

Saint James' Episcopal Church

"Enter as strangers, leave as friends."

THE EPISTLE

During the season of Epiphany we celebrate the many occasions Christ was made manifest: the star leading the Wise Men to Bethlehem, his baptism in the River Jordan and the descent of the Holy Spirit, the Transfiguration, and other acts that revealed him as God's Son. It is also a time to reflect upon how God has acted in our lives. Looking back on the last year God has been with us.

As you know we completed a successful capital campaign to pay off the balance of the lumberyard property loan. We raised over \$200,000 in pledges and have received nearly \$150,000 enabling to pay the balance and to burn the note.

The vestry approved the project of painting the church. That work began in the summer and was completed after a couple of months of work. The church looks wonderful and we have received many compliments from members of the community.

While these two projects were underway we still continued offering an outstanding worship experience due to the hard work of our choir, altar guild, and other worship ministries. We enjoyed time together at the Supper Clubs. We continued our support of AMEN and Second Chance Emporium, and the other organizations through which members of Saint James' serve in our community. For all of this I give thanks.

Looking forward to 2011 we will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the consecration of the church building, produce the first photo church directory in five years, and I hope improve our parking area. During Lent we will have a program directed towards developing our friendship with God. Each Wednesday evening of Lent will include the Holy Eucharist and programs focused on worship, prayer, study, giving, and serving.

Another important event in the life of this congregation and in my life as well is that the vestry has approved for me to take sabbatical time this summer. I hope to devote the sabbatical time to rest, reading, traveling with the family, and learning how I might be a better leader for this congregation. I will soon communicate the details of the sabbatical to the parish.

We have had a good year at Saint James' and I look forward to the next one. I thank Terri, Martin, Spencer, and Stuart for the support and encouragement they have given me throughout the year. Above all I thank God for all the people of Saint James' Episcopal Church and God's presence in our lives.

Daryl T. Hay +

Upcoming Events at St. James'

St. James' Annual Meeting - will be on Sunday, January 9, 2011. Prior to the meeting there will only be one service, The Holy Eucharist: Rite One at 9:30 a.m.

Pictorial Directory - an Olan Mills photographer will be set up in the Parish Hall on Thursday, January 13th, Friday, January 14th and Saturday, January 15th to take pictures for our 2011 Church Directory.

St. James' Choral Concert - celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the St. James' Church Building is planned for Thursday, February 24, 2011 beginning at 6:30 pm. Parishioners and the public are invited for a short concert, church tour, and reception to follow in the parish hall.

St. James' 125th Anniversary of the Church building will be celebrated on Sunday, February 27th. Bishop Harrison will visit and conduct the only service for that Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Special Services

Thursday, January 6th - Feast of the Epiphany beginning at noon.

Sunday, January 9th - The Holy Eucharist: Rite One at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 26th - Healing Service beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 30th - Preschool Sunday at the 10:30 am service.

Meetings and Events

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) - will not meet in January.

The Daughters of the King - will not meet in January.

The Men's Club - will meet on Monday, January 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall & will be hosted by Eric Batchelder & Greg Northrup.

The Vestry - will meet on Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

St. James' Book Group - will meet on Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The group will be discussing *The Divine Comedy - Inferno*, by Dante.

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.

St. James' Preschool

Greetings Everyone! Preschool resumes after the Christmas Holidays on Tuesday, January 4th. We are glad to be back and into our classroom routine....I am sure parents are happy too!! In January our themes are Winter Weather, Animals in Winter/Bears, Shapes, Opposites and Things That Go Together and Outer Space. Our Bible stories are Epiphany Season/Three Kings, Jesus Lost in Jerusalem as a Boy, Jesus Calls the Disciples, Jesus Heals the Sick and Jesus and Zaccheaus. Our enrollment is up a little from the fall semester, we have 7 Preschoolers and 9 Toddlers for a total of 16 currently enrolled. On January 30th we are planning to gather church friends and school friends for Church School Sunday, we are so looking forward to the children singing some songs for you. As we move into the new year we want to wish you all a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Lana Swearingen
Preschool Director

Pictorial Directory

Group photos for the pictorial directory - we are asking each St. James' organization to provide a group photo or action shot(s) to be included in the new directory. Your labeled photos may be given to Fran Mason or dropped off at the Church Office. We would like to have each group included in the directory, so start collecting or taking photos today!

