

# News and Views

**ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**Caledon East, Ontario**

**Volume 2, Issue 2**

**Pentecost/ 2008**

## Pressing on Toward Our Goal!



**"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do." - Helen Keller**

Even through the snow and ice, we pressed on and, as a result, God's church here at St. James is growing and developing and that is exciting. I particularly enjoy seeing the **Ministry Teams** coming together and already taking on new visions and ideas.

You may remember that last Fall, we discussed a ten-year vision for St. James, which is summarized below

- Being a Kingdom community that is welcoming, safe, serving and relevant to its members, and relevant to Caledon East
- Welcoming and nurturing children, youth, young families and our seniors.
- Being filled to overflowing.

Our **Ministry Teams** are working hard to implement this vision of which we are all a part. It will take time, God's time. We begin one step at a time.

Following is a brief overview of some of what is happening... some Ministries are providing more information of their own in this newsletter.

- **Outreach and Mission** is being facilitated by Pam McKinnon, Anne Allengame and Irma Proctor.

- **Pastoral Care** is facilitated by Ruth Sowrey. Ruth helps me to plan my visits; she organized the Palm Sunday Blitz, and will be developing a parish grid. The Pastoral Care team has also established a Prayer Chain. The St. James Prayer Chain is absolutely confidential. Prayer requests will never be discussed. Your prayer requests will be offered up to God by team members individually. They do need to know your name. The chain begins with Ruth or with me. We call Dee McEnaney who is the facilitator of the Prayer Chain. She will then start the chain in motion. The last person in the chain phones Dee to complete the chain.

- **Christian Education** is facilitated by Heather Sabbagh. We are currently working on the Via Media program. Heather is considering a book club for the summer, and we are pondering ideas for the fall.
- **Hospitality** is facilitated by Karen Carley. This ministry is not limited to tea and coffee. The focus is on the Hospitality of the Kingdom of God and the ways in which we welcome God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one another and the stranger into our midst.

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- **Communication** is facilitated by Cobina Price-Jones. Cobina does our Web Site. Another subgroup has come together to develop a new logo/branding for St. James.

**Youth and Young Families** - Does it surprise you to learn that here at St. James we have 33 young families and 56 children and youth in our midst? A dinner party was held for this group on April 12. After dinner we had a chance to break into smaller groups and to discuss ways in which St. James could best serve Parents, Young Adults and Youth and children. As it was only a week ago, we have not had a chance to process all of the information but I would like to highlight a few outcomes for you.

For parents:

- Their lives are hectic, life is a rush from morning 'til night. From what I heard this group say, they need Sabbath rest, time out and time to be leisurely. An idea was put forward that we offer a Saturday evening Quiet Vespers for parents and a suitable program for the children, allowing Moms and Dads a time to gear down, to be still and to be refreshed in the Lord. Their Sunday morning then becomes a time of continued rest with no particular agenda, no particular place to go or to be (not even church). Our hope is to begin this service in September, on the third Saturday of the month, with the thought of the third Saturday thereafter.
- There are parents among us and in our community who are single parents. We were asked if it might be possible to have a single parent group. The answer is yes, again with a September start date in mind.
- We were asked for shorter services during the summer, which is very doable.

Michelle Jones has agreed to facilitate the Youth and Young Adults group, working with our existing leaders. Michelle is married to Brad Canning and their daughter Lily is now three years old. Michelle has a Masters of Theological Studies from Trinity College, U of T, and has a passion for the younger generation coming to know Jesus in their lives.

There is more news from Michelle in the Youth, Young Adult section.

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The littler children seemed quite content with their status quo. Their spiritual formation, however, will not go unattended. Clare continues to nurture their hearts in the love of Jesus.

- Worship and Liturgy scheduling is facilitated by Carl Kinzinger.
- We have introduced a Taize service at 9:30 on the first Sunday of the month, a number of parishioners have come together, both vocal and instrumental, under the leadership of Joanne Redhead. Their sound is wonderful.
- We would like to bring together a festival team which will come up with ways to make our major church festivals/seasons, like Christmas and Easter, exciting and accessible to everyone, so this would include marketing, hospitality, music ... special events. If there is someone you might recommend for this team please let me know.

There is much more to say. There is much going on! But hopefully this will give you a bit of an overview of some of our Ministries. My hope is to have every one of us involved somewhere in one or more of these ministries.

Please keep the good work of St. James in your prayers. Thank you for your enthusiasm and willingness to serve. May God bless you and keep you.

