The MESSENGER

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH   AUGUST 2020

ONLINE SERVICES CONTINUE
For those parishioners that do not feel safe coming back to church, we will be continuing to offer the service online. You may join on Zoom or watch the livestream as we get that in place on Facebook live. The hope is that the FB link can be shared to our website for you to watch later if you don't have Facebook.

IN PERSON WORSHIP UPDATE
There have been 10-12 of us on Sunday mornings. We all wear masks and each family unit sits 6 feet apart from others. We have music but are not singing aloud. We have our own pew with our worship materials that no one else uses. We gather outside on the porch after the service to socialize a while. The infection numbers are monitored daily. We have all felt safe to be at church together. Father Jeff Bessler is with us for Eucharist (bread only) on the first and third Sunday. If you want to come, we feel you will be safe doing so.

RECENT COLLEGE FOR CONGREGATION DEVELOPMENT
Deacon Barry, Cindy Bullard, Cindy Shamy and Pat Carter were scheduled to attend this weeklong event at Waycross. Because of Covid, they had a 2 day Zoom College instead that we attended. We talked a lot about the changes affecting our gathering and going out and how to fill the needs of the people for worship and spiritual growth. Without a priest at St. James, the lay leaders must be more involved in fulfilling our purpose as the church. Some of the following articles are a result of the meeting.

BOOK STUDY ON ZOOM
Although we can meet in small groups at the church, not everyone feels safe doing so. We would like to start offering Zoom classes. If you have an idea for a study, let Marilyn Witt know. Restarting "Anxious for Nothing" is an option.

PASTORAL CARE
Please contact Marilyn Witt or Deacon Barry Cramer if you need a home visit. In these days of COVID, we are all feeling somewhat isolated but if you have a pastoral need, please reach out.

CARD MINISTRY
Nancy Brown has always done a wonderful job with the card ministry. Would this be a ministry you could help with from your home? Please contact Nancy or Marilyn if you can help.

FORMING A TECH COMMITTEE
If you are willing to help with the online portion of services, I need your help. I have been setting things up to the best of my abilities, but I cannot continue working alone. I would like 4 or 5 people willing to learn how to use all the new equipment that we have so we can provide livestreaming. You don't need any special skills but do need a willingness to learn and a smart phone. I need help ASAP.
               Pat Carter

WEBSITE HELP NEEDED
I am looking for someone to help keep the website up to date. We will be needing to create a new one later this year. Let Pat Carter know if you can help.

THANK YOU
Thanks to Isaiah Bullard for refiguring our sound system and added our 4 new wireless microphones. He was able to advise me about sound issues for our livestream camera. He is a sound tech for Tri High School.

Thanks to those that donated money to the Back to School project.   Sonny

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING
The next meeting of the BC will be on Wednesday, August 12th at 6:30 PM. We will be meeting on Zoom.

DOK MEETING
There will be a DOK meeting on August 19th at noon for social time and the meeting at 12:30. You will get a ZOOM invite by email.

HEALING RETREAT
The healing retreat that was originally planned for Lent has been rescheduled for October 24th. Information will be sent out in September if all goes as planned.

SCHEDULE
There is not a schedule again this month. Thanks for stepping up and doing what needs to be done.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Suzie Shields had a stellar week at the Grant county 4H fair. She had a steer and her sheep and she won many Reserve Champions, Champions, Grand Champions. Way to go, Suzie!

Emma Bullard got a new job as the Parish Administrator at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bloomington. Congrats, Emma!