#### [Volume 1, Issue 1]

# The Sentinel



## Priest's Ponderings

As I recall preparing a monthly newsletter at my first parish, I feel somewhat nostalgic as we resurrect **The Sentinel**, our newsletter for St. James the Less.

It has been several years since our parish had a newsletter, so you may wonder why we are doing so now. I suppose there are several reasons.

The newsletter is a wonderful tool of evangelism. When we have a visitor, we can provide a copy that reveals aspects of our parish life. The newcomer can see the events that define us and give us a sense of community.

For the priest, the newsletter gives an opportunity to envision the month ahead. If we are not having events to reinforce our identity and community, then such will be very apparent as the newsletter will have nothing to report.

For the parishioner, it is a reminder of upcoming activities, as well as an educational tool. Information not contained in e-mails or the weekly bulletin can have an outlet in a newsletter.

Most parishes provide an electronic version of their newsletter in our contemporary age of communication, and we shall do the same for everyone on our e-mail list. We shall have hard copies available throughout the building, if you wish to take one home. Also, we shall send by US Mail an edition to those who are not able to attend church regularly. As we update the website in October, an archive will be there, too. The newsletter will be distributed the first weekend of every month (though we may take a break in summer).

Feel free to provide feedback......and articles......as newsletters are always evolving, and we are certainly open to just about anything. Lisa Cate will be handling the formatting aspect of our publication, and I will be editor. Hopefully, we shall keep one another out of trouble ©

There is much life at our parish, and now we can celebrate it further in a more formal means of communication. As I closed my column at my first church, I recall frequently saying. "All we need is you." Such is not only nostalgic, but also very truthful, indeed!

#### **Contents**

Calendar	1
Priest's Ponderings	1
Laity Rota	2
Member Celebrations	2
Member Spotlight	2
Saint of the Month	2
Blessing of the Pets	3
Financial Update	3
From the Loft	3
Ministries	3
Taekwondo Thanks	3
Vestry & Finance	3
Contact Us	4
Diocese News	4
Schedule	4

#### Calendar

Saturday, October 12th Youth Group at 6:30 pm

Tuesday, October 15th Vestry meeting at 6:30 pm

Saturday, October 19th Small Church Conference at Church of the Resurrection

*Friday, October 25th*Deadline for articles for November
Sentinel

Saturday, October 26th St. Francis' Animal Blessing at 11:00 am

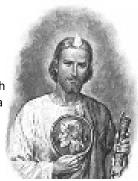
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# **Birthdays**

10/05
10/10
10/14
10/16
10/16
10/18
10/22
10/22

# Saint of the Month: Saint Jude

Hey Jude, don't feel so bad. Your saints' day is on October 28<sup>th</sup>, though you have to share it with St. Simon. The Gospel tells us that St. Jude was a brother of St. James the Less, also one of the twelve. They are described by St. Matthew (13:55) as the "brethren" of Jesus, probably cousins. The Hebrew word for "brethren"



indicates a blood relationship. His mother, Mary, was a cousin of Mary. St. Jude is traditionally depicted carrying the image of Jesus in his hand. This represents the imprint of the divine Countenance that was entrusted to him by Jesus. After the death and resurrection of Jesus, St. Jude traveled throughout Mesopotamia, Libya, and Persia with St. Simon preaching and converting many to Christianity. St. Jude died a martyr's death. Later, his body was brought to Rome and placed in a crypt under St. Peter's Basilica.

"Lord, teach me where you want me to go. Let me meet who you want me to meet. Tell me what you want me to say. And keep me out of your Way." –NYC fire chaplain killed on 9/11

# Laity Rota

6th

Eucharist: Jane Emery/David Gaines

Lector: Harry Spain Crucifer: Joel Sinha

Ushers: Rick Webb/George Womack Altar Guild: Karen Cate/Joan Wells

Coffee: The Reeses

13th

Eucharist: George Mickle/Cindy Reese

Lector: George Mickle Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy

Ushers: George Brummett/Pete Mace Altar Guild: M E Womack/Betty Odom

Coffee: OPEN ©

20th

Eucharist: Tony McFarland/O.C. Hays

Lector: Tony McFarland Crucifer: Joel Sinha

Ushers: Pete Mace/Mike Deweese Altar Guild: S Womack/Janet Deweese Coffee: Smith/Mace Families

27th

Eucharist: Rick/Cindy Webb
Lector: David Gaines
Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy
Ushers: Larry Emery/Joe Reese
Altar Guild: Cindi Spain/Judy Stewart

Coffee: OPEN ©

# Member of the Month: Mary Elizabeth Womack

If someone says they do not know Mary Elizabeth Womack, then we wonder what church they are attending! Mary Elizabeth is the first person on the church premises each Sunday as she opens the doors and prepares Coffee Hour for the first service. She assists with the changing of the altar between services while making sure that everyone present feels comfortable and welcome. She is usher, greeter, altar guild member, gardener, historian, and even a mentor for our clergy – from the very first day our church was formed! (The first meeting of the church was in her home in Inglewood.)

Mary Elizabeth was born in Cheatham County on Caldwell Lane (somewhere near Ashland City). She was the youngest of 5 children, and her parents were Charlie Thomas Casey and Ethel Ann Owen. Her father was a carpenter, and her mother was a homemaker. Many know Mary Elizabeth's brother, former Metro Police chief, Joe Casey.

