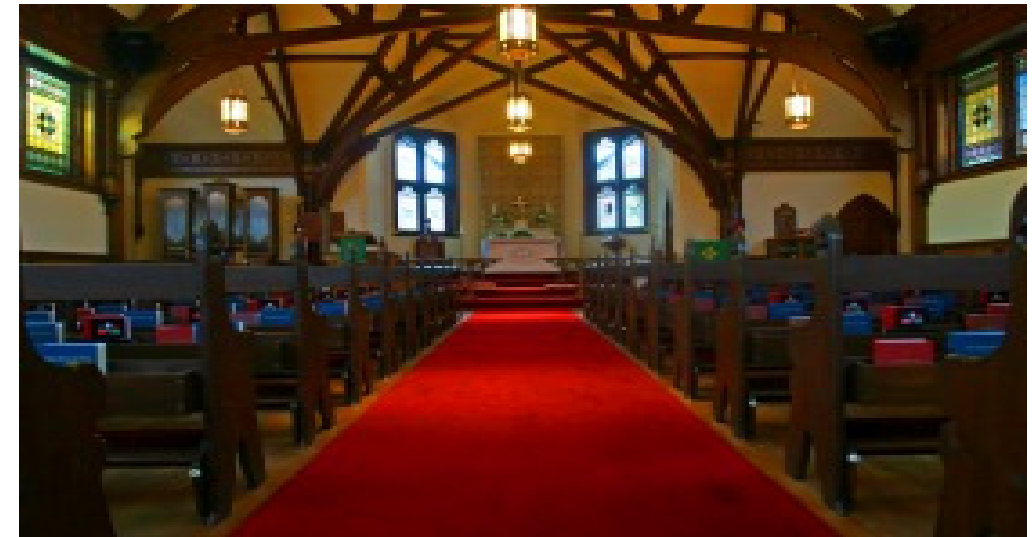


# Saint James' Episcopal Church

"Enter as strangers, leave as friends."

La Grange, Texas

## THE EPISTLE



### From the Rector

I have been an active ordained minister since July 2003 and have had the honor of serving as rector of Saint James' since August of 2005. Together we have accomplished great things in the last five and a half years.

Our average Sunday attendance has grown from 76 to 89. Our annual giving has grown from \$139,397 to \$235,101. We have offered inspiring worship in the Episcopal tradition supported by strong lay ministries of acolytes, ushers, lectors, and the altar guild. We have built a strong choir program for adults and youth. We have strengthened our children's ministry. We have improved our service bulletins and church communications. We also have continued our support of outreach ministry in the community through the Saint James' Preschool, the Second Chance Emporium, and AMEN.

As good stewards of what has been entrusted to us, in the last five and half years we have re-roofed the Church, Parish Hall, and Education Building, purchased a new organ, and participated in a vision, mission, and core values process in which we identified several goals to accomplish over the next five years. One of our goals was to re-pay the debt owed to the Quinn Foundation. We had a very successful campaign, and raised over \$200,000 in pledges. We have already received in cash over \$160,000 and the entire loan has been repaid. Last summer we had the Church, Parish Hall and Education Building painted. Preparations are now being made to improve the "lumberyard property" by adding some sort of paved parking, sidewalks, and landscaping.

I am very thankful for the people of Saint James' and for all we have accomplished. I still feel a strong call to serve as the rector of Saint James', but I have perceived a need within myself for a period of rest, renewal, and new learning.

As was presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in January Saint James' vestry has approved for me to take a sabbatical this summer beginning May 30<sup>th</sup> and ending August 14<sup>th</sup>. For the clergy person a sabbatical is an opportunity to step away from the day-to-day work of parish ministry in order to gain new perspectives on ministry, learn new skills, and reconnect with the vocation to ordained

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### Saint James' Episcopal Church

156 N. Monroe St., P.O. Box 507  
 La Grange, Texas 78945  
 Church Office: 979.968.3910  
 Fax: 979.968.1557  
 Preschool: 979.968.9501  
 Email: [st-james@cmaccess.com](mailto:st-james@cmaccess.com)

#### Parish Staff

The Rev. Daryl T. Hay, Rector  
 Lana Swearingen, Preschool Director  
 Connie Janda, Parish Administrator  
 Evelyn Grant, Financial Administrator  
 Elva Ulbrich, Music Director  
 Julie and Jim Holmes, Organists  
 Judy Jacobs & Lana Swearingen, Childcare

#### Vestry and Officers

Terry Eastin  
 Dick Frenzel  
 Pete Hannel  
 Bob Hays, Senior Warden  
 James Helms  
 David Laigle, Junior Warden  
 Guy Mason  
 Ursula Stephens  
 Pinky Wilson  
 Eric Batchelder, Treasurer

#### Worship Schedule

**Sundays:** The Holy Eucharist: Rite One  
 8:00 a.m. Coffee / Fellowship  
 8:45 a.m. The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two  
 10:30 a.m. Coffee / Fellowship  
 11:45 a.m. Coffee / Fellowship

**Child care** is provided on Sundays from 9:15 to 12:00 for children ages two to five years. The nursery is located in the Preschool Building.

