

The Annual Report
of
St. James Episcopal Church
For the Year 2009



Presented at the 114th Annual Parish Meeting
January 10, 2010

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Agenda for the 114th Annual Parish Meeting

1. Call to order and Prayer - Doreen Canton and Rev. Won-Jae Hur
2. Organizational Matters
 - a. The appointment of a Clerk of the Meeting - Helen Lantz
 - b. The certification of the minutes of the 113th Annual Meeting - Tom Matthews
 - c. The appointment of a parliamentarian - John Harrison
3. Senior Warden's Report - Doreen Canton
4. Interim's Report - Rev. Won-Jae Hur
5. Treasurer's Report - Anne Purcell
6. Nominating Committee Report for new Vestry Members
 - a. The floor is open for additional nominees for Vestry Members
 - b. Election of Vestry Members
 - c. Nominating Committee Report for Delegates to the Deanery and Diocesan Convention
 - d. The floor is open for additional nominees as Delegates
 - e. Election of Delegates
7. Parish Profile - Jan Vennari
8. Next Steps – Ann Rieger-Matthews
9. Open floor
10. Closing Prayer
11. Adjournment

St. James Mission Statement: To bring an ever increasing number of people into an ever closer relationship with Jesus Christ so that God's love may be a transforming force for the community in which we live.

Please read the annual report for more details about our ministries in 2009 here at St. James.

Clergy, Staff and Vestry Members During 2009

Clergy

The Reverend Won-Jae Hur, Interim Priest (Starting April 27th, 2009)

The Reverend Merry Chan Ong, Transitional Deacon

Staff

Fred Goff, Music Director

Aki Amai, Organist

Erazm Pochron, Parish Administrator

Sidrah Gibbs, Youth Minister

Elia Pochron, Children's Craft Coordinator

Elizabeth Nelson, Editor, St. James Journal

Nancy Newmeyer, Flower Guild Chair

Giselle Bosc, Altar Guild Chair

Eric Kudroff, Andre Pochron, Altar Guild Assistants

Courtney Chew, Taylor Pochron, Hospitality Assistants

Vestry

Doreen Canton, Senior Warden

Liza Colton, Junior Warden

Anne Purcell, Treasurer

Karen Clopton

Carla Cooper

Mary Ann Faris

Will Gregory

John Harrison

Kathy Henry

Margaretta Himes

Edwin (Ebe) Metcalf

Jane Weston

Roger Wickstrom

Helen Lantz, Clerk

Rev. Won-Jae Hur, Interim Priest

Former Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Mary Moore Gaines, Rector Emeritus

The Reverend Shari Young, Associate Rector and Director of Children's Ministry

The Reverend John Gallagher, Assisting Priest

Katie Canton, Assistant Youth Minister

Tim Himes, Webmaster

Official Acts: St. James Episcopal Church: 2009

Baptisms – 6 (6 last year)

Lauralee Brown Markus
Chance Duke Ford
Jeffrey Noland Piper
Christian James Urbonas
Michael Grayson Kruse
Stephanie Anne Zola

Confirmations – 3 (4 last year)

Caroline Doyle
Rosilie Neal
Olivia Clopton-Foster

Celebrations of Holy Communion: 130 (158 last year)

Sundays – 119
Weekdays & Holy Days – 11

All other offices & services: 16 (36 last year)

Average Sunday Attendance: 84 (115 last year)

Interim's Report

Submitted by The Rev. Won-Jae Hur

Since the beginning of the interim period on April 27, St. James has moved masterfully through major transitions and reinvigorated its life of ministry.

The strength and character of St. James clearly showed during this challenging time of change. A competent and dedicated Vestry led the church through difficult decisions and helped the community process them in healthy, life-giving ways. Out of their faith and love, Vestry members worked tirelessly to discern God's will for St. James, exercise responsible leadership, and care for the entire community. Their leadership opened the path to the future.

St. James as a whole exercised leadership by strengthening its sense of community and mission. Parishioners organized with care and skill several major events that contributed greatly to community building. These events include the Semi-Annual Meeting, The Feast of St. James Annual Picnic, Annual Camping Trip, Masquerade Ball, and the Thanksgiving Day Potluck.

The ministry of St. James has continued to flourish. St. James Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Bread Bakers Guild, Healing Ministers, Finance Committee, and the Stewardship Committee have sustained this community and helped us to grow inwardly and outwardly in a time of transition, loss, and general economic hardship.

