

SUNDAY SERVICES ONLINE ONLY DUE TO COVID-19

THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC

WEEK OF JUNE 21, 2020

THE REV. CHERYL BRAINARD



Last week, I called one of my friends at neighboring St Mark's Episcopal Church and simply asked, "How can the big white church at the corner of 3rd and Market respond to the events in the media?" I told her I was broken-hearted and simply had no words, but felt driven to reach out to her. Her response was clear, but not simple. "PRAY," she responded. "We have to pray."

Over the conversation, we agreed that in this politically charged pandemic environment where we find ourselves, regardless of what we do, it will be seen as wrong in the eyes of some. Thankfully, we also agreed we were more interested in being right in the eyes of God, and that we could not go wrong if we "PRAY."

My thoughts immediately went to words of a song I learned as a teenager – words that come from the passage from 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Seems simple – right? Or perhaps not because in today's climate, members of the same family, same community and even the same church do not agree about what it will take to "heal our land," much less what it means to "turn from their wicked ways." But we can still PRAY.

This week, I invite us all to turn off the TV for just one day to truly seek the will of God rather than our own agendas – just one day. Perhaps each time we are tempted to turn it on, we could try using the words from Micah 6:8, which asks what it is that the Lord desires from us. Micah's response is clear and sort of says it all – "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." May I suggest that if you hear something in opposition to justice, mercy, and humility, you may want to ask again.

UPDATED REALM ONLINE DIRECTORY

We are excited to roll out an updated edition of our directory via REALM! To protect your privacy, this online directory will be available only to the St. James Parish community. With your St. James REALM log-in, you will be able to access contact information like phone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses. You can also update your own contact information when you move or change your number!

As part of the rollout, you will receive an email notification from REALM letting you know your privacy settings have changed. Please know this is being done so that members of the St. James community can communicate with one another. It may not be used for any type of solicitation. Please visit our website: www.stjamesp.org for more information.

If you would like to create your REALM login, please reach out to Maria at finance@stjamesp.org and she can help you get started.

ST. JAMES UPDATES

SERVICES SUSPENDED FOR THE TIME BEING

ONLINE RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT:
www.stjamesp.org/covid19

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Ameron Donald, Adrienne Jackson

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Alan and Ameron Donald on the birth of their son,
Henry.

Elizabeth Longley Donald is the new grandmother and
Ann Penton Longley is now a great-grandmother

CONDOLENCES TO:

John Iames on the passing of his wife, Harriet King
Iames.

Bob Workmon on the passing of his brother, Thomas
Workmon.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

We were so excited for our students that we accidentally celebrated some of the class of 2021 as well! We'd like to take this opportunity to do one more round of congratulations to our St. James Youth, Class of 2020.

<i>Alexander Pierce Barden</i>	<i>Warren Franklin Powell</i>
<i>Raiford Trask Chappell</i>	<i>Hoke Smith Roberson IV</i>
<i>Thomas Gwynn Covington Jr.</i>	<i>John Spencer Sloan</i>
<i>Kate Brooks Gregory</i>	<i>Thomas Watson Sloan</i>
<i>Rachel Hanley</i>	<i>Henry Hudson Smith</i>
<i>Conard Henderson</i>	<i>Anna Carlyle Johnson Spears</i>
<i>Jackson Cromley Hicks</i>	<i>Lane Arthur Spetrino</i>
<i>Carolyn Parker King</i>	<i>Margaret Murchison Sprunt</i>
<i>Elise Mathews Knox</i>	<i>Augusta Ramsaur Trask</i>
<i>Theodore Maximilian Koehncke</i>	<i>Tenneyson Joseph Wnek</i>
<i>Laura Katherine Lindstrom</i>	<i>Joshua McDowell Wright</i>
<i>Miles Pavich Lindstrom</i>	<i>Vance Bondurant Young Jr.</i>
<i>William Sloan Mickle</i>	

ST. JAMES VISION STATEMENT

To build community through ministries that strengthen our faith.

GIVING ONLINE

To help make it easier to donate and support St. James Parish, we'd like to include this QR code that will take you directly to our general donation page or if you prefer, you can visit: <https://onrealm.org/StJamesParish/give/>
Thank you for your support!



ONLINE VBS IS COMING!

