



ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

2011

*Not to be served, but to serve.*

# ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2011

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*The 2011 parish operating budget will be available separately at the Annual Meeting on January 23, 2011.*



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**AGENDA**

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- 12:00 P.M.      Arrangement of tables for luncheon  
                    "I'm Going to Eat At the Welcome Table," *Lift Every Voice & Sing* #148  
                    Grace  
                    Luncheon (two from each table please serve)  
                    Welcome and Prayer – the Rev. Holly Lyman Antolini
- 
- 12:20 P.M.      **Business Meeting**  
                    Establishment of a quorum (Hannah Reeves, clerk)  
                    Acceptance of 2010 Meeting minutes & Reception of Annual Report (Hannah Reeves)  
                    Summary of 2011 Budget (Michael Walters Young, Finance Committee)  
                    Presentation of Slate of Candidates (Nominating Committee)  
                    Election (Hannah Reeves, clerk)
- 
- 12:50 p.m.      Redevelopment Progress Report Update (Mike Bernier, St. James's Owner's  
                    Representative)
- 
- 1:00 p.m.      Update on plans for annual parish retreat
- 
- 1:15 p.m.      Introduction of the St. James's Anti-Racism Initiative
- 
- 1:45 p.m.      Food Pantry Study
- 
- 1:55 p.m.      Concluding Address and Celebration  
                    Rector's Final Word Affirmations  
                    Blessing & Dismissal

*If possible, please remain and help the Hospitality Committee with clean-up after the meeting.  
Remember: **Not to be served, but to serve!***

THANK YOU.

# Rector's Annual Report 2011

Our pilgrimage continues out of the familiar surroundings of our old parish house toward the “promised land” of our new parish house, with some of the same spiritual trials and gifts of community experienced by the People of Israel as they journeyed through the wilderness of Sinai en route to the land of Milk and Honey. Our trials have been less life-threatening than those in the Books of Exodus and Numbers, thank God. They are composed more of scattered program, foul air, legal appeals, and inconvenience than poisonous serpents, starvation, or dehydration! But it never fails to hearten me to see the family of St. James’s, by the grace of God and the baptismal energy and commitment of your leaders, pull together, devise ingenious solutions to challenges, laugh at obstacles, and invest strongly in their present ministry of hospitality and their future mission in God’s service in North Cambridge

Our major accomplishments of the year are manifest: ***The Growing Together, Building in Faith*** capital campaign, which, under the steadfast and able leadership of Co-Chairs Nancy McArdle and Mark Agard with strong support from graphics wizard Jr. Warden Anne Read and a wonderful Committee as well as a phalanx of Visitor Volunteers, met our goal of \$450,000 and then raised it another \$80,000, to furnish our new parish house and begin the restoration of our historic sanctuary by sealing the building envelope.

Ten new pledges and many more new worshippers added to our congregation! A powerful Holy Week, celebrated entirely within our sanctuary in the absence of the parish house. An animated and well-attended Parish Retreat at Barbara C. Harris Camp, “Reading the Holy Book of Nature,” in June. A rollicking St. James’s Day Picnic at Danehy Park in July. The celebration of the end of the capital campaign and the training of a newly expanded Altar Guild in September. The calling of young adult Micah Fellow Reed Loy to work with our welcoming, young adult, and social justice ministries under Assistant Rector the Rev. Edwin Johnson’s supervision and Reed’s leadership of a Social Justice Gathering in October, attended by over 40 congregation members and resulting in a wealth of interest in supporting our mission “to serve, not to be served.” An End-of-Life training seminar on All Saints Sunday, followed by a Caregiver’s Seminar led by congregation member Ned Rimer of 4C Chronic Care Community Corps in November, providing pastoral support and training for those providing long-term-care. Edwin and congregation member Amber Sarpy recruiting a fine team of youth to prepare for our first-ever Alewife Deanery Youth Pilgrimage to Costa Rica in February, 2012. The redoubtable team of Judy Beers, Donna Thompson and Anne Read, with much assistance, presenting the St. James’s Christmas Fair, and a first: partnering with the Alewife Deanery to add an “Alternative Christmas Fair” component, “selling” gifts benefiting ministries of several Deanery congregations, including our own On the Ground in Burundi, with Jodi Mikalachki and Be The Change, Kenya with Natalie Finstad. Contemplative Prayer each Monday night in Advent. Our first St. James’s Movie Night in Advent under the leadership of Kate Saylor, our Youth Leadership Academy member. A series of Gatherings on racism and other dynamics of discrimination throughout the year, inspiring Dr. Michelle Holmes to undertake to chair a new St. James’s Anti-Racism Team made up of 20 congregation members committed to a courageous conversation about the dynamics of discrimination in 2012, funded by a diocesan Congregational Development Grant that provides expert facilitation in multicultural training from VISIONS, Inc. The negotiation of a sound amendment to our legal agreement with our developer partners at Oaktree Design Development to provide legal, consulting and operating support for the interim period as we await resolution of the two appeals – one by 6 abutters of our Planning permit and the other by 2 abutters of our Cambridge and Massachusetts Historic Commission permit. A new ramp to our Beech St. Corner Door; a new permanent handicap-accessible bathroom in our sacristy; our environmentally responsible gas boilers ensconced in their new permanent home in our undercroft; new stairs to our undercroft on both sides of the church building, new lights in our signs and doorways to guide us into the church and remind passersby that we are light in the darkness.

Equally important are the ways in which we continue our core ministry of worship, fellowship, formation and outreach despite the lack of parish house. To name a few: consistently lively & participatory Sunday worship, with the help of Minister of Music Patrick Michaels and, during Pat's 3-month, Sept-Nov sabbatical, the able support of choral conductor Elizabeth Johnson and keyboardist Nicholas Hayes. A thriving, lively coffee hour and seasonal all-out Feasts in the impromptu "narthex" at the west end of our church, thanks to the generosity and ingenuity of the Hospitality Committee. Church School unfolding faithfully and energetically though divided between the Lower School "campus" at Pine Village Preschool and the Upper School at 2161 Massachusetts Ave. Tuesday morning PRAXIS and Tuesday & Thursday Morning Prayer providing spiritual sustenance weekly, along with periodic Rule of Life groups led by Edwin. The Food Pantry serving increased numbers of hungry families at 362 Rindge Ave. The Women's Meal continuing to build community at Hope Fellowship Church. The Outdoor Church departing weekly, rain or shine, for Pigeon Park from our nave instead of the parish house. The Prison Ministry and the Sunday Morning Bible Study gathering resourcefully in the Vestry. Our Greater Boston Interfaith Organization team pursuing initiatives such as the "Move Your Money" campaign and healthcare cost-controlling. The commencement of a monthly "St. James's Walk on the Wild Side," cultivating the "bonds of affection" with the natural world. Reed and Edwin assisting Katherine Farrow in leading the 20's & 30's Group to explore spiritual autobiography, spiritual gifts and vocation. Following Nina Siciliano's resignation as Food Pantry Director in October, we hired the Rev. Karen Coleman as the new Food Pantry Director, and replaced Jillian Rankins with Ashley Boyd in December as the new Nursery Caretaker. Meanwhile, in addition to serving on the Convention Resolutions Committee and the diocesan Capital Campaign Roll-out Committee, I continue as Dean of the Alewife Deanery, meeting monthly with the Bishops as part of the Deans' Council of Advice and tending to the pastoral needs of the Alewife Deanery clergy with a monthly Clericus gathering, installations of new clergy, and pastoral support as needed, in addition to serving on the Deanery's Executive Team to plan Deanery activities.

The challenge, as we continue our pilgrim journey in the coming year toward our new parish house, is to sustain our lively ministry despite the space challenges while we wait for the commencement of construction, and to use this interim period to deepen our spiritual fellowship with one another, letting the extraordinary gift of our diverse community, with its passion for worship and for service, be our primary formation into the Body of Christ God calls us to be. 🙏

# Assistant Rector's Annual Report

Good day Saints of St. James's! *"Que el Dios de la esperanza nos colme de todo gozo y paz en nuestra fe, por el poder del Espiritu Santo.* (Romanos 15:13) It has been a wonderful year with you all, I feel very much a part of the community now and I can't believe that I am a mere 16 months from leaving you. As with last year, my work has fallen under the categories of formation, community building and outreach.

