

THE EPISTLE

THE MISSION OF ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, A CENTRAL CITY CHURCH,
IS TO WELCOME ALL PEOPLE INTO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST AND TO SERVE IN HIS NAME

The Warden's Words

When I was a child, there were several ways that I knew when my mother was serious about something. If I heard my middle name when she gave a direction, then I knew there was no use discussing or attempting to negotiate. If the sentence included the word *will* highly emphasized (You WILL clean up your room), there was no wiggle room there either. I don't remember my mother saying "I command you," when trying to get me to do something. The things she was directing me to do never had that sort of importance. Commandments came from "on high" and went beyond even the force of laws. In my mind at the time, if one broke a law, there was a penalty, but if one broke a commandment the consequences were unimaginable. In my younger person head, the images of Charlton Heston holding the stone tablets of the 10 Commandments were married to the images of the plagues God levied on Egypt. If one broke a Commandment, got a plague as their consequence.

I don't think Commandments carry the same sort of connotations to me as an adult. Now they seem to be used in so many more places than just the Old Testament. When I see the word being used now, I have to stop and ask myself if the subject of the 'commandment' is significant enough to warrant being called one.

As we enter into our last weeks of our search and transition process, we are indeed commanded to prepare. If we claim to live in mission that says that we welcome all, then we are commanded to make sure that we are ready to welcome. If we claim to live a mission that says people who come to us will see in us the presence of Christ, then we are commanded to examine and make sure that nothing prevents the Christ within us from being seen by others. As we look to welcome a new Rector who came to us in answer to our plea to walk with us and love us well, we are commanded to prepare to walk together, to make smooth the rough places, to be willing to create the opportunity for love to grow. As Jesus says in the Gospel of John, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

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Life teaches us all that loving one another is not easy. It takes work. But, life also teaches us that the reward is well worth the effort. Over the next few weeks, we will be making great effort to be ready for the start of a new chapter in the story of St. James'. We will be making efforts to prepare our space and our hearts for a new Rector. As we prepare to welcome Mother Lisa, we will be sharing Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor that will hopefully make us ready to welcome, to show Christ's presence, and to walk together in love.

"As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples." Let us commit ourselves to doing our best to good disciples, welcoming of all and serving in Christ's name.

— John Washbush, Senior Warden



ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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September 14, 2011

Dear Members of the St. James' Episcopal Church community,

On behalf of the Vestry of St. James' and the members of the Search Committee, we are proud to be able to announce that The Rev. Lisa Ann Saunders has consented to become the nineteenth Rector of St. James' Episcopal Church.

Mtr. Lisa currently holds the position of Senior Assistant Rector at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square, in Washington, D.C. Her duties include clerical leadership and administrative oversight of the Spanish language congregation (Mtr. Lisa is bilingual, fluent in Spanish). She provides pastoral care and also manages the Church School and youth programs for the parish, including numerous mission trips to South Africa and Louisiana.



Mtr. Lisa is from Wisconsin and completed her Bachelor's degree in Human Services with a minor in Spanish in 2001 at UW-Oshkosh. She was raised up for ordination from Grace Church in Madison and received her M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2007. She was ordained Deacon in June of 2007 (with Kevin Stewart), and Bishop Miller ordained her Priest in December of 2007. She has served at St. John's in Washington for all of her ordained ministry.

After concluding her service with the people of St. John's in mid-October, Mtr. Lisa will undertake the arduous task of cross-country relocation. Her journey with the people of St. James' begins in mid-November, and she will celebrate her first service at St. James' on Sunday, November 20th, 2011.

I am sure that you will join with us in thanking the members of the Search Committee for their incredible faithful service: Paul Cooke, Connie Falt, Loraine Garner, Susan Gilman, Bob Heindl, Gust Olson, Mary Washbush, and Susan Wilson. For their commitment and service to the St. James' community, for their willingness to open themselves to the working of the spirit in discerning a candidate, we are eternally grateful. We also wish to thank the members of the Vestry for their work and support in our process: Lucy Cooper, Leanne Mittelstadt, Gust Olson, Mark Shaw, Linda Steiger, and Teresa Jackson.

