

ST. JAMES NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# GRAPEVINE

GROWING TOGETHER IN LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOR



## IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE RECTOR- THE REV. C. PHILLIP CRAIG JR.  
VESTRY CORNER  
FAITH FORMATION  
RISE AGAINST HUNGER  
NEIGHBORS IN GIVING  
NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH  
AND MORE!

SUNDAY BREAKFAST AT ST. JAMES



# HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES

## SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8:00 a - RITE I

9:00 a - RITE II

10:10 a - Faith Formation

11:15 a - RITE II

## LIVESTREAM

9:00 &

11:15 a

- RITE II



## WEEKDAY OPPORTUNITIES

# M

### MORNING PRAYER

MONDAY - FRIDAY | 8:00 a.m.

Join us on Zoom

### LIVING WELL IN GRIEF

1st & 3rd MONDAYS | 5:00 p.m.

Graham Parlor or Zoom

# W

### YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS | 7:00 a.m.

2018 South 16th Street

### HOLY EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAYS | 12:10 p.m.

Celebrating Holy Communion

### CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAYS | 7:00 p.m.

CHOIR ROOM



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT ST. JAMES



JUBI-LATTE ROUND TABLE



ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR  
NEWCOMERS



# From the Rector

*"There your heart will be also."  
Matthew 6:21*

Dear St. James Parish Family,

Two years ago, from my office in Portland, Oregon, I had my first Zoom conversation with the St. James Rector Search Committee. Time has gone by quickly, yet I will always treasure the wonderful and creative season of prayer, curiosity, and discernment which began that afternoon. Indeed, Jennifer and I felt and trusted God's presence all the way through the endeavor, and I remain so grateful God called all of us to share in this beautiful ministry together.

As you might imagine, the search committee shared an abundant supply of surveys and reflections for consideration throughout the process. One particular "data point" was compelling for me. The community of St. James ranked exceptionally high in its desire for spiritual growth and learning. One would think that such a statistic would be true for any worship community, yet the family of St. James stood out in this regard.

Since my arrival, I have seen the very real and practical applications of this data point play out in the programs and interactions of our church community. St James' parishioners desire to see, experience and participate in excellent liturgy and preaching during Sunday worship. There is an abiding passion for the spiritual growth of our young people. Deep and sustaining pastoral care connections are a premium. Parishioners are eager to commit their time and presence to formative spiritual and scriptural learnings, both in large and small group settings. All of these fall under a clear and compelling desire to follow Jesus Christ. Such a robust and growing program requires a foundation of staffing energy and dedicated support.

I believe that our Parish is in an opportune moment, as we importantly ponder together the notion of seeking out and recognizing our neighbors. In her wonderful St. James Speakers Series presentation on the evening of November 3rd, the Rev. Becca Stevens encouraged all in attendance to look past simply seeing our neighbors, and rather live into a truly Christian model of loving our neighbor - even when love seems culturally defiant -even when, in her words, "we just don't feel like it." To me, that resonates with the true heart of spiritual growth and learning - beginning with love.

May I encourage all of you to stay engaged this stewardship season with your commitment to the mission and ministries of St. James. Your time, talent and treasure make all of the difference, and we need you! Indeed, we need each other - all to the glory of Christ our Lord.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phillip+".

The Rev. C. Phillip Craig, Jr.  
phillip@stjamesp.org



# Vestry Corner

Sweet potato casserole, Grandma's apple pie, day-after turkey soup....laughing and playing board games with family and friends, watching football (& holiday movies), falling asleep on the couch....no doubt you can think about Thanksgiving and all of your senses have a memory. One piece of Thanksgiving that always stood out to me was how conversations around gratitude were highlighted on this day and the desire for that to be a year-round practice. I truly believe at St. James we focus on and emphasize gratitude. At the start of worship, meetings, and gatherings the Rev. Phillip Craig Jr. welcomes us with gratitude. His gentle reminders set the tone and speak to the heart of who we are as a Parish family.

Recently we have been sharing many meals throughout the week which has allowed us additional time to gather for fellowship and community. On Sunday mornings we eat breakfast before heading into worship. How grateful we are for this time when those coming from the 8 am service or going to the 9 am can gather over pancakes, chocolate milk, and coffee. Over the last several weeks there have been crowds for Wednesday evening suppers! A huge thank you to Brandon Tully for spearheading those incredible meals and our St. James Youth who assisted with cleaning up those nights. Wednesday evenings have been full of joy! There were many young children still doing legos, playing, and laughing even as the last tables were put away. How beautiful it is to watch friendships develop amongst our youngest members in addition to the needed moments for adults to gather and share news. There is so much thanksgiving in these moments.

During our October vestry meeting, we had a couple of special guests. Allen Trask, representing the Stewardship Committee came to share the great work they have been doing. The committee has developed several videos on the impact of stewardship through outreach, justice, and our community. Be sure to watch the videos as some of our youngest members are featured as well! (Do you know what 3-year-old Luke is thankful for at church?) Check out the links in the digital grapevine or go to the link on our website (<https://www.stjamesp.org/blog/stewardship2023/>) to watch the videos.

