

Saint James' Episcopal Church

"Enter as strangers, leave as friends."

THE EPISTLE

From the Rector

The time has arrived! In this new year Saint James' Episcopal Church will undertake an exciting challenge. On January 15th Saint James' will kick-off a \$200,000 capital campaign. We begin this endeavor for two reasons. First, we hope to pay off the loan for the lumberyard property. Second, we plan to make improvements to the property to make it more useful to our members, more welcoming to visitors, and more attractive to the community

Last year we participated in a core values, mission, and vision process. In order to maintain our historical presence in the community and be a welcoming worship community we identified paying off the lumberyard as our number one goal, and improving and expanding facilities as our second. Since then the Vestry and a capital campaign committee have been hard at work organizing a campaign to pay off the lumberyard note and make those improvements to the property. Saint James' purchased the lumberyard property in 2000 with a loan from the Episcopal Diocese of Texas's Quinn Foundation. This, as I have been told, was not an easy decision for the congregation to make. It generated great soul-searching and debate, but ultimately the congregation stepped out in faith, and with the help of the Quinn Foundation, purchased the property.

The lumberyard note is due in the fall of 2010. Paying off the lumberyard debt will free up resources in our budget for ministry at Saint James' and in the community. Saint James' has faithfully paid the principal and interest for almost a decade. In our 2008 budget principal and interest payments accounted for \$12,373 of our approximately \$200,000 budget. Our operating budget consists primarily of staff salaries, fixed costs related to maintaining the property, and our membership in the Diocese of Texas. \$12,373 is money that can be dedicated to other ministry activities. With improvements made to the church property shoppers at the newly expanded and renovated HEB may be attracted by our more inviting and welcoming parking area. Any money left over after the debt has been paid and the parking area constructed will be given to the Saint James' Endowment.

The campaign will kick off with a party on January 15, 2009 in the Corvel Chapel at Luther Hill Ministries. Everyone is invited to the party to celebrate this great and exciting event in the life of Saint James' Episcopal Church.

Daryl Hay

Special Note of Thanks

Terri and I are very grateful for all the gifts and encouragement we received at the Men's Club Christmas party and afterwards. We are very blessed to be a part of this church family.

Meetings

Saint James' Annual Parish Meeting - Join us after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, January 10th in the Parish Hall. The 2009 budget will be presented along with individual ministry reports. Before the meeting, we will enjoy food and fellowship. Everyone is invited!

Daughters of the King will meet on Monday, January 11th at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will meet on Thursday, January 14th at noon in the Parish Hall. The lunch will be catered, therefore, please RSVP to Jerri Frenzel at 979-247-5054 or via e-mail at jsfrenzel@yahoo.com.

Men's Club will meet on Monday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m. at The Swiss Alp Grill with Bill Rogers and Terry Eastin hosting.

The Saint James' Vestry will meet on Thursday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Endowment Committee will meet on Thursday, January 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Saint James' Preschool will meet on Tuesday, January 19th at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Special Worship Services

Feast of the Epiphany: Holy Eucharist Rite One - Wed. January 6th at noon.

Healing Service - Wednesday, January 27th at 5:30 p.m.

Children & Youth Ministry

Sunday School - for children ages 12 & under, meet on Sundays from 9:30 - 10:15 am. Please call Susannah Schorlemer at 713-724-0431 if you would like to provide snacks or volunteer in the classroom. Class resumes on January 10th after the Christmas holidays.

The Episcopal-Presbyterian Youth Community (EPYC) for youth ages 13 & up, meet on Sundays at 5:00 pm at the church. Class resumes on January 10th after the Christmas holidays.

