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ZOOM Vestry Meeting

Thursday, February 4th

10:30 am

New Hope, New Beginnings

Thank you to all of St. James! We just finished our Annual Meeting and I singled out some to thank. Now it necessary to single out everyone! It is not one person, it is not one ministry, it is what we all have done, loving each other, and keeping each other safe. Now, let's go forward into 2021 and continue keeping each other safe. As the vaccine roles out, it is easy to let up our guard. We can not let this happen because many do not or can not get their vaccine until the months to come.

We are very fortunate to be who we are. As you heard in the annual meeting and saw in the annual report, we have kept ourselves very respectable financially. This is inspiring because we have not been able to be physically together in 9 months. It is also just as inspiring to look back with open eyes and realize that we expanded some ministries, kept up and made building improvements, and we started a digital ministry that is bringing us together in new ways. This digital ministry also has had a direct positive impact on 15 other churches in the diocese. We have found our own super powers. These are super powers that we have mostly kept to ourselves, but this current situation has allowed us to share them.

So, while we keep each other safe by not meeting in groups, we are growing St. James! It is really difficult to not be together in physical groups and his weighs very hard on me. But, there is light at the end of this tunnel. As this vaccine reaches more people, the light gets even brighter. But, it will take time for these vaccines to reach everyone, so we need to remember that we still need to protect each other out of love.

Peace,
Bob Klassen

AT YOUR SERVICE: YOUR VESTRY

Bob Klassen (Senior Warden)
Gerry Carlston (Treasurer)
Ann Marie Bellamy-Bartholomew
Joan Besonen

Denise Boyd
Mary Hovden
Larry Kenyon
Tara Papaccio

Treasurer's Update

WE'VE STARTED OFF THE YEAR ON THE RIGHT FOOT WITH A SURPLUS FOR JANUARY. THIS AMOUNT INCLUDES SOME PLEDGES FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR, HOWEVER, SO IT'S TOO EARLY TO IDENTIFY A TREND.

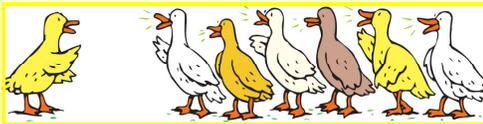
GERRY CARLSTON
TREASURER
(PGCARLSTON@COX.NET)

January 1 through January 31, 2021

	Actual	Budget
YTD Operating Income	\$ 21,331	\$ 18,990
YTD Operating Expense	\$ 13,666	\$ 19,009
YTD Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 7,665	\$ 18

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://TITHE.LY/GIVE_NEW/WWW/#/TITHELY/GIVE-ONE-TIME/2407353](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/TITHELY/GIVE-ONE-TIME/2407353)
TEMPE, AZ 85284



Annual Meeting Recap



Thank you surviving our first, and hopefully only, online annual meeting. The time and effort that the Digital ministry Team put in to make this meeting happen must be acknowledged. The team met several times and patiently worked with the rest of us. Thank you! As you saw in the Annual Report, and in the meeting, we have not stood still during this pandemic. This is because of you. We are a church that has grown through change. There was recognition provided during the annual meeting, but it is important to emphasize the tireless efforts that many graciously gave out of their heart.

Let's start with our clergy! The Holy Eucharist is a very contemplative and interpersonal service with all of us. Pastor Andrea+, and Deacon Robin rapidly evolved our services from being very interpersonal and instantly creating as close to the same relationship in an online format. St. James thanks you for your dedication and stepping out of your comfort zone

Our Junior Warden, Larry Kenyon, has retired. What Larry has done that no one ever sees has left St. James in a much better place. Not enough can be said to recognize what Larry has done and his love for our church. St. James thanks you for your dedication!

We have technology wizards amongst us. To make our online services the quality that they are, Nathan Besonen has very often worked on the editing of the services until the wee hours of Sunday morning. Nick Spence has been behind the video camera for the recording of the music and the service live streaming. But, he also has been spending hours and hours obtaining technology approved by the UTO grant and then distributing and teaching how it used. He also has been wiring and rewiring our sanctuary for our own newly purchased technology. St. James thanks you for this dedication!

