

# Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

November 2009

F R O M T H E



Fall is here, and the leaves this year are gorgeous. And with fall comes our annual stewardship campaign. This year, we are doing something new.

Normally, we write to you, asking you to pledge money towards our budget. And when you look at the budget, what you see is items like salaries, insurance, maintenance, office – not very exciting.

But stewardship is about so much more than a line item budget. Stewardship is about the ministry of the church, and the many ways in which we give to do that ministry – with our time, our gifts, and our money.

So, this year, we are offering you a narrative budget. It tells you the story of the ministry of our church, the ways in which people in our congregation are giving through the church to touch the lives of other people, through worship and music, children and youth, parish development, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach and mission.

Whether we give an hour or a dollar, we can see how that fits into the ministry of our church and service of God. And it's exciting to see where God is working among us!

*-Raewynne*

## “MORE THAN WE CAN ASK OR IMAGINE”

The Parish of St. James is alive in Christ, in its Christian ministries of worship, outreach, and fellowship. Over the last few months we have repeatedly listened to the stories of the Old Testament in which God calls his people to act on his behalf. God calls, and provides what is needed for success to those who are faithful.

Last year, we at St. James answered His call by pledging \$142,500. For 2010 our goal is \$171,000. This is the amount to meet the current actual expenses plus inflation for the coming year. This is an **18% increase**. That sounds like a lot, but with an average pledge of \$2,159/yr. in 2009, **this is an average increase of \$7.50/wk. for 2010**. This is what we need to do to answer His call at St. James. **We hope you can do more**, so St. James can do more to further feed the hungry, heal the sick, and spread the good news of the Gospel. Please take a moment during the coming days to generously complete a 2010 Pledge card. Please return it to the church by November 29 (Sunday after Thanksgiving), at which time it will be presented in the offertory.

**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, Ron Tebbutt,  
Raewynne Whiteley, Rector*

## NARRATIVE BUDGET

The Stewardship Committee is in the process of producing a narrative budget. A narrative budget translates our line budget, with entries for salaries, insurance, heating oil, and landscaping, into a document which shows how we spend our resources (Time, Talents, Treasure) on the mission of Christ's Church. Typical areas of ministry are: Worship & Music, Pastoral Care, Outreach & Mission, Sunday School & Youth, Congregational Development, and Fellowship. The narrative is prepared by examining how the time of our staff, and the facilities, are used in each of these areas. A preliminary narrative budget here at St. James would look something like this:

**Worship & Music** (includes Acolytes, LEMs, Altar Guild): \$78,592 (32.5%)  
Est. volunteer hours: 2000

**Pastoral Care** (includes Cemetery): \$54,074 (22.5%)  
Est. volunteer hours: 300

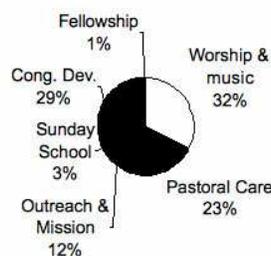
**Outreach & Mission** (includes Diocesan support, Food Pantry, etc.) \$28,115(11.5%)  
Est. volunteer hours: 1000  
Donations outside budget \$1,958  
Pints of blood: 23

**Sunday School & Youth:** \$6,423 (2.5%)  
Est. volunteer hours: 750

**Congregational Development** (includes Adult Ed., Vestry, mailings, fund raisers, to name a few): \$72,054 (30%)  
Est. volunteer hours: 1500+

**Fellowship** (includes coffee hour, brunches, etc.): \$2,990 (1%)  
Est. volunteer hours: Priceless

Treasure



## ST. JAMES VESTRY STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT 2009

**We, the Rector, Wardens, Vestry believe:** ....that all we have are gifts from God. We embrace our Baptismal Covenant to be faithful stewards, and as such we will give a portion of all that we have back to God to support His work at St. James Church, our ministry to the community, the Diocese of Long Island, and indeed, the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world.

**We believe:** ....that as Christians, our gifts to God involve not only our money, but the use of our time and talents to further the work of Jesus Christ.

**We believe:** ....that the Bible teaches us a standard of living, the Tithe (Deuteronomy 14:22-27 and 26:12-14). This includes our pledge to the Church and all other charitable giving. Toward this goal, we will prayerfully consider increasing our pledge towards a tithe to St. James Church.

**We invite:** each member of St. James to join us in responsible stewardship of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us.

