

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 10:45am Youth Choir 10:45am Interviews 6pm Rite 13	28 9 & 10am Aerobics <i>Judy Rubino</i>	29 6:15pm Tapestry 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Mary Salterella</i>	30 9 & 10am Aerobics 12pm Lectionary Reflection Group <i>Dora Schwaiger</i>	1 6:30pm Advent Vespers 7:15pm Adult Choir <i>Gale Salka</i>	2 9 & 10am Aerobics <i>Russ Service Family</i>	3 10am-4pm Greens & Goodies Sale 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Helen Seyse</i>
4 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 10:45am Youth Choir 10:45am Interviews Pageant rehearsal 6pm Rite 13	5 9 & 10am Aerobics 6:30pm Girl Scouts Mtg. 7:30pm Women's Spirituality Group <i>Mary Seyse</i>	6 6:15pm Tapestry 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Lori Scoones</i>	7 9 & 10am Aerobics 12pm Lectionary Reflection Group <i>Antonia Shields</i>	8 6:30pm Advent Vespers 7:15pm Adult Choir <i>Jim Sinclair</i>	9 9 & 10am Aerobics <i>Judy Snow</i>	10 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Elisabeth Stevens</i>
11 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Youth Choir Pageant rehearsal 11am Outreach Mtg. 6pm Rite 13	12 9 & 10am Aerobics 6pm Adult Formation 7pm ABC Board Mtg. <i>Steve Sweet Family</i>	13 6:15pm Tapestry 8pm AA Mtg <i>Barbara Sweetman</i>	14 9 & 10am Aerobics 12pm Lectionary Reflection Group 6:30pm Worship & Formation 7pm Finance Committee <i>George & Nancy Taylor</i>	15 9:30am Fiber Arts Guild 6:30pm Advent Vespers 7:15pm Adult Choir <i>Jim Taylor</i>	16 9 & 10am Aerobics 5pm Rite 13 Family Movie Night <i>Dwight Vicks Family</i>	17 Pageant rehearsal 5:15pm Worship Service 7pm Tapestry Concert <i>JoElyn Wakefield-Wright</i>
18 9:30am Worship Service & Pageant 10:45am Youth Choir 11am Property Mgmt. 5pm Christmas Caroling 6pm Spirituality Group	19 6pm Adult Formation <i>Matt & Wendy Weber</i>	20 6:15pm Tapestry 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Jamie Weiler Family</i>	21 12pm Lectionary Reflection Group 7pm Vestry Meeting <i>Jim & Kathy White</i>	22 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Jill Wickham</i>	23 <i>Ernest Williams Family</i>	24 5:00pm & 10:30pm Worship Services <i>Kevin Williams Family</i>
25 NO SERVICE	26 <i>Marcia Williams</i>	27 6:15pm Tapestry 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Jay & Hermine Williams</i>	28 12pm Lectionary Reflection Group <i>Robert Williams Family</i>	29 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Randy & Jan Wilson</i>	30 <i>Jeff Wooldridge Family</i>	31 NO SERVICE <i>Paul Wrege Family</i>

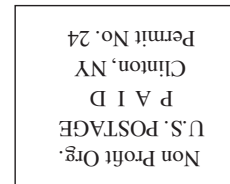
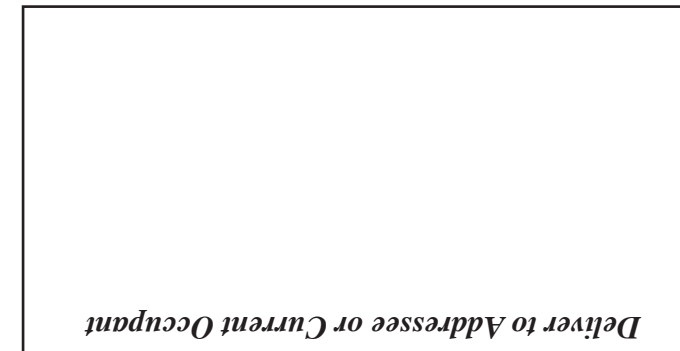
Names at the bottom of each day indicate those for whom we pray. • Service lectionary readings can be found on our website.