The Rector Search Committee (Erica Neimoth, Carol Paulk, Kristy Carlston, Dave Faymon, Nick Spence, Joan Besonen, and Bob Klassen) did not stop during the pandemic or during the holidays. They kept meeting and meeting. The beginning pandemic resulted in the diocese delaying the release of our profile on the The Episcopal Church's OTM (Office of Transitional Ministry) web site. While everyone was social distancing during the past holidays, the search team was meeting and meeting and then interviewing. This dedication resulted in two candidates being presented to the vestry for discernment. St. James thanks you for this dedication!



It has been brought to the attention of the *Thank You Column* editor that Nick Spence and Nathan Besonen are long overdue for acknowledgement and mention in the *Spirit of St. James* 'Thank You' column. These two Digital Ministry Team members have truly gone above and beyond and are St. James' heroes – especially as we continue to navigate life at St. James during COVID-19:

Nick Spence:

- ♥ As our streaming 'guru', Nick has dedicated himself to scoping streaming equipment for St. James, installing it, and now implementing the technology for our Sunday morning worship services. In order to come up with the final product, he also records many things: all the musical performances, Godly Play lessons, etc. So needless to say – he spends a lot of time at church pulling this all together for us!
- ♥ With the UTO Grant, Nick was the expert in helping us determine what hardware to include in the grant application. Once the funds were awarded in December, he single handedly ordered, received, tested, packaged, and distributed the streaming hardware for all 16 participating congregations.
- ♥ He was also instrumental in the development of the new St. James and UTO Grant user's websites; his patience, energy, knowledge, and perseverance have been a life saver for St. James and for those privileged enough to work with Nick.

Nathan Besonen:

- ♥ Since we stopped meeting in-person in March 2020 – Nathan has spent countless hours working on pre-recording our Sunday morning worship services. His calm, patience, dedication, and creativity have been so welcome and needed during this incredibly stressful time in the life of our church. Deacon Robin, who Nathan partners with on this effort, agrees totally with this and says he has done so much more.
- ♥ As we prepared and submitted our UTO Grant application this past summer, Nathan developed an innovative Narrative Timeline that is now being used as a benchmark for excellence on the UTO Grant application website.
- ♥ As our digital music library continues to grow, Nathan came up with a way to archive and document the music we've been recording since March. This will help us as we re-use this music in future worship services as well as share the archiving technology with other congregations.

We extend the thanks of the Clergy, the Vestry, the staff, and the parishioners to Nathan and Nick for an outstanding job and for all your time and effort in making St. James number one in Arizona's Episcopal Digital Ministry.

thank you! thank you! thank you! thank you!

For your generous contributions of treasures and other oddiments for our Black Friday sale. Because of your generosity, St James now has an additional **\$1147.28** in our treasury. The money will be used to replace our failing irrigation system so we can keep our plants happy. ***But wait there's more!!*** There are still items left from the sale that are in my eBay store so additional revenue will keep coming in. And the good news is, if you are still cleaning out those closets and cupboards and want a place to donate those treasures, let me know what you have and I will put it up for sale. ***100% of the money goes to St James!! You will be benefiting your church and our thirsty plants & treasury.***

By the way, did I say THANK YOU!!

Jill Leatherman, nikman4444@gmail.com, cell: (928) 200-7046, home: (480) 284-4595

January EYC on the Patio, we got together, played bingo, the boys won some prizes and had a great time.



EYC February 21st 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

We will meet in the front of the church office - We will be looking at the lesson called the Crosses.

Save the Date EYC: March 21st 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Eileen Flock
(480) 586-1124
eflock@cox.net

SHROVE TUESDAY VIRTUAL PANCAKE SUPPER



Since we can't meet in person right now, please join us for a fantastically fun virtual pancake supper over ZOOM on **Tuesday, February 16th from 5:30 to 6:30 pm**. Please bring your pancakes and fixings to the supper and enable your video so we can see the results of your cooking expertise! There will be e-prizes for a few categories of pancakes and we will also play some fun trivia games!

