

St. James Lutheran Church, ELCA

PO Box 4596, 109 York Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325-4596

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“We respond to God’s abundant grace by being hearers, proclaimers and doers of the Word.”

Volume 65, No. 02

THE MESSENGER

February 2020

MUSINGS from Pastor Mike

[to muse (*myooz*), v. to think, gaze, or say wonderingly]

I am writing this *musings* on January 15, the 91st birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. That morning here at St. James we held our monthly meeting of our local Ministerium. I opened the meeting by reading parts of a sermon delivered by Martin Luther King at the Dexter Avenue Baptist church in Montgomery, Alabama, on Christmas, 1957. The title of the sermon was *“Loving Your Enemies,”* challenging the hearers to develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. *“He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love.”*

As I was preparing for the devotions, I was reminded of the day, early November, when my wife Lois and I, visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington, DC. The best way to begin the tour in the museum is to descend into the earth. A glass elevator carries you down through six centuries of history, significant dates written on the walls. When I stepped out of the elevator, I emerged into the 1400s. As I looked at the displays I knew immediately that I had arrived at a world not yet overrun by greed, suffering and death. But that did not last long!

I then began to walk the mile-and-a-half winding route through slavery to an unsafe freedom. The more I walked and read and looked at the displays, I could feel my body having a visceral reaction, not because I was underground so much as because of what I was reading and seeing. I realized that what I was experiencing was shock—shock was brought on by items such as tiny, child-sized shackles, an entire slave cabin from Edisto Island, SC (where I now vacation on beautiful beaches!), Emmett Till’s casket, and so much more. I found myself being arrested by the shocking pictures, one such, a field whip that a slave owner used to terrorize and torture enslaved black people into increasing production, oftentimes resulting in brain damage.

On that same day, at the same time we were beneath street level, 1000s of people had gathered on the streets above for a parade celebrating the World Series victory by the Washington Nationals baseball team. Life converges into us from many sides!

As we came out of the museum nearly five hours later, I left grasping my feeling that the past lies not only beneath us but within us. I held that same feeling as I was leading devotions on the 91st birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

From my musings point of view, I experienced the sacredness of history in that visit to the NMAAHC, embedded in the earth and enfolded in us. And I realized the most powerful words from that sermon I used for my devotional that day of MLK’s birthday: *“Forgiveness is the only way to create the Beloved Community. Love transforms with redemptive power.”*

WORSHIP: Saturday 5:30 pm & Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 am

FEBRUARY 1 & 2 – EPIPHANY 4

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn and those who hunger for righteousness.

Readings: Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12.

As we celebrate SCOUT SUNDAY at both services and the birth of scouting, the leaders, scouts and families of Cub Scout Pack 79 & Boy Scout Troop 79 (sponsored by St. James) would like to thank the congregation for its support! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the leaders that give of their time and talents to work with these young people and to thank the boys and their families who are involved in these programs. I appreciate all of you! Again, thank you St. James for your continued support. Please remember the youth, their families and the leaders in your prayers as we all try “to do our best, to do our duty, to God and our country.” And please join us in the gathering area after the 8:15 am service for a time of refreshments and fellowship, hosted by the Scouts and their families.
Shirley Sanders, Unit Commissioner and Chartered Organization Representative

“SOUPER” BOWL - Monetary donations for the Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen will be collected at all three worship services (thanks to the Scouts for their help). Soup kettles will be at the doors. **Checks should be made payable to Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen.**

*Food items collected at all services the first weekend of every month, benefit SCCAP Food Pantry; under the auspices of Social Ministry. Please do not bring any glass containers. (A very special thank you to **Tom Bender and Shirley Sanders** for overseeing this vital ministry each month!)*

FEBRUARY 8 & 9 – EPIPHANY 5

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loosen the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. Jesus calls us to let our light shine before others.

Readings: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12], Psalm 112:1-9 [10], 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16], Matthew 5:13-20.

Second Sunday of Service from 9:30-10:30 am for elementary Sunday Schools.

10:45 am WATERLIFE Service (especially for families with young children).

FEBRUARY 15 & 16 – EPIPHANY 6

Much of today’s Gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. The pattern of behavior honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community.

Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

FEBRUARY 22 & 23 – TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

*Today’s festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany that comes to a close today and the Lent cycle that begins on Wednesday. Today we put aside the ALLELUIA for the season of Lent. Readings: Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9. **PRAYERS OF HEALING** at the end of each liturgy.*

FEBRUARY 26 – ASH WEDNESDAY, 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM

We begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean. 10:00 am – a quiet spoken liturgy with imposition of ashes around the baptismal font; 7:00 pm with imposition of ashes, full sung liturgy with the Adult Choir. Readings: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

Pre-Lenten Evenings of Prayer

MONDAY, February 3 & 17 & 24, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

“Listen to Love to love” (Deut. 6:5)

What is the desire of your heart? What does it mean to do the “inner work” we are all called to at our Baptism? How can we “*have the life we want by being present to the life we have right in front of us?*” On these three evenings prior to the beginning of Lent, we will look closer at several foundational prayer-types coming from within our Christian tradition. We will review the *examen*. We will explore what it means to be spiritually attentive in our daily lives by exploring other prayer forms such as *lectio divina*, the *Jesus Prayer*, as well as the importance of quiet time and contemplative prayer in our lives. Sign-ups can be made on our website and in the gathering area at the church.

Parish Records

DEATHS

December 26, 2019 Larry A. Johnson
January 15, 2020 Ronald L. Wishard

BAPTISMS

January 5, 2020 Aria Rose Hill
January 5, 2020 Amaya Marie Hill
January 19, 2020 Brooklyn Marie Miller



50+ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| February 10, 1962 | Thomas R. & Madeline V. Gormley | 58 years |
| February 14, 1970 | Dennis F. & Rebecca J. Carter | 51 years |
| February 16, 1969 | Charles B. & Judy A. Sterner | 51 years |
| February 24, 1968 | Stephen D. & Rebecca C. Harris | 52 years |

COOKED MEAT LOAF & FROZEN VEGETABLES are needed each month as St. James' contribution to lunch at the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen. Please call Greta Englund at 717-420-5298 if you are able to help.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30-10:30 AM

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets in room 303, on the top floor of the church. Join us to learn what Scripture teaches us about responding to God's love. Lessons stand-alone; G. Ronald Couchman, contact.

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Feb. 2 | <i>"Single-Minded Obedience"</i> | (Matthew 4:1-11) | Joe MacDowell |
| Feb. 9 | <i>"Piety That Honors God"</i> | (Matthew 6:1-8) | Kay MacDowell |
| Feb. 16 | <i>"The Prayer of Jesus"</i> | (Matthew 6:9-15) | Nelson Strobert |
| Feb. 23 | <i>"Perseverance in Prayer"</i> | (Luke 11:5-13) | Nelson Strobert |

ADULT DISCUSSION CLASS meets in room 200, at the northern end of the main hallway. Each Sunday we enjoy timely presentations and discussions; Judy Leslie, contact. Join us!

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| Feb. 2 | <i>"The Work for Freedom: Life in the Pennsylvania Borderlands"</i> led by Peter Miele | | |
| Feb. 9 | <i>"The Pros & Cons of Reparations for Slavery"</i> led by Scott Hancock | | |
| Feb. 16 | <i>"Pipe Organ Encounter"</i> led by Tim Braband in the worship area | | |
| Feb. 23 | Lecture 1 - <i>"The Early Christians and Their Literature"</i> by Prof. Bart Ehrman | | |

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

--Welcoming New Members--

For many years members of St. James have been part of a local CSA program. Last year we entered into a new relationship with Ben Mearns, owner of Mud College Farm, a small certified organic vegetable farm located in Gettysburg. Environmental stewardship and sustainability are the reasons Mud College Farm is in existence. This coming year they will be growing over 50 varieties of vegetables, as well as limited amounts of tree fruits and bramble fruit. Eggs from free-range hens are also part of the CSA program. **Items can be picked up each Tuesday after 2:30 pm at St. James (June 30 through November 3).**

If you are interested, you can buy either one share or one-half share by going to <https://www.mudcollege.com/2020-csa-sign-up/>. Checks as well as online payments with credit card or bank account (a 2.9% processing fee is added to online payments) are accepted. After completing the online form you will see a page with payment instructions <https://www.mudcollege.com/success/>. Payment is due after sign-up. Please note the option to split payments into two installments, if that is easier for you. Please e-mail Ben Mearns at farmer@mudcollege.com if you have any questions.

Mission Fund Committee

~David Flesner

At its annual meeting in January of 2010, the Congregation re-affirmed a resolution by Congregation Council to allocate one tenth of undesignated bequests to support the local and worldwide mission of the church.

The purpose of the Mission Fund Committee is to solicit suggestions from members of the congregation about organizations or programs to be considered for support and then to evaluate the suggestions and make specific recommendations to Council for distribution of the Mission Fund monies. Due to limited funds available last year, only one project received Mission Fund support in 2019:

- **Church Building in Rwanda \$3,200**

The committee is now ready to receive suggestions from members of the congregation for the 2020 distributions. If you have an organization or program that you wish to recommend for consideration for possible support, please send the following information to David Flesner by e-mail (dflesner@gettysburg.edu) or in **writing through the church office by noon on Thursday, March 5:**

- 1) Your name and your contact information (telephone and/or e-mail address).
- 2) The name and contact information of the organization or program that you are recommending (name of organization or program, name of a person, telephone, address, website, etc.).
- 3) The mission of the organization or program and a rationale for support from St. James, including the extent of need for that project.

