

THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC

WEEK OF JULY 4, 2021

THE REV. CHRIS HAMBY



MINISTRY

Did you know St. James has zero volunteers? Literally none, zip, nada. Not a single volunteer for anything at St. James. Do you know what St. James has in abundance? Christ-following people doing ministry. Everything done at St. James is ministry. There is a subtle difference and ministry is done because we are following the example set forth by Christ and the disciples to spread love, grace, and mercy.

Our Christian calling is not something to be taken lightly. Typically, most people cherish family and their faith above all else. If this is how we truly feel then we should place a special emphasis on our ministry. Ministry is not just typical “outreach” either. Ministry consists of a rich tapestry woven together to reveal a beautiful, colorful, and strong body we call the church. Anything we do which furthers the kingdom of God is ministry. Ministry

takes all sorts of forms, from Acolytes to caring for altar linens and everything in between.

Sometimes we feel once we are doing one ministry we can never move to another ministry. Heavens no! Over the course of our Christian journey we use discernment. Discernment is one of the most important tools to use to discover where we are being led. Discernment gives us the framework to pray and explore. We listen to God’s calling to see what ministry speaks to us at a new moment in time and life. You never know where God leads you. Perhaps you move from one ministry to another very different ministry and discover God nudged you in a direction you never thought possible. You never know if you will find true joy in something so out of your comfort zone that will spark a deeper relationship with our community and your faith.

Ministry gives us the opportunity to take what Jesus is teaching us and put it into action. Jesus offers us the path forward to discover many ministry opportunities and listen to invitations to those which we never would have considered. I encourage you all to take a moment and really discern a ministry. We all can engage our faith in so many different ways big and small. The challenge is listening, praying, and then taking action together to spread the love of Christ to all.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Here are a *few of our many* opportunities! Reach out to communications@stjamesp.org for more information!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

stjamesp.org/congregational-care

- The Care Guild
- Community of Hope International
- Flower Guild
- The Prayer Team
- The Card Ministry Team
- St. Martha’s Guild

FAITH FORMATION

stjamesp.org/christian-formation

- Seasonal Planning
- Nursery Team
- Children’s Ministries
- Sunday School Teachers
- Youth Ministries Outreach
- Youth Mission
- Adult Faith Formation
- Education for Ministry
- Spiritual Growth Committee

OUTREACH

stjamesp.org/outreach

- Meals on Wheels
- Episcopal Church Women
- Men on a Mission
- Good Shepherd
- Rise Against Hunger
- Habitat for Humanity
- One Love Tennis
- The Help Hub
- Hurricane Relief Coordination
- A Safe Place
- The Parish Shop
- Episcopal Farmworker Ministry

PARISH LIFE

stjamesp.org/fellowship

- The Bread Breakers
- Events Committee
- Evangelism Committee
- Greeters Ministry
- Mt. Lebanon Team

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

stjamesp.org/worship

- Acolytes & Chalicists
- Altar Guild
- St. James Choir
- Ushers
- Lectors
- Wedding Guild
- Vergers

ST. JAMES UPDATES

ONLINE RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT:

www.stjamesp.org/

IN OUR PRAYERS:

David Champney, Shari Gardner, Martha James,
Sylvia King

CONDOLENCES TO:

The friends and family of Blanche Bacon
The friends and family of Mark Cole

SERVICE TIMES- SUNDAYS IN SUMMER

Join us for worship! We are hosting our services at the following times:

Online Worship

9:30 AM- Livestream from Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Mt. Lebanon Chapel

8:30 AM- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

9:30 AM- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Downtown Campus

8:00 AM- Indoors- Holy Eucharist - Rite I

10:30 AM- Indoors- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

PLEDGING & GIVING ONLINE

To donate and support St. James Parish, visit: <https://onrealm.org/StJamesParish/give/pledge>. You can visit stjamesp.org/stewardship for a video with step-by-step instructions for pledging online.

Gifts may also be made to the St. James Foundation. Visit: stjamesp.org/st-james-foundation/ for more information.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN- SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, July 25, 2021 | 4:00 p.m. | Great Hall

Calling all women (and other interested persons - we don't discriminate)! You're invited to join the Episcopal Church Women's Reorganization Meeting on Sunday, July 25, 2021, at 4:00 pm. The Episcopal Church Women, formerly known as the St. Anne's Guild, is getting an update. Join us to discuss how the restructured ECW will look! Contact Beth Cornelison at 443-532-6958 for more info.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Please note that since 4th of July falls on a Sunday this year, the Church office will be closed tomorrow, July 5th, in observance of Independence Day.

