



Explore  
Share  
Celebrate

*St James*

ANGLICAN CHURCH  
STRATFORD • CANADA

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2011

*February 11, 2011*

Dear Friends of St James,

I have heard that you are getting ready to embark on a fundraising campaign in the range of two million dollars for structural concerns and accessibility for St James.

I would really like to lend my encouragement to you. The work done will last for generations, and I believe that St James has a future with its key location in Stratford. It is an attractive community, loyal and faithful. It is also a place of meaningful relationships, worship and a beacon in the community for its dedication to social outreach and the community arts.

Your contribution can and will make a difference. There is a sense of accomplishment and pride in the endeavour that St James is undertaking. Through your efforts the ongoing ministry can grow and continue to reach beyond the parish doors.

I uphold you in prayer and know you will be able to do more than you can ask or imagine.

Yours in Christian faith,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob" with a stylized flourish at the end.

*The Right Reverend Robert F. Bennett*

*Bishop of Huron*

*The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron*

*The Anglican Church of Canada*

## PRAYER FOR ST JAMES

*Almighty God, by your grace we are given church buildings and activities so that we may explore, share and celebrate Your love in this community. Help us to be mindful of those who, over the years, have laid the spiritual and material foundations of St James. Let their stories inspire us as we reach out to the possibilities of the future.*

*Help us to seek your presence day by day as we undertake the task that lies ahead.*

*For you are God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.*

*All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*



“Annunciation” Fabric hanging by Laurie Richardson

*“I love...the sense of belonging”*

*“It’s a source of faith, support and community”*

ST JAMES PARISHONERS



Dear Friends,

Two things have happened to me since I agreed to become the Chair of the Capital Campaign Committee.

One is that I came to understand that our Parish has no alternative but to take on the challenging and complex task of raising \$2,000,000 for the restoration and re-purposing of the church buildings. If St James is to remain a strong creative presence in this community, the work required is not optional. Restoration work has been clearly identified in a professional assessment and significant upgrades to repurpose the Parish Hall have become an obvious priority. Fortunately the work can be phased over a number of years.

Secondly I have become keenly aware of the enormous commitment among parishioners to meeting the challenge. My colleagues on the Campaign Committee and the various Sub-Committees are full of energy and ideas. Parishioners have sought me out to volunteer their help and support. I should not have been surprised. St James is more than a building. St James provides us, as it provided our predecessors, a place of worship, of celebration and of service to all our community. A successful Campaign will mean that we can pass on to the next generation the gift that we received.

Our intent is to approach each of you individually to seek your help, so please welcome us when we knock.

We are inspired by St Matthew: *Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.* MATTHEW 7:7-12

With hearty thanks,

David Rose

*Chair, Capital Campaign Committee*



# ST JAMES EXPLORING, SHARING AND CELEBRATING THE

## WHY A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

The community of St James was established before Stratford was a city. It began with the arrival of our first settlers. It is part of our history, part of the architectural heritage of our community but it is far more than bricks and mortar. It is a place of God and therefore a place of worship, but

it is also a home for children at play, a refuge for those in the community who need help, a place of music and meeting, a quiet green space within a busy city. All of us in some way are affected by – and belong to – St James, just as it belongs to all of us.

The building fabric of our St James is in need of restoration. We must repair it, enabling it not only to meet the challenges of the next 100 years but also to allow it to continue to reinvent itself as it responds to the needs of parishioners and the greater community.

St James is a home and shelter for our worship and for the many activities that support and sustain our faith. The services and special events hold memories of those special occasions that we have shared with families and friends.

Members of the Parish use the Church almost every day for worship. The Church and the Parish Hall have been a meeting place for generations of Stratford residents for a wide range of activities. These facilities are the places from which successions of parish volunteers have for many years served the less fortunate in our community.

A dedicated group of Parishioners has worked hard over the past few months to put together a Strategic Plan for St James. Their work builds on the consultations about our future that took place in the spring and early summer

involving almost all members of the Parish. It envisions a focus on Ministry that goes beyond our walls to the wider community in which we live. The Plan shows how we can, in the words of its Vision; *Explore, Share and Celebrate God's Love in the Community in Word and Deed.*

The Plan calls for the maintenance of the Church for the use of future generations. We are the beneficiaries of

the efforts of previous generations who worked hard and successfully to maintain the Church and the Parish Halls. Now it is our turn. It is our turn to pass on buildings that will serve future members of the Parish and our community. ■



*“The Church is part of the community in so many ways”* ST JAMES PARISHONER



# LOVE OF GOD IN THE COMMUNITY BY WORD AND DEED

As the Capital Campaign has taken shape, it has become perfectly clear that this is no ordinary “let’s fix the roof” campaign. This is the kind of exciting work that will have a real impact on the whole Stratford community for years to come. The intent of this work is to restore and re-purpose for the next generation.

**RESTORE** The first goal is to restore the parts of the church buildings that need attention. The first step in this goal was the major structural work that took place last year. Since then, a professional assessment of the buildings has identified several additional areas that need work over the next five years. This includes the Church nave roof, the Bell Tower masonry, the Chapel roof and walls, the stained glass windows, and the foundations and floor joists. This is only a partial list but it gives you an idea of the size and scope of the task before us.

