

THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC
WEEK OF JUNE 6, 2021

THE REV. CHERYL BRAINARD



THERE IS HOPE FOR THE WORLD

This week I was on vacation spending the week with my grandchildren. Beach fun, putt-putt golf and a Pirates Voyage were all part of the deal, but “Cheshie” had one educational requirement for the week. “We are going to read the book, *Through my Eyes* by Ruby Bridges.” My nine year-old grandson looks at the book and says, “Cool, Ruby Bridges.” Shocked, I respond, “Do you know who Ruby Bridges is?” He replies, “Of course. Everybody knows who Ruby Bridges is.” With a sigh of relief, I whisper, “Then there is hope for the world.”

On November 14, 1960, a tiny six-year-old Black child, surrounded by Federal Marshals, walked through a mob of screaming segregationists and into her school. The next day, Ruby walked through the angry mob once again but was met by Mrs. Henry, a young White teacher willing to come to school every day to teach Ruby alone as White students were pulled out of class. As we read the story, my grands were not struck by the enormity of racial tension in the 1960’s, but they were horrified to discover that Ruby didn’t get to go out for recess. As she writes in her book, “Young children never know about racism at the start. It’s we adults who teach it.”

If you do not know the story of Ruby Bridges, perhaps you will recall the Norman Rockwell painting on the cover of *Look Magazine* in 1964 of the young Black girl

escorted to school by the U.S. Marshals. Today, Ruby spends much of her time as a lecturer, telling her story to adults and children alike. This fall, our St. James speaker series/lecture committee is working hard to host Mrs. Bridges at St. James. They are working out the details to have her speak, offering this gift to us and to our community. Some of the goals of this committee include helping people connect faith to other areas of endeavor, to encourage a life of faith, to spark meaningful conversation, to draw people to this faith community and to offer a gift to the community. All of these goals are met in this upcoming event. Please watch for details to come and pray we embrace this magnificent opportunity.

In the meantime, I issue a special invitation for you to learn more this summer through our race dialogue series called *Sacred Ground*. *Sacred Ground* is a sensitive, prayerful resource that creates space for difficult but respectful and transformative dialogue on race and racism. It invites participants to walk back through history in order to peel away the layers that brought us to today, reflecting on family histories and stories. If nothing else, perhaps it will allow you to catch up with your grandchildren and you, too, can say, “Yes, there is hope for the world.”

ST. JAMES PARISH

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021 | 7:00 PM | ZOOM



INFORMATION SESSION SACRED GROUND

Sacred Ground is part of *Becoming Beloved Community*, The Episcopal Church’s long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society.

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.

ST. JAMES UPDATES

ONLINE RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT:

www.stjamesp.org/

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Anne Dols, Bob Godley

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Our Finance Administrator, Maria Hollopeter, and her husband, Clifton, on the birth of their first grandchild, Charlotte Catherine Hollopeter

Stuart and Karen Egerton are happy grandparents of Wren Bryant Wessell, born Monday, May 31, 2021 to Robert Neill Wessell and Charlotte Egerton Wessell.

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.

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.

Our Wednesday evening program meets each Wednesday from September through May from 6:30pm until about 8:30pm. For now, we plan to continue meeting via Zoom, with periodic in-person meetings as conditions permit. Bill Bivins and Karen Clark serve as co-mentors; group participants are limited to 12 members in addition to the mentors. The cost of the program is \$375 per year, and fees include all reading materials. Participants are not required to make a commitment to complete all four years, but they are urged to be faithful in weekly attendance and in the reading of the assignments.

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). We would be glad to talk with you and provide further information about EfM.

A SAFE PLACE INFO SESSION

Info Night, Monday, June 7 | 6:00 p.m. | Perry Hall

We will be holding an organizational meeting at the church at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 7 with a speaker from ASP for you to learn more. Mary Boney Clark and Tanner Dodson are leading the outreach effort for St. James and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact them at mbdclark@gmail.com or tannerbanks82@gmail.com. Thank you for considering supporting this worthy organization.

SACRED GROUND SUMMER EDITION

Info Night, Tuesday, June 8 | 7:00 p.m. | Zoom

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is especially designed to help white people talk with other white people and peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of today – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love. Join us for the Info Session on June 8th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and reach out to Ginny Woodruff at ginny@vcwoodruff.com or The Rev. Cheryl Brainard at Cheryl@stjamesp.org.

