

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

THANKSGIVINGS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT ST. JAMES

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

AND MORE!



PARISH RETREAT 2023

HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

8:00 a.m. - RITE I

9:10 a.m. - Faith Formation

10:15 a.m. - RITE II & Livestream



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

SABBATH EXPLORATION

2nd & 4th MONDAYS | 5:00 p.m.

Group Member Home

T

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Tuesdays | 9:00 a.m.

Register for Location

W

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

SELECT WEDNESDAYS | 8:00 a.m.

2018 South 16th Street

GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY

WEDNESDAYS | 9:00 a.m.

Stephen Ministry Room

HEBREWS FOR EVERYONE

WEDNESDAYS | 11:00 a.m.

Graham Parlor or via Zoom

HOLY EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAYS | 12:10 p.m.

Celebrating Holy Communion

T

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Thursdays | 6:30 p.m.

Register for Location

CHOIR PRACTICE

Thursdays | 7:00 p.m.

St. James Choir Room



From the Rector

*Let each of you look not to your own interests,
but to the interests of others.
Philippians 2:4*

Dear Friends,

When Jesus was young, growing up with his family in the town of Nazareth, another faithful Jewish boy - whose name was Saul - was growing up in a Roman town named Tarsus (now in southern Turkey). Importantly, we know him today by his newer name of Paul.

Paul never met Jesus before the crucifixion and resurrection. It's not hard to argue, though, that Paul has become a more influential apostle than any of those who walked with Jesus during his earthly lifetime. Amazingly, none of that would have been expected if you had known Saul earlier in this life, as an ardent and deadly serious professional, principally dedicated to tracking down brand new Christians who had fled Jerusalem and arresting them.

Then, we could say, Jesus happened to him.

Paul's story is a timeless affirmation that there is redemption for all of us. Indeed, two thousand years later, Paul's writings hold some of the most poignant and meaningful passages of all our faith.

During this fall's Wednesday evening program, we are immersing ourselves in Paul's letter to the very first Christian church in Europe - that being Philippi (in northern Greece). Like so many of his letters, here Paul reminds all of his readers be humble in their actions, firm in their convictions and to lead with love. With a heart towards Jesus Christ, Paul calls on all of us to remain deeply rooted in the unearned, undeserved and literally life-changing grace of God.

November has arrived. All Saints' Day offers an opportunity to remember all of the saints of God's kingdom, known and unknown, and especially those we love who have gone on before us. Then we move into a familiar season of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Wonderfully, our parish family has much for which to be thankful. On Sunday, November 19th, we will celebrate the success of our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, with the hope that all have chosen to participate. During that morning, we will also celebrate the ministry of our laity through Community of Hope International, and also enjoy a special presentation by our St. James Children's Choir. That day of gratitude for the love of God will continue, as our youth offer and lead our traditional and beloved thanksgiving service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel (5:00 pm). All are warmly welcomed!

As we live into our joy, we also remain so aware of the immense difficulties in our world this day, and as we pray for all who are innocently caught in the violence and strife, let us not turn inward. Rather, with Paul's encouragement and admonishment, let us reveal our gratitude and thanks by turning even more towards the needs of those around us.

We are an extraordinarily blessed parish family. Together, in this season, let us look not to our interests, but to the interests of others.

Faithfully, and in Christ's name,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phillip+". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

Vestry Corner

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." -
Psalm 107*

Our 2023 Stewardship Campaign is scheduled to end later this month. If you haven't been able to complete this important responsibility, please consider it a high priority. A 2024 Draft Budget has been prepared. In order to reach the priority goals set by the Vestry, a 10% increase over last year's pledges is needed. We can do this but we need everyone's participation. Many thanks to this year's committee for their faithful work.

Parishioner activity around our SJP campus and in our community remains strong. The Newcomer program is off to a great start with the Newcomer Mingle and continues with three more events in November. The Wednesday night dinner and programs have begun and will continue through November 15th. MoM remains active with service to St. Mary's - Burgaw, A Safe Place and the Good Shepherd Center. This month, MoM will also start serving at the Sgt. Eugene Ashley Center for homeless veterans. Sunday morning breakfast continues to be well attended. It is a great way to start your Sunday morning before Sunday School, Christian Formation and Worship. The Out of Darkness Community Walk is Sunday, November 5th. This is a wonderful support opportunity for both youth and adults. If you have missed going to Mount Lebanon Chapel, a special Thanksgiving service will be held at MLC on Sunday, November 19th at 5:00pm. Lastly, our volunteer participation in the Unity Build with Habitat for Humanity will kick-off in early December. Please look in your weekly Grapevine updates for more information on times and locations for all these activities.

