

St. James Westminster



INTERIM RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends, Members of St. James,

Where to begin? This time last year, Ken Anderson quoted Churchill and spoke about being at the "end of the beginning" as he prepared to retire. What did you begin together here? How do you want that to continue?

I'm aware that I represent just one more phase in this in-between time at St. James. In your stories, I hear both excitement and frustration as you wait to welcome a new rector ... "We want the great beginnings we have made to continue into an exciting future; how long do we have to wait? We have built a wonderful community here. We want that to flourish. We know we must be patient, but it's hard."

This transition is taking longer than you expected. I think you feel a bit like expectant family members pacing by the phone! Both impatience and hopeful expectancy are in the air.

As we move towards the Easter promise of new life, can we work intentionally to strengthen that hopeful expectancy? Let us trust in God that the path forward for St. James will open soon, in the right way and at the right moment. God knows what this community needs.

In the meantime, I encourage you to take meaningful, effective action, and not to wait! Consider first what you have begun together here and how you want that to continue. I believe that St. James' strength is built on **prayer, worship and relationships**. So as we journey together towards the Paschal (Easter) feast in that spirit, **please practice these 3 'Paschal Ps'**:

PRAY each day ... Please pause daily (in the car, in the shower, wherever) to pray for St. James;

PRAISE on Sunday ... Please encourage one another by being regular in Sunday worship;

PHONE someone each week ... Please make and renew your connections with one another.

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EASTER 2010

So may we journey together toward Easter joy and celebration of new life in Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Graham Bland



In February we welcomed our new interim priest, the Rev'd Graham Bland, to St. James Westminster. Ordained almost 30 years, Graham brings a wealth of experience from both his times as Rector and Interim Rector in many different locations. Graham serves currently as both part of the adjunct faculty of Huron College and as the professional practice leader for spiritual care at London Health Science Centre, where he leads the Spiritual Care team at University, Victoria & South Street Hospitals. We all look forward to getting to know Graham in the days ahead.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

March 28 Palm Sunday

8:30 am ~ Holy Eucharist

10:30 am ~ Holy Eucharist & Palm Procession

7:00 pm ~ Service of Tenebrae

March 29 Holy Monday

7:00 pm ~ Lenten Eucharist

March 30 Holy Tuesday

7:00 pm ~ Lenten Eucharist

March 31 Holy Wednesday

7:00 pm ~ Lenten Eucharist

7:30 pm ~ Lenten Study

April 1 Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm ~ Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar

April 2 Good Friday

9:00 am ~ Children's Program until noon

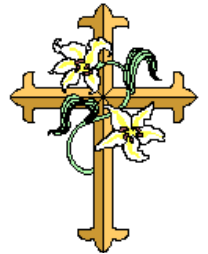
11:00 am ~ Devotions and Meditation

April 3 Holy Saturday

7:30 pm ~ Eucharist at St. Paul's Cathedral
(More information on back page)

April 4 Easter Sunday

Eucharist at **9:00** and **11:00** am with Brass!!
Please note change of time. Nursery at both services





2010 Vestry Meeting Photo

Back Row: Laura Manias (Sunday School Coordinator), John Sizeland (Warden), Ann De Bono (Family Ministry Director), Giulia Marchesan (Warden), Anna Woodson (Warden), Rev. Dr. Keith Fleming (associate priest), Robin Shearer (Warden)

Front Row: Rev'd Valerie Kenyon (assistant Curate), Janice Mayne (Treasurer), Elaine Jones-Chick (Vestry Clerk)

Since our Annual Vestry Meeting on January 31st, we have expressed our thanks to the Rev. Dr. Keith Fleming for his wonderful ministry among us for the past months and are pleased to have welcomed the Rev. Graham Bland to St. James as Interim Priest.

**WHO IS YOUR
NEW WARDEN?
Robin Stuart
Shearer**



Provenance

Born Glasgow, Scotland (can't remember when).

Education

Schooling in Glasgow
University of Edinburgh – BSc in Forestry
University of New Brunswick – MSc in Forestry
University of Western Ontario – MD
Fellowship in Family Medicine

Final vocation – Physician (farmer, gardener, dog lover & former orchid grower).

Work history

Medical Officer, RCAF for 3 years
Family Physician in London for 25 years
International Medicine for 13 years

Presently – GP Oncologist, London Regional Cancer Centre

During our time overseas I had the privilege of looking after the Royal Family in Saudi Arabia; a group of oil companies in Yemen; the Armed Forces in the UAE

and an indigenous population in the Western Pacific.

