

# the Joyful Noise

of St. James' Episcopal Church

## How Is God Calling *You*? by Evelyn Manzella

Dear Friends,

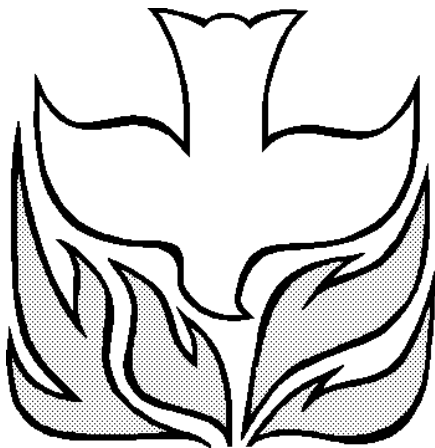
When I look back over the last year, two Sundays stand out to me. Not Christmas or Easter even, but two Sundays, one on the fifth Sunday of July and on All Saints day. On the fifth Sunday, we had "Sundae Sunday" and on All Saints, Bishop David and Nancy Bowman were with us. They are so memorable to me because you were there. We were together, praying, and singing, and laughing, and being the Church. There is such a different feeling, a different level of energy,

many gifted people in the congregation who do many things but we need everyone to do some of the work of the church. The church is not consumable place. It is a cooperative community. It is not about what you get but what you give in return for God's gifts to you.



I pray that God will give you clarity on how you can best share in the ministries God has called us to in our local community, our Diocese, and the world. The starting point will always be our voices joined in worship. Go from there.

Peace,  
Evelyn



when we come together to worship God, to support one another's prayers, and to care for each other. This is being the Church, the Body of Christ. No one can be Church on their own, or "do church" on their own because the church is the gathered Body of Christ, brought together by God to live into God's kingdom. You make this happen. We each come with different passions and skills, different experience and needs. Yet God calls us, one by one, to be built into the Body, the Church.

In this new year, full of possibilities and opportunities and challenges, pray about how God is calling you to give yourself to God's work in the church. There are

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## Editorial Information

The Joyful Noise is published monthly September through June as a ministry of St. James Episcopal Church. Submissions in accord with the Mission of St. James are encouraged. The address of the Editor is 429 Kinney Circle, Wooster, OH 44691 and you may e-mail: [astolat@sssnet.com](mailto:astolat@sssnet.com)

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Jean Barnes  
Mary Eberhart  
Evelyn Manzella  
Terry Ling  
Barbie Sharp



Please add your name to the sign up sheets on the bulletin board for greeters and Coffee Hour hosts/hostesses.



**Astolat**  
Publications



- The annual meeting will be on January 28th, 2007. There will be one service at 9:00 a.m. followed by brunch.
- Information for the annual report should be submitted to the office by January 7th, 2006. If you are the leader or chairperson of a committee or group, you may e-mail it or drop it off at the office. Your promptness will be appreciated.

## Saint James Episcopal Church

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Web Address: <http://www.stjameswooster.org/index.html>

E-mail: [saintjameswooster@earthlink.net](mailto:saintjameswooster@earthlink.net)

*Holy Eucharist Services*

8:00 am and 10:00 am Sunday, 7:30 am Wednesday

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Jean Barnes (06)	(330) 345-8586
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Brad Burns (07)	(330) 263-7504
Velda Cross (06)	(330) 345-1416
Sue Gorman (07)	(330) 262-0973
Mary Hickey (06)	(330) 262-7059
Peggy Hockett (08)	(330) 345-7825
Roger Kienzle (08)	(330) 262-4262
Jim Richard (06)	(330) 264-2608
Jane Richardson (08)	(330) 264-4342
Celia Smart (07)	(330) 262-0299
Tim Urang (07)	(330) 682-0118

*The Collect for St. James': "almighty and everlasting God, who didst move Thy servants in times past to establish and sustain this parish of St. James: Grant us grace so to follow their good example that we in our time may fulfill Thy will for us by knowing, loving, and serving Thee and Thy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."*

The Mission of St. James Episcopal Church is to Greet, Grow, and Give in the name of Jesus Christ.

## Vestry Candidates 2007



**Ruth Brown**

My name is Ruth Brown and as many of you know, I am currently the Parish Nurse. My father was a Foreign Service Officer so I grew up overseas. I was born in Israel, evacuated out with my mother in the war of 56. I spent my early youth in Bonn, Germany and my teenage years in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where I graduated from high school. Hence, my interest in CAMO (Central American Medical Outreach). When I did live in the states, it was DC or Oklahoma. My parents were from Oklahoma. I went to Prince Georges College in Maryland and received a degree in nursing. I worked for 25 years as a nurse, mostly nursing home administration, although I had my own nursing home consulting business for 10 years. I retired from nursing in 2001. I moved to Wooster in 1983 and joined St. James in January of 1987. I was raised in the Episcopal Church. I have 3 children, Josh, David and Taylor. Josh and David are both in college and Taylor is in high school. Dr. Charles Brown and I were married in 1999 at St. James. I am currently on the Wooster Lacrosse Board and work with CAMO. In the past at St. James, I have taught Sunday school, High School Youth Group, Choir, ECW and was Hospitality Chairman. I have a strong commitment to St. James and with my administrative experience, I hope to be an asset to the vestry.



**Susan Figge**

I was born and raised in a multi-generational family, sharing the same roof with my sister and parents, grandparents, and assorted great aunts and uncles, and I will be forever grateful for that experience. There was always someone willing to play a game, read a book, sooth the hurts, or bake cookies. When my first grade teacher abandoned the project as hopeless, my great aunt taught me to read. Until I finished college and graduate school (with an amazing and eye-opening in-between year studying in northern Germany) California was my home. Dick and I were married in the Methodist Church in which I was raised, and where I learned to love the great Wesleyan hymns and appreciate the warmth of concern for each other and the wider community that is also central to life at St. James. In January of 1975, after five years in Champaign/Urbana, Illinois, we came to Wooster with a feisty cat and our 9 month-old son Christopher, who now completes part of the circle by living in California. Dick joined the faculty at the College, and St. James immediately became an important part of our lives. I had been confirmed at St. John the Divine in Champaign, where we had been members and where we both came to feel that the Episcopal Church was our theological and liturgical home.

Before I started teaching at the College in 1977, I served on the Outreach Committee and was active with the Christian Social Relations Committee of the Diocese. As a new mother in 1974, I had been deeply moved by images of starving infants and children in Biafra, and in Wooster I helped organize a symposium on world hunger as well as giving occasional presentations on hunger issues at other churches in the Diocese. I also served on the founding board of People to People Ministries (“Will we ever be able to raise

## Vestry Candidates 2007 *(from page 3)*

\$10,000.00 a year?”), and, years later, on the board of Every Woman’s House.

My 27 years of teaching German and Women’s Studies (with a six-year term in administration) were a time of consuming and exhilarating commitment to working with wonderful students and colleagues. Since retiring from the College in 2004, I have occasionally taught courses and have pursued research interests, but I have also returned more actively to my continuing concerns about the importance of faith communities as advocates for the poor, for justice and for peace. And so, in addition to serving as a lector and as a member of the Outreach Committee, I am delighted to be part of our newly formed Peace and Justice Committee and to be involved with the local Interfaith Peace and Justice Network. I have always been interested in meditation, and my experience of practicing the presence of God in sung chant and prayer at the Taizé community in 2000 encouraged me to help organize a workshop on contemplative prayer at St. James and to help with our Taizé services during Lent last spring. As a member of Vestry I would be interested in exploring further how we might work together toward the Millennium Development Goals, and how we might, to paraphrase Bishop Hollingsworth, make peace and justice central to all that we do.



**Pete Miller**

My wife, Margo, and I reside at 484 Oakley Road in Wooster. I have three children: Jack, Alex, and Vanessa, and two grandchildren, Zachary and Seth. I am president of the Prairie Lane Corporation and vice-president of Wooster Aggregates LLC. I claim to be semi retired and supposed to be slowing down! I first came to St. James’ in 192 during the Hollinger era. I served on

vestry and completed two and a half terms as senior warden. I filled in the half term when Susan Russell left for seminary in her calling to become a priest. I have served and chaired on several committees in the past including our pastoral care committee. I hope to employ my business senses and spiritual awareness on vestry to compliment those persons I’ll be working with.



## Cruise Ship

### St James

*Peggy Hockett*

On a very busy Sunday a small group of music lovers traveled to Saint Bernard Church in Akron to hear the Master Singers Chorale premiere two new compositions by Jason Metheny: *O Magnum Mysterium* and *What Bed Is This, O Heav’nly Child?* Jason wrote both the words and the music for *What Bed Is This?* (the poem appeared on the front page of *The Joyful Noise* last month). As you would expect, the music was lovely. In addition he arranged three other pieces for two brass choirs and two choruses. He received a glowing acknowledgement from the Director and a large well deserved round of applause. He has been asked to compose something “grand and glorious” for a concert at Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church in the spring for the dedication of a statue of Saint Stanislaus and Pope John Paul II. We will to plan a trip to the Cleveland church, which is considered a Polish Shrine.

Breaking bread together as a “Progressive Meal” has been suggested as a good winter cruise ship event and we are considering one for the end of January or some time in February. If anyone has had experience with this type of social activity, please share ideas with me. All help with the planning of the event will be joyously accepted as this is a new experience for me. We will have a brief meeting during coffee hour of those who have ideas, and to get organized. Watch the Sunday bulletin for a date.

Dick Figge will present a public first reading of a new play entitled *The Visitor* in our church some time in February; the date and time to be announced. The public will be invited and we will accept donations to Habitat for Humanity with which Dick has been heavily involved. After the reading the audience will be encouraged to give Dick feedback regarding the play.

## January Birthdays

- 3 Kelsey Grifo
- 4 Cassie Shenberger
- 5 Jim Grifo
- 7 Martha Dutton
- 8 Russell Cross
- 9 John Lawrence
- 10 Barbara Tickton
- 15 Joyce Roe
- 16 Nathan Bonvallet
- 18 Greg Schmidt
- 19 Melissa Glick  
Archer Purvis
- 21 Terry Ling  
Shirley Ryan
- 24 Ian Sharp
- 27 Brian Anderson
- 28 Cheryl Cross  
Ed Koller  
Robin Sharp
- 29 Hannah Burns
- 30 Juanita Baserman  
Jill Hockenberry
- 31 Brian Kurzenberger



## January Anniversaries

- 10/03 Mark and Barbara Tickton
- 17/69 John and Pat Zoller
- 25/69 Roger and Carol Kienzle



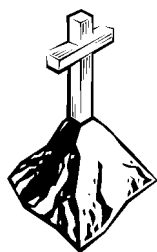
When you or a member of your family is in the hospital, please let the office know. Due to new privacy regulations, the hospital is no longer allowed to give us that information.



The black mailbox in front of the office is being used by the apartment upstairs for mail. Please **do not put items in there for the office.** You may use the mail slot or leave items between the doors to the right of the mailbox, but please let the office know.



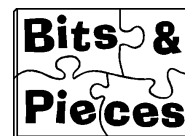
Communion can be brought to you at home or in the hospital whether you find you cannot make it to church for two weeks or two months. Please call the office if you would like to arrange for communion.



## In New Life

Please remember in your prayers William Martin who died November 30th, 2006.

For those people who don't have a computer and would like to be added to the telephone tree, please call Pat Petsch at (330) 262-9506 or Nancy Slaydon at (330) 262-8561.



The cost for flowers is \$40 plus tax for two arrangements. You are welcome to share dates with another family. If you wish to donate, please sign the calendar in the North Street Entrance. Flowers are ordered by Velda Cross, altar guild directress, from *Com-Patt-ibles*, who sends a bill to the parishioner. If you have special instructions, please indicate it on the calendar or give Velda a call on (330) 345-1416. The flowers are yours to take after the 10:00 service

- Jan 7 Open
- Jan 14 Cameron Maneese in thanksgiving for Carver
- Jan 21 Open
- Jan 28 Troy and Alison Schmidt in celebration of the 25th birthdays of Emily and Troy

The 2007 flower calendar is posted in the North Street entrance, if you would like to provide flowers for the Sunday services.

# St. James' Peace and Justice Committee

Susan Figge

## Our New Year's Resolution: From the Peace and Justice Committee

The Peace and Justice Committee has resolved to work this year within the framework of the **Millennium Development Goals**, as formulated by leaders from 191 nations. The goals can be achieved; the resources are available. Success will depend on our individual and collective will.

Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation has prepared suggested strategies for individuals, congregations and dioceses to help meet each goal, and as a committee we have added some thoughts of our own. We invite you to participate with us as we focus each month on one of the eight goals.

### MDG #1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

More than 1 billion people live on less than \$1 a day. 800 million people go to bed hungry each night.

#### What We Can Do as Individuals

Join the ONE Episcopalian Campaign, and wear a white wristband to advocate for a 1% increase in U.S. aid to the developing world. [www.one.org](http://www.one.org).

Donate to Episcopal Relief and Development and to the Episcopal Community Services Foundation; give our time and money to other agencies and organizations addressing hunger and poverty.

Take the .07% pledge. Visit [www.e4gr.org](http://www.e4gr.org).

Become an informed citizen on public policies that address hunger and homelessness, here and around the world, and express our concerns to policy-makers.

#### What We as a Congregation Can Do

Include those living in extreme poverty in our Sunday prayers of the people.

Continue our fundraising activities (like Ton of Love) and our gifts through the Outreach Committee to People to People, to the Salvation Army, and to other organizations here and abroad and explore how we can do more.

Learn from those among us who have worked directly with the poor and the hungry and support them in their work.

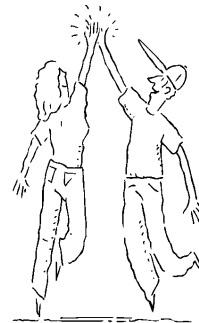
Take advantage of other opportunities to learn together about hunger and poverty.

#### What Our Diocese Can Do

Make the MDGs a major theme at Convention.

Engage in work that supports the MDGs both at home and abroad. (At its last convention our diocese resolved to create materials to help congregations and parishioners learn about hunger and homelessness, especially in their own regions, and to develop advocacy policies.)

Please add your thoughts to ours on the Peace and Justice bulletin board at the south entrance.



Good Job!

## Retiring Vestry Members

### Jean Barnes

I am just finishing up my second term on Vestry. Both times were different due to the mix of personalities, both times have been rewarding, informative and fun.

Before each meeting, we take turns to briefly check in with each other. We like to keep track of the health and basic lives of those of us sitting around the table. We get to know our fellow Vestry members and it helps us to be understanding of those going through a rough patch and share in the joy of others.

Evelyn runs a tight ship. She comes prepared and keeps the meetings to two hours. I am always amazed at how very knowledgeable she is of every aspect of our physical and spiritual church,

At first I didn't know of what possible use I could be as a Vestry member but found out that if I simply asked questions when something didn't sound right or feel right, that was quite enough.

(cont. p.8)

## Casino Royale / Déjà Vu

James Bond is back. Back at the beginning of his adventures, in a film loosely based on the first of Ian Fleming's novels, **Casino Royale**, and directed by Martin Campbell. For the central event of the story Fleming drew on an incident from his own career in British Intelligence during World War II. At a casino in France, Fleming spotted two Nazi agents at a gaming table. He persuaded his superior that if they defeated the Nazis and took their money, Hitler would be funding the operations of British Intelligence in this part of Europe. Fleming's boss was charmed by the idea and told Fleming to go ahead. The Brits were soundly defeated.

Fleming seems nevertheless to have had great fun, for he enjoyed telling the story and assured interviewer Ken Purdy that he had had a wonderful war.

Fiction can be made more satisfying than the events that inspired it, and James Bond became an outsized version of Ian Fleming. Fleming's star took off when a reporter asked President John F. Kennedy what he was doing sitting up late at night in the White House. The president responded, "I'm probably reading one of Ian Fleming's James Bond novels." The James Bond thrillers became all the rage, and the sense of elegance, fun, and dash of the Kennedy presidency was paired for many with the same qualities in Fleming's novels. The name James Bond took on a glamour never intended by Fleming, who had pinched the name from the author of a book on birds of the West Indies because it struck him as completely bland.

One of the hallmarks of the novels was Fleming's penchant for developing a preposterous thesis—an astounding, horrific plot orchestrated by a super-villain who might be named Dr. No, Auric Goldfinger, or Ernst Stavro Blofeld—and then describing it all with such realistic and well-informed detail that it might begin to seem plausible.

Only one agent was up to outsmarting the super-villain, and that was the suave, cool, and resourceful James Bond. He was always in his mid-thirties, had a cruel mouth and an unruly comma of dark hair that hung

down on his forehead. In 1962 Sean Connery embodied Agent 007 in the first Bond film, *Doctor No*. Fleming lived to revel in the first two Bond films but died in 1964 before the release of *Goldfinger*. The first three films were great fun, but I remember my heart sinking when I saw Bond put on a rocket pack in *Thunderball*. When he took off with it, gadgetry and gimmickry started taking over. The original spark was lost, at least for me, and I graduated to John Le Carré's fine and dark novels of espionage. And none of the successive actors had the magic of Sean Connery.



With the new *Casino Royale*, we are taken back to the early days of Bond's career, when he is only just earning his double-0 license to kill. Investigating terrorism, he finds the source of funding in the banker known as Le Chiffre, (portrayed by Danish actor Mads Mikkelsen). In action transferred from France to Montenegro, Bond discovers that

everything depends on a high-stakes card game. Le Chiffre desperately needs to win a tournament if he is to survive. Bond is determined to defeat and destroy him.

For the first time James Bond has blond hair and is played by Daniel Craig, well remembered from his performances in *Road to Perdition* and *Munich*. In a world of espionage, I find Craig reminding me of Vladimir Putin. Not strikingly handsome, this 007 is more believable than his predecessors as a man who would not attract attention in public. (At one point he is mistaken for a car valet as he approaches his hotel.) At this stage of his career Bond is a bit of an unknown quantity, and his boss M (Judy Dench) doesn't quite know what to make of him, especially as he usually takes things into his own hands, operating outside of agency directives. This Bond is a killer, with cold blue eyes, capable of brutally dispatching a foe and not much interested, thank you, in gadgets (or, for that matter, whether his martinis are shaken or stirred). And every experience seems to teach him to trust no one. Somehow you know the relationship with Vesper Lynd (Eva Green) cannot last.

This Bond, resourceful, competent, dangerous, and somehow unknowable, suggests a welcome new vitality

(cont. p.8)

## Speaking of Movies *(from page 7)*

and interest for the Bond series. I suspect Daniel Craig will embody 007 for some time to come.

Tony Scott's **Déjà Vu**, also a very exciting thriller, has a more far-fetched thesis than the new Bond film, so much so that it might be said to approach science fiction.

A ferry boat on which crew members from the USS Nimitz are coming in to New Orleans is suddenly blown up. A massive investigation is mounted by the FBI. They are assisted by Doug Carlin (Denzel Washington) from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, who astonishes all by his initiative, thoroughness, and perceptiveness. The FBI enlists his help in looking at what is revealed by a newly developed surveillance system that can show what was going on a little over four days back in time. This amazing secret device was a surprise even to scientists working on the project. There is a lot of fast-talking movie-science explanation of this, but the central idea is that time and space can fold back on themselves. Carlin, in watching murder victim Claire Kuchever (Paula Patton), realizes that she has a sense of their watching her, and he begins to wonder whether it might not be possible to communicate with her in the past, and perhaps even to travel back to that time to prevent both her murder and the bombing of the boat.

Surely this is more preposterous than any of the unlikely James Bond scenarios. Nevertheless, this story grips us throughout, in ways that the Bond films never do, because the elaborate plot is constantly grounded by the absolutely first-rate performances of Denzel Washington as Carlin and Paula Patton as Claire Kuchever. The performances are so good that the very clever and complicated time-travel fiction takes second place to our concentration on these two wonderfully sympathetic characters.

**Short Take:** On a recent Sunday evening, Wooster native Ted Burger screened his first feature film, **Amongst White Clouds**, to a packed house at The Big Picture cinema. Ted's story is an interesting one. In the course of an undergraduate career at The College of Wooster that included a junior year experience in India and the study of the Chinese language, he developed an intense interest in eastern religions and spirituality. Upon graduation, he went to China. While there, he worked as an interpreter for American film crews

working in China. A man of many parts, he was bitten by the film bug. I am charmed by a young person who is in love with films and who wants to make a movie even before he knows what it is going to be about; like the writer who loves the sounds of words banged together, he has that absolutely essential first love of the medium. That, it seems to me, is the person whose work will be interesting to follow. The idea wasn't long in coming, and over the next years, he made a documentary about his masters, the Buddhist hermits in the Zhongnan Mountains south of the city of Xian in Central China. With the instincts of a humane and wise documentary filmmaker, he kept voice-over commentary to a minimum and let these anchorites tell their own stories through words and the details of their daily lives. Ted shares a world he has discovered and does it with a perceptive and loving eye. I hope his film will be widely seen, and I look forward to the projects his talents will embrace.

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## Retiring Vestry Members *(from page 6)*

I have been very pleased to find out that year after year, we take good care of ourselves while deliberately reaching out to our local and worldwide community. To me that means we keep ourselves focused on our mission statement: To Greet, Grow, and Give in the name of Jesus Christ.

It has been my pleasure to greet, grow, and give during the past three years. Thank you.

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### Velda Cross

After three years of service, it's time for me to step down from the vestry and hand over the reins to new blood. During this period, I have been given the opportunity to learn so much more about the workings of the Episcopal church, not only at a local level but nationally and internationally.

I'd like to thank all my friends on the vestry, both past and present, who have helped me during my time of service. Without their support and guidance, my life would have been much harder. And it is not only the people of the vestry who make the church run so smoothly, but the members of various committees who do an immensely valuable job for St. James. I thank them too for all they do.

*(cont. p.11)*

## The Mystery Novels of Jasper Fforde

British authors are noted for their love of literature, their fondness for mysteries, and their quirky humor. It's especially noteworthy when an author combines all three. The late Douglas Adams (author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy Trilogy*, which, at the time of his death consisted of five volumes plus one story), successfully combined two—mystery and quirky humor—in *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency* and its sequel *The Long Dark Tea-Time of the Soul*. But no one came close to equaling him until Jasper Fforde published *The Eyre Affair*. That's Eyre as in *Jane Eyre*, the fictional heroine of Charlotte Brontë's novel of the same name. Set in an alternative mid-1980s Britain where the Crimean War is still being fought and serious literature is the basis of popular culture, *The Eyre Affair* features Thursday Next, a detective with Special Operations (Specops). She's ordered to investigate changes that have been made in Brontë's original manuscript. A villain has been kidnapping characters from the manuscript and causing the plots of all subsequent copies of the book to change as a result. That can happen in Fforde's books because fictional characters have a semi-independent existence, living lives off the page, but having to stay in character. When someone from the "real" world enters theirs and tampers with it, the literary results can be disastrous.