The engineering drawings for the Great Hall Steps replacement are complete and are expected to be submitted this week to the City for permitting. Upon permitting, a construction schedule will be determined between the Contractor and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, with input from the Clergy and staff.

We are so blessed in our community to be somewhat shielded from the serious problems currently facing the world. While we may feel unable to make a positive impact on the global problems, we can certainly offer our time and resources to help those in need closer by. It is God's commandment that we treat others as we would have them treat us. Remember, every journey begins with a first step.

God's Blessings to all. May you feel His Peace.

Leslie Jarrett (Senior Warden) and Alex Murchison (Junior Warden)

OUT OF THE DARKNESS WEEKEND AT ST. JAMES PARISH

ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 5, 2023

9:10 AM | ADULT & YOUTH COMBINED FAITH FORMATION HOUR

Join us for a special combined Faith Formation hour inspired by and led in collaboration with our young people as they prepare to serve at the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention walk.

LUMINARIES OF REMEMBRANCE

Once again, our St. James Youth Ministries hosts a Luminary fundraiser. Each person who donates will have a LUMINAIRY bag with a name on it at the Walk. 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/oootd23/

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 at *New Hanover High School*. At 12:30 p.m., our St. James Youth and supporting community will be setting up 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. The walk begins at 3:00 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.

STEWARDSHIP 2024

Dear Parish Family,

I've been asked to write the "Places" component of the Stewardship appeal this year.

I have been thinking about the place that is St. James. I have thought of all the meals I have eaten prepared in the Great Hall and Perry Hall kitchens. I have thought of years of Wednesday afternoons in the choir room, Sundays in the choir loft and time spent on the playground with the members of the choir. I think of times I have spent at the copier or stuffing envelopes in the Bacon House. I think of Sundays I spent in various Sunday School rooms with children learning, laughing and playing. I've spent nights in the church with youth groups from St. James and others on mission trips. I can feel the cold of those mornings worshipping at Mt. Lebanon Chapel during Covid times as well as the heat of worshipping there in the summer while watching and listening to the ospreys and little children chattering during church. I have thought of all of the Sundays watching the light come through the stained glass windows, sitting in years-old pews, walking on age old floors and listening to the sound of our Parish worshipping on Sunday morning. There are so many places that matter at St. James. Where are yours?

St. James is like a really comfortable old home to me. But as we all know, old homes require a lot of work and upkeep. Heating units wear out, stairs get unsafe, kitchen walls start to crack and peel, and roofs always seem to leak. None of us would want or allow a very dear old home in our family to fall into disrepair or dispute the need for more maintenance. Our physical plant is no exception. We will always need to be taking care of this place, this old home to so many.

We all know home repair is not cheap. There are some specific repairs that need to be done on our campus that demand extra funds to make possible (the Market Street stairs to name one). There is routine maintenance that has been neglected at times. Our Strategic Plan encourages us to make better and wider use of our property. To meet this objective, we will need to keep our property safe and clean. Money again. In discussions at our Vestry meetings, we have committed to making repairs that are lasting - not Band-aids. We need to work on our old home and make it shine a little brighter. This will take more money.

So I am asking you today to consider this place that is St. James. This place we call our "home." Consider giving generously to help us continue to have a place we are proud of and one we want to share with others. A place that says welcome to all. A place that says welcome to you.



Thank you.

Barbara Whitesides

St. James Vestry



MEET THE 2024 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS



Allen Trask, III



Kristine Montalto

MEMBERS



Mary McLean Evans



David Jarrett



Lin Spears



PLEDGE NOW

Faith Formation in November

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:10 A.M.

DISCIPLES' CLASS - Meets in the Lippitt Room or via Zoom

The Disciples Class was established some years ago for those who seek to know more about what it means to truly be a disciple of Jesus. This fall, we invite everyone to join us in the Lippitt Room on Sunday mornings for presentations and discussions centering on "Living in the Spirit." Our studies will focus on subjects to include the "Fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5: 22), the Gifts of the Spirit (I Corinthians 12: 4-11), Our Call to Ministry (Matthew 25: 35 - 40), and The Way of Love (Presiding Bishop Curry's practices for a Jesus-centered life). We will also take time to explore what it means to listen to the Holy Spirit and to keep the Sabbath. The Disciples Class will also offer sessions focused on other timely subjects and seasons of the church, celebrating Advent and Lent.

