

The St. James Connector

JUNE, 2010

St. James United Church of Christ
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Baccalaureate Sunday

June 6th

This is graduation season! The colleges have celebrated their graduations, and next weekend local High Schools will be celebrating theirs.

Baccalaureate Sunday is the time to honor graduates. They have taken the gifts God has given them, and applied them towards specific goals. It is appropriate that we celebrate this achievement with them, and that we do so in the context of worship.

This year we will honor our graduates on Sunday June 6th. The service will be followed by a special luncheon. We invite all our High School graduates-to-be, and college or graduate school graduates to join us.

We do need your help! We know the local High School graduates, but our records are incomplete about college and graduate school programs. We would like to list all graduates in the bulletin, even if they cannot be here for the service, and the degree they have earned. If you are graduating, or know of a graduate, please contact the church office. Thanks.

Summer Service

This is the time of year when people think about sleeping in or doing things outside on a Sunday morning - instead of going to church. WRONG! Summer is a time of renewal - and we all desperately need that spiritual renewal. Yet true renewal begins with worship. It's not something you can do on your own - you need God and a community of faith as a vital part of that process. If you have a Sunday morning activity planned, then come and worship with us on Saturday evening!

Don't cheat yourselves - This summer make a point of worshipping God regularly!!!

Thanks, Rev. Bob

Family Night

Our Family Nights will resume in September. Please watch for the time and date in the September newsletter.

Thank you to everyone that has been a part of this fun event.

Have a wonderful summer!

UCCNY ANNUAL MEETING

June 4-6, 2010

This year our annual meeting will be held once again in Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. Our delegates are Barb and Dan Newcomb, Karen Touris, and Alva Looze with Donna Ludwig as a visitor.

It will be a celebration of Global Ministries from 1810 through 2010, and beyond.

There will be great workshops, youth programs, childcare, and music all set in the beauty of the Adirondack Mountains.

Landscape Renewal Day

It's been almost four years since our new landscaping was installed around St. James. Now it needs a little "sprucing" up. If you like the way our church looks, please come and help on Saturday, June 26th, beginning at 9 AM. We'll be weeding, edging, trimming and spreading mulch. Bring whatever yard tool you like best; a few wheelbarrows would be good! Refreshments will be provided.



Sewing Mission Group

Our next meeting will be June 8th at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Hall. We will go to Heidi's for lunch. Luncheon is \$14.00.

Server's

There will be no meeting in June. The annual picnic will be at Joanne Roberts' on Tuesday July 27th. Details will follow in the Summer newsletter.

St. James Christian Education Program

Our Vision: To provide a quality program for the children who enter our doors throughout the year.

Don't Forget Make St. James a Part of Your Summer!

As the weather gets warmer and our schedules change, we often forget our commitment to attend church. St. James is open all summer. We have childcare during the service and Church School following the children's sermon each Sunday for children from K - 5th grade. We even serve lemonade, ice tea and cookies following worship.

Try something new - walk to a service or plan to attend a service and then do a family activity on your way home. We miss you when we don't see you all summer long. We are open so please stop by and see us!

Board of Christian Education

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 1st at 7 p.m. in the Resource Room. Please call if you cannot make the

meeting.

Stuffed Animals for Children

There is a basket of donated stuffed animals in the rear of the sanctuary provided by our Christian Ed Department for worship time. The basket is labeled Stuffed Animals for Worship. These soft furry friends are for children to love and pray with during worship. They are a nice quiet friend to sit with during the service and give the children something to keep them occupied when the service is a bit longer than their attention span. At the end of the service the children are encouraged to return their furry friends to their basket so they will be there for next week's service.

Paula Pfister CE Scholarships - Deadline No Later Than June 1st.

Applications have been mailed out to those who qualify. They must be submitted for approval **No Later** than June 1st. The Board of Christian Education will meet on Tuesday, June 1st to review the applications so please make sure you get your application in before we meet.

Thank You

A special thank you to all who helped with, worked on, gave money and items, and helped support the Pancake Breakfast and Theme Basket Sale to help provide a service dog for Sue Wiltberger on Sunday, May 16th. It was a huge success. It was a special day for Sue and

her family as well as the hard working youth and their advisors in providing a delicious breakfast.

Music Notes

Our choir season closed with Music Appreciation on May 16th where the Cherub and Youth singers shared some of the music they have learned during then year. It was great to have everyone participating together wearing choir robes, too!! Our final event was the Ice cream dinner Social on Wednesday, May 19th. This is fun for all the singers and their families and concludes the singing season.

The chancel choir will sing for the service May 23rd in honor of Confirmation and Pentecost. We want to extend a special thank you to the Chancel Choir for the time and preparation that has gone into their singing during the year. The special events, Advent choral concert and the Lenten choral concert have been well received. If you have enjoyed these musical moments, tell a choir member so the tradition can continue.

