

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION
The Church of St. James the Less
Ashland, Virginia**

For The Year of Our Lord 2011

The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston – Diocesan Bishop
The Rt. Rev. David Jones - Suffragan Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. Gulick Jr., Assisting Bishop
The Rev. Charles Joy – Supply Priest
Robert Hooley - Director of Music
Cameron Stiles - Treasurer
Yancey Jones & Richard Shirey - Asst. Treasurers
Sylvia Spagna- Parish Administrator
Bobbie Street - Parish Nurse
Loida Matthews – Nursery Attendant

THE VESTRY

MINISTRY COMMISSION

Aleta Meyer ('12) Warden-Education
Don Bruce ('12), Warden-Worship
Janet Taylor ('12), Register, Education
Danah Massey ('11), Education

OUTREACH & PASTORAL COMMISSION

Erin Seymour ('13), Warden-Outreach
Susan Johnston ('13)
Richard Shirey ('13)

PROPERTY COMMISSION

Dale Hill ('13), Jr. Warden
Bryan Cline ('11), Warden-Property
Bob Chamlee ('12)

FINANCE COMMISSION

Lou Flanagan ('11), Sr. Warden
Kendra Shifflett ('11), Warden-Finance

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA - 9:00 a.m. – 02/27/2011

Call to Order
Minutes of February 28, 2010 Annual Meeting
Nominating Committee Report
First Ballot (additional ballots as needed)
Proposed 2010 Budget Presentation
Old Business
New Business
Dismissal

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS

A two-ballot method of election will be used in order to avoid the complexities of weighted voting and the repetition of multiple ballots. On the **FIRST BALLOT** each voter will cast a vote for **FOUR CANDIDATES**, and those who gain a majority of the votes will be elected. In the event that not all seats are filled on the first ballot, a **SECOND AND FINAL** ballot will be held. This ballot will contain a ratio of **TWO** names for each seat to be filled, except in the event that this would cause only one name to be dropped; in this case, that name will remain. The names will be those who received the largest number of votes short of a majority on the first ballot. Those receiving the largest number of votes on this ballot will be elected to the remaining seats

VESTRY MEMBERS WHO WILL RETIRE THIS YEAR

Bryan Cline, Lou Flanagan, Danah Massey and Kendra Shifflett

VESTRY MEMBERS WHO WILL SERVE ONE MORE YEAR

Don Bruce, Bob Chamlee, Aleta Meyer and Janet Taylor

VESTRY MEMBERS WHO WILL SERVE TWO MORE YEARS

Dale Hill, Susan Johnston, Erin Seymour and Richard Shirey

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTION TO THE VESTRY

One must be 18 years old: **{an adult Confirmed Communicant}** a confirmed Episcopalian whose official letter resides at St. James the Less; who attends church services regularly; has made at least three Holy Communion during the past year; and is known to the Treasurer. Vestry terms of office are for three years, with one-third of the vestry elected each year.

DUTIES OF A MEMBER OF THE VESTRY

According to our Diocesan Canons, the Vestry shall "cooperate with the Rector in promoting the spiritual welfare of his {the} cure, extend personally a hearty welcome to newly confirmed or transferred members of the congregation; shall continuously encourage the members of the congregation to assume their individual responsibility and to give generously to the Church and generally as constituted agents of the Parish, shall transact all its temporal business." Note that by Canon, the Vestry person is first the spiritual and only then the temporal agent of the Church.

VESTRY EXPECTATIONS

Given the Canonical requirements and duties of the vestry to actively work to implement goals and objectives of this parish, we, the Vestry, recommend the following Expectations for ourselves:

A. The Vestry expects its members to:

- Be in regular attendance at worship services.
- Fulfill the responsibility of attending every meeting of the vestry if at all possible.
- Participate in general discussion of the meetings and support decisions as they are made final.
- Maintain contact with members of the congregation.
- Promote an honest and supportive relationship with each other and with the Rector.

B. Major tasks of the Vestry are:

- Administer the Church finances, seeing that the legal requirements of Canon Law are maintained.
- Enable the congregation to claim and to use their talents in ministry.
- Provide active leadership in the commissions, by agreeing to serve on one Vestry Committee and attending the meetings regularly.
- Foster church growth.
- Support the goals and objectives of the church.

PARISH STATISTICS *

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
*Active units	253	264	268	284	295	323	314	325	357	356
				+ + +						
Baptisms	14	11	7	15	15	8	8	11	6	3
Confirmations	3	14	6	6	9	26	0	1	10	1
Receptions	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reaffirmations	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1
Marriages	8	3	4	9	9	0	0	4	2	3
Funerals	3	4	9	5	6	7	1	3	3	2
				+ + +						
Sunday Holy Eucharist	106	107	110	112	110	107	107	106	101	101
Sunday (MP or EP)	3	0	3	0	0	5	4	1	2	0
Weekday Holy Eucharist	60	59	97	56	61	57	54	63	52	54
Weekday (MP or EP)	7	10	57	21	30	56	34	29	42	37
Eucharist to Sick & Shut-ins	3	8	11	27	34	30	9	5	2	9
Other Offices – Compline, Noonday Prayer, Weddings, Burials.	37	38	13	15	15	10	11	7	0	0

{Note: Funerals, marriages, etc. which included Holy Eucharist are counted under that "Heading"}

**Does not include children under 16 years of age.*

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

2001	-	12,580	2006	-	11,687
2002	-	12,052	2007	-	9,631
2003	-	14,239	2008	-	10,399
2004	-	14,976	2009	-	9,128
2005	-	12,754	2010	-	9,418

**St. James the Less
Annual Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2010**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer by Senior Warden, Lou Flanagan, at 9am in Brydon Hall.

