



Ministry Minutes

January 18, 2026

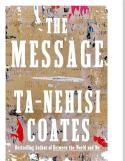
Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself in your journey of faith, you're always WELCOME at St. James'!

Racial Justice & Reconciliation Commission Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.



Guest Speaker -this Sunday, January 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

The Racial Justice & Reconciliation Commission is honored to **welcome Dr. Eliezer "Eli" Hernandez** to coffee hour on January 18. Dr. Hernandez is the President of the Auburn/Cayuga chapter of the NAACP and serves on the board of the Auburn Enlarged City School District. He will speak on the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the NAACP's work to carry Dr. King's



The Message" by Ta-Nehisi Coates will kick off the Spring 2026 season of St. James' Diversity Book Club
Next Sunday, Jan. 18, 12 p.m.-Lakeside Room

Dear St. James',

As we prepare for our Annual Meeting on February 8th, I am looking forward to our time together preparing for the year ahead. I encourage you all to attend, as we will vote on our vestry slate, present our budget, and talk about all the things happening here at St. James'. Saints' in Training will be held directly after the service, so that parents can attend. And we will have a play area set up for younger children. Please mark your calendars! I also want to remind you that if you have not handed in your pledge card yet, there is still time! We are still running a deficit that is too large for us to overcome. The vestry is looking at ways to cut our expenses this year, and we are still accepting any pledges that have not come in yet. I am looking forward to it!
Yours in Christ,
Mother Pilar

Food for Brunch
WANTED for Feb. 8
ONLINE Sign Up or
Contact Laura
Posecznick

Snacks & Treats for
Coffee Hour WANTED
Please drop off in
kitchen. Questions,
contact Laura
Posecznick

If I can not do great things, I can do small things in a great way!-MLK



Auburn's
50th Annual Citywide Celebration
The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**"Dream to Duty:
Protecting Freedom,
Justice, and Democracy"**

JOIN US ON
**MONDAY,
JANUARY 19, 2026**

Harriet Tubman Memorial AME ZION CHURCH
90 Franklin Street, Auburn, NY 13021 | 11:00 AM |

Members of faith-based organizations, community leaders, and friends are invited to join us as we honor the Legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Come and enjoy inspiring words and uplifting music!

Reception to follow
For more information call or text Dr. Rhoda Overstreet-Wilson at 315.816.8529

**Parish Office Closed
for MLK Day
Monday, Jan. 19**

Annual Meeting is
Sunday, Feb. 8
ONE Service 9 a.m.
& Meeting/Brunch
10 a.m.



Did You Know? By Emma Cowley The show Soul Train was groundbreaking in the way it celebrated Black culture, identity, and excellence on national television. At a time when Black Americans were often misrepresented or marginalized in the media, the show offered a powerful counter-narrative. First, Soul Train showcased Black joy, confidence, and creativity. Through music and dance, it highlighted everyday Black people expressing pride in their style, rhythm, and individuality.

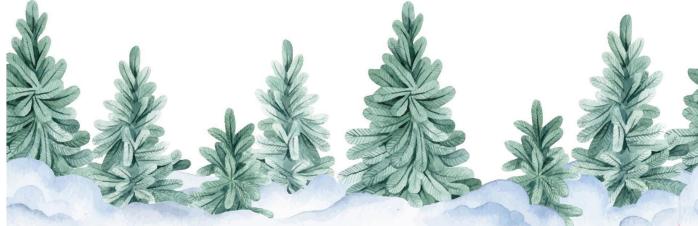
The dancers were not stereotypes—they were trendsetters whose fashion, hair, and moves influenced popular culture worldwide. Second, the show centered Black artists and music. It gave a national platform to Black musicians—especially soul, funk, and later hip-hop artists—allowing them to perform authentically without having to conform to white industry standards. This reinforced the value and richness of Black artistic expression. Third, Soul Train promoted positive self-representation and economic empowerment. Created and hosted by Don Cornelius, a Black entrepreneur, the show demonstrated Black ownership and control in television media. Cornelius's polished presentation challenged racist assumptions and projected professionalism, dignity, and pride. Overall, Soul Train helped normalize positive images of Black America by celebrating culture, talent, and self-expression. It affirmed Black identity on its own terms and played a major role in shaping how Black Americans saw themselves—and how the world saw Black America.



