

ST. JAMES NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER/SPRING 2024 SPECIAL EDITION

GRAPEVINE

GROWING TOGETHER IN LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOR



FAITH FORMATION

Winter & Spring at St. James Parish

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

RITE I WORSHIP

8:00 a.m. | *St. James Parish*

FAMILY BREAKFAST

8:30-9:10 a.m. | *Great Hall*

FAITH FORMATION HOUR

9:10-10:00 a.m. | *St. James Parish*

RITE II WORSHIP

10:15 a.m. | *St. James Parish*

IGNITE: SJP YOUTH

5:00 p.m. | *Youth Room*



MEALS ON WHEELS - DECEMBER 2023



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



MEN ON A MISSION: GOOD SHEPHERD

WEEKDAYS AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY-FRIDAY

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

MONDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Mondays | 11:00 AM | Register for Location

GRIEF MINISTRY: LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF & LOSS

*1st and 3rd Mondays | 5:00 PM | Zoom &
Graham Parlor*

TUESDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Tuesdays | 9:00 a.m. | Offsite

WEDNESDAYS

HIGH SCHOOL STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays | 7:00 a.m. | 16th St. Starbucks

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Wednesdays | 8:30-11:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room

WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: THE BIBLE & THE ARTS

Wednesdays | 11:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room

HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesdays | 12:10 p.m. | St. James Chapel

THURSDAYS

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Thursdays | 6:30 p.m. | Graham Parlor

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursdays | 7:00 p.m. | Choir Room

From the Rector

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

Dear St. James Parish Family,

Thanks to the pressures and expectations of our consumer culture, the season after Christmas at times feels a bit deflating. After all, for weeks there was work and dreams and anticipation toward a singular day. And then? As a young person sadly said to me the very next day: "Only 364 days until Christmas!" With that spirit, and if we aren't too careful, we might come to believe that Christmas is only 24 hours long.

Howard Thurman (1899 – 1981) was an American author, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader. As a prominent religious figure, he thought a great deal about the deeper meanings of Christmas, and how we as Christians are commissioned by the story of Christ's birth. Thurman wrote a poem to articulate his belief that our true work is only just beginning after Christmas.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

From "The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations" by Howard Thurman

Time and again, Jesus reminded his followers to model his life. To be brave and courageous. To be generous and selfless. To offer a tangible sign of hope to those who have lost their way or are broken hearted.

The celebration of Christmas allows us to ponder the fact that our beautiful, grand, and broken world has divine design. And that there is a God who not only set it all in motion, but then entered into it by making Himself poor and vulnerable in human form - a baby, no less. In the kingdom of this Prince of Peace, dignity and justice and love will prevail. As earthly citizens of this heavenly kingdom, we who follow Christ serve as nothing less than ambassadors of this Good News.

So, yes, the day known as Christmas is again behind us. However, our work has only just begun.

Faithfully,

Phillip+
Phillip



Vestry Corner

“For St. James Parish; that we might live into our calling, reaching out to all those who need our fellowship and communion; that we may be faithful to you and patient with one another; and that we might enjoy your Holy Spirit’s presence among us. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.”

Prayers of the People, Advent 2023

Dear St. James Parish Family,

A great big thanks to all involved in producing the Children’s Christmas Pageant. It is so enjoyable to see the beautiful smiling faces of our youngest parishioners and their proud parents and grandparents. Bravo!

Our many Christmas Eve Services were outstanding. The 4:00pm service was standing room only, with just under 700 in attendance, followed by more than 300 at the 6:00 service, and 150 at 10:30 pm. All together, well over 1,000 people heard the Good News of Christ’s birth on Christmas Eve. It was an AWESOME day in the life of SJP. It is inspiring to see so many families worshipping together. A special thanks to the Altar Guild, the Flower Guild, the lay leadership and our Clergy for all their hard work.

This month’s Vestry meeting marks the end of service for the 2023 class: Kay Dougherty, Tom Hackler, Leslie Jarrett, and Al Marr. Their faithful service witnessed the challenges of interim Rectors, the work of a Search Committee, the re-emergence of SJP from Covid, the completion of a new roof for the Sanctuary, and our new Rector. We congratulate you and thank you for the success of your work. In particular, a special thanks to our retiring Senior Warden, Leslie Jarrett. For many, the full-time duties of a veterinarian joined with the responsibilities of Senior Warden would be enough. Add to that the birth of Andrew (a first in the history of SJP Senior Wardens) and you have a jam-packed year.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th, immediately following one combined 9:00 am worship service. Reports on the work of the Vestry, Commissions and Finances will be presented. The election of the four Vestry nominees will take place: Tom Dodson, Todd Hinshaw, Billie Holland and Mary Lyons Rouse. We will also approve five nominees to the Diocesan Convention, to be held February 9th and 10th in Greenville: Jack Clark, Billie Holland, Alex Murchison, Tom Tully and Ginny Woodruff. During our annual meeting, a special program is being organized for our children, along with childcare.

In the recent Church survey, parking availability was a common topic. The Vestry is most aware of the challenges and is certainly receptive to suggestions for improvement. At the same time, we do ask that the driveway parking be reserved for our disabled parishioners, and also request the parking adjacent to the Bacon House and at Perry Hall be reserved for the less mobile.

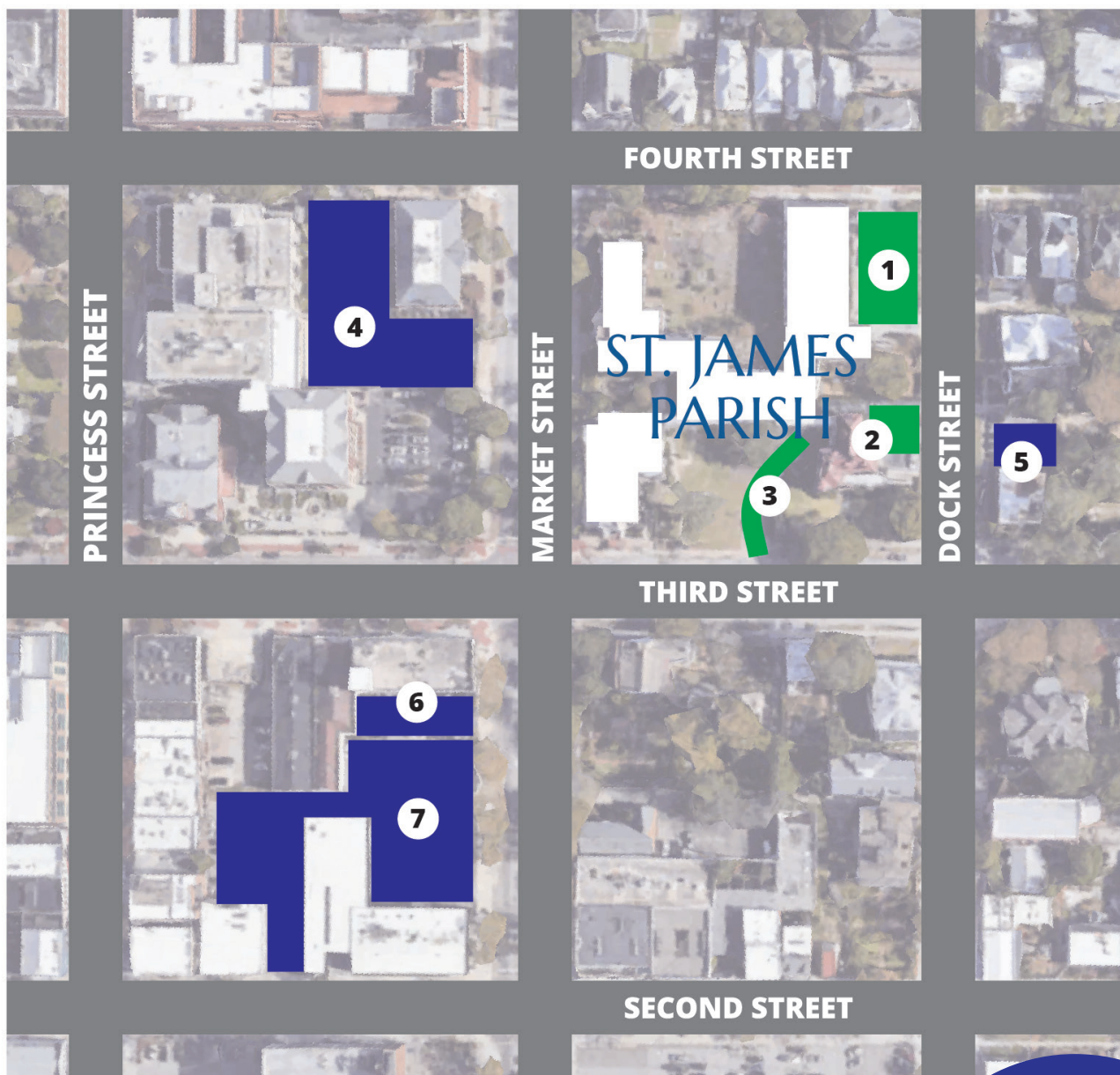
Volunteer opportunities remain high. In particular, please consider helping with the Habitat for Humanity “Unity Build”. SJP has a strong history with Habitat and we would like for it to continue. Please look in this month’s Grapevine and in the Weekly Grapevine updates for more information on how you can help.

