

Under the Steeple

ST. JAMES PARISH

COME FROLIC WITH US – IT'S ALMOST HERE!

by Joan Lindahl

Please send us your current contact information if it has recently changed.

- Phone number
- Email address
- Mailing address

On Sunday, September 17th your whole family, along with relatives, neighbors and friends, are invited to enjoy St. James Fall Family Frolic. The public is also welcome. With the Packers playing a 7:30pm away game, we aim to be the "best game in town" that afternoon – we hope to see you there!

So what is the Frolic? In our second year now, this family-friendly festival has become a crucial fundraiser, along with the Mardi Gras supper and all-parish

raffle offered last February. Together they generate necessary income to help meet the annual budget and continue key ministries. How nice to collectively have two different events that welcome families, singles and seniors!

Developing something new has been both fun and challenging. We learned much from Frolic's pilot offering last year, and have incorporated many comments from the evaluations we received. Some exciting

(Continued on page 4)

Fall 
Family Frolic
 St. James Parish - Cooperstown
September 17, 2017

Reminder:

There will not be an 8:00am Mass on Sunday, September 17. Instead, the Mass will be at 10:30am to kick off the Fall Family Frolic.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Steeple Repairs	2
Maintenance	2
Grief Group	3
Community Cupboard	3
Choir CDs	3
Mission Trip	4
Sharing Your Faith	5
Fun & Faith	5
Young Adults	5

GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS



The times they are a changing. This is so obvious when we look around and let our surroundings and the world wide news unfold for us. What does this awareness really mean for you?

Maybe it's time to ask ourselves how we are changing. Am I making a difference or do I just remain comfortable? I see evidence that some people are willing to be open to change and learn something new each day.

Take time to appreciate the final sum-

mer days with relaxation and refreshment. All too soon we will be approaching the season to take note of our responsibilities of the school year and the meetings that help our parish grow.

This year we are called to further our own faith lives and try again to promote the presence of God as we grow in respect and reverence of all that we are given. We are so gifted that God is so patient with us. It is important to remind others – your children, spouse, and parents that God loves them.

May you and your families be ever more grateful and live your lives with love and generous sharing of all that is good.

Sister Geni

STEEPLE REPAIRS

by Mike Taddy, Maintenance Committee

Under the Steeple really is a neat title for our newsletter, especially at this time. Our bell tower, a.k.a. the steeple, needs attention that it hasn't received much of in the past 100 years.

R.J. Jacques Inc. of Green Bay began structural work in the bell tower on August 21. First, they removed the existing louvers from all four sides. After careful measurement, they will be replaced by new rain proof louvers with insect screens. Any rotted wood or other surprises to the integrity of the steeple that are uncovered will need to be addressed.

Next will come an aluminum roof hatch to allow steeple access from the choir loft using a new and secure ladder. There will be tuck pointing of masonry where joints have deteriorated.

While equipment to reach up-

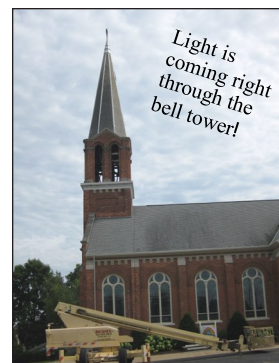
per areas of the church is on site, the Jacques Company will perform other work. They will inspect and repair elevated areas of the exterior and prime and paint all the upper trim on the building.

This same company tuck pointed the entire church in 2004, and overall, that is holding up well. However, there are random areas on the church exterior where the tuck pointing has failed mortar joints and deteriorated bricks. These too will be fixed.

On August 23, while prepping for the metal trim at the base of the tower, a serious problem was uncovered. The brickwork is good, but some trim stones were found to be loose. Further inspection revealed that the wood under the metal flashing had completely deteriorated and was causing a void that will not support the stone.

Repairing this area will result in additional cost that the Jacques Company will relay to us.

When completed, the repairs will shore up the steeple for many years to come. The project is being financed by parish savings that have been set aside for such capital expenditures. However, we will gladly accept donations for this project, since we do not wish to deplete all of our savings, and since the unforeseen problems will cost us more than we had anticipated.



MAINTENANCE UNDERTAKINGS



Every once in awhile, the parish staff would find something strange on the lawn or in the parking lot—cream colored flakes. What

could they be? Manna from Heaven? No, turns out these fragments were bits and pieces of a coating on the Parish Center chimney falling off.