TODAY: 4th OF JULY MINGLE

Sunday, July 4th, 2021 | 10:15 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

All are invited to join us after the 9:30 am service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel for a 4th of July Mingle! Newcomers to "oldcomers," all are welcome! Come enjoy sweet treats and beverages for all hosted by the St. James Evangelism Committee.

LIVE AT 5 RETURNS

July 11, 2021 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Join us for a special time of worship! Live at 5 will be held on Sunday, July 11 at 5:00 p.m. at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. All are encouraged to come and be a part of this special Night Prayer. Our youth and laity will lead us in a time of prayer, music, and fellowship. Get spiritually recharged for the week ahead through the power of prayer and worship music. Have questions about this service? Please reach out to Cookie Cantwell at cookie@stjamesp.org.

BREAD BREAKERS' HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, July 11, 2021 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Clark Home

Join us for Hospitality at Home! We will be at the Clark's beach house at 424 Waynick Blvd, Wrightsville Beach on Sunday, July 11th at 4pm. Bring a dish to share, and St. James will provide the meat. This is a great way for all to come together! RSVP requested. You may RSVP via the MeetUp Page or by contacting Rev. Chris Hamby at Chris@stjamesp.org

EPISCO-POSSE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Next Meeting July 14, 2021 | 8:15 p.m. | Zoom

All women (Age 21 and up) are invited to join a new group meeting via Zoom! Join us every other week as we walk through life together! Have questions contact Leslie Jarrett (Leslie.H.Jarrett@gmail.com) or Michelle Gray (michelle.gray@nhcs.net).

SJDS OLYMPICS CAMP COMING

The Summer Olympics are right around the corner, and SJDS is hosting an Olympics camp, July 19-23. This camp is currently full, but if you'd like to add your child(ren), ages 2-6, to the waiting list, please contact Amy Taylor at director.dayschool@stjamesp.org.

QUIET REFLECTION

August 7, 2021 | 7:30-8:30 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Join us for a time of contemplated prayer and meditation at the beautiful Mt. Lebanon Chapel.

ST. JAMES VISION STATEMENT

To build community through ministries that strengthen our faith.

ST. JAMES MISSION STATEMENT

To welcome all to grow in love of God and neighbor.

NEW GREETER MINISTRY TAKES SHAPE

We all know that our Greeters are our front-line representatives, welcoming God's guests. The mere presence of someone dedicated to serving visitors will deliver the message that our church is a welcoming place. But do we know how good we are at getting visitors to our door? Do we know how good we are at keeping them? Do we know how to care for these persons at whatever depth they require at the moment we encounter them?

At St. James, we are committed to welcoming ALL to grow in love of God and of neighbor. This important mission begins with intentional Christian hospitality. But consider the possibilities of a dedicated leadership team, more greeters with frequent and better communications, and a clergy and congregation eager to participate in ensuring a warm and authentic welcome. Now add training to ensure greeters are well equipped, and a diligent process to take care of and track our newcomers, and you've got our exciting new greeter ministry!

This "Greeters: Good to Great Initiative" has been launched by our Evangelism Committee. A leadership team of Frances Trask and Elizabeth Hinshaw has been named to carry out our plans to transform our welcoming process at St. James. This effort also involves clergy, the Parish Life Commission, and our congregation. Phone calls and personal contacts are being made at this time to strengthen our Greeter resources. If you want to be a part of a smaller community with a larger purpose at St. James or if you feel called to make Christ's love known to our visitors, this ministry is for you! Please contact Frances Trask at francestrask9@gmail.com or Elizabeth Hinshaw at ehinshaw@ec.rr.com to join us in this important endeavor.

A STORY OF COMMUNITY

by Martha Bachman

In the late 1990s, Gus and I were living in Essex Fells, NJ. He ran a Champion International Paper milk and juice carton plant in Morristown, NJ and I was a commercial insurance broker in Montclair, NJ. We could walk to our church - St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and the golf club was less than a mile away. When Champion decided to sell Gus' plant, he was offered early retirement. Gus was born, raised and educated in NC, so that influenced our decision. We wanted to be near the water, be able to play golf at a private club, and to be near a city that had good health care facilities, as well as cultural and educational offerings. After looking along the NC coastline, we determined that Wilmington provided just about everything we were looking for. Initially we looked in Forest Hills and downtown, but learned that there was a ten year wait to get into Cape Fear for golf, and at that time, Landfall required that you own property in Landfall in order to join the Club. Our decision was made, we found a beautiful lot sold to us by Vance Young, a member of St. James, and built a wonderful home.