Wendy+

p.s. If you are interested in any of these **Ministries** please let me know.

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## Via Media

By Heather Sabbagh

Anyone with some free time on Thursday evenings is encouraged to feed both body and soul at "Via Media". Beginning with a pot luck supper at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Space, we go on to explore the "middle way" of the Anglican faith, through film followed by discussion over coffee and dessert. The series



started April 10, but as each segment is self-contained, you can profitably join in at any point. Please come!

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## Chancel Guild

By Christina Wiggins

Thank you to all who helped to make the crosses for Palm Sunday, including three ladies from Trinity. Special thanks to Heather Whittier who made the lovely floor mats. Ruth created a wonderful display with Easter Lillies and flowers on the chancel steps. Thank you to the ladies of the chancel guild who continually strive to make our church beautiful.

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## Caledon Council Seniors Receive New Horizons Grant

By Dr. Bob Williams

On Friday April 25, David Tilson, MP will present a cheque for \$15,500 from the Federal Government to the Caledon Seniors' Council as a New Horizons Grant. This grant was applied for with the co-operation of Caledon Meals on Wheels and is to be used to paint the great hall, provide blinds for the windows and extra storage cupboards in the kitchen and hallway. Some other items for use in the production of the bi-monthly newsletter are also included.

Attendance at the seniors Friday morning exercises has increased to an average of 50 participants and is proving so popular that Meals on Wheels, who sponsor the keep fit classes, have applied to rent the great hall for an extra class on a Tuesday morning. This group will probably be accommodated in the new expansion to the Walker Road seniors' apartments. Thanks to the lobbying of the Seniors' Council this facility will have a meeting room that can accommodate new programs.




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## A Word from Your Wardens...

Praise God for a relatively stress-free time, administratively speaking! Spring has arrived, and the extra expense of snow removal fades from memory (but not the bank book) as our beautiful gardens burst forth with new life.

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We welcome Stephen Smith as our new warden who is busy getting his feet wet and learning the ropes.

Have you noticed some of the changes around St. James recently? Karen Carley and the Hospitality Team are hard at work making the church welcoming to all, especially newcomers. Two pews will be removed to make room for rocking chairs, wheelchairs and little person chairs. Vinyl press-on lettering now graces our entranceways. Still to come: interior signage, new pamphlet holders, decorative elements and a floor plan!

Please see the separate article with regard to the grant obtained by the seniors to update our great hall.

We had a visit from the fire inspector for a safety check. We had a few things to fix and all is well. We are now in the process of formulating a "fire plan." When it is complete we will share the results.

Gordon Morton is very busy taking care of all of our property issues, however this is often a daunting task and we are looking for people to join his team and help share the work load. If you are interested in helping out just speak to Gordon or one the wardens.

Thank you to our Youth and Young Family team for a rockin' good time at the family dinner in April. "Remote Control" provided the entertainment, and it's fair to say the Parish Hall has probably never heard a version of "Jesus Loves Me" quite like that one! A great start to this new ministry. The youth group will finally get a space to call their own. Plans are under way to move the library to the Alan Whike room and the library will then become the youth room.

Thank you also, as always, to the wonderful support ministries carried out by individuals and groups which make the job of warden survivable, from paying the bills to restructuring our accounts, booking the hall and turning out the lights...thanks everyone for a great start to 2008.

Bruce Neville and Diane Allengame, Rector's Wardens  
Robin Holder and Stephen Smith, People's Wardens

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## A Remembrance of the Past



### The Davis Lounge

In our haste to welcome newcomers and keep the face of St. James current - it's important that we remember and honour the gifts of those whose generosity allowed us to grow during earlier times.

**Robert and Edna Davis** were such parishioners. Robert was a warden numerous times between 1928 and 1955. Money was especially hard to come by during the years after WW2, and Edna started the "St. James Ladies' Club" to help the wardens pay the bills. From that point on the women organized bazaars, rummage sales and catered weddings and funerals. Successful fund-raising activities took place in the basement of the church itself, which also served as the Sunday School. At this time the church was without a kitchen, or even washrooms, and by the 1960s a building fund was created.

In 1966, Edna and Robert Davis left the church a sizable estate bequest in the amount of \$10,000. An additional \$3,000 was given as an endowment with the interest to be given to the church annually. A small amount was also provided for Sunday School purposes.

