

# the Spirit of St. James



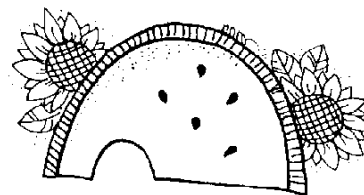
St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • JULY 2009

OUR MISSION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

***“We welcome all to receive God's love through Christ and  
to share it with the world.”***

## In This Edition Look for...

Office Notes	<i>Page 2</i>
Pastor's Note	<i>Page 3</i>
Worship Notes	<i>Pages 4-6</i>
Discipleship, Fellowship and Service	<i>Pages 7-9</i>
Member News	<i>Page 10</i>
Thank you Notes	<i>Page 11</i>
Council Info	<i>Page 11-12</i>



## SUMMER SCHEDULE

Worship

9 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship

10 a.m.

Holy Communion Weekly



## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**  
8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
CLOSED

## **TELEPHONE**

610-326-2810

[www.stjamespottstown.org](http://www.stjamespottstown.org)

## **STAFF**

### **Ministers**

Each and Every Member of St. James

### **Pastor**

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson

e-mail: [pastorh@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:pastorh@stjamespottstown.org)  
home 610-718-0313

### **Director of Discipleship**

Suzanne Rigg

e-mail: [srigg@thehill.org](mailto:srigg@thehill.org)  
office 610-326-2810  
home 610-970-4865

### **Secretary**

Darlene Jackson

e-mail: [secretary@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:secretary@stjamespottstown.org)

### **Director of Music Ministries**

Sharon MacCabe

email: [sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net](mailto:sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net)  
office: 610-326-2810

### **Custodian**

Glenn Yerger

contact: 610-326-2810

### **Missionaries**

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson  
Kathmandu, Nepal

### **Newsletter Editor**

Dawn Detweiler  
[newsletterstj@wi.rr.com](mailto:newsletterstj@wi.rr.com)

## **OFFICE NOTES**

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### **Master Calendar / Room Scheduling**

All room reservations, including committee meetings and private gatherings, should be made with Darlene in the office. Please indicate to her any need for room rearrangement, (extra chairs, tables) so proper preparations can be made.

### **Newsletter Deadline for August 2009 Edition: July 15, 2009**

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to [newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org) or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

### **Altar Flowers, Eternal Light Bulletin Sponsorships**

The cost for each sponsorship is \$15 for eternal light, \$30 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone interested. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table. Cash or check payment can be placed in offering or turned in to the office.

### **A Reminder from the Archives Committee**

If you have any photos from any church related events that can be shared, please see that the Archive Committee receives them. We are looking for past & future events. Also, if possible, please try to identify the people in the photos. Thanks!

## A Note From Pastor Hutchinson

Every year on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Americans celebrate the freedoms which we have. These freedoms did not come easily or without sacrifice and suffering. Those who came before us secured our freedoms, often through the giving of themselves and even death for a cause greater than themselves. They fought to release us from being tethered to the rules and rulers of the old world. And because of that, we are right to pause and give thanks and honor for what they have done. It's those freedoms that have helped to make our nation a place where good things can freely flourish.

But the freedom of a Christian person is, in some ways, a little different. Being free people of God does not mean that we live to simply do what we want and pursue our own happiness. To be free as a Christian means that we are no longer tethered to the old ways and bound to obedience to the rules. The old ways make us slaves to self-interest because we worry that we may not have enough of what we need (or more often, what we want). The old ways make us serve our fears and insecurities that turn us away from or even against God ways and away from or against our neighbors out of suspicion. The old ways make being good in the eyes of God about following rules, instead of trusting in His grace and guidance through them. In short, the old ways make sin our master so that we can never be fully independent people of God.

But through the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, we are given independence from sinfulness; first by granting us forgiveness and then by freeing us to embrace that love and grace of God so as to live in ways that fully appreciate our new found freedom. We are then free to stop worrying about ourselves and begin to be more concerned with others.

Then, we become free from our fears that seek to promote self gain and can begin to serve others who have much less than we do.

