

St. James' Episcopal Church

NEWSETER

December 2010

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: Tue. - Fri. 9am - 1pm

Staff:

Rector: The Rev. Timothy S. Reger
Minister of Music: Mr. Richard Lloyd • Sunday School Director: Jenny Fuller
Office Administrator: Mrs. Sharon Pick • Sexton: Mr. Christopher Evans

Vestry:

Senior Warden: Jim White • Junior Warden: Patricia Jue
Mike Baldwin • Bruce Evans • Susan Havlovic • Gordon Jones
Don Neil • John Pick • Wendy Weber • Kathy White • Sharon Williams
Treasurer: Jan Wilson • Assistant Treasurer: Blair Jones

Webmistress: Patricia Jue
Newsletter: Pat Evans

Leadership Group Chairs:

Parish Life: Wendy Weber & Randy Wilson
Outreach: Karen Anderson
Worship & Formation: Tim Reger
Property Management: Heidi Philley
Finance Committee: Craig Heuss
Investment Committee: Gordon Hayes



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."

From the Rector

I love the season of Advent. I am deeply drawn in by its prayerfulness, its hope and expectation. I love its invitation to silence and quiet reflection. I find myself startled and renewed by God's gracious invitation to open to him and keep watch. Advent is quite naturally a season of contemplation—it calls us to prayer, alertness, patient vigilance; it asks us to practice peaceful living and be generous of spirit.

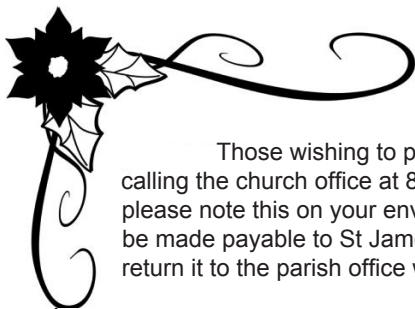
I would like to share with you my spiritual practice in Advent, in part, because by being publicly accountable helps me remain faithful to what I have discovered is vitally important to me, but also because I hope to encourage you to adopt a similar but fitting practice. I rise each day and begin my prayer by slowly reading a paragraph or two from a spiritual classic for about 5-10 minutes. What is important is that this be something we consider to be inspired. Sometimes I read a psalm. Recently I have been reading from the *Conferences of John Cassian*. (Even though the spiritual "classics" are centuries old it is amazing how readable and inspiring they can be!) I then set a timer and sit in silent prayer for about forty-five minutes. I repeat this once again in the afternoon—usually when I have some unscheduled time. In my experience, silence is the best way that I can spend time with God. John of the Cross called silence "God's first language." During this time I am removed from the distractions and busyness of the outside world as I seek to let go of any attachment to the incessant chattering of my mind so that I can give myself in true silence, totally to God. What God does during this time is totally up to God. Sometimes I settle

immediately in to a delicious silence. Other times, my mind never quiets down. One of the wonderful graces of this kind of prayer is it teaches you pretty quickly that you can't control it! My intention is that through this practice I may be freed from the tyranny of my own self-centered agenda and allow God through his grace to ground me in his love and peace.

For some, the amount of time may sound like a lot. Please bear in mind that I have been practicing contemplative prayer for years and have gradually been building-up to my current practice. The important thing about prayer is that we just do it—as the sneaker people say. If you want to learn to pray, the best way is to pray. It generally takes about twenty minutes for the mind to quiet down enough that we might enter some state of interior silence. Just as you can't drain a bathtub immediately, contemplative prayer takes time. If you feel moved, I encourage you to spend twenty minutes a day (or more) in silent prayer until Christmas. Think of all the other ways we spend twenty minutes without a second thought: Talking on the phone, surfing the internet, watching television. We can make time. The work of Advent to receive Christ in our hearts and in our world requires something of us. Our preparation begins when we open to God, listen to God, wait for God, love and adore God. Just as athletes train their bodies to compete, it is important that we condition our spiritual lives, not just for ourselves but for those around us and the world. When we open ourselves to the God of peace and consent to his grace, we can be healed of the violence and destruction that is part of the human condition.