## A WORD FROM THE WARDENS

Going into Lowes about three weeks ago you entered a winter wonderland. Christmas trees were up and decorated, electric fireplaces were glowing, “holiday” decorations ready to be purchased. Newspapers are filled with articles discussing how the retailers will do this Christmas (“holiday”) season. Last year the radio stations started 24/7 “holiday” music the week before Thanksgiving. Pretty soon radio, TV, internet, and newspapers will be filled with everything you **need** to buy to make your family and friends merry.

During a Bible study we got into a discussion of Advent and Christmas and what we do to mark the holy purpose of this time. How do we get our family and friends to remember the true meaning? It is so easy to get totally wrapped up in the shopping, parties, cooking, and decorating. What do we do to “keep Christ in Christmas?”

We want to hear what you and your family do to celebrate this holy season. Next month we want to share these ideas by publishing them in *Open Doors*. There will be a committee to decide which of the ideas will be awarded prizes. Email your ideas to [pkings20@optonline.net](mailto:pkings20@optonline.net) or drop them off in the church office. We are serious.

Looking forward to hearing from you,  
*Pat & Jeff*

## ALL SAINTS' DAY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 1

Come join in the celebration of All Saints' Day, November 1 at 5 p.m. Dress as your favorite saint, and bring a potluck dish to share. Be prepared to tell us a little about your saint. Sign up during Sunday coffee hour, or call the office by Friday, October 30 to get on the list.

## AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR AT ST. JAMES CHURCH

On Saturday, November 7, we will be hosting a diverse group of crafts people for a craft fair in Mills Hall. The fair will take place from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and is a good place to start your Christmas gift shopping. Among the crafts represented will be: knit children's and baby sweaters and hats, floral arrangements, paintings on canvas, sterling silver and beaded jewelry, cameo wall plates, antique pin cushions, dry soup mixes, seasonal wreaths, bath products, handpainted piggy banks, woven small bags and tapestries, and pottery. Also for sale will be a limited amount of St. James famous jam, quick breads, and tulip bulbs. We hope to see you there!

- Laurie Mannix

## JOINT THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year, it is St. James turn to host the joint Thanksgiving service with All Souls. It will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 26 at 10 a.m. In a change of tradition, the preacher will be our own Raewynne Whiteley. Music will be provided by All Souls' organist, Daniel Kinney.

## **DISCOVERY TOYS FUNDRAISER**

We will be hosting a Discovery Toys fundraiser during coffee hour on Sunday, November 8. Our educational consultant, Dara Linthwaite, will be setting up a full display of these quality toys, books, and games for children ages birth through 8 to adult. She'll also be on hand to answer questions about the toys and to take your orders.

This is an ideal way to avoid the crowds at the stores while purchasing quality toys for your own children, grandchildren, or special little people in your life. Many of these toys are suitable for those of you who purchase "Pick-a-Star" gifts every year.

Based on the amount of sales, St. James will receive free toys from the Discovery Toys catalog which we will then donate to needy families at Christmas.

Your toy order will be bagged and available for pick up at the church in about 2 -3 weeks. The toys can also be shipped directly to out-of-town recipients for an additional shipping charge, if you prefer. Payment is due at time of order on November 8, but either cash, check, VISA or MasterCard. Tax and shipping are extra. Please call Dara at 476-4844 if you have any questions.

*- Dara Linthwaite*

## **PEOPLE IN THE PEWS**

*This column, the second in our series, profiles our Senior Warden, Pat Westlake.*

### **Tell us about yourself.**

I was born in Brooklyn, and am of English, Irish and German descent. I have a B.A. in History from SUNY Brockport, and an M.A. in Education from Adelphi University. I taught elementary school for 15 years, and middle school for 19 years.

### **First attended St. James.**

My family moved to Smithtown in 1951 and joined St. James. I went to Sunday School, and was Confirmed at St. James.

### **Roles played in the parish:**

Vestry member, Warden for the past 6 years, chaired Stewardship Committee, Altar Guild member, "Jammer," Bible study participant, Executive Coordinator of the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry.

### **What do you like the most about St. James?**

St. James is a real family where people live their faith by caring for and serving others.

**Last book read:** South of Broad by Pat Conroy.

### **Tell us some of your favorites:**

**Movie** - "High Noon"

**Season** - Autumn

**Sports team** - the Mets

**Pastime** - sitting in front of a fire with a book and "my boys" (cats, Gary Cooper and Will Kane)

**Music** - Broadway musicals, and any songs by Bruce Springsteen and Gordon Lightfoot

### **The way to spend a Saturday morning:**

Take a mug of coffee and go to the beach

**If you were to start another career, what might it be?**

Archivist. I once took a great course at the National Archives.

**A verse from Scripture that is especially meaningful to you?**

This is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Et cetera:**

I need to figure out how to visit the 7 states that I have not been to (Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Oklahoma). I camped in almost all of the remaining 43 – in a tent. I earned my bad back!

