



Happenings

ST. JAMES' GLASTONBURY

October 16, 2024

**Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey,
whenever you can, you are welcome here.**



I was what, eight years old? We were in the midst of our Little League championship season. We were ahead by the slimmest of margins, but the other team was rallying. They had two outs with a runner in scoring position. Their batter swung. He connected. A sharp line drive came towards me in right field. I only had to move a couple steps to catch the ball and I did.

Inning over. Rally over. Game over. And the way I remember it, the crowd roared.

I ran to the infield where the team was jumping up and down. I joined the huddle of players shouting with joy, returned high fives, relished their hearty claps on my back; this was Charlie Brown's alternate universe. I caught the ball and it was if I managed to kick the ball away from Lucy's cruel hands.

All was right; all was wonderful.

A teammate looked at me. He asked me with concern, "Why are you crying?" I touched my hand to my cheek and felt salted tears. I did not realize that I was, but I was.

I was crying.

Tears of joy streamed down my face and I tried to explain that in whatever way an eight-year-old can explain such things and he just shrugged and carried on with the celebration.

I don't remember if it was an important game, one that clinched a playoff spot or if it was just a normal game played on a normal Tuesday in late Spring on a scraggly little league lot in Ansonia but I do remember the important stuff.

I remember we went to Friendly's after the game. I even got to sit at the counter with some of the better players, the ones who hit with power and fielded the ball with grace. You see, before I became better at playing the game, I was not very good at it. (There was a reason I was in right field that night.)

I also remember the coach of the team drove me home after that ice cream jamboree with his son. I got to sit in the front seat. I asked my coach if we went to Friendly's because of the catch I made. He paused, maybe even winced a bit. Eight-year-olds can sometimes be rather adept at perceiving a situation and I immediately realized, in that brief nanosecond of a pause and the beginning of his answer that I had asked the wrong question.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"

They asked the wrong question because I do not think they know what they were asking. They wanted to sit beside Jesus just as Jesus would sit at God's right hand. James and John wanted power and they wanted Jesus to hold the greatest power.

They wanted Jesus to be king of Israel, to rid Israel of its Roman oppressors. And the powerful had powerful seats beside the powerful. The courtiers and courtesans would all stand close to the king in the king's chambers, they would plot out the map which would lead to their freedom from the Roman colonizers.

Jesus was incredulous but still patient with the Sons of Zebedee also known as the Sons of Thunder. In response to their question, he asked them somewhat gently, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

And how could they know? They knew not what they asked. Their minds were on earthly power; Jesus' mind was on the divine. And further, he knew of his own suffering and before that suffering, his time in the garden. He knew of his abandonment there, how his disciples' very human need

for sleep would prevent them from keeping watch over Jesus as they had promised.

James and John, though claiming they did, could not conceive of the cup from which Jesus would be asked to drink. For though Jesus would ultimately be victorious, they could not imagine drinking from the cup of suffering that Jesus would drink from much less be baptized on the cross as Jesus was.

They were asking the wrong questions because their minds were set on human glory. And sometimes, even when we are eight years old, we can place ourselves in the center of stories that are not truly our own. We can see ourselves as the star when it took a group of nine to bring that team to victory.

We can wish ourselves to be the most powerful when we are but two in a group of twelve led by the One who would become our savior.

Worship

Sunday October 20, 2024
Holy Eucharist and Baptism 10:15am

Readings

- Job 38:1-7, (34-41)
- Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37b
- Hebrews 5:1-10
- Mark 10:35-45

Participants

Celebrant & Preacher - Rev. Matt Handi
Minister of Music - Sue Hertel
Minister of Communion - Gail Lebert
Reader - Lisa Gleason
Ushers - Carl Benker and Team

[Click here for the weekly Worship Bulletin and Lessons](#)

Music Notes

Sunday's anthem, *The Servant Song*, began in 1977 when Richard Gillard jotted down stanza 3 (below) on a piece of paper. After travelling throughout Europe, he discovered the paper in his guitar case upon returning to England, and completed writing the song's lyrics and music.

*I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear.*

*I will hold my hand out to you;
speak the peace you long to hear.*

The song is an expression of the Christian call to community and friendship: selfless service, walking alongside, and bearing of one another's joys, sorrows, and fears.

