



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

December 2010

FROM THE



RECTOR

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent, and we began as we always do, with the traditional hymn, "O come, O come, Emmanuel." Or, in ordinary English,

"Come, come, God with us."

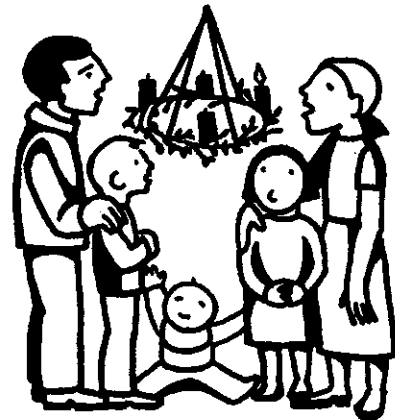
Come, come, God with us. Advent is a time when we prepare once again for the coming of Jesus Christ, who came among us, 2000 years ago. We prepare for his coming in the annual commemoration of his birth, that holy nativity that we celebrate each Christmas. We also prepare for his coming at the end of time, when God will come in glory and power as ruler and judge, and gather all things into the realm of God. And we prepare for his coming among us now, by the Holy Spirit, God moving in our lives and world.

God with us, past, present, and future. Advent is a time of preparation, a time when we can, at least in church, step aside from the business of Christmas preparations and grab a little quietness to reflect on the God who comes among us. During this time, while the carols that play as background music in stores get ever more frenetic, we sing songs that are more reflective, often in a

minor key. When our houses become overrun with gifts and wrapping paper and decorations, our church is bare, with not even the usual flowers. It is a strong contrast with everything else around us, but provides us with a small oasis to escape from the craziness, and get ready in a different way – preparing our hearts and lives for the God who comes among us.

There will be time enough for celebration. On Christmas Eve, our church will be gloriously decorated and glowing with light. The music will be loud and triumphant, and excitement will be in the air. And it will be all the more wonderful, because we will have been able to take the time to prepare, to get ready for the coming of Christ, God with us.

Raeynnet



O come, O come Emmanuel

THE WARDENS' COLUMN

The following was adapted from "The Season of Advent, Anticipation and Hope" by Dennis Bratcher.

I am convinced that one of the main purposes of the incarnation of Jesus was to provide hope. Both the season of Advent and the season of Lent are about hope. It is not just hope for a better day or hope for the lessening of pain and suffering, although that is certainly a significant part of it. It is more about the hope that human existence has meaning and possibility beyond our present experiences.

God's people in the first century wanted Him to come and change their oppressive circumstances, and were angry when those immediate circumstances did not change. But that is a short sighted view of the nature or hope. Our hope cannot be in circumstances, no matter how badly we want them or how important they are to us. The reality of human existence is that God's people experience physical existence in the same way that others do. Christians get sick and die, Christians are victims of violent crimes, and Christians are hurt and killed in traffic accidents, bombings, war, and in some parts of the world, famine.

If our hope is only in our circumstances, as we define them to be good or as we want them to be to make us happy, we will always be disappointed. That is why we hope, not in circumstances, but in God. He has continually, over the span of four thousand years, revealed himself to be a God of newness, of possibility, of redemption, the recovery or transformation of possibility from endings that goes beyond what we can think or even imagine (Eph. 3:2).

Yet, it all begins in the hope that God will come and come again into our world to

reveal himself as a God of newness, of possibility, a God of new things. This time of year we contemplate that hope embodied, incarnated, in a newborn baby, the perfect example of newness, potential, and possibility. During Advent, we should groan and long for that newness with the hope, the expectation, indeed the faith, that God will once again be faithful to see our circumstances, to hear our cries, to know our longings for a better world and a whole life. (Ex 3:7).

My experience tells me that those who have suffered and still hope understand far more about God and about life than those who have not. Maybe that is what hope is about; a way to live, not just to survive, but to live authentically amidst all the problems of life with a Faith that continues to see possibility when there is no present evidence of it, just because God is God.

*Peace and Blessings,
Pat and Chris*

CHRISTMAS AT ST. JAMES

Christmas Eve - December 24

5:30 p.m. Family service with nativity pageant

8:30 p.m. Carols and classical Christmas themes performed by a violin and viola duo.

