



St. James Matters

A Monthly Publication of St. James' Episcopal Church, Boardman, Ohio

Volume One, Issue Five

December 2008

The Rector's Whatnot Father Kelly Marshall



"It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers."

Those words are from humorist and cartoonist James Thurber—a native of Ohio, by the way. They've proved true for me in my spiritual life. Since I've never known all the answers, I

make a good effort to identify some of the questions and to make sure they're good questions.

The holy season of Advent and Christmas can be for Christians a time for identifying *good questions*. Questions about God, about God and humanity, about Jesus of Nazareth and his family, about God and Jesus and our own families. About our family of faith and what we're all about here at St. James' Church, as Advent becomes Christmas in a few weeks.

- ❖ How has God come to me, over the years of my life?
- ❖ What's it been like, when I've been waiting? When things have been dark before the Light appeared?
- ❖ How have I felt when I realized that God surprised me, like Joseph and Mary were surprised at who Jesus was and was becoming?
- ❖ How have I known "Emmanuel"—God-with-us? God with me?

These are some of my Advent and Christmas questions. Since neither you nor I have all the answers, I invite you to craft some good questions about God, about Jesus, about your own life and your own family. About what God has to do with you and yours. About what God has to do with us at St. James' Church, as Christmas comes again.

And throughout these next weeks, *I wish you quiet times, a lessening of anxiety, a deepening sense of God coming to you, and the peace of the Child of Bethlehem.* And I look forward to keeping this Advent and Christmas with you.

Your Rector and friend,

Kelly +

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*At St. James'
Episcopal Church*

ALL

Are Welcome!



A Sunday 8 a.m. Eucharist (no music) is celebrated in the Mary Magdalene Chapel each week. This is a way to encourage weekly eucharistic devotion for those who cannot attend the 10:00 liturgy on any particular Sunday.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Ann Sitler

Tania and Bob Holtsford

Bob and Tania, along with Winston their dog, are making their home in Boardman for the next couple of years, coming to us from Cumming, Georgia. They have been married since July 2006. Between them, they have two sons, two daughters and eight grandchildren. Bob is working on a specific kind of air filter at V & M Star, a steel company based in Girard.

The Holtsfords tell me they found St. James in the *Yellow Pages* and can't get over how friendly we are and want everyone to know they feel very much at home at St. James. Be sure to greet the Holtsfords next time you see them.

Tonya and Mae Weaver

May and her daughter Tonya make their home in New Middletown and have lived there since 2001. They came to St. James from St. Andrew's, and Tonya says that they find the people at St. James to be very friendly and caring. May is retired. Tonya is the kitchen manager at East High School and has worked in management in the Youngstown School System for 31 years. Besides spending time taking care of their two cats and dog, Tonya is an avid bowler. May and Tonya are anxious to get to know everyone, so be sure to make yourselves known to them.



Membership at St. James' Episcopal Church

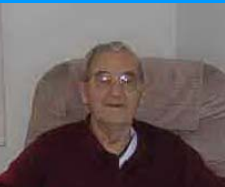
If you wish officially to become a member of our parish family and faith community, we encourage you to speak with Father Marshall, Father Wigle, or any member right away.

*At St. James' Church,
all are welcome.
That means everyone,
no matter what!*

**Next Membership Sunday
February 22**

CARL JONES CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY

Rod Hosler



For long time St. James' parishioner Carl Jones, November 1st of this year was one of great significance. It was his 90th birthday, making Carl the oldest member our parish family.

Carl was born in 1918. After graduation from East High School, he began working for *The Vindicator*. He took a leave of absence from 1942–1945 to serve as a Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Force. He was stationed in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Corsica during World War II. Carl returned to Youngstown, resuming his job with *The Vindicator* and marrying Alice. They settled in Boardman and joined St. James. He continued to work for *The Vindicator* as type operator, and was a union leader and captain of the paper's

bowling team. After Alice passed away, Carl continued attending St. James, serving on the Vestry and participating in church activities. He eventually married Clara and continued coming to St. James as a faithful parishioner. In 2006 he moved into Shepherd of the Valley in Poland, where he lives today. Although we don't see Carl regularly, he is an important part of our parish family.

Carl celebrated his birthday here in Boardman with his nieces Laura from Georgia and Sara from Kentucky; and his nephew David and his wife Wendie Georgia.

Happy Birthday, Carl!

*To contact Carl,
see your Parish Directory.*

WHY NAMETAGS?

