



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR DECEMBER 2009 JANUARY 2010

Happy New (Church) Year! We begin again, in quiet and expectation, defying the world, which has already moved on to Christmas, treating it as a holiday which begins on November 1st and ends at midnight on December 25th. For us, the cycle of time measured by the church begins again, with the cool blue color (known as "Marion blue," to keep Mary's quiet expectation before us), the minor key in our hymns and the invitation to quiet.

The new liturgical year is a new start, and yet so much more than just a chance to begin again. It is a time of reflection on both where we have come from and where we are going. We have come from another year of knowing Christ and making him known. We have moved from the expectation of our last Advent to the pure white of incarnation and showing forth Christ, journeying with him in ministry and miracle through the darkness of death and the glorious light of resurrection. We have celebrated the joy and the scarlet fire of the coming of the Holy Spirit, and settled into the long green season of learning and practicing how to be a disciple. And now we begin again.

How fortunate it is that so many other anniversaries of sorts come together for me at this season. Our 150th Celebration concluded with a visit by the Bishop just a few weeks ago. We have moved from a focus on honoring and celebrating the past ministry and mission of St. James' to looking ahead to our next 150 years as a community focused on the promises made at baptism: to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to work for justice and peace, to break bread together and to pray.

The last Sunday of the liturgical year, celebrated as Christ the King, marks eight years for me as your Rector. As many of you pause to put into words what St. James' means to you (as requested by the Ministry Committee), I find that an easy question to answer.

After spending five years as seminarian and Curate at St. Paul's in Englewood, I knew it was time for me to seek a position as Rector. That frustrating and enlightening search took two years. One church did not call me because I had never been a Rector before (later, they called a man who had never been a Rector before). Another did not choose me despite the fact that I was a perfect fit (according to me!). I withdrew from

consideration in another despite the fact that they thought I was a perfect fit; proving once again that a real relationship of priest and people requires that they fall in love with each other.

I tried not to get my hopes up as I entered into interviews with the search committee of St. James'. I knew I was cooked when I looked at the first question of round one: "What is your personal ministry statement?" referring to the 25-word summary on my Clergy Profile. They could not possibly have known that I had never written one, contending that 25 words were too few to be meaningful. I was also resistant to trying to fit my story into 140 tiny boxes.

However, I passed that and other tests as slowly we courted each other and fell in love. I was not certain I would be chosen, and was afraid to give too much for fear of being rejected. But on the night of my last interview with the Vestry, I left the church and stopped at Quik Chek for a cold drink.

On my way home, I decided to check out the church one more time to see how difficult the decision might be, based on whether deliberations were still going on. As I slowly rolled down Washington Street with my lights off to escape detection, The Mitcham House was dark and the last car was leaving. Ten minutes, max. That was either very good or very bad news.

The rest of the story is clear; it was very good news for all of us. You may not realize that you as a community form me as much as I form you, with vision and relationship. You have come to be devoted to things I love: Education for Ministry, Appalachia, and fruit and yogurt at family breakfast. You have brought your lives (which I did not know) to liturgy (which I know like the back of my own hand). Every time I bless a relationship, bury a beloved family member, or send a teenager off to drive with a prayer, I know that our community is being woven into the body of Christ. We have come to accept each others' unique qualities. I can make a last minute change without one drop of anxiety; you will show up when someone needs help; I am the apostrophe police of St. James'; you are open to new activities and ideas whether you agree with them or not; I will never remember where I left my keys.

Continued on page 2

RECTOR'S LETTER *continued from page 1*

Finally, The Feast of St. Nicholas, December 6th, is the 13th anniversary of my priestly ordination. No matter how difficult or challenging my role as Rector may be, my priestly identity is the ground of my being. I know of no sane person who would take on the job Rector without the deep well of commitment to vocation, and no healthy Rector who does not depend upon it to make the job possible. St. James' is a place where my identity is accepted and nurtured. I am sure that is true for many of you as well.

May we continue our journey together with great joy!

In Christ,

Wardens' Letters on the season

It's hard to believe another Christmas season is already upon us. I hope everyone can take some time to relax and enjoy Advent. Certainly all of us at St. James' need a break after the busy, busy, busy year we have had. Parish Development Weekend was a fun and learning experience. Hopefully, we can use what we learned from each other to make St. James' even more successful. I want to wish everyone a joyous Christmas filled with light and love.

