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ZOOM Vestry Meeting
Thursday, June 4th

10:30 am

Truth or Fiction?

"They wouldn't believe it was non-fiction". This was the name of a book my colleagues and students put together for me when I retired after 30 years of Junior College athletics. The same could be said now. I always thought that advances in technology would alter how we live, but this seems like fiction. Only, it is not. In true St. James fashion, we have found a way to take advantage of technology during these challenging times. Prime example is the quality of our Sunday worship services that use multiple forms of technology and software. The talent we have here is unbelievable, and this success has even lead to a new Digital Ministry. This is because that we have created a monster with our quality and this digital presence will always be with us. This is a great thing because we will be living with this virus for a long time, and when it does reduce it's presence we want a way to worship when we are away from our Tempe location.

We have shown that our ability to worship has not stopped. COVID has come and we just turned the other cheek and decided to "Keep Calm and Worship On". We have never stopped being St. James. The St. James web page will provide you with the most up-to-date information pertaining to when it is safe to re-enter the sanctuary. Take the time to read the Abundant Life message and watch Bishop Reddall's video. Bishop Reddall has required that a detailed plan for a safe return to physical worship be submitted, and approved, before we are allowed to meet in person again. Above all else, the safety of anyone entering our church is paramount. Your vestry has worked hard on this and we have submitted our plan to the diocese. When it is accepted and approved, it will be put on the St. James web page.

While you are looking at the St. James web site and reading information pertaining to the pandemic and worship, go to the "About Us" page. You will see a link to the Parish Profile that the Rector Search Committee has labored, edited, edited many more times, and finally unanimously agree on. This pandemic may have created a speed bump, but it will not stop us.

Peace,

Bob Klassen

While we are only meeting virtually, please remember to keep up with our pledges and offerings. The Rector Search Committee has committed a compensation package in the search process and as a new parish. You can contribute to St. James at:

St. James
975 E Warner Rd or <https://my.simplegive.com/App/Giving/st975169>
Tempe, AZ 85284

Treasurer's Update

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all of you amazing people! Contributions held about steady compared to previous months. Operating Income remains much lower than we'll need when we call a full-time priest, but Operating Expenses are also much lower than the budget. So we actually have a slightly larger surplus than we did in April. Once we have a full-time priest, operating contributions will have to increase to the budgeted amounts, but we're in good shape for now.

January 1 through May 31, 2020

	Actual	Budget
YTD Operating Income	\$ 94,706	\$ 113,425
YTD Operating Expense	\$ 73,364	\$ 113,998
YTD Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 21,342	\$ -573

Gerry Carlston (pgcarlston@cox.net)
Treasurer

**AT YOUR SERVICE:
YOUR VESTRY**

- Bob Klassen (Senior Warden)
- Larry Kenyon (Junior Warden)
- Gerry Carlston (Treasurer)
- Ann Marie Bellamy-Bartholomew
- Joan Besonen
- Denise Boyd
- Mary Hovden
- Tara Papaccio

Centering Prayer



Do you have a telephone? Any kind of landline or cell phone will do!

Centering Prayer meets weekly on Wednesday beginning at 3 pm. We are a small informal group who gather on the Zoom platform for reflection, respite, and rejuvenation. Centering Prayer heals the mind, body and spirit. Topics are variable and the meeting is fun, thought provoking and an opportunity to connect with St. James parishioners.

Enrollment is easy. Contact me at dllbrandeis@gmail.com I will send an email invitation to you. Once you receive the return email, all you do is click on the invitation at 3 pm and you are there. Your video broadcast is optional, so come as you are.

If you do not wish to use Zoom, use your phone:

Simply dial 1-346-248-7799

When prompted, enter this meeting ID: 84474591152#

Then Enter the password: 002055#

Call before 3 PM on Wednesdays and you will hear our conversation and be free to participate as well.

We hope you will join us this week and every week in the future.

Blessings to you,

Damien

THANK YOU

We continue to be thankful to so many for participating in our weekly Church functions. Our music team composed of *Lali Breen*, *Tara Papaccio*, and *Greg Olson* continue to provide us with the music we miss but love to hear. Thank you all. We are also incredibly grateful to our parish members who provided reading support last month to *Pastor Andrea* and *Deacon Robin* as they performed our worship services. Special thanks go to *Erica* and *Elliot Niemoth*, *Jill Leatherman*, *Anna Krithis* and *Parker Neff*, *Mary Hovden*, *Lali Breen* and *Greg Olson*, *Nick* and *Audrey Spence*, *Paul* and *Bunny Hand*, *Carol Paulk*, *Tara* and *Chris Papaccio*. We also thank all of you for your continued participation.

In a panic, realizing that no one had been at church to clean out the refrigerator for some time, Ellie Kenyon thought about the things that had been *fermenting* in the refrigerator at church and she sent Larry Kenyon off in a hurry to the kitchen to see what, if anything needed to be cleaned out. To Larry's great surprise and relief, he found that *Eileen Flock* had graciously cleaned out the refrigerator. It looks wonderful. We are all thankful to Eileen for taking care of this potentially messy job.

Junior Warden, *Larry Kenyon* has kept vigil for several months on the church pigeons ever since Don's Bee's and Pest Control installed fencing in the rafters of the areaway at the front of the church and along the patio and kitchen area on the east side of the church to discourage the church pigeons from roosting. It is an ongoing project with many twists and turns and the problems are many, but the pigeons are on the move and he hopes to be out of the pigeon business soon.

Special thanks to *Deacon Robin* and *Lynn Johnson* for collecting and delivering all the goods that our parish donated to the Utah Navajo Nation. The generosity of St. James parishioners is without limits. So many gave so much, and it was so nice to see the video, at the social hour, from Lynn Johnson about our donations. Thanks to all who made contributions and donations. Your help is gratefully acknowledged.