The primary focus of my formation-centered work continues to be the Church School program. We have been blessed with six new adults resourcing our Church School program as teachers. We have more student participation, with 30 students in total taking part in classes in one way, shape or form this year. The major work of this year has been shifting to Godly Play with the Lower School class and shifting our High School programming. The Godly Play shift has gotten off to a decent start, however it has been difficult with only one fully-trained teacher in Mary. Between this February's training event and other training coming up later in the year we will have a stronger set of trained teachers. The next step is using some of our resources to begin to gather some better materials. The High School programming has had some strong moments, as a great group of young adult teachers have offered some great lessons. Overall, the participation has been low, as the every other week model has been tough for some of the students and we struggle to get a critical mass to attend. The Costa Rica Pilgrimage (which I will mention later) has helped re-engage four of those youth.

On top of the Church School there has been other work around our pilgrimage and adult formation. The Costa Rica pilgrimage idea first occurred to Holly when she noted that we have a Costa Rican Assistant Rector (me) and a formation-centered family of St. James's living there (the Padilla-Deborsts). We have four young people all set to go along with me, Amber Sarpy and two young women from Christ Church in Waltham. The fundraising has gone well so far, we have gathered once and will meet three more times between now and the trip. We will split our time between formation and exchange/service, the point of the trip is the continued formation of this set of pre/post-confirmation youth. On the adult side, the Rule of Life Groups have been excellent, with 26 St. James's members forming Rules of Life in the past year. Reed Loy has helped bring faith formation to our Young Adult group, leading gatherings on Spiritual Autobiographies and Spiritual Gifts with more to come.

My community building work continues to center around the young adults and families with young children. Reed and I are working to build some leadership teams for each. The young adults group continues to meet monthly with greater content thanks to Reed. The Families with Young Children has met four times in this past year with another gathering soon to come. Our hope was to have quarterly-gatherings of the whole group so now that we have that in place the work now is to offer other opportunities for mutual support and fellowship. Other than that, St. James's Moves continues and I am looking at putting together some more intentionally intergeneration events together in the upcoming year.

My outreach work continues to center around our newcomer/welcome ministry. We have six new welcome ministers this year as well as six others who have agreed to be part of a "coffee-date team." While we have had slightly fewer people coming in off the street this year, we have had more people become regular worshipers with roughly 75% of that group attending a non-Eucharistic parish event. Reed has supported this work ably by improving the way we keep track of folks. The next steps for this year will be to develop a leadership portal/training for new folks interested in becoming more involved, increasing the overall community consciousness around newcomers, and finding ways to invite those in the neighborhood who are not coming. That last work is supported by percept information that Lynn Smith of the Diocesan Offices is providing us so we can learn about who lives around us and begin to figure out how to open St. James's doors to them.

Outside of the above I continue to serve as a preacher, priest and liturgical leader with you. I have enjoyed getting to know more of you this year in a pastoral context; it has been an honor and pleasure accompanying you through the highs and lows of life. It has also been fun to resource St. James's in some technological ways, increasing and improving the use of google documents, supporting the website and otherwise being on call. It's been a great year and I am looking forward to another as your Assistant Rector. As I look toward my own ministry elsewhere I hope to support the lay leadership here in growing our work of mission. 🐼

# Micah Fellow's Report

*Reed J. Loy*

I have been blessed this year to fill the new position of 'Community and Justice Fellow' at St. James's. As a participant in the Diocese's Life Together Program, I am also often known as a 'Micah Fellow'. I work 30 hours a week under the supervision of Rev. Edwin. His supervision has guided me to growth in time-management, goal setting and follow-through, and has provided a wonderful model as I continue my discernment towards ordained ministry. My time in ministry has been focused on serving our social justice/outreach ministries, our 20s & 30s Group, and our newcomer welcome ministry, with time also spent in liturgical planning, small groups, and of course, Sunday Worship!

My goals with our social justice ministries were to get to know them, to support involvement in them, and to support their ministry in the world. Through conversations with many of our ministry leaders and with others not involved in these ministries, I identified a need for increased accessibility of these ministries by new or newly interested parishioners. Our Oct. 23rd Social Justice Gathering addressed this need. It created space for parishioners to voice their passions and the needs they see in our community, and also welcomed some new participants into our ministries. The momentum built by this event has led to a well-subscribed leadership development training scheduled for February. This will provide our leaders new tools for storytelling and for using the language of invitation to build participation.

A couple of ministry-specific updates are also noteworthy. The Helping Hands Food Pantry Study is underway, which will provide us with foundational data for creating our plan for the future. Building on last year's action, I have attended meetings of immigrant rights groups Centro Presente, the Brazilian Immigrant Center, and the Boston New Sanctuary Movement, and have invited a fledgling group of interested parishioners to join with me in exploring how we might be active in this work this year. I have also joined the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) Liaison Team to strengthen my ability to resource our leaders in this ministry.

Our 20s & 30s Group has had vibrant and well-attended monthly meetings. Following up on desires expressed by the group early in the year, the meetings have had increased focus on reflection and on building fellowship. I was privileged to lead two of these meetings, in which we created spiritual autobiographies and engaged in spiritual gifts discernment. Parishioner leadership has increased in the group, and it has been a point of entry into parish life for many of our Newcomers.

Speaking of Newcomers, they can now be invited into deeper connection and involvement at St. James's with a crisp, up-to-date Welcome Packet. The packet contains our basic information, testimonials from parishioners, and contacts and brief introductions for each of our regular ministries. I'm especially excited by the way in which this ties back into the accessibility of our ministries. We have so many newcomers, and so many great ministry opportunities, that it just makes sense to connect the two as effectively as possible.

I am grateful to the people of St. James's for welcoming me in heartily these last four months, and to God for the many moments of personal and community growth that I have experienced. I am confident from the spirit of the ministries I have worked with that we will live into the same and much more in my next eight months with St. James's. 🍷

# Senior Warden's Report

*Mark Yoder*

At our last vestry meeting this past January 17th I asked the Vestry to consider the question "what has happened in the life of St. James's over the past year?" The ensuing discussion was quite lively and in short order we generated quite a list of activities that we had undertaken as a parish in 2011.

This discussion in the Vestry meeting did not only generate a list of activities and accomplishments but also helped us consider the wonderfully wide scope and nature of what we experience in our life together at St. James's. It speaks to a parish that has a lively and vigorous spiritual life and a parish that is seeking to understand what type of life Christ is calling them to live individually and corporately. This very incomplete listing of activities and experiences also prompts us to give deep thanks and praise for God's presence and guidance.

So what did we do this past year? Well to name just a few of those activities:

- We completed a capital campaign where we asked parishioners to contribute \$450,000 with the funds going towards the furnishing of the new parish hall and towards the sealing of the sanctuary envelope. That we met and surpassed this goal in the current economy is remarkable and an indication of the faith and deep commitment of the parishioners of St. James's.
- The Redevelopment Project was delayed because of last minute legal hurdle's, which required that St. James's renegotiate some parts of its agreement with Oaktree. In this process we reviewed the history of the development of this project and the compelling reasons that we (St. James's parish) had decided to embark on this project in the first place. This history and vision enabled us to make timely and prudent decisions. Consequently the negotiation process resulted in St. James's being in a financially sound position prior to construction, during construction and post construction.
- We continue with a vibrant worship service and meeting and working together in spite of our loss of a parish house. The work of the worship committee with Holly and Pat Michaels in planning the services and the good will of parishioners is of great importance in enabling the worship services to be so rich and vital. The vestry along with Holly, Edwin and Reed are continually aware of the necessity to be pro-active and creative in ways that not only support our long time ministries but also will encourage and strengthen relationships with newcomers and longtime members.
- We are having newcomers joining us and actively involved in parish life. This is no small part due to an active welcomer's group led by Edwin Johnson. In addition Edwin has been able to follow up on an individual basis allowing for a deeper connection with clergy and a more systematic introduction to St. James's life.
- We have more than survived the loss of our parish house. In spite of the difficulties of not having a parish house we have managed to maintain a wonderful social hour (thanks to the hospitality committee!), the choirs have continued to meet, practice and lead us in worship, the after service gatherings continue, and we continue with our seasonal meals and meetings. The generosity of spirit and tolerance of St. James's parishioners in dealing with space issues is remarkable.

