

the Joyful Noise

Of St. James' Episcopal Church

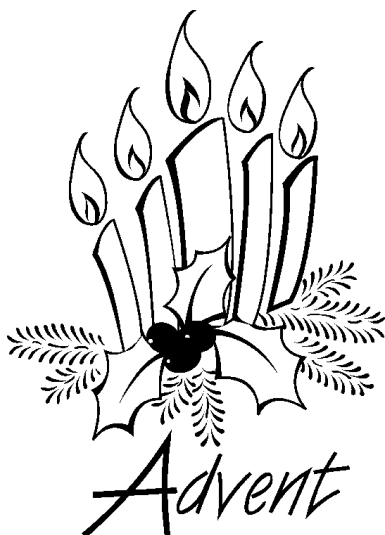
It Helps To Remember

By Evelyn Manzella

I was actually startled this year when I was in a department store the day after Halloween, otherwise known by Christians as All Saints Day, and there was Christmas music and Christmas displays. Lots of Christmas decorations went up all over, including downtown Wooster, which had theirs up on November 7th. Maybe they were taking advantage of the unseasonable warm weather to do a job that's downright painful when it's freezing cold. I understand that. I don't really mind the Christmas music, the decorations, and the early preparation. What I mind is the stress it causes so many people and how people are "sick of Christmas" by the time we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

People have always prepared early for Christmas, starting long before the first Sunday of Advent, especially when gifts were handmade. Sewing a special shirt as a gift or making a carved doll, making Jacob's ladders out of wood scrapes and ribbon for children. (Okay, maybe I've watched a few too many episodes of "Little House on the Prairie" when I was younger) but it is a gentler image than that of people sleeping on sidewalks waiting to get the best deal so that they can buy more than anyone needs or really wants.

As we enter into this new church year, I suggest that you see Advent as a gift rather than one more thing that you have to do. Advent is a time set apart for preparing for receiving Jesus who desires nothing more than our love. No need to shop, spend beyond our means, plan, entertain, or in other words, get worn out, frustrated, and sick of it all.



This Advent, pull out an old advent wreath, or simply four candles, and have a time to remember why you do any of the things you do to prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ. Find a time each day, at dinner, at bedtime, a moment in the morning, to light a candle for each week of the season, say a prayer to welcome Jesus, to ask God to help you invite God into every moment of your day, and to remind you that Christmas is God's gift to you, to those you love, and to the entire world.

Last year, I bought myself a Christmas gift, a crèche, with seven simple pieces, Joseph, Mary and Jesus, a donkey and two sheep. I put it on the mantle in my living room to remind me everyday why I buy gifts or send cards. I am reminded that I reach out in love to people because God reaches out to me in love. It is God's love we are called to share, and God's gift of family friends, and others in with whom we give and receive love.

Find a way to remember why you shop, or cook, or entertain to express your love to others. Remember that it is God who gives you that love, that hope, that joy. And that it is Jesus who came to help us live into it fully.

May each of you and those you love know God's peace, joy, and unwavering love.

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Editorial Information

The Joyful Noise is published monthly September through June as a ministry of St. James Episcopal Church. Submissions in accord with the Mission of St. James are encouraged. The address of the Editor is 429 Kinney Circle, Wooster, OH 44691 and you may e-mail: astolat@ssnet.com

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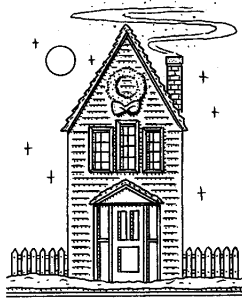
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Folders this month:

Jean Barnes
Hal Hulit
June Hulit



Please add your name to the sign up sheets on the bulletin board for greeters and Coffee Hour hosts/hostesses.



December

United Thank Offering

Joyce Roe



Our Fall Ingathering for United Thank Offering was November 7th,

The blue boxes and the UTO envelopes that were brought in contained \$501.69. A check has been forwarded to the Diocesan Coordinator for UTO.