- **November 5, 2023: Out of the Darkness Weekend**
 - Join us for a special combined Faith Formation hour inspired by and led in collaboration with our young people as they prepare to serve at the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention walk.
- **November 12, 2023: Living Our Faith through the Help Hub at the Harrelson Center**
 - As we contemplate our call to ministry, Sonja McFarland shares about the ministry of the Help Hub and how our parish family helps fuel the wonderful work being done right next door.
- **November 19, 2023: Living Into What Matters**
 - Join us in the Lippitt Room for a presentation by the Rev. Geoffrey Hoare. He will be sharing some thoughts on the Christian life and how to live into what truly matters.
- **November 26, 2023: Living Well Through Advent**
 - The Rev Cheryl Brainard leads us as we once again dive in to 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

Each of these Faith Discussions' sessions is a guided, round-table discussion around a set topic to be announced during the two weeks prior to each session, during which all have the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences, from greatest joys to deepest challenges. All adults are invited to join in these discussions as we explore how our faith in God meets our daily lives.

- **November 5** - Joining with our Disciples Class and Youth for Out of the Darkness program.
- **November 12**
- **November 19**
- **November 26**

**NOVEMBER 5,
2023:**

**Combined Faith
Formation -
Meets in the Great Hall**

JUBI-LATTE ROUNDTABLE - Meets in the Youth Room

On Sunday Mornings, our 6th-12th graders are invited to join us in the Youth Room 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.

IN THE MIDST OF MOVEMENT, A MOMENT OF STILLNESS: A PRELUDE TO ADVENT

Amidst the ebb and flow of daily life, which often feels like an unyielding gust of wind, a still point emerged during our St. James Sock Hop. Our IGNITE youth group, with a heartwarming mission, had gathered to collect socks for the homeless. As the nostalgic melodies played and we danced, a palpable joy filled the room. Together, we gathered over 400 pairs of socks, a testament to our collective spirit.

Yet, amidst the lively ambiance, a singular moment captured my attention. Turning away from my DJ console, I saw a young girl stepping away from the dancing crowd and the sounds of laughter. With a sincerity that touched my heart, she added her heartfelt prayer to our ever-growing tapestry at the prayer ribbon station. Rev. Phillip's recent sermons echoed in my mind, where he spoke of finding the divine in the ordinary. This young girl's poignant moment of reflection did just that, drawing a parallel to the profound tale of the humble birth of a child that we will soon celebrate.

Her simple act serves as a tangible connection to the mystery of the Incarnation. As we prepare for Advent and the remembrance of Christ's birth, I'm struck by the profound idea of the Divine manifesting as a vulnerable child. Two millennia ago, a momentous shift in the universe wasn't marked by grandeur but by the soft cry of an infant in Bethlehem. This girl's prayer is a contemporary reflection of that quiet, yet world-altering, moment.

As we embark on our Advent journey, I'll hold onto the memory of this young girl at the prayer station. In the midst of our busy lives, let's find moments to pause, to truly listen, and to see the divine in the simple, the depth in moments of stillness, and the sacredness in every genuine act.

On behalf of Cookie, Ethan, Wes, Sarah and the whole Ignite crew, we want to say THANK YOU for your amazing support of our program.

With Christ's Love,

Jonathan Graves



A NEW LAWN FOR THE BACON HOUSE



Over the last couple of weeks, St. James was blessed with the donation of a new front lawn for the Bacon House. The revitalization of the Bacon House Lawn was a needed update. We take a moment to say thank you to Bambi MacRae and Director of Facilities, Wes Clewis, for helping make this project happen! We are so grateful for our downtown campus and all of the beautiful outdoor spaces to gather together.

LET'S GET TOGETHER

WEDNESDAYS AT ST. JAMES

Fall Faith Formation is here! We invite you all to save your Wednesday nights for dinner, song, study, and fellowship
October 25th - November 15th.

- **5:45 - 6:15 PM:** Children's Choir Practice - Children's Chapel
- **6:00 - 7:00 PM:** Parish Dinner - Great Hall
- **7:00 - 8:00 PM:** Bible Study led by the Rev. Phillip Craig - Bishop Wright Room
- **7:00 - 8:30 PM:** Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Please contact Mr. John at music@stjamesp.org if you have any questions!

Fall 2023 Dates:

- October 25
- November 8
- November 1
- November 15

Presentation: November 19 at 10:15 a.m. Service

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

We invite you all to save your Wednesday nights for dinner and fellowship in the Great Hall. A donation of \$10 per person/ \$25 per family is requested to help support this wonderful family ministry. If you would like to volunteer to help host these wonderful dinners, please reach out to communications@stjamesp.org.