The Peace and Justice Circle, Mothers Helping Mothers, servers at Martin de Porres and the San Francisco Interfaith Winter Shelter faithfully carried out the social justice ministry of St. James in the wider community.

Under the leadership of Fred Goff and assistance of Aki Amai, the Choir has breathed life into our liturgy. Fred's expertise and the choir's ministry have added musical and theological depth to our worship life and provided an important avenue of ministry to the community. They encourage us to embody the maxim, "They who sing pray twice."

A team of devoted and capable parents has successfully built up the Children Ministry. Carla Cooper and Helen Archer-Duste with the invaluable help of Elia Pochron have led this passionate core group to implement a solid Episcopal lectionary-based curriculum, organize events such as St. Francis Day and The Feast of Epiphany Potluck (thanks to the Paul family), and to reach out to the preschool families. Through the core group's ministry, family and children attendance has increased over the last seven months.

The core group has also helped us to strengthen our relationship with the St. James Preschool. I have also begun attending the weekly Preschool Chapel to minister with the teachers and children. Roger Setterfield has generously welcomed collaboration and continues to communicate any relevant church events to the Preschool Community.

The Youth Group of St. James has begun a monthly evening worship service called "The Night Shift," characterized by imaginative liturgies that use visual and audio media as well as installations to draw young people and their families into a deeper experience of prayer and worship. We have also asked the youth to join us for Holy Communion on Sunday mornings, so that we may worship as one community. We are very thankful to Sidrah Gibbs, our youth minister, for her gifts of leadership, and the parents who support her work.

The Liturgy Committee, open to everyone, has met regularly every month to discuss the church's worship life, generate ideas for seasons and major feasts, and produced beautiful prayers

for St. James. We have been greatly enriched by the intelligence, spiritual depth, and creativity of the committee members.

There have been several developments in spiritual formation. We have had 2 forums with guest speakers: The Rev. Megan Rohrer, Executive Director of The Welcome Ministry, and The Rev. Lyle Beckman, the Director of The San Francisco Night Ministry. They both discussed their work with the homeless and marginalized in San Francisco and issue of poverty afflicting our city.

The bi-weekly Lectio Divina group and the bi-monthly Retreat Day have provided spiritual formation resources to deepen our individual and communal prayer life. It has helped us to ground ourselves in the Scriptures and connect more intentionally to the stream of God's indwelling grace. Advent Meditations provided further opportunities to engage the Scriptures and our lives through the path of contemplative prayer and community sharing.

On other fronts, a very competent and motivated group of leaders have formed the Welcome Committee to minister to newcomers. Under the impressive leadership of Noreen Chin-Huey, the committee has reinvigorated St. James' ministry of hospitality by actively reaching out to newcomers, providing information, connecting them to parishioners, and organizing the welcome brunch. We will also host follow-up inquirer's classes after the brunch.

A caring group of volunteers has continued to serve as drivers for Ms. Joan Gascoyne, making sure that she attends worship on Sunday mornings.

Finally, the very capable Rector Search Committee has worked diligently to create a superb process of dialog with the parish and to reflect on the gifts, needs, and opportunities of this church community. Their work has increased the church's sense of unity and purpose, and we look forward to the steps that lie ahead.

Thanks to the shared ministry of the people of St. James, our average Sunday attendance has continued to increase over the last four months.

There are several committees and individuals whom I would like to thank specifically for their exceptional contribution. If I have left anyone out, please forgive me as the oversight is unintentional.

I am deeply grateful to the Executive Committee of the Vestry for their courageous leadership and ministry. Special thanks to Anne Purcell for her tireless effort to create healthy and viable finances and unfailing commitment to the welfare of the church. To Liza Colton who has provided an invaluable service by maintaining and improving our facilities.

I would like to give sincere thanks to the Campaign Transition Committee and its individual members for their vital work, dedication, and wisdom.

To Claudia Lewis whose leadership has helped the church and the Community Learning Center adapt to new challenges and move toward a new future.

Special thanks are due to Elia, Ryszard, and the Pochron family for giving so selflessly and steadfastly to the life of St. James. Their immense talents and generosity have benefited the church in too many ways to number.

To Erazm Pochron for his unfailing competence and willingness always to go beyond the call of duty to help St. James.

To Noreen Chin-Huey for her faithful and exceptional service to myriad ministries of St. James.