This is a most joyous time in the history of St. James'. We ask for your prayers of thanksgiving and prayers of support for Mtr. Lisa and all of the people of St. James as we soon begin to walk the next leg of the St. James' journey - our journey of welcoming all, serving all, and loving one another well, in the name of Jesus our Savior.

In Christ,

John Washbush
Senior Warden

Susan Wilson
Junior Warden

Loraine Garner
Chair, Search Committee

"The Church of our time is open to all who will be in God's account!" The Most Rev. Edward Browning



Left: The Rev. Lisa Saunders. (Photo taken shortly after ordination to the priesthood.)

Right: The Rt. Rev. Stephen Miller, Bishop of Milwaukee, The Rev. Kevin Stewart, and The Rev. Lisa Saunders. Photo taken at the diaconal ordination of Den. Kevin and Mtr. Lisa.



Editor's Note:

Since The Epistle is distributed beyond the membership of the parish, we would like to take this opportunity to share with the broader community the incredible news that St. James' has called a new rector!

This announcement was sent to the parish earlier.

Welcoming a New Rector

As we look forward to welcoming a new rector to the St. James community, we prepare to be welcoming to Mother Lisa. We prepare to renew our commitment to service. We prepare to begin a new journey, as one united community, in the name and presence of Christ.

To assist us in thinking through some of the common issues that arise when welcoming a new pastor, the Vestry has been studying and discussing an article by a church consultant and author, Brian McLaren. "10 Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor," has provided great conversation and interesting insights. The Daughters of the King are also undertaking this study and discussion.

We invite all of the congregation to reflect and pray on these points, and we encourage you to share your reflections with one another. To facilitate sharing, each week we will look at two commandments reprinted on an insert in the bulletin. Space is provided to record thoughts and have them posted on a bulletin board to share. We have also created a blog page where parishioners can post thoughts about preparation for a new rector. A sample of the page is shown below. Directions for posting and sharing can be found at <http://stjamesmilwaukee.blogspot.com>. Please join us in sharing your experiences and your thoughts as we eagerly await the arrival of Mother Lisa in November.

Ten Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor

- I. Thou shalt not compare the old Pastor and the new Pastor, for the Lord thy God has made each person unique and wishes you to appreciate each original creation.
- II. Thou shalt not expect everything to stay the same when the new Pastor arrives. Nor shalt thou resist change, nor assume that change is bad, but thou shalt trust that the Lord thy God isn't finished with your church yet and is bringing change for your good and the good of your mission.
- III. Thou shalt not make graven images of thine old grudges, nor shalt thou keep stale disappointments in the temple of thine heart, but thou shalt forgive and move on in the grace of the Lord thy God, for how can thou ask God for mercy unless thou give mercy from thine heart?
- IV. Thou shalt not commit gossip, nor shalt thou fearfully complain, nor shalt thou listen to those who do, but instead thou shalt entreat them to adjust their attitudes and lighten up, for everything shall be alright, and in fact, shall turn out very well indeed – better than you can even imagine.
- V. Thou shalt not commit nostalgia or say that the old days were better, for in so doing thou shalt make thy judgment come true. Be assured that the Lord thy God is not falling asleep at the wheel, but will be with thee and surprise thee with abundant blessings, more than thou canst contain or count.
- VI. Thou shalt not factionalize nor create "us-them" divisions, but thou shalt unify with thy brothers and sisters even when they annoy or confuse you.
- VII. Thou shalt not come to the new pastor with your demands, pressure, complaints, bad reports, manipulations, threats, agendas, unsolicited advice, or snide comments. But thou shalt say, "Welcome! How can we help you? We love you! We would like to increase our giving significantly. We're praying for you and your family. Welcome to our community! We baked you some cookies!" And each week, thou shalt do so again and again until the new pastor begs you to stop.
- VIII. Thou shalt increase thy giving, and not withhold thy tithe, but invest thy money and thine heart in the future of thy community of faith and mission.
- IX. Thou shalt not come to thine old and former pastor with anything but praise for the new pastor, but thou mayest bring thy concerns to God in humble prayer, and if thou must, thou may also share concerns with the duly appointed leaders of the church.
- X. Most important, thou shalt trust God, and stay connected to God, and draw strength from God, staying deeply rooted in the message of God's grace. For God is good, and God will never leave you nor forsake you. You can count on that for sure!