With the installation of a new natural gas furnace last year, the chimney is no longer needed. As more and more of the coating came off, the chimney became increasingly unattractive.

And so it was time for action. Advanced Chimney Specialists from Neenah removed the chimney in July, patched the roof and cleaned and hauled away all the removed bricks. Looks great now!

Another noticeable maintenance improvement completed this summer was installing new outdoor carpeting on the front entrance to the Parish Center. The wood steps were replaced and the foundation

was leveled and shored up last year with new pre-cast concrete steps completing that part. Then this summer, new carpeting was installed here at this front entrance and on the north side entrance steps. Some touch-up painting on the railings and pillars completed the work.

Two new vinyl windows with low-e glass were installed in the first floor office on the south side of the Parish Center. Sister Gerri is enjoying a breeze now as the old windows did not open. This project and the carpet replacement were supervised by Gerald Steinberger, our maintenance employee, and completed with the help of parish volunteers.

Lastly, the parish hall is a much more comfortable and safe space with the addition of two air conditioning units. The summer humidity not only caused dampness in the air and wall surfaces, it also created slippery tile floors in the kitchen and restrooms. Dehumidifiers only partially solved these problems; so this is a much better solution for the long run.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY/GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

by Tom Bekkers

(Tom Bekkers is a St. James parishioner and a social worker with over 25 years of experience in professional counseling related to death and grief. He can be reached at (920) 660-8066 for any questions about the group and bereavement ministry.)



The Grief Support group has been meeting for the past six years and is open to anyone from any of the parishes, regardless of their religious affiliation. We also invite those from the Denmark and the surrounding communities. We meet every other month at St James Parish Center and all are welcome, whether they are a family member or friend of the deceased person.

We have had people attend the group who have just recently lost a loved one as well as those whose loved one passed away several years ago. The benefit of attending the group is that we provide validation of your feelings and experiences and provide a sense of support and acceptance of whatever you are feeling as your individual nature of grief is explored. The concept

that there is no right or wrong way to grieve, but that each person's feelings are unique, yet very common among group members is stressed. Those who attend the group are encouraged to participate, but not forced to share if they are not comfortable doing so. Confidentiality is stressed as a means to build trust among group members.

If you are unable or uncomfortable attending the group, Tom can also be a resource to provide support and information on grief.

Future Grief Support Groups are scheduled for:

- September 10, 2017 ~ 12:00 - 2:00 pm
Topic: "Where are You God in the Midst of My Grief?"
- November 12, 2017 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Topic: "Strategies for Getting Through the Holidays in the Midst of Grief"

ON SALE: 5 FOR \$6.00 MUST BUY 5

by Jean Schleis

What a great deal! The trouble is however, that five is too many for me to store or use before the expiration date hits. So, I often end up with just 1 or 2 of these, missing out on the bargain.

Wait...maybe I could donate three of them to the Community Cupboard for families who are less fortunate. Problem again...it's inconvenient for me to drop a donation off at the specific times that the Cupboard is open.

Well, the Stewardship Team is

addressing this dilemma at St. James Church. The solution is a custom-built cupboard in the back entrance of church to collect donations. That way, anytime you are coming to church, there will be a place to leave a few items or a bagful of groceries. A member of the Stewardship Team will regularly transfer donations to the Community Cupboard for their distribution. Of course, only non-perishable foods, hygiene articles or household products can be

brought in; there is no refrigeration.

Now, you won't have to wait for the Thanksgiving Food Drive or any other special collection.

So, go ahead and shop. Purchase all five of those articles that are on sale.

Take advantage of the discount and at the same time help out those in need in our community.



ST. JAMES CHOIR CDs

by Mary Ozarowicz

Last spring St. James Choir spent hours recording some of their favorite church music. The recordings were put onto music CDs and then made available for a suggested donation of \$10.00. All proceeds benefited charities, some local and some not so local. They included Living Waters Mission in Africa, All Saints Food Pantry, St. James Youth Ministry, Fun & Faith and the school supply drive. There are still CDs available.

Coming in November they will be adding a Christmas CD which will include many traditional songs performed by St. James Choir, harpist Izabella Sand, instrumentalists and soloists. This CD would make a wonderful Christmas gift. Again, all donations toward the CDs will benefit charities. Watch for the CD's to be offered after weekend Masses .