**HARVEST FESTIVAL REVENUE**

Despite the less than perfect weather, our Harvest Festival was quite successful. Following is the breakdown per table:

	<i>Net profit</i>
Auction*	\$217.00
Baked Goods	\$880.70
Book Nook	\$1554.00 (2 days)
Bottles	\$111.15
Crafts	\$320.00
Children’s Activities	\$33.00
Farmers’ Market	\$492.75
Food/lunch	\$302.09
Gold Elephant	\$800.25
Jams	\$1632.03
Jewelry	\$701.20
Raffle	<u>\$1156.90</u>
	\$8201.07

\*Several of the auction items have been listed on Ebay and Craig’s List, so additional revenue is anticipated.

- Art Strassle  
Festival Treasurer

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

We hold a meeting the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Webster room. There are many things that need to be done and we need able bodies to get them accomplished. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

- Kurt Rettig

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

In early October the Sunday School classes were invited to learn about UNICEF and how they can help other children. “Trick or Treat” collection boxes were distributed for two weeks. We request that the boxes be returned to your child’s Sunday School teacher, or to Karen Noack, by the third Sunday in November (at the latest). Thank you in advance for your participation.

- Karen Noack

**“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”  
Looking ahead to a CF&E Advent Evening of Reflection**

Bring focus and peace into your preparations for Christmas by joining the Christian Formation & Education Committee on Sunday, December 13, 4 to 7 p.m. in Mills Hall for a fun and reflective evening built around the Advent hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” A simple soup supper will be served, the fireplace will be in use, and the smell of coffee, cider, and pine candles will be in the air.

Also during Advent, the three Bible study groups (Tuesday morning, Tuesday evening, and Wednesday evening) will be studying the Old Testament book of Malachi. Newcomers are welcome to join at any time.

- Kathy Sides

**ANNUAL MEETING  
& ELECTION OF VESTRY**

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 7, 2010 - 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 a.m. service, and brunch will be served by members of the Vestry.

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 and one (1) two-year Warden position to be filled. The election will be held during the meeting.

A Warden may be elected to three (3) two-year terms. A Vestryperson may be elected to two (2) three-year terms. Jeff Smith is completing his first term as Warden. Jack Schultheis is completing his second term as Vestry member. Debbie LaMano and Chris Mauro are completing their first terms on Vestry.

The Vestry will elect 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 Jack Schultheis c/o the church office by December 7.

Thank you,  
*Jack Schultheis*  
*Chairperson, Nominating Committee*

**NOMINATION FORM**

I nominate/volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_ to serve:

\_\_\_\_\_ as Warden

\_\_\_\_\_ as Vestryperson

\_\_\_\_\_ as Convention Delegate

The nominee must:

- \* 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 meeting (Warden and Vestry members).
- \* Attend the Vestry retreat (April 16, 17 & 18, 2010 - Warden & Vestry members).
- \* Be a confirmed or received communicant of the Episcopal Church (Warden).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person filling out form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominee

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.  
with Rite XIII ceremony &  
Sunday School  
**All Saints' Celebration & Pot  
Luck Supper** 5 p.m.
- 2 Buildings & Grounds 7 p.m.
- 3 Bible study 10 a.m.  
  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.  
Recovery Group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 5 Yoga class 4:30 p.m.  
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 7 **Autumn Craft Fair** 10 a.m.
- 8 Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with  
Moletti Baptism & Sunday School  
Discovery Toys fundraiser  
**Archdeaconry Pre-Convention  
Meeting** 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Finance Committee 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Bible study 10 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.  
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 11 **Veteran's Day** - office closed  
Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 12 Yoga class 4:30 p.m.  
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 13 **Diocesan Convention**
- 14 " "
- 15 Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with  
Sunday School. Adopt-a-Family  
sign-up.
- 16 C.F.E. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Bible study 10 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.  
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.

- 19 Yoga class 4:30 p.m.  
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 22 Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with  
Sunday School
- 23 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Bible study 10 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.  
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.  
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 26 **Thanksgiving Day**  
Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.
- 27 Office closed
- 28 Toastmasters' club 9:30 a.m.
- 29 **First Sunday in Advent**  
Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.  
Advent wreath making

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Donna Austin  
Eileen Hull  
Robert Bordonaro  
Edna Rousseau  
Carole Peters  
John Euler  
Pat Westlake  
Tony Bastin  
Kristina Euler  
June Davies  
Michael Neyssen

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Chris & Anita Sequino  
Bob & Marty Scott  
James & Edie DeFilippis