Then, we are free to cease holding grudges and harboring anger and suspicions about people, and escape that trap by granting them the same grace and forgiveness we have been given. The freedom of a Christian is not about doing whatever we want, but about freely and without thinking, doing what God wants. And it's that freedom that makes us truly happy people.

You know, one of the great things about the freedoms that Americans have, is that we wish for others to share those freedoms. As Christians, we can help move others towards the same freedoms that Christ has granted us, by sharing our freedom to love others without the restriction we ourselves impose on ourselves. So celebrate that day of American freedom on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, but celebrate your freedom as a Christian every day of the year!

*Pastor*

### **Bible Study with Pastor**

This month Pastor will be having a **bible study on the New Testament book of Galatians**. This polemic writing of the apostle Paul, makes arguments about what is true and proper doctrine according to the understanding of the earliest believers in Jesus Christ.

The study will be held on the **four Tuesday nights and Thursday mornings of July (7<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup>)**.

**So invite a friend and join in either on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. in the downstairs class right next to the church office or 10 a.m. on Thursday mornings at Sanatoga Ridge Retirement Community. See you then!**

# WORSHIP NOTES

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## The Feast of St. James Sunday, July 26, 2009

Each year we continue to celebrate The Feast of St. James on the Sunday closest to the actual date of the festival (July 25<sup>th</sup>) in honor of the namesake of our church, the apostle, James. This year that will be Sunday, July 26. You may recall that the disciple James, along with his brother John, wanted to have seats of glory next to Jesus, who then told them that whoever wishes to become great must become a servant (see Mark 10:43-45). James may not have understood what it meant to be a disciple of Christ early on in his following of Jesus, but he certainly did understand later. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

We mark The Feast of St. James as both a day to remember and to celebrate our calling as disciples of Christ. So please plan to join us on this special day of worship.

## St. James Picnic July 26, 2009



## Church Picnic

The St. James Picnic will be held on "The Feast of St. James Sunday" at the Warwick County Park!

Meats and drinks will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish/dessert to share and lawn or folding chairs. There will be games for all ages and an all-around good time is sure to be had. If you would like to attend please sign up in Horn Hall by July 19. **For more information, please see the attached flyer.**

## Third Sunday Offering JULY Recipient



## School Uniform Program of the Cluster Outreach Center

This month's Third Sunday Offering will benefit the Cluster Outreach Center in support of their School Uniform Program. The goal of this program is to provide one or more uniforms to school age children in need living in the Pottstown Area. Getting ready to go back to school each fall can often be a financial burden on families. With school supplies and clothes needing to be bought, a family can easily spend hundreds of dollars a year on getting their children ready for another school year. This often creates distress for many families who already struggle to provide for the basic needs. Families and their children will greatly benefit from your help. Please consider helping to support this local ministry.

## Third Sunday Offering Schedule

AUGUST – Global Mission/Missionaries  
SEPTEMBER – Lutheran World Relief  
OCTOBER – Cluster Outreach Center  
NOVEMBER – Open to allow for offering for current need, i.e. hurricane relief.  
DECEMBER – ELCA World Hunger



Next Rejoicing Spirits worship  
at St. James

**Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at 7 p.m.**

Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities it is also open to everyone in the community. If you have not had a chance to come and worship with us, give it a try and see for yourself the love and joy that is shared among all who attend.

### **Coming in August**



### **Rejoicing Spirits Cookout August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.**

Come join us for food and fellowship as we enjoy time together with members of our Rejoicing Spirits community. We will have hot dogs off the grill, root beer floats and other munchies.

### **Brand New - First Time Ever Offered!**

**Senior Vacation Bible School  
Grace Happens  
August 3 – 7, 2009**

**St. James Lutheran Church**

**9:30 a.m. – Noon  
Lunch follows**

This is a week long program open to **individuals ages 62 and older** that explores the topic of grace. The program includes:

**Worship  
Music  
Crafts  
Games  
Bible Study  
Noon-time Meal**

The bible study will be based on the book *What Is So Amazing About Grace* by Philip Yancey. It has a video portion that includes interviews with Tony Campolo, Patricia Raybon, Ann Spangler, Debbie Morris, Lewis Smedes, and Mel White.

