

St. James' Episcopal Church
January 24, 2010

Annual Meeting Packet

P.O. Box 416, 1307 North Main Street
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
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Annual Meeting Agenda

Sunday, January 24, 2010

Today's meeting will last no longer than 40 minutes so your cooperation is appreciated! Various Board and Committee Reports are attached for your review. Please note that there are many ways for you to become involved in meaningful and life affecting ministries here at St. James'. Please read these reports and experience the joy and commitment of many of your fellow members. Your financial and time contributions help make powerful mission and ministry possible. Thank you!

Opening Prayer

Elect Clerk to take Minutes

Review of Meeting Norms

Review Minutes from 2009 Meeting for Acceptance

Accept Committee Reports by Affirmation and Appreciation

Elect new Vestry Members for terms ending 2013

Elect Diocesan Convention Delegate

Review 2010 Parish Budget for approval and Recap 2009

Acknowledgements and Appreciations

Closing Prayer

St. James' Episcopal Church
Annual Meeting Minutes -- Sunday, January 25, 2009

The Rev. Portia Hirschman convened the meeting at 12:23 p.m. with an opening prayer asking for love and courage enough that this congregation shall follow God's will in the days ahead.

Cora Yao was elected as Clerk to record the minutes of this annual meeting.

Review of Norms occurred with reminders given, such as begin and end on time, have fun, use "I" statements, no parking lot conversations, and show respect for one another.

The Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting were reviewed and unanimously accepted as written. Committee Reports by Affirmation and Appreciation: Year end reports shall be posted on our website soon. All are encouraged to review these on-line.

Extra copies of the St. James' Episcopal Church Pictorial Directory are available should anyone want one. Thanks were expressed to Marilyn Hancock for her hard work on this directory.

An update on the sale of the old church building was given. The death of Dr. Rollins, our attorney's father, has temporarily delayed the closing settlement date. The building will be sold "as is," and the closing will end a substantial financial burden.

The 2009 Budget and 2008 Recap was discussed by Jon Fader and Jane Barger of the Finance Committee with a visual PowerPoint slide show. Other committee members were thanked for their assistance, George Winters, Aline Sautter, Melissa Hawkins and Susan Riel. All were reminded that we are stewards of St. James' Church. Appreciation was expressed to the Nursery School and Thrift Shop for their major financial contributions in 2008. There was a shortfall in 2008 of \$96,848, and for 2009, a shortfall exists of \$ 67,209. Mortgage interest, maintenance of the old building and placing a retainer wall near the AC units caused 126% over-budget in 2008. An electric audit will be conducted in 2009 in an effort to control expenses. Further discussion centered around ideas to increase income for 2009, including more volunteers at the Thrift Shop, increased advertising of fund raisers, a garage sale and increasing membership. Linda Bonifant-Travers volunteered to head a committee for increasing congregational membership. The budget for 2009 was approved as presented.

The proposed Vision and Mission Statements were presented and accepted. Ephesians 2:10 and 4:11-12 were referenced for the church's good works accomplished through the God-directed talents of faithful believers.

Bob Barazotto and George Winters were presented gifts and thanked for their faithful service on the Vestry for the last 3 years. Charles McClanahan and Barbara Fishell were nominated and approved as new Vestry members for terms ending 2012.

Blix Winston was unanimously elected as Diocesan Convention Delegate.

The Rector made a suggestion that postcards with a picture of St. James' Episcopal Church are available and can be used to send a note to someone missed in church lately.

Prayers were asked for David Park as he has begun the application process for ordination into the Episcopal Church. The Rector thanked Margaret Swetz for hosting today's delicious spaghetti lunch. With a closing prayer, the Rector adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:20 p.m.

Cora M. Yao
Registrar *pro tem* and Clerk of the Annual Meeting

2009
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND THANKS!