December Server Schedule

Date	Acolytes	Nursery	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers/Greeters
Sat. Dec. 3	Conner D'Angelo		Patty Fox	Chris Fox	Patty Fox
Sun. Dec. 4	Charlotte Jones & Zachary	Rachel Evans & Isabella Pinto	Tom Hebert	Brian & Kathy Collett	Karen Anderson & Tom Hebert
Sat. Dec. 10			Chuck Kershner	Matt Weber	Wendy Weber
Sun. Dec. 11	Darby D'Angelo & Isabella Pinto		Pat Evans	Alistair Campbell & Skip Beardsell	John & Cynthia Crossley
Sat. Dec. 17			Rahel Reger	Heidi Philley	Chuck & Holly Horner
Sun. Dec. 18	Amy & Emma Davis			Karen Anderson & Bill Kistner	Jim While & Art Spencer
Sat. Dec. 24 5pm	Nick & Audra Williams, Rachel Evans			Matt Weber, Kathy Heuss, & Chris Fox	John & Sharon Pick
Sat. Dec. 24 10:30pm	Suzie Phillips,		Peggy Crary	Randy Wilson, Nancy Taylor, & Barbara Sweetman	Susan Bennett & Don Neil
Sun. Jan. 1	Charlotte & Margaret Jones		Susan Pinto	Art Spencer & Judy Logan	Jim & Kathy White

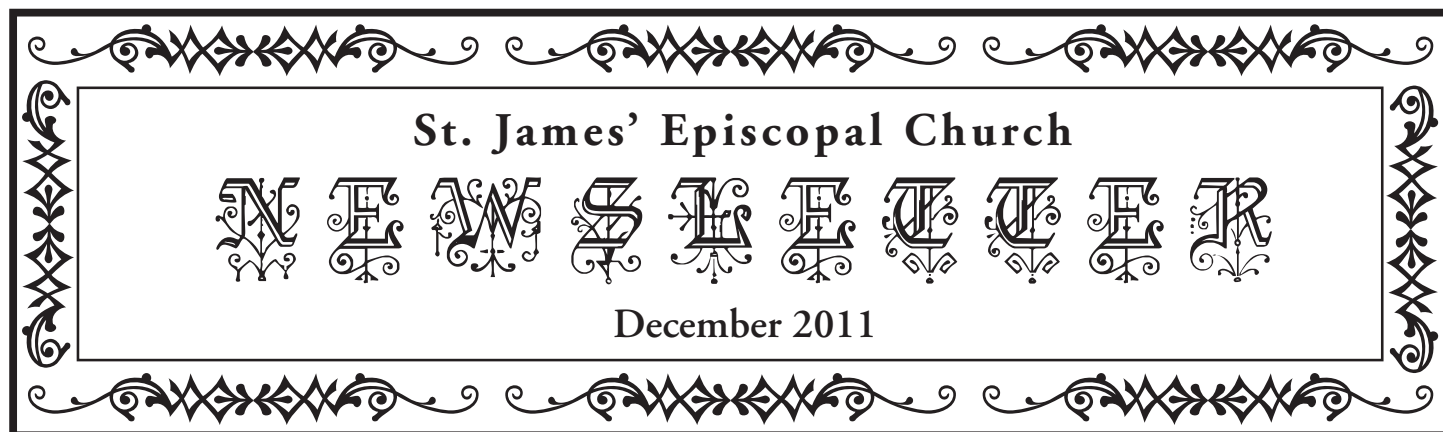
December Altar Guild: Wendy Weber and Patricia Jue

>>>> DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER: DEC. 26 <<<<




 St. James' Episcopal Church
 9 Williams Street
 Clinton, NY 13323





St. James' Episcopal Church

N E W S L E T T E R

 December 2011

St. James' Episcopal Church
 9 Williams Street • Clinton, New York 13323 • 315-853-5359
www.stjamesclinton.org • office@stjamesclinton.org

REGULAR SERVICES:

Saturday, 5:15pm • Sunday, 9:30am, nursery provided, Sunday School 9:30am

Church office hours:

Mon. 5-7pm; Tue. 8:30am-1:30pm; Wed. 5-9pm; Thurs. 8:30am -1:30pm; Fri. Closed

Staff:

Rector: The Rev. Timothy S. Reger

Minister of Music: Mr. Richard Lloyd

Sexton: Mr. Christopher Evans • Administrative Assistant: Ms. Allison Forbes

Vestry:

vestry@stjamesclinton.org

Senior Warden: Patricia Jue • Junior Warden: Karen Anderson
 Skip Beardsell • Cynthia Crossley • Bruce Evans • Patty Fox
 Gordon Jones • John Pick • Wendy Weber • Kathy White