To Herb, Nancy, and Courtney who serve the church quietly and cheerfully every week, ever present to offer help to the community.

To Elizabeth Nelson whose editorial gifts have produced a true jewel of a journal and kept all of us connected in thoughtful dialog. To Andrew Hom and Judy Spain for insuring that the journal gets delivered to each parishioner's household every month.

Finally, a deep bow of gratitude to Doreen Canton, our Senior Warden. She has led us during a most challenging time on nearly all fronts and levels of church life and ministry. She has made herself available to all with compassion, wisdom, and joy, and took head on many challenges facing the church. It is difficult to thank Doreen enough for her selfless service to our beloved church. Her ministry has sustained so many of us, including myself. She has modeled Christ to us in our time of need. Thank you.

St. James is a truly blessed church. May we always give thanks to God and follow the Spirit.

Senior Warden's Report

Submitted by Doreen Canton

Another year in the life of our Parish has come to an end and as we transition forward many of us are anticipating a bright future. As I was ending my report last year I spoke about the spirit of St. James and asked that you as individuals step forward with your talent, vitality and energy to lead, assist and support the ministries of St. James. You have met that challenge in taking on many of the day-to-day tasks and leadership roles and that has carried us through this transition year. I am very grateful to all of you as you made my life much easier and enabled us to continue so many of the events that are important to our community.

It did not start out as an easy year with Mary Moore's retirement and the implementation of the budget cuts that had us saying goodbye to our beloved staff: Shari, Katie, Tim and Bart. However, we got down to work and moved forward. At the vestry retreat at the end of January we devoted our time to the four major areas identified on the Strategic Plan: transition to a new rector, congregation health and development, functioning plant, and increased financial security.

Our first priority was in finding an Interim, and through meetings with the Diocese, posting a job description and interviewing prospective candidates we were blessed to have Won-Jae accept our offer and come on board as Interim Priest. Following the hiring of Won-Jae to lead and guide our spiritual life, we set about electing the search committee. You posed a wonderful challenge to the vestry in selecting the candidates from a rich pool of extraordinary talented people to create a manageable functional committee. Thank you to all that applied and know that individually your talents have or will find a home in this community. Thank you to Giselle Bosc, Ann Rieger-Matthews, Louise Newlin, Carol Overman, Elia Pochron, Judy Spain, Elizabeth Sturken, Jan Vennari, Roger Wickstrom, Ed Wilcox, and Warren Wong for the tremendous job you have done in debriefing the parish on what is important to us as individuals, the attributes we would like to see in the new Rector, and putting it all together for the Parish Profile. Our continued prayers go with you as you move into the next phase of this process and we look forward to the end result of a new rector.

High on our list of vestry priorities was filling the large hole in our Children's Ministry team created by the Rev. Shari Young's departure. Bless Carla Cooper and Kathy Henry and for stepping forward to take up the mantle of leadership and, with the help of our wonderful parents including but not limited to Helen Archer-Duste, Rebecca Wrangham, Grant and Laura Paul and Elia's talents in designing engaging and exciting crafts, the program is continuing. Sidrah Gibbs faithfully and creatively continues to lead the youth. If you have not had a chance to attend the new Sunday evening service they have initiated and led I would encourage you to try it out over the coming months.

Communications are very important and we have worked hard at keeping you apprised of what is happening at the church through letters to the congregation, church announcements and the newsletter. We appreciated your support and feedback. We have been truly blessed by Elizabeth Nelson, who took on the role of editor for the St. James Journal following Tim's departure. This

wonderful production is a delight to read each month and beautifully presented. Thank you to all of the contributors, to Elizabeth for her gracious prompting to get our articles in on time, and to her support staff who continue to print and mail out the journal for those who are unable to access it by email. On the practical side, we have long wanted to revamp our website but time and the right combination of volunteers and resources were not available. However, now is the time and a small group is actively planning the changes we need to make it more compelling and allow us to tell our story in interesting ways. Most importantly the new website will allow for timely updates to be easily posted.

At our vestry retreat we discussed the Capital Campaign, the economic climate and the impact that a long campaign was having on the congregation. We decided to defer a decision until the feasibility study being conducted by Ventura Partners was available so we could make an informed decision based on facts. Following the release of the report, the vestry members looked closely at the report, paying special attention to the financial implication. We listened to your comments, support and concerns on the project at the semi -annual Parish meeting. Then at a special meeting of the vestry early in July we made the decision to put a stop to the Capital Campaign as not being financially feasible at this time.