January 2010
Annual Meeting

For those of us who only come to St. James' for Sunday services and church events, we can easily lose sight of the enormous support – both from a community perspective and a financial perspective – that St. James' Nursery School and St. James' Thrift Shop provide our parish. Certainly the parishioners, who started the School and the Shop over 30 years ago to provide support for the community as well as financial assistance for St. James', could not have envisioned the successful businesses they have become today. The Nursery has 243 children enrolled this year from the Mt. Airy area and 16 employees teach and nurture these children from September to June. The Thrift Shop employs 5 people and over 25 people from St. James' and the community volunteer their time to sort and hang and clean.

In the Mt. Airy community, the St. James' Nursery School is highly respected by parents of pre-school children and long lines of parents waiting to secure placement for their child are often the norm. Director, Pat Castle, and Assistant Director and Business Manager, Sharon Hansen, ably manage this very busy school. Oversight and direction are provided by the Nursery Board which consists of six members of St. James' serving three year terms, a Vestry liaison, a parent representative and a staff representative.

Over the years, St. James' Thrift Shop has become a vital resource for the citizens of the Mt. Airy area who are in need of a helping hand. Donations of clothing, toys, books and kitchen items (and more!) are willingly provided - often working with Mt. Airy Net, the area Food Bank. All items in the Shop are donated and all are sold at very low prices so they are affordable by all. Donna Mathis, the interim Manager, manages the daily business of the shop. Oversight and direction are provided by the Thrift Shop Board which consists of five members of St. James' serving three year terms, a Vestry liaison and the Shop manager.

Many of us are not aware that St. James', in addition to being our place of worship, successfully manages two very vital and profitable businesses with a total of 25 employees in all three entities. Rev. Portia+ and St. James' Vestry actually manage a small corporation! During 2008 and 2009, the Nursery School and Thrift Shop provided over \$122,000 from their daily business operations to St. James' Reserve Funds. The hard work and dedication of all Nursery School and Thrift Shop employees, along with the financial commitments of our parishioners, has allowed our parish to manage unsettling economic challenges over the past two years. We offer a big THANK YOU, a round of applause and a salute to all!

2010 Annual Report – St. James’ Nursery School Board

Mission: To provide an educational environment which nurtures each child’s spiritual, emotional, intellectual, physical and social development.

Annual Highlights:

- Board Members – Patricia Castle, Director; Sharon Hansen, Business Manager; Natalie DelRegno and Aimee Winkler, Co-Chairs; Dee Moore, Secretary; Carolyn Etzler, Vestry Liaison; Dianne Hadermann, Nancy Nanavaty and Denise Witmer, Members; Michael Demory and Amy Austin, Parent Representatives; Christine Pullen, Staff Representative.
- We have a staff of sixteen, including a director, business manager, seven teachers, six assistant teachers and one floating aide/office assistant.
- Our summer program ran from June 15 to July 31, 2009. This program is offered to all children starting at 3 years old, who are potty trained and have not yet attended kindergarten. A total of 124 children attended generating a profit of approximately \$6,900. This money was used to purchase a new copier/printer for the school.
- The current enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year is 239 students and we offer 18 classes for two, three and four year olds. New this year is the addition of a Tue/Thur full-day 3’s class from 9am-2pm, and a Mon/Wed/Fri full-day 4’s class from 9am-3pm. Both classes are held at our Annex location at Mt. Olive Church on Gillis Falls Road.
- The Fall Joe Corbi fund raiser brought in approximately \$4,000. The money was used to purchase classroom equipment and furniture to further meet our Teaching Strategies: Creative Curriculum. We will have another Joe Corbi fund raiser in the spring. The Scholastic Book Fair will take place February 23-26.
- Grants Received:
 - We are in the second year of the Judy P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Enhancement Grant and moving towards our accreditation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This year funds will be used to hold training sessions in our Teaching Strategies: Creative Curriculum and purchase equipment to enhance and develop the classrooms in areas of Literacy and Language.
 - We have received an additional \$2,000 from Target in support of our “Cuddle-up and Target Reading” program.
 - Through the Title II Grant we spent \$208 to purchase Teaching Strategies: Creative Curriculum resource books and a training DVD from NAEYC.
 - In 2009, we received \$7,800 from the Maryland Textbook Grant which was used to purchase books, written materials and electronic equipment. We have also been approved to receive this grant in 2010 and plan to purchase computers for the classrooms.
 - We received a \$300 donation from the Mt. Airy Kiwanis’s Club. This money was used to purchase safety and health equipment.
- We continue to move towards our NAEYC accreditation. All staff were required to prepare student portfolios and parent surveys were completed in the spring of 2009. The portfolios included examples of different criteria met throughout the year. The classrooms have been set up in learning stations to support the Teaching Strategies: Creative Curriculum. All staff members attended the National NAEYC Convention held in Washington, D.C. November 18-20. Our application for candidacy has been approved and an inspection by the NAEYC will occur between January 25 and February 12. The inspection will include 3 days of observation at both the Main Street and Annex locations.