Blessings and God’s Peace,

Alex Murchison (Junior Warden)



PARKING AT ST. JAMES



PARKING LOTS AT & NEAR ST. JAMES

1. PERRY HALL LOT - HANDICAP PARKING AVAILABLE
2. BACON HOUSE LOT - SENIOR PARKING AVAILABLE
3. FRONT CIRCLE - HANDICAP PARKING AVAILABLE
4. FIRST CITIZENS BANK LOT - **SUNDAYS ONLY**
5. HOGUE HILL, LLP BUILDING - **SUNDAYS ONLY**
6. WELLS INSURANCE BUILDING - **SUNDAYS ONLY**
7. FIRST BANK - **SUNDAYS ONLY**

STREET PARKING

is available along 3rd, 4th, Dock, and Market Streets.

Metered parking along Market Street is free on Sundays & Holidays.

ST. JAMES PARISH BUILDINGS AND PARKING AREAS

Parking is available through the week and on Sundays on Market, 3rd, Dock and 4th Streets, adjacent to the church. Although the street parking is free, please note that on weekdays, parking on Market, 3rd and 4th Streets (other than the block of 4th Street behind the church property) is restricted to 2 hours, after which parking fines may be imposed by the City of Wilmington. For now, there are no time restrictions for Dock and 4th Streets adjacent to the church property.

During the week, the Bacon House lot is reserved for clergy & staff. Please park in the Perry Hall lot.

Faith Formation at St. James

WINTER & SPRING FAITH FORMATION

Every Sunday, we gather together for worship with the below schedule.

8:00 a.m.	Rite I Holy Eucharist
8:30 a.m.	Family Breakfast
9:10 a.m.	Faith Formation & Sunday School Hour
10:15 a.m.	Rite II Holy Eucharist - Children's Chapel (during the service)

At 9:10 a.m. on Sunday Mornings, we invite parishioners to join us in our Faith Formation & Sunday School Classes. We will continue to offer Adult, Youth, and Children's options with the below schedule:

Disciples' Class, in the Lippitt Room

Faith Discussions, in the Stephen Ministry Room

Youth (6th-12th Grades), in the Youth Room located on the lower level of Perry Hall

Children (Pre-K - 5th Grades), meet in the Sunday School Wing on the second floor of Milton Hall

JANUARY

- 1/7 ~ First Sunday after the Epiphany: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 1/14 ~ Second Sunday after the Epiphany: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 1/21 ~ Third Sunday after the Epiphany: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 1/28 ~ Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany: Annual Meeting
No Faith Formation Classes Meet

FEBRUARY

- 2/4 ~ Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 2/11 ~ Last Sunday after the Epiphany: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 2/18 ~ First Sunday in Lent: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 2/25 ~ Second Sunday in Lent: Faith Formation Classes Meet

MARCH

- 3/3 ~ Third Sunday in Lent: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 3/10 ~ Fourth Sunday in Lent: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 3/17 ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 3/24 ~ Palm Sunday: No Classes Meet
- 3/31 ~ Easter Day: No Classes Meet

APRIL

- 4/7 ~ Second Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 4/14 ~ Third Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 4/21 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 4/28 ~ Youth Sunday & the Fifth Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet

MAY

- 5/5 ~ Bishop Visit, Confirmation, & the Sixth Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 5/12 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 5/19 ~ Pentecost: Faith Formation Classes Meet
- 5/26 ~ Trinity Sunday: First Sunday of Mt. Lebanon Chapel

If you have any questions or need more information about any of the Christian Formation offerings, please contact:

The St. James Clergy, at clergy@stjamesp.org for more on Adult Faith Formation

Ansley Trask, Children's Ministries Coordinator, at christianformation@stjamesp.org for more on Children's Faith Formation

Cookie Cantwell, Director of Youth Ministries at cookie@stjamesp.org for more on St. James Youth Programs



DISCIPLES CLASS

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | THE LIPPITT ROOM

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 spring, we invite everyone to join us in the Lippitt Room on Sunday mornings for presentations and discussions centering on what it means to live into “the Real Work of Christmas” all year long, a dedicated Lenten study, as well as other topics.



FAITH DISCUSSIONS

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | STEPHEN MINISTRY ROOM

Join us for coffee and conversation as we explore diverse topics and how they inform or intersect our faith lives. Each of these sessions is a peer guided discussion around a set topic to be announced during the two weeks prior to each session. Additionally, our program will embark on a book study during the Lenten weeks, with hope this will bring about an even deeper journey during that spiritual season. In every Faith Discussions gathering we invite people to share their thoughts and experiences, from greatest joys to deepest challenges; as well as their questions and curiosities as they look to grow their faith.



JUBI-LATTE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | YOUTH ROOM

St. James Youth Ministries is preparing for the joy of getting back in rhythm as we share our lives, serve other people, and learn more about ourselves and our friends. We will enjoy being together as we learn, as we worship, and as we engage in the JOY of following and serving Jesus! This year we (6th - 12th graders) will gather together on Sunday mornings for “Jubi-Latte” - a roundtable discussion focused on knowing Jesus and following Jesus in our daily lives.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | 2ND FLOOR MILTON HALL

Faith Built Through Wonder (*3's and 4's*): 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.

Faith Foundations (*Kindergarten and 1st grade*): 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 Builders (*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 Adventurers (*4th and 5th graders*): Grab a cozy seat and get ready to get lost in a good book. This Spring, we will set out to uncover God at work in the stories around us. This is a Bible study not to be missed!

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JANUARY

ADULT FORMATION

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | ST. JAMES PARISH

We invite you to take a quick look at what Adult Faith Formation offerings are taking place on Sunday mornings this month. Look below to find a brief description of each class.

DISCIPLES CLASS JANUARY OFFERINGS

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | THE LIPPITT ROOM

January Theme: Epiphany and The Work of Christmas

Come join in a series of conversations with notable community partners as we hear their story and ponder opportunities for shared work and intentional ministry in the year to come.

January 7, 2024: Meet Eden Village

Speaker: Dr. Thomas Dalton, President, and Kimberly Dalton, BSN

Eden Village of Wilmington on a mission to provide housing to those in need by building a tiny home community for the chronically homeless. Currently their work focuses on the homelessness living in hospitals. Having a home is a key component in long-term health care.

January 14, 2024: Meet Northside Food Co-Op

Speaker: Cierra Washington

Learn of the vision to eradicate a 35 year old food desert in downtown Wilmington's northside, enhancing access to fresh food options, and bringing back communal care and connection through food.

