

The Messenger...January, 2022

*A publication of St. James on the Lake Episcopal Church
in Covenant with the Anglican Communion*

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LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

While I've had a hard time adjusting to the new service during the Season of Advent, (omitting the Lord's Prayer twice) now here I am having to remember that we're no longer in '21 but now it's 2022. It seems that we just began the new millennium a few weeks ago and we were all afraid that our computer would crash along with the entire worldwide banking system with the turn of the century.

Now, we're simply attempting to determine if we will ever conquer the virus or will we be forever cringing in fear waiting for the medical professionals to tell us it's alright to venture back out into world. I hear way too much discussion about fear and anger and hatred and violence these days; and I suspect that some of it can be traced back lost jobs, and lock downs and quarantines. But, I can't help but want to contribute at least some of this to our loss of connection with our church families and our awareness that we need to find strength from the Holy Spirit during these troubling times. One of the biggest mistakes that our churches made in the past year was to accept the concept that our churches were unnecessary and irrelevant. At least that is the message we sent our congregations when we allowed the government to close our doors and prevent our continued worship.

Now, I am in total support of caution and safety. I believe there was a time when masks and distancing was important. I am supportive of all those who have chosen to be vaccinated; and when I contracted Covid in September, I was glad that I had had my shots and only suffered mild symptoms. But it breaks my heart to see the animosity that is taking place between people who are becoming polarized over all that is currently taking place both on the medical front and the political front.

I'm afraid that besides missing out on so many things in school, our children are also failing to learn the meaning of civility and common curtesy from their parents who are suffering from those very short-comings in their own lives. We as Christians are called to be an example of care and compassion. We are called to be a beacon of

God's love in a broken world and this is especially true as we begin a new year. I pray that the coming year will offer each of us more and more opportunities to experience God's grace in our own lives in such a way that we can share that experience with others in the days ahead.

Remember that God loves you and so do I,

JDM+

OFFICE HOURS

Remember that Canon Morriss+ is scheduled to be in the office Tuesday through Thursday and would enjoy visiting with anyone that might drop by for a cup of coffee. The Canon's email address is canonjmorris@aol.com

HELPING HAND OFFERINGS

Keep in mind that we are to bring our Helping Hand offerings in January. These are offerings that are used throughout the year to help those in need in addition to our Angel Food and Adopt-a-Family programs. For some time we have asked people to place a dollar a week in a mason jar and then place that jar on the altar in January and in July. If you've have forgotten to contribute your dollar each week, our treasurer has said that he will be happy to accept your check in place of cash. Mark your checks for Helping Hands or make sure you name is on your jar when you place it on the altar prior to the weekly service.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

6 th	Bill Miniati	18 th	Lonnie Herell
10 th	Bob Keller	25 th	DeLois Bomberger
16 th	Georganne Langeloh	29 th	Art Denmon
1 st	Marvin & Stephanie O'Connor		
20 th	Terry & Susan Dahlman		

EVENTS FOR THE MONTH

1st New Year's Day

2nd There will be NO T.E.A.C.H. this week following coffee hour

5th Study Group at 11:00

5th Noon Morning Prayer and Eucharist

7th Hungry Bunch...6:00 at Trave's in Seven Points

- 9th Coffee Hour followed by T.E.A.C.H....”Music for the Dance”
- 12th Study Group at 11:00...We will be beginning a new study
- 12th Noon Morning Prayer and Eucharist
- 16th Coffee Hour followed by T.E.A.C.H....”A Different Kind of Hero”
- 19th Vestry at 4:00...Evening Prayer and dinner at 6:00
- 23rd Coffee Hour followed by T.E.A.C.H....”The Cinderella Story”
- 26th Study Group at 11:00...
- 26th Noon Morning Prayer and Eucharist
- 30th Coffee Hour followed by T.E.A.C.H....”The Final Witness”

T.E.A.C.H.

We will be continuing to look at our series “God’s Voice and our Choices” up until the beginning of Lent in March. I encourage each of you to join with us each week for our brief time of thought and reflection.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES

Date	DOK	Greeter	Altar	Acolyte	Prayer
2 nd	Gail	Paul & Sunny	Susan D. & Kitty	Mike	Carol
9 th	Kelley	James & Tina	DeLois & Claire	Carol	xxxx
16 th	Marian	Deanna & Gail	Linda & Willene	Kelley	Sandy
23 rd	Willene	Jeff & Kitty	Kelley & Rita	Sandy	Kelley
30 th	Sunny	Bob & Annette	Sandy & Tina	Mike	Carol

MINISTRIES, cont.

Date	Lessons	Coffee	Chalice	Organ
2 nd	Ray	Nancy & Carol	Kelley & DeLois	Bonnie
9 th	Sunny	Deanna & Gail	Paul & Kelley	Linda

16th	Jeff	Annette & Sunny	Tina & Paul	Carol
23rd	Bob	Susan H. & Peggy	Gail & Mike	Paul
30th	Deanna	Barbara & Lorna	DeLois & Kelley	Bonnie

Please remember that if you cannot serve on your scheduled date, **you need to make sure you have a replacement** and mark the change on the bulletin board schedule