

ST. JAMES Good News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 9

November 2008

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Taos, New Mexico



ST. JAMES MISSION

*Sharing ourselves
and our faith with
others ... St. James
is a Christian
community which
welcomes all with
respect for the
inherent dignity
and value of every
person. We strive
to enable spiritual
growth through
worship, educa-
tion, outreach and
stewardship for
the purpose of
restoring all people
to unity with God
and each other.*

Picture Perfect for Photo Directory

from BAMBI STURBOIS

On Nov. 13–15, Olan Mills will take pictures of the St. James family for a picture directory. This project will update our church directory as well as provide photos that help us all get to know each other better.

With each photo taken, members will receive a free 8x10 photo of their family as well as a picture directory. Members will also have the opportunity to buy more photos at their own discretion and expense. These photos will be available for Christmas.

The photos will be taken in the three Sunday School rooms along the east side of the parish hall. We are asking everyone to use the north doors of the parish hall, coming in and exiting at Santiago Street. This is necessary because the Food Pantry will be distributing food in the main portion of the parish hall on Nov. 13, and on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 14–15, the Taos Youth Music School will be rehearsing in the parish hall on Friday and then performing in the nave on Saturday. Consider parking on the north side of the building.

I encourage you to sign up following worship until Nov. 9, or online, at www.signup.olanmills.com.

If you are going to be out of town or have other conflicts, stop by the sign-up desk. We can take your picture so that it can be included in the book, or you might be able to have your picture taken at another site where Olan Mills is photographing another church.

Do make every effort to get your family in our new directory.

■ Questions: Bambi, 776-5739; email, Sturbois@taosnet.com.

Opportunities to Learn and Grow with God

from FATHER ROCKY SCHUSTER

It is a sign of poverty to conceive of everything in terms of what you already know or think you know; a sign of destitution to evaluate everything and everybody according to categories that will admit nothing new because those categories are already fixed in the concrete of what you believe to be true. — Richard J. Fairchild

I would add that it is a sign of true wealth to be receptive to the new and extraordinary things God is doing in our lives. While I believe that God continues the great act of creation in the physical and interpersonal worlds, what truly enriches me is that there is continually something new in me. Most frequently I discover that I have the choice of responding to the world around me and the people in my life in different and, I hope, more life-affirming ways.

Too often I miss those opportunities to appreciate the uniqueness in an interaction with someone I've known for a while. I bring with me my past experience and the pieces of information I have picked up about personality, preferences, opinions, and positions, which all help to facilitate that encounter. But often I forget to be ready to learn something new, either about that person or myself. It is easy to limit others and myself with preconceived assumptions. When I do so, I miss the chance to discover new ways I can respond and open up the relationship to different possibilities.

That can be especially true of my relationship with God. Too often, I get trapped by thinking I already know what God wants or that I have no choice in how I respond. Just as Richard Fairchild said, above, I am robbed of a chance for new grace and love because I continue to see everything in terms of what I already know or think I know.

I view stewardship primarily in terms of *response-ability*. Every new moment is a chance to respond with the grace (the ability) God has already given us. The real essence of stewardship is to discover the richness of God's grace by using every moment we can to see what new things God is doing in us and to share that grace by bringing something new to each relationship. As St. James moves through our stewardship campaign and into planning for next year, I hope we will all look for what is new, different, unexpected, and enriching in our future together.

Rector's Reflections

Raising Dollars for St. James

from JESS HEALD

The Stewardship Campaign

Our annual fall **stewardship campaign** was launched on Sunday, Oct. 5, with a “kickoff” sermon by Father Rocky and a stewardship message from me as chairman, read by Jack Nottingham. All parishioners were asked to return the pledge sheets by the end of October so that the finance committee can begin the 2009 budget planning process in early November. These sheets can be mailed, dropped off at the office, or placed in the Sunday offering plate. Your timely response will be greatly appreciated.

Fundraising Projects

❑ **The Frito Pie and Bingo Bash** held on Sept. 27 attracted about 50 participants, mostly nonparishioners, and raised \$800 for our operating funds. This was a first-time event for us and we learned a lot. Special thanks to Angela and Jerry Pacheco for organizing the event and to Jerry for being a most professional caller! Several attendees encouraged us to do it again. Give us a little rest, and we just may!