The Annual Meeting Minutes from the February 22, 2009 meeting were approved.

Nominating Committee Report: The 2010 Vestry Nominating Committee was Tom Street, May Field, Matt Meade, and Yancey Jones. The nominees presented by the committee were John Bowers, Dale Hill, Susan Johnston, Dusty Rhodes, Erin Seymour, and Richard Shirey. There were no additional nominations made from the floor. A motion was made to close the nominations, this was seconded and approved. A ballot was distributed to the congregation that was present. While the ballots were counted, the meeting continued:

Treasurer's Report: Cameron Stiles, Treasurer

- Thanks to assistant treasurers Yancey Jones and Richard Shirey for their service and the counters for their weekly contribution of time.
- The 2009 year finished in the black! \$40,000 for the surplus was posted to the 2010 Budget as `09 Carry Over, the remainder, was transferred to the Building Fund.
- Cami reported on the status of the debt. The SunTrust loan was refinanced in September `09, amortized over 15 years and due in 5 years.
- The 2010 budget was presented for information.

Rector's Report: Ed Tracy

- Father Ed's report was included in the annual report.
- Ed also thanked the congregation for their outreach of love, prayers and well wishes during Lee Ann's recovery.

Nominating Committee: The committee returned with an election on the first vote. The new class of the Vestry is Dale Hill, Susan Johnston, Erin Seymour and Dick Shirey. All nominees were thanked for their willingness to serve.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Susan Chambers reminded the Parish of the presentation of Black History in song and dance, March 26 & 27 at Blackwell Auditorium on the Campus of Randolph-Macon College.

Closing Prayer: Father Ed

The meeting adjourned at 9:50am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cameron Stiles
Treasurer

Rector's Report

Annual Meeting Rector's Report, 2011

Feb 24, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have just started my fifth year here at St. James the Less. Our parish never ceases to amaze me at the hospitality, education and outreach that flows from this holy place. The Holy Spirit has indeed blessed SJTL with incredible gifts which can be seen active daily every where one looks in the joy filled life of this congregation.

That is why it makes it all the more painful to announce to you that Lee Ann and I will be leaving our beloved church home to join the diocesan staff at the Diocese of Southern Virginia, in Norfolk. This is as much a surprise to us as it is to you. I have not been in a search process since I arrived here. I have had no plans to go to another parish. I had planned to retire from parish ministry as your rector. As too often happens, God seems to have made other plans.

I received a call from the bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia, the Rt. Rev. Herman "Holly" Hollerith asking me to meet with him to discuss the possibility of joining the diocesan staff as his Canon for Administration. After explaining how he must have called me by mistake, he asked that I only think about agreeing to meet with him to discuss the possibility. After a few days I called him back and agreed to meet with him. I spent a day with Bishop Hollerith just a few weeks ago and the following week met with some of the staff of the diocese. After those meetings and then spending another week and a half in prayer and reflection with Lee Ann, it became clear to me that God was indeed calling me to this entirely new and unexpected ministry. When Bishop Hollerith called a week ago to ask if I would accept the call, I did.

This has been the most difficult decision I have ever had to make about a call in my priestly ministry. I was able to make that decision realizing that though I love my ministry as a parish priest here with all of you, ordination is not just a call to one particular parish or diocese. Ordination is also a call to serve the wider Church where ever God may call us.

My last Sunday at St. James the Less, will be March 13th. I have already informed our Wardens and Vestry, along with the Rev. Charles Joy. I have begun to discuss some of the needs during the transition. I have also spoken to Bishop Johnston and those on diocesan staff about the coming move.

May God continue to watch over and bless the very special people and ministry of St. James the Less. We will continue to remember and pray for you and ask for your prayers as we go forward in this new ministry.

Your Brother in Christ,

The Rev. Ed Tracy, Rector

SENIOR & JUNIOR WARDENS AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Senior Warden's Report

I never thought that anything could top 2009, but 2010 was even better when you look at all that the congregation was able to accomplish. I can't thank Father Ed, Charles Joy, the other three Vestry members who will be "retiring" this year (Bryan, Danah and Kendra) and the remaining members enough for their unbelievable hard work and dedication. If any of you is ever asked to serve as Senior Warden and you are blessed to have Vestry members like I had over the past two years, you should jump at the opportunity. There was never a time when a volunteer was needed that someone did not immediately step up to the plate. The same is true of our congregation who once again gave freely of its time, treasure and talents.

I would be very remiss if I did not give a special thank you to Cami Stiles, our treasurer. Her guidance and suggestions were invaluable.

Please take time to read all of the commission reports to get a better understanding of what was accomplished over the past year.

I thank the Vestry and the congregation for allowing me to serve as your Senior Warden and I look forward to watching our church grow in the years ahead.

