades 1-2) spend their afternoons learning to train their musical ear and sing what they see on the page.

The Canterbury Choir for Adults

If you thought you knew about the Canterbury Choir, which is the adult choir that sings at the 9:10 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday, here are some facts that might inspire you to join us in the Chancel:

- the Canterbury Choir is a group of volunteers from the parish, like you, augmented by a few professional singers;
- the two requirements to sing in the choir are that you can sing in tune and that your voice can blend in—you do not need to be a soloist;
- rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m.;
- if your children sing in one of the children's choirs, singing in the choir is a great way for the family to worship together;
- it is challenging, as there is work and practice involved, but choir members find it rewarding, and even a great stress-reliever, to sing regularly together;
- you don't have to be at every rehearsal and every service—we understand that people have many commitments and we can accommodate people's schedules.

So please consider joining us; it's quite easy to try it and see if you like it. We welcome you to join us in song and worship from the other side of the Chancel steps.

For more information about joining St. James' Choirs, contact Christopher Jennings, Associate Organist-Choirmaster and Music Associate for Children & Youth, at 212-774-4204 or cjennings@stjames.org.

Partners in Mission—Children

College-Bound Youth Say "Thanks"

Many thanks to all who gave generous donations this summer to support youth from the Osborne Association (our Partner in Mission serving children of incarcerated parents) as they prepared to head off for college. The students were delighted with the school and dorm room supplies they received and credit their participation in the St. James'/Osborne program with helping them realize their college dreams.

This year Talesha Duncan will study literature and communications at SUNY Sullivan; Denzel Bush will study business at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, and Jimmeka Robinson will study business at Howard University. Please keep the students in your prayers as they begin their first semester!

Fall Volunteer Opportunities

This fall there are many opportunities to volunteer with Partners in Mission – Children, including Saturday activities and trips, and accompanying children on visits to their parents in prison:

Art Workshop at St. James'
September 24, 11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Trip to Beacon Correctional Facility
September 29, All Day

Apple Picking
October 22, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Trip to Sing Sing Correctional Facility
November 11, All Day

Trip to Albion Prison
December 1 & 2, Overnight

Gingerbread House Decorating
December 10, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Contact program chair Elizabeth Calvert at calvert.elizabeth@gmail.com or 212-832-8624 for more information.

Davis on Sabbatical

And on the seventh day God finished his work which he had done, and he rested.... So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all his work which he had done in creation. —Genesis 1:2-3



The Sabbath is meant to be a time apart, a time to celebrate creation and the Creator, a time to renew and replenish ourselves as we step back from daily work and routines.

Though the concept of Sabbath time has been with us for thousands of years, and clergy are expected to take periodic sabbaticals, taking Sabbath time remains a challenge—so I decided to encourage sabbatical time for St. James' long term staff. I am delighted to announce that Davis Wortman, Director of Music and Organist, who has served St. James' for 12 years, is on a three month sabbatical.

Davis, who has spent 30 years as a church musician, will spend the fall as a Fellow-in-Residence at St. Paul's Parish, K Street in Washington, D.C. This Episcopal parish, known for its liturgy and music, also has a deep and broad ministry serving those in need. For more information about the residency, go to <http://bit.ly/DavisInDC>. Davis will return to St. James' on December 1, with much to share.

Christopher Jennings, Associate Organist-Choirmaster and Music Associate for Children & Youth will add more to his full schedule including additional administrative and personnel work, Canterbury and Compostela choir rehearsals.

Anthony Rispo will join us this fall as a guest assisting organist. We are fortunate to have received a bequest many years ago that supports the professional and vocational development of clergy and staff, so the cost of having Anthony join us for these months adds no burden to the operating budget.

Even with some additional support, we have had to adjust our program, eliminating our annual All Saints Day concert and music-based adult education forums. Some choir rehearsals will be shortened, and we will not be introducing new repertoire for the congregation this fall. These decisions have been made to insure that all that we do, we do well so that in this and every season, our worship and music glorify God.

—The Rev. Brenda G. Husson, Rector

Welcome Anthony Rispo

Guest Assisting Organist through December 2011



Anthony Rispo will serve as guest assisting organist during Davis Wortman's sabbatical. Anthony is an organ performance major at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Prior to his studies at CIM, Anthony studied at the Juilliard Pre-College Division. At the age of 13, Anthony made weekly visits to St. Patrick's Cathedral to hear the grand organ and immediately became acquainted with Mr. Donald Dumler, then principal organist at the cathedral. Mr. Dumler coached Anthony for over a year. Anthony has performed at venues that include Mechanics Hall, the Church of the Heavenly Rest, West Point Military

Academy's Cadet Chapel and recently performed Samuel Barber's "Tocatta Festiva" with The Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra commemorating Barber's 100th birthday.

