

The Messenger...

January-February, 2019

A publication of **St. James on the Lake Episcopal Church**

An orthodox parish that welcomes everyone...

For the LOVE of GOD

Where **GRACE** Happens!

Looking Up! Reaching Out! Gathering In!

Rector: Fr. Randy Melton

10707 CR 4022, Kemp, Texas 75143 (903) 498-8080

stjamesonthelake.org

FR. MELTON'S MUSINGS:



IT'S COMING!! What's Coming?

To find out what's coming, read the letter below from the Sr. Warden!

Consecration Sunday is coming! Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of

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the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Senior Warden,
Bill Shehee

T.E.A.C.H (Sunday morning, 10:30-11AM)

Classes will continue through the end of January, then there will be a break on February 3, 10, and 17 due to our Annual Parish Meeting and the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Upon our return, you will hear about the experiences of the pilgrims who went to the Holy Land when we return, beginning on February 24.

Thursday & Sunday Classes Taking a Break.

1PM Thursday & 6PM Sunday

Classes will resume after we return from Israel, probably at the beginning of Lent, which is March this year. More on the topics later.

Fr. Randy+

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EPIPHANY WORSHIP

Liturgically, the color is **GREEN** to remind us of a season where we continue to grow through God's special revelations of himself in Jesus Christ. The Song of Praise is "*Gloria in Excelsis*," and we will be using Eucharistic Prayer C, which emphasizes a bit more God's self revelation ("*Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.*"). EPIPHANY means to reveal or make manifest something hidden. The season of Epiphany follows up on the Christmas theme by "fleshing out", so to speak, the Incarnation and what it means to say the "Word became flesh and lived among us." You will notice this in the gospel readings throughout the season of Epiphany.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held after worship on February 3 in the parish hall. This is an opportunity to celebrate together the life of our parish family, to enjoy one another's fellowship and to accentuate the ways that the Lord has used us to serve Jesus through others this past year. Two new vestry members will be elected as well as delegates to next year's diocesan convention. A brief vestry meeting will take place after the Annual Parish Meeting to select a secretary and junior warden, and verify a meeting time that's agreeable to all. A delicious catered meal will be provided so everyone can give their full attention to both the required business of the meeting and the celebration of our parish.

Come enjoy the fun and fellowship as we celebrate together the life of our parish! There will be an **EPIPHANY CAKE** with several surprises inside that impart various blessings to those lucky ones who receive them. Be careful as you chew and don't swallow one! They include a bean (king or queen of the party), a dime (increased wealth), a button (increased ecclesiastical wisdom), a cross (blessings of the church), and a thimble (increased industry). The person receiving the thimble gets to make the cake for the next year. **COME JOIN THE FUN!!**

VESTRY Nomination Slate Revealed Soon

No vestry nominations were received so the vestry is now the nominating committee. A candidate list will be presented at the January vestry meeting. Brief bios will be sent out shortly after to the parish and elections will take place at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, February 3, after worship.

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FR. RANDY'S RAVE REVIEWS: BOOKS TO BUY, BEG OR BORROW:

MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING

By Viktor Frankl, Beacon Press © 2006 (new edition) J—Highly Recommended

This book came to mind as I was thinking about our recent TEACH classes focused on **Do Not Resent, Do Not React, Keep Inner Stillness**. It's something of a classic about how to overcome intense suffering by how we choose to respond rather than react to even the most hostile environment. I first read this little book in college and have re-read it about once every decade. It reads more like a novel than a historical narrative about Frankl's actual experience of surviving the horrendous conditions of a Nazi Death Camp. He is able to find meaning in even this devastating scenario through the power of the mind (how one thinks), which is what we've been talking about. This is not inconsistent with Christian practice (see Romans 12:1-2), though we have additional spiritual resources at our disposal. This book is a short read that easily moves our imaginations to place us right alongside of Frankl in one of the worst, ghastly environments.

Viktor Frankl, an Austrian Jew, studied neurology and psychiatry with a focus on depression and suicide years before being arrested and deported by the Nazis in 1942. He defied odds by lasting three years in concentration camps. He lost his parents, brother, and his wife, who was pregnant. As doctors were in short supply in the camps, Frankl, after working as a slave laborer for some time, was able to work as a physician until his liberation.