**RE-PURPOSE** The second goal is to re-purpose parts of the church that need significant upgrades. This will certainly include upgrades to the kitchen, washrooms and the parish hall. It will also include addressing issues of accessibility. Achieving this second goal will mean that our space is easily usable by both the parish and the wider community for a wide range of gatherings and events. Guiding all our discussions have been the principles of beauty, longevity, flexibility and accessibility.

The Wardens have spent many hours reviewing what is required and how to schedule it over a number of years.

The end result of this work will be beautiful, historic spaces for the people of Stratford to use and appreciate. Whether it be worship, education, community outreach, social gatherings, or music and the arts, St James will be ready to serve the needs of the next generation in this city. ■



## BREAKDOWN OF WORK

Accessibility and re-purposing the Parish Hall, including kitchen and washroom upgrades, Wheelchair ramp and door additions	\$250,000
Restoration of Bell Tower masonry	\$440,000
Church Nave Roof	\$150,000
Church Masonry and Foundation repair	\$275,000
Lady Chapel Roof and Chapel repair	\$62,000
Repairs to the Church floor beams, upgrades to Balcony railing and windows	\$80,000
Administration Wing Roof and Engineering	\$100,000
Boiler Room, electrical and mechanical upgrades	\$128,000
Remaining cost of the emergency structural work to the Church and Parish Hall.	\$266,900
Contingency for unforeseen repairs	\$248,100
<b>TOTAL OVER 5 YEARS</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>

*“according to the grace of God given to me,  
like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is  
building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on  
it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that  
has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.”*

FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

## ST JAMES OUR FOUNDATION

In the beginning, there were 40 souls gathered around a small river in the bush, having faith that the opening of the Huron Tract would bring prosperity to their little community. Of the 40, 12 or so were adherents of the Church of England. With no priest yet in the settlement, they sent to Woodstock to ask that a priest

come and give the sacraments. And so began the Anglican community in Stratford. Those early services were held in the Shakespeare Hotel, where Pazzo Restaurant is now.

By 1843, the congregation was large enough, and had faith enough, to build its first church, a white frame building at what was once 76 Mornington Street. It was named St James after St. James the Lesser whose letter has provided the guiding principle of whom we are as a faith community:

*But what good is it, brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. JAMES 2:14, 3:13*

In 1855, a second church, of red brick, was built on the present tract of land. There are many stories of this church, perhaps the most interesting being that it was considered such “an architectural monstrosity” that no photo or drawing exists of it. Structural problems with the walls and roof are an eerie omen of 2010, with Vestry minutes of the day noting a bulging north wall and the need to strengthen the walls with iron rods. A wise Vestry knows when to cut its losses and with an extraordinary leap of faith the St James’ congregation began planning for a new church. When the cornerstone was laid on November 23 1868, the congregation was only \$2500 short of its \$14,125 goal. The Bishop of Toronto, having assisted the builders to place the stone, prayed:

*“In the faith of Jesus Christ, we place this foundation stone in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. Here let true faith, the fear of God, and brotherly love ever remain; this place is consecrated to prayer and to the praise of the most Holy name of the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who ever liveth, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.”*

The church was opened for divine service by the Bishop of Huron, the Right Reverend Benjamin Cronyn, on March 20 1870. The somewhat fulsome report of the opening in the Stratford Beacon highlighted the architectural qualities of the building, saying “that the designers had in view the earliest and purest style of Gothic architecture.” For more than 140 years St James has been a landmark in the City of Stratford, beloved for both its architecture and its beautiful church yard.

## ST JAMES OUR MINISTRY

Our European models were originally built both as houses of worship and as community spaces. While the church building keeps us mindful of whom we were, whom we are and whom we might become, the life of a parish is defined by its people and what happens within its stone walls. This is so much the case with St James.

For generations, the people of this church have lived out their faith through their actions. They have created a home for warriors, sending off men of the Perth Regiment to fight in world wars, welcoming them home, mourning their deaths, supporting their families. Today, the colours of the regiment hang proudly in the nave, reminding us of the sacrifices made by so many in defense of our freedoms.

We have nourished young people in their quest for religious knowledge, provided a safe space for their recreation, encouraged and helped them as they grow into adulthood.

We have reached out into the community of Stratford, offering food and emotional support to those who are in need through a food bank and community meals; by inviting those alone to a spirited Christmas dinner. And we have reached out to the wider community, supporting First Nations communities here in Ontario and international communities through the Huron Hunger Fund/Primate’s World Relief and Development fund. St James parishioners have been passionate advocates for social justice in the Diocese and have been willing to take unpopular stands in defence of rights. We have worked with our brethren in the Lutheran and Catholic faiths to broaden understanding.

Our parish has participated in the life of the Diocese of Huron, providing clergy to serve as Archdeacons, and laity to provide ministry to vital Diocesan committees and programs as editor of the Huron Church News, members of Diocesan Council, chairs of Social Outreach and Administration/Finance



CIRCA 1909

Committees. It has been a privilege to host the House of Bishops meeting and Ontario Synod in the first decade of the 21st century, just as it was a privilege to host the General Synod in 1940. It was at this meeting of Canadian clergy and laity that, in support of the war effort, the decision was made to forgo the funds sent by the Church of England. This is now acknowledged as the founding of the Anglican Church of Canada, and is commemorated on a plaque in the nave.