At the time of the gift, St. James had just acquired additional land behind the church and former Masonic Hall. The Davis bequest allowed the church to move forward with plans to build an addition to the Masonic Hall. Construction began in 1969 and the addition, containing washrooms, a kitchen and meeting room, was dedicated in 1971. The building was dedicated "*to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert and Edna Davis.*"

With the demolition of the old Parish Hall in the 1990s we lost the connection with these hard-working and significant donors.

The Wardens and Rev. Wendy agree that the seating area across from the office be named the "Davis

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Lounge". A small memorial plaque will be installed as follows:

*This lounge is dedicated to the glory of God and with thanksgiving for the stewardship of  
Robert and Edna Davis  
during the years 1928-1965*

Robert and Edna had no children, but their nephews Bob, Harry and Hartley carried on the family name. Bob and Joan Davis are still on our parish list.

Could a gift from your estate benefit St. James in a similar way? Please give it prayerful consideration.

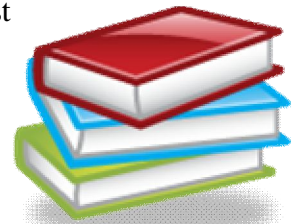
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## Book Review

By Donna Davies

### *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

This is this second book by Khaled Hosseini and I enjoyed his first book *The Kite Runner* so much that I could hardly wait to read the latest one. While the first book centred mainly on fathers and sons, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is the story of two women. Both stories take place in Afghanistan.



This book covers a time that begins before the Russian invasion and takes you on a journey with the two women, Mariam and Laila, right up to the present.

Mariam is the illegitimate daughter of a wealthy Afghani, who has three wives and numerous children. She lives with her mother in Herat. After the death of her mother, her father literally gives her in marriage to a much older widower named Rasheed, a shoemaker. Their house in Kabul is on a street very near a much younger Laila, who lives with her parents and two brothers. This is at the time of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Under the Russian regime, Laila enjoys some of the freedoms afforded the Afghan women, including an education and a friendship with a young man named Tariq, while Mariam suffers many indignities under the cruel Rasheed, who believes a man must control his wife. He forces her to wear a burqa and to suffer many indignities at his hand,

especially when she fails to give him a son, after many miscarriages.

After the victory of the mujahedeen, [civil war](#) comes to Afghanistan, and Kabul is bombarded by rocket attacks. Tariq's family decides to leave the city. The emotional farewell between Laila and Tariq culminates in a clandestine tryst. Laila's family also decides to leave Kabul, but as they are packing, a rocket destroys the house and kills her parents. Laila is taken in by Rasheed and Mariam.

While she is recovering in the home of Rasheed and Mariam, a man comes to tell Laila that he met Tariq at a hospital, and that Tariq was now dead. Laila has discovered she is pregnant with Tariq's child and agrees to marry Rasheed, in hopes that she can pass the child off as his.

Despite the difference in their ages, Mariam and Laila eventually develop a strong bond as both are forced to endure the abusive physical beatings of Rasheed, while looking after the daughter and later a son of Laila's. By this time, the [Taliban](#) has risen to power in Afghanistan. We get a real sense of what daily life was like in Kabul — both before and during the harsh reign of the Taliban. This is a time when women are forced to wear the burqa at all times, cannot go out unless accompanied by a man, are not allowed to speak in public, cannot attend school and are forced to attend separate hospitals from the men. The only book allowed is the Koran.

The story continues with the attempted escape of the two women with their children, the eventual killing of the cruel Rasheed and flight to Pakistan with the reunited Tariq, whose death was falsely reported to Laila. Again, the experience of the refugees is brought compellingly to life. In [2003](#) (almost two years after the fall of the Taliban to US forces), Laila and Tariq decide to return to Afghanistan.

I will not spoil the read by telling the ending.

I know this is not necessarily a religious book, but it is so well written and gives such an insight into the history and the culture of Afghanistan, while relating a compelling story, that it is well worthwhile reading.

Ena Badger has graciously contributed her copy to our church library.

Breaking News...



Theatre Night

Come for a Pot Luck Supper at Dee and Phil McEnaney's on May 17 any time after 4:30 p.m.

After enjoying a delicious meal and pleasant conversation, continue the fun by enjoying the play at the Caledon Town Hall Theatre called *Enchanted April*.

Call Dee at to order your tickets as soon as possible.



