

THE FISHERMAN

WE ARE A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF LOVING, CARING MEMBERS, WHO REACH OUT TO WELCOME OTHERS THROUGH SOCIAL ACTION, MINISTRY, AND INSPIRATIONAL, SACRAMENTAL WORSHIP.

The Season of Lent

It became the custom of the Church to prepare for the days of the Lord's passion by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism...and when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church... The Church invites you to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word (from the Invitation in the Ash Wednesday liturgy, *Book of Common Prayer*, pages 264-5).

Most people know the time of year Lent occurs and some of the Lenten disciplines we uphold (listed above). But what is the meaning of the word *Lent*, when did the season of Lent originate, and what is the background for the Lenten customs and disciplines?

The term Lent is derived from a Middle English word *lente* and an Old English word *lencten*, which is akin to Old High German *lenzin* meaning "spring." The earliest observances of a time of fasting prior to Easter lasted only two or three days. The Canons of Nicaea of 325 A.D. first mention a 40-day period, referring to the custom of the prescribed fast of candidates for baptism on Easter morning. The period of 40 days suggested the 40 day fast of Jesus when he wandered through the wilderness and was tempted by Satan, according to three of the Gospels. In the Western tradition of the Church, the Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday. The season actually covers a 46-day period, but each of the Sundays in Lent is not considered as a fast day, as "all Sundays of the year are feasts of our Lord..." (*Book of Common Prayer*, page 16) and commemorate the resurrection of Jesus. Hence there remains the 40 days of fasting and solemnity.

The use of ashes on the first day of Lent has a basis in the Old Testament, where dressing in sackcloth and covering one's self in ashes was an act of mourning and penitence. The custom of imposing ashes first occurred in the church by the seventh century when public penitents at Rome were ceremonially set apart to begin their period of penance on Ash Wednesday. This was symbolized by the imposition of ashes on the heads of clergy and people, a rite still ordered in the Roman Missal. This custom was preserved in the first English Prayer Book (1549) and its subsequent editions.

Lenten Observances at St. James the Fisherman

- Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Holy Communion – February 14 at 12 at noon and 7:00 p.m.
- Lenten Prayer and Meditation Group, Thursdays in Lent (February 22, March 1, 8, 15 & 22) at 3:00 p.m. in Bliss Hall
- Lenten Study Series: The Story of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church – Thursdays in Lent (February 22, March 1, 8, 15 & 22) at 4:00 p.m. in the Bliss Hall
 - Regular Saturday and Sunday Eucharist
- Please participate in these services and opportunities to enhance your Lenten journey.

(In next issue we will explore the all of the Holy Week services that will be observed at St. James the Fisherman)

A Voice from the Deacon's Bench

Dear Friends in Christ,



Many of you have read the prayer for guidance and discernment in the bulletin for the ongoing search for a new rector. May I ask that you read, meditate or send out this prayer every day, so that we as the church can be in God's continual light and truth during this transitional and at times chaotic path?

Hold one another up in prayer for guidance, understanding and patience. Be gentle to yourself and with one another and quietly listen to the concerns and questions many have—including me. It will come together in God's time, not ours. We will be questioning and challenging much of the status quo within our church. Transition and true self-discernment always feels uncomfortable, but without this, there is no new growth. St. James is a strong and healthy church. We are blessed with positive Christian people, rewarding outreach ministries, good leadership, and a drive to keep our faith in God always before us as we move forward. We are an emerging church.

*Blessings,
Deacon Jean*

New Vestry Liaison Position for 2018

I have appointed newly-elected vestry member Nancy Dougherty as our parish deanery representative, and liaison for communication. She will attend the Lower Cape Fear Deanery meetings, and share information with us all about activities in our deanery, while providing a stronger linkage between our parish and the diocese.