Treasurer: Jan Wilson • Assistant Treasurer: Blair Jones

Webmistress: Patricia Jue

Newsletter: Pat Evans

Leadership Group Chairs:

Parish Life: (Open)

Outreach: Karen Anderson

Worship & Formation: Tim Reger

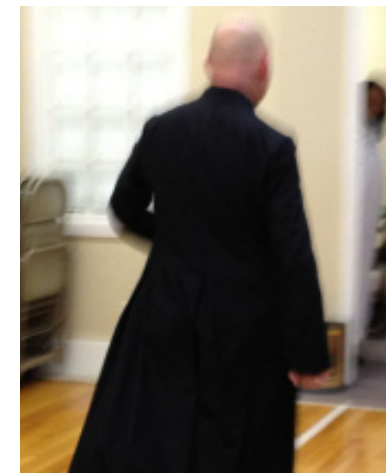
Property Management: Heidi Philley

Finance Committee: Craig Heuss

Investment Committee: Jim White

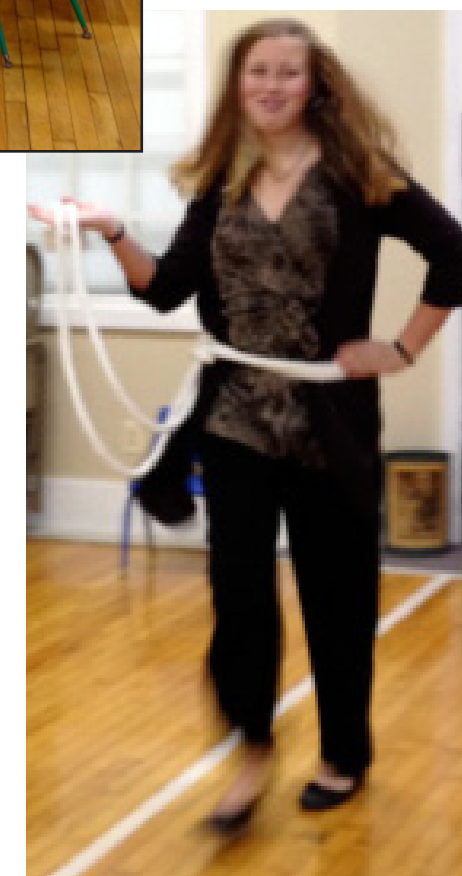
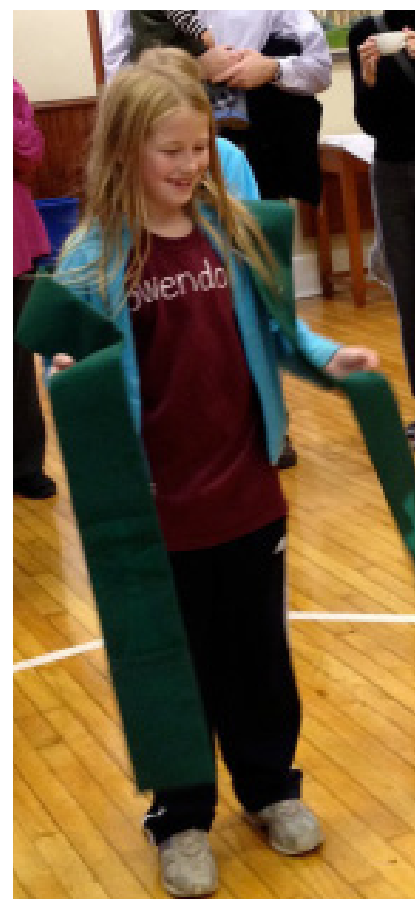
Communications Committee: Skip Beardsell

*St. James' is a community where we come together in Christ to develop spiritually;
 find opportunities for outreach; receive comfort when in need; and engage in sacred
 experiences through our liturgy, music, fellowship, and mutual ministry."*



Test Time!
*Can you identify these
 liturgical garments?*

**Alb, Cassock,
 Chasuble (2), Cinture,
 Stole, Surplice**



Rite 13

Our youth group schedule for December is reduced somewhat due to the Christmas and New Year's holiday weekends. On Sunday evening, December 4, we will be folding posters and stuffing envelopes for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and we will talk about the impact on families who will not have a child home with them for the holiday season. On Sunday evening, December 11, we plan to package up all the candy and appreciation cards collected on Halloween. We are awaiting specific instructions from the Warrior and Family Liaison Office at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, regarding sending the candy and cards to the center for distribution to the wounded, ill, and injured service members there.

