

THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC
WEEK OF MAY 23, 2021

STEVE THOMAS, SENIOR WARDEN



TO MY FELLOW PARISHIONERS

We all know that every year Spring is a season of change. The birds and pollen come out, the shorts and short-sleeves get pulled out of the drawers after a long break in use, and of course the tourist population in Wilmington begins to rise. Many of our youngest members are looking expectantly forward to the summer break from school.

Yes, Spring is a season of change every year, but this one certainly comes with a lot more change than usual. We have spent the past 12 months separated from each other and each dealing with stress from the pandemic. We worry when rhythm will be restored to our lives. This year, the word “change” doesn’t quite sum up what has happened to our lives, does it?

If the world changing wasn’t troubling enough, we have a lot of change here at St. James to process as well! Our amazing Priest-in-Charge, Rev. Michael Singer will be bidding us adieu at the end of May to resume his interrupted retirement. We wish him the very best and thank him for all his help in our “time of transition” (is anyone else overjoyed we will finally stop hearing that expression very soon?). Michael will be preaching his farewell sermon with us downtown on May 30th, so if able, please join us in those services and wishing him farewell.

Also leaving us after more than 14 years of dedicated service will be Suzanne Adams, our Parish Administrator who is heading “home” to Pennsylvania to reunite with family. We also thank Suzanne for her ability to keep everything in order and with a good spirit and always with a sense of humor. Her job could be described as the one “least fought over” in the Bacon House, but she did it well and made many in our parish feel cared for and listened to along the way. Best of luck, Suzanne, and we’ll miss you!

Finally, we will soon welcome our new Rector, Rev. C. Phillip Craig, Jr. Phillip is full of the spirit and love for all and I am so excited to see what his leadership brings to St. James. I can tell you that St. James is preparing to “take off” as a church and more importantly as a representation of Christ’s love in our community. Gather yourselves and prepare to join in the momentum already set in motion. Prepare yourselves to be asked to join in and dedicate yourselves to the mission of St. James (“To welcome all to grow in love of God and neighbor”) in whatever way you are able. That mission is to be carried out on our campuses, in our town, and outside of it. And we ALL get to be part of it!

Yes, a time of undeniable change is upon us all. It is impossible to go back to what we have been. While that may inspire fear, be comforted to know all of this is exactly His plan. When we pray The Lord’s Prayer, we declare that we wish for “Thy will be done.” That’s a powerful statement of trust. We need to strive to live into that. He is worthy of that trust and He will provide. Isaiah 43:19 says “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” Prepare yourselves for the joy of working with God to make a new thing here at St. James.

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:

MaryAnn Furniss, Bob Godley, Missy Wright

CONDOLENCES TO:

Stephen Cone on the passing of his mother,
Emily Bundy Cone

Nina Inge on the passing of her father,
John Harrison McAdams, Jr.

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.

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- Outdoors Only

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

THANKING SUZANNE ADAMS

If you've been with St. James Parish for any amount of time, chances are you know the name Suzanne Adams. Suzanne has been our St. James Parish Coordinator for more than 14 years. We've been so blessed by her dedication, her humor, and her wealth of knowledge. In early June, Suzanne will be leaving St. James and Wilmington to move closer to her family up north. Now it is our turn to bless her as we wish her well for her new chapter. We've put together a giving link for anyone who wishes to contribute to a purse thanking Suzanne for all her years of service to St. James. www.stjamesp.org/suzanne

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/

TODAY: PENTECOST WITH REV. PHILLIP & FAMILY ACTIVITIES! WEAR RED!

Sunday, May 23, 2021 | Mt. Lebanon Chapel & Downtown

All are invited to join us as we celebrate the birth of the Church! Pentecost Sunday, St. James' new Rector, the Rev. C. Phillip Craig, Jr. will be preaching at the 8:30 a.m. service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel and the 10:30 a.m. Service Downtown. At the 9:30 a.m. service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel, we are pleased to share in the sacrament of Baptism for two young souls and their families. To round out such a happy day, following both the 9:30 and the 10:30 am services we will be hosting a small celebration for the Church with a birthday themed snack and family friendly crafts. Have questions about Pentecost at St. James? Please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

TONIGHT: GREEN EGG & HAMBURGERS

Sunday, May 23, 2021 | 5:00 p.m. | The Cowden Home | RSVP

You're invited to join us on Sunday, May 23, 5:00 pm! The Youth Group will meet at the Cowden Home for "Green Egg & Ham.....burgers" a cookout with our young people cooking HAMBURGERS on the GREEN EGG! Together we will celebrate Pentecost take a time to recognize the Holy Spirit among us! ALL 6th - 12th Graders are welcome. Please RSVP to Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org.

KANUGA: LIGHT ON THE PATH

June 14-17, 2021 | Kanuga | Registration Deadline May 24th

You're invited to join us in person for the 2021 Kanuga Christian Formation Gathering, June 14 - 17, Light on the Path: Navigating the challenges and joys of life, formation, and ministry with the Rev. Jay Sidebotham. Have questions? Reach out to Cookie Cantwell at Cookie@stjamesp.org.