Envelope Secretary Suggests

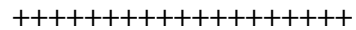
To everyone who is already on PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance) would you please write your PAR number on your cheques when you are making an extra donation towards Outreach or flowers, etc. Please do not use your old envelope numbers. These numbers are given out to new members so as to keep our order of envelopes below 100 to save money. Our PAR members have increased by two. If you are interested in joining PAR it is easy to do - just ask.

Karen Carley



Summer Book Club

Do literary discussion and a glass of crisp Chardonnay naturally go together in your mind? If so, you might consider joining the St. James Summer Book Circle. For more information, contact **Heather Sabbagh**. Membership will be limited to eight, so don't delay!



Lawn, Plant & Collectables Sale

When doing your spring clean-out, please save a few goodies for us. We are looking for good, clean, useable items (No clothing please). A fund-raising sale for Outreach is planned for May 31, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you can help, have a donation, or need something picked up, please

contact Pam McKinnon or Anne Allengame. Items may be brought to the church the week prior to May 31 and stored in the Library.



## HOSPITALITY NEWS

By Karen Carley

Our enthusiastic minister has come up with a new ministry called *Hospitality*. Under this ministry there are sub-committees which include: *Communication, Welcoming, Newcomers, Social, Young Families* and *Youth*. All of these committees have their own leader.

On Palm Sunday five teams from St. James, visited each parishioner who had not been to church on that day. They were given palms and a "missed you" card. From feedback received this was appreciated by those we visited and we all felt that it was a much needed endeavor. This was the beginning of our new hospitality committee and we hope to do this at least three times a year

You may have already noticed that there are new signs of welcome at the front and side doors. In each pew there is also a new 'welcome to visitors' leaflet. These were both done by Diane Allengame. This is the beginning of our communication and welcoming spirit at St. James.

In the near future you will notice an improvement on our bulletin boards. Heather (Hez) Whittier has volunteered to organize all four bulletin boards and to make them more readable and noticeable. Take a peek as you go by.

We are organizing a new *Welcoming Committee* at St. James and our wish is to have designated people at each service to welcome newcomers. This is above and beyond the job of the sides person. At the 11a.m.

service I would like to see three people on duty so each door and the parking lot would be covered. I have a few people

who have already volunteered but I need more so that I can make up a roster for this service. I appreciate volunteers, but sometimes you forget so I will be asking for your assistance.

The Communication and Welcoming committee will be putting their heads together to update the welcome booklet which we pass out to newcomers. When we have new guests at our services the wardens and the welcoming committee automatically try to make the newcomers feel comfortable. I would like to see the



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regular members also make an extra effort towards greeting newcomers as valued guests.

Smile, you're on candid camera. When you see Diane Allengame with a camera, she's taking pictures for the bulletin board and web site. Smile and sign the waiver.

The pews are missing! We are trying something new. The pews are not being sold, only moved. This is to be a comfortable place for new mothers or guests with small children who do not want their child to go to Sunday School.

Over the next six months you will see additions and changes in the way that we the Welcoming Committee operate. Your feedback is always welcome. Drop a note in my envelope secretary box or call me.

## Social News

Dee Mc/Enaney

It is time to say a big thank-you to all the families who participated in Sunday coffee hours at St. James, and to those who has had to exchange with another family due to time conflicts. It makes my job so much easier when this is organized ahead of time. Each Sunday all have enjoyed many wonderful mouth-watering goodies

Thank-you to several women who assisted in the catering of two funerals here at St. James. Both families gave wonderful praise to our efforts. My thank-you to the ladies for being so generous with their time and efforts in providing the food for the lunches.

## Youth at St. James

By Michelle Jones, Youth Coordinator

On Saturday April 12 a good number of St. James youth met to eat; listen to a local Christian band; and talk about the pros and cons of church life. I was excited to hear candid and honest answers to questions such as, "Why do we go to church - pros of coming to church, negatives of coming to church and what would I like church to really be like?" We talked about God's intention for us to be in relationship not only with God but also with one another and how challenging that can be coming to church. It was encouraging to hear them say how much they value the interaction with other

generations in the congregation. Many of our youth view our seniors as extended grandparents and often look to them for wisdom and insight.

I think the most important thing I heard the youth of St. James say collectively was that they need a time and a place for themselves; where it is safe to ask questions pertaining to their life and experiences. It is my hope that a few of us adults in the congregation can work hard to provide the youth with a fun, provocative program to meet their needs on a regular basis. We would work closely with our senior youth, Sariana Sabbagh and Adam Neville, both of whom are equally excited about and committed to creating a safe place for our youth to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

I hardly know the youth at St. James – I must confess. I am still mixing up names and discovering personalities. I look forward to getting to know each of them better. I am excited to think that, with the affirmation and encouragement which a youth group can provide, our youth will become a confident voice of wisdom and truth at St. James, in the community of Caledon East and wherever they journey beyond.