On Friday evening, December 16, Rite-13 is hosting a Family Movie Night in the Parish Hall. Admission will be a can of food per person. The canned food we collect will be delivered to the Country Pantry in Clark Mills. Popcorn and snacks will be provided. Special thanks to the Pinto family for providing the movie projection equipment, and to the Jones family for providing the movie screen. Watch for a special announcement in the Clinton Courier.

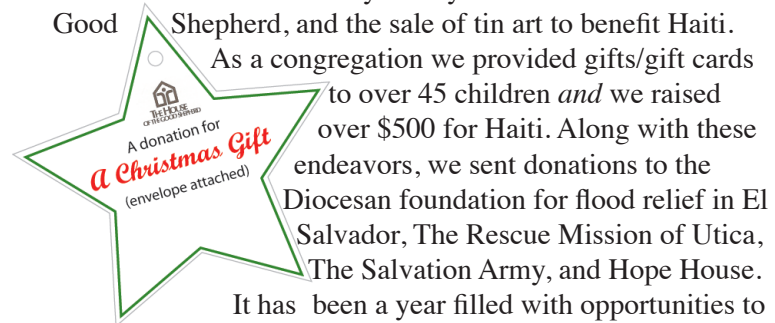
On Sunday evening, December 18, everyone is invited to go Christmas Caroling; no Rite-13 meeting on the 18th, other than family caroling! No Rite-13 meeting on Sunday evening, December 25, or on Sunday evening, January 1. Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday wishes to all, from the Youth Members of Rite-13!

—Randy Wilson



Outreach

Many thanks for embracing our current initiatives: the Christmas stars for Country Pantry and The House of The Good Shepherd, and the sale of tin art to benefit Haiti.



As a congregation we provided gifts/gift cards to over 45 children and we raised over \$500 for Haiti. Along with these endeavors, we sent donations to the Diocesan foundation for flood relief in El Salvador, The Rescue Mission of Utica, The Salvation Army, and Hope House.

It has been a year filled with opportunities to spread the good news of Hope locally as well as internationally. We will present a complete review of all the funds we donated, as well as all the projects we have participated in this past year in the January newsletter. As always, let us invite anyone who is interested in reaching out to our neighbors to come join us. Let us know where you would like to see St. James contributing our time, talent and treasure. As we celebrate the spirit of Christmas, we can know that God is working through us to help those in need.

—Karen Anderson

Thank you to everyone who has contributed empty pill containers for the Mission of Miracles, the Diocese of Central New York outreach assistance of education and medicine with our companion diocese of El Salvador. They are no longer collecting pill containers. The greatest current need is funds to help with recent flood damage; send donations to Mission of Miracles, 6853 Dutch Hill Rd, Fayetteville, NY 13066.

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to all for your continued financial support of St. James. You should have received your 2011 pledge statement for January through October. Please check it over and contact the office or Jan Wilson if there are any questions or concerns.

And many thanks to all who have completed and sent in your 2012 pledge cards. If you have not yet completed yours, please get it in as soon as possible so the vestry can finalize the 2012 budget.

—Jan Wilson

From the Rector

Sometimes faith in God is difficult. As we hear stories of death and violence coming from the Middle East, as we witness worldwide structures that promote ongoing economic inequality, one can wonder whether there really is a loving force and power of order at work in creation. Personally, we can not avoid confrontation with loss, crisis or tragedy. We might turn to God for relief as painful experiences occur, however, at times, it can seem that there is not a mutuality in faith: God does not always seem to respond in love, or the way we might want God to respond. Such disappointing experiences can sometimes make us hesitant about faith, prayer and spirituality. To borrow a word from Isaiah, at times we spiritually "wander," going our own way.

If we are followers of the way of Jesus, we need to be reminded that one of his core convictions, foundational for life, is that God, indeed, is with us; and God is for us, working all things to our benefit. Jesus, too, had moments of doubt, especially as he faced suffering and death; nonetheless, he always came back to that awareness that God, that Abba was with him, that Abba ultimately would never abandon him, or allow him to be destroyed.

Jesus believed, and we are called to believe in a God who is ever faithful to us. We are to hope in this God, to give

ourselves in a spirit of trusting surrender to this God.