ZOOM access details will be available in the Monday's Message and Thursday's Thoughts e-newsletters as the date gets closer.

Join us for Virtual Coffee Hour and Fellowship each Sunday at 10:30 am after the online service!



Virtual Coffee Hour:

Topic: St. James Virtual Coffee Hour
Time: Sunday @ 10:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99773398325?pwd=RzU0RTUyOWNUbDlwT3JHdzNtN3pHZz09>

Meeting ID: 997 7339 8325 Password: 410326

Christian Formation:

Topic: SJC- Christian Formation
Time: Sunday @ 1:30 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

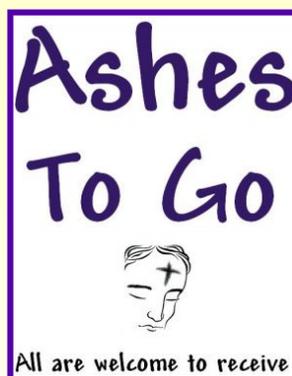
<https://zoom.us/j/96775452149?pwd=UGFBSSGRvaXF2elhWTjBJamdaTnY1QT09>

Meeting ID: 967 7545 2149 Password: 053997



Sunday, February 7th

For "Communion on the Go" (bread only) Pastor Andrea and Deacon Robin will be standing outdoors on the sidewalk near Rural Road. They'll be there for about 45 minutes beginning about **10:45 am**. If you would like to come and pick up communion we ask that you enter at the Warner Road entrance and proceed around the building where you will receive communion and then exit on Rural (right turn only).



Wednesday, February 17th

7:30 to 8:30 am

12 Noon to 1:00 pm

5:30 to 6:30 pm

The Ash Wednesday liturgy will be pre-recorded so that you may view the service at any time during the day. Ashes will be offered at the above times. Pastor Andrea and Deacon Robin will be standing outdoors on the sidewalk near Rural Road. If you would like to come and receive ashes we ask that you enter at the Warner Road entrance and proceed around the building and then exit on Rural (right turn only).

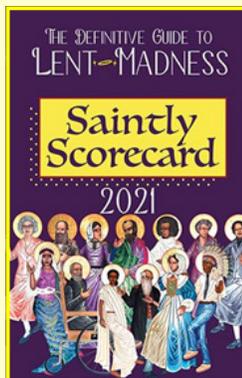


MUSIC CORNER at St James

As we start the month of February, (with January having flown by), we are brought ever closer to the 1-year mark of life being very different for everyone everywhere. Of course, St James has been very much part of this. By the middle of March, we will have been without our regular services for a year. With a lot of planning and so much hard work from a number of people, St James has much to look forward to. We will start our time of Lent on Feb 17 and with prayers and reflection, will continue to make music that resonates with our services and the times we are experiencing. We will start February keeping in mind Black history month with several spirituals incorporated into the service with some of the music as part of the live stream. As we head into Lent and Easter with themes of meditation and rebirth, we can be happy knowing that we are finally much closer to being together again. We don't know that it will happen for Easter, but we know that returning to something that looks normal is on the horizon.

~ ~ ~ Lali Breen

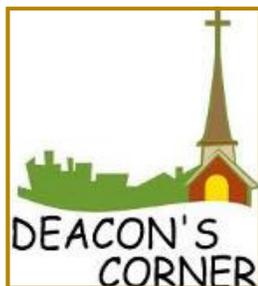
2021 LENT MADNESS IS HERE!! PICK UP YOUR BOOKLET AND GET YOUR HALO ON!! OPEN TO ALL AGES!!