We are very grateful for the many hours of work and volunteerism that went into the Capital Campaign by all who participated and to Mary Moore and George Gaines commitment to leading the charge to build a vision that would extend and reshape St. James. The decision not to move forward has been very difficult for some to accept but it was the right thing to do. Once again, the people of St. James have been understanding and gracious in respecting the opinions of the other side and continue to work together to share and shape the vision for St. James.

Following vestry action a transition team made up of Vestry and Community Learning Center Board members have worked diligently working with the various donors to close down the project. Our heartfelt thanks go to Bethany Baugh, Carla Cooper, Claudia Lewis, Ebe Metcalf, Anne Purcell and Judy Spain for their diligent work. This team is in the final stages of ascertaining the wishes of the donors and will present an accounting of funds available for building maintenance and repair and for the CLC program to the CLC Board and the Vestry. Once the dollar figure becomes clear, we will work out a plan to address our multiple maintenance issues (Jr. Warden Report)

Financially we continue to be thrifty with our dollars and have stretched them over the past year as we must continue to do for 2010 (for details see Treasurer's report). We took a team approach to Stewardship this year and kept it low key. Thank you to Barbara Burgess, Helen Lantz, Bill Newlin, Nancy Newmeyer and Anne Purcell for their collaboration and work on this important ministry. If you have not yet had the opportunity to turn in your pledge card, we would be grateful if you could do it now or contact one of the team and let us know when to expect it. We will be making our follow up Stewardship calls over the next few weeks and would love not to have any calls to make.

Regarding congregational growth and development, we have focused in looking at who we are and reshaping our processes to be a strong and vibrant parish that will excite the interest of prospective priests and attract new membership. We are looking for ways to encourage people to step forward

and lead events and ministries, but yet allow people to say “no” or to make the task they have signed on to do more manageable and time limited. You may have noticed that parties and barbeques were plentiful this year as we welcomed Won-Jae and celebrated Carole-Jan’s many years of service to this community as she relocated to the East Bay. Others were to say bon voyage to beloved friends and families who followed job and housing opportunities to other parts of the state or to other States.

A special loss to our vestry was the departure of Will Gregory, Kathy Henry and Jane Weston. Their energy, vitality and leadership are greatly missed, but we wish them well in their new life. With their departure we are left with 7 seats on the vestry to fill. While this seems very unusual, it has happened before and I was interested to re-read Bill Newmeyer’s report for the 2002 meeting where there were 7 new vestry members starting that January. We have excellent candidates who feel called to serve on the vestry this year and, with the continuing members, we will continue to have strong leadership to guide us forward and make the important decisions coming our way. I have enjoyed having the opportunity to talk about serving on the vestry with many of you and thank you for being open to the possibility of stepping up to this office. For some of you, family and work commitments did not allow you to pursue standing as a candidate this year, but I will look forward to seeing you serve in the years to come.

I could continue to ramble on and highlight the many other activities that occurred this year such as the bishop’s visit, the masquerade ball and the opportunities for quiet meditation and bible study through the Lectio Divina process. However, if you read the Journal and Weekly News, you know all about them and the amazing dedicated people who lead them.

In closing, I want to thank you all for your kind words and support to me over this past transition year in my role as Senior Warden. We had big losses to grieve and large shoes to fill, but my thanks go to the Preschool community including the teachers, board and parents, the California Counseling Institute, they are an integral part of our community. The Vestry team: Liza Colton, Jr. Warden, Anne Purcell, Treasurer, Karen Clopton, Carla Cooper, Mary Ann Faris, John Harrison, Margaretta Himes, Ebe Metcalf and Roger Wickstrom, and Helen Lantz, vestry Clerk. Erazm our Parish Administrator has taken on added responsibility and was able to guide me on many duties normally handled by the rector. To all of the people who serve in and around supporting the liturgical aspect of our worship life and Won-Jae, it has been a pleasure to work closely with you over these past months. Your wisdom, openness to discussion and support have been a comfort in difficult times. I am fully confident the St. James community has good spiritual and lay leadership to lead us forward until we call our next rector.