deaconspeak

Gearing Up to Go Forward

Recently Loraine got a new car. It is a nice little car with a diesel engine, and has a turbo. Plus it has a six-speed manual transmission. It is a fun car to drive and really gets moving quickly.

As we at St. James' see our Summer quickly winding down, it is also time to see how and where we can accelerate forward in our faith. We tend to cruise during the Summer, but now most of our vacations are done and we should take the opportunity to gear up our faith in our worship and study and service and fellowship. There are multiple ways that we can shift into the fast lane at St. James' now and as we move forward.

Have you prayed and thought, then filled in and offered up your Time and Talent Ministry worksheet? Have you considered attending the Adult Formation class? Have you wondered what attending services more regularly would mean in your life as well as to the lives of your fellow Jamesians? Have you suggested possible fellowship events, or attended them when they are offered? When is the next time you will serve at Red Door or Sundries sorting or distribution?

It is critical that we drive our faith forward. If we, as individuals and as a Community, sit idling our spiritual engines, we only succeed in wasting energy and running out of fuel. And as we accelerate together, I am looking forward to the turbo boost that we will need and get when we call our next rector. If we are already speeding along in fourth or fifth gear, it makes it all the easier for him/her to apply the turbo boost we need to get into the left lane as a faith Community.

So now, to start off the fall, let's fasten our spiritual seatbelts, re-start our engines and get into gear to share the love and glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ – with each other and with those we are called to serve.



your servant
in Christ,
den terry

10 Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor

Welcome to the Blog page of St. James' Episcopal Church! This page is designed to provide a forum where members of our congregation can reflect and discuss some topics drafted by a church development consultant. Each post is a reflection point on preparing for a new rector. There are ten in total, written in the style of Commandments. This blog site is an attempt to allow members to reflect and converse about preparing for our new rector.

INSTRUCTION I:

Please take a moment to read over the commandment, reflect on what it means to you and what you think it means to our congregation. Feel free to share your thoughts with others in the congregation by adding a COMMENT to the post. To add your thoughts, just click on the word COMMENT below the post.

Please read the comments of others. You may add your thoughts to their comments as well.

Some ground rules:

- This is a church site for constructive exchange between members. Please limit comments to the topics at hand and their reflection.
- Please be honest but also kind and compassionate in your responses.
- We strive to be a community that models Christ to others and cares for one another. Let our comments show that to be true of us.

ABOUT ME

St. James' Episcopal Church
The mission of St. James' Episcopal Church, a central city church, is welcome all people into the presence of Christ and to serve in His name.

[View my complete profile](#)



BLOG ARCHIVE

▼ 2011 (12)

▼ May (12)

- Topic One - Commandment I
- Topic Two - Commandment II
- Topic Three - Commandment III
- Topic Four - Commandment IV
- Topic Five - Commandment V
- Topic Six - Commandment VI
- Topic Seven - Commandment VII
- Topic Eight - Commandment VIII
- Topic Nine - Commandment IX
- Topic Ten - Commandment X

Topic One - Commandment I



I. Thou shalt not compare the old Pastor and the new Pastor, for the Lord thy God has made each person unique and wishes you to appreciate each original creation.