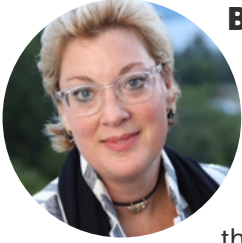
In addition, Ashley Walton and David Joyner from the Outreach Commission joined us to share updates and how we as the vestry can support the Outreach Commission going forward. The Outreach Commission is doing incredible work! Members of this group represent various organizations that we support throughout the year including the Help Hub, Episcopal Farmworkers Ministry, A Safe Place, and more. They are always looking for more leaders to help with their many initiatives. Most recently, RISE against Hunger was hosted by the Outreach Commission at St. James. This huge event was successful due to the many incredible volunteers! In addition to over 150 volunteers from St. James, there were many volunteers from other area churches and our Wilmington community as a whole. Together, with our neighbors, we packaged 50,000 meals to be sent to people in Nicaragua, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic!

As we begin to close out 2022, I hope you take time to reflect with gratitude on the past year and offer prayerful thanksgiving to God for his presence in our lives. As Romans 15:13 reminds us 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'

Leslie Jarrett (Junior Warden)



# Vestry Candidates – Class of 2026



## **BRANDON CANDLER TULLY**

Brandon is a “cradle” Episcopalian originally from Atlanta, GA.

Brandon and her husband Tom, moved to Wilmington in 2018 with their sons Conard and Hughes and their Goldendoodle Spartan. They

immediately joined St. James after hearing from her All Saints Atlanta community that Cookie Cantwell was the ultimate Youth Leader. Since joining St. James, Brandon has served on the Strategic Planning Group and the Stewardship Committee and has also been a Youth advisor to Cookie leading the charge for Faith at Five. Brandon’s latest volunteer adventure has been to envision and execute Wednesday Night Suppers! Brandon is a Senior Global Account Director for HelmsBriscoe (the largest meetings procurement company in the world). Her professional life has her on the road connecting with hotel leadership and advocating for her clients. Brandon’s greatest joy is her family. Conard and Hughes are very involved in Youth Ministries and Acolyting and Tom is a lay reader, sings in the choir, is an acolyte advisor, and volunteers with Men on a Mission. Brandon is excited to continue to serve St. James on the Vestry.



## **ERIN TRASK**

Born and raised here in Wilmington, Erin's faith journey began in the Methodist church. She began attending St. James in college with her friend at the time, Allen Trask,

and over time it began to feel like home to her. Allen and Erin were married at the Church in August of 2009. They now have three children, Nelson (8), Marian (6), and George (4), all of whom were baptized at St. James and lovingly call it their home. Each of them has attended St. James Day School. Having spent eight years teaching Kindergarten before having children of her own, Erin is passionate about serving the children of St. James and the greater community. When George graduates from the Day School this coming May, Erin will wrap up her third year of service on the Day School Board. Before that, she chaired many years of Vacation Bible School and various events and fundraisers for the children of St. James. Erin recently served as the communicator for the Christian Formation Commission. She is excited to join the Vestry in providing a warm and welcoming environment for parishioners of all ages to learn and grow together in their faith.



## **DAVID JOYNER**

David Joyner (28) is an eighth generation eastern North Carolinian. He was raised in the Disciples of Christ tradition and more recently worked for the United

Methodist Church’s General Board of

Church & Society in Washington, D.C. David moved to Wilmington in 2020 after completing law school and has been active at St. James ever since; he was confirmed in the Episcopal Church earlier this year. He is an Assistant District Attorney for New Hanover and Pender Counties, prosecuting all district court cases originating with the Wilmington Police Department. David’s involvement at St. James includes the young adults and young families group–Bread Breakers, serving as a Lector, serving as a communicator for the Outreach commission, and enrollment in Education for Ministry.



## **DEAN GORNITO**

Dean Gornito is a lifelong Episcopalian, having been baptized, confirmed and married at St. James. He and his wife, Mary, have 2 children and 5 grandchildren;

for 46 years, they lived in an 1886 family

home in the Historic District, but recently ‘downsized’ to their home in South Oleander. Dean is a graduate of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, where later he was a member of the Board of Trustees. Dean served as the St. James Parish Administrator for 16 years, retiring in 2013; prior to that, he was in commercial real estate. Previously, he has been involved at St. James as an acolyte, a member of the Vestry, serving as Senior Warden, a member of a Rector Search Committee and the Outreach Commission and was instrumental in the creation of the St. James Homeless Shelter. He has also been active with various diocesan activities, including service on the Diocesan Foundation Board and on the Board of Visitors of the Kanuga Conference Center. In the community, Dean has been president of several nonprofits, including the Residents of Old Wilmington, the Historic Wilmington Foundation, St. John’s Museum of Art (now Cameron Art Museum), and was the first president of Phoenix Employment Ministry (now StepUp Wilmington). He has also served on the Board of Visitors of the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Lower Cape Fear Hospice Foundation. Most recently, he has been a Guardian Ad Litem and a volunteer with the Help Hub and Meals on Wheels.

## THE MINISTRY OF THE OFFICE: THANKING ROSA CHAMPNEY

36 years ago, the Champney family moved to Wilmington from Annapolis. They were looking for a place that reminded them of the love of their home church in Maryland. Billie Holland was a neighbor and Jane Martin made sure they knew they were welcome! After a few Sundays of worship and a visit from then Rector, the Rev. Bob Cook, the Champneys joined the St. James Parish Family.