Thanks to all who participated in this Outreach project.

Saint James Episcopal Church

Corner of East North and Market Streets, Wooster, OH (330) 262-4476

Parish Hall: (330) 262-4488

Web Address: <http://www.stjameswooster.org/index.html>

E-mail: saintjameswooster@embarqmail.com

Holy Eucharist Services

8:00 am and 10:30 am Sunday, 8:00 am Wednesday

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Clerk

When there is no priest available, call Senior Warden, Susan Figge at (330) 262-6242, or Junior Warden, Bob Kendall, at (330) 264-0549 in case of emergency.

The Collect for St. James': "almighty and everlasting God, who didst move Thy servants in times past to establish and sustain this parish of St. James: Grant us grace so to follow their good example that we in our time may fulfill Thy will for us by knowing, loving, and serving Thee and Thy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

The Mission of St. James Episcopal Church is to Greet, Grow, and Give in the name of Jesus Christ.

Evelyn's Epistle

Dear Friends,

I want to use my space this month to thank you for being the congregation you are and for the support and guidance you give me as your priest. I have been struck lately by how unhappy so many clergy are in their parishes. Maybe it's them, maybe it's the parish or the combination of the two but it's sad to hear of so many clergy being angry at the congregations they serve and how many congregations are frustrated or disappointed with their clergy person.



When I look back over the years I have been in Wooster, I cannot remember a time when I wasn't happy here. But not just happy, I have been challenged to do things that make me grow as a priest and as a person. I have been disappointed in myself when I have failed to follow through with an idea or a program because I didn't trust my gifts or myself. I have been frustrated at times when it seems like a few people did everything and they were getting worn out. In other words, it's not that this congregation and this ministry is all that different from any other one in the normal day to day, season to season activities and issues. Energy and interest ebb and flow at St. James just like it does anywhere else. What I find amazing is how we continue to trust one another and support one another through the ebbs and flows.

Each year I've been here, my faith has deepened and is not shaken by the ups and downs of life. I find I have more vitality to preach, more fun teaching, and greater joy in being together with you in worship and work, and all the relationships God give us.

I am most grateful to God for the gift of faith, and I am most grateful to you for being a community that helps me live into God's love.

A blessed and joyous Christmastide to you all.

Evelyn

Outreach Insert

June Hulit

Dear St. Jamesians

Sometimes we sit in our pews and listen to the announcements on Sunday mornings and hear the words "the Outreach Committee" but are not always sure who these folks are or what this committee does.

There are several events within our local community and within the community of the St. James which happen throughout the year. Possibly you would like to volunteer and be involved in one of these activities/events and would like to know more about it or who to contact to get information.

Included in this month's copy of the Joyful Noise is a "pullout" of a booklet for you to remove, to use as a reference, and to keep which will explain briefly activities/events that fall under the Outreach Committee. We hope this booklet will help you to understand more of the workings of St. James and the Outreach Committee.

Financial Summary *Stewart Fitz Gibbon*

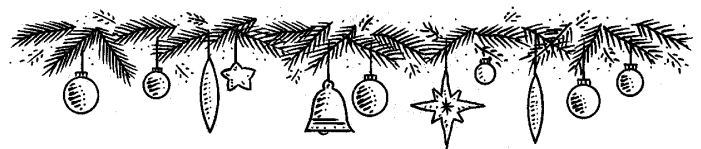
The following summarizes the detailed monthly financial report presented to Vestry.

For the first ten months of 2010, our summary of operating activity shows a deficit of \$3,114 compared to an operating deficit of \$28,350 for the first ten months of 2009. Pledge income is up 5%, mainly due to payments early in the year, and expenses are down 8%, mainly due to the absence of intern expenses that were incurred in 2009 and a reduction in our natural gas budget payment starting in August.

