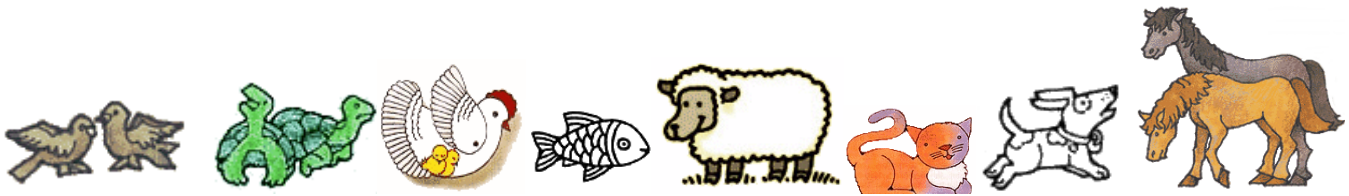


Newsletter of the Church of St. James the Less, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia  
125 Beverly Road Ashland, VA 23005 (804) 798-6336; Internet: [www.stjamestheless.com](http://www.stjamestheless.com)

### **The Blessing of the Animals & Holy Eucharist** **October 5<sup>th</sup> at the 10 a.m. Service**



The Blessing of the Animals and Holy Eucharist will take place outside in the picnic area (Brydon Hall if it rains) at St. James the Less. Bring your animals, leashed, caged or properly restrained.

### **For All the Saints**

A custom of the early Christian church was to celebrate the anniversary of a martyr's death. By the middle of the fourth century, a special feast day had been set aside as a day of remembrance for all martyrs in the Christian faith.

Eventually the Church marked the day to remember and celebrate not only martyrs but all the saints as well. Saints are those whose story of faith was known to the generations as well as those who are known to God alone. Saints also included those ordinary people of faith who nurtured and affected the lives of others, sometimes in simple but extraordinary ways.

Beginning in October, you are invited to continue in that ancient tradition of the church by printing the names of all the saints who have touched your life. A book will be found on a table in the library for you to write the names of all those "saints" you would like to remember and celebrate. Then on Sunday November 2, we will celebrate All Saints' Day (transferred from Nov. 1) by reading aloud all the names of those saints at Holy Eucharist.



## *Reflections of Ireland from Ed*

The umbrella was useless!

I tried to look ahead but the wind was so fierce it blew the biting cold Atlantic rain sideways, blinding my eyes, blistering my face, soaking every inch of life. I was trying to seek shelter ahead, though from a blurred glance the “shelter” looked like a pile of rocks.

Some yards further, fighting to stay upright, the pile of rocks seemed to take on the form of an up-turned boat. At last, ducking as I made it through the only opening in the rock pile, the wind ceased. Inside it was completely dry, the air calm. The gentle curve of the shelter’s stone walls met at the top, blending seamlessly one into the other. In this darkly lit bit of heaven, I had found shelter, safety and holiness.



Located in the western part of Ireland’s County Kerry, on the Dingle Peninsula, the *Gallarus Oratory* has stood undeterred for over 1200 years, exposed to the treacherous winds and weather of the Atlantic. The stone walls contain no mortar to hold them together. Built by the people who lived and worked in the surrounding fields and villages, the church was a sanctuary, “a thin place,” against all manner of storms.

When I began to think about it, the Gallarus Oratory, though separated by centuries, had much in common with St. James the Less. SJTL was built by people of faith in the surrounding community, who desired to pass their faith on to their children and their children’s children. The “stone walls” of this church are bound together by people who love God and reach out in ministry as Jesus did to serve others. People like you who, responding to the grace of the Holy Spirit, give as much from their pockets as they do from their prayer filled lives and hearts.

Each of us is a part of the “stone walls” creating this sacred and wonderful place known as St. James the Less. Each of us, young or seasoned, has been graced by God so we might share richly our ministry and blessings with others. That is what makes us strong. I hope you will join with me in continuing to support this church we love through your generous pledge of thanksgiving.

Thank you for all the gifts you share of time, ministry and money that enables St. James the Less to be a “brightly lit bit of heaven” not only for us and our children but for so many others seeking to find a place of holiness in the storms as well as in the calm seas of life.



## Heavenly Creations

It's time once again to prepare for our annual fundraiser, the Heavenly Creations Arts and Crafts Show held here at St. James the Less. The Show displays the work of 40+ regional artists. We have pottery, baskets, jewelry, furniture, quilting, carved and painted wood folk art, dried flowers and much more.

### **AND IT IS ALL HANDMADE!**

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

Friday, November 21 from 6pm to 9pm (Opening night wine and cheese reception)

Saturday, November 22 from 9am to 4pm

Sunday, November 23 from 9am to 1pm

We are thankful for all your support at past Shows. Last year the Show made over \$6,000, 1/3 went to the Church operating budget and 2/3 went to supplement Chenery Grant funds. We hope we can count on you to volunteer again this year.