As the committee develops recommendations for distribution of the Mission Fund monies, it keeps in mind the overall mission of St. James: *“We respond to God’s abundant grace by being hearers, proclaimers, and doers of the Word.”*

David Flesner, Chair
Pastors Allwein and Geib
Daniel Bringman, Council Representative
Wendy Macheimer, Early Learning Center Governance Representative
Shirley Sanders, Social Ministry Representative
Dennis Carter, World Outreach Representative

Boy Scout Troop 73 Raises Funds for Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S.

Boy Scout Troop 73 is having their annual Spaghetti Dinner on **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17** at General Pickett’s Buffett. Ticket proceeds are divided between the Scout Troop and Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. This will be the third year that the Scouts have designated C.A.R.E.S. as the program they wish to support. If you have been to this dinner in the past, you know it is a delicious meal with the Scouts taking good care of all those attending. **Tickets are \$10 for adults (\$12 at the door) and \$5 for children ages 5-10.** You may purchase tickets from Pr. Mike, Jim Lohuis or Mary Stevenson. So, please come out, enjoy a great meal, and help the homeless in our community!

St. James Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020
(Held at the home of Dan and Lucinda Bringman)

CORRESPONDENCE & MINUTES:

No correspondence was circulated. Minutes from the December 18 meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Dan Bringman reported that the 2019 fiscal year ended with a balance of \$808. While St. James received more actual giving than in 2018, the 2019 total was less than the amount budgeted. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

It was moved that scholarships for the Early Learning Center in the amount of \$15,000 be taken from the Church and Community Fund, rather than from Undesignated Bequests. The motion was approved.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

It was reported that as of January 12, 2020, a total of **\$428,185** has been received in support of the Capital Campaign.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Kyle Smith reported that window replacement is progressing and repointing of the bricks has begun. The roof has not yet started, which Kyle attributed to a combination of weather delays, labor supply issues, and a very busy roofer. Council was assured that the roofer is a reputable business and the work will be done. The security plan for the Early Learning Center is completed and work to improve security will be going out to bid shortly.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

A Nominating Committee is being formed to find nominees for the next Council election.

Following a short Council meeting, members met in retreat to explore writing a strategic plan for the future of St. James. They used the 2017 Mission Plan as the basis of their discussion.

2020 FASTNACHT ORDER FORM

St. James Lutheran Church

Three options to place your order:

- (Preferred) Online ordering at stjamesgettysburg.org select **Order Fastnachts**.
- Fill out the form below and submit it to the church office.
- Call **717-337-1372** and leave a phone message with your order.

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ Dozen at **\$7** a dozen

Amount \$ _____

(payment due at pick-up)

PICK-UP *(please specify both day and time):*

____ Sunday, February 23 (8am – Noon) Time

____ Monday, February 24 (3pm – 7pm) Time

____ Tuesday, February 25 (5am – 10am) Time

Volunteer to help by going to stjamesgettysburg.org and selecting **Fastnacht Volunteers** or by calling Youth Minister Kristin Slaybaugh at 919-802-5473.

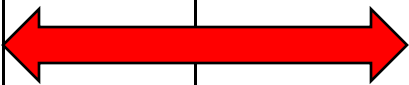
Youth News



- **Saturday, February 8th from 5:00-8:00 pm: Game Night in the Dining Room!** Join us in the dining room with your favorite board game and your friends and family to enjoy a night of fellowship as a church. We are going to have a **Spaghetti Dinner**, please let us know if you're coming so we know how much food we need!
- **Wednesday, February 12th: Hoss's Youth FUNdraiser night!** Come out to Hoss's in Gettysburg to support our youth. Bring your Hoss's card (found on the bulletin board by the church office) and a friend!
- **Saturday, February 15th from 2:30-4:30 pm: Sky Zone Saturday!** We are inviting families to join us at Sky Zone, Harrisburg, for an afternoon of fun! Cost is **\$16/jumper** to attend. Please RSVP to youth@stjamesgettysburg.org.
- **Saturday, February 22nd: High School Fastnachts Lock-In!** We will arrive at church at 8:00 pm Saturday night to hang out, watch movies, and "sleep" a little before beginning Fastnacht production around 4:30 am on Sunday morning. Please bring pillows, sleeping bags, and old clothes to wear while we make fastnachts!
- **Sunday-Tuesday, February 23rd-25th: Fastnachts!!** All youth group members that plan to attend Workcamp must sign up for at least one shift. This is the major fundraiser that helps pay for your trip! Please sign up to volunteer and place your order on the St. James website!



