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# St. James Epistle

## The Dean's Corner

May 2010

The past month was framed by two events which have a lot to say to us about our purpose as a church, and as church members. At the beginning of April we celebrated Easter, and of course that is where it all starts. The church is here because of Easter. We exist to respond to the amazing good news that Christ is alive, God is with us forever, and there is no obstacle that the Spirit of God cannot overcome.

A major dimension of our response is our mission - the way we share that good news, by word and action, in the world we live in. And that brings me to the second event, late in April, our diocesan conference *It's Harvest Time!* The theme of this conference was equipping the church for mission in our neighbourhood - the immediate context of our mission, our friends and neighbours, the places where we work and volunteer, the local community we are a part of.

You will be hearing more about the conference from those who attended, as its

aim was to generate ideas and plans we can use to build up our capacity for mission. But even our preparation for the conference led us to some insights about how we live the gospel in Peace River, which are worth pondering.

1. We are constantly being drawn back to the question, how do people even know we are here? In a post-Christian society, churches are no longer spiritual landmarks which everyone is aware of. We have to work to communicate our existence, and that means not only advertising our location and activities, but also making our presence felt in people's lives in unexpected ways as we participate in the wider life of our community.

2. We also have to confront the reality that not everyone has a positive impression of Christianity. There are particular scandals and abuses that have turned some people off; and others genuinely feel that faith belongs to past times. We need to wrestle with these criticisms ourselves, but equally we need to

know why it is that God's good news matters to us, enough to be part of an imperfect church - and we need to give our friends and neighbours good reasons to want to be part of it too.

3. As Anglicans we face a particular question about what we have to offer. Our sense of history; our search for the big picture in how the Bible helps us understand the world; our willingness to work through differences of perspective? These are not "sound bite" issues which help us make our case in five seconds or less, but they are nevertheless attractive features, and people who take the time to discover them often persist and thrive in the environment we provide.

I invite you to take the time to ponder some of these challenges, and to ask yourself, what can we do - what can YOU do - to have an impact on the people around us, by sharing the Easter Good News.

Blessings

Iain ☩

## Bishop's Invitation to our Youth

Youth! Mark your calendars for September 3-5, 2010, for Youth Day with the Bishop. There will be further information coming such

as location, event name, etc. It will be an opportunity for youth to meet together and get to know each other, to learn, to worship and to

encourage one another and have a great time. Please begin planning now for this event.

+Fraser Athabasca

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### Special points of interest:

- ☺ Ascension Day Service will be held on Thursday May 13 at 7:00 p.m.
- ☺ United Church plant sale on May 8, 9am-3pm
- ☺ ACW May meeting will be on Wednesday, May 5, 7pm, in the fireside room

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## Involvement opportunities

You see the summer games signs all over town and you know that you would like to volunteer somehow, here's the perfect opportunity. St. James has signed up to serve breakfast to the athletes at the summer games. Our turn will be on Sunday July 25, 5:30-9:30 a.m. After serving breakfast to the athletes our St. James volunteers will be served breakfast in the lower hall so that we can still make it to the 10:30 Sunday Service. For more information and how to sign up see Alice Olson.

If no one has asked you recently to be a scripture reader at the Sunday 10:30 Service and this is something you would like to do, please let Priscilla know that you are interested in taking part.

We are looking for some more individuals to lead us in the Prayers of the People, talk to Iain if you would like some information or guidance and then let Priscilla know that you would like to be on the schedule.

# acw

Thanks to the ACW — after another successful run of "Lenten Lunches" the ACW committee has generously donated funds toward the purchase of the new organ fan.

Don't forget to register for the ACW women's conference weekend of May 14-16

There will be a baptism service held at the Cathedral on May 23. If you wish to be baptized on this day or at another time please talk to Iain.



If you are relatively new to St. James you may not realize that these mailboxes in the foyer are for parishioner mail. As you enter or exit the building periodically check the mail slot with your last initial, you may have some received mail!

## First Quarter report from Treasurer

Revenues	Actual	Budget	Variance
From Members (Par & envelopes)	\$35,469	\$40,750	(\$5,281)
PWRDF	2,598	0	2,598
Other Areas	4,972	6,295	(1,323)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$43,039</b>	<b>\$47,045</b>	<b>(\$4,006)</b>
Expenditures	(\$52,027)	(\$49,562)	(\$2,465)
Deficit	(\$8,988)	(\$2,517)	(\$6,471)

**Remember your Stewardship Sunday commitments!**

expenditures include all PWRDF funds submitted to PWRDF

## sharing our potluck favourites

### Filling:

2.5 lbs of extra lean hamburger  
1 cup chopped onions  
1 cup chopped mushrooms  
1 envelope of onion soup  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp chili pwd  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup ketchup  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp of cayenne

In frying pan brown hamburger till redness is just gone, and the rest of the ingredients and cook until onions are soft. Place in a colander to drain juice and cool.