BREAD BREAKERS HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Resumes July 2021

We plan to resume this series during summer 2021. Please say tuned. The St. James Parish's 20's-30's group, also known as Bread Breakers, will be meeting up once a month for a time of fellowship at home. We'll be visiting different members of the community's homes and enjoying a potluck style dinner. Kids, Friends, and Guests are welcomed! Contact Rev. Chris Hamby for more info. Chris@stjamesp.org

GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP UPDATE

As of May 26, 2021

Dear Parish Family,

We have some exciting news to share. We have received updated Guidelines for Public Worship from the Bishop! What does this mean for St. James? It means that worship on Sunday will look and feel a lot more like "normal." Here are a few of the changes you can expect:

- For worship at St. James and Mt. Lebanon Chapel, you are now invited to sing!
- Those who are vaccinated are no longer required to wear a mask and may remove their mask for either indoor or outdoor worship.
 - We do ask that you continue to respect social distancing around individuals continuing to wear masks at this time. We want to make sure everyone feels safe when attending worship with us.
- Indoor worship without social distancing is now permitted at both locations but designated distancing areas will remain available for those who would prefer to maintain some distance.
 - At St. James- A designated portion of the Market Street side of the church will remain roped off in sections to accommodate those who prefer to continue socially distancing at this time.
 - At Mt. Lebanon Chapel- The service itself will be conducted inside at the lectern and altar. The outdoor speakers will remain on and Holy Eucharist will be brought out to those who wish to continue worshipping outdoors.
- Hand sanitizer will continue to remain available at both locations for those who wish to use it.
- Online livestream services will continue for those who are not able to join us in person or who would like to watch a replay.
- Regarding communion, clergy will continue to wear masks while celebrating Holy Eucharist and we will not yet partake of the Chalice at this time.
 - For worship at St. James, communion may be taken at the altar rail or in the transept if you prefer.
 - For worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel, those worshipping are invited to take communion at the altar rail or you may remain outside and the celebrant will come to you.

We very much look forward to worshipping together with you under these new guidelines. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Rev. Chris Hamby or the Rev. Cheryl Brainard.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!

Looking for a way to get involved! There are plenty of opportunities to support ministries at St. James and in our community. Our Wedding Guild is looking for more members to help support this sacrament. We also need Altar Guild Members, Ushers, Acolytes, Lectors and more! Reach out to communications@stjamesp.org.

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!

QUIET REFLECTION

July 3, 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. Come sit inside or enjoy a peaceful walk around the grounds.

EPISCO-POSSE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Next Meeting June 16, 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).

GLORY RIDGE OPPORTUNITY

August 2 - 7, 2021 | Glory Ridge

You're invited to join us on our Annual Glory Ridge Mission Trip - Work Camp - Service Project! The ultimate goal of this experience is to connect the Christian Community with Service Learning for our rising 7th - 12th Graders as well as any interested adults. Interested? Talk to Cookie at Cookie@stjamesp.org.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT

by Davis Hinshaw

I feel like God communicates with people in different ways. He knows everyone's brain because he created us and he communicates with us in a way that we can comprehend. Everyone has different signs that they just know are from God - it could be a sunset or a bird that flies by or a text from a friend. I think these signs are shown when God wants to remind us how much we are loved or to help us get through a time of distress. I hope that I always have my eyes open looking for these signs from God.

One thing that I still struggle with to this day is finding where to start with prayer. Sometimes, I feel like I shouldn't even talk to God because He already knows all of the thoughts in my head. I feel lost at where to start to talk to Him. When I am feeling this way lately, I have tried to just talk to Him about exactly how I feel. When I do this, it helps a lot and it makes me feel more free.

I used to be afraid of God knowing the true person that I am but He made me and He knows all my tendencies and I have learned that He will always love me no matter what and will always be forgiving, and that is a great promise.

From my experience, if you think about spending time with God as a burden, it becomes a burden, but if you think about spending time with God as a window for new possibilities, it brings new opportunities. Noticing God's signs, praying honestly to Him, and thanking Him for everything He has done for me helps me to grow closer to Him.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Want to honor a loved one by having flowers placed on the altar? We have a date available! If you are interested in donating to have flowers placed on July 25th, please reach out to the parish office and let us know!

GRAVEYARD BLURB

Thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday, May 22nd, for the workday! You made a huge difference. We want to share a bit more about the Graveyard's history with you. You may now find a full history of the St. James Graveyard on our website: stjamesp.org/graveyard.

PARISH RETREAT: SAVE THE DATE

Friday, Oct. 1st - Sunday, Oct. 3rd | Trinity Center

Save the date! It's been far too long since we've gathered together for a parish retreat. This fall we plan to host a retreat at Trinity Center. More information may be found on the St. James website! www.stjamesp.org/retreat/

SJDS CAMP BEGINS!

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles starts this week!

It's been a quiet couple of weeks at St. James Day School! We're looking forward to seeing our wonderful students again during the summer camps. All sessions are currently full! Want to join the waitlist? Reach out to Day School Director Amy Taylor at director.dayschool@stjamesp.org for more information!

ST. JAMES PARISH

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NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MONDAY- FRIDAY, JUNE 7-11

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

SJDS SUMMER CAMP
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM | SJDS

MONDAY, JUNE 7

A SAFE PLACE MEETING
6:00 PM | Perry Hall

FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | Lippitt Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

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

WDAA BASKETBALL
PRACTICE
6:30-8:30 PM | Perry Hall
SACRED GROUND INFO
SESSION
7:00 PM | Zoom

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

PCJ BIBLE STUDY
7:30 AM | Zoom | Led by our
Youth Group and with Youth
Advisor support

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

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 June 1st e-blast is Friday, May 28th.