

# The Sentinel



## Priest's Ponderings

Growing up I belonged to a cross country bicycling club sponsored by one of our high school teachers. He recruited us by saying that it was the only sport that could be practiced while sitting down. Still, it was very demanding, especially as some of our trips were over 30 miles.

He would remind us that once we reached the halfway point on our trip, it was futile to turn back. His advantage? Only he knew the halfway point! Fortunately, whenever any of us inquired about our status, we were usually  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way home.

In March we come to the halfway point of Lent. Have you already turned back? Are you making progress to your goal? Has it been an uphill climb so far or a pleasant coast? Answers to those questions will say many things about your spiritual disciplines and your Lenten renewal.

On many bicycling trips, I did encounter a very helpful phenomena: My second wind. It came out of nowhere, but arrived just before I was about to founder. In the church the Holy Spirit is that same source of renewed energy, and it can come to our rescue, as well. Just ask for it, and God will provide it as needed.

I pray our Lenten journeys are taking us to new places, providing much excitement, and, most importantly, are wearing us out. Once we arrive home on Easter Day, we will be stronger Christians, and our joy will have even greater depth and meaning.

RSC+

## It's Lent

Our Lenten series, "The Anglican Faith: Always Open," with a soup and salad dinner will be on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:50 pm through March 25th. (Dinner is from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm, and discussion follows.) A sign-up sheet for hosting the dinner is on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Join us!

## Feeding the Homeless

As part of our outreach efforts at St. James, we are assisting Fr. Bill Dennler, at the Church of the Holy Trinity in downtown Nashville, with his ministry to homeless individuals. Every Sunday afternoon at 2:00 he has "Church in the Yard." This is a full church service plus a meal. Area churches volunteer to provide the meals on these Sundays and we have agreed to volunteer on the 5th Sunday of the month. Our first time, November 30, was a huge success. We had plenty of food and volunteers on hand. We provided a sack lunch that included: 1 sandwich, 1 bag of chip, 1 piece of fresh fruit, and 1 dessert (cookie, snack cake, etc.). This turned out to be a good choice, as people were able to take extra lunches with them and Fr. Bill took the remaining leftovers to a nearby homeless camp. We will do sack lunches again for March the 29th, but we did learn some lessons from the first time.

As you prepared individual sack lunches, please use a marker to write on the outside of the bag the type of sandwich within, example: "ham & cheese."

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## Calendar

*Wednesdays:*

Soup & Salad

Discussion at 5:30 pm

*Saturday, March 14th:*

Youth Group at 5:30 pm

*Tuesday, March 17th:*

Vestry meeting at 6:30 pm

*Friday, March 20th:*

Daughters of the King

Prayer Group at 1:00 pm

*Friday, March 27th:*

Sentinel Article Deadline

*Sunday, March 29th:*

Feed the Homeless

**Happy Birthday**

Janet Deweese	3/1
Pam Gregg	3/1
Mattie Sue Spain	3/5
Leo Musarra, Jr.	3/5
Carter Emery	3/5
Matthew Jones	3/9
Josh Smith	3/10
Leo Musarra, Sr.	3/11
David Randolph	3/13
Jean Hawkins	3/14
Beth Coppersmith	3/15
Alex Hoskins	3/17
Emily Lucianno	3/18
Victoria Womack	3/28
Kenneth Jones	3/31

**Member Spotlight: Louise Jones and Family**

I tried to convince Fr. Courtney that we were in the witness protection program and couldn't give out personal information but he didn't buy into it.....so here goes.

The Jones' migrated to Hendersonville almost 20 years ago from CA. Actually, we, Don and I, Louise, followed our three sons, Dave, and the twins, Kenny and Bobby. Our oldest came for the music and the twins came to enjoy a summer of work at Opryland and then forgot to move home.

We meet in high school and this July will celebrate 45 years. Our family has expanded to include 2 wonderful daughter-in-laws, 4 almost perfect grandchildren and 1 perfect grand dog (a cocker spaniel).

Don and I have been semi-retired for almost 25 years. We owned retail clothing stores in our home town along with rental properties. We now manage and maintain our rental properties here in TN. The two things I told my family as we moved to a new town was first find a church and then the library. Both have played big parts in our lives. To each of our children I have passed on my love of reading and importance of family. Don has passed on his love of music to Dave and sports to the twins.

