



News and Views

St. James Anglican Church

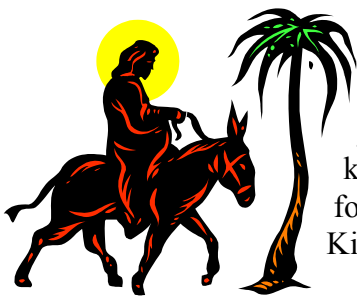
Caledon East, Ontario

Volume 1, Issue 1

Lent/Easter 2007

Palm Sunday - The Beginning of Christian Holy Week

The Sunday before Easter is known as Palm Sunday. It is the beginning of Holy Week. It celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Great crowds of people thronged the streets waving palm branches to welcome Him. The people shouted "Hosanna" and laid their cloaks and palm branches from the nearby trees in His path.



Jesus enters Jerusalem riding a donkey rather than a horse, which signifies the peaceful nature of his entry. People are expecting a king and surrender themselves to his authority by taking their cloaks off and laying them on the ground. The palm branches signify the expectation of a military victory of their king over the occupying Romans. Jesus is entering Jerusalem to bring peace and forgiveness to the world by taking the sin of the world upon Himself - a Spiritual King. People are seeking a worldly and physical king.

A (Final) Word From John

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: **2** a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; **3** a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; **4** a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; **5** a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; **6** a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; **7** a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; **8** a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Inside This Issue

2 Treasurer's Report

3 Parish Selection Committee

4 Wardens' Report

6 Sunday School News

7 Dates to Remember

One of my friends said to me last week that Jeremiah, in this his timeless ode to the human condition, omitted two phrases: “there is a time to say hello and a time to say good-bye.”

As you read this, a new chapter will have begun in the life of St. James’ church and in my life. As we go our separate ways, I want you to know that you will always be in my heart: I feel like I have left a big part of me at St. James.

Thank you for the grand party last Sunday and on behalf of both Carolyn and myself, thank you for the wonderful gifts with which you so richly blessed us. The generosity of this parish whether to homeless teens at *CHOICES* Shelter or to departing Incumbents is a marvelous witness of Christian love. I have been so honoured to have worked with you. Two things about last Sunday stick out in my mind. First, the gift that will stay at St. James’ is most special. You know that I am fascinated with that mysterious thing we call light. Light in this world remains an enigma for scientists and we know that God dwells in inaccessible light: here is something that seems to be present both in this world and in God’s world.

Whenever I walk into a darkened church somewhere in the world, I am drawn to any light that shines in the darkness. Often, that light will be the one shining by the Aumbry, a living statement of God’s Presence with us no matter what. As the Apostle John wrote in his Gospel, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not (and could not) overcome it.” May the new Aumbry light be a blessing to all of you; may it be a source of comfort and peace: God is with us and he will never forsake us.

Second, we ended our time together with a party and as I have said several times lately, God loves a party: just look at all the festivals he gave the Jewish people and look at how many “Feasts” we Christians have. It is no mistake that the language we use for the Eucharist is that of “celebration.” Although the Eucharist is the “Great Sacrament,” meals like we shared last Sunday can have sacramental value too. As we gathered around the tables, eating and talking and laughing (and crying) we were afforded just a hint of that great moment when we will be where there is no more sorrow but only life everlasting.

For a Christian, there are no real final leavings. Did you know that originally “good-bye” was a contraction for “God be with you?” That is what we Christians should mean at our leave-takings: “God be with you until we meet again.” And so, whether or not we see each other again on this earth or not, may we know that one day we will all be together again at that greatest of all parties, the one that the apostle John calls “The Marriage Supper of the Lamb.” And so until we meet again, God be with you, dear friends.

+++++

TREASURER’S REPORT

By Alan White

For your Treasurer, 2006 was an exciting time, as each month the bank balance dropped to a dangerous level. December was looking pretty bleak but the congregation responded to the appeal from the Wardens over the Christmas period and restored our finances to a reasonable level. Could we make a plea: the more use made of our PAR program, the more stable and predictable will be our finances throughout the year. Neil Price-Jones who takes care of PAR would be very happy to answer any questions you might have with regard to this type of giving.



