

The Messenger...

January-February, 2020

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 MYSTICAL MUSINGS:



"FOOD FOR THE POOR" COMING JANUARY 19!

We welcome the Rev. Holly Ostlund, an Episcopal priest, to worship with us on Sunday, January 19. She will preach at the Eucharist and show a brief video at TEACH afterwards, and answer whatever questions you may have. She speaks for the Third World destitute served by **Food for the Poor**, an interdenominational ministry providing food, clothing, medical care, housing, school supplies and economic development programs in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Holly has been here before, several years ago, at the invitation of the previous rector, Fr. Jerry Morriss. She travels most weekends for **Food for the Poor** to introduce people of the First World to the people of the Third World. She lives in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida with her adult son Grant and their canine "rescue," Sahara. Weekdays she is a Palm Beach County hospice chaplain.

St. James has made some substantial contributions in the past. If you choose to do so, there will be a bulletin insert available to make a contribution. Fr. Randy+

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

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

We will have a class on Sunday, January 12 on the sacrament of baptism since that is the feast of the Baptism of Jesus. The Rev. Holly Ostlund will speak to us on January 19, and our Annual Parish Meeting will be on January 26. Regular classes will resume on February 2. Please give Fr. Randy ideas of topics you are interested in learning more about!

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. We will be using Eucharistic Prayer C, which emphasizes a bit more of 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. Check out how they reveal to us who Jesus is!

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held after worship on January 26 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.

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!!**

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

VESTRY Nomination Slate Revealed

Vestry nominations were received to fill the two vestry openings. They are Mike Horton and Marvin O'Connor. Brief bios on both will be sent to you via email when they are received. Nominations closed on December 15 after two weeks of open nominations, so we will accept them by acclamation at the annual parish meeting. Delegates to diocesan convention will be nominated from the floor and elected at the annual parish meeting.



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

UNKNOWN EMPIRE:

The True Story of Mysterious Ethiopia And the Future Ark of Civilization

By Dean W. Arnold, Chattanooga Historical Foundation © 2019—Highly Recommended

This book is one of the most fascinating and interesting books that I've read in a long time. Are Ethiopians really the keepers of the Ark of the Covenant? Ethiopia is the only African nation never colonized. Their people didn't immigrate—they were already there! What is the evidence that this is the place where the Garden of Eden was placed and the first people on earth originated? Ethiopia was the very first Christian empire and was 1,000 years Jewish before Christ. There are many such remarkable claims made that have very compelling arguments.

The book begins with a barefoot Olympic runner in the 1960's, and then reflects backwards to the barefoot Ethiopian army defeating thousands of European soldiers in 1896. As the only African nation to never be conquered, this barefoot army defeated Mussolini during WWII as well. There's a fascinating section on how world population growth trends conclude that Africa will be the continent of the future. The USA will not be able to sustain our population and will cease to exist in under 200 years. In less than 100 years the German language will no longer exist, nor will Europe. How are Westerners attempting to sterilize Africans to limit their population growth, and how are Africans able to resist Western secular individualism, which goes against African values, most of which reflect biblical values. With the West dying but Africa booming, Ethiopia faces population control leaders such as Bill and Melinda Gates and the U.N. in an epic confrontation for the future of civilization.