January 21, 2024: Meet a St. James Outreach Partner

Speaker: To Be Announced

As we examine how we live into the "Real Work of Christmas," we invite you to meet one of our outreach and community partners.

FAITH DISCUSSIONS JANUARY OFFERINGS

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | STEPHEN MINISTRY ROOM

January 7, 2024: Faith Discussions: Contemplative Prayer

Speaker: Lizzie Hartman

Join us for a discussion of contemplative prayer and some of the practices you may wish to include in your prayer life.

January 14, 2024: Faith Discussions: Bible Study Reflection Series Introduction

During the coming weeks, the Faith Discussions group will be engaging with a special study guide to lead us through the season of Epiphany into the season of Lent. Unlike typical book studies, this series is designed to be picked up one session at a time with no homework in between!

January 21, 2024: Faith Discussions: Bible Study Reflection Series Session #1

Join us as we kick off our first Bible Study reflection session. Come see what it's all about.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 28 | Following 9:00 a.m. service | St. James Parish

Our Annual Meeting is set for January 28th following a combined 9:00 a.m. service on Sunday Morning. All ages are invited to attend this meeting. Those who have been confirmed or received as members of St. James are especially encouraged to attend to participate in voting. During this meeting we will elect a new Vestry slate, and share information regarding plans for 2024, the budget, and what to expect as we move forward together. Please keep an eye out for more information about a special outreach project and activity for our parish children during the Annual Meeting.



PLANNING FOR AN EGG HUNT

Plans are in the works for an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Day! We need your help preparing. All are invited (especially families planning to participate in the hunt) to donate **12 stuffed eggs** for the hunt. The box will be in the Day School Lobby starting Sunday, March 3rd. Volunteers are also need to help stuff extra eggs and set up the hunting grounds. Contact Ansley if you would like to help!

SAVE THE DATE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

August 5th-August 8th | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Save the date: VBS returns August 5th-August 8th. Mark your calendars now and stay tuned for announcements about this year's theme! As we begin to dive into planning for another wonderful VBS, we're calling on our parish family to help us make it happen. There lots of ways to get involved! We have opportunities for all ages and abilities. Here are some of the ways YOU can be a part of our 2024 VBS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Station Leaders | Preparations Team |
| Group Leaders | Set-up Helpers |
| Snacks/Hospitality Team | Skit Leaders |
| Car Line Helpers | Music & Motions Helpers |
| Photographer | Station & Group Helpers |
| Set Design | Donate Funds or Supplies! |

To volunteer now, please email Ansley Trask at

christianinformation@stjamesp.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

We always need extra hands to teach Sunday School. Teaching Sunday School provides a unique opportunity to contribute to the spiritual development of the children of St. James. It is guaranteed to bring you joy and laughter on a Sunday morning. It is the best cup of joy you can find! To volunteer now, please email Ansley Trask at christianinformation@stjamesp.org

ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL 2024-2025 REGISTRATION

Monday, January 8 | 8:00 a.m. | Online

Thank you so much for being part of the St James Day School Family. Registration for school year 2024-2025 opens for **current students, siblings and children of St James parishioners on Monday, January 8th.**

At large registration opens on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024.

Thank you for helping us spread the word about the Day School with families in the community. I have given several tours this fall for families that have come to us because they have been recommended by current families. We appreciate it!



IGNITE! YOUTH GATHERING

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

St. James Youth Ministries is preparing for the joy of getting back in rhythm as we share our lives, serve other people, and learn more about ourselves and our friends. We will enjoy being together as we learn, as we worship, and as we engage in the JOY of following and serving Jesus! On Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 6:30 pm in Perry Hall, St. James will IGNITE friendships, fun, faith, and serving Jesus. Service Projects, Happening, New Beginnings, Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 7:00 am, Happening #80, Shop & Bunny Hop, Basket Building, Corn Mazes, Mission Trip to Glory Ridge, The Guardian Angel Prayer Experience, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Ski Trip to Winterplace and many more exciting and meaningful gatherings! Bring your friends and join us for an amazingly wonderful year of sharing our faith as we serve other people! YES! WE ARE ST. JAMES YOUTH MINISTRIES! COME AND JOIN US. Be a part of this amazing creativity, joy, fun, and faith.

QUESTIONS? Contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org or 910.264.5910

JANUARY

January 7, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - Ski Trip Meeting - *Youth Room* - An Important Ski Trip Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 7, in the St James Youth Ministries Room (lower level of Perry Hall, St James). Our meeting will begin at 5:00 pm. All necessary forms will need to be completed by the end of our meeting with Parent/Guardian Signatures and payments completed. Yes, there are a few spaces left so let Cookie know if a friend might like to join us.
Cookie@stjamesp.org

January 14, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - No Ignite! this week - MLK Weekend

January 21, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Youth Group meets in *Perry Hall*, St. James at 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Come and bring your friends!

January 25- 28, 2024: SJP Youth Ski Trip Weekend!



January 28, 2024: No IGNITE! This Weekend - For those in town, plan to attend the Annual Meeting

- Those who are do not plan to join us on the Ski Trip are encouraged to participate in the Annual Meeting following a combined 9:00 a.m. Worship service.

FEBRUARY

February 4, 2024:

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Youth Group meets in *Perry Hall*, St. James at 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Come and bring your friends!
- BRUNSWICK STEW PICK-UP BEGINS!

February 11, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Youth Group meets in *Perry Hall*, St. James at 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Come and bring your friends! Help us prepare for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

February 18, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - No Ignite! this week - President's Day Weekend

February 25, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Youth Group meets in *Perry Hall*, St. James at 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Come and bring your friends!

MARCH

March 1-3, 2024: Happening #80 This Weekend

- High School Youth and Adults who work with you are invited to attend HAPPENING #80 at Trinity Center, Salter Path!



March 10, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - Shop'n'Bunny Hop! - Join us as we shop for goodies to fill Easter baskets for the children of migrant farmworkers and the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry. We'll wrap up the night with a stop at IHOP!

March 17, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Join us for a special evening of preparing Easter Baskets with the toys and candy we shopped for last week. Help us make some kids smile.

March 24, 2024: Palm Sunday

- 5:00 p.m. - Guardian Angel Prayer Celebration!

March 31, 2024: Easter Day ~ No Classes Meet

APRIL

April 7, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - No Ignite! this week - NHCS on Break

April 14, 2024: New Beginnings Weekend for Middle School Youth at Trinity Center

- 5:00 p.m. - No IGNITE! Youth Gathering this week.

April 21, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - IGNITE! Youth Gathering - Youth Group meets in *Perry Hall*, St. James at 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Come and bring your friends!

April 28, 2024: Youth Sunday

- ALL 6th - 12th Graders are INVITED to participate in this amazing Worship Experience! We need Readers, Chalice Bearers, People to give the Homily, Music, Lay Eucharist Ministers, ETC..... Please contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org if YOU would like to participate!

MAY

May 5, 2024: Confirmation Sunday

May 12, 2024

- 5:00 p.m. - No Ignite! this week, Mother's Day!
- 8:00 p.m. - St. James Youth Outreach Silent Auction begins online and will run through May 15th.

May 19, 2024:

- 5:00 p.m. - No IGNITE! Youth Gathering this week.

May 26, 2024: Trinity Sunday: First Sunday out at Mt. Lebanon Chapel

YOUTH CONFIRMATION 2024

Beginning in March | Please plan to register by March 3rd

As this March approaches, the young people of St. James are invited to enter the process of preparation for CONFIRMATION. Through six meetings, they will have the opportunity to learn more about the history, beliefs and traditions of The Episcopal Church, about the St. James Parish, and how to live faithfully as followers of Christ.

Beginning on March 10th, this Youth Confirmation Class will be co-led by The Rev. Phillip Craig and The Rev. Gray Hodsdon. Through education, experiences, relationships and group gatherings, our young people on this faith journey discern if and "when they are ready and have duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop" BCP p. 412.