Q. Why should we wear nametags?

A. Because we've learned that congregations who are growing and thriving make it a point to get to know one another, and this is a great way to do that. Kurt Hilderbrand designed and constructed the name tag board (many thanks, Kurt!), and the membership team created the nametags. Let's all get into the habit of putting them on as we come to worship. And...don't forget to hang them up on your way out.

ST. NICHOLAS IS COMING — DECEMBER 6, 2008 — 6 p.m.

Our fifth annual celebration of St. Nicholas' Day will take place on **Saturday, December 6, at 6 p.m.** As in the past, children are invited to bring an extra shoe or boot to place in front of the fireplace for St. Nicholas to fill with special treats. Mr. Bill Dick will portray St. Nicholas and will teach us about the extraordinary life of the patron saint of children. Special music is planned, as well as a party in Jones Hall following the liturgy. Kids will have an opportunity to have their picture taken with St. Nicholas and par-



participate in a variety of craft projects. The St. Nicholas Team, led by Ben and Wendie Vanden Bosch, invite the congregation to bring

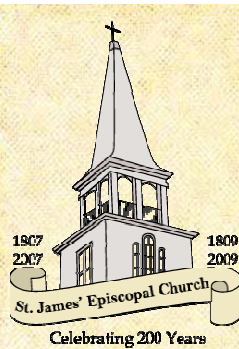
child and adult-size winter hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, etc., to church. These items will be donated to The Salvation Army for distribution to those in need in our community.

So mark your calendar and plan to attend this fun event in the life of our parish and meet "the real St. Nicholas." If you are able to help with refreshments, please see Ben or Wendie to find out what you can do.☞

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Julie Aromatorio

Technology is a huge aspect of American culture today, but did you ever guess that it would become an important part of the church? If not, then guess again! Our St. James' Youth Group is pioneering the church's leap into the world of technology with a Facebook page complete with pictures and a link to the church website! Facebook, for those of you who don't know, is a social networking website that allows you to create a personal profile with as much or as little information as you would like to provide. Through Facebook, you can contact other people on the site that you may know from work, school, or in our case, church. You can then become Facebook "friends" with the people you find. You can also join groups of people with similar interests as you, like our St. James' group. The process may sound complicated now, but once you figure it all out, it becomes quite enjoyable! The youth group is working hard to get everyone possible involved with Facebook. The website makes communication much easier, and far more fun! If you're interested in setting up a Facebook profile, feel free to ask any of the members of the youth group, because we would all love to help out!☞



RESOLUTION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 200th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JAMES, BOARDMAN

Resolved, that this 192nd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio extend its congratulations to St. James' Church, Boardman, during its current, two-year bicentennial celebration of two centuries of faithful ministry to the glory of God in the Mahoning Valley and the Diocese of Ohio; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention recognize St. James' Parish of Boardman as the oldest established Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Ohio, having been granted recognition and status as a Parish of the Episcopal Church on 20 July 1809 by the Rt. Rev. Samuel Provoost, Bishop of New York, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention assure the congregation of St. James of its hopes and prayers for the future of the parish and its continuing vital ministry in the Mahoning Valley and the Diocese of Ohio; and be it further

Resolved, that the Convention encourage the people and parishes of the Diocese of Ohio to join in the celebratory events and activities scheduled by the people of St. James during 2009.

Passed at Diocesan Convention, November 14 and 15, 2008.

Note: See page 7 for information about our first Bicentennial Liturgy.

ENERGY SAVING PROGRAM UNDERWAY

Kurt Hilderbrand

Q: How many Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Change??

In the weeks to come, St. James along with the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio (EDO) will embark on a campaign to save energy. Recently the EDO offered a program to purchase compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs at a discount to help make a change in our environment and energy consumption. St. James has elected to participate along with other churches in the Diocese to try and reduce not only energy consumption but also our energy bills.

At St. James on any Sunday or special service, we burn over 200 light bulbs ranging from 100–250 watts each. That's over 20,000 watts of electricity!!!! Fortunately, we have slowly started converting our bulbs to energy efficient CFL's. Currently Jones Hall and the classrooms have T3 energy

efficient fluorescent tubes. These were replaced about four years ago. Also as a standard incandescent bulb burns out, we replace it with a spiral type CFL. In the months to come we will determine the types of bulbs that are required for the spotlights and chandeliers. These lights become more difficult to replace, not only from an aesthetic point of view, but also for functionality due to the dimming requirement. Continue to look for future articles regarding our part in being good stewards of our planet and how you can help replacement and recycling of CFL's. *The future is bright at St. James' Church!*