BOOK STUDY

Join the Rev. Phillip Craig in the Bishop Wright Room at 7:00 PM for a special study on Wednesday nights later this fall! This offering will occur in conjunction with the parish dinners. Stay tuned for details.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Following dinner, the St. James Choir will meet to rehearse for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in learning more about joining the St. James Choir, please reach out to music@stjamesp.org.



WEEKDAY 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.

LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF & LOSS

1st & 3rd Mon. | 5:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor or 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 for information.

SABBATH EXPLORATION GROUP

2nd & 4th Mon. | 5:00 p.m. | Group Member Home

Find rest, renewal and delight in our busy lives by the practice of keeping the Sabbath Holy. As Christians we can renew this ancient tradition to find the fullness and balance God meant for us to have in our busy and productive lives that sometimes seem empty. We will explore what this Sabbath time means from a Christian perspective and how to move into the rhythm of it using simple practices. The group will meet every 2nd & 4th Monday from 5:00 p.m. till 6:00 p.m., starting September 25th for six sessions, ending on December 11. Please make a commitment to the group to attend every session if possible. Register by calling the church office. If you have questions, please contact Charlotte Davis or Rev. Cheryl Brainard.

HEBREWS BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays | 11:00 AM | Graham Parlor or via Zoom

Join Susan Ingle and the Rev. Cheryl Brainard for a Wednesday Bible study focused on the book of Hebrews. We will meet in the Graham Parlor or via Zoom on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. through November 15th. Have questions about this offering? Please reach out to Cheryl at cheryl@stjamesp.org.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesdays | 12:10 PM | St. James Chapel

Join us in the St. James Chapel for a Noonday Eucharist. Offered each week throughout the year. We especially encourage you to attend on Wednesday, November 1st as we celebrate All Saints Day.

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES

VETERANS' DAY MORNING

PRAYER ON ZOOM

Friday, November 10, 2023 | 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.

VESTRY MEETINGS

November 13 | 5:15 p.m. | Graham Parlor

Our Vestry gathers on the second Monday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Graham Parlor to discuss the business of the parish and to hear from our parish family. These meetings are open and members of St. James Parish are welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for those considering serving on the Vestry to get a feel for the work of the Vestry in our parish.

SAVE THE DATE: HYMN SING

Friday, November 17th | 2:30 PM | Kempton

We're very excited to bring back one of our favorite fall traditions. You're invited to join members of the St. James Choir for Hymn Sing at the Kempton. Plan to arrive at 2:15 p.m. at the Kempton (located to the right of Brightmore). We'll share a time of song and celebration with the residents. All voices welcome! Have a question or maybe a favorite hymn you'd like to make sure we sing together? Please contact John Sullivan at music@stjamesp.org.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Coleman Burgess, Beth Cornelison,
Randy Coupland, Judi Davis,
Ruth Efird, Carolyn Jackson,
Pete Muller, Bitty Reich

PASTORAL CARE & HOSPITAL VISITS

If you or a loved one are admitted to the hospital or would like a pastoral care visit from our clergy, please don't hesitate to reach out the parish office to let us know. We would love to come and be with you in your time of need.

THANKSGIVING DAY MORNING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Thursday, November 23, 2023 | 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.

MEN ON A MISSION: THANKSGIVING OPPORTUNITY

Thursday, November 23, 2023 | 4:30-7:00 PM

On the 4th Thursday of each month, the St. James Men on a Mission serve dinner at the Good Shepherd Center. This month, that just so happens to fall on Thanksgiving! We have a few open spots to serve remaining. If you would like to join the MoM Squad on Thanksgiving, please reach out to Brian McMerty at bmcmerty@arris.partners.

A SUNDAY OF THANKS

At St. James, we have much to give thanks for! On Sunday, November 19th, we'll be offering special thanks for several occasions:

- The wrap-up of our 2024 Stewardship Campaign.
- A presentation by our St. James Childrens' Choir.
- The Commissioning of a new class of Community of Hope International members.
- A thanks for our 4th and 5th Grade Students and their leadership.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT MT. LEBANON CHAPEL

Sunday, November 19 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Save the date! our St. James Youth will be leading us in a special time of thanks-giving 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!

A SOMBER ANNIVERSARY

From the Committee For Racial Unity

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the Wilmington massacre on Friday, November 10. There are several community events to learn more about the coup and its impacts on the Wilmington community that persist today as well as opportunities to engage in dialogue about how we as a community respond to this history and its impact, even today. On our website (stjamesp.org/racialhealing/) is a list of such opportunities starting October 18 provided by the New Hanover County- Office of Diversity & Equity.