9:00 p.m. Traditional candlelit Christmas Eve Eucharist with music for the season, followed by drinks at the Rectory

Christmas Day - December 25

10:00 a.m. Christmas Eucharist

Christmas 1 - December 26

9:30 a.m. Lessons and Carols service with
Eucharist
(Please note - 1 service only)

**Be sure to check the monthly calendar for
other seasonal events at St. James*

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC

On Christmas Eve, beginning at 8:30 p.m. the church will be filled with the sounds of carols and classical Christmas themes performed by a violin and viola duo. Our guest artists are Neda Yamach, violinist with the Edmondton Symphony Orchestra and the Alberta Baroque Ensemble, and Alexander Tasopoulos, violist and music teacher, and a recent Master's Degree recipient from the Julliard School. Plan to come early and enjoy the beautiful music before the service.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The annual Christmas luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 12 Noon at O's - Oscar's Restaurant, 522 North Country Road, St. James. The cost of the luncheon is \$30, tax and gratuities included. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to sign up.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING **"Sing for your supper"**

Join with fellow parishioners and friends as we go caroling to those who are shut ins or in local nursing homes. It's tough to be in a facility or homebound, especially at this time of the year. Many voices are needed to provide some Christmas cheer. Children are welcome, too. Please come to carol, with bells, smiles, and dressed in colors of the

season. No special vocal talents are required, just enthusiasm. We will meet in the Webster room at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 19th to car pool. Following the caroling, we will proceed to the Moleti home for supper!

EPIPHANY BRUNCH

Looking ahead, St. James' Epiphany Brunch will be held on Sunday, January 2 following the 9:30 a.m. service.

"MORE THAN WE CAN ASK OR IMAGINE"

The parish of St. James is alive in Christ, and in its goals of "growing in faith", "building relationships", and "serving one another". Over the last few weeks we have answered God's call for financial stewardship, to further His ministries here at St. James, with our annual pledge drive. We are proud to report that to date the parish has pledged \$142,187 for 2011. This includes 5 new pledges and 31 pledges which increased from last year. However, we still need your support. If you haven't made a pledge for 2011, please consider doing so. Your pledge allows the Vestry to plan the mission of the church in the coming year.

We should all be reminded that financial support is only one part of stewardship. As the recent narrative budget showed, it also takes thousands of hours, of our time, and talents to make the ministries here at St. James possible. The parish should be very proud of its work here at St. James. And remember, it is never too late to get involved, or make a pledge!

God calls us to be His stewards. And with God, we can do more than we can ask or imagine.

Faithfully,

*The Stewardship Committee at St. James
Chris Mauro, Jack Schultheis, Duncan
Marshall; Raewynne Whiteley - Rector*

A VIEW FROM THE PEW On Tithing

Until this past Sunday service on November 21, I've been stressed regarding my pledge for 2011. Over the past two months, I've experienced a crushing financial crisis that led me to believe that I would not be able to pledge for 2011. I've contemplated cutting my tithe severely until I recover financially and even thought shamefully about not giving.

Then I experienced the November 21 9:30 a.m. service with guest priest, Father John Madden, who I was so blessed to have as my childhood rector. We wrote our own Thanksgiving prayers for ourselves and our church family. And then, finally, something chiseled the stone encasing my heart for too long and I experienced the Holy Spirit, with graceful gentleness and firm strength, blowing the pieces of stone far away from my heart, so there would be no opportunity for a stray stone to pierce and kill my heart.

From this brief experience above, "how can I not give?" My nuclear family has dwindled to just my sister and I. Therefore, my church family, here at St. James Episcopal, is so very important to me, not just to my soul, but so much more importantly to feed my mind and nourish the Holy Spirit within.

From this experience, "I pledge" to do all I can to maintain my financial tithe and be

open for opportunities for tithing "my" time and talents ("my" refers to the 100% that God has given me).