New Pastoral Care Training Starts in March! The pastoral needs of St. James' is immense. One priest can't handle it alone. St. James' has a team of trained volunteers who assist in pastoral care by meeting with sick or in need parishioners to listen and be a loving presence. Two years ago St. James' trained 18 people in a mini pastoral care program, highlighting the most important components to help others. This group reaches out with care to others at St. James and beyond. We are ready to add numbers to our pastoral team and spread more ways to care for others. If you have any interest, please contact Nancy Graham at 315-317-0138.

Volunteers Wanted to Assist with Youth Cooking Classes at Merriman Circle

Starting in January we are going to resume our St. James Cooking Classes on the 3rd Monday of the month at 3:30. In January we are going to make pancakes and some fruit skewers with a Martin Luther King twist. If you would like to join in the fun, set up begins at 2:45-3:00. I will send out another email as we get closer, with the recipes. Please do not hesitate to contact Nancy Lee with any questions. Nancy drives through Skaneateles to Merriman Circle, so let her know if you need a ride. I am looking forward to a very active 2026 with lots of fun times with our Chefs in Training. Questions—Nancy Lee-315-256-8196



2026 St. James' Annual Meeting

The St. James' Episcopal Church will hold its 210th Annual Meeting

on Sunday, February 8, 2025

Time 10 a.m. Parish Hall

There will be only one worship service at 9 a.m. with the Annual Meeting directly following in the Parish Hall. Brunch available during meeting.

Voting for Vestry Candidates Begins at 10 a.m.

The State of the Parish and the 2026 Budget will be presented. Warden and Vestry positions will be voted upon.

Candidates are

Senior Warden: John Devins

Junior Warden: David O'Neill

Vestry: Amy Tuttle (3 year term)

Vestry: Meg Osborne (3 year term)

Vestry: John Spear (3 year term)

Vestry: Molly Spalding (2 year term)

Vestry: Diane Steckel (1 year term)

(Short Biographies will be available soon)

In addition to nominations by the Nominating Committee, nominations may be made by written petition of fifteen (15) "members in good standing" as defined by St. James' By-Laws (see below) The petition must also be signed by the Nominee. Nominations by petition shall be submitted to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (Doug Smith) at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual Meeting, but not more than thirty (30) days prior. (Accordingly, the dates for submitting nominations by petition for 2026 are January 18-31.)

Outreach-Holy Spirit in Action!

Blankets for Meachem Elementary!

St. James' has a long-standing relationship with Syracuse inner city Elementary School Meachem Elementary. These children rely on the school for food, school supplies, books, Christmas toys, etc. We have a request for 125 small throw blankets. The school hands out items to children before February break as home life for some children is very challenging. If you are able to donate a blanket or two, please drop them off outside the parish hall by Feb. 1. Any questions, please see Connie Tuttle or Laura Posecznick.

*Walmart has small blankets on sale for about \$3.

WEEKLY FOOD ITEMS-Gluten Free & Gluten Full



ONE OR TWO SUNDAYS WOULD BE GREAT!

Chris Baker Art Show January 24 & 25 10 a.m. -3 p.m.

St. James' Parish Hall

Parishioner Chris Baker is having a "Moving Art Sale" at St. James'. For over 30 years his amazing work focuses on CNY landscapes. Chris created a masterpiece for the Coopers when they left and his work from his pilgrimage to the Holy Land is on display on the lower level. This is the perfect time to get a one-of-a-kind piece of art for a "steal". Questions, contact Laura Posecznick or Parish Office.