Family

Wife of 43 years – Granya (Altar Guild & Property Committee).

Son – Douglas (Veterinarian, Strathroy) & Rebecca. Children Colin, Duncan & Ewan— all members of St. James Westminster

Daughter – Fiona (Veterinary Technologist & Farmer, Alberta) & Ritchie

Daughter – Heather (Chiropractor) & Dax, (parents of the twins Gavin & Hayden, whom we prayed for last year), living in Guelph.

Religious affiliation

Brought up in the Church of Scotland
'Converted' in 1969 (another story altogether)
Board of Management, St Paul's Cathedral – 1970s

Looked after many senior Anglican Clergy, including the Jones', Anderson's & many St. James parishioners.

I am a confirmed '8:30 attender'.

Member of Property Committee & BAC.

Passed 'dishwashing 101' at the Fryer, Sizeland, Hefferton School of Culinary Arts.

It is an honour for me to be a member of this wonderful parish and to have been requested to serve as Warden and represent you during this term of office.

The Anglican Diocese of Huron invites you to a

**FAMILY
EARTH DAY
EVENT**

On either side of the river is the tree of life
(Rev 22:2)

April 17th, 2010
10:00 a.m. registration
Initially gathering at **St. Anne's, Byron**
1344 Commissioners Road West, London, ON
For directions visit www.forministry.com/CAONACOFCSAACB

Worship	Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come along, bring the whole family and your friends and neighbours. • Pray, praise, share and learn with us, in all-age inclusive experiential worship. • Celebrate God's wonderful creation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue our worship as we together turn to action • Clean up will be at Springbank Park along the river, coordinated as part of 11th Annual Thames River Clean-up. • Appropriate tasks for a variety of ages

NEXT DATE FOR BAPTISM

Next baptismal date has been set for Sunday, June 6th. Please be in touch with either Graham or Val if you would like further information.

FAITH QUEST SUNDAY SCHOOL

The St. James Faith Quest Sunday School continues to be an exciting place. Every week the Faith Quest kids (grade 1-5) participate in rotating workshops to explore and experience the story of the month.

In January we learned about the Prodigal Son by discussing families (you may have seen kids walking in with Family Trees), the occasional unfairness of life through a puppet show, and the journey of the prodigal son.

In February we learned about Psalm 23 by watching a movie, creating Kid Pix pictures in the mouse house, making a wall hanging illustrating the Psalm, and playing a game of God leading sheep through the Valley of the shadow of death.

Coming up we will learn about the Last Supper in March and Resurrection (according to Matthew) in April. Thank you to all the Teachers and Shepherds who go with our Faith Quest kids on this learning journey. Thank you also to Rev. Val for helping to lead Teacher and Shepherd Bible Study Breakfasts. It's always a good time and quite enlightening.

The Godly Play kids (a.k.a. Young Children and Worship) are the 3year olds to Senior Kindergarten aged children. They hear a short story and then reflect on it through their work. The teachers and shepherds of this age group recently participated in a renewal/training breakfast. I think it was quite successful in helping us continue this program for our Wonder Kids!

In addition to these regular weekly activities, the St. James Children have been busy with several other events:

The Christmas Play - Thank you to everyone who helped with this play. Many behind-the-scene volunteers made it possible for the children to dance, parade, and act this wonderful story for the congregation.

Ash Wednesday - Including participants from St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, 34 children and 5 youth participated in a enjoyable day of crafts, baking, games, drama, music, and worship. Thank you to the 19 adult and youth volunteers who took time away from school and work to spend the day with our children.

Events to Look Forward to:

Good Friday

Children's Day Camp 10 am-noon



Easter Sunday

Special Easter Sunday School 11 am

Baobab Blast V B S

July 26-August 6



Blessings,
Laura Manias



Ash Wednesday Children's Worship



Music with Elyse



A Walk in the Village



Hocketti Dinner



**Ch-ch-ch-ch changes...
at the Parent & Tot Group!**

Child-minders for our infants & pre-schoolers **Every Tuesday, 10 am-noon** while parents enjoy time for meaningful conversations **in the Westminster Lounge.**

Everyone is more than welcome! Invite your friends and neighbours! Contact Hilary for info: hily_@hotmail.com

ST. JAMES YOUTH NEWS

Contemplative youth ministry is about creating for our students places of silence and opening up spaces for God to speak

—Duffy Robbins, author and professor of youth ministry at Eastern University

While creating places of silence for our young people can be a challenge in today's fast-paced and often noisy culture, youth leaders here at St James strive to do that when we meet with our youth. We work to let them know that they are never alone, God is always with them, and so are we!

