

From St. James' with Love

Corner of Lake and Main
P.O. Box 249
Hammondsport, New York
607.569.2647
January 2009

The Rev. Sandra K. Curtis, Rector
607.569.2534

The Rev. Thomas Williams, Deacon
607.594.2423

From Mother C

There's just something about Christmas - something way beyond - that goes deep in our experiences of life. This has been one of those wonderful Christmases that I will never forget. Of course, the Christmas Eve service was awesome. How can we ever forget what God has done for us. Our worship service was so meaningful. The church was filled and the music was tremendous. We were blessed with great organ and choir music. Sara French, who plays the trumpet so well, joined us this year and enhanced our music and hymns. Cecil Van Houten treated us to beautiful arrangements of our old favorite Christmas hymns like "Away in the Manger" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Ellie Boutwell, once again, sang "O Holy Night" in her beautiful flowing soprano. Catherine Herrick, four years old, placed the baby Jesus in the creche. Tom and Carol Bidwell and Cecil offered a medley of many of our favorite Communion songs. The church looked magnificent, as usual, and how can anyone forget singing "Silent Night" accompanied by guitar, as it was originally done, while the church glowed with candlelight only.

But this Christmas was even more than that. Many wonderful things happened here. We decided to spend \$400 to provide Christmas for a family. That was all set, but then, there were more suggestions of need. So, we added \$270 for a second Christmas surprise, \$350 for another Christmas surprise and then, \$200 for another! It just seemed the right thing to do, and I thank all of you who have been out spending your time and shopping for others.

And then, Bruce White showed up at my door. Do you remember the "Talent Sunday" we had a few weeks ago? Well, Bruce laid his \$5.00 on a table in front of his friends and said, "This is my five dollars. We're going to pay someone's heating bill this month, so you need to add yours to it." Well they, bless them all, did, and Bruce brought me \$170 to help pay someone's heating bill. As he left, he said, "I believe I have some more coming, but you can start with that."

But this Christmas was even more than that, and it was more than spending time with family, and the phone calls and the expressions of love and the exchange of gifts.

This is the best one of all. It all started in November at the Annual Holiday Bazaar that Nancy French so generously organizes for us. Every year she has a White Elephant table, and on that table this year was a cloth rabbit. The rabbit was about sixteen inches tall, and was dressed in the loveliest of dresses. She really was entirely too beautiful (thank you whoever donated her) to leave on the White Elephant table, so I bought her, thinking I would find some child who needed her.

She's been sitting around my house, and I finally gave her to someone to give to a child she knew. This child lives in a home where they have very little. Her parents, who barely take care of her physical needs, too often, overwhelmed by life, forget this little girl's emotional needs. The child is four years old, very bright, and I believe in need of more emotional support from those around her. She spends her days coloring in old phone books (I found out she has no paper of her own), and making pictures and cutting them apart to make puzzles which she takes apart and puts together. She was described as whiney, and doesn't sleep well, waking up often and seeking attention.

I want you to know that the rabbit from the Holiday Bazaar (that we gave wrapped as a gift) has changed her life. She loves it; it's new name is "Baby." Baby now quietly sits in her lap at all meals. Baby goes everywhere with her. This little girl has turned the box the rabbit came in into a little "wagon" to pull Baby with her wherever she goes. She has taken an old pillow from the couch, and an old blanket and made room for Baby to sleep by her at night. For the first time, this child goes to sleep at a decent time, with her arm around Baby, and sleeps the night through. This "silly," but wonderful rabbit has provided a lonely child with a sense of security that she has needed for a long time. I guess you just never know what a White Elephant rabbit can do; but God does.

This is the miracle of Christmas. This is the wonder of it all. This is how Christ works in our world. He uses us, and we are so privileged and humbled to be trusted to participate with him to help change the lives of others.

And now you know why I love being here and working and sharing with you; you bring me joy. Much love to all of you. God bless+ you and give you health and happiness in the New Year.

PRAYER CORNER

We ask all at St. James Church to keep the following people in their prayers.

Carolyn	John	Barb	Patty
Shannon	Eileen	Doug	Jessica
Mike	Greg	David	Maria
Bill	Betsy	Jim	Richard
Adrienne	Georgia	Gene	Peter
Lori	The Howard family	Ed	Glen
June	Charlene	Pat	Nancy
Alice	Philip	Rachael	Cora
Betty	Ted	Teralin	Amy
Angel	Patrick	Sue	Candy
Mary	Chanda	Clyde Elwood	Sherrie

The Church of Kisima in Kenya Trinity Church in Canaseraga Those who suffer with addictions

Those who serve our country in the military, especially Vance, Forrest and Zac.