Although our year-end bank balance did slip a little from 2005 we managed to pay off our Diocesan Loan (SBL15 that allowed us to finish the daycare space in 1998), reduce our bank loan by \$24,162

and send \$5,000 to Trinity, Campbell's Cross as part of the equity settlement with them when we became a one-point parish; a total debt reduction of \$29,898. Our total outstanding debt is now \$437,279 compared to \$547,226 at the end of 2003.

In the early 1980s our annual budget was \$40,000. Our Treasurer then was Ron Speers, who entered all the figures by hand in beautiful script. The books were made computer literate by Carl Kinzinger and Diana Finch in the late 1980s, and I became Treasurer in 1992. The budget this year is nearly a quarter of a million dollars, a six-fold increase in 25 years, or an annual increase of 8%.

My years as Treasurer have been exciting and rewarding. Obviously the highpoints include the two building projects, phase #1 in 1998 and phase #2 in 2002. For those projects the congregation donated \$330,000, an average of over \$3,000 per family. It was my privilege to feel the trust of those who donated their money that it would be well spent. We now enjoy the completed facilities which are the legacy of Cathy Miller's incumbency.

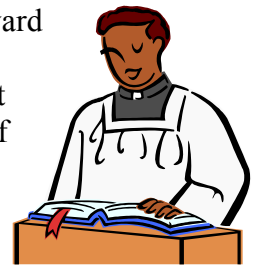
I have to thank Elizabeth Morton for her support through the building process and since then as the Co-Treasurer. She is very competent and fun to work with.

After 15 years it is time for me to step down, for somebody else to have the same excitement. We are most fortunate that Neil Price-Jones has accepted the challenge. Elizabeth has graciously agreed to continue to assist Neil and I have undertaken to continue to file the several returns required by the Diocese and by the Government.

→→→

St. James' Parish Selection Committee **By Diane Allengame**

The process of selecting a new incumbent is determined by the Diocese. A Parish Selection Committee was formed in January, consisting of the Wardens (Bruce Neville, Robin Holder); Lay Delegate to Synod (David Finch) and three representatives of the congregation: Howard Jones, Dr. Bob Williams and Diane Allengame. Bishop Philip Poole met with the committee in January and reviewed the selection process. Fred May, a parishioner at Christ Church, Bolton has been appointed as our facilitator. He brings many years of experience to this position and has authored a handbook for Selection Committees. Your PSC meets weekly and welcomes your concerns and suggestions. Following is the selection process we will be following:



- Phase 1** **Definition of requirements:** we will analyse the October 2006 survey results, create and consult Focus Groups; complete a follow up survey (if required). At the end of this phase we will have an updated Parish Profile, and a list of key skills and abilities desired in the incumbent as well as key interview questions.
Due date: mid-March
- Phase 2** **Candidate identification:** the Bishop will create the list of candidates, with input from the PSC. We will likely receive a list of three candidates.
Due date for short list of candidates: mid-April
- Phase 3** **Candidate evaluation:** during this phase the PSC visit the candidates in their parishes, conducts first and second interviews.

Completion date: mid-May. *Note - if none of the candidates are appropriate, the PSC may re-evaluate the Profile, consult again with the Bishop and request additional candidates.*

- Phase 4** **Candidate selection:** we will discuss and rank our evaluations, decide on a preferred candidate and inform the Bishop. Only the Bishop can make an offer to a candidate. The PSC will inform and thank other candidates, then destroy all related records to protect confidentiality.
- Target for selection: end of June – assuming one round of candidates to evaluate.
- Phase 5** **Transition to new incumbency:** the PSC will make the announcement to the congregation, arrange for meetings with the new incumbent and key parish members, provide information on the community, and generally act as the welcoming community.
- Date: July – Aug. **Our goal is for the new incumbent to begin their ministry with us in September.**

Please keep the PSC in your prayers!
Talk to us if you have concerns & comments.

Shop & Support Needs You!

By Cobina Price-Jones

The 2007 budget assumes that the Shop & Support Program will generate \$2,000 in income for St. James. This is not an unreasonable goal, but it can only be achieved if YOU participate.

Last year, the program raised \$527.75, with the regular support of seven families, plus occasional support from eight more. A family that spends \$100 per week on groceries will raise \$120 over the year (assuming no orders are placed over the summer months). To achieve our goal of \$2,000, we would need to have sixteen families buying their groceries through St. James—just another 9 families. We have added a number of new supporters in the past few months—but also a number of supporters have become inactive.