The season of Advent is an opportunity to cease spiritual wandering, and to attend to the Spirit of the Living God in our midst. Perhaps you know that the word Advent stems from the Latin verb advenire, meaning "to come to." Advent is a time to pay attention to our God who comes to us. God came to us fully in the mystery of the incarnation, in the person of Jesus. Our spirituality is also incarnational, meaning we believe that God is always coming to us, in and through our life experience.

Rather than wander, we are to be people who watch for the coming of God in to our lives. So for these weeks leading up to Christmas, let us practice a spiritual discipline. Let us be more attentive to prayer, let us be more regular in reading scripture, let us practice greater patience and love toward each other, and greater mercy and justice toward those in need. If we engage in such a deliberate program of watching, it has been my experience that "the coming to"--the Advent--of the presence of God in our lives will become more evident to us.

We live in a culture that has trained us and rewarded us to be self-willed, productive, and successful. Advent is a time to pay attention and surrender ourselves to the influence and power of God. Isaiah holds out a beautiful image for this: we are to see ourselves as clay in the hand of the divine potter. During the weeks of Advent, let us have the suppleness of heart and mind to allow God to mold and shape us anew.



Flowers for Christmas

Those wishing to provide a Christmas plant for the altar may do so by using the special envelopes in the pews, calling the church office at 853-5359 or completing the following form. If you would like to take your plant after the service, please note this on your envelope and check; we will mark your plant with a card and set it aside for pickup. Checks should be made payable to St James Church with the notation "Christmas plant" in the memo line. Please complete this form and return it to the parish office with your minimum donation of \$20 before December 20.

Name: _____

In Memory of or In Thanksgiving for _____

From _____

Will take plant after the Christmas service: Yes No

Christmas plants will also be delivered to shut-in members of the parish so they know that we think of them and include them in our celebrations. If you would like to receive a plant or know of someone who would like one, please call the church office. If you could also volunteer some time to deliver a plant to a shut-in member of the parish, we would greatly appreciate it. In mid-December, select a name from the sign-up sheets in the back of the church and make arrangements to visit. Thank you.

Vestry News

The vestry continues to think about our vision for St. James, how we live out our mission statement, and the ways our building and programs help us serve the community. Each year, three members rotate off vestry. At the annual meeting, on the third Sunday in January, we, as a Parish will elect three people to serve for three-year terms. For 2012, there will also be a one-year vestry position to complete an unfinished term. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us in the leadership of this parish as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our incorporation in 2012 and continue the good work set out by those who came before us.

– Patricia Jue

Diocesan Convention Nov. 18-19

Fr. Tim, lay delegates Matt Weber and Patricia Jue, and alternates Wendy Weber and Karen Anderson attended the Diocesan convention on November 18 and 19. We heard reports from various Diocesan committees, voted on resolutions, worshiped, and met many familiar people from around the Diocese. Former Rector Ray Messenger and Sue Messenger sat with us at the “St. James table.” The Messengers join Fr. Peter Williams, the Rev. Naomi Sorwar-Randall, Deacon Barbara Groves and Maureen Casamayou in sending their greetings to all at St. James.

Day School News

Thank you to all who supported the Day School Barnes & Noble book fair - it was a fun day and a successful fundraiser. Having our artwork being featured in the cafe was exciting as well.

The Holiday Season is a very busy time at the Day School. We begin with a field trip to see the “Nutcracker” and “The Night Before Christmas” puppet show at the Kirkland Town Library. December’s main theme is Holidays Around the World. We try to familiarize the students with traditions in other countries. A holiday tree comes from Germany; Christmas bells and cards originated in England; in Sweden they celebrate “Lucia Day” or day of light. Also, in the Netherlands, children put their shoes out for “Sinterklaas.” We decorate a tree in our classroom with all “hand-made” ornaments and make a lot of holiday decorations and gifts. Naturally, the American traditions featuring Rudolph and Santa are a highlight. We end the year with a Holiday Celebration for the families of our students where we sing songs and have refreshments.

Merry Christmas to all from the students and teachers at the Day School.