It is my hope this Advent that our prayer may deepen in to contemplation. This Advent, may you keep watch and be faithful as God transforms your hearts to receive the gift of peace this Christmas.

Tim+



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 21.

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

At the November 18th meeting, the vestry received the finance report from Craig Heuss, chair of the finance committee. In general, we remain on target for our budget, and will remain so as long as parish members are faithful to their pledges. Gordon Jones gave an update on the Stewardship Campaign, as Blair, chair of the Stewardship committee, was out of town. We expect to meet our target goal as long as we continue to have a few new pledges, and those who pledged last year pledge at a slightly increased level this year.

We approved the formation of a Memorial Fund committee. We appointed Blair Jones and Matt Weber as members of the Safe Church Response Team. More on these committees can be found in separate articles of this newsletter.

The rest of the meeting, the vestry did some visioning for the future. We broke up into four groups to discuss how the vestry helps support the parts of our mission statement; (1) to develop spiritually (2) find opportunities for outreach; (3) receive comfort when in need; and (4) engage in sacred experiences, and how as a vestry group we help each other grow in these areas. We discussed ways of being more intentional in developing the outreach focus of the entire parish. There was a great feeling of energy, and hope. We felt the Holy Spirit moving among us, and look forward to more vestry meetings where we discuss our vision for St. James, find ways to empower all in our service of God's mission, and become more passionate leaders in Christ's body.

Christmas for All

Sometimes the perfect gift for someone who has everything, or someone who does not need more "stuff" is the true spirit of Jesus Christ – giving to those less fortunate. Some possible suggestions for Christmas giving on an international level are: Episcopal Relief and Development, UNICEF, the Heifer International Project, CARE, and Bread for the World. All of these organizations have gift giving catalogs on the web. There are some print copies at the back of the church. Local organizations include: Hope House, Hospice, the Rescue Mission, the Church of the Good Shepherd or countless others. What a wonderful tradition to begin or continue.

If you want to give a present, consider purchasing a fair trade item. To find organizations that sell fair trade items, go to www.fairtradefederation.org/ or simply look for the fair trade logo on items.

Another gift possibility is the Bishops Blend Coffee and Tea Christmas Boxes (Great for Christmas, Great for Small Farmers!). Episcopal Relief & Development and Pura Vida Coffee offer these Christmas boxes for under \$30. The boxes feature fair trade, organic, shade-grown Bishop's Blend coffees and teas; see "http://puravidacoffee.e-beans.net/private_label/".

Ministry Opportunities

Vestry Clerk - Duties include taking the minutes of each meeting, sending out notices of meeting times, and handling light vestry correspondence (i.e. occasional thank you notes on behalf of the vestry). The vestry meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm. While the clerk has no voting privileges and is expected to maintain confidentiality, this is a great opportunity for someone to be more active within the community of the church. In 2011, the vestry hopes to do more future-looking and big-picture discussions. The meetings promise to hold much excitement.

Altar Guild – This ministry group helps prepare the altar for each service. We rotate so any one of us serves for about 6-8 weekends per year, working either Saturday or Sunday. This is a great ministry for someone who prefers to work behind the scenes, and for short periods of time. At our annual meetings, the altar guild members discussed how as a ministry group, we enable all parts of the St. James mission statement; our service helps us develop spiritually, facilitating worship helps others develop spiritually while engaging in sacred experiences, and we find opportunities for outreach and providing comfort when altar flowers are taken to our shut-ins.

Contact the rector, a warden or the church office if you are interested in this or any other ministry group. Alternately, contact the chair of a ministry group.