- Lou Flanagan

Junior Warden's Report

It has been my pleasure to serve the parish this year as junior warden. We've made many improvements to the programs and facilities of the parish, with many more planned. I would like to thank all the volunteers who make our parish such a special church home. I am continually impressed by the good work that God is using our hands to achieve.

- Dale Hill

Outreach Commission

The activities of the Outreach Commission focus on reaching out to fellow parishioners and to others in our community, region, state, and world. Within our parish, groups and activities such as Advanced Adventurers, ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out), Supper Club, and Shrine Mont Retreat are great ways to get to know one another and get involved. Within the community, area churches have been increasingly asking for our participation in ecumenical and charitable functions. Where we can, we hope to accommodate. Community outreach includes CARITAS, Outreach dinners, ACES and YMCA Bright Beginnings. Within and beyond the community, we encounter Cropwalk and ECW (Episcopal Church Women). Middle and High School Youth Groups get involved in Outreach projects through Christmas Gifts program, workcamps, mission trips and fundraising for charitable causes. We remember our college students with birthday cards. The Chenery Fund is a wonderful gift we have for providing effective outreach, and was originally funded by income from the racehorse Secretariat! This year, we celebrate the third anniversary of the existence of our St. James the Less Free Clinic. The clinic provides free medical and dental care to our Hanover neighbors who are uninsured. The clinic has given away thousands of dollars worth of free services and is maintained entirely by volunteers, many of the non-professionals coming from SJTL. The larger Ashland community is now joining in our mission, providing eye and mental health clinic locations. A new clinic is being formed at a Mechanicsville church, and they are reaching out to us for help in getting started.

- Erin Seymour

Finance Commission

Please refer to the financial reports provided by the treasurer.

Ministry Commission

The Ministry Commission supports the clergy and numerous committees that function as the basis for our parish worship and spiritual development. These include acolytes, African Team Ministries, Adult Choir, Cherub Choir and St. Cecelia's Choir, Christian Education, Education for Ministries (EFM), Lectors, Music, Newcomers and Greeters, Nursery, Parish Nurse, St. Francis Guild, St. Hilda's Guild, Ushers, Worship, and Junior and Senior Youth Groups. We are blessed.

The Ministry Commission continues to be supported by many parishioners who are actively involved in the celebration of worship, embrace the importance of faith, and fellowship and encourage participation of all age groups. Thank you to all the people of this church who assure that the altar is well appropriated, who guide us through our worship and praise, who educate, train and lead our young people, raise money for others' ministries, meet and greet new people, who provide comfort during difficult times, and who lead us in joyful noise. We are grateful.

This year the Sunday school program continues to thrive at the 9am time period between the two services. The Sunday school teachers are very dedicated. The College Ministry committee still strives to perpetuate the established college ministry for the youth who are away attending the college of their choice. A supply priest has joined St. James the Less on a regular basis, and a full-time nursery attendant has been hired.

-Don Bruce and Aleta Meyer

Property Commission

In 2009, a number of smaller tasks were completed in the continued upkeep and improvement of our church. These tasks included building a fence around the playground, installing new lights in the parking lot, painting the doors on the front of the church, and performing a major repair to one of the air conditioning units. One of the projects from a prior year, the sump pump, was put to the test this fall (and into the winter) and performed magnificently! There were also numerous tasks performed by the building and grounds volunteers that lead to the continued smooth operating of our church home. We are in the planning stages of projects that will improve the handicap accessibility of both the church and the rectory in the year to come. The Property Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers (seen and unseen) that keep St. James the Less running and looking beautiful. Thank you for your service!

-Bryan Cline, Dale Hill

PARISH MINISTRIES

ACES – Ashland Christian Emergency Services

SJTL parishioners have generously brought to church weekly donations of non-perishable foods and clothing to further the efforts of this all volunteer non-profit organization. A.C.E.S. has a mission "to administer charitable emergency services to indigent individuals and families by giving them food, clothing, shelter, transportation, or other needed service." Supported by Ashland area churches and community organizations, and working in cooperation with the Hanover County Department of Social Services, A.C.E.S. provides furniture, large and small appliances, baby supplies and equipment, clothing, bedding, linens, dishes, some financial aid, and other necessities to those in our community who are in true need. Donations are gratefully welcomed.

-Laura Baker (883-7687)

Acolyte Guild

Acolyte Recognition Sunday was October 24, 2010

We offer a special thanks to Taylor Fines and Mark Fitzhugh who served for many years and graduated this past spring. Currently 21 young people are serving as acolytes at St. J's. We recognize and salute them for their service to the church.

Congratulations to our returning acolytes:

Third Year Honor	Rachel Hoar, Sam Rosser, Trent Thomas, Megan Rodman and Philip Morison
Second Year Honor	Madeleine Alderman, Allison Pace, Laurie Rodman, Kristina Raney, Jessica Sanders and Lindsey Conley
First Year Honor	Katie Penland
First Year Senior	Joseph Boyle, Josh Sanders and Piper Shifflett
Second Year Junior	Liam Penland, Patrick Reagan
First Year Junior	Charlie Rosser and Annika Cline
First Year Beginner	Corinna Cline, Claire Reagan

It is a pleasure working with these young people. Their dedication and service at St. James the Less are second to none. I encourage you to let them know how important they are to our worship and congratulate them on a job well done.