Dawn Modugno
Senior Warden

and a most blessed and happy Christmas birthday to our beloved Senior Warden!

Vestry Hi-lites from November meeting

- ✘ The vestry was asked for feedback for the Finance Committee, which is preparing the annual budget.
- ✘ Peter Saros was present to explain the stewardship process for the coming weekend. Vestry Pledges were offered by members.
- ✘ Vestry members are requested to take some time to reflect on "What St. James' means to me," and write it up for the Ministry Committee.
- ✘ Building Use guidelines were accepted by the Vestry, with great thanks to DJ Hoffman and David Lacouture for their work.

See page 11 for Cathy's reflection on the State of Our Building



Stewardship 2010 If you have not already completed your pledge card, please take a moment to prayerfully consider a pledge to St. James' in 2010. Every pledge (regardless of size) is important to St. James'.

on Parish Development

I understand what the phrase "Parish Development" means, but when Peter Saros starting working with St. James' earlier this year, I wasn't sure how it would be accomplished. How exactly does a church grow and play a more meaningful role in the lives of the congregation? After the recent Parish Development weekend, I think I'm beginning to understand. Two weeks ago, I attended the Friday night session, which was for the group called "the rest of us". As we gathered around, Peter asked us to answer a few simple questions. As we went around the room and everyone answered the questions, I began to see a different side of those in the room. Individuals openly discussed the biggest issues facing them today and I heard many different challenges that people are dealing with; many of which I was not previously aware.

We also heard ideas for what people would like to see at St. James'. Not surprisingly, many of the suggestions address those areas where people are struggling. For example, many people are currently unemployed and there were suggestions for forming an unemployment support group or holding a job fair. Some folks, looking for a respite from today's hectic pace (working, commuting, chauffeuring kids to activities, etc.), decided to plan gatherings for young families, where the parents can socialize while the children are enjoying a separate activity.

So, what did I learn going through this process? I learned that people attend St. James' to worship, but many people would like St. James' to play a bigger part in their life. They are looking for a place to enjoy the fellowship of other parishioners while filling some need. Support groups, book clubs, information seminars and children's activities were just a few of the suggestions. I encourage everyone to help St. James' further develop into a place that meets the needs of the congregation and the community. Don't sit back and assume someone else is going to organize the activities you would like to see. If you have an idea, bring it forward. We'd love to hear it!

Greg Malejko
Junior Warden

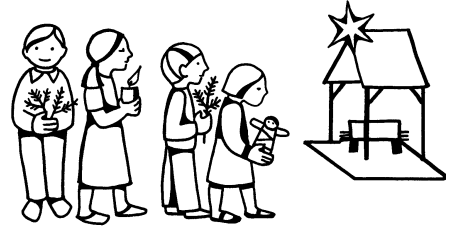
**ST. JAMES' ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2009**

**ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AT 9:00 AM
MEETING AT 10:30 AM**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS
BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE
PARISH BUDGET PRESENTATION**

December and January Dates to Remember

December 6	Family Breakfast • All Invited!
December 6	Christmas Through the Arts • Port Morris UMC • 4:30 PM
December 17	Vestry Meeting • Deats Residence/6:30 PM Dinner • 7:30 PM Meeting
December 20	Giving Tree Gifts Due
December 20	Service of Lessons & Carols • Greening of Church • Wardens' Coffee Hour
December 24	Christmas Eve services see box below
December 24 – 25	Church Office Closed
December 30 - Jan 1	Church Office Closed
January 14 – 19	Church Office Closed • Administrator on Vacation
January 17	Annual Meeting • One Service Only at 9 AM



Advent Evening Prayer

Advent Evening Prayer has begun. This service for the close of day is part of the Daily Office of The Episcopal Church, which includes Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer and Compline (close of day). Our vesper worship is led by our licensed Worship Leaders (formerly known as Layreaders) each night at 6:30 pm, Monday through Friday in the chapel. Advent is the perfect season to try this discipline of prayer, whether you can attend daily, weekly or occasionally. Consider praying with us on your way home from work, or before preparing dinner.

Caroling!