Rosa joined the Office Ministry after an invitation from Judy Flickers. Rosa had recently left the classroom after several years as an art teacher at the day school. Rosa also participated in the Altar guild but when she went back to work at St. John's the flexibility the Office Ministry affords fit her availability best! Rosa enjoys getting to know the people of St. James Parish through her work in the office, especially the clergy!

## EMBROIDERY MINISTRY: THANKING LYNN CALDER

We are so blessed to have many talented and creative parishioners. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the embroidery ministry of Lynn Calder. Lynn is the artist behind the lovely embroidery work for the baptism towels. Over the last ten years, Lynn has embroidered the full name, birthdate, and date of the baptism on the towels for over 200 children baptized at St. James!

We thank her for her dedication to this special ministry as she, "throws in the towel" and retires. Thank you, Lynn, for the wonderful keepsakes you created for so many families!



## VERGER MINISTRY AT ST. JAMES PARISH

What is a vergers? According to the Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, a vergers is "a lay minister who assists the clergy in the conduct of public worship, especially in the marshaling of processions. The history of the vergers dates back to the middle ages when the vergers was the "Protector of the Procession." He would lead the way, making room for the procession to enter the church from the town square, and with his virge (mace) in hand would literally clear the way if necessary. The basic vestment of the vergers is a black cassock."

As we prepare to reintroduce the Vergers Ministry at St. James Parish, we invite you to consider how you might be called to participate. While we no longer need a physical clearing of an aisle to make way for the procession through the town square, there is an intention of making space for worship in the role. If you are interested in learning more about the role of the vergers, please reach out to Don Brainard at [dabrainard12@gmail.com](mailto:dabrainard12@gmail.com) or The Rev. Gray Hodsdon at [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org).

**There are other ways in which you can participate in the ministry of St. James through liturgy:** Acolytes, Lectors (readers), Lay Eucharistic Ministers (chalice bearers), Greeters, Ushers, Altar Guild, Choir, and more!

Each Sunday we are celebrating and in the midst of our communal celebration, we might just realize God is calling us to take a bigger part in the worship. Each and every one of us can do a small part to be part of worship, where is God calling you to celebrate?

## STEWARDSHIP 2023

The 2023 Stewardship Campaign is off to a great start! On day one of the pledge drive, we had 100% participation from the Vestry and the Stewardship Committee. We want to continue this momentum and encourage each and every St. James member to invest in our community. Your pledge will help continue the exciting growth in membership and ministries, sustain our mission, support our staff and further the traditions that we love. Let us each be "Neighbors in Giving."



PLEDGE NOW



# Faith Formation Opportunities:

## SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:10 AM

### DISCIPLES' CLASS - Meets in the Great Hall

- **November 6, 2022: Out of the Darkness Weekend - Marion Gittings**
  - Marion Gittings, MSW and LSCW, Clinical Social Worker, Therapist, and a new member of our Parish, will present information and resources from organizations working to expand and share effective interventions to prevent suicide.
- **November 20, 2022: Thanksgiving for my Neighbor - Glen & Beverly Tetterton**
  - Glenn Tetterton, retired history and German teacher, and Beverly Tetterton, retired librarian and author will be with us once more! Join our closest neighbors from Temple of Israel as they return to St. James to continue to share our historic connections both biblical and recent. Together, we illustrate how love transcends differing views or religions.
- **November 27, 2022: Living Well in Advent - The Rev. Cheryl Brainard**
  - Once again this Advent, we will be offering the Living Compass® Spirituality & Wellness program booklets for Advent. Together, we will look at scripture readings through the lens of Advent, using the text Living Well Through Advent. Take a break from the hustle and bustle to slow down during Advent.

### FAITH DISCUSSIONS - Meets in the Stephen Ministry Room

- **November 6, 2022: Neighbors Across Difference**
  - Topic: Neighbors Across Race
- **November 20, 2022: Neighbors Across Difference**
  - Topic: Neighbors Across Culture and Religion
- **November 27, 2022: Serving Our Neighbors**
  - Topic: How Helping Hurts, Part I

### BIBLE STUDY: SIGNS IN JOHN - Meets in the Lippitt Room

In his account of Jesus' life, John included 7 miracles, or signs, as evidence that Jesus was and is the Christ, the Son of God. We will examine these signs in the context of Jesus' ministry and will consider their relevance in and for our own lives. Each session will stand alone, focusing on a specific passage from John's Gospel. The format for the class will be lecture/discussion, so bring your Bible and come as often as you like.

- **November 6, 2022: The Seven Signs in John - Part V - Led by Susan Ingle**
  - The reading for the fifth session is John 9:1-41.
- **November 20, 2022: The Seven Signs in John - Part VI - Led by Susan Ingle**
  - The reading for the final session is 11:1-44.
- **November 27, 2022: First Sunday of Advent: Gathering with Disciple's Class to participate in their Advent offerings.**



### JUBI-LATTE ROUNDTABLE - Meets in Cookie's Office

On Sunday Mornings, our 6th-12th graders are invited to join us in Cookie's Office for the Jubi-Latte Roundtable, with coffee and conversation.