For October, pledge income was up compared to the same month last year. Expenses for the month were down, mainly due to the reduction in our natural gas payment noted above. Keep in mind that this reduction is not permanent, as it is calculated to use up our accumulated credit over the next year. At that time, our natural gas will return to a level that is "normal" based on gas prices at that time. For both this October and last October, revenue was up due to five Sundays in the month, but expenses were up due to three pay periods in the month.

St. James Episcopal Church
Operations Summary for the month of October 2010

Total Revenue	18,533
Total Expense	25,385
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(6,852)
Operating Account Balance	15,378



The Concert and Unstoppable

Radu Mihaileanu's uplifting comedy **The Concert** is a French-Romanian co-production. It has been very successful in Europe, winning two Césars in France for Best Music and Sound. It has been less widely released in this country but is well worth seeking out in art houses or on Netflix. The film is in French and Russian with subtitles; get into it and you wouldn't want it any other way.

Aleksai Guskov stars as Andrei Simoniovich Filipov, onetime conductor of the renowned Bolshoi orchestra in Moscow. In 1980, we learn, with the Soviet government under Leonid Brezhnev cracking down on Jews, Filipov hired and protected Jewish musicians. In the middle of a performance of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto we see him fired and declared an enemy of the people. In the degrading aftermath, he is demoted to janitor at the Bolshoi.

This may not, on the face of it, sound promising for the beginning of a comedy, but moral outrage can produce outrageous comedy and satire, and director Mihaileanu, who also co-scripted, takes us on a spirited romp that is part broad satire and part gleeful revenge fantasy. And in the end it turns out to be a good deal more. Mihaileanu manages to keep us constantly surprised and engaged.

Oppressive regimes seek to crush every kind of freedom and dignity, but people's thoughts remain free, and they fight back with jokes and laughter. Some sour critics have dwelt on the unlikelihood of this film's story, as if Mihaileanu and his fellow writers didn't know they were mixing farce and knockabout with serious concern for dark pasts, lost chances, and hope for redemption. And to

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Where did those wise men find a store that sold frankincense and myrrh?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

complain that the world of international concerts isn't really organized this way is to confess to a solemnity that can only register bafflement at the high spirits of this film.

One day 30 years after his demotion, the now alcoholic Filipov is cleaning an office at the Bolshoi and reads an incoming fax from the Châtelet Theater, inviting the Bolshoi orchestra to play in Paris. He snatches it for himself and determines to take his own Bolshoi symphony on tour. He makes sure that none of the current Bolshoi personnel find out about the invitation and begins to assemble an orchestra among his scattered musician friends. The very idea is farcical: locating 80 musicians in two weeks, getting them proper outfits and fake visas, and getting brilliant young French virtuoso Anne-Marie Jacquet (Mélanie Laurent, whom you may remember as

Shosanna Dreyfus in last year's *Inglourious Basterds*) to play solo violin in the Tchaikovsky concerto, let alone maintaining order and discipline among Russian artists suddenly let loose in the City of Lights.

The odds seem all against them, but if they can pull it off, it will be a triumph and a kind of redemption for them all. And for the audience there are many moments of sheer hilarity along the way.

At the same time we know Filipov is no fool, and there is a central mystery about this man who is so determined to risk such an undertaking. We begin to suspect there may be some tie between Filipov and the brilliant French violinist. It is deftly handled, and I confess I didn't guess it. There is an especially moving scene between them over dinner in a Paris restaurant as he is at pains, in his simple French, to express the importance to him of the concert.

The resolution of the story with its many thematic and narrative threads is both surprising and satisfying. The members of our party were in tears.

Tony Scott's **Unstoppable** is an action drama about a half-mile long runaway train carrying volatile and toxic chemicals. It is heading at 70 mph toward a town in Pennsylvania, and unless it is brought under control, it will derail when it hits a curve within the city, and the town will surely be decimated. It comes down to the courage and resourcefulness of two men to prevent catastrophe.