We now welcome summer and time off before the fall season begins. Everyone who is interested in participating with the chancel choir is welcome. Our rehearsals are open to everyone who would like to sing during worship. Watch for the fall startup in the September newsletter.

Many thanks to all for supporting the Music Ministry
Christina Shrewsbury,
Music director



Summer Youth Events & News

Calling all Youth including Middle and Senior High.

Remember to check the Youth Bulletin Board and weekly church bulletin during the summer months for sign-up sheets, dates, events, activities. You never know when we'll have something good planned. If we don't have your email address, be sure to give it to Karen Reinagel, at (karen@saintjamesucc.com) or Donna, so we can contact you if an event is scheduled.

Remember to sign-up to come and help with child-care and/or enrichment time during the summer months.

Baccalaureate Sunday Luncheon Sunday, June 6th

The Middle and Senior High Youth are inviting St. James members to attend luncheon in honor of all our graduates.

Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring a dish or dessert to pass if you plan to attend.

We are looking for folks to volunteer to grill the meat. We need to know how many will attend so PLEASE sign up!

Dress is casual so you can participate in the games that are being planned.

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone who supported the children of the Church School Program during their CROP Walk!

during the day to clean Cabin 13, the Cabin which St. James sponsors. Bring along a pail and some cleaning supplies if you are interested in helping during the day to get the cabin in order and cleaned up for the opening of the summer season. We hope to see you there!



Dunkirk Day

Sunday, June 13th

Our Annual Church Picnic and Worship Service at the Dunkirk Conference Center and is sponsored by the Board of Christian Ed and the Cabinet. The address is 3602 East Lake Road in Dunkirk.

Worship Service is at 11 a.m. followed by a picnic, games and fellowship.

Bring your swimsuit. If the weather is good the pool will be open. The games are all planned and the prizes ready to be awarded. Hopefully you have signed-up on the sign-up sheet and are giving some thought to the dish you are bringing to share. All you need to do now is pack the cooler and pray for sunshine. Even if we don't get the sunshine we will still gather together and have a great time.

We will worship, pray, praise and play together as we celebrate. Our theme for this year is "God Loves and Cares For Us!"

Come and join us as our children and ministers lead us in worship.

If you need directions, you may pick up a map on the table near the church office or check on the Dunkirk Conference Website, <http://www.dunkirk.org>.

There will also be a chance

Summer Church School Program Opportunities

Even though the regular church school year ends with our annual church picnic and service at Dunkirk Conference Center, the recruitment of teachers and other staff for the summer months is ongoing. We are looking for Teachers, Assistants, Childcare workers, coordinators, snack donations, refreshment coordinators, and craft people. If you are someone who is thinking about offering your time and talent to the Christian Ed Program, please talk to Karen Reinagel and let's see if we can find a place where you would feel comfortable volunteering. We need people to work with our summer program for the weeks of June 20th and 27th, July 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and September 5th.

Please consider volunteering for a Sunday or two and spending some quality time with the children that enter our doors over the summer months. There is no prep time. Karen has all the supplies ready for you each Sunday. If interested please speak to Karen, sign up on the bulletin board, or fill out an interest slip

and return it to the CE office.

Remember Our Youth Fundraisers

We appreciate you supporting our can and bottle drive (No glass please), paper recycling, candy bars sales, clothing shed & our newest fundraisers Dimes for Dunkirk. Thank You!

Dunkirk Camping News Dunkirk Conference Center - Summer Camping Theme for 2010 "Be A Hero"

It's not too late to register for camp. You will have to pay a little more but it is worth it! You will still be eligible for the St. James Camp Scholarship based on ½ off the Early Bird Rate. Get a registration form at the CE bulletin board area or from the CE office on the 2nd floor, fill it out, hand in your registration with the deposit or half of the payment (make the check payable to the Dunkirk Conference Center) and Karen Reinagel will do the rest.

The Board of Christian Ed and the Legacy Committee offer one half off of the registration based on the Early Bird Rate.

Children entering first grade in the Fall of 2010 are eligible to register as first time campers. A variety of camps are offered for children and youth through post high, a women's weekend, family camps, an adult music camp. If you have questions, stop in or call the church office. See CE bulletin Board Display for information on camp dates or speak to Karen Reinagel.

Please remember to hand all registrations in through our CE office. This is the only way we have to track who is going and what funding we have to issue.

FOOD PANTRY

June 6 hot, cold cereals
June 13 spaghetti sauce,
canned stews, ravioli
June 20 pancake mix, oatmeal
June 27 pasta, dinner mixes

LAST CHANCE! MID ATLANTIC REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT (MARYE)

The MARYE is being held at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA on July 21st - 25th. "Take the Journey...Follow the Holy Brick Road" - One of the best youth events you have EVER attended is coming your way THIS SUMMER! Our journeys of life can take us all over the map, but there is one very EXCELLENT way to follow - the way of the Holy Brick Road! This youth event will take you on a journey of faith and celebration, and by the strength of the Holy Spirit, you will be able to follow the Holy Brick Road and discover a whole lot about God, yourself, our world, and much more!