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|
|  | | | | | | 1 Epiphany 4 <i>"Souper" Bowl & Food Donations Weekend</i> 5:30 pm Communion |
| 2 Epiphany 4 <i>"Souper" Bowl & SCOUT Sunday Food Donations Weekend</i> 8:15 am Communion 9:15 am Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Communion | 3 2:45 pm Middle School Youth Group 6:30 pm Property 7:00 pm Lenten Evening of Prayer 7:30 pm ARD | 4 10:00 am Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Staff Meeting (OFFICE CLOSED) 6:00 pm ELC Governance 6:30 pm Evangelism 7:00 pm Worship & Music | 5 6:45 am Middle & High School Breakfast 9:30 am Early Learning Center Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Elementary Youth Groups & Choirs 7:00 pm High School Youth Group | 6 9:00 am Creation Care Taskforce 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Christian Education 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 7 | 8 Epiphany 5 5:30 pm Communion  5:00 pm Game Night w/Spaghetti Dinner for ALL AGES! |
| 9 Epiphany 5 8:15 am Communion 9:30 am Sunday School <i>Second Sunday of Service</i> 10:45 am Communion & WATERLIFE  7:00 pm Martin Luther Choir | 10 2:45 pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00 pm Personnel | 11 10:00 am Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Staff Meeting (OFFICE CLOSED) | 12 6:45 am MS/HS Breakfast 9:30 am ELC Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Executive 3:30 pm Elementary Youth Groups & Choirs 7:00 pm High School Youth Group at Hoss's Hoss's Youth FUNDRAISER | 13 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 14 | 15 Epiphany 6 5:30 pm Communion  2:30 pm Harrisburg Sky Zone for families The Messenger DEADLINE |
| 16 Epiphany 6 8:15 am Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Communion | 17 10:00 am Stephen Ministers 2:45 pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00 pm Lenten Evening of Prayer | 18 10:00 am Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Staff Meeting (OFFICE CLOSED) 7:00 pm Library 7:15 pm Social Ministry | 19 6:45 am MS/HS Breakfast 9:30 am ELC Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Grief Ministry Lunch (<i>Dunlap's</i>) 3:30 pm Elementary Youth Groups & Choirs 7:00 pm High School Youth Group 7:00 pm COUNCIL | 20 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Choir 7:00 pm Youth Ministry | 21 | 22 Transfiguration of Our Lord 5:30 pm Communion & Prayers for Healing  8:00 pm High School Lock-In |
| 23 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:15 am Communion & Prayers for Healing 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Communion & Prayers for Healing FEB. 23-25 Making Fastnachts | 24 1:30 pm Archives 2:45 pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00 pm Lenten Evening of Prayer | 25 10:00 am Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Staff Meeting (OFFICE CLOSED) 6:00 pm World Outreach 7:00 pm Mission Support 7:30 pm Art & Design | 26 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:45 am MS/HS Breakfast 9:00 am Messenger Volunteers & Messenger mailed 9:30 am ELC Chapel 10:00 am Imposition of Ashes & Communion 3:30 pm Elementary Youth Groups & Choirs 7:00 pm Imposition of Ashes & Communion | 27 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Adult Choir | 28 9:30 am Contemplative Prayer Group | 29 Lent I <i>5th Sunday Servant Event</i> 5:30 pm Communion |



ST. JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

PO BOX 4596, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325-4596

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

The Messenger will be processed again on Wednesday, February 26. All articles must be e-mailed to dnimtz@stjamesgettysburg.org **BEFORE Saturday, February 15!**

LABEL

Calling St. James at (717) 334-2012

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Wednesday, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm

*When calling our church office, you will reach the automated phone system. **Please leave a message** on staff members' voice-mails by immediately pressing their extension number listed below.*

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 201 | Katheryn M. Clowney <i>Church Administrator</i> kclowney@stjamesgettysburg.org | 206 | Pr. Andrew R. Geib <i>Associate Pastor</i> ageib@stjamesgettysburg.org |
| 202 | Debra L. Nimitz <i>Administrative Assistant</i> dnimtz@stjamesgettysburg.org | 207 | Kristin M. Slaybaugh <i>Youth Minister</i> youth@stjamesgettysburg.org |
| 203 | Lisa P. Poole <i>Spiritual Gifts Coordinator</i> lpole@stjamesgettysburg.org | 209 | Timothy E. Braband <i>Minister of Music</i> tbraband@stjamesgettysburg.org |
| 205 | Pr. Michael E. Allwein <i>Senior Pastor</i> mallwein@stjamesgettysburg.org | 215 | G. Thomas Bender <i>Building Superintendent</i> sexton@stjamesgettysburg.org |