❑ Thanks to the many who adopted a **pet flagstone**, to help buy the materials needed for our back patio. We raised more than \$1,000, which is sufficient to pay for this first phase. Visit the patio and enjoy your pets!

More Fundraisers to Come

Now, get ready, we have three more fundraisers to complete by year's end. The sale of the reusable **Chico Bags** is underway. Place your order at the display in the parish hall following Sunday services or stop by the office. These bags would make great Christmas gifts!

The sale of our **St. James Christmas cards** will begin in early November. We have purchased 1,000 and have advance commitments for more than 600. These will be on sale in the parish hall following Sunday services or can be purchased during the week at the office. The cards are \$2 each.

Finally, you'll want to reserve your seat at our **wine-tasting event** in December. Attendance will be limited to 40, so commit early! The cost is \$60 per person. Once again, Bruce Marier will be our wine guru-sommelier. The date and time will be announced in early November.

These 2008 fundraising events have a goal of raising \$7,500 toward our operating budget. We're halfway there!

Reaching the Three-Quarters Turn

from MIKE DOBBS

Pledges to date are running close to budget and nonpledged donations have exceeded the annual budget with three months remaining. The net result is we are ahead of budget year-to-date and if things continue at the current rate, we should end the year very close to our annual budget.

Once again thank you for your incredible support of St. James operations and our outreach programs.

As we enter the stewardship campaign in uncertain economic times, please prayerfully consider your 2009 pledge and return the pledge forms by the end of October.

Thank you again for all your support and may God continue to bless St. James.

Financial Status—September 30, 2008

Operating Fund	2008 Budget	YTD 9/30/08	September
INCOME			
Pledges	\$285,000	\$212,345	\$27,239
Donations	36,000	42,979	2,071
Plate	8,500	5,749	837
Fundraising	7,500	6,214	993
Facilities Use/Rental	21,700	15,925	2,375
Other Sources	750	172	13
Total Income	\$359,450	\$283,384	\$33,528
EXPENSES			
Staff	\$209,108	\$161,506	\$18,912
Music Ministry	3,336	2,529	210
Education	6,000	1,122	0
Programs	1,300	366	0
Building and Grounds	26,525	21,599	1,780
Insurance	18,500	16,501	0
Communications	8,680	9,118	1,162
Office/Operations	27,850	20,013	2,698
Total Fair Share	46,700	42,199	4,520
Other Expenses	0	4,399	933
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$347,999	\$279,352	\$30,215
OUTCOME	\$621	\$4,032	\$3,313

Get Ready to Rock!

Taos Youth Music School will hold its fall 2008 concert on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 2 p.m. in the St. James sanctuary. Performers include the classes for grades K-1, 2-3, and 4-5, along with the Gospel Choir and Garage Bands 101, 102, and 103. A sweet-savory potluck reception will follow the concert in the parish hall.

Everyone is invited to attend this lively and inspiring event and bring your favorite dessert or snack.

■ More information: Kim Covington, 758-5052, or Anna Mae Patterson, 758-3400.

Thanksgiving Plans

from MARY ANN BOUGHTON

Join us for a parish Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. We'll gather in the parish hall to celebrate our nation's harvest festival and give thanks. The turkey (or turkeys) will be

provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish—vegetable, dessert, bread, drinks, salad, or your own favorite specialty for the season. Please sign up so we can get an accurate count.

■ Questions: Newell or Mary Ann Boughton, 737-5938.

November Outdoors

Three outdoor adventures are planned:

- ☐ Friday, Nov. 7: A moderate hike on the Devisadero Trail. We'll meet at 8 a.m. at the Devisadero trailhead.
- ☐ Wednesday, Nov. 12: Our first ski trip to Wolf Creek. Meet at KTAO at 6:30 a.m. for this long, exciting day.
- ☐ Wednesday, Nov. 19: We'll journey to Wolf Creek again, for another day of skiing. Meet at KTAO at 6:30 a.m.

■ Information and questions: Bruce Marier, 751-7458.

Time to Share, through the Giving Tree

This year's Giving Tree will be put up in the parish hall in November. Please select an ornament-tag (or several!), so many foster children in Taos will have a Merry Christmas. The generosity of St. James folks has brought much joy to children in past years.