### Dough:

3 cups of warm milk  
1 cup of warm water  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup oil  
6 eggs  
Flour 12 cups more or less  
1 tbsp of dry yeast  
2 tsp of salt

Mix liquids together in bowl with bread hook, add 6 cups of flour or till consistency is slimy looking, add yeast mix in for about 1 min add salt then remaining flour till bread dough has

lifted away from side of bowl. Place small amt of oil on table turn out bread dough kneed to make large dough ball. Let rest for 15 min then punch down, rise again 15 min. Divide dough into 4 portions and each of those portions into 16. Roll with rolling pin each dough ball to flatten and put a heaping tsp of hamburger mixture in centre and seal well. Place on cookie sheet let rise 1 hour and bake at 350 for 15-20 min.

**Thanks! Rose, for sharing this recipe with us!**

## General Synod

A pre-General Synod consultation will be held at St James at 7pm on Thursday, May 6. We are hosting this meeting for the northern part of our deanery. The purpose of the consultation is both to inform those who attend about the work of General Synod, and also to help our diocesan delegation better reflect the views and concerns of our diocese to the national church. Information about General Synod can be found at:

<http://www.ministrymatters.ca/category/settingsail/>.

The diocesan delegation consists of Bishop Fraser, Iain Luke, Terry Leer, Kim Greenwood, Peter Clarke and Ross Whitelaw. The synod website is [www.anglican.ca/gs2010](http://www.anglican.ca/gs2010) where you can find extensive information regarding topics for discussion and prayers for the delegates and the conference.

**General Synod  
will be in  
Halifax, NS  
June 3-11  
2010**



## Looking ahead....

Festival of Trees— St. James is looking for a group or committee to take

on the organization of a St. James tree for the Festival of Trees of 2010. As many of you know, for years ACW has organized theme trees such as "The Angels of St. James" and "The Bells of St. James". If you are part of a group (eg. Vestry, Youth Group) that would like to see this project through, contact the office and we will get you the information needed to proceed.

Santa Claus Parade—this winter St. James would like to put a float in the Santa Claus Parade. It is felt that if we are going to do this it would be good to start planning it now. Please contact anyone on Vestry if you would like to be involved, if you have some great 'float' ideas or the equipment (truck and trailer) to mobilize a float.

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Peace River, AB T8S 1J3

Phone: 780-624-2743  
E-mail: stjamesadmin@telus.net  
Website: www.stjamespr.org

## A Prayer as we Prepare for General Synod

Loving and Gracious God, you call us ever to new life in Jesus your Son. As we reach out to feel your winds stirring in our lives, be with all members of your beloved Church as we prepare for General Synod in Halifax in 2010. Grant us a spirit of generosity and excitement as we prepare to gather together under your gentle leadership, for yours is the course our souls are charting, and we glorify you through your Son, in the power of the Spirit, now and always. **AMEN**

Vestry has set some goals for this coming year, they are listed below, if you feel that your gifts or talents could be used for accomplishing any of these goals, speak to the lead named or to any vestry member to become involved.

Children's choir (lead-Iain Luke)

Active youth group (lead-Iain Luke)

Outside signage (lead-Justin Raymond)

Invitation Sunday (Iain Luke/Brad Lewin)

Engineering Report for Cathedral roof (Building Committee)

Tourist Information Brochure on the Cathedral & Anglican History in Peace area (lead-Priscilla Cameron)

Growth Plan (seeking committee)

Capital Budget Plan (building committee)

New church social (lead-Alice Olson)

Mini-camp, 2-day VBS style camp when children have a couple days off school

Community Garden on site (lead-Wanda Laurin)

**Vestry is also looking for fundraising ideas!**

## TAKING CARE OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD: WORSHIP AS PUBLIC WORK FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Sunday July 4 to  
Wednesday July 7, 2010

- Dr Sallie McFague •
- Mr. Douglas Todd •

*Keynote Speakers*

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- Bishop Mark MacDonald •
- Pastor Karen Ward •

*Plenary Speakers*

*Visit us at*

[www.nationalworshipconference.org](http://www.nationalworshipconference.org)  
*as we build towards the conference.*

*All events and accommodations will be located on the campus of the*

*University of British Columbia and Vancouver School of Theology.*



Congratulations! Wanda Laurin for receiving 20-year service recognition with the Peace River School Division!

Thanks Kathy Budd for taking the time to study and successfully write the exam for the "Food Handling" course for which she now holds a certificate. Having a certified member 'on staff' will be a great advantage to our groups when applying for food preparation and serving permits out of our kitchen.

"Hope Dignity Love"

### Hospice/Palliative Care Workshop

for volunteers, caregivers  
and  
those who care.

Workshop will be on Friday,  
May 14, 4:30-9 p.m.

and Saturday,

May 15, 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m.

at Peace Valley Inns,  
Emerald Room.

For more information phone  
Gina Oldenburg  
at 780-618-3418.

Registration deadline  
is April 30.