

**ST. JAMES CHURCH
WELCOMES YOU**

9 Williams Street
Clinton, NY 13323
www.stjamesclinton.org

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This e-version of the newsletter has been modified slightly from the published version. Children are identified by initials only. In some cases, adults are identified by first name and last initial.

Print versions are mailed to our parish families and can be picked up from the back of the church or from the church office.

September

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Summer Ends with Ecumenical
Service
on the Village Green
Sunday, September 2nd and
Inter-Generational Worship
at St. James
Sunday, September 9th
See page 5 for details

St. James Church

September 2007 - Newsletter

*Our mission is to welcome all, reach out to others
and grow in faith.*

The Rev. Jenny Montgomery - Rector

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Other names to know...

Mr. Richard Lloyd - Minister of Music

Mrs. Sandra Love - Church School Director

Mrs. Debbie Andrzejewski - Office Administrator

Mr. Christopher Evans - Sexton

Wendy Weber - Senior Warden, Chris Fox - Junior Warden

Vestry: Diane Baldwin, Roberta Dawes, Randy Ericson, Pat Evans, John Fehlner, Steve Havlovic, John Hecklau, Patricia Jue, Barbara Swetman

Mary Lou Iles - Vestry Clerk

Jan Wilson - Treasurer, Blair Jones - Assistant Treasurer

Leadership Group chairs

Kathy Collett & Terry Neil - Parish Life,

Karen Anderson - Outreach

Don Potter - Resource Management,

Jenny Montgomery - Worship & Formation

Regular Services of Worship

Saturday, 5:15pm

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Sunday, 9:30am

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

September 2007
The Way I See It
By Jenny Montgomery

Here's a question for you: "What do you want to receive from this church?" I realize this may sound like a leading question but it isn't. I ask it for no other reason than to invite you to simply try and answer it. And as you ask it of yourself I encourage you to answer it honestly. Do some soul searching. Take advantage of this last little bit of summer before life kicks into high gear again in September and ask yourself "what is it that I am seeking from St. James Church?" There's no right or wrong answer. Each of us will answer differently but I do think the answer may be helpful-not only to you but to this church. The way I see it, if we don't know what we want, we won't ever know if we are receiving it. On the other hand, if we don't know what we want chances are we will never go looking for it.

It seems to me, as the church, we do a pretty good job of asking folks to give but rarely do we ask folks what they want to receive? We make plans and develop programs because we think we know what people want. For example, since we are a church we suppose that people come here because they want to worship. Therefore, based on our Episcopal liturgy we plan weekly services for worship. As a church we also believe people come here to grow spiritually so we offer opportunities for people to explore their spiritual lives. We guess families want religious training for their children when they come to this church so we offer Youth Confirmation, Sunday School, Children's Choir and other activities for them. Some want opportunities for fellowship so we host Coffee Hour and plan potluck suppers. And then there are those who want to live out their baptismal ministry through service to others. So we invite Eucharistic Visitors to take communion to our shut-ins and infirmed, we send out people to El Salvador on medical mission, we ask the laity to serve on our ministry groups and vestry.

From the Appreciative Inquiry responses we recently received we also know there is a strong need from a number of folks that St James simply be here when needed. Folks want to know that when there is a birth, a marriage, a crisis or a death in their family this church will be here. They want St. James to be here for baptisms, a celebration of marriage or a burial service. Spiritual roots to this sacred place run deep for many people and simply knowing that we are here is enough. Other folks simply want to be on our mailing list to receive our newsletter. And there are any number of other things people want from this church.

The way I see it, as the church, we are called to respond to a variety of needs. Granted it is not always easy knowing exactly what people want or need and how to respond but striving to be responsive and inviting is our mission. In my growing up years we went to church because it was the thing to do. There were no other obligations for our family on Sundays other than to go to church. We went to church because it was the culturally acceptable thing to do. We went to a particular church because that's where we belonged. For many today this is not the case. So what is it you want to receive from St. James Church? Once you have the answer, if you are not receiving it, please let me know.