As communication liaison, her responsibilities will be three-fold: to provide important information for SJTF's members and staff, submit news about our parish with the Shallotte/Brunswick community, and assist in creating a manual of all customs, policies and practices of the church. This manual will be completed by the arrival of your future rector, and will both benefit him or her as well as the entire parish community. We discovered this need during our preparations for Christmas, and will need details for upcoming Lenten/Easter services and events, and other future occasions.

Be sure to thank Nancy for her willing to serve in this helpful position. Connie and I look forward to working with her!

Father Frank



Ash Wednesday Services

On Wednesday, February 14th, we begin the Season of Lent. On that day we'll hold two Eucharist Services, at noon (said) and 7 p.m. (with music), both including the Imposition of Ashes.

GSMA Lenten Lunch Schedule

The Greater Shallotte Ministerial Association will once again be hosting Lenten Lunches. They will gather at noon on Wednesdays at member churches to feed the spiritual needs of the members of its church communities. The suggested donation for lunch is \$5.00 or more. All proceeds go to the South Brunswick Interchurch Council Food Pantry. Following is the schedule for 2018:

Date	Site	Preacher
February 14	St. Brendan Catholic Church	Ms. Katherine Moore
February 21	Seaside United Methodist Church	Rev. Joe Needham
February 28	Shallotte Presbyterian Church	Ms. Fran Salone-Pelletier
March 7	St. Luke Lutheran Church	Rev. Mary Jane Wilson-Parsons
March 14	Calvary Baptist Church	Rev. Won Namkoong
March 21	Camp United Methodist Church	Rev. Henry Rehder



Daughters of the King Diaper Drive

Did you know that food stamps cannot be used to purchase diapers, and day care centers *require* disposable diapers? This is a hardship for many needy families, and makes getting a job, without the option of day care, impossible. So it is that time, again, for the DOK Diaper Drive. It will run from Feb. 4th through the 18th. Disposable diapers are needed for infants and babies: sizes NB (Newborn) to #6.

Along with the diapers, disposable wipes are also needed. If you just want to contribute money, we will have a box for that and we will purchase these items for you.

Thank you for your generosity in the past! If you have any questions, please contact Anne Neely, aeneely@aol.com or 910-754-5375.

The program is called "Support the Girls." Homeless and financially-challenged women and girls in Brunswick and New Hanover Counties are in need of bras and feminine hygiene products. New and/or gently used bras (washed), new (sealed) packages of tampons and maxi pads, and new (packaged) underwear of all sizes are needed. All types and sizes of bras are needed (daily, underwire, sport, training, maternity, nursing, lacy, and mastectomy).

St. James the Fisherman will be collecting these items February 17 through March 4. So, please look in your dresser drawers for any new or gently used bras you no longer wear and donate them to this worthwhile ministry. Other hygiene products would be appreciated also.

The collected items will be sorted by volunteers from the Support the Girls - Southeastern North Carolina Chapter, and distributed to many different shelters/programs between Brunswick County and New Hanover County.

If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Ann Campbell-Grothe at 910-575-1247 or at no1nannie@atmc.net.



SUPPORT THE GIRLS

Two 2018 Lenten Study and Prayer Opportunities at SJTF

Meditations and Prayers for Lent: Sacred Spaces.

One of the Lenten disciplines mentioned for Lent in the Ash Wednesday liturgy is “reading and meditating on God’s holy Word” (BCP, page 265). I have chosen a book of daily meditations for Lent, entitled *Sacred Space*. It is composed by the Irish Jesuits.

Each participant will be given a personal copy of the book for use each day at home. Then, we will meet as a group for each person to share a meditation of the week that spoke to him or her and why. The session will conclude with a season of prayer.

Parishioners will convene in the chapel for at 45 minutes session on the Thursdays in Lent at 3:00 p.m., beginning February 22 and concluding March 22. If you desire to be a part of this venture with me, fill in the signup sheet in the gathering space by February 4. A donation of \$10.00 will be accepted for the purchase of the books. Please consider participating and pray that the experience will enrich your spiritual pilgrimage.

Lenten Study Series: The Story of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church.

