

ST. JAMES NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL 2024 SPECIAL EDITION

# GRAPEVINE

GROWING TOGETHER IN LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOR



## IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE RECTOR- THE REV. C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR.  
VESTRY CORNER  
FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
AND MORE!

# FAITH FORMATION

# Sundays at St. James Parish

## 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 MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

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

## IMPACT: SJP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

7:00 p.m. | *Youth Hall*



## 2024 PARISH RETREAT - COME TO THE TABLE

Friday, September 27 - Sunday, September 29 | *Trinity Center*

As followers of Christ once journeyed long roads to arrive in upper rooms for breaking bread, we too are each on our own spiritual paths. Whether in practices and rituals around the tables of our homes, in the sacred Eucharist at the table of our church, or in ensuring our tables invite the work of justice and peace, we hope to inspire a deeper value of the spiritual place of these tables. Come join us for times of individual, small group and community contemplation of the story of the Road to Emmaus for adults, youth and children alike. We will learn and play as a parish family. Join us as we explore this story in a variety of methods as well as have time for relaxation and respite. All are welcome to be a part of fellowship, food and fun at Trinity Center.

### Costs and Logistics

Costs cover Lodging for 2 nights and all meals from dinner Friday, September 27th through breakfast Sunday, September 29th. Plan for 4:00 PM check-in on the 27th and 11:30 a.m. check-out on the 29th

- Single Occupancy Adult - \$266
- Double Occupancy Adult - \$226 / person
- Children/Youth (5-17 yrs) - \$120 / person
- Young Child (1-4 yrs) - \$24 / person

Families registering/staying together will pay a maximum of \$500.

## WEEKDAYS AT-A-GLANCE

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

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

### MONDAYS

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- 11:30 a.m. | Registration Req.*

TELLING YOUR STORY  
THROUGH GUIDED  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY

*Tuesdays | 9:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room*

### WEDNESDAYS

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

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

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

*Wednesdays | 9:00 a.m. | Green Room*

WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE  
STUDY

*Wednesdays | 11:00 a.m. | Graham Parlor*

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: Life in Community

*“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together ... but encouraging one another.”*

*Hebrews 10:24-25a)*

Dear St. James Parish Family,

In June of 2023, the National Institutes of Health published the results of a study focusing on the abiding connections between community, personal health and well being. The findings of this study were neither ambiguous nor surprising: there is a direct correlation between a person’s well-being and their relationships within a broader community. The study defined this sense of community as ‘a feeling that members have of belonging, a feeling that members matter to one another and to the group, and a shared faith that members’ needs will be met through their commitment to be together.’<sup>1</sup> I find the survey to be a lovely reaffirmation of the words Paul wrote to the Hebrews (and you and me) 2000 years ago.

Wonderfully, we are blessed to live out the beauty of this definition every single day. Indeed, our community is one of faith and hope, strengthened by regular and sustainable moments of “meeting together” in worship, formation and service. We call this Church - our life together as the body of Christ, in relationship and in community.

On behalf of the St. James staff, program and ministry volunteers, I am delighted to share with you a robust and engaging invitation for the fall season of our “Life in Community” at St. James Parish. Please take the time to look through the variety of offerings, which include both Sunday mornings and opportunities throughout the week. Once again, there is a rich and diverse variety for your interest and engagement. Please include yourself. All are welcome!

We hope and pray our fall season will offer you opportunities for encouragement, and that you (and your family) will more deeply engage yourself in the life of our parish, as we strive toward love and good deeds, all to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Faithfully,

*Phillip+*  
Phillip



<sup>1</sup> Sense of community and mental health (NCBI, 2023)

# Vestry Corner

*“The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.”*

*BCP Page 364*

We hear this offering at every service of the Eucharist. Do you ever stop to ask yourself “Why do I go to church?” I suspect the answers might have more in common than we might first believe. Consider these: for renewal; to seek forgiveness for something done or maybe not done; for the joy of friendship and fellowship; for the music or a good sermon. Whatever the answer, the greatest reward is simply being reminded of God’s love for us, and to be reminded that He is always available when we seek Him.

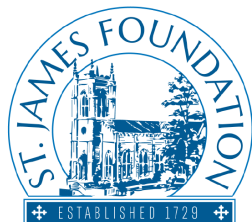
On September 8th, we will once again gather as one in our beautiful downtown Sanctuary. Another season of serenity at Mount Lebanon Chapel will have passed as we welcome all to another year of spiritual growth. The opportunity to learn about the numerous missions at St. James and to get involved will be available. Every group at St. James Parish welcomes new volunteers. Even a couple of hours a month can be a big help and so rewarding. It is God’s call to us to help others.

The Vestry held their retreat in early August. On Friday night, we heard a presentation by Laura Vinson, the director of the St. Mary’s Health and Dental Clinic. Laura talked about the history of the Clinic, the services provided to their patients, and their current search for a new location. Your Vestry is very interested in looking for ways that SJP might assist the clinic in finding a new home to ensure its continuation and growth. Our older parishioners might recall our early support of Good Shepherd Ministries and its success. On Saturday morning of our retreat, Mary Evans led the vestry on a broad discussion on the miracle of church fundraising and encouraged us to create our “vision” for St. James. As we considered this vision, it became apparent that a thorough plan for the efficient use of our facilities is needed. We are already working on this need.

God’s Peace and Blessings to all.

Alex Murchison – Senior Warden

Rachel Colonna – Junior Warden



## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ST. JAMES FOUNDATION?

