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ZOOM Vestry Meeting

Thursday, September 2nd

10:30 am

Please Note:

The church office will be closed Monday, September 6th, in observance of Labor Day.

Transitions: Old Ways. New Ways. A World of Possibilities

On September 29, the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona will publicly ratify the election by St. James the Apostle members of me as the Rector of this branch of Jesus movement. I feel honored and blessed by this congregation and I believe that God has called us to serve together in Jesus' name.

A few years ago, the Anglican Communion invested a lot of energy and resources to awaken the church with the concept of Ubuntu. The General Convention of the Episcopal Church explored the theme and reminded us that Ubuntu is a Gospel challenge.

Ubuntu is a *Bantu* word introduced to the church by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It means "I am because you are". Ubuntu is a key element in the chemistry of the Episcopal Church. We are all in this together. We worship together. We serve together. We care for one another, and really mean it. We walk the path together. Like the sunflower in the fields, following the sun on the course of the day, we are looking the same direction, together.

The spirit of Ubuntu is often evoked when transitions happen. When

church leadership is in transition, we are invited to be generous with our gifts, have openness to other people's gifts, and live in a season of welcoming.

Dying churches statements includes: "this is the way we have always done it" or "we have already tried that, it doesn't work."

Growing churches say things like: "you are welcome here" or "I would love to have you share your experience with us" and mean it.

Transitions are hard because they require candor and openness to new experiences. They also require letting go of some practices so the spirit of God can renew the community to better serve others and God's Creation.

St. James of Apostle will begin a new season. It is only together that we will build new memories and incredible ministries. God calls us to welcome all people. The movement of Jesus was born on Pentecost, when His followers acknowledged that in celebrating our diversity, we can be called "the Church."

Father Sam Dessórdi Leite+

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry offers a prayer for the people of Afghanistan

Eternal God, hear our prayer for the peoples of Afghanistan. There is a profound humanitarian crisis. Countless people, mostly women and children, are now fleeing and vulnerable. The lives of many are now endangered. The hopes of many are forgone. Send your Spirit, Lord, to rally the resolve of the nations of the earth to find pathways to save human lives, protect human rights, and to resolve the hardships of those seeking refuge, asylum, and safety. Hear our prayer for the peoples of Afghanistan. This we pray as followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

TREASURER'S UPDATE

January 1 through August 30, 2021

I THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY! SOME YEARS, CONTRIBUTIONS FALL DURING THE LONG HOT SUMMER, BUT THEY'VE BEEN PRETTY STEADY THIS YEAR! IN FACT, THE APPARENT SURPLUS IS WITHIN \$500 OF WHERE IT WAS LAST MONTH. (AS I KEEP CAUTIONING, THE "SURPLUS" FIGURE IS MISLEADING. IT BASICALLY CONSISTS OF THE SECOND ROUND OF FEDERAL STIMULUS \$\$\$'s (\$22,925) AND LOWER PERSONNEL COSTS FROM THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR-- ABOUT \$25,000). SO CURRENT GIVING IS ABOUT AT THE "BREAK EVEN" POINT IT'S BEEN SINCE JUNE. HOPEFULLY CONTRIBUTIONS WILL NOW BEGIN PICKING UP SOME SO WE'LL BE ABLE TO INCREASE OUR EXTERNAL MINISTRIES DURING THE LAST FOUR MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

	Actual	Budget
YTD Operating Income	\$ 181,818	\$ 165,072
YTD Operating Expense	\$ 133,791	\$ 167,681
YTD Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 48,027	\$ 2,609

GERRY CARLSTON
TREASURER
(PGCARLSTON@COX.NET)

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE ONLINE TO ST. JAMES AT:

ST. JAMES
975 E WARNER RD OR [HTTPS://TITHE.LY/GIVE_NEW/WWW/#/TITHELY/GIVE-ONE-TIME/2407353](https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2407353)
TEMPE, AZ 85284



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

Denise Boyd
Mary Hovden
Larry Kenyon
Tara Papaccio

It's September! Fall is almost here. The temperature is... never mind, it is still hot. The monsoon season has provided us with some much needed rain. But, in Arizona monsoon style, it also brought us some roof damage from the wind, some ceiling leaks, and some tree damage. Like every other homeowner, St. James feels these sudden and unexpected expenses. Thankfully, we have our Junior Warden, Steve, coordinating contractors in a way that that these repairs go unnoticed by everyone. But, repairs do come at a cost and St. James always rises.



It's September! The excitement builds as we head towards the installment ceremony for Fr. Sam. This ceremony is on Wednesday, September 29, and will be officiated by Bishop Reddall. This type of ceremony is a first for us at St. James. In our St. James story we have never had the opportunity to install a new Rector. This celebration promises to bring clergy from around the state and country to witness and take part. The excitement builds!

Peace,
Bob Klassen



61ST DIOCESAN CONVENTION "POWER OF THE SPIRIT" (OCTOBER 9TH ONLINE, OCTOBER 15-16): This year the convention is particularly exciting because our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be the keynote speaker on Friday, October 15th. The Presiding Bishop's keynote address on Friday at 4:00 pm and the 10 am Eucharist service on Saturday, October 16th, will be live streamed.



Education for Ministry is a four-year program in group reflection and study to strengthen personal Christian ministry in daily life. Assigned texts and essays provide the primary knowledge content in the study of the Christian tradition. Personal interactions and group discussions foster the connection of life experiences through this study. Also, sharing worship, spiritual autobiographies, and personal stories across the year allow the formation of relationships that are foundational to one's personal ministry.