Memorial Funds

The vestry approved the formation of a Memorial Fund Committee. The committee is empowered to purchase non-consumable items to enhance our worship. The idea is to have a small group of parish members who can intentionally look for ways to honor those in whose name memorial donations have been given. Members include the Rector, a warden, a member of the altar guild (Cynthia Crossley) and a member of the worship and formation committee (Wendy Weber). There is one more opening on the committee. If you are interested in serving, or have suggestions for items, please contact a committee member. If you are interested in giving a donation in memory of a departed loved one, contact Jan Wilson (treasurer) or simply write a check to St. James with "Memorial Fund" and the name of the person on the memo line. All donations are placed in a separate, dedicated account, and are never used as part of our operating budget.

...and our new Advent Wreath

Most recently, Memorial Funds were used to purchase the frame for our new Advent wreath. It hangs over the altar during this Advent Season. The frame was made by Joel A. Schwartz of Schwartz's Forge and Metalworks, Inc., Deanboro. Mr. Schwartz's work has been featured in the *Architectural Record*, *Art in Architecture*, *Home & Garden*, *House Beautiful*, and *The New York Times*. We, at St James, are fortunate to have one of his creations enhance our worship (and at a very modest cost). Thanks goes to Ken Iles for arranging the designs and purchase and to Fr. Tim and Ken for the greens.

Safe Church Training

On November 13, around 40 people from our parish and other district parishes attended Safe Church training at St. James. People came from as far south as Hamilton and from up north in Barneveld. Our thanks goes to the Rev. John Stonesifer of Grace Church, Utica, for leading this session, and to the Rev. Deacon Barbara Groves for her presence and support.

Safe Church Training is mandatory for all church clergy, wardens, vestry members, employees of the church, and volunteers who work with or around children or youth or who are licensed by the bishop as eucharistic visitors, eucharistic ministers, or worship leaders. The training must be taken once every 5 years, so if you are one of the many who had training with Jenny Montgomery in 2005, it is time to attend another session. According to the Diocese, similar training for public school work, the health care profession, or from other denominations or organizations cannot be substituted. The next scheduled training is Thursday, December 2nd, 7pm, at St. Paul's, Oxford. To register call Fr. Taylor at 607/847-6361. Once you have been trained, have Sharon Pick photocopy your certificate so we have a copy on file.

Our Safe Church Policy

We intend for St. James to be a safe and welcoming place for all people of any age. There has not been cause for concern, but it is good for all of us to know that since 2003, we have had a "Safe Church" policy regarding appropriate conduct. We are committed to protecting all persons from sexual misconduct by church workers, and volunteers. We comply fully with law enforcement officials and child protective services. All church workers receive professional conduct training (safe church training). Any event for children and youth (i.e. those under the age of 18) must be supervised by at least two adults, with at least one having received safe church training.

Furthermore, Blair Jones and Matt Weber serve on the Safe Church Response Team. The vestry plans to appoint two more representatives as more parish members receive safe church training. Members of this team serve as point people to receive complaints of misconduct, then investigate the complaints, make recommendations and/or consult with the pastor and wardens as appropriate. Concerns can then be taken to the Diocesan level, as appropriate. If you have any concerns about the appropriateness of any church activity, feel free to talk to Blair, Matt, one of the wardens or the rector. To see a full copy of Safe Church policy of professional conduct, contact the church office.

Tapestry Christmas Concert

Saturday, Dec. 11 2 p.m. St. James

The All-Centuries Singers will perform sacred and traditional music for Advent and Christmas, including cantatas by Telemann and Buxtehude.

Worship & Formation

Ushering is an easy way to become more involved in the life of the church. It involves getting there early, putting out the flags, handing out the service bulletin and welcoming newcomers. After you take up the collection and guide people to communion, the collection is then counted. It's easy and gives you an opportunity to meet many parishoners. Please consider this ministry. For more information see Jim White. This month we'd like to welcome Mike Baldwin to this ministry.