The film was inspired by an event that took place here in Ohio on May 15, 2001, when an unmanned CSX train went on for about two hours at around 35 mph before it was finally brought to a stop. Scott has taken the situation

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Plain But Not Simple

An Amish Paradox: Diversity and Change in the World's Largest Amish Community

by Charles E. Hurst and David L. McConnell
Johns Hopkins University Press, 356 pp., \$30.00

This semester, I've been sitting in on David McConnell's College of Wooster anthropology course, "Amish Culture." *An Amish Paradox: Diversity and Change in the World's Largest Amish Community*, which he co-authored with retired colleague Charles Hurst, is one of the texts for the course. But it's not the only one, and both it and the course build on a substantial body of earlier anthropological and sociological research, much of it (like Donald B. Kraybill's classic *The Riddle of Amish Culture*, now in its second edition) published by Johns Hopkins University Press. What makes *An Amish Paradox* different is that it focuses on the Ohio Amish, especially those in Holmes and Wayne counties. The only other book to have dealt with "our" Amish in a comprehensive way, William L. Schreiber's *Our Amish Neighbors*, was published in 1962. As the subtitle of *An Amish Paradox* suggests, this new book is about diversity and change, most of which has come about since 1962.

Some people who have had dealings with the Amish and think they understand them talk about their "hypocrisy." The Amish, they say, pretend to live like early-nineteenth-century farmers, but they shop in Walmart, eat at McDonald's, wear Nikes, and talk on cell phones. They won't own or drive cars, but they will ride in them. They use electricity at work, but not at home. And so on. What these non-Amish miss is that the Amish are not a "living history" exhibit, where everyone has to behave in "authentic" ways. Nor are they fanatical religious ascetics who have given up worldly comforts for the sake of their souls. They are not Luddites who reflexively reject all new technology. Nor are they trendy liberals who espouse environmentalism, animal rights, vegetarianism, progressive child-rearing, and organic farming. They're not all the same, and most aren't even full-time farmers anymore!

What they are, as Hurst and McConnell make clear, is a living, diverse, evolving culture, rooted in an agrarian past and a literal understanding of the Bible, and made up of human beings who don't claim to be perfect or ideal. Earlier books on the Amish focused on the oldest settlement, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. But the Lancaster County Amish are less diverse and stricter than most of their Ohio cousins. As the Amish in Ohio have

argued and divided over what it means to be separate from the "world," that world has been constantly changing, creating pressures that have forced them to adapt in order to maintain their way of life.

Internal pressures, such as interpersonal disputes, different interpretations of the rules about what the Amish may or may not do, and different views of what to do about those who break the rules, have led to multiple divisions. Pressing on these internal fault lines have been powerful external forces, such as technological change, the price of farmland, and government regulation. Contrary to popular opinion, most Amish bishops don't reject every new technology that comes along, but they do evaluate technologies that could be useful, often sanctioning adaptations that won't threaten their communities' distinctive way of life. They prohibit motor-vehicle ownership because it would lead to a breakup of their



communities. But most accept paying van drivers to take their people places too far away for a horse and buggy to travel. They ban electrical service from power companies because it would connect them to the "grid," bringing the outside world into their homes. But they may permit diesel-powered generators for some tasks that would take too long to do by hand. Sometimes they're caught unawares by technologies such as cell phones that come into general use before they can agree about whether and under what circumstances to authorize them. All Amish, regardless of affiliation, constantly try to balance what is practical with what is good for keeping the community together and separate from the world. Their differences about how to strike and enforce the right balance have led to and aggravated their divisions.

High birthrates, combined with the high cost of nearby farm land and the challenges of making a living on small family farms, especially without tractors, have led to major changes among all but the strictest groups. The movement of young Amish men (most Amish women remain homemakers) into "lunch-pail" jobs off the farm, in either Amish or non-Amish businesses, led some close observers to predict that the movement away from farming would doom the Amish way of life and cause more and more young people to leave the church. But the opposite seems to have been the case. Although the Amish have only an eighth-grade education, only about 5% of their businesses have failed. And despite movement off the farm, the Amish have retained their young people at ever-increasing rates, with an average rate for all Ohio groups of over 80%. Only time will tell the long-term impact of

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Adult Forums

Church Hall, 9:30 - 10:15 am

Sunday 5th December: *Damon Hickey*

Our resident St. Nicholas will share new information about St. Nicholas using a video he has acquired. This is the day when Damon is transformed into St. Nick and tells or reads a story to the children as part of the 10:30 service.