- Outreach – The parents of the school continue to support local needy families by participating in a Thanksgiving food drive benefiting Mt. Airy Net and Christmas Mission benefiting the Pajama Program.

2009 St. James' Thrift Shop Annual Report – Thrift Shop Board

St. James Thrift Shop Mission Statement: To focus upon ministering to the community as Jesus Christ ministered to the multitude, helping return individuals and families to a state of physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being as a Christian Community outreach program.

In 2009 the Thrift Shop recorded total sales of \$146,616.14 from which we tithed 25% to St. James' in the amount of \$37,354.42. In addition, as requested by the Vestry, we deposited \$25,000 along with St. James' Nursery School in an interest bearing Reserve Fund at PNC Bank. Also, a \$50.00 donation was given to the Front Landscaping Project. The total contribution to the parish this year was \$62,404.42. (\$3,257.58 less than 2008)

We want to continue to reduce expenses by having more volunteers working at the Thrift Shop. We have received hundreds of hours of volunteer time, but we can always use more. Two Sunday afternoon workdays by parish members, including several of our teens, resulted in a cleaner, more attractive, and better-organized Thrift Shop. The Sunday school class of high school students also helped on several occasions.

The Thrift Shop participated in several Mt. Airy community events: Mt. Airy May Fest in the spring, and the Fall Fest and Halloween Window Decorating in October.

During 2009 the Thrift Shop was able to provide for people in the community in need through donations to Mt. Airy Net, Frederick Rescue Mission, Lorien Nursing Home, and Mt. Airy Fire Department as well as many other organizations. This outreach aspect of the Thrift Shop brings people together who want to help others in need. The Thrift Shop also provided items to the St. James' Nursery School, thereby decreasing their expenses. Many, many baskets and items were donated for the Ticket Auction this year, increasing the success of the auction for the Parish.

The Thrift Shop experienced a change in management in 2009. Our new interim manager has made many improvements.

The Thrift Shop continues to serve the community by donating to those in need and by providing quality items at reasonable prices to lower-income families, while also contributing a significant sum to the operating budget of St. James'. We look forward to greater accomplishments in 2010 and to continuing our "tithe" of 25% of gross sales.

Donna Carr
Margaret Neff
Thrift Shop Board Co-Chairmen

**St. James' Sunday School Report
Annual Meeting: January 24, 2010**

We love because he first loved us...(1 John 4:19)

Co-directors

Joan Fader (301-829-2846)

Cheri McClanahan (301-831-0326)

The pre-school through 8th grade classes continue to use the lectionary-based curriculum "Living the Good News". Grades 9-12th use the Group Teen Curriculum "Faith 4 Life". Appreciation is extended to our dedicated term teachers: Yvette Allen, Betsy Davis, Joan Fader, Robin Kaizer, Cheri McClanahan, Nancy Nanavaty, Margaret Neff, Charlotte & Paul Oswald, Jeannie Pellicier, Maureen Suckling, Aimee Winkler, Blix Winston.