- We were able to allow Pat Michaels to take a long promised six-month sabbatical.
- The Food Pantry continues to function well at Rindge Towers thanks to the direction of the Food Pantry Board and the Food Pantry's new director Karen Coleman.
- We have been extremely fortunate to have Reed Loy with us a Micah Fellow. His work with the Young Adults, working with newcomers, and leading in the review of our social justice ministries has been and continues to be very valuable.
- The Finance Committee headed by Michael Walters-Young has functioned extraordinarily well and has greatly aided the Vestry in making prudent financial decisions. This committee will continue to be of great importance as it helps the parish determine and maintain appropriate fiscal policies.
- The vestry continues to bring great thoughtfulness and prayer to the ongoing decision-making and tasks that they are charged with. They ask for and need your ongoing prayer and support.

The above-mentioned item is a limited list at best of the many happenings in the life of St. James's over this past year. But still, it is a remarkable list and it speaks to the vitality of this parish and the rewarding but hard work we are doing. It is a reflection of a parish that is serious about its commitment to know and serve Christ.

I give thanks to God, the parish at large, the vestry, and Holly for the opportunity to have served as Senior Warden for this past year. 🙏

# Living Stones: A Strategic Plan 2010-2013

“...Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” [1 Peter 2:5]

## OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE

St. James's is in the midst of transforming its parish facilities, replacing an old parish house with a welcoming, all-accessible, green-certified new one which will center around a renewed and redesigned garden. The new parish house will have an entrance opposite the main West Door of the church on Massachusetts Ave and occupy much of the first floor of new building which will also include 46 condominium residences. St. James's will receive a share of the condominium sales proceeds which it has committed in large part to the care and restoration of the historic sanctuary.

The clergy, Vestry and lay leadership of St. James's seek to embrace the full breadth of renewed mission made possible by God's gift of this new facility. During the next three years, we see a fresh potential to let ourselves be built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, ready to reach out, expand our congregation, and engage new mission.

In this time of transition, the clergy, Vestry and lay leadership of St. James's also sees the inherent challenges as old buildings are demolished, new ones are constructed, new neighbors move in, and the congregation begins its next generation of service to God in the new facility.

As St. James's continues in its longstanding commitment maintaining our parish life and mission at the corner of Massachusetts Ave and Beech St. in Cambridge, MA, we commit ourselves to the renewal of our ministry in four critically important areas. As we meet these opportunities and challenges we pledge to:

## GOAL ONE

### **Connect and reconnect to maintain and strengthen congregational hospitality, fellowship and formation**

Our first baptismal vow is to follow the apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers. Spiritual formation and fellowship, like worship, lie at the heart of our lives and service as Christians. They are the font from which our energies and guidance flow. In a culture of hyperactivity like that in Cambridge, the cultivation of the practices and relationships needed to sustain this goal take special intentionality, strategic planning, and commitment.

We intend to reach this goal through

- 1) Establishing a year-round calendar of church school and formation activities for all ages, including:
  - a) Offering regular and structured baptism training and support
  - b) Improving our Nursery utilization and support for special events
  - c) Hosting Young Families events for spiritual support & fellowship
  - d) Sponsoring Upper and Lower Church School teacher recruitment and training
  - e) Holding monthly Youth Group meetings

- f) Organizing Young Adult Ministry monthly activities
  - g) Encouraging Adult Formation by means of:
    - regular lay-led Bible Study,
    - lay- and clergy-led devotional opportunities,
    - Episcopalianism 101 for newcomers,
    - Sunday morning Gatherings on topical issues, with a special focus on community-building amidst diversity
    - a lay-led, four-year in-depth Education for Ministry group,
    - annual Confirmation Class,
    - and a Lenten Offering on spiritual development.
- 2) Cultivating a regular offering of Open Table fellowship, including prayer and structured spiritual conversation as well as fun & good food, with specific intent to cultivate spiritual companionship across our broad diversity of age, economic class, race, ethnicity, and gender orientation.
  - 3) Initiating a lay pastoral care ministry, including the Lay Eucharistic Visitors, with training and regular prayer-and-practicum meetings.
  - 4) Establishing a ministry team to create a structure for the development of ongoing small-group ministry at St. James's.

## **GOAL TWO**

### **Discern afresh the vital relationship between our mission inward and our mission outward**

Our invitation to new members into the Good News of God at St. James's and our spreading of that Good News in service beyond our doors to the wider community are not two separate or competing goods – they are vitally connected. People – especially the unchurched – long equally to encounter Christ in spiritual community and to see discipleship demonstrated in the work of compassion. We want to strengthen and grow our diverse community in ways that further God's justice in the world.

We intend to reach this goal through

- 1) Renewing our Welcoming Ministry with particular focus on inviting and integrating young adults into our ongoing fellowship and ministry.
- 2) Deploying a diocesan Relational Evangelist under the Rev. Edwin Johnson's supervision for the discernment of new opportunities for young-adult social justice ministry
- 3) Improving our Communications Ministry, including our:
  - a) social networking site
  - b) publicity to the community for special events
  - c) transparency and consistency of communications between parish leadership and congregation
- 4) Exploring our new potential for ministry with:
  - a) the emerging community of condominium owners with whom we will share the new building
  - b) our Hispanic neighbors in Cambridge and Somerville.

## **GOAL THREE**

### **Sustain our stewardship of people & programs, encouraging, developing and supporting servant leaders**

The whole Body of Christ sustains the life of service to which we are called in Christ. Every member is critically important to the work, not just the clergy. None of us can do the work alone, and the temptation is always to rely upon the few. Moses called seventy elders, and still more were anointed by the Holy Spirit to join in the ministry. We're calling everyone to leadership and service.

We intend to reach this goal through

- 1) Vestry assessment of viable and vital ministry program areas, and relinquishment of ministry efforts no longer well-supported by the congregation
- 2) Clarifying each program area's goals and the Vestry leadership structure to support those ministries
- 3) Offering regular opportunities for congregation members to discern their gifts for ministry
- 4) Recruiting and training new leadership in all areas of the ministry, but particularly in finance, teaching, welcoming, and liturgical ministry
- 5) Deepening our prayer support of the whole ministry through regular prayer offerings, training in a variety of approaches to prayer, and a well-maintained, mutually supportive, well-publicized prayer chain.

## **GOAL FOUR**

### **Sustain our stewardship of finances & buildings**

These buildings of ours – old and new – are the crucible for a whole next generation of life in Christ at St. James's. We need to plan and steward carefully and responsibly to realize the full potential of God's blessing of property for our ministry.

We intend to reach this goal through

- 1) Short- and long-term planning for sustainability in parish finances, including:
  - a) planning for endowment from the proceeds of condominium sales
  - b) developing a comprehensive rental policy in preparation to occupy the new parish house
  - c) establishing annual stewardship goals of
    - funding for increased training and curriculum for church school and adult formation
    - establishing a fund for training in lay ministry and congregational development
    - increasing administrative and maintenance staff support to at least half-time in each position to maintain building, rental, and parish program in the new facility
    - funding the Rev. Edwin Johnson's successor from parish operating funds beginning in 2013
- 2) Assessing urgent restoration needs in the sanctuary
- 3) Mounting and completing a capital campaign to furnish the new parish house, meet the most urgent restoration needs in the sanctuary, and complement the new parish house and garden with new signage, new exterior lighting, and new landscaping along the sanctuary perimeter of Beech St. and Mass. Ave.



# Hospitality Committee

*Elaine Agard*

I thank God for another year with the Hospitality Ministry and our committee. The Hospitality Ministry provides and serves refreshments every Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. service beginning the second Sunday in September and ending the second Sunday in June. We host the coffee hour in the back of the church due to the redevelopment of the parish hall. The host prepares light refreshments, juices, cheese, crackers, pastry and fruit to name a few. During the summer coffee hour is hosted by volunteers. Besides hosting the weekly coffee hours, the committee host special events like Weddings, Funeral receptions, International Sunday, which will be February 19th this year and whenever there is a need for a celebration.

Committee members include Elaine Agard Chair, Joan Jordan Co-chair, Mabel Moore-Pollard, Sara Forrester, Shirley Bayley, Carol and Leonard Youens, Susan Harris, Laverne Agard-Lynch and our newest member Marietta Sbraccia. We are in need of members who would like to serve on the committee.

My goal this year is to recruit new members for our committee. If you are interested, please speak with a member of the committee. You will be reimbursed for the cost of refreshments, just save your receipts of purchase. Remember you do not need experience to host the coffee hour, just come and we will show you what to do.