Posted by St. James' Episcopal Church 0 comments

Topic Two - Commandment II



II. Thou shalt not expect everything to stay the same when the new Pastor arrives. Nor shalt thou resist change, nor assume that change is bad, but thou shalt trust that the Lord thy God isn't finished with your church yet and is bringing change for your good and the good of your mission.

Posted by St. James' Episcopal Church 0 comments

Topic Three - Commandment III



III. Thou shalt not make graven images of thine old grudges, nor shalt thou keep stale disappointments in the temple of thine heart, but thou shalt forgive and move on in the grace of the Lord thy God, for how can thou ask God for mercy unless thou give mercy from thine heart?

Posted by St. James' Episcopal Church 0 comments

Topic Four - Commandment IV



IV. Thou shalt not commit gossip, nor shalt thou fearfully complain, nor shalt thou listen to those who do, but instead thou shalt entreat them to adjust their attitudes and lighten up, for everything shall be alright and in fact, shall turn out very well indeed – better than you can even imagine.

Posted by St. James' Episcopal Church 0 comments

Topic Five - Commandment V



V. Thou shalt not commit nostalgia or say that the old days were better, for in so doing thou shalt make thy judgment come true. Be assured that the Lord thy God is not fallible.

Above: Screen capture of the St. James' discussion blog. Add comments to the appropriate commandment, Check in to see what others have written and exchange responses with them.

Check it Out!

St. James' has a blog page!

Reflect and share your reactions to the
“10 Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor.”
Post your responses on our discussion blog at:

<http://stjamesmilwaukee.blogspot.com>

From the Deacon's Bench

The line at The Gathering seemed like it was endless and the draft from outside coming down the hallway was cold and damp. As I looked at the faces of the guests I realized that I had seen them again and again. I may have been smiling as I greeted them and took their tickets, but inside my heart was heavy and losing hope.

At the start of The Gathering or Red Door Clothes or Sundries, we gather for prayer. In those prayers we always ask for guidance to be able to give hope to those we are serving. That short word is at the heart of what we are doing. But, to give hope, we must have it ourselves to truly give it to others.

The most difficult part of living the mission of St. James is to serve in Jesus' name by giving hope. The hope that comes from feeding bellies, clothing bodies, cleansing bodies, sustains the physical person. The love that we show and give outwardly feeds the spiritual side of those we serve. Giving things is the easy part of building hope. Openly giving ourselves and our love is the hard part of we do not give them genuinely.

If you and I are to truly serve in Jesus' name, we must be able to sustain the hope that He constantly offers each one of us.

There are many things that can cause us to lose hope in serving others. For example, we are a result-oriented society. In business, we look at results and if we don't see the results anticipated, we think we have failed.

Or, we can get so wrapped up in *doing* that we lose sight of *why* we are doing. In doing, we keep striving for perfection in doing, forgetting that imperfect as we are, perfection may never happen. In our concerns for the structure and physical aspects of the service being given, we lose sight of the spiritual. We're not giving hope, we are giving a structure.

Sometimes we get so emotionally involved that we allow the pain and hopelessness we see to take away our own feelings of hope. Every time we see a loss or roadblock for someone, we lose hope.

How do we deal with these difficulties? How do we avoid the pitfalls?

Reality bump! Change in our friends and their lifestyles may be miniscule or nonexistent or even not measurable by our everyday standards. However, if we listen to their words of thanks and their spoken God Bless Yous, or look into their eyes and see the love we know that our friends have hope, even if for that brief moment.

(continued on page 6)



St. James' Day

Due to weather conditions, this year our annual St. James Day picnic was held indoors.

Thanks to all who shared food, and especially to Deacon Terry sharing for his grilling skills and cooking away in the wee hours of the morning!

Thank You

(continued from page 3)

What we are sharing with our friends and what they are sharing with us is a brief, yet sustaining, sign of hope. It's not something that is tangible, like a number on a balance sheet. However, what I hear or see every time I serve is enough to jack up my inner hope ten points and my hope exchange!