Vestry Corner

The Vestry met on July 11, 2007. Among the many items discussed were the following: With the capital campaign for the replacement of the church roof being so successful and surpassing its goal, the Vestry voted to authorize the signing of the contract for the purchase of the slate for the roof and for the work for \$102,413, contingent on receiving the Landmarks Conservancy grant. The contract will enable us to lock in today's prices. In addition, for the Clinton Arts and Music Festival on August 25, various activities will be held at St. James. Volunteers are needed to help host during that day. A sign-up sheet for different one-hour shifts is available at the back of the church. The Vestry will not be meeting in August.

Chris Fox, Junior Warden

Music



It's time to join the choir! Yes, all things are equal in early September – there's been no rehearsing for months; everyone's forgotten who everyone else is; the camaraderie has been reset! As I always like to point out, this is the moment to do what you've always wanted to do, but just didn't feel the right time had arrived. Yes! And such benefits:

- we get to rehearse not only the choir anthems, but also all hymns, psalms and service music before the Sunday service
- we get to wear great looking robes, and it doesn't matter what's underneath them
- we parade! (well, process)
- we laugh a lot more than we argue (and that's saying something)
- we get to sing in parts—usually four, but sometimes more
- we love to worship, we love to have fun, we love to sing, we love to gather together particularly for Thursday rehearsals at 7:30 in the evening, starting September 6th.

You're invited. I do think the time has come.

Richard Lloyd

Children's Ministry

It seems like only yesterday we recessed for the summer. I hope all the children had a fun-filled, blessed summer enjoying the wonders God affords us during this season. Now it is time to welcome back children, parents (my devoted assistants), and nursery staff as we continue our Christian Formation program for grades Pre-K - 6th grade, and nursery for infant – 3 years old.

As our children continue to grow, not only in stature but also in maturity, a change is once again planned for the 2007-2008 year. The young people in grades 5th and 6th meet in the youth room at 9:30 AM. Depending on numbers, the remaining grades break into three groups: 3rd and 4th; 2nd and 3rd; Pre -K, K, and 1st. Chapel continues for grades Pre-K - 4th at 9:30 AM followed by creative time.

.In keeping with our Episcopal tradition, Christian Formation events will follow the church calendar.

- ~ The St. James Children's Clown Ministry Troupe continues with presentations offered through out the fall season.
- ~ Children's Choir under the direction of choirmaster Richard Lloyd.
- ~ All groups will participate in the annual stewardship campaign with programs designed to meet their level of understanding.
- ~ Following the natural flow of seasonal celebrations we will observe All Saint's Day and Thanksgiving.
- ~ Last but not least, our annual pageant is December 16th.

Date to remember: **Safe Church Training** for nursery staff, September 8th, 10:00 AM

(Youth are now being paid as nursery workers and need to send in an application . If you need an application, please call the church office.)

Christian Formation teachers meeting, September 8th, 1:00 PM.

Sunday School resumes on September 16th at 9:30 AM.

May God continue to bless our children.

Sandra Love

Worship and Formation

Ecumenical Worship on the Village Green

On Sunday, September 2nd at 9:30am St. James will join the Clinton Methodist Church and Stone Presbyterian Church for Worship on the Village Green. Dress is casual, bring a lawn chair and enjoy this time worship with our neighbors. Please note that during the Saturday service on September 1st we will celebrate Holy Baptism at St. James.

Inter-Generational Worship in the Parish Hall

To help us kick off the new church year on Sunday, September 9th, at 9:30am all of St. James will gather for worship in the Parish Hall. This service is intended to be an interactive worship service inclusive of all ages. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated with joyful worship using the Summer Worship Booklet and children-friendly hymns.

Healing Service

The monthly healing services resume on Wednesday, September 6th at 7pm. and subsequently on the first Wednesday of each month. Our healing service is a quiet time of prayer, reflection, laying-on-of-hands, and sharing in the Lord's Supper. All are invited to attend this service of prayer as we pray for ourselves and for others.

About Spirituality Groups

What is a spirituality group? It's probably easier to answer this question by first saying what a spirituality group is not. A spirituality group is not a Bible Study, not a prayer group, not a book club, nor is it a therapy session. However, the Bible is not off-limits and we do pray. Sometimes we read a book to spark our conversation. Mostly we show up with our lives. We wonder out loud how God is working in us and listen deeply to ourselves and one another.