His work previous to his time in the concentration camps had focused on depression and the prevention of suicide. So he turned his focus to his own survival story and the people with whom he interacted in the camps. Why did some survive and others perish? What gave people the will to live? What gives life meaning? Below are a few powerful excerpts:

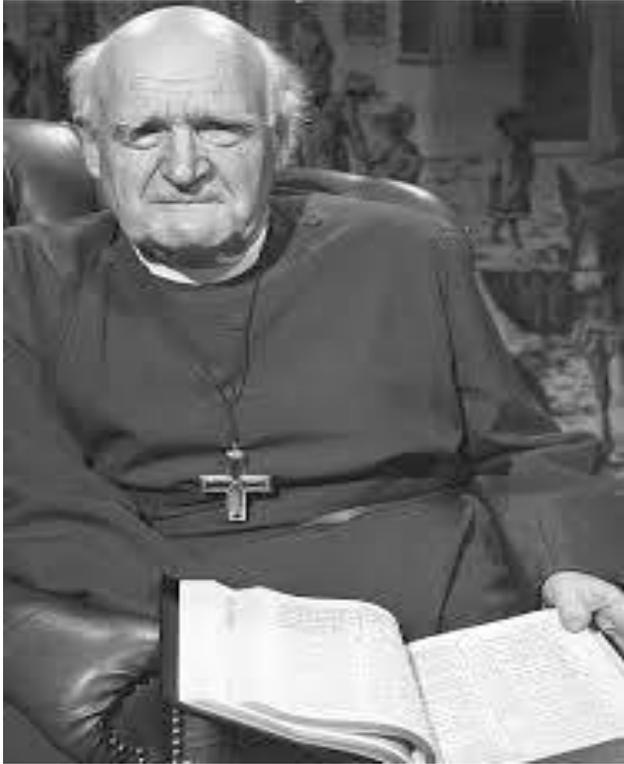
- Frankl saw three possible sources for meaning: in work (doing something significant), in love (caring for another person) and in courage during difficult times. Suffering in and of itself is meaningless; we give our suffering meaning by the way in which we respond to it.
- Forces beyond our control can take away everything we possess except one thing, our freedom to choose how we will respond to the situation. We cannot control what happens to us in life, but we can always control what we will feel and do about what happens to us.
- The salvation of man is through love and in love.
- Love goes very far beyond the physical person of the beloved. It finds its deepest meaning in his spiritual being, his inner self. Whether or not he is actually present, whether or not he is still alive at all, ceases somehow to be of importance.
- There are two races of men in this world, the "race" of the decent man and the "race" of the indecent man. Both are found everywhere; they penetrate into all groups of society. No group consists entirely of decent or indecent people. In this sense, no group is of "pure race" - and therefore one occasionally found a decent fellow among the camp guards.
- *No one has the right to do wrong, not even if wrong has been done to them.
- So, let us be alert - alert in a twofold sense: Since Auschwitz we know what man is capable of. And since Hiroshima we know what is at stake.

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FIVE HELPS FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL RAMSEY:



- 1. Thank God...Often and always. Thank him carefully and wonderingly for your continuing privileges and for every experience of his goodness. Thankfulness is a soil in which pride does not easily grow.**
- 2. Take care about confession of your sins. As time passes the habit of being critical about people and things grows more than each of us realize.**
- 3. Be ready to accept humiliations. They can hurt terribly but they can help to keep you humble. [Whether trivial or big, accept them, he says] All these can be so many chances to be a little nearer to our Lord. There is nothing to fear, if you are near to the Lord and in his hands.**
- 4. Do not worry about status. There is only one status that Our Lord bids us be concerned with, and that is our proximity to Him. "If a man serve me, let him follow me, and where I am there also shall my servant be". (John 12:26) That is our status; to be near our Lord wherever He may ask us to go with him.**
- 5. Use your sense of humor. Laugh at things, laugh at absurdities of life, laugh at yourself. Through the year people will thank God for you. And let the reason for their thankfulness be not just that you were a person whom they liked or loved but because you made God real to them.**

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UPCOMING EVENTS TO CALENDAR!

Sunday Morning Healing Prayers at altar (8:30 - 8:45 AM Sundays)

Sunday Morning Eucharist, 9 AM (followed by food & fellowship)

T.E.A.C.H. (10:30 to 11AM Adult Bible Study)

Noon Healing Eucharist each Wednesday

Daughters of the King, 2nd Sunday, 4:30 PM

Evening Prayer and Parish Dinner, 6PM Last Wednesday, January 30

Men's Group Reunion, Tuesday, 8:00 AM

Tuesday Women's Group Reunion, 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 9 AM

Weekly Prayer Group, Tuesdays, 4:00 PM

Thursday Women's Group Reunion, Thursday, 2:30 PM

Angel Food Deliveries, Third Saturday, starting at 7:45 AM

Vestry Meeting, 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM (NO FEBRUARY MEETING)

Holy Land Sacred Places Meeting: 3-5PM, Sunday, January 20

Annual Parish Meeting, Sunday, February 3 (after worship)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS...

| | | | | | |
|----|--------------|----|---------------------|----|------------|
| 6 | Bill Miniatt | 16 | Georgeanne Langeloh | 29 | Art Denmon |
| 10 | Bob Keller | 25 | DeLois Bomberger | | |

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES...

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | Marvin and Stephanie O'Connor | 17 | Chris and Dawn Tremethick |
| 5 | Karen and Randy Melton | 20 | Terry and Susan Dahlman |

JANUARY MEMORIALS...