Music at St. James

Concerts and Special Music Events 2011-12

Music at St James' is an intergenerational artistic and spiritual experience into which all are invited to participate through attendance, singing, and prayer, offered throughout the Sunday services, as well as at concerts and special liturgies (such as Evensong and Lessons & Carols) throughout the season.

Requiem by Gabriel Fauré

Sunday, September 11, 10:30 a.m.

See page 2 for more information.

Organ Recital by Judith Hancock

Sunday, October 16, 3:00 p.m.

Come enjoy the music of J.S. Bach, Duruflé, Alexandre Guilmant, Johannes Brahms and others performed by the former director of music at St. James'. *Tickets available at the door: \$20 (adults); \$10 (students/seniors).*

Choral Evensong

Sunday, October 23, 4:00 p.m.

The Boys' & Girls' Choir sing the music of Richard Shephard, Christopher Jennings, David Hogan & John Ireland. Free admission. All are welcome.

Epiphany Lessons & Carols

Friday, January 6 at 6:00pm

St. James' Canterbury & Compostela Choirs sing music by Mendelssohn and Biebl at the Service of Lessons & Carols for the Feast of the Epiphany. Free admission. All are welcome.

New York, New York:

The Music of N.Y.C. Composers

Sunday, February 12, 3:00 p.m.

Christopher Jennings performs the music of Clarence Dickinson, Alec Wyton, Calvin Hampton, and Gerre Hancock. *Tickets available at the door: \$20 (adults); \$10 (students/seniors).*

St. James' Canterbury &

Compostela Choirs in Concert

Sunday, March 4, 3:00 p.m.

St. James' choirs sing Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy's oratorio, *Elijah*. *Tickets available at the door: \$20 (adults); \$10 (students/seniors).*

Baylor University Concert Choir

Wednesday, March 14, 8:00 p.m.

Alan Raines, conductor. *Tickets available at the door: \$20 (adults); \$10 (students/seniors).*

Choral Evensong

Sunday, April 29, 4:00 p.m.

The Boys' & Girls' Choir and St. Cecilia Choir offer music by Christopher Jennings, Bruce Neswick, Barry Rose and others. Free admission. All are welcome.

Organ Recital by Marilyn Keiser

Sunday, May 20, 3:00 p.m.

World-renowned concert organist Marilyn Keiser performs the music of Dan Locklair, Louis Vierne, and Herbert Howells. *Tickets available at the door: \$20 (adults); \$10 (students/seniors).*

St. Jamesians: 20s/30s News

St. Jamesians Kick-Off at the Met

Friday, September 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Parishioners in their 20s & 30s will kick off the bustling program year—and the parish-wide Bible Project—with their annual tour at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Led by the Rev. Craig Townsend, the tour will highlight Biblical subjects. After the tour, we will enjoy refreshments at the rooftop café. The cost is \$20 per person. Meet on the steps of the museum. Committee members will be wearing red. Friends and newcomers are welcome. Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor.

St. Jamesians Host the Dinner Program

Friday, September 30, 5:30-9:00 p.m.

Parishioners in their 20s & 30s are needed to cook, serve tables and wash dishes at St. James' weekly three course dinner for 90 homeless and low income guests. If you have never served before, we'll teach you all you need to know! Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor.

"This I Believe" by Lydia Midwood

In the 1950s Edward R. Murrow hosted a popular radio program called "This I Believe." Americans from every walk of life contributed on-air essays in which they distilled — into a few minutes — the core values by which they lived their lives. This summer, on three Wednesday evenings in July, the St. Jamesians gathered to share ideas, read drafts of their own essays and offer support. Below is one of the essays.

I believe that fear can be a gift. Ever since I was a kid, I've been afraid to speak up, afraid of heights, afraid that people won't like me, afraid to go to sleep...I could go on. I used to think my anxiety meant that something was wrong with me. Then a day came when I walked right up to my biggest fear, and walked away with a different understanding of the role of fear in my life.

I was traveling in Iceland with ten other Americans whom I didn't know before the trip. They were a nice group of neighbors who instantly treated me as a friend. We were there to go sea kayaking, but on this particular day the weather was bad so the guide took us hiking instead. What began as a walk on the beach quickly went uphill until the trail went right along the edge of a forty-foot cliff. Up until this point I hadn't said anything about how scared I was: my fear that the group wouldn't like me was trumping my fear of heights. I didn't want to speak up and ask everybody to stop, for fear of seeming weak or difficult. But as we approached the cliff, the fear of heights won out, and I stopped walking.

"Um," I said, "I'm really scared of heights. I can't do this. I can't keep walking on this trail."

Tom, who was on the trip with his wife and two young daughters, stepped up, and with a smile on his face said, "Yes, you can. Take my hand, keep your eyes

on the ground, and we'll talk about something, anything but the edge of this cliff."