Women's Spirituality Group

The Women's Group meets on the first Monday of the month (except for September when we reconvene on September 10th due to Labor Day). We meet in the Parish Hall and you are invited to bring suggestions for readings to the September 10th meeting.

Men's Study Group Friday Mornings 7:30-8:30am

The Men's Group is open to men of all ages. Studying a wide variety of topics, the group never lacks for a diversity of opinions and perspectives. Randy Wilson and Phil McKnight are glad to answer any questions about the group. All are welcome and invited. Coffee is provided.

New Lectionary Reflection Group Wednesdays, Noon-1pm

Beginning on Wednesday, September 5th anyone interested is invited to join the Rector in the library to reflect on the upcoming Lectionary Readings. Together we will reflect on what we hear in the readings. No preparation is needed and various Bible translations are welcomed.

October dates to save...

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner – Saturday, October 27th 4-7pm

Adult Study Series Mondays, October 8, 15, 22, 29 6:15pm

Lector/Eucharistic Minister Training – Saturday, October 20th 9am

Parish Life

The Parish Life Ministry Group will meet on Sunday, September 16th, following the worship service. We will be working on the fall fellowship calendar.

Volunteers are needed to host the September 9th coffee hour following our intergenerational Parish Hall worship service.

A potluck supper is being planned for Sunday, September 30, 5:30pm as we say farewell to Hester & Byron Stuhlman. This will be social time for gathering followed by a potluck. The hosts need to set tables for appetizers, supper dishes, and attendees. We ask those attending with the last name of A-F to bring a main dish, G-L a salad, M-R and appetizer, and S-Z a dessert. If you can help with this supper, please let Terry Neil know.

We will also need hosts for our Fall Adult Formation Suppers on the Mondays of October. Soup and bread suppers will start at 6:15pm followed by formation discussions. Hosts will be asked to set tables for the soups and attendees and ask 3 people to provide a crock pot of soup (their choice).

Please let Terry N. know if you are interested in hosting any of the above events!

Parish Life members are co-chairs Kathy C. and Terry N., Mike B., Libby B., Tim C., Randy E., Phil McK. The Ministry Group is open to all who are interested in St. James fellowship events. We meet four times during the year to plan seasonal gatherings. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome!

Fellowship Dinners Continue and You Are Invited to be a Host!

Ask anyone who has ever attended one of the Fellowship Dinners if they enjoyed getting to know others from St. James' and they are sure to tell you "Yes!" These fellowship dinners are great fun with good food and you are invited to host one in your home this year.

The host provides the main course and beverages and others bring an appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert. These meals are informal and simply a time to be together and get to know one another better. Diane B. is our new coordinator for these dinners and is glad to answer any questions. Diane can be reached at 790-5068 to schedule a dinner. The dates for the Fellowship Dinners are: October 5, November 2, February 1, April 4 and May 2.

Resource Management

Colleen Meager of the New York Landmarks Conservancy visited St. James on July 26, taking pictures and asking good questions about the slate roof project. She was enthusiastic about our success in raising funds from the congregation for this job. On another front we have made a down payment to initiate the quarrying of Vermont Slate for the project, and we have also made a deposit for the purchase of copper to be used for flashing at the eaves. Neither the slate nor the decision by the Landmarks Conservancy will come before October.

Meanwhile, in the Lewis House, two contractors (Dwight Dibble and Dave Wankel) have examined it extensively and will be presenting proposals for renovation. An upstairs/downstairs division of apartments seems to be an interesting option.

Don P.

Outreach

Rescue Mission of Utica

The Rescue Mission of Utica will have \$300.00 from St. James to support their summer programs. The Rescue Mission of Utica helps homeless men to rehabilitate their lives; spiritually, emotionally, physically and mentally. We are pleased that we could help this outreach ministry.

Save Darfur

The Outreach Committee decided to wait until September for the "Save Darfur" matching funds.

If you donate to a "Save Darfur" organization other than thru St. James, please let someone from the Outreach Committee know of your donation so that we will include it in our match.