-Steve Pace, Acolyte Master (516-6107)

Advanced Adventurers

The Advanced Adventurers is for senior citizens who meet for recreation and social events. They meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 4PM either at church or in someone's home. Please contact Katherine for more information.

- Katherine Tinker (798-5978)

Advocate to Westminster Canterbury

Attended all meetings held throughout the year. We are periodically updated on the facility and toured through the buildings as they are completed. During the year I have visited members from our area and saw several Fork Church members since they didn't have an advocate at this time. The few complaints I received were trivial and addressed by the staff. We are all invited to visit Westminster Canterbury at any time by calling for an appointment. Please feel free to call Madge with any questions.

- Madge Carter, Advocate (798-7104)

African Team Ministries

Each October, for years, we have brought the ministry to our church. This year we realized \$1,010 which, with other churches, funds have participated in building chapels and schools. Most of the articles were done by Kenyans, although some of the other third world countries may be joining them. Without the help of Rosemary Jones I could never had it so ably presented.

- Madge Carter (798-7104)

Bright Beginnings

Buying backpacks with Chenery money and asking for donations of school supplies to be given through the YMCA to needy children for back to school. This was first accomplished in the summer of 2006, and continued in 2007 and 2008. **This was our fifth year of participating in this program, and we filled a record 12 backpacks."**

- Susan Johnston (550-3796)

CARITAS

The CARITAS program provides housing and three meals a day to 30 to 40 homeless people from the Richmond area for one or two weeks each year. SJTL partners with other Ashland area churches, and Episcopal parishes in the area. We provide the space, volunteer hours, the food, and other necessities of life to our guests. This is truly an ecumenical enterprise.

- Sandi Shirey (798-6926)

Chenery Committee

The Chenery Committee consists of nine members appointed by the Vestry and Rector to administer requests for funding from the Christopher T. Chenery Fund and the Heavenly Creations Fund. The Christopher T. Chenery Fund was established by the Vestry to honor Mr. Chenery, a former parishioner who left a portion of his estate to the parish. Mr. Chenery owned an interest in Secretariat, the Triple Crown winner in 1973. The interest income generated from the fund varies from year to year and is available for funding outreach programs and parishioners' participation in retreats, conferences, camps, and classes designed to promote Christian spiritual growth.

The Heavenly Creations Fund receives a portion of the net proceeds realized from the Heavenly Creations art show each November. These proceeds are available for funding musical programs, supporting creative components to Christian education and spiritual development, and parishioners' participation in art camps and programs. The Committee recommends funding of requests to the Vestry, which approves, amends or rejects them.

Past recipients have been: Shrine Mont campers, Parish Retreat, EfM students, YMCA, Patrick Henry High School, Habitat for Humanity, Tri-Cities Workcamp, Chaplain Service Ministry, SJTL Free Clinic and Central VA Food Bank.

-Ricki Carson (798-1782)

Choir – Adult

The Adult Choir assists the congregation in their singing and provides special music for the worship services, such as rehearsed anthems. Together, the choir and the congregation use music to enhance worship and glorify God. The choir is always open to new members. We want the congregation to be aware of the need for additional singers. And I continue to hope that one day the budget will allow us to consider paid section leaders. As always, we at St. James the Less employ a wide variety of church music appropriate in a liturgical setting. This includes our hymnody.

- Bob Hooley (965-0857)

Choir – Cherub

The Cherub Choir is designed to give children ages "almost 3" through first grade a positive beginning to their singing "career". The Cherubs sing approximately 4 times each church school year for special occasions such as: All Saints Sunday, Christmas Eve, the Bishop's visit, Mothers' Day and, at times, for the Christmas Pageant and/or Epiphany Play. Rehearsals for this group take place as needed during nursery time and at the end of the 10am Sunday church service. Please go to www.stjamestheless.com and click on **Cherub Choir** for the most current schedule, lyrics and music.

- Dan & Danah Massey (550-7420)

Choir – St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia's Choir is an opportunity for our 2nd through 5th graders to stretch their vocal talents! The St. Cecilia Choir sings approximately 4 times each church school year for special occasions such as: All Saints Sunday, Christmas Eve, the Bishop's visit, Mothers' Day and, at times, for the Christmas Pageant and/or Epiphany Play. We usually practice as needed for about 15 minutes after the 10am Sunday church service in the Middle School classroom. Please go to www.stjamestheless.com and click on **St. Cecilia Choir** for the most current schedule, lyrics and music.

- Dan & Danah Massey (550-7420)

Christian Education Committee - Adults

Provides adult education programs which are held during the Christian Education period held at 9:00 am (between Sunday services) and assists in the planning of the annual Lenten series program.

- George Spagna (752-6513)

Counters' Group

Two members count the offering money each Sunday (immediately following the 10 a.m. service), deliver it to the night depository at the bank and record the figures for the Treasurer. This is a very important ministry. Please contact Nancy if you are interested in assisting.

- Nancy Fines (752-7890)

Education for Ministry

A four-year course of studies designed to facilitate participants' theological education and reflection.

- *George Spagna (752-6513)*

Episcopal Church Women

The ECW's main concern is more members. Generally each participating church is responsible for two programs each year. They collect Campbell's Soup proofs-of-purchase to benefit the Boys' Home and old cell phones for Safe Place. They also provide monetary gifts to Episcopal institutions.

