



## *The NET*

### ***“To be in the world, but not of it??”***

Yugen. It's a Japanese noun that means “a profound awareness of the universe that triggers feelings too deep and mysterious for words.” I'm trying to think of an English word that comes close to this same definition. Maybe surreal? In any case, I experienced a sense of “yugen” just now as I was scrolling through my Instagram feed. I saw a picture of a polar bear and her cub on a piece of ice floating in the middle of the ocean. The mother was clutching her baby, not knowing what would happen or where they might end up. As far as pictures go, it was incredibly brutal and it made me wonder if the photographer then took the risk of trying to save the animals. Maybe that would have been too much, I don't know.

And yet if I'm honest, over these past months there have been more times I have felt yugen; but in the same disturbing ways. I feel yugen when I think about the people in Idlib in Syria and what fate may possibly be around the corner. I think about the faces of the South Sudanese people particularly those I remember visiting twice at a refugee camp near the capital Juba, over the past four years. It is a sense of being helpless at the events in our country and the world. We can remain numb to these events by turning away or we can allow them to wash over us.

Yugen. In a powerful way, it can also mean allowing oneself to feel the incredible joy of immersing oneself in nature, or the profound sense of being connected in community, the joy of being with family. It can also be a sense of sharing in the Sacrament of Eucharist with fellow believers. A feeling that goes beyond our own understanding. Too deep, too mysterious.

My friends, I believe part of what it means to follow Jesus out into the world, is allowing the profound joy and the pain to wash over us. To not turn our eyes or our hearts away from the world; but allow it to touch us. To open up our hearts to allow these voices and situations to permeate our prayer life; that our hearts would be open to receive and share with God, pain and joy, in true communion. It is why we have the Prayers of the people, because it allows our own prayer life to be expanded up by the prayers of others. It opens us up through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

It can be stark for us, I would imagine, because we understand that in our heart of hearts we are called to walk in the way of love. A way of love, which Jesus embodied all through his life, by welcoming the stranger, having compassion on the widow, being pieces of scripture, paraphrasing Verna Dozier, living a life out in the world.

## The Net ...

is the newsletter of St. James Church, New London, Connecticut. It is published eleven times a year (September through June and a summer issue) for the information and edification of St. James members and friends.

Submissions are always welcome and should be submitted by the tenth of the month before publication. While your submission is always welcome, we would prefer to receive it by e-mail or memory stick in Microsoft Word format.

Please continue to forward your submissions to the church office or email them to:  
parishoffice@stjamesnl.org.

We also welcome your comments and suggestions. This is your newsletter.

76 Federal Street  
New London CT 06320-6601  
860-443-4989  
www.stjamesnl.org

Find us on  
Facebook: St James Episcopal Church  
&  
Instagram: st\_james\_newlondon

## “To be in the world, but not of it??” cont’d

that is a way of love. For you in your lives, and us as pilgrims of this Jesus Movement – how are you able to show that way of love. Does it show up in your day to day life, when you go to the grocery store, or when you meet your friends out for lunch or dinner? Is it embodied in what you do?

None of this is easy; but then again, my friends, Jesus does not call us to follow him with the understanding that the way of love, the way of the cross would be easy. Far from it. Being a disciple of Jesus Christ entails picking up our own cross and following Jesus out into the world, where there is pain and adversity. It means moving into situations, where we take our understanding of the Holy Scriptures, our rich Christian tradition and our God given reason to actively engage in the world. May the Holy Spirit be REAL



## Autumn

Fire! Fire! Fire! Every leaf and tree ablaze!  
See the flaming torches burn away the autumn haze.  
Summer on her deathbed lies, but that's the way for dying  
Trumpet music for a dirge, and all the banners flying.  
Now, before the leaves are dead.  
Before the hills turn hoary,  
Come, friend, and bow your head,  
And say a grace for glory.