Old-fashioned Christmas caroling: gather at the church at 3 PM on Saturday, December 19th. We will travel to the homes of St. James' parishioners who cannot get to church, then return to the Mitcham House for hot chocolate and cookies. Children especially welcome! We expect to be finished by approximately 5 PM. Please contact the church office to sign up so we can have transportation for all!

stjames214@comcast.net 908.852.3968

Greening of the Church

The Altar Guild cordially invites all members of the congregation to the Greening of the Church on Sunday December 20, 2009 after the Wardens' Coffee. Come for the eggnog and the holiday treats. Come for the fellowship and the schmoozing. Come and help make St James' Church ready to celebrate Our Savior's birth.

Meg Critchley

Confirmation Class for 2010 is forming

Confirmation will be May 8th at Trinity Cathedral in Newark. Classes will begin in February. If you are interested in being Confirmed or Received (especially adults not confirmed in The Episcopal Church) should speak with Cathy Deats, Russ Worthington, or call the office.

Support Your Local Food Pantry

In these hard economic times, the Trinity UMC food pantry has been overwhelmed and needs our donations of food. We will have a collection each month with a "food item of the month." For December and January, please bring in **CEREAL AND PARMALAT MILK**. The collection points are at the Moore St. entrance, the entrance between Mitcham and the sanctuary, and the narthex (entryway of the church). Blue bins are set up in each place. If everyone brings in one item, we can really make a difference each month! We have been at this about a year, and our support is greatly appreciated.

Maintenance Morning Musings

We reluctantly gathered to prepare the buildings for winter... storm doors keep out the cold winds...air conditioner removal lets light back in the Administrator's office...more bulletin boards...gutter cleaning and installation of gutter guards...many thanks to the workers who gave time on a warm fall morning to keep our properties attractive and comfortable!

Christmas Worship Schedule:

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24

- 4:30 PM The Holy Eucharist – especially for families with children
- 7:00 PM The Holy Eucharist
- 11:00 PM The Holy Eucharist – traditional Midnight Mass

All services are choral and each is enhanced by the musical talents of one or more of the following musical groups: St. James' Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Multi-Generational Bell Choir

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25

- The Feast of the Incarnation of our Lord
- 10:00 AM The Holy Eucharist





Sunday School News

As many of you know who have been in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings, the Sunday School students have been busy working on their quilt blocks. After a holiday hiatus, the quilt work will resume and before long something that resembles a quilt will emerge. In November, the students worked hard on filling the bags with donated food for needy families and then made Advent wreaths to take home and to also give to parish members who are not able to attend church. The spirit of giving is alive and well in our children of St. James'.

In Mid-November, I attended a Christian Education workshop sponsored by the diocese and found it both practically helpful and re-energizing. The networking and sharing of ideas was a bonus and I hope to plan a field trip to a nearby church when they present a special project in the Spring.

Advent lessons will continue through this month and we will resume classes on January 10th, 2010!

Wishing you and yours a most beautiful Christmas season.

Kathy Lacouture

DECEMBER calendar

- December 6 FAMILY SUNDAY-Children in Church,-afternoon program in Port Morris
- December 13 CLASS - Advent Lessons
- December 20 CLASS-Food sorting of donated food
- December 27 NO CLASS

JANUARY Calendar:

- January 3 FAMILY SUNDAY-Children in church
- January 10 CLASS-Epiphany Lesson
- January 17 CLASS-Church Calendar
- January 24 CLASS-Saint Lesson
- January 31 CLASS-The Light

Youth Group

Youth group attended the Bishop's visit in November and met once in November for a class led by Ed Modugno Jr. We will meet on December 13th for our Christmas party and game.

Youth group includes all youth grades 6-12 and meets on the second and fourth Sunday of the month during the 10 o'clock service. New members are always welcome. Questions: *Dawn Modugno or Lori Pursel.*

A special thanks to Justin Simmons for his help on Stewardship weekend serving at the Senior luncheon and a special thanks to Isaac Quelly for his help with the children during the young families event.



The Kings are brought to the stable.

Prayer for lighting the Advent candles:

O God,
As light comes from this candle,
may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us,
warming our hearts and
brightening our way.
May Christ our Savior bring life
into the darkness of this world,
and to us, as we wait for his coming.
Amen

Veteran's Day Service of Remembrance

On November 8th, St. James' continued our tradition of reading the names of US Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and us. The reading of more than 5200 names took 7 hours, which included a prayer that was said between each segment. Many thanks to those who read the names and those who were there to offer their support.