Our children and grandchildren are cradle Episcopalians while both of us have belonged to the Church for over 40 years. We have always enjoyed a smaller church

*"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." -Mother Teresa*

**March Lay Assignments***March 1st*

Eucharistic: Jane Emery & Jim Cate  
 Lector: Harry Spain  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Rick Webb & George Womack  
 Altar Guild: Karen Cate & Joan Wells  
 Coffee Hour: The Sinhas & Halders

*March 8th:*

Eucharistic: George Mickle & Cindy Reese  
 Lector: Marcille Gustina  
 Crucifer: Michael Schoenenberger  
 Ushers: Larry Emery & Pete Mace  
 Altar Guild: Mary Elizabeth Womack & Betty Odom  
 Coffee Hour: A Gracious Volunteer

*March 15th:*

Eucharistic: Tony McFarland & Sarah Mace  
 Lector: Tony McFarland  
 Crucifer: Alex Magnis  
 Ushers: Donnie Denning & Mike Deweese  
 Altar Guild: Sandra Womack & Janet Deweese  
 Coffee Hour: The McFarlands

*March 22nd:*

Eucharistic: Rick & Cindy Webb  
 Lector: David Gaines  
 Crucifer: Erick Cate  
 Ushers: Rick Webb & George Womack  
 Altar Guild: Cindi Spain & Judy Stewart  
 Coffee Hour: More Gracious Volunteers

*March 29th:*

Eucharistic: Jim Cate & Jane Emery  
 Lector: Michael Mauk  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Larry Emery & Joe Reese  
 Altar Guild: Cindi Spain & Judy Stewart  
 Coffee Hour: Even More Gracious Volunteers

and have worn many hats in the church. Both of us have served on vestries as Jr. and Sr. Warden, secretary, treasurer, been involved in ECW, men's group, altar guild, Sunday School, sexton, etc. Our oldest, Dave has said he would come back to the Episcopal Church when we get better wine and a new hymnal. Since we all left St. Joseph's, Bobby and his family attend the Lutheran Church in Hendersonville (until we can convince them to join us at St. James). Kenny and Tonya feel right at home at St. James, and she is going to be the new pre-school-elementary Sunday school teacher. Fr. Courtney can take much of the credit or the blame depending on your view!

I am excited to be serving on the vestry and to be part of the plans for the future growth of the Church. Amen

**Saint of the Month – Saint Patrick**

Feast Day – March 16th - The exact time and place of his birth is unknown. Guesses range from Wales to Kilpatrick, Scotland. What is known is that his father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest.

At the age of 14, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish pirates (common at the time) and taken to Ireland where he herded sheep as a slave. During his captivity his prayer life grew, and at about the age of 20, guided by a dream, he found a ship willing to carry him and made his escape.

He studied to be a priest, and eventually was ordained as Bishop. Guided once again by dreams, these expressing the need of the Irish for his presence, he traveled back to Ireland to proclaim the Gospel.

Of the legends attributed to him, he used the clover to preach the Gospel. When explaining the trinity he would pluck a clover and ask, is it one leaf or three (botanically speaking it is actually one leaf), and ask the Irish whether it was one or three. Several songs are attributed to Patrick, the most famous being his *Lorica* or the *Deer Cry*. It is said when one of the kings was out to capture Patrick, he and his disciples sang this song, and the king's men only saw deer as they passed by them. The true miracle behind Patrick's life though is his great forgiveness. Anyone who can serve as a slave for some 6 years and return to the people who enslaved him to tell them about Jesus shows the true power of forgiveness. Would that we were all so eager to forgive those who sin against us, and to proclaim the Gospel.

## From The Loft

As we head into the Lenten Season and prepare for Christ's Resurrection, there has been much happening from the choir loft. After a month of leading the congregation in worship and song, I have felt very welcomed and humbled by all the kind words and hospitality from everyone at St. James the Less. As Lent is a season of penance and reflection, we have experienced certain highs and lows in worship. The ice storm prompted the cancellation of the late service on Ash Wednesday. And, the organ cyphered and was out of commission during one Sunday's service. So with this season, we reflect on the happenings as time passes — the ice is melting and the organ has been repaired. This has truly been an interesting beginning to my tenure at St. James.

We continue to press on every Wednesday at 7:00 for rehearsal. I would like to remind anyone that is interested that all are welcomed to join and sing. We are currently rehearsing music for upcoming Sundays as well as for Holy Week and Easter. If you have any questions or concerns, I am always easily reachable by contacting my cell phone at 717-254-5177, or by contacting Fr. Courtney.