In reviewing my experience above and being ever so self-doubtful, that this additional new treasure within me would touch other parishioners and prayerfully to motivate them to action. I thought my experience has no connection to others and then I remembered that Father Madden spoke of his recent health crisis and hospitalization with his heart problem and his thankfulness for life. If any of you may still doubt my experience, I don't see how you could doubt Father Madden's sermon connecting to the Holy Spirit within all of us. I would call that a "Godincidence", not a coincidence, wouldn't you?

*Gratefully,
Patricia J. Pawelko*

OUTREACH

The Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry gave out 90 Thanksgiving baskets and turkeys this year. In addition, 2 baskets, fresh fruit, and 12 more turkeys were given to Trinity AME Church in Smithtown. And several turkeys are in the pantry's freezer for the future. Thank you to those parishioners who donated food, to those who helped give out the food before Thanksgiving Day, and to Pat Westlake and Claudette Plaschka for their tireless work for the pantry and the community. Over 100 families had a much nicer Thanksgiving because of you all!

The Bread for the World Annual Fellowship Dinner was held on October 24 in Mills Hall. Thank you to the many St. James parishioners who donated desserts. A check for \$250 was given to BFW from St. James' outreach budget. (All \$2000 has now been distributed from the 2010 outreach

budget.) Thanks go to Sandy Grigoletto for organizing the dinner.

Protestant Campus Ministry has received a 1-year grant of \$10,000 from Episcopal Charities of Long Island. Thank you to the St. James Vestry for co-sponsoring this grant application along with Caroline Church's Vestry. The grant will allow PCM to pay Chaplain Brenda Ford for increased hours from 15 hrs./wk. to 20 hrs./wk. and allow her to have health insurance. Episcopal Charities expects PCM to account for the funds and activities provided, which PCM will do. Follow-up grants of \$4,000 each will be a possibility for the following 2 years. Episcopal Charities wants to see PCM sustain this level of income in the future, so it is very important for local churches like ours to maintain, or better yet increase, our financial commitment to PCM. This ministry is blessed with a very spiritual, committed Chaplain and the students are "catching" her faith example. The Interfaith Center just held their annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner in November and several PCM students attended and participated in the ceremony. An Interfaith Festival of Lights will be held on December 8 at 6pm in the Student Activities Center. If you are near Stony Brook University's campus that evening, stop by. Bring your children. Each faith will have displays, music and activities, maybe even food that represents their religious faith or celebration at this time of year. It is a moving and educational experience.

Habitat for Humanity and St. James Episcopal Church worked together on a house going up in Bellport for Antonia's family on November 19. See Ken LeCluse's report. And check out the great bulletin board in the hallway of Mills Hall for the display Ken and Raewynne put up of our workday. Thanks to all who helped that day!

Pick-a-Star gift selection for our local UCP houses and homebound parishioners was held last week. Thank you to all who picked a star. For our homebound parishioners, the address is on the star and you can deliver your gift whenever it is convenient for you before Christmas. For our developmentally disabled neighbors, please bring the wrapped gift with the star securely attached to church by **Sunday, December 12**. It will help a lot if all gifts come in on time. Santa and parish members will deliver our gifts to the disabled the following week. Thanks to Stephanie Coleman for coordinating Pick-a-Star.

Adopt-a-Family gifts are due back at church, wrapped and tagged with the name of the recipient, on **Sunday, December 5**. See Claudette's article. Thanks to Claudette Plaschka and Donna Guinaw for coordinating our participation in Adopt-a-Family, sponsored by Episcopal Community Services.

Hats for Haiti are hand knitted by members of the Wooly Wednesday knitting group and are available at coffee hour for \$20. Your favorite baby will look adorable and all proceeds will go to the rebuilding work done in Haiti. Thank you to Wooly Wednesday's talented knitters.

- Sue Krall

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Although the complete tally is not yet in, it is estimated that the Sunday school children collected \$50.00 for UNICEF this year. Good job!

Now, as the Advent season is upon us, the children participated in our annual Advent Wreath activity on Sunday, November 28th. The children were provided with directive information and prayers to use their Advent wreaths, as well as an overview explanation of Advent from our curriculum, "Weaving God's Promises."

See our photos on the bulletin board in the Christian Ed building.

Coming up: St. Nicholas Day, December 5.