"A SPACE FOR GRACE"

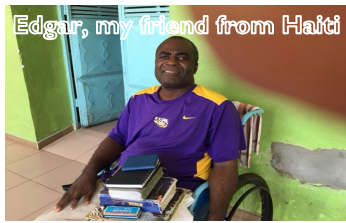
by Cathy Duescher

Some of you may recognize the title of Julianne Stanz's newspaper column from The Compass. Today I'm going to borrow the title to tell you about an adventure that I had in June.

Back in February, I started to plan a trip with the Missionaries of the Poor (MOP), a group of religious brothers to Kingston, Jamaica. However, the Jamaica group was full, so Haiti became my destination instead. Our group consisted of 2 men and 12 women. Collection of needed items began. Baby formula, mosquito nets, ink cartridges, men's handkerchiefs, hammers and plumbing supplies.

Brother Max met the group in Haiti and drove us to a gated community, our home for the next 10 days. Just as pictures of Haiti portray, the landscape was a virtual garbage heap.

Our home was a building with a



dorm, bathroom and great room. Clothes were washed by hand in the back of the building. Aluminum slats instead of windows provided a nice ocean breeze. Outside lush vegetation with tropical blooms surrounded us.

We worked with very special needs kids, feeding, bathing and dressing them for Sunday Mass. We worked with AIDS kids, tidying their quarters. We also helped at a group home for special needs men and women where we fed them, trimmed their nails, shaved the men, and hung out with them. "Treat them as if they are people." Not difficult when you focus on the

person, not the disability.

The true grace of being a missionary began to appear. My favorite resident was Edgar, a 2011 earthquake survivor, paralyzed from the waist down, losing his wife and son in the earthquake. Yet, he was a happy soul reading scripture, telling his story and following the bible.

Haiti is 80% Catholic and Sunday Mass is overflowing with townspeople. While there, we celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi complete with an evening meal of orange soda and cake. That was a treat as our daily meals consisted of rice with beans and beans with rice.

I experienced 10 days wrapped in Liturgy of the Hours, daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. This quickly nurtured a consistent, meaningful prayer life.

One last thought: *"The miracle is not that the Brothers do the work, but that they are joyfully doing it."*

FALL FAMILY FROLIC

(Continued from page 1)

opportunities have also materialized for this year. Some changes for 2017:

- The event will be about an hour shorter, ending by or before 3pm with the bucket raffle drawing.
- Bucket raffle winners need not be present to win if they write their bidder number on their tickets. We'll be pre-selling bucket raffle chances after St. James weekend Masses beginning September 9th.
- Frolic balloons will be offered for \$5 at 1pm, with tags redeemable for prizes worth \$5 or more. We're grateful to Lori Knoflicek for this fun possibility.
- At 1:45 we'll hold a live auction with the ever-popular Bill Jartz of WBAY-TV. Possible items include camping, sweetheart and golf getaways, catered dinners, concert tickets, a handcrafted child-size picnic table and homemade cookies for a year.

Popular and successful components returning this year:

- 10:30 Mass celebrated by Father John Dombrowski. No 8:00 Mass. The no-admission event begins immediately after Mass. Free coffee will be available.
- The DeBruin chefs will again prepare pulled pork

sandwich and hot dog meals, with German potato salad or chips, coleslaw or fruit and homemade desserts, from 11:30 til gone. Cedar Crest ice cream will be available from noon to 1:30. Food and beverages are priced family-friendly.

- Bounce house and bungee trampoline courtesy of Wizard's Kingdom, plus tent seating is available. Silent Auction with a wide array of items and Win-It-Now options. Early bidding after Mass Sept. 16.
- Carnival with some new games, 50/50, balloons and combo raffles, more games as donations allow.

As chairperson, I feel very blessed to work with a dedicated committee, parish staff and Sister Gerri, who share their gifts and pool ideas. I can't say thank you enough for their efforts and support! It takes so many volunteers to present a festival of this size – will you join our Frolic team and please share *YOUR* gifts too? (Contact me at officeaide@tm.net) Teen volunteers also are needed (Contact Kathy Styer).

More information on the Frolic and other FAQs are available on St. James home page of www.Circle-of-Faith.org, or by calling the church office, 863-2585.

– *We hope to see you there!*



SHARING YOUR FAITH

by Kathy Styer

Its that time of year again....time to find teachers of our faith for our children. I've been doing this for quite a few years, and each year, parents get busier and we get more things put on our plate. But the need for teachers of our faith stays the same.

Most of our religion teachers have no prior teaching experience. Each of them teaches in their own unique style. Of course, the main focus is the curriculum. But that can be taught in many ways. We are in a very different society now. People learn by experiencing, and remember by their experiences.