The St. James Parish Foundation was established in 2003 with the mission of supporting the needs of St. James Parish in perpetuity. The Foundation supports its mission by providing financial contributions, generously donated to the Parish, through targeted distributions for capital or specific campaign-related needs.



LEARN MORE

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Foundation oversees more than \$4 million in assets. Historically, up to 4 percent of the assets are used annually to provide financial support for campus expenses such as the repair and replacement of the church roof, storm restoration, structural repairs, and operational expenses. Foundation investments are managed by an outside professional investment firm with concentrated efforts to appropriately manage and grow the Foundation assets. In addition, a Foundation committee works directly with the investment firm to monitor and report on the health of the Foundation assets to the board.

## HOW CAN I GIVE?

Leave a lasting legacy for our church community. Gifts can be made with cash or appreciated stock, or with the use of a Qualified Charitable IRA Distribution, a donor advised fund or via an estate planning gift. Check out the Ways to Give Packet on the Foundation page of the St. James Parish website.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Use the QR code, contact a member of the Foundation Board, or the Financial Administrator Maria Hollopeter at [finance@stjamesp.org](mailto:finance@stjamesp.org).

## MEET THE BOARD

Claire Parker,

*President*

Ryal Tayloe, Sr.,

*Vice President*

Vance Young,

*Treasurer*

Elizabeth Hartman,

*Secretary*

Pam Potter

Betsy Williams Stanfield

David Brownlow

Jennifer Chiavetta

Ben Currin

Allen Trask

Rachel Colonna,

*Vestry member*

Todd Hinshaw,

*Vestry member*



## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear St. James Day School Families,

We are excited to welcome you to the 77th school year at St. James Day School! This year, we are introducing a new initiative to support our goals as a school community: the launch of our Annual Fund. This fund will help us enhance the level of education we provide to our students, aligned with our five-year plan.

Last year, we made a significant improvement by replacing the aging tables and chairs in all the classrooms. The difference is evident, especially in the toddler classrooms. Previously, the toddlers were using chairs that were too high, requiring assistance to sit and stand. Now, they can do this independently, and they have learned to stay seated while eating snacks and lunch. This new skill is particularly appreciated by the two-year-old teachers this year.

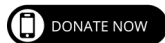
Our next goal is to replace the shelving in all the classrooms. Ms. Carla and Ms. Gail's classroom has been set up as a model for this initiative. The new shelving will allow children to access materials independently and will enable teachers to create proper learning centers by using the shelving as dividers. We envision our classrooms with the child at the center.

With your help, we can reach our goal this year. Thank you for your continued support of St. James Day School. Together, we can achieve great things for our children and their education.

Sincerely,

*Ansley Frask*

Director of St. James Day School



# New Annual Fund

This fall, we are excited to roll out our year-round giving campaign with the **St. James Day School Annual Fund.**

The funds raised by this campaign go to support projects beyond day-to-day school operations.

Our St. James Day School Board has some plans in mind for improving our classrooms and overall learning environment. Gifts to the SJDS Annual Fund will help us meet our goals for classroom improvements.

With eight regular classrooms, an office, a staff workroom, the Chapel, the Library, and the Yoga room, SJDS plays a large role in space utilization at St. James Parish.

Our first goal is to replace the shelving in all the classrooms. The correct shelving will allow our students to access materials at a proper heights safely and in developmentally appropriate ways. It will also allow the layout of the classrooms to have clear definition of space and purpose.