Learn about these saintly folks, forecast the "winner", and win the right to direct a donation to any of our St. James' Ministries! This is a fun and engaging way for a very special kind of Lenten Devotion. Beginning **Thursday February 18th after Ash Wednesday (2/17)**, 32 Saints begin pairings just like the basketball March Madness. You can join the team by picking up one of the **free booklets "The Definitive Guide to Lent Madness 2021: Saintry Scorecard"**. The booklets are free and can be picked up during Communion to Go on **Sunday, February 7th and again during "Ashes to Go" on Ash Wednesday, February 17th**. If you'd like to donate to the Lent Madness pool, you can donate via check or online and mark the donation for "Lent Madness 2021". Send an email to Deacon Robin with your pick for the Golden Halo by **Sunday, March 28th** and be in the running to win the right to designate the Lent Madness Donation Pool to any of our St. James ministries and of course receive your own "Golden Halo". The website for voting, videos & copies of the bracket is <http://www.lentmadness.org/>. For more information/questions, please see Deacon Robin, (480) 242-7178. Get your Halo on!

"Building a New Ministry at St. James': Climate Care of Creation"

As participants in the Jesus Movement, we are called to be stewards and caretakers of "this fragile earth our island home". Our Diocese is one of about 3 dioceses in The Episcopal Church that has a Canon for Creation Care, Rev. Canon Pam Hyde. Canon Hyde has begun her ministry in raising up climate champions within each congregation. St. James is part of this new ministry and is reaching out to ask our St. James' Family to begin building a ministry around understanding how our parish and even how our personal living impacts the environment. We will be learning about the tools and resources available to us for monitoring and reducing our carbon footprint as well as considering alternative energy sources. At St. James' we have started moving toward a 'greener' campus by using the overhead computer projection (not printing a full order of service each Sunday when we gather in the Sanctuary) and in no longer using Styrofoam and using real coffee mugs that are washed and sterilized in a energy-efficient dish washer.



Please prayerfully consider if you feel called to help our St. James family develop into climate creation care champions and learn about the resources. In turn, our ministry team will help to lead trainings, provide recommendations to the Vestry, and help others in finding and using the resources. Please contact me directly at robin.b.hollis@gmail.com or (480) 242-7178 with your interest. We will look to have an introductory meeting soon. I look forward to a focus on making a positive change for our 'island home'.

Blessings,
Deacon Robin

**2021 Lenten Study:
Exploring a New Reality of Jesus Christ Superstar**

Join us Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm **beginning February 24th** via ZOOM as we explore together an interactive Lenten Study Program led by Deacon Robin. This year we will examine the 1973 rock opera movie, “Jesus Christ Superstar” in terms of the life and times of Jesus standing out against enormous political, social, religious, and military expectations. We will consider how our understanding impacts us today. We will review the scripture and identify where ‘artistic license’ leads to a further discussion of perspectives and interpretations. We will also explore the roles of Judas, Mary Magdalene, and Pilate and how this might be interpreted in terms of our understanding as followers in the Jesus Movement.

The 5-week study will occur February 24th, March 3rd, March 10th, March 17th, and March 24th.

Please use the following link to register for the ZOOM session and drop ins are welcome.

Beginning: Feb 24, 2021 06:30 PM Arizona

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkc-ChrjgtGdEC2mabdjNZI_SfEzTrKO_6](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJMkc-ChrjgtGdEC2mabdjNZI_SfEzTrKO_6)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Please feel free to drop in as often as you can. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Robin (robin.b.hollis@gmail.com or (480) 242-7178). See you Wednesdays!

Lector/Reader Schedule for Online Services

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Responses for Gospel Bidding	Prayers of the People	Dismissal Response	Recording Date
February 7	Mary Hovden	Damien Brandeis	Mary Hovden		Damien Brandeis		
February 14	Carol Justice	Nick & Audrey	Carol Paulk	Anna & Parker	Jeff & Jill	Jeff & Jill	Thurs. February 11
February 17 Ash Weds	Joan Besonen	Anna & Parker	Jill Leatherman	Chris & Tara		Nick & Audrey	Thurs. February 4
February 21	Mary Hovden	Chris & Tara	Erica Niemoth	Nick & Audrey	Lali & Greg	Lali & Greg	Thurs. February 18
February 28	Carol Paulk	Jeff & Jill	Joan Besonen	Chris & Tara	Anna & Parker	Anna & Parker	Thurs. February 25