#### Ministry Chairs

Acolytes, LEMs & Ushers: Danny Zitterich  
 Altar Guild: Suzanne Batchelder  
 AMEN: Suzanne and Alfred Artz  
 Christian Ed.: Susannah Schorlemmer  
 Daughters of the King: Charlotte Hillbolt  
 ECW: Vera Zitterich  
 Endowment: Joe Bailey  
 Finance: Eric Batchelder  
 Kitchen: Helen & Bob Hays  
 Men's Club: Terry Eastin  
 Outreach:  
 Pastoral Care: Vera Zitterich  
 Second Chance: Vera Zitterich & Jerri Frenzel  
 Supper Club: Tomi Laigle

### Rector's message, continued from page one

ministry. A sabbatical is not only a period of renewal for the clergy, but for the congregation as well. A clergy person's sabbatical provides the opportunity for lay leadership and involvement to grow and expand.

In considering a sabbatical I have desired a time for rest, learning, and time with the family. My sabbatical plan includes several activities and events throughout the summer which will include spiritual retreats, attending lectures and seminars, and family vacation time. I will provide more details of my sabbatical plan at a later date.

One of the things I am excited about doing during the sabbatical is to learn how other churches are doing ministry. I don't often have the opportunity to visit other churches so through the summer I will be attending church on Sundays in Texas and in other parts of the country. In some instances I will meet with the clergy and lay leaders of the churches I visit. I am interested in learning from them what they are doing in terms of worship, spiritual development, stewardship, and evangelism. I hope to learn things that may enhance our life and ministry here at Saint James'.

During the sabbatical Saint James' will be led by the Senior Warden, Bob Hays, and the Vestry. Sunday services will be conducted by a supply priest who will also spend some time in the office during the week. The parish staff, Connie Janda, Elva Ulbrich, Evelyn Grant, Lana Swearingen, and Judy Jacobs will continue to support the work of the congregation, and I thank them for their dedication to Saint James. I thank the Vestry and the congregation of Saint James' for making this opportunity possible.

I plan to come back from the sabbatical refreshed and ready to continue the good work we have already begun. There are great opportunities for ministry in La Grange and Fayette County and I look forward to ministering with you as we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*Daryl T. Hay +*

### Vestry

#### March 10, 2011 (Draft)

- Fr. Daryl reported that 114 people were in attendance at the 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration.
- There was discussion about the new formats of our various forms of communication.
- Fr. Hay would like to continue the tradition of the Mardi Gras party on Shrove Tuesday, and encouraged everyone to attend the Wednesday evening Lenten services & programs.
- Fr. Daryl discussed his plans for the Sabbatical, May 30 – August 15. Pinky Wilson stated that she would be hosting a reception for Fr. Daryl in appreciation of his service prior to the Sabbatical.
- Senior Warden, Bob Hays reported that the Supply Priest, John Loving would stay at Pinky Wilson's house on Saturday nights and possibly visit once a week to work with Connie. He will also attend three Vestry meetings. Bob also gave a very informative report on the Diocese of Texas.
- Jr. Warden, David Laigle discussed the work of the Lumberyard Property Committee, now to be called the St. James Site Improvement Committee. The committee will meet with 2 engineering firms to present bids. Hans Zwar prepared drawings that have been helpful to the committee.
- Treasurer, Eric Batchelder gave a detailed report highlighting pertinent information and explaining various aspects of the Endowment Fund.
- Each Vestry Committee met prior to the Vestry Meeting and had preliminary discussions of projects. The committees gave brief reports.
- In other business, the possibility of having another seminarian do his internship at St. James, September – May was discussed. The Vestry agreed that this would be a good opportunity and would like to meet him prior to the start of the internship.

\* See the Minutes posted on the bulletin board for complete details.

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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

## Meetings and Events

**The Daughters of the King** - will meet on Thursday, April 7th beginning at 11:00 am at the church.

**Episcopal Church Women (ECW)** - will meet on Thursday, April 7th at 12:00 noon in the Parish Hall. The guest speaker will be Fran Mason who will present a program on Guy's ancestor, a Civil War veteran, and a week they spent as a guest of the Smithsonian Institute discovering his true identity. Hostesses will be: Ann Campbell, Linda Eastin, Lil Landry, & Justa Helm. Ann Rogers will lead the Devotional.

**The Men's Club** - will meet on Monday, April 11th beginning at 6:00 pm, and hosted by Ken Berg and Gerald Campbell. The pits will be smoking and the fajitas will be outstanding! Bring your appetite and drink of choice. The social will be held at Gerald Campbell's home and maps are available on the Publications Desk in the Church Office. See you there!

**The Book Group** - will meet on Wednesday, April 27th beginning at 6:00 pm. In the Parish Hall. The group will be discussing, *Sabbath Keeping: Finding Freedom in the Rhythms of Life* by Lynne Baab. Everyone is invited to attend.