A special thanks to Russ Worthington who spent many, many hours preparing the names and the program for the service, to the American Legion from whom we borrowed the helmet and rifle, and to the American Legion Women's Auxiliary for their donation of flowers.



We continue to read the names of fallen US Soldiers each Sunday and hold them, their families and loved ones in our prayers. The list of names can be found in the Lady Chapel and is updated each week.

Barbara White

Parish Life Highlights

- ⌚ Sunday School will again make "College Cheer" packages
- ⌚ Fifth Sunday: January 31st will feature Praise Music and Rite III Eucharist
- ⌚ 30 Hour Famine – February 20-21

Parish Life is a great place to bring new ideas and offerings of your talents – next meeting is **Wednesday, January 27 at 7:30 pm**, when we plan the next season, Lent and Easter, Ash Wednesday (February 17) through the Feast of Pentecost (May 23).

Episcopal Appalachian Ministries (EAM)

Work Camp 2010 St. James' will have six slots for the work camp to be held July 31 - August 7. It is not too early to plan your summer and reserve your space. Young people who are age 15 or a rising 10th grader. Please contact the Rector at cathydeats@comcast.net or 908.850.4549.

Senior Choir News

Ah Advent! A season for slowing down and preparing ourselves for God's coming to us in human form. But . . . the choir is busier than ever! The Advent and Christmas season bring lots of music. so we've been working on Advent music for several weeks now! But it's not too late to join the choir for Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 20 at 10 am and/or for our Christmas Eve services at 7 pm and 11 pm. The Advent Lessons and Carols service is sung downstairs instead of from the balcony and the Christmas Eve anthem will also be sung downstairs. So if anyone would like to join us for either or both of those musical offerings, please just start coming to Thursday evening rehearsals at 7:30 pm! It's that easy!

Youth Choir News

Our Youth Choir has been doing a super job practicing their piece for the annual Story of the Nativity Through the Arts performance on Sunday, December 6 (today!). The performance will be at 4:30 at the Port Morris United Methodist Church in Stanhope. They will also sing the piece at the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Children's service. If you've never been to this event, you really should take the time out of the hustle and bustle of Christmas shopping to attend this performance. Elsie Walker writes a lovely narration that tells the story of the Nativity and what it means to us. Each part of the story is enhanced by a choral piece, an instrumental piece, drama, mime, dance, or a tableau. All this is presented by members of several congregations of different denominations and all ages.

Service of Lessons and Carols at St Luke's Episcopal Church

If December 6 is not available for you, there is another opportunity to hear some wonderful music and listen to a traditional Lessons and Carols service based on the famous service from King's College of Cambridge University. This service will be held at St Luke's Episcopal Church in Montclair and our Bell Choir will once again be performing as part of the prelude music. They will also be accompanying the Processional piece. Both Russ Worthington and I will also be singing in the St Luke's choir. The service starts at 5 pm and lasts just an hour. There is a very yummy soup and sandwich light supper provided for all afterwards.

Our own service of nine Lessons and Carols on December 20 at the 10 am service will feature lessons and music specific to Advent. There will be choir anthems and congregational Advent carols.

Will you be listening for the coming of the King?

Pam Laura

Music Director

Bell Choir "Notes"

December will be a busy month for the St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir.

- On Sunday, December 6, the Bell Choir will play an Advent piece, *Prepare the Way, O Zion*, during the 10:00 worship service
- On Sunday, December 6, the Bell Choir will participate in the annual Christmas through the Arts program at the Port Morris United Methodist Church. The Youth Choir and the St. James' players will also be participating. The program begins at 4:30 p.m. It offers a relaxing time when those in attendance can focus on the reason for the season. Why not make this part of your Christmas preparations?
- On Sunday, December 13, the Bell Choir will participate in the Service of Lessons and Carols at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Montclair. This service begins at 5:00 p.m. Why not join us for a service of readings from Genesis through Luke with wonderful music interspersed? Again, this offers a wonderful way to relax and reflect in the busy Advent season.
- On Christmas Eve, the Bell Choir will participate in the 4:30 and 7:00 services.

We hope that our contributions during the Advent and Christmas seasons add to the worship experience of the congregation.

During January the choir will be preparing music for the last Sunday of the Epiphany.

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Louise Olshan

Bell Choir Director

GoodSearch Pays Off!