### **WE NEED CASHIERS, INVENTORY PEOPLE, WRAPPERS AND GREETERS.**

PLEASE CONTACT RON AND DANI PETITT TO VOLUNTEER AT 798-6548, [rpetitt@localnet.com](mailto:rpetitt@localnet.com).

There will also be a sign-up list on the bulletin board next to the Choir room.

The Heavenly Creations Committee is excited about this year's Show and, with your help, we look forward to another successful year.

--Marcia Hill - 798-4615 - [mfill@hotmail.com](mailto:mfill@hotmail.com)

Are you a person who loves to make craft projects, knit, sew, etc.? The Heavenly Creations Art Show committee needs you! We are going to have a display area at the show (Nov. 21-23) where we will sell handmade, donated craft items made by our church members. Since the show comes close to December, items suitable for Christmas giving are very popular. 100% of the profit from the craft sale will be given to the church. If you have 1 or many items that you would like to donate, or if you have questions about what to make, please contact me right away.

**Your help is also greatly needed in stocking the Gourmet Food section.** Your offerings of jams, jellies, pickles, herbs and baked goods sell out very quickly, so donate a little extra if you can. These contributions are 100% profit for SJTL and are an important draw for the show. Thanks in advance!

--Jenny Bruce - 798-0922



Julie Ericksen asked me to share in the newsletter what I do as Executive Director of the clinic. I am happy to do so, but I must first confess that although I try very hard to hold these responsibilities to task, I have many shortcomings. It is because of the dedication and passion of all the volunteers, who donate their valuable time and talent, that we are able to function and flourish each week.

By my job description and "with a little help from my friends," I am to recruit, train and schedule volunteers; maintain time sheets; keep patient, clinic and provider records; oversee patient registration and administrative activities; track patients and special procedures; arrange transportation; coordinate with the Medical Director (Tom Hubbard), Administrative Director (Jane Jones), Nursing Director (Bobbie Street) Eye Care Director (Susan Chambers) and TPC Director (Julie Ericksen) to insure proper treatment of patients; insure funds are raised (Curtis Shifflett); receive and respond to donations made to the clinic (Susan Chambers); assure monetary donations are documented, and money is available and dispersed in a timely fashion (George Spagna); act as liaison between the clinic and the church, Social Services, the community, and police and rescue services; actively recruit community support (Richard Mallory); attend meetings of the Board and specialty care providers and work closely with the Chairman of the Board (Lee Chambers) to assure that all other issues are addressed in accordance with our mission statement.(whew!)

Of the things I do as Executive Director, my greatest joy comes in witnessing the patients and the volunteers alike who are raised up in their lives by this little clinic in the basement of St. James the Less Episcopal Church.

--Susan Hubbard

*If you are interested in making an ongoing pledge to the clinic or have any questions about making a donation, you can call our Board president, Lee Chambers at 798-6647 or send us a note with your intention. Checks, payable to "Saint James the Less Free Clinic", can be placed in the collection plate or mailed to us at "Saint James the Less Free Clinic, PO Box 117, Ashland, VA 23005". Thank you.*

*If you would like to call the clinic for an appointment, a question, to determine eligibility for services, or to volunteer please call 798-8890 and leave a message. We will call you back.*



**5th Annual 10K/5K ASHLAND HARVEST RUN**

Saturday, October 25th, 2008

Carter Park at 9:00

The Ashcake Woman's Club is sponsoring its 5th Annual Harvest Run. **Proceeds this year will go to St. James the Less Free Clinic and ACES.** If you are interested in running or walking you can register at [www.AshlandHarvestRun.com](http://www.AshlandHarvestRun.com). We also need volunteers to help during the run that day. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sally Temple at 227-3401.

Sally Temple  
SPED  
Elmont Elementary



## **Central Hanover Episcopal Church Women (ECW)**

The ECW of Central Hanover will meet at Fork Church at 11 am on Monday October 6. Bring a sandwich.

The 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and 119<sup>th</sup> United Thank Offering ingathering will be held at St. Stephen's, Richmond on Tuesday October 21. At this meeting, **St. James the Less Free Clinic, Inc.** will be recognized as one of the year's four "Viva Voce" award recipients. This fund, "By Word of Mouth", is one of the ECW's oldest. Its objective is "to implement the missionary work of the Church". Last year's recipients divided over \$3,600.00 for their ministries.

Complete information (registration, fee, parking, Viva Voce, Communion Alms, UTO grant, speaker, schedule and buffet lunch menu) is posted on the hallway bulletin board. Please **read and plan to attend** (registration deadline is October 6)!! If you cannot attend, your contributions to Viva Voce and Communion Alms are welcome; contributions may be left in the church office or given to Lula Hopkins. Thank you.