## Outreach

**Second Chance** - volunteers from St. James' are asked to work beginning Tuesday, April 12th—Saturday, April 16th. Our clean-up day is Monday, April 25th. Second Chance will be closed April 18—23rd during Easter Week. A sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

**A.M.E.N.** - volunteers from St. James' are asked to work beginning Monday April 18th (9-11am); Tuesday, April 19th (6-7pm) & Thursday, April 21st (1-3 pm). A sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. **A.M.E.N. Sunday** is April 3rd.. Suggestions for the month include: canned and bottled juices.

**Men's Club Cook & ECW Bake Sale** - will be held on Saturday, April 9th from 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. The proceeds will benefit our St. James' Preschool.

**MS 150** - in support of this annual event, the Men's Club will set up tents in Pinky Wilson's yard on Friday, April 15th beginning at 1:00 p.m. The tents will be taken down on Monday, April 18th at 10:00 a.m. The men are planning lunch together on Friday and breakfast on Monday. Donations (\$\$\$) toward the purchase of beverages and snacks will be greatly appreciated.

**Safeguarding God's Children on April 6th at 5:30 p.m.** - the Rev. Cecilia Smith will be conducting this program at St. John's Episcopal Church in Columbus for those people who need to take the program or get updated. If you plan to attend, please contact Fr. Hay before Sunday, April 3rd. .

**Flowering of the Cross**—All the children and youth are invited to bring flowers on Easter Sunday for the Flowering of the Cross. The cross will be located inside the church and the children are invited to place their flowers on the cross at 10:15 a.m., prior to the 10:30 a.m. service.

**Altar Flowers** - a sign up sheet is posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board for those families that would like to donate flowers for Easter Sunday. Dedications may be made for anniversaries, birthdays, and memorials. Contributions in any amount are appreciated. Deadline to be included on the Easter Flower list is Monday, April 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.

## Rector Appreciation and Sabbatical Benefit Reception

honoring The Reverend Daryl T. Hay

Saturday, April 30, 2011

from 2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. at the home of Pinky Wilson,  
351 East Colorado Street in La Grange.

Please join us in thanking Fr. Daryl and Terri for their dedication and service to St. James' over the past five years. Parishioners and friends that would like to make a contribution to help cover costs for Fr. Daryl's upcoming sabbatical can do so at the reception.

Please RSVP to Connie

no later than Monday, April 25th or sign the list posted in the Parish Hall.

## St. James' Preschool

April Showers bring May Flowers! Well, if we get the showers!!! But, the preschoolers will be planting flowers in our garden patio to brighten up the area. The little ones love to play in the dirt and they are so eager to help. Our themes for this month are: Caterpillars & Butterflies, Flowers/Plants/Seeds, Easter, Dinosaurs. The Bible Stories will be Jesus Calms the Storm, Parable of the Sower, The Last Supper/First Easter, and Mary Goes to the Tomb. We do have a field trip planned for the Preschool class to the Dinosaur Park this month. Pre School registration is in progress now with 13 children currently enrolled for the next school year, so please continue to let people know about our preschool because we do have some openings. Have a Blessed Easter everyone.

Lana Swearingen,  
Preschool Director

## Supper Club

Tomi and David Laigle, along with Carol and Paul Crain will host the Supper Club on Friday, April 29th beginning at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to the Laigle's home for an evening of fellowship and great food! Guests may sign up to bring their favorite side-dish, salad, or dessert and beverage of their choice. Children are welcome! PLEASE RSVP to your hosts by signing the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

### 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 welcoming to be woven into His Tapestry.

## Change to Palm Sunday Sunrise Service

*Due to a conflict with the time the riders and volunteers will be leaving, the MS 150 Palm Sunday Sunrise Service has been cancelled.*



Monday, April 18th	The Holy Eucharist: Rite One	Noon
Tuesday, April 19th	The Holy Eucharist: Rite One	Noon
Wednesday, April 20th	Healing Service	Noon
Maundy Thursday	The Holy Eucharist: Rite One	7:00 pm
Good Friday	Passion Narrative	Noon
Easter Sunday	The Holy Eucharist: Rite One	8:00 am
	The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two	10:30 am

**\*Childcare will be provided on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday**

## Lenten Program

**Growing in Friendship with God** - Wednesday evenings April 6th and April 13th. The service begins at 5:15 pm with a program and light meal following in the Parish Hall. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for anyone that would like to provide soup and / or bread & crackers for the meal. Childcare is provided.

## Just a Reminder

**Vacation Bible School** - will be June 6th—10th this year! This will be our third year to co-host with the First Presbyterian Church. **More volunteers are needed!** VBS is a great outreach opportunity to children, young people and their parents. Please consider giving of your time and talents. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. More details to come!

**Our next UTO Ingathering** - will be on Sunday, June 5th. If you have not done so already, please stop by the Publications Desk in the Church Office and pick up a box or envelope.

**Kitchen Courtesy** - The pantry and refrigerator in the parish hall kitchen have been cleaned out and re-organized. If you need to store something in either, please put your name and date on it. If you notice that kitchen or bathroom supplies are needed, please note the item(s) on the shopping list beside the refrigerator. Thanks for your help! Helen & Bob Hays

### 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.