Children's Ministry

Advent is one of the most beautiful times of year. It is a time of preparation and joyful anticipation, and no one looks forward to Christmas quite like children. It is important, however to remember the significance of preparing for the birth of Jesus and not let the meaning of Advent get lost in the excitement of decorating the house, baking cookies and holiday wishlists.

This is why the theme for the Sunday School's two-week Advent unit (Dec 5th and 12th) will be "Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room." We will be discussing ways to open our hearts to Jesus during this season and finding time to reflect and pray amidst all of the wonderful holiday preparation. We will be lighting Advent candles and singing in our Children's Chapel, and the children will rotate through several different activities, including active games, drawing and craft projects.

We also look forward to the annual Christmas Pageant, written and directed by Sandra Love. This year's pageant will be on December 19th during the worship service.

— Jenny Fuller

St. James' Day School News

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. We will be in the St. James' Church Advent Review singing "Jingle Bells" and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer."

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.

Happy Holidays, Cindy Wirene

Outreach

Thank you all for your generosity this Holiday season. As a parish we sponsored 25 children from The House of the Good Shepherd as well as 14 people for the Country Pantry. As you can see by the now decorated tree at the front of the church, we are indeed a generous parish. Each ornament represents a gift purchased by a St. James parishioner.

The Outreach group spent the remainder of our yearly budget on holiday expenses at Hope House, the Rescue Mission, the American Red Cross, the Country Pantry and the Salvation Army. We also sent donations to Episcopal Relief and Development to continue the work in Haiti and helped out with another youngster at the St. James Day School.

The proceeds of the Greens and Goodies sales are going to the Central Asia Institute. Many of you are familiar with the Institute through Greg Mortenson's book *Three Cups of Tea*. The mission of CAI is to promote and support community-based education, especially for girls, in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

If you are looking for Christmas suggestions for the persons on your list who have everything, might we suggest: Episcopal Relief and Development (catalogs are available in the Parish Hall), the Diocesan Medical Mission of Miracles, any of the charities listed above, or even faith giving to our very own St. James.

If you have ideas you would like to see St. James get involved in please see anyone on the Outreach committee. May you all have a blessed and Merry Christmas.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6.

– Karen Anderson

Country Pantry - Thank You

The Country Pantry wants to thank all of you who donated to the Scouting for Food, purchased a "Fund a Feast - Helping Hands" food box at Hannafords, brought food and paper products to the Food Basket at St. James and purchased a gift on behalf of a Country Pantry client by taking one of the CP Stars. This is a wonderful example of living out the St. James mission statement – finding opportunities for outreach.

What a wonderful way to start the Advent Season.

Thanks to Sunday School – and everyone who contributed to making a Merry Christmas for the very poor children in the Diocese of Mexico City. They will be thrilled with the ornaments and the food and gifts Joanna will give them, thanks to the bake sale and Sopa fundraiser. Another great way to reach out to those in need.

El Salvador 2011 Mission Trip

Each year, health professionals including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, dentists, dental hygienists, mental health practitioners, optometrists, and lay people travel to El Salvador. They help our local El Salvadorian partners provide sustainable health care in remote villages. El Salvador is our companion diocese. Applications for the March 12-20, 2011 trip are still being taken. Pick up one in the back of the church, the Parish Hall cork board or download from <http://missionofmiracles.org/>. If you are unable to travel, but would like to help, we are collecting items to be taken. They include Tylenol of all dosages including Tylenol Arthritis, anti-fungal creams, muscle rub, sunglasses and empty pill bottles with child-proof caps. Place them in the box in the Parish Hall or in the back of the church.

Parish Life

Parish Life Opportunities

If you are reading this newsletter on Friday, December 3, or Saturday, December 4, then you are still in time to head over to St. James for the **Greens & Goodies Bazaar** on Saturday, December 4. Holly Horner and her helpers have a great display of hand-made items, holiday decorations and delicious baked goods for your holiday shopping needs.