When we get ourselves into the "doing" mode and all our perfectionism has come to full bloom, we bury hope. When it becomes more important to us that we present a perfect operating structure than to be open, warm and smiling, we are burying hope. We are burying hope within ourselves because it's the last thing on our minds and it stifles hope in our friends because we're not giving the love.

Step back, remember whose you are, let go of your "doing" mentality and open your spiritual side. In AA we continually talk about letting go and letting God. When we do that, we begin to feel again the sustaining hope of God and lose the feelingless mode of "doing".

It is sometimes very easy to let our emotional involvement become a roadblock. This can be especially true where someone we are helping suffers and setback or makes self-destructive moves. They lose hope and our deep involvement causes us to do the same. What good is a hope-giver without hope? The hardest part of counseling, for me at least, is to detach and try to be realistic and not emotional. If we are to be hope-givers in these situations, we need: to back off; to kneel down; to pray for help and to turn over our helpee to Jesus' care and to reach out for Jesus' hand to restore our own hope as well.

At the base of all, we at St. James do in acting upon and living out our mission is hope. When we welcome all people, we are showing our living acceptance of each one, no strings, and in doing so instilling hope. In bringing our new friends to Jesus, we bring them to God's icon of hope. And in serving, we give hope to those served, and continually renew our own hope.

Maybe that draft down the hall at The Gathering won't be so bad after all and maybe my smiles will always be real. I hope!

Deacon Ned

Vestry Notes

The vestry meeting was called to order at 6:25P.M. The tone of the meeting had a mixture of excitement tempered with doing business as usual. Vestry members were buzzing with energy regarding Mother Lisa Saunders and a new beginning in the life of St. James. All members shared their thoughts in answering the check-in question: "now that you have had some time to process, what are you most looking forward to as we move into a new chapter in the St. James story?"

In the last month the vestry met four times to do the church business and to finish the process of calling Mother Lisa to St. James. The vestry members extend their gratitude to the members of the Search Committee for the incredible work that was done to call the next rector.

October and November will be filled with different functions in order to prepare for our new Rector. As each date approaches, Jamesians will be notified and encouraged to participate. In late October, offices will be cleaned and painted. There will also be a general clean-up inside the church. We are also preparing for the Bishop's visit scheduled for November 13.

In the midst of the planning and preparation, the vestry scheduled an evening of fun: bowling on October 21.

Linda Steiger

Blessing of the Animals: October 2

On October 2, 2011, we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis, who comes down to us in collective myth as the gentle man in the brown tunic with a bird on his arm, lived from 1181/82-1226, mostly in what we now call central Italy.

Far from being an isolated and otherworldly mystic, the real St. Francis was in the thick of political and theological controversies. This was the time of the Crusades (the West was losing) and widespread criticism of the church for having become corrupt. It was also a time when the Pope was doing everything in his power to eradicate the Albigensian heresy, which had taken root in parts of what we now know as southern France. It was a fascinating and turbulent time. St. Francis was theologically orthodox, but he energetically proclaimed and pursued a course of devotion to the poor and a turning away from corruption and materialism. He managed to be an uncompromising devotee of purity and a joyful person at the same time. The Pope rightly saw that a person like Francis could help to revitalize the church and accepted this layperson's founding of a new order of friars and eventually ordained him deacon.

The stories of Francis charming the animals grew and multiplied after Francis's death at age 45 in 1226 but his point always was to see all creatures as part of God's miraculous creation and to honor all parts of that creation.

A tradition has grown up in the modern church of celebrating St. Francis's feast day by bringing our beloved pets to church to be blessed. Our former Rector, Mother Debra Trakel, instituted this at St. James and the Sunday of blessing the animals has become a favorite day here.