For more information about compact fluorescent light bulbs, visit

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls

December Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Wealthie Prince
- 6 Fran Hixson
- 8 Margy Loiselle
- 10 Sharyn Fees
- 11 Florence Hosler
- 14 Taylor Harden
- 14 Vincent Tufaro
- 17 Bill Ellis
- 18 Hilda Metz
- 28 Rose Ann Tufaro
- 31 Judith Myer



Anniversaries

- 23 Mark & Kathy Scheel

NEW ARRIVAL! BENJAMIN ISAAC MILLER BORN NOVEMBER 7, 2008



St. James' parishioners at Benjamin Miller's bris, November 21, 2008, at the home of Robin and Dan Miller in Poland. It was the eighth day after his birth. Benjamin will be reared in his father's Jewish faith, but we'll see lots of him with his Mom and brother Randy at St. James' Church.

ECW UPDATE

Have you noticed how nice the carpeting in the chapel and parlor look lately?? Proceeds from the semi-annual rummage sales have enabled St. James' ECW to cover the costs of stretching the carpeting in the parlor and chapel. In addition, the carpeting in the parlor has been cleaned. Many thanks to the ECW for the work they do.



AMBROSE THE CHURCHMOUSE



Dear church folks:

I hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. My mouse family and I ate so much we almost couldn't fit through our mouse-house hole! We'll need to play an extra game of grape soccer for a few days.

Over the past couple of months, I've been observing the many kindnesses extended by the people at St. James. For starters, lots of folks brought in their extra coats to give away to people who otherwise may have been cold this winter. The Youth Group helped out cooking and delivering Thanksgiving meals to folks in the community who would have missed out on turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and all the trimmings. Another group took laundry and dishwashing soap that the congregation collected to the Salineville food pantry.

We have much to be thankful for at St. James. Each week, a faith-

ful group of volunteers makes sure the altar and chapel are set for our weekly worship. Lots more folks lend a hand by serving as worship leaders, acolytes, singing in the choir, arranging treats after the liturgy. The ECW works hard to raise funds to pay for things like carpet cleaning and stretching. And we mustn't forget the folks who mow the lawn and shovel the walkways. But most of all, we give thanks for God's presence in our lives each and every day.

We welcomed the Weavers and Holtsfords on November 23. We are so happy they've decided to worship at St. James. Let's help them get to know us by wearing our new nametags. I've got one too! Thanks to Kurt Hilderbrand for making the board to hold the nametags and to the Membership Team for putting them together.

Until next time, I'll be seeing you...but you probably won't see me.

~Ambrose

The Parochial Register



Burials

William Daggett
November 7, 2008



Registered as Baptized Members

Bob and Tania Holtsford

*All Are Welcome
In This Place*



**Singles & Couples
December 5—7 p.m.**

***Hosted by Butch Merrill
& Jody Musitano***

This monthly gathering is a friendship-building opportunity for the adults of St. James' and their friends. Bring a dish to share, and get to know members of the parish in an informal setting. Check the table in the parlor for directions.



WHY CHRISTMAS AT ST. JAMES MATTERS TO ME

Molly Galano

I am touched by sadness as I'm writing this because Sam and I will not be with you to celebrate Christmas this year. We are traveling to Wyoming to spend the holidays with my mother.

These are the things that I will miss:

- The expectant, hushed joy of Advent;
- Candlelight gleaming off the silver on the altar;
- The joyous sound of the choir on our best behavior;
- The faces of young and old,

touched by the magic and grandeur of the season;

- The crèche; the smell of the pine garlands, the vibrant color of the poinsettias; the church dressed in its finest raiment;
- The total contentment that comes from being exactly where you need, and want, to be.

Sam and I wish you all a joyous and blessed Christmas.

~Molly

READ, RECYCLE, RELEASE WITH BOOK CROSSING!

Florence Hosler



Welcome to BookCrossing, where books have adventures of their own. BookCrossing is earth-friendly, and gives you a way to share your books, clear your shelves, and conserve precious resources at the same time. Through our own unique method of recycling reads, BookCrossers give life to books. BookCrossing books are not stagnant dust collectors, but living entities travelling the world as true BookCrossing emissaries. Our books find new readers and introduce them to the wonders of BookCrossing.

Here at St. James we have our own BookCrossing release site, **StJ-spot**, in Jones Hall. There you can pick out a book or drop one off for someone else to find. For more information about BookCrossing go to their website, <http://www.bookcrossing.com/home>.