Sunday, 12th December: *Dick Figge*

A Christmas Story (of Dick's choosing) Dick will read a Christmas Story to those attending the adult forum. We all know how special Dick can make any story he reads.

Sunday, 19th December: Christmas Carols

A chance to choose your favorite carols to be sung during adult forum. First verse only please. This is a great way to usher in the Christmas Spirit.

Sundays, 26th December

NO ADULT FORUM OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 2nd January

NO ADULT FORUM OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

SPEED BUMP by Dave Coverly



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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Can you take a turn to recycle? We need folks who can take home the paper recycling from the sacristy and the office. Businesses do not have access to city recycling at the present time.

Advent Quiet Day

A day of prayer, reflection, and peaceful quiet in God's presence on **December 16th**

Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

Holy Eucharist at 12 noon

Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm

Compline at 8:00 pm

This is an opportunity to take a break from the frantic pace of the world and spend a little intentional time with God. You can attend one, or more services, whatever is helpful for you.

It is designed to allow people who are working to participate.

The church will be open for individual prayer throughout the day.



**TAKE
NOTE**

In past years, some parishioners have included gifts to individual, (e.g. the rector, organist, etc) in the offering. Such gifts are not gifts to St. James and are not designated gifts to charitable organizations such as *People to People, UTO, Habitat for Humanity, etc.* Parishioners who plan to make such gifts should make them directly to the individual and not via the offering. Please contact Stewart Fitz Gibbon if there are any questions.



For those people who don't have a computer and would like to be added to the telephone tree, please call Jill Hockenberry at (330) 988-0209

Women's Christmas Brunch

All women of St. James are invited to the women's Christmas Brunch at the home of Marcy Richard, 1143 Quinby Ave. on Saturday, **Dec. 18th** at 10:00 am. Please bring a dish to share - come even if you don't have time to cook!!

Seasonal Music Concert

On Sunday, Dec. **12th** at St. James at 4:00 pm, Janelle Lentz will present a concert which will include seasonal music. Donations will benefit the Choral Scholars fund.

Scriptorium

(cont. from p.5.)

these changes, but as with technology, creative adaptations to external change seem to have kept most Amish groups distinctive and intact.

Based on years of interviews and careful research, *An Amish Paradox* covers a great deal of ground, including church schism, family life, education, work, and health care. The migration history of Amish groups, the relationships among settlements in different parts of the U. S. and Canada, the biblical basis for many Amish practices, and the influence of evangelical Protestantism on Amish change and diversity could have been discussed more fully. But these are relatively-minor shortcomings. *An Amish Paradox* is a treasure-trove of information, some of which may be new even to the Ohio Amish. It's well-written, readable, and (with the possible exception of the last chapter) accessible to general readers. It's respectful, without romanticizing the Amish or avoiding issues they might prefer not to discuss in public. It deserves to be read by non-Amish residents of Wayne and Holmes counties, not only because it may increase our understanding and appreciation of the cultural diversity around us, but also because it may correct our misconceptions about our plain but not-so-simple neighbors.

Holy Humor

Lot's Wife

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

Good Samaritan

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?"

A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence and said, "I think I'd throw up."

Did Noah Fish?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied Johnny, "How could he, with just two worms!"

Higher Power

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, "We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?"

One child blurted out, "Aces!"

Moses and the Red Sea

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. "Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his Mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

The Lord Is My Shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of everyone, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

Unanswered Prayer

The preacher's 5-year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages, "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.

All Men / All Girls

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, "And all girls." This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. So I asked her, "Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?"