**Here are a few of the pieces from Kaplan Early Learning Company that we have in mind for our students:**



**Carolina See-All Storage**

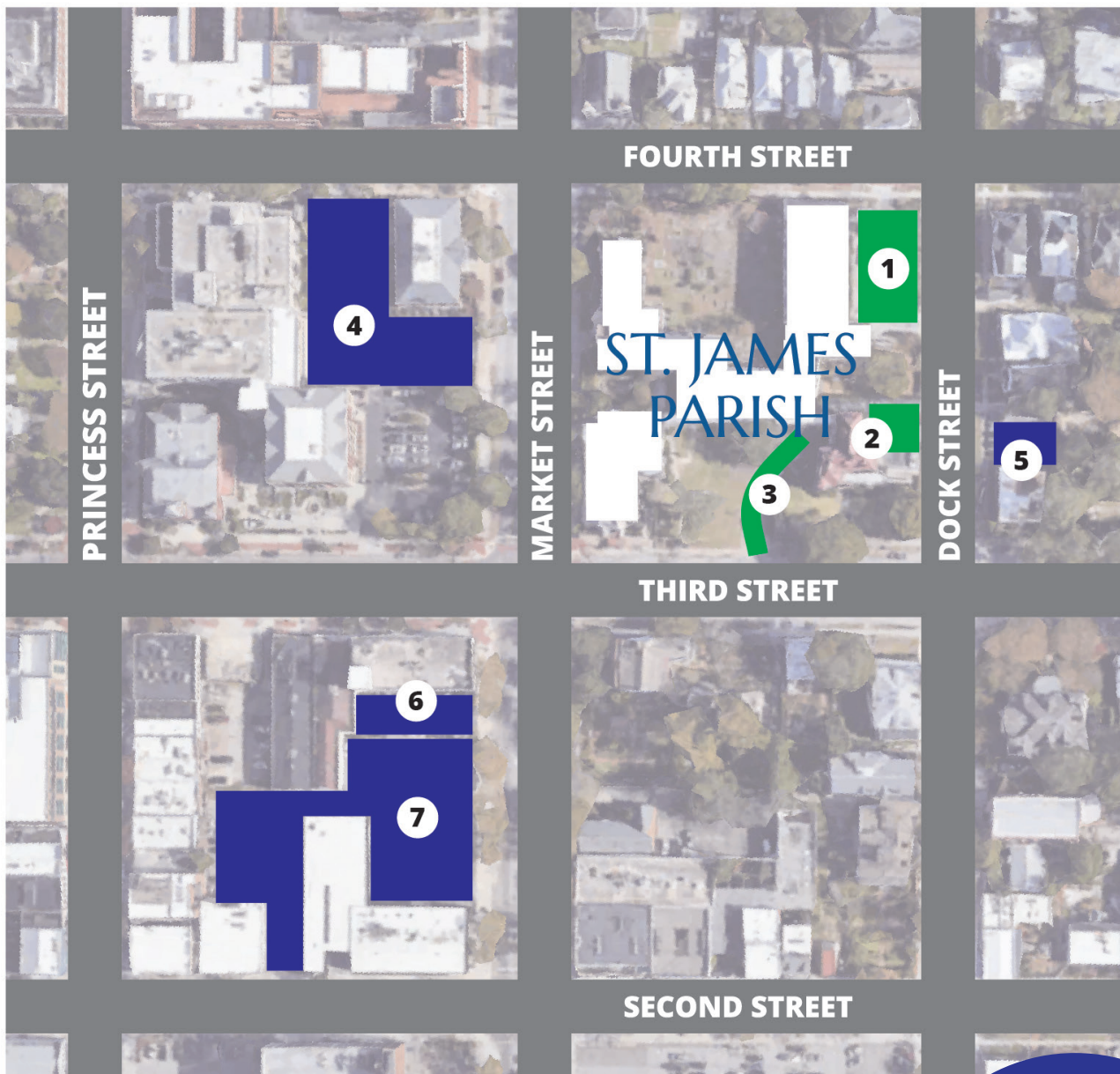


**Carolina Toddler Sit and Read Bench with Book Display and Storage Cubby**



**Carolina 4-section Toddler Locker**

# PARKING AT ST. JAMES



## PARKING LOTS AT & NEAR ST. JAMES

1. PERRY HALL LOT - HANDICAP PARKING AVAILABLE
2. BACON HOUSE LOT - HANDICAP 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

On behalf of our dedicated clergy, staff and a host of passionate parishioners, we are honored and excited to share with you our St. James program offerings for the fall season. In looking through the following pages, you will see ample evidence of the faith filled and enthusiastic planning and work that has taken place. There are rich and diverse opportunities for all ages. We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed to this robust and meaningful endeavor.

Our Sunday morning Faith Formation classes begin at 9:10 am. Wonderfully, they are surrounded on each side by the heart of our time together, which is worship. With that in mind, please do come to Church. There we are all fed by Christ's word in scripture, in our prayers and hymns, and in the shared blessing of Eucharist. As a reminder, this is our schedule:

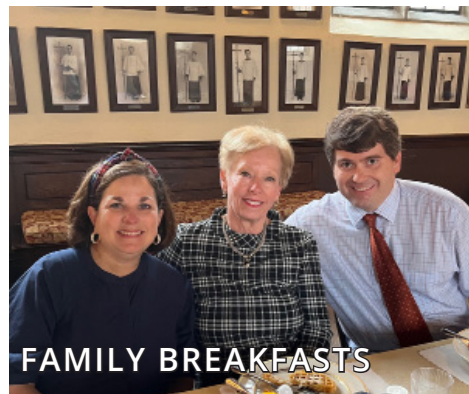
- 8:00 am Rite I Holy Eucharist
- 8:30 am Family Breakfast
- 9:10 am Christian Formation Hour
- 10:15 am Rite II Holy Eucharist  
Children's Chapel (during the service)

Worship and programs will take place all week long. We invite you to take note of our Wednesday evening sessions (beginning October 9th), which include a meal together in our Great Hall.

Our thanks again to all who have contributed to all of these offerings. All are welcome! In the meantime, please continue to keep our parish family in your daily prayers. We look forward to seeing you along the way.

Faithfully,

The St. James Clergy



# LIFE IN COMMUNITY

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | THE GREAT HALL

This fall, we begin with a new Adult Faith Formation program. Throughout the program year, we will explore what it means to be in Christian Community. We invite you to be a part of the journey as we discover the strength that comes from true community with God, and each other. Through November, we will gather together in the Great Hall for Life in Community: Joint Sessions so we can learn and grow together. In December, we will offer two concurrent classes—the Disciple’s Class and a new class entitled “Bible Talk.”

### SEPTEMBER

#### **September 15, 2024: Life In Community: What It Means to be a Community in Christ**

*Speaker: The Rev. Gray Hodsdon*

All are invited to join us in the Great Hall as we introduce this year’s formation theme “Life in Community” and discuss why community matters, especially Christian community.

#### **September 22, 2024: Growing Spiritually as a Community**

*Speaker: The Rev. Jay Sidebotham*

What do we mean by spiritual growth? Is it just an individual journey or does the community contribute to the growth? If so, how? We’ll begin this series with a conversation about what we mean by spiritual growth, how it happens, and what we can do together to foster that kind of growth.

#### **September 29, 2024: Come to the Table**

*Speaker: The Rev. Gray Hodsdon*

Many of our parish family will be gathered at the Trinity Center for the Parish Retreat. Those in town are encouraged to join a special Faith Formation hour inspired by this year’s Parish Retreat theme: Come to the Table. We will experience a shared program even though we are physically apart.