When you have purchased the gifts listed on the tags, place them, unwrapped, in a festive gift bag, and then attach that kid's tag securely to the bag on the outside. Bring the presents back to the Giving Tree by Dec. 7.

Information: Mary Ann Boughton, 737-5938, or Angela Pacheco, 737-0714.

NOVEMBER

St. James Calendar of Events

* = Items described in articles.

Bold = New or monthly activities.

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The calendar carries listings of all known parish-related events; if your event is missing, contact the church office.

SUNDAY

02

- Worship & Holy Eucharist: 8 AM (Rite I), 9:15 AM (Rite II)
- Sunday School: 9 AM
- Bell Choir: 10:45 AM

09

Sunday schedule unchanged, plus

- **Food Ingathering:** 9:15 AM service
- **Green Committee:** 11 AM
- **Pets and People Service:** 5 PM (see p. 10)

16

Worship & Sunday School same as Nov 2, plus

- **Vestry Meeting:** 10:45 AM

23

Schedule same as Nov. 2

30

Schedule same as Nov. 2

MONDAY

03

- Food Pantry Preparation: 11:30 AM
- Healthy Cooking Class: 11:30 AM
- Taos Youth Music School (TYMS): 4 PM
- Taos Com. Chorus Rehearsal: 6:30 PM

10

Monday schedule unchanged

17

Monday schedule unchanged

24

Monday schedule unchanged

TUESDAY

04

- TYMS: 4 PM

11

Tuesday schedule unchanged

18

Tuesday schedule unchanged

25

- TYMS: 4 PM
- **Women's Agape Luncheon:** 12:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

05

- * Brown Bag Theology: 12:30 PM (see p. 9)
- TYMS: 4 PM
- Holy Eucharist with Healing: 6 PM

12

Wednesday schedule unchanged, plus

- * **Wolf Creek Skiing:** 6:30 AM (see p. 5)

19

Wednesday schedule unchanged, plus

- * **Wolf Creek Skiing:** 6:30 AM (see p. 5)

26

- Brown Bag Theology: 12:30 PM
- Holy Eucharist with Healing: 6 PM

THURSDAY

06

- **Pastoral Care Committee:** 9:15 AM
- Bldg. Com.: 9:30 AM
- Food Pantry Distribution: 3:30 PM

13

* **Picture Directory Photos:** 10 AM (see p. 1)

- Food Pantry Distribution: 3:30 PM

20

• Bldg. Com: 9:30 AM

- * **Novel Theology:** 1 PM (see p. 8)
- Food Pantry Distribution: 3:30 PM

27

Thanksgiving Day; office closed

- * **Thanksgiving Day Dinner:** 2 PM (see p. 5)

FRIDAY

07

- Centering Prayer: 8 AM
- * **Hike Devisadero Trail:** 8 AM (see p. 5)
- Choir Practice: 7 PM

14

Friday schedule unchanged, plus

- * Picture Directory Photos: 10 AM (see p. 1)
- * **TYMS Concert Rehearsal:** 3 PM (see p. 5)

21

• Centering Prayer: 8 AM

- * **Holiday Bazaar Setup:** 8 AM (see p. 12)

28

- Centering Prayer: 8 AM
- **Synoptic Gospels Study:** 9:30 AM

SATURDAY

01

No events.

08

No events.

15

* **Christmas Pageant Rehearsal:** 9:30 AM (see p. 9)

* Picture Directory: 10 AM (see p. 1)

- * **TYMS Concert:** 2 PM (see p. 5)

22

* **Holiday Bazaar:** 9 AM

* Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: 9:30 AM (see p. 9)

29

• Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: 9:30 AM (see p. 9)

 On Fridays and Saturdays the church office is closed and the rector is off.

Taos Foundation Supports Our Programs

During the 2007-2008 grant-making cycle, the Taos Community Foundation awarded grants to two of our outreach programs.

The emergency medicine voucher program, which provides vouchers for prescription medicines to people who need the medication but can't afford it, received operating support.

The Taos Youth Music School, the after-school music program we support in partnership with the Taos Community School, received funds for the Garage Band 103 class.

We are proud of the work our church is doing to positively affect youth and families in our community. And we're glad that the community foundation has recognized the value of these two programs.