- *Lula Hopkins (798-5401)*

Free Clinic (St. James the Less)

St. James the Less Free Clinic is now celebrating its fourth full year of operation. Every Wednesday evening, our church basement is converted to a healthcare facility providing free medical and dental care to residents of Hanover County who have registered and qualified for care. Healthcare providers donate their professional services and other volunteers assist patients in determining eligibility for care, obtaining access to free prescription medicines, making referrals for diagnostic tests and specialty care, as well as providing medical and dental education and counseling. An average of 35 patients is seen per night. Throughout the week, administrative volunteers work to assure continuous care is provided to the patients.

Through our encouragement and assistance, four more clinics are now housed in Hanover County churches. All five of the clinics are interacting for the benefit of those in need under the corporate name of Hanover Interfaith Free Clinics. All share the same mission: *"To offer a faith-based healing ministry to our qualified Hanover neighbors by providing free medical and dental health care with compassion, dignity and respect."*

At Shiloh Baptist Church, volunteers provide eye exams and care twice a month, and in partnership with the Ashland Lions Club and LensCrafters Corporation, provide free prescription eyeglasses. In March 2010, Ashland Christian Church ceased services as a mental health clinic and opened in July as the Ashland Christian (Disciples of Christ) Podiatry Clinic, serving patients twice a month for foot care. The Mechanicsville Christian Center Dental Clinic celebrated its one-year anniversary in November. The clinic provides dental care every Tuesday night and holds a separate denture clinic twice a month. The Cheryl H. Watson Memorial Medical Clinic at Shady Grove United Methodist Church in Mechanicsville opened in February 2010, with great volunteer enthusiasm and community support. The residents of Mechanicsville have benefited immensely from the complete care offered by these two clinics.

It is estimated that, collectively, in the year 2010, the five clinics served more than 651 patients and provided medical and dental services valued at over \$1,024,000. For 2010, St. James the Less Free Clinic served 283 patients and provided medical services valued at \$90,535 and dental service valued at \$117,800.

We thank all of you for your gracious and faithful support. YOU are the reason St. James the Less Free Clinic and now, Hanover Interfaith Free Clinics came to be, and continue to provide care, week after week.

--*Lee Chambers, Board President (798-6647)*--*Susan Hubbard, Executive Director (798-7927)*

Heavenly Creations

This annual fall show, sponsored by the parish, displays the craftsmanship of approximately 50 artists, many of whom are either local and/or from the parish family. The proceeds from the show are deposited 2/3's in the Chenery Heavenly Creations Grant Fund and 1/3 in the operating budget of the church.

- *Marcia Hill (798-4615), Alice Lewis (883-5988)*

Juliets

A "Red Hats" group for women over 50 years old and meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 11:30, usually at a local restaurant. Wearing a Red Hat is not required to participate.

- *Mary Anne Harris (798-6505)*

Lectors

Lectors read Scripture passages at the Sunday 10:00 AM service, and at special services as needed. We continue to be blessed with such a "cloud of witnesses" that nobody gets assigned more than once ever three months or so. Readers for 2009 have included **Carol Abaire, Joseph Boyle, Don & Jenny Bruce, Nancy Chamlee, Susan Chambers, Carl & Mary Anne Harris, Dick Harman, John Hoar, Kolbey Hogeboom, Robert Hughes, Lyde Longaker, Piper Shifflett, Sandi Shirey, George & Sylvia Spagna and Richard Taylor**. We welcome **Joseph Boyle and Piper Shifflett** to our roster of lectors for 2011. If you also feel called to this ministry, please let me know. I'll be glad to put you into the rotation. Maybe, if enough sign up, we'll only have to read once a year!

- *George Spagna (752-6513)*

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Assist during the services by leading prayers and assisting with communion. Eucharistic Ministers also help by taking communion to the "shut-ins" and sick following Sunday worship. Lay Eucharistic Ministers are appointed by the Rector who requests a license from the Bishop. Please talk to Ed Tracy if you are interested in participating in this ministry.

- Cami Stiles (798-5030)

Memorial Gifts Committee

Consider and make recommendations for gifts to the parish given as memorials or celebrations of loved ones.

- George Spagna (752-6513)

Musicians

We rejoice in having many talented vocal and instrumental musicians among us. On special occasions, their gifts are shared with us all.

- Bob Hooley (965-0857)

NevertheLess Newsletter

Collating & Mailing Group: A group of wonderful people meet monthly, usually on a Wednesday morning, to prepare the parish newsletter for mailing.

- Sylvia Spagna (798-6336)

Newcomers and Greeters

Committee members greet and welcome all newcomers to St. James the Less and help them feel welcome and comfortable in our parish. They approach newcomers and answer questions about St. James the Less and stand ready to visit those with questions who would rather have an in-home conversation.

- Ron and Dani Pettitt (798-6548)

Nursery Director

Manages the paid Nursery staff and scheduling of volunteers to help with the Nursery during the 9 a.m. Sunday School and 10:00 a.m. church service. The staff typically includes one paid adult worker, two parents and two teenagers.