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Events

Concert *Bach Cantatas: Town Council Elections* | CONCORA ▪ Sunday, October 20 – 4 pm ▪ St. James's Episcopal Church, West Hartford ▪ info/tickets: www.concora.org

Concert *Beethoven: Symphony 9; R. Vaughan Williams: Serenade to Music* | Wallingford Symphony Orchestra and Hartford Chorale ▪ Sunday, October 20 – 4 pm ▪ Morgan School, Clinton ▪ info/tickets www.hartfordchorale.org

Evensong ▪ Wednesday, October 23 – 5:15 pm ▪ Trinity College Chapel, Hartford ▪ Free

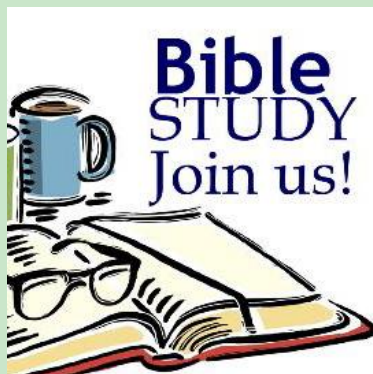
Pipescreams: *Halloween organ concert* ▪ Friday, October 25 – 6 pm Ghost Stories – 7 pm Concert ▪ Fun for all ages ▪ St. James's Episcopal Church, West Hartford ▪ Free; info: www.hartfordago.org

Keep scrolling for information on Adult Bible Study, "What do you think", Wednesday Wisdom and more!

Ministry News & Events

Memorial Service for Becky Hoyt Sunday October 20th - 3pm

The Memorial Service for Becky Hoyt will be held at St. James' on Sunday, October 20th at 3pm.



Adult Bible Study 9:15am - The Meeting Room

"In my experience, each failure contains the seeds of your next success, if you are willing to learn from it." - Paul Allen, Microsoft Co-founder

Folks,

For the above session, let's us discuss the last chapters 4-6 of the Epistle to the Ephesians.

Some thoughts for you to ponder in these chapters:

Do you agree with the Apostle Paul's wisdom about how the follower of Christ must act and behave in the world or do you have other different considerations, thoughts or ideas about how he/she should

act and behave? (hint: 5:21-6:9)

Can you explain how would you, as the Apostle Paul says, 'let love rule your life' or 'live in the light'?

Do you believe that being a Christian is a war against Satan and evil? (hint: 6:10-20)

See you then.

Shalom,

Clint

"We shall either learn to live together as brothers and sisters or perish together as fools." - MLK

Carol's Closet This Saturday October 19 - 10am-11:30pm

Carol's Closet clothing donation request-

Carol's Closet is in need of gently used, clean winter coats and sweaters for both men and women. Please bring donations to church, labeled "For Carols Closet" and leave in the Foyer. Thank you!



Haunted House for Young Kids Tuesday October 22nd 6-7:30pm

St Luke's is holding a Halloween Haunted House in the Undercroft for families with young kids . The event runs from 6-7:30pm ! It is a simple haunted house intended for ages 6 and under. St. James' families are invited to attend.

They are looking for adults or older youth to help supervise within the haunted house and pass out treats while the families/children involved with Olive Branch walk through. Volunteers should arrive at 5:45 arrival—costume encouraged but optional.

Contact St. Luke's office to sign up or Katy Mooney @ katy_mooney@hotmail.com

Red Cross Blood Drive Friday October 25th 12:30pm - 5:30pm

Red Cross Blood Drives at St. James' always have a good turn out. If you can help on October 25th or make sandwiches/cookies ahead of time, please



sign up in the Atrium.

St. James' + St. Lukes' Email List: Red Cross Blood Drive (signupgenius.com)

Click here to donate



**Outreach Meeting
Wednesday October 30th
on Zoom**

The Outreach Group will meet by Zoom on Wednesday October 30th. Please contact Debbie Hamer for the link.



Apple and Pumpkin Picking Joint Fellowship Event with St. Luke's

About 15 of us gathered at Belltown Hill Orchards and had fun riding a wagon, picking apples and choosing pumpkins and enjoying apple cider and donuts. It was a treat to have Bishop Laura Aherns with us.





Stewardship Campaign 2025

Ephesians 5: 1-2 tells us to “be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” We've been meditating on this passage for our Annual Campaign.

Please fill out your footprint! As a reminder to yourself and as an inspiration to others. Put a sentence or two on a footprint describing when you recognized where God (or family, friends, neighbors) walked in love with you. Or when you were led to walk in love with others. Yellow footprints are available for your use. We want to post a trail of footsteps in the atrium!



Walk in Love Receiving Love



Author and Motivational Speaker, Brian Tracy, is noted to have said, "we should always give without remembering and always receive without forgetting."