## OUTREACH & MISSION UPDATE

Anne Allengame, Irma Proctor, Pam McKinnon

*When I was hungry you gave me something to eat*

The Outreach Committee met with Wendy on February 14 and March 13 to establish goals for this year. We decided to continue our support of Choices Youth Shelter and encourage contributions to our Advent Tree in December.

On April 6, Murray McAdam spoke to us at our 9:30 and 11 a.m. services about Faithworks. He discussed the needs of the poor in Ontario and encouraged everyone to help. He has been instrumental in organizing meetings with MPPs to discuss social justice issues.

Anne Allengame and Irma Proctor attended a very productive meeting with Sylvia Jones on February 4. Questions were asked re affordable housing, minimum wage and support for youth. Several churches and community organizations were represented.

The Outreach Committee has also begun to explore and research the possibility of partnering with a parish

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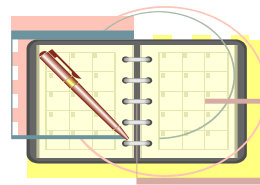
in the far north. We contacted Bishop Mark McDonald and have received information to help us get started on this project. Further information about this new endeavour will be in our next newsletter. Please speak to the Outreach and Mission Team if you have questions or thoughts around this vital ministry.

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## MILESTONES

**Death:** Dr. Alastair Thompson

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## Dates to Remember

Saturday, May 10 – Adopt-a-Road clean up

Saturday, May 17 – Theatre Night “Enchanted April”

Saturday, May 31 – Lawn, Plant & Collectables Sale  
– 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday, June 8 – Parish Picnic

Sunday, June 22 – A “Thank You” Luncheon for all those involved with worship

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## Christian One-Liners ---

*Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case!*

**Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.**

**Some people are kind, polite and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.**

**Peace starts with a smile**

**When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.**

**FAITHWORKS** - the outreach arm of Anglicans in Toronto Diocese - supports the following ministries in which people in need are helped, supported and encouraged as Jesus taught us.

[All Saints Community Centre, Toronto](#): provides services and programs geared towards the low-income, under-housed or homeless

[The Bridge, Brampton](#): works with inmates and ex-inmates and their families to rebuild their lives.

[Couchiching Jubilee House, Orillia](#): provides transitional supported living (up to one year) for vulnerable women and children.

[Dam, Mississauga](#): an alternative to life on the streets for teens

[The David Busby Street Centre, Barrie](#): a refuge from the streets

[Flemingdon Park Ministry, Don Mills](#): a storefront mission supporting a multicultural community

[Glebe House, Peterborough](#): provides shared accommodation to mid-life women faced with a housing crisis.

[North House](#): provides shelter or transitional housing in the northern reaches of the Durham Region

[Philip Aziz Center](#): Provides a chaplaincy program to those suffering with HIV/AIDS.

[ROC Women's Emergency Transition Centre, Buckhorn](#): provides a temporary safe haven for rural victims of abuse and natural disasters, i.e. flood, fire

[Samaritan House, Barrie](#): provides support to women and children who have experienced abuse either through violent relationships and/or poverty

[St. Stephen's Community Ministries](#): Downsview Youth Covenant, provides a range of programs to young people in the surrounding community

[Toronto Urban Native Ministry](#): An outreach program funded jointly with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toronto to assist aboriginals living on Toronto's streets.

[Anglican United Refugee Alliance \(AURA\)](#) (Diocesan wide): provides support/services to churches & refugees

#### **Our Partners**

[Anglican Appeal](#): support for theological education for clergy and lay leaders in the North and for our church partners in other parts of the Anglican Communion

[LOFT Community Services](#): housing, community support and street outreach for over 2,000 youth, adults and seniors at 42 sites in the GTA and York Region for people who are homeless, at risk and have special needs

[The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund](#): funding international development, emergency relief, refugee protection, human rights and global education.

Supporting **FAITHWORKS** is easy; just speak with Anne Allengame, Irma Proctor or Pam McKinnon



## ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

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*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

[newsletter@stjamescaledoneast.ca](mailto: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 on space availability and relevance. Thank you for your submission.

Donna Davies, Editor

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