Overview:

1. Scheduling and communication is done via e-mail, with the schedule posted on the SJTL website, as well as the nursery bulletin board.
2. If a date does not work for a parent or youth, they are responsible for finding a substitute by switching with another worker on the schedule. Changes are then noted on the nursery bulletin board and e-mailed to the nursery director at nursery@stjamestheless.com. Alternates follow the same procedure.
3. Alternates (parents and youth) are scheduled to serve as last-minute substitutes and extra help if needed.
4. Workers arrive by 8:30 a.m., including alternates, to see if they are needed.
5. Parent volunteers are asked to provide a snack for the children on their scheduled date. Back-up snack is kept in the nursery in case the alternate needs to be used. Alternates & youth do not need to bring a snack.

- Danah Massey (550-7420)

Outreach Dinners

In partnership with Fork Church Parish, dinners are hosted in Brydon Hall every other month on the last Sunday of the month. Volunteers pick up those needing transportation, bring prepared food, serve and clean up after the meal. (St. Ann's hosts the dinners on the other months.) **We averaged over 40 guests per meal in 2010.** These suppers are a way we reach out to the Ashland community by providing a festive meal and setting at a time when their finances may be particularly stressed.

- Erin Seymour (752-6505), Dani Pettitt (798-6548)

Parish Auditors

A group consists usually of three people, who conduct an annual audit of parish financial records and practices.

-Kendra Shifflett (550-9036)

Parish Life Committee

The Parish Life Committee plans and supports fellowship and social activities within the parish. Their activities include supervising the kitchen, providing coffee and cleaning up after the Sunday worship services, sponsoring the initial Lenten supper, supporting special church receptions and two annual picnics, etc.; Erin Seymour has graciously taken on this ministry as part of the Outreach Commission, but someone to act as chair and committee members are needed **now**.

-Erin Seymour (752-6505)

Parish Nurse Program

The Parish Nurse is a special practice and professional model of health ministry handled by a parishioner who is a professional Nurse. She helps in the health needs of our parish by offering advice, counseling, referrals and education. She visits shut-ins and hospitalized parishioners as needed and writes a monthly health-related article for Nevertheless.

- *Bobbie Street (798-7030)*

Peter Paul Development

This is an urban social ministry of the Diocese that serves youngsters from low-income families of the East End of Richmond. It provides after school and summer programs, youth leadership training, and seniors programs. By contributing food and toilet articles, St. James the Less continues to support the center.

- *Lula Hopkins (798-5401)*

“ROMEOS OF SJTL”

The group of “Retired Old Men Eating Out” meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 11:30 for lunch. A different Ashland eatery is chosen for each gathering and posted in the bulletin. Tales, conversation, and good natured kidding abound with occasional sharing of the pilgrimages of their lives. Good food and fellowship with faith-filled friends.

- *Ron Petitt (852-2320)*

St. Francis Guild

The Guild serves families and the parish in time of loss of a loved one, primarily during the vigil period and funeral service. Responsibilities typically include participating in the vigil and serving as a pallbearer, usher or lector during the service.

- *Condé Hopkins (798-6671) & Robert Hopkins (798-5401)*

St. Hilda's Altar Guild

Several teams work with the Clergy to ensure that the altar and sanctuary are prepared for all services. Provides elements for Holy Eucharist, maintains vestments for worship services, provides flowers for worship services and decorates the Church for major feast days and other special occasions such as weddings and funerals.

- *Karen Fritter (798-2262), Sylvia Spagna (752-6513)*

Shrine Mont Retreat Committee

This group plans the annual parish weekend retreat at Shrine Mont in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

- *Ron Petitt (852-2320)*

Stewardship Committee

Challenges us to increasingly understand ourselves to be stewards of God's marvelous creation {including this updating effort}, and also oversee our opportunities to financially support the Church's mission and ministry.

Finance Commission

Supper Club

The Supper Club provides a means for holding monthly dinners (in the home setting) for parishioners and newcomers. Its purpose is to provide a relaxed and enjoyable fellowship gathering. Members participate by bringing a "dish" and agreeing to host one or two dinners each year. Individuals in each of the dinner groups are rotated each month so that members have opportunities to meet and get to know other members.

-*George Field (752-6384)*

Thanksgiving and Christmas Gift Programs

During Advent, the senior high youth group obtained the names of 10 children in needy families from Hanover ARC for whom the congregants bought Christmas gifts. A sub-group within the senior high organized this effort; these youth were Philip Morison, Angela Stubbs, Sam Rosser, Morgaine Goettl-Meyer, Trent Thomas, and Kristina Raney. Coats were provided through funds from the Chenery Foundation.

-*Aleta Meyer (380-7832)*

Transportation Committee

This is an informal committee, which provides transportation to doctors' appointments or other needs for those who cannot drive. The list is posted in the church office and requests can be made through the parish secretary or by calling Rosemary Jones.

- *Rosemary Jones (798-4843)*

Ushers

Assist at the Sunday 10 a.m. service and at special services by assisting the congregation with seating, answering questions, collecting the offering, bringing the Bread and Wine for Communion to the Altar during the Offertory, etc. "Lead Ushers" volunteer for one week at a time during summer months, and for one month during the school year. Thank you for your service in the past and please take a month during 2011 or weekly during the summer months.