Honoring our soldiers - if anyone has a loved one in the military we would like to include a photo of them along with their name & rank on a page honoring our soldiers that are currently serving in the military.

YOU ARE INVITED!

New Year's Day Party - January 1, 2011 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
at the home of Ann & Bill Rogers
160 South Lynnwood Street in La Grange. Phone 968-3410

Another new year? Never fear!

On New Year's Day, come to a party, we say.

Bill & Ann open their door, hoping you'll come see what's in store.

Champagne punch and black-eyed peas, and other goodies to eat,

Plus lots of friend, old and new, for you to meet and greet.

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.

Outreach

A.M.E.N. Sunday - is January 2nd. Suggestions for the month include: Canned or Boxed Soup such as Mushroom, Tomato, Chicken (Noodle, Rice, etc.) You may also drop off donations during the week at the Parish Hall.

A.M.E.N. - Volunteers are asked to sign up to represent St. James' at AMEN on Monday, January 24th from 9-11a.m.; on Tuesday, January 25th from 6-7p.m.; and on Thursday, January 27th from 1-3p.m. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. Your support is appreciated!

Men's Club Cook - Saturday, January 8th from 11am - 1 pm with drive thru only. Proceeds will benefit the Red Cross.

Second Chance - Volunteers are asked to sign up to represent St. James' at Second Chance beginning on Tuesday, January 18th through Saturday, January 22nd with Clean-Up Day on Monday, January 24th. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.



January Birthdays

Justin Jones	01/03	Joanna Walker	01/18
Dan Johnson	01/04	Michael Walker	01/21
Benjamin Schrader	01/08	Marta Schrader	01/25
Donna Jones	01/09	John Bradley	01/26
Martha Hamel	01/13	Sandra Northrup	01/28
Mike Turner	01/13	Mary Kahanek	01/29
Cindy McMahan	01/16	Danny Zitterich	01/31
Dianne James	01/18		

January Anniversaries

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

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.

Vestry

December 9, 2010

- The meeting opened with Fr. Hay leading the Vestry in the Daily Devotional for Evening.
- The November minutes were approved as presented.
- Fr. Hay reported everything is going well, at 95% of pledges received and with an average attendance of 85-95 on Sundays. Recent activities included: his work on changes to the marriage worship ceremony, the addition of music on disc for the 8:00 am service, additional Prayers of the People that have been added to both services, progress on the Pictorial Directory, and a meeting with the Presbyterians concerning a joint pre-school and the utilization of the facilities at the Presbyterian Church. Father Hay also reported on a pastoral visit to a parishioner. He also thanked the Sr. and Jr. Wardens for their service citing an outstanding year with many accomplishments.
- Senior Warden, Pinky Wilson reported that she will not be serving as Sr. Warden next year however she stated that it has been a pleasure and blessing to work with the vestry members this past year.
- Junior Warden, David Laigle reported on repairs and work completed at the church including an inspection of fire extinguishers. He also has ideas for additional work required on the handicap ramp to be presented at the next vestry meeting, his plans to begin interviewing lawn care candidates, having someone look into the problems with the speaker system, repair of the light fixtures which backlight the stained glass windows and the possible stripping and waxing of floors prior to the Bishop's visit.
- Eric Batchelder, Treasurer discussed that the proposed 2011 budget addressed the fact that pledge income is less than anticipated and the church is entitled to take 3-5% on an annual basis from the endowment interest. This has not been done for the past four or five years, however the Finance Committee has added \$7,000 (2.6%) to the budget from endowment interest to address the pledge shortfall.
- After reviewing and discussing the proposed budget, motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept it as presented.
- In other business, a discussion addressed the fact that Canons of the Episcopal Church dictate Lay Ministers be licensed. Fr. Hay advised that he will email those persons in the church who serve in that capacity and need to be re-licensed. He stated that worship leaders need to be appointed in the event he was unable to officiate on a Sunday morning due to a sudden illness or emergency. He indicated that Dick Frenzel, Helen Hays, Ray Loftin and Greg Northrup were his selections.
- The meeting closed with Vestry members reciting the Lord's Prayer.

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