### FAITH ADVENTURERS - 2nd Floor Milton Hall

(4th and 5th graders): Grab a cozy seat and get ready to get lost in Narnia. This fall, we will set out to uncover the themes in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

### FAITH BUILDERS - 2nd Floor Milton Hall

(2nd and 3rd graders): Building Faith Brick by Brick. We will explore the Bible in an imaginative way using our minds, hands and LEGOS!

### FAITH FOUNDATIONS- 2nd Floor Milton Hall

(K5 & 1st Graders): Building a foundation in faith invites learning about God using the Bible as our road map. Explore, create and marvel at God's big love for us!

### FAITH THROUGH WONDER- 2nd Floor Milton Hall

(3s & 4s): Explore God's love for us. We will engage in stories, create crafts and enjoy time together exploring all the wonder in God's creations.

# On the Horizon

## VETERANS' DAY MORNING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Friday, November 11, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Join us for a special edition of Morning Prayer as we gather to greet the day on Veterans' Day! Daily Morning Prayer is live on Zoom! We'd love to have you join us each weekday morning at 8:00 am for Morning Prayer on our Zoom! Join us for a time of prayer, fellowship and a little bit of music.

## THANKSGIVING DAY MORNING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Thursday, November 24, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Join us for a special edition of Morning Prayer as we gather to greet the day on Thanksgiving Day! Before turning into the parade, join us online as we gather in prayer to give thanks to God.



## ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS - SJON

Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7:00 PM | November 8

St. James Orientation for Newcomers, "SJON," began Tuesday, October 25, 2022. This three-part series provides a comprehensive look at our church. Even if you missed Session 1 & 2, make plans to join us for Session 3!

- Session 3- Meet the Clergy and hear their stories

Contact [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org) to register.

## THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 20 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Save the date! our St. James Youth will be leading us in a special time of thanksgiving and worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. Join us as "we gather together to ask the Lord's Blessing" and as we ponder all for which we can be thankful! Everyone is welcome....people of all ages. Let's share our Blessings and Thanksgivings!

# OUT OF THE DARKNESS WEEKEND AT ST. JAMES PARISH

ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 6, 2022

### 10:10 AM | DISCIPLE'S CLASS & JUBI-LATTE FAITH FORMATION HOUR

Marion Gittings, MSW and LCSW, Clinical Social Worker, Therapist, and a new member of our Parish, will present information and resources from organizations working to expand and share effective interventions to prevent suicide.

### LUMINARIES OF REMEMBRANCE

Once again, our St. James Youth Ministries are hosting a Luminary fundraiser. Each person who donates will have a LUMINAIRY bag with a name on it at the Walk. These Luminaries will shine in the darkness with hope for the future. The Luminaries can be in "Memory" or in "Honor" of someone special in your life! For each \$10 donation, we will add a bag. Please use this form to let us know who you would like to recognize.

[stjamesp.org/blog/luminary/](http://stjamesp.org/blog/luminary/)

### 2:30 PM | THE OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) Wilmington area "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" will take place on Nov.6, at *Wrightsville Beach Park*. Our St. James Youth and supporting community will be setting up at Wrightsville Beach Park between 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. to serve lunch to attendees. We'll be feeding guests HOT DOGS with all the "fixings."

At 2:00 p.m. the displays, exhibits, music, etc. will be up and running. Hot Dogs will be served until they are gone. The walk begins at 5:00 and the exhibits and displays will be prior to the walk.

When you walk in the Out of the Darkness Walk, you join the effort with hundreds of thousands of people to raise awareness and funds that allow the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss. PLEASE DONATE to our "ST JAMES Youth Ministries" fundraiser.



# Food, Fellowship & Outreach

## ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: THIS FALL



**November 3 / Replay available / The Rev. Becca Stevens** - St. James hosted our first speaker for our St. James Speaker Series line-up on November 3, 2022.

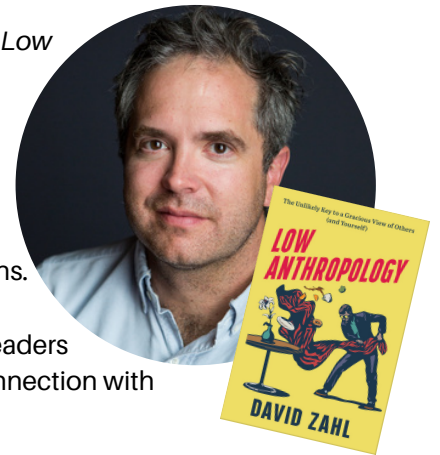
The Rev. Becca Stevens, founder of Thistle Farms, presented "Leading with love: Creating a smooth path over rocky ground."

Becca Stevens is a speaker, social entrepreneur, author, priest, founder of the non-profit justice enterprises, and President of Thistle Farms. She has been featured on PBS NewsHour, The Today Show, CNN, ABC World News, named a CNN Hero, and White House Champion of Change holds five honorary doctorates, and raised over \$65M in funding for justice initiatives. Drawn from 25 years of leadership in mission-driven work, Becca leads important conversations across the country with an inspiring message that love is the strongest force for change in the world.

**December 6 / 7:00 PM / Author David Zahl** - December 6, 2022, David Zahl, Author of *Low Anthropology* and *Seculosity: How Career, Parenting, Technology, Food, Politics, and Romance Became Our New Religion and What to Do About It*, will be presenting "How Realistic Expectations Lead to Grace for Others—and Ourselves."