### OCTOBER

#### **October 6, 2024: Community, Prayer, & Creation**

*Guest Speaker: The Rt. Rev. Henry Parsley*

Bishop Parsley introduces the theme of Living in Community. We will engage with what the New Testament has to say about Christian community and why it matters. How does prayer deepen community? How does God call us to care for one another and the community of all life?

#### **October 13, 2024: How our Community Prays**

Members of our St. James Parish family will share their prayer practices and invite us to reflect on and share on our own practices. We hope we can all find inspiration and renewal in this time dedicated to sharing our individual and community practices of prayer.

#### **October 20, 2024: Wilmington’s Creation Care**

*Guest Speaker: Roger Shew*

Join us for a special presentation from UNCW’s Roger Shew. Roger will share experiences and expertise related to the care of Wilmington’s environment, including the natural and cultural history of the Cape Fear River, as we consider how each of us as individuals and a community can contribute to the care of our local area.





## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

### October 27, 2024: Moving from I to We: Caring for the Community of Creation

*Guest Speaker: The Rt. Rev. Henry Parsley*

Bishop Parsley shares a biblical and theological approach to the care of creation. What does it mean to be God's stewards of the earth? The arising environmental crisis is challenging us to do a better job. How can we as individuals and as Christian community learn and respond?

## NOVEMBER

### November 3, 2024: Life Together

*Speaker: The Rev. Geoffrey Hoare*

A Sunday morning opportunity for a brief consideration of what Bonhoeffer's reflection on Christian Life in community before WWII might have to say to us today.

### November 10, 2024: Justice in Community

*Speaker: Ben David*

Ben David has graciously agreed to join the Rev. Phillip Craig and our St. James family in a discussion of living the Christian faith as we engage with justice and how we might live fully into the call to "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God."

### November 17, 2024: The Unifying Love of Christ

*Speaker: The Rev. Phillip Craig*

In times of political and social division, the Rev. Phillip Craig reminds us that we are ONE in Christ's love for us. We are challenged to walk in love as Christ loves us. Let us reflect on how that might be applied to each of us, to our parish family, and to the wider church as we move forward.

### November 24, 2024: Celebrating 295 Years of St. James Parish

*Speakers: The St James Tricentennial Committee*

Wednesday, November 27th is the official 295th birthday of our St. James Family. Our community began worshipping together in November 1729. While buildings have come and gone, our parish family has endured, grown, and thrives still today. Join us as we share plans for the next 5 years as St. James Parish prepares to celebrate 300 years of worship together.

## LIFE IN COMMUNITY

DECEMBER - During the month of December as we celebrate the season of Advent, we will offer the Disciple's Class and the new Bible Talk class. Please see the following two pages for details. All are welcome to these classes.

## JANUARY

### January 5, 2025: Epiphany Eve

*Clergy Led*

Join us as we discuss the Epiphany story and the significance it holds for our faith.



Epiphany will mark the beginning of the Winter/Spring Faith Formation Program.

## THANKING OUR COMMUNITY

Our Adult Faith Formation Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the the Faith Formation Survey this summer. Your feedback was invaluable as we laid the foundation for this fall's programming. We invite you to continue to share ideas by reaching out to The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org), Frances Trask, [francestrask9@gmail.com](mailto:francestrask9@gmail.com), & Carrie Young, [cey26@cornell.edu](mailto:cey26@cornell.edu)

We would also like to say a special thank you to our Adult Faith Formation Committee lay leaders who shared their time to prepare this year's offerings:

Chelsey Bartholet  
Sarah Crews  
Kevin Hicks

Frances Trask  
Carrie Young

# DISCIPLE'S CLASS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

The Disciple's 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 Community." The Disciple's Class will also offer sessions focused on other timely subjects and seasons of the church, celebrating Advent and Lent.

## DECEMBER

### **December 1, 2024: First Sunday of Advent - Hope**

*Clergy Led*

Join us for a clergy-led presentation on the core themes of Advent. On this Sunday, we will explore the hope we can experience as we await Christ's second coming.

### **December 8, 2024: Second Sunday of Advent - Peace**

*Clergy Led*

On the Second Sunday of Advent, we attempt to understand the peace that passes all understanding and this gift God bestows upon the world.

### **December 15, 2024: Third Sunday of Advent - Joy**

*Clergy Led*

On the Third Sunday of Advent, we embrace the joy of the season and ponder how we can experience the same depth of joy as those who prepared for Christ's first coming.

### **December 22: Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love**

*Clergy Led*

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we take on one of the most notable themes of, not only Advent, but the Christian faith: Love.

### **December 29: First Sunday after Christmas - No Faith Formation Classes**

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# BIBLE TALK

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

This fall, we begin a new offering: "Bible Talk." It is a Bible-based discussion class that will follow the same themes shared by the lectures and speakers for the Disciple's Class. This offering is a great way to get to know God's word and share conversations about scripture.

## DECEMBER

### **December 1, 2024: First Sunday of Advent**

*Clergy Led*

Join us during this Advent season as we study and discuss the readings from our Sunday Lectionary and discover what these passages can teach us today. The selected readings for this Sunday's gathering are: Jeremiah 33:14-16, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

### **December 8, 2024: Second Sunday of Advent**

*Clergy Led*

During the season of Advent, we'll be following the Lectionary. The selected readings for this Sunday's gathering are: Malachi 3:1-4, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

### **December 15, 2024: Third Sunday of Advent**

*Clergy Led*

During the season of Advent, we'll be following the Lectionary. The selected readings for this week's gathering are: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

### **December 22: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Clergy Led*

During the season of Advent, we'll be following the Lectionary. The selected readings for this week's gathering are: Micah 5:2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

### **December 29: First Sunday after Christmas - No Faith Formation Classes**

## ADULT OFFERINGS

### BREAD BREAKERS

Get to know other young adults and young families at St. James Parish through the Bread Breakers! 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.

