

Senior Warden 2021 Annual Report

St. James Episcopal Church

St. James started the year with the annual meeting and the welcoming of 4 new members to the Vestry – Bebe Goetter, Chris Nelson, Lauren Arrington, and Earl Jackson. Roger Guilian was re-elected as the Junior Warden; Bruce Stone was elected as the Clerk of the Vestry, and Katie Smith was re-elected as Treasurer.

In 2021, St. James continued to press forward and lead the way in adding more worship services and parish activities throughout the year. We had a minor setback during the summer as the Delta variant spread throughout the area, but we were able to put this behind us and have a tremendous Fall, Advent and Christmas season.

Our St. James School began its fourth year of operation with continued growth, expanding to add a second-grade class. To date, the school has been remarkably successful. It has outperformed the expectations of both the school board and the vestry with its growth and financial solvency, while also remaining out front with the education they are providing. The school has also done well in the area of evangelism by recruiting several families into the parish community. Being surrounded with positivity, further school expansion seems to be a logical decision for the future of St. James.

With this in mind, during the fall the Vestry unanimously voted to move forward to seek renderings and ideas from architectural firms for the purpose of expanding the campus of St James. We are a growing parish, the school will be approaching 100 students for 2022-2023 school year (in 4 short years which is amazing) and it is time, as a parish, to get a vision for the future of St. James. We have not had a capital campaign since the building of our current parish over 30 years ago, and it is time. Please be praying for our parish as we move towards this exciting season in the life of our Church on the hill.

As we look ahead towards a post covid era, St. James and the staff are working tirelessly to add more and more events, gatherings, classes and activities for 2022 and beyond. I am grateful for their hard work and dedication and I hope you will join me in thanking them.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as Senior Warden as we seek God together, share His love, and serve others.

God's Peace,
Pel Henry, Senior Warden