--Lula Hopkins

### **Schedule for 2008-2009**

October 6, 2008: Fork Church, Doswell. Bring a sandwich.

October 21, 2008: St. Stephen's, Richmond. Diocesan Annual Meeting.

November 3, 2008: St. Paul's, Hanover. Bring a sandwich.

December 1, 2008: St. James the Less, Ashland. Covered dish Christmas party.

January 2009: No meeting

February 2, 2009: Fork Church, Doswell. Covered dish.

March 2009: To Be Announced.

April 6, 2009: King William Tour-Whitehall-Indian museums. Lunch at Lucio C's.

May 4, 2009: St. James the Less, Ashland. Bring a sandwich.

Diocesan ECW's Spring Open Board Meeting: To Be Announced.

### ***The Lord Does Work in Mysterious Ways...***

N.B. Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control (like a real act of God) Claudia Merritt will not be coming to St. James the Less as assisting priest. A week before Claudia was to begin here, she unexpectedly received a call to join the staff of St. Stephen's in Richmond as full time Senior Associate Rector. She informed St. Stephen's that she had already signed a letter of agreement with SJTL to be assisting priest on a part time limited basis. With the SJTL rector and vestry's blessing, Claudia was released from her letter of agreement here and encouraged to accept the call at St. Stephen's. We pray God's blessing for Claudia in her new ministry with the people of God at St. Stephen's.

**In Our Parish Family:**

Transfers In: the Seymour family

Transfers Out: the Licata family

Congratulations to Nancy Chamlee! She has been awarded the Dedicated Service Award at Memorial Regional Medical Center. This is equivalent to the employee of the year.

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP**

**All students in 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade-Sundays from 6:00-7:30pm**

We had a fantastic first two weeks of youth group, with more than 20 youth each evening! The senior high youth group will be joining the parish retreat at ShrineMont over the week-end of September 19. Then we will be starting the first of our service projects, helping David Camden create beautiful clay bowls for Freedom House. On October 5, we will be sending out crews of youth to do some 'Random Acts of Raking Kindness.' Please contact Aleta if you know of someone in our parish who is not able to do get their yard raked and would benefit from the assistance of our youth. On October 12, the group will be going bowling; on October 26, we'll take our annual trip to Berry Farm, for some Halloween Fun!

On Sunday, September 14, we began preparations for a mission trip to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, over spring break 2009, to help with flood relief. This web-site from the CR Chamber of Commerce provides an overview of the impact of the flood and what they are doing to recover → <http://metro-studios.com/recovery/>. To get prepared by learning house-repair skills and safety, the youth would like to help out here, locally, as much as possible. For example, in November, they will be helping Hanover County with getting homes winterized. Please contact Aleta if you know how to fix things and know someone who needs help with their home (e.g., needs a hole in the wall repaired; needs a toilet replaced). What we would ask of you is to give a short safety and skill-building lesson to our youth and then guide them in conducting the repair.

For our youth group activity on Sunday, October 19, we will be doing our annual 'Scavenger Hunt' to collect items for both ACES and flood relief in Iowa. We'll be collecting personal items, school supplies, and other needed items. If you would like to contribute, please contact Aleta and let her know your name and street address. Then, on the evening of October 19, between 6:30-7:30pm, a team will come knocking at your door to ask for donated items. This is one of the favorite activities of our group and we hope you will participate by collecting some stuff and giving us a call!!

*If you haven't come to youth group before, give us a try! We celebrate and acknowledge everyone's unique gifts!*

--Aleta Meyer (380-7832 or [meyera2@nida.nih.gov](mailto:meyera2@nida.nih.gov))





## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

We had our annual kick-off picnic on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and had a great time. We have a small group again this year, but have gotten some boys in the group. Please remember we are always open to new youth joining us that do not belong to SJTL. Our meetings are on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30.

I would like to let everyone know who the youth advisors are for this year. Returning are PK Kinser and Vicki Morison. We have been joined by Tish Sanders. If you have any questions regarding our activities, please feel free to contact any of us.

This year we are looking for service opportunities. Right now we have planned to become more involved with the Outreach dinners and packing food in Aylett. If anyone has suggestions, please let us know. We already have on the calendar a trip to Shrine Mont in the spring.

Please remember our on-going newspaper recycle project. This money goes directly to the youth group.

A big thank you to the youth parents for their continued support. We are looking forward to a great year.