The journey towards Confirmation within The Episcopal Church is an exciting and meaningful experience where each young person decides if they are ready to take responsibility for their journey of faith within The Episcopal Church. The Confirmation process and education seeks to create an environment where an authentic Christian community can be formed and all parts of our liturgies, traditions, history, and faith formation can be studied and questions can be asked.

We encourage young people to wait to go through the Confirmation Process until they are in high school or even later. It is important for us to remember that during the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, "you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever." During Confirmation, the candidate reaffirms the renunciation of evil, renews their commitment to Jesus Christ and with God's grace, they promise to follow Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. The congregation prays "for these people who have renewed their commitment to Christ." BCP p. 417

St. James is extremely committed to the journey of faith that our young people are experiencing and we will gladly and authentically accompany each of them on their journeys of faith.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

BREAD BREAKERS

Get to know other young adults and young families at St. James Parish through the Bread Breakers! The Bread Breakers began as a group of families with young children. With this group, you'll find a little chaos and a lot of laughter. Come join the fun, you don't need to have kids to be a part of the community! All are welcome. This group has regular monthly meet-ups; kids welcome! Activities vary from dining out, to potlucks, to volunteering at the Good Shepherd Center.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Episcopal Church Women, ECW, have championed women's rights and the Christian foundation of God and family. They are an affiliate of the Episcopal Church and celebrate that Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Their women's ministry and children's programs feed, educate, and provide community grants around the world. They are a volunteer organization that creates a legacy for Episcopal Church Women to lead future generations with stewardship in Christ.



BIBLE STUDY - SMALL GROUPS

There are several small groups that meet off campus and at different intervals. If you are interested in connecting with a group, please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

FOYER GROUPS

Contacts: Sheila Osann (osannsbe@aol.com | 910-399-2588) & Nina Inge (ninabet55@gmail.com | 804-564-8655)

The Foyer Groups are getting ready to begin a new season. Formal requests to join a foyer group should be made prior to the end of the day on January 7th. Later this January new groups will be announced. All leaders are asked to touch base with their members and plan one or two gathering this spring. Anyone who is interested in joining a Foyer Group will be invited to sign up. Depending on how many new members we have, we will either form a new group or assimilate them into existing groups.

For those who have never been in a Foyer Group, they are small groups of parish members who gather about every six weeks throughout the year. The gatherings can be dinner at a restaurant or in members' homes, brunch after church, a dinner at the beach or whatever the group and host want to plan. It's a wonderful way to get to know parish members in a smaller setting. With our growing church, this is a golden opportunity to socialize and have lots of fun.



MEN ON A MISSION

Men on a Mission, affectionately known as "MoM," is a group of St. James men who join forces in a fun way to focus on Service and Fellowship at St. James and throughout our community. We currently have over 200 members. If you would like more information and get updates about future Men on a Mission service and fellowship ministry opportunities, please contact Brian McMerty, bmcmetry@arrispartners.com. We would love to have you join us!



ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: AN EVENING WITH WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Monday, February 5 | 7:00 p.m. | St. James Parish

St. James Episcopal Church in downtown Wilmington is thrilled to announce our first speaker event of 2024. On Monday, February 5, 2024, the St. James Speaker Series has invited The Rev. Dr. James Hawkey, Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey, and Mr. Martin Castledine, Dean's Verger of Westminster Abbey, to share with us their experiences as clergy and staff of the royal church.

Westminster Abbey is one of the most familiar and highly recognized houses of Christian worship in the world. For Episcopalians, it carries a particularly important place in our history and identity as members of the Anglican Communion. The Abbey also holds fascination for its grandeur and designation as a royal peculiar - for centuries (and recently) the place of coronations, weddings and state funerals. Royal watchers, history buffs, and fans of architecture won't want to miss this unique opportunity to learn more about the Abbey from speakers who work in its hallowed halls.

Founded as a mission parish of the Church of England in 1729, St. James offers "An Evening with Westminster Abbey" as a precursor to our 300th anniversary in November of 2029.

We invite the community to come and join us on Monday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m. at St. James Parish for this special presentation. A brief time of Q&A in the sanctuary and a reception will follow. This event is free to our community.



THOUGHTS ON THE VERGER MINISTRY WITH MARTIN CASTLEDINE

February 3, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

Curious about what it's like to serve as a verger? Make plans to join us on Saturday, February 24th for a special event with Mr. Martin Castledine, Dean's Verger at Westminster Abbey. Stay tuned for how to RSVP.

Who is Mr. Martin Castledine? Having recently celebrated his 40th anniversary of being a verger, Mr. Castledine's resume includes some truly extraordinary experiences. Mr. Castledine began his ministry and career as a verger at the age of 16 at Coventry Cathedral. With his title of Assistant Verger, Mr. Castledine was officially the youngest verger in the country at that time.

In his time at the Abbey, Mr. Castledine has been blessed to participate in truly amazing and very varied services. From the daily round of quiet service to national and international services, he's witnessed and assisted at four different Presidential State visits from the USA, the 2010 State and ecumenical visit of Pope Benedict XVI, the 2011 Royal Wedding of the now Prince and Princess of Wales, the 2022 State funeral of Queen Elizabeth II and, most recently, the Coronation of King Charles III.

One truth that has shown itself through Mr. Castledine's work at various cathedrals is this; though all the cathedrals work in different ways be it liturgy or management the common goal is the proclamation of the Good News.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The 141st Annual Diocesan Convention will be held at the Greenville Convention Center Friday, February 9 - Saturday, February 10, 2024.

The next convention for the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina is coming up, and details are live on the Diocesan website. St. James Candidates for convention will be introduced and formally elected during our Annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

To learn more about the Diocesan Convention, please visit: diocese-eastcarolina.org/141st-convention-of-the-diocese-of-east-carolina/

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

St. James Parish Office will resume regular winter hours:

- Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The St. James Parish Office will be closed on:

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Monday, January 15, 2024
- Presidents Day - Monday, February 19, 2024
- Easter - Monday - Tuesday, April 1 & 2, 2024
- Memorial Day - Monday, May 27, 2024

WEEKDAY AND WEEKNIGHT FORMATION

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Start your day with prayer, music, and fellowship! Join us on Zoom for a time of prayer, fellowship, and music. Sign up for our email list by reaching out to communications@stjamesp.org.

HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesdays | 12:10 p.m. | St. James Chapel

Join us in the St. James Chapel for a Noonday Eucharist. Offered each week throughout the year.

GRIEF MINISTRY: LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF AND LOSS

1st and 3rd Mondays | 5:00 PM | Zoom & Graham Parlor

When someone you love dies, you experience grief in a number of ways; one size does not fit all. The way we react to and process grief depends on the relationship, manner of death, if and how you were able to say goodbye, your beliefs, your background, and your personality. We grieve many things other than death and we want to acknowledge this also. There is grief that comes from loss of health, loss of a job, sending a child off to school, losses that come from divorce, to mention a few. Join us as we lift up one another as we learn to live well in the midst of grief and loss. Contact the Rev. Cheryl Brainard at cheryl@stjamesp.org for more information.



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY AT STARBUCKS

Wednesdays | 7:00 a.m. | 16th St. Starbucks

The Youth Starbucks Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, September 6, at 7:00 a.m. (16th Street Starbucks). This Youth 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 Rippey janeripppy@yahoo.com or Ginny Woodruff Ginny@vcwoodruff.com.

WEDNESDAY OPPORTUNITY: CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Beginning January 10th | 8:30-11:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room

Join us for our New Drop-in Community Building Opportunity & Epiphany Bible Study! For many centuries, visual art, music, literary arts, and drama have been closely linked with the people of God. There are numerous paintings and sculptures of biblical characters. Handel's Messiah is just one example of musical art. Authors from Mark Twain to William Blake to Flannery O'Connor have religious themes in their work. Many dramas, especially medieval plays, depict the lives of saints and biblical figures. Moreover, the Bible itself addresses creative expression.