Her response, "Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men!'"

Say a Prayer

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away.

"Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer," said his mother.

"I don't need to," the boy replied.

"Of course, you do," his mother insisted. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house."

"That's at our house," Johnny explained, "But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!"

Birthdays

December

- 2 Erin Brown
Lynn Clayton
- 9 Jane Buxton
- 11 Laura Timothy
- 16 Mimi Moore
- 17 Stewart Fitz Gibbon
- 18 Mike Barnes
Polly Barnes
- 20 Mary Murray
- 23 David Murray Lowery
- 25 Carol Kienzle
- 29 Richard Murray
- 31 Peg Martin

Anniversaries

December

- 6/52 Lowell and Nancy Reynolds
- 13/76 Jack and Betty Martin
- 27/75 Jim and Marcy Richard

Communion can be brought to you at home or in the hospital whether you find you cannot make it to church for two weeks or two months. Please call the office if you would like to arrange for communion.



When you or a member of your family is in the hospital, please let the office know. Due to privacy regulations, the hospital is no longer allowed to give us that information.

The cost for flowers is \$40 plus tax for two arrangements. You are welcome to share dates with another family. If you wish to donate, please sign the calendar in the North Street Entrance. Flowers are ordered by Velda Cross, altar guild directress, from *Com-Patt-ibles*, who sends a bill to the parishioner. If you have special instructions, please indicate it on the calendar or give Velda a call on (330) 345-1416. The flowers are yours to take after the **second** service



The 2011 flower calendar is on the bulletin board at the North Street entrance, if you would like to provide flowers for the Sunday services. You may share dates with other families.

- 5 Howard Funk and Mimi Moore in celebration of children
- 12 Cameron Maneese in memory of loved ones
- 19 Hank and Mary Murray in celebration of Mary's birthday
- 26 Christmas Flowers



If you would like to make donations to People to People and/or for Christmas flowers/Greenery to decorate the church, please fill out the form below and return it to the office no later than December 13th

Given by: _____

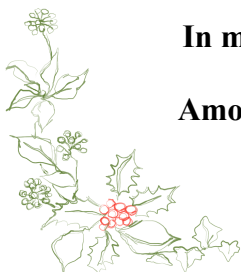
In Thanksgiving for: _____

In memory of: _____

Amount: _____

People-to People: ____

Flowers/Greenery: ____



Christmas Quiz

- What Christmas plant is "Viscum" used to label?
 - Mistletoe
 - Holly
 - Ivy
 - Sage
- "Round yon virgin mother and child."
 - Jingle Bells
 - Silent Night
 - I'll Be Home For Christmas
 - We Three Kings
- What is the name of Scrooge's dead business partner?
 - James Willcot
 - John Mantis
 - Jacob Marley
 - Bob Marley
- "Bearing gifts we traverse afar."
 - Jingle Bells
 - Silent Night
 - I'll Be Home For Christmas
 - We Three Kings
- Which author made the remark, "I gave them for Dinner a Piece of Roast Beef and Plum Puddings – and after dinner half a Pint of strong Beer apiece."?
 - Philip Larkin
 - James Woodforde
 - Samuel Johnson
 - Evelyn Waugh
- "And Heaven and nature sing."
 - Away in a Manger
 - Joy to the World
 - While Shepherds Watched
 - White Christmas
- Who tried to steal Christmas from the "Whos of Whoville" in the 1966 cartoon based on the Dr. Seuss Story?
 - The Grinch
 - The Snowman
 - The Lorex
 - The Whoopee
- "Tis the season to be jolly."
 - Deck the Halls
 - While Shepherds Watched
 - Jingle Bells
 - God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
- What was the film called in which Peter Auty sang *Walking in the Air*?
 - The Grinch
 - The Snowman
 - Santa Claus: The Movie
 - The Nightmare before Christmas