United Thank Offering Held This Month

from THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WEBSITE

Our fall UTO ingathering is Sunday, Nov. 2. This is an important event.

The mission of the United Thank Offering is to invite people to offer daily prayers of thanksgiving to God and outward and visible signs of those prayers which will benefit others.

God calls each of us to grow in awareness of God, our own relationship with God, and our relationship in community with all whom God has created. As habits of daily thankful prayer mature, our personal relationship with God grows. Daily prayers of thanksgiving strengthen our being and doing.

Uniting our own gifts of thanks with those of others keeps us in thankful relationship them and with

all of creation. In sharing our thank offerings with those throughout the Communion who seek to address compelling human need and extend the mission of the Church, we deepen our sense of participation in the lives of others. The shared prayer and money offerings help others to respond to God's call.

Through our shared stories, God calls us to continue to grow into the fullness of the Kingdom.

Please make a donation to this excellent work.

Novel Theology

Join the book group at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 20, at home of Caryle Zorumski for a discussion of *The Birth of Venus* by Sarah Durant.

This historical novel is set in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century

Florence, in the midst of what the *New York Times Book Review* calls an "explosion of artistic enterprise."

The story follows the life of a dynamic young woman described as being "neither virtuous nor honest," who has aspirations of becoming an artist and is deeply involved in the life and work of the artists whose work is condemned by the Church. The plot makes many twists and turns as it follows both history and the undercurrent of the daily life of Alessandra Cecchi (later Sister Lucrezia) in her attempt to live her own life, often in opposition to traditional roles and cultural norms of the times.

■ For directions: Caryle at 751-1617.

Christmas Pageant Needs Children Participants

from MONICA CORRAL

This year's Christmas Pageant is sure to be extra-special. The presentation of the Gospel story of the birth of Christ is scheduled for the 4:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.

Join us on the following Saturdays in preparation for our pageant: Nov. 15, 22, and 29, and Dec. 6, 13, and 20. We'll meet and rehearse from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall and Sunday School rooms, as space allows.

At the rehearsals, we'll work on a variety of activities, including movement, singing, and playing instru-

ments. And we'll even play some games. All of this will apply to presenting a wonderful pageant, full of life and love.

For more information: Monica, 751-4538.

Check Out Donor Board

from PHYLLIS NOTTINGHAM

A draft design for the donor board is on display in the narthex. All who made specific donations and contributions to the building fund—whether for pews, windows, furnishings, landscaping, or overall construction costs—are indicated on this board.

Please review your information, and check for those who are not here, and report anything we may have missed or misspelled. The final board will be produced in mid-November.

■ If you have corrections, questions or additions, contact Phyllis, 575-751-7323 or nda@taosnet.com.

Brown Bag Theology

We will be reading *God Against the Gods: The History of the War Between Monotheism and Polytheism* by Jonathan Kirsch. Everybody is welcome at our discussions. Bring your lunch and meet us on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. in the Santiago Room.

■ Information and discussion plans: Norm Ferguson, 751-0049.

Special K-9s at November Pets and People Service

from TJ PATTON

On Nov. 9, the Pets and People service will host Taos Search and Rescue. They will bring their K-9 unit and, weather permitting, their mounted unit as well.

Please come and bring friends. All collections from the Pets and People service will go to help support this valuable community service-organization.

TSAR is an all-volunteer organization with high standards of professionalism and service, operating year-round in

all off-road areas around Taos, throughout New Mexico, and occasionally into Southern Colorado.

Our team searches for lost hikers, climbers, hunters, and children in the spring, summer, and fall, plus lost skiers and snowmobilers in winter. We rescue people injured in back-country settings. We are also called in for urban, off-road searches. Our deployment is through the state police.

On call 24 hours a day and 365 days a year,

TSAR provides training for all areas of expertise required on a mission. This includes litter packaging, medical scenarios, low- and medium-angle rescue, avalanche training, search for downed aircraft, navigation with map and compass, use of GPS units, and communications.

We have ground teams (hiking, snowshoeing, skiing), the K-9 unit, the mounted unit, a high-angle unit, a bike unit, and base camp personnel.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to get more out of your time at St. James. Here are three ongoing activities that continually need help.

☐ **Coffee-Hour Host.** We have no one signed up for Nov. 2, and there are other upcoming Sundays that need volunteers.