Special Thank you to the St. James Family for continued support of the Navajo Nation Ministry Donation Drive! If you missed the video thank you from Lynn Johnson you can read the transcript here.

Ahéhee - Thank you so very much for all your help I'm in awe and feel so very blessed and honored to be a member of such a loving caring selfless community of St. James. Our trip back to the reservation was a success we collected so many items! Gosh I can't tell you how our own church family came with trunk loads of goods!! I don't know how to thank you all...my heart is so full right now! But just know your service was much appreciated among my own people... May GOD BLESS YOU ALL 10 times fold!!! Ahéhee Ayóó anííníshní (thank you & love you) St James Church and all its members!!

If you'd like to check it out – got to YouTube and search for “*St. James Tempe*”. The Navajo Nation Outreach video includes pictures and is there for you.

UMOM Walk has been rescheduled

September 19th, 6 am to 9 am at the Phoenix Zoo

Registration Team Name: Flock Flyers
 Register early for discounted pricing.
 We would love to see you all there.

PRICING

All Walk registrations include a pair of flip-flops, a commemorative Walk 2020 t-shirt & an all-day, same-day pass to the Phoenix Zoo



adults (ages 18+) before 9/6: \$25 family 4-pack: \$60
 adults (ages 18+) after 9/7: \$35 students (ages 3-17): \$10
 children (ages 2 & under): FREE



Annual St. James Ladies Tea

We still plan on creating our totally unique baskets for a raffle in late summer. The baskets will be on display and tickets will be available to be purchased when services resume. **We now have 3 baskets donated and are looking for more!!** We are grateful for all who volunteer to make or contribute to a basket. **Let your imagination soar!** We would gladly accept gift cards to purchase items for the baskets. Money raised through the basket raffle will be used to replace the irrigation system.

St James Bookies

June's book is "The Guardians" by John Grisham. Enjoy!!
 Reading is a great way to while away the hours until we can meet again!



Lector/Reader Schedule for Online Services

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Responses for Gospel Bidding	Prayers of the People	Dismissal Response	Recording Date
June 7	Paul Hand	Chris & Tara	Damien	Spence Family	Anna & Parker	Anna & Parker	Tues. June 2
June 14	Audrey Spence	Anna & Parker	Carol Paulk	Erica & Elliot	Lali & Greg	Lali & Greg	Thurs. June 4
June 21	Mary Hovden	Paul & Bunny	Joan Besonen	Chris & Tara	Erica & Elliot	Erica & Elliot	Thurs. June 18
June 28	Carol Justice	Nick & Audrey	Chris	Anna & Parker	Paul & Bunny	Paul & Bunny	Thurs. June 25

Green Grows the Ministries!

As we live into today's "extraordinary times" we find in our Church liturgical calendar that we are entering into "Ordinary Time" – the longest season in our Church year. As we have just celebrated the birth of the Church on Pentecost Sunday, this period is now referred to as Pentecost and our Church colors turn to green. I like to think it's about growing the Church and nurturing the ministries. Even as we find new ways to continue our community of worship in these difficult times we at St. James are finding new pathways. We are excited about the beginning of our Digital Ministry – knowing that technology will continue to help us reach further into our community and into the world around us. It's an exciting new chapter in our history and the team rising up to lead the way is looking into creative and innovative ways to bring the Church to the world. The second new ministry is really an expanded and enhanced outreach. St. James has supported the Navajo Nation in a number of ways – annually with the blanket drive and a few years back, travelling to the reservation, taking a refrigerator, fixing plumbing, and assisting with building maintenance at St. Mary's of the Moonlight. Thanks to the vision of one in our family and the compassion of St. James members the outreach to the Navajo Nation is again growing and building. There is much for us to do in helping those in need, even during this time of quarantine. While it may be awhile before we are re-gathering in the Sanctuary, we continue to gather weekly sharing worship and sharing our faith in many ways. So as we start this lengthy season of ordinary time, we know we will be making it extraordinary!

Blessings,
Deacon Robin



Digital/Online Reminders & Updates

- 1) **Collecting Pictures** for our Father's Day Tribute (Sunday, June 21st). Please send copies of pictures of Dad and children/family/fur kids to info@stjamestempe.org by Tuesday, June 16th.
- 2) **Virtual Coffee Hour** 10:30 am on Sunday's...come spend some quality time with our St. James' family.
- 3) **Online Christian Formation** for All on Sunday's at 1:30 pm (all links in the Thursday Thoughts emails).
- 4) **Taize Service @ 4:30 pm** every 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening. Please see the link in the emails and website and join us for some re-energizing time.

MUSIC CORNER at St James



Wow, is it already June? As many of us are living in more of a vacuum than normal, the passage of time becomes pretty amorphous.

As we all continue to process the 'new normal', I am very happy that St. James has currently weathered the storm with our ever improving online format. It is good to hear that people who are far away can still see our services, and good to know that as we eventually phase into in-person services that we can keep the community connected, who are away or who are unable to attend in person.

Nick Spence and Nathan Besonen continue to be the music team's 'Heroes' and the addition of music to the Zoom services is being handled wonderfully!

I am hopeful that by Christmas music-time, things can seem more 'old' normal, but in the meantime, we will continue to be as creative and inclusive as we can. We were so happy that Gerry Carlston joined us for our Gospel Pentecost service and that Audrey recorded herself in (from a distance). So many things are possible right now and we continue to thank and feel blessed by the Community at St James!

~ ~ ~ Lali Breen