(Please let Mother C. know how people on the prayer list are doing.

Vestry

The Vestry met November 12, 2008, and discussed the following:

*Decided to put \$70,000 from the Restricted Undercroft Fund money into a CD for 6 mos.

*Betty Frey will be Chairman for the UTO offering.

*Money raised from the Holiday Bazaar was over \$3,000. A big thank you to Chairman Nancy French. The money will be used to pay back loans.

*\$151.00 from the Memorial Fund to buy new letters for the outside Church Bulletin Board in memory of Randy Tyler.

*The Annual Meeting will be held January 25, 2008, after church.

*A gift of \$50,000 was accepted from The Taylor Family Foundation to be used for the renovation of the main room in the Undercroft in memory of Flora Taylor Keeler.

*Named \$2000 of the Investment Fund as the Rose Schmoker Memorial Fund. This money was given by her daughter in memory of her mother. It was in the Investment Fund, but not named.

*The proceeds from the Apple Pie sale will be used for Mission.

*Our Goat Project grew! Money was sent to purchase goats for \$50 each, but the people of Kisima were able to purchase 224 goats @ \$15.00 a piece with our contribution!

*Bruce White is working on the Footprint for the Undercroft for the architect, Marsha Coon.

*The painter is slowly making progress: the Vestry requested that the painting be complete before Christmas.

*Bishop Prince Singh's visitation to St. James' Church will be December 7, 2008.

*Connie Van Houten and Leah Nickiporuk are licensed to take Communion to the sick and shut-ins.

*St. James will participate in the Ecumenical Lenten Program this year.

The Vestry met also met December 10, 2008, and discussed the following:

*Adopted a budget for 2009 of \$79,222.24.

*Adopted a 2009 Housing Resolution for the Rev. Sandra Curtis.

*Accepted a gift of \$500 from the Jeannette H. Robbins estate and placed it in the Undercroft Fund.

*Leah Nichiporuk, Karen Derr and Tom Noteware will run for Vestry at the Annual Meeting. Barb Brayer will run for Warden and Charles Skinner will run for Delegate to Convention. Leah Nichiporuk has agreed to run for Alternate Delegate to Convention.

*Distributed \$2900 for Mission: Meals on Wheels - \$200, Project CARE - \$200, Pregnancy Resource Center - \$200, Turning Point - \$250, Family Life Network - \$50, HMST Bath Community Center - \$300, Southern Tier Hospice - \$300, Hammondsport Vacation Bible School - \$200, Josep's Hammer - \$100, Christmas for a family - \$400, Episcopal Relief and Development for 25 mosquito nets - \$300, Heifer International - \$200, Habitat for Humanity (Steuben Co.) - \$200.

*John Herrick has agreed to be Clerk-of-the-Works for our Undercroft Renovation Project.

*Gregg Learned has reported that our elevator is in need of considerable work and may have to be replaced.

*The footprint for the Undercroft has been completed by Bruce White and is in the possession of the architect.

*The interior painting should be completed before Christmas.

SPAGHETTI LASAGNA DINNER

JANUARY 17, 2009
4:00 - 6:30 P.M.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH
CORNER OF LAKE & MAIN
HAMMONDSPORT, NY

HOMEMADE SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALLS
OR LASAGNA
HOMEMADE BREAD
SALAD AND DESSERT BARS
ITALIAN DESSERTS
(COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF WINE)

DONATION
ADULTS - \$7.00
CHILDREN 6-12 - \$3.00
CHILDREN UNDER 6 - FREE

QUESTIONS? WILLING TO HELP? CALL NANCY FRENCH 522-4562

•••Thanks to everyone who helped with the **Greening of the Church** on Sunday, December 21. Everything went quickly because of all the help. Special thanks to Nancy and Floyd French who made all the window arrangements and decorated all the wrought iron candle sticks ahead of time - and to Judy Robbins who made all the ribbons - and to Nick Forenz for climbing that ladder and hanging the garland from the peak of the arch. The church looked magnificent!

THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
were given to the glory of God by

- †Their children and grandchildren in thanksgiving for Richard and Adrienne Hutcheson
- †Betty Arnett in memory of Chester and Alberta Arnett, Annette Arnett RoDee
- †Paul Aeschbacher in memory of Jane Aeschbacher and Ronald Sick
- †Ruth Clarke in memory of Albert Clarke
- †Jack and Connie Morris in memory of Mabel A. Morris
- †Charles and Janetmarie Skinner in memory of Ernestine, Michael, Angela and Paul Rizzuto, Louise Rizutto, Inez and Charlie Skinner
- †Jim and Karen Derr in memory of Jean Kolo, Helen Kolo, Wesley and Julia Derr
- †George and Barbara Brayer in memory of Herbert Robinson, Eva Robinson Weatherell, Albert Weatherell,
Lona and Warren Brayer, Katharina Brayer
- †David and Mary Jane Burch in memory of Roger W. and Edith Orr Peters, Paul Edward Peters, Graham M. and Mary Dye Burch, Mildred Dye
- †Floyd and Nancy French in memory of Harry and Esther Young, Marshall and Elma French
- †Betty Frey in loving memory of my family
- †Her Husband and Children in memory of Louise and Sheri Hunn
- †Arlene Santus in memory of Ronald Santus, James and Charlotte Santus, Erwin and Viola Young
- †James and Leah Nichiporuk in memory of Jack Nichiporuk, Jacob and Helen Nichiporuk, Christopher and Lena Forgarty, Charles Husted, Louise Husted, Roselle Shepherd
- †Betty Barkley in memory of R. "Harry" Barkley Chester and Marion Frost
Leslie and Edith Barkley, D.H. and Peg Rumsey
- †Colette Eaton in memory of Richard Eaton
- †Janet Campbell in memory of Stuart (Sparky) Campbell Theodore and Elizabeth Carl and John Carl
- †Stella Pulver in memory of Richard Pulver, Steven Brian Pulver, Alvin and Betty Pulver, Steve and Mary Matwiejow
- †John and Joan Rogerson in memory of Ray P. and Betty Tillman, Capt. and Mrs. John Rogerson, Jeanne M. Lent, Robert J. Howe, James Howe, Mr. and Mrs. James Howe, Barbara Bruns
- †Dick and Adrienne Hutcheson in thanksgiving for Children and Grandchildren
- †Bruce, Mary and Steven White in memory of Richard and Alice Sherer, Richard and Clara Sherer, Steven and Jesse Yurch, Claude White, Eunice Fuller, Bill White
- †Nick and Patty Forenz in memory of Helen Forenz Canfield, Dominick Forenz, Helen and John DeBattiste, Michelle Bonnet Forenz, Kayla Marie Forenz, Joe and Ellen Kennedy, Flora and Jim Walters, Gloria Dowdle
- Peter and Connie Manikas in memory of Peter and Martha Geracimo, Thomas and Katherine Manikas, and James Manikas
- †The Rev. Sandra Curtis in memory of Leland and Honor King, Ernest King, Ingraham and Louise Curtis, Julia King
- †St. James' Church in memory of Mary Lawrence, Joseph and Sylvia Swarouth, Fred and Harriet Taylor, the Rev. Richard Henderson and the Rev. Robert Withington

• • • *We delivered 311 pair of socks, in memory of Jane Aeschbacher, to the Bath VA Hospital the day before Christmas.*

ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 25. The meeting will take place following the morning service and after a pot-luck brunch. At that time Vestry members, Warden, and Delegates to Convention will be elected. There will also be reports from different programs in the church and a report on the budget adopted by the Vestry. Please bring a dish to pass and join us at the Annual Meeting.

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

The Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry gave out 70 Thanksgiving boxes and 120 Christmas boxes of food. Thanks to all who helped make this possible, especially Dorie Lundy, Tom Bidwell and Bob Hunn.

Altar Guild for 2009

If you are willing to help with the Altar Guild in 2009, please let Leah Nichiporuk (569.2055) know as soon as possible. She is putting together the schedule for 2009, and would very much appreciate your help.

The Vestry

Coffee Hour

Adrienne Hutcheson is the new Coordinator of the Coffee Hour. If you are willing to be an Overseer for a month, please contact her. Individuals who wish to help on a particular date, please let the Overseer for the month know. (Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board by the kitchen.) If you are unable to have Coffee Hour the week you have signed up, please swap with someone and/or contact the Overseer for the month.

•••Names are being placed on the Altar Flower Calendar for 2009. If you wish to remember someone on a particular date or give flowers as a thanksgiving, please notify Sandy+ as soon as possible so that your name can be placed on the calendar. The cost of flowers per week is \$24.00. If there are two donors on a particular week, the cost will be divided between the donors.

Talent Sunday

On Sunday, November 16, our lessons included the Parable of the Talents. After the sermon, Sandy+ passed out some "talents" to everyone at the service, and caught up with some more of you at a later time! What you hold belongs to God, but it will be in your care until the first Sunday of June (June 7) in 2009. On that Sunday, after our morning service, we will join together for a pot-luck brunch and share some of our stories of what we have done with our "talents." It is wonderful that everyone was willing to participate, and we look forward to hearing about the account of your journeys.