Contacts: The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org), Rachel Colonna, [rcolonna85@gmail.com](mailto:rcolonna85@gmail.com)



### 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.

All women of the church (and others who are interested) are warmly invited to participate in ECW activities.

Contact: Karen Clark, [Clarkk11@gmail.com](mailto:Clarkk11@gmail.com)



## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

### FOYER GROUPS

The Foyer Groups are getting ready to begin a new season. This January new groups will be announced. All leaders are asked to touch base with their members and plan one or two gatherings 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.

Contacts: Sheila Osann, [osannshe@aol.com](mailto:osannshe@aol.com), & Nina Inge, [ninabet55@gmail.com](mailto:ninabet55@gmail.com)

### 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. The purpose of Men on a Mission is to provide the men of our parish an opportunity to get to know each other better and to work together to serve our parish and our community in fun ways. We have Fellowship events at interesting places featuring delicious food and drinks, as well as time to pray together. MoM also organizes and leads various service projects on the St. James downtown campus, Mount Lebanon Chapel, Trinity Center, Glory Ridge and several local not-for-profit sites. There is no cost of joining MoM and no requirements to participate in any of the fellowship and service activities. MoM is a great way for the men to get to know each other better, and a wonderful vehicle for newcomers to become engaged in our parish while having fun with a great group of men! If you would like more information and to get updates about future Men on a Mission service and fellowship ministry opportunities, please contact any of the MoM leaders. We would love to have you join us!

Contacts: Brian McMerty, [bmcmerth@arris.partners](mailto:bmcmerth@arris.partners), Web Cowden, [web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com](mailto:web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com), David Brownlow, [dbrownlon@ec.rr.com](mailto:dbrownlon@ec.rr.com), & The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org)

# SUNDAYS AT ST. JAMES

## YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

The mission of St. James Parish Youth Ministries is to create a safe & caring environment where our youth community engages with the spiritual, emotional, psychological, social and physical needs of 6th through 12th graders. Our St. James Youth Ministries seeks to provide programs, activities, worship, outreach opportunities, mission experiences and fun activities where we get to know one another more deeply and fully and where Jesus Christ will be known personally. Our Youth Ministries Opportunities seek to engage our youth and the adults who work with them to explore who they are as a “follower of Jesus” and how this relationship can and will enhance their lives. Our St James Middle School Gatherings include confirmation preparation and current event issues. Our Senior High Gatherings engage in weekly Bible Study from a young person’s perspective with adult support and encouragement. As we explore who we are, what we believe, that which we value and the challenges that we face, we will delve more deeply on what it means being Beloved People of God! Our St. James Parish youth are active in our local community, regionally and also internationally! We would be remiss if we did not THANK ALL OF THE ADULTS who help shape our St James Youth Ministries Program! Their investments in the lives of our Youth are deep and caring. Without each of them, our St James Youth Ministries Experiences would not be so amazingly wonderful!

Contact: Cookie at [cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:cookie@stjamesp.org), Jane Ripppy, [janerippy@yahoo.com](mailto:janerippy@yahoo.com), Jonathan Graves, [jsgraves83@gmail.com](mailto:jsgraves83@gmail.com)

### SEPTEMBER

**September 8, 2024**

**10:15 AM | Welcome Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks, & Ministry Fair**

**5:00 - 6:30 PM | Youth and Parents Meeting**

Our St. James Youth, their parents, and Youth Advisors are all invited to join us Sunday evening as we share our plans and vision for the year ahead. We can’t wait to begin this journey with you.

**September 15, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

Middle and High School Youth are invited to join us on the Youth Hall for a Sunday morning full of faith, friends, and youth driven discussion.

**5:00 - 6:30 PM | IGNITE! 6th-8th Grade Youth Group**

This year, we’re making space for our Middle School Youth to take ownership of their faith journey. All 6th-8th graders are invited to be a part of IGNITE!

**7:00 - 8:00 PM | IMPACT! 9th-12th Grade Gathering**

With so much going on during the week for many of our youth, we invite our 9th-12th graders to have a time of recentering before diving into the week. Come spend Sunday evenings at St. James and go into Monday refreshed and reminded that you are a beloved and important child of God. You make an IMPACT!

**September 22, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**5:00 - 6:30 PM | IGNITE! 6th-8th Grade Youth Group**

**7:00 - 8:00 PM | IMPACT! 9th-12th Grade Gathering**

**September 29, 2024: Parish Retreat Weekend**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

12 No IGNITE or IMPACT this week.



### OCTOBER

**October 6, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**4:30 PM | Trask Farm Corn Maze**

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for one of our favorite fall activities, the corn maze! We plan to be home around 7:00. Please invite your friends and stay tuned for how to register.

**October 13, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**4:30 - 5:30 PM | IGNITE! Middle School Youth Icecream Social**

Our 6th-8th Graders are invited to join us for a sweet treat. More details to be shared at a later date.

**6:00 - 7:30 PM | IMPACT DINNER! High School Youth Gather**

Our 9th-12th Graders are invited to join us for a dinner and fun in Lee Perry Hall.

**October 20, 2024: Happening #81 Weekend**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

No IGNITE or IMPACT this week.

## YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

# YOUTH GATHERINGS

**October 27, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**4:45 - 7:00 PM | Be The Light - Outreach Event**

Bring your friends and join us as our 6th - 12th Graders gather with other youth groups in our area to support the Harrelson Center and help with an amazing OUTREACH PROJECT and we will have so much fun!

**NOVEMBER**

**November 3, 2024: Out of the Darkness Weekend**

**9:10 AM | Joining with the Adults in Great Hall for a Special offering from The Rev. Geoffrey Hoare**

**Afternoon | Out of the Darkness Walk**

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) Wilmington area "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" holds a special place in the hearts of many in our parish family, but especially our St. James Youth. The St. James Youth Ministries 2024 Out of the Darkness Team" invites St. James parishioners, families, friends and neighbors to join us for this year's walk. You are also welcome to volunteer alongside our Youth during the event and/or you may support this cause by asking friends and family to donate money to support this extremely important Walk. More details coming!

**November 10, 2024: Veteran's Day Weekend**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**No IGNITE or IMPACT this week.**

**November 17, 2024**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**No IGNITE!: Middle School Youth Conference**

**6:00-7:30 PM | IMPACT DINNER! 9th-12th Grade Gathering**

Our 9th-12th Graders are invited to join us for a dinner and fun in Lee Perry Hall.

**November 24, 2024: A Day to Give Thanks!**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**5:00 PM | Thanksgiving Service**

Our St. James Youth will be leading us in a special time of thanksgiving and worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. Join us as "we gather together to ask the Lord's Blessing" and as we ponder all for which we can be thankful! Everyone is welcome...people of all ages. Let's share our Blessings and Thanksgivings! Make plans to come a little early for the Advent Wreath Making Event and join us after for dinner out!

**DECEMBER**

**December 1, 2024: First Sunday of Advent**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**5:00 PM | Shop'N'Hop**

We will gather at Walmart on Market Street to SHOP for families with children who need our help at Christmas. We will divide into small groups and use our Youth Ministries Outreach Budget to purchase meaningful gifts for each family member. Once we complete our purchases, we will HOP over to IHOP for a delicious supper. Join the fun! Help other people! Bring your friends! SHOP & HOP!

**December 8, 2024: Second Sunday of Advent**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**4:00 PM | Lessons & Carols**

Our Youth and their families are invited to gather with the wider parish family to participate in Lessons & Carols.

**5:30 PM | Wrap'N'Yap**

It's time to WRAP all of the gifts that we have purchased at "Shop & Hop." Even if you could not join us for "Shop & Hop" there are LOTS of gifts to wrap so please come and help us! We will also be watching a Christmas Movie as we act like an ELF and WRAP our gifts! YES! We will have pizza.

**December 15, 2024: Third Sunday of Advent**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**5:00 PM | Ski Trip Meeting**

All who are planning to go on the January 30 - February 2 Winterplace Ski Trip are encouraged to bring your parents and attend this important informational meeting.

**December 22, 2024: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**No IGNITE or IMPACT this week.**

**December 29, 2024: First Sunday After Christmas**

**No Faith Formation Classes or IGNITE/IMPACT!**

**JANUARY**

**January 5, 2025: Epiphany Eve!**

**9:10 AM | Youth, Faith, & Friends**

**5:00 PM | Youth-Led Epiphany-Eve Service**

Join our Youth at Mt. Lebanon Chapel for a very special Epiphany service.

**Epiphany will mark the beginning of the Winter/Spring Faith Formation Program.**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS | 9:10 A.M. | MILTON HALL - SECOND FLOOR

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. JAMES

Children's Ministries can't wait for Welcome Sunday! The St. James campus isn't the same without the youth present! We have a fun fall planned for everyone between 3 years old and 5th grade! There are a few updates and changes occurring as well. The first update we'd like to share is that registration for children participating in Sunday School will now be strongly encouraged. Our Parish is lacking a well-formed database for children in 5th grade and under, and this will help us create one. This new protocol will also help keep all students attending Children's Ministries programs safe. **You can find the form using the QR code.** Please fill out one form a year, not each Sunday. *We will have copies at the ministries fair on September 8th.* Visitors are welcome! If you can, let Children's Ministries know in advance who will be



attending. If it's a last-minute attendance, you may still come! For new students, if the child is in 2nd grade or under, we ask that a parent or guardian stay with them. Forms will be present in each classroom on Sunday morning.

**Reminder:** *We only have 45 minutes and want to use those minutes efficiently. Please walk with children to drop them in their age-appropriate class and then plan to pick them up promptly at 10:00.*

Contact: Taber Stockstill- Tornes, [childrensministries@stjamesp.org](mailto:childrensministries@stjamesp.org).

## SEPTEMBER

**September 8, 2024: Welcome Sunday!**

**No Sunday School classes meet but Children's Chapel will be back in action.**

**Blessing of the Backpacks**

Please bring your child's backpack to the 10:15 service for a special prayer!

**September 15, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

First Sunday School offering of the program year! We will have people in the hallway with directions on which classroom your child goes to. Please make a special note that on September 15th, **our wonderful group of 4th graders will be receiving Bibles during the 10:15 a.m. service.** To celebrate the occasion, we will head to Mellow Mushroom for pizza after service! Please join us!

**September 22, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**September 29, 2024: Parish Retreat Weekend - Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**Our goal at for Children's Ministries is to create age appropriate ways to express faith. Let's support that goal and have a wonderful year in Children's Ministries at St. James!**

**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 creation.

**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 story by story. We will explore the Bible in an imaginative way using our minds, LEGO bricks, and other hands-on activities!