So what are you waiting for? Help make the world a library and recycle at the same time, through BookCrossing. ♪

January Events

Singles & Couples

at the Hoslers

January 2, 7 p.m.

Parish Potluck

Sunday, January 4, 11:30

Epiphany Festival Eucharist

January 6, 7 p.m.

Buddy Blanket Mission

January 10, 11:00 a.m.

Annual Parish Meeting

January 18, 11:30 a.m.

Bicentennial Eucharist

Historic St. James' Church

Sunday January 25, 10:00 a.m.

SECOND COAT GIVE-AWAY

NOVEMBER 15, 2008



Approximately 30 coats were given to men, women, and children in our area. Pictured above are Ann Sitler, Liz Myer, and Patti Opsitnik. Thanks to all who contributed coats so that those in need will be a little warmer this winter.

Gospel Readings for December

December 7

Mark 1:1-8

December 14

John 1:6-8; 19-28

December 21

Luke 1:26-38

December 24

Christmas Eve

Luke 2:26-38

December 28

John 1:1-18



To access the week's Bible Readings online, go to <http://www.io.com/~kellywp/index.html>.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS

We'll elect three new Vestry members to serve 3-year terms at the parish's Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 18. You may nominate communicant members in good standing, who will make a solid commitment to the work of the Vestry, who are able to attend the Diocesan Winter Convocation on February 6-7, and who have agreed in advance to be nominated. Do so by giving their name to current Vestry members Herb Olmi, Doug Hotchkiss, Dick Smythe or Jeff Downey before January 4.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please note the following additions/corrections to the recently published parish directory:

Addition:

Bob & Tania Holtsford

6811 Lockwood Boulevard, Apt. 40
Boardman, OH 44512
330/953-1453

Changes:

Flo Daggett (temporary)

Shepherd of the Valley—Boardman
7148 West Boulevard
Boardman, OH 44512

Connie Snyder

2488 Kremer Lane
Villa Hills, KY 41017

E-mail address corrections:

Dave & Sue Adair

dadair@msn.com

Herb Olmi

holmi@olmimail.com



BARNABAS BUNCH FORMED

We don't sing and dance, and we don't have a housekeeper named Alice. The *Barnabas Bunch* is a group of faithful Christians at St. James' Church who, in the face of these challenging economic times, have decided to invest in something that has never let us down—our beloved St. James' Church. We have pledged to contribute at least a dollar a day over and above our regular gifts to help secure St. James' future.



Our group is named for St. Barnabas, the "encourager." See Acts 4:36-37: "There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name *Barnabas* (which means 'son of encouragement'). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet."

If you would like to become a member of *The Barnabas Bunch*, please contact any member of the vestry. ☞

FIRST ALERT!



Our first Bicentennial Liturgy in our 200th Anniversary Year will be Sunday morning, January 28, 10:00 at our historic house of worship, Historic St. James' Church in Boardman Park. ***There will be no 10:00 service at the church that day—only the 8:00 Morning Eucharist in the Chapel.***

THE COOKS' CORNER



This recipe is from the kitchen of Rae Vanden Bosch, Ben's grandmother. Speculaas are a traditional St. Nicholas' Day cookie.

Speculaas (Windmill) Cookies

- 3 C. unsifted all-purpose flour
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1-1/2 t. ground cinnamon
- 1 t. ground cloves
- 1 t. ground ginger
- 1/8 t. baking powder
- 1 C. butter, softened (do not substitute)
- 1-1/4 C. light brown sugar, packed
- 1 egg
- 1/2 C. sliced almonds

On a sheet of waxed paper, sift flour, spices, baking power, and salt. Set aside. In large bowl, using electric mixer, beat butter with brown sugar and egg until light and fluffy. With wooden spoon, stir in half of flour mixture. Add remaining flour mixture with almonds and mix with hands if necessary.

Cover and refrigerate dough for several hours.

Roll dough to desired thickness. Cut into various shapes.

Preheat oven to 350°. Place cookies on greased baking sheets. Bake 10-12 minutes until golden brown. Ice if desired.





For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

DEALING WITH FEAR

**An Advent Quiet Day
Saturday, December 13,
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

In a time of economic distress, of war and of hopeful transition in our nation, we can face many fears. Advent is a time for quiet reflection on what it means that *God continues to come* into our lives, our world.

Join members of your parish family as Father Marshall leads us through reflective exercises designed to understand the power of Jesus' constant injunction:

“Do not be afraid.”

“We always can afford to be generous. Always.”



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED