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St. James United Methodist Church

Established March 1, 1959



**3808 St. James Church Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
(919) 876-5796**

St. James UMC Mission Statement

St. James United Methodist Church is a community of Christian faith, reaching out to all people, welcoming diversity, and celebrating life in God's kingdom. We share God's gifts of grace, hope, and love through mission, Christian education, worship, fellowship and service.

ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Established 1959



RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

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Acknowledgements

The History Committee of St. James United Methodist Church thanks everyone who contributed to the preparation of this history booklet. We asked for help, and we received it.

There will be some duplication of information since histories of the groups and organizations within the church are included. The data was provided by various church members. Their information is important and pertinent to the history of that particular group and to the history of the church.

The Editors
March 1, 2009

Front Cover Design: Lloyd Turnage, (Pen and Ink, 1975) Lloyd and his family joined St. James when Rev. Charles Sparks was the minister. At his death in 1998 all church related drawings were donated to St. James.

Charter Member Betty Rountree's Historical Sketch

(Written for the Dedication of the Sanctuary, May 2, 1982)

PAST

On March 1st, 1959, thirteen families pledged their love, prayers, offerings and labor to organize **Asbury Methodist Church**. In a building located in the parking lot of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, U. S. #1 North, these people went about their task of doing just that. Everybody had a job to do. As Reverend Wesley Jones wrote in his report to the Quarterly Conference, "This church is one in which the spirit of Christ is active and alive, and is expressed in a willingness to serve both God and man. The majority of the members had never served actively on any of the commissions or committees, but no one has yet refused to serve whenever asked. This is a people who have never learned the two little words, 'I can't' exist. Their reply is always, 'By grace of God we will.' The spirit of the church is a spirit of cooperation and dedicated service to the total work of the Methodist Church."

The Reverend Wesley Jones served as our first minister. He was a dedicated man of God, his family and to our church. His dream was for the church that we are now worshiping in. He knew it would take a lot of hard work, sacrifices and prayer, but he knew it would happen. By May 31st, 1959, there were 31 charter members.

The church school was organized on March 8, 1959, with 27 persons attending. Mr. Lewis Franks was our first Sunday School Superintendent.

Milton D. Rountree was our first Treasurer. On May 31st, with 31 members, we had a budget of \$1,603.00, and we met it.

Anne Currin served as our first President of Women's Society of Christian Service (now United Methodist Women). There were 12 members.

Julia Franks served as our pianist. The piano was an old upright, painted white and about 75 of the 88 keys were in tune. With a few donated hymnals and Julia's magic at the keyboard, we lifted our voices in song, and it was beautiful.

Mrs. Carver Gattis and Mrs. Carl P. Frye, Sr. kept the church supplied with beautiful flower arrangements out of their garden.

The 13 charter families were:

- Mrs. Mary Brown
- Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Currin and Patricia
- Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Jordan
- Mr. and Mrs. Harold Horne
- Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Regan

Mrs. W. S. Jones, Sherrill and Anita
Mr. and Mrs. Carl P. Frye, Sr., Joe and Carl P. Frye, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Gattis
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Franks
Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Rountree
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Giles, Sr., Bill, Jr. and Woodson
Mr. and Mrs. Mack Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Lee

Reverend Jones was with us from March 1st, 1959, through June 1960. It was with sadness that we said farewell to him that June, but we waited to welcome our next minister and start our next phase of our church. In 1960, the Reverend Charles Sparks came to take the reins of the young church, **now named St. James**. We were on our own property and renting a metal building. This building was cold in the winter and almost impossible to stay in during the hot summer months. But, in spite of the discomfort, the membership grew and in July 1962, we held our first worship service in our new chapel. We also had a fellowship hall, a kitchen and needed classrooms.

Reverend Sparks left us in 1964 with a membership of 294.

Reverend James I. Warren, Jr. was our pastor from 1964 until 1968, and during his ministry, our membership grew to 440. Under his guidance we erected four additional, much needed classrooms. Seeing the fast growing membership, the congregation and Dr. Warren made plans for construction of the sanctuary and two large church offices.

Amos Stone came to St. James in 1968 and saw the congregation grow to 645. With the plans already laid out, the new sanctuary and church offices were completed at a cost of between \$225,000 and \$250,000. Reverend Stone left in 1974.

The Reverend Lester P. Jackson served St. James from 1974 to 1978. He brought to us a leadership that helped to pull us all closer together and worked to make our church one of love and fellowship. The membership grew to 789 members. His love and compassion for people endeared us to him. We also welcomed Jim Kemp, a Duke student, who was a great help to Reverend Jackson and our members.

PRESENT

In 1978 we were blessed to have the Reverend John White as our minister. John is one of the most dynamic men you will ever meet. He was so full of dreams and ideas for our church that he is hardly still a minute. He not only served our church, but the community as well, giving 100% of himself in both. We are delighted to have him still serving as our minister.

The Reverend Rod Randolph came to us in 1979 as our Associate Minister. His work load at our church was tremendous but he never failed to complete the task before

him. We were sorry to see Rod leave us to move to Durham but we are thankful for time we had with him.

In 1980 we had the pleasure to welcome Suzanna Helms. Words cannot express what she has meant to our church.

We are also proud to have Dr. Conrad Glass as a member of St. James. To Gaynelle Glass, our love and thanks for the superb job as our director of church music, now in her 20th year with us. The many hours she and the choir give to St. James is very apparent in the lovely music and song we hear each Sunday.

Our church membership is approximately 925 now with a budget of \$115,000. In March 1980, the parsonage was paid for and now, today, May 2, 1982, we join in celebration of a debt free church. It has taken us awhile to reach this goal and it hasn't been easy, but then we knew it wouldn't be. The hard work, long hours, sacrifices, big and small, have finally paid off, but it has been a labor of love on everyone's part.

FUTURE

Our church is still bursting at the seams. What's in the future for St. James, not any of us know for sure but with the dedication and love of the people, she will continue to open her doors to all who are weary and need rest, to all who are lonely and desire companionship, to all who mourn and want comfort, to all who sin and need a savior and to whosoever will come.

Time and space do not permit us to list by name all of the people who have given of their time and talent to make St. James the church it is today, but we would like to dedicate the service today in honor of those still living and in loving memory of those who are no longer with us.

Betty Rountree

Note: In discussions with Betty and Milton Rountree, they remembered that Wesley Jones, while still a Duke student, canvassed the neighborhood to see if there were enough people interested in having a Methodist Church in the area. As it turned out, Wesley Jones graduated, was ordained and assigned to the fledgling church that became St. James. They also recalled how St. James members tried to raise enough money to keep the church going, even to the extent of selling toilet paper door-to-door to people in their neighborhoods.

St. James United Methodist Church Historical Highlights

On **March 1, 1959**, 13 families met with Methodist Church Officials in the clubhouse of Westinghouse Electric Corporation to begin a new church named Asbury Methodist Church, a name given by the Raleigh Board of Missions. On May 31, 1959, Asbury Methodist Church was officially organized with 31 charter members:

Mrs. Mary Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Taylor Currin & Patricia
Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Jordan
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Horne
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Regan
Mrs. Wesley Jones, Sherrill & Anita
Mr. & Mrs. Carl P. Frye, Sr., Joe & Carl.Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. C. M. Gattis
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Franks
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Rountree
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Giles, Sr., Bill, Jr. & Woodson
Mr. & Mrs. Mack Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Graham Lee

3/59-6/60 - Rev. Wesley S. Jones - First Minister

Membership grew to 44 members

5/22/60 - Church name is changed to St. James Methodist Church

7/1/60 - St. James moved to 4 1/2 acres on New Hope Road where a temporary metal building was moved to that site.



Our First Church, The Metal Building, 1960

The metal building came from Layden Memorial Methodist Church where Conrad Glass was the minister. He later got to worship in the Metal Building again when Gaynelle came to St. James to be Choir Director and Organist in 1962.

7/60-6/64 - Rev. Charles E. Sparks - Second Minister
Membership grew to 294 members

11/27/61 - New Church building started and included our present chapel, a fellowship hall, kitchen, pastor's study and classrooms

7/8/62 - First service was held in the new chapel as the first phase of plans for a plant in the shape of a quadrangle with a courtyard.



Chapel Ground Breaking
Mrs. Mary Brown, November 12, 1961



The Chapel, 1962

12/62 - Parsonage was erected by J. C. Jordan

3/1/64 - St. James was awarded the National R. E. DeMont Award for architectural design, with Walter C. Burgess, architect.
Preschool was initiated soon after building was completed.

7/64-8/68 - Rev. Jim Warren - Third Minister
Membership grew to 440 members.

1/10/65 - 4 additional classrooms were added

Before Jim Warren left, plans were made for construction of a large sanctuary and two church offices.

8/68-6/74 - Rev. Amos Stone - Fourth Minister
Membership grew to 645 members.

Credit during Rev. Stone's tenure is given to Rev. Stone, who came to St. James from Hope Mills UMC, for acquiring the timbers for the Old Wooden Cross which now resides in the sanctuary. The timbers were donated by Edwin Brower, a member of Hope Mills UMC and first cousin to St. James member, Gene Matthews. The beams were transported by one of Vann Finch's moving vans to Raleigh. The beams were then planed to 8 inches by 6 inches and cut into three pieces to make the cross. Many nail holes are still visible in the wood. The topmost vertical piece is about 3 feet, the horizontal

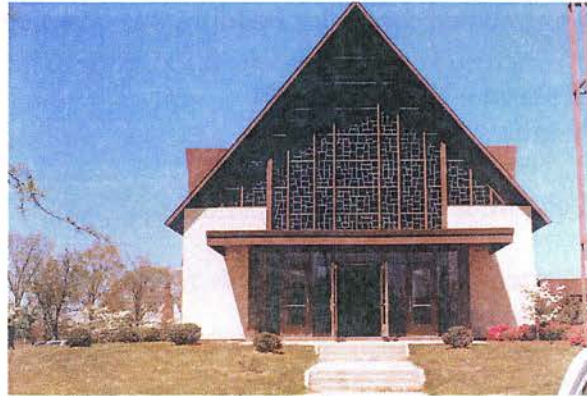
crosspiece is about 8 feet, and the total height of the cross from the floor is just over 19 feet.

- 1969** - The old farmhouse bell for the Bell Tower was presented to the church by Lewis and charter member, Mary Brown. The youth helped raise funds for The Bell Tower which when it was erected was named the "Barbara Wilder Memorial Youth Bell Tower." It was dedicated to the youth of the church. The Mary Brown Circle gave money for the bell presentation plaque telling the story of the origin of the bell.



Groundbreaking for the Bell Tower, 1969

- 1970** - Church Sanctuary and offices completed at a cost of almost \$250,000. Original plan for this church plant was then completed with quadrangle and courtyard.



St. James Church Sanctuary, 1970

7/74-6/78 - Rev. Lester P. Jackson - Fifth Minister

Membership grew to 789 members.

Ministry helped develop a sense of unity among church members to fulfill our responsibility to missions and the building program.

7/78-6/86 - Rev. John White - Sixth Minister

Membership grew to 925 members by May 1982.

1979 - Rev. Rod Randolph - Associate Minister

1980-1986 - Rev. Suzanna Ross Helms – Associate Minister



Chapel, Bell Tower and Sanctuary in the Snow

3/80 - Parsonage debt is paid off.

5/2/82 - Dedication of sanctuary and offices by Bishop William R. Cannon. This was the first time the church had been debt free.

7/86-6/87 - Rev. Berry Barbour – Seventh Minister
Active visitation and outreach programs were being used.
Ms. Carol Post was hired as Minister of Youth and Education.

7/87-6/90 - Rev. Clarence Garner – Eighth Minister
Membership grew to 1,000 members.
Morris Haywood was hired as Youth and Program Director.

6/88 - Gaynelle Glass, Director of Music, recognized for 25 years of service

7/90-6/92 - Rev. Jimmy Sutton – Ninth Minister
Membership grew to 1,050 members.
Decisions were being made about renovation and expansion of St James.

7/92-6/97 - Rev. Eric Carson – Tenth Minister
Membership was at 1,002 members.
Candie Johnson was hired as **Children's Director**.
Susan Sipal was hired as **Program Director**.
Annex and adjoining land was purchased.

1994 - Renovation and expansion plans for a large fellowship hall, kitchen, office, pastor's office, foyer, choir room, additional classrooms and restrooms were approved by the Charge Conference.

8/95 - Groundbreaking ceremony was held with some charter members present.



**Lewis Franks at Carson Hall
Ground Breaking Service**



Carson Hall Completed

- 2/96 - **Dennis Peay was hired as Youth Director.**
- 9/96 - **Jerry Lipscomb was hired as Program Director.**
- 9/22/96 - Dedication of Carson Hall in honor of Eric Carson was held.
Love program held with music and skits, directed by Linda Tomlinson.
- 6/97 - **Retirement dinner for Eric Carson**
- 7/97-6/03 - **Rev. James L. Wilson – Eleventh Minister**
Membership dropped to 775 due to purging rolls.
- 1/98 - Jerry Lipscomb left for Chile to work with a small Methodist Church for three weeks to help organize a Christian Education program centered on children and youth.
- 11/98 - Youth traveled to Pilgrimage in Fayetteville, N. C. The youth ministry at St. James had grown to 40 plus members with average attendance of 20 to 30. The leaders were Youth Director, Dennis Peay and volunteer, Jim Lewis. A mission project, Yam Jam, was held with St. James having 8 trucks and 62 volunteers helping in Smithfield, N. C.
- 1/99 - Disciple Bible Study, a year-long study with weekly meetings of 10 to 12 people attending, was led by Foy Biggers, Cathy and David Blakesley. The Cross of Lights, a missions fund raiser for the Hinton Life Center, was introduced to honor or memorialize someone during the Easter Season.

- 2/99** - Sue King was recognized as Lay Leader of the Month for her work with the Church music program, being secretary of the Board of Trustees for 3 years and working on the church grounds.

On **March 7, 1999**, St. James UMC celebrated its 40th Anniversary with former pastors participating in the worship service, historical pictures displayed along the hallways, a video tape presentation of charter members and a series of still photographs followed by a covered dish luncheon. Ministers participating in the service were: Amos Stone, Lester Jackson, John White, Eric Carson, and Jim Wilson. Dennis Peay, Youth Minister, on the way to ordination, also helped. So many people attended that folks were eating in Carson Hall, the hallways and the Sunday School Rooms.

St. James Historical Highlights **April, 1999 to March 1, 2009 St. James' 50th Anniversary**

April, 1999 - St. James became a good community citizen by allowing Carson Hall to be used as a Wake County Voting place and as a facility for Wake County's Volunteer Recognition Program.

The XYZ Club, a group of St. James members, "hit the rails" on the Carolinian train for two fun filled days and nights in Washington, DC.

A St. James Web Site was established by Charles Franks to highlight the 40th Anniversary of St. James.

June, 1999 - A St. James Work Team consisting of 22 members worked at the Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, N. C.

Also in June, an Older Adult Sunday was held to reflect on the contributions that seniors in our congregation make. Dr. Conrad Glass, Professor at N. C. State University and an ordained Methodist minister, delivered the sermon. Dr. Glass is considered one of the leading authorities in North Carolina on aging.

July 1999 - The Stephens Ministry training program, led by Jerry Lipscomb and Kay McRee, started at St. James and continued through January, 2000.

A college age Sunday School Class began this month for all college and career minded young people, including young adult couples.

The membership was reported as 797.

August, 1999 - Ed Kilbourne, a popular singer and story-teller, appeared on August 15th at both worship services, with a concert being held that evening as part of our Fall Kick-off.

Choir Room cabinets for choir members' music books, extra folding chairs and music stand storage were built and installed by Julian Bridgers.

A scholarship fund was established in the name of the UMW Ruth Circle by

Josiah Nyamenda, a student at Africa University, who was supported by the Ruth Circle for two years.

September, 1999 - Youth 99 Blast, the largest United Methodist Youth gathering in History with over 9,000 youth from around the world invaded Knoxville, Tennessee for the United Methodist Quadrennial Youth Gathering. Representing St. James were Jennifer Horton, Melissa Privette, Ryan Baggett, Josh Lewis, Sandra Horton and Dennis Peay.

October, 1999 - Hurricane Floyd relief teams from St. James were organized for helping in the hurricane ravished area, with 75 members signing up. Three hurricanes hit the state resulting in massive flooding and destruction. By December, 1999, over 100 persons from St. James had responded to the hurricane damaged areas in Eastern North Carolina to help clean up and rebuild. Marilyn Flanders and Jerry Lipscomb were the contact persons for hurricane relief.

A new choir, the Sunrise Singers, was formed by Sharon Johnson to provide special music for the 8:45 a. m. service.

John White's Kitchen Class, now called the New Beginning Class, became a permanent Sunday School class.

November, 1999 - The Church Library News reported that The Church Library is now computerized for entering data for books to produce cards for a card catalog.

February, 2000 - The first 10 Stephens Minister candidates completed their training and were commissioned as Stephen Ministers, who help in times of crisis from depression, grief, and hospital visits. The congregation was instructed to contact the minister for help with special care giving by the Stephens Ministers.

April, 2000 - A Church Library Open House was held. The purpose of the Church Library is to provide books and materials to support the programs of the church, provide books for personal spiritual growth, Bible study research and reading pleasure. This was also an opportunity to showcase the new library shelves designed by Julian Bridgers and built in Foy Biggers' shop by Foy, R. E. Cobb, Don Strickland and Julian. A display of books was available for review.

Also in April, a Holy Week Work Team went for 4 days to the devastated areas of Kenansville, Wallace and Burgaw, N. C. for rebuilding type activities.

July, 2000 - Membership was recorded as 790.

December, 2000 - The St. James web site was up and running, thanks to Maryann Palmer.

Choir Room storage shelves were built and installed by Julian Bridgers in the storage area of the Choir Room. This provided much needed shelving, a place to store the handbell cases and a way to hang the tablecloths used for the handbell tables.

Peggy Biggers was given a Special Recognition Pin by the UMW for her help in many areas of the UMW and for writing, editing and publishing the St. James Journal.

January, 2001 - Dennis Peay who came to St. James in February, 1996, to assist in Youth Ministry and later became the Assistant Pastor, announced that he was leaving to become a pastor in May.

Swede Jones was recognized and thanked by the Kitchen Committee and the United Methodist Men for building the 3 beautiful cabinets in the church kitchen. The men installed a counter top on the 8 - foot long cabinet.

April, 2001 - A new lighted church sign was installed on church property at the corner of New Hope and Buffalo Roads. Alvin Doby headed up this project.

St. James partnered with the nearby Meadowridge Community and agreed to deliver bread there once a week as part of the bread ministry distribution program.

(St. James members also donate canned goods and dried foods to be distributed to needy people who come by the church.)

May, 2001 - On May 20th a farewell dinner was held for Dennis Peay and his wife, Cherilynn, who left St. James for a new set of challenges as a minister in a new community after serving St. James for 5 years. (February, 1996 to June, 2001)

June, 2001 - Amanda Miller Garber, a Duke Divinity School student, was welcomed in June as the new part-time Director of Youth Ministries.

A mission trip to Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church in Princeville, N. C. was carried out to help this 125 year old church because of the extreme flooding two years earlier. St. James members continued to help in these severely hurricane devastated areas.

The number of members was 777.

August, 2001 - Amanda Garber and volunteers took the youth on an August United Methodist Youth Fellowship Mission Trip. They served God's children in a soup kitchen and learned about trusting in God. One night the group even toured and slept in a cave.

October, 2001 - Mike Woinicki, Chairperson of the Administrative Council, urged St. James members to rally together in response to the tragedy of September 11th. Services were held at St. James and at other congregations during this national tragedy.

December, 2001 - Gaynelle Glass announced her resignation in December, 2001, as Music Director after 39 ½ years of service. The choir room was named the Gaynelle S. Glass Choir Room in her honor, and an appropriate plaque was installed on the door.

March, 2002 - Planning was underway in March for a summer mission trip to Marion, Virginia. Project Crossroads was to be led by Jerry Lipscomb.

Staff Parrish started a search for a new music director. Sue King filled in until the new director was hired.

May, 2002 - St. James United Methodist Women were honored in May by receiving a Seven Star Unit Certificate for the women's support of seven areas of undesignated giving during 2001.

The Flamingo Flock, a Youth fund raising project, took flight. The birds could be placed in someone's yard for a fee.

June, 2002 - The United Methodist Men purchased a dishwasher for the kitchen for \$2,000. The UMM also donated \$1,000 to start a carpet fund for Carson Hall. In addition they gave the Youth \$1,000.

July, 2002 - **Lennie Collins, the new Choir Director/Organist, was hired.** He came from St. Mark's UMC where he had been the organist for three years.

There were 780 members at St. James.

August, 2002 - **Youth Director, Amanda Garber, loved by all, resigned to be effective August 4, 2002.**

Pastor Jim Wilson announced that on July 21st, St. James was recognized as one of the 27 churches in the Raleigh District to receive the Rainbow Covenant Award for 2001. A Rainbow Covenant Church is a church that has met 100% of their apportionment, one advance special from each of five areas, World Missions, National Missions, Missionary Salary Support, United Methodist Committee On Relief and Conference Missions. Meeting these qualifications allowed St. James to become a Rainbow Covenant Church. (At the 50th Anniversary, St. James is still a Rainbow Covenant Church.)

September, 2002 - In September, St. James opened its doors to allow Narcotics Anonymous, a self supporting spiritual help group, to hold regular meetings in our facility. This is a great community service in fulfilling our outreach commitments.

October, 2002 - A concert grade dolly, purchased with designated music funds, was installed on our beautiful baby grand piano. This allows it to be more easily moved to support different music groups.

A two octave set of Schulmerich Hand Chimes was given by Barbara and Bill Oram in honor of their parents.

November, 2002 - On November 4th, Carlo Curley, international organ virtuoso and widely popular concert organist, presented an organ concert in our sanctuary. St. James was selected by Hopper Piano Company, one of the tour sponsors, to be the site of this concert.

January, 2003 - **Michael Woinicki was elected as chairperson of the 2003 St. James Administrative Council.**

New Concourse Automated Library Software was purchased in January, 2003, with two donations—one from Gaynelle and Conrad Glass in memory of Gaynelle's sister, Alyce Scotten Taylor, and another in honor of Ann Bridgers, Beth Cobb, and Roy Bishop. Church members now have access to the Concourse Automated Library

Program for finding authors, titles and subjects of books to help locate books in the library.

February, 2003 - Kaye McRee, Stephen Ministry Leader, announced that the third Stephen Minister training class is underway. St. James is partnering with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for this training. (Kaye was presented the Special Mission Recognition pin by the St. James UMW in December.)

Peggy Biggers asked for volunteers for a Greeters Program at St. James. Greeters are needed to welcome both members and visitors attending the 8:45 and 10:55 a. m. services on Sunday mornings.

March, 2003 - Jerry Lipscomb, Program Director, announced that a small food pantry is being organized in the Meadowridge Community Building to serve the residents of that community. A church member has donated a freezer, and shelving has been added for dry goods. Grocery lists are available to help with shopping for the pantry.

The United Methodist Women sponsored a Mission Study on the Book of James on Saturday morning, March 8. Pastor Jim Wilson and Program Director Jerry Lipscomb taught a weekly Bible Study during Lent.

April, 2003 - The United Methodist Women sponsored another "Parade of Tables" in Carson Hall on April 5, 2003, with Sharon Johnson as chairperson. Belk's hosted a fashion show with members modeling spring fashions.

The United Methodist Men replaced 112 chairs in Carson Hall with new, more comfortable ones made possible by profits from their peanut project.

Joe Rhodes, Daily Bread Ministry Chairperson, requested more volunteers to help with this important community ministry.

May, 2003 - Pastor Jim Wilson announced that he will be moving to St. James United Methodist Church in Tarboro, North Carolina in June after six years as our minister.

Program Director Jerry Lipscomb moved from a full-time position to a ¾ time status due to health problems.

June, 2003 - Pastor Jim Wilson was honored with a luncheon in Carson Hall on June 15.

Our twelfth minister, Dr. Michael "Mike" Gast, was welcomed on June 29.

Also, Heather Harris (now Totty) joined the St. James staff as Director of Youth Ministries.

This month marked the **300th Birthday of John Wesley** and was observed during worship services on Sunday, June 22.

July, 2003 - Vacation Bible School was held during the month of July with the theme, "Lighthouse Kids." Vacation Bible School is always a highlight of the summer activities for children in our church and community.

Membership was 780.

August, 2003 - Jerry Lipscomb, St. James Program Director for the past 6 ½ years, resigned in August due to health reasons. He and his family were honored during the Sunday School hour on August 10.

The Administrative Council reviewed St. James' relationship with the Alliance Community Church, which has used our facilities for several years. Several agreements have been reached with the ACC and will be in effect from July 1, 2003 to July 21, 2004.

Shelves have been added in the Sunday School closet next to the Infant Nursery. The United Methodist Men financed this project. Ted Thurlow and Foy Biggers did the construction work.

October, 2003 - During October, 2003, Methodist Children's Fellowship (3rd through 5th grade) and Club Can Do (K through 2nd grade) were organized and began meeting on Sunday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

A Fall Festival was sponsored by the Youth and Children's Ministries on Friday, October 31, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. with St. James children and children in the community attending.

Pumpkins were available for sale in the St. James Pumpkin Patch during October. Money raised was allocated for missions of the church.

St. James' Carson Hall is now the site for a polling place for Precinct 17-11 in Wake County as part of our civic responsibility.

November, 2003 - Linda Spain became the part-time Minister of Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism for St. James.

A St. James Praise and Worship Team was organized with the first Praise and Worship service planned for January, 2004.

Helen McGee will serve as Chairperson of the St. James Administrative Council in 2004.

Plans were made to upgrade the sanctuary. The original colors and furnishings had been in place since the sanctuary was built in 1970.

December, 2003 - During December, 2003, a new Allen Renaissance organ was installed in time for the choir's Christmas program.

Heather Harris Totty became a full time member of the St. James staff as Minister of Christian Education.

An Alternative Gift Market was set up in the back of the sanctuary on December 7th. This is a project offering members the opportunity to support a number of missions.

The St. James Weekday School participated in Operation Christmas Child and collected over 50 shoeboxes filled with gifts for needy children.

February, 2004 - The sanctuary carpet was replaced, the pews were recovered and a new sound system was installed. The pulpit that had been on a raised cement platform toward the back of the altar area was removed and the platform was broken up and taken out before the new carpet was installed. The pulpit was then moved to the front of the altar area where it sits today. **Hope Morgan Ward, District Superintendent,** led the dedication service for the sanctuary improvements and the organ that had been installed in December.

Heather Totty, Minister of Christian Education, started a liturgical dance ministry, SWAT, for youth between the ages of 5 and 18.

Pictorial Directory Chairperson, Faye Gardner, announced that pictures for a new directory would be made in March.

The UMYF embarked on a huge mission project during Lent, 2004, hoping to collect 2,004 pounds of food for the North Carolina Food Bank.

March, 2004 - The first annual Chili Cook-off, sponsored by the St. James Music Department, was held on Sunday, March 28, with proceeds going to help underwrite the music program.

Dr. William J. Weiser, Minister of Music at Edenton Street UMC, performed a concert on our new Allen Renaissance organ on March 21.

June, 2004 - Kids came to Vacation Bible School, with a theme of "Lava Lava Island."

The library has a new book return box and additional shelves thanks to Julian Bridgers.

The membership total stood at 796.

September, 2004 - The Board of Trustees, with the approval of the Administrative Council, installed a dishwasher in the Carson Hall kitchen. Designated funds accounted for a major part of the cost.

Linda Spain, Minister of Outreach, Mission, and Evangelism, reported that St. James was actively involved in the Hand in Hand Project, a ministry that connects communities of faith with schools. St. James has partnered with Vena Wilburn Elementary School by providing tutors and other assistance.

St. James started a Book Club for adults who enjoy reading. It was scheduled to meet once a month.

October, 2004 - A monthly "games afternoon" was organized for adults who enjoy playing board games, followed by supper prepared by Chris Thurlow.

Tim Tyson, author of Blood Done Signed My Name, and son of a Methodist minister, came to the St. James Book Club meeting on October 26.

December, 2004 - **Angela Hill, Office Administrator for St. James during the past 6 ½ years, resigned.**

Kay Strickland, a St. James member for many years, was hired to fill that position.

The St. James Sanctuary Choir, accompanied by piano and orchestra, presented "A Candlelight Christmas" during the 11:00 a.m. service on December 19.

May, 2005 - The Evangelism Committee, co-chaired by Ellen and Stan Whitt, started a fellowship time called, "The Gathering," following the Sunday morning 11:00 a.m. worship service. This provided visitors, along with the general membership, an opportunity to mingle and get to know one another better.

June, 2005 - A Crafters Club was organized in June, 2005 for those who enjoy participating in various crafts. Also this month, Vacation Bible School was held with the theme "Serengeti Trek."

July, 2005 - Ceiling fans were purchased and installed in Carson Hall.

Carpet was installed in the Chapel by the Wesleyan Class.

Contemporary services began in Carson Hall on Sunday evenings during the summer months.

The membership total dropped to 724 due to 69 members being dropped from the roll by Charge Conference action in 2005.

November, 2005 - Dinnerware was ordered to be used for meals served in Carson Hall. This was a huge improvement in reducing the use and expense of paper products.

December, 2005 - Blue altar paraments for use during Advent were given in memory of John Barnes, a long-time St. James member, by family and friends. The paraments were sewn by several St. James ladies. Also, **Martha Farley, our noted St. James artist**, painted new blue banners for Advent. Martha has designed numerous stained glass windows and painted many banners for churches across the nation.

January, 2006 - **Scott Finley was elected as Administrative Council Chairperson for 2006.**

Also in January, our minister, Dr. Gast, had heart surgery.

David Hogg and Don Strickland went on a week-long mission trip to Louisiana to help repair damages caused by Hurricane Katrina.

"One Spirit," a vocal group from Methodist College in Fayetteville, performed in the new St. James Concert series.

February, 2006 - **Dr. Gast announced that he plans to retire in June.**

Banners painted by Martha Farley that are not currently used in the sanctuary have been hung in Carson Hall. These will be rotated to the sanctuary during the church calendar year.

The Handbell Choir from Horne Memorial UMC in Clayton presented a program on February 26.

March, 2006 - **Ray and Dottie Coulter, long time members of St. James, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a lunch reception in Carson Hall on March 19, 2006.**

April, 2006 - The St. James Weekday School became accredited by the National Academy for Early Childhood.

Gene and Patsy Hemphill donated a freezer to the Carson Hall kitchen. Gradually the kitchen is being equipped.

June, 2006 - St. James UMC sponsored a breakfast for the teachers and staff at Wilburn Year-Round Elementary School on June 7. St. James continues to be a Hand-in-Hand

partner, including tutoring, with Wilburn. Also, the mission project for Vacation Bible School in June was to provide donated school supplies for needy Wilburn students.

Beth Cobb and Ann Bridgers started a monthly "Library Time" during the summer for children between the ages of 3 and 7.

Reverend Dr. Gast was honored with a retirement luncheon in Carson Hall on Sunday, June 11.

July, 2006 - On July 9th, St. James welcomed our thirteenth minister, Reverend Hunter Preston, his wife, Karen, and daughters, Kelli and Sarah, to St. James with a reception hosted by the United Methodist Women.

Membership moved up slightly to 738.

August, 2006 - The Trustees announced that improvement projects involving changing the doors and glass at the front entrance of the sanctuary should be completed soon.

The concrete entrance area on both sides of the church were changed and hand rails added for more handicapped accessibility.

The parking lots are scheduled to be resealed and repainted.

Improvements in the kitchen included a stainless steel table with storage drawers and a large shelf with attachments to hold several large pots and pans.

Karen E. Preston, wife of our new pastor, Hunter Preston, and also a registered nurse, wrote a new feature article called "Health Heartbeat" for the St. James Journal.

September, 2006 - Jonathan Owens, son of Karen Owens and a sophomore at East Carolina University, received the 2006 Jeff Wilson Memorial Scholarship. Jeff Wilson, upon his death in 1995, endowed St. James with the financial resources to make this scholarship available annually to a deserving youth in our church.

Ann Bridgers, church librarian, announced that the OPAC program of "Concourse," a Library Management System, now enables library patrons to use the church library computer to search for books by title, author, and subject. Books are now arranged on the shelves by the Dewey Decimal System.

October, 2006 - A new cross for the altar in the Chapel was handcrafted by Clayton Jenkins in memory of his wife, Treva.

Among the St. James Mission Outreach activities this month were a Flu Shot Clinic, helping with the annual Yam Jam, and participating in the "Undie Sunday" drive, the latter providing undergarments for the needy.

The St. James United Methodist Women were recognized again as a "Gold Unit" for the sixth consecutive year at the Annual Meeting in Fayetteville.

November, 2006 - The Annex Building study, which was approved by the Administrative Council, was completed. An architect determined that the building is useable, with some modifications to the interior, to meet city codes.

February, 2007 - Reverend John White, retired United Methodist clergyman and former pastor of St. James, joined the St. James staff in a part-time position as Pastor of Congregational Care.

The Daily Bread Ministry began its seventh year of providing bread for the hungry of Wake County. It was noted that volunteers are always welcomed to help with this St. James mission project.

April, 2007 - St. James was recognized in April as a 2007 Rainbow Covenant Church by the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

June, 2007 - David Horton, St. James UMYF President, attended the Duke Youth Academy for Christian Formation, a two-week summer program for selected high school students, to live in an intentional Christian community on the Duke University campus in Durham.

Plans were underway for Vacation Bible School this month with the theme being "Avalanche Ranch."

A youth choir from FUMC in Winter Park, Florida, presented a musical about "Adam and Eve" and "Noah and the Ark" at St. James on June 3. They were touring the East coast states from Florida to Pennsylvania and stopped at St. James.

The membership total for 2007 was reported as 745.

August, 2007 - Additional shelves were added to the church library. There are now 28 new shelves across the end wall. These were built by Julian Bridgers and provide more much-needed space for books that members may check out for inspirational reading, Bible study and pleasure reading. A children's section is filled with Bible stories, good fiction books and videos.

September, 2007 - A new Bible stand for the altar was designed and constructed by Foy Biggers, using wood from a walnut tree that once stood in the St. James playground. The two cabinets at the back of the sanctuary and one in the kitchen (which were designed and built by Swede Jones) were also made with wood from this tree.

November, 2007 - Another Alternative Gift Market was held in Carson Hall on November 3 and 4. There were gifts available through Fair Traders and the Red Bird Mission and opportunities to make donations to several mission organizations as alternative gifts.

The Annex Building Committee announced that plans have now been approved by the St. James Charge Conference, the Raleigh District of the United Methodist Church, and the City of Raleigh. Phase One includes the construction of a new workshop/storage building. Phase Two will be the renovation of the annex. Phase Three will be the addition of a picnic shelter to the annex.

January, 2008 - Shan Biggers was elected as chairperson of the St. James Administrative Council for 2008.

February, 2008 - A Prayer Shawl Ministry, under the leadership of Diane Lipscomb, was organized at St. James. Shawls will be given to the sick and shut-ins. An ice cream machine was purchased and installed in the church kitchen by the United Methodist Men. Funds used for this equipment came from their ongoing Peanut Mission project.

April, 2008 - As Methodists and members of St. James United Methodist Church, we observed Church Heritage Sunday on April 27, 2008. Historian Ann Bridgers prepared and printed a brief history of the important events during the first 40 years of St. James' history. A listing was included of the charter members and the ministers who have served St. James during that period of time. The church will celebrate its 50th anniversary on March 1, 2009.

May, 2008 - The Annex Building Committee reported that work on the first phase of the project, the construction of a storage building, was nearing completion. Many volunteers have been involved in the project.

The United Methodist Men have restored their original charter, which was "discovered" recently among some church documents.

A community garden was planned on property beyond the church playground. Volunteers are needed to make this mission project successful.

June, 2008 - Librarians Ann Bridgers and Beth Cobb are now having "Children's Time in the Church Library" during Children's Church on the second Sunday of each month. Following the reading of a Bible story from one of the books in the church library, children have an opportunity to check out books to take home and read. A new wall display was installed in which books can be placed and easily seen by children.

July, 2008 - The Stan Whitt Memorial Golf Tournament was held on July 26, 2008 at Wil-Mar Golf Course to raise money for pancreatic cancer research. Stan was an active member of St. James who died from pancreatic cancer in February.

The Annex was renamed "Montague Hall" in celebration of the financial support and encouragement of the late Pete Montague, who began our fund-raising with a gift in memory of his late wife, Frances. The name will become official at the dedication of the building.

Youth Works, a mission project for youth from all over the eastern United States, was hosted by St. James for three weeks in late July and early August.

Membership for 2008 was 734.

September, 2008 - A new Information Center and St. James In-House Mailbox was constructed and located in the church lobby.

October, 2008 - Construction activities were taking place in Montague Hall. Quite a lot of progress had been made.

November, 2008 - It was announced that preparations are underway for the observance of the 50th Anniversary of St. James United Methodist Church. **The celebration will take place on March 1, 2009, fifty years to the day when the first members met at the Westinghouse Electric Corporation.**

What's in a Name? Asbury to St. James

When St. James Methodist Church was first formed, the Methodist Conference gave it the name, Asbury Methodist Church. How did we get to be St. James Methodist Church?

Lewis Franks has the answer to that question. There was a community a bit farther out than where the church was located behind the Westinghouse Plant on what is now Capital Boulevard named Asbury. According to Lewis it was not much more than a sign on the railroad line. When asked where the members went to church they said, "Asbury" to which the questioner confused the location with the Asbury community. Well the members did not like that so they petitioned the Conference to change the name. The Conference agreed and asked what name the congregation would like. Several names were suggested including "Hope" and "New Hope". After a short time the Conference offered "St. James." The congregation liked it and the name was changed to St. James Methodist Church. Later the Methodist Church merged with the United Brethren and the name was changed again to St. James United Methodist Church.

Then when the City of Raleigh cut what is now New Hope Road though and widened that road they contacted St. James to see what to name the old New Hope Road which ran in front of the present location of the church. We asked for and received St. James Church Road.

So now we have St. James United Methodist Church at 3808 St. James Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604.

No Budget Concerns for St. James

Julia Franks reports that at the new church's first service the congregation was elated that there would be no budget woes for the fledgling church. In the congregation that morning were a number of women in fine dresses, hats and furs and men in nice suits wearing quality hats. The new members looked around and thought that everything surely must be smooth sailing with all these "rich" folks here. It turns out that these people were from the Methodist Conference and would not be members of Asbury (St. James). Thus the money went away that Sunday and the church members had to struggle to make ends meet.

There are stories of members even selling toilet paper door to door along surrounding streets to make money to run the church.

Minister Quotes

“Ground hogs and singers make up some of the nicest people I know.”

James I. Warren, Jr.

“I found the house darker than midnight down in a cypress swamp.”

Charles E. Sparks

When talking about John White being a military policeman: Hunter said, “that would be like putting a rabbit in charge of the carrot patch.”

Hunter Preston

St. James Ministers With Dates

Rev. Wesley Jones	1959 - 1960
Rev. Charles E. Sparks	1960 - 1964
Rev. James I. Warren	1964 - 1968
Rev. Amos Stone	1968 - 1974
Rev. Lester Jackson	1974 - 1978
Rev. John H. White	1978 - 1986
Rev. Berry Barbour	1986 - 1987
Rev. Clarence Garner	1987 - 1990
Rev. James Sutton	1990 - 1992
Rev. Eric Carson	1992 - 1997
Rev. James I. Wilson	1997 - 2003
Rev. Michael Gast	2003 - 2006
Rev. Hunter Preston	2006 -

Music Reflections

The following are reflections from Gaynelle Glass, Choir Director and Organist at St. James for 39 and ½ years. She is the longest serving staff member of St. James but was not the oldest staff member of St. James.

In March, 1962, the NC Conference offices of the United Methodist Church moved from Duke Campus in Durham to The United Methodist Building on Glenwood Avenue in Raleigh. Conrad and I moved to Raleigh and bought a house in Brentwood. I was in my senior year at Greensboro College, so commuted to Raleigh on weekends until graduation.

We visited St. James and met Charlie Sparks, the minister. We, also, visited Edenton Street UMC and I even talked with Catherine Miller about being Assistant Organist there, since I was an organ major at Greensboro College. When Mrs. Miller asked me if I would be the Assistant Organist, I really thought we would go to Edenton Street UMC because of the big organ, but each Friday afternoon, when I came home from Greensboro, there would be something from Charlie Sparks at our front door --- a small book, a record or something having to do with music. Sometimes, Charlie would be sitting on our doorstep, waiting for me to come home. He would always end our conversation with, "Edenton Street could use you, but St. James NEEDS you. Just think about it through this week!" I joined St. James while we were still meeting in the metal building.

In August, 1962, I finally met with the choir the first time. We met in the choir area in the Chapel. The organ was very small. Julia Franks was the organist. Each service (8:45 and 11:00 a.m.) had 6 to 8 members. They used the Methodist and Cokesbury Hymnals for anthems. When we started singing some anthems, Julia didn't want to play the organ, so I started playing and directing.

I worked with the choir for a few years with no pay. Ken Winton approached me about a salary and I asked that the salary be put in a budget for choir music. By this time, the choirs had combined and we had started singing anthems for all worship services. I think the choir budget started off at \$25.00 a month. It wasn't too long before the Finance Committee started sending me a check for playing and directing, without asking if I would take pay.

The choir continued to grow and later, Children's Choirs were formed. Then, with money given by Conrad's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Glass, Sr., handbells were bought. There was a man at St. James who told me he would like to play an instrument before he was 50 years old --- would I help him! Well, with a little bit of theory thrown in, he DID learn to play bells and still plays them today!

Sue King also has reflections on music at St. James. The following comes from Sue's memory of what she heard about and how she participated in the music program.

Julia Franks was the first pianist for St. James when the church was meeting at the Westinghouse Meter Plant.

In 1970, Gaynelle Glass was the organist and music director and had been for several years at that time. She played for both services and for any special music at each service.

Sue King joined St. James in 1971 and in 1972 began playing for the early worship service and occasionally substituted for Gaynelle. In 1978, Gaynelle resumed playing for both worship services because special vocal and instrumental music was offered at both services. She also conducted the Handbell Choir.

During a medical leave of absence for Gaynelle (sometime before 1991), John Upham served in her place, playing the organ and directing the Sanctuary Choir and the Handbell Choir.

Musicians assisting with children and youth choirs have included Buena Maness, Glenna Chapman, Sharon Johnson, Vicki Overton, Becky Barnhart, Susan Curtin, Kim Snow, Diane Lipscomb, Ellen Giunco, Emily Murdock, Sheila DeBastiani, Denise Holbrook, Jim Lewis, Carolyn Bishop, Angela Carter, and others.

Sue started a more contemporary choir, Joyful Noise, in 19--. This choir performs several times a year in the sanctuary and has been known to take their "show on the road" to nursing homes, other churches locally and even to a former St. James member's church in Camden, N. C. which is near Elizebeth City, N. C.

Sue King began directing the Handbell Choir in 1999.

Gaynelle Glass retired December 31, 2001. Sue King served as interim music director for seven months, until Lennie Collins took over in August, 2002. Sue now serves as his assistant and substitute in addition to directing Joyful Noise and the Handbell Choir. Denise Holbrook and Tom Ward have also substituted at the organ on a few occasions.

Current Musical Equipment

Sanctuary: Allen organ, grand piano, studio piano

Chapel: spinet piano

Carson Hall: studio piano

Music Room: studio piano

Handbells: Three octaves of Schulmerich handbell chimes

Melody chimes: Two octaves of Schulmerich melody chimes

Ludwig Timpani: Set of four timpani (Kettle Drums)

The original organ in the sanctuary was a Rodgers, installed in 1969. It was replaced with the Allen organ in 2004 when the Rodgers organ died a horrible death during Sunday services.

The original studio piano in the sanctuary resided in the choir room/closet during the week and was rolled into the sanctuary on Wednesday nights and Sundays. Sometime after 1996, when the studio piano was replaced with the new sanctuary grand piano, given by the Bridgers family, the studio piano was moved to the music room. It later moved to Carson Hall when the music room piano was replaced by a new one donated by Ray and Dottie Coulter.

The spinet piano in the chapel was donated by Anne Canady's mother, Mrs. Dew, in 2006. Previously, the chapel had only a chord organ and electronic organ (both now gone). A studio piano from the Old Fellowship Hall had been rolled in and out of the chapel when needed. That studio piano is now in the west transept of the sanctuary.

Gaynelle S. Glass Music Room

The building addition that included Carson Hall, the offices, the foyer, classrooms, restrooms and the music room was completed and dedicated in 1996. Upgrades were then made for storage of music materials, choir member music books, extra chairs and music stands. The choir risers were added in 2006.

Worship Team – 2009

The purpose of the Worship Team is to work with the pastor and music director to enhance the worship experience and to provide opportunities for participation in worship.

The team is organized so that each subgroup has its own leader, but the groups work together to provide everything from a warm welcome at the door to meaningful scripture-based messages and from beautiful worship surroundings to inspiring music and other artistic offerings.

Responsibilities of the Worship Team involve working with the pastor and director of music in planning worship services, involving laypersons as worship leaders, care for the furnishings, paraments and sacramental elements of worship, encouraging the use of dramatic arts and liturgical dance in worship and welcoming worshipers to St. James.

Team members as of January, 2009 are:

Chairperson - Sue King who meets with the pastor and the music director to plan weekly and special worship activities, recruit lay readers and communion servers, work with office staff to prepare bulletins, share congregation input with pastor and music director, maintain copyright licenses, report to Administrative Council, and coordinate worship for weddings, funerals, and baptisms.

Altar Guild - Kathi Doby is charged with maintaining the chancel area furnishings, flowers, candles, communion elements, paraments, banners, and seasonal decorations.

Acolytes - Karen Owens conducts annual training for candidates in 3rd grade to middle school, orders and maintains robes and lighting supplies, insures that acolytes assist with baptisms, and collect the attendance registers. There are currently 19 acolytes. The acolytes are recognized after 1 year, 3years, and 5 years.

Children's Church - Heather Totty develops programming for children under age 7 during the 11:00 a. m. worship service.

Greeters (with the Evangelism Committee) - These members are in place at both entrances of the sanctuary to welcome members and visitors to worship.

Ushers - Steve Betts recruits members to serve as ushers. In addition to the Greeters, the Ushers also welcome worshippers. They distribute bulletins, direct visitors, collect the offering, assist with communion, and record attendance.

Music Director - Lennie Collins coordinates all music groups, performances, special events, provides organ and/or piano music during the services, and assists with hymn selection.

Sound (with Trustees) - Foy Biggers manages sound for the services, record the services for shut-ins, and prepares microphones for dramatic plays and children's activities.

Music - Within each group, the directors decide how the group will be organized and what music will be prepared then communicate the plans to the music director for scheduling.

Sanctuary Choir - Lennie Collins
Sunrise Singers - Sharon Johnson
Joyful Noise - Sue King
Shining Stars - Sheila DeBastiani
Handbell Choir - Sue King
Jubilation Choir
First Choir
Cherub Choir
Crossfire (youth choir - praise team)

Kids' Club - Vicki Overton

Dance - Heather Totty teaches interpretive dance to youth members to be used within worship and for special events. The SWAT dance group has performed at various services at St. James.

Drama - Jerry Lipscomb and Linda Tomlinson direct productions within worship and for special events.

Some of the accomplishments in the last 10 years were:

The new music room as part of the Carson Hall addition was completed in 1999. It was named the "Gaynelle S. Glass Music Room" in 2000 in honor of Gaynelle's 39 ½ years as Music Director – Organist at St. James. Julian Bridgers added shelving in the music storage room in 2000. In addition he added two counter/cabinet combination units for choir members to keep their music and to store extra chairs and music stands. Gaynelle Glass retired as music director – organist on December 31, 2000. Sue King served as interim music director - organist from January 2001 until August 2001 when Lennie Collins was hired as music director – organist. A concert series featuring local, statewide and nationwide guest musicians, such as the Enloe High School orchestra staff and students, the Wilson Brass Quintet, university vocal groups, North Carolina Symphony members, Carlo Curley, Bill Weiser, a Dixieland Band for All Saints' Sunday in 2007, Children of Eden from Winter Park, Florida, and many more groups was initiated. St. James participated in joint seasonal events with Covenant Presbyterian and Trinity Presbyterian churches. New seasonal banners were made and painted by Martha Farley and displayed in the sanctuary. Advent and Easter banners were made to decorate the sanctuary during these Holy times of the year. The choir loft pews were modified to permit better arrangement for the choir. A new Allen organ was purchased and installed. Choir risers were purchased for use in the choir room and the sanctuary. The risers permit varied set-ups for presentations by choirs, children and dramas. A new sound system was designed, purchased and installed in the sanctuary. Children of the church are offered a time, once a month, to go to the Church Library for Children's Church during the 11:00 a. m. worship service where videos and library time with books is available.

Future plans call for a contemporary service to be developed. More flexibility is also on the agenda. And already planned for Holy Week 2009 is a visit by the Credo Quartet Chamber Choir from Russia.

St. James Sunday School Classes

The purpose of Sunday School is to provide Christian education from the cradle to the grave each week, as well, as providing great support for each member. Sunday School meets each Sunday at 9:45 a. m. In addition many classes meet for social outings outside of the Sunday School hour. Attendance is an average of 150 per week.

The Sunday School Superintendent is Shirley Kennett.

There are 13 Sunday School classes:

<u>Class Name</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Nursery	Caron Mitchell
Toddlers	Lou Norris and Caryn Ray
3 and 4 Year old	Billie Allesie, Ellen Giunco, Kelley Tatum, and Amy Biggers
K – 5	Cynthia Johnson and Debbie Neuhart
1 st and 2 nd Grade	Debbie Perry, Emily Murdock and Kim Snow
3 rd , 4 th and 5 th Grade	Steve Snow and Richard and June Currin
Junior High	Susan Vest and Milburn Holbrook
Senior High	Autumn Ross and Billie Allesie
Confirmation	Hunter Preston
Fellowship	Kay Strickland, Cathe and David Blakeslee, Mary Ann Hogg and Tom Ward
Wesleyan	Gene Hemphill and Gayle Mathews
DuBois	Charlie Wilder and Lewis Franks
Bible Study	Maurice Toler, R. E. Cobb, Bob Gardner, Frances Floyd and Julian Bridgers
Kitchen	John White

Plans are underway to revive the Seekers Class taught by Foy Biggers on March 8, 2009.

St. James Children's Activities

The purpose of this wing of St. James is to provide Christian activities and ministry to the children of the church and surrounding neighborhoods.

Some of the activities include:

Easter Egg Hunt	Kids' Club
Vacation Bible School	Christmas Play
Family Picnics	Children's Sunday
Fall Festival	Happy Birthday Jesus Play
Breakfast with Santa	

Ten children consistently attend with as many as 75 to 100 for Vacation Bible School and Fall Festival.

The major accomplishment in 2008 was the start of Kids' Club. In 2007 it was Breakfast with Santa, and in 2003, the Fall Festival kicked off.

The leaders of children's activities are Heather Totty, Emily Murdock, Susan Vest, Kathi Doby, Ellen Giunto, and Dawn Robertson.

St. James Vacation Bible School

Heather Totty, Minister of Christian Education, heads up Vacation Bible School, the purpose of which is to provide a fun-filled, Christ-centered week of learning about God and His stories and principals for children 2 years old to 5th grade.

Bible School includes dinner every night during the week provided by either the United Methodist Women or the United Methodist Men. The meal is followed by opening music, Bible stories, crafts, snacks, games, Chadder's Theater and closing music.

Attendance averages 75 children and 30 to 40 adults each night.

Each year the program has managed to have a fantastic week with many new faces from the community, as well as, children from the church attending.

Leaders of Vacation Bible School include Heather Totty, Dawn Evans, Kathi Doby, Emily Murdock, Jerry Lipscomb, Diane Lipscomb and many other volunteers.

Plans for the 2009 Vacation Bible School are underway with a theme of "Crocodile Dock", where kids shine God's light.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

The purpose of the United Methodist Youth Fellowship is a gathering of youth, grades 6-12, who meet weekly on Sunday afternoons or evenings to experience what it means to grow together as the Body of Christ. This happens through fellowship (games, activities and FOOD!), study (Bible study and programs relevant to teenage years), worship (youth-led devotions and other worship experiences), and service (helping the church, local community, and the world through giving time and energy).

Activities include a number of things as listed below:

While a normal Sunday evening consists of an ice-breaker and group-building games followed by a program.

UMYF special activities include:

The 30-Hour Famine – an event sponsored by World Vision where the youth fast from eating for 30 hours, during which they learn about world hunger and raise funds to provide food and medicine for a specific country or region in desperate need. Most

importantly, they experience the Holy Spirit's power creating true compassion for the poor and oppressed through their own self-denial.

Youth Sunday – the conclusion of the 30 hour famine provides the opportunity for the youth to experience spiritual leadership of the Body of Christ by leading the congregation's two morning worship services.

Food drives – a semi-annual campaign helps keep the St. James' food pantry well-supplied, by offering not only the congregation, but the surrounding community as well, the opportunity to provide for those in need.

Volunteering – opportunities are offered encouraging the youth to “roll up their sleeves” and help with church improvements or with local benevolent agencies.

Retreats – the Spirit moves in wonderful ways outside “the norm.” Getaways such as lake, ski and beach retreats combine play, group bonding and devotionals, while other retreats such as the NC Conference event, “Pilgrimage,” provide a structured, modern “revival” weekend with thousands of other youth throughout the eastern half of the state.

Small group activities – opportunities such as “Shining Stars” (youth choir) and SWAT (Sacred Worship Arts dance Team) provide teens with group-based opportunities for growth and expression.

Membership numbers vary according to graduation and promotion. The UMYF has grown in recent years to over 30 youth with an average attendance of well over 20.

Major accomplishments:

In addition to the outstanding annual impact of the 30-Hour Famine (missions), the youth have helped bring about the transformation of the “Annex” into “Montague Hall.” Their enthusiastic presence in the congregation has fostered the support of renovating an out-building into a multi-purpose facility designed primarily for the youth. They have invested time and energy into the raising of funds, as well as in the physical transformation of the building.

Leadership has come over the years from various sources. Many parents have assumed leadership roles. In addition, St. James has had staff persons assigned at times during its history. Parents of UMYF members are marvelous supporters of the program. The current volunteer adult leadership consists of Steve Betts, Autumn Ross and Sherry Bennett, with Pastor Hunter Preston coordinating the program. Former youth leaders on the St. James staff include Morris Haywood, Jerry Lipscomb, Dennis Peay, Amanda Garber and Heather Harris Totty. Former adult volunteer leaders include: April Ezell, Billy Ezell, Jeannie Betts, Steve Betts and Jim Lewis to name a few.

Currently, the youth are embracing a shared-leadership model for programming, communication and service.

Some of the former youth presidents include: David Horton, Jennifer Lewis, Rebekah Lipscomb, Beth Lipscomb, Chris Lipscomb, Melissa Privette, Jennifer Lewis and Alyssa Perry.

XYZ Club

The name of the XYZ club stands for "Extra Years of Zip".

The club was designed for older members of the St. James community to provide programs including devotionals, speakers and information on safety issues for seniors. The United Methodist Women Circles serve as hostesses for the monthly XZY Club meetings on the first Thursday of each month and provide drinks, chips, cake, favors and bingo prizes. The members enjoy wonderful fellowship.

Activities include Bingo, Picnics and Outings. The outings have included the North Carolina Zoo, a trip to Washington, D. C. on the train and a day trip to Wilmington, N. C. to visit a plantation and ride on the sightseeing riverboat. Once a year St. James pays for the XYZ Club to go out to eat. Other activities include taking Easter baskets to the children at the Battered Women's Home and giving Valentines signed by the XYZ Club to Billy Buffaloe for residents at an assisted living home. Snowmen made of baby socks and filled with birdseed were taken to the assisted living facility on New Hope Road. A basket of bingo prizes was taken to the Fall River Assisted Living facility. The XYZ Club members vote on all projects.

Membership started at 12 the first year, doubled the next year, and then peaked at about 30. The present membership is about 12 members.

Sallie Bartholomew, 96 years old, is the oldest member of the XYZ Club.

Clarice Pratt is the current leader. The XYZ Club was started by Henrietta Jackson, wife of Pastor Lester Jackson.

Church Mission Programs

The purpose of these programs is to reach out to our community to help the needy.

Groups that are helped are:

Food Pantry	Alternative Gift Market
Gleaning	Angel Tree
Methodist Home for Children	Red Cross Blood Drive
Flu Shot Clinic	Persons stopping by the church
Communities in Schools Tutors at Wilburn Elementary School	

Many church members participate in these mission programs.

St. James has been a Rainbow Covent Church since 2004.

Daily Bread Ministry

The purposes of this mission are to help feed the hungry in Raleigh through utilization of “left-over” bakery items from Panera Bread & Dunkin’ Donuts and to utilize donations left by church members on Sunday to cover the costs of gloves & bags needed for packaging. Any surplus funds are placed in a separate Bread Ministry Mission Fund to expand our avenues of mission as agreed upon by Bread Ministry members.

On Saturday, August 12, 2000, two St. James members were leaving Crabtree Valley Mall, exiting where the Panera Bread store is located. They noticed that employees were dragging out several very large see-through plastic bags full of pastries and breads, leaving them on the curb outside the mall for trash pick up. A week passed, and during a second visit to the mall, large quantities of bread were observed out on the curb again. Astounded by the waste, the members spoke to the manager, and asked if it would be permissible to approach the congregation to consider a mission project of collecting the bread for distribution to agencies to feed the poor & hungry. The manager told them that fresh bread was baked every night, and that because the labor to pack it for distribution was prohibitive, they have no alternative but to discard what was left over at the end of each day. The manager informed the St. James members that Panera Bread has a policy to donate left over bread to charities from all their locations.

The two members traveled to the coast for the weekend. The idea for a ‘bread ministry’ stayed on their minds. Instead of staying through Sunday, they returned early Sunday morning. They made a request of the minister, Jim Wilson, to present the idea to the congregation at both services. Jim agreed. **Without any prior collaboration or planning, it was a surprise to find that the service that Sunday morning was on the “Bread of Life” and that the opening hymn was “Let Us Break Bread Together”.**

The scripture for the service was John 6:35 and John 6:48-51. John 6:35 – “Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.” John 6:48-51 - “I am the bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world”.

Jim’s sermon spoke of Jesus as the bread of life. Following the sermon, a loaf of bread was held up to the congregation and an appeal was made to consider the opportunity and “Gift” we had been given. A suggested method of packaging and distribution was explained to the congregation. Afterwards, sign up sheets were circulated asking for volunteers. It was a blessing to see 46 members enthusiastically sign up, and thus “The Daily Bread Ministry” of our congregation was begun. The Administrative Council later approved the ministry and the process for the Bread Ministry. The closing hymn for the service that Sunday was “Take Our Bread”.

The way this happened seemed that this had been divine intervention rather than just co-incidental. The rest is history. Literally, tons of bread & pastries donated by Panara Bakeries and Dunkin' Donuts have been distributed to needy persons in Raleigh.

Five teams were formed with divided responsibilities of picking up pastry and bread products at the close of business on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday at the Crabtree Valley Mall. The collected items are returned to the church to be repackaged. The following morning someone on that week's Bread Team delivers the bread and pastries to Urban Ministries and the New Bern House. One day each week, bread is also left at Meadow Ridge, a low-income development near St. James. The exception is that the Saturday night pick-up is repacked & placed on tables in Carson Hall. On Sunday morning members of the congregation may take any that they would care to have, leaving a donation that helps with the cost of processing. Any bread left on Sunday morning is placed in the refrigerator and delivered on Tuesday morning with the bread picked up Monday night.

The number of members of the Bread Team has varied over the life of the program but averages 45 people. Most volunteers are from St. James but there are non-St. James helpers also. The members of the teams enjoy fellowship while providing a great service to the less fortunate. A great deal of appreciation is expressed to those who have, over the years, so generously and unselfishly donated their time, energy and dedication.

Since its inception on August 22, 2000, untold numbers of needy people in Raleigh have benefited from this ministry. In addition, several thousand dollars in donations in excess of operating expenses have been utilized in other areas of mission including assisting with urgent needs of families, as well as, community needs.

The Bread Ministry will celebrate its 9th Anniversary in August, 2009.

Stephen Ministry

A Stephen Minister gives one – to – one, lay Christian care. Stephen Ministers are trained and supervised lay volunteers. Stephen Ministers meet privately with one care receiver of the same gender. Stephen Ministers care by listening, supporting, encouraging, praying, and maintaining confidentiality in their care giving.

St. James has 4 active Stephen Ministers and 2 Stephen Minister Leaders. They have had more than a dozen care giving relationships since their beginning.

Current leaders are Jerry Lipscomb, Diane Lipscomb and Hunter Preston. The founding Stephen Ministry Leaders were Jerry Lipscomb and Kay McRee.

Shawl Ministry

The purpose of the Shawl Ministry is to give individuals a symbol of God's love for them, after prayers and blessings have been given over the shawls.

Shawls are knitted or crocheted by members of the ministry for people who are grieving, suffering from an illness, who have had a baby or are experiencing a life-altering event. The group meets the third Sunday afternoon of each month and decides who in the congregation needs a shawl as well as anyone else outside our church. Shawls have been made for people who are known and unknown to the church.

The Shawl Ministry began meeting March, 2008, and has 9 active members. To date the Shawl Ministry has made and distributed over 100 baby caps, shawls and blankets that were knitted, crocheted or sewn.

Diane Lipscomb brought this program to St. James and is the current leader.

Disciple Bible Study Class

This class provides Bible study on how to be a disciple with information and transformation, reading 75% of the Bible and working on student workbooks.

Cathie and David Blakeslee, leaders of this class, meet weekly for 35 weeks using reading of assigned Bible books and student workbook sections for discussion, and video viewing. There are up to 12 students per class.

St. James began providing Disciple Bible Study classes in 1998. Five classes have graduated to date. Graduates go on to be much better Christians and dedicated to be Disciples for Jesus out in the world.

St. James Prayer Group

St. James Prayer Group formed in 1996 as an outgrowth from the Experiencing God Bible Study. Several members realized the need for consistent prayer, interceding for our ministers, staff, the church body and our friends, as well as our nation.

The Prayer Group prays not only for people for whom we care but also services, ministries and events of our church.

There are Prayer Request Cards available at each pew providing members the opportunity to give their requests to the ministers and the Prayer Group. "Concerns of

the Congregation” are posted in each Sunday’s Bulletin as well as on the Prayer Concern Board that is located near the narthex.

The Prayer Group is honored to have the trust of our congregation with prayer requests. The group currently meets each Tuesday evening at 6:30.

St. James Church Library

The purpose of the Church Library is to provide books and educational material to support the Church program and different organizations in the church. It is also a source for Bible Study and Research, Sunday School materials, Inspirational and Pleasure Reading. The library consists of a Children’s Section, a Youth Section and an Adult Section. In addition there are Fiction books that have been deemed appropriate for a Church Library.

St. James has had a library for many years. In the 1960’s Ann Bridgers, a school librarian, started processing the books. At that time there were three shelves held up with metal brackets that sagged badly in the middle. One day the shelf brackets gave way, and the entire collection was dumped onto the floor. The brackets were restored and the books returned to the shelves. At that point an effort was started to put regular type library shelving in place.

In 1997, the first section of Trustee – approved- shelves was installed on the wall backing up to the hall. These shelves were built by Foy Biggers, R. E. Cobb, Don Strickland and Julian Bridgers, using the plans that were drawn up by Julian and submitted to the Trustees for approval. Foy offered his shop to cut and build the shelves, which were then trucked to St. James, finished and installed. The large cases were stained and finished in Carson Hall. One of the first uses of the Annex was as a place to sand, stain and put the tung oil finish on the actual shelf boards. This provided approximately 128 linear feet of shelving. Sometime later a matching oak book return box was built to provide a place for people to return books and facilitate the books being returned to circulation.

The Librarian, Ann Bridgers and the Assistant Librarian, Beth Cobb, got to work processing old and new books into a new software system, subsequently replaced by The Concourse Library System, a computerized program that allows for easier processing and helps members to lookup books by author, title or subject in the St. James Library. The Concourse System was purchased with funds donated and designated by Gaynelle Glass in memory of her sister, Alyce S. Taylor, and an anonymous donation in honor of Ann Bridgers, Beth Cobb and Roy Bishop, Technology Expert. The St. James membership has been very generous in donating books to the library. In addition books have been purchased by funds designated to the library for that purpose and by funds budgeted for the church library in the Church Budget. At this point there are some 2,200 books in the collection.

The Church Library also houses the United Methodist Women's Reading Program with about 80 books in 4 areas: 1) Education for Mission, 2) Nurturing for Community, 3) Spiritual Growth and 4) Social Action. Members read books from all four areas and receive a certificate each year in which they have read at least one book in the four areas. Some members read as many as 20 books a year.

Library Open Houses with refreshments, drawings for children's books, free bookmarks and time to become familiar with the books on the shelves have been held. A monthly library article appears in the Church Newsletter to inform church members of library news, new additions, and donations of books.

Additional shelving was built in 2007 to provide room for the ever-expanding library. This added 77 linear feet of shelving to house the collection. To date there are 205 linear feet of built in bookshelves and one freestanding bookcase.

A wall mounted book display was purchased and installed. It is currently used to help children easily see books for them to check out.

Children come into the library the second Sunday of each month during normal 11:00 a.m. Children's Church Time for a Bible story and to check out books.

St. James United Methodist Women History

The Original Purpose

"The PURPOSE of the Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild shall be to help women grow in the knowledge and experience of God as revealed in Jesus Christ; to challenge them to respond to God's redemptive purpose in the world; to unite them in a Christian fellowship to make Christ known throughout the world; and to develop a personal responsibility for the whole task of the church. Toward the realization of this PURPOSE, the Women's Society and the Wesleyan Service Guild shall provide opportunities and resources to meet the needs and interest of women; to increase their knowledge of the concerns and responsibilities of the church in the world; and to share in Christian witness, service and missionary outreach. The Women's Society and Guild shall enlist workers and secure funds for the fulfillment of their responsibility in the mission of the church at home and overseas."

January 1960-1961 - The first **President was Ann Currin**. The original name of the United Methodist Women was "Women's Society of Christian Service". St. James organized its first WSCS on January 7, 1960. The St. James Women's Society of Christian Service began this date with 13 charter members. The WSCS year at that time ran from June through May.

1961- 1962 - Mary Ellen Shipman was elected President. By this date, the St. James WSCS unit had 24 members. St. James WSCS divided the 24 members into 3 circles, named Circle #1, Circle #2, and Circle #3. Each circle held their own fundraisers such as a rummage sale by Circle #2 that netted them \$34.75. Circle #2's service project was saving newspapers which they sold and netted a profit of \$8.77. They also sold vanilla flavoring. The WSCS with the help of the Pastor took communion to the aged at the County Home. They also provided attendants for the church nursery for each service, set up a flower chart where each church member would be responsible for flowers in the church at least once a year, and were also responsible for cleaning the church. During this service year, the entire Unit worked on choir robes for the Youth Choir.

May 1961 - Two circles were added, the fourth was named the Annette Sparks Circle, and the fifth was named Circle #5 with Julia Franks was Chairperson. Other Chairpersons for the remaining circles were: Circle #3 - Ruth Meade, Circle #2 - Ann Currin, and for Circle #1 - Mrs. Wiley Hunter.

June 1962 - Ann Currin - President. The Unit maintained five circles. Circle #2 sold pansies as a project, with Circle #5 holding a pancake supper. Each circle utilized the Prayer Calendar. Each member was assigned a project and a date to clean the nursery, Chapel area, Sunday School rooms, and provide flowers. This was printed in the "St. James Epistle" newsletter each month.

June 1963 - President was Doris Davis. The Unit continued to have five (5) circles, 1 morning circle, 1 afternoon circle and 3 night circles. The membership was shuffled again at the General Meeting and assigned to a circle. The circles then set up their own meeting date. In 1964 a sixth circle was formed. Annette P. Sparks, Chairman of Circle #4 presented Ann Currin the Life Time Membership Pin, a most coveted award. The two service projects were: to assume responsibility for the nine o'clock service and to operate the Concession Cart at Dix Hospital.

June 1964 - President was Julia Franks, Vice-President - Grace Hale, Secretary - Betty Jordan, Treasurer - Juliette Lee. The St. James WSCS had six circles: Circle #1 chairperson was Edna Walkup and had 16 members; Circle #2 chairperson was Frances Greene and had 18 members; Circle #3 chairperson was Kathleen Wheeler and consisted of 19 members; Circle #4 chairman was Carolyn Cline with 18 members; Annette Sparks Circle chairperson was Virginia Boyd with 18 members; Isabella Thorburn Circle chairperson was Eula Frye with 13 members. Some of the accomplishments were: on May 30, 1964 the WSCS held a Bake Sale to help the Parsonage Committee; gave a welcoming tea for the parsonage family July 19; prepared refreshments for the Get Acquainted Party for MYF; paid \$100 to missions; made two cobbler's aprons for the nursery workers; had a Bake Sale on November 3; and collected gifts for Dorothea Dix patients. Membership grew to 80. As of March, 1965 the Unit donated \$384.40 to missions.

July 1964 - Our own Pastor, Dr. James Warren, was the instructor at the School of Missions and Christian Service held in Whitakers, N. C. This school, later called School of Christian Mission, was held at Methodist College in Fayetteville, N. C.

June 1965 - Betty Rountree was President. Circle #1 became the Isabella Thoburn Circle. We expanded to have Circle #2, Circle #3, Circle #4, Circle #5, Circle #6 (which is the Annette Sparks Circle), and Circle #7. Later in October 1965, Circle #4 became the Silver Anniversary Circle (named so because this particular year the national WSCS was celebrating their 25th anniversary) and thus the name "Silver Anniversary Circle." Membership in the WSCS grew to 82. The New Purpose of the WSCS was established. The Unit saved coupons for gold bond books. The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial was honored. Each member who participated in this was asked to make a sacrificial gift for designated projects and to offer prayer for workers in service projects.

June 1966 - Joan Gardner - President, Vice-President - Ann Bridgers, Secretary - Shirley Blackman, Treasurer - Rachel Grand. The WSCS reduced the number of Circles to 6. Circle #2 was disbanded and some of those members joined other Circles. The fundraiser was a Bazaar with a "Circus Theme" held on November 19. This big fundraiser was held instead of each circle having its own small fundraiser.

June 1967 - Jeanne Hawthorn - President. The WSCS had six (6) day circles and one (1) night circle. The day circles were provided with a nursery. In September, 1967, Mrs. Mary Brown, the first Charter Member and also the oldest member of the WSCS, was presented a Special Recognition for Outstanding Service at St. James and other churches. The WSCS also presented her with a Lifetime Membership Pin and certificate.

June 1968 - Jeanne Hawthorne remains President. There were six (6) circles: Mary Brown Circle (#2), Silver Anniversary Circle (#3), Annette Sparks Circle (#4), Daughters of Wesley Circle (#5), Clara Swain Circle (Circle #6), and Isabella Thoburn Circle (Circle #1).

June 1969 - Beth Cobb was President, Brenda Harris was Vice-President, Marge Turnage served as Secretary, and Doris Davis was Treasurer. In December, 1969, the WSCS held a "Christmas Around the World" Covered Dish Supper with the following countries being toured: England, Norway, France, Mexico, Spain, Italy, U.S.A. and Germany. There were five (5) circles. The Unit participated in a Christmas Party for the Wake County Sheltered Workshop. The Daughters of Wesley Circle collected Gold Bond stamp books and S & H Green stamp books and bought five (5) popcorn poppers for the Methodist Home for Children. The Unit sold pansies and made \$56.00. The Clara Swain Circle had a sock tree at Christmas and donated the socks to the Methodist Home for Children. In January, 1970, the proposed budget for January 1, to December 31, 1970, was \$550.00. Membership was 70.

June 1970 - Beth Cobb remains President. Judy Rhodes served as Vice-President, Gail Kennedy was Secretary and Doris Davis served as Treasurer. The St. James Unit had five (5) circles: Mary Brown, Silver Anniversary, Annette Sparks, Daughters of

Wesley and Clara Swain. General Meetings were held monthly. The fiscal year ran from September to August. Betty Rountree and Mary Misenheimer, during this year, received the Lifetime Membership Award. The WSCS sold pansies, held bazaars, sold Brunswick stew, and sold watermelon rind pickles at North Hills Mall. The Local Activities budget was \$385.00 and the Special Projects fund was \$100.00. In the budget there was also a Special Membership item of \$65.00. In January 1971, the proposed budget for January 1, to December 31, 1971 was \$570.00. Membership continued at 70. The WSCS Annual Banquet was held May 4 and the new officers were sworn in at that time. The Christmas Banquet theme for 1970 was "Sounds of Christmas".

June 1971 - President - Beth Cobb, Vice President - Linda Baddley, Secretary - Gail Kennedy and Treasurer - Marge Turnage. General Meetings were held monthly. In February, 1972 the WSCS circles dropped to five (5) - **Annette Sparks, Daughters of Wesley, Mary Brown, Clara Swain and Isabella Thoburn.** The Local Activities budget was \$430.00 and the Special Projects fund was \$100.00. In the budget there was also a Special Membership item of \$65.00. Membership continued at 70. The Christmas Covered Dish and Installation of Officers was held December 6 and the theme was "Nostalgia, '71".

June 1972 - President - Judy Rhodes, Vice-President - Linda Baddley, Secretary - Gail Kennedy, Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Women's Society of Christian Service name was changed to the United Methodist Women by the General Conference held June 4, 1972 in Atlanta, Georgia. Five circles continued to be active. The Local Activities budget was \$405.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$175.00. Projects listed were Sheltered Workshop, Robeson County Community Center, and the Methodist Home for Children. Ongoing projects for the UMW were volunteering for the nursery, serving the UMYF once a month and financially supporting them, cleaning the kitchen, contributing to the church building fund, contributing to home and foreign missions, constructing Chrismons for the church Christmas tree and placing a rose on the altar in the event of the birth of a child to a UMW member. Ann Bridgers was presented with a Special Membership Pin at the annual UMW Christmas Banquet.

June 1973 - President - Judy Rhodes, Vice-President - Pat Pollard, Secretary - Doris Wilson, Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The theme for this year's UMW was "Come Inside India." The General Meetings continued to be held monthly and the Executive Committee met seven (7) times during the year. Five circles continued to be active. The Local Activities budget was \$405.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$400.00. This money was donated to four (4) organizations or projects. Members attended an Open House at Walnut Terrace Child Development Center and donated cookies and punch for the occasion. The Mary Brown Circle donated \$12.00 for spending money for one of the girls' cottages at the Methodist Home for Children. During May, the UMW sponsored a panel discussion on teenage runaways. The organization continued with the same projects as in 1972. **The National Conference also rewrote the PURPOSE for the UMW. The new PURPOSE read:**

“The organized Unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

June 1974 - Pat Pollard -President, Deloris Evans - Vice-President, Doris Wilson - Secretary, Elliot Nelson - Treasurer. The mission emphasis, theme for this year was “Christian Missions Today”. During 1974, St. James UMW had two ladies to serve on the District level. Jeanne Hawthorne served as Chairperson of Public Relations and Judy Rhodes was Chairperson of Membership. During this year, the UMW also voted to begin helping the Senior Citizens group. General Meetings were held monthly. The Annette Sparks Circle continued to sell knives. During October, 1974, the Daughters of Wesleyan Circle disbanded. However a new night circle was formed (no name given).

June 1975 - President - Henrietta Jackson, President Elect - Julia Sharpe, Vice President - Sandra Smith, Secretary - Carol Kirk, and Treasurer - Ann Maulsby. There were five (5) circles. General Meetings were held the first of each month. The Local activities fund was \$420.00 and the Special Projects fund was \$350.00. Special Projects were: (1) Christmas Project (Sheltered Workshop), (2) Polk Youth Center (3) Senior Citizens (4) Building Fund (5) Parsonage (6) and Contingency Fund. The theme for the organization for 1975 was “Many Gifts - One Spirit”.

June 1976 - President - Julia Sharpe, Vice President - Dianne Fallon, Secretary - Carol Kirk, and Treasurer - Ann Maulsby. The Local Activities fund was \$515.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$215.00. Projects were: saving coupons for the Methodist Children’s Home, beautification of the church, the Sheltered Workshop Christmas Party, Meals on Wheels, Gifts to Dorothea Dix and to Polk Youth Center. General Meetings were held monthly.

June 1977 - Carol Kirk - President, 1st Vice President - Henrietta Jackson, Vice President - Lidia White, Secretary and Program Resource - Dottie Coulter and Treasurer - Blanch Meek. The UMW now had five (5) circles: Annette Sparks, Clara Swain, Isabella Thoburn, Mary Brown, and Silver Anniversary. The Local Activities fund was \$515.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$300.00. Each member was asked to pledge \$9.00. Projects continued to be saving coupons for the Methodist Children’s Home, saving Campbell soup labels, beautification of the church, the Sheltered Workshop Christmas Party and Meals on Wheels. The UMW continued to contribute to the UMYF, the Vacation Bible School, the Building Fund, provide flowers for the church and to support home and foreign missions. A Garden Dinner Party was held in June, 1977.

June 1978 - President - Carol Kirk, Vice-President - Lidia White, Secretary & Program Resources - Treva Jenkins, Treasurer - Blanche Meek. The St. James Unit contained five (5) Circles: Isabella Thoburn, Annette Sparks, Clara Swain, Silver Anniversary and Mary Brown. General Meetings were held monthly. Local Activities budget was

\$515.00 and Special Projects budget was \$1,103.00 that was donated to seven (7) organizations or projects. The theme for 1978 was "Ye Shall Be My Witnesses."

1979 - President - Ann Jones, Vice-President - Sandra Simmons, Secretary and Program Resources - Carol Kirk and Treasurer - Barbara Moss. General meetings were held on the first Monday of each month.

1980 - President - Ann Jones, Vice-President - Sandra Simmons, Secretary and Program Resources - Carol Kirk and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities Fund was \$375.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$350.00 with the UMW donating to five (5) organizations or projects.

1981 - President - Linda Odom, Vice-President - Frances Moody, Secretary & Program Resources - Ann Jones and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities Fund had a total of \$375.00 with the Special Projects Fund having \$435.00 and being donated to six organizations or projects.

1982 - President - Linda Odom, Vice-President - Clarice Pratt, Secretary & Program Resources - Ann Jones and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities Fund was \$380.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$461.00. The Unit contributed to six (6) special organizations or projects.

1983 - President - Beth Cobb, Vice-President - Clarice Pratt, Secretary - Eileen Cole and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities fund was \$355.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$480.00 with donations going to seven (7) organizations/projects.

1984 - President - Linda Harrell, Vice-President - Janet Beck, Secretary - Eileen Cole and Treasurer - Linda Odom. The Local Activities budget was \$430.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$553.75 with donations made to nine (9) organizations/projects.

1985 - President - Eileen Cole, Vice-President - Mary Ann Ludwick, Secretary - Shirley Kennett and Treasurer - Linda Odom. The Local Activities Budget was \$375.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$700.00 with donations distributed to 11 organizations or projects.

1986 - President - Eileen Cole, Vice President - Mary Ann Ludwick, Secretary - Shirley Kennett and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The UMW now had four (4) Circles: the Silver Anniversary, Clara Swain, Mary Brown and Annette Sparks. The Local Funds were \$270.00 and the Special Project Funds were \$750.00 with contributions given to 12 organizations or projects. General Meetings were held quarterly instead of monthly. The Silver Anniversary Circle held a craft workshop. The Silver Anniversary Circle also decorated a Chrismon Tree and put it in the Sanctuary. The Clara Swain Circle sold knives and served a Teacher's Appreciation Dinner. The UMW held a Spring Fling Fund raiser. The UMW bought mini blinds for the education building. They also installed shelves in the Fellowship Hall closet as well as in the closet behind the kitchen door. \$500.00 was donated for roof repair. The UMW considered financing big projects such

as: buying an ice crusher for the kitchen, purchasing a new stove and paving the reserve area for handicap parking. Another Spring Fling and Yard Sale Fundraiser was held on October 5. During this year the Clara Swain Circle won the attendance pin 3 out of 4 meetings. A Special Mission Recognition pin was presented to Clarice Pratt by the Annette Sparks Circle. In January, 1986, the circles began rotating cleaning the kitchen. The UMW purchased a new stove for the kitchen. The UMW gave a farewell dinner for John White, Pastor and Suzanna Ross Helms, Assistant Pastor. The Silver Anniversary Circle sold vanilla flavoring and the Annette Sparks Circle sold knives. At the Christmas Banquet, Ann Cameron received the Special Missions Recognition Pin by the UMW and Julia Sharp was presented the Special Lifetime Membership Pin by the UMW.

1987 - President - Ann Cameron, Vice-President - Wanda Goodson, Secretary - Beth Cobb and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities budget was \$455.00 and the Special Project budget was \$1,272.32. The funds were donated to 12 organizations or projects. The UMW Fundraiser for this year was a Yard Sale on April 25 and \$363.00 was made. There was no bake sale or craft sale involved. The Silver Anniversary Circle continued to sell vanilla flavoring and dishcloths. In June, 1987, the UMW held a reception for the new minister. A barbecue supper was sponsored by the UMW on October 31. This fundraiser generated \$523.00. The UMW had four (4) circles: Mary Brown, Silver Anniversary, Annette Sparks and Clara Swain. Shirley Kennett received the Special Missions Recognition Pin.

1988 - President - Ann Cameron, Vice-President - Wanda Goodson, Secretary - Beth Cobb and Treasurer - Julia Sharp. The Local Activities budget was \$415.00 and the Special Project Fund was \$1,268.62 with donations going to 12 organizations/projects. Instead of a spring fund-raiser, all members were asked to make a personal donation. At the September General Meeting two fundraisers for the UMW were approved, a Tupperware Party and a Mary Kay Gala.

1989 - President - Jan Plyler, Vice-President - Amanda Miller, Secretary - Clarice Pratt and Treasurer - Eileen Cole. The Local Activities budget was \$375.00 and the Special Project budget was \$1,098.72.

1990 - President - Jan Plyler, Vice-President - Amanda Miller, Secretary - Clarice Pratt and Treasurer - Eileen Cole. The Local Activities fund was \$390.00 and Special Projects fund was \$1,138.50 giving to 12 organizations or projects.

1991 - President - Julia Sharp, Vice-President - Marlene Caulberg, Secretary - Treva Jenkins and Treasurer - Eileen Cole. The 1991 Local Activities fund was \$425.00 and the Special Projects Fund was \$1,117.75. The Clara Swain Circle went on a Beach trip.

1992 - President - Julia Sharp, Vice-President - Marlene Caulberg, Secretary - Clarice Pratt and Treasurer - Eileen Cole. The Local Activities fund was \$450.00 and the Special Project budget was \$1,928.89 with contributions going to 10 organizations or projects. The Clara Swain circle took another beach trip in 1992. The St. James UMW received

the Seven Star Award in October. At the UMW Christmas Banquet, the Special Mission Recognition Pin was presented to Julia Sharp.

1993 - President - Marlene Caulberg, Vice President - Frances Moody, Secretary - Clarice Pratt and Treasurer- Eileen Cole. The Clara Swain Circle went to the beach for the third year in a row. St. James' UMW received the Seven-Star Recognition at the District Conference, and Reading Program Recognition. The UMW hosted a Teachers' Appreciation Dinner and sold gift-wrapping paper. A special fundraiser was a "Spring Fling that netted \$635.00 profit. The Unit had only three circles.

1994 - President - Marlene Caulberg, Vice-President - Dottie Coulter, Secretary - Suzanne Toler and Treasurer - Barbara Toler. The total for the UMW Special Projects was \$1,955.12. This year the UMW sponsored a Parade of Tables Luncheon and Spring Fashion Show as a fundraiser. The Seven Star Unit Award was awarded at the District Meeting.

1995 - President - Marlene Caulberg, Vice-President - Dottie Coulter, Secretary - Suzanne Toler and Treasurer - Barbara Toler. The Parade of Tables was such a big hit and success in 1994, that again in 1995 a Parade of Tables Luncheon and Spring Fashion Show was the UMW's fundraiser. The Seven Star Unit Award was awarded again. Susan Sipal was presented the UMW Special Mission Recognition Pin for 1995.

1996 - Co-Presidents - Dell Murray and Shirley Kennett, Vice-President - Dottie Coulter, Secretary - Suzanne Toler and Treasurer - Barbara Toler. Total amount for the Special Projects fund was \$1,568.74. The Local Activities fund was set at \$620.00. Our own Julia Sharpe served on the District Level in the capacity of Secretary of Financial Interpretation. The St. James Unit received the Seven Star Unit award again. Recipients for the UMW Special Missions Recognition Pin for 1996 were Mary Ellen Mauney and Rick Kirk.

1997 - Co-Presidents - Shirley Kennett and Jean Cole, Vice-President - Frances Floyd, Secretary - Suzanne Toler and Treasurer - Barbara Toler. We again had four (4) circles: Annette Sparks, Clara Swain, Ruth and Wesleyan Women. The Local Activities fund was \$726.00 and the Special Projects fund was \$1,549.60. The UMW contributed to 10 organizations for the Special Projects. The St. James Unit received an award for completing three (3) mission studies. Sue King and Lynn Carter were the recipients of the Special Mission Recognition Pin.

1998 - President - Shirley Kennett, Vice-President - Frances Floyd, Secretary - Glenda Holloway and Treasurer - Beth Cobb. The Local Activities budget was \$2,177.00 with the Special Project Fund budgeted at \$4,783.83. St. James' UMW had four (4) circles this year: Annette Sparks, Clara Swain, Ruth and Wesleyan Women. The UMW continued with Meals on Wheels. A special fundraiser was held on April 25 as The Parade of Tables and also the fall fundraiser was the Yard and Bake Sale. The UMW continued to sell cookbooks. The Special Mission Recognition Pin was presented at the Christmas Banquet to Jerry Lipscomb.

1999 - President - Wanda Goodson, Vice-President - Ann Bridgers, Secretary - Frances Floyd and Treasurer - Beth Cobb. The Local Activity budget was \$2,275.00 and the Special Project budget was \$2,720.36. The St. James Unit had five (5) circles: Annette Sparks, Clara Swain, Mary Brown, Ruth, and Wesleyan Women. The two fundraisers this year were a Parade of Tables in the spring and the Yard and Bake Sale in the fall. Cookbooks continued to be sold for the Building Fund. Linda Tomlinson was presented the Special Mission Recognition Pin for 1999.

2000 - President - Wanda Goodson, Vice President - Ann Bridgers, Secretary - Peggy Biggers and Treasurer - Beth Cobb. The Local Activities budget was \$945.00 and the Special Project budget was \$3,984.09. The UMW contributed to 15 organizations or projects. Five Circles continued during this year. The two main fundraisers were the Spring Parade of Tables and in the fall, the Yard and Bake Sale. Cookbooks continued to be sold. For the first time, the UMW was presented as a Gold Unit at the Annual District Meeting thanks to President Wanda Goodson. St. James also received the award for being a Seven-Star Unit. At the Christmas Banquet, the Special Mission Recognition Pin was presented to Peggy Biggers.

2001 - President - Ann Bridgers, Vice-President - Mary Ellen Mauney, Secretary - Peggy Biggers and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Wesleyan Women Circle disbanded leaving four (4) circles. The Local Activities budget was \$825.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$4,229.23. The funds were given to 14 organizations or projects for 2001. This year our main fundraiser was the Yard and Bake Sale in the fall. Another fundraiser sponsored by the UMW was a Chili dinner held after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on a Sunday during the spring. At the Christmas Banquet, Marilyn Flanders received the Special Mission Recognition Pin. Again at the annual District Meeting, St. James was recognized as a Gold Unit as well as a Seven Star Unit.

2002 - President - Ann Bridgers, Vice-President - Mary Ellen Mauney, Secretary - Peggy Biggers and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$825.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$4,174.07 with donations going to 15 organizations or projects. The Unit continued with four (4) circles. The two fundraisers for this year were the spring Parade of Tables and the fall Yard and Bake Sale. Cookbooks continued to be sold. Kay McRee received the Special Mission Recognition Pin at the annual Christmas Banquet for her work in the Stephen Ministry program. At the annual District meeting, St. James received the Gold Unit award and the Seven Star Unit award.

2003 - President - Mary Ellen Mauney, Vice-President - Peggy Biggers, Secretary - Dorothy Brunk and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$825.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$4,747.67 with this Unit contributing to 17 organizations or projects. The Unit continued with four (4) circles, 2 meeting in the morning and 2 at night. The Unit continued the Meals on Wheels project, the kitchen cleaning and serving the Seniors' Club (the XYZ's). General Meetings continued quarterly. The two main fundraisers for the St. James Unit were the spring Parade of Tables (Sharon Johnson, Chair) and the Yard and Bake Sale in the fall. Cookbooks continued to be sold. Emphasis was placed on the Reading Program for members. At the

annual Christmas Banquet, Jeannie Betts received the Special Mission Recognition Pin. St James was again recognized as a Gold Unit and a Seven Star Unit at the annual District Meeting.

2004 - President - Mary Ellen Mauney, Vice President - Peggy Biggers, Secretary - Dorothy Brunk and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$825.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$4,042.53 with the UMW increasing its donations to 17 organizations or projects. Four circles continued in the Unit. The two main fundraisers were a spring English Tea and in the fall the annual Yard and Bake Sale. Cookbooks continued to be sold. The UMW continued with Meals on Wheels, serving the XYZ's and cleaning the kitchen monthly. The recipient at the Christmas Banquet for the Special Mission Recognition Pin was Ted Thurlow for his work on the Trustees and maintenance of the church's landscaping. St. James was awarded a Gold Unit and a Seven Star Unit at the District Meeting for 2004.

2005 - President - Peggy Biggers, Vice-President - Kathy Robertson, Secretary – Dorothy Brunk and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$825.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$4,913.20 with this money being contributed to 18 organizations or projects. Cookbooks continued to be sold. The Unit began a new circle for the young women of St. James and the members gave it the name of Mary Magdalene. It began with 16 members. Now the St. James Unit has five (5) circles. Again for 2005 the two main fundraisers were a spring Tea Party and in the fall the Yard and Bake Sale. The Unit continued the Projects of serving the XYZ's, monthly kitchen cleaning, and Meals on Wheels. Meals were prepared and served to the Vacation Bible School. General Meetings continued on a quarterly basis with the Mission Coordinators being responsible for the four programs. Wanda Goodson was awarded the Special Mission Recognition Pin for 2005 at the Christmas Banquet. St James UMW again received the Gold Unit Award as well as the Seven Star Award at the annual District Meeting.

2006 - President - Peggy Biggers, Vice-President - Marilyn Flanders, Secretary - Sue Reid and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$1,125.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$5,535.41. The Unit contributed this special project money to 20 organizations or projects. Cookbooks continued to be sold. The Unit continued with five (5) circles (2 morning and 3 night circles). The two annual fundraisers were a Tea Party in the spring and the annual Yard and Bake Sale for the fall. This year the United Methodist Men participated in the spring fundraiser working in the kitchen and serving as waiters. They also did some entertaining which was very popular with the ladies. Emphasis was placed on the UMW Reading Program. There was a continuation of the in-house small projects such as serving the XYZ's, cleaning the kitchen monthly, and Meals on Wheels. Meals were served to the Vacation Bible School. At the annual Christmas Banquet the Special Mission Recognition Pin was awarded to Steve Betts. At the District meeting, St. James again was recognized as a Gold Unit as well as a Seven Star Unit.

2007 - President - Marilyn Flanders, Vice-President - Beth Cobb, Secretary - Sue Reid, Treasurer - Frances Floyd. Local Activities budget was \$1,125.00 and the Special Projects budget increased to \$6,635.41. Donations were made to 22 organizations or projects. The Annette Sparks Circle disbanded and some of the members joined other existing circles. The Clara Swain, Mary Brown, Mary Magdalene and Ruth Circles remained. There were two main fundraisers. The spring fundraiser was a mock "Cruise to Tropical Islands" (chaired by Sharon Johnson). This was a very successful fundraiser and well attended. The United Methodist Men helped the UMW again this year with the spring fundraiser serving as waiters for the tables, assisting in the kitchen and participated in some of the entertainment. The fall fundraiser was the Annual Yard and Bake Sale. The Ruth Circle had a fundraiser selling crocheted items made by the members. The Clara Swain Circle sold greeting cards. The Mary Brown Circle began a project of collecting the Altar Flowers (with the permission of the donor) and making several arrangements that were delivered to the sick and homebound of St. James. The Mary Brown Circle also started donating soup to the pantry of St. James. There was a continuation of the in-house small projects such as serving the XYZ's, cleaning the kitchen monthly, and Meals on Wheels. Meals were served to the Vacation Bible School. The Unit received a Silver Unit Award at the District Meeting this year. At the annual Christmas Banquet, the Special Mission Recognition Pin was awarded to Sharon Johnson for all her hard work on the Parade of Tables, the English Teas, and the Cruise fundraisers.

2008 - President - Marilyn Flanders, Vice-President - Sharon Johnson, Secretary - Kay Strickland and Treasurer - Frances Floyd. The Local Activities budget was \$1,150.00 and the Special Projects budget was \$6,907.30. Donations were distributed to 22 organizations or projects. Four circles were active, Clara Swain, Mary Brown, Mary Magdalene and Ruth. Again there were two main fundraisers. The spring fundraiser was a mock "Cruise to Greece"(chaired by Sharon Johnson). Again this was a big hit and well attended. The main entertainment was dancers from Greece; however, the United Methodist Men continued to be a big hit with the ladies as entertainers and waiters. The fall fundraiser was the Annual Yard and Bake Sale. The Mary Brown Circle continued with their projects of delivering flowers to sick and homebound and the soup donations and the Clara Swain Circle again sold greeting cards. The UMW in-house small projects continued. The Unit received a Silver Unit Award at the District Meeting this year. At the annual Christmas Banquet, the Special Mission Recognition Pin was awarded to Verleen Jones for all the dedicated work she does for St. James and the UMW.

St. James United Methodist Men History

The St. James Methodist Men's Club was chartered December 2, 1960, by the General Board of Lay Activity of the Methodist Church. There were sixteen charter members. We have three of that number are with us today: Louis Franks, Herbert (Herb) Regan and Milton Rountree. The charter's caption invited our first members back in 1960 to "Be Ye Doers of the Word and not Members Only."

The purpose of the St. James United Methodist Men, as they are called today, is to promote spiritual growth, service to the church, and fellowship with our members. All men who are members of St. James are automatically members of Methodist Men. We currently have about 35 active members.

The club meets at 7:00 p. m. the first Monday night of each month in Carson Hall. Programs have been varied over the years and have included: the experiences of a visitor to the Holy Land; a young man from Wake Forest UMM who spoke to the club about the loss of his father and a brother, and shared what the support and care of his club meant to him; and recently Susan Chappell (Dottie and Charlie Wilder's daughter) sang several hymns and shared her personal testimony with us. One of our meetings away from the Church was a visit to the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant when it was under construction. Richard Currin's North Carolina State University connections brought us some interesting programs. A research technician from NCSU brought working miniature steam-powered devices to a meeting and demonstrated how they work. We visited a fish hatchery at the University and saw baby flounder and large tilapia. Extension specialist there assist people who wish to establish their own hatcheries and raise fish to maturity as a "food crop."

Since the earliest years of the UMM, we have honored our spouses and widows of the church once a year with a meal and entertainment. One of the early Ladies' Nights was held December 14, 1968, at the Vena Wilburn School Cafeteria and was catered by Parker's Barbecue of Wilson. The cost of the meal was \$1.80. In recent years we decided to have Ladies' Night near Valentine's Day. This year it was held February 13, 2009 in Carson Hall. Mrs. Lila Parker (June Currin's mother) served a delicious buffet meal. Entertainment was provided by Brien Barbour, singer and guitarist, who sang a number of songs from the 1950's to the 1970's.

We also eat at our other club meetings throughout the year. The meals are usually prepared by members of the club, and we do have some good cooks. Although they can all cook most anything, many of us recognize their specialties, such as: Louis Franks – country style steak; John White – venison chili; Gene Matthews – barbecued chicken and country style steak; Hunter Preston – chicken parmesan; Steve Betts – fish and steak; and Richard Currin – beef brisket. Sometimes a cook is not readily available as was noted in the church bulletin for July, 2000, under "The Peanut Gallery News" – "A volunteer yet to be recruited will prepare the meal."

Our fundraising efforts over the years have included barbecues, fish fries, pancake suppers and peanut sales. In a 1976 church bulletin, church member Lloyd Turnage was thanked by the United Methodist Men for his design of the labels for the peanut jars. Peanut sales have risen steadily for a number of years. The peak sales occur during the Christmas Season, with peanuts being cooked two or three times a week during this period. During Christmas 2008 about 500 pounds were cooked and about 56 cases sold.



Cooking Peanuts, April 1986

Some of our service projects are mutual efforts carried out with other church groups and individuals, while others are done solely by the UMM. Listed below are some of the many projects the UMM have been and are involved with:

Church landscaping and grounds cleanup; tables built for Carson Hall; chairs purchased for Carson Hall; provide breakfast for those attending the Easter Sunrise Service; cook hot dogs and hamburgers for church-wide picnics; cook and serve meals for Vacation Bible School; provide peanuts for the evangelism team to give when making home visits; purchased an ice cream machine and coffeemaker for the church; bought a sanctuary Christmas tree; Swede Jones built the hutch that houses the coffee system in the Carson Hall kitchen and he also built the other countertops and cabinets. The UMM purchased the materials for the cabinets along with the United Methodist Women.

In addition the United Methodist Men have made contributions for:

Montague Hall (Annex build) renovations; Pastor's Benevolence Fund; church carpet; church organ; dishwasher for Carson hall kitchen; the UMYF; Stephens Ministry; training course materials and travel; scholarship for a youth to attend Methodist Summer Camp; sponsored golf tournament with proceeds going to fund pancreatic cancer research; in 1971 helped furnish equipment for the Boy Scout Troop at the Methodist Home for Children and purchased tables for the fellowship area of the church.

Richard Currin has served TEN PLUS YEARS as the President of St. James United Methodist Men. Steve Betts has served about seven years as Vice President of the club. We are very grateful for the leadership and commitment of these two men to the St. James United Methodist Men. We know that they will remain active in the club for years to come!

The officers for the year 2009 are: President – Gene Matthews, Vice President – Milburn Holbrook, Secretary – Charles Wilder, and Treasurer – John Spain.

Special thanks to Julian Bridgers for finding the United Methodist Men's charter on a top shelf in the Church Library during a general cleanup a few years ago. In order to conserve the UMM Charter, the club decided in 2007 that we would send it to a conservation laboratory for treatment. The process included removing all acid from the charter, encapsulating it in a mylar sleeve, mounting it in a 100% ragboard window mat, using UV filtering glass, and placing the charter in a new frame. All the materials used in conserving the charter are acid free. It will be displayed in the Church.

ST. JAMES WEEKDAY SCHOOL

North Carolina had made very little provision for public preschool education in the 1960's. There were no headstart, public kindergartens, nor other programs to create children's readiness for first grade. Child development prior to the first grade was the responsibility of a child's family or private schools for those families who could afford the tuition. However, the study of early childhood development and educational implications was expanding at a rapid pace. It became quite obvious that children who were exposed to planned, systematic learning experiences usually had a significant advantage over those who lacked those experiences. Most of the early preschool efforts in the Raleigh area were private kindergartens.

St. James United Methodist Church was organized in 1959. A number of the charter members worked at Westinghouse Meter Plant and were able to obtain space for Sunday church meetings. The congregation moved into the first building on the current site in 1960. Smokey Kincheloe, a member, organized a preschool program in 1963 and became its first teacher and director.

From the preschool's beginning, the focus has been a commitment to promoting the development of the total child. To accomplish this mission, a setting has been provided where the emotional, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual needs of young children can be met. Such commitment continues to be the school's focus, accomplished through a loving, warm environment of acceptance and support. Throughout its existence, the school enrollment has been open to all children, regardless of race, ethnic background, or special needs.

St. James United Methodist Church has been a sponsor and supporter of the program since its inception. However, the preschool has always been financially independent from the church. A weekday school board, appointed by the church nominating committee, governs the school. The church provides meeting space for the school, and the preschool contributes a percentage of income to help defray the cost of utilities and maintenance. A well-equipped playground is needed in a good preschool program, and the preschool has had the major responsibility for purchase of equipment

and maintenance of the playground. In fact, the school funded playground relocation during the most recent construction project. Most of the furniture and indoor play equipment was purchased by the school. It has also contributed to routine painting, carpet cleaning, carpet purchase, and the cost of phone service.

From the 1963 beginning, St. James Preschool continued to expand, reaching its peak enrollment during the 1989-1990 school year. During this year, the school had its highest enrollment, 156 students. High demand for enrollment spaces continued for several more years. The March 29, 1992, issue of the Raleigh News and Observer displayed a picture of parents sleeping in a van in the St. James parking lot so they could be among the first in line for registration the following morning. During this year, the name of the school was changed to St. James Weekday School.

The need for more space by both the weekday and Sunday school, as well as the desire for a new fellowship hall, prompted the trustees to appoint a facility study committee. In June, 1994, after years of planning and discussion, the building committee received an architectural design and project schedule. The plan was accepted and construction was scheduled to begin in April, 1995. The Weekday School has greatly benefited from the new addition.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's, North Carolina began to dramatically increase child development opportunities by adding preschool programs, the most significant of which was the addition of kindergarten in the public schools. The federal and state governments also added other preschool programs. As a result, enrollments at many private preschools began to decrease. This reduction in enrollment is likely to continue in the foreseeable future. With tough economic times and more governmental preschool opportunities, private preschools are likely to be financially challenged. St. James is a half-day school, which creates several favorable advantages. Many teachers do not wish to work full time, and the cost is less for the parents. Also, the half-day schools are exempted from many of the stiff state regulations which add to the cost of operating a school. St. James has an extended day of one hour for parents who desire the service, but the hour extension does not result in the requirement for a hot lunch. Currently, classes are available for toddlers through transitional kindergarten.

Four very competent directors have provided quality educational leadership for the St. James Weekday School for the past forty-five years. They are Smokey Kincheloe, Carol Miedema, Karen Ponder, and Stoney Halberg. The community has been fortunate to have such fine leaders serving its children. The goal of the Weekday School is to continue to provide an exceptional age-appropriate education for young children within a Christian environment.

NEWSLETTER HISTORY

The purpose of the monthly St. James Newsletter, now titled The St. James Journal, is to communicate to the people of the church how they can as a group or as an individual serve the church. To help the people of St. James learn more about the Bible and the Christian faith as a resource for daily living, to inform the congregation about what is happening in and around St. James and to share the story of St. James – its ministries, program opportunities, people and faith.

The newsletter editor solicits articles, edits submitted articles, writes articles, and types the newsletter, then duplicates and secures volunteers to collate, address and deliver it to the mail center.

October, 1960 - First newsletter was published. It was front side only on 8 ½" X 14" paper. The name was "St. James United Methodist Church". Charles Sparks, Pastor, was editor and Dell Giles, church secretary, was co-editor. Articles included: Happenings Picnic, Revival Announcement, Welcome Newcomers and New Births. Distribution was to 294 members.

February 27, 1961 - Second newsletter published. The name of the newsletter had changed to "St. James Spark". Charles Sparks, Pastor, was editor with help from E. K. Kelley.

April, 1961 - The "St. James Spark" advertised for a new editor. The Pastor remained the Editor. The newsletter was typed by the church secretary, Dell Giles.

During 1960, 1961, 1962, and through June 1963, the newsletter was published every other month.

July, 1963 to January, 1965 - There were no newsletters on file in the historical records for this period of time.

January, 1965 - The name of the newsletter was changed to "St. James Epistle". Jim Warren was Pastor and also editor of the newsletter with secretary, Dell Giles, typist. This began a monthly newsletter and was printed the first week of each month. Articles for the newsletter were submitted by members of various organizations of the church.

June, 1965 - Joan Gardner, member, became editor of "St. James Epistle". She resigned in December 1965.

January, 1966 - Again, Pastor Jim Warren acted as editor and Dell Giles, church secretary, typed the newsletter. Again the newsletter was published every other month. There were seven issues published for 1966. Up to this time, the Newsletter was still being printed on 8 ½" X 14" paper using both sides and news covered 2 to 3 pages. It was distributed to 440 members.

September, 1967 - Began printing the newsletter on 8 ½" X 11" paper folded to make four sides but only printed on one side of the paper. The Board of Stewards approved a midweek Bulletin/Newsletter called "Midweek Call to Worship" which was published every Tuesday. This was set up on a three - month trial basis hoping to keep members better informed. Listing members' birthdays was started at this time. No longer was a monthly newsletter published.

October 17, 1967 - Began the first "Member(s) of the Month" article. Our own Joe and Judy Rhodes were chosen first for this honor.

April, 1968 - The last Midweek Newsletter/Bulletin was published. The church returned to publishing the newsletter bi-monthly, printing it on 8 ½" X 14" paper.

June, 1968 – May, 1972 - Amos Stone was appointed Pastor and therefore, he automatically became Editor of the newsletter with the church secretary, Dell Giles, typing it. Dell also distributed the newsletter that was published monthly. Organizations of the church submitted articles. News contained an article from the Pastor, news about the Women's Society of Christian Service, Altar Guild and Methodist Men. It listed new members and updated addresses of current members and included a church calendar, news from the education section of the church, as well as, from the weekday school kindergarten.

June, 1972 - Pastor Lester Jackson was assigned to St. James. He and the church secretary, Dell Giles, were responsible for writing, typing, duplicating and distributing the "St. James Epistle".

July, and August, 1974 - there were no newsletters published.

April, 1975 - The newsletter underwent another name change to "St. James Newsletter" under the direction of Pastor Lester Jackson.

April, 1976 - Church secretary, Dell Giles, resigned. There was no publication of a newsletter for the remainder of 1976. Lester Jackson was still Pastor.

August, 1976 - LaVette Boone was hired as church secretary and was responsible for the typing, printing and distribution of the newsletter.

1976 to 1983 - There were no newsletters in the history file for this period of time. Lester Jackson was Pastor.

1979 - The Reverend Rod Randolph was hired as Associate/Youth Minister. He assisted with the publication of the newsletter along with the Pastor and church secretary, Mrs. Nita Browning.

1980 - Carol Kearney was hired as church secretary. She was responsible for typing, duplicating, and distributing the newsletter along with Pastor John White.

January, 1983 - John White, Pastor, returned the name of the newsletter to "St. James Epistle". It was one page front and back on 8 ½" X 14" paper. Suzanna Ross Helms was hired in March 1983. She helped the pastor and the current church secretary with the publication of the newsletter. Articles were received from the different church organizations. Membership grew to 925 by May, 1982.

March, 1983 - The newsletter continued to be published monthly on one sheet of paper.

July, 1986 - The Reverend Berry Barbour was the seventh minister beginning July, 1986. Ms. Carol Post was hired as Minister of Youth and Education. She assisted with the publication of the newsletter. It was printed on one sheet, front and back on 8 ½" X 11" paper. The name of the newsletter, "St. James Epistle" continued to be used.

July, 1987 - Clarence Garner was appointed Pastor. Morris Haywood was hired as Youth and Program Director. They continued the newsletter, publishing it on one sheet, front and back of 8 ½" X 14" inch paper. They left the name as "St. James Epistle". Membership grew to 1,000.

June, 1988 - The Newsletter went from a long 8 ½" X 14" publication to a 8 ½" X 14" publication that was folded and printed as a book. Nell Lassiter, church secretary, was responsible for typing, printing and distributing the newsletter. Clarence Garner was still Pastor and editor. Articles were submitted by the chairperson of every church committee.

July 1990, to July, 1992 - Jimmy Sutton became Pastor of St. James. Just as former ministers, Pastor Sutton along with church secretary, Nell Lassiter, were responsible for publishing the newsletter. Articles were submitted for the newsletter from every church organization to keep members current on activities and events. Membership grew to 1,050.

July, 1992 - Eric Carson was appointed Pastor of St. James becoming the Tenth Minister. Candie Johnson was hired as Children's Coordinator. Susan Sibal was hired as Program Director. Each of these individuals was active in continuing the publication of the monthly newsletter. Articles were submitted by chairpersons of each church committee and by the staff. Membership was 1,002.

1995 - The "St. James Epistle" continued publication. A one sheet calendar was added as an insert. A Youth/Children's page was started. It was printed on 11" X 17" paper utilizing both sides of the paper.

February, 1996 - Dennis Peay was hired as Youth Director and became responsible for publishing the newsletter. It was published on 8 ½" X 14" paper folded, and therefore, printed on 4 sides (book size). There were separate inserts for Youth News and Children's News. A computer was used for publishing during this period.

September, 1996 - Jerry Lipscomb was hired as Program Director. Jerry and Dennis Peay were responsible for the newsletter. During this time, the name was changed to "St.

James Journals". It was still published on 8 ½" X 14" paper and folded book form. A calendar insert was included. Graphics began to appear in the newsletter.

1997 - Dennis Peay and Jerry Lipscomb continued as Co-Editors of the "St. James Journals".

July, 1997 - The Reverend James L. Wilson was appointed to St. James as the Eleventh Minister. He continued the newsletter under the editorial of Benjamin Bridges.

December, 1997 - At the request of Pastor Wilson, Peggy Biggers, member of St. James, became editor of "St. James Journals". Publication continued on 8 ½" X 14" folded paper. Ms. Biggers wrote articles, edited articles, typed the newsletter on a computer, duplicated it and mailed it out the first of each month. Articles were requested from all church committees.

1998 - Mrs. Peggy Biggers continued as Editor. She had volunteers to help fold the newsletter. All church committees continued to send in articles.

June, 1999 - "St. James Journals" began being published on 11" X 14" paper that was folded. It became an 8 page document. Graphics and artwork were used liberally. Articles were requested from the chairperson of each church committee. The theme for our church was included in each newsletter - "Building A Community for Christ." Ten members volunteered each month to assimilate, fold, label and mail out the newsletter under the direction of the editor. Pastor Jim Wilson always submitted an article written directly to the members. "St. James Journals" continued as a monthly publication under the editorial of Peggy Biggers. Birthdays and anniversaries were included, as well as, a calendar for the upcoming month.

2001 - No changes in the "St James Journals". Peggy Biggers continued as editor.

July, 2002 - The Reverend Dr. Michael Gast was appointed Twelfth Minister of St. James. Heather Totty was hired as Youth Director in June, 2002. Linda Spain was hired for Missions and Peggy Biggers continued as Editor of "St. James Journals". Publication continued on a monthly basis. The article "Sharing God's Work" was started which covered all members who were volunteering during the coming month.

2003 - No changes made in the publication of the "St. James Journals". The editor continued to be Peggy Biggers.

2004 - The editor continued to be Peggy Biggers. No changes were made to the "St. James Journals".

2005 - No changes to the newsletter. Peggy Biggers continued as editor.

July, 2006 - The Reverend Hunter Preston became the thirteenth Minister of St. James UMC. Heather Totty was Minister of Development and Education. Linda Spain was

Minister of Missions and Finances. Peggy Biggers continued as editor of the "St. James Journals" which continued to be published monthly with the exception of an occasional reprieve for the months of January and/or August. The "St. James Journals" had now grown to approximately 12 to 16 pages with specialty monthly articles from the Pastor (The Pastor Ponders), Ms. Totty, Ms. Spain, as well, as an editorial from Ms. Biggers. Church committee chairpersons were requested to send in articles.

June, 2007 - John H. White, former Pastor, was hired part-time as Pastor of Congregational Care. Pastor White wrote a monthly article entitled "John's Ramblings!" which was very popular with the members. The editor continued to be Peggy Biggers.

August, 2007 - The name of the newsletter was changed to "The St. James Journal". The publication continued to be 8 to 12 pages with regular articles from the Pastor, the Pastor of Congregational Care, Minister of Education, Minister of Missions, The Librarian, United Methodist Women, Birthdays and Anniversaries, Sharing God's Work, Music Ministry, and an editorial from the editor.

January, 2008 - The newsletter continues monthly. Peggy Biggers continued as editor, writing, typing, editing and duplicating "The St. James Journal". Evelyn and Gary Lyons volunteered to head up a group of members who are responsible for assimilating, folding and mailing the newsletter. Mr. Ed. Englebretson, father of Karen Preston, volunteered to deliver the newsletter to the Bulk Mail Station.

February, 2008 – February, 2009 - "The St. James Journal" continued to be published by Peggy Biggers covering the numerous news and activities occurring at St. James United Methodist Church.

St. James Building and Grounds Improvements Since the 40th Anniversary

New exterior doors at Chapel and Old Fellowship Hall were installed.

New interior doors at entrance to Chapel and Old Fellowship Hall were also installed.

New carpet was put in Chapel.

Organ donated for the Chapel by Lennie Collins, Director of Music at St. James.

Storage shelving was built in the choir room. This provides much needed shelf space and a place to store the hand bells and cloths used by that choir.

Regular type shelving was installed in the church library in 1997. The first phase was constructed in Foy Biggers' shop by Foy, R. E. Cobb, Don Strickland and Julian Bridgers. Julian also built the following items: A matching oak book return box for the library, music book cubicle shelves with chair and music stand storage below for the choir room, a large tablecloth cabinet built for the UMW was installed in Carson Hall, additional shelving for the library was built and installed in 2007. This allows the library to not only look better, but to function as a modern library.

A console piano was given by Ray and Dottie Coulter for use in the choir room.

A spinet piano was given by Anne Canady's mother, Mrs. Dew, and is being used in the Chapel.

New carpet was installed in the sanctuary. The pews were recovered, as well as, the kneeling pads around the altar.

Several new HVAC units for sanctuary and education building were replaced.

New front entry doors and windows for the sanctuary were installed and the entry sidewalks were upgraded to meet the Americans Disability Act codes.

A new sidewalk at the front of sanctuary was constructed.

A new electronic organ for the sanctuary was purchased and installed in 2004, as well as, a newly designed sound system for sanctuary.

The lights in the sanctuary were replaced by Faye Vest.

A new telephone system with an extensive voice mail system was purchased and installed.

The exterior trim of all church buildings was painted.

The Trustees hired a Landscape Architect to develop a new landscape plan for the church grounds. Implementation was planned by stages. Some work has been done.

Parking lot resealed and re-stripped, making parking spaces larger and more maneuverable.

The annex was renovated and renamed, Montague Hall, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Montague.

Volunteers constructed a new workshop - storage facility prior to renovating the annex.

The kitchen committee coordinated the updating of the kitchen with a commercial dishwasher, an ice machine, and several new cabinets and shelves. The United Methodist Men purchased a soft-serve ice cream machine for church dinners and other functions.

The church offices, lobby area, main rest rooms, and hallways were painted.

A new roof was installed on the educational building.

Trustee Chairman: James Lassiter – 2003, Ted Thurlow – 2004, Tony Horton – 2005 - 2006, Steve Betts – 2006 - 2007, Linda Davenport – 2007 – 2008, Steve Snow 2009

Administrative Council History

January 7, 1960 - The "Official Board" began with five members. **J. C. Jordan was elected chairman.** The 5 members were: C. P. Frye, Sr., E. K. Kelley, Herbert Regan, J. C. Jordan, Taylor Currin.

1961-1962 - Chairman - J. C. Jordan, Secretary - Dell Giles, Treasurer - Milton Rountree. Fourteen (14) people were present for this Board meeting (3 ladies and 11 men). Russell Whibey was Chairman of Members and Evangelism and Warren Hall was Chairman of the Building Committee. The Board passed the motion to negotiate for a well, pump, etc. Monies for the "well fund" were collected by the children and accepted. The Board meeting lasted one (1) hour. Extension of this hour could only be by vote of the members.

The Board of Stewards grew to 13 members due to the growth of membership. The new Stewards added were: Marion Hilliard, Harold Hopkins, Guthrie Montague, Julius Wheeler, John Collier, Milton Bobbit, B. M. Corbett and Claude Floyd. The Board discussed whether or not to leave the church unlocked.

1962-1963 - Chairman - Carl P. Frye, Sr., Vice-Chairman - Marian E. Hilliard, Secretary - Mrs. J. W. Ziegler, Treasurer - Milton Rountree, Lay Leader - S. T. Currin. It was approved by the Stewards that \$100 per month be set aside in a savings account for our church. The Building Committee had the power company install a light in the parking lot at a cost of \$3.75 per month. At the board meeting held August, 1962, it was reported the total cost of the new building was \$55,124.19 and the church was open 24 hours a day except the kitchen and the study. The proposed budget for this year was \$9,791.87. The Pastor's salary was \$800 and travel expenses were budgeted at \$400. A Called Meeting of the Official Board occurred in May 1963 for the purpose of discussing the policy that St. James would abide by if and when Negro visitors came to St. James and asked to be seated. It was approved by a vote of 12 to 6 that Negroes would be seated. A Called Meeting of the Church Conference occurred June 23, 1963 for the purpose of deciding to purchase and install an air conditioner. The motion carried.

1963-1964 - Chairman - Walter Chambers, Vice Chair - W. L. Nelson, Secretary - Mrs. Dell Giles, Treasurer - Milton Rountree, Lay Leader - S. T. Currin. Total proposed budget was \$14,329.19. The Pastor's total salary package was \$3,425.00. During July, 1963, the Pastor reported making 47 house visits and 12 hospitals visits. Each Steward was given a list of five families he was to keep informed on all matters concerning the church. In February, 1964, the church borrowed \$12,000 from the National Board of Missions to build four classrooms. This made the total loan \$36,000 because there was an unpaid loan of \$24,000 for the Chapel. At that point when people attended worship services in the Chapel, people also must sit in the Fellowship Hall because of overflow of attendance.

1964-1965 - Chairman - R. C. Cline, Vice-Chair - S. T. Currin, Secretary - Dell Giles, Treasurer - Richard A. Grant, Lay Leader - N. H. Galloway. Building of the four classroom began in July, 1964. Dr. James Warren was now Pastor and reported making 23 visits. A complete inventory was taken of all church property by the Trustees. Discussion began in October, 1964 to build a new Sanctuary with seating capacity of 500 with heating and air conditioning, to include a Sunday School area to match the 500 seating capacity, to also include rooms for a Pastor's study, the church secretary, and a choir room. The Education Wing loan from the N. C. Conference Board of Missions was paid off as of March 8, 1965.

1965-1966 - Chairman - T. J. Walkup, Vice-Chair - Duncan Kincheloe, Secretary - J. C. Jordan, Treasurer - Richard A. Grant, Lay Leader - N. H. Galloway. The Board continued to meet monthly. The proposed budget was \$20,559.00. As usual, the church was not meeting its budget. Air conditioning was installed in the Education Wing at a cost of \$1,326.00. There was \$6,240 in the new Sanctuary Building fund. The

Stewardship and Finance Committee members visited all membership regarding offerings. In March, 1966 a mobile classroom was rented at \$40 per month.

1966-1967 - Chairman - Kenneth Winton, Vice-Chair - Linwood Barbour, Secretary - W. H. Hawthorne, Jr., Treasurer - Richard A. Grant, Lay Leader, N. H. Galloway. The adopted budget was \$37,509.00. The Evangelism committee had a church revival. The church still carried a balance of \$35,000 on their existing debt. It was recommended by the Audit Committee that the two people counting the monies on Sunday both certify the amount counted and the certification be kept with the fiscal records. In January, 1967 the church treasurer became bonded.

1967-1968 - Chairman - R. E. Cobb, Secretary - Mrs. George Davis, Treasurer - Richard A. Grant, Lay Leader - N. H. Galloway. In August, 1967, ten directives were handed down by the Official Board on the care and use of the church building and its personal property. This was sent to all church organizations and printed in the church directory. In August, 1967, Architect Walter Burgess was asked to begin working on plans for the new sanctuary. Church secretary, Mrs. Dell Giles, fell on church property that later resulted in legal action. The Board approved publication of a midweek Bulletin - Newsletter called "Midweek Call to Worship" which was published every Tuesday. 57 people were present for this Board meeting.

1968 - 1969 - Chairman - Charles Wilder, Secretary - Doris Davis, Treasurer - Richard A. Grant, Lay Leader - Bruce Woodard. The budget for this year was \$59,100. The current membership was 448. Pastor Amos Stone reported that upon visiting couples, the reason they gave him for joining other churches was the lack of space at St. James.

1969 -1970 Charles Wilder -Chairman, Vice-Chair - Joseph Rhodes, Secretary - W. H. Hawthorne, Jr., Secretary - Virginia Yates. Mrs. Dell Giles, church secretary, who fell and broke her hip in 1968 on the church grounds filed a claim against the church, which in turn paid her \$2,600. It was approved that the Board meet every three months according to the discipline.

In May, 1970, the name "**Board of Stewards**" was no longer used. This organization was renamed **Administrative Board** and was the governing body of the church taking direction from the Administrative Conference. It was reorganized per the new Conference Discipline.

1970-1971 - Stone Kennett, Chairman, Virginia Yates - Secretary. The Board members approved:

- * Wedding Guidelines for St. James entitled, "A Message to the Bride".
- * Removal of wall between two SS rooms to be replaced with a folding door.
- * Members of Evangelism committee will visit new members along with a member of the Finance Committee and the new members will be given the latest newsletter, pledge cards, envelopes, and an invitation to join the different groups in the church.
- * The Pastor's salary was increased from \$6,644 to \$7,009 per year and travel

- * allowance was increased from \$2,200 to \$2,500. It was recommended that Rev Amos Stone be reappointed.
- * Church security was an issue and the Board implemented a plan to better secure the building, as well as, duplicate keys.
- * The proposed budget for the St. James Kindergarten was approved for \$18,460.00.
- * Foy Biggers resigned as cub master for the Scout Troop of St. James due to his extensive traveling in his job.
- * The budget for January was \$60,012.50.

It was reported the church had a deficit of \$14,418 and that the church owed \$14,500 to the National Board of Missions. Gaynelle Glass was given permission to use the church organ for her personal instruction of students. Approval for the Barbara Wilder Bell Tower was passed. Approval was given to put a Christmas Tree in the sanctuary.

1972 - 1973 - Chairman - Joseph Rhodes, Secretary - Frances Floyd and Patsy Herring, Treasurer - Hugh Taylor, Lay Leader - Vince Outland. There were severe money problems at St. James. The church was having difficulty paying the building mortgage and also was short \$10,701 on pledges. There was an Administrative Board Report for almost each month in 1972. It was passed that a personal letter be sent to each member in arrears in their pledge for the current year as well as the last year. It was approved to cut cost of the church until the church becomes more financially secure. The church accepted a gift from the North Carolina Conference of \$12,998.00. Mr. Foy Biggers, Chairman of Music Committee, requested and received from the Board, empowerment to make decision as to who may practice on and use the church organ. In June 1973, the Finance Committee reported pledges amounted to \$102,541. However in October, the Chairman of Finance reported that the church's financial condition was "Poor" and that pledges need to brought current. In November \$14,000 was needed to meet the budget. A visitation to members was approved because of the shortage. Job descriptions were written by the Board for a Director of Youth Choir and Director - Organist of the Chancel Choir. These job descriptions were submitted by the Chairperson of the Music Committee, Foy Biggers. They were approved. A report for each month in 1973 was submitted and filed.

1974 - Joseph Rhodes, Chairman, Secretary - Frances Floyd, Treasurer - Betty Teague. The new minister, Lester Jackson, began in June, 1974. The church year was changed from June through May to January through December. The church began using Lloyd Turnage's drawing of St. James UMC on the bulletins, letterhead and envelopes. The budget was \$60,036.

1975 - Chairman - George Davis, Vice-Chair - Bill Pollard, Secretary - Ruth Jenkins, Treasurer - Betty Teague. The approved budget was \$62,698.00. A commendation was given to Mrs. Lester Jackson for her work, dedication and love of St. James and to Sue King for her service as organist for the early service. The current treasurer, Betty Teague, submitted her resignation as of December, 1975. The Care System was started during this year.

1976 - Chairman - George Davis, Secretary - Anne Griffith - No records available

1977 - No records available

1978 - No records available. The Finance Committee utilized the "Pony Express" to get pledges for the coming year.

1979 - Chairman - Bill Pollard, Secretary - Carol Kirk. Mrs. Carol Medima resigned as Kindergarten Director and was replaced by Mrs. Karen Ponder. Work began on a church pictorial directory with 50% of the members participating. Low attendance at Board meetings was a concern. Volunteers for grass cutting were needed to prevent the occurrence of 1978 when the church paid \$6.00 per hour for the grass to be cut. A new part-time secretary was hired, Carol Kearney. From June 1978 to April, 1979, 106 people were received into membership. The church finances consistently ran \$6,800 behind in meeting the budget. Administrative Board meetings were held quarterly.

1980 - Chairman - Bill Pollard, Secretary - Carol Kirk. Painting of the outside of the church and some inside portions, the chapel, fellowship hall, etc. was completed. The church bought a charter membership in the Southall Swim and Racquet Club for the Parsonage family to be continued by each pastor. The Pony Express was used again this year to secure pledges. Suzanna Ross Helms was hired in August as Minister of Program. She worked 40 hours per week. A new church secretary, Carol Palmer, was hired.

1981 - Chairman - Roy Cameron, Secretary - Carol Kirk. The budget was \$110,000. No records were available.

1982 - Chairman - Roy Cameron, Vice-Chair - Clayton Jenkins, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - John Barnes, Lay Leader - Larry Jones. The approved budget was \$115,000. The Board met every other month. In March 1982, the church debt was retired and a note-burning service was held. Chairman Roy Cameron initiated compiling all the Administrative Council minutes since the church began and putting them in a notebook. In October, there was a called meeting of the Board in regard to replacing three furnaces. It was recommended to replace two furnaces with natural gas furnaces and also if funds available to replace the third furnace. The cost for this project is \$6,200.

1983 - Chairman - Roy Cameron, Vice-Chair - R. E. Cobb, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - Don Wall, Lay Leader - Larry Jones. Meetings were held every other month. The budget for this year was \$128,000. New wedding guidelines were approved and printed in booklet form. The kindergarten budget was approved at \$56,151. Their rental for 1983 was \$5,615 and the 6 months fee was increased to \$30. It was passed in December that the three (3) terms of the chairperson of the Administrative Board be changed to a two (2) year term because of the stress involved. This year ended with an excess of \$19,596.20. \$10,000.00 is committed to the 1984 budget. The remaining funds were placed in the Capital Projects Fund.

1984 - Chairman - R. E. Cobb, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - Walter Chamber, the activity bus was deemed no longer usable therefore it was sold for \$400. The Bus Committee was asked to investigate the means of transportation needed for the church. A construction loan was secured from the N. C. Conference at a rate of 10.5%. A computer for the church was being researched. Pews from the Chapel were removed and disposed of. St. James celebrated its' 25th Anniversary on June 3. The church recognized 13 charter member families. A history of St. James was put together and presented. The Board approved \$900 for Pastor John White to travel to Minnesota to be present with a church member who was undergoing life-threatening surgery. \$9,000 of the remaining funds mentioned in 1983 that went into the Capital Projects Fund was used to install a new gas furnace for the sanctuary and office use. The system was for heating and cooling. This year ended with an excess of \$21,501.20 because planned repairs were not started as anticipated. Sharon Johnson began the first Children's Music Program.

1985 - Chairman - R. E. Cobb, Secretary - Kay Strickland. The budget of \$155,000 was approved. The Kindergarten budget was \$67,980. The Director's contract was extended from 10 months to 12 months. During January, the Board passed allocating the excess funds quoted in 1985 as follows: \$7,400 to Capital Projects Fund, \$694.11 to Capital Improvements, \$800 to Pastor-Parish, \$12,000 to support the 1985 budget, and \$607.09 to the Operating Reserve. In March, the Care Group was revised and families were reassigned to a group. Roof repairs were completed. Clear Plexiglass was used to cover the stain glass windows. Someone contracted to mow the grass. The purchase of a van researched (cost around \$16,000). The roof repair cost was \$23,000. The Stewardship Committee began a recognition program, "Steward of the Quarter". The first recipient of this was Allen Godfrey. The Weekday School had 130 students (6 months - 6 years) and operated 1, 2, 3 and 5-day programs with a staff of 8 teachers, 5 assistants, 1 music and 1 director. The year ended with an excess of \$13,000.

1986 - Chairman - Charles Wilder, Vice-Chair - Armin Harrell, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - John Alford, Lay Leader - John Bolton. The approved budget was \$165,000. As of January 1, membership was 999. The Kindergarten budget was \$80,350. Music Director, Gaynelle Glass, took two months of leave and the Board approved six weeks of medical leave pay. In September a Youth Director was hired to replace the Associate Pastor who left in June. The church tapped onto the sewage of the City of Raleigh at a cost of \$6,000. The problems with the sanctuary sound system were referred to Trustees for investigation. The proposed 1987 budget presented to the Board was \$148,000. The budget was reduced because giving was lower than anticipated. (Remember during this year Black Friday occurred in October where the stock markets went way down and a lot of people lost their money.) A Personnel Policy was adopted by the Board and implemented. The Pastor's salary, travel and utilities were \$31,428.00.

1987 - Chairman - Charles Wilder, Vice-Chair - Armin Harrell, Secretary - Kay Strickland Treasurer - John Alford. The Board met monthly. The Kindergarten budget was \$97,032 with a staff of 22. In May, Danny and Sue King donated an organ to the church for the Chapel. \$1,000 was transferred to the Altar Guild. The remaining funds

were divided between the operating reserve and capital improvements. The year ended with an excess of 18,633.87.

1988 - Chairman, Armin Harrell, Vice-Chair - Ernest Finch, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - John Alford. The budget was \$148,000. The Board held monthly meetings. Morris Haywood was hired as Youth Director and Program Director at \$16,000 per year. A computer was purchased for the church, an IBM PS-2, model 30 and an Epson printer. The Weekday School budget for 1988-89 was \$107,567 and served 140 children. Membership declined to 992 during the year. On June 24, 1988, a called Charge Conference was held to determine how the Lay Delegates should vote on the \$8 million proposal (The Spirit for Tomorrow) for the Methodist Church expansion and camping facilities. It was decided the vote should be left to the discretion of the delegate. With an affirmative vote on this, the amount St. James was to give to the Conference over a three (3) year period was determined to be \$35,048. A Building Committee was formed to bring recommendations for expansion and renovation to the Board. The Stewardship Campaign this year was the Circuit Ride Campaign. The average attendance of Sunday School and Worship for 13 years (1975-1987) was presented to the Board.

1989 - Chairman - Armin Harrell, Vice-Chair - Frances Moody, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Lay Leader - Linda Davenport. The total approved budget in December, 1988, was \$170,000. This was changed in January, 1989, to \$185,000. The Board was meeting monthly. The Kindergarten budget was \$116,831 an increase of \$9,000. Funds designated for "Tornado Relief" will be given to St. James members who were affected by the tornado. The issue with the new road being built did not impact St. James except for the triangle where Sue Ellen Lane crossed. The Youth Director, Morris Haywood, resigned in September and Smith Rogers was hired. For the Stewardship Campaign, the Pony Express Ride was used again. Membership declined during this year. A special appeal was made to the congregation for a special offering for Hurricane Hugo relief.

1990 - Chairperson - Frances Moody, Secretary - Kay Strickland. The total budget for this year was \$185,000. The Board held monthly meetings. The Kindergarten budget for 1990-1991 was \$130,505. There were 164 children enrolled. With the City of Raleigh pursuing relocation of New Hope Road, St James was concerned that the City had intentions of securing 60 feet of the Church property for right-of-way for the extension of Sue Ellen Drive. This would cut off the southern part of the Church's property. On February 11, 1990, a Called Charge Conference was held regarding salary and the assessment - easement of land to be used in the proposed New Hope Road project. St. James Kindergarten and Preschool celebrated its 25th year as of September 10, 1990. The Building Committee had Bart Bartholomew and Associates, at no cost to St. James, prepare preliminary drawings for expansion. Morning Star UMC congregation names came to St. James since that church closed. In November, the motion carried that the Board meetings be held during the even months and the Council on Ministries be held during the odd months. In December, the Building Committee reported that the overall cost of the expansion could cost \$1 million.

1991 - Chairperson - Frances Moody, Vice-Chair -R. E. Cobb, Secretary -Kay Strickland. The total budget was \$185,000. There was a need for two additional classrooms and the Board approved allowing the Trustees to spend \$2,500 for a trailer and installation. Tiffany Black was hired as Associate Pastor and to work with the youth. The Building Committee presented an architectural rendering of expansion plans to the Board and later to the Conference and it was well received by the Conference. Attorneys were hired for to negotiate the purchase of 3.07 acres of additional land from the Haithcock heirs as well as to negotiate with the City concerning the amount they will pay the church for land they will be acquiring for the extension of Sue Ellen Drive. An appraisal of the property near Sue Ellen Drive is \$25,254. The Haithcock heirs are asking \$300,000 for their property. St. James also asked the city to pay for the necessary moving of the playground due to the New Hope Road expansion. Cost for the moving the playground is \$4,500 and the city agreed to \$1,500.

1992 - Chairman - John Barnes, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Lay Leader - Frances Moody. The total budget for this year was \$201,000. The City of Raleigh paid the church \$1,500 for the moving of the kindergarten playground. The Parsonage was sold because it did not meet Conference standards and the current minister, Jimmy Sutton, requested not to use it. In July, Pastor Eric Carson was appointed and also in July, a housing allowance was approved for the Pastor. A Called Charge Conference was held September 3 and it was approved to sell the parsonage. The proceeds would be put in a special fund and the principal not be used until such time as a decision is made to purchase a new parsonage. The Building Committee reported now the cost of the new expansion is \$950,000. The projected cost that is based on \$80 - \$90 per square foot with an extra \$200,000 for the parking lot and landscaping.

1993 - Chairman - John Barnes, Vice Chair - R. E. Cobb, Secretary - Kay Strickland The proposed budget was presented at \$215,000 and passed with the stipulation that this budget was based on current personnel. Howard Lowdermilk was meeting with the architects for Carson Hall. In February, 1993, the parsonage was sold for \$79,682.00. The Staff Parish Committee requested the return of Pastor Eric Carson. At the April meeting Staff Parish recommended that someone be hired as Director of Children and Youth working approximately 30 hours per week. The Trustees reported that Sound Systems quotes were being collected. The total proposal was \$7,855. In June, the Staff Parrish Committee advised they were accepting resumes for a Program Director. At the August meeting, The Building Committee reported \$100,000 in the building fund and stated that they hope to break ground in the spring of 1994. In November at the Charge Conference, 63 members of St. James met with the architects of Carson Hall. In December, Faye Vest reported that the land (3 parcels) available for purchase next to St. James property was available. St. James money for this type purchase was to begin with \$80,000 and not go over \$100,000.

1994 - Chairman- John Barnes, Secretary - Kay Strickland. The Administrative Board met every other month. An offer of \$100,000 was made to buy the parcels of land next to the church property. It was reported by the Land Acquisition Committee that James Haithcock made an offer to sell the church this property at \$4 per square foot. This did

not pass. In June of 1994, the Board approved the issuance of bonds through American Funding for the church building project. **At the August meeting a motion was approved to change from an Administrative Board and Council on Ministries to an Administrative Council.** The Administrative Council combines program people and administration. It was decided that meeting every other month did not provide needed continuity. In September the original building plans, \$956,000, were replaced with new plans, \$900,000, because the original plans were outside the church members capabilities.

1995 - Chairman - Charlie Wilder, Secretary - Kay Strickland. In January, it was reported that the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building project would be April 23. It was passed that Administrative Council have monthly meetings. The Finance Committee reported in March that the church had sold \$726,500 in bonds, keeping \$23,500 of 6-month bonds in house, with interest earnings returning to the church. The church purchased a lawnmower. Members pledged \$1,339 to repair the annex (re-shingle at a cost of \$715, rewire, put in wallboard and a ceiling. R. E. Cobb and a committee were to determine the usage of the annex and also come up with a name. A Called Charge Conference was held on May 28 regarding the City of Raleigh wanting to take ten (10) feet of the church property in order to widen New Hope Road at a cost to the church of \$44,000. It was decided to have a subcommittee of the Building Committee negotiate with the Planning Dept of the city of Raleigh. In June, Denise McHale was hired to work in the Infant Nursery. Later in September, the Building Committee advised the beams alone for the new addition will cost \$86,000. The addition and renovation will be done in phases. Phase 1 will be paving of the front parking lot. In November of 1995, the church obtained a truckload of free azaleas from WRAL to be planted in the landscape. The Building Committee reported that the first bids for the building project were substantially over what was expected; therefore, things considered to be cut are 3 classrooms, eliminating the stage in the Fellowship Hall, and eliminating the Conference Room. These cuts reduced the cost level to \$935,000. The new plan was approved by the Council during the December meeting.

1996 - Chairman - Charlie Wilder, Chairman, R. E. Cobb, Vice-Chair, Kay Strickland, Secretary. The membership rolls were purged this year with a total of 90 members being officially removed from the church rolls. New youth staff, Dennis Peay and Susan Mazzochi, were hired in March of this year. Also in March, the Building Committee reported \$895,000 was budgeted for the building addition, with architect fees being additional. The south parking lot had been finished and ready for members to do planting and landscaping. In April, the Building Committee reported a balance of \$50,500. The debt service payment on bonds was approximately \$1,350 each week. An appeal was made to the congregation asking for a one-time contribution to help raise the additional \$47,000 to \$48,000 needed. The Program Director, Susan Sipal, resigned in August because she and her husband were moving to Turkey. During the August meeting Pastor Eric Carson discussed that the church has been focused on buildings by necessity for quite a while, but it is important that the church not become obsessed with the building and remember the church is about people. The dedication service for the new building will be September 22. Jerry Lipscomb was hired as a full-time Program Director beginning September 9. In October, the Building Committee reported the final cost of

the new building with all credits and debits was \$847,592. A Charge Conference was held November 7 with 49 members in attendance.

1997 - Chairman - R. E. Cobb, Vice-Chair - Maurice Toler, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader, John Barnes. The church committees reported their regular happenings during January, February, and March. In April, God's Green Thumb Garden was planted. A Facility Use Committee was recommended to address who could use Carson Hall and the care of it. It was announced that the Parsonage Committee must come up with a home or apartment with 3 to 4 bedrooms within 5 miles of the church for the new pastor who will be here June 24. June 22 is Pastor Eric Carson's last Sunday and a dinner will be given in his honor. In May, rental property was located for the new pastor, Jim Wilson, at a cost of \$1,650 per month. The Conference approved an adjustment in the new minister's salary and therefore the salary and travel, etc was reduced so the church could pay the rent on minister's house. The Parsonage Committee received approval for \$3,000 to spend on furnishings for the pastor's residence such as refrigerator, dining room furnishings, etc. Also in May of this year, a talent show was held and \$500 was raised for the Hinton Mission team. Regarding the annex, a building permit from the city will cost \$2,000, vinyl windows \$2,300 and plumbing \$1,900. A Called Charge Conference was held June 8, 1997 for the adjustment in the salary of the Pastor, Jim Wilson. The following items were approved:

Base salary changed from	\$20,288	to	\$17,300
Utilities changed from	\$ 2,417	to	1,500
Travel changed from	\$ 2,476	to	1,200
Charge Conf. Sub-total	\$25,181	to	\$20,000

In June, 1997 Pastor Eric Carson retired with a Love Offering of \$2,000. Pastor Jim Wilson was welcomed. Pastor Wilson met with each Care Group. \$1,200 was raised to put shelves in the church library. The Pumpkin Patch was started to raise money to help with the completion of the Annex. The Jeff Wilson Memorial Scholarship Fund for higher education was begun. Program Director Jerry Lipscomb engaged the church in a lot of mission work for this year including the Hinton Work Trip, Society of St. Andrews, Advent Devotional Book and Square Dance Club. Two special church wide events for 1997 were the membership attending the Mudcats games on Sunday afternoons and a bus trip to see "Worthy Is The Lamb" along with dinner in Swansboro, N. C. Nell Lassiter, church secretary, retired in December, 1997.

1998 - R. E. Cobb was Chairperson, Wayne Smith, Vice Chair, and Leigh Ann Bridges, Secretary later replaced by Kay Strickland. The Pastor's salary, travel and utilities for this year were accepted at \$42,000. This year began with the Finance Chairman reporting that the church had a shortfall of \$90,000 in the offering budget and \$32,000 in the Bond Repayment. It seemed that membership had pledged to the operating budget but not to the building fund budget. A hood for the gas stove in the kitchen was purchased for \$8,000 from designated funds. A Facilities Usage book for scheduling for church space was begun. In April, Angela Hill was hired as Administrative Assistant to the Pastor. Youth Director, Dennis Peay's, salary was increased by \$2,400. Dennis began seminary, as well as, working part-time at St. James. The lease was lost for the Pastor's current housing and the rent paid by the church was converted to his new housing on a monthly

basis. The Stephen Ministry program was implemented with Kaye McRee being the leader. The Korean Church was given permission to use the Chapel for their worship services. As of October of 1998, there was a negative balance in the budget with no cash reserve and the church still owed the Conference \$27,000. Flu shorts were given to 33 people and Yam Jam was held during October. Outreach Ministries included but was not limited to the Alternative Gift Market, Angel Tree, Habitat for Humanity, the Heifer Project, Yam Jam and delivering peanuts to visitors. New doors were installed for the Chapel.

1999 - Chairman - Wayne Smith, Vice Chair - Sue King, Kay Strickland - Secretary, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon. Part of the Administrative Council's responsibility this year was to help the church grow spiritually as members went about their tasks in the church. The 40th Homecoming was held March 3, 1999. A fund-raiser by the Hinton Mission Team raised \$779 from a breakfast given at the church. The church allowed Wake County Commissioners to use Carson Hall for a Wake County Volunteer Recognition event with 300 people attending. In June, Dennis Peay became Assistant Pastor, as well as, working with the youth. At the August meeting, a new mission statement was adopted by the Council, and it is currently (2009) being used. At the end of this year the church was behind \$18,000 on conference giving. Teams of workers traveled to Kinston and the eastern part of N. C. to help with Hurricane Floyd flood relief from the hurricane. Charge Conference was held October 3.

2000 - Chairman - Wayne Smith, Sue King - Vice-Chair, Secretary - Kay Strickland, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon. The annual budget was \$420,000. The church's apportionment for this year was \$51,000. In February, a Valentines dinner was a fundraiser for the youth that earned them \$450. St. James again this year hosted the Rod Kennedy seminar on May 7 and the Wake County Volunteer Recognition Program on May 1. At the end of March, Chairman Wayne Smith resigned due to moving to Virginia. In July, new software was purchased to have a more efficient database of members of the congregation. A camera was also purchased for new members photos. The Daily Bread Ministry was started in August by Joe and Judy Rhodes, who received leftover bread from the Panera Bread Company. Also, the Hand-in-Hand Ministry was begun and St. James was partnered with Mary Phillips School. Trustees installed walls and doors enclosing the Old Fellowship Hall and the Weekday School contributed to this project. An Administrative Council Planning Session was held August 19, 2000 with Dr. John Baggett as facilitator. In November a Ministry Fair was held with the intention to educate the congregation about the various programs and ministries of St. James. Volunteers were assigned to be responsible to close and lock the church building after services. **In September, 2000, due to the former chairman's move, Mike Woinicki began duties as Chairman of the Administrative Council.** Much emphasis this year was placed on Evangelism and Outreach. Assistant Pastor Dennis Peay chaired this committee. The Peanut Drop program was started, advertisement in the Faith section was placed in the News and Observer, the St. James Website was implemented, vinyl banners were purchased to help announce events happening at St. James. A goal was set to educate all members of St. James on evangelism and to reach out. The Charge Conference was held October 18 with 52 members attending.

2001 - Chairman, Michael Woinicki, Vice-Chair - Sue King, Secretary -Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader - Betty Harrelson, Finance Chair - Steve Snow. This year began with a struggle between management and leadership. The Pastor related the church needed a full-time manager of operations, etc. In January it was reported \$42,000 had been collected thus far for the roof. In February, the Evangelism Committee sent out mailings to 5,000 neighbors of St. James about the church at a cost of \$1,500. The Council approved permitting the Alliance Community Church use of the Chapel plus other rooms and a contract was drawn up between the two churches. If their membership grows, they may use the sanctuary. This year the church adopted the Meadowridge Community (low income housing) as a mission ministry, as well as, the Hand-in-Hand mission for which students at Mary Phillips School were tutored. At the June meeting it was approved to allow the Wake County Board of Elections to use Carson Hall on Monday nights, all day Tuesday and Wednesday mornings during election periods. Amanda Garber was hired as Youth Director.

2002 - Chairman - Michael Woinicki, Vice-Chair - Sue King, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Chairman of Finance - John Spain. Congregation members expressed concern about seeing financial reports showing line item in the budget. It was the ruling of the Administrative Council to publish this information in the church Newsletter each month. Amanda Garber, Youth Director and Associate Pastor, resigned effective June, 2002. The Kindergarten and Preschool budget is about \$227,000 with 26 employees and 161 students. 89% of this money is spent on the day school and 11% is paid to the church. The Music Program has now grown to eight (8) programs involving folks from 2 years old to adults and there are about 100 participants. The Youth continued going on Mystery trips for the third year. Minutes after June, 2002 were not located.

2003 - Chairman - Mike Woinicki, Vice-Chair - Sue King, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Chairman of Finance - John Spain. The Board met every other month. Church bonds were refinanced at rate of 5%. This year the church was successful in bringing in monies to replace the carpet in the sanctuary, recover the pews in the sanctuary, purchase a new sound system for the sanctuary and purchase a new organ for the sanctuary. Estimated costs of carpet, kneeling cushions & upholstering of pews was \$36,305, the sound system \$28,000 and the dishwasher - \$12,000. This is the second year the Alliance Christian Church has used the sanctuary and other facilities of St. James. There is a 2-year review by St. James that was mandated in the contract between St. James and ACC. The relationship between the two churches is not very affable. Guidelines were set for the ACC by the Administrative Council and these guidelines were reviewed every three months for one year. Pastor Mike Gast was appointed effective June 25, and Heather Harris (Totty) began as Youth Director on June 1. The Program Director, Jerry Lipscomb, resigned due to medical problems. Linda Spain was hired as Minister of Outreach around October. St. James held its first Love Feast this year the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The Bread Ministry had delivered 75,000 pounds of bread since its inception. The Pastor began a Praise and Worship Team composed of volunteer musicians, leaders and singers. It became necessary for the church to purchase a new organ during December, 2003 at a cost of \$42,000.

2004 - Chairperson - Helen McGee, Vice-Chair - Bob Gallagher, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader - Mike Woinicki., Finance Chair - John Spain. Total budget for this year was \$371,000. The Council met monthly. At this time the church was not paying the conference apportionment payments and a resolution was submitted by Finance to pay 1/12th of the apportionment each month. A Baldwin upright piano was donated and will be used in the preschool. The Youth collected 2,004 pounds of food during Lent. During this year missions continued to explode and the church began: the "Peanut Drop" for visitors with follow ups, the Meadowridge community became a ministry for the church, American Red Cross held blood drives after worship service, the Daily Bread Ministry, the Angel Tree Project, the Alternative Gift Market, providing transportation for the elderly, assisting Summit House and Project Greenleaf. The church purchased a dishwasher for the kitchen in Carson Hall. A new employee handbook was written and given to each employee. A desk, bookcase and conference table were donated by John and Linda Spain.

2005 - Chairman - Scott Finley, Vice-Chair- Maurice Toler, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader - Faye Vest, Chair of Finance - Mike Woinicki. The Council met every other month. Carpet was installed in the Chapel with the Wesleyan Sunday School class paying one half the cost and the church paying the other half. The total carpet cost was \$2,050. The church had problems with break-ins at the church this year with items, cash and checks being stolen. Because of this security of the church was a big issue. "The Gathering" was started by the Evangelism Committee. This was a fellowship time after the worship service to greet and get to know visitors. A 7:00 p. m. contemporary worship service was started which was lead by Heather Harris (Totty). Necessary repairs and updates were made which were mandated by the Fire Department and these repairs amount to \$4,000. Regarding staff-parish, each staff person was assigned to a staff-parish person so they could be assisted with problems. The Choir had a very successful fund-raiser, "Chili Cookoff." The Council approved donating \$200 per month to Urban Ministries instead of trying to meet the requests of street people coming to the church asking for money. Because of this donation, people seeking help would be given \$5 to catch a bus, given the address of Urban Ministry and a few cans of food. This year the office staff was reorganized and Linda Spain was named Business Manager.

2006 - Chairman - Scott Finley, Vice-Chair - Maurice Toler, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader - Gayle Mathews, Chair of Finance - Bill Pollard. The church received a \$25,000 donation for use as follows: \$5,000 for kitchen, \$18,000 for purchase of sanctuary doors, re-stripping the parking lot and/or replacement of carpet in Carson Hall and \$2,000 for training Stephen Ministers. After a walk-through of the church, the Trustees compiled a list of repairs needed in order of priority and this list was divided into three categories: (1) five small projects with estimated total cost of \$5,500, (2) 3 items - Carson Hall Sound System, Paint lobby, Carson Hall and Chapel, Change Carson Hall floor for estimated \$30,000 and (3) six items - expand parking lot, replace fabric on back wall of sanctuary, purchase land behind playground, finish upgrading kitchen with pot hangers, cabinets and separate thermostat, build Sunday School and Youth Building, and Video projector. The Gifts and Memorial Committee

was eliminated this year because it was felt the Finance Committee and the GMC was redundant. The people who count the offering are bonded under the church's insurance policy. The mortgage balance on Carson Hall is \$446,269.81. The church was required to replace the sanctuary doors to bring the church up to city building codes. The cost was \$33,800. \$18,000 was paid from designated funds and \$16,000 was general fund. This reduced the Capital Improvement Fund to \$11,610. The church continues to have roof leaks from the new roof but it is still under warranty. Linda Spain made improvements in the church web site. The church continues heavily with mission outreach programs.

2007 - Chairman - Scott Finley, Vice-Chair- Maurice Toler, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Reid Trogdon, Lay Leader - Gayle Mathews, Chair of Finance - Bill Pollard. The Council met quarterly this year. A new part-time position was established, Pastor of Congregational Care, which was filled by Reverend John White, former pastor of St James. This position was to increase the quality of pastoral care of the membership and to supplement and build upon current outreach to visitors and prospective members. A financial plan for the renovation of the Annex Building was presented to the Council by Pastor Preston. An Annex Committee was formed to raise the money, get a contractor, etc. Total cost for this building, which includes a picnic shelter was \$141,000. The church hosted a youth choir from Florida. The Charge Conference was held on November 7.

2008 - Chairman - Shan Biggers, Vice-Chair - Maurice Toler, Secretary - Thelma Vickers, Treasurer - Emily Paulson, Lay Leader - Gayle Mathews, Chair of Finance - John Spain. The annual budget was \$420,000. Approval was given to begin the renovation to the Annex (all money necessary for the first two phases had been secured). Future additions (picnic shelter) are still planned but were placed on hold until funds were available. A Shawl Ministry was started at St. James where shawls are crocheted or knitted and prayers uplifted during the crocheting and knitting process. The shawl is then presented to someone who is sick. The Adopting a Grandparent Program was initiated and was being coordinated by John White. The Conference is now requiring that utilities for all pastors be paid through the church. During the summer, St. James sponsored the "Youth Works" program, whose purpose is to provide life-changing mission opportunities. Pete Montague donated \$30,000 to be used for the Annex Building. A vote was taken and passed to name the renovated Annex, "Montague Hall."

Montague Hall St. James Annex Building

The annex was purchased for \$75,000 plus a \$25,000 letter indicating a donation to St. James to James Haithcock and his brother, while Eric Carson was the minister at St. James. Eric had negotiated James down to a price of \$100,000. At a meeting of the Trustees the price was discussed and a member asked Eric to see if the Haithcocks would take \$75,000 and a letter that they were making a donation of \$25,000 to St. James. It

was further suggested that the Haithcocks discuss this with their CPA. As stated above the purchase was made.

The money for the purchase came from money received from the sale of the parsonage when the Conference allowed us to make a housing allowance to Eric Carson since Eric already had a home in Raleigh. When the parsonage was sold the money was placed in an account specified by the Charge Conference to only be used to purchase another parsonage since it was anticipated that the next minister would have to have one. By the time the annex became available the Conference had agreed to allow a church to provide a housing allowance instead of a parsonage if the church so desired. With that provision in place the approximately \$87,000 was freed up to allow St. James to buy the annex after another Charge Conference to approve such action.

Rick Kirk and Julian Bridgers headed up the remodeling of the annex.

Julian suggested that items such as shingles, paint, wiring, sheet rock, etc., be sold to members to finance the needed repairs to make the annex serviceable for the youth and possibly the Methodist Men to cook peanuts. St. James members responded quite well and we raised enough to get started.

The first thing done was to clean it out and paint the outside. Bruce Cheatam did a lot of the painting. The front and rear doors to the building were replaced.

The next thing done was to replace the roof. Don Strickland led a crew of church members to take off the old roof, patch the place where the chimney was removed and then put on new paper and shingles.

When we got to the wiring, Howard Lowdermilk, who worked for Carolina Power and Light advised us on what to do. Some of us put in a new electrical panel and pulled new wires to replace the non-grounded 14 - gauge wire in the building. Several interesting things were found including one place where in order to get the wire between a plate and a joist the wire was completely stripped of insulation and the bare wires were laying across the joist with just the normal spacing between the wires as if they were actually in the original insulation.

Rick Kirk knew someone at CP&L who he called to see what else we had to do and was told that we would have to have an electrical permit before the power would be cut on. We also found out, about that time, that the service wire coming to the electrical panel was aluminum and that it would have to be replaced with copper wire. This wire is rather expensive per foot so we were faced with another problem.

At that point one of Betty Harrelson's relatives agreed to get the electrical permit and let us do the rewiring. He would examine what was done and get the building inspected for \$85.00.

We purchased plywood to put above the joist to provide flooring for either a large room for the youth or storage depending on what decision was made for its use. Stairs were planned to get to the second story area and we also looked at putting an outside set of stairs so that there would be a fire exit from that area.

Insulation was purchased through Lynn Carter from Habitat for Humanity's surplus for \$1.00 per roll. Habitat sells products when they have excess and use that money to purchase items they need and do not have.

Heating and cooling were talked about but never priced out or planned. Duct work will have to be overhead.

We talked about replacing the windows but did not price out the cost.

Rick Kirk contacted someone he knew who was a plumber who agreed to put in new plumbing if we would cut out the concrete floor where the plumbing needed to go for \$385.00. There will also be a fee for connecting to the city sewage.

Julian and R. E. Cobb purchased some sheetrock to use for the ceiling, put up two sheets then stopped because of what occurred next.

Several members went downtown to the City Building Inspector's office to get a permit to do the work on the building. It was at this point that we found out that the building no longer came under residential code and thus was then under commercial code since it was owned by the church.

The inspection fee went up to something like \$2,500 and since there was not enough money to continue, the work stopped.

New code for handicapped use now came into effect. The hall is too narrow. We had to move one wall 3 inches so that a wheel chair could be turned around in the hall. The main wall is a weight-bearing wall which presents problems. The other wall bordered the bathroom. The doors to the building are steel frames set into concrete block walls that cause another problem. The one into the bathroom is too narrow. Each room has to have an outside exit or we must install a fire alarm system for the building that is again quite expensive. Therefore, we considered putting in a door in place of a window in each room to satisfy the code requirement but did not figure the cost.

Sam Owen drew up a set of plans detailing the new codes.

We did try to develop a cost to complete the building and came up with a cost in the \$25,000 to \$30,000 range with members of the church doing most of the work not considering a firm alarm system. That cost was just an attempt to put prices on what we thought it would take.

Bill Ferrell and Tony Horton teamed up to get the ball rolling once again on the Annex in October, 2006. Money started to be raised to get plans and estimates for the renovation. Pete Montague donated \$30,000 in memory of his wife, Frances. This was the seed money to really start things moving. Unfortunately Pete did not live to see the Annex completed. In appreciation for his insight and financial support the Administrative Council named the Annex, "Montague Hall."

The renovation plan was received with three phases with an estimated total cost of \$141,000. The architect was Phillips Architecture.

Phase 1 was the building of a workshop/storage building to house the items that had been stored in the Annex. **Here again March 1 is a significant date in the history of St. James. This building was started and completely dried in at that time.** This building was constructed by members of the church with a good deal of help from the youth. They helped with the foundation preparation, spreading of the gravel and painting the building.

With enough money in hand, Phase 2 kicked off in August, 2008 by hiring Summerlin Building Company to do the work. The building was essentially completed in November, 2008 when we got the Certificate Of Occupancy. Members then sealed and caulked the interior molding, doors and windows. Ed Giunco supplied the paint and he and his wife, Ellen, painted the interior.

It surely looks better than when we purchased it, full of hay.

This project was funded without incurring any additional debt for the church. This is an amazing accomplishment. To date \$110,945.07 has been raised and \$106,470.27 has been spent. Additional monies will be spent on the concrete floor and a few miscellaneous items, yet to be purchased. It is estimated that the cost of the finished Phase 1 and Phase2 will be around \$108,000.00.

Phase 3 of this project awaits enough money to build the picnic shelter.

The Classic Squares Square Dance Club

A group of interested members of St. James United Methodist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina met several times to determine if they wanted to form a square dance club. On September 2, 1997, these members voted to formally start a club and contracted with W. J. Morgan to act as the instructor and caller. Officers for the club, subsequently named The Classic Squares, were elected as follows: Wanda Goodson - President; John Camak - Vice-President; and Julian Bridgers - Secretary - Treasurer.

The opening dance was held after the business session on September 2, 1997, with 24 people present. J. Morgan was the caller.

Charter Members

Ann Bridgers
Julian Bridgers
Harriett Camak
John Camak
Fannie Carey
Genevieve Carter
Lynn Carter
Peggy Dill
Otto Etter
Julia Franks
Lewis Franks
Faye Gardner
Robert Gardner
Ralph Goodson
Wanda Goodson

Clayton Jenkins
Treva Jenkins
Swede Jones
Verleen Jones
Gail Mathews
Gene Mathews
Mary Ellen Mauney
Clarice Pratt
O. C. Pratt
Betty Rhoades
Joe Rhodes
Judy Rhodes
Charles Wilder
Dottie Wilder

The membership has declined over the years, but The Classic Squares still meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in Carson Hall.

Membership is not restricted to St. James members and anyone who is interested is invited to attend. Instruction will be given if needed.

The current officers are: Ted Thurlow - President, Faye Gardner - Vice-President and Julian Bridgers - Secretary - Treasurer. J. Morgan continues to be the square dance caller. His wife, Minnetta Morgan, calls the line dances.

If you can walk, you can square dance. The members enjoy good exercise and fun times.

St. James Games Group

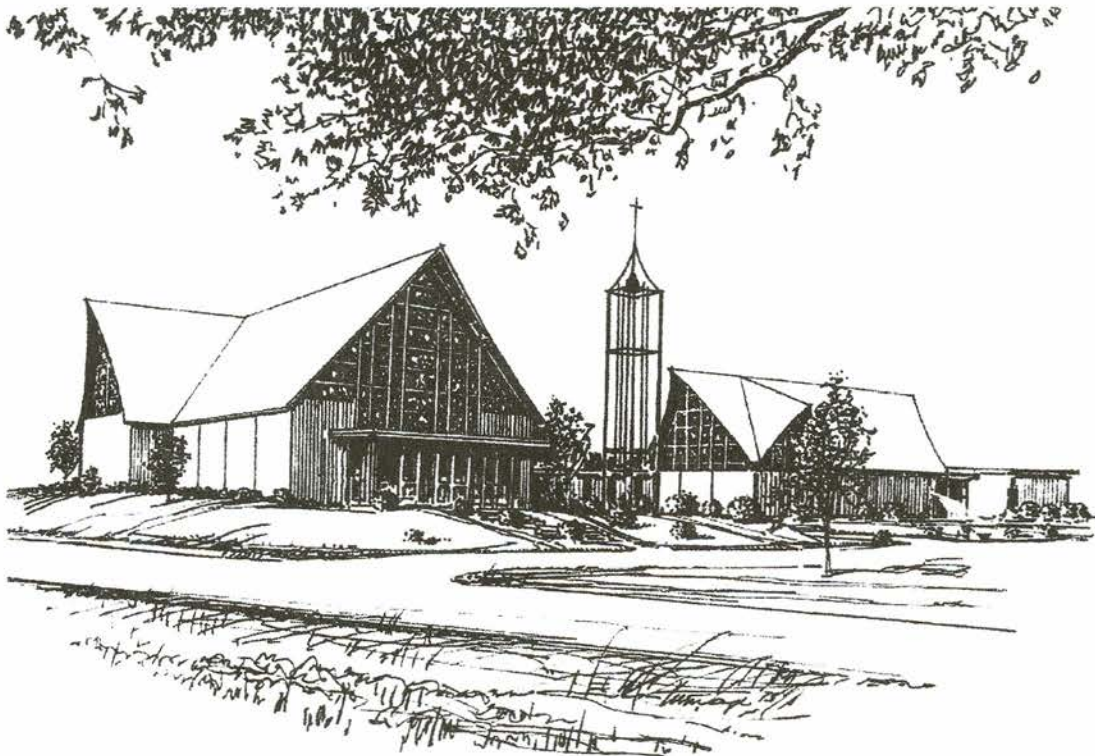
The Games Group began around October, 2004, under the guidance of Christine Thurlow and Wanda Goodson.

The object of the group is to bring together people who are looking for companionship and Christian fellowship while exercising their minds. The games are mostly board or card games that are very easy to learn and fun to play.

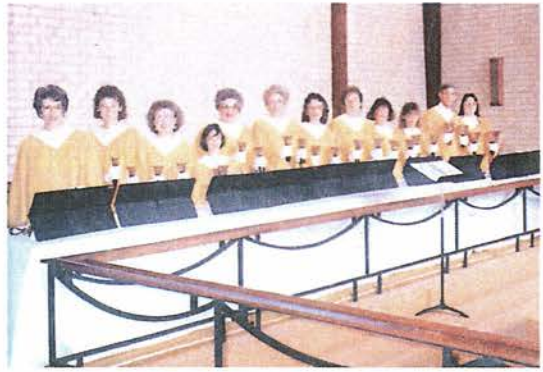
Sessions are held once a month in Carson Hall beginning at 4:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. that is prepared by Christine Thurlow. Participants pay a nominal fee that covers the cost of the meal.

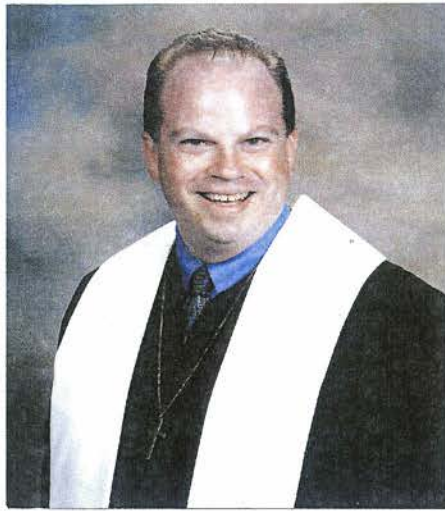
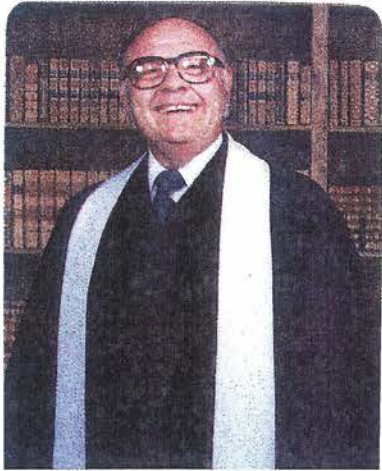
The size of the group has varied from around 12 people to as high as 42 people. Membership at St. James is not a requirement to join the group. Everyone is welcome.

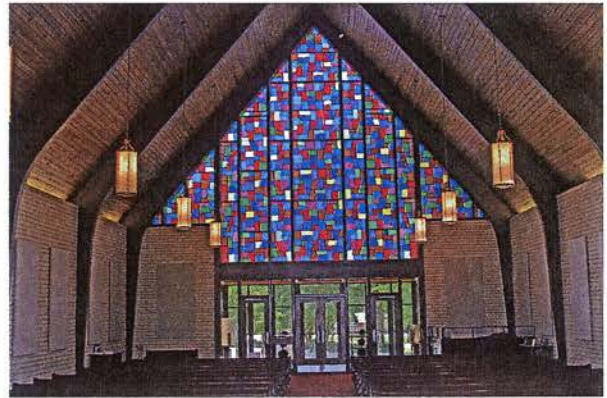
The End



St. James United Methodist Church
3808 St. James Church Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604
(919) 876-5796









Sometimes the End is the Beginning.
This occurred at the beginning of St. James Methodist Church