We give thanks for our wonderful group of Sunday School students who meet every Sunday from 9:30-10:15 a.m. Our 2009 graduating seniors included Patrick Barazotto, Tyler McKeever, Ellory Murdock, Tripp Staley and Leon Straus. We are so proud of all of our graduates who are attending colleges in Maryland.

Something new! In September a "4th Sunday Fun" event was introduced. Each month all students gather during class time for a group activity. The students have put together a prayer chain, made bread with the Bishop, prepared scenery props for the pageant and are currently working on a bird habitat for the church grounds. It is our hope to build on this monthly activity with participation from members in the parish. We welcome ideas and support.

This year's Christmas pageant was led by Yvette Allen (thank you!) with an awesome cast. Participants included pre-school children through teens, student solos, guitar music - and a *live baby Jesus!* (thank you *Luke Winkler*).

During the year the Sunday School students participate in a variety of outreach projects, the largest being Heifer Project International. They continue to support Mt. Airy NET with food items, assist at the Thrift Shop, and are currently making Valentine cards for our servicemen.

A Sunday School information bulletin board is located in the lower level hallway...check it out! As always, you are invited to participate in this meaningful ministry.

***Would you like to get to know our wonderful students?
~ Volunteer for a "4th Sunday Fun" event
~ Consider term teaching during the year
(Contact Cheri or Joan)***

2010 Annual Report
Daughters of the King - St. James' Chapter
An extension of Christ's Kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism.
Members: Joyce-Marie Birdsall, Karen Dulany, Joan Fader
Margaret Neff, Bonnie Wilson, Susan Winters

This dedicated group of ladies meet monthly (**first Tuesday of the month: 7:00 p.m.** at St. James Church) in prayer and friendship. The Daughters worship regularly, pray daily for our parish and those in need of prayer, send cards of encouragement and attend women's retreats at Claggett (jointly and individually). At a recent retreat the Daughters experienced the "walking prayer" – a labyrinth. They were able to share this experience by providing a labyrinth at St. James' during Lent for our parish and other congregations.

Your prayer requests will be accepted by any one of the above members.

2009 Music Ministry Report

Many of you are familiar with Garrison Keillor, author of books on Lake Wobegon and star of the radio show *A Prairie Home Companion*. He often has insightful comments on church life, such as... "If your talent is choir or organ, there's no problem. Choir members and organists can be sure their gift is from God because who else but God would be interested. Just like nobody gets fat on celery, nobody goes into church music for the wrong motives." How true! We are blessed to have a music ministry team that is in it for the right reasons: leading congregational singing, praising God, supporting the liturgy of the gathered community of God, and the sheer joy and fellowship of making music together.

Choir rehearsals continue on **Wednesdays at 7:00 PM**, with Sunday warm ups at 10:00 AM. While this is true in most churches, our greatest need is for more choir members! We have a faithful group of singers and instrumentalists, whose loyalty and enthusiasm makes this an exciting ministry to lead. We have plenty of room for more. There is a chair just waiting for you! You don't have to have any experience and you don't have to read music. Just ask anyone in the choir and they'll tell you I can teach you whatever you need to know, and I promise you'll have fun in the process!

Several of our young people have used their talents by singing or playing an instrument. Parents, if your children aren't involved in a musical group or taking lessons of *some* kind I encourage you to get them involved. Along with many other things, they will thank you when they get older!