GoodSearch, the search engine which donates 50 percent of its revenue to the charities and schools designated by its users, has been the search engine of choice for several of us here at St. James' for the past fifteen months. Recently we received a check for \$68.62 for a year's worth of searches. This is the result of 6,862 searches, normal operation by folks, which benefits us. It is like ShopRite cards – costs nothing to the user, benefits the church!

If you think \$68.62 is not much, consider this: if 100 people do an average of 2 searches per day, it means \$730 per year! Get on board with GoodSearch! Go to www.goodsearch.com.



We wish you a merry Christmas

Meet Carol Sumner

Carol Sumner was born and grew up in Dunkirk, NY, which is on Lake Erie. She attended school for eight years in a 2-room schoolhouse, being the only girl in her grade. Carol started taking piano lessons when she was four. Her family owned a seed and landscape business and orchards. She was a Brownie and a Girl Scout.

In Fredonia High School, Carol was in the Girl's Glee Club as well as an accompanist for the Junior Choir. She attended SUNY Fredonia, graduating with a degree in Musical Education. She then taught music in Kenmore, NY.

Carol has four children, two sons and two daughters. When her children were older, she went back to work as an Avon Representative (she had ruptured her vocal chords and could no longer teach). She then became a manager and was in the Avon Circle of Excellence for three years. As a result, she was awarded a trip to Spain! She moved to Westchester, NY to become a Manager of District Managers for Avon and later worked for the city of Westchester.



When Carol's daughter, Donna, was attending Fordham University, Donna became friends with Ed Sumner's daughter Mary. Carol and Ed were introduced and began dating. They were married December 30, 1995.

Unfortunately, Carol lost her daughter Donna to breast cancer seven years ago.

Carol and Ed moved from Flemington to Heath Village. They have been a part of St. James' for about a year and a half. Carol is a Lay Eucharist Minister at St. James' as well as at Heath Village. She also volunteers at the gift shop. She has two plots at the Heath Village community gardens and grows vegetables and flowers. It's in her blood!

Did you know that Carol loves Country Western dancing? She not only taught it, but she won competitions! Ask her to show you a few steps!

Roving Reporter Barbara Olesen



Fundraising News

We are winding down; another year of fundraising is just about over. We added a couple of new items to our efforts this year, the Yankee Candle sale, Lia Sophia jewelry, shirts, Scentsy Candles and of course the golf outing.

We raised a little over \$9500.00.

Once again, we must thank you for your unending support; you did a great job. Thanks to all who come out and support us, thanks to all the volunteers that help make these events successful. Without your support, we could not do this.

At our tricky tray, we conducted a little survey to see what the folks thought about our event. We are putting a survey together for you. We want to know what you think! We would truly appreciate it if you would take a couple of minutes to complete and return the survey. We want you to tell us what you liked or did not like about our fundraising program. The survey will be emailed to you and will also be available in the parish hall.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful Christmas, filled with the joy of family and loved ones and God's Blessings.

Barbara White

Undercover Angels

- ☺ Greg Malejko replaced a landscape plant which did not make it with an ornamental grass plant from his own home "nursery."
- ☺ Roberta Brandt held a Longaberger fundraiser in November; monies raised TBA!
- ☺ Nicole Keane held a Lia Sophia fundraiser which yielded \$122.20 for the church.
- ☺ Eileen Malejko made a gourmet meal for the seniors' luncheon of the Parish Development weekend.
- ☺ Peter Quelly installed cabinets in the kitchen (in addition to getting a very good deal from the company he works for!).
- ☺ Roberta Brandt - for the design and gift of the new flower arrangements in the Great Hall.

(remember, anyone can report an undercover angel!)

St. James' Journal Announcement

In 2010, the Journal will be available by email if you would like to receive your copy in that format instead of a hard copy.

Watch for sign up information about direct delivery.

Phyllis Heistand, Editor



Parish Development Weekend

WHAT A BUSY WEEKEND! We had wine and cheese on Friday for the “rest of us”, lunch on Saturday for the seniors and Mac n Cheese dinner Saturday night for young families. The transformation of the parish hall for these three events was amazing. It was great to be in that space with the freedom to arrange and rearrange as needed.