COOKBOOK UPDATE

The St. James Cookbook Project is officially underway! We are currently in the layout and basic editing phase. Thank you so much to all who have submitted recipes. We hope to have pages available for submitters to review in the coming weeks. We do still need a couple more main dish and meat recipes. This means, that if you have a last minute recipe to add, its not too late! Please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org to see how you can submit your recipe or help support the Cookbook Project.

SAVE THE DATE! EPIPHANY - MINI RETREAT: WATCHING & WAITING

January 13 | 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room

What/Who is the light we are following? What gives us light for the journey and hope in the darkness? What gifts do we have to offer? Through poetry, Scripture, and prayer practices, we will explore these questions Epiphany gives us the opportunity to consider. This mini-retreat will be led by Mary McKnight and Linda Murchison. All are welcome! Please invite fellow parishioners, family, or friends of any age. Registration online now! Childcare is available with advance registration. Have questions about this special offering? Please reach out to Linda Murchison, lindamurchison65@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Veterans Day - Our St. James Parish office will be closed on Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans' Day.

Thanksgiving - The Parish office will be closed Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving Break.

If you have questions please reach out to communications@stjamesp.org.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS IS HERE

Sessions on November 9, & 16 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Newcomers, those who have been a part of our community for less than a year, are encouraged to be a part of our St. James Orientation for Newcomers (SJON) Series. Meet us in the Great Hall to learn about the Episcopal tradition, St. James Parish's mission and ministries, and meet the clergy. The SJON Series is a great way to connect with others in our parish family and find programs and ministries to suit your interests.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Please use the QR Code to register online or you may register by emailing communications@stjamesp.org or calling the church office.



NEWCOMER CAMPUS TOUR

Sunday, November 12 | 11:30 PM | Great Hall

Save the date! Sunday, November 12, Newcomers and "oldcomers" are invited to join us for the Downtown Campus Tour! Following the 10:15 a.m. service, at around 11:30 a.m. We'll gather in the Great Hall for a time of fellowship and we'll form smaller groups for campus tours. Guides will take you through the campus and introduce you to classrooms and meeting spaces. Childcare is available with advance registration. You may register on our website or by emailing Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org to let us know you plan to attend.

PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING - RETURNS IN FEBRUARY 2024

Our adult inquirer's class doubles as a confirmation class for those who are interested in joining the Episcopal Church. It's also a wonderful way to get to know other members of our parish and refresh your knowledge of the Episcopal tradition. Plan to Join us for evening sessions Feb 1- March 14, 5:30-7:15 PM.

ADVENT AT ST. JAMES

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Begins Nov. 29 | 11:00 AM | Graham Parlor or

ZoomThe Wednesday following Thanksgiving, our Wednesday Bible Study group will kick off their Advent Study. Please come as you are able.

QUIET REFLECTION IN DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec. 2 | 7:30 - 8:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

If your spirit longs for peace and rest, join us at Mt. Lebanon Chapel for a time of quiet and refreshment from 7:30-8:30 AM. You are welcome to come for as much or as little of the hour as you wish. There will be interludes of quiet piano music during the hour.

ADVENT MORNING - MINI RETREAT: WATCHING & WAITING

Saturday, Dec. 2 | 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room

Join us for a mini-retreat led by Linda Murchison and Rev. Mary McKnight. Through poetry, Scripture and prayer practices, we will explore waiting and watching for Jesus to be born again in our lives, our hearts, our communities, our world. Along with Mary, the mother of Jesus, we will wait, watch, make space, ponder, and anticipate anew what the birth of Jesus means.

OLD WILMINGTON BY CANDLELIGHT

Saturday, December 2, 2023 | 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 1:00-5:00 p.m.

This December, St. James will be joining the Latimer House and other historical downtown landmarks in opening our doors to our community for a candlelight tour. If you would like to learn more about this event or join us in greeting our neighbors, please email communications@stjamesp.org.

ADVENT WREATHS

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 9:10 a.m.

All are invited to join us for an inter-generational-faith-formation hour on the first Sunday of Advent. Together we will explore the history and meaning of the advent wreath, and each family will have the opportunity to produce their own wreath to take home. Please RSVP online to help us know what materials we need to prepare.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 3 | 5:00 p.m. | St. James Parish

Make plans to join us for Lessons and Carols featuring our St. James Choir! Together we'll welcome the season of Advent with song and scripture.

ST. JAMES CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 17 | 10:15 a.m. Service

The St. James Christmas Pageant is coming! We're so excited to share the Christmas story at the 10:15 a.m. Service on Sunday, December 17th, 2023. Have questions about the pageant? Please reach out to Ansley Trask at christianinformation@stjamesp.org.

As we prepare for this year's Christmas pageant, we invite all participating families to join us for the following dates.