Our ministry focus is not only food, but also on sharing, giving and caring for our parishioners and community. The Hospitality Committee thanks everyone who supports the weekly coffee hour by generously giving each week. Your donations are always needed and no contribution is too small. Special thanks to the groups that host a Sunday through out the year including Judy Beers and friends for Easter, Anne Read and the church school for Earth Day, Eric Maynard and the church men for Mother's Day, Katherine Fariior and the 20-30 year olds and Becky Bjork and the youth group. Special thanks to Pat Haynes, Eustace Pollard, Hong Chin our Sexton, Susan Rice, John Hixson, Janet Hobbs, Mary Holmes, Mrs. Johnson (Edwin's mom), Vida Carrington, and Cynthia Owens for their generous contributions. In addition, I would like to extend my appreciation to each member of the committee for his or her participation, dedication and faithfulness. 🍷

# Christmas Fair and Silent Auction

*Donna Thompson and Judy Beers*

Once again because of the lack of a Parish Hall the fair and auction were held in the back of the church. We kept the auction and fair to a one day event which did not take anything away from the earnings. A large group of people helped this year to gather items for the Fair and in spite of the media noise about a terrible economy, we were not turned away by many of the merchants. There were a few who are feeling the tight times and had to decline but the others were pretty much as generous as always. We had 80 items offered with very few things not being bid. I would like to thank those who helped as well as the few who also offered to help but did not get the opportunity to do any work.

They include: Carolyn & Bill Taylor, Anne Shumway, Anne Read, Bob Estes, Jason Evans, Janet Hobbs, Susan Robinson, Jacqueline Francis, Susan Rice, Kate Gill, Dave Clark, Kathryn Farrior, Diane Cotman, Mark Agard, Liz McNerney, Tami Stanton, Win Barnard, and Becky Bjork. I hope I have not missed anyone because I was so impressed with the enthusiastic response to my appeal for help.

Joie DeVivre donated as usual a number of cartons of items from their shelves. We offered these after church for 3 Sundays as they are always such fun and different items. It started people thinking of the Fair and paying attention to the date it was happening. All the left over items went to an organization in Reading called Mission of Deeds who helps folks coming out of homelessness as well as others. Anything they do no use directly is sold by a volunteer at a flea market with the proceeds donated back to the organization. The left over books were donated to Got Books via Rachel Evan's children's school, which gets credit for sales. \$25 from Market Basket, \$25 from Shaws Supermarket in Porter Square, \$50 from Cambridge Savings Bank and Dunkin Donuts muffins and donuts were donated also which were given to the Youth for their table.

I would love for you to let the donating merchants know that we appreciate their donation by speaking to them when you are there. I can have lists of the merchants available at the meeting for those who shop in this area.

The bids were generous with the total sales of over \$3000.

I suggest that we continue to have the Fair only on Saturday as it is so much easier for all of us who work at the Fair. We definitely need more people involved. It seems to be the same folks each year working or donating which is too bad as the Fair is a lot of fun. Helping does not need to be a time consuming chore. Even a little such a helping on Sunday Sales or a batch of cookies make such a difference. 🍪

# Youth Group

*Becky Bjork*

St James has a middle school youth group which meets monthly for activities and a high school youth group which meets occasionally usually at the initiation of the youth. The HS youth group is often invited to join the middle school activities as well. We always welcome new youth - whether they attend St. James or not. Both groups need additional adult volunteers and welcome volunteers who can help once or every month. Please contact me (bbjork@gmail.com) if interested in helping out or if you are a youth or parent who has not been getting emails about the events.

## **Highlights of 2011 activities**

- Ice Skating at Kendall Sq Ice rink
- Making almost 100 sandwiches for the Outdoor Church on Thanksgiving weekend
- Apple picking
- A holiday movie night initiated, organized and led by a youth group member Kate Saylor as part of her diocesan program involvement. Hopefully more movie nights and other youth directed programs will occur in 2012. 🍎

# Church School

*Edwin Johnson*

See Assistant Rector's report (page 3)

# Parish Retreat

Father's Day weekend, June 15–17, some 70 St. James's parishioners—all ages and stages—gathered for a Parish Retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp in Greenfield NH, centered on the theme "Reading the Holy Book of Nature." Our clergy Edwin Johnson and Holly Antolini led the adult program using materials on the Stewardship of Creation issued by the National Church. The children's programming was led by Anne Read. A daily office of prayer was led by the Rev. Katie Rimer in the BCH Camp chapel. A nature walk, the high ropes course, lake-swimming, a class in Tai Chi, and a watercolor workshop were among the optional offerings for all ages. We finished with a beautiful, shining outdoor Eucharist, with music led by Minister of Music Pat Michaels. 🍎

# Missions

Nancy McArdle (chair)

During 2011 we rejoiced to welcome home Jodi Mikalachki, our parishioner working in Burundi for the past three years with Mennonite Central Committee. After a period of discernment and sharing, Jodi formed the non-profit, “On the Ground-Burundi”, with several St. James’s members on the Board, and has returned to Burundi to support education and grassroots community development. We also were thrilled to have a visit from Trish Morck and hear a presentation of her (and her husband Chris’) work in Ecuador. We’ve recently learned that the Morcks will be returning to the US in July and pray for a smooth transition for them and their children. Former parishioner Natalie Finstad also made an excellent presentation on her work with Christ Chapel Children’s Home, a residential orphanage for 36 children in Kenya. Natalie has now established “Be the Change – Kenya (BTCCKE)” with a mission to eradicate child poverty in Nairobi through developing local leaders and strengthening local organizations. Lastly, we look forward to several St. James’s teens undertaking a short-term mission trip/spiritual pilgrimage in Costa Rica in Feb. 2012. Their main collaborators will be the Padilla-Deborst family who will host them at their home in Heredia, outside the capital city of San Jose, and provide much of the content. The Diocese of Costa Rica is excited to have them and will set them up with work and exchange at their Barrio Cuba community center, which is where Edwin Johnson’s family first found the Episcopal Church. Edwin and Amber Sarpy will co-lead the trip.

In addition to providing educational opportunities and supporting our missionaries in a variety of ways, the Missions Committee administers the Missions Fund. For the past twenty-nine years our parish has supported dedicated people and organizations who, in the name of Christ, work in such areas as theological education, community development, housing, medical care, and church planting. We believe that support for and involvement in missions is our response to God’s grace and love for us. God calls us to care for the spiritual, physical, and social needs of others and to join in the restoration of all people to God’s self.

The Mission Fund is allocated a percentage (5.5%) of the parish’s total overall pledge income.

In 2011 we funded the following ministries:

- Jodi Mikalachki: St. James’s Missionary in Burundi
- Ruth and Jim Padilla DeBorst, St. James’s Missionaries in Costa Rica
- Refugee Immigration Ministries
- Holy Trinity School in Haiti
- The Outdoor Church
- Kenya Self-Help (Girls empowerment)
- Ministries of Aides International, Inc. Haiti
- St. James’s Prison Ministry
- Chris and Trish Morck: St. James’s missionaries in Ecuador

You can read much more about the missions we support on the missions page of the parish web page: <http://www.stjames-cambridge.org/missions>. Several of our longer-term missionaries also have their own blogs available from the St. James’s website. As always, we encourage parishioners who want to undertake missions activities to speak with us about support. We also welcome members who would like to serve on the Committee.

## Current Members:

Anne Shumway	John Gay	Jennifer Schley
Mary Caulfield	Yvette Verdieu	Bonnie and Tory Rubrecht



# Helping Hand Food Pantry

*John Hixson on behalf of the Helping Hand Food Pantry Board*

The Board wishes to express our thanks to Nina Siciliano and Karen Coleman for guiding us through a turbulent year of growth and change, and to Jacqueline Francis for headlining the Fall Fundraising Concert and recruiting a full team of volunteer performers for the successful event that help raise \$530.

The Food Pantry space at Fresh Pond Apartments is very workable and bright. We owe many thanks to Scott Cole, Resident Service Coordinator, and Federal Management Company for the opportunity to use this space free of charge.

Clients are able to receive a wide variety of food, including produce from the Food for Free delivery. This is a special feature of the pantry and we are grateful to Food for Free for their support, and for delivering our food orders from the Greater Boston Food Bank every week.

**Gifts:** The pantry received many generous donations throughout the year. We received an in-kind donation of food of up to \$1,000 from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

**Grants:** We thank all who contributed to the Feinstein Challenge, which brought in over \$2,300. The Alewife Deanery granted \$600 to cover rent at Hope Fellowship for the Women's Meal. The pantry also received our annual grant from Project Bread of \$6,000. We are thankful to those, particularly our youth, who participated in the Walk for Hunger, the major fundraiser for Project Bread. Thanks to Nina for her work in writing the grants.