For lunch, we had white linen tablecloths and centerpieces. We used the good china from upstairs in the attic (thanks Eileen). Afterwards, we replaced the linen with plastic party tablecloths and the centerpieces with balloons for the kids. We had a clown to entertain the children with dancing, face painting and balloon animals. We followed that with ice cream sundaes. We had a wonderful night. I mean the kids, of course.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT WEEKEND – WHAT A FEAST OF ENERGY! The leaders of St. James’, both Vestry and Parish Development coordinators, were blown away (though not really surprised) at the way our community members responded to our events. 80 of you attended at least one event – an incredible turnout according to Peter Saros, our consultant and guide. You shared the concerns of your daily lives, as Peter asked, “What do you do when you’re not at church? What are the issues you are facing

It was reassuring to hear that most of us are dealing with the same types of issues, to know that we are not alone in our struggles. That we can come together to support one another and that we all share a love for the community of St. James’ and find it a place where we find respect, compassion, honesty, spiritual fulfillment and friends.

It was a weekend of fellowship, sharing of concerns and ideas and some planning for future events. I am excited about where we are going and look forward to our future together.

Barbara White

in your life?” This information will be used by Vestry and the Parish Development Committees to plan future ministry. More importantly, we are prepared to support the activities that will help you in your lives, and will give you the tools to do so. We are so blessed by your willingness to share your lives with us, and we loved listening to you. Check out the notes to see what we heard.

Cathy

The Rest of Us on Friday evening, November 20th

Twenty-seven attended.

The biggest issues facing members of this group:

Employment ✓ ✓, household, time ✓ ✓, time management ✓, job stress ✓ ✓ ✓ and job pressure, next steps ✓, volunteering, transition, life changes, tragedy, wife in hospice, finances, son, empty nest, elderly, health, how to survive pre-retirement, older teens, spouse Roman Catholic; balance, where next, accomplishment in retirement (having time), job finances, aging parent.

What keeps you coming here to St. James’; what do we do well?

Spirit, family, great place for my son to thrive, warmth, comfort, honesty, welcoming, openness, energy, compassion, non-judgmental, good people, sense of humor, faith, generous, respect, liturgy, mission / ministry, the past, peace, the future, dedicated priest, community, priest welcomes new ideas, reverence and respect, no façade, family / history.

Considering the issues you have and what St. James’ does well, how can we grow the church? What would you like it to do?

Prioritize, job fairs, budgeting class, single parent households, support group – unemployment, children – something, feed spiritual growth – book study, dinners – invite friends, have fun, discussion of struggles.

Senior Luncheon on Saturday, November 21st

Twenty attended.

The biggest issues facing members of this group:

No car, keeping up with everything, family health ✓, husband in nursing home, finances ✓, being grandmother and grandfather to grandchildren, living too long, transition into retirement, job demands, none, missing previous congregation, unemployed family members, time and energy demands, stewardship development, children, surviving with joy, high school and future education.



Continued on next page

What keeps you coming here to St. James'; what do we do well?

Accessibility, familiarity, commitment, love it here, love priest, born Episcopalian, spiritual energy, spiritual home, friendly community, outreach, tradition, warmth, good leaders, music.

Considering the issues you have and what St. James' does well, how can we grow the church? What would you like it to do?

Pay debt, communicate total accessibility, support for seniors, Bible study, book discussion.

Young Families program on Saturday evening, November 21st

Twenty-three attended.

The biggest issues facing members of this group:

Getting ahead, staying afloat, craziness of the world, support, complex life, a lot to handle, new career path, H1N1, balance of work and family, finances, kids, learning to be a father, be a better person and husband, juggle career, being mom and wife, 3 kids, economy.

What keeps you coming here to St. James'; what do we do well?

Sunday School, acceptance, non-judgmental, priest, home, the peace, hugs, places to be plugged in, EfM, community, non-discriminatory, mission trip, St. James' has character, history, old people, open to new ideas, ways of doing things, activities, food, music.

Considering the issues you have and what St. James' does well, how can we grow the church? What would you like it to do?

Youth group enhanced, children's choir expanded, involving children in worship, family run service, maybe in conjunction with family breakfast, peer group support for young families, health insurance information, quiet before church, counseling, workshop / support group, movie night.

[A plan emerged for more gatherings like this one, coordinated by Jewels Quelly and Brian Nolan. Plans for young families gathering with activity for children and social meeting for parents, with informal supper a shared cost.]