One of our particular successes this last year came on those Sundays when I was not able to be present, especially for the ten weeks I spent over the summer serving an internship at Transfiguration in Braddock Heights. Our choir and instrumentalists lead the music with confidence and enthusiasm. They did a great job and I am very proud of them. I trust you are too! Make it a point to express your appreciation and support for all the time and talent they contribute both for St. James' and for God.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. David Kerr Park, Organist and Choir Director

The aim and final reason of all music should be nothing else but the Glory of God and the refreshment of spirit. — J. S. Bach

2009 Finance Committee Report

The duties of the Finance Committee are to oversee the financial operations of St. James' and to provide financial assistance and guidance to the Rector and the Vestry. During 2009, the committee (Jane Barger, Jon Fader and George Winters) met regularly and worked closely with Treasurer, Melissa Hawkins, and Receiving Treasurer, Aline Sautter (with thanks to both!).

2009 was a year of CELEBRATION!! **BIG CELEBRATION!!** In May, after many, many months of frustration, setbacks and agony, the sale of our old buildings was finalized. **YEA!!!!!!!!!!** The sale process cost St. James' much more in time and money than had been anticipated and we truly Praise The Lord, that in these difficult economic times, we were able to complete the sale.

The focus of the finance committee was to find ways to generate additional income and significantly control expenses. The annual audit of the Parish, Nursery School and Thrift Shop was completed with thanks to Carey Staley and Leo Mombay for their able assistance. The inventory project continues as the Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work on tagging and recording assets in all three entities. Lastly, every effort was made to communicate with parishioners regarding St. James' financial condition. Monthly financial reports were published in the Shell and the weekly Bulletin and full monthly Financial Statements were posted on the parish bulletin board. The Finance Committee welcomes comments and suggestions from all parishioners.

Jane Barger
Finance Chair

Liturgical Ministries

Thank you to our faithful acolytes, servers, readers, chalice ministers and ushers! Without your willingness to serve each Sunday, our worship would be greatly diminished. We are particularly appreciative of our youth who serve as we know sports and other activities cause some conflicts for your time. We also extend thanks to Carey Staley and Janet McKeever who have served as our Acolyte Co-directors. They have had to step back so we prayerfully hope that others will consider this ministry of working with our youth to train and encourage them as acolytes and servers. In the meantime, The Rev. Barbara Sears will be working with them as we look forward to Holy Week and Easter. How old do you have to be? If you can take (and follow) directions and sit still for a period of time, you are old enough! An attention to detail is always appreciated! Typically an adult serves as server, reader and chalice minister at the 8:30 a.m. service—so you too are encouraged to consider this ministry. If you are interested in becoming an acolyte or server, please speak to Deacon Barbara.

Additional ushers, readers and chalice ministers are always needed. Training is offered so you need not worry! What is necessary: commitment to being here when scheduled and to offer your ministry of care with joy to the glory of God. These ministries are open to all! When there are more people on the schedule, the time required is minimal—usually once a month.

Ushers warmly greet folks arriving, hand out bulletins, assist newcomers and visitors with finding what they need, and assist at the Offering. Readers read the weekly lessons and lead the prayers. Youth and adults are encouraged to consider these opportunities. Chalice Ministers assist at both services by offering the Chalice during Communion. This is a particularly

meaningful ministry of hospitality. If you would like to be involved in any of the liturgical ministries, please speak to either Portia+ or Deacon Barbara.

P.S. The monthly liturgical ministries schedule is posted on the St. James' website: stjamesmtairy.org

Outreach Committee Report – January, 2010 Annual Meeting

The mission of the St. James Outreach Committee: To be a faithful steward of our church's time, talent, and treasures through an abiding Christian commitment to those in need by providing resources and assistance to Outreach Ministries. Outreach Ministries include but are not limited to the Thrift Shop, Nursery School, Evangelism, Ecumenical Efforts, Anglican Parishes, Community Needs, Diocese of Maryland, Scholarships, Transfer Station and Missionary Work. *The vision of the St. James Outreach Committee is for this ministry to become a way of life for the St. James Family. In 2009 we saw the continued generosity of members of our church and we praise God for that.*

This past year included the following outreach activities:

January – Annual Report and Planning Meeting. The committee supplied lunch for the Mission of Mercy team working at Calvary United Methodist Church.