Some teach from the book, bringing in their own understanding. Some teach from media: YouTube video clips to enhance a lesson.

Some teach with music; listening to the Creed being sung, is a great example.

Others teach with hands on experiences. One Kindergarten teacher took the students outside to listen, see, and feel what God made when teaching a chapter titled, "God Made All Things."

Please consider becoming a teacher of our faith and bring your own gifts to share with our students in Religious Education. Contact Kathy Styer, Religious Education Coordinator at 863-2585, or by email at recoordinator@tm.net if you are interested.

FUN & FAITH: MAKER FUN FACTORY

by Patty Bekkers

July 17-21, 2017 was a GREAT week at St James Parish. Sixty one students and many adult and youth volunteers came together to create "Maker Fun Factory" Created by God; Built for a Purpose." Our Fun & Faith Program was just that, a faith filled fun week- where the participants learned five key Bible points: God made you, God is for you, God is always with you, God will always love you, and God made you for a reason.

These key points were explored in six different activity areas; music, crafts, snacks, mission, outside active games, and of course, Bible discovery. Each of

the different area leaders discussed the Bible point of the day in their own way. The participants got to hear about each daily message with a different twist.

How lucky these kids all were to get to hear about God's never ending love.

In the mission station, we were able to tie nine fleece blankets and make *get well, thinking of you, and hi-how are you doing* cards to donate to St Vincent Hospital Pediatric Unit. Two hundred and thirty food items were collected and donated to All Saints Food Pantry.

A float was constructed by middle and high school students

during the week that earned third place prize in the Denmark Lions Parade.



It was a wonderful week of Faith sharing. We hope to see all of the children, youth, and adults back again next year. Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP



Something new has arrived for those ages 18 to 39 (and all who are young at heart)! Young adults from the Circle of Faith have been meeting throughout the past year to share ideas and interests; and to promote further meaning in their lives.

So far, our group has hosted a presentation on what it means to be living stones within the church and has provided breakfast to pilgrims on their walk to the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. Upcoming events include a tour of Maribel Caves in October and a teaching Mass to be held sometime this Fall/Winter.

Ideas for other events that have yet to be planned range from small group book discussions, to social dinners, sporting events, cooking/baking competitions, fundraising events, community service opportunities, and much more.

We are looking for new members and new ideas about how to bring young adults together within the Circle of Faith. Please consider joining us at our next event at Maribel Caves in October and/or by contacting Deacon Cal or Deacon Dave for more details about how to become involved. Keep an eye out for more details on upcoming events in the weekly bulletin and on the church website: www.Circle-of-Faith.org

**ST. JAMES PARISH
COOPERSTOWN**



**UNDER THE
STEEPLE**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ September 10 Grief Group
- ◆ September 17 Fall Family Frolic
- ◆ September 24 Coffee & Donuts after Mass
- ◆ October 17 Annual Meeting
- ◆ October 21 & 22 CMAS Fall Bake Sale
- ◆ October 22 Carry out Booyah Sale
- ◆ October 24 Worship Prayer Service/Retreat
- ◆ November 1 All Saints Day
- ◆ November 2 All Souls Day
- ◆ November 4 & 5 Anointing Mass
- ◆ November 5 Men's Club Breakfast
- ◆ November 12 KC Booyah for Seminarians
- ◆ November 12 Grief Group
- ◆ December 2 Advent Day at All Saints
- ◆ December 3 Coffee & Donuts after Mass
- ◆ January 21 Confirmation at Prince of Peace

- ◆ Pastoral Leader: Sister Gerri Krautkramer
Phone: 920-676-0693
- ◆ Telephone: Office: 920-863-2585
Fax: 920-863-5445
Church Hall: 920-863-2383
- ◆ Mass Schedule:
Saturday, 7:30pm
Sunday, 8:00am
- ◆ Reconciliation: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 6:30-7pm
- ◆ Weekday Liturgy: Tuesday, 8:15am
- ◆ Religious Education:
Grade K-5 Monday, 6-7:30pm
Grade 6-8 Wednesday, 6-7:15pm
Grade 9-12 Wednesday, 7:30-8:45pm
- ◆ Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8-3

Website: www.Circle-of-Faith.org

Email: stjamescoop@tm.net

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Denmark, Wisconsin

Address Service Requested

St. James Parish
18228 CTH R
Denmark, WI 54208