- Karen Noack

CHRISTIAN FORMATION AND EDUCATION

Keeping Perspective Amidst the Flurry

The six weeks from Thanksgiving through New Year's – "the holiday season" – are often filled with an endless array of shopping, parties, and year-end preparation at work. It is also often a poignant time of remembrance of loved ones no longer with us or the feelings of stress, loneliness, and even indifference. As one author writes, "We sense the deeper meanings of the season but grasp at them in vain; and in the end, all the bustle leaves us frustrated and drained."

At St. James Church, we want to help each other keep balance and perspective during these hectic days. For this reason, we are committed to deliberately creating space in our lives to reflect on the meaning of Jesus' coming into the world, his announcement of the kingdom of God, and his promise to one

day return to bring that kingdom to its full completion.

For this purpose, the C.F. & E. Committee encourages you to participate in one or more of the following activities that will help you stay focused.

- ***Reflections for Advent 2010*** – This booklet of weekly devotional readings and poetry on Advent themes is available in the narthex. To have a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office or Kathy Sides.

- ***Bible Study Groups*** – All three groups will study the opening three chapters of the Gospel of Matthew this month. Attend at the time that works best for you: Tuesday, 10 a.m. in the Webster room; Tuesday evenings in the homes of various members; and Wednesday evenings at the Rectory. Both evening groups meet from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.

- ***Sunday Morning Advent Poetry Reflections*** – On the Sundays of December 5, 12, and 19 (8:55 to 9:20 a.m.), you are invited to between-services gatherings in Mills Hall to read and reflect on the poetry of John Donne, George Herbert, and Gerard Manley Hopkins. For more information, please contact Jack Schultheis.

- ***From the Diocese of Long Island*** – Among the "short courses" offered in the coming months at Mercer School of Theology (Garden City, NY) are these two December offerings (\$25/person each):

Saturday, December 11 (9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

Christmas: Theology, History, and Anthropology

(Registration closes Dec. 6)

Saturday, December 18 (9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

Handel's Messiah: Scripture, Theology, and Music

(Registration closes Dec. 11)

Pre-registration is required at least one week ahead. Call (516) 248-4800 x40 or go to mercerooffice@dioceseli.org. For possible

car pooling, please see a member of the C.F. & E. Committee.

In addition, here are some suggestions of resources you may wish to order for your further reading:

- *Advent and Christmas: Wisdom from G.K. Chesterton* (Liguori Publications, 2007). A very accessible compilation of excerpts from Chesterton's writings, along with prayers and actions.
- *Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas* (Orbis Books, 2001). An excellent collection of 40 essays and poems from theological writers such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Dorothy Day, Madeleine L'Engle, Martin Luther, Kathleen Norris, and Edith Stein.
- *Love Came Down: Anglican Readings for Advent and Christmas* by Christopher L. Webber (Morehouse Publishing, 2002). Daily meditations from sermons, books, poems, and hymns of the most gifted Anglican writers of the past 600 years, with an emphasis on observing Advent as a period of solemnity and hope through serious thought, inner repentance and spiritual preparation.

- *Kathy Sides*

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Just a reminder that gifts are due back on Sunday, December 5, as they have to be delivered on December 9.

- *Claudette Plaschka*

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY

On Friday, November 19th, St. James participated in a Habitat for Humanity work day in Bellport, where Habitat has build over 80 houses, bringing the total for Suffolk County to over 140. The house is being build for Antonia and her daughter, Jenna, for whom we sang "Happy Birthday," as she was celebrating her 16th birthday that day. Antonia is fulfilling her requirements by taking Habitat classes on finance and home maintenance, and putting in her sweat equity on other Habitat houses. She will receive an interest free mortgage, which will be paid back to Habitat at approximately \$800 per month, which includes principal and taxes. The house will also have some solar power, thanks to a LIPA grant.

The work consisted of sheathing exterior walls and decking the roof, as well as interior work on door frames for those who "don't do ladders." By the end of the day, Trisha, the Habitat Construction Supervisor, was elated and all smiles, and remarked: "St. James Episcopal Church should be very proud of themselves." Well, we were!! It is impossible to put into words the "Rocky Mountain High" one feels at the end of a bone-tiring day of construction work.