February – \$500 was donated to The Panama Mission. Valentine Care Packages were prepared and sent to church members who are currently in the military.

March – Heifer Project - \$343 was raised by the children using Lenten mite boxes. This amount was matched by Outreach.

April – Mt. Airy Net donations and contributions were the focus.

May –

June – \$1,000 was donated to family whose husband and father died very suddenly. June 7th and 14th we sold jewelry for the African Team Ministries project.

July –

August – Three carloads of school supplies were collected for The Shepherd's Staff in Westminster.

September – Mt. Airy Net donation month. Check for \$1,000 sent to Net.

October – Supplies were collected for the Thrift Shop.

November – Thanksgiving food baskets were provided for 4 area families.

December – The Angel Tree was set up for gifts for 4 families in our area. We also collected food for Christmas dinner for them.

In addition to monthly projects the Outreach Committee: Collected and took donations to Mt. Airy Net weekly.

Currently meetings are held every other month at 9:30 am at the church in between the two services. Please contact us if you would like to serve on the Outreach Committee. We would love to have you!

Respectfully submitted,
Lucy Winston, Chairman

Child Access/Transfer Center- January, 2010

The Child Access/Transfer Center will begin its 7th year of operation at the beginning of February. Unfortunately, this past year found no families using the Center. We continue to receive phone calls- mostly from parents living a significant distance from us in southern MD. Often the phone calls allow a distraught parent to hear that they are not the only person in this situation and in some way that offers some sense of relief.

The Center desperately needs help with "marketing" to the courts, attorneys, and social networks to make sure they know we are here and willing to help! Anyone who can help spearhead a "marketing" endeavor, please contact Robin Winkler-Pickett.

Our 18 monitors are on "stand-by" status until such time that we have a new client. Many thanks to each of them for their dedication.

Please continue to pray for the families served and those in need of our services.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Winkler-Pickett

Environmental Concerns Committee

To ensure that we are good stewards of the earth an environmental stewardship committee was formed this past September to look at how we as a parish are using the earth's resources, how we can decrease the parish's and our own carbon footprint, and to be a example for our community.

To that end, we have stopped using paper plates and paper cups for coffee hour and any parish meals. With an efficient dishwasher, we can quickly wash cups and dishes. We have installed an anemometer on our roof in order to obtain wind speed data to support installation of a wind turbine.

We are researching the feasibility of a wind turbine and/or solar panels. We want to decrease our reliance on the grid and demonstrate to the community ways to supplement energy needs using alternative methods. Before we install any alternative energy sources, we are performing an energy audit on our building in order to attempt to decrease our electric bill and usage.

On January 3, 2009, we held a community-wide electronic waste collection day. Subtractions, LLC of Laurel Maryland, helped us collect over 340 pieces of electronic waste. We had 57 cars from the surrounding three counties bring their old TVs, CPUs, monitors, VCRs, etc. Subtractions, LLC will shred the TVs and refurbish and/or collect the metals and plastics from the old electronics. Participants were very enthusiastic about the opportunity to dispose of their old electronic devices and to know that they material would be reused or recycled and not sit in the landfill. The Carroll County Times and the Mt. Airy Gazette published photographs and articles about the event.

We held another collection date on Saturday, February 14, 2009, right before the TV broadcasting change to digital.

We will have an Earth Day celebration in the spring.

Coffee Hospitality Committee

Our committee is comprised of parishioners who provide home baked, or store bought goodies to go with the delicious Pfefferkorn coffee after the church services. We have a hostess at the 8:30 service who sets up the coffee table and two hostesses at the 11:30 service who clean-up and put things away. Names of our hostesses come up on the schedule about every two months.

We would love to have you join our group! Talk to any hostess, or me, Carolyn Etzler (410-795-3454).

