

SUNDAY SERVICES SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19

THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC

WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2020

THE REV. CHRIS HAMBY



HOLY WEEK AT HOME

I would much rather be together in our wonderful space at Market St. and Third St.; but the church is all of us, no matter where we are isolating ourselves and following proper guidelines. We are monitoring the situation closely, and we will pass along any information as it becomes available. You can find various resources, updates, and moments of calm on our page [stjamesp.org/covid19](https://www.stjamesp.org/covid19).

We are committed at St. James, to offering meaningful worship under these extremely unusual circumstances. Liturgies, while they will continue to be in an online

capacity, will have a component for each of you to participate at home within your context. The clergy of the diocese are working together to have a “Holy Week at Home” packet, which gives guidance on establishing a sacred space for prayer, how to involve children, and how our online worship can be more meaningful to you as we hunker down.

We will operate differently for the foreseeable future, but it does not mean we are not able to connect. Call one another to catch-up. Comment on various platforms St. James offers from Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube. Have a prayer request? Send it to the church via the form on the front page of the website. Have a photo to share of you or your family during this time? Send it to communications@stjamesp.org so we can share it with everyone else.

People are experiencing the full range of emotions about work and life. We are all in this together. We need grace and gentleness to abound throughout our community of faith. When we are finally able to return as the gathered body of faith, we will celebrate with joy!

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Live List Found Online on our Website

As of March 16, 2020 the following events have been cancelled/postponed:

- *St. James is suspending ALL parish activities, including Sunday worship until further notice. You can find the letter from our vestry addressing the change on our website at: <https://www.stjamesp.org/covid19>*

Please note, if you need staff or clergy assistance, please call the Church Office in the Bacon House for assistance. We are here!



ST. JAMES UPDATES

SERVICES SUSPENDED FOR THE TIME BEING

ONLINE RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT:

www.stjamesp.org/covid19

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/DDZEPCJGHB>.

Thank you for your support!



AN UPDATE FROM BISHOP SKIRVING REGARDING WORSHIP

Bishop Skirving shared a letter earlier this week. It has been linked on our website. We encourage everyone to visit www.stjames.org/covid19 and take a moment to read his message.

PARISH OFFICE OPEN

At this time, our parish office remains open for our normal hours. Our staff is working to make sure our church family is supported during this time. We do ask that no guests visit the office at this time and if you have a need, please call instead. Our number is: 910-763-1628.

LET US KNOW HOW TO PRAY FOR YOU!

Did you know that we have a prayer request page on our website? You can find by clicking PRAYER image on the homepage. Please let us know how to pray for you. Unfortunately, Clergy is not able to visit in the hospitals at this time so it is very helpful to us to be contacted when you are in need of support!

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. Don't wait to register, classes are filling up quickly!

SUMMER CAMPS 2020

We're excited to announce the themes and dates for this year's summer camps!

- Camp week 1: June 1-5: Transportation: Planes, Trains and Automobiles!
- Camp week 2: June 22-26: Let's go on a Safari!
- Camp week 3: July 20-24: Olympics
- Camp week 4: August 10-14: Knights and Princesses

Online registration are OPEN at www.stjamesp.org/st-james-day-school-summer-camps/.

COMFORTING CALLS

Our Clergy and Community of Hope Members aren't able to visit hospitals or many of the local assisted living facilities in person. They are making it a mission to call members of our church family to make sure they don't feel so alone. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please reach out to Cheryl Brainard at cheryl@stjamesp.org.

KEEPING CONNECTED

In an effort to continually share our love and support for one another through this time apart, we're encouraging everyone to share pictures, stories, music, etc. that bring you joy. Let's share the everyday blessings. Send what encourages you to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org and she will share on our social media.

FILMING AND SHARING WORSHIP

Ministry is still happening, it just looks a little different. We're working to digitize lessons, Bible studies, and, of course, Sunday mornings! If you would like to participate as a reader or help support our team as they work to keep everyone connected in worship, please reach out to Chris Hamby at chris@stjamesp.org.

QUIET REFLECTION AT MT. LEBANON CHAPEL

Beginning May 2, 2020 | 7:30-8:30 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel
All are welcome to join us on the first Saturday of the month, beginning May 2, for an hour of quiet reflection at Lebanon Chapel from 7:30-8:30 AM. Drop-in for a few minutes on the way to the beach or stay for an hour to enjoy the beauty and peace of this special, holy place. Dates for 2020 are May 2, June 6, July 4, August 1, Sept. 5 and Oct 3. Questions contact Lindamurchison65@gmail.com.

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.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT: LIFE, LIVE IT

by Will Hinshaw

Philippians 4:6-7- *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

A couple weeks ago I attended my first Happening. For those of you who don't know what Happening is, it is a youth-led retreat at Trinity center that has been around for a long time. The retreat has many special traditions and I'm so glad I went. It was a church camp experience like no other. While there were many moving experiences at Happening, I'll focus on the one that led me to my title for this article: Life, Live it. Some of you may know about the title, but for those who don't, it is about Dr. Putt Browning and his daughter. The daughter, A.C., had a condition called epilepsy. Around 7 months ago, she passed away unexpectedly at the age of 16. When I arrived at this year's Happening, I saw Dr. Browning there and realized that he was a candidate like me. I think his presence changed the experience for me and everyone there. In one group activity, we did skits on life experiences and I would say his group's skit was pretty profound. It started out with him yelling to God about how he could have taken someone like his daughter from him, and then giving an emotion riddled speech about A.C. that rocked everyone there to the core. One word frequently mentioned in the skit was "why?" I'm sure everyone has questions like that in their life. What sense does it make that God would let bad things happen to good people? We may never know, but what we do know is that he uses them to strengthen us, make us grateful for the things we have, impact the community around us and bind us together. Now I didn't know A.C. very well, but one thing I heard about her is that she wouldn't let her condition take away from the joy she had in her life. I think that this story fits so well with the current situation we are in, with COVID-19. I think people need to stay diligent about keeping safe and not spreading the virus, but we cannot let something like this consume us. We have to trust God's plan through all of this and know that he will prevail. In a situation like this where we don't have control over what will happen, we just have to live life and take pleasure in the simple things. Having more time at home like this allows us to have more time for prayer, thanksgiving and quiet time which is something I know I definitely need to work on. So in this time of uncertainty, think back to these few words: Life, Live it.