A great introduction or refresher course, the series explores the authority of the early Church, the Reformation, review of historic events and documents that define Anglicanism, and an Anglican approach to Bible study.

The five-part series will meet on five consecutive Thursdays, beginning February 22 and ending March 22 at 4:00 p.m. in Bliss Hall (immediately following the mediation and prayer group described above). Each hour-long session will begin with a brief DVD, followed by a time of discussion, during which each participant will be given a set of handouts each week. I believe you will find this study both informative and enjoyable. See you then.

Fr. Frank



Diocesan Convention

Our annual Diocesan Convention will be held February 8-10 at the Convention Center in New Bern, NC. We have our Lay Delegates, who will be joining Deacon Jean and me as your representatives. Please keep us, your Diocesan leadership, and all the Convention’s delegates in your prayers, as we go about the business of deciding several key issues in the Diocese, including the Diocesan Budget.

Peace – Father Frank

2018 Summer Camp Applications

Brochures and applications are available in the Tract Rack (located in the Gathering Area). Camp sessions are available for all youth rising in grades 3-12. Limited scholarship funds are available through Camp Trinity and through our parish ECW.



ECW

The January meeting of our ECW was held in Bliss Hall on January 10. Vice President Barbara Freeman brought us refreshments as we started our gathering with social time at 9 a.m.

At 9:30 the business part of the meeting started, dealing with old and new business. We learned that our parish team came in second in the competition for the Crop Walk trophy in November. Congrats to them!! Bonnie Dolph spoke to the ladies in attendance about the beginning of her committee: the Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 ECW officers. Other committees were reported on, and Anne Neely talked about our next month's program all about Streetreach, given by its founder, Donna Phelps.

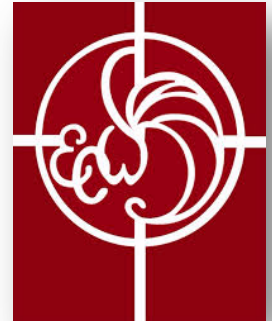
A short break was taken before our January program presentation began.

The brand new Executive Director of the Farmworkers' Ministry in Newton Grove NC visited us, explaining the workings of this ministry. There are SO many needs – the clothing and toiletries that we help furnish every year is only a start. They are now trying to help the immigrants who decide to stay here permanently to find homes and jobs, find English language classes, and also assist them in producing the needed paperwork that will allow them to stay in the United States. Talk about a timely program!! We were all fascinated.

After the program, we made a big pot of "stone soup." The recipe was: everyone brought a can of cream soup (any kind), dump it in the pot, add some milk and a little cut up chicken. Stir, heat and serve. Always a winner!

Remember that all women of St. James are automatically members of the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) and are always welcome to come to its meetings. See you February 7th for the Streetreach program!

*Susan Dickerson
2017-2018 President*



Mary and Martha Chapter

A New Year Prayer

The Daughters would like to share a prayer with you to start our New Year:

Dear Lord,

Your glory and majesty are way beyond our understanding. But, we know you love us and want us to have lives of love and happiness. So when difficulties and sorrows come our way, help us to remember the fullness of your blessings. May our lives look toward Jesus who suffered greatly, yet enjoyed your goodness & love.

Amen

The Daughters wish you all a very "Happy New Year."

*For His Sake,
Libby Miller*





Final Results of the 2017 Crop Hunger Walk

The 2017 Shallotte CROP Hunger Walk raised a total of \$11,608.56 to help fight hunger locally and around the world. Calabash Covenant Presbyterian Church won the "Participation Trophy" with a total of \$2,605. St. James was second with a total of \$2,395. Thank you to everyone who participated, either by walking or supporting a walker.

*Ruth Ann Campbell-Grothe
and Vera Redin, St. James Recruiters*

Thank You For Your Help

The SBIC was able to hand out turkey boxes to 145 families on December 16th. Thanks to those of you who helped by donating \$20 to give a family of 4-5 people a Christmas dinner. God bless you.

Ruth Ann Campbell-Grothe, St. James SBIC Rep.