Both Gus and I were "cradle Episcopalians" and our choice of churches was made more challenging by the eight Episcopal churches in the area, among which three were in search for a new rector. We were both very active at St. Peter's - I in the music program, and lay reading and chalice and Meals on Wheels. Gus was a warden and an usher. We both participated in outreach ministry. We were warmly welcomed in so many churches, but we felt most at home in St. James. We were quickly volunteered to manage the pictorial directory by EJ Brooks, bless his heart!! We rapidly met many new people, and got involved in lots of ministries - Gus with the morning breakfast crew, ushering and Mt. Lebanon cleanup, and I with music, layreading and chalice, and both of us at Good Shepherd cooking on Tuesday nights!

When Gus became ill, the St. James volunteers at the hospital and at home were my lifeline. Without their support, and their commitment to ministry, I am not sure I could have handled the management of his disease and the final outcome of his passing. When we spread Gus' ashes in the St. Francis Garden, I knew he was at peace in his home.

My home is in Wilmington and my church is St. James Parish, thanks be to God.

LEMONADES AT MT. LEBANON

Each Sunday this summer, we're looking for parishioners to sign up to provide and serve lemonade and individually packaged cookies at Mt. Lebanon Chapel following the 9:30 a.m. service! If you are interested in participating, please sign up on line at stjamesp.org/blog/lemonades-at-mt-lebanon

FLAT ST. JAMES

Getting ready to travel? Take St. James with you. The Rev. Jay Sidebotham assisted us with creating our Flat St. James! Print out and color your Flat St. James before you hit the road this summer. Take some pictures with him in your favorite travel destinations and share them with us on social media!

HELP HUB UPDATE

by Bill Bivins

The Help Hub at the Harrelson Center is one of the major outreach ministries supported by St. James Parish, a Help Hub founding member. The Help Hub serves people in need by providing emergency financial assistance, and by offering referrals to Harrelson Center partners and other available community resources. In addition to financial assistance from St. James, a number of St. James parishioners regularly volunteer to serve as greeters, advisors, and data entry assistants.

During the months of the pandemic, the Help Hub was closed to in-person visits but was able to handle requests for assistance by utilizing phone contacts with supporting documentation. Thanks to member financial and volunteer support, grants and personal donations, the Help Hub distributed a total of \$285,000 to 1,176 households in 2020, many of them in crisis due to COVID. As of June 1, the Help Hub has been able to re-open for in-person visits with appropriate precautions (masks and social distancing); and for the 1st quarter of this year, the Help Hub provided \$72,387 to 310 households. Although government funding through stimulus payments and other programs has kept many families afloat, there are also many in need who are not eligible for governmental assistance, and this group has become the Help Hub's priority for the coming months.

The Help Hub has responded to an increased need for various types of assistance, including increased medical assistance due to stress and lack of access to resources. The Help Hub has been fortunate to have assistance from two nurses from Community Care of the Lower Cape Fear; they are working as a team on-site at the Help Hub to bridge the health care gap.

For more information, you may reach the Help Hub website at harrelsoncenter.org/help-hub. Donations may be made on the website, and you may also complete a volunteer interest form. St. James parishioner Sonja McFarland is the director of the Help Hub and welcomes your interest and support.

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Start your day with a little prayer! Join us on Zoom for a time of prayer, fellowship, and music. It's a great way to get to know some of your fellow St. James members! Would you like to have the direct link sent to your in-box each morning? Sign up for our email list by reaching out to Erin at communications@stjamesp.org.

MEN ON A MISSION- BEACH COOKOUT

Save the date - August 15, 2021

All men of our parish 21+ years old to a good old-fashioned cookout at the beach home of Frank and Berta Hamilton. Mark your calendar and details to follow in future publications! Have questions about Men On a Mission (MoM)? Reach out to Chris at chris@stjamesp.org or Brian McMerty at bmcmertry@arris.partners.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS THIS FALL

We need you! Help us build our Sunday School team of teachers and ministers. There will be several ways to get involved this fall. Email Children's Christian Formation Director Shannon Lockamy at christianformation@stjamesp.org to learn more and plan to join us in August for an information session!

NEW EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM YEAR STARTING THIS FALL

This September, the Wednesday evening Education for Ministry (EfM) group at St. James Parish will begin a new program year, and we will have several openings for new members. EfM is a 4-year program which includes in-depth study of the Old Testament (1st year), New Testament (2nd year), Christian history (3rd year), and Christian theology and ethics (4th year). EfM provides an opportunity for prayer, worship, study, and spiritual reflection in a comfortable and supportive group setting. EfM fosters spiritual growth and helps you to shape your faith into action, and to become involved in ministries in your community where you can make a difference.