July 27-30 | ONLINE

This summer we, St. James Parish, are partnering with Christ Church Cathedral, St. John the Divine and St. Martin's in Houston Texas to offer you a virtual Vacation Bible School. We are going to FOCUS and look closer at God, God's truth and the people God calls us to love. We'd love for you to join us- no matter where you are! July 27-30 - it is ABSOLUTELY FREE and we are going to have a ton of FUN!!!! If you have questions or need further assistance, please email Shannon at christianformation@stjamesp.org. We do ask that you register online to let us know you plan to attend so we can prepare supplies accordingly!

WILMINGTON EPISCOPAL FOOD DRIVE

Episcopal churches all around Wilmington are joining forces to support Nourish NC. We're gathering donations to help support local families. Have some food to share? Please bring your donations to St. Paul's.

Located at: 16 North 16th Street, Parking lot access off of Princess Street. Drop Off Wednesday - Sunday 10 am - 2 pm. If you would like to donate online, you can find links on our website at <https://www.stjamesp.org/blog/wilmington-episcopal-food-drive/>.

ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for school year 2020-2021 is OPEN. Anyone interested in visiting and touring the Day School should contact Amy Taylor at director.dayschool@stjamesp.org. All registration is done through the St. James website, www.stjamesp.org/registration.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

We're trying something new! A Virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom! The fun starts Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Find out more info on our website: <https://www.stjamesp.org/blog/virtual-coffee-hour/>

ST. JAMES MISSION STATEMENT

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



2020 St. James Rector Search Committee

(Presented in
Alphabetical Order)

Claude Bridger:
Co-Chair

Reid Murchison:
Co-Chair

Frank Gwathmey

Elizabeth Hinshaw

Susan Ingle

John Jordan

Connor Keller

Betsy McDonald

Sonja McFarland

Alex Murchison

Sheila Osann

Ann Parker

Ginny Woodruff

Dear St. James Parishioner,

From our last communication you know that your Rector Search Committee has entered into a time of preparation during which we are gathering information to help guide our decisions as we try to discern God's direction in our search for our future rector. A major part of this, the parish survey known as the Church Assessment Tool (CAT) is ready to be initiated. This tool will provide a clearer picture of who we are as a church and what directions might be important for our future. This information is important to us as well as to a prospective candidate. It also is your chance to make yourself heard and therefore your response is very important to this process.

The survey is available to all members of your household age 16 and above and we encourage everyone to take the survey.

All answers are strictly anonymous. We have no way of matching any assessment to a particular person, so please feel free to share candidly your perceptions, opinions and experiences. The survey will take approximately 25 minutes to complete. Please set aside enough time to complete it at one sitting. Our future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers.

The survey opens June 15 and we ask that you take the on-line assessment as soon as possible thereafter, but before July 6, 2020 when the survey ends. We will be sending an email with active links.

If you are unable to take the survey online please contact the Church office 910 763-1928 and request a paper copy.

If you have questions, please contact:

Frank Gwathmey: fgwathmey1@ec.rr.com 757-286-0680

Alex Murchison: Asm1952@bizec.rr.com 910-520-0167

Many thanks,

Your Rector Search Committee

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT

By Greg Richardson

Early in this COVID-19 pandemic I came across an idea posted by a friend that we should not be practicing “social distancing” but rather “physical distancing”. Remaining social and remaining connected is important to our mental and physical health. Over the past few months, social distancing has had a dramatic impact on how we meet, eat, play, cheer, learn and pray. This time of change has given me time to reflect on ways that we may have already been distancing ourselves from others at work, play, school, or even church. It is easy and perhaps natural for us to find our comfort zone in society with people of like means, thoughts, ethnicity, or beliefs. Likewise, it is easy to stay in our own lane in our church community when we choose the activities, guilds, and worship times that suit us best. It may even become the norm to recognize a face, but not know a name. Perhaps as we transition into whatever will be the new normal at St. James, we can find a hidden blessing in allowing our social and spiritual integration to grow as our physical distancing shrinks.

MEET ON ZOOM: RENEWALWORKS FOR ME

Thursdays | 7:00 P.M. | Zoom

All who are participating in RenewalWorks for Me are invited to join a weekly zoom group meeting with Jay Sidebotham on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Even if you haven't read or haven't started RenewalWorks For Me yet, come join us and see what it's all about! Find information about the Zoom on our website. If you would like to be emailed the link to join each Thursday, please reach out to Erin at communications@stjamesp.org.

QUIET REFLECTION AT LEBANON CHAPEL

Please note that the invitation for Quiet Reflection at Lebanon Chapel, scheduled for the first Saturday of the months of July, August, September and October will be cancelled until further notice. Many of us would cherish this opportunity right now. While we wait to worship together in person again, we will hold the picture of this beautiful chapel and its grounds in our minds and hearts, and give thanks for the time when we can safely return.

MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES

Monday-Friday During Quarantine | 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. | Zoom

Our Weekday Morning Prayer continues through quarantine! We'd love to have you join us on weekday mornings at 8:00 am for Morning Prayer on our Zoom! Zoom is a video conferencing tool that allows us to hear and see one another. You can now find copies of the readings and the link to the Zoom Meeting on our website.

OFFICE HOUR REMINDER

Summer Office Hours began May 26:

8:30 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Thursday;

8:30 am to 12:30 pm on Friday.

Please note: The parish offices will be closed on Friday, July 3, in order to commemorate the 4th of July holiday.

PEOPLE COMPUTERS JESUS BIBLE STUDY

Join us for People Computers Jesus Bible Study (PCJBS). We are “meeting” Wednesday Mornings online. If you're interested in participating, reach out to Cookie at Cookie@stjamesp.org to learn how! This Bible Study is led by our St. James Youth Group! Now starting at 10:00 a.m.

DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA'S YOUTH COUNCIL 2020-2022

Congratulations to Sarah Thomas who has been selected to serve on the Diocese of East Carolina's Youth Council 2020 - 2022! Sarah will be filling a Lower Cape Fear Deanery Position. Sarah will be attending many Youth Council Meetings and Conferences and she will also be making decisions that will impact the lives of young people throughout The Diocese of East Carolina. The standards are high and the commitment is huge! Please congratulate Sarah when you see her! We are blessed to have her serving within St. James and within the The Diocese of East Carolina!



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY: NEW PROGRAM YEAR BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

On September 23, the Wednesday evening Education for Ministry (EfM) group at St. James Parish will begin a new program year. We have several places for new members, and we invite your consideration of whether this is the time for you to begin EfM. If you would like to know more about EfM at St. James, please contact Bill Bivins at wpbivins@gmail.com or Karen Clark at clarklc11@gmail.com. We hope you will consider our program and let us know if we can provide further information.

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES PARISH

ONLINE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MONDAY, JUNE 22 - FRIDAY, JUNE 26

MORNING PRAYER DURING QUARANTINE
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom | Led by Jay Sidebotham

You can find the Morning Prayer linked on our website around 8:00 a.m. Please let Erin at communications@stjamesp.org know and she will help you get access to the video.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

PCJ BIBLE STUDY
10:00 AM | Zoom | Led by our Youth Group and with Youth Advisor support

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

RENEWALWORKS FOR ME
7:00 PM | Zoom | Led by the Spiritual Growth Committee

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

MORNING WORSHIP

8:00 AM | YouTube | www.youtube.com/st-jamesparish

Sunday Morning Worship may be found several ways. The easiest will be through our email that will come on Saturday night. Simply click the image link to view the service.

You may also view it on our YouTube Page which may be found by searching "St. James Wilmington" on YouTube or on our Facebook page which is found at, www.facebook.com/stjamesp.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the June 30 th e-blast is Friday, June 26th. The next issue of the Grapevine runs on July 5th, 2020.

ST. JAMES PARISH

25 S. Third Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

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ST. JAMES PARISH

• ESTABLISHED 1729 •

STAFF

Interim Rector The Rev. Pierce Klemmt

Associate Rector The Rev. Jay Sidebotham | **Assistant Rector** The Rev. Chris Hamby

Assistant Rector The Rev. Cheryl Brainard | **Organist/Choirmaster** John Sullivan

Facilities Administrator Bill McKenzie | **Parish Coordinator** Suzanne Adams

Finance Administrator Maria Hollopeter

Youth Minister Cookie Cantwell | **Children's Ministries** Shannon Lockamy

Day School Director Amy Taylor | **Communications Director** Erin Becker

Registrar Marybeth Tallman | **Property & Maintenance Manager** Wes Clewis

Sexton Joey Dobson

VESTRY

Senior Warden Steve Thomas | **Junior Warden** Florence Ellen Cowden

Treasurer Mike Brown | **Clerk** Diane MacAskill

Class 2020 | Bill Bivins | Florence Ellen Cowden | Stuart Hardy | Ed Whitesides

Class 2021 | Watson Barnes | Pem Jenkins | Jane Martin | Jim Spruill

Class 2022 | Caroline Cone | Berta Hamilton | Brian McMerty | Steve Thomas

25 S. Third Street | Wilmington, NC 28401

Visit us online: stjamesp.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/stjamesp](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesp)

Instagram: [@stjamesparish](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesparish)

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