☐ **Office Help.** We often need help at the front desk. Generally we ask for three hours either in morning or afternoon, one day a week (we accept more!). You get to meet a lot of interesting people and will be giving some much appreciated help to the office.

☐ **Food Pantry.** Our food distribution efforts need help on Thursday afternoons. The work they do is wonderfully fulfilling and comes with great fellowship.

■ For details or to volunteer: Church office, 758-2790.

Milestones

Birthdays

- 1 Phyllis Nottingham
- 3 Rona Mears
- 4 Mike Compton, Daphne Gammon, Wes Pittman
- 5 Joan Lee
- 6 Hi Camp
- 7 Jack Delong, Stephanie Yoder
- 8 Elena Bissell, Shirley Ellingboe, Iris Fresquez, Phyllis Tomlinson
- 10 Marcia Oliver, Anna Mae Patterson
- 11 James Watt
- 12 Jean P. Richards, Patricia Rogers
- 17 Mary Miller
- 18 Jerry Pacheco
- 22 Gwenneth Glenn
- 25 Karen Burr
- 27 Sue Torrez
- 28 Amanda Bissell, Jacqueline Anne Jagers, John Miller
- 29 Stephen C. Dolbey, David Miller

Anniversaries

- 7 Wes & Jean Pittman
- 16 Dutch & Marcia Shultis
- 21 Jack & Joanne DeLange
- 23 Michael & Barbara Martinez
- 24 Terry & Stephanie Yoder
- 25 Hank & Bethel Daniel
- 27 Ray & Roberta Billingsley
- 30 Lou & Bambi Sturbois

St. James Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(Father Rocky's days off: Friday and Saturday.)

Pastoral Care Emergency Numbers

For emergencies after office hours: the Rev. Rocky Schuster, 776-8581. In extreme emergency, call the Rev. Cristina Sumners, 758-9035, or the Rev. Walter Allen, 758-1043.

ST. JAMES VESTRY

Rector's Warden:
People's Warden: Mike Dobbs
Mary Ann Boughton,
Outreach
Marilyn Farrow
Jesse Heald,
Stewardship
Heather Liebman,
Membership
Colin Nicholls, *Leadership and Volunteers*
Angela Pacheco,
Outreach
Stacy Quinn, *Education*

DIOCESE/DEANERY

DELEGATES:

Marcia Oliver
Barbara Stillwell
Caryle Zorumski

ALTERNATE: Tom Knapp

COMMITTEES

Agape Groups: Heather Liebman
Altar Guild: Anne Marie Petrokubi
Building: Jack Nottingham
Columbarium: John Cain
Finance: Wes Patterson
Food Pantry: Marilyn Farrow, Jane Compton
Memorial Fund: Dee Fleming
Pastoral Care: Mary Burns
Sunday School: Monica Corral
Women of St. James: Joella Knapp

Treasurer: Wes Patterson

The Rev. Rocky Schuster, Rector
Penny Voss, Minister of Music
Marcia Shultis, Office Manager

Holiday Bazaar This Month

Preparations are underway for our annual Holiday Bazaar, to be held Saturday, Nov. 22.

A group of women have met four times to craft handmade gifts, household items, and festive cards for the holidays. The bazaar always gets high praise for the quality of craft items and festive decorative pieces that are sold during the one-day event.

Baked goods and gourmet delights will be featured, and are always big sellers. And once again, we invite shoppers and anybody else to sit down with us for an excellent lunch in our Bazaar café.

Setup day is Friday, Nov. 21. Many volunteers are needed, so sign up for setup and breakdown crews, cashiering, kitchen help and table service, decorating, and edible offerings.

The Episcopal Women of St. James host this year's bazaar again as one of its primary fundraisers for outreach contributions made by the organization.

Chair of this year's event is Jonnie Sargent.

■ For information: Jonnie, 737-5420.

GOOD NEWS
is published monthly by
St. James
Episcopal Church
208 Camino de Santiago
5794 NDCBU
Taos, NM 87571
(575) 758-2790
office@stjamestaos.org

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ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
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TAOS, NEW MEXICO
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*Please submit articles
for the next issue
to the church office
or by e-mail to
Winn Kalmon,
winn@kalmon.com
by the 15th of the month.
Submissions may be
edited for content,
length, and clarity.*