*By Joanna Norris, 1995*



## St. James' Mission Statement

We are a forward looking,  
multi-cultural  
and inclusive faith community,  
proclaiming and doing Christ's work  
of love and justice  
in the greater New London area  
and the world.

*Approved at the April 10, 2018 Vestry meeting.*

# Sunday Parish Events—October

**October 7—Blessing of the Animals** at 3:00 PM in the memorial garden. Bring your four-footed, finned, winged, or slithering friends for this fun and special event.

**October 14—Forum with Mike Dimauro, Sports Columnist from The Day** at 11:30 AM in the parish hall.

**October 21—Music on Whale Oil Row program** at 3:00 PM in the church featuring Phred Mileski and Robert Humphreville's program of parlor songs.

**October 28— Pledge Sunday will take place during both morning services.** Please bring your 2019 pledge form to be blessed. The Anglican Singers Evensong at 5:00 PM in the church.

## News from our Deacon

Long before women were allowed to be on vestries and wardens and priests, women served communities, both in their neighborhoods and in far off countries. If you want to know more about this work, read [A Different Call, Women's Ministries in the Episcopal Church 1850 – 1920](#) written by Mary Donovan. I have a copy you can borrow and there is one in the St. Francis House library also. When I was young, most churches had active Episcopal Church Women chapters. The state and national levels still exist and they are the people who administer UTO grants.



United Thank Offering funds are collected in little blue boxes. It asks Episcopalians to practice gratitude by adding a few coins or bills to a little blue box each day. It encourages us to notice the good things that happen to us and to thank God for these blessings. The money is brought to church twice a year and sent on to the national church. Over a million dollars a year is collected and distributed because of this practice. St. James received a grant this year to pay a staff for a camp for young adults next summer who will come together to deal with issues of race in their schools. Boxes will be available soon so you can begin or renew this practice.

I have been asked to speak at the UTO Ingathering to be held on November 1, 2018 at St. Mary's in Manchester. I would like to take a delegation from St. James with me. Save the date and I will share more details as they come to us.

## October Birthdays

- |                  |                     |                      |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Edwin Ivey     | 9 Charles Kepner    | 20 Dorothy Sieburg   |
| 2 Gerald Miller  | 10 Joan Robinson    | 21 John Brewster     |
| 2 Michael Spence | 11 Fred Smith       | 22 Alma Peterson     |
| 5 Gretchen Dusza | 12 Marilyn Monagas  | 25 John Russell      |
| 6 Edna Miskell   | 13 Ethel Harrington | 27 Stephen Anderson  |
| 8 Patricia Lang  | 16 Joanna Norris    | 27 Cara Scognamiglio |



# Senior Warden's Report

*I recently had the privilege of spending time in Havana, Cuba while vacationing with my sister, Iris. We took a tour of the city, and quickly realized Havana probably hasn't changed much since the 1950's. Older color-faded buildings lined many streets and classic American cars are still being used for taxi service and tourism.*

*Our tour guide, a college student named Arianna, claimed that the average Cuban citizen earns roughly \$20.00 per month (\$240.00 per year). They are not permitted to own a business unless it is a barber shop or hair salon and it must be operated out of their home. I found this to be a bit unusual, but then again I could not locate a single grocery store, retail store, outdoor market or restaurant anywhere while in Havana.*

*Our guide was filled with pride to show us "Floridita", a pub (the only one visible) which happened to be Ernest Hemingway's favorite watering hole. I soon realized that this location was to be one of the main tour highlights. Transportation is also tricky in Cuba. The local bus service has no set schedule and sometimes the Cuban citizens must wait eight hours to catch a bus!*

*I now understand why so many natives flee their homelands to come to the United States looking for the "American Dream". We need to count our blessings every single day and realize how many opportunities we have with so few hardships. Let us not condemn others who wish for the same.*

*Faithfully,*

*Lori Sarkett*



The St. James Book Club will meet at La Luna Restaurant (located in the Holiday Inn) on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00 PM.