Thanks go to Les and Joan Bengtson, Chris Mauro, Jack Schultheis and friend, Bud McDonald, Peter Cahill and friend, Stan Burgar, Art Gureck, Dave Luo, Tom LaMano, Jr., his son, Tom III, and friend Sal Coppola (students at Smithtown High School), Brenda Distilli, Sue Krall, Ken and Ruth LeCluse.

- *Ken LeCluse*

ENDOWMENT FUND LAUNCHED
Developing and Supporting Ministry and
Mission through Bequests, Memorials,
and Special Gifts

Earlier this year, St. James Episcopal Church received an undesignated bequest from a local community member who considered our church to be his parish home. Rather than applying this gift to the operating budget, the Vestry fulfilled a long-standing goal of beginning an Endowment Fund to which bequests, memorials, and special gifts of any amount may be added at any time.

By nature, an Endowment Fund is permanent and designed to exist in perpetuity. Therefore, the gifts invested in the Fund are not spent, but a percentage of the earnings, interest, and dividends may be applied to specific purposes that will allow our parish to develop ministries *beyond* what is possible through annual operating funds. In other words, this Fund is not intended to fund ordinary operating expenses, i.e., the Rector's salary, insurance premiums, utilities, etc.; rather it is for the future expansion of our parish's ministry.

Over the summer, the Vestry appointed Donna Austin, Tony Bastin, Joan Bengtson, Joan Mercep, and Kathy Sides to serve on the Endowment Fund Board. Over the past five months, they drafted Endowment Fund policies, which were then reviewed by Diocesan Chancellor, Robert Fardella, and which the Vestry approved at its November meeting. Thank you to this hard-working group!

More information about the Endowment Fund will be available at the Annual Meeting. For the moment, as opportunities arise, we are encouraging all parishioners to keep the Endowment Fund in mind for special gifts and as a meaningful way to

remember a loved one or to recognize a birthday or anniversary.

- Pat Westlake and Chris Mauro

SNOW POLICY

The Vestry has set the following policy in the event of snow:

*If a snow emergency has been declared, all events, including church services, are to be canceled.

*If the Smithtown schools are closed, the church office is closed, and all daytime activities are canceled. Evening activities will take place depending on the weather and road conditions.

*If there is no snow emergency, check your email, or call the church office before heading out.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Jack Matheson on November 19th. Jack and his wife, Jean, were long time members of St. James, who moved down to Springfield, VA several years ago. Jean can be reached at 7416 Spring Valley Drive, Apt. 305, Springfield VA 22150; phone #703-866-3665. Our prayers and sympathies are with Jean and her family.

From Pat Pawelko:

* I am in need of 3 wooden pallets. If you could assist, I would be most grateful.

* If anyone has school age children whose schools participate in collecting can rings and/or boxes for education and/or Campbell's Soup labels, I have a ready and ongoing supply, and would like to contribute to your school district being

being able to obtain educational materials in exchange.

- * Reminder: I have a purple shoe box placed on a coffee table in the C.E. building lobby. This box is to collect materials such as the following: any type of old cards, such as greeting, birthday, anniversary, etc. I can even use those with writing on them; calendars such as those received from charitable organizations (not written on) stickers and address labels from charitable organizations (it's not necessary to cut off the address portion and I dispose of all addresses in a manner that eliminates any possibility of identity theft).
- * I would like to be able to provide and sell healthy homemade breads to the congregation, such as whole wheat variations. I will be donating 20% of my profits to the church.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Grave blanket decorating 5 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 2 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Food addition group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Cloisters trip 9 a.m.
- 5 **Advent 2**
Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.
Advent Reflections 8:55 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday school
- 6 Rector at Tic Toc Café 10 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
C.F.E. meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Bible study 10 a.m.
Christmas Luncheon 12 Noon at O's Restaurant
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 8 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 9 Choir sing in Central Islip Library, followed by rehearsal
- 10 Challenger group Christmas Party in Mills Hall 6:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 12 **Advent 3**
Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.
Advent Reflections 8:55 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday school
- 13 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Finance Committee 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Bible study 10 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 16 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Toastmasters' group 9:30 a.m.
- 19 **Advent 4**
Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.
Advent Reflections 8:55 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday school
Pick-a-Star gift delivery 1 p.m.
Caroling to shut-ins 3 p.m.
- 20 Rector at Tic Toc Café 10 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
- 23 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
- 24 **Christmas Eve**
Family Eucharist with Nativity pageant 5:30 p.m.
Carols and classic Christmas themes - string duo 8:30 p.m.
Holy Eucharist 9:00 p.m.