**Thanks:** Thanks go to the people of St.James's who, through their donations, help to make the Food Pantry happen. Please know that you serve many grateful people and help to nourish them with good food. Also special thanks to Karen Coleman and the new volunteers she has recruited.

*Reverend Karen Coleman, Director, The Rev. Holly Antolini, Rector, Anne Shumway, Women's Meal Coordinator, John Hixson, Treasurer, Mike Morse, fundraising, Tom Tufts, vestry liaison, Sylvia Weston, food drive, Janet Hobbs, Secretary* 🐣

# Women's Meal

*Anne Shumway and Carolyn Taylor*

The Thursday's Women's Meal, Good Food, Good Friends, continues to offer a delicious and healthy home-cooked meal to 8 to 16 women every week. We have our regulars, who show up every week, and sometimes new comers, including once in awhile a woman who is homeless. Since September of 2010, we have been at Hope Fellowship, across Beech St., where we will remain until our new Parish House is completed. They have welcomed us warmly. In a true Christian spirit, we share the kitchen as they prepare snacks for their ESL class and Bible study; some of their staff or participants in the classes often join us for the meal.

It is a true small community, where the women care for each other and share recipes, political thoughts, new books they have read, or suggestions for each other's needs. The meal seems to be an important part of our guests' lives. Just before Christmas we had a special party meal which all enjoyed, with gift bags, candles and flowers. We have volunteers for each Thursday, though in the summer we have a need for additional volunteers. The 1st Thursday Community Cooks brings the meal; the 2nd Thursday Sara Cabot and her friend Libby; on the 3rd, Carolyn Taylor; the 4th, our new volunteer cook. Lee Ann Lowe; and on the 5th Thursday, when there is one, Cornerstone Co-Housing cooks for us and stays to help. We have one faithful volunteer who helps serve and clean up- Suzanne Belovaki, an archivist from Tufts. However, we are always glad for St. James's women (and their children) who might like to join us for a Thursday or two, to help and participate in the meal! We are grateful to our regular cooks, who take turns once a month cooking and delivering the meal, and to Anne Shumway, who provides support and encouragement to the women. 🍷

# Prison Ministry

*Tom Tufts on behalf of the Prison Ministry Team*

The prison ministry team continued its work this year with Robert, an inmate at MCI-Norfolk. The ministry is associated with the Boston University College Behind Bars, a program for inmates to obtain four-year college degrees. The program is under the auspices of Partakers, a faith-based organization committed to advancing restorative justice, rehabilitation, and the transformation of both prisoners and society. Our contact at Partakers is Arthur Bembury, the organization's volunteer and community liaison.

The ministry team this year included Carolann Barrett, Jana Gowan, Win Barnard, Shirley Bayley, Tom Tufts, Yvette Verdieu, John Thomas Kittredge, Rachel Wildman and Marsha White. Two of these members, Jana and Marsha have moved on during the course of the year. We are enormously grateful for their faithful contributions to the work of the committee, as we are to new members of the team: John Thomas Kittredge and Rachel Wildman. This year we continued the orientation program in-house. Newcomers are always welcome. If enough people are interested we may apply to mentor a second student in the College Behind Bars program.

A pair of committee members visits Robert each month and talks with him about academic matters, his family, and life at Norfolk. The committee meets together once a month to update one another about past visits, schedule future ones, and sign up to write to Robert (we try to send him letters every week or so). We receive letters from Robert, and we report on our visits to each other and to Partakers. We've now been visiting Robert each month for six years. Robert's gifts and leadership are invaluable to our team and a major reason our ministry has thrived over this period. We now feel comfortable holding and being held accountable by each other, and supporting each other as problems, pain and occasionally tragedy inevitably enter our lives. Here is a portion of one of Robert's recent letters. I think everyone on the team would say that the feelings are mutual.

"Please know that I do appreciate you and everyone else at St. James's. It means the world to me that you take the time from your lives to come here. Thank you for that."

A study, by researchers with the Minnesota Department of Corrections, tracked 16,000 prisoners over nearly five years and determined that prisoners who received at least one personal visit at any time during their incarceration were 13 percent less likely to commit another felony and 25 percent less likely to end up back in prison on a technical parole violation. Data showed that the more visits prisoners received, the lower their chance of re-offending after release. (Rudolf, Huff Post, 12/7/11)

To see our work in a broader perspective we are studying Joanne Hemenway's recent book *Forget Them Not*, a holistic guide to prison ministry and an extraordinarily comprehensive and insightful, but concise study of imprisonment, and the practice, culture and theology of retributive justice versus those of restorative justice. We highly recommend this brief book to all parishioners as a telling and holistic way to look at ourselves, our culture, our justice system and our faith. A section of the book features Partakers and the College Behind Bars Program.

**Income:** We gratefully received \$1,277 this year from St. James's Mission Committee and a donation from a parishioner.

**Expenses:** The committee purchased a one-volume encyclopedia for Robert for \$60.80. We spent \$54.38 to produce 10 orientation manuals and \$147 for 7 Handbooks for Prison Ministry for total expenses of \$262.18. We are currently saving income to pay the initial fees of undertaking the expense of sponsoring a new student in the BU College Behind Bars Program. The cost is \$3,000.

Going forward in 2011, we hope to continue to grow the size of this ministry. We invite interested parishioners to talk with any committee member about our work. Thanks to all who have supported us with their prayers and in other ways! 🙏

# Social Justice Ministry

*Reed Loy*

“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” [Amos 5:24]

On September 25th, leaders from our outreach ministries gathered after church to create a collaborative vision for a parish-wide ‘Social Justice Gathering’. Key elements of vision that came from this process were increasing awareness of what each ministry does and how people could participate, getting to know each others’ stories so that we could connect more deeply, raising up the ideal of strong lay leadership, and working toward a unity of objectives across our justice initiatives.

A core team of volunteers used this vision to craft our October 25th Social Justice Gathering. Forty people, or 27% of our average Sunday attendance, came to the event and the participants reflected well the diversity of our congregation. We heard from leaders of each of our justice ministries; sharing what their ministry was about. We talked one-to-one about what brings us to ministry, what our gifts are, and what needs to we see in the community. And we named our passions for types of ministry and ways of ministering through a fun visual and hands-on activity.

Participation in our Justice Ministries has been slowly growing this year, with new participants in half of them and a Food Pantry Study currently underway to create a foundation of knowledge for envisioning the future. A justice ministry leader training event scheduled for February 5th has been very well subscribed, and will feature training in storytelling and welcoming, aimed at connecting new or longtime members of St. James’s to the right ministries where their gifts can flourish and the love of Christ can be made abundantly manifest in our community. 🐼

# Greater Boston Interfaith Organization

*Tom Tufts*

St. James's has been a full member of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) since January of 2008 after ten years of participation as an ally. For those of you who have never heard of GBIO, the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) is a broad-based organization that works to coalesce, train, and organize the communities of Greater Boston across all religious, racial, ethnic, class and neighborhood lines for the public good. For an extended mission statement, a history of accomplishments and present projects see [www.gbio.org](http://www.gbio.org).

Building on the strong base of power GBIO has established over the last ten years, GBIO continued to be active in 2011 sustaining achievements in health care, public education, and financial literacy.


As the year began GBIO shifted its focus from anti-usury actions to the urgent issues of health care cost containment in Massachusetts and restoring community involvement in public education particularly in Boston. Both issues, but particularly health care cost containment, a key economic inequality issue, would require a lot of exploration and research to determine what actions might help create positive change. St. James's participated in the health care cost containment issue through the excellent and dedicated leadership of Gwen Crevensten, who joined the GBIO Health Care Team and attended many of its numerous exploratory meetings with public officials and health care professionals. These meetings examined the issues of cost and quality through the perspective of the consumer and resulted in a statement of five key reform principles that GBIO wishes to see in legislation which the Massachusetts State Legislature is about to consider. This legislation will transform the way the State pays for health care. It will affect each of us as we access and pay for health care, and also will influence national health care reform.

The five key reform principles (in draft form) are:

1. Hear Our Voice: Include Consumers in Payment Reform Decisions.
2. Health Care, Not Just Sick Care: Restructure Payments to Promote Value.
3. Protect Everyone's Health: Comprehensive Care For All:
4. Public Health Pays Off: Invest in Community Prevention and Public Health.
5. Fair Payment: Effective Public Oversight of Health Care Costs.

As a member of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization our focus and task in 2012 will be to join with our brothers and sisters in the 55 other member organizations, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and civic, of GBIO to mobilize ourselves to influence the outcome of the pending legislation and shape our health insurance options for the future.