In his own wry way, Fforde is serving up to his readers the age-old arguments about human freedom and determinism in a new and sometimes hilarious context. Literary figures are, after all, created by someone who is not a literary figure (unless authors are characters in God's book!). Authors determine their characters' characters, and they must act in accord with them. But what if in their own literary universe, as long as no one is reading their story at the time, they have a degree of self-determination? May they not be both free and determined? Fforde, of course, would never admit to using his books to pose such a serious question.

Thursday Next's world is one in which everyone takes literature very seriously. People go to performances of Shakespeare's plays knowing all the lines, dressing up like their favorite characters, and shouting ritualized responses throughout the plays, just as fans in our world do at *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Because literature is so important, Thursday has to find a way to get inside *Jane Eyre*, catch the villain, and set things right. In the process, she discovers that the literary world has its own rules and even its own police force. And thus she becomes the first police officer in both the "real" world and the literary one, working as an agent for both Specops and "Jurisdiction," where she reports to Miss Havisham from Dickens' *Great Expectations*.

Fforde is endlessly inventive, and manages somehow to create from this lunatic mix a convoluted, enthralling mystery story. Once *Jane Eyre* has been rescued, Thursday becomes *Lost in a Good Book*. Unfortunately, someone has eradicated her husband Landen Park Lane (in the British version of Monopoly, Park Lane is a very expensive property to land on), by traveling back in time to make it impossible for him to have been born. Thursday, pregnant with his child, has a hard time explaining who the father is, since no one else remembers that he even existed (and Thursday herself has to struggle not to forget him). She must find a way to make changes even farther back in time so that Landen can be born before their baby is. In the process, she interacts with characters from the works of Charles Dickens, Lewis Carroll, Edgar Allen Poe, and Beatrix Potter.

Thursday returns next (well, she's always been Next, hasn't she?) in

*The Well of Lost Plots*, where early manuscripts of published books and manuscripts of books that were never published live on. The well is stalked by the minotaur, and ravished by grammasites, which destroy syntax, rendering books unreadable. Thursday needs to hide out for awhile, and takes temporary refuge in an awful unpublished novel, *Caversham Heights*, which is so bad it's

(cont. p.11)



# January 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. HE Breakfast out	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:30 H.E. 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>4</b> 7:00 pm Outreach	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:00 pm Epiphany Service and Party
<b>7</b> Annual Report Deadline 8:00 am H.E. 10:30 H.E. 11:30 Coffee	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30am H.E. 9:30 Bible Study 11:00 Book Group 7:00 pm Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:00 am H.E. 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult forum 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 H.E. 11:30 Coffee	<b>15</b> 7:00 pm Martin Luther King Jr. Service	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7:30 am H.E. 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> People to People Sunday 8:00 am H.E. 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult forum 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 H.E. 11:30 Coffee	<b>22</b> 7:00 pm Steward- ship meeting  9:00 - 5:00 pm Trinity Institute	<b>23</b>  9:00 - 5:00 pm Trinity Institute	<b>24</b> 7:30 am H.E. 9:30 Bible Study 11:00 Book Group 7:00 pm Choir	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:00 am H.E. 9:30 Adult forum 10:00 Brunch and Annual Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 7:30 am H.E. 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  <i>Mission &amp; Ministry Conference</i>	<b>3</b>  <i>Mission &amp; Ministry Conference</i>

Remember, you can check the St. James' website for calendar information and updates. Just go to <http://www.stjameswooster.org>.

## The Scriptorium

(from page 9)

been slated for destruction by the Council of Genres. (*Caversham* even includes several characters from an unpublished novel by Fforde himself.)

A lot of loose ends get tied up in *Something Rotten*, the fourth of the Thursday Next Mysteries. Suffice it to say that Thursday gives birth to her baby Friday, restores her eradicated husband, foils an assassin, captures the minotaur, brings about world peace, and wins a croquet match.