In *Low Anthropology*, Zahl explores how our ideas about human nature influence our expectations in friendship, work, marriage, and politics. We all go through life with an "anthropology"—an idea about what humans are like, our potentials and our limitations.

A high anthropology—thinking optimistically about human nature—can breed perfectionism, anxiety, burnout, loneliness, and resentment. Meanwhile, Zahl invites readers into a biblically rooted and life-giving low anthropology, which fosters hope, deep connection with others, lasting love, vulnerability, compassion, and happiness.



## MEN ON A MISSION: BEACH BOIL

**November 13, 2022 / 3:30 - 6:00 PM / Wrightsville Beach**

All men of St. James and their male guests ages 21+ are invited to join the St. James Men on a Mission at the Wrightsville Beach home of Alex and Anne Murchison (301 S Lumina Ave, W) Sunday, November 13th from 3:30-6:00 p.m. This event will be catered by Cape Fear Boil Company and will feature another specialty brew made by the MoM Brew Crew! More information to follow. Come ready for fun, fellowship, and great food and drink! Registration is \$35 per person.



# Coming Up at St. James

## IN OUR PRAYERS:

David Blackwell, Tom Butler,  
Rick Coombs, Janet Jones,  
Van King, Roger Powell



## PRAYER TEAM

Looking for a way to support others? The Confidential Prayer Group of dedicated St. James parishioners who offer daily intercessory prayer for the needs and concerns of members and friends of St James Parish. All information is held in the strictest confidence. Anyone who feels called to the ministry of confidential prayer, please contact the Rev. Cheryl Brainard for more information.

## LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF & LOSS

1st & 3rd Mondays | 5:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor or on Zoom

When we face an ending or a loss, we can experience grief in a number of ways and one size does not fit all. Come join us as we take this journey together. Reach out to the Rev. Cheryl Brainard at [cheryl@stjamesp.org](mailto:cheryl@stjamesp.org) for more information.

## MORNING PRAYER

Mon. -Fri. | 8:00-8:30 a.m. | Zoom

Come join us for the Daily Office of Morning Prayer! Each weekday on Zoom with gather for a time of prayer and fellowship. If you would like a direct link sent to your email each morning, please reach out to Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org)

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Please contact Mr. John at [music@stjamesp.org](mailto:music@stjamesp.org) if you have any questions!

Session Two (Fall of 2022):

- November 9
- November 16
- No Choir Nov. 23
- November 30
- December 7
- December 14

Presentation: Christmas Eve | 4:00 PM Service

## CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wednesdays | 7:00-8:30 p.m. | Choir Room

Choir practice always begins with vocal warm ups peppered with encouraging quips and anecdotes from Choir Director John Sullivan. As a transition from warmups we sing through the hymns for the upcoming Sunday to polish up the phrasing and four-part harmonies. Then we work on our parts for upcoming anthems. But hold onto your seats, because the rapid fire musical quotes and jokes will delight you and keep you ready for more singing! Remember when you sing for church you pray twice. And the Lord says make a joyful noise!! So come join the fun in the choir room—we always have an extra chair!

If you are interested in learning more about joining the St. James Choir, please reach out to [music@stjamesp.org](mailto:music@stjamesp.org).

## SAVE THE DATE: ST. JAMES CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 18 | 9:00 a.m. Service

One of our favorite St. James traditions is scheduled for Sunday, December 18th. Make plans to be in town, you won't want to miss this wonderful story of the Nativity. Stay tuned for how to register your child for participation!





# Meeting the St. James Choir

We see and hear the St. James Choir each week, and we might know the faces. With this Grapevine issue we continue to introduce the members of the choir, beginning with those who have served longest, and who share what it's like to lift our praises to the glory of God and in service to St. James Parish by means of a very special ministry.

**CARLOTTA HOWELL**- After dating my High School sweetheart for over 7 years, David and I were married in Raeford N.C. in 1980. I was raised in the Episcopal Church, having been born less than 100 miles from Raeford, in Florence S.C. As our careers led us to Southern Virginia, Clarksville, on Kerr Lake, we were members of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Clarksville, Virginia. For over thirty-six years I enjoyed singing in our Church Choir. My love for singing flourished in my school Chorus and Chorale in Junior High and Hoke County High School in Raeford, N.C., where we successfully competed statewide. After retiring as a Pharmacist for CVS Health for over 38 years of practice in North Carolina and Virginia, I began to realize there was something missing in our lives in Clarksville. That missing link was Family. Our desire to move to Wilmington, N.C. in December 2022, was to be closer to our Family and re-connect with our Carolina Coastal Plain roots. Upon arriving, we new our Top Priority was to find a new Episcopal Church and Church Family. I was of course hoping and praying to be able to sing in the Church Choir. Wow did we Hit the Jackpot! Upon visiting St. James Episcopal Church, we immediately found our new Episcopal Church Home! With the warm welcome from parishioners and clergy that Sunday last December, and after hearing the Choir beautifully sing, we immediately expressed our desire to join St. James Episcopal Church. The very next morning, John Sullivan, Choir Director/Director of Music, called me and invited me to come to Choir Practice that Thursday evening. The rest is history. I Love being a member of St. James Choir, singing with such a talented group of people. But most of all, I Love experiencing and spreading the Love of God with them through music. It is truly a Blessing and a Privilege to Make a Joyful Sound with the St. James Episcopal Church Choir under the direction of beloved John Sullivan.