If you would like to know more about EfM at St. James, please contact Bill Bivins (wpbivins@gmail.com) or Karen Clark (clarklc11@gmail.com). They would be glad to talk with you and provide further information about EfM.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT: TRAVELING ON THE ICW

by Nancy Keller

It was the end of October and we were bringing Halcyon back to Wrightsville after having sailed on the Neuse River. We had beautiful weather, with clear Carolina skies and dolphins accompanying us through Adams Creek. We motored into the Beaufort boat basin, tied up early, showered, mingled with fellow boaters, and enjoyed shrimp and grits at Clawson's restaurant.

This time of year, boaters (sailors in particular) meet along our coast and plan their voyages across the Atlantic to winter in the islands. Some leave from Beaufort heading across to Bermuda while others travel further south on the ICW before crossing to the Bahamas.

While I spent time chatting with our neighbors, Carl was with a number of sailors showing them on a chart how traveling south on the ICW from Beaufort, one needed to be alert at channel marker 61 staying far right due to continuous shoaling.

Six sailboats left Beaufort the next morning heading south on the ICW; we were the last to leave. There was no need to rush, as we would only go as far as Mile Hammock Bay.

Approaching channel marker 61, we could see the boats ahead of us had gone aground and were being assisted by Tow Boat US. We veered to the right to pass when we saw a fisherman standing at the helm of his skiff beckoning us further right into the marsh grass. Carl was hesitant, yet the fisherman was adamant in his gesturing; with piercing eyes, white hair and beard, he presented a commanding aura, so we followed his direction and smoothly passed without going aground.

I looked back to wave our thanks to the fisherman, but he was gone. I looked at Carl and said, "Didn't he remind you of Moses or the Charlton Heston version of Moses?" Carl laughed and agreed.

First to anchor out in Mile Hammock Bay, we watched as the other boaters started pulling in to anchor for the night. Jim and his family anchored close by and once settled, he jumped overboard and swam over to ask how we had known to go so far right at marker 61. We told him past experiences guided us and also, the fisherman in his skiff, and hadn't he seen him? Jim hadn't seen him and couldn't/wouldn't believe our story.

As our sailing days end, it gives us great pleasure to reminisce on our many experiences, but the Moses' experience, well, it's forever embedded in our hearts.

HAT TIP FOR ST. JAMES FOUNDATION SUPPORT

The St. James Parish Foundation Board would like to say a word of thanks for the following donations to the Foundation in 2020. Support of the Foundation provides capital needed to maintain St. James Parish's historic church campus in perpetuity. The Foundation oversees more than \$3 million in assets. Historically, up to 2 percent of the assets are used annually to provide financial support for campus expenses such as the repair and replacement of the church roof, storm restoration, structural repairs, and operational expenses. With vital support of donations like these, we can keep St. James and its campus alive and well for generations to come.

2020 GIFTS

Katherine Cammack
Elizabeth Donald
Frank and Judy Gibson
Pem and Patti Jenkins
Kenneth Whippley Trust
Ann Longley
Emily Longley
Longley Supply Co.
Roi Penton
Billy and Jean Smith
Estate of Elizabeth Sprunt



ST. JAMES PARISH

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NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., JULY 5-9

MORNING PRAYER
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom | Led
by laity and clergy

MONDAY, JULY 5

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
All Day | Independence
Day Observed

FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | Great Hall

TUESDAY, JULY 6

EDUCATION FOR
MINISTRY
9:00-11:30 AM | Great Hall

MEN'S AL ANON
5:15-7:00 PM | Great Hall

WDAA BASKETBALL
PRACTICE
6:30-8:30 PM | Perry Hall

SACRED GROUND SESSION 4
7:00 PM | Zoom

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

PCJ BIBLE STUDY
8:30 AM | Zoom | Led by our
Youth Group and with Youth
Advisor support

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
6:00-8:30 PM | Zoom

THURSDAY, JULY 8

EVANGELISM COM. MEETING
12:00 PM | Tatum Parlor

SUNDAY, JULY 11

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
8:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel ^{BYOS*}

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
9:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel ^{BYOS*}

ONLINE RITE II LIVE STREAM
9:30 AM | St. James Parish Website
or Facebook

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
10:30 AM | St. James Parish

***BYOS:** Bring Your Own Supplies if you plan to sit outside- Please bring your own chairs, picnic blankets, etc.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the July 13th e-blast is Friday, July 9th.