So, by all means, bring your pets to church if you wish and if they can handle it. You can bring a picture if the real animal might be too stressed by all the company. Make sure dogs are firmly leashed, cats are either crated or leashed, and that other pets are under human control. Bringing various animals that don't know each other into one unfamiliar space can lead to trouble unless the humans are properly vigilant. (We have never had a dog fight or a bite or a cat scratch at our St. James blessing of the animals – and we don't want to break the streak!)

See you with my dog, Blue, on Sunday, October 2nd.

Lucy Cooper



Please join us for indoor clean-up day

Saturday, October 29, 2011

9:00A.M. to 1:00P.M.

Come and help clean up on the inside of St. James worship spaces,
Rector's office and kitchen.

All able bodies are welcome!

Lend a Hand!

Red Door Clothes needs you!

Saturday, October 15

8:00A.M. to 10:30A.M.

*To fill in for regular volunteers
who are delegates to Diocesan Convention.*

Call 414 332 5776

Help!

*Volunteers needed to staffables at Diocesan Convention
for Red Door Clothes
and Sundries on the Avenue*

Friday, Oct. 14, 11:00A.M. to 3:00P.M.

Saturday, Oct. 15, 8:00A.M. to 1:30P.M.

*at Racine Civic Center, Racine, Wisconsin
and to help transport blue jeans and sundries
back to St. James.*

Call 414 332 5776

Banks come up with money

As many of you already know, four of the banks who hold the most foreclosures in Wisconsin, have agreed to the terms requested by Common Ground. This is a stunning turnaround from earlier this year when the banks began to stall again. Why the turnaround?

My point of view is: the persistence, the continued presence of Common Ground members and the respectful manner in which Common Ground operates made it difficult for the banks to continue to ignore us. The one bank who hasn't come around is JP Morgan Chase. Bishop Miller has been actively involved in reaching out to Chase. His presence with Common Ground, keeps me motivated.

In addition, while we have been conducting the foreclosure campaign, it has come to light that the banks were totally irresponsible with foreclosure paperwork. It has been well documented, that hundreds of people were hired to forge signatures and titles on bank paperwork. Because of the overt behavior by the banks, the federal government has become involved. The banks needed to do something and they need some positive press coverage. We provided them a positive outlet.

On May 23, Common Ground held a Delegates Assembly to unveil Milwaukee Rising, which is the entity created to begin the cleanup of foreclosed homes. Either sell them responsibly, rehab the homes that need it and then sell them or tear down the homes that cannot be rehabbed. The monies from the banks will help pay for this process. In addition, the banks will provide monies for mortgages. Three organizations helping to oversee the monies and the construction work necessary are LISC, Mercy Housing and Zilber Construction.

Also on May 23, Wells Fargo made a public commitment to Milwaukee Rising, the first bank to do so. I am grateful that several Jamesians were in attendance to witness this turning point. A long-overdue thank you to Gust, Deacon Ned, Katie, Sheryl, Sam and Mark. Your presence represented St. James' continued commitment to work with Common Ground to help our beautiful city during these difficult times.

The first rehabbed home is in the process of being sold. Gust went to the open house. He was quite impressed with the craftsmanship of the work and the home in general. You might want to ask him about his experience.

As Milwaukee Rising continues on the foreclosure front, a new issue has surfaced. Education and the budget cuts are being researched. In the coming weeks, I will keep you posted on what the different research groups find. If you are interested in any aspect of the current educational crises, please let me know.

October 4 is the next Delegates Assembly. (Mount Mary College, 7:00PM – 8:30PM.) Please put this date on your calendar. Remember, the Delegates Assemblies are formal gatherings to apprise all members, media, and politicians of the activities of Common Ground. This would be an opportunity to stand and be counted. It is always important to show our strength through numbers at the public assemblies.

Linda Steiger

Bowling is Back!

As she prepares to make her Snow Bird journey south to Florida for this winter, we would again like to have a Bowling Bash send off for Vanda Healy!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 21st!

Details will follow in the bulletin and by email.