If you are ready to embark on an enriching spiritual journey with like-minded Christians, we invite you to join our group meeting in the St. James Library on Monday evenings beginning September 13, 2021. For more information, please contact Mary Jane Porter, Mentor for Tempe and Chandler, Email: mjp4@cornell.edu or landline (480) 625-4369.



"The reason for wearing the face mask is I wear it so that I don't spread anything to you. I wear it to protect you. It's a small inconvenience, a little sacrifice that actually may be a symbol of what it means to love. And the possible miracle could be that if I wear to protect you from me, and you wear it to protect me from you, or the virus within you, we get protected and we all win. And that is the power of love. If I make room for you, and you make room for me, and if we will work together to create a society where there is room for all of God's children, where every human being, every one of us is treated as a child of God, created in the image and likeness of God, where everybody is loved, everybody is honored, everybody is respected, everybody is created as a child of God. If we work together to build that kind of society and don't give up, then love can save us all."

Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Michael Curry

Lector/Reader Schedule (9:30 am)

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Prayers of the People	Chalice Bearers	Acolyte
Sept 5	Denise	Erica	Damien	Carol Justice	Dense/Bob	Elliot
Sept 12	Carol Paulk	Audrey	Kathleen	Pat	Bob/Pat	Elliot
Sept 19	Kathleen	Damien	Erica	Audrey	Erica/Bob	Dylan
Sept 26	Joan	Jill	Careen	Denise	Denise/Careen	Damien

EYC will be meeting on **Sunday, September 19th**, 11am to 12 pm. We will meet in the Library. I look forward to seeing you all.

Angel Tree 2021



Because of COVID protocols with the program, we are doing Angel Tree like we did last year. We are collecting donations instead of shopping ourselves as in past years before COVID. We hope to collect \$50 per child to purchase clothing items and gifts for the children (50 children). All donations need to be into the church office by November 28th. That will give us two weeks to shop online and get the gifts ready for delivery December 11th-19th so the children will have their gifts for Christmas.

Here are a couple ways to donate to this wonderful program:

- 1) Sending a check to the church office - please put Angel Tree in the Memo line.
- 2) Tithely: please designate your contribution to Children & Family Ministries.

Thank you for all your help and support with this wonderful outreach program!



MUSIC CORNER at St James

The hot summer months are zipping by. The biggest event for September is the installation for Father Sam on the 29th. We are adding in several pieces of music into our church program starting on September 12th, which are going to be sung by all of us at the installation. The music looks to be front and center for the installation and we expect some extra singers to join us for that.

On September 5th, (Labor Day weekend) Audrey and Gerry will be leading the music with a mostly contemporary service which I know will be much appreciated. We are continuing into September going in a little more 'classic' direction, but definitely contemporary praise music will play a part in our selections going forward. We are adding in a piece called "God Welcomes All," which will be sung before the Processional Hymn every week (for now) and another piece during the offering, "All are Welcome." Father Sam wants St James to continue to be a place of inclusion and hospitality so bringing you these new songs certainly adds to that inclusive direction.

~ ~ ~ *Lali Breen*



Dear St. James Family,

Many of you are members of the UMOM Women's Auxiliary, have participated in activities such as serving dinners at Halle Women's Center, attended a Birdsong Luncheon, or given books to the Children's Book Drive, volunteered at UMOM New Day Center, or donated to either the UMOM Women's Auxiliary, UMOM Halle Women's Center, or the UMOM Homeless Shelters in the past and I wish to **THANK ALL OF YOU** for **ALL OF YOUR** support of UMOM over the years.

These past almost two years of COVID have really impacted UMOM and the families they service. As the **largest homeless shelter in Arizona**, we have had to expand our services this past year. So, I am asking if anyone would like to participate in the Women's Auxiliary Annual P. J. and Blanket drive for the women at the Halle Women's Homeless Shelter or to participate once again in the Walk the Walk to End Homelessness to please check out the attached flyer to see what you are able to support this year.

You are encouraged to start purchasing the P.J.s now (we always need the larger women's sizes 1X – 4X in particular) and the blankets need to be the plush type for a single or double bed only. (**COSTCO**, **WALMART**, and **AMAZON**, often have sales or good prices on these items.) We will collect them from now until about the 1st of December. Also, please save the date **Saturday, May 14th for the Walk the Walk**. I will furnish more information about the Walk as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Ellie Kenyon by phone at **480-248-7457** or by email at **ejkenyon6315@verizon.net**.

Thank you for all you do to help those less fortunate!

St James Bookies

Sunday, September 19th

St. James Library
(after the 9:30 service)

Come with a list of book suggestions! Let's get together with coffee and great books! CDC & Diocesan COVID protocols will be followed.



MEN'S MINISTRIES

Join Us for Lunch!!

Thursday, September 23rd
11:30 am

Biscuit's

4623 E. Elliot Road, Phoenix
(SW corner 48th & Elliot)

Ladies Night

Tuesday, September 14th
6:00 pm

Postino South Tempe
8749 S. Rural Road, Tempe 85284

We are looking forward to getting together again. And if you haven't come before please join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship. And bring a friend! For the safety and health of everyone it is asked that you be fully vaccinated to attend.

Holiday Drive



PJS OF ALL SIZES

COZY PLUSH THROWS

WE ARE COLLECTING NEW PAJAMA SETS AND/OR PLUSH THROWS FOR UMOM'S HALLE WOMEN'S SHELTER.

THE UMOM HALLE WOMEN'S SHELTER IS THE ONLY COMPREHENSIVE HOMELESS SHELTER DEDICATED TO SINGLE WOMEN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.

UMOM.ORG



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MAY 14TH

**WALK THE WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS
PHOENIX ZOO**