In the depths of winter and the heart of Lent, we are together discussing what it means to be a Christian, what service looks like and how we can build God's Kingdom together. Whether we are in one of our 3 active youth groups, at our Sunday Night Live service or in our large monthly gathering listening to a guest speaker or participating in team-building activities with Jen Cripps, we are demonstrating to each other the presence of Jesus who is always near.

St James youth have also demonstrated their presence for each other and the St. James family through many different activities. In recent weeks they have gone tubing at Boler Mountain, helped to provide and serve Vestry lunch, made many rice krispie squares for and served dinner at Hocketti II (see next paragraph). Youth have also provided leadership to over 40 young children at our Ash Wednesday Day Camp, attended Taize prayers at King's College (UWO), led worship for seniors at Trafalgar Terrace and the Seekers group even made dinner for their parents and siblings on February 21st.

As mentioned above, Hocketti II Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction (followed, for many, by a London Knights' game) was held on February 6th. The proceeds of this fun evening go to support our Taize Pilgrimage program. With a goal of \$3000 in mind, we are pleased to report that we raised approximately **\$6,000.00!!** Thanks so much to our many helpers, donors, parents and youth who worked very hard to make this evening such a fantastic success. We look forward to telling you of our journey taking place this coming July.

Ann De Bono
Director of Family Ministry

You are invited to join some students from Huron University College as they prepare 2,000 Laura Secord-type Easter Eggs for sale to aid St. Paul's Seminary in Tanzania. Your help would be appreciated on **Monday, March 15th** and **Tuesday, March 16th** from **6 to 9:30 p.m.** Younger children will need to be supervised but people of all ages are welcome.

ANNUAL ACW CONFERENCE

St. Paul's Cathedral
Saturday April 24, 2010
9:30 a.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Theme : "Food for Thought"

Guest speaker: Laurel Pattenden
(ACW Spiritual Development, Chairperson)

Holy Eucharist at 2:00 p.m.

Brown Bag lunch or local restaurants

Come for a day of fellowship.

WHEELS TO MEALS

Wheels to Meals is a program organized by the Nurture Committee for seniors eating alone on Sunday.

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

April 18 May 16 June 20



We meet in the Westminster Room following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for fellowship, appetizers and a drink, followed by a home cooked meal.

Bring a friend!

ST. JAMES WESTMINSTER VISITS THE SISTERS OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

By Val Kenyon

On February 19, eight St. James intrepid travelers boarded the 11:53 a.m. train out of London on a mini pilgrimage of sorts to join with the Sisters of St. John the Divine Convent in Toronto during one of their Saturday quiet days. The order of the Sisters of St. John the Divine was the first Anglican sisterhood to be founded in Canada in 1884 and since then they have been active in a variety of ministries across Canada.

We eight would be joined later in Toronto by four other St. James parishioners, making us an even dozen. For some of us the convent was a new experience, and for others it was not, but I think I can fairly say that it was a meaningful experience for us all on many levels.



After arriving at the convent and settling in a bit, we joined the Sisters in their Taize style evening prayer, followed by a silent supper. Later that evening we came together as a group to get better acquainted with one another and to explore some aspects of both our retreat experience and our experience of Lent to that point.

On Saturday morning we participated in one of the Lenten Day quiet days where the theme was Spiritual Friendship and how, among other things, these friendships support our growing understanding of the love of God. As well as consulting our own experience, we dipped into William Paul Young's *The Shack* and the great Celtic saint, Aelred's writings on Spiritual Friendship. Our day there seemed to fly by and before we knew it we were back aboard the train recounting what we had heard and wondering when we might make a return visit.

The Sisters of St. John the Divine believe they are called to be a sign of Christ in the world, to witness to the power of God's reconciling and forgiving love through prayer, spiritual guidance, justice, peace, care for creation, hospitality, ministering to those in need, and promoting unity, healing, and wholeness.