So, if you've been thinking: "The other members of St. James will support the program and help raise the required funds," please think again. There are about 100 families at St. James. Some of them will be unable to participate for one reason or another, but if you CAN participate, then please try out the program—not just once, or twice, but three times. See if it is a habit that you can get into. Use your shopping dollar to support the many needs of St. James.



--

Wardens' Report

By Robin Holder

The Fall was a very busy season which included the blessing of the animals by **Rev. John Stephenson**, which turned out to be a huge success, enjoyed by all the two and four footed friends as well as their families.

During the Christmas season, we continued to send food and goodies to Choices, a shelter for homeless

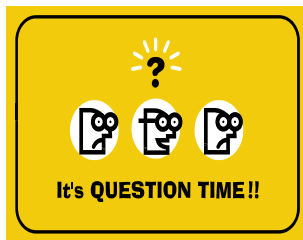
teens in Orangeville. We also once again filled the advent tree with donations for Caledon Community Services, as well as providing many bed kits for Sleeping Children Around the World. Thank you to the members of the congregation for your generosity. The Christmas season ended with John and Carolyn opening their home for the New Year's Rector's Levy. This is a fun time as people who attend all three church services have a chance to meet and enjoy the great food.

At this time in the church, we have many changes occurring. We sadly bid a fond farewell to John and Carolyn after three and a half short years. We wish them well as they move to Scarborough. Bruce and I must also say goodbye to **Karen Carley** after her four years of hard work and dedication to the church. We will miss her and her never ending energy. But rest assured she will be called upon in an advisory role. With Karen's departure we welcome **Diane Allengame** as she takes on the role of Deputy Warden. Welcome aboard Diane.

On February 18 we welcome **Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell** as our interim priest, while your selection committee is hard at work looking for a new permanent priest. During this time we are pleased to let you know that **Jonathan Massimi** will be working more hours and will be closely assisting Rev. Hutchison-Hounsell to ensure that the transition occurs as smoothly as possible. Please look for updates in the bulletin for news from your selection committee.

We received 42 responses to the survey and the committee will be sharing the results as to the future of St. James. One thing that came through loud and clear was the appreciation of music in the services and to this end the wardens and the music selection committee are actively looking for a choir leader/organist for St. James.

Results from the Fall Survey



The bad news from the survey is that only 42 of about 125 surveys were returned. The good news is that we received a lot of detailed feedback from people, and discovered, for the most part, that people are happy here at St. James. Many questions were asked with regard to worship services. The majority of respondents felt the number, timing and type of services were appropriate. People are equally supportive of contemporary and traditional hymns, and overwhelmingly supportive of the choir. The Youth Program was valued highly by a majority of respondents. In the questions with regard to the incumbent's role, a majority of respondents indicated the incumbent should visit shut-ins, the sick and all new members.

The actual results have been posted in the Gathering Space and are guiding the work of the selection committee as we formulate our new Parish Profile. Now, if you ignored the questionnaire in the fall, and are now wishing you'd put your two cents worth in, you still have opportunities to tell us what you think. In the next month or so you will receive a shorter questionnaire regarding the role of incumbent. The selection committee is gearing up for a series of focus group meetings, which will give people a chance to voice their opinions and thoughts, and everyone is welcome and encouraged to discuss the future of St. James with the members of the Parish Selection Committee.

Chancel Guild

By Christina Wiggins

On January 20, 2007 the Chancel Guild and the Heritage Committee presented beautiful new green antependia to Margaret Forbes to honour Margaret's 18 years of dedicated service as Chair of the Chancel Guild.

February 11 was John's last day as our minister and we are all sad to see him go. Our prayers are with John and Carolyn at this time.

We need 'lots of help' on March 31 to make the crosses for Palm Sunday. We'll meet in the library at 10 a.m. – all are welcome – please!

--



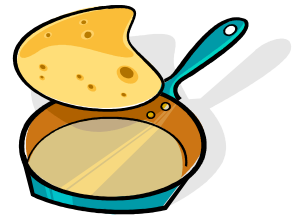
And - Out of the mouths of babes

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!"