Major roles in providing all three events were played by Barbara White, Eileen Malejko, Dawn Modugno, and Linda Murray, as well as great kitchen support by Diana Grant and Justin Simmons. *Thank you!!*

**Golden Cauliflower Soup**

By popular request, the soup served at the Senior Luncheon

Ingredients:

2 (10 ounce) packages frozen cauliflower or 1 small head fresh cauliflower, separated into small flowerets (about 4 cups)
2 cups water
½ cup chopped onion
1/3 cup margarine or butter
1/3 to ½ cup unsifted flour
2 cups milk
1 tablespoon chicken flavor instant bullion or 3 bullion cubes
2 cups (8 ounces) shredded extra sharp cheddar cheese
1/8 to ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg and parsley

Directions:

In medium saucepan, cook cauliflower in 1-cup water until tender. Reserve 1-cup cooked flowerets. In blender or food processor blend remaining cauliflower and liquid; set aside. In large heavy saucepan, cook onion in margarine until tender; stir in flour. Gradually add remaining 1-cup water, milk and bouillon; cook and stir until well blended and slight thickened. Add cheese, pureed cauliflower, reserve flowerets and nutmeg; cook and stir until cheese melts and mixture is hot (do not boil). Garnish with parsley. Refrigerate leftovers.

from the kitchen of Eileen Malejko



Feast of St. James' Murder Mystery Party November 7

L to R: Last minute instructions; Cathy's twin sister messes up blessing; Eileen introduces OG; Modugno's out as contractor; OG and Cathy's twin; something's wrong with her; taken to hospital; wardens announce dinner; Dr. DJ says Cathy's been poisoned, conducts reenactment of the crime; Cathy's spirit appears; OG reveals his accomplice, Phyllis's separated-at-birth twin sister! Pete Hurak, the mystery's mastermind; Brian the photographer; Global St. James' model and Marge Ames the mystery's Super Sleuth.

Pictures from the Bishop's Visit



Senior Luncheon

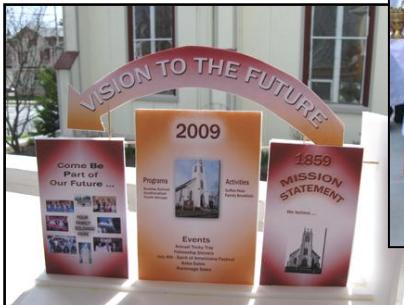


Bishop Beckwith with Daniel and Hayden

Combined Thanksgiving Choir with House of the Good Shepherd



"Looking back over the past year, what an awesome amount of work we have done!"



The State of the Building

Last year at this time, we were reporting that the cold interior upper level of the Parish Hall was being framed in preparation for the work of electrician and plumber. We progressed through that work and moved on to inspections, insulation, sheetrock and the HVAC unit which provided heat and air conditioning. Later in the spring, we painted and finish framing for windows and doors (as well as windows and doors!) was installed. The floor went in as knees and backs went out (more sweat equity). Although our elevator was not ready for the Dedication on our 150th anniversary on April 26th, it was certified soon afterward. We have been thoroughly enjoying our new space since then, even as we move along with the finishing touches (sound baffles and closets) and move on in earnest to the kitchen. Looking back over the past year, what an awesome amount of work we have done!

Cathy

Cathy reads a Proclamation of Appreciation to Dawn and Ed and Modugno Carpentry . . . for all they have done to make the Open Doors Parish Hall Dedication a reality.

"We have been thoroughly enjoying our new space since then . . . "



**With thanksgiving,
the people of St. James'**

Inside St. James' December & January Journal

Rectors Letter • Wardens' Words
Upcoming Events
Sunday School • Youth Group
Parish Life
Singing Choirs • Choir News
Roving Reporter meets Carol
Fundraising News
Undercover Angels
Parish Development Weekend
Weekend's Questions and Responses
Mystery Party Pictures
Bishop's Visit Pictures and more
A Look Back at 2009
December and January Calendars

St James' Staff & Vestry

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Cathy L. Deats
Deacon The Rev. Sheila Shuford
Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Sr. Warden: Dawn Modugno
Jr. Warden: Greg Malejko
Treasurer: Penn Pixley
Parish Administrator: Linda Murray
Music Director: Pam Laura
Organist: Louise Olshan
Sexton: Pauline Volkert

Vestry:

Richard Ames	Ron Cipriani
Paula Van Clef	DJ Hoffman
David Lacouture	Brian Nolan
Martha Travostino	Barbara White
Russ Worthington	