FYI: The John Lennon Tribute CD royalties go to "Save Darfur"!

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner and Fall Bazaar

In October, the Outreach Committee will again sponsor the Chicken & Biscuit Dinner and Fall. If you would like to help with the dinner or the bazaar, contact Barbara McK. or Heidi P.

Country Pantry

Look for "Feed The 5000" bags at the back of the church. This is a great way to have your family participate in providing supplemental food for the needy in the Clinton, Clark Mills and Westmoreland area. There is a list of needed foods on the bag. Once the bag is filled, return it to the back of the church and it will be taken to Country Pantry. Thank you for continuing to leave items in the Country

Pantry Basket. There are over 300 individuals in our area that benefit from your contributions.

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God and passed them out to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate until they were full. John 6:11.

A Garage Sale

To benefit the Andean Dental Health Initiative, will be held on October 12th, at 49 College Street. If you would like to contribute items to the sale, they can be left in the Parish Hall Closet. For more information contact Heidi Philley --853-5875

Save the Dates: October 12 & 13 2007

NY Partners in Transformation Prison Ministry Christians working together to help men and women in prison make the transition to successful life on the outside.

Keynote Speaker: Father Peter Young
"Rehabilitate, don't incarcerate!"

For information contact: Chaplain Don Snyder: dsnyde45@localnet.com

Having served as Outreach Chair for 7+ years, Heidi Philley is stepping down and Karen Anderson will assume the leadership of this ministry group. Thank you Heidi for these faithful years of service!! Heidi will continue helping Outreach and is looking forward to ministry in some other areas of our church.

TREASURER'S CORNER

Will resume in October

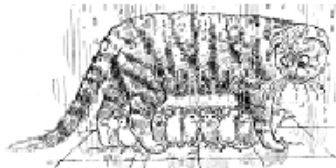
Roof Repair Capital Campaign

Thank you to all who have pledged your support for the repair of the roof. We have received pledges for approximately \$111,447 to date, which is terrific. Our goal was \$85,000 as a parish to qualify for the state grant for which we have applied.

Wish List Items

Our wish list continues to contain three items:

- 50% scholarships at St. James School for \$500
- Church school furnishings: \$300
- Donations to offset ramp repair



Day School News

There are still a few spaces available for this year's class. We accept 3 1/2 to 5 year olds in our program and have a Lunch Bunch extended hours option two days a week; there is also financial aid available. Call or stop by the office for an information packet. Please pass it on!

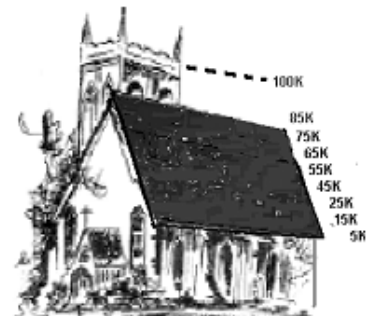
Cindy Wirene,
Day School Director/Head Teacher

ON CHURCH CATS AND ROOFS: Thoughts from the Pews

"In a certain small town near here, all the people were very proud of their old parish church. They loved its stain glass windows, its carved pews, its fine tower its shiny brass...but there was one part of it which they didn't seem to care about at all and that was the vestry roof." So begins the delightful British children's book "The Church Cat Aboard" written and illustrated by Graham Oakley (1973). Sampson, the church cat, and two mice friends devise a scheme to raise money for the roofing campaign. After much adventure, they make their way back to St John's church where they are welcomed home. Unfortunately, they raised no money and the roof remains in disrepair. Simpson concludes, "it takes more than a leaking roof to dampen feelings of true friendship."

We at St. James are proud of our church and have found friendship and love within its walls (and under its roof). Many of us identified these as core values/attributes of our church in the recent Diocesan Mutual Ministry survey. We are also blessed with a generous and faithful community. Our "repair of the roof" collection board looks nothing like the storybook St. John's. Rather than 19 1/2 pence of the 6000 pound goal, we have made and exceeded our internal goal of \$85K in pledges. (I will discuss why this is important in the next newsletter.) WE ARE TRULY BLESSED! And I'm certain Pansy, the Rector's cat, is happy she didn't have to endure money raising adventures of her own!.