- *Rich Holt (368-0609)*

Website Administration Committee

The website administration committee helps to review the St. James the Less website each month, (<http://www.stjamestheless.com/>) and ensure it remains a current and useful tool for the church. For more information or to join this committee, please visit the website and E-mail the web administrator or contact Dan Massey.

- *Dan Massey (550-7420)*

Wilbur's Willing Workers

This is a group of folks who undertake special projects to beautify and improve the grounds. Major projects have included placement of new exterior lighting, replanting and maintenance of the DeJarnette Memorial Garden, church yard mulching, plantings and seeding and the new picnic tables.

- *Wilbur Lawrence (798-7988)*

Work Days

Conducted in spring and fall, these provide opportunities for us all to assist with the maintenance and upkeep of the church and grounds.

- *Bryan Cline (798-0915)*

Youth Group – Middle School

The Middle School Youth Group (grades 6 – 8) meets weekly on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30 pm during the school year to provide Christian fellowship, outreach, social activities and a safe environment for the youth. We have a larger group this year which is great and are averaging about 12 - 16 youth each Sunday. The Diocese continues to split the Middle School Shrine Mont weekends into two events (8th graders on one weekend and the 6th & 7th graders another weekend). As in the past few years, the advisors made the decision not to participate with the Diocese in either of these events, but would continue to lobby the Diocese to re-combine the retreat weekends. We had our annual SJTL Middle-School Retreat trip to Shrine Mont the weekend of April 16, 2010. It was a weekend that was greatly enjoyed by all. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper was a great success. The youth made suggestions and then voted on what to do with the profits. The profits were split between Diocese Fund for Haitian Earthquake and a donation to Shrine Mont. The youth gave that donation during our weekend at Shrine Mont. On Halloween we had the kids "trick or treating for canned goods". That collection went to ACES. One new activity we did this year was to take the youth group to the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. We attended the Folk Eucharist, spent time on the observation floor and went on a gargoyle hunt. Thank you to all the parents and the church for their continued support each year.

The Middle School Youth Advisors--*P.K. Kinser (752-6620), Vicki Morison (550-2425), Tish Sanders (752-2382)*

Youth Group – High School

The senior high youth group meets weekly on Sunday evenings except during the summer to provide an opportunity for fellowship, outreach, and spiritual activities in a Christian atmosphere. From February to May these activities included Rebuilding Richmond; Doubt Night with Father Ed; repair, maintenance and cleaning of the STJL picnic tables; and leading worship on Youth Sunday. Once again we hosted an elegant Valentine's Day dinner for our parents and grandparents. In mid-July, eight youth and two adult chaperones (Ragan Dyer and PK Kinser) spent a week at Tri-Cities Work Camp 2010 in Petersburg. There they repaired homes during the day and enjoyed Christian fellowship at night. This fall has brought a busy start to our group activities. Five youth joined the parish family weekend at Shrine Mont. We collected needed items for ACES with a scavenger hunt; participated in purely fun activities of bowling and the haunted hayride at Ashland Berry Farm; helped with setting up and taking down the backdrops for Heavenly Creations; made masks; and led the Christmas Gift program for the church. Thirteen youth and three adults went on our annual ski trip to Seven Springs. Approximately sixteen high school students participate and four adults support this ministry each Sunday night. Thanks to all the parents, the parish and the vestry for your support.

-Senior Youth Leaders – *Aleta Meyer, Richard Grosse, Jane Jones, Steve Pace, Bill Sanders*

St. James the Less

Accounts, Endowments and Special Funds - 2010

TREASURER'S NOTES

As of December 31, 2010, the following were the unaudited balances in parish accounts.

ACCOUNT BALANCES:

\$ 75,864.28	Checking Account
\$ 95,152.65	Investment Account
\$ 390.08	SunTrust Loan Account
\$ 101,000.00	Loan to Diocesan Missionary Society
\$ 100,130.51	Chenery "New Building Loan" to St. James the Less
<u>\$ 469,592.70</u>	Invested in the Diocesan Investment Trust Funds (11/30/10)
\$ 842,130.22	

ENDOWMENT PRINCIPAL BALANCES (included in Account Balances above)

\$ 506,791.81	Christopher Chenery Endowment (<i>income for outreach and education</i>)
\$ 7,828.62	Permanent Endowment (<i>income for general parish support</i>)
\$ 10,988.94	DeJarnette Garden Endowment (<i>income for care of the Memorial Garden</i>)
\$ 4,789.58	Mary Dozier Carter Endowment (<i>income for work of the Altar Guild</i>)
\$ 8,342.94	Music Fund Endowment (<i>income for enhancement of parish music</i>)
\$ 3,942.89	Carlton Fox Endowment (<i>income to assist with supply clergy costs</i>)
<u>\$ 128,038.73</u>	Barbara O'Reilly Endowment (<i>income to assist with building dept retirement</i>)
\$ 670,723.51	

SPECIAL FUNDS BALANCES (included in Account Balances above)