BISHOP SINGH'S VISIT DECEMBER 7

Bishop Singh made his annual visit to St. James' on December 7. During the service he consecrated the new Water Vat and Aspergillum and twelve linen Purificators in memory of Sandra M. Williams. Carol Battaglia and William Wilson were Confirmed, and Stephanie Wilson, Robert Battaglia, and Donella Barney were Received on that day. We presented Bishop Singh with Jerry Lange's new book on the Windows of St. James'. Following the morning service, the Bishop joined us for brunch and conversation in the Undercroft. Below is the letter he sent:

Dear Saints of St. James',

Thank you for a wonderful and substantive enjoyment during my recent visit with you. It was a true Joy to share stories, thoughts, visions and good food (including that special ice cream) with you. Thank you for everything, including the gifts of wine, music and the joy of serving Christ, the Incarnate Word. Blessings and peace. ☐Prince

••••Many members of St. James' turned out for **Apple Pie Day**. The apples, donated by Jeff and Kathy Kennedy were washed, peeled and sliced by the kitchen crew. The assembly crew, headed by Mary White (Chair of the whole event) put together 220 pies, which netted a profit of \$1540 to be used for missions. We owe sincere thanks to Snug Harbor who donated all the pie tins and to Mary and Bruce White who donated all the other ingredients. We also need to thank Mary, who sets this up every year, and everyone who worked for this wonderful mission project.

Dinner and a Movie

Thursday, January 15, at 6:00 PM. The movie will be ***The Count of Monte Cristo***. The January movie will be at Sandy's, 10 Shethar Street. Please join us! Remember - bring a dish to pass. Beverage and dishes provided. See you there.

**Scouting for Food - over 3000 units of food collected
for the loaves and fishes Food Pantry!**

2009 Offering Envelopes can be found at the back of the Church.

•••Congratulations to Jim and Samantha Worden Heil who were married at St. James' on December 6, 2008

Please come join us for our first **First Friday Fellowship** of 2009 next week, **1/2/09**, at **St. James' Episcopal Church** in Hammondsport. The music starts at **7pm**. Bring a friend, a musical instrument, and a small snack to share as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Prepare your hearts to enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise. Pray that the Holy Spirit will flow down upon us that evening and that everyone will be refreshed in the spirit.

Jerry Lange has completed his book The Windows and Sanctuary of St. James. The books are available for \$10.00. If you want one of the books, contact Sandy+.

From:

Southern Tier Hospice: On behalf of the Friends of Hospice 2008, I wish to express our appreciation for your generous donation of \$300.00. Your continuing support of our program will help us continue our service to the terminally ill and their loved ones.
Mary Ann Starbuck, Executive Director

The VA Hospital, Bath: Thank you for your gift of 311 pair of socks for veteran patients in memory of Jane Aeschbacher. We are grateful for your interest and support.
Richard Conklin, Voluntary Service

Meals on Wheels: Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$200.00. May you and your families be richly blessed for this wonderful contribution to a vital community program.
Darlene Ike Executive Director

Southerntier Steuben Co. Habitat for Humanity: We thank you for your recent donation of \$200.00. Your support is truly appreciated as we work to reach our goal for 2008. We will be using your donation to continue our effort to build a home at 15 Prospect St. in Addison.
Jennifer Marinilli, Donations Manager

ST. JAMES CHURCH WELCOMES YOU! **Sunday School - 52 weeks a year!**

HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY AT 9:00 A.M.

Vestry and Delegates to Convention

Wardens: James Grillo - first year, Barbara Brayer - second year

Vestry: Mary White, Floyd French, Jan Smith - 1st year

Ted Dykas, Bob Hunn, Nick Forenz - 2nd year

Tom Noteware, Leah Nichiporuk, Karen Derr - 3rd year

Delegates to Convention: Betty Frey -1st year, Thaddeus Dykas -2nd, Sue Dykas - 3rd

Alternate Delegates: Leah Nichiporuk, Charles Skinner

Clerk of the Vestry: Betty Frey

Treasurer: Karen Derr

Pledge Clerk: Barbara Brayer

Choir Director and Organist: Elenor Boutwell

Christian Education: Lin Bretherton

Deacon: The Rev. Thomas Williams, M Th.

Associate Priest: The Rev. Cora Booth, MTh.

Rector: The Rev. Sandra Curtis, MS Ed., M Div.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.stjames14840.org