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

## OCTOBER

**October 6, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**October 13, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**October 20, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**October 27, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

## NOVEMBER

**November 3, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

**10:15 AM | Children's & Cherub's Choirs Present**

Join us as our Children's and Cherub Choirs make a special offering during our All Saint's Rite II Service.

**November 10, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet**

**9:10 AM | Sunday School**

## CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

### November 17, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

5:00 PM | Family Fun Outing: Fall Fun!

Stay tuned for plans regarding this fun family activity.

### November 24, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

4:00 PM | Intergenerational Advent Wreath Making Event at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. All Ages Welcome!

Advent is just around the corner. As we prepare to join our St. James Youth for a special Thanksgiving Service, make plans to come a little early for the Advent Wreath Making Event.

5:00 PM | Thanksgiving Service

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

## DECEMBER

### December 1, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

This year's Christmas Pageant and roles will be introduced on the First Sunday of Advent.

### December 8, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

On the Second Sunday of Advent, we'll be hosting Pageant practice during Sunday School hour.

5:00 PM | Family Fun Outing: Christmas Fun!

Stay tuned for plans regarding this fun family activity.

### December 15, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

On the Third Sunday of Advent, we'll be hosting Pageant practice during Sunday School hour.

11:45-12:45 PM | Mandatory Dress Rehearsal

All who are participating in the Christmas Pageant are expected to attend the dress rehearsal following the 10:15 service. We expect practice to take an hour.

### December 22, 2024: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Pageant Prep!

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our students will gather to get into costume and prepare for the 10:15 worship service and Christmas Pageant.



### December 22, 2024: 10:15 AM | Christmas Pageant

During the Rite II service, our St. James Children will share the story of Jesus' birth!

### December 29, 2024: No Faith Formation Classes Meet

## JANUARY

### January 5, 2025: Sunday School Classes Meet

9:10 AM | Sunday School

Come start the new year with us!

5:00 PM | Youth-Led Epiphany-Eve Service

Join our Youth at Mt. Lebanon Chapel for a special Epiphany service.

Epiphany will mark the beginning of the Winter/Spring Faith Formation Program.

## Children's Ministries Dates to Know

### CHILDREN'S AND CHERUB'S CHOIR REHEARSALS: WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS IN OCTOBER

Beginning October 6 | Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

*Children's Choir (2nd - 5th Grades) meet in the Choir Room*

*Leader: Dr. Bill Weisser*

*Cherub's Choir (age 4 - 1st Grade) meet in the Children's Chapel*

*Leader: Erin Trask*

Mark your calendars for this fall children's choir dates! Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays in the late afternoon to correspond with our Wednesday Night Dinner Series. The children's choirs will sing on All Saint's Sunday, November 3rd. As you'll notice, this year we're splitting up the age groups to allow our older children the opportunity to do more complex pieces. Please plan to drop your child off at the appropriate classroom.

## BINGO NIGHT WITH ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL

*Wednesday, November 6th | Cost: \$5/family*

St. James Children's Ministries and St. James Day School are teaming up to host a family fun Bingo Night! All ages are welcome. Stay tuned for more about this fun event.

# 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](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

## HOLY EUCHARIST

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

Join us in the St. James Chapel for a Noontday 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, and 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.

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

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

The High School Starbucks Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 a.m. (16th Street Starbucks). This Starbucks 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 and a wonderful opportunity to get to know other young people and to hear the whisper of God. Questions? Contact Cookie at [cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:cookie@stjamesp.org), Jane Ripppy [janeripppy@yahoo.com](mailto:janeripppy@yahoo.com) or Ginny Woodruff [Ginny@vcwoodruff.com](mailto:Ginny@vcwoodruff.com). We hope to see you there!



## COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Second Tuesdays of the Month | 5:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor*

All who have completed Community of Hope International Training are invited to join us for a monthly Continuing Education session during the program year! Our first gathering will be in September. We will meet in-person in the Graham Parlor and via Zoom.



## TELLING YOUR STORY THROUGH GUIDED AUTOBIOGRAPHY

*Tuesdays, Beginning Sept. 10 | 9:00-11:00 a.m. | Stephen Ministry Room*

We will meet for seven weeks on Tuesdays, from September 10 - October 22

### Guided Autobiography may be just right for you if:

- You want to write your stories, but it's hard to get started
- You have many stories but aren't sure how to organize them
- You have never thought of yourself as a “real writer” but you would like to hand on some stories to children and grandchildren
- You are trying to be active in ways that stimulate the brain

### Class Format:

- Each week we focus on a new theme
- Fresh resources are given weekly to boost memory recall
- At home each week, participants write a two page story (900 to 1,000 words)
- The following week, participants share their stories in a small supportive group, committed to confidentiality

### Writing and telling your story can have real benefits:

- Increase your sense of well-being
- Create a legacy to share with others
- Help you gain new perspective on your life
- Build bonds of community and connection
- Stimulate the brain in very healthy ways
- Additionally, some say the class itself is a spiritual experience

Interested? That's great! Please check your calendar and plan to attend all seven classes (though we all know that emergencies can come up.)

Since the resources build on each other, this is not a “drop in” class. Class size is limited to 12. There is a suggested donation is \$45, with scholarship help available.

To register, please visit [stjamesp.org/blog/story](http://stjamesp.org/blog/story) or reach out to [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org)



## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM)

*Tuesday Mornings & Thursday Evenings | Reach out for details!*

The Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program taken one year at a time. This program has been provided through the School of Theology in Sewanee, TN for nearly 50 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](mailto:rppace@hotmail.com).