- **Sunday, November 5th:** This is the final day to let us know your child(ren) will be participating in the pageant. Our Sunday School classes will be assigning key roles and introducing the Christmas story this week.
- **Sundays, November 12th & 19th:** Sunday School Focuses around the Birth of Jesus
- **Sunday, December 3rd:** Families are invited to participate in our Advent Wreath making event!
- **Sunday, December 10th:** AFTER THE 10:15 SERVICE, all of our participating children will meet in the church for pageant practice, costume pick-up, and lunch. Special instructions for pageant day will be included in your child's costume bag.
- **Sunday, December 17th:** Pageant day! Don't forget to pack your costumes.

A CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS

Friday, December 22 | 7:30 p.m. | St. James Parish

Save the date and make plans to join us for A Classical Christmas concert featuring some of our favorite vocalists and musicians.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. JAMES

Advent 2023 sees Christmas Eve and the Fourth Sunday of Advent fall on the same Sunday. As such, we'll be offering a unique service schedule on the 24th to help allow our Altar Guild and Seasonal Decorating Committee plenty of time to prepare for the afternoon and evening services.

Our Service Schedule for Christmas Eve 2023 will be:

- 9:00 AM - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Rite II in the Great Hall
- 4:00 PM - Christmas Eve Liturgy
- 6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Liturgy
- 10:30 PM - Christmas Eve Liturgy

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 25th, we will offer a Christmas Service at 10:30 a.m. both in-person and via our livestream. All are warmly welcome!

OUTREACH

OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT: A NOTE FROM RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Meals packaged at the 2023 Rise Against Hunger Outreach Event have shipped!

At this moment, healthy meals are on their way to a community in urgent need of nutrition. We're excited to share that destination with you. Meals you packaged are headed to Madagascar!

Madagascar, an island nation off the southeastern coast of Africa, is home to over 28 million people. The nation faces high rates of poverty, food insecurity and chronic malnutrition. Especially in the southern part of the country, low access to education, water scarcity and frequent natural disasters cause severe food insecurity. The Global Hunger Index, which assesses food insecurity based on indicators that measure undernourishment and undernutrition, categorizes Madagascar as having an "alarming" level of hunger.

To address some of the food security challenges that children, families, and communities in Madagascar face, Rise Against Hunger partners with organizations that support educational programs by providing meals to children at schools and early childhood development centers. This is a key part of Rise Against Hunger's Nourishing Lives pathway. In some cases, the food children receive at school will be the majority of the food they eat in a day. The meals you packaged will help ensure that children have access to the consistent nourishment they need to live healthy lives and successfully pursue their education.

NORTHSIDE FOOD CO-OP: OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Harvest Hangout - Nov. 17 | 5:00-8:00 PM

Our friends at Northside Food Co-Op are hosting a Harvest Hangout on November 17th, you're welcome to come bring some goodies to share and dine with our neighbors!

The Northside Food Co-Op is also hosting a Food Drive through the 14th to help support local families in need of food.

CAPE FEAR RIVER WATCH: SECOND SATURDAY CLEAN UPS

Saturday, November 11, 2023

St. James Outreach invites you to join us for the 2023 Second Saturday Cleanups with Cape Fear River Watch. The CFRW takes the month of July off for the clean ups so the next clean up will be on October 14, 2023 at 9:00 am. A location will be shared closer to the date. You can sign up on CFRW's website or contact David Joyner for more information (davidbilljoyner@gmail.com).

A SAFE PLACE LUNCHES

St. James Parish is actively a partner with A Safe Place. They focus on prevention, advocacy, and restoration to assist victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. One of the ways we assist ASP is by providing lunch for the twenty girls who visit the Outreach Center. If you are interested in providing a lunch for these girls please visit the MealTrain Sign Up. There are 8-10 opportunities per month! Have questions about this ministry? Reach out to Cathy Halligan at cathyfhalligan@gmail.com.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD COMING THIS FALL

St. James Parish, along with other community churches, committed to participate in the upcoming Habitat for Humanity Unity Build. Once the build dates have been published, we'll be sharing how to sign up to participate in the build. If you are unable to help physically but would like to still support the cause, the fundraising goal for the two homes is \$120,000 and there are several ways to give. To learn more about the Unity Build, please visit capefearhabitat.org/buildforunity/.