Come to St. James on Wednesday mornings. Bring your creative projects—knitting, crochet, origami, scrapbooking, quilting (whittling perhaps?) or any project you can fit in your lap or on a table. Some will choose to work on mission projects together, like making socks and hats or rice bags. Others may need help with a personal project. Come and learn to sew, knit, or crochet from the pros. There will be some organized opportunities for Creating Connections, but as Jesus said, “Come and see.” We will create this class together. We will use the 2 rooms above the Great Hall, which will be available with a host during Day School hours 8:30 AM—12:00 noon. Stay as little or as long as you can.

WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: THE ARTS & THE BIBLE

Beginning January 10th | 11:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room

At 11:00AM, our regular Wednesday Bible Study will meet in the Stephen Ministry Room (above the Great Hall). During Epiphany, we will study The Bible and the Arts. Jan 10, 2024 will be an introductory session followed by 4 sessions Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7.

After our introductory session, we take a look at the tabernacle and meet Bezalel and Oholiab, the artisans God called to build it. Other sessions will focus on how musical, literary, and dramatic arts play a large role in Scripture. Hear how David played the harp to sooth King Saul and see how Ezekiel uses drama and symbol. The psalms are obviously a beautiful form of both musical and literary arts. Feel free to keep working on your hand projects during the Bible Study. Stay for Eucharist at 12:10 if you can. Contact the Rev Cheryl Brainard at cheryl@stjamesp.org with any questions, interest or to order a booklet.

This time of Bible Study will continue with different topics throughout the Spring; Stay tuned for details on our Lenten offerings.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM)

Tuesday Mornings & Thursday Evenings | Reach out for details!

The Education for Ministry (EfM) Tuesday morning EfM is a 4-year program taken one year at a time. This program has been provided through the School of Theology in Sewanee, TN for over 40 years. It helps participants 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. The goal is to deepen our faith and to discover how to express it in service to others. To learn more about EfM and the Tuesday morning program contact Rachel Pace at rppace@hotmail.com, to learn more about the Thursday evening program, contact Karen Clark at clarkcl11@gmail.com.

PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING

Begins February 1, 2024 | 6:00-7:15 pm | Lippitt Room

Are you interested in deepening your faith? Learning more about the Episcopal Church? Or even discovering the meaning and purpose behind what we say and do in worship? If so, then Praying Shapes Believing is for you! Praying Shapes Believing (PSB) serves as a course for all adults who want to be baptized, confirmed, received, or reaffirmed in the Episcopal Church in May 2024. It is also open to anyone, parishioners or newcomers, who are seeking to discover and learn more.

PSB begins Thursday, February 1, 2024, 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Lippitt Room. This seven-week series will guide you through the history and traditions of our faith and our church. It shows us what it means—in the words of our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry—to be a part of the “Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.”

During this class, you will be invited to read through Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices. You can expect each session to begin with prayer and icebreaker questions, to hear and learn from clergy on relevant topics, and, in so doing, get to know others within the St. James community—longtime members and newcomers alike.

We invite you to come as you are—comfortable! We’ll have some light refreshments. If you have any questions, want to register, or need a copy of the book, please contact the Rev. Gray Hodsdon at gray@stjamesp.org.

The best entrance to use for this event is the Cloister door. Please let us know if you need an ADA-accessible entrance and we will assist you.

LENTEN DINNERS

CHILDREN’S CHAPEL & CHOIR

Wednesdays | 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. | Children’s Chapel

Mark your calendars for this fall children’s choir dates! Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays in the late afternoon. The children’s choir will sing on Sunday, November 19th. Below is the practice schedule.

- February 21
- February 28
- March 6
- March 12
- March 19

Please contact John Sullivan at music@stjamesp.org or Ansley Trask at christianformation@stjamesp.org if you have any questions!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAITH FORMATION

Wednesdays | 5:30-6:15 p.m. | Lippitt Room

Adults and youth are invited to join us for a joined time of study during this Lenten season. Our clergy will lead this combined offering.

LENTEN DINNER

Wednesdays, Oct. 25 - Nov. 15 | 6:00-7:00 p.m. | Great Hall

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

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL

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

Choir practice always begins with vocal warmups 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.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

EPIPHANY MORNING MINI RETREAT: FOLLOWING THE LIGHT

Saturday, 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. Men, women, parishioners, friends, younger and older are welcome. Registration is requested and will be available through the church's website and e-newsletters. Childcare will be available upon request.

Contact person: Linda Murchison, lindamurchison65@gmail.com

VESTRY MEETINGS

Second Mondays | 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.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY - COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

Until Justice Just Is: Conversations for Peace

Thursday, January 11, 2024 | 6:00 PM | MLK Community Center

The YWCA of the Lower Cape Fear is hosting "Until Justice Just is: Conversations for Peace, Where Do We Go From Here" featuring keynote speaker is Deborah Dicks Maxwell.

Community Interfaith Worship Service

Sunday, January 14, 2024 | 4:00 PM | St. Paul's Lutheran

Faith Leaders United of Wilmington invite all to join in a Community Interfaith Worship Service in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 14 at 4:00 pm.

MLK MORNING PRAYER

Monday, January 15 | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Start your day with intention. Join us for a special Morning Prayer centered around our human family. If you would like the link sent directly to your inbox, please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

BRUNSWICK STEW SEASON

On Sale Beginning January 29th - Pick up the week of February 4th.

It's time for one of our tastiest SJP Youth fundraisers! The Brunswick Stew Soup-er Bowl Sale. Make plans to place your order on January 29th! Please keep in mind supplies are limited. Each Quart of Brunswick Stew is \$15.00 and all proceeds go to "Youth Outreach and Mission." You may pick up your Brunswick Stew on Sunday, February 4, from 8:30 am - 11:00 am in the hallway near The Great Hall.

COOKBOOK UPDATE

Week of January 14, 2024

Progress is being made! We expect to share drafts of our submitting chef's pages with them for review the week of January 14th. Chefs will have two weeks to edit the recipe if needed and respond to Erin Becker (communications@stjamesp.org) with any suggested changes. Along with the page(s) for review, chefs will also receive instructions for photographing their dish. These will also be due back to Erin at the end of the month. Our hope is to have the cook books in hand and ready for purchase by Mother's Day!

ST. JAMES YOUTH OUTREACH SILENT AUCTION RETURNS THIS SPRING

Donations accepted beginning in March!

Bidding - May 12 8PM - May 15 8PM

Each year, our St. James Youth put on their Silent Auction to benefit their many outreach initiatives. This year, as you go through your spring cleaning, hold on to those hidden gems you forgot you had and make plans to donate them to the St. James Youth Outreach Silent Auction. We also love auctioning off experiences, services, and food too! If you are interested in supporting the Auction as an organizer or if you have a special donation in mind, please reach out to Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org.

What does the Silent Auction support? The funds raised by the Silent Auction go to support our youth as they serve our community locally and on mission trips. Some of the funds will go to building supplies for repairing homes in Madison County as our youth serve at Glory Ridge.



GLORY RIDGE MISSION EXPERIENCE

June 9 - 15, 2024

Each year, our St. James Youth travel to Glory Ridge. During their time on the Ridge our young people will take time to connect with God's creation through quiet moments, fellowship, music, and service of the human family. We ask that our parish family lift them up in prayer as they soak in all of the love and wisdom the time together brings! Have questions about the upcoming Glory Ridge Mission Experience? Please reach out to Cookie Cantwell at cookie@stjamesp.org.

LENT & HOLY WEEK AT A GLANCE

SHROVE TUESDAY MEANS JAZZ ON MORNING PRAYER

February 13, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Join us for a Jazz Morning Prayer as we gather to celebrate Shrove Tuesday! Meet us on Zoom at 8:00 a.m. as we pray, read scripture, and enjoy a little jazz to start Shrove Tuesday on the right foot. If you would like the link sent directly to your inbox, please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

February 13, 2024 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Save the date! Shrove Tuesday is coming and with it, our Annual Pancake Supper February 13th is Shrove Tuesday. It's one of those days that we Episcopalians love to celebrate. What exactly is Shrove Tuesday? What do we do? Why do we celebrate?

Christians started celebrating Shrove Tuesday in the 16th Century. In the days preceding Lent, a season of fasting, was observed. Fatty foods, such as milk and butter, were consumed prior to the fasting. The goal was to use up these ingredients, as they wouldn't be able to be consumed during Lent. So, on Shrove Tuesday, we celebrate with pancakes, rich in butter and milk. We also eat meat, bacon and sausage, and indulge ourselves one last time before Lent.

In modern times, many don't take fasting literally. However, the Lenten Season is important in the Episcopal Church, as is Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is an important time to join with your parishioners, have a meal, and enjoy each other's company. Bring a friend or two and join us on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. as we celebrate the last day before Lent. Proceeds from this event support the outreach efforts of our St. James Youth! Stay tuned for how to RSVP!

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

February 14, 2024 | Multiple Services

Ash Wednesday is the first of the forty days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshipers at Ash Wednesday services. The ashes are a sign of penitence and a reminder of mortality and may be imposed with the sign of the cross. This year we will offer three services with the imposition of ashes.

7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

A Morning Prayer service will be offered online without the imposition of ashes. **8:00 a.m. on Zoom.**

LENTEN MINI-RETREAT

Saturday, March 9, 2024 | 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Tatum Parlor

The season of Lent is a time for introspection and self-reflection. It is an invitation to consider the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. You are invited to a morning of centering and prayer during a mini retreat on Saturday, March 9, from 9:00-11:30. Through Scripture, poetry and prayer, we will spend an unhurried morning together as we consider what the ancient practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving might mean for us on our faith journey, in our busy lives, in a world full of uncertainty and change. We will meet in the Tatum Parlor (in Bacon House on the corner of Dock and 3rd Streets). This mini retreat will be led by Linda Murchison. Childcare is available with advance registration. Use the button below to register. Questions, please email Linda, lindamurchison65@gmail.com.

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 24, 2024 | St. James Parish

Come worship with us at St. James on Palm Sunday! We will offer an **8:00 a.m. Rite I Service** and a **10:15 a.m. Rite II Service**. The 10:15 a.m. will include a procession and a presentation from our St. James Children's Choir.

HOLY WEEK AT ST. JAMES

March 25 - March 30, 2024

During Holy Week, we prepare for the trial, sentencing and crucifixion of our Lord, all are invited join us for worship. Here is our tentative service schedule for Holy Week:

3/28 - 7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service - SJP

3/29 - 12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - MLC

3/29 - 12:45 PM - Good Friday Service - MLC

3/30 - 8:00 PM - The Great Vigil of Easter - SJP

EASTER DAY SERVICES & CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, March 31, 2024

We invite you to worship with us this Easter Day. We have several exciting opportunities to share with you:

6:30 AM - Sunrise Service

8:00 AM - Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00 AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:30 AM - Parish Celebration & Easter Egg Hunt

11:15 AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II

MEALS ON WHEELS - EASTER EDITION

Easter Day falls on the 5th Sunday of the month. This means it's also a Meals on Wheels Sunday. If you would like to be a part of bringing food to shut-ins on Easter Day, please reach out to Molly Roush at mollyroush@hotmail.com!

QUIET REFLECTION RETURNS IN APRIL

First Saturday of the Month beginning in April 2024

7:30 - 8:30 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Our lives, our communities, our world is noisy. We are bombarded all day long with much that asks for our attention. There is little space to slow down, be quiet, rest our spirits. Just as we need air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat for our survival, our emotional and spiritual wellbeing needs silence and undistracting spaces to think, to rest, simply to be still, to listen for the moment of the Spirit.

If your spirit longs for this kind of quiet and rest, join us at Mt. Lebanon Chapel on the first Saturday of each month, for a time of quiet and refreshment. The quiet is 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. Some poems and prayers will be provided should you wish to have something to read in the silence, or bring your own reading material. There are no rules about how to do this, just an invitation and an offering to a beautiful, sacred space in which to sit and rest.

Quiet Reflection will be offered the first Saturday of each month through and December. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Questions – email Linda at lindamurchison65@gmail.com

BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME RETURNS THIS SPRING

The St. James Bread Breakers' Hospitality at Home series returns this spring. If you are interested in hosting a Hospitality at Home potluck, please reach out to Rachel Colonna at rcolonna85@gmail.com.

Who are the Bread Breakers? The Bread Breakers began as a group of families with young children. With this group, you'll find a little chaos and a lot of laughter. Come join the fun, you don't need to have kids to be a part of the community! All are welcome.



YOUTH SUNDAY

April 28, 2024 | 10:15 a.m. | St. James Parish

Join us at the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service for a special time of gathering led by our St. James Youth. Following that service, we'll gather on the lawn for a time of fellowship and celebration of our St. James Youth and our High School Seniors. ALL 6th - 12th Graders are INVITED to participate in this amazing Worship Experience! We need Readers, Chalice Bearers, People to give the Homily, Music, Lay Eucharist Ministers, ETC..... Please contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org if YOU would like to participate!

BISHOP VISIT: CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 5, 2024 | 10:15 a.m. | St. James Parish

St. James is happy to announce that The Rt. Rev'd Robert Skirving, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, will be at St. James on Sunday, May 5, 2024, at 10:15 a.m. to administer the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Baptism. All are warmly welcome!

The Book of Common Prayer states that, "Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop." (p. 860).

PENTECOST

May 19, 2024 | St. James Downtown Campus

The season of Pentecost brings so many reasons to celebrate. On Sunday, May 19th, we give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit among us and the birth of the Church. We wear red in honor of the fire that descended on that first Pentecost so long ago. For our parish family, we will celebrate together downtown for our last Sunday of the spring schedule. Join us for worship at **8:00 a.m.** or **10:15 a.m.**

MLC OPENS TRINITY SUNDAY

May 26, 2024 | SJP Downtown and Mt. Lebanon Chapel

May 26th marks the first Sunday of our Summer worship schedule:

8:00 AM - Rite I at St. James Downtown

8:30 AM - Rite II at Mt. Lebanon Chapel

9:30 AM - Rite II at Mt. Lebanon Chapel

10:30 AM - Rite II at St. James Downtown

LEMONADE AT MT. LEBANON

Returns Memorial Day Weekend!

As we get ready to open Mt. Lebanon Chapel for the summer, you're invited to share in the ministry of cookies and lemonade! Each Sunday while we worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel, we're looking for parishioners to sign up to provide and serve lemonade and cookies following the 9:30 a.m. service. Stay tuned for how to sign up!

MINISTRY & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The church is not a building. The church is people. The people of St. James Parish are what make ministry happen! We couldn't serve our community without each of you. Not sure how to get involved? Never fear! We have a ministry for you. Ushers, Lectors, Writers, Photographers; whatever your strength, we can help you find a place to use it! Below are a few of our current needs. If you don't see one that fits you, please feel free to reach out to Bill McKenzie at coordinator@stjamesp.org and he will help you get connected.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

JOIN ST. MARTHA'S GUILD

St. Martha's Guild provides care to St. James parishioners by delivering meals to the sick, the bereaved, and to families with new babies. We also write notes, make phone calls and deliver simple gifts or food to individuals and families confronted with life's ups and downs. St. Martha's Guild is also responsible for the coordination of our parish's funeral receptions. This guild is comprised of more than 100 members working in teams headed by monthly team leaders. We work closely with the clergy and the church office for updates on parish needs. We welcome new members! Please consider becoming a part of this rewarding ministry. Contacts: Jane Rippy, janerippy@yahoo.com & Mary Elizabeth Roberts, maryelizabethroberts@seacoastrealty.com

CARE GUILD: PEN PALS

Love to connect with others through the written word? We have the perfect opportunity for you! We are in need of more PenPals! We're looking for members of St. James who write a good note. Pen Pals write shut-ins, those recovering at home, and those in assisted living to help make these members feel connected even though they may not have been involved in Church activities for a while. As a pen pal, your commitment is to write the same three or four parishioners once a month for the next six months. If you are interested, please contact Beth Souther at bethsoutherfish@gmail.com and she will help you get started.

EVANGELISM

GREETER MINISTRY

This fall, we'll be hosting a new round of Greeter Training! This means we're opening up the Greeter Ministry to new recruits. If you know someone (yourself included) who would make an excellent Greeter with their warmth and enthusiasm for the Christian family, please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

NEWCOMER EVENTS

With so many wonderful events on the horizon, we invite established St. James parishioners to come and be a part of welcoming our newcomers by engaging with our newcomer driven events. Each year we host mingles, tours, and our St. James Orientation for Newcomers. The most important part of each of these events is the opportunity they create for newcomers to meet and form genuine relationships with the St. James family. If you would like to learn more about how you can help support these special events, please reach out to Randy Inge at randybinge@gmail.com or Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.



RACIAL HEALING COMMITTEE

BE A PART OF THE ONGOING MINISTRY - RACIAL HEALING

Our St. James Racial Healing Committee is committed to the furtherance of our Baptismal Covenant to respect the dignity of every human being. This committee fosters compassion and mutual understanding among people of different racial identities and seeks to create a trusted community of love and healing. Interested in joining us? Please prayerfully consider if this ministry is one that God is calling you to join. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We would love to talk with you.

Committee Contacts: Ginny Woodruff, ginny@vcwoodruff.com, Barbara Whitesides, whiteside6@me.com

OUTREACH

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - UNITY BUILD

The Habitat for Humanity Unity Build is underway with dates to serve in January, February, and March up online now! The kickoff build day for this home is Saturday, January 6th, 2024, at 509 Morningside Drive. We are renovating this home, so limited volunteer spots are available for that first day. From there we plan to paint on February 3rd, 2024, and install hardware on February 10th. The tentative start date for our second Unity Build house in Legacy Landing is Saturday, February 17th, 2024! This build will proceed as follows:

February 24th – Roof Sheathing.

March 2nd – Miscellaneous Framing

March 9th – Vinyl Prep

March 16th – Vinyl Siding

Learn More at:
stjamesp.org/habitat24

ASP LUNCHES

St. James Parish is actively a partner with A Safe Place, the Wilmington organization that focuses 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 twice a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) to meet with their case managers, their substance abuse counselors, receive employment assistance and attend life skills classes all in a safe and welcoming environment. This meal can be as simple as a pizza or sub-delivery gift card, a pickup from a favorite bbq outlet, or a really appreciated and rare home-cooked meal. 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? Please reach out to Cathy Halligan at cathyhalligan@gmail.com.

EDEN VILLAGE HOME GROUPS

Eden Village is building a tiny home community for the chronically homeless. It will have 31 tiny homes for those experiencing homelessness, primarily those living in hospitals. Having a home is a key component in long-term health care. If you'd like to get more involved with Eden Village, consider joining St. James' Home Group. This group of 6-8 individuals will support one of the village's residents. This would include monthly check-ins with the resident either preparing a simple meal together, stopping by for a porch chat, or sending messages of encouragement throughout the month. There may also be work in the month of July to prepare the home for this resident as well. This is an important and unique opportunity to meet our neighbors, so if you are interested in joining this group, please contact Catie Hodsdon at cmrichardson93@gmail.com.

MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER

The MoM Squad has agreed to serve meals to the homeless on the first and third Tuesday of each month and the fourth Thursday of each month. Please let us know if you would like to serve. Shifts run from 4:30 p.m. to about 7:00 p.m. 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! (bmcmetry@arrispartners.com)



2SHARE FURNITURE

2Share is a small group of local volunteers who started an ad hoc effort, in 2017, to take in furniture donations that we then delivered to those in need in our community. In 2018 in the aftermath of Florence, they significantly expanded their efforts. As a no-profit, all-volunteer, grassroots ministry, they work cooperatively with many local organizations in Wilmington. There are regular opportunities to serve alongside this group! If you would like to participate, please contact: Alex Murchison, alexsmurchison@gmail.com, & Don Arabian, Wilmingtonfagv@gmail.com

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is an Outreach Ministry of St. James Parish. On the fifth Sunday in any given month, we are responsible for preparing, packaging, and delivering meals to approximately 180 grateful Meals on Wheels recipients, who are elderly or disabled shut-ins, many of whom have little to no social interaction or hot meals other than Meals on Wheels. These clients would often go hungry without this ministry, so your active participation in this vital program is greatly appreciated.

Contact: Molly Roush

Spring 2024 Dates:

March 31

June 30

PARISH LIFE

FAMILY BREAKFAST AT ST. JAMES

This month, we resume one of our favorite St. James Parish traditions, Sunday morning Family Breakfast at church! As this ministry continues to grow, we invite you to participate. We are looking for some Team Leaders to help us take on this wonderful ministry.

Anyone can be a Team Leader! Team Leaders are responsible for recruiting enough people to fill out their team. A team typically needs 4-6 adults to make it happen. Kids are welcome and are great at helping set the tables and collect dirty dishes as well as some sous-chef-style cooking!

What's for breakfast? Typically, we serve simple breakfast staples like scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, biscuits, fruit, cinnamon rolls, etc. Teams are asked to supply whatever food they want to serve. We average 50-75 meals per Sunday!

Do we get up with the chickens? Teams are to arrive around 7:30 a.m. to begin setting tables and cooking. Breakfast is served from 8:30-9:10 a.m. in the Great Hall to catch the people coming to the 9:10 Faith Formation Hour and leaving the 8:00 a.m. service.

We hope to have enough teams so that each only rotates through 3-4 times per year and plan to host our first breakfast on Sunday, January 7, 2024.

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



WORSHIP

JOIN THE ST. JAMES CHOIR

The musical heritage of the Episcopal Church is one of the world's richest and most deeply spiritual musical traditions, and music is a central part of our liturgy at St. James. Sacred music is a form of prayer and enables us to express that which is otherwise inexpressible. It enables us to touch the central depth of our humanness and opens a door that enables us to know the presence of God. Our beautiful liturgies for Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost offer glorious music to assist in our yearly journey through Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection. St. James offers many ways to be a part of this musical tradition.

Contact: John Sullivan, music@stjamesp.org

ACOLYTES

Acolytes are 5th - 12th graders who participate and help lead the 10:15 am worship service. They are also invited to participate in other special worship services throughout the church year. Contact: Kathy Bush, kathybush1995@yahoo.com

LECTORS

Lectors play a special role in our worship. Volunteers read the Old or New Testament lessons or Prayers of the People during Sunday worship services. Contact: Bill McKenzie, coordinator@stjamesp.org - Leadership opportunity available.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMS) is a group of men and women licensed by the bishop to assist clergy in serving wine and bread at communion and to take communion to parishioners who are unable to attend services. Contact: Carl Keller, ckeller68@ec.rr.com

USHER MINISTRY

Ushers play a key role in the orderly flow of worship. From handing out bulletins, to collecting offering and facilitating communion, our Usher team helps keep Sunday morning running smoothly. All are invited to participate in this special ministry. Contacts: Franklin Rouse, franklin@franklinrouse.com, Mason Hawfield, III mason.hawfield@ubs.com

THE MINISTRIES OF ST. JAMES PARISH

Get to know the St. James Parish Community through our different ministry areas! Here is a quick breakdown of the Commissions and ministries within St. James Parish. We invite you to learn more about each of these wonderful ministries by reaching out to the contacts on this handout or by visiting our website: stjamesp.org/ministries.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Congregational Care is crucial to our St James family. During hard times and happy times for our members, Congregational Care ministries strive to show love and support to one another through a variety of ministries.