2017 Contribution Statements

The end-of-year statements have been placed in your parish mailboxes. If, after reviewing it, you have a question, please contact me by e-mail at: milfordjac@aol.com or phone 910-842-3497. IMPORTANT: Please note that in accordance with the laws of the Church, the financial records' books for the 2017 fiscal year were closed effective December 31st, so any contribution checks 'received' after Dec. 31st (regardless of the date on the check) will appear on your 2017 Contribution Statement.

*Sincerely,
Jack McElroy - Parish Treasurer*



Neighbor to Neighbor Outreach Ministry

The past few weeks have been brutally cold. The Coat Closet has had many clients in need of warm winter coats. So far our number is close to 450 coats given out this

2017/18 season. I am so pleased with the donation of coats and money that we have received to keep our racks full. The Neighbor to Neighbor volunteers have been wonderful. They have given of their time even during the busy Christmas season, coming to serve in bitter cold weather, going through the coat donations, washing and sewing coats that need a little repair and sharing in Christian fellowship.

*Thank you,
Deacon Jean*



- **Parish Dinner on Saturday, 2/3/18 after 5:30 service.**
- **Thursday - Saturday, February 8 - 10, Diocesan Convention in New Bern, NC**
- **Wednesday, Feb 14th, Noon & 7:00pm: Ash Wednesday Eucharist Services with Imposition of Ashes**
- **Service of Reception weekend: 2/17 & 18 as part of each weekend service**
- **Christian Ed starts Thursday, 2/22 for 5 sessions entitled: *The Story of Anglicanism and The History of The Episcopal Church***
- **The Liturgy During Lent will be Rite II**

Italian Night Dinner: Saturday, February 3rd at 6:30 PM

Come join us! Put your name(s) on the Signup Sheet in the Gathering Area no later than Thursday February 1. After you sign up the ticket(s) will be placed in your church mailbox. The ticket(s) MUST be presented at the door the night of the dinner. We need a VERY accurate head count since the main course is being catered. As always, if you are a visitor to our church you are welcome to come! Those attending should bring either a green salad and dressing, or a dessert. The pasta main course, wine and beverages will be provided. Sign up today!



Italian Dinner



Bridge Buddies are scheduled to play on Fridays February 2nd and 16th at 1 PM in the Gathering area. Bridge is open to everyone in the parish!
Any questions call me at 910-842-1865.

Barbara Bartell

*The Church Office will be closed on
Monday, February 19, for Presidents' Day.*

Vestry Notes



The Vestry met on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, in Bliss Hall at 5:30 p.m.

We discussed the Search Committee Progress. The Search Committee has found a Webmaster to develop a website, compiling the results of the questionnaires filled out by the parishioners, and will provide questions for the Vestry to answer and submit. Overall, the Search Committee is making very good progress. They will update the Vestry at the next meeting on February 13th.

Fr. Frank reported that he was pleased with attendance during the services for Advent and Christmas. He is making plans for the upcoming Lenten season. Ash Wednesday will be on Valentine's Day.

Deacon Jean reported that the Neighbor to Neighbor Program has given out over 500 warm coats to date. Thanks to all who have donated.

There will be a Parish dinner on February 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in Bliss Hall. Please sign up in the Gathering Area.

Remember to let any Vestry member know of any concerns or suggestions you may have. All Vestry meetings are open, and we invite you to attend to provide any input.

*Very Respectfully,
Bill Grothe, Sr. Warden*



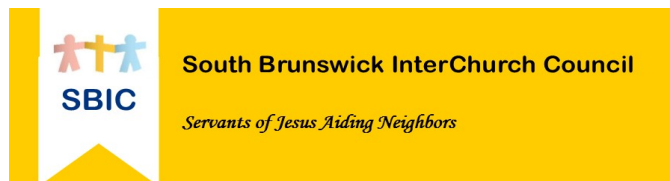
Celebrating Newcomers To Our Parish Family

Over the past few months we have continued to witness new people in our midst. So on February 17th/18th we will, once again, conduct our Service of Reception. It is always a joy to take this purposeful time to welcome new people who have made a decision to make St. James the Fisherman their community of faith and parish family. We invite those new in our midst to please fill out the form in the bulletin; noting your desire to be a part of this Reception service.