There will be great youth-led worship, music, speakers, many workshops (Moments of the Road), great friendships, and oh, so much more.

Registration information can be found on the Youth Bulletin Board, outside the CE office or by talking to Donna or Karen. You can also check on line at the RYE website www.marye-

ucc.org.

Come with us! Take the journey...Follow the Holy Brick Road! All forms will be processed and mailed through St. James. They need to be turned in to Karen so she can get them to MARYE. The cost to attend this event is \$100.00 per youth to attend plus any additional spending money they bring. If you are registering after the February deadline the cost is \$125.00 (from March 1 - May 30th and \$150.00 after June 1, but before July 1st Please speak to Karen to make sure of availability



CHAUTAUQUA EVENTS

The week of July 4th Rev. James Forbes Jr., senior minister emeritus of the Riverside church will be speaking at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday. He will be speaking at 9:15 a.m. on Monday through Friday the rest of the week.

On Wednesday, July 7th Rev. Otis Moss II, pastor of Trinity UCC, Chicago will be speaking at 2 p.m.

Chautauqua is an old and very beautiful place. Why not get a group to go down to spend a day and listen to some wonderful pastors, enjoy the quaintness of the area and enjoy a concert.

**Character Council of
Hamburg, Inc.**
"Creating a Culture of
Character"

**June – Endurance vs
Discouragement**

Endurance is the inward strength to withstand stress and do my best.



Mother's Day Plant Sale

Church and Ministry would like to thank everyone who purchased plants this year. We would like to thank the folks who helped bring the plants in from the truck, Ila Spute, Clyde Collins, Bob Chapman, and Hannah and Alex Cialone. You did a great job! Your efforts and those who purchased plants helped raise \$256.00 for this year's Scholarship Fund.

Burgerfest

Saturday, July 17th

Plans are underway for the youth to plan and host a variety of events during Burgerfest, Saturday, July 17th. We will be selling popcorn, birch beer, 50/50 split tickets and tickets for our Theme Baskets Raffle. We had a great time last year and plan to repeat it this year. If you would like to help plan and be a part of the activities at St. James during Burgerfest please be sure to speak to Karen Reinagel or sign-up on the bulletin board. We are in need of Theme Basket donations. If you are able and willing to donate a basket please sign-up on the bulletin board and have your baskets turned in by Sunday, July 4th.

**Vacation Bible School
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

VBS is August 23rd through August 26th from 9 a.m. to Noon this year at St. Matthews. The Theme is "We Are The Church Together".

Join together with your church neighbors St. James UCC, St. Matthews UCC and Hamburg Presbyterian to share your time and talents with our kids! If you can help, talk to Karen Reinagel. Don't miss out on this fun event!

The evening closing service on Thursday night, is open to entire congregation followed with an Ice Cream Social, and a Square Dance with music by Gary Burdick & Company. A Free Will Offering will be taken.

**Opening of Fall Church
School Program**

Sunday, September 12th

The Fall church school program will begin on Sunday, September 12th. We will have a celebration for the opening so look for details in the summer newsletter. Don't forget to mark your calendars. In fact invite a new neighbor or a friend to join us on this special day!

The Board of Christian Education is in the process of doing annual CE Staff Reviews and recruiting teachers and other volunteers as assistants, subs, middle high leaders, etc. for our regular church school program. Each year many staff members return and volunteer their time to our program but we are always looking for new

people to volunteer in a variety of other ways. If you have been thinking about offering your time to the Christian Ed program please talk to Karen Reinagel. We are always looking for people to teach, assist in the classroom, lead mini courses, work with the youth program, work AV or video equipment, or serve on the Board of Christian Ed. You are invited to try one or more of these activities. Areas that we still are in need of help are youth house chaperones, folks to oversee the CE storage area where our supplies are kept, office assistants, substitutes and classrooms assistants. We are flexible and encourage people to volunteer as little or as much as they like.

CIA News

Thank you for your prayers and contributions to Churches in Action in support of Haiti. We felt overwhelmed by the devastation and need that we witnessed during our stay. Many have been left homeless and orphaned and tent cities stretch far and wide. Food and water are now being distributed in Port-au-Prince, but not out of the city. Food costs have gone up and many are suffering.

We brought beanie babies which were a huge hit, medical supplies, along with several water filtration systems. Nearly all the students were anemic due to poor diet and we plan to supply them with vitamins with

iron which will be given at school.

We were able to leave money for school sponsorships for several families and set up some families with funds to provide food. We were also able to purchase an autoclave sterilization unit for the dental clinic for \$3,000. We plan to continue to provide education, food, medical care, clean water, and hope for the community of Thomassin, Haiti.

Thank you again to all who prayed, who donated money and supplies to this mission.

We are putting together a power point presentation from the trip to share with any groups that are interested. Please feel free to contact one of us with any questions or to set up a time for us to come and speak to your group.

Peace, Sue Rich