This month's book selection will be *The Nightingale*, by Kristen Hannah and is currently on reserve at the New London Public Library. Please bring your driver's license and local library card to pick up the book. If you have questions for the New London Public Library, please contact the reference desk at 860.447.1411.

For more information about the book club or restaurant, please contact Lori Sarkett at 860.287.5500 or [lorisarkett@ne@gmail.com](mailto:lorisarkett@ne@gmail.com). Meals and appetizers are available and pricing ranges from \$5—\$30 depending on the selection.

## St. James Supper Group

**Next Gathering:** Mint Leaf Indian Restaurant, 770 Long Hill Road, Groton.

**Date:** Friday, October 19, at 6:00 PM

**Deadline:** Please contact Ellen in the parish office or Lori Sarkett at 860.287.5500 or [lorisarkett@ne@gmail.com](mailto:lorisarkett@ne@gmail.com) by 4:30 PM on Wednesday, October 17.

# News from our Organist/Choirmaster

This past season saw the expansion of membership in the Choir, and the creation of the St. James Children's Choir. We are always looking to expand membership in both choirs. If you, or anyone you know is interested in contributing to the musical life at St. James, please contact me at [wilhelm.fassbinder@gmail.com](mailto:wilhelm.fassbinder@gmail.com).

On October 21st, a wonderful *Music on Whale Oil Row* program of parlor songs by soprano Phred Mileski, and pianist Robert Humphreville. The program begins at 3:00 PM.

Will

## Compline



Our first service of Compline for the season will be on the first Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 PM. Compline is held the first Thursday of each month. Please join us in the church for this lovely service of reflection to end your day.

## The Anglican Singers

**THE ANGLICAN SINGERS**  
**Choral Evensong**  
**Sunday, October 28, 2018, 5:00 PM**  
**St. James Episcopal Church**

Having presented our "season opener" at Pequot Chapel on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, The Anglican Singers look forward to the first service of our 2018–2019 program year at St. James, which will take place on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, under the direction of Benjamin Straley.

Our program will be an Anglo-American one. The introit, "Sing unto the Lord," is a sprightly canon-motet composed by Christopher Tye, one of the fathers of the music of the English Reformation. American composer Craig Phillips wrote an accompanied arrangement of the Preces and Responses. Psalm 103 (*Benedic, anima mea*) features two settings: the first half written by a giant of the renaissance of English church music, Charles Villiers Stanford; the second by an earlier 19<sup>th</sup>-century composer, Kellow John Pye. Among the finest of contemporary composers of sacred music on either side of the Atlantic, Herbert Howells wrote the glorious St. Paul's Service (*Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*). The selected anthem is "Save us, O Lord," by Edward Bairstow, the great 20<sup>th</sup>-century inter-war British composer and organist. It is based on an antiphon from the Office of Compline.

Please join us at 5 p.m. on October 28<sup>th</sup> for our service of evensong and for a reception afterward.

Looking ahead to December, mark your calendars for Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, when The Anglican Singers will present our annual Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent. This is a celebratory occasion, at which the Singers and St. James Church extend to the City of New London the blessings and joys of the season.

Anne Carr Bingham, Secretary  
The Anglican Singers

## Caring for Creation

St. James will host and sponsor a Green Forum on Offshore Wind on October 30, co-sponsored by the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network, the Connecticut Roundtable on Climate & Jobs and All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Panelists will be: Christopher Bachant of the CT Carpenters Union; UConn marine sciences Prof. Jamie Vaudrey; New London Development and Planning Director Felix Reyes; and The Rev. Ranjit Mathews.



Speakers will address an exciting development that could have a major impact on New London and beyond. CT has awarded an initial contract for 200 megawatts of offshore wind to Deepwater Wind, and New London's harbor is poised to become a hub of economic activity for this emerging regional industry. Join us for a panel

discussion on the collective need to address climate change, including the anticipated sea level rise in coastal towns, as well as the economic and jobs benefit of the Deepwater Wind project for Southeastern CT, especially the City of New London. We will also discuss concerns about the project.