Altar Flowers

Each week the flowers on the altar add a beautiful touch to our Worship Services. These flowers are provided **solely** through donations to our Flower Fund by those dedicating them in honor, memory or thanksgiving of someone. **Unfortunately we have a large number of weekends where either one or both of the altar vases have not been donated, which is depleting our backup Flower funds.** The cost is \$35 per vase and the sign-up chart is located in Bliss Hall.





Ruth Ann Campbell-Grothe, the St. James Representative on the South Brunswick Interchurch Council (SBIC), attended the monthly meeting held on Monday, January 8, 2018, at Shallotte Presbyterian Church at 8:45 a.m.

The first order of business was the final results of the 2017 CROP Hunger Walk. Eric Wagner, Coordinator, reported that since 1991 a total of \$216,404 has been raised, with \$54,102 staying in South Brunswick County. The total raised in the 2017 CROP Hunger Walk was \$11,608.56. Calabash Covenant Presbyterian Church was the winner of the "Participation Trophy" with a total of \$2,605. St. James came in second with \$2,395, and Shallotte Presbyterian was third with \$2,117. The trophy was presented to Gloria Wimmer. Eric thanked everyone for their participation.

The Run For Food is coming up on January 13, 2018. Mary Pritchard, Coordinator, passed around the finishers' ribbons. Mary reported that most of the bills have been accounted for at this point. She stated that we did not get as many sponsors this year. Most of the sign ups have been done on line. We currently have 254 signed up, with 90 of those being half marathoners. A chicken bog will be served at the end of the day. More volunteers are needed.

Mary Pritchard reported that the SBIC Food Pantry served 3,587 children, 6,729 adults, and 4,441 seniors for a total of 14,757 January through December 2017. She also reported that the SBIC gave out double groceries and turkeys to 145 families on December 16th at the SBIC Food Pantry. Easter dinners will also be provided this year.

Gloria Wimmer, Membership Coordinator, discussed "Support & Participation." She reminded the delegates to keep our churches involved and knowledgeable about the SBIC; i.e., SBIC Corner, and notes in bulletins. Tell them what we have accomplished and what needs to be done.

In the absence of an Emergency Assistance Coordinator, Tom Horan reported that we still do power stats at the SBIC Food Pantry, a one-time assistance of \$35. Mary requested \$300 to help a Food Pantry family who has no running water. Tom Freeman also requested \$50 to help a family with their electricity.

Tom Horan distributed a description of the open board positions and elaborated on the duties of each one. If one of these positions is calling your name, please let us know.

- Public Relations/Communications - Serve as the public voice of the SBIC.
- Fundraising - Assist Event Chairs and Grant Coordinators, as appropriate.
- Emergency Assistance - Coordinate one-time emergency services to area families, especially in the areas of utilities (BEMC PowerStat Program), housing (Streetwork Adopt-A-Room Program), and emergency transportation.

Tom Horan will host an informal gathering at his home on January 24th for new or not-so-new folks to learn more about the SBIC history, volunteer opportunities, and how the SBIC operates.

Following is a list of upcoming events:

- The Traveling Quilt - Tom Freeman, Coordinator, reported that the drawing for the traveling quilt will be on February 5, 2018, at the SBIC meeting. Anyone at St. James wishing to purchase raffle tickets, please contact Ruth Ann Campbell-Grothe at 910-575-1247 or at anolnannie@atmc.net. Tickets are \$2.00 each or six for \$10.00. All proceeds go directly to the SBIC Food Pantry.
- 2018 Spring Concert - The concert will be at Calabash Covenant Presbyterian Church on April 15th from 3-5 p.m. Please let your music directors know about this event. Gloria Wimmer, Coordinator, will be sending out letters soon. Even if you are not participating, please attend to support those who are. Admission is a non-perishable food. There will also be a free-will offering collected for the SBIC Food Pantry.