Junior Warden's Report

Submitted by Liza Colton

My many thanks to all who participated in the Parish Workdays. As always, many hands made light work and much was accomplished. It was interesting to note that the extension of work hours from 9AM-noon to 9AM-3PM actually increased participation. If you haven't had a chance to inspect the St. James Preschool upgrade you should have Roger give you a tour.

I am most grateful that it was a much drier year however there continues to be shouts and groans heard from our aging facility. These are listed below for your perusal and education.

Deferred Maintenance Items

St. James Church and Office Bldg

- 1) Plumbing line replaced with adequate grade and design from main line into parish hall.
- 2) Electrical in all 3 buildings brought up to existing code
- 3) Exterior painting of Church and Apartment bldg.
- 4) Overall upgrade of kitchen/pantry area. Interior painting of parish hall
- 5) Overall refurbishment of restrooms in Church and Office buildings
- 6) Re-glazing/repair of office/apartment bldg windows facing California St.
- 7) Physically address general accessibility issues
- 8) Door with window for Caldwell Room (compliance)
- 9) Updated maintenance contract for existing elevator
- 10) Mold inspection/remediation of Church, Office and Apartment Buildings
- 11) Replacement of carpet where necessary (mold damage) or overdue (office building)
- 12) Re-keying Church and Office Buildings
- 13) Litch gate hinge and hardware replacement (perhaps the gate itself)
- 14) Window replacement of both north-facing apartment and CCI rooms (2nd & 3rd floor)
- 15) Electrical work to locate church light switches outside the sanctuary
- 16) Construction for creation of adequate and accessible storage
- 17) Replacement of parish hall tables and chairs
- 18) Stained glass inspection and repair
- 19) Installation of professional Church sound system
- 20) Repair of wrought iron gate so trash alley can be secured.

Deferred Maintenance Items – St. James Preschool

Although the Preschool has been beautifully upgraded internally at their own expense, Roger Setterfield has asked the Vestry to consider the possibility of reconditioning the play yard. This would include the replacement of the ground mats and play structures.

Deferred Maintenance Item List

4614 California St. – California Counseling Institute, 2nd floor

4616 California St. - Private residence, 3rd floor

4614 California St.

California Counseling Institute has been a resident for over 20 years. When we moved into the space, we put the wall-to-wall carpet in, put the waiting room benches in the hallway painted the rooms, and changed the (back) space to better fit our needs. Over the years we have done all (minimal) maintenance and paid for it ourselves. The flood repairs and damage was paid for by the insurance St. James has on the property. We have a cleaner in each week.

- 1) Exterior painting and repair.
- 2) Replacement of the back stair case. It is the primary emergency exit and there is clear evidence of dry rot, the banisters are falling down and the stairs appear rotten.
- 3) Upgrade the electricity; the electricity goes off (often daily, at least 4 times a week, or as often as 4 times in a day during sessions and in the evenings and in the darker rooms in the day, this is very intrusive for the client and therapist (for years, the pre-school frequently tripped the box when they would turn on an appliance in the pre-k room), *addressed in St. James list - item 2*
- 4) Repair the leak in the back office window sill (in the NE corner of the office - currently a bowl on the sill to catch the drips. *addressed in St. James list - item 6*
- 5) a) Locksmith to clean and remount the doorknobs in rooms 1 & 2. Those doorknobs are perhaps original, in great shape, but don't close the doors properly, which can be a problem when conducting a private session of therapy. b) The front key lock (punch in keys) doesn't work reliably and should be replaced.
- 6) Move the hot water heater from the top flat (4616 Calif) to the basement storage with the hot water heaters used by CCI and the pre-school.
- 7) Some of the therapists are very cold in the rooms during the winter. We have an automatic thermostat set at 68 degrees from 8 to 8 and at 58 degrees during the evenings and on the weekends, and the heat can be turned up if needed. The windows in rooms 1,2, & 4 have broken sashes (or pulleys) and we use rocks to keep them propped open. *addressed in St. James list - item 6*
Meg Bloomfield and Elaine Chan-Scherer

4616 California St.

- 1) All windows need to be addressed. Most cannot be opened and are therefore impossible to clean. The windows facing onto California Street need re-glazing immediately due to their proximity directly over a preschool entrance and public sidewalk.
- 2) Space heaters are needed because of loose windows and faulty duct work directing heat in the unit.
Most heat ends up in the hall instead of the rooms where the registers are located. With the other electrical uses in the building this can interrupt service on a frequent basis. Electrical bills range from \$20.00 in the summer to \$400.00 in the winter. Actually 2 issues; re-ducting and re-glazing.
- 3) Tub/shower water always needs to be run 3-5 minutes before use due to rinse rust from the pipes.
- 4) Rotting stair slat roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up inside entry.
- 5) Chimney inspection
- 6) Bathroom floor replaced

