

On The Journey...



Among the many reasons why we love St. James's, the Youth Ministry is what has impacted us as a family. From handing out winter coats in the park to traveling to New Orleans to repair houses; St James has opened our eyes to the rest of humanity, and given us an opportunity to help others and enrich ourselves in the process. The Summer 2012 mission trip is now in the planning stages. Get involved – you won't be sorry you did!

Donna Burke, Isabel and William Blank



The choir since well before I joined has been such an integral part of our church -- at the 10:00 service (What? It's 9:30 now?), the evensongs, the special concerts, and the choir theme dinners. I don't think I would recognize St James without it. I can't say enough about the importance to the music program of our very talented choirmaster and of the crucial role our section leaders play and about the great support of the congregation. I can't end without noting we will be singing Faure's Requiem at the All Saint's Sunday service -- at 10:00.

Dick Wenner

We didn't know what to expect – or what we were looking for -- when we first walked through the doors of St. James's. Who knew that we were at the start of a rewarding spiritual journey? Who knew we would spend so much time in the choir room? The community at St. James's was warm and welcoming, accepting of our religious pasts, and open to accompanying us on this journey. Now, 15 years and 3 children later, our lives are quite changed (to say the least), but our journey of the spirit continues with St. James's. From the community, outreach and Boys & Girls Choir, we have been blessed to have such a place for our family to grow and learn. Pledging to St. James's ensures that others will walk through our doors – whether it be next Sunday or a hundred years from now - and have the same experience. Please bring in your pledge card as soon as you can, and come to the Stewardship Brunch on All Saint's Sunday. David & Samantha Dvnowski

One of the most important things to me in the life of St. James's is the Men's Discussion Group. We are a group of about ten men who meet two Saturday mornings a month for an hour to talk about issues of faith, theology and Bible scholarship. For example, we recently had a discussion on the subject of "What We Believe." Opinions tend to be more liberal than conservative, but all opinions are respected and all are welcome. I have been a member of this group since it started meeting about 15 years ago. It is meaningful to me because there is so little opportunity in our lives to engage in an open, free wheeling and yet respectful discussion of issues of religion and Bible scholarship. The Men's Discussion Group has been a significant part of my faith journey at St. James's. Please join us soon, or find one of the many new offerings on Sunday mornings that may become part of your own journey. Ray Payne

My family and I began attending St. James's in January and are consistently blown away by the great lengths the entire church has gone to make us feel welcome... No matter how loudly our children roar like dinosaurs during the Lord's Prayer. From new-comer events, to First Friday of the Month pizza, to the literally dozens of people that introduced themselves to us on our first Sunday, St. James's is clearly committed to reaching out to its newest members, young-and-old alike, and we will be forever grateful. It's telling that every time I hear my three-year-old refer to St. James's as "my church" I find myself thinking, "you're right, Nate -- it is." First Friday pizza for families with young children happens the first Friday of every month. Joey Meyer

"I love God. He's great." So sayeth my 6-year old. In large part, her love of God reflects her love of St. James's. The sense of community, the excitement of kids mass, coffee hour and First Fridays, the stuffing of socks and the planting of vegetables... she loves it all. As she and her sister grow, our hope is that they will continue to grow in their faith, in their love of the St. James's community and in their commitment to do right and good by others. Harvest time has been ongoing in the new parish vegetable garden – volunteers of all ages are always welcome. Nell Walker

October has always meant Halloween in our family. And it isn't a Holiday – it is a Season. So last year when Priscilla asked for help with a Haunted House, we were all in. It was by all accounts a big success (we measure these things by how many kids run screaming – last yr 3). But the best part was getting so many tweens and teens and their friends and families involved in the project. There were witches, ghouls, axe murderers and even mad scientists. Everyone had a cauldron to stir, or a corner to jump out of, or a tombstone to hide behind. And they all did it *together*. This year – WE NEED YOU! Join us for the horror on Saturday October 29th! Bill & Judith Stahl



St James's, to me, is like the big extended family that we all hate to have, yet we are all glad it exists for us in times of trouble. We all have a relative that irks us in some way, but still come through in the pinch. That is St. James' to us. To know that worship time is that special time for reevaluation and replenishing the spirit, to give celestial thought for others, and to be among friends while we all do these things, is pure joy and comfort to souls along the spiritual journey. This Fall there is a new Sunday service once a month at 5:00 PM followed by a casual meal. Join us on October 30th. Leon Fraser