The Caring for Creation Committee will provide a light meal of sandwiches at 6 p.m.; the discussion will begin at 6:30. RSVP to attend the event at: Forum on Offshore Wind: <https://offshorewindforum.eventbrite.com>).

The Caring for Creation's next meeting will be at 5:30 PM in the parlor on October 11.

Help us show our love for our church neighbors by joining the CFC Committee in a litter pickup of the neighborhood from 9:30 - 11:30 AM on October 20. We will supply gloves and bags.

## Faith in Action Seniors Luncheon

The Faith in Action committee is planning an autumn luncheon for our shut-in and convalescing members, to be held on October 18, in the Parlor. Fr. Ranjit will celebrate Eucharist at 11:30 AM, followed by lunch and a great opportunity for fellowship for our brothers and sisters who have difficulty coming to Sunday services. Transportation is available upon request to the parish office.



Members of the committee continue with their ministry of lay visitation and outreach to home-bound and convalescent members, help with transportation to services, and greetings through mailings. The committee meets, normally, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 5:30 PM. New members are always welcome to join us.

## St. James Writing Group

*St. James has started a writing group! Do you want some dedicated time to write? Journal, poetry, fiction, essay, play ... Bring your pen and paper, or laptop. Bring a friend! We'll provide the quiet space and company.*

*Group meets twice monthly. the first and third Monday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Good will offerings accepted.*

Open to all writers, St. James and beyond. Facilitated by Emma Palzere-Rae.

# St. James Quilters

*Our mission is to make quilts for the New London Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Partnership (which cares for new mothers). The quilters took on another mission to help raise funds for much needed air conditioning in the church parlor. Many of the beautiful quilts were sold to help towards raising such funds. We are still selling quilts to reach our final goal which we promised to the parish to assist with the cost of the air conditioning units and compressor which have been purchased and installed in the church parlor and are being greatly enjoyed by all.*

*The quilters meet monthly on the second and fourth Thursday from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the church parlor.*

*New members are always welcomed. You do not have to know how to quilt, our experienced quilters will gladly teach you. If you have any questions please contact Mary Chartier at 860-443-0590.*

Margaret Murallo, member

## Covenant Shelter

The Covenant Shelter is hosting a car wash fundraiser on October 6, at 10 AM to benefit the shelter at the Jordan Firehouse, Rope Ferry Road. A steak dinner fundraiser at the Birdseye Café on Saturday, October 20, from 5:00 – 8:00 PM to benefit the shelter. Tickets cost \$25 each and are available for purchase in the parish office.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

A huge thank you to everyone who made prayer cloths for the Prayer Shawl ministry over the last several months. We sent 120 prayer cloths to Ecuador with Grace Barnum and Ron Ward. They were all received with great joy by our friends in Puyo. Each of you helped to enable this expression of Christ's love! Please keep on knitting and crocheting!

Deanna Bossdorf and Pat King



## Hats, Mittens, Scarves and Gloves

A basket will be placed in the Parish hall during October and November to collect hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves for our annual Outreach Project. The items may be handmade or store bought. This year we especially need gloves and mittens in basic colors. We will distribute them to the students within the local elementary schools, Covenant Shelter and to others in need.

If you are unable to shop, we will gladly accept monetary donations and shop for you! (checks may be made payable to St. James with "Hats & Mittens" in the memo line. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Chojnacki 860.440.3427.