Social Justice team members participated in numerous training sessions, team meetings, briefings, actions and delegate assemblies throughout the year. Many thanks to all the people from St. James's whose participation helped make those events successful including: the Rev. Holly Antolini, Nick Bruce, Lynne Campbell, Mary Caulfield, Mable Chan, Hong Chin, Gwen Crevensten, the Rev. Edwin Johnson, Cynthia Joseph, Reed Loy, Jeanne Luc, Linda Luikel, Nancy McArdle, Clayton McClintock, Julia Nieto, Susan Rice, Susan Robinson, Marietta Sbraccia, Tami Stanton, Thomas Tufts, Yvette Verdieu, Sylvia Weston, Jeff Zinsmeyer and others. Please let me know if I forgot to include your name! Thanks also to the Vestry for their support of our parish membership in GBIO.

If you would like more information or to get involved in social justice action for systemic change based on shared values across faith communities in 2012, please contact Tom Tufts at [thomastufts@comcast.net](mailto:thomastufts@comcast.net). 

# Music Ministry

*Pat Michaels*

We at St. James's are blessed with a great number of people who love music, who love liturgy, and who love working together. We work to create meaningful, powerful, and challenging celebrations of God's Spirit, for the community's nurture, health, and growth. We are blessed indeed.

The Adult Choir has been blessed with the following members this past year: Michael Anthony, Shirley Bayley, Judy Beers, John Gay, John Hixson, Janet Hobbs, Mabel Moore-Pollard, Eustace Pollard, Michael Salib, Susan Rice, Susan Robinson, Hilary Sallick, Tami Stanton, Bill Taylor, Yvette Verdieu, Sylvia Weston and Kate Gill, JingBang Yao, and YinCiao Cheng.

Likewise, the Gospel Schola: Anna Lee Hirschi, Marian Michaels (both have graduated from this Choir); Eli Saltzman, Maggie Shea, Kate Saylor, Katie Massie, Julie Campbell.

And, the Greenleaf Choir: Rayne McNerney, Zoe McNerney, Gwei-Gwei Strong-Allen, Natalya Abbate, Iris Evich, Amelia Gustafson-, Lydia Evans, Zander Ysewyn.

The Men's Choir: Mark Yoder, Tom Hirschi, Steve Clark, Bill Taylor, John Hixson, Jonathan Greenlee and Matthew Abbate.

All of these people and their families are deeply committed to our Music Ministry, and deserve the heart-felt thanks of our whole community.

The Choirs are always looking for and welcoming new singers. Experience singing in a Choir is helpful but not necessary. **We especially are interested in signing up boys in the Greenleaf Choir (grades 2-6) and the Gospel Schola (grades 7-12).** Rehearsal schedules are easily gotten from Pat Michaels or any Choir member.

We have enjoyed the musical gifts of Beth Abbate (violin), Ed Wu (violin), Verna Estes (violin) Amber Sarpy (flute), and Cynthia Owen, Steve Clark, Tom Hirschi, Warren Huber and Emerson McNerney (drums), and Ernst St Cine (drums and saxophone) and Susan Rice (saxophone).

We have also benefited greatly from the musical training and leadership of our clergy--Holly Antolini, Rector; and Edwin Johnson, Assistant Rector. Few parishes our size enjoy the wealth of experience and interest in music which these two clergypersons exhibit on a weekly basis.

Pat Michaels was given a sabbatical in the Fall of 2011, from September through Thanksgiving. He enjoyed the time for other projects, and for rest and recuperation. He returned in Advent 2011. During his time away, the parish was admirably served by the ministries of Elizabeth Johnson, choir director for the Adult Choir and the Greenleaf Choirs, and Nicholas Hayes, organist and pianist. Together, they provided wonderful musical leadership for the Choirs and the congregation.

The Adult Choir had embarked on a project of singing anthems and musical settings which were written by composers who were/are parishoners at St. James's, and their friends. To that end we sang the following pieces:

- Te Deum (by the Rev. Earl Daniels)
- Psalm 89 (by Margot Chamberlain)
- Take Me Home to Jerusalem (by Nancy Preis)
- All Good Gifts (by Arne Nystrom)

A Wintertime Round (by Margot Chamberlain)  
 You Are the Light (by David Patterson)  
 Ring Out Your Joy (by Lisa Montuori)  
 Lifetime Partner, Loving Friend (by Sylvia Weston and Pat Michaels)  
 As Fertile Darkness (by Margot Chamberlain)  
 Chakutumaini Sina (from Mary Kibe)  
 Dapul Ma Ni (from Paul Katampu)  
 At the Feet of Jesus (by Jodi Mikalachki)  
 Psalm 100 (by Dot Edwards)  
 We Are Raised with the Lord (by Jeff Olivet)  
 Upendo Wa Mungu Baba (from Mary Kibe)  
 Letter from Taize (by Margot Chamberlain)  
 Wake Up to Freedom (by Pat Michaels)

This is just a small percentage of what our composers have written. It excludes the Psalm settings, which we sing nearly every Sunday. Margot Chamberlain and Amber Sarpy have taken on the leadership roles for our continuing Psalm composing project. (Pat Michaels will present a sectional on our Psalm writing at the Annual Conference of the Hymn Society of the U.S. and Canada in Winnipeg this coming summer, so that it can serve as a model for other congregations.) This project complements our continuing emphasis on learning congregational music from many traditions.

St. James's is rightly proud of its vigorous and varied musical life. The richness of our musical tradition, and the creativity of our people is remarkable--and the blessings which we freely received, we share with the community and the church.

We still have a plan to sell two grand pianos and use the money to re-build a third Chickering grand piano. **We also have a pump (reed) organ from the back of the church which is still seeking a good home.** It is temporarily housed in a Choir member's home.

We hope to acquire a fine grand piano (through the Capital Campaign) for our own use in the new building; and we are hoping to use that instrument in a good music room to generate rental income from professional music groups needing rehearsal spaces.

Cantors are also needed. If you cannot make a commitment to the Choir, please consider taking on a leadership role on an occasional basis.

A new Organ Fund is now a reality here at St. James's through the generosity of a Memorial from a former member. This development is gratefully accepted; it is long overdue for St. James's to make plans for the preservation of (and perhaps restoration of) its fine pipe organ. The Fund might eventually provide for the long-term needs of the organ (organs are desperately and infamously expensive instruments--they don't need lots of money all the time, but when they need money, they need lots of it!) This Fund is open to further donations.

The next year will be another year of "keeping things together during the building project". We are experiencing some difficulties with scheduling Choir rehearsals still (although many small difficulties have been overcome). In particular, the Gospel Schola (grades 7-12) has found it challenging to rehearse after the 10:30 service because of other scheduled events and the Social Hour being in the same space. We have still not found an adequate solution.

Praise God for another year of musical life together, creating community and building up the strength of the people! 🙏

# Altar Guild

Susan Harris

**Checking Account Balance 1-1-11** \$ 1,463.17

RECEIPTS:

D. I. T.	3,011.70
Easter Flower Donations	535.00
Christmas Flower Donations	120.00
DeSachet Flower Fund	300.00
Covert Flower Fund	500.00
Interest on checking account	.45

TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$ 4,467.15

\$ 5,930.32

DISBURSEMENTS:

Almy (linens)	559.00
Murphy Florist	1,127.05
Christmas Flowers (2010)	910.00
Easter Flowers (2011)	1,162.00
Christmas Flowers (2011)	741.00
Christmas Wreaths (2011)	130.00
Wine	146.00
McKinny (communion wafers)	86.08
Bows	7.40
Gifts	175.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$5,043.53

**Checking Account Balance 12-31-11** \$ 886.79

Much appreciation to Elaine Agard; Laverne Agard; Virginia Carter; Hong Chin; Tom Harris; Janet Hobbs; Ed Humphrey; Marian King; and Eric Maynard for ALL their assistance.

A thank you to Carolyn Taylor for her continual work with the flowers. 🌸

# Stewardship Report

Tom Tufts on behalf of the Stewardship Committee

*“Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit...” John 15:5*

Stewardship in 2011 continued to be a year-round program seeking to encourage and inform parishioners throughout the year about both financial giving and the broader context of stewardship that allows financial giving to build up our life in Christ together. A popular feature of the year-round approach has been the Living Epistle. Thanks to all who participated in that program.