So I took his hand, kept my eyes on the ground, and talked about my favorite flavors of ice cream. After what seemed like forever, but was probably only a minute or two, we made it to less terrifying terrain. We walked for a while longer, reached the end of the trail, and turned around to retrace our steps. I was going to have to walk back to the edge of that cliff! When we reached the scary part, Tom took my hand again, and led a discussion of the difference between butterscotch and caramel. About fifteen minutes later we were back on the beach. I was tired, and a little shell-shocked, but also thrilled that I had kept moving when fear almost froze me in my tracks.

In the past, fear had made me shy—too anxious—to let my guard down and reveal what was really in my head. In Iceland, I let some strangers in on my biggest fear, and Tom greeted that fear with a smile and an open hand. Fear can be a warning or a deterrent. Fear can also be a gift that, when shared, can lead to unexpected connections and positive changes. I still sometimes sleep with the light on, but I'm no longer afraid to admit it.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Edward R. Murrow died on April 27, 1965 and his funeral was held at St. James' on April 30, 1965.

Parish Register

May-July 2011

Baptisms

Beatrice Campbell Barquin daughter of Nicolas and Brooke Barquin

Byron Whitman Hardy son of John and Paige Hardy

Theodora Shiver Harris daughter of Laura and Benjamin Harris

Vivion Jane Loughlin daughter of Christopher and Kathleen Loughlin

Pax Logun Lukanic son of Bradley and Jennifer Lukanic

Audrey Elizabeth Phillips daughter of Charles and Maureen Phillips

Madeline Jo Platner daughter of John and Samantha Platner

Eloise Georgia Rizzo daughter of Matt Rizzo and Melissa Hutson

Luke Wise Umbdenstock son of Tyler and Emily Umbdenstock

Rollins Elizabeth Dessofoy daughter of William and Martin Dessofoy

Weddings

Brian Kelleher Richter and Elizabeth Vardin Newman

John Howard Griffin, Jr. and Pamela Melhado Washburn

Gabriel de Avilez Rocha and Miranda Featherstone

Burials

Renée Craig McKay

Julia Cooper Schieffelin

J. Austen Flint Wood

Monica Alicen Knoll



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September Calendar

Sunday Worship Schedule through September 18

8:00, 10:30 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

beginning September 25

8:00, 9:10, 11:15 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Worship Schedule

Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m.

- 9 FRI Playgroup Welcome Coffee,
10:30 a.m.
Youth host Dinner Program,
5:30-9:00 p.m.
- 10 SAT Acolyte Training, 10:00 a.m.
- 11 SUN 10:30 a.m. Service of
Remembrance with special
activities for children
- 12 MON Playgroups begin, 10:30 a.m.
- 13 TUE Choir rehearsals begin
Children & Youth Choir
rehearsals resume
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
begins, 4:00 p.m.
- 14 WED Bible Study begins, 8:30 a.m.
- 15 THU Bible Study begins, 9:15 a.m.
We Love to Sing begins
Drama on Thursdays begins
Thursdays at St. James' begins
- 17 SAT Acolyte Training, 10:00 a.m.
- 18 SUN Homecoming Sunday
Confirmation Class
Orientation, 9:00 a.m.
Youth bake sale
- 24 SAT PIM-Children Art Workshop
- 25 SUN 9:10 & 11:15 a.m.
services resume
Education Sunday;
Church School begins
Youth Group begins
- 29 THU PIM Mission Trip to Beacon
Correctional Facility
Parents Party, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

...and save these dates for

- 14 OCT Youth host Dinner Program
- 16 OCT Judith Hancock Organ Recital
- 20 OCT Children's Pumpkin Festival
- 23 OCT Boys & Girls Choir Evensong
- 18 NOV The Second Time Around
Thrift Sale

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St. James' Church is a community that actively shares the love of Jesus Christ with each other, our city and the world.

The Bible Project: Reading the Old Testament Together as a Parish



Beginning in late September, and continuing over the course of the academic year, we will read the Old Testament from start to finish. We invite all parishioners to join us in this project. Visit TheBibleProject.net, a new website built especially for this, to learn more about the project including a weekly reading schedule, blog, suggested Bibles and reference books, and more.

All of the Sunday forums between the 9:10 and 11:15 a.m. services will focus on the week's reading or themes across the Old Testament that will illuminate our reading. Small groups, led by the clergy and parishioners who have done significant study of the Bible, will meet weekly for lively discussions.

Small groups are scheduled on Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. (at the same time as one of our playgroups and cherub choir), Wednesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. (immediately after the 8:00 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist), Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday afternoons at 4:45 p.m. (just before the 6:00 p.m. Eucharist).

If none of these times are convenient for you, contact the Rev. Craig Townsend about forming a group at a different time. In preparation for The Bible Project, we suggest parishioners read either Walter Brueggemann's *The Bible Makes Sense*, or Kristin Swenson's *Bible Babel*.



What's This?

This is a QR Code (it stands for "Quick Response") for The Bible Project website. Download a QR scanning app for your smart phone or iPod Touch and simply scan the code to visit TheBibleProject.StJames.org!