Safe & Warm Ministry Serving the Auburn & local homeless neighbors Safe & Warm Homeless Program

Needs Personal Hygiene Items: FULL size products. The small sample sizes only last for 1 or 2 uses and run out quickly. Full-sized bars of soap • Full-sized shampoo/conditioners • Deodorant • Full-sized toothpaste • Tampons/Pads All donations can be placed in the basket outside the parish hall. Also, just a reminder that each week a team of **volunteers come to St. James' Fridays at 1:15 p.m. to make lunches for over 125 homeless.** Please consider volunteering this amazing ministry! Peanut butter and jelly is always accepted as well to supplement the expenses of this growing need! Questions, please contact Linda Lavery 315-439-8923

January

Food Pantry Needs

Brownie Mix
Cake Mix
Frosting
Hot Chocolate
Vegetable Oil
White Rice
Shampoo
Conditioner
Body Wash

Regular Size Laundry Detergent

Children & Youth Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 21 & 28 -Youth Group
6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 25-Ronald McDonald Service Project & Escape Room Trip-
RSVP Required



InterFaith Works Needs Diaper Donations!

**URGENTLY NEEDED
DIAPERS**

The Center for New Americans Health & Integration Services has an urgent need for disposable diapers and pull-ups. These essential items are provided to families at no cost, but we are currently facing a shortage ahead of our next distribution. Any donation (large or small) can make a meaningful difference.

Thank you for helping us to support our New American neighbors.

**MOST URGENTLY
NEEDED SIZES**
Size 6 Diapers
Size 5 Diapers
4T/5T Pull-Ups

**DROP OFF at St. James'
Bin Outside Parish Hall**

Questions? Contact Jennie Prouty, Community Engagement Manager at jprouty@ifwcny.org or 315.449.3552 x128



SEEKING MORE GREETERS & READERS & SERVERS FOR ALL SERVICES

Mother Pilar is busy training our youth to join in worship however St. James' needs more adults to serve at each Sunday service as well. We are very low. Training is available and even just one Sunday service a month is a huge help.

If you can volunteer to read, usher, or serve as an acolyte, please contact Laura Posecznick (laura@stjamesskan.org) or Nicole Bova (nicole@stjamesskan.org)

If you are currently signed up to participate and haven't been scheduled in a while, please contact Nicole. Nicole can only schedule those who RESPOND or EMAIL their availability.

2026 is the year of Engagement! How can you engage? Thank you for your prayerful consideration.



Message from Nicole Bova, Parish Administrator

Offering Envelopes are located in the rear of the church.

If you can't find yours or wish to obtain some, please call Nicole Bova.

End of the 2025 year statements will be mailed out by Jan. 31. Again, if you have questions please contact Nicole Bova at 315-685-7600 during Parish Office hours of Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. -3 p.m.

Centering Prayer Tuesdays & Fridays
7:45 a.m. Zoom

Dive Deeper Bible Study
Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. Zoom

Service of Compline
Fridays 7 p.m.

Parish Office Open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Mother Pilar Parnell, Rector

Laura Posecznick, Operations & Communications Director

Nicole Bova, Parish Administrator

Sarah Jones, Children, Youth & Family

Nick Kilkenny, Director of Music & Technology



Facebook.com/StJamesSkaneateles
@StJamesSkaneateles



96 E. Genesee Street
Skaneateles, New York 13152
315-685-7600
StJamesSkan.org

Mark Your Calendars

Lent Begins

February 17 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 p.m.

\$5 per person suggested donation

ASH Wednesday February 18

Worship Services

7 a.m. & 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Holy Week

March 29-April 5

Sunday, Mar. 29 (7:15/8:30/10:45 a.m.) Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m. Tenebrae

Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday

Vigil Watch in Nave 8 p.m.-12 p.m.

Sign up will be available-2 people minimum per hour

Friday, April 3, 8 a.m. Good Friday Worship

Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

**Easter Sunday, April 5
9 a.m. & 11 a.m.**



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of Ministry Guide**



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