As reported by Mary Schmidt, resident

2010 Annual Giving Campaign Report

Submitted by Barbara Burgess

“Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.” [Proverbs 3:9, 10](#)

As all of you know, we have had to make deep cuts in our programs at St. James. In spite of the financial impact, St. James has continued to live up to its mission statement of “to bring an ever increasing number of people into an ever closer relationship with Jesus Christ so that God's love may be a transforming force for the communities in which we live.” To that end the stewardship goal for 2010 is **exactly the same as in 2009 \$288,000**. As of this report 65 pledge cards have been filled out and returned. To those who have already turned in their pledge cards for 2010 thank you. Your pledges make achievable programs such as:

- the creative Sunday Clubs
- special Wednesday compline service,
- compassionate Healing ministry
- harmonious music program
- new once a month 5pm Sunday Service led by the St. James Youth Group,
- The Sunday nursery allows parents of small children to take time out to enjoy the service knowing their children are well cared for.

Help St. James to continue to spread Jesus' message of faith, hope, and charity.

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Anne Purcell

As we end 2009, St. James Episcopal Church reserves total \$107,271. The endowment fund has grown to \$153,010.

On the income front, we are on track to recognize nearly 84% of the amount pledged. Several members have notified us that they would not be able to meet their pledge due to the difficult economic times. We appreciate that as it helps us forecast the draw on our reserves. We have moved \$40,000 to cover the difference between expected pledges and received pledges.

The change over to the new pledge statements has not been without issues. IT is helpful to have all the financial information in the same database, but the statements have not gone out on schedule. This will be resolved in 2010. We appreciate all those who fulfill their pledges even though the notices are late. Pledge income that is received in 2010 will count toward 2008 income, but can be credited toward 2009 year pledges.

Our plate income is on target to collect about 78% of the budget amount.

Now for expenses, we continue to be fiscally conservative this year. Our budget was trimmed to match our pledge target. Our expenses are on target to spend 100% of budget.

The complete profit and loss statement for St. James Church is in the appendix to this report. The budget will be submitted to the vestry in at the vestry retreat for discussion and approval. The budget and final 2009 numbers will be presented at Pie Sunday later in 2010. Hope to see you there.

Please contact me directly (annepurcell@sbcglobal.net) if you have a question about these reports.

Children's Ministry Report

Submitted by Carla Cooper

Overview: Our Sunday Clubs program serves children from pre-K to 5th Grade. Volunteer teachers continue to lead Sunday Clubs using the Episcopal Church curriculum, which is based upon the readings scheduled for the day. A Bible-focused and readings-centered Clubs program was a leading preference of parents who attended our planning meetings. I am very grateful to have an active group of teaching-gifted parents—thank you all!

Enrichment: Elia Pochron creates crafts for the children based on the lessons and on the church calendar. These crafts continue to be a highlight of the program for many children. We have had guest educators, including the Lizard Lady on St. Francis Day, join us periodically. John Gallagher has made two wonderful appearances to read and discuss a Bible story with the children. We extend a special invitation to preschool families to join us especially on days when we have activities that our youngest children would enjoy (e.g., visit from St. Nick, Lizard Lady). Other special activities in 2009 included: Epiphany Play, May Day celebration, Easter Egg Hunt, with over 20 children hunting eggs and eating treats on a beautiful day; Parish Retreat, with child-focused activities and adventures; Christmas pageant with the Youth Group; and wreath-making.

Nursery: We now have two wonderful caregivers, Michelle and Hansel, who reliably staff our Nursery each Sunday. Michelle is a RN and Hansel has preschool teaching experience and our youngest children (generally under age 4) are warmly welcomed and cared for. We have ironed out some logistics (e.g. key access) and are grateful to Kathy Henry's introduction to these lovely caregivers.

2010: We plan to follow the Episcopal Church curriculum and to enrich our program with special visitors and events. We already have the Epiphany Play scheduled for January 6th, with Laurel Paul organizing, and a yoga/meditation day scheduled for February 28th. We will rely on our able parent volunteers and other contributors. Our group is small but strong, and we have had some Sundays with higher attendance from new faces and preschool families.