We love to share our church and hall and welcome musicians, actors, dancers, social groups to our space, especially our extended chancel. It is a delight to hear our 4 manual organ played by visiting organists, and to have our piano used by both professional and amateur performers. The instruments are the legacies of beloved parishioners and provide great joy to all who hear them.

Our bells have helped the city celebrate victories in war, mourn the passing of notable Stratfordians and Canadians, welcome our monarch; bells have been pealed as part of a world wide acknowledgement of poverty and green action. All the great events of Stratford, Canada and the world are marked by these bells. For those living near the church, the bells provide twice weekly enjoyment as the chimers provide concerts on the 15 bell chime, a delight for all.

St James parishioners care deeply about each other, providing spiritual support in times of crisis, food and laughter in times of celebration.

## ST JAMES OUR WORSHIP

More than anything St James people love to share their worship with everyone. Whether it is the solemnity and grandeur of language found in the Book of Common Prayer, a lively African round, or the beauty of that unique Anglican service, Evensong, visitors find a people embracing all that traditional and contemporary liturgy can offer. Currently, Evensong services offer an opportunity for singers from any denomination to take part in this wonderful form of prayer. Our contemplative ministry of meditation, study of the rule of Benedict, and once monthly Eucharist is enriched by participants from outside the parish family.

## ST JAMES OUR FUTURE CALLS

Over the decades the parishioners have laboured to maintain their church, but in 2010 we were hit with an especially stunning situation: due to bowing walls, the roof was in imminent danger of collapsing. Evacuation was immediate; discussion about what to do carried on for some time. The love of the building and all that it represents as a place of worship, as an historical icon, as a centre of community, as a living embodiment of a steadfast faith people made our decision easy. We would fix the the roof, we would stabilize the walls, we would carry on. We would carry on because we had a vision of what St James will be in the 21st century - a place where we can help each other explore our faith, a place where we can share with each other the joys and sorrows of life with the loving support of God's love, a place where we can all celebrate the many ways God's love manifests itself in our lives.

Through the generations, the church has stood upon its hill, opening its doors to all who seek a spiritual home, watching benevolently as residents cross the church yard on their way downtown. For us:

*"the church is an embodiment in stone of what the living Christ says to His world. It's a theatre for life giving worship. It's a centre for listening and forgiving. It's an arena for celebration and suffering. It's demonstration of love in stone."* RIGHT REV'D JOHN PRITCHARD, BISHOP OF OXFORD

It is the place from whence we will go out and do God's work in the world, and to which we will always come back for nourishment and renewal to carry on. ■

*"It is both my spiritual home and my family home."* ST JAMES PARISHONER

*“Our history not only informs who we are but where we have come from.  
It informs the continuity of our identity as well as our uniqueness .  
Our heritage buildings are a significant ingredient of our living culture,  
of who we are and how others see us to be. As witnesses to passing generations,  
whenever possible, they deserve our respect and protection. They are us.”*

LOREENA MCKENNITT *HONORARY CHAIR, ST JAMES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE*



## **MEMBERS OF THE ST JAMES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE 2011**

Loreena McKennitt *Honorary Chair*  
David Rose *Chair*  
The Rev'd Canon Dr Lorne Mitchell *Rector*

Pam Ayres *Secretary*  
Jeff Boyce *Treasurer*  
Walter Bathe *Warden*  
Steve Monteith *Warden*  
Michael Fox  
Terry Marklevitz  
Lynda McGregor  
Judith Rose  
Dr Doug Thompson

## **ARTS & LETTERS SUB COMMITTEE**

Terry Marklevitz *Chair*  
Joyce Banks  
James Colbeck  
Diane Egerton  
Jane Kirkpatrick

## **DONOR RECOGNITION**

Everyone on our Campaign Committee is looking forward to recognizing and celebrating all donors on a permanent record at the church.

## **TRIBUTE GIFTS AND NAMING OPPORTUNITIES**

Since its founding, people have given special gifts to St James that acknowledge a loved one or a special event in the life of their family. Examples of such tribute gifts are the stained glass windows, the Altar, the Lectern and the various plaques located in the Church. In addition to tribute gifts, as part of this campaign there are also naming opportunities for the largest parts of the project. If you would like to discuss the possibilities for tribute gifts or naming opportunities please speak directly to the People's Warden, Walter Bathe or the Rector, The Rev'd Canon Dr Lorne Mitchell.

**DONOR RECEIPTS** St James Anglican Church is a registered charitable organization and a receipt for income tax credit will be issued to all donors.

Explore  
Share  
Celebrate

*St James*  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

6 Hamilton Street, Stratford, ON N5A 7P4  
Tel: 519-271-3572 E-mail: [officestjames@cyg.net](mailto:officestjames@cyg.net)

**For more photos and to make a donation online:**  
[www.stjamesstratford.ca](http://www.stjamesstratford.ca)