**Farewell dear friend ...**

**Michael Harrington**

## **The Lord's Pantry**

*The Lord's Pantry wishes to thank all who supported the Supper Group baseball fundraiser at Dodd Stadium. \$200 was raised to purchase much needed basic food items from the United Way Gemma Moran Food Center for our clients.*

*Shoppers and volunteers are needed on Tuesdays for the Lord's Pantry. All shoppers are required to take a shoppers class at the Gemma Moran Center located on Broad Street in New London. If you are interested, please contact Eleanor Godfrey at 860.608.5975 or Ellen in the parish office at 860.443.4989 or by email at [parishoffice@stjamesnl.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjamesnl.org).*

## **The Jumble Shoppe**

*Our neighbors/customers responded to the late August re-opening of the Jumble Shoppe with gratitude and brisk sales. We are now in Fall-Winter display mode, so come see our large assortment of clothes for the cooler weather that's right around the corner! Donations of cool weather clothing will be much appreciated. We have limited storage space for out-of-season clothes, so your summer donations might best be used by Good Will at this time. Household goods, kitchen and bath linens, decorator items and jewelry are always welcome. We are also storing up Christmas items for our annual Christmas Bazaar, co-sponsored with the St. James Quilters. Proceeds from this sale will help pay for the recently installed air conditioning in Seabury Center Parlor. We will happily accept any unused Christmas decorations in salable condition. Put the date for the Bazaar in your calendar: Saturday, December 8 and Sunday, December 9.*

*To date this year almost \$17,000 has been distributed to various mission and charitable causes locally and around the world. Thank you for your continued support of this important way St. James shows love to its neighbors here and around the globe.*

*Dorothy Sieburg, manager*



**Blessing  
of the  
backpacks**



# **The Seabury Mission Ministry of ECCT & The Diocese of Ecuador Central Partners in Mission**

*Thank you, thank you, thank you to our St. James family for your generous and loving support for the Ecuador Mission Trip, August 2018. The mission trip was filled with glorious wonder as Ron Ward and Grace Barnum travelled with Andreas and Clare (father/daughter team) from the other area St. James (Preston).*

*We were blessed to have four young adults from an Episcopal church in Quito, the capitol, join us for the time in Puyo. It did not take long for the eight of us along with folks from the church La Ascencion to bond into a close family. All sisters-and brothers-in-Christ. We worked together. We prayed together. We laughed together. And, we formed deep relationships that transcend language, age, continents.*

*Yes, we worked on many church projects. Rocks hauled, walls painted, floors scrubbed, fence/wall repaired, on and on. The church community pitched right in as we all worked side-by-side. Each day about 20 of us had lunch together. A welcome break and a wonderful time to really get to know each other. A community thankful not just for the work being done, but also for the friendship and sharing of Christ's walk together. Our feet were literally blessed at our final church service in gratitude for our being there and in prayer for our continued life's journey in His name.*

*Two of the most precious gifts we shared with our new church community included Ron's singing of Ave Maria at one of the services. There was not a dry eye in the church that moment. The other was the sharing of the 120 "Prayer Squares" with our new friends. More tear-filled eyes as each person read the prayer and held the square. They are now loved by folks in the city, in the rainforest and everywhere in between. People would ask for a couple for family members. So, these little precious prayer squares so lovingly made by our St. James family are thousands of miles away and also very, very close as they touch so many lives.*

*No matter how you have participated in being part of this mission trip: enjoying one of the Ecuadorian artifacts, helping out with the Jumble Shoppe Tag Sale, enjoying some Chicken Barbecue, making a financial donation directly, knitting/crocheting prayer squares, saying a prayer or two – all these are vital parts that enable the Ecuador Mission Ministry to share God's love as we are called.*

*La Paz y amor,*

*Your St. James Ecuadorian Missionaries*

# Stewardship



**Love In Action** – Apostle Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, explains that a giving heart will shine in our lives. Now is the time of year for prayerfully discerning how each of us at St. James can put “Love In Action” through participation in the yearly pledge opportunity. St. James serves our neighbors and community through outreach Ministries:

Community Meal; Jumble Shoppe; Hats, Mittens, Scarves; Lord's Pantry; St. James Quilters; Covenant Shelter; Homeless Hospitality Center; Christmas Giving Tree; Ashes To Go; Ecuador Mission Trip; Drop-In Learning Center; Office Helpers; Publicity and Marketing; Building and Grounds; Budget, Finance and Investments; Stewardship Committee; Faith in Action; Parish Fellowship Team; Vestry; and Hispanic Ministry Outreach.