Then plan to attend the very special **Holiday Revue** during our extended coffee hour on Sunday, December 5. Talents of St. James' folks will be featured! A wide variety of readings, singing performances, instrumental performances, dances, etc., have been arranged for a very entertaining variety show. Some special holiday guest appearances are possible! Don't miss this show!

Sunday, December 19, will be the **Greening of the Church**, following the morning service. Our annual **Christmas Caroling** evening is scheduled for 5:00pm that day as well.

Our annual **Epiphany Party** (adults only, please) will be held on Thursday evening, January 6. We are seeking a couple of volunteer hosts to help with the decorations and table arrangements for the evening. Please call Wendy Weber (853-8110) or Randy Wilson (737-8303) and offer your help! Sign-up sheets for appetizers and main course items will be posted in the Parish Hall and in the back of the church sanctuary. Entertainment ideas are also being sought; your suggestions are welcomed.

Wendy Weber and Randy Wilson will be stepping down as Parish Life Co-Chairs after the Epiphany Party. If you want to help organize the fellowship activities and try some new ideas, here is your chance! Wendy and Randy will gladly share the files of what Parish Life has done for the past several years with you.

Warmest Advent and Holiday Greetings to you all,
The Parish Life Ministry Group

♪♪ Music ♪♪

I love Advent and its music. The singing of *Lo! he comes with clouds descending*, with which we always begin Advent, is something I look forward to every year. Music and great words can definitely brighten the failing light, which is upon us now. More than brighten—remind us of the mystery and beauty of the dark season. We have entered that celebration, the period of waiting, the time of preparation.

And how do we prepare, and what are we preparing for? Well, there's the *Buy! Buy! Buy!* thing which helps us get what we need to get done before Christmas, but then *Why? Why? Why?* did I put myself through all this, and then it's gone.... There is a great temptation to think in these terms, because the season can easily become frantic, exhausting, and seemingly devoid of meaning.

I believe the way to avoid this mindset lies in the very nature of Advent. Why not take a few quiet moments in the middle of each week to prepare yourself and to wait? Let's say less than 30 minutes. On a Thursday. Starting at 6:45 in the evening. Beautiful music, candles, a circle of friends, shared wholesome food at the peace, all of us together celebrating the Advent stories through Scripture and song. Why are we here? Please join us in the Parish Hall December 2nd, 9th and 16th for Advent Vespers. It may make for a more meaningful Christmas experience.

—Richard Lloyd



From the Church Mouse

I am writing to you on the first Sunday of Advent and as I do this task I'm thinking of all the events coming up. There are moments for fellowship and fun, moments to show off our talent, moments for reflection, and one special day for the pageant, greening of the church, and caroling. We end the beautiful month of December with our magnificent celebration services on Christmas Eve. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

My family and I plan to be around for these occasions so look for us as we love celebrations too. I promise we will be careful not to interrupt and if you do see one of us, please don't scream, you'll scare everyone including us. In all of these events there will be lots and lots of goodies. PLEASE leave some behind for me and my family. Thank you!

I leave you for the year 2010 with this thought. I believe it fits the season we are celebrating.

Is Anything Impossible: I wonder if anything is impossible to a God who can make evergreen trees with black trunks, cast blue shadows on white snow.

Merry Christmas and God bless all of you. Cedric

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to all those who so generously pledged your financial support to the St. James' Stewardship Campaign for 2011. The response seems to indicate our mission is alive and well. We look forward to great things for 2011!

If you have not yet pledged, don't worry, it is not too late!! But please get them in as soon as possible. The Vestry will be finalizing the 2011 budget at their December meeting using the amount of money pledged to determine how much money can be spent after paying our staff and heating, lighting, and maintaining our facilities. The final budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

We are coming to the end of our fiscal year. If you would like to know how much is remaining on your 2010 pledge, contact Jan Wilson or call the office and Sharon will leave me a message. Sunday, December 26 is the final Sunday of 2010. If you are making a final payment on a 2010 pledge amount the first Sunday in January, January 2nd, please make sure to mark it clearly on your check or envelope.