Sunday School News

By Cobina Price-Jones

Mark your calendars for the second annual Great Caledon East Pancake Race and Supper on February 20. This year, we invite all girls age 12 to 18 to participate. The first girl to race from the Trailside Cafe to St. James (flipping her pancake at least three times) and feed her pancake to the bell ringer wins a Pancake Supper for four. Come cheer on your favourite contestant, and then enjoy a Pancake Supper—only \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children



On Sunday, January 28, the Sunday School took advantage of the arrival of winter weather to hold its annual Skating Party on the Price-Jones' pond. Everyone got lots of fresh air and exercise, and then warmed up with a hot chocolate in front of the woodstove.

The Sunday School presented the Christmas pageant at the end of the 11:00 a.m. service on December 17. After a beautiful rendition of Silent Night, the children shared the story of "The Baby Born in a Stable." Lauren Groen did a fabulous job of reading. Ainsley played Joseph, Erin was Mary, and Lauren Thomas was the Innkeeper. Veronica, Matthew and Daniel were shepherds, and Kathryn, Hannah, and Kira were angels. We especially enjoyed the part where the angels went flying through the church to the sound of "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Then, the children performed "O Come All Ye Faithful" on their recorders.

The Sunday School held our annual Advent Craft Day on December 3. We made Advent wreaths and other crafts, including yummy decorated gingerbread. We still had lots of room for the pot luck supper!

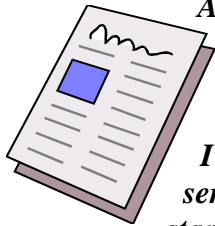
Again this year, the Sunday School held its annual Penny Drive. We raised \$111.88 (\$105.18 in pennies). This year, we were in fourth place, after Bolton United Church (\$561.15), Caven Presbyterian Church (\$231.85), and Christ Church Anglican, Bolton (\$167.00), and before Caledon East United Church (\$92.70). Thanks to everyone for bringing in their pennies! We will be donating them to Caledon Community Services, to help the less fortunate members of our community. Start saving up your pennies for next year!



Just like the grownups, the Sunday School has a weekly collection. Over the last two years, we raised more than \$200. The kids have decided to donate \$140 to World Vision, to supply a classroom, purchase Care Packs for ten children, and provide two hens and a rooster to a struggling family. They are also donating \$50 to Sleeping Children Around the World.

Editor's Corner

By Donna Davies



As my first task as your new editor, I want to thank Desiree Neville for all of her hard work as editor of this church newsletter over the past eight years. We do appreciate the effort she has put into the project. It's going to be a 'hard act' to follow.

I also pass on my sincere thanks to Rev. John for all of his enlightening sermons, which have been so enjoyable. All the best Carolyn and John as you start the next phase of your journey. And - welcome Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell – enjoy your stay with us.

I welcome your comments at any time and look forward to receiving your future articles.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 20 – 5:30 p.m.	The Great Caledon East Pancake Race and Supper Details in Sunday School News and church web site
February 21 - 7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday - Imposition of Ashes
March 3 – 4:30 p.m.	Caledon Town Hall Theatre Night – “The Perfect Manhattan” – ‘Pot Luck’ at the McEnaney’s
April 1	Palm Sunday
April 5 - 6:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday - Supper, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar
April 6 - 11:00 a.m.	Good Friday Service- Stations of the Cross
April 8	Easter Sunday - Resurrection Day!



Milestones

Since the last Newsletter, this Parish has been touched with great sadness. Our hearts and prayers are with all those from this parish who have lost loved ones in the past months. Here are the names of those known to us who have now entered into God's nearer Presence, into the joy of his great light:

Val Hadley

Bob Payne

Helen Howard

Tom Jobs

Andre Arian

Elaine Fletcher

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones

- Psalm 116:15

News and Views is a newsletter for the people of St. James Anglican Church, Caledon East. It is published four times per year - Advent, Lent, Pentecost and Fall.

For submissions in the newsletter:

Any member of the Parish of St. James Caledon East may submit an article for the newsletter. To do so, email to newsletter@stjamescaledoneast.ca or leave your articles in writing or on a cd in the newsletter box at the church office. Articles are considered based upon space availability and relevance.

Thank you for your submission.

Donna Davies, Editor

Next Newsletter: Pentecost 2007

Deadline: May 13, 2007

Publication: May 27, 2007

**St. James Anglican Church
6025 Old Church Road
Caledon East, Ontario L7C 1H8**

Interim Rector: Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell

Youth Minister: Jonathan Massimi

Tel: 905 584-9635

Email: office@stjamescaledoneast.ca

Web: stjamescaledoneast.ca