

## Welcome to all newcomers and visitors!

Please sign our guest book and take a gift bag from the table in the church entrance.  
Join us in the parish hall for fellowship and some light refreshments after the 10:30 service.

### TODAY

#### Commissioning of Vestry and Diocesan Delegates Today

At the 10:30 service, we commission our new vestry members and Diocesan Delegates, and say thank you to our outgoing members for their service.

#### Sunday School and Childcare

Today we wrap up our lessons related to Advent and Christmas with stories about the wise men and the flight into Egypt. At the 10:30 service, we'll give our report to the congregation about our Heifer International project. Sunday School is 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for children 2.5 years to sixth grade in the undercroft. Childcare is offered 9:00 to 12:00 noon in the undercroft. Contact Andy Mason, Sunday School Co-Director, at Sunday School @stjamespotomac.org

#### Engaging Conflict in Healthier Ways: FaithTalk at 9:15 a.m.

James Isaacs will lead this four-week series during the Sundays in January. James has a Masters degree in Conflict Transformation and experiences consulting, coaching, and leading workshops around issues of change and conflict. He will help us better understand specific conflicts we find ourselves in, and our own responses to them. From this deeper appreciation of conflict, we will gain tools to engage in conflict in ways that have the potential to bring about positive change consistent with our faith. Everyone is invited. Join us in the parish hall meeting room.



#### Cold Weather Clothing Drive Begins Today!

We are collecting donations of cold weather clothing for Interfaith Works of Montgomery County on January 6, 13, and 20, in the parish hall after services. Donations of new or gently used winter clothing are appreciated. There are many sales of these items at this time of year. Please take advantage of the discounts! Men's underwear and socks are especially needed. Questions? Contact Bill Wallace at 301-963-9227, or email bwwallace1@verizon.net.

#### Do We Have Your Pledge?

A huge thank you all families and individuals who have sent in their 2019 pledges. If you haven't completed yours, it's not too late! Every pledge counts, large or small. Pledge forms are in the narthex and on our website.

### COMING EVENTS

#### Rockville, Maryland: 250 Years of History Lunch & Learn, Tuesday, January 8, 11:30 a.m.

Eileen McGuckian, author of *Rockville: Portrait of a City*, returns with another historical presentation about Rockville. This will be an armchair tour of historic Rockville from colonial times to the present, using interesting slides. Eileen invites attendees' questions. Her one-hour presentation will begin at 12:30. For the program only, simply arrive in the undercroft then. Reserve your lunch at noon with Sarah Padgett. The charge is only \$10.00 for the complete meal. You've not been before? Well, the New Year is a good time to give it a try, and this casual group is happy to welcome YOU.

#### Thursday Morning "Way of Love" Study Starts January 10

For nine weeks the Thursday Morning Bible Study group will study "The Way of Love," and the practices outlined by our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Curry writes, "By entering into reflection, discernment and commitment around the practices of Turn - Learn - Pray - Worship - Bless - Go - Rest, I pray we will grow as communities following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. His way has the power to change each of our lives and to change this world." Join us on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 in the parish hall meeting room to study these practices, and delve more deeply into The Way of Love.

#### Book Club, Sunday, January 27, 6:45 p.m.

We'll meet in the parish hall library to delve into *Two Steps Forward*, by Graeme Samson and Anne Buist. Two people, taking chances, one mourning the sudden loss of her husband, the other recovering from divorce, cross paths on the centuries-old Camino de Santiago, or the Chemin. On this months-long journey starting in France, who do they meet on their separate paths and what is the impact of these new acquaintances? What do these two discover, with some reluctance, about themselves? The book for February 24 is *The Music Shop* by Rachel Joyce. All are welcome to attend this group-led discussion every fourth Sunday evening.

#### Inclement Weather?

Call the office or check our website.

St. James' follows the MCPS guidelines for weather-related office and meetings closures/delays.