**Love In Action** – Living out God's mission here on earth through the many ministries at St. James. Upcoming ways to participate and learn are listed in the October calendar.

**Sunday, October 7** – The sermon will give an opportunity to reflect on how a giving heart shines in our lives.

**October 14 & 21** – During announcements, testimonies will be offered to highlight the impact of ministries on our parish and community.

**Sunday, October 28** – Pledge Sunday when we put our Love In Action as we lay our pledge upon the altar asking for God's blessings that His will be done.

Sincerely,

Stewardship Team

## Vestry Highlights

At the September 4<sup>th</sup> Vestry Meeting, a motion was unanimously passed to send a letter to the New London City Council in support to bring renewable energy industries to the city of New London.

The vestry received a CPTED Security Assessment Report prepared by New London Officer Soccio. This report highlighted areas that could be addressed to improve security and visibility around St. James Church and the rectory.

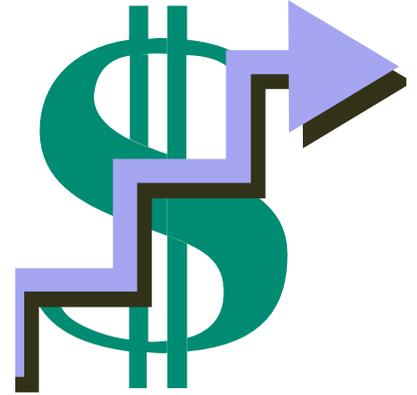
Karen Hatchet-Sneed, a vestry member, will serve as a liaison to Drop-In Board. A profit of \$200.00 from the recent Connecticut Tigers baseball game will be given to the Lord's Pantry. The Faith in Action Committee is planning the very popular Fall Luncheon for parishioners who have trouble getting to church on a regular basis is to be held in October.

Air conditioners have been installed in the parlor. This is a joint effort of the St. James Quilters, the Jumble Shoppe, and the Vestry. Two fundraising events have been planned to benefit the Covenant Shelter, a Car Wash will be held at the Jordan Firehouse on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and a Steak Dinner at the Birdseye in New London on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the Steak Dinner are available at the Parish Office for \$25.00 each.

Ann Burdick, Parish Clerk

# Parish Financials

## ST. JAMES CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT September 4, 2018



This report covers from January 1, 2018 to July 31, 2018.

### Total Income:

Budgeted Amount:	\$153,127
Actual Amount:	<u>\$157,464</u>
Amount Actual is Over Budget:	\$4,337

### Total Expenses:

Budgeted Amount:	\$249,172
Actual Amount:	<u>\$252,743</u>
Amount Actual is Over Budget:	\$3,571

### Net Ordinary Income:

Total Income:	\$157,464
Total Expenses:	<u>\$252,743</u>
Net Ordinary Income:	-\$95,279
Endowment Income Applied	<u>\$96.-54</u>
Net Income	\$775

Summary: As of July 31, 2018, we are \$775 ahead of where expected to be based on our 2018 budget.

### Investment Summary:

Balance 12/31/2017:	\$3,306,459
Balance 07/31/2018:	<u>\$3,292,558</u>
Total Value Change:	-\$13,901
Withdrawal 5%:	<u>\$96,054</u>
Change Pre-Withdrawal:	\$82,153

Summary: Our pre-withdrawal investment value has increased by \$82,153, about 2.5%, through July 31, 2018. After factoring in the 5% withdrawal, our investments are down \$13,901, about 0.5% through July.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald F. Miller, Treasurer

St. James Episcopal Church  
76 Federal Street  
New London, CT 06320-6601

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
New London, CT 06320  
Permit No. 236

Postmaster: Time Sensitive Material, please deliver immediately.  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED.



Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM in the Courtyard