

Sunday Offering

As Christians, and as members of a Christian community, we are called to share our "Time, Talent & Treasure" ~ our contribution towards the ministry of the church and the building of God's Kingdom. How we manage our time, talent and treasure is called "stewardship". Each Sunday the children and youth are invited to bring a money offering to church. The Church School teachers decide month by month where the offering will go, and we use this as a teaching opportunity. For example, last year the Church School contributed to the St. James' Food Bank, the Huron Hunger Fund, the Perth County SPCA, and the St. James' winter heating bill.

Parenting in the Pew

It's not always easy for parents with small children in church. Please know that any noise usually sounds much louder to the parents than it does to anyone in the church! Here are some - hopefully - helpful tips:

- Children like to see what going on.....so try sitting a bit closer to the front.
- If your child is reading, or beginning to read, help them to follow along with the service. All the congregational parts of the service - except the hymns - are in the Sunday bulletin.
- Encourage them to sing, and sing along with them!
- There is an activity table at the back of the church. Young children are invited to use this table before the service, and once communion has started.
- Bring a small selection of "church toys/books" that are reserved for Sundays only.
- Stay for fellowship time after the service.

Ministry with Children & Youth @ St. James' Church



Our goal is
to love, inspire and educate
our children and youth
to grow in faith,
to love and serve the Lord
in a safe, secure,
God-centered community.

Children @ St. James

Sundays at the 10:30 service

From September to June, and visitors are ALWAYS welcome! During the summer months there is an activity centre set up at the back of the church.

Nursery for children to the age of 3

Church School classes for children ages 3 & up

We are using the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum

www.spiritseasons.com or www.seasonsonline.ca

Children gather with the congregation at the beginning of the service, and then go to Church School, returning at the time of the Offering Hymn. Parents of children in the Nursery are asked to pick up their children at the time of the Offertory Hymn, so we can all be gathered together for the Eucharist.

All baptized children, regardless of age, are encouraged to receive communion. If you have questions about your child receiving communion, please speak with one of the clergy.

There are also other Christian education opportunities throughout the year ~ Perth Deanery (regional) Holy Days, the *Life in the Eucharist* programme during Lent, the "Walk with Jesus" Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

And..... we have some terrific and FUN events planned like the Christmas Pageant, the Angel Party, the Mardi Gas Parade and Pancake Party, and the Parish Picnic.....even a Family Dance Beach Party scheduled for February 2010!!



Youth Events Fall '09



For Junior & Senior Youth @ St. James Church

- Sunday September 20 @ 2 pm
Youth vs Adults Soccer Game Details TBA
- Sunday October 4 @ 2pm
Bowling at Mike's Bowling
- Sunday November 15 @ 3pm
Curling at the Golf & Country Club

Diocese of Huron Youth Events @ St. Paul's Cathedral, London

- **CRASH THE CATHEDRAL** with the Holy Family Life Teen Band Friday September 25 @ 6:30 pm
More details TBA
- **U2CHARIST** featuring the U2 tribute band ELEVATION Friday October 23 @ 6:30 pm
- **CRASH THE CATHEDRAL** Friday November 20 @ 6:30 pm



Mark your calendars.....

Sunday September 13th

First day of Church School classes!

Children are asked to bring an individual photo of themselves to put up on the photo wall.

Sunday September 27th

100th Anniversary of the Bells of St. James!

Bishop Terry Dance will be visiting, and all children are invited to bring a bell to church! This will also be

Church School Group Photo Day!

Sunday October 4th

St. Francis ~ Blessing of the Animals

Sunday December 6th

St. Nicholas Day

Christmas Pageant & Angel Party

Receiving Communion and the H1N1 Virus

Since the SARS crisis a few years ago, the Diocese of Huron established a pandemic preparedness task force, which developed a pandemic protocol for the diocese. This past spring, our Diocesan Bishop Robert Bennett sent a letter to all parishes stating that, **in light of concerns related to the spread of the H1N1 virus, the practice of intinction - dipping the bread into the wine - is to be suspended.**

Intinction actually poses a greater health risk than sipping from the common cup. When your children come for communion they may receive the bread and sip from the cup OR they may receive the bread alone, which is considered a full communion.

Registration

You will find registration forms and photo permission forms in this package. They are also available at the church. We ask that all children (including those in the nursery) and youth be registered. One form per child registered, and one photo permission form per family please. Please include your family email address. This is enormously helpful when we need to communicate things quickly and easily!

Questions?? Suggestions??

Please do contact the Rev'd Lynn Mitchell

519 - 271 - 3572 ex. 207

lynnmitchell@cyg.net

St. James' Youth

The Sunday Youth Class

There will be a regular Sunday Youth Class, beginning Sunday, September 13th. This will be led by our new **Youth Minister, Katie-Scarlett MacGillivray**, who will be with us on Sundays. We will be using the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum, as well as other resources.

The Youth Group

We are planning at least one Youth Group activity each month this year. Thank you to **Melanie Hughes** who is coordinating these events along with **Archdeacon Lorne**. There are also some great Diocese of Huron Youth Events, such as the monthly "Crash the Cathedral", a contemporary worship service at St. Paul's Cathedral featuring the Holy Family Rock Worship Band, as well as the 2nd annual **U2CHARIST**. Check it out @ www.stpaulscathedral.on.ca and on FaceBook

The Diocese of Huron also has a great website
www.huronyouth.ca

As well several of our youth are Servers and Choir members, and were important participant-leaders in our worship services during Holy Week this year. One of our youth was also a voting youth delegate from our Deanery at Diocesan Synod. Our Youth also lend their enthusiastic helping hands to our children's programmes, the Christmas Pageant, the Angel Party, the annual parish Variety Sale, just to name a few.

We look forward to a fun and activity-filled year!

Hello to the
parishioners of St James'
Church, Stratford!



My name is Katie-Scarlett MacGillivray and I am excited to say that I will be the new youth minister this fall. In the past, I have been very involved with the Church, Synods, and various events, such as St Paul's Cathedral's Crash the Cathedral services and Huron's Sesquicentennial, so this will be a new exciting adventure for me in the church. This is going to be an especially awesome position for me because I love working with youth. Two years ago, as a teaching assistant for two English professors at Brock University, I was able to engage with students and lead, or let them lead, seminars. And this past May, I was a Youth Leader at Huron's Youth Synod weekend. I am excited to say that I will be participating in the upcoming Youth Synod weekend (May 2010), National Synod (June 2010), and Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY 2010) event.

With all of my experiences, I hope that I will support and develop St James' youth into an active, motivated, unified group, participating in their church, the other churches in Stratford, the Deanery of Perth, the Diocese of Huron, the Anglican Church of Canada, and, of course, Stratford's inspiring community.

And to the youth, I can't wait to meet you!

Katie-Scarlett MacGillivray