I thank all of you for being people of faith and Mary J. for loaning me "The Church Cat Aboard." It and other Graham Oakley Church mice books are in the mid-York library collection. Perhaps, you would like to "check out" more adventures of Simpson and his mice friend
Patricia Kay Jue



St. James Server Schedule

Please see the print version for the server schedule.

Pray List

For those seeking wholeness & healing: **The Hebert Family, Joan, Don, Chuck, and Ed.** For our family & friends: **Kristina, Chris, Allison, Peter, Dennis Rich & Beryl, Phyllis, Sally, Anders Swanson, Robin Elizabeth, Sally, Barbara, Noreen, The Bornick family, Bob Ingalls.**

(Please notify the church office when names may be removed)



September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept. 2 9:30am <i>Ecumenical Worship on the Village Green</i> 6:15-9pm <i>Tapestry Rehearsal</i>	Sept. 3 -10pm <i>Mohawk Valley Scrabble Group</i>	Sept. 4 8:30pm <i>AA</i>	Sept. 5 7pm <i>Healing Service</i>	Sept. 6 <i>Adult Choir Resumes</i> 7:30pm	Sept. 7 7:30am <i>Men's Study Group</i>	Sept. 8 10:00am <i>Safe Church Training for Nursery Workers</i> 5:15pm <i>Holy Eucharist</i>
Sept. 9 9:30 am <i>Worship in Parish Hall</i> 11am <i>Coffee Hour</i> 6:15-9pm <i>Tapestry Rehearsal</i>	Sept. 10 6:30pm <i>Girlscouts Leader Meeting</i> 7:15pm <i>Women's Spirituality Group</i> 7-10pm <i>Mohawk Valley Scrabble Group</i>	Sept. 11 8:30pm <i>AA</i>	Sept. 12 7pm <i>Vestry</i>	Sept. 13 7:30 pm <i>Adult Choir</i>	Sept. 14 7:30am <i>Men's Study Group</i>	Sept. 15 5:15pm <i>Holy Eucharist</i>
Sept. 16 9:30am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> <i>Sunday School Starts;</i> 10:45am <i>Children's Choir resumes</i> 11:am <i>Outreach</i> 11:am <i>Parish Life</i> 11am <i>Coffee Hour</i> 6:15-9pm <i>Tapestry Rehearsal</i>	Sept. 17 7pm <i>Resource Mgm't.</i> 7-10pm <i>Mohawk Valley Scrabble Group</i>	Sept. 18 8:30pm <i>AA</i>	Sept. 19	Sept. 20 7:30 pm <i>Adult Choir</i>	Sept. 21 7:30am <i>Men's Study Group</i>	Sept. 22 5:15pm <i>Evening Prayer</i>
Sept. 23 9:30am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> <i>Sunday School</i> 11am <i>Coffee Hour</i> 6:15-9pm <i>Tapestry Rehearsal</i>	Sept. 24 7pm <i>Resource Mgm't.</i> 7-10pm <i>Mohawk Valley Scrabble Group</i>	Sept. 25 8:30pm <i>AA</i>	Sept. 26	Sept. 27 7:30 pm <i>Adult Choir</i>	Sept. 28 7:30am <i>Men's Study Group</i>	Sept. 29 5:15pm <i>Holy Eucharist</i>
Sept. 30 9:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist</i> <i>Sunday School</i> 5:30pm <i>Farewell Potluck for Stuhlman's</i> 6:15-9pm <i>Tapestry Rehearsal</i>	Oct. 1 6:30pm <i>Girl Scouts Leader Meeting</i> 7:15pm <i>Women's Spirituality Group</i> 7-10pm <i>Mohawk Valley Scrabble Group</i>	Oct. 2 8:30pm <i>AA</i>	Oct. 3 7pm <i>Healing Service</i>	Oct. 4 7:30 pm <i>Adult Choir</i>	Oct. 5 7:30am <i>Men's StudyGroup</i> 6:30pm <i>Fellowship Dinner</i>	Oct. 6 5:15pm <i>Holy Eucharist</i>