JOIN US IN OUR CAMPAIGN

FOOD DRIVE

SUPPORTING NORTHSIDE FOOD CO-OP
NOVEMBER 1 - 14, 2023

DROP LOCATION
926 N 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
M-F 9am-5pm

Most Needed Items:
Rice, macaroni, stuffing,
canned vegetables,
produce, canned
cranberry, gravy stock,
potatoes, desserts,
pecans, crispy onions,
marshmallows, cheese



Lighthouse FILMS

Northside FOOD CO-OP

Contact
910.798.8811
info@lighthousefilms.com

ANGEL TREE - ADOPT AN ANGEL

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern North Carolina's Christmas Gift program is in full flight! This year St. James Parish has adopted 125 Angels. You can start picking up your Angel Tree tags on **Sunday, Nov. 5** outside of the church service. We have such generous hearts at St. James! We would like to remind everyone to please make sure to keep within the spending limit to help prevent accidental disparities between what each child receives. If you'd like to give more, please consider adopting additional children.

This year's Christmas Gift Logistics:

- Each gift tag has a spending limit of \$25.00 - \$35.00.
- Gifts need to be delivered back to St. James by Sunday, December 3rd.
- Gifts need to be unwrapped, separated in grocery bags and have the Christmas Gift tag attached when returning.
- Each gift tag will list what the top requested gift items are for that gender/age group.
- We are more than happy to accept monetary donations and do the shopping for you, if you would like to do that please write "Angel Tree" in the memo line of your check.



SEWING OPPORTUNITY!

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Love to sew? We are in need of your talented hands! Our St. James Children's Pageant needs some new Angel Costumes. We're looking for a simple white tunic for children size 3t to 7. We would need to have the completed costumes in hand by December 3rd so we have time to get them to the appropriate children for the dress rehearsal and then the pageant on December 17th! If you are interested in helping to create a costume or two, please email christianformation@stjamesp.org and let us know!

MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER

Tues., December 5th & 19th 2023, 4:30 PM

Thursday, December 28th 2023, 4:30 PM

The MoM Squad continues to serve meals to the homeless on the first and third Tuesday of each month! The Good Shepherd Center appreciates our efforts and we've added an additional opportunity to serve! Men on a Mission will now serve on the fourth Thursday of each month as well! Please let us know if you can serve. Shifts run from 4:30 PM to about 7 PM. The guys who have already done this found it to be a very simple, yet highly rewarding, experience. If you can stand for 45 minutes, you can do this! Reach out to Brian McMerty to volunteer! (bmcsmerty@arris.partners)

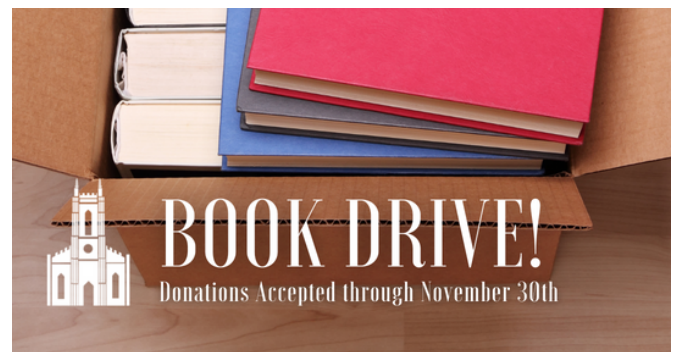
BOOK DRIVE

Donations accepted through November 30th

Through November 30, all are invited to participate in a book drive benefiting the Good Shepherd Center and the local domestic violence shelter.

The domestic violence center, in particular, is in need of new or gently-used books for children and young adults, they are also in need of kids and adult coloring books and materials. Books for all ages are welcome!

You may donate by placing your books in the donation boxes around campus on Sunday mornings or by bringing them to the church office during office hours. If you have questions about the drive or a potential donation, please reach out to event organizer, Cecilia Parker at ceciliaparker97@gmail.com.



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 |

ENGAGE MEET OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY AT JIMBOS

Nov. 22 | 8:00 AM | Jimbo's - 1529 College Road

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving, our youth and advisors are invited to join us for a special Bible Study gathering at Jimbo's. Have questions about this offering? Contact Cookie at Cookie@stjamesp.org or Jane Rippy at janerippy@yahoo.com. We hope to see you there!

SKI TRIP 2024

Deadline to Register: December 27

Make plans to join us from January 25-28, 2024 for the Annual St. James Youth Winterplace Ski Trip! You won't want to miss this unforgettable experience. Be a part of the fun, fellowship, and growth. We'll travel together to Winterplace and step away from the businesses of the everyday. Join us as we learn more about the amazing God who loves us. Registration online! Scholarships are available. Have questions? Please reach out to Cookie Cantwell at cookie@stjamesp.org.

DIOCESAN OFFERING: AMAZED & ASTONISHED

Join us on Zoom: November 7, 14 & 21.