More can be learned about the Sisterhood and all they have to offer in so many areas, by visiting their website at www.ssjd.ca.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2010

St. James Westminster was the host church for this year's **World Day of Prayer** on Friday, March 5, 2010. A congregation of 86 attended the service written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cameroon. Attendees were requested to wear bright clothing and eight local churches participated in the service, with at least one reader from each church. The collection for donation to the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada amounted to just over \$640. Joyce Mitchell went to many lengths to find someone from Cameroon to speak and was successful in arranging for Marie Gisele Owana to attend. Marie Gisele is a visitor from Cameroon on a year-long mission to Canada and lives in Mississauga. She gave a very animated talk in French translated with humour by Robert, a Cameroonian who is now a Canadian citizen. After the service there was a reception in the Great Hall featuring fruits and breads of Cameroon.

Many thanks to Val Kenyon for her role as Leader, to Stephen Holowitz, Morgan Jones and Katy Clark for their wonderful music, and to the volunteers who helped to make this a very uplifting and successful event.

ACW Executive

MISSION TO PERU

Hola,

As you read this, the Peru mission is underway and we wish to thank you for all your donations. Your generosity has helped us to take 550 lbs of supplies (11 suitcases) to the people of the shantytowns in Lima, Peru. All donated money goes to the Diocese of Peru. We cover 100% of our own expenses.

The following letter was written by one of the students St. James has helped support for the past couple of years. Lucy has completed university and is entering teacher's college.

We thank you for your support and prayers.

Marion Rake
Eleanor & Shannon Kelly
Debbie, Lauren & Sarah Duplan

Dear Family,



It is a great pleasure to be able to write and express my thanks. I thank God for the opportunity to meet such a generous family that has helped me to finish my career in nursery education. Thanks to you I have been able to achieve my target.

Thank you for being such marvellous, generous and good-hearted people. My studies have helped me in many ways. I have grown as a person and learned many things, one of them being to appreciate the importance of being responsible since, because of this, I have been one of the best students in my institute. I felt really good about myself when the teachers assessed me as a responsible and reliable student, wanting to get ahead.

Now I must make a great effort to finish my thesis, which is entitled "The Use of Children's Songs for Improving Oral Expression in 5 year-old Boys and Girls". We work as a group and, while doing practical work, realized that the children could not pronounce words correctly. We therefore chose children's songs, as we had seen that children sing away happily, expressing their feelings, and that they improved their pronunciation because of their singing. I know I will soon complete the thesis and get my title.

My parents, brothers, and sisters are also most grateful for the unconditional support you have given me and I will be eternally grateful. You will always be in my heart. I know that God knows how good you have been and what a big heart you have.

May God bless each one of you and bless your home. With all my heart I wish you the best the world can offer. You deserve every happiness. Many thanks.

Lucy Mamani



AN OLYMPIC MOMENT

In preparation for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics, the Olympic Flame was carried across Canada, visiting over 1,000 communities. The journey of the flame began on October 30th and on December 24th it arrived in London, greeted by large crowds and enthusiastic community support. John Fryer (Jr) was one of the lucky Canadians selected to carry the torch and on Sunday December 27, John took his turn and carried the Olympic flame. Many friends and family braved the chilly morning to cheer him on and share in this special memory.



ACW BAKE SALE

APRIL 25, 2010

After both Services

Enjoy all those tasty goodies!

FROM THE BACK PEW

Quite a Journey

This week marks fifty-six years that I have been doing this sort of thing – writing short, long and medium sized pieces for a variety of publications. And it ends much as it started, a personal note for a newsletter.

My first venture into the wordsmith game was sort of a desperation move – I had two hundred or so people spread out in over fifty communities in Alberta with whom I wanted to communicate on a regular basis. Letters and phone calls were not doing the job, so I invented the newsletter! (oh, maybe someone else had tried it before, but I didn't know that)

It worked reasonably well and here I am, a half-century or so later and still doing it. In that time I have contributed to various magazines and newspapers and authored and edited 'official' documents too numerous to mention. I wrote and illustrated a regular column for a number of weekly papers in the Ottawa Valley and from those a book was published.

That column was titled 'From the Back Pew' and it was based on visits to more than a hundred churches of all denominations. What started as a 'make-work' project turned out to be the most rewarding venture in a life filled with travel and excitement.