S'MORES 2009 Report

January 2010
Annual Meeting

There are 15 church members lighting fires all over the building!! Well....maybe not real fires.....but they are 'Relighting the Fire' and they are called S'mores.....I'm sure you've heard of them???

The S'mores have met every month since June - discussing and implementing ways to renew and build new relationships among our church members and to reach out into the community and spread the news that St. James' is a warm and inviting congregation.

4th Sunday Fun is a new Sunday School event. On the 4th Sunday of each month, all age groups gather together for a special project – a highlight was making bread with Bishop Sutton! The Director of Habitat for Humanity came to St. James' to talk about our participation in this worthwhile program – work is underway for a spring event and also giving a helping hand with projects at the Bishop Claggett Center. Did you come out for Game Night? Plenty of games and plenty of snacks were on hand....it was fun! A group of 25 will be going to the Weinberg Center in February to see the play, Church Basement Ladies. A postcard has been created.....with a big picture of our congregation on the front....that is being sent to families moving to the Mt. Airy area and inviting them to join us on Sunday for services. Work is progressing on developing a brochure about St. James' that can be used when 'knocking on doors' with an invitation to attend St. James'.

Preparations for St. James' big community project - A Community Learning Series on Religions of the World – are being finalized for the early spring months. A seminar series is planned that informs and compares religions of the world with the hope and purpose of increasing knowledge and understanding. This project is designed to highlight St. James' presence in the community as we provide information and promote tolerance and respect for all religions – a big undertaking for St. James' and assistance will be needed from many members.

Ideas, suggestions, feedback, comments.....let us know. If there is an event that you think would be fun, rewarding or educational for St. James'let us know.

Jane Barger and Victor Pellicier
Leaders

Thanks for jobs done well for the Glory of God!

To those Vestry members rotating off: Deb Schaeffer, Scott Swetz & Linda Bonifant-Travers

To those who actively championed fundraisers: Linda & John Travers (Crab Feast), Susan Winters & Betsy Davis (Basket Raffle), Jane Barger (Vendor Fair), Robin Kaiser (Tees), Susan Winters & Linda Bonifant (flower sale), Mary Ellen Burris (memorial bricks), Lou Pfefferkorn (coffee).

To those who serve on the Thrift Shop and Nursery Boards—we give thanks for their willingness to champion these important ministries and for the financial support they give to St. James' mission and ministry. To our S'Mores who have put their thinking caps on and sparked some new ideas!

To those who served as Sunday School teachers—yours is a ministry which touches the future in amazing and powerful ways. To those who volunteer in the Crib Nursery—especially Nancy Nanavaty who coordinates the volunteers.

To all the faithful who contributed to various outreach projects with food, school supplies, money, Christmas gifts, and time. Your generosity continues to ensure hope to those who have so little. And thanks to our Outreach Committee for their guidance.

To Cora Yao and Deb Schaeffer for championing blood drives this year and to all the volunteers who assisted. And a very special thanks goes to those who donated blood!

To Yvette Allen who directed our Christmas Pageant and to all who participated—from the smallest lamb to the largest shepherd. Thanks too to our young musicians—Bryce & Kali.

To Robin Frei for maintaining our website and producing our monthly newsletter.

To our Ushers, Readers and Leaders of Prayer and Chalice Ministers. And to our wonderful acolytes who take their responsibilities seriously—and to Carey and Janet who led them. To the Altar Guild for their faithful service and cheerful attention to detail. To all those who help each time we need to set up or tear down the Great Hall.

To Carolyn Etzler and her growing band of Coffee Hour hosts. A delicious ministry of care! And to those who keep the kitchen cleaned despite the presence of little critters looking for sustenance!

To Scott Swetz who framed the picture of our old building and hung it and who hung the old St. James' plaque at the front entrance.

To Scott and Margaret Swetz for coordinating various food events throughout the year. And to Jon Fader for championing the Pancake Supper. And dare we mention Blix Winston who takes his kitchen duties so seriously that he sacrificed his mustache?