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Tilly Branham | 14 | Ryan Bradley, Jr. | 22 | Virginia Pittman |
| 5 | Frances Olsen | 19 | Clayton Ayers | 24 | Les Alsup |
| 10 | Donald Green | 21 | Ray Humphreys | 25 | Genevieve DeRosa |
| 12 | Jo Moore | 21 | Norman Ayers | 26 | Sharon Holland |

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS...

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|--------------|----|-----------|
| 2 | Willene Trotter | 13 | Jo Miniatt | 25 | Ray Brown |
| 9 | Charlie Davis | 13 | Karen Melton | | |

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES...

| | | | |
|----|-----------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Bruce and Carol Mayo | 14 | Glen and Claire Stout |
| 12 | Bill and Linda Shehee | 19 | Bob and Terry Keller |

FEBRUARY MEMORIALS...

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----|-------------------|----|--------------|
| 6 | Richard Van Horn | 13 | Marilyn Labson | 17 | Jim Gallatin |
| 8 | Opal Green | 13 | Malcolm Morriss | 18 | Jack Sauer |
| 9 | Elmer Singletary | 14 | Nancy Adams | 26 | David Brooks |
| 9 | Richard Patrick | 14 | Joe Riley Wingate | | |

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"Love is"
how excited
your dog gets
when you
get home
HP

Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday: Fr. Randy's Day off
Tuesday-Friday: 10 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday: Office Closed

NOTE: Fr. Randy is in the church at many other times as well, but these are simply scheduled times he plans to be in the office, though there may be exceptions due to outside appointments or pastoral needs. Appointments may certainly be made at other times if necessary.

FR. RANDY'S EMAIL: soulman4jc@gmail.com; FR. RANDY'S CELL: (830) 481-8290
CHURCH PHONE: (903) 498-8080; CHURCH WEBSITE: www.stjamesonthelake.org

DOK Priest Prayers-January and February

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| January 6 | Linda Shehee | February 3 | Karen Melton |
| January 13 | DeLois Bomberger | February 10 | Gail Beaupre |
| January 20 | Carol Mayo | February 17 | DeLois Bomberger |
| January 27 | Lorna Rudd | February 24 | Kelley Boughton |

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SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES JANUARY...

Remember, it will be up to you to get a replacement if you cannot fulfill your obligation.

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Greeters</i> | <i>Altar Guild</i> | <i>Acolyte</i> | <i>Prayers</i> | <i>Lesson Reader</i> | <i>Chalice</i> | <i>Coffee Hour</i> | <i>Sunday School</i> | <i>Fred</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| 6 | Charlie and Rita | Sunny and Barbara | 1. Carol 2. Art | Paul | Karen | Tina Bill | Gloria Marian Judy | Young kids: Kelley Older kids: In Church | Vicki |
| 13 | Phillip and Kelley | Sunny and Barbara | 1. Gloria 2. Terry | Art | Annette | DeLois Paul | Rita D. Bari Claire | Young kids:: Gail Older kids: Bob | Carol |
| 20 | Mike and Wendy | Karen and Gloria | 1. Tissy 2. Kelley | DeLois | Marvin | Bill Paul | Gail Deanna Barbara | Young kids: Martha Older kids: In Church | Carol |
| 27 | Gail and Kitty | Karen and Gloria | 1. Tissy 2. Mike | Carol | Bob | Tina DeLois | Susan D Patsy Linda | Young kids: Kelley Older kids Linda | Paul |

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES FEBRUARY

Remember, it will be up to you to get a replacement if you cannot fulfill your obligation.

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Greeters</i> | <i>Altar Guild</i> | <i>Acolyte</i> | <i>Prayers</i> | <i>Lesson Reader</i> | <i>Chalice</i> | <i>Coffee Hour</i> | <i>Sunday School</i> | <i>Fred</i> |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------|
| 3 | Paul and Sunny | Susan H. and Kelley | 1. Terry 2. Gloria | Carol | Jeff | Tina Bill | Annual Meeting Caterer | Young kids: Gail Older kids: Church | Vicki |
| 10 | Ray and DeLois | Susan H. and Kelley | 1. Kelley 2. Art | Bill | Bari | Gail DeLois | Nancy Marilyn Shirley | Young kids: Martha Older kids: Bob | Dru |
| 17 | Marvin and Stephanie | Nancy and Willene | 1. Tissy 2. Mike | Art | Deanna | Bill Gail | Annette Karen Lorna | Young kids: Kelley Older kids: Church | Dru |
| 24 | Terry and Susan D | Nancy and Willene | 1. Carol 2. Art | Bill | Ray | Paul Tina | Sunny Kitty Meridel | Young Kids: Gail Older kids: Linda | Gloria |
| | | | | | | | | | |

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