Even as I have received, it is my endeavor never to forget. It is to this end, therefore, that I pen this reflection of a wonderful church community in Akron, Ohio in which I have seen "ways of walking in love manifested – Church Of Our Saviour Episcopal – and how they have been there for me during my times of need. In thinking of the benevolence of this great congregation, my mind reflects immediately upon three specific occasions in my life:

The first incident I recall, which was probably the most impactful to me, was when I suffered a house fire in the fall of 2018 and lost everything. This beloved church came to my immediate assistance providing me with the necessary sustenance that I needed. In addition to the basic needs, one of the families in the church graciously welcomed me into their home until I was able to get back on my feet and secure a place of my own. Further, I received a number of gift cards and care packages containing many useful items; all because the congregation had a heart to help. For this I will ever be immensely grateful.

Secondly, I recall the kidney transplant that I received in April of 2021 after having been on dialysis since 2006 (a fifteen-year period of time). Church Of Our Saviour and its beloved Rector, The Rev Debra Q Bennett, was always there to check on my well-being. During my weeks of recovery, I received many calls from the church to ascertain if I had need of anything. I think Mahatma Gandhi got it right when he said: "The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand hearts bowing in prayer." Or as we read in scripture, "faith without works is dead." -James 2:17

Finally, I think of the ongoing love that the church displays on a monthly basis in reaching out to the community with its Dinner-On-Us and Friendly Clothes Closet where it provides a hot meal and also free clothing to those who have need. I have benefited from both of these; and it only reminds me that just as I have been blessed, I must also be willing to help someone else who may be in need. | TENs.org

Questions for Reflection:

How has your walk in love been changed by the love you have been shown?



Derwood Fitzgerald Lockett thanks his church: Our Saviour, Akron, Ohio, for demonstrating the Grace of God – truly showing how it is manifested. "I remain completely astounded by their love and largesse!"



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP

News and Events



Heads Up! Hartford is excited to return to hosting our Annual Gathering of Hearts fundraiser! Heads Up! Hartford is a camp that focuses on combining urban and suburban youth to perform community service and develop as leaders.

Please join us for a special evening featuring a silent auction, food, beverages, and inspiring stories from our former campers. We will also present our Community Partner Award to one of our valued worksite partners. You'll hear from our board chair, Aaliyah Miller, and camp director, Julie McGarry, as they share the impact of our work. If you are unable to attend in person on October 19th, you can bid online or help by making a donation. This is your chance to connect, celebrate, and support our mission!

Ticket Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gathering-of-hearts-2024-heads-up-hartford-tickets-1001794102127>

Auction

Items: <https://my.onecause.com/event/organizations/2b5651a1-26f9-4ba2-8570-d0a693c176aa/events/vevt:853aac1a-ba9f-4993-a6b2-9bec3c200099/auctions/silent-auction>



The St. James' icon wall

Here is another example: "The Good Shepherdess"

Interested purchasing this Icon? Please contact the church office.

To see the entire selection of Icons: *Kelly Latimore Icons*

Did you know?

Vote Faithfully this Election Season

“It is a Christian obligation to vote, and more than that, it is the church’s responsibility to help get souls to the polls.” -Presiding Bishop Michael Curry



Episcopal Church, Washington National Cathedral plan election-related services to pray for peace, unity

[Episcopal News Service] Washington National Cathedral announced Oct. 10 that it is planning a full-day prayer vigil on Election Day, followed by a second day of prayers for peace and unity after polls close. Then on Jan. 21, the day after the new president’s inauguration, an interfaith service at the cathedral will focus on “the need for healing and national unity.”

Click here for more information

What do you think?

Results of last week's poll.

What is your favorite treat during coffee hour?

- Doughnuts - 9.7% (3)
- Cookies - 19.4% (6)
- Cake - 9.7% (3)
- Fruit - 19.4% (6)
- Coffee - 19.4% (6)
- Tea - 12.9% (4)
- Juice - 9.7% (3)

What are your favorite topics to read in Happenings?

Calendar listings

Church Family News

Worship Service/Liturgy Information

ECCT - Diocese News/Events

Events around town

This Week's Poll

wednesday
wisdom

**"To learn who rules over you, simply find out who you are not allowed to criticize.",
- Voltaire**

Links

To Give Online

To give to St. James' and its ministries

Visit our Website

A Calendar of Events is available on the St. James' website. To see what's coming up, click the link to the website above.

Sunday Live stream on YouTube – Sundays at 10:15 am
<https://www.youtube.com/@st.jamesepiscopalchurchgla1333>
Episcopal Church in Connecticut | ECCT (episcopalct.org)

The Episcopal Church in the USA (episcopalchurch.org)

860-633-8333 parishadmin@stjamesgl.org www.stjamesglastonbury.org

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