The reward was in personal spiritual development. By visiting all those churches, meeting the people, attending services and becoming familiar with their history I found a new, and hopefully, improved me. By turning all my pen and ink sketches into water-colour paintings over a couple of years, I found myself revisiting the people and their churches in my mind, hearing again the music and lessons and absorbing the Christian message delivered by so many gifted people.

It was quite a journey.

So, after all this I find myself writing my last newsletter piece. I don't know what act of fate brought Stella and I to St. James Westminster but I do know it is the right place for me. Once again it is the people – you!

Thanks for listening.

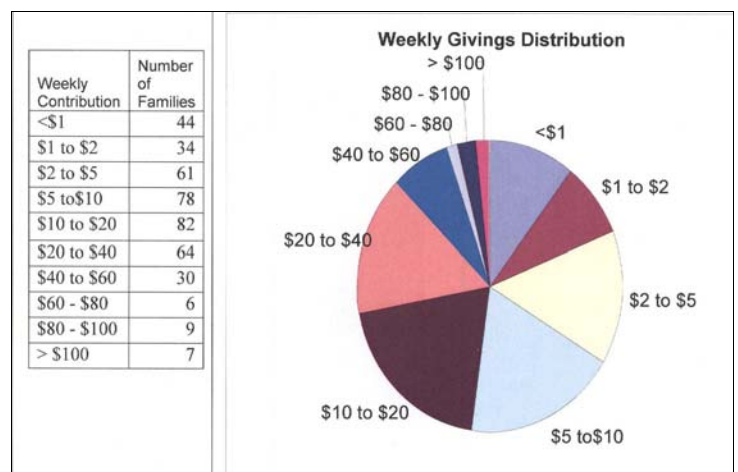
Lloyd 'Mo' Morrison

STEWARDSHIP AND THE ASSISTANT CURATE FUND

In the past few years as Saint James has grown into the largest parish in the diocese, it has become obvious that a second full-time minister is necessary. At the December Parish Council meeting, the Wardens presented a plan for a full-time Assistant Curate at Saint James. This idea was enthusiastically endorsed, and your Wardens then looked for financial support for the project. Mr. Al Smith committed to give \$24,000 in 2010, and another parishioner has already given \$1,000. However, Saint James will still need a 4 percent increase in offerings in order to meet the 2010 budget presented and passed at Vestry.

Many people are uncertain about what is an appropriate amount to give to your Parish. To help with that decision, let me tell you that in 2010 the operating costs of running Saint James, not including Outreach, will be approximately \$22 per week per family. This includes the cost of the Assistant Curate. Of course we recognize that not everyone can give this much and that many can give more. I'm also including a chart that shows how many families give how much per week. I ask that we all consider how we can continue to support Saint James, financially and in other important ways, to ensure our continued vibrant Parish life together.

Janice Mayne, Treasurer



HOLY SATURDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

In recent days, our Diocese has begun a concerted effort to support and promote regional conjoined ministry, recognizing that Anglicans in Huron Diocese are not only members of parishes but also of a larger church body in Christ. As we approach Lent and Holy Week this year, we are all invited to join Archbishop Fred Hiltz and Bishop Bob Bennett for the pinnacle of the church year at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil at 7:30 p.m. Not only will this celebration bring hundreds of devoted Anglicans together in one place, it will offer us a unique opportunity to celebrate the resurrection as one body, in our Cathedral church, one night before we proclaim Christ's resurrection here at St. James Westminster on Easter morning. A portion of this year's Easter Vigil collection will be given to the Daily Bread Food Program & The Fellowship Centre Lunch Program at our Cathedral. Due to the increased demands resulting from the economic downturn, the two programs have seen greater demands and a need for greater resources than ever before. As always, your generosity is encouraged and appreciated.



A PRAYER FOR EASTER MORNING

O Lord Jesus Christ, who upon this day did conquer death and rise from the dead, and who are alive for ever more, help us never to forget your Risen Presence forever with us.

Help us to remember,

That you are with us in every time of perplexity to guide and to direct;
That you are with us in every time of sorrow to comfort and console;
That you are with us in every time of temptation to strengthen and to inspire;
That you are with us in every time of loneliness to cheer and befriend;
That you are with us even in death to bring us to the glory of your side.

Make us to be certain that there is nothing in time or in eternity which can separate us from you, so that in your presence we may meet life with gallantry and death without fear.

You turn our darkness into light, in your light we shall see light.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Christ the Lord is risen today!

ALLELUIA