Music will include some old-time favorite songs about grace and a few new ones too. Everyone will have the opportunity to participate with games and crafts and there will be plenty of fellowship time to catch up with friends or to make new ones.

Register for **Senior Vacation Bible School by completing a registration form, which is located on the resource table in Horn Hall**, or call the church office at 610-326-2810. Space is limited.

Anyone interested in helping with registration, crafts or in the kitchen can contact Suzanne for more information at 610-326-2810 or [srigg@thehill.org](mailto:srigg@thehill.org).



**CALLED  
TO SHARE  
HIS  
LIGHT**

**Temple Talk  
Capital Campaign-Year Three Kick-off  
Sunday, June 14, 2009**

- 1894- decision was made to establish the St. James congregation
- 1916- decision was made to build this sanctuary at High and Price Streets
- 2006- decision made to undertake major renovations to preserve and upgrade our facilities

Each of these events is a milestone in the life of St. James Lutheran Church. Shortly after the most recent decision we undertook a capital campaign to pay for the improvements. The theme "Called to Share His Light" was developed by the Capital Campaign Committee since it best described the mission of this congregation and the legacy of the first 100 years. We kicked off the campaign and the work with a celebration two years ago this month.

The work proceeded through 2007 and much of 2008. The impact of the renovations was both subtle-the power-washed exterior walls and the freshly painted sanctuary and very profound-the protective covers and repairs to the beautiful stained glass windows, a reconfigured chancel area, the lights in Horn Hall and the long awaited elevator. Now that the work is complete I think we all agree that we have facilities that are appealing and functional. Hopefully they are well suited for the weather and the wear and tear of the next 100 years.

While we watched the improvements being made the contributions-regular payments and one time gifts- flowed in at a steady pace. As we begin the third year of this capital campaign receipts total \$385,103. A letter sent to all members dated May 26 outlines opportunities for gifts honoring or memorializing an individual or family. We also invite you to consider including St. James as a recipient of a special gift or beneficiary in your estate plan.

We would not have made it this far in the fundraising effort without the prayers and participation of everyone in this congregation as well as former members and friends. Therefore we want to thank you for all that you have done and encourage you to continue to support the campaign in any way you can. The decision by each of us to continue our support will be the next milestone in the life of St. James Lutheran Church.

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## Next Miller-Keystone Blood Drive

Our next scheduled blood drive will be on **Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>** in Horn Hall. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Ellen Ibach at 610-323-4477.



## Blood Pressure Checks

*Now on the Second Sunday of the month*

Stay well! Blood Pressure checks will be on **July 12<sup>th</sup>** after the 9 a.m. service. Going forward blood pressure checks will continue to be held on the second Sunday of the month.

## Salvation Army Community Lunch

Each second Wednesday of the month a group of volunteers from St. James prepares and serves the community lunch at the Salvation Army. Help is needed at different times between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.

## News from the Pottstown Cluster

Current needs for the food pantry include: **spaghetti sauce, jelly, new born size diapers, formula** and for the clothing closet: **girls shirts (size small), girls and boys socks (all sizes); girls and boys underwear (sizes 3-8).**

Donations for the Cluster can be brought to St. James and placed in the basket located in Horn Hall or in the basket by the lower level mailboxes located at the bottom of the stairs closest to the parking lot. Donations can also be taken directly to the Cluster.

### Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities

137 Walnut Street Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 970-5995

Hours of Operation:  
Monday - Friday,  
9 AM-12 Noon

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year St. James will not be sponsoring a VBS for kids, but children of St. James are invited to participate in the VBS program at St. John Lutheran Church. Below is the date, location, time and contact information:

St. John Lutheran Church  
75 East Main St. Pottstown  
August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>  
5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Dinner included  
610-326-1120

## Women of the ELCA Upper MontCo Summer Bible Study

**Tuesday, July 21, 2009**

**"MARY: Lessons in Motherhood"**

Ruth Nice, Presenter

Wife of the Rev. Donald Nice, Retired

Please join the women of the Upper Montgomery Cluster for a **breakfast at the Pottstown Diner at 9 a.m.** Bring a friend.

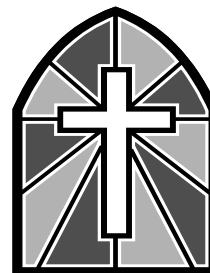
Individual orders will be taken and checks given. The study will begin around 10 a.m. when we have finished breakfast. This study appears in June's and July/August's issues of Lutheran Women Today. If you are a subscriber please bring you issues with you and also read the article on Mary.

If you plan to attend, please **call Marilyn Linkiewicz at 610-639-7652 before July 15.**

**The 2009-2010 study will begin on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.** The meeting will be held at Manatawny Manor, Old Schuylkill Rd, Pottstown. Sister Jane Roper, chaplain at Manatawny Manor, will introduce the study of "Romans: To God's Beloved." The Women of St. James will hostess this meeting.

### **Looking to be involved with the life and ministry of St. James?**

Forms are available in Horn Hall if you would like to join or get more information on a ministry, team or way to serve. The green forms are located on the resource table of Horn Hall and once completed can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the office.



**CALLED  
TO SHARE  
HIS  
LIGHT**

### ***Save the Date***

**October 16, 2009**

**St. James Auction Night**

*All proceeds go towards the capital campaign.*

Food available beginning at 5 p.m.

Silent Auction begins at 5 p.m.

Live Auction begins at 7 p.m.

Donations of all kinds (hand-crafted items, gift cards or certificates, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, art, etc.) are being accepted for the auction. Your imagination is the limit!

**If you would like to make a donation,** please complete a donation form attached to this newsletter and return it to Annette Renn or the church office. If you have any questions you can contact Annette at 610-970-7499 or [arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com](mailto:arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com).

**If you would like to help with the planning and organizing of the auction** in any way, please contact Carol Keller at 610-326-1013.

## Movie Nights - Tuesday Evenings in August



Once again we will take time out each week during the month of August to enjoy '**Movie Night**' at St. James. This is a time, not just to watch a good movie, but to also see where some discussion of God, a glimpse of God's nature, or the message of the Gospel and the story of Jesus Christ, can be found in films. So movies that do not prompt or promote that are not considered. But neither are films that are explicitly 'Christian' or which deliberately try to convey a religious message. Our intention is to help us look for God and Christ and the gospel in places where we might otherwise not look and where it may not be intentionally presented but where, through the power of the Holy Spirit, it is nonetheless there for us!

The lineup for this summer is as follows:

**'A Walk in the Clouds'** (Tuesday, August 4) – A heartwarming story of a pregnant but unmarried young girl who is befriended by a returning war veteran on a bus ride home to her parents (her father is the wealthy owner of a large vineyard). Through an unexpected encounter with the young man she finds him to be a chivalrous gentleman, and so she asks him to briefly come with her and pretend to be her husband to avoid the father's rage over her situation. He reluctantly agrees to this charade, which then leads to a humorous but serious love story that almost never happens. This movie reflects biblical themes of forgiveness, redemption, and the second chances that grace can bring to all of us. It's rated PG 13.

**'Gran Torino'** (Tuesday, August 11) – Clint Eastwood directs and stars in this film about a retired autoworker who sees the world around him changing dramatically. Hunkered down in his home, he watches for encroachment from the new immigrant Asian population that has moved into the area. With an "Archie Bunker type" attitude, he protects what is his, and especially his fully restored Ford Gran Torino that is his pride and joy. But his encounters with his new neighbors reveals some new things to him and, by the end of the film, opens his eyes to seeing the world and those in it in a different light. It's a film that helps us to see the face of God in all people, especially those we consider to be "others" and even those whom we hate. This film has a little violence and some offensive language and so is rated R.

**'Young @ Heart'** (Tuesday, August 18) – A delightful film about an ensemble of senior citizens who are formed together by a musical director to become a singing group called 'The Young @ Heart Chorus'. This group of elderly persons ends up thrilling their audiences with performances of, ...not Tony Bennett songs, ... but rock and roll songs! The ups and downs of the effort that goes into their preparations, as well as the poignant moments that reflect both the worth as well as the frustration of growing old, will make you smile, laugh and maybe even cry a bit. It's a great film to remind us of the value we each hold in the eyes of God. It's rated PG.

**'Paradise Now'** (Tuesday, August 25) – Khaled and Saiad are two Palestinians who are recruited to be sent to the Israeli section of their community as suicide bombers. Although initially sympathetic to the cause of their people and even to the violence used to promote that, the two are simple and regular guys (garage auto mechanics). They are best friends, have families who they love, and one is even beginning to fall in love with a young girl who does not agree with their ideas. The truth is, *they* are not even sure they agree with their ideas and they struggle with the prospect of their becoming martyrs. The movie humanizes them as they prepare for the horrible event in ways that are sometimes stressful and at other times subtly humorous. But the film raises the question of how God could advocate or endorse such violent activities and how human political aspirations can use faith and religion in ways that may conflict with what God really wants. This film is rated PG-13.

***Drinks and snacks are provided each evening.***

# MEMBER NEWS

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**Congratulations to Jaclyn Marie Bealer** who affirmed her baptism on June 7, 2009.



## Welcome to our new members

On June 7 we received the following individuals into membership:

**Sister Jane Roper**  
**Lani Goins** and her daughters **Sam and Lara**  
**Misha and Larry Hutchison** and their sons,  
**Justin, Ian Derek**  
**David French** and his daughter **Stephanie**



## July Birthdays

**2** – Bill Rex, Dennis Rolando, Deborah Stein;  
**3** – James Stein; **4** – Bob Clouser; **6** -  
Doris Myers; **7** – David Lapreziosa, Leslie  
Stott; **8** – Millie Casner, Shanon Hoehne;  
**9** – Madison Smith; **10** – Amy Jones, Michael  
Noll, Herb Ziegler; **12** – Brian Culp; **16** – Alex  
Hoffman; **18** – Ava Byers, Ed VanBuren; **20** -  
Shirley VanBuren; **21** – Marie Haller, Wes  
Moyer; **22** – Darlene Medvetz, Ruby Starling;  
**23** – Kelly Hefner, Mary Rigg, Jeffrey Stott; **26**  
– Christine Bealer; **28** – Dylan Rolando, Tyler  
Rolando; **29** – Ron Stott; **30** – Kathryn Geist

## Change of Address:

**Susan Cameron**  
10 West 2nd Street  
1st floor  
Pottstown, PA 19464.

## Memorial Gift

A memorial gift was given to the church towards the purchase of the organ accompaniment for the liturgical music and communion settings of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal by Pam Irwin and Josh Irwin In Memory of Thomas Iaquinto.

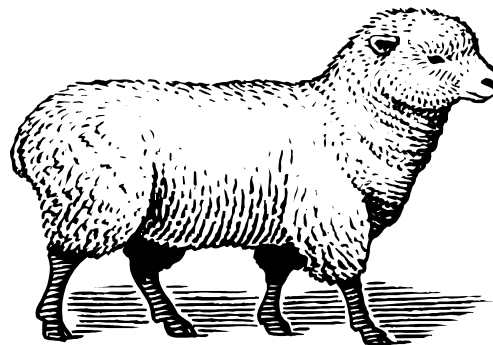
## Needed: Good Shepherds

**Job Duties:** Caring, leading, forgiving, serving, gathering others into the fold.

**Qualifications preferred:** love, brave, friend,

**Compensation and benefits:** peace, comfort

**To apply:** You just did! Love the Lord and love one another.



*Contributed by the adult study class.*

## Thank You Notes

Thanks to Ron Schaffer for putting to use his gifts and skills as a lover and caretaker of books when he recently repaired the Church's Pulpit Bible. The binding had become somewhat damaged and pages were falling out, but after his craftsmanship it's as good as new!

Thank you to the Altar Guild for their work over the few past months with the work required to change the paraments for the different colors of the seasons/feast days.

St. James would like to thank our team captain Pat Baer and the participants of our Relay for Life team for their terrific effort.

**THANK YOU**

## Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, contact one of the following elected Council members.

Pat Baer - President 610-326-8598  
Email: [pattedbaer@verizon.net](mailto:pattedbaer@verizon.net)

Cyndi Krasley- Vice-President  
484-945-0165

Barbara Ungerman - Secretary  
610-718-9368  
Email: [bungerman@comcast.net](mailto:bungerman@comcast.net)

Vickie Kirsten 484-300-4915  
Email: [vjkirsten@comcast.net](mailto:vjkirsten@comcast.net)

Sherry Clancy - Treasurer 610-323-5977  
Email: [srclancy@comcast.net](mailto:srclancy@comcast.net)

Ron Schafer 610-326-4814  
Email: [ronslibrary@comcast.net](mailto:ronslibrary@comcast.net)

Mike Lunn 610-367-8762  
Email: [lunns2@dejazzd.com](mailto:lunns2@dejazzd.com)

Julie Hauck 610-385-7308  
Email: [jlynne65@ptd.net](mailto:jlynne65@ptd.net)

Scott Strichik 610-327-3108  
Email: [sstrichik@verizon.net](mailto:sstrichik@verizon.net)

Laurie O'Connell 610-323-5787  
Email: [loconnelljr@concast.net](mailto:loconnelljr@concast.net)

Tracie Rheel 610-323-7051  
Email: [trheel@comcast.net](mailto:trheel@comcast.net)

Candy Koons 610-327-0458  
Email: [itp494@aol.com](mailto:itp494@aol.com)

Carol Keller 610-326-1013  
Email: [mycourt33@comcast.net](mailto:mycourt33@comcast.net)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

	<u>Mar-09</u>	<u>Apr-09</u>	<u>May-09</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 24,032.63	\$ 32,152.43	\$ 21,111.94	\$ 117,688.63
Expenses	<u>26,384.57</u>	<u>31,473.30</u>	<u>29,429.03</u>	<u>138,944.60</u>
Net Income	(\$2,351.94)	\$679.13	(\$8,317.09)	(\$21,255.97)
<i><u>Regular Envelopes</u></i>				
Received	\$18,149.50	\$22,374.00	\$18,423.20	\$89,885.87
Needed*	<u>19,739.69</u>	<u>19,739.69</u>	<u>19,739.69</u>	<u>98,698.81</u>
Over (Under)	(\$1,590.19)	\$2,634.31	(\$1,316.49)	(\$8,812.94)
<i><u>Third Sunday Offering</u></i>				
	Pottstown Cluster	Visiting Nurse Association	Volunteer Home Care	
Collected	\$343.36	\$344.00	\$348.00	
<i><u>Capital Campaign</u></i>				
	<u>Mar-2009</u>	<u>Apr-2009</u>	<u>May-2009</u>	<u>Total Campaign</u>
Income	\$8,054.00	\$7,437.00	\$9,681.00	\$341,831.24

\*Amount required to balance the budget.



**CALLED  
TO SHARE  
HIS  
LIGHT**

**October 16, 2009  
St. James Auction Night  
Donation Form**

St. James will be sponsoring both a silent auction and a live auction with all proceeds benefitting our capital campaign.

We hope that you will consider donating an item for one of the auctions on October 16, 2009. **Donations of all kinds (hand-crafted items, gift cards or certificates, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, art, labor, dinners, etc.) are being accepted for both auctions.** Your imagination is the limit of what can be donated!

If you would like to donate an item please complete this form and return it to Annette Renn or the office. **If you have any questions you can contact Annette at 610-970-7499 or [arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com](mailto:arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com).**

**Please use one form per donation.** Additional forms can be obtained by contacting the church office – 610-326-2810.

**Name of donor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Item being donated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of item:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate dollar value/worth of item:** \_\_\_\_\_