God bless you all this Advent and Christmas season.

Jan Wilson

Property Management

There will be a property management meeting on Friday, December 17th at 4:30 PM (with chips & dip) to develop a Strategic Plan for the St. James buildings: church, Parish Hall and rectory for the next decade. We invite any member of the parish to join us, as we would like to brainstorm ideas with as many people as possible. If you cannot make the meeting but have ideas or concerns, please share them with an email to the church office or leave a note in the property management mailbox.

Thank You to Many Volunteers

On November 6, Skip Beardsell, John Crossley, Bruce Evans, Chris Evans, Heidi Philley, Don Neil, Randy Wilson, and Jim White cleaned the Rectory basement of mud and debris that has collected over many years. Many thanks to those who worked on this project to prepare for work by the B-Dry company. The property management committee is working to improve the drainage of the basement, the area between the church and the rectory and address water flow problems off the roof.

Skip & Libby Beardsell thank all who helped out with the reception following Rev. Reger's installation, especially Pat Cameron and Sharon Williams.

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30am Worship Service	29 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics <i>JoElyn Wakefield-Wright</i>	30 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Matt & Wendy Weber</i>	1 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics Noon-1pm Lectionary Reflection Group 6:15 Tapestry Rehearsal 7pm Worship & Formation <i>TheWeiler Family</i>	2 6pm AA Mtg. 6:45pm Advent Vespers 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal. <i>Jim & Kathy White</i>	3 7:30am Men's Study Group <i>Jill Wicklan</i>	4 9am - 4pm Green & Goodies Sale 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Ernest Williams Family</i>
5 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 11am Holiday Revue	6 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics 7pm Women's Spirituality Group (St. Marg's house) <i>Jay & Hermine Williams</i>	7 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Kevin Williams Family</i>	8 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics Noon-1pm Lectionary Reflection Group 6:15 Tapestry Rehearsal 7pm Finance Committee <i>Marcia Williams Family</i>	9 6pm AA Mtg. 6:45pm Advent Vespers 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal <i>Robert Williams Family</i>	10 7:30am Men's Study Group <i>Jan & Randy Wilson</i>	11 12:30pm Tapestry Christmas Concert 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Jeff Wooldridge Family</i>
12 9:30am Worship Service & Sunday School 3-5pm Sacred Harp	13 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics 7pm ABC board mtg. <i>Paul Wrege Family</i>	14 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Esther Young</i>	15 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics Noon-1pm Lectionary Reflection Group 6:15 Tapestry Rehearsal 7pm Vestry Mtg. <i>Sharon Young</i>	16 10am Foothills Weaving & Fiber Arts Guild 6pm AA Mtg. 6:45pm Advent Vespers 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal <i>Joe & Marion Amico</i>	17 7:30am Men's Study Group 4:30pm Property Man- agement Meeting <i>Karen Anderson</i>	18 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Jean Ashforth</i>
19 9:30am Worship Service & Pageant 11pm Greening of the Church 11:45 Parish Live 4pm Rite 13 Youth Group 5pm Caroling	20 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics <i>George Bablke</i>	21 7pm Book Club 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Gretchen & James Balch</i>	22 9 & 10am & 5:30pm Aerobics 6:15 Tapestry Rehearsal 7pm Worship & Formation <i>Mike & Diane Baldwin</i>	23 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 6pm AA Mtg. <i>Frank & Annette Barber</i>	24 7:30am Men's Study Group Christmas Eve Services 5pm & 10:30pm <i>Skip & Libby Beardsell</i>	25 Christmas Day NO SERVICE <i>Susan Bennett</i>
26 9:30am Lessons & Carols	27 <i>Jim Benson</i>	28 8pm AA Mtg. <i>Clifford Bielby</i>	29 Noon-1pm Lectionary Reflection Group 6:15 Tapestry Rehearsal <i>William Billiter Family</i>	30 6pm AA Mtg. 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal <i>Stephen Bonta</i>	31 7:30am Men's Study Group <i>Lorne Bradbury</i>	1 5:15pm Worship Service <i>Robert Broedel 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. 4	Suzie Phillips		Wendy Weber	Matt Weber	Jim & Kathy White
Sun. Dec. 5	Tim Collett & Margaret Jones	Rachel Evans & Helena Havlovic	Jo-Elyn Wakefield-Wright	Brian Collett & Bill Kistner	Karen Anderson & Chris Evans
Sat. Dec. 11	Nick Williams		Rahel Reger	Kathy Heuss	Maria Beck & Jim Sinclair
Sun. Dec. 12	Helena & Marek Havlovic	Emily Vicks & Charlotte Jones	Jeff Wooldridge	Rick Hovarth & Alistair Campbell	Mike Baldwin & Randy Wilson
Sat. Dec. 18	Connor D'Angelo		Richard Compson	Joan Compson	Holly & Chuck Horner
Sun. Dec. 19	Soren Lewis & Cory Hayes	Claire Hilton & TBA	Randy Pinto	Barbara Swetman & Kathy Collett	Karen Anderson & Chris Evans
Fri. Dec. 24 5pm	Charlotte Jones, Audra Williams & Rachel Evans	Wendy Weber	Tom Hebert	Karen Anderson, Matt Weber, & Chris Fox	John & Cynthia Crossley
10:30pm	Tim Collett, Cory Hayes & Suzie Phillips		Peggy Cratty	Nancy Taylor, Randy Wilson, & Heidi Philley	Conrad Dorn & Don Neil
Sun. Dec. 26	Darby D'Angelo & Amy Davis	TBA	Kathy Collett, Pat Evans, Mary Lou Iles, Sharon Williams, & Jeff Wooldridge		Susan Bennett & Bruce Coe
Sat. Jan. 1	Suzie Phillips		Chuck Kershner	Wendy Weber	John & Sharon Pick
Sun. Jan. 2	Logan & Dakota Williams	TBA	Jo-Elyn Wakefield-Wright	Skip Beardsell & Rick Hovarth	Jim & Kathy White