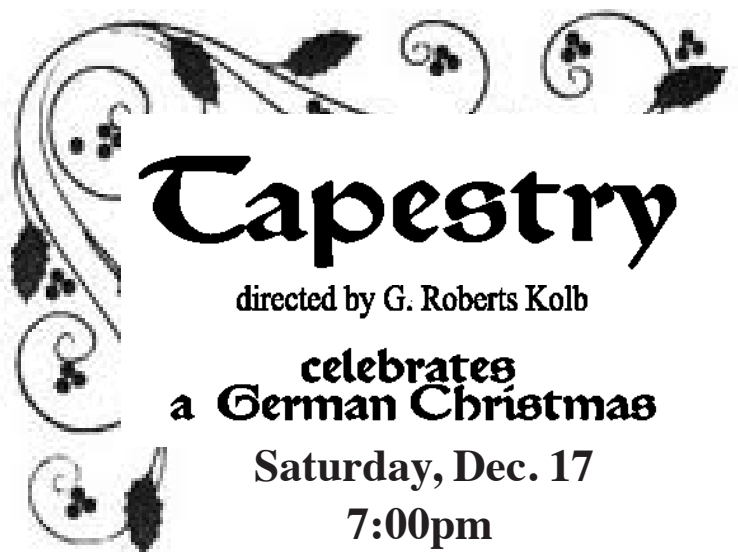
– Cindy Wirene

Music

There are still two Advent Vespers services coming up: the 8th and the 15th of this month.

They take place on Thursdays in the Parish Hall, starting at 6:30 pm, and lasting for approximately 30 minutes. Having survived Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Lumpy Tuesday and Itchy Wednesday, why not treat yourself to a peaceful Thursday? Even if the service is only a half hour in length, the beautiful, hopeful, meditative scriptures and music will help to recreate once more that sense of Advent that is so important to experience before Christmas arrives. Special music is sung by a quartet made up of singers from our choir. We also have a unique “communion,” which involves the passing of cheese, grapes and olives, along with quiet conversation. You’ll feel good afterwards. Why not join us?

– Richard Lloyd



Tapestry

directed by G. Roberts Kolb

celebrates
a German Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 17

7:00pm

St. James' Episcopal Church



Come,

enjoy a selection

of sacred choral music

by German composers.

The concert will conclude with

Tapestry's popular Christmas revelry

of

traditional carols.



Sesquicentennial Christmas
Ornaments on sale now!

Sesquicentennial News

Gala Silent and Live Auction!

Save the Date: Sat., Feb. 11th, 6-8 p.m.

Plan on spending the evening of Feb. 11th in the parish hall enjoying St. James' fun-filled, silent and live auction. The auction is a fundraiser for St. James' Sesquicentennial celebrations to be held during 2012. It will be an enjoyable evening for the entire St. James' congregation and the surrounding community.

During January, we will seek donated items of value to offer at the auction (starting value of \$20). Please think now about possible donations. Are you tired of the table Aunt Mary gave you but know someone else would love it? Here's the perfect chance!!

Suggestions for donations:

- Furniture, art, china, collections, books, jewelry, needlework (antique or new)
- Tickets to entertainment, sporting events
- Tickets/membership to organizations: KAC, MWP, the Stanley, Glimmerglass, ...
- Make a meal/restaurant certificates
- Use of vacation home for weekend or a week
- Boat/plane/horse ride
- Professional services: piano tuning, skilled repairs, tutoring, music/art lessons, ...
- Babysitting (by teens, ...)

Use your imagination: What could you donate that will help make this auction a fun and successful fundraiser?

Many hands make light work--We also need volunteer helpers: Please call Sharon Williams or Colleen Ring-Campbell.

Worship & Formation

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Saturday, Dec. 24, 5:00 and 10:30pm

Family and friends are invited to join us for worship on Christmas Eve. The 5pm service is our Family Service. Special music is enjoyed in both services. There will be no service on Christmas Day.

Pageant & Greening of the Church, Special Coffee hour and Caroling

We look forward to the annual Christmas Pageant on December 18th during the worship service. Rehearsals will be December 4th and 11th after the Sunday worship service and on the morning of Saturday, December 17 and participants are asked to arrive Sunday, Dec 18th at 8:30am.

Carolers meet at 5pm, in the Parish Hall, then go forth singing Christmas carols to Parish friends and neighbors; dress warmly, and bring a flashlight.

Epiphany Party

Friday, January 6th at 6pm, we will bring to an end the Christmas celebration with our Annual Epiphany Party. Anyone interested in sharing their talent at this time, as part of the festivities, please contact Heidi Phillely. We will have a time of champagne and appetizers followed by a pot luck dinner and entertainment. There will be more details in the bulletin and the January newsletter. Please save the date and join us for this fun and meaningful event.