RE-IMAGINING YOUTH MINISTRIES

Tuesday, May 25, 2021 | 6:00 p.m. | The Osann Home | RSVP

All St. James Adults who are interested in our young people are invited to join us at Fred and Sheila Osann's home for a time of sharing our hopes, dreams and ideas for our St. James Youth Ministries Program! Bring your favorite "Covered Dish." We will safely share this delicious food. Please let Sheila & Fred know by **MAY 23** if you will be joining us. The email address is OsannShe@aol.com. Please invite anyone that you think might enjoy helping us plan the future of our St. James Youth Ministries.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT

by Susan Ingle

'See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.' Matthew 6:28-29

Last year I planted a few coreopsis, and have I ever been rewarded this year! The few plants have become many and they are just beginning to bloom. What a reminder of the abundance of our gracious God, who surrounds us with beauty. All we have to do is open our eyes and appreciate the creative work of the Master Gardener.



MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Sunday, May 30, 2021 | Following 9:30 and 10:30 services

Memorial Day is a day in the United States for honoring and mourning the military personnel who have died in the performance of their military duties while serving in the United States Armed Forces. It is a time to pause and remember. At the conclusion of the 9:30 a.m. service at Mt. Lebanon and the 10:30 a.m. service at St. James, on Sunday, May 30, there will be a procession to the graveyards where a moment of silence will be observed, a prayer remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, and Taps will be played (weather permitting). In the event of rain, these events will be held indoors at St. James Downtown.

Please note that the St. James Parish office will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2021.

MEALS ON WHEELS IS COMING!

Sunday, May 30, 2021 ~ DRIVERS NEEDED!

Sunday, May 30th is an opportunity to serve. We need cooks, packers, additional food items, and drivers. Please volunteer for this opportunity to serve. Masks are required for drivers. Contact Missy Pretlow (missypretlow@gmail.com). Thank you for your participation.

EPISCO-POSSE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Next Meeting June 2, 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).

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.

QUIET REFLECTION

June 5, 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.

LIVE AT 5

June 6, 2021 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Join us for a time of music, prayer, and fellowship outdoors at Mt. Lebanon Chapel.

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.

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!

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.

A MESSAGE FROM DEACON KITTY DAVIS

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I wasn't even aware of it!" (Genesis 28:16)

To my Amazing St. James Family -

There are rare moments in a person's life when they know beyond doubt that the Holy Spirit is actively participating. This awareness is possible because of the palpable presence of Love and Hospitality and Kindness. Last Sunday was, for me, one of those rare moments. The generosity and appreciation shown by the clergy, the staff, and the parishioners of St. James was unparalleled. The manifestation of the Divine Essence was surely present as you celebrated a new direction in my life. I did, and continue to feel, entirely undeserving.

My time at St. James was a true gift to me. There is no other way to describe it. Of course, there were challenges from time to time, but I loved and enjoyed every aspect of my ministry. I cannot think of many who are as fortunate as I.

I said on Sunday, and I reiterate, that I felt overwhelmed by the full expression of the genuine, simple goodness of the people of our parish. You may not even recognize how wonderful you are, but I certainly do!

The abundance of resources that belong to St. James, the many opportunities for the individual expression of ministries, the diligence and commitment of the clergy and staff, and, most especially, the lovely hearts of each of you indicate the Presence of the Spirit of God - that silent Presence that enlivens all of Eternity.

With all of these gifts - and most especially with the gift of Rev. Phillip Craig, who will bring new leadership and delightful energy to our parish - St. James is on the precipice of moving forward in a unique way to express the love of God in our own parish community and in the community at large. It is truly a Pentecostal time - when we can speak with new voices to share the abundant gifts we have in our midst. Thanks be to God!

I am so very grateful for my years as a Deacon. As Leonard Cohen once so adeptly penned in speaking of that moment at the end of life, "I will stand before the Lord of Song with nothing on my lips but Hallelujah."

Hallelujah for each of you! Hallelujah for a New Beginning at St. James! Hallelujah for the sure and certain knowledge that God is in this place called life, and, through Grace, we can know.

Shalom,

Rev. Deacon Kitty Davis, Retired

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SJDS 4's!

St. James Day School hosted a graduation for this year's 4's on Friday, May 21st, 2021.

Congratulations to the SJDS 4's classes! We're so proud!

Mrs. Bullard's Class:

Blake Barlas
Ellison Brown
Cohen Duff
Mae Eggleston
Isaac Humphreys
Evie Kirk
Marielle Mincey
Kingston O'Connor
Cash Phelps
Zaide Roeben
Cillian Ryder
Opal Schaeffer

Mrs. Daughtry's Class:

Lux Batten
Hayes Connor
Virginia Currin
Tripp Eggleston
Walker Echols
Bea Hartman
Jack Hooper
Amelia McGraw
Liv Porter
Lyla Porter
Marian Trask
Savannah Wood

A special THANKS to Mrs. Emmy Bullard, who is retiring after 20 years of teaching at SJDS!!



ST. JAMES PARISH

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NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MONDAY- FRIDAY, MAY 24-28

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

MONDAY, MAY 24

FINANCE MEETING
5:00 -6:00 PM | Zoom

FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | Lippitt Room

TUESDAY, MAY 25

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

RE-IMAGINING YOUTH MINISTRIES

6:00 PM | Osann Home

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

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

BIBLE STUDY: THE PATH
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Zoom

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

SUNDAY, MAY 30

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

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
8:30 AM | Outdoors Mt. Lebanon
Chapel BYOS*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
9:30 AM | Outdoors 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- Please bring your own masks, chairs, picnic blankets, etc.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the June 1st e-blast is Friday, May 28th.