- "God and sinners reconciled."
 - O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - O come All Ye Faithful
 - Hark the Herald Angels
 - The First Noel
- What Christmas food is made from "marsh-whorts"?
 - Stuffing
 - Sweet Potatos
 - Marshmallows
 - Cranberry sauce
- "Disperse the gloomy clouds of night."
 - O Come All Ye Faithful
 - O Come O Come Emmanuel
 - Hark the Herald Angels
 - The First Noel
- In which ocean is Christmas Island?
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Atlantic Ocean
 - Indian Ocean
 - Arctic Ocean
- "Joyful and triumphant."
 - O Come All Ye Faithful
 - Joy to the World
 - Deck the Halls
 - Ave Maria
- Who wrote the poem, "The Cultivation of Christmas Trees"?
 - Paul Thereaux
 - Walt Whitman
 - James Joyce
 - T S Eliot
- "Looked down where he lay."
 - The First Noel
 - Little Town of Bethlehem
 - Joy to the World
 - Away in a Manger
- From which continent is the turkey?
 - South America
 - North America
 - Europe
 - Australia
- "O tidings of comfort and joy."
 - God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
 - The First Noel
 - Ding Dong Merrily on High
 - Away in a Manger
- In which author's novel is it, "always winter but never Christmas"?
 - C S Lewis
 - John Masefield
 - Jacob Marley
 - Sherlock Homes



(Answers at top of Calendar page)

Speaking of Movies

(cont. from p.4.)

and added the speed, the chemicals, and the completely invented characters.

Believing, perhaps, that a dangerous unmanned train wouldn't offer drama enough, the script by Mark Bombback adds personal back-stories that feel like the stock in trade of 1970s disaster films. We are introduced to Frank Barnes (Denzel Washington), a widowed 28-year railroad veteran who adores his two teenage daughters, and Will Colson (Chris Pine) a rookie experiencing difficulties in his marriage. There is tension between some of the old hands ("I don't want to work at a daycare center") and the newcomer ("And I don't want to work in a retirement home"). Railroad executives, seen on the golf course, are remote from the real work and grit of the lines, and a middle-level supervisor (Kevin Dunn) is more concerned with the cost of equipment than with saving lives.

Nevertheless, Scott is savvy enough to keep most of the action focused on the train and the attempts to stop it. And to me there is plenty of eerie power and drama at the sight of that unmanned cabin as the train, "a missile the size of the Chrysler Building," hurtles along the tracks, vaporizing everything in its way. The human beings along the route seem tiny, frail agents confronting this huge unleashed force.

Barnes and Colson are out on a routine run, Barnes showing the newcomer the ropes. "This isn't training," says Barnes when his protégé has hooked on too many cars. "In training, they just give you an F. Out here you get killed." When they learn of the runaway train, they also learn they are on a collision course and have a narrow chance of reaching a siding to avoid colliding head on. From this point the film concentrates on the details and action as Barnes and Colson decide to try to stop the runaway by catching it from behind. The cinematography by Ben Seresin and editing by Robert Duffy and Chris Lebenzon keep the film crisply moving and offers several points of view, including faux television coverage from reporters on the ground and helicopters following the runaway train. Pine and Washington are fine and believable in their parts. People with more knowledge of railroads than I will have to judge all the technical jargon. The actors handle it deftly, and Rosario Dawson is especially good as Connie Hooper, the yardmaster who coordinates the rescue efforts.

This is a film that seizes your attention from the start and doesn't let go until the final resolution. It moves relentlessly from start to finish, and director Scott was wise to keep it in the tight and welcome classic time frame of just over 90 minutes. It is a skillful piece of filmmaking and a spellbinding entertainment.

The Editor's Bit

If, like me, an integral part of your turkey stuffing includes sage, you may have wondered why we use the same word to describe a wise person, or even as an adjective in a phrase such as "He gave some sage advice." Is there some connection between herbs and wisdom?