Vision Goals

Pay off the Lumberyard debt **Improve** and expand church facilities
Increase number of young families **Increase** Christian education opportunities
Engage in more hands on ministry

Saint James' Episcopal Preschool

Welcome to the New Year! Preschool resumes on Tuesday, January 5th and I know children and parents alike will be ready for school to start again. This month's Themes and Bible Stories are: Things That are Cold; Bears; Bedtime; Zoo Animals; Epiphany Season/Three Kings; Jesus Calls the Disciples; Jesus Heals the Sick; Jesus and Zaccheaus. This month on Sunday, January 31st Day School Sunday will be held at St. James Episcopal Church. Hopefully, you will get to meet the little students and their families who are enrolled at our preschool! I also wanted to thank Beverly Johnson for allowing the preschoolers to enjoy her llamas on December 16th, the children loved the experience! January will be busy for our little ones....and we need to think of pre-registration for our upcoming school year...spread the word of our great preschool. Also, around the corner will be our annual Spaghetti Supper fundraiser....we will need a lot of volunteers this year so be thinking on that too. Blessings to all!

Lana Swearingen, Preschool Director



The St. James' Preschool enjoyed a visit from the llamas!

Our Core Values

Worship...creating a prayerful environment that touches every heart and enriches every soul.

Fellowship...providing social and spiritual interactivity, sharing the peace and love of Jesus Christ beyond the doors of our church.

Service...doing God's work in our community and the world.

Historical Presence...celebrating over 150 years of the Anglican tradition in our community and creating the spiritual foundation and means to ensure the future of our parish family.

Church Family...sharing a place where each individual's thread of life is welcomed to be woven into His Tapestry.

ANNIVERSARIES

01/05 Dianna & Ken Berg
01/16 Mary & Larry Kahanek
01/28 Suzanne & Alfred Artz



01/03	Justin Jones	01/18	Joanna Walker
01/04	Dan Johnson	01/21	Mike Walker
01/08	Ben Schrader	01/25	Marta Schrader
01/09	Donna Jones	01/26	John Bradley
01/13	Martha Hamel	01/27	Bettye Allen
01/13	Mike Turner	01/28	Sandy Northrup
01/16	Cindy McMahon	01/29	Mary Northrup
01/18	Dianne James	01/31	Danny Zitterich

Outreach

Men's Cook - Saturday, January 9th from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. benefiting Saint James' Episcopal Church. Half chicken is \$3 and sausage link is \$4. Drive thru plates only.

Second Chance Emporium - volunteers from Saint James' are needed for clean-up on Monday, January 4th. Saint James' next scheduled week to work will be February 9th - 12th with clean up on Monday, February 15th. More volunteers needed in 2010! Your support is greatly appreciated!

A.M.E.N. Sunday - is January 3rd. Suggestions for the month: Canned / Boxed Soup - Mushroom, Tomato, Chicken (Noodle, Rice, etc.) Saint James' is next scheduled to volunteer at AMEN on February 15, 16, & 18th.

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to be a welcoming worship community where God's presence is felt and from which we are sent to proclaim Christ's love and serve others.

Upcoming Events

Capital Campaign Kick-Off Party
Friday, January 15, 2010
Carby Chapel, at Luther Hill Ministries
Special musical entertainment at 5:00 p.m.
Short presentation at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Child care is available

You are cordially invited to the ordination of Douglas Norman Lasiter, Jr. to The Sacred Order of Priests on January 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Ascension Episcopal Church located at 2525 Seagler Road, Houston, Texas .

Annual Parish Meeting - Join us after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, January 10th in the Parish Hall. The 2009 budget will be presented along with individual ministry reports. Calendars and Parish Directories will be given out at this meeting. Before the meeting, we will enjoy food and fellowship. Everyone is invited to attend.

Supper Club

No Supper Club in January - Due to the number of meetings and events in January, there is not a Supper Club evening planned for this month. Mary and Larry Kahanek look forward to seeing you on February 5th so mark your calendar! Please check out the sign up sheet posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board if you would like to host or co-host a Supper Club evening in the upcoming year - there are still months available in 2010.

Church Office Hours are Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Closed Fridays)

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 18th
in observance of
Martin Luther King Day.