--PK Kinser, Vicki Morison, Tish Sanders

*"While we continue our search for a new nursery attendant, we are in great need of more volunteers, both adult and youth! Even one Sunday would make a real difference!"*

*"The St. Cecilia Choir will meet for a short practice each Sunday after the 10 a.m. service in either the junior high room or outside (weather permitting). While the group is geared toward our 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders, anyone is welcome to join us anytime! We had a nice turnout for their first performance at the Opening Day Picnic! The next performance will be Christmas Eve at the 5 p.m. service.*

*For more information, please contact Dan or Danah Massey at [masseycrew@comcast.net](mailto:masseycrew@comcast.net) or 550-7420. "*

## **HELP A.C.E.S. HELP**

**Ashland Christian Emergency Services (A.C.E.S.) is supported by local churches, to provide assistance to residents in need. Each one of us can help by bringing at least one can or jar of nutritious food to church. The first Sunday of each month is Food Offering Sunday. All the food placed in the basket in the Narthex is taken to A.C.E.S. and the Peter-Paul Development Center, and it is distributed to those who need it most. Also, clean clothing of all sizes, infant through large adult, makes excellent donations. Please help. If you have questions, call Lee and Susan Chambers at 798-6647.**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the **Bright Beginnings School Project**. Because of your efforts, 10 children in our community went to school with all of the supplies that they needed to begin a new year.

**October Outreach Dinner will be held Sunday, October 26**--we are planning a fall/harvest menu to include Chili and fixins, baked corn casserole, salad, cornbread, and apple and pumpkin pie. There will be a sign up sheet beginning October 12. Thank you for your continued support of this community ministry.

--Linda Ray



### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Alexia Miles, Brenda Baker, Tarik Sayed,  
Meredith Roemer
- 4 Clint Rose, Piper Shifflett
- 6 Charles Sanders Sr., Mary Lou Brown, Karen Fritter  
Harvey Johnson
- 9 Nancy Bugge, Charles Thompson, Matt Linkous
- 10 Joanne Flanagan, Tom Street, Rob Mau, Tahira Abaire
- 11 Helen Vaughan, Lindy Rodman, Deborah Sanders
- 13 Alice Cobb
- 14 Murphy Sprinkel, Morgaine Goettl-Meyer
- 15 Larson Flanagan
- 17 Carollyn Munford
- 19 Nancy Chamlee, Bob Chamlee, Chip Roberts,  
David Innes
- 20 Quinn Cauthorne
- 22 Jake Epperson, Sam Wallingford
- 23 Paul Feeley
- 24 Nancy Witt
- 25 Bob Batten, Tish Sanders
- 26 Mona Wade
- 27 Carol Johnson
- 30 Dick Walton, Maud Brumback

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*If your birthday has not been included, please contact the church office at 798-6336 so that it may be added to the list.*

### **Our Prayers Are Invited...**

**For those in need of healing:** DICK Walton;  
**for the homebound:** JOYCE Jeffers and NANCY Bugge;  
**for those serving in the military:** PATRICK Raney,  
TRENT Chelette, BRAYDEN Pleasants, CHRIS Abaire,  
SCOTT Feeley and C. DALE Reed;

**Relatives & Friends:** KEVIN Wagner (friend of the Mays), ANN Washburn Ford (friend of Betty Tharrington), BARRY Bittner (father of Julie Ericksen), DONNER Buchet (brother of Sally Walton), ROB DuPriest (friend of Ron & Condé Hopkins), BERNICE Petrak (friend of the Waltons), JAY Watt (friend) & TERRY Ling (mother) (of Kris Holt), ROBIN Smith & SANDIE Litsinger (former parishioners), JACKIE Whitehead (friend) & THOMAS Coleman (nephew) (of Madge Carter), SALLY Wright (friend of Pat Funk), LOGAN Monk (grandson of Rebecca Cauthorne), SHEILA & JAY Whiteford (family) & ROGER Herring (friend) (of the Hassells), MARY Bland Pamplon (cousin of Pat Temple), GINNY Tilton (friend of Ann Lawrence), COLIN Schaffer (friend of Charles Thompson), LEIGH Gray, GAIL Glavé & RODNEY Reed (friends of the Paces), KATIE Roberts (friend of the Browns), AVA Chung (niece of the Masseys), the family of MANDY Hullander Horne, JENNIFER Fry (friend of Ragan Phillips & Phyllis Theroux), the JAN Meacham family, CAREN Petersen (cousin of the Purmasirs), LOUISE Rison (mother of Townes), ADA Lewis (mother of Steve), KARL Meyer (father) & ILANA Berger (cousin) (of Aleta Meyer), MARLA Creasy (sister of Bettilee Kay), JENNIFER & DEREK Burton & GEORGE Waters (Lee Ann & Ed's family), JAN Abrams (friend of Melissa Roberts), ELIZA (daughter) & REINA Longaker (daughter-in-law) (of Lyde), NED Dillon (friend of Maud Brumback), ERNESTINE Nix (Nix family member), JUDY Thomas, ELWOOD Kelley & IRA Andrews (friends of the Flanagans).