\$ 2,468.92	St. Hilda's Altar Guild Fund (<i>for work of the Altar Guild</i>)
\$ 30,540.05	Chenery Grant Fund (<i>for outreach & education grants</i>)
\$ 24,459.63	Heavenly Creations Grant Fund (<i>for outreach, arts, and beautification grants</i>)
\$ 5,257.00	Chenery Principal Reinvestment (<i>will be sent to the DIT for investment</i>)
\$ 34,731.93	Building Fund Donations (<i>directly reduces outstanding debt</i>)
\$ 2,500.00	Building Major Maintenance Fund (<i>escrow for major repairs</i>)
\$ 8,599.20	Memorial Gifts Fund (<i>Memorial Gifts Committee recommends gifts</i>)
\$ 1,885.90	Junior High Youth Group Fund (<i>for work of the Youth Group</i>)
\$ 3,561.69	Senior High Youth Group Fund (<i>for work of the Youth Group</i>)
\$ -	Heavenly Creations Fund (<i>advance income for annual show</i>)
\$ 15,541.84	Van Replacement Fund (<i>escrow to assist with replacement</i>)
\$ 1,669.15	Music/Instrument Fund (<i>escrow to assist with major repair</i>)
\$ 2,581.87	DeJarnette Memorial Garden Fund (<i>income available for use</i>)
\$ 1,075.55	Parish Life Special Fund (<i>designated for major kitchen expenses</i>)
\$ 50.00	SJTL Free Clinic
<u>\$ 1,144.96</u>	Rector's Sabbatical
\$ 136,067.69	

VESTRY NOMINEES FOR 2011

John Elliott Friedman

I am a lifelong Episcopalian. I grew up in the congregations of Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, St. Andrews, Newport News, and Holy Comforter, Richmond. My wife Mary and I became members of St. James the Less shortly after we moved to Ashland, Virginia in 2004. We attend Sunday services regularly with our children Abby, 6, and Dylan, 4. In our first year of membership, we assisted the Senior High Youth Group leaders during the weekly meetings. We were amazed at the number of youth that consistently turned out for the meetings. I look forward to my children having similar experiences and opportunities in the future. Currently, my wife and I serve on the rotating Nursery Duty Schedule. When our children are in Sunday school, we enjoy taking part in the Adult Forum. Professionally, I am in my twentieth year of classroom teaching with the Henrico County Public Schools system. I teach fifth grade and find the position very rewarding. I enjoy spending time with my family, cycling, hiking, and staying connected with friends.

Jane H. Jones

My husband Yancey was baptized and confirmed at St James the Less, while I was raised at St Ann's Catholic Church in Ashland. After marriage and living in Charlotte and Richmond, we moved back to Ashland 25 years ago and I became a member of St. James. While raising our two boys here, Yancey Jr. and Dutch, I was in charge of the nursery and then taught Sunday school. As the boys grew, we became leaders of the senior youth group where I continue to help in a supporting role. I've enjoyed participating in outside mission activities such as the Petersburg Work Camp and Hurricane Katrina recovery; volunteering at our clinic on a regular basis has provided me a new experience in outreach activities. This would be my second term serving on the vestry if elected. Thank you for your support of the vestry and our church's activities.

Derrick Rosser

Janet and I were married in 1989 and moved to Hanover in 1990. Janet grew up an Episcopalian and I grew up a Southern Baptist. During the initial years of our marriage we attended services at various Episcopal and Baptist churches.

We first attended a church service at St. James the Less in early 1993. Dick Shirey approached us following the service and asked about our new family. Our oldest son, Sam, was less than six months old at the time. Woodi Sprinkel dropped by the house for a short visit later that day. Suffice it to say, we felt very welcome.

Since that initial visit, our family has grown to include Charlie, who is 12, and Will, who is 9. Charlie and Will both were baptized at this church. Janet and I have both served on the vestry and on the Chenery Committee. Sam and Charlie are both acolytes and participate in the youth groups. The boys and I often serve as ushers.

I would like the opportunity to serve the church again as a member of the vestry.

Bob Hughes

I am a lover of bullet points. So this is me in a nutshell:

- * Lifelong Episcopalian, and formally a member of St. James the Less since 2001 (informally, have been attending since moving to the area in late 1999)
- * At SJTL have served as lector, offering counter, Sunday School teacher, usher, Stewardship Committee member, and Summer Intern Program Lay Committee member
- * 41 years old – born in California, grew up in Rapid City, South Dakota
- * Have lived in Virginia 17 years – about 11 years in this area
- * Education: B.A. (International Relations) from Stanford University (1992); J.D. from University of Virginia School of Law (1999)
- * Occupation: attorney. My law practice focuses on commercial real estate transactions, estate planning, and business law. At present, I have my own firm: Law Office of Robert W. Hughes, PLLC. Formerly I was an associate at the law firm of Troutman Sanders LLP and a partner at the law firm of Hirschler Fleischer, P.C.
- * Married (14 years) to Tracy Hughes, a German teacher at Atlee High School and Chickahominy Middle School and native of Gretna, Virginia
- * One child – Ian (7 years old)
- * Board member and past President – Rebuilding Together of Richmond (formerly Christmas in April), a non-profit that repairs homes of elderly, disabled, and low-income individuals
- * Board member and Programs Committee Chair – Greater Richmond Association for Commercial Real Estate (GRACRE)
- * Past President, past board member, and past Architectural Control Committee member – Kings Charter Owners Association
- * Eagle Scout
- * In my free time, I enjoy reading, hiking, camping, singing, and spending time with family and friends

I have always felt warmly welcomed at St. James the Less, which is a truly wonderful faith community that does truly amazing things. I would be extremely honored to serve on the vestry.