**ART STEPHAN**- Hello, my name is Art Stephan. I am a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church. I grew up in Queens, NY, and there I was a member of Grace Episcopal Church. I sang in their junior choir as a kid, and then their senior choir as an adult. I was fortunate to attend NYC's Music and Art High School and had the opportunity to sing with NYC's All-City High School Chorus. When I moved to Manhattan's Upper East Side, I sang with the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church choir for several years. When I moved to midtown, I switched to St. Thomas Church where I was fortunate to listen to the church's professional and choir school choirs. While in Manhattan, I sang with the New York Choral Society for over a decade. The society performed in Carnegie Hall twice yearly. Work, moving to Long Island, marriage, and subsequent child-rearing responsibilities caused me to move into an era of vocal music silence that lasted about 25 years. In 2018, my wife and I retired and moved to Wilmington. This change provided the opportunity to begin to sing again. I auditioned and was accepted by the Cape Fear Chorale soon after our move. During a conversation with Amy Luck, a CFC member, I mentioned that I was Episcopalian. She asked if I sang with a church choir, and I said no. She suggested that I check out her church, St. James Parish. I did and here I am. I feel fortunate to have found a wonderful new spiritual home, a great choir, and a wonderful parish family.

**TOM TULLY**- I found my way to the Choir at St. James after when Brandon and me moved our family to Wilmington in 2018. My musical journey began with the Children's Choir at St. Anne's Episcopal in Atlanta and with the Atlanta Boy Choir. I sang in high school in Atlanta and in College at Presbyterian College. I also sang in the choirs of Episcopal churches in Rome, GA and Augusta, GA when I lived there. I continue to feel called through music because I believe that God gives us all certain gifts. What we do with those gifts is our small way of acknowledging and appreciating those gifts that we have been given. Music also has a way of touching the deepest part of my faith and emotion.



# Outreach & Community

## OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT: THE PARISH SHOP

Have you stopped by the Parish Shop recently? We want to remind you of it as the holidays approach! Karen Clark does an incredible job keeping the shop full of gifts, ranging from books for children and adults to jewelry to new products made right here in North Carolina! The shop also has soups, casserole, and ham in the freezer. It's easy to swing by and grab something for dinner! You could even grab some for your neighbors!

The Parish Shop's goal is to not only serve St. James members, but also help the community. With the help of our congregation, the shop has been able to donate \$30,000 over the past 19 years it's been open!

Shopping there is a convenient and wonderful way to give to the community, all while buy something your loved one will like!



## MEALS ON WHEELS

Did you know that every 5th Sunday of the month, St. James does Meals on Wheels? Each cycle, we need volunteers to deliver meals to the elderly and shut-ins! Anyone willing to drive a route, cook, pack, or bring cookies or tangerines is greatly appreciated. If you are interested in cooking or providing supplies when the time comes, please reach out so we can send the recipe for the meal. Reach out to Missy Pretlow at [bpretlow@me.com](mailto:bpretlow@me.com) to learn more!



## ANGEL TREE - ADOPT AN ANGEL

St. James is adopting 150 children this year; 75 from Community Boys & Girls Club and 75 from Brigade Boys and Girls Club. We ask that you spend \$25-\$35 on each child. If you do not want to adopt a child you can donate and we will use the funds to buy the remaining gifts. Any additional funds not used for our 150 children will be split 50/50 between the two clubs: donate online!

The Angel Tree tags have been picked up and will be displayed and available for adoption this Sunday, November 6, 2022

- Gifts will be due back to St. James Parish on or before Nov 27th, unwrapped, with their Angel Tree tag secured to the gift.
- Both Clubs will pick up the unwrapped gifts from St. James on Tuesday, Nov 29th.
- The Clubs will have an annual gift-wrapping party on Friday, Dec 2nd and Saturday, Dec 3rd. Gifts will be given to the children the week of Dec. r 5th.
- Signup/Volunteer: Parish members can sign up to volunteer at the St. James Angel Tree Table through the Sign-up Genius



## MEMORIAL GARDEN WORKDAY

*Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 2:00 PM | St. James Parish*

The St. Francis Garden Guild will be changing out our Garden with fall annuals on Sunday, November 13th from 2-5pm. We're looking for anyone interested in helping to plant and clean up the Garden, no gardening experience necessary! Please bring your own refreshments, gloves, a heavy-duty trash bag, and something to dig with, like a hand trowel. If you'd like to learn more about how you can help maintain the St Francis Garden, please contact Kevin Hicks at [khicks@alumni.wfu.edu](mailto:khicks@alumni.wfu.edu).





## 2SHARE

Most of us, take for granted items such as a bed, a kitchen table, and living room furniture. Yet for many in our community, such "basics" of everyday life are often out of reach. Within five miles of wherever you happen to live in the Greater Wilmington area, children will probably be sleeping tonight on something other than a bed and could well be sleeping on the floor. People who are finally able to get a roof over their heads do not always have the means to furnish a dwelling with basic furniture. For the past four years the 2SHARE ministry has worked to turn dwelling places into real homes for those in need.

## FAMILY BREAKFAST RECRUITING

*Sunday Mornings | 8:30-9:30 AM | Great Hall*

We are looking for some Team Leaders to help us take on this wonderful ministry. Teams arrive at 7:30 a.m and are asked to supply whatever food they want to serve. If you are interested in being a Team Leader, or simply joining a team, please reach out to Web Cowden at [web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com](mailto:web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com)

## EPISCOPOSSE WOMEN'S GROUP

*November 30 | 7:00 p.m. | Details to Come*

The ladies of the BreadBreakers group invite you to join us as we discuss the Don't Mom Alone podcast and how to focus on God as we face the day-to-day challenges of life. Join together in prayer and connect with other women! Contact Leslie Jarrett ([Leslie.H.Jarrett@gmail.com](mailto:Leslie.H.Jarrett@gmail.com)) if you have any questions!

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

*Veterans Day* - Our St. James Parish office will be closed on Friday, November 11th in observance of Veterans' Day.

*Thanksgiving* - The Parish office will be closed Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25 for Thanksgiving Break.

If you have questions please reach out to [admin@stjamesp.org](mailto:admin@stjamesp.org).



## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

*EfM: Education for (lay) Ministry | Starting January, 2023*

The Education for Ministry (EfM) daytime group will begin a new year in January, 2023. We meet Tuesday mornings from 9 - 11:30am. We have several openings and friends from all churches are welcome. EfM is a 4-year study that only asks for a yearly commitment. This program has been provided through the School of Theology in Sewanee, TN for over 40 years. It enables participants to explore and deepen their Christian belief through study of the Bible, Christian history, and theology. We examine our own beliefs and reflect on applying scripture to our everyday lives. Our goal is to deepen our faith and to discover how to express it in service to others.

*What EfM has meant to our participants:*

- "one of the most meaningful and exciting activities I have participated in"
- "the thoughtfully planned 4 year program was a wonderfully fulfilling part of my life"
- "a chance to connect with other Christians in a loving and welcoming environment"
- "changed me through the small group experience that helped me to know God personally through Christian community and prayer"
- "class times are full of lively discussions as we explore our faith together"
- "a luxury to spend 2 ½ hours a week devoting time to my own spiritual journey"

To learn more about EfM and the Tuesday morning program please contact:

Rachel Pace (H) 350-0248 or (M) (910) 612-9777

[rppace@hotmail.com](mailto:rppace@hotmail.com) | Visit [www.sewanee.edu/EFM](http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM)

# Service Opportunities

If you are interested in learning how you can serve with our church family, there are tons of great ways to get involved! Here are a few ministry opportunities with immediate availability to serve (aka, we need you):

- |                      |                 |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| • Lectors/Readers    | • Altar Guild   | • Sunday School Teacher     |
| • Acolytes/Crucifers | • Ushers        | • Office Volunteer Ministry |
| • Greeters           | • Wedding Guild | • Parish Shop               |
| • PenPals            | • Chalice/LEM   | • St. James Choir           |



# Youth Opportunities



## ST. JAMES YOUTH AT OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

*Sunday, November 6, 2022 | 12:30 p.m.*

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) Wilmington area "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" will take place on Sunday, November 6, at Wrightsville Beach Park. Our St. James Youth and supporting community will be setting up at Wrightsville Beach Park between 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. to serve lunch to all the people who come (walkers, workers, families, curious bystanders, etc.) We'll be feeding guests HOT DOGS with all the "fixings." At 2:30 p.m. the displays, exhibits, music, etc. will be up and running. Hot Dogs will be served until they are gone. The walk begins at 5:00 and the exhibits and displays will be prior to the walk.

If you're interested in participating and have questions, reach out to Cookie at [Cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:Cookie@stjamesp.org)

## HAUNTED WILMINGTON

*Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 3:45 PM | Perry Hall Lot*

Get ready for spooky time with the St. James Youth Group. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us in the Perry Hall lot at 3:45 p.m. on Sunday, November 13th. Together we'll take part in one of our favorite fall activities, the Haunted Wilmington tour. Come enjoy stories from our backyard! Please invite your friends and make sure to register with Cookie by Thursday, November 10th so that we can plan transportation. Parents are invited to join the fun (and help us drive!).

## SHOP'N'HOP RETURNS!

*Sunday, December 4, 2022 | 5:00 PM | Market Street Walmart*

Join the St. James Youth Group as we shop for families in need this holiday season. We'll find the perfect surprises for the names on our list and then take some time to enjoy food and fellowship at the IHOP. If you're interested in participating and have questions, reach out to Cookie at [Cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:Cookie@stjamesp.org)

## STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY

*Wednesdays | 7:00 AM*

The Starbucks Bible Study is back in action! All St. James High School Youth are invited to join us each Wednesday for our weekly "Check In & BIBLE STUDY." Grab your favorite Starbucks Beverage & a tasty muffin or pastry. Enjoy this mid-week opportunity to talk, share, learn, listen, laugh and explore faith with friends. Questions? Talk to Web, Hughes, Catchie, Mae, Annie, Sophie, Will, Maggie, Robert, Palmer, Cameron, Frank, Henry, Luke, LucyWest, Cecilia, Averette, Jane, Kim, Caroline, Ginny, Marietta, Jennifer, Phillip, Cookie. Hope YOU will JOIN US! If you're interested in participating and have questions, reach out to Cookie at [Cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:Cookie@stjamesp.org)

## VIRGINIA CREEPER RESCHEDULE

*With Hurricane Ian on the way, the Virginia Creeper Trail Youth Trip has been postponed.*

Please keep an eye out for future communication about this event. We hope to have a date to share soon.