25 **Christmas Day**
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

26 **Christmas 1**
Service of Lessons & Carols
with Eucharist 9:30 a.m.

27 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.

28 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.

29 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.

31 New Year's Eve - office closed

Mills Hall will be painted this month. We are also planning to do some repair work on the floor and upgrade the lighting.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER
MEMORIALS & THANKSGIVINGS**

Each year, members of the Altar Guild, along with other parishioners, do a beautiful job of decorating our church for the Christmas season. You can share in this by honoring your loved ones as a memorial, give thanks for a special person or significant event in your life, or simply give thanks to God by providing an offering to help defray the cost of the decorations. The names and purpose of the offering will be acknowledged in the bulletins for the Christmas services. Contributions of any amount are appreciated.

You may participate by filling in the form below, enclosing a check (payable to St. James Church) and mailing it to the office, or by using one of the envelopes found in the back of the church and included in the mailed copies of *Open Doors*. Please return your request by Sunday, December 19th, so that it may be included in the bulletins.

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Offering for Christmas Flowers & Greens

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

In thanksgiving for: _____

Amount: _____

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Florence Clark
- Jonathan Luo
- Betty Toop
- Andrew Wiedersum
- Marty Scott
- Julia White
- Robert Bennett
- Kathy Mauro
- Kathy Sides
- Pat Pawelko
- Jade Plaschka
- Bob Scott
- Pat Martinsen
- Les Bengtson
- Laurie Mannix
- Ron Davies
- Donna Wachter

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Willy & Nancy Rasmussen
- Peter & Claudette Plaschka

**ANNUAL MEETING
& ELECTION OF VESTRY**

Nominating Form

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 6, 2011 - the date of our Annual Meeting. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. There will be reports from the Rector and various chairpersons of committees. The annual budget will be presented. The meeting will take place immediately following the 9:30 church service and brunch will be served by members of the Vestry.

The Annual Meeting will include written reports about the various ministries of the parish. **Those responsible for submitting reports for the Annual Meeting must do so by January 29th.** At this meeting nominations will be submitted and elections held for the positions of Warden and Vestry Members. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Vestry Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the positions of Warden, Vestry Members, and Delegate and Alternate to the Diocesan Convention. According to our by-laws there will be three (3) three-year Vestry positions to be filled and one (1) two year Warden position. A Warden may be elected to three (3) two-year terms. A Vestryperson may be elected to two (2) three-year terms. The following positions are open:

- One (1) Warden for a two year term (expiration of Pat Westlake's term)
- Three (3) Vestry persons, each for a three year term (expiration of Karen Noack's, Karen Douglass', and Donna Wachter's terms)

The Vestry will elect (at their February Meeting) one delegate to the Diocesan Convention and his/her alternate for one year. Two youth from our parish may attend the convention but will have no vote.

If you would like to recommend yourself or nominate someone you know please fill out the Nomination Form and return it to Pat Westlake at the Church Office.

Thank you,
Pat Westlake, Chairperson
of the Nominating Committee

I nominate/volunteer _____

_____ to
serve

- _____ as Warden
- _____ as Vestryperson
- _____ as Convention Delegate
- _____ as Youth Delegate

The nominee must:

- *Be Baptized
- *Be at least 18 years of age (except for Youth Delegate)
- *Have a strong personal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and serve the congregation in his name.
- *Be a communicant in good standing and a regular contributor to St. James Episcopal Church for the past year.
- *Be active in the life of the parish and willing to accept leadership positions.
- *Attend monthly Vestry Meetings (Warden & Vestry members)
- *Attend the Vestry Retreat (Warden & Vestry members)
- *(For Warden) Be a confirmed or received communicant of the Episcopal Church

Signature of Person Filling Out Form

Signature of Nominee