-John Lucciano

## Vestry Notes from February

- Carpet in Sanctuary should be repaired by middle February
- ATT Phone & Internet Service has been accomplished
- Laptop for church use has been purchased
- Plans for Lent (Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Weekly Soup & Salad)
- Plans for Dividing the Elementary Sunday School class due to higher participation
- Newcomers' Reception Date will be in Fall of 2015
- Holy Trinity Outreach Dinner is on March 29<sup>th</sup>

January Financial Report	
Total Revenues	9,778
Total Expenses	12,096
Loss	-\$2,318
<p><i>Higher expenses due to late billings for repair work in December, quarterly pension assessments, higher utility bills in winter months, and prepayment of fees for 2015 in various budget categories. Situation should balance over the next few months.</i></p> <p><i>—for more information see Jim Cate, Treasurer</i></p>	

## Feeding the Homeless —continued from page 1

Some of the lunches we took last time were bagged in plastic zip-loc bags. This was HUGELY popular, as people were able to use the plastic bags later to keep personal belongings dry.

Please do not prepare any mayonnaise based sandwiches, they tasted great, but became very messy. Provide a variety of soft and hard fruit.

We need volunteers to prepare and serve these meals (at least 200 meals). Volunteers will commit to preparing the number of meals they want to provide, and bring them to the church on that Sunday (or bring the fixin's and prepare the lunches at the church). Even if you can only provide a couple lunches, every little bit counts and matters. We will also need 4-6 volunteers to serve the meals that Sunday afternoon. There will be a sign up list on the bulletin board.

-Ken Saefkow

## Ministries

Our monthly collection for Room in the Inn is cough drops, antacids, and pain reliever (Tylenol, etc.). Drop off is on the piano bench at the rear of the nave.

### Youth Ministry

We have two programs for the youth of the parish.

Teenagers and middle schoolers join Father Courtney, Lacey Lyons, and Joel Sinha for dinner and discussion on the second Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm at the church. In March we continue our chats of the basics of spirituality: Faith, Hope, and Love.

### Sunday School

During this month the older kids will be preparing for Easter. We will learn to remember God is with us through difficult times. Our bible verse themes will be: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth (Psalm 121:2). But me! I am filled with power, with the spirit of the Lord (Micah 3:8).

The early elementary school youngsters will welcome their new Sunday School teacher, Mrs. Tonya Jones. We welcome Mrs. Jones with sincere appreciation!

*Daughters of the King Prayer Group*  
Marcille Gustina and Sarah Mace host a monthly meeting of fellowship and prayer of our Daughters of the King and any others who would like to attend. It is the 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 pm at Marcille's residence at Maybelle Carter, 208 West Due West Avenue, Apartment # 436. They are happy to pray for any in need. Marcille can be reached at: [mandtgustina@gmail.com](mailto:mandtgustina@gmail.com) or 615-692-4045.

### Taekwondo

In the spirit of Easter and the Taekwondo tenant of Perseverance we will share a valuable quote: "It's not whether you get knocked down. It's whether you get up again." -Vince Lombardi

**Contact Us**

St. James the Less Episcopal Church  
411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison TN 37075  
Phone: 615.865.4496  
Website: [www.stjamesmadison.net](http://www.stjamesmadison.net)  
Priest-in-Charge: Father Robin Courtney

**Church Schedule**

*Sunday*  
Holy Eucharist – 8:00 AM  
Adult Education – 9:30 AM  
Choral Holy Eucharist – 10:30 AM  
Sunday School (ages 5-12) – 10:30 AM

*Wednesday*  
Choir Practice – 7:00 PM

*Monday & Thursday*  
Community Taekwondo – 5:00 PM

**St. James the Less  
Episcopal Church**

411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison, TN 37115

**News from the Diocese of Tennessee**

Mid-Cumberland Mountain Ministries (MCMM), based at Church of the Holy Comforter, Monteagle, was established through grants from the Tennessee Department of Housing Administration in 1988 and is still in operation today as an outreach ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee. Their vision is to support the dignity and stability of God’s people by providing resources to Franklin, Grundy, and Marion Counties. Their mission is to support families and individuals by providing resources for Housing, Education, Enrichment, and Acute Needs. MCMM’s clients are anyone in need regardless of his or her race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation.

Housing: Variable term housing loans are made at low to no interest to help individuals buy or build a home. Smaller rehab loads are also offered to help residents afford needed repairs to their current dwelling. In order to receive a loan from MCMM, clients are required to attend financial and budget counseling and demonstrate their commitment toward improving their financial situation before a loan is approved.

Emergency Shelter: MCMM has aided travelers and local residents needing shelter for the night by paying for a local hotel room, making a referral to an area shelter, or assisting individuals or families relocate into a variety of housing options.

Work for the Future: Through a grant to MCMM financial assistance is available to help cover the costs of books, tuition, and travel for post-secondary education for area residents.



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