Contacts: Jane Martin, martinjane@ec.rr.com,
The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org

CARE GUILD- Contact: Beth Souther, bethsoutherfish@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL (COHI)-

Contact: The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org

FLOWER GUILD- Contact: Jane Martin, martinjane@ec.rr.com

HOSPITAL VISITORS- Contact: Charlotte Davis, cdavis4921@gmail.com

LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF- Contact: The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org

CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER TEAM- Contact: Virginia Hardy, varbos37.vb63@gmail.com

ST. MARTHA'S GUILD-
Contacts: Jane Rippy, janerippy@yahoo.com & Mary Elizabeth Roberts, maryelizabethroberts@seacoastrealty.com

SUPPORT GROUPS- Contact: The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org

EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Commission is a core part of who we are as a faith community. The mission of the Evangelism Commission is to "Invite, Welcome, and Connect."

Contact: Randy Inge, randybinge@gmail.com

GREETER MINISTRY- Contacts: Frances Trask, francestrask9@gmail.com, & Elizabeth Hinshaw, ehinshaw@ec.rr.com

NEWCOMER OUTREACH-
Contact: Beth Souther, bethsoutherfish@gmail.com

NEWCOMER EVENTS-
Contact: Randy Inge, randybinge@gmail.com & Ann Mueller, anniam4nc@gmail.com

PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING CLASS- Contact: The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org

ANNUAL AZALEA FESTIVAL & MT. LEBANON CHAPEL TOUR- Contact: Ann Mueller, anniam4nc@gmail.com

PARISH MEET & GREET-
Contact: Ann Mueller, anniam4nc@gmail.com

TOURS OF DOWNTOWN CAMPUS- Contact: Beth Souther, bethsoutherfish@gmail.com

ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS (SJON)-
Contact: Randy Inge, randybinge@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION

Every Sunday, we invite parishioners to join us in our Sunday Morning, Faith Formation Classes beginning at 10:10 a.m. We also offer Bible Studies and other opportunities to pray and gather throughout the week.

Contacts: St. James Clergy, clergy@stjamesp.org & Erin Trask, erin.scott.trask@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES-
Contact: Ansley Trask, christianformation@stjamesp.org

NURSERY SERVICES- Contact: Ansley Trask, christianformation@stjamesp.org

YOUTH MINISTRIES- Contact: Cookie Cantwell, cookie@stjamesp.org

ADULT FAITH FORMATION-
Contacts: The Rev. Cheryl Brainard, cheryl@stjamesp.org, The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, grey@stjamesp.org, & Frances Trask, francestrask9@gmail.com

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY- Contacts: Karen Clark, clarkcl11@gmail.com, & Rachel Pace, rppace@hotmail.com

ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES-
Contact: John Jordan, jvjilm@aol.com

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE- Contact: Tom Dodson, Tom.Dodson@southstatebank.com

OUTREACH

St. James Parish is deeply involved with the community. We believe we can only build a stronger community by working together. We put the motto of “Love your neighbor as yourself” at the forefront of our work! Here are a few of our partnering ministries.

Contact: Ashley Walton, ashleys@yahoo.com & Alex Wnek, Alexandra.wnek@sptech.com

2SHARE FURNITURE- Contacts: Alex Murchison, alexsmurchison@gmail.com, & Don Arabian, Wilmingtonfagr@gmail.com

A SAFE PLACE- Contacts: Mary Boney Clark, mbdclark@gmail.com, & Tanner Dodson- tannerbanks82@gmail.com

ANGEL TREE- Contact: Rachel Colonna, rcolonna85@gmail.com

EPISCOPAL FARM WORKER MINISTRY- Contact: Taber Stockstill-Tornes, taber.stockstill@gmail.com

HELP HUB- Contact: Sonja McFarland, helphubdirector@gmail.com

MEALS ON WHEELS- Contact: Molly Roush, mollyrousb@hotmail.com

ONE LOVE TENNIS- Contact: Ashley Walton, ashleys@yahoo.com

RISE AGAINST HUNGER- Contact: Don Brainard, dabrainard12@gmail.com

THE PARISH SHOP- Contact: Karen Clark, clarkcl11@gmail.com

EDEN VILLAGE- Contacts: Catie Hodsdon, cmrichardson93@gmail.com, Taber Stockstill-Tornes, taber.stockstill@gmail.com

NORTHSIDE FOOD CO-OP- Contacts: Alex Wnek, Alexandra.wnek@sptech.com, David Joyner, davidbilljoyner@gmail.com

PARISH LIFE

St. James Episcopal invites you to come and see! We’ve made a commitment to maintaining our connection while fostering our relationship with our neighbors and with God.

Contacts: Porter Young, poyoung@ec.rr.com, Virginia Pierce, virginiaspierce@gmail.com, & Hannah Brownlow, hannabrownlow@msn.com

BREAD BREAKERS- Contact: Rachel Colonna, rcolonna85@gmail.com, The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, gray@stjamesp.org

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)- Contact: Karen Clark, Clarkcl11@gmail.com

FAMILY BREAKFASTS- Contact: Web Cowden, web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com

FOYER GROUPS- Contacts: Sheila Osann, osannshe@aol.com & Nina Inge, ninabet55@gmail.com

MEN ON A MISSION (MOM)- Brian McMerty, bmcmerly@arris.partners, Web Cowden, web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com, David Brownlow, dbrownlow@ec.rr.com, The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, gray@stjamesp.org

PARISH EVENTS - Contact: Marietta Gwathmey, mgwathmey@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS - Contact: Brandon Tully, brandoncandler@me.co

COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL UNITY

The St. James Committee on Racial Unity was formed in the fall of 2022 to address next steps. Our hope is to offer more education, outreach, and relationship-building opportunities to address racial relations in our community and beyond.

Committee Contacts: Barbara Whitesides, whiteside6@me.com, Ginny Woodruff, ginny@vcwoodruff.com

WORSHIP

An important part of our heritage as Episcopalians is that our lives are centered around worship which engages the energies of the entire congregation, rather than a performance by the clergy.

Commission Contacts: Dawn Carter, dawnbcarter@gmail.com, Todd Hinshaw, thinsban0625@gmail.com, Mary Lyons Rouse, marylyonsmitch@yahoo.com, & The Rev. Phillip Craig, phillip@stjamesp.org

MUSIC & CHOIRS- Contact: John Sullivan, music@stjamesp.org

ALTAR GUILD- Contact: Susan Ingle, slcingle@gmail.com

BAPTISMAL BANNERS- Contacts: Brandon Tully, brandoncandler@me.com, Jennifer Craig

LINEN GUILD- Contact: Topsy James, topsyjames@aol.com

SEASONAL DECORATION- Contact: Lydia Hines, beehinesdesigns@gmail.com

ACOLYTES- Contact: Kathy Bush, kathybush1995@yahoo.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS- Contact: Carl Keller, ckeller68@ec.rr.com

LECTORS- Contact: Bill McKenzie, coordinator@stjamesp.org

USHERS- Contacts: Franklin Rouse, franklin@franklinrouse.com, Mason Hawfield, III mason.hawfield@ubs.com

WEDDING GUILD- Contact: Billie Holland, bebeholl@gmail.com

VERGERS- Contact: Don Brainard, dabrainard12@gmail.com

ST. JAMES PARISH

25 S. Third Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WILMINGTON, NC
PERMIT NO. 298

ST. JAMES PARISH

• ESTABLISHED 1729 •

STAFF

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 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** Mary Beth 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

25 S. Third Street | Wilmington, NC 28401

Visit us online: stjamesp.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stjamesp

Instagram: [@stjamesparish](https://instagram.com/stjamesparish)

Office: 910-763-1628