## FALL CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

*November 18-20, 2022 | Trinity Center*

FALL CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS is a weekend event designed to respond to the unique challenges and concerns of young people in grades 6-8. It was created by adults and young people to help participants grow in their love of themselves, others, and for Jesus Christ.

Finding where we fit in can be hard sometimes. This year at fall conference we will talk about how we are all perfect pieces, created by God and empowered with gifts to create a beautiful puzzle together.

Join Middle Schoolers from around the diocese for this weekend of fellowship, friendship, worship and time at Trinity Center. Cookie Cantwell and Jane Rippy will be accompanying our Middle Schoolers to this Conference. During the weekend, participants meet peers from across the diocese, enjoy skits, listen to talks, and participate in small group activities and discussions. We will focus on Romans 8:28 and how we are all made perfectly to fit in God's puzzle.

Register now on the Go to the Diocese of East Carolina Webpage. Look for "EVENTS".





## INVITING DROP-OFF HELPERS!

Need a smile in the morning? Want to meet new people? Drop-off helper is the perfect job for you. Sign up for a day or come often. We would love to have you join us for the best job around. Smiles are guaranteed! Email Ansley Trask at [dayschool.director@stjamesp.org](mailto:dayschool.director@stjamesp.org) to learn more!

## THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

The 3's and 4's will soon start preparing for the Thanksgiving Program, which will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd at 11:00 in the Great Hall. Following the program, our SJDS traditional Thanksgiving Feast is back! Please be on the lookout for our sign-up genius to help out with this heartwarming tradition. The toddlers and twos should be picked up at 11:30 that day to join the feast! Gobble, gobble!



## SAVE THE DATE: ST. NICK AT ST. JAMES

**Saturday, December 3rd | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
The SJDS St. Nick Event will take place on **Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00-12:00.**  
**More details will be released soon! Think hot chocolate bar, Christmas crafts, and a visit with St. Nick!**



## REASONS WE ARE THANKFUL!

Happy November! This time of year reminds me to slow down and remember all of God's blessings around me.

### Top 22 reasons I am thankful:

1. Sara Anlyan and her love of play and animals.
2. Marsha Bonner and her ability to provide calm with her yoga skills.
3. Jan Bridgers and her artistic eye that I marvel over.
4. Kristie Brown and her sense of humor.
5. Stephanie Burney and her storytelling abilities and listening ears.
6. Mitzi Daughtry and her wisdom for fashion and four-year-olds.
7. Courtney Easley and her ability to remain calm and focused in a sea of two-year-olds.
8. Gail Fisher and her excitement and love of her toddler babies.
9. Ashley Gibson and her willingness to always pitch in.
10. Jordan Hooper and her generous heart.
11. Shannon Leas and her organization and attention to detail.
12. Allen Lee and her wonderful ideas and calm spirit.
13. Shannon Lockamy and her passion for teaching in the classroom.
14. Elizabeth Murchison and her willingness to try new things.
15. Anne Norris and her gift of words and prayers.
16. Carla Schiffel and her big smile and medical knowledge.
17. J.K. Thomas and her creativity that she is willing to share with those around her.
18. Sue Williams and her ability to connect with those around her.
19. Patti Whitley and her humor and grace.
20. St. James Parish Staff and Day School Families for your kind, welcoming spirit. It feels like coming home going to work every day.
21. My family and their love.
22. God from whom all blessings flow.

Thank you for sharing your children with us! It is a gift we cherish every day.

Warmly,

Ansley Trask, Director, SJDS  
[director.dayschool@stjamesp.org](mailto:director.dayschool@stjamesp.org)

ST. JAMES PARISH

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# ST. JAMES PARISH



EST. 1729

Rector **The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.**

Associate Rector **The Reverend Cheryl Brainard**

Associate Rector **The Reverend Joseph "Gray" Hodsdon**

Organist Choir Master **John Sullivan** | Parish Administrator **Florence Ellen Cowden**

Parish Coordinator **Bill McKenzie** | Finance Administrator **Maria Hollopeter**

Director of Youth Ministries **Cookie Cantwell**

Day School Director & Children's Ministries Coordinator **Ansley Trask**

Communications Director **Erin Becker** | Registrar **Marybeth Tallman**

Facilities Manager **Wes Clewis**

## VESTRY

Senior Warden **Steve Thomas**

Junior Warden **Leslie Jarrett**

Treasurer **Mike Brown** | Clerk **Diane MacAskill**

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

Class 2023: **Kay Dougherty** | **Tom Hackler** | **Leslie Jarrett** | **Al Marr**

Class 2024: **Rachel Colonna** | **Web Cowden** | **Alex Murchison** | **Barbara Whitesides**

## Contact Us

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Visit us online: [www.stjamesp.org](http://www.stjamesp.org) | Facebook: [facebook.com/stjamesp](https://facebook.com/stjamesp) | Instagram: [@StJamesParish](https://instagram.com/StJamesParish)