## **Pledging for the last 9 years:**

2003	\$160,000 (approx.)
2004	\$187,395
2005	\$199,811
2006	\$186,430 (97 pledges)
2007	\$210,067 (110 pledges – 2 requests)
2008	\$207,229 (103 pledges)
2009	\$212,077 (107 pledges including \$7,000 in pledges for 2008 made in 2009)
2010	\$219,466 (102 pledges)
2011	\$214,916 (107 pledges)

## **Pledges for 2012 (as of 1/14/2012)**

Total :	\$204,845.68
Pledge responses:	96
Anticipated Total:	\$204,845.68 + 10,720 (2011 pledges not yet renewed)
Goal:	\$230,000
Pledge responses:	120

Obviously the parish is making a heroic, deliberate and thoughtful effort to deal faithfully with the double challenge of a weakened economy and the extraordinary opportunity that redevelopment and a growing consciousness of social and environmental responsibilities offer. Praise God, congratulations to the parish and deep thanks to all who have pledged or are still considering their pledges!

If you have not renewed your pledge yet or would like to make a new pledge, see an usher for a pledge form. For more information or to make an online pledge contact Tom Tufts at [thomastufts@comcast.net](mailto:thomastufts@comcast.net). An email is adequate documentation of a pledge. 🙏

# Capital Campaign Report

*Nancy McArdle*

Hallelujah! The Lord has done great things for us! 2011 saw the successful completion of the “Growing Together: Building in Faith” capital campaign. With the help of over 30 volunteers and almost 100 contributing households, we raised \$529,650, significantly exceeding our goal of \$450,000. These generous donations will enable us to take advantage of a once-in-a-lifetime transformation of our physical property by furnishing and outfitting a new energy-efficient, accessible parish house surrounding our new freshly landscaped garden, and also to perform important structural repairs to our beautiful sanctuary. We are grateful to God and to all those who have stepped out in faith to support this project, even in difficult economic times.

The multi-pronged campaign was greatly assisted by consultants Mary Alice and John Bird who conducted an initial assessment in early 2010 and then provided invaluable guidance, assistance and materials at every step of the process. Our campaign administrator, Carol Higdon also did a fantastic job coordinating materials and setting up and maintaining our database. Anne Read’s outstanding graphics and printed materials production allowed parishioners to clearly understand the campaign goals and background. Anne’s coordination of the work of the committee with the Vestry, Redevelopment Committee, and Furnishings Committee was also invaluable. Special thanks to Tim Lindgren for his work on the campaign webpage and to Elaine Agard and the Hospitality Committee for a wonderful feast to celebrate the campaign. Many thanks to the volunteer visitors who, after training, then visited parishioners to explain the campaign goals, answer questions, and invite participation in the effort.

Following the planning and organizing of the campaign and campaign committee in the fall and winter of 2010, personal solicitations of the campaign committee and potential major givers occurred in early 2011, resulting in major support from the parish leadership as well as a generous and motivating matching grant. Parish volunteer visitors were then recruited and trained for the general parish portion of the campaign, following a festive campaign kick-off in early March (thanks to Laine and Michael Walters Young for their informative skit.) Visits continued throughout the spring and early summer, with a wonderful celebration in September.

If you would like to join us in this endeavor, there is still time! You can read more about the campaign on our website: <http://www.stjames-cambridge.org/> Please feel free to contact Campaign co-chair Nancy McArdle ([nancymcardle@comcast.net](mailto:nancymcardle@comcast.net)) if you have any questions. 🐼

## **Capital Campaign Committee**

Nancy McArdle, co-chair

Mark Agard, co-chair

John Irvine, treasurer

the Rev. Holly Antolini

Win Barnard

Carol Hilliard

Anne Read

Laine Walters Young

Sylvia Weston

Mark Yoder

# Redevelopment Report

*Jeff Zinsmeyer on behalf of the Redevelopment Committee.*

Committee Members: Holly Antolini, Alan Aukeman, Mike Bernier, Becky Bjork, Ric Dumont (co-chair), Rachel Evans, Sarah Forrester, John Hixson, Peter Merrell, Mardi Moran, Anne Read, Ross Speer, Anne Tate, Bill Taylor, Yvette Verdieu, Mark Yoder, Jeff Zinsmeyer (co-chair) .

For the Redevelopment Committee, 2011 was a year filled with legal challenges, civics lessons and examples of the difficulties of advancing a complex Cambridge construction project. While we regret construction has not started on the combined Parish Hall, retail space and 45 housing units, progress was made in 2011. We ended the year, hopeful to see building begin in 2012 and confident that the interests of St. James had been shored up and well protected.

The first of two legal modifications to our Development Agreement with Oaktree (the project developer and St. James partner) was executed in February, 2011. It clarified Parish Hall status and helped strengthen St. James' security position.

Our civics lesson began in late February with a last minute notice of the final Cambridge Historic Commission Hearing for a special permit regarding the project. Oaktree reported that neighbors of St. James had lodged complaints with the Commission about the proposal. To counter these detractors, Oaktree requested a visible show of public support for the project at the upcoming Hearing. With only five days till the deadline for public filing, St. James sprang into action. After a Sunday Service, a table in the back of our church was crowded with hard working letter writers. In less than a week, over 20 letters / emails arrived from parishioners in support of the project. Thanks to the following who sent in letters (and apologies to those who wrote but are not listed) –

Alan Aukeman	John Hixson	Hannah Reeves
Rebekah Bjork	John Irvine	Katie Rimer
Rachel Evans	Mardi Moran	Tami Stanton
Katherine Farrior	Anne Read	Anne Tate
Sarah Forrester	Peter Merrell	Nancy McArdle

After a postponement, the Commission met in mid March in a Hearing room packed with St. James parishioners who waited until 10:30 PM for the presentation on the permit. While a final decision was forestalled (although the permit was subsequently approved) afterwards twenty of us gathered outside the Cambridge City Hall Annex afterwards for a rousing, nighttime rendition of 'Amazing Grace'.

Throughout the late winter and early spring, the permit package wound its way through the Cambridge approval process with final approval granted from the Cambridge City council in April and various St. James' members in supporting attendance. Other issues arose during this period relating to curb cut placements, parking, lender reluctance, church mold, heated toilets and garden design- to name a few. Boilers were moved and the Parish Hall fully sealed off in what appears to be a satisfactory solution to the mold dilemma.

These problems, understandable perhaps in a complex development, seemed manageable and were dealt with (or set aside) during this period. The Rector, wardens, members of Vestry and Redevelopment Committee assisted by our outstanding attorney Robert Orsi and consultants, Peter Roth & Mike Bernier helped move the development ball down the field. Nevertheless, despite best efforts, the project slipped farther behind schedule and by late May, St. James and Oaktree had extensive discussions regarding its status. To further complicate matters, in early June, we learned that several neighbors had taken us (and Oaktree) as well as the City of Cambridge to court to oppose the project approvals.

Eight St. James' neighbors appealed the city planning and historic commission permitting process. Oaktree's attorney believes that these appeals are meritless but should be responded to professionally absorbing time and money (note: a hearing date has been set for May 2012 and we expect, with good reason, a positive ruling soon thereafter).

In light of this and other project delays, members of the Redevelopment Committee, Vestry, the Rector, Consultants and attorney negotiated a Second Amendment with Oaktree. Our intention was to ensure that construction delays impose no further financial hardship on the congregation. A good bit of the early Summer was spent negotiating and meeting with lawyers, Church leadership and Oaktree principals. The Bishops and the Standing Committee of the Diocese of MA were kept informed as negotiations continued. The Second Amendment signed by Warden Anne Read in July provides comfort to the Church in several ways:

1. No change in Agreement end date;
2. Saint James will be kept financially "whole" through the extended period before construction with monthly payments from Oaktree. The amount of these payments is based on our Treasurer's calculations of the cost to cover losses incurred during this period. These payments will continue until construction starts, at which point the terms of the original legal agreement terms kick in.
3. Oaktree reimbursed St. James for additional extra legal and consulting costs incurred in negotiating the Second Amendment.
4. Additional payment provisions which further reduce Saint James' risk. The amendment increases the likelihood of a new Parish House no matter what happens to entire project.
5. By Sept 30th, all adaptations to the Church (i.e., the sacristy bathroom, boilers, heatbed-and-plumbed temporary toilets) were completed.