The next SBIC General Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 5, 2018, at Shallotte Presbyterian Church at 8:45 a.m. Anyone is welcome to attend the monthly SBIC Meetings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ruth Ann or Bill Grothe, your St. James Representatives, at 910-575-1247 or at anolnannie@atmc.net. Until next month...

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Feb 2 Dottie Roberts, Betsy Collett,
Dan & Susan Dickerson
Feb 3 George Werner
Feb 4 John Nunnenkamp, Bruce & Deborah Zawacki
Feb 7 Barbara Bartell
Feb 8 Rick Dawkins
Feb 9 Dave & JoAnn Jenkins
Feb 14 Peg Agrimonti, Earl Miller
Feb 15 Barbara Freeman,
Kenny Krawcheck & Heather Boggs Holbrook
Feb 16 Pat Sands
Feb 21 Martie Tittle
Feb 22 Bob Beadling, Wayne Campbell
Feb 23 Doris Kirk
Feb 24 Sally Manifold
Feb 25 Mary Dawkins
Feb 26 Ann Boileau, Richard Keefer
Feb 28 Kathie Moore
Feb 29 Edward Clay

St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 68, 4941 Main Street
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910-754-9313

stjames@stjamesthefisherman.net

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving - Bishop
Rev. Frank Russ, Interim Rector
The Rev. Jean Miller, Deacon
The Rev. Michael Ligon, Assistant Deacon
Rev. Dr. Richard Warner, Jr., Rector Emeritus
Paul Bertelsen, Verger

Worship Services

Sunday:

Holy Eucharist: 8:00 a.m.
Choral Eucharist: 10:00 a.m.

Saturday:

Holy Eucharist: 5:30 p.m.

Vestry

Bill Grothe	Senior Warden
Jim Parsch	Junior Warden
Jack McElroy	Treasurer
Jackie Wright	Clerk of the Vestry
Pat Neff	Nancy Dougherty
Sam Farag	Bob Lynott
Dawn Kellerman	Joyce Winnie
Anne Neely	

Directory of Ministries

WORSHIP - Vestry Liaison - J. Winnie

Coordinators -
Acolytes - P. Bertelsen
Altar Guild - Individual Team Leaders
Daughters of the King - L. Hickey
Eucharistic Ministers - R. Fernandez
Eucharistic Visitors - Deacon J. Miller
Music - M. Smicklas
Newcomers/Greeters - B. Herren
Nursery - V. Redin
Ushers - B. Chase

PROGRAMS - Vestry Liaison - D. Kellerman

Christian Education - Father Frank Russ
ECW - S. Dickerson

Coffee Hour - Weekly Hosts
Foyer Groups: R. Fernandez
Quarterly Parish Dinners - B. & G. Freeman
Special Projects - P. Bertelsen
Holy Stitches -
Bridge Group - B. Bartell

OUTREACH - Vestry Liaison - Anne Neely

Angel Tree - Daughters of the King
BFA Food Pantry - *Volunteer Needed*
Community In Schools - Deacon J. Miller
ERD - *Volunteer Needed*
Inter-church Council - B. & R. Grothe
Lobster Sale - *Volunteer Needed*
Neighbor to Neighbor - Deacon J. Miller

Second Helpings- J. Bryant
UTO/CPC - ECW Coordinators

ADMINISTRATION - Vestry Liaisons - S. Farag, P. Neff

Endowments - Chair: E. Miller
Liaison: S. Farag
Stewardship - P. Neff

COMMUNICATIONS/DEANERY - Vestry Liaison - N. Dougherty

BUILDING & GROUNDS - B. Lynott, J. Parsch

Fisherman Newsletter - L. Jennings

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

**ST. JAMES
THE FISHERMAN
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**P. O. Box 68
Shallotte, NC 28459**