Altar Guild: Patricia Jue & Wendy Weber

Greens & Goodies

Saturday, Dec. 4, 9-4

Come to the Parish Hall to do some Christmas shopping for decorations for your home, baked goods, attic treasures and more. Bring your friends!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Friday, Dec. 24

5:00 and 10:30pm

Family and friends are especially invited to attend worship on Christmas Eve. The 5pm service is our Family Service; nursery care is provided. Special music is enjoyed in both services.

Advent Vesper Services

Thursdays, Dec. 2, 9 and 16, 6:45pm

These 30-minute contemplative services, led by Richard Lloyd offer us all, in the busyness of the holiday season, a time to pause, reflect, and enjoy the quiet of Advent. The service features lots of candles, circular seating, beautiful music from singers from our choir, wonderful, hopeful scripture readings and our special communion (cheese, grapes, and olives). All are invited; consider inviting a friend.

Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 26, 9:30am

The Season of Christmas will continue with a service of Lessons and Carols as we sing more of our favorite Christmas Carols and hear the lessons of Christ's coming.

Christmas Pageant , Greening of the Church,

Carol Singing

Sunday, Dec. 19

One of our favorite St. James' traditions is the Pageant. The Pageant is a wonderful way of hearing the Christmas story. Following worship, we'll have a party in the Parish Hall and hang the Christmas greens in the church. We invite the congregation to take an active part this year. At 5pm, we gather in the Parish Hall, then go forth singing Christmas carols to Parish friends and neighbors; dress warmly, and bring a flashlight.