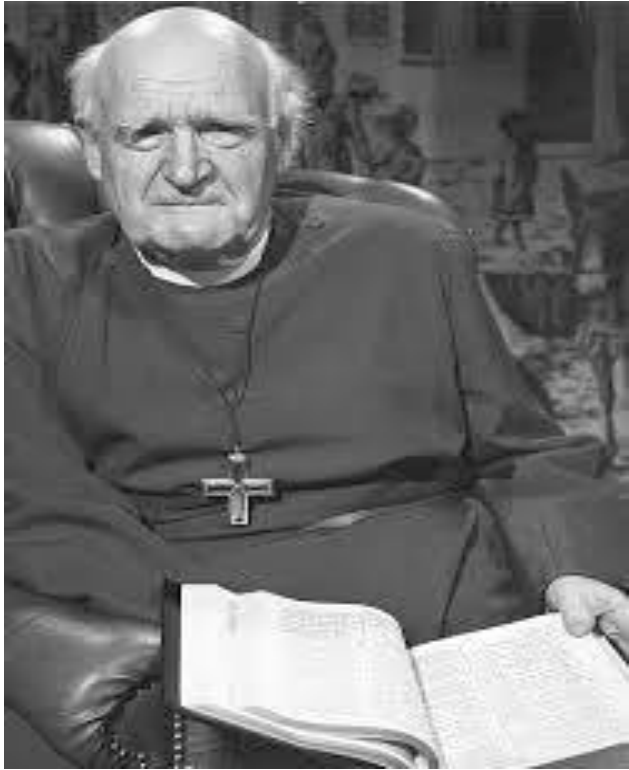
In all these confrontations, the Ark of the Covenant plays a central role for Ethiopians who believe that they have held the world's most sacred object since before the time of Christ. The book explores the Ark claim throughout and weaves in the claims of Eden and empire. This is a hard book to put down, a mesmerizing "nonfiction novel" where every exciting action and quote is true! You'll learn things you never knew and wonder about things you thought you knew that aren't true. Or at least there's a compelling option to consider. Give it a read if you're interested in such things! You can get it on Amazon for just \$22.95 in paperback or \$9.95 on kindle.

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

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.**

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

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 Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study)

Noon Healing Eucharist each Wednesday

Daughters of the King, Last Wednesday, 4:30 PM

Evening Prayer and Parish Dinner, 6PM Last Wednesday, January 29

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

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

Weekly Prayer Group, Tuesdays, 4:00 PM at Church

Thursday Women's Group Reunion, Thursday, 11 AM at Melton's house

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

Vestry Meeting, 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 PM, January 21 & February 18

Annual Parish Meeting, Sunday, January 26

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS...

6	Bill Miniati	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 Miniati	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		

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

"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 5	Annette Jenkins	February 2	Gail Beaupre
January 12	Bonnie Dill	February 9	Gloria Crenshaw
January 19	DeLois Bomberger	February 16	Linda Shehee
January 26	Carol Mayo	February 23	Karen Melton

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES JANUARY...

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

Date	Greeters	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Prayers	Lesson Reader	Chalice	Coffee Hour	Sunday School	Fred
6	Phillip and Kelley	Sunny and Barbara	1. Sandy 2. Mike	Art	Terry D	Paul Gail	Nancy Marilyn Shirley G		Gloria
13	Terry and Susan D	Sunny and Barbara	1. Kelley 2. Tissy	Carol	Deanna	DeLois Bill	Dot, Bruce, Isabelle Claire		Paul
20	Charlie and RitaD	Nancy and Willene	1. Carol 2. Art	Kelley	Marion	Tina Paul	Sunny Kitty Meridel		Bonnie
27	Art and Marilyn	Nancy and Willene	1. Mike 2. Kelley	Marian	Annette	Bill DeLois	Gail, Deanna, Barbara		Linda

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES FEBRUARY

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

Date	Greeters	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Prayers	Lesson Reader	Chalice	Coffee Hour	Sunday School	Fred
3	Mike and Wendy	DeLois and Claire	1. Carol 2. Art	Marvin	Bob J.	Paul Gail	Annette Susan D Lorna		Vicki
10	Bob and Annette	DeLois and Claire	1. Tissy 2. Sandy	Mike	Sunny	Bill Tina	Nancy Marilyn Shirley G		Carol
17	Marvin and Stephanie	Kelley and SusanH	1. Carol 2. Mike	Art	Karen	Paul Gail	Dot, Bruce, Isabelle Claire		Gloria
24	Gail and Kitty	Kelley and SusanH	1. Sandy 2. Tissy	Carol	Marvin	Bill DeLois	Sunny Kitty Meridel		Bonnie

WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY PORKY??

WHAT? SAY AGAIN....

LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN

*A Dabba,
Dabba,
Dabba...*



LOOKING UP

REACHING OUT

GATHERING IN