SILENT AUCTION 2020 IS COMING!

In the midst of this extended time at home and as many of you are doing "Spring Cleaning," Please remember that your St James Youth Outreach is financed through the donations and sales at our annual "Silent Auction." Wayne and Wayne Jackson have graciously donated a Wedgewood China Set! Use this time to discover those "lost treasures" that can be "repurposed" into someone else's home, and the financial benefit will help our young people improve the lives of our residents in Madison County, NC.

All donations can be listed online, or you may contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org. Thank you in advance for helping our young people serve other people!

WORLD'S GREATEST COFFEE HOUR UPDATE

The World's Greatest Coffee Hour will be back in action in September. If your ministry group would like to sponsor a Sunday, or if you would like to help on a team, that would be great! Email Bill McKenzie for available dates and to sign up. He can be reached at bill@stjamesp.org.

MORNING PRAYER DURING LENT

Monday-Friday During Lent | 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. | Facebook

The Rev. Jay Sidebotham is going digital with Morning Prayer During Lent! Keep an eye on our Facebook Page each weekday morning around 8:00 a.m. for a time of prayer.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHANGES HERE

What a wonderful time to have your own personal "Guardian Angel!" We are encouraging all of our Guardian Angels to keep for their young person and we are inviting each young person to pray for your own personal Guardian Angel. While you will not know your Guardian Angel's name, God knows exactly who it is! So pray for your Guardian Angel. If you would like to send you Guardian Angel a note or a card, please drop it by my house or drop it by St. James. I will send it to your Guardian Angel. Please note that we will not be having the Guardian Angel Banquet this Sunday. When this nasty virus is defeated, we will have a unique and wonderful "GUARDIAN ANGEL CELEBRATION!" We will create a wonderful experience where you will meet your Guardian Angel/ Youth face-to-face and share the joy of your Guardian Angel Experience 2020!

MORNINGS WITH MESSIAH IS ON YOUTUBE

Join us on the St. James' YouTube page as the Rev. Cheryl Brainard leads us for Mornings with Messiah. This 5-part series focuses on the music and biblical texts from Handel's Messiah. Optional readings and a background study guide will be available. Please contact Rev Cheryl Brainard to sign up at cheryl@stjamesp.org or to receive a copy of the study guide.

ST JAMES YOUTH CONFIRMATION 2020

Each year the St. James young people are invited to learn more about the history, the beliefs and the traditions of The Episcopal Church, about the St James Parish, and about the process of preparation that occurs as one journeys on the path toward CONFIRMATION. Through education, experiences, relationships and group gatherings, our young people on this faith journey discern if and “when they are ready and have duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop” BCP p. 412. The journey towards Confirmation within The Episcopal Church is an exciting and meaningful experience where each young person decides if they are ready to take responsibility for their journey of faith within The Episcopal Church. The Confirmation process and education seeks to create an environment where an authentic Christian community can be formed and all parts of our liturgies, traditions, history, and faith formation can be studied and questions can be asked. It was our hope that this year, our young people participating in the 2020 Confirmation Process would participate in an “active learning style” of education. Each person would experience the depth of our Episcopal Traditions and also have the freedom to ask questions and perhaps “struggle” and “question” why we believe what we believe and what our worship means within our lives.

Several unavoidable circumstances and events have disrupted the 2020 Youth Confirmation Educational Experience. Since we do not have a clear sense of what the next weeks and months might bring, the Confirmation Formation Process of our young people will be offered during the 2020-2021 Academic Year. Many Episcopal Churches are encouraging young people to wait to go through the Confirmation Process until they are in high school or even later. It is important for us to remember that during the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, “you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ’s own for ever.” During Confirmation, the candidate reaffirms the renunciation of evil, renews their commitment to Jesus Christ and with God’s grace, they promise to follow Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. The congregation prays “for these people who have renewed their commitment to Christ.” BCP p. 417 St. James is extremely committed to the journey of faith that our young people are experiencing and we will gladly and authentically accompany each of them on their journeys of faith.

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES PARISH ONLINE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MONDAY, MARCH 30 - FRIDAY, APRIL 3

MORNING PRAYER DURING LENT

8:00-8:30 AM | Facebook | Led by Jay Sidebotham

You can find the Morning Prayer linked on our facebook page each morning around 8:00 a.m. Simply go to www.facebook.com/stjamesp and it will pull up our Facebook page. If you do not have a facebook page of your own, you may not be able to view it this way. Please let Erin at communications@stjamesp.org know and she will help you get access to the video.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

MORNING WORSHIP

8:00 AM | YouTube | With a Sermon from Bishop Skirving

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 is found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxy1hvtSnsU84I_5nnbGUwg or on our Facebook page which is found at, www.facebook.com/stjamesp.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the April 14th e-blast and 19th Grapevine is Friday, April 10th.

ST. JAMES PARISH

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ST. JAMES PARISH

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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 Susan Ingle | **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

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Visit us online: stjamesp.org

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