To learn more about the Thursday evening EfM program, contact Karen Clark at [clarklc11@gmail.com](mailto:clarklc11@gmail.com).

## WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

*Beginning September 11th | 11:00 a.m. | Graham Parlor or Zoom*

The Wednesday Adult Bible Study will kick off at 11 AM on September 11. Whether you are a novice Bible student or have studied Scripture for years, we will all have the opportunity to learn and grow together through interactive engagement with God's Word. Our first study of the fall will be on 1 Peter and led by the Rev. Gray Hodsdon. During October Susan Ingle will lead a study of Philippians. In November the Rev Phillip Craig will lead. Wednesdays in Advent will feature a survey of the scriptural basis for some of our best loved Advent hymns, led by Dr Bill Weisser and Susan Ingle.

## REGULAR CHOIR PRACTICE

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

All who are interested are warmly invited to join the St. James Choir for our weekly evening practice. Choir practice always begins with vocal warm-ups. As a transition from warmups, we sing through the hymns for the upcoming Sunday to polish up the phrasing and four-part harmonies. 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 our Interim Director of Music, Dr. Bill Weisser at [music.director@stjamesp.org](mailto:music.director@stjamesp.org).

## HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE

*Dates and Times to be Announced*

Calling all Handbell Ringers and those who are interested in ringing bells, especially Youth and Adults! Beginning in September we are organizing a Handbell Choir. We need approximately 10 ringers to cover 3 octaves of bells. Being able to read music and having some coordination is a real asset. Each ringer is assigned specific notes of the scale. Each bell (note) is then rung at the appropriate time found in the musical score. Please consider joining us. Once we have enough ringers to begin we will establish a regular day and time to rehearse. The Handbell Choir will play regularly for Preludes, accompany the Adult Choir, and various seasons of the year, especially Advent and Christmas. Please contact Dr. Bill Weisser at [music.director@stjamesp.org](mailto:music.director@stjamesp.org) by September 8th. If we have more than 10 interested we'll form additional Bell Choirs. Come and have some fun!

## FELLOWSHIP WEDNESDAYS

### OCTOBER 6TH - 30TH

### CHILDREN'S & CHERUB'S CHOIRS

*Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Choir Room & Children's Chapel*

- Children's Choir (2nd - 5th Grades) meet in the Choir Room- Leader: Dr. Bill Weisser
  - Cherub's Choir (age 4 - 1st Grade) meet in the Children's Chapel - Leader: Erin Trask
- Mark your calendars for these fall children's choir dates! Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays in the late afternoon to correspond with our Wednesday Night Dinner Series **The children's choirs will sing on All Saint's Sunday, November 3rd.** As you'll notice, this year we're splitting up the age groups to allow our older children the opportunity to do more complex pieces. Please plan to drop your child off at the appropriate classroom.

### YOUTH GATHERING

*Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Youth Room*

6th - 12th Graders are invited to join Cookie Cantwell and other Youth Advisors for a special study on Wednesday nights later this fall! Stay tuned for details.

### A LOOK AT "LIFE TOGETHER"

*Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Lippitt Room*

The Rev. Phillip Craig for a special study on Wednesday nights later this fall! Together, we'll be reading through Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*.

### PARISH DINNERS

*Wednesdays | 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 and sign up to volunteer or bring a dish. These wonderful nights of fellowship need hands and hearts to serve. If you have questions about these great dinners, please reach out to Brandon Tully at [brandoncandler@me.com](mailto:brandoncandler@me.com) or Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

# FOR YOUR CALENDAR

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Tuesday, September 3, 2024, the St. James Parish Office will resume regular fall hours:

- Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Friday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The St. James Parish Office will be closed on:

- Veterans Day - November 11, 2024
- Thanksgiving - November 27-29, 2024
- Christmas Eve - Half day - December 24, 2024
- Christmas - December 25 - 27, 2024
- New Year's Eve - Half day - December 31, 2024
- New Year's Day - January 1, 2025

## 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.

## CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

*Wednesdays Beginning September 18 | 9:00-11:00 a.m. | Green Room*

Creative Connections returns this fall! Come craft with us on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. in the Green Room (located above the Parish Shop in the Parish House). Drop-in as you're able. We'll enjoy this time of creation and fellowship. All are welcome. Bring your creative projects—knitting, crocheting, origami, scrapbooking, quilting (whittling perhaps?) or any project you can fit in your lap or on a table! Need help on your project? Come and learn to sew, knit, or crochet from the pros. Have questions about this offering? Please reach out to Nancy Foglia, Molly Roush, or Ann Stuart.

## WOMEN'S HIKING RETREAT

*October 4-6 | Kanuga | Registration Full - Waitlist Available*

Women of Saint James, if you enjoy hikes in the mountains and would like to join a retreat focused on a healthy body and spirit, please consider the fall women's hiking retreat. We will hike 4-8 miles (short and long options) on Saturday and have shorter hikes on Friday afternoon and/or Sunday morning. There will be a short program each evening. Please email Hannah Brownlow at [hannabrownlow@msn.com](mailto:hannabrownlow@msn.com) or Linda Murchison at [lindamurchison65@gmail.com](mailto:lindamurchison65@gmail.com) if you have questions.

## SPEAKER EVENT: WHY WE NEED EACH OTHER - WHAT CHRISTIAN FAITH OFFERS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

*Wednesday, September 18 | First Presbyterian Church |*

*6:30 p.m. Reception (RSVP) | 7:00 p.m. Presentation & Discussion*  
St. James and First Presbyterian are once again joining forces to share a wