

the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 ? (610) 326-2810 ? OCTOBER 2006

OUR VISION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
*“To Be, and to Become, a Worshiping, Caring, Teaching,
and Outreaching Congregation.”*

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Sunday Schedule

Worship
8 and 10:45 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship
9 a.m.

Adult Education Classes
9:30 a.m.

Children's Church
10:45 a.m.

Communion Weekly

1896-2006 St. James Lutheran Church - Celebrating 110 Years of Ministry
Emphasizing Our Vision to Be an Outreaching Congregation



OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. – noon

TELEPHONE

610-326-2810
Fax: 610-326-1025
www.stjamespottstown.org

STAFF

Ministers

Each and Every Member of St. James

Pastor

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson
e-mail: pastorh@stjamespottstown.org
home 610-718-0313

Director of Discipleship

Suzanne Rigg
e-mail: srigg@thehill.org
office 610-326-2810
home 610-970-4865

Secretary

Pam Lloyd
e-mail: plloyd@stjamespottstown.org

Director of Music Ministries

Sharon MacCabe
Email: sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net
Office: 610-326-2810

Custodian

Larry Kehler
home: 610-327-2238

Missionaries

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson
Kathmandu, Nepal

Newsletter Editor

Dawn Detweiler
newsletterstj@wi.rr.com

OFFICE NOTES

Master Calendar / Room Scheduling

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

Newsletter Deadline for November Edition: October 15, 2006

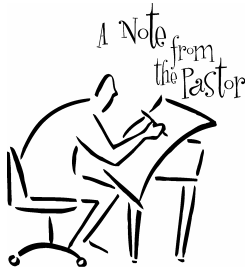
Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

Weekly Bulletin Announcements Now on the Website

Weekly bulletin announcements now can be found on St. James' website under the **new section called News, Needs and Calendar**. This section will be updated weekly with new information available from week to week. Check it out for yourself **at www.stjamespottstown.org**.

Prayer List

If you have anyone who you would like to add to the prayer list, or if a name should be removed from the current prayer list, please note this by using the yellow communication cards found in the pews or by contacting Suzanne Rigg at 610-970-4865.



As I sit and write this, it's a Sunday right after second service. I am tired and hot and sweaty and somewhat emotionally drained after worshipping this morning. I am looking forward to going home to relax and to watch the Eagles (hopefully win) and doing the other pleasant things that accompany a Sunday afternoon.

But while I plan to exit, I see outside my office some people who regularly and faithfully do an often, thankless job each and every week. They are the "Money Counters team."

Like it or not, while the Holy Spirit of God in Christ makes the church go, it is the collection and counting, and use of the financial resources that we could easily call the life blood of our work at St. James. All of our great ministries, the worship services, the building and grounds, and the fellowship here would not be possible without the generous gifts that we present in our offerings to God for Him to use through this church. But after the giving, there must be the counting.

I imagine it can be monotonous and not really a lot of fun to do. But I know that it is important that we keep our records in the area of finances sound. The dedicated Money Counters who each week give their time while the rest of us have gone home or out to lunch, and those who help on Monday mornings when church things are off the mind of most of the rest of us, are an important part of helping to keep things going at St. James.

So on behalf of all of us, here's one thank you to them for their great (and often unappreciated) work. Know that it is appreciated!

Pastor's Bible Study



Study sessions continue this month with class on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the church, and again at Sanatoga Ridge Community on Thursday morning at 10 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts are provided at the Thursday morning class. (Thank you once more to all who provide these treats)!

In October the study will be concluding its look at the Book of Job from the Old Testament and then look at the Book of Lamentations with a short one-week study. This session ends the week of October 15, 2006 with last meetings on October 17/19.

We will take two weeks off and then begin a study to lead us into Advent of the birth stories of Jesus from the two gospels that speak of that; Matthew and Luke. That will begin on Thursday, November 2nd and Tuesday the 9th running for six weeks also, until mid December. (We will skip the Thursday morning session on Thanksgiving).

Please remember that you need no prior bible knowledge or even to be a member of

WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday Morning Adult Education Opportunities

Living the Good News

Each week as a class, the group will take an in-depth look at the Bible readings heard that week in worship while discovering and learning to share God's Word. The class will meet weekly in the Adult Study classroom. Individuals can join this class anytime throughout the year.

Christianity and Islam: Comparing and Contrasting These Two Faiths

This study is a four-week study of basic and foundational differences and similarities between Christianity and Islam. Viewpoints will be presented by both Christian and Muslim scholars. The class will be held in the Blue Room and ends October 8, 2006.

Supervision and activities are available for children Kindergarten through fifth grade who have parents or guardians attending either one of these classes.

There will be no adult education on Sunday, October 15 due to Commitment Sunday.

Commitment Sunday

We look forward to **Commitment Sunday** on **October 15, 2006**. Pastor Janet Corpus will present a special message and members will be asked to make financial commitments for the upcoming year to support the work and operations of St. James. Please consider how God is leading you with regard to this decision. Temple talks on October 1 and 8 will focus on this issue.

A celebration brunch (no charge) will be held after each service. This is a wonderful time for fellowship! You will have the opportunity to complete a reservation form in worship on October 1 and 8 or you can also let Pam Lloyd, Church Secretary, know if you will attend. Please be aware that if we do not receive a response from you by Oct 8, we will contact you. We encourage everyone to participate in this special day!



Third Sunday Offering OCTOBER Recipient The Cluster Outreach Center

This month's third Sunday offering will benefit the Cluster Outreach Center. The Cluster Outreach Center is a ministry of The Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities, which represents over 60 congregations in an interfaith effort to provide for the needs of the community. The Outreach Center is a tangible expression of God's love in our world today. For the first half of this year, the Cluster Outreach Center has served 16,230 persons by providing over \$11,000 in financial assistance, serving over 7,800 persons through Community Meals and providing food, furniture and clothing to 8,150. Without the support of the faith communities of Pottstown this would not have been possible.

Blessing of the Animals October 8, 2006

In celebration of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, there will be a blessing of the animals at the home of Ted and Pat Baer (on Rambler Avenue, across from the church parking lot) on **Sunday, October 8, 2006 at 5 p.m.** You are welcome to bring pets and animals of all sizes and varieties to receive a blessing.

Convinced that Christ identified with the poor and the needy, St. Francis abandoned his own wealth and began to serve the poor. He ministered to lepers, worked in the field with the migrant workers, and opened soup kitchens for the homeless. He believed that the entire cosmos is an agent of evangelism, including animals.

The Lutheran Course

Starting: October 29, 2006
Sundays: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Ending: December 10, 2006



Why is Luther winking? Come and find out by taking The Lutheran Course starting on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2006 and **lasting for seven weeks.** Sessions will be held from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Blue Room.

Based on The Lutheran Handbook, The Lutheran Course takes you through the fundamentals of Lutheranism in seven sessions. Each session features a large group DVD presentation with top-notch theologians, followed by discussion by the whole group. A sense of humor is critical.

Registration is required for this course. The **cost to register is \$10 per household** (or there is no cost if you already have The Lutheran Handbook in your household). Registration begins on Sunday, September 10 at the Ministry Fair and then after worship for the following weeks. **Registration deadline is Sunday, October 15, 2006.** This will be great for new Lutherans, old Lutherans, and anyone in between.

The 7 Sessions:

"How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel" - Topic: Law and Gospel; DVD Presenter: James Nestingen, professor of Church History at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

"Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation" - Topic: Lutheran Reformation; DVD Presenter: Ken Sundet Jones, assistant professor of Philosophy and Religion at Grand View College in Des Moines, IA

"The Anatomy of a Baptism" - Topic: Baptism; DVD Presenter: Winston Persaud, professor of Systematic Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA

"How to Receive Communion" - Topic: Communion; DVD Presenter: Foster McCurley, professor (emeritus) of Old Testament and Hebrew at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, PA.

"The Three most Rebellious Things Jesus Did" - Topic: Jesus; DVD Presenter: Barbara Rossing, professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, IL.

"How to Read the Bible" - Topic: Bible; DVD Presenter: Rolf Jacobson, assistant professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

"How to Share your Faith with Someone" - Topic: Evangelism; DVD Presenter: Kelly Fryer, assistant professor of Congregational Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.



We give thanks to God that more and more Rejoicing Spirits ministries are starting all over the country allowing more of God's children to know of God's great love for them. The growing number of Rejoicing Spirits ministries has led to numerous requests for the directions on how to make the Rejoicing Spirits banner that hangs in our sanctuary, and had its origin here at St. James.

Tracie Rheel designed the banner and had it made for our own Rejoicing Spirits ministry. Since then, other Rejoicing Spirits churches have seen pictures of the banner, and the requests keep flowing in. David Hartzman will also be taking the banner with him when he travels to St. Louis, MO for the Disability Network of Lutheran Services of America's conference "One God One Call."

This banner has become one of the many things that St. James' Rejoicing Spirits has become known for among the community churches participating in this ministry. We thank Tracie again for taking the initiative in having this banner made, and helping us, and others, to provide a worship service where individuals with developmental disabilities can come and sing, pray, and find love and acceptance.

October's Rejoicing Spirits worship is the **second Wednesday of the month, October 11 at 7 p.m.** Remember that even though 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.

New Director of Music Ministries, Sharon MacCabe

On October 1, 2006 our new Director of Music Ministries, Sharon MacCabe will begin. Sharon is an accomplished musician who will play the organ and piano at worship as well as lead the Chancel and Bell Choirs. She also plays other instruments including the guitar and the harpsichord and has led choirs, both large and small in performances. In addition to this, Sharon plans to involve the youth in the music of St. James and introduce music into many aspects of our ministries beyond worship services. She intends to bring to St. James a variety of musicians and performers to enhance our music program.



Sharon graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and West Chester University School of Music and has served in numerous congregations (Lutheran and others) over the past 27 years. She is employed as a teacher at the Kimberton Waldorf Music School and lives with her husband and two children in Royersford.

Please join in welcoming her when she begins to serve St. James on Sunday, October 1.

Grace Matters

Tune your radio in to Grace Matters. For 30 minutes each Sunday the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America offers a fresh expression of Christian radio. Join host Peter Marty and his guests for engaging interviews, biblical meditations, colorful commentary and life-changing stories. Tune in on Sundays at 7 a.m. on WNTF 990 AM. Listen, and be renewed by God's amazing grace.



Wedding Invitation

The Mitchell family would like to extend a warm invitation to our many wonderful friends at St. James who are interested in attending the wedding of Thomas Mitchell and Jessica Derrick to be held on **Saturday, October 7th at 2:30 p.m.** at St. James. We know many of you have been following this engagement closely and have expressed a desire to be a part of this special day. We hope to see many of you there, sharing in this celebration of love. Thank you for all of your many kindnesses, support and prayers. We are deeply and sincerely touched by everyone's thoughtfulness.

New Light That Shines



We are in the process of converting the wax candles that have been used in worship in the Chancel area to new oil-filled candles. These new candles have several advantages over the old ones. For one, our altar area will better reverence and respect God as these new candles will never burn down and become wee little candles. Additionally they will always stand straight because they comfortably fit into their holder.

The oil-filled candles will be cleaner, with no wax dripping on the candlesticks or onto the floor. They will be easier for our acolytes to light, as the wicks on the new candles will not get squashed down when they are put out (as sometimes happens with the wax candles).

Aside from the fact that the oil-filled candles should be cost efficient in the long run and save us some money, they look at least as attractive as the old ones.

Presently, we have used an oil-filled candle for our Paschal (Christ) Candle for the last year, and now these new candles will replace the altar candles, the candelabra candles, and the lectern candles. On Christmas Eve and other times when we place candles throughout the church, regular wax candles will be used.

The new oil-filled candles were purchased from **memorial funds pledged to honor the memory of Betty Schurr**, who died just a year ago in June.

We thank the Altar Guild for their help and cooperation in utilizing these new candles and Barbara Ungerman in particular for securing them for us to use. A thanks also goes to Bob Rheel for making the stand that holds the candles when they are being filled.

DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

WELCA News

The WELCA FALL Rummage sale here at the "Red Door Boutique" is coming October 2nd and 3rd so get ready now!!! Have your CLEAN, ready-to-use items gathered to bring to the church on Sunday, October 1. Place them in Horn Hall, in the marked area, and plan to shop!!

Remember, as you clean and gather your special items, if there are tags or tickets still attached, do NOT remove those! It's helpful if you place those items in a separate bag. We add these new tagged items to our annual In-Gathering .

Shopping for St. James members will be Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. The sale opens for the public Tuesday from 9 to noon and then 12:30 to 1:30.

Tell your friends about this event! They, in turn, tell all their friends and co-workers they shop at the "Red Door Boutique" and find WONDERFUL items two times a year!!

WELCA's Meeting Schedule

The date of WELCA's next meeting is **October 16 at 7 p.m. - VISTA - Project HEARTH** - Come learn how you can help elderly adults stay in their homes, or how your friends and family are able to have transportation and light tasks performed.

The schedule of meetings for WELCA is posted on the WELCA bulletin board in Horn Hall with other information relating to WELCA.

WELCA ~YWCA Parent Network Holiday Gift Program

WELCA is looking for your help in supplying the personal care items that we collect for the YWCA Parent Network Group Holiday Gift Bags. Here is a list of Items:
bar soap, toothpaste, tooth brush, Q-tips, Band Aids, dental floss, pocket tissue packs, small tablets, nail files / emery boards, nail polish, costume jewelry, disposable razors, wash cloths, cotton balls, shower caps, small shampoo, comb, powder, small plastic toothpicks, small calendars, small mirrors, caps for guys, or any other personal care item. Hotel or trial size is fine.

We have 30 bags for men and women to fill this season. A **basket for your donations** is in Horn Hall. We need all items **no later than November 12**. Thank you for your ongoing support of this project!

Women of the ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study

The next WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study will be at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pennsburg, on Tuesday, **October 3, at 10 a.m.** with coffee at 9:30. St. James member Mary Arnt will be the leader. The **November Bible Study** will be at St. James led by Betty Darocha on Tuesday, November 7.

All women are invited to participate in these Bible Studies found in the Lutheran Woman Today Magazine. If you would like to attend, please contact Grace Schafer or Mary Arnt for carpooling.



October 14, 2006
1-5:00 p.m.
St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Support the Refugee Resettlement Ministry by buying tickets for a chicken barbeque at St. Peter's Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 14th from 1-5 p.m. Each chicken dinner is \$7 and includes a half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, roll, butter, utensils and container. All dinners are take-out only. Boyer's is catering the barbeque. Tickets can be purchased in Horn Hall after worship, or by contacting Suzanne Rigg at 610-326-2810.

Spaghetti Dinner
Friday, November 3rd
4:30 to 7 p.m.



The St. James Work Mission Team is holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, November 3 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in Horn Hall. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets will be available starting October 8 and there will be a limited number of tickets available at the door.

Evening of Fun and Fellowship
Saturday, November 4th
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee is hosting a night of fun and fellowship on Saturday, November 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. We will be playing EZ Cards (a fun and easy card game with no experience necessary). Please see the enclosed flyer for more information about this event.

CROP Walk **October 8, 2006**

Come rain or shine, many individuals in the area are gearing up to join in the Pottstown **CROP WALK, on Sunday, October 8, 2006**. The WALK will begin and end at First Presbyterian Church located at 750 N. Evans Street. Registration is at 1:30 p.m. with the walk at 2 p.m.

Organized by the Cluster Outreach Center, the goal of the Pottstown CROP WALK is to help stop hunger here in our community and around the world, through self-help development initiatives. A portion of the funds raised here in Pottstown will go to the Cluster Outreach Center.

If you are interested in walking or would like to sponsor someone who is walking, please stop by the CROP WALK table in Horn Hall or contact Sue Rigg at 610-326-2810.

Committee Night

Wednesday, October 4th
Dinner at 6 p.m.
Devotions at 6:45 p.m.
Meetings at 7 p.m.

All committees will reconvene at 8 p.m. to share any necessary communications. Committees meeting this month include:

**Evangelism, Christian Education,
Fellowship, and Stewardship,
Worship Planning**

If you are not currently serving on a committee but are interested in learning more about what each committee does, please join us. Anyone willing to serve on a committee should talk to Suzanne Rigg or Pastor Hutchinson.

CLUSTER OUTREACH

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

Clothing Sorters - Volunteers needed to unpack, sort, tag and rack donations of adult clothing, shoes and household items.

Food Pantry - 1. Volunteers to bag fresh foods, sort food donations, and stock shelves. 2. Volunteer back up drives to fill in when regular drivers are unable.

If you would like to volunteer, contact the Outreach Center at 610-970-5995, or stop in at 137 Walnut Street, Pottstown.

PANTRY NEEDS:

Food- No salt and low salt/sugar products, condiments, Jell-O and pudding, sugar and tea bags.

Clothing & Household Needs - Girl's and boy's pajamas, ladies' underwear - size 7 or larger, and larger pots, pans, silverware, and small appliances.

Always needed- Brown paper and plastic grocery bags, Ziploc plastic bags (quart size), small jars with screw-top lids

Wish List -

Laminator and locking supply closet.

Donations accepted Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-11 a.m. and Wednesday 3-5 p.m. Also from 9-11 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month.

Salvation Army Community Lunch Second Wednesday of Month

Volunteers are needed! Cooking and preparing the meal begins at 8:30 a.m. and is usually done by 11:30 a.m. Serving and cleaning up begins at 11:30 a.m. and volunteers are usually done by 1:30 p.m. Please consider helping those in need. For additional information please contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.



Community Meal

St. James is helping with the community meal on Thursday, October 26. Volunteers are needed to provide desserts, to cook, set up and clean up.

If you need more information, or would like to help, please call Susan Cameron at 610-718-9926.

SCRIP

It's time to plan ahead! Think about how you'll be able to use Scrip and help generate the "profit" the program contributes to feed those who are hungry in our community and the world. Stop by our table in Horn Hall any Sunday after the first service until the beginning of the second service. We'll give you a list of all gift certificates we have available!!! Spend no more than you normally would, but HELP someone else at the same time.



Health News

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?"

1 Corinthians 6:19

STAYING HEALTHY

Submitted by Marge Fegley with information from Healthyupdates.com and Preventive Care by Blue Cross and Sheild



Quick! What is your blood pressure? Normal blood pressure should be 119/79 or lower. Pre-hypertension reads 120-139/80-89, and high blood pressure 140/90. People with high blood pressure are often unaware they have a problem. High blood pressure has no symptoms, though it can lead to heart attack, stroke, kidney disease and blindness. Blood pressure is the force of blood against the walls of the arteries. It is normal for blood pressure to rise and fall throughout the day. When it stays elevated, it is called high blood pressure or hypertension. The two numbers in a blood pressure reading mean the measure of the pressure of water in a hose. The higher number is the systolic pressure, which measures the pressure as the heart contracts.

The lower number is the diastolic pressure, which measures pressure as the heart relaxes. To help lower blood pressure one needs to loose weight, if obese, with diet and regular exercise such as walking. Reducing sodium and saturated fat intake and increasing fruit and vegetable intake will also help. Your physician should be consulted.

FLU REMINDER The flu season will soon be here. Now is the time to get immunized against the flu and check with you physician about the pneumococcal vaccine.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS October 1st will be our next date for blood pressure checks, after the 8 a.m. worship and at 10:15 a.m. before the 10:45 a.m. worship See you there!

BLOOD DRIVE Where will you be on October 9th? The Blood Drive with Miller-Keystone will be here at St. James from 2 - 7:30 p.m. Please donate if able, or send a friend or family member that can. Please call Marge Fegley at 610-323-3936 to schedule a donation time.

Lutheran Charities United Way Donor Choices

It is time for the United Way fall campaign. If you are thinking of contributing to the United Way consider designating your giving to Lutheran Charities of SEPA or to one of its specific charities. Listed below are the donor choice numbers for each.

- Lutheran Charities of SEPA - #00390
- Artman Lutheran Home - #00514 #00514
- KenCrest Centers - #00839
- Lutheran Children/Family Services -#04024
- Lutheran Settlement House - #00079
- Manatawny Manor - #00390
- Mary J. Drexel Home- #00617
- Paul's Run Retirement Community- #02628
- Silver Springs- Martin Luther School - #03544

MEMBER NEWS

Change of Address

Connie Worrall, 2972 Burton Drive,
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Eric & Alisha Sandoe, 121 Wessex Court,
Reading, PA 19606

October Birth days

1 – George Clements, Corrine Drauschak, Vickie Kirsten;
2 – Barb Ungerman; 3 – Amanda Kulp;
4 – Devon Byers, Frank Klaus, Robin Rolando, Barry Trate; 7 – Mary Louise Hartzman, David Updegrove; 8 – Olga Christman; 9 – Paul Saltzer;
10 – Sandra Drauschak; 12 – Robbie Taylor;
13 – Evelyn Gromis, Jim Irwin, Mary Koenig;
14 – Eugene Hoehne; 15 – Del Weller; 16 – Nancy Bergstresser, Kathy Geiger; 17 – Betty Kirkhoff; 18 – Jennifer Morales; 19 – Carol Mittura; 20 – Andrew Morris; 21 – Barbara Thornton; 22 – Max Drauschak; 24 – Fritz Drauschak; 25 – Jeremy Wagner; 27 – Mary Arnt, Greg Smith; 29 – Joel Swanson; 30 – Morgan O'Donnell; 31 – Linda Clouser, Mike Lunn



Thank You Notes

Thank you to all committees and ministry teams who participated in this year's ministry fair. A good representation of our ministries were on display.

Dear Friends,
On behalf of the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities I wish to thank you for the September contribution of \$299 to the Clothe-A-Child program. Your gift is most appreciated and we look forward to your continued support.

Very truly yours,
Peter C. Nichols, Treasurer

Thank you very much for the bouquet of flowers. It is so nice to be remembered. My thanks to Jon and Martha Fink for delivering it. We had a wonderful visit. It was good to see them. Also, I enjoy Pastor Hutchinson's visits when he gives me communion.

Sincerely,
Eleanor Hetrick

Thank you to Pastor and Ron Schafer for distributing flyers of the fall events at St. James among the neighborhood.

Thank you to all who helped organize and participated in this year's block party. The weather held for a great evening of fun and making new friends.

Thank you to the Bulletin Board team and all their work in organizing the bulletin boards in Horn Hall.

Dear St. James Lutheran Church,
We give thanks to God for you and for your overwhelming gift of \$2, 934 for our Flood Relief Fund. We were truly surprised at your bounteous donation, and extremely grateful. We have been blessed by those who have remembered us in so many ways. Thank you for your part in our ability to continue to do ministry here at St. John's. May God bless you as you have blessed us!

Your Servant in Christ,
The Rev. Dr. Susan Kay Folks

Thank you so much for your commitment to Bear Creak Camps' new chapel project!

Pastor Bob Strover
Executive Director

CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Aug 2006</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$16,115.61	\$182,498.11
Expenses	<u>26,685.13</u>	<u>213,496.12</u>
Net Income	\$ 10,569.52)	(\$30,998.01)

REGULAR ENVELOPES

Received	\$13,773.00	\$139,851.84
Needed*	<u>20,034.76</u>	<u>160,278.05</u>
Over (Under)	(\$ 6,261.76)	(\$20,426.21)

THIRD SUNDAY OFFERING

Collected \$ 299.00

Beneficiary: *Cluster Clothe-a-Child*

*Figures for each month includes \$14,653 actual pledged and \$5,382 needed growth to balance the budget.

Council Member Contact

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

Dave Garner 610-970-7560
Email: dggarner@comcast.net
Represents the Stewardship Committee

Jeff Leiby 610-327-9454
Email: jefnrobn@yahoo.com
Represents the Fellowship Committee

Sherry Clancy 610-323-5977
Email: srclancy@alumni.moravian.edu
Represents the Finance and Endowment Committee

John Ungerman 610-718-9368
Email: john.ungerman@thrivent.com
Reperesents the Property Committee

Alison O'Donnell 610-779-1119
Email: Alison.C.O'Donnell@GSK.com
papodonnell@comcast.net

Dottie Smith 610-323-8226
Represents the Personnel Committee

Pat Weber 610-326-5421

Mary Arnt 610-323-6176

David Hartzman 610-909-5806
Email: Crittersdad1949@aol.com
Represents the Evangelism Committee

Tracie Rheel 610-323-7051
Email: tar403@yahoo.com

Ron Schafer 610-326-4814
Email: ronslibrary@aol.com
Represents the Christian Education Committte

Chipper Meadowcroft 610-327-0458
Email: meadow1135@hotmail.com

Jessica Mitchell 610-970-4250
Email: jrabbit23@comcast.net

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

Refugee Resettlement Ministry

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me" - Matthew 25:35

We still do not know when our refugee family from Russia will be arriving but we at St. James continue to prepare for them along with the members of Emmanuel and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches.

To date here is what has already been accomplished:

1. Located four individuals to be interpreters and are searching for more.
2. Put in place an individual person to chair the financial piece to all of this.
3. Working on fundraiser ideas.
4. Sharing donations lists among the congregations and are acquiring the different pieces of furniture and other items needed for each room of the household.
5. Located a language-training facility for ESL classes (YWCA).
6. Established contact with other congregations who have sponsored a Meskhetian Turkish family.
7. Have transportation in place for picking up refugees from the airport.
8. Beginning to assess two bedroom properties that are available for rent.
9. Have individuals willing to train others in teaching ESL.

If you are interested in helping, but not sure how, then you are welcome to attend one of the refugee support team meetings. Meetings are at Emmanuel Lutheran Church with the dates and times of the meetings announced in the bulletin. Please contact Suzanne Rigg (610-326-2810) if you would like to come and hear first hand what is going on with this ministry.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with this ministry in a variety of ways. Here are some of the most needed and valuable ways one can help:

Provide transportation - Our family will initially need some help to get to places such as doctor appointments, grocery shopping, work, etc. If you can help provide transportation from time to time please complete the sign up sheet in Horn Hall asking what days and times are best for you and the number of passengers that you can accommodate.

Visit the family - Once the family arrives we hope to have someone visit with the family for a half hour at a time. Visitations would be scheduled according to an individual's availability. If you would like to be a visitor, please sign up in Horn Hall with the days and times that are best for you.

Pray - Pray for the family that will be joining us in Pottstown. Pray about your role in this ministry. Pray for the guidance and resources to accomplish this ministry. Pray for all who will be helping with this ministry.

If you are interested in learning more about welcoming and resettling our refugee family, please contact Pastor Hutchinson or Suzanne Rigg at 610-326-2810.