To Donna Carr who faithfully waters plants each week.

To David Oland who changes HVAC filters and does a myriad of other things around the building to keep it up. And to Dottie Oland who keeps our nametags orderly.

To Bob Etzler who has mowed our afforestation area, fertilized the lawn and who did yeoman's work in preparing the grass area at the new landscaped area—and then laid sod.

To Vic Pellicier who faithfully takes photos of events and generously makes them available to all. And to Jeannie & Vic who have promoted family game night!

To Blix and Lucy Winston and all our Stephen Ministers.

To David and the Choir. To our parish musicians, especially Randall Severy, Peter Davis, Chris Swetz and Candace Pfefferkorn.

To Melissa Hawkins, our Bookkeeper, and Aline Sautter, our Receiving Treasurer, for their attentiveness to our finances. And to Jane Barger and the Finance Committee for their tireless work in keeping us solvent and aware of our “opportunities.”

To Liz Peterson and the Environment Committee. Incredible job in e-cycling!

To Leon Straus for his Eagle Project—our new outdoor Altar.

To Susan Winters and Linda Bonifant-Travers who championed the new landscaping and who are taking on a new ministry of Flower Guild.

To Betsy Davis and all who prepared and delivered food to those recovering from surgery.

To Robin Pickett and all our Transfer Center volunteers for their patient service to families in crisis.

To Christine Burnett (Parish Administrator) and Susan DeLizia (Sexton & Crib Nursery)—our Parish Staff.

And finally to Lynda Ellis who published this report for us this year.

**TAKES A LOT OF FOLKS TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!
TOGETHER IT WORKS!**

How can I help? Don't wait to be asked—you are needed!

- + Do you have marketing skills? The Transfer Center and S'Mores needs you!
- + Do you enjoy meeting people? Ushers are needed to assist at either service on Sunday.
- + Do you enjoy reading in public? Readers read the weekly lessons and lead the Prayers. Readings are provided in advance so you can practice. Training available.
- + Do you enjoy holding a baby or playing with toddlers? Volunteers to assist in the Crib Nursery are always needed. Enjoy older children? Become a Sunday School teacher.
- + We really do need a couple of adults to lead our Youth Group! Remember how a youth group experience enriched your life? Why not offer that opportunity to our youth?
- + Have a spare rocking chair? Rocking chairs provide a delightful way to help parents with small children find a sense of peace. What about organizing packets for small children to use during worship services? Crayons, bulk paper, pipe cleaners, coloring books and small reading books are always appreciated by our youngest members.
- + Can you provide toilet paper, paper towels, liquid hand soap or trash bags? Warehouse stores are often an economical way to purchase these items. Both the parish and the Thrift Shop need these supplies on a regular basis.
- + Do you like to make baked goodies but rue the day you have to eat it all? Then why not host Coffee Hour and treat others to your culinary gifts! Do you enjoy a treat and a good cup of coffee after the service? Then why not assist in making this happen?
- + Do you like to flip a pancake or otherwise make yourself useful in the kitchen? We have several parish food events each year and need volunteers to organize, help in the kitchen and to set up/clean up. This is a great way to get to know others!
- + Are you retired and looking for a place to meet people and do some community affecting service? Then volunteer at our Thrift Shop during the week! Volunteers are our most valued asset! Watch also for parish work days at the Thrift Shop. These are wonderful events to work with others, enjoy a good lunch, and then admire what you have accomplished in a brief amount of time!
- + Do you like working in the garden? Spring, summer and fall need your help. You can pull weeds any time! There are organized events for planting and mulching. Do you have the ability to do large scale mowing? Our afforestation area needs mowing and trimming several times each summer.

And the list goes on.....Have another idea? We'd like to help you make it happen! How is God calling you to offer your gifts of time, talent & \$?