Thank you again to volunteers who help teach and organize, among them Elia and Ryszard Pochron, Helen Archer-Duste, Evie Shafer, Rebecca Wrangham, Elizabeth Sturcken, Laurel and Grant Paul, and others! Please let me know if you have questions. Carla Cooper, carlancooper@gmail.com, or 415-596-9405.

Youth Ministry Report

Submitted by Sidrah Gibbs

After a turbulent start, this past year has seen a great amount of positive change for Youth Ministry at Saint James. With enthusiasm and great support from parish members we kicked off our Annual Ski Trip, Chili Cook off, Pizza fundraiser, Mission Trip to the Bishop's Ranch, and our monthly teen driven service The Night Shift. We took three confirmands to Grace Cathedral for a beautiful service and confirmation. We kicked off a new curriculum for confirmation, Confirm not Conform, a wonderful program designed within our own diocese. This year we also have three confirmands preparing for confirmation in June.

Following you will find a little more information about our new events. I just want to extend a thank you to all of you. This is one of the most supportive communities to work with in youth ministry. You are caring, excited, and truly want the best for your teens. For that you are grace in my life and theirs.

SKI TRIP:

The Matthews family provided their family's home for an amazing ski trip last winter. We took six youth and three adults to play and ski in the snow.

CHILI COOK OFF:

With eight entries and a lot of cornbread we had a fantastic night with the whole congregation invited. This event had many, many requests for repeat this year. We used the money for tickets to go toward our Mission Trip.

PIZZA FUNDRAISER:

We gathered together on a Saturday night to mix the dough for our grilled pizzas. The next day we were so successful we ran out of dough and had to make an emergency dough run! The money raised also went to the mission trip as well as our ropes course.

MISSION TRIP:

We saved up our money and got a greatly discounted trip to the Bishop's Ranch. We stayed five days and planted twelve trees. With nine youth and three adults we also planted the seeds for our new nighttime creative worship.

THE NIGHT SHIFT:

We focus a majority of our morning time on an amazing new service: The Night Shift. Teams of our youth group members get together, pick a theme, plan, organize and run an alternative worship experience. We hope to reinvigorate a sense of nighttime youth ministry for high schoolers over the next year. As well, we hope to deepen the connection of our youth to worship and communion within our community.



Mother Helping Mothers Group Report

submitted by Noreen Huey

The St. James Mothers Helping Mothers group was started in summer 2007 with the following plan:

- Gather small cash contributions (quarterly) from our St. James Community
- Meet quarterly to determine recipients of micro-loans and/or donations.
- Our twin focus is Millennium Development Goal #5 “Improve Maternal Health” and honoring Mother Mary.

As of December 13, 2009...

- We have taken small cash donations on three occasions, not quite quarterly. Our St. James community has been very generous and with that seed money received during our Mary Sunday collections, we made micro-loans and direct donations as detailed below.
- As the loans have been repaid, we have been able to support more women entrepreneurs in more different countries.
- We have made \$2325 in micro-loans through Kiva to thirteen recipients in thirteen different countries ranging from \$25 - \$350
- Additional funds (about \$300) have been donated to:
 - FINCA (toward their micro-lending efforts)
 - MOMS: Midwives On Missions of Service
 - KIVA Operating Fund
- In May of this year, we arranged for a presentation by Trish Ross of MOMS (Midwives On Missions of Service) to talk about their work in Sierra Leone in May of this year. We hope to do more with MOMS in the future

One of our latest loan recipients is Miriam Galutan. She is 38 years old, married, and mother of four school-aged children. She is from the village of San Pedro, alicia, isabela in the Philippines. Miriam plants and harvests rice for sale. She requested a loan to help purchase fertilizers for her rice farming business. We made a loan of \$200.

We thank everyone who has supported our small efforts to improve the lives of mothers around the world. We welcome anyone who is interested to join us! Watch for information about plans for 2010.

Current participants:

Mary Balmana	Meg Bloomfield	Giselle Bosc	Mary Ann Faris	Noreen Huey
Anne Mackenzie	Nancy Newmeyer	Barbara Webb		

Community Learning Center at St. James

Board of Directors' Annual Report for 2009

Submitted by Claudia Lewis, Chair

Mission Statement

The Mission: To be a magnet of learning through educational programs that nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of children, youth and adults in the diverse Richmond District and beyond.