Care packages sent to college students

When I was in college, I lived in a university dorm suite with three other young women. Each semester, our parents were sent an order form asking if they wanted to send an "Exam Kit" to their child; filled with snacks and school supplies, the care package would arrive the Friday before exam week. One semester, thanks to the generosity of all our parents, the four of us received a total of twelve boxes of goodies. Even more than the supplies of sugar and laundry soap, I remember best the reminder of love and support and encouragement from home.

This month, Bob Heindl initiated a new ministry of care packages for our Jamesian undergrad and graduate students. Almost single-handedly, he put together ten boxes of food, sundries, school supplies, and multiple messages from home. From a few blocks down Wisconsin Avenue to the east coast and several point in between, the care packages traveled a variety of distances to reach our parish's learners, reminding them that they're on our minds and hearts and that they have our support in their educational endeavors.

Bob hopes to send multiple care packages throughout the school year; if you're interested in joining him in this ministry by writing notes of encouragement to enclose, helping with the packing and sending, or donating baked goods or other packaged food or supplies, please talk with Bob or one of the wardens.

Susan Wilson and Bob Heindl

Diocesan Convention is Coming! Oct. 14-15 - Memorial Hall, Racine

As the leaves begin to change color, we know that fall is upon us. This brings not just cooler weather and shorter days, but also the annual meeting of the Diocese of Milwaukee. In the Episcopal Church, our primary unit of governance is the diocese, and so the work of our convention is an essential part of our lives as Episcopalians. We meet over two days to allow for workshops, training sessions, Eucharistic celebrations, a banquet and other activities to be combined with our business meeting. All of the activities of convention are open to the public without prior registration, with the exception of the banquet.

On Friday, workshop sessions will take place in the afternoon. Topics are wide ranging. A special presentation session featuring Deacon Kevin Stewart and the work of many people in the Racine area to create a daytime Hospitality Center for the homeless will take place in the afternoon as well. Friday evening there is the convention Eucharist at St. Luke's, followed by a banquet

On Saturday, vendors from a variety of bookstores, investment companies, artists and artisans will be available throughout the day to showcase and offer their wares. Our own Bob Heindl is the coordinator of the vendor area. The business meeting also takes place on Saturday morning. At our Annual Meeting last January, we elected Robert Wilson, Gust Olson, Sheryl Slocum, and Bob Heindl to represent St. James'. Business that will be covered this year includes electing people to diocesan offices (John Washbush is running for Standing Committee), adopting a diocesan budget, and voting on other resolutions. Some of our resolutions being debated change our election procedures, modify minimum clergy compensation, establish new diocesan health insurance options, and asked the convention to make a recommendation on how to comply with concealed carry laws. Visitors are welcome at the business meeting. John Washbush serves on a variety of committees that help to make the business meeting run smoothly, as well as serving as the Parliamentarian of Convention.

Red Door Clothes and Sundries from the Avenue will be collecting donations from visitors and deputies to convention on both days. Your help in gathering and transporting these donations would be greatly appreciated. So, come down to Racine! Take in a workshop, collect some clothes and toiletries, and see your diocese in action! See John Washbush for details.

Rally Day recap

We came, we saw, we rallied! No, it wasn't a tennis match . . . it was St. James' first ever Rally Day! On Sunday, September 18, we kicked off the new year of Christian formation and service to our God and church. Amidst the balloons and snacks and singing, we took the time to bless the offerings of time and talent made by members of the congregation, thank Kris Ochocki for her years of service as the Sunday School Coordinator, and commission the adult ed and Sunday School teachers for the upcoming year. Highlights included Mother Anita joining the kids in leading the actions to our closing hymn, "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" and a visitor, on his way out of service, exclaiming to one of the Ministers of Hospitality, "You have a really great church!"

Praise God for another year to learn and grow and worship and serve Him here on Eighth and Wisconsin Avenue!

Robert and Susan Wilson



Mini-Golf Outing



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