Through the fall and winter of 2011, it was largely watch and wait while the lawyers did their work. Preparing for court appearance is serious business involving depositions, hearings, filings, phone calls and meetings. We remain confident that the rulings of the Cambridge Planning and Historic Commissions will be affirmed at mid-year 2012. At that time, Oaktree hopefully will begin demolition followed by construction and we will see real changes on St. James' property. As always, we welcome suggestions, critiques, support and prayers in our ongoing journey of redevelopment. 🙏

# Alewife Deanery Annual Report 2011

Holly Antolini

2011 was an active year in the Alewife Deanery, a regional association of Episcopal congregations that extends from Cambridge to Bedford and Watertown to Somerville, of which St. James's Cambridge is a member congregation, with Marian King our representative and Holly Lyman Antolini the Dean. The new leadership team of Co-convenors Mary Ann Burnside (Our Redeemer Lexington) and the Rev. Amy McCreath (Good Shepherd, Watertown) offered lively opening worship at each of our Assemblies, held at Christ Church Waltham in February; at St. Mark's Burlington in May; at Our Redeemer, Lexington for the Jubilee Ministry Fundraising Dinner & Auction on May 21st; at Good Shepherd, Watertown in September; and on November 16th at Our Redeemer, Lexington. The theme for the year has been "Outreach Ministry." At the February meeting we heard about the outreach ministries of each congregation to receive diocesan "Sending Serving" and "House of Mercy" grant monies. At the May meeting the program included the Rev. Jean Chapman of The Outdoor Church and a member of the Outdoor Church congregation talking about their ministry to people who are homeless. The September Assembly held a farewell discussion with the Rt. Rev. Bud Cederholm focusing primarily on environmental stewardship, and the November Assembly included social justice discernment. In addition, the Deanery held its first Annual Alewife Deanery Alternative Christmas Fair at St. James's Cambridge in conjunction with St. James's Annual Christmas Fair. Six ministries from four Deanery congregations set up displays and offered "alternative gifts," accepting donations to their work in Burundi, Kenya and Palestine, with after-school children in Central Square, Cambridge, among victims of domestic abuse in the northwest region of our metropolis, as well as at our Helping Hand Food Pantry.

St. James's applied for and received "Sending Serving" grant monies for the Women's Meal and the Outdoor Church, and "House of Mercy" funds for Marian King's diaper ministry with the New Day program for new mothers in recovery.

As Dean, Holly serves on the Bishop's Council of Advice and is responsible for pastoral care of clergy in the Deanery. Among other things, she convenes a monthly lunch gathering of the Deanery clergy called the Clericus – regularly a dozen or so – to read a book – *Ancient Faith; Future Mission* last spring and *Church in the Present Tense* this fall – and share congregational initiatives and challenges as well as for prayer and mutual support. 🍷

# Baptisms, Marriages, Burials

## **Baptisms: 7**

Becket Carpenter Bernier, 2-6-11

Warren Jacob Aukeman, 6-12-2011

Henry Clayton Schley Johnson 6-12-2011

Isaac Edward Sackton 11-13-2011

Ivy Helena Saltzman 11-13-2011

Simon Jasper Lowe 11-13-2011

Cole David Minker 11-13-2011

## **Confirmations: 4 on 4-30-2011**

Margaret Rose Poterba

Elijah Jacob Saltzman

Julie Annette Campbell

Catherine Lane Muldoon

## **Marriages: 4**

Abena Mainoo & Edwin Homan 7-2-2011

Catherine M. Hardie & Erin E. Futrell 10-1-2011

Peter Julian Vica Petri & Thomas Marshall Miller 10-15-2011

Emerson Roosevelt Chadderton & Marilyn Bernadette Cambridge 11-27-2011

## **Funerals: 3**

Walter George Daley, Sr. 8-20-2011

May Badger Osborne 12-11-2011

Joan Rood 12-16-2011

# Minutes from the 2010 Annual Meeting

*Donna Thompson*

Elaine Agard thanks David Hall and Sylvia Weston for making the soup for lunch; the Vestry for fruit, bread and juice and the Hospitality Committee for their hard work. Elaine asks for volunteers to host a Sunday coffee hour or join the Hospitality Committee.

Holly Antolini leads us in prayers.

Donna Thompson announces that the quorum has been established. Donna Thompson presents the Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting. Michael Walters Young moves approval. Margo Chamberlain seconds. Motion passes.

Michael Walters Young presents the 2011 budget. The plan is for a balanced budget. 2010 ran at the projected deficit. Michael highlights pledging and how we budget (money from grants, diocese, etc.) Michael details why there are changes for the next few years: our space is in flux and there will be changing amounts for electricity and other utilities; diocesan amounts will be changed. Vestry has approved the budget via email this past week. Michael asks for volunteers to be counters and to be members of the Finance Committee. Michael Walters Young answered questions about budget.

Holly thanks Michael Walters Young for help in organizing our finances and asks that people consider the call to be in the Finance Committee or counters.

Nominating Committee members Yvette Verdieu and Judy Beers present the slate of candidates for election. Judy reports that they try to maintain a balance of race/age/talents. This year was a challenging year as many parishioners are volunteering on other Committees.

Donna Thompson asks if there are any nominees from the floor or if someone would like to make a motion to accept the slate. Rachel Evans motioned that the slate be accepted as given by the nominating committee. John Hixson seconds. Motion passes.

Capital Campaign Chairs Nancy McArdle and Mark Agard discuss that the Parish needs money to furnish the new Parish House and to do work to repair the Sanctuary instead of waiting for the proceeds of the Condo sales. The goal is to raise \$450,000 for this venture. A group of folks will be trained to be volunteers to ask for pledges. The solicitations will begin in the spring and end in the early fall. Anne Read made a great brochure. Mark Agard asks for prayers for the Capital Campaign.

Holly presents the strategic plan. In early October the Vestry and other parish members met to develop a strategic plan. The document outlines four overarching goals. An action plan will be developed at the Vestry retreat in February. The four goals are:

- 1) Connect and Reconnect to maintain and strengthen congregational hospitality, fellowship and formation
- 2) Discern afresh the vital relationship between our mission inward and our mission outward
- 3) Sustain our stewardship of people and programs encouraging, developing, and supporting servant leaders
- 4) Sustain our stewardship of finances and buildings

Mike Bernier gave a redevelopment update. There is a weekly meeting every Tuesday. In August OakTree told us that we were ready to start and asbestos removal began. The 150 day deadline expired yesterday and we are negotiating a new deadline (possibly June 1) and OakTree has given us some funding for this. Asbestos removal on the interior is complete. Roof asbestos needs a separate inspection/permit. This is causing a delay

but small things are continuing. Permit is in process and should come through. Hoping for a March 1 building readiness. April 1 earliest possible demolition. Hopefully construction can start in July. October 30, 2012 is possible completion date. Why the delay? Financing is in place. Funding escrow is in question. Permitting process has turned out to be more involved than expected. We now need a special permit on docket in February. Costing time and negotiation. Worst case scenario is that two units are lost. Peter Merrell suggests signage to let neighbors and others know that the project is still moving.

## **AFFIRMATIONS:**

Tom Tufts and Alan Aukeman are rotating off of the Vestry. Holly reads a quote from Timothy to affirm them.

Holly affirms Anne Read for all of the extra work she has done this year.

Edwin Johnson affirms all for their work in the parish.

Sylvia Weston gives great affirmation to someone who has given us his all—Pat Michaels.

Florence Stanley affirms her drivers.

Cynthia Owens affirms Alan Aukeman and Michael Walters Young for the hours and dedication given to St. James.

Jean Clark acknowledges that this is her first Annual Meeting and wants to acknowledge St. James' going forward and affirms us as an extraordinary group.

John Gay affirms the DeBorst, the Morcks and Jodi Michalaski who are doing our work elsewhere.

Anne Read affirms Hong Chen

Rachel Evans affirms the Sunday School teachers.

Janet Hobbs affirms Judy Beers for work on the Christmas Fair.

Lynn affirms Anne Read and Anne Shumway for work with youth.

Pat Michaels affirms all choir members for working together through hard times.

Pat Michaels affirms Holly and other staff members for making this a good place to work.

Tom Tufts affirms people for Outreach work: Saskia Grunberger for the Book Group; Nina Siciliano for Food Pantry; Jana Gowan for Prison Ministry and Tammy Stanton for GBIO work.

Holly affirms John Hixson and Tom Tufts for Food Pantry work and Jeff Zinsmeyer for stepping up for the Redevelopment Committee.

Rachel Evans affirms Mardi Moran for her work with the Outdoor Church.

John Hixson affirms Mark Yoder for his leadership.

Holly led us in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