Navigating the years young people are teenagers can be both amazing and astonishing. These years are also challenging and maddening. Using the story of Jesus in the Temple from Luke's Gospel (2:41-52, NRSV), Susan Peek, LCSW will led parents and caregivers of 6th - 12th graders through helpful ways to faithfully adjust course and navigate healthier relationships them. Questions? Please contact Emily Gowdy Canady, Missioner for Lifelong Christian Formation for the Diocese of East Carolina. (egowdycanady@diocese-eastcarolina.org)

IGNITE! SUNDAY NIGHTS WITH ST. JAMES YOUTH

Sunday Evenings | 5:00 -6:30 PM | Bishop Wright Room

Youth Group on Sunday Evenings - get ready to "IGNITE!!" Ignite is not another program; it's an invitation..... An invitation to embark on a transformative journey to discover the unique SPARK that lies within you and to experience God's Love more fully. Beginning this Fall, this FUN and enriching journey will be immersed in music and into thought-provoking discussions, while partaking in fun activities. We will be meeting together each Sunday evening so mark your calendars now for Sunday Youth Gatherings of fun, Faith, friends and fellowship!

UPCOMING NOVEMBER DATES

- November 5 - Out of the Darkness Walk
- November 12 - IGNITE! Meets at St. James.
- November 19 - Youth Lead Thanksgiving Service at Mt. Lebanon Chapel.
- November 26 - No IGNITE! this week.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY AT STARBUCKS

7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks

The High School Bible Study at Starbucks is back in action. This High School Bible Study will be held each week unless it is a school holiday or a teacher workday. All young people are encouraged to join us for this "youth-led" experience where friendships are strengthened and sharing our thoughts are shared. It is a great time to ponder and to ask questions. It is a wonderful time to get to know the other young people and to hear the whisper of God. Questions? Contact Cookie at Cookie@stjamesp.org, Jane Rippy at janerippy@yahoo.com or Ginny Woodruff at Ginny@vcwoodruff.com. We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING NOVEMBER DATES

- November 8 - Meet at Starbucks!
- November 15 - Meet at Starbucks!
- November 22 - Special meeting at Jimbo's
- November 29 - Meet at Starbucks!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Here are a few important dates you'll want to know!

- November 30 - December 3 - Province IV Youth Ministries Leadership & Networking Meeting
- December 10 - Shop'N'Hop
- December 17 - Wrap'N'Yap
- January 25-28 - Ski Trip



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 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 21st 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!



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 warm bubbly smile and her love of play.
2. Marsha Bonner and her imagination which allows children to go on adventures in yoga.
3. Jan Bridgers and her ability to turn scapes into something worthy of a frame.
4. Kristie Brown and her excitement for learning, creating and chickens.
5. Stephanie Burney and her love of making learning come alive with messes, scissors and anything that requires lots of paper towels and her gift to connect with those around her.
6. Mitzi Daughtry and her kind spirit which puts children and parents at ease.
7. Courtney Easley and her gift of making people feel loved. She is always quick with a card.
8. Gail Fisher and her quick one liners and complete joy for her toddlers.
9. Ashley Gibson and her infectious laugh and ability to roll with the punches.
10. Jordan Hooper and her famous hugs and ability to capture a moment in pictures.
11. Ashley Kruse and her ability to bake yummy baked goods and her creativity.
12. Shannon Lockamy and her love of process art and travel adventures.
13. Christiana McCafferty and her extreme organization and label making ways.
14. Elizabeth Murchison and her jokes which bring a smile to my face and her get it done attitude.
15. Anne Norris and her love of Jesus, family and toddlers.
16. Carla Schiffler and her love for her family and gift of singing nursery rhymes to toddlers.
17. Liz Townsend and her gift for making stories come to life and her kind, gentle spirit.
18. Sue Williams who always has a kind word and smile for those around her.
19. Patti Whitley and the thumb kisses she gives her class.
20. St James Parish Staff and Day School Families for making each day better with your smiles and presence.
21. My family and their support, health and love.
22. God from whom all blessings flow.

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 & Choirmaster **John Sullivan**

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

Director of Youth Ministries **Cookie Cantwell**

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

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

Director of Facilities **Wes Clewis** | Sexton **Norman Southerland**

VESTRY

Senior Warden **Leslie Jarrett**

Junior Warden **Alex Murchison**

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

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

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

Class 2025: **Dean Gornto** | **David Joyner** | **Erin Trask** | **Brandon Candler Tully**

Contact Us

25 S. Third Street | Wilmington, NC 28401 | Office: 910-763-1628

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