Incorporation/ 501 (c) (3) Status/Structure

The Community Learning Center (CLC) was incorporated in July, 2004 and received 501 (c) (3) status in May, 2005. The CLC acts as landlord of all St. James property and collects rent from St James Church, St. James Preschool, tenants and groups using space. It also manages space in all three existing buildings for use by Church, Preschool, community groups and CLC programs.

Board Members

There are now seven members of the Board of Directors, all of whom are members of St. James Church:

Claudia Lewis, Chair
Judy Spain
Bethany Baugh
Mary Ann Faris
Phyllis Swindells
Doreen Canton
Anne Purcell

We are looking for additional Board members, so if you are interested in serving, please let one of the Board members know. I will be stepping down as Board Chair as soon as we have finished winding down the Capital Campaign, halted in July 2009 by decision of the Vestry.

Judy Spain, after years of service, particularly as Campaign Manager, will be leaving us for the open skies of Santa Fe, New Mexico in June. No parishioner has been more dedicated to the CLC than she has, and we thank Judy for her many, many hours of service – and her good humor - throughout the years. Best of luck in your new endeavors! St. Bede's will be lucky to have you.

Administration

Erazm Pochron serves as the CLC's program and facilities director and office manager.

Elia Pochron is the current Director of ASPIRE, and she is assisted by Joan Dickson.

Bonnie Yee is the current Director of Saturday Learning Time.

Nayad Abrahamian has recently resigned as Director of the Homework Help Center at Roosevelt Middle School, now called Youth Empowering Youth. We are currently searching for a new director.

Finance Report

The CLC Financial Statement through November 2009 is included in the appendices at the back of this Report.

The CLC partners are the St. James Preschool, and St. James Episcopal Church. The CLC partners share values of generosity, compassion, kindness, love of learning, and service to community.

The Community Learning Center at St. James (CLC) hosts a three-year preschool and provides a wide range of public programs and offers space to groups that serve the learning and service needs of all constituencies in the Richmond District of San Francisco and beyond. Cooperating partners in the CLC work independently and in collaboration, reach out to groups of differing cultures, lifestyles, economic backgrounds, and spiritual paths to create true community in our neighborhood and our city.

The St. James Preschool

The St. James Preschool, a non-denominational, independent, nonprofit preschool, offers a developmentally-focused program to children from ages 2 to 5 years. The school provides partial-day and full-day year-round sessions and welcomes children of all backgrounds and learning needs. A tuition assistance program is in place and expanding.

The CLC Programs

The CLC Programs currently include Saturday Learning Time, Youth Empowering Youth and ASPIRE, free and low-cost programs that respond specifically to needs of residents in the Richmond District and beyond.

Community Group Use

The CLC offers meeting space on a donation or low-cost basis to community groups and organizations. Over 1,500 people meet every month at the Community Learning Center at St. James. Groups include Debtors Anonymous, Over-eaters Anonymous, Buddhist meditation, the Golden Gate Mothers' Group and Kindermusik. The CLC hosts neighborhood meetings, concerts, recitals, civic elections, and very much else, all serving the mission of the CLC.

St. James Preschool Report

Submitted by Roger Setterfield

All constituents of St. James Preschool had a very busy year, including the building itself. If you've not seen the results of our refurbishment, drop by the classrooms. (They are open during Sunday Service.) You'll be walking on new "green" flooring, you'll notice the lighting system is more conducive for young children and teachers and you'll see all the classrooms have their own paint scheme. The refurbishment (Titled, Refresh!) was very much a community-based effort: Parents helped fundraise to finance the work, teachers & parents helped design & manage the project, including moving all the school furniture and activates into the garage during the reconstruction! Next summer, we embark on Stage II of the SJP Refresh Project. In the fall, look for a re-designed outside play area.

Other highlights of the 2009:

- * Expansion of the SJP classes to include an All Day Program till 5:30.
- * Full school enrollment for the whole year.
- * Retention of all teaching staff. (There has been no teacher turnover for four years.)
- * Another record-breaking auction. (Co-chaired by parish member, Andrea Zola.)
- * Successful placements of all SJP graduates into public, parochial and private schools.
- * Continued "Preschool for All" funding, which allows qualified SJP families to receive \$5,000 reduction on Pre-kindergarten tuition.

We look forward to an equally engaging and successful year for 2010!