Thursday will return next summer in *First among Sequels*. In the meantime, Fford has exhumed the characters from his previously-unpublished novel—who lived in *Caversham Heights* in *The Well of Lost Plots*—in order to create *The Big Over Easy*, the first of his new Nursery Crime Series. DCI Jack Spratt and DS Mary Mary of the Nursery Crime Division set out to investigate the mysterious death of Humperdink Stuyvesant Van Dumpty III, who died in a fatal fall from his wall (or was he pushed? or shot?). Most of the characters are from nursery rhymes, and most of them don't realize it. Like the literary figures in the Thursday Next Mysteries, they have no alternative but to act in character. But since nursery rhymes and children's stories provide scant information about those who inhabit them, there's plenty of room for character development. Jack is, of course, very thin; his first wife was obese. He also has a history of altercations with giants, and when the beans he gets in exchange for his mother's cow begin to grow into a huge beanstalk, he has an overwhelming urge to climb it. Like Fforde's other books, *Over Easy* is a complex mystery story that keeps you guessing just how and why Humpty fell.

Jack and Mary return in *The Fourth Bear*. Here it's the disappearance of a blonde reporter known as Goldilocks that sparks the investigation. As a defender of the right to arm bears, she was last seen running from the cottage of the three bears, where she had fallen asleep in Baby Bear's bed while waiting (*au naturel!*) to meet a publicly-gay but secretly-straight member of parliament. But why were Ursula Bear and her husband sleeping in separate beds in the first place? Was she having an affair too, and, if so, who was he and what did he have to do with Goldilocks' disappearance? And what does all this have to do with the escaped homicidal maniac, the Gingerbread Man? And what's going on at SommeWorld, the nearby World War I theme park, owned by QuangTech, the corporate giant founded by

characters from Edward Lear's poem, "The Quangle Wangle's Hat." Then there's Punch and Judy, the neighbors from hell, whose fights are so loud that nearby residents always bribe them to move away.

Fforde's books are in a class of their own. There's a bit of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* about them, and of course, some of Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide* and his Dirk Gently Mysteries, not to mention the British science fiction cult classic TV series, *Doctor Who* (for which Adams was one of the original writers). If you don't like off-the-wall British humor, you probably won't like these books. But if you like dry, zany fun with lots of literary allusions, puns, silliness, and inside humor, combined with suspenseful mystery stories, you might find them your cup of tea. And for just a sip, check out Fforde's web site at <http://www.jasperfforde.com>.

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## Retiring Vestry Members (from page 8)

My experience of vestry has been a learning experience and something I feel I will always remember. Although I am leaving vestry, I will now be able to focus more on my role with the Altar Guild.

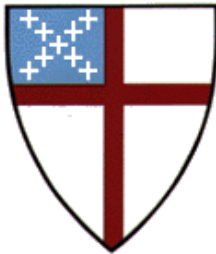
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### Mary Hickey

Serving on Vestry has been a very positive experience, and definitely has felt like a privilege rather than a burden. Including two years as clerk, I've been involved with Vestry for five of my seven years at St. James. Although a third of Vestry membership changed each year, there was always a spirit of working together with a common mission. Evelyn provided excellent leadership and guidance. The annual retreats were times of reflection, growth and fellowship.

I'm very grateful to have been given this opportunity so soon after becoming an Episcopalian, as it has helped me learn about many different aspects of the church and its governance at all levels. It has helped me feel more closely involved in the life of St. James and helped me get to know other people in the parish better.

The Episcopal Church



St. James Episcopal Church  
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## What's Happening at St. James

- 1st Jan**                    **Holy Eucharist followed by breakfast, 10:00 am**
- 6th Jan**                    **Epiphany Service and Party 6:00 pm**
- 15th Jan**                  **Martin Luther King Jr. Service, 7:00 pm**
- 28th Jan**                  **Brunch and Annual Meeting, 10:00 am**

### January, 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### February, 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			