She married in 1947 to George Horace (Jack) Womack. He worked for the railroad at the time, but moved on to work for the Metro Fire dept. Mary Elizabeth worked for Dr. Y. T. Shueh, a local surgeon, for many years where she managed his office.

Her children are Cindy Webb, Jackie Woolwine, and George Womack. We see Cindy and George at church weekly, and Jackie makes cameo appearances from time to time.

She remains very active with her neighbors in her condominium community, and she personifies the Good Shepherd described in the gospels. She takes care of everyone!

## From The Loft

It is hard to believe we are in the second month of the fall church calendar. The choir has been working on some new music you will hear soon. One Sunday each month, September through May, 2014, the choir is featuring one of Jane Emery's songs. September's selection was "Believe" used on September 22. October's selection is "We Are Invited.to the Table" the selections will be announced in the bulletin as they are performed. Jane's music is quite beautiful, both in text and tune. We are fortunate to have access to it.

If you have hymn preferences or requests for special music, please let me know. I am in the planning stage for Advent & Christmas.

In His Service, Genevieve Lish, Organist/Choir Director

# Taekwondo Members Thank St. James

I praise God every day for my ability to teach a martial arts program that is centered on a philosophy of constant and never ending improvement. It truly helps so many learn how to be their best. Thanks to the generosity of St. James' space we offer this program to those who normally could not afford such programs. It is such a pleasure to share with you the gratitude of some of our participants . . .

"The program has elevated my son's confidence and emphasized the importance of discipline. As a single parent, I am so appreciative my son has a positive place to learn."

"The program gives my son something positive to do; I really appreciate it."

"My son (4) has been attending classes for 2 weeks and has learned so much. I am excited to see how he learns new lessons each week and continues to improve."

"I praise God for programs like yours."

Thank you St. James! Miss Cate

## Vestry Notes from September

- Appointed Lisa Cate as our webmaster and expressed appreciation to Mike Shamburger, a friend of Father Courtney's who relocated to California, but has maintained our web site for the past 4 years
- Approved a template for our monthly newsletter that will commence in October
- Approved Father Courtney switching to diocesan health insurance in 2014 from COBRA insurance coverage with Community Health Systems, his former full-time employer
- Approved the celebration of St. Francis' Day and the blessing of our pets in October at a time convenient to the congregation
- Approved the purchase of new gutters for the A/C units as well as a thermostat plate in the nave
- Encouraged the creation of a parish pictorial directory
- Greeted and welcomed Ken Saefkow, who will be filling the unexpired term of David Lyons
- Heard an update on the formation of the Community Grief Group that will meet at St. James'
- Heard that we may wish to participate in the Madison Community Festival next year
- Toured the facility to see enhancements from the new air conditioning units

# Blessing of the Pets

The general consensus of the Sunday crowd is to have our animal blessing on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. This is in excellent opportunity to bring friends and neighbors who are not members of our parish, so we can show them our hospitality and community life. Who knows? Maybe they will return?? Bring anyone, regardless of the number of their legs!

#### **Ministries**

#### Outreach News

The October donation for Room in the Inn is athletic socks of any sizes, preferably larger. Drop off is outside of Father Courtney's office. Kudos to all for their faithfulness and generosity this year!

#### **Youth Ministry**

Teenagers and middle schoolers join Father Courtney for dinner and discussion on the second Saturday of each month at 6:30 pm. In October we shall meet at Logan's Roadhouse (Steakhouse) in Rivergate.

#### Community Taekwondo

"The Kickers" will host a fall St. James appreciation clean-up of the Church grounds on the third Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

#### Community Grief Group

We will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Flyers are available in the front hallway if you know of anyone who could benefit from learning more of the group process.

#### **Elementary Education**

Week 1 - Samuel Anoints David

Week 2 - David & Goliath

Week 3 - David Dances

Week 4 – David's Son Builds a Temple

Financial Update			
August 2013			
Income	10,837		
Expenses	10,195		
Net	\$642		

4

#### **Contact Us**

St. James the Less Episcopal Church 411 West Due West Avenue Madison TN 37075

Phone: 615.865.4496

Website: www.stjamesmadison.net

Priest-in-Charge: Father Robin Courtney

#### Church Schedule

Saturday

Holy Eucharist – 5:00 PM

Sunday

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Church School - 9:30 AM

Elementary Education – 10:30 AM

Wednesday

Grief Group – 6:30 PM

Choir Practice – 7:00 PM

Monday & Thursday

Community TKD - 5:00 PM

## News from the Diocese of Tennessee

This year's Small Church Conference for the Diocese of Tennessee will feature the Rev. Dr. Kristine Blaess on Transformational Leadership. It will be held on Saturday, October 19 at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 1216 Sneed Road in Franklin. Registration begins at 8:00 AM with Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM. Conference presentations and activities commence at 9:00 AM, concluding by 3PM. The conference fee of \$15 per person includes materials & lunch.

During the conference Kristine will address:

- "The Place of Small Churches in God's Kingdom—A Vision for Flourishing, Sustainable Ministries" (including the congregational lifecycle model) and
- "Building Relationships with the Neighbors God Has Already Prepared for Us" (using service & evangelism)

Social Space or small group breakouts will consider:

- "What Is"—analyzing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threats of a local church
- "What Could Be"—visioning about the future and
- "6-Month Plan"—developing an initial path for implementation
- See Father Courtney for more information!

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