Sadly not. Although I'd love to be able to spin a fabulous yarn about how some ancient Greek philosopher, famous for advising people, would attribute his knowledge to the regular consumption of sage tea, which lead to the word *sage* becoming synonymous with wisdom, this would be a total fabrication. And tempted as I am to ignore this minor detail on the basis of "never letting the truth get in the way of a good story," in the interest of accuracy I have to reveal that the two meanings of *sage* come from different roots.

The word *sauge* pops up in Middle English as the name for the plant botanists call *salvia officinalis*, and worked its way into our language from Old French *sauge*, which was, in turn, a modified version of the Latin word, *salvia*, meaning "safe" or "healthy." Hence the reason that people even today drink sage tea for medicinal reasons, and why we use a *salve* cream on wounds. *Salvation* also comes from this root.

On the other hand, the word as applied to smart people, also appears in Old French as *saige* but appears to derive ultimately from the Latin *sapere*, which means "to be wise." That's where we get the phrase *Homo sapiens* to describe humans – the wise or thinking man. The word has also been used by hymn writers to refer to the Three Wise Men of the nativity story. In James Montgomery's "Angels from the Realm of Glory" we see the verse;

"Sages leave your contemplation
Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations
Ye have seen His natal star."

There is one other meaning of *sage* that the Oxford English Dictionary recognizes, and that's as an acronym (or bacronym) for a US-Canadian early warning and air defense project developed in the late 50's and called the "semi-automatic ground environment" system. Maybe someone thought it a "wise" decision to create this to keep us all "healthy" and safe. But then again, I'm not sure that the military is full of linguistic classicists.

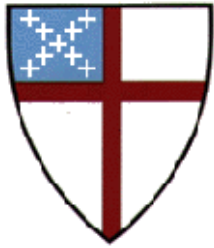
December 2010

Quiz Answers

1a 2b 3c 4d 5b 6a 7a 8a 9b 10c 11d 12b 13c 14a 15d 16d 17b 18a

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:00 am MP 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 pm Bell choir 7:30 pm Choir	2	3 6:00 - 8:00 pm Church Walk	4
5 St. Nicholas Day 8:00 am Worship 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult Forum 10:00 SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee	6 Salvation Army Bell Ringing - Buehler's Downtown	7 9:00 am Unbinding the Gospel	8 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 pm Bell choir 7:30 pm Choir	9 4:30 pm Bridges of Hope Meal	10	11
12 8:00 am Worship 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult Forum 10:00 SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee 4:00 pm Janelle Lentz concert	13 4:00 pm CHT 7:00 Vestry meeting	14	15 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 pm Bell choir 7:30 pm Choir <i>JN Deadline</i>	16 Advent Quiet Day	17	18 10:00 am Women's Christmas Brunch
19 8:00 am Worship 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult Forum 10:00 SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee and Greening of the Church	20	21	22 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 pm Bell choir 7:30 pm Choir	23	24 Christmas Eve 7:00 pm HE 10:30 Christmas music 11:00 HE <i>Office closed</i>	25 Christmas Day 10:00 am HE
26 8:00 am Worship 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee	27	28	29 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study	30	31 10:00 am HE 11:30 Breakfast <i>Office closed</i>	1 New Year's Day 10:00 am HE And Breakfast

The Episcopal Church



St. James Episcopal Church
127 West North Street
Wooster, OH 44691

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What's Happening at St. James

- 3rd Dec. **Downtown Church Walk: 6:00 - 8:00 pm**
- 6th Dec. **Salvation Army Bell Ringing: Downtown Buehler's**
- 16th Dec. **Advent Quiet Day: 8:00 am MP; Noon Holy Eucharist
5:30 pm Evening Prayer: 8:00 pm Compline**
- 24th Dec. **Christmas Eve Service: 7:00 pm
Music and Holy Eucharist: 10:30 pm**
- 25th Dec. **Christmas Day Holy Eucharist: 10:00 am**
- 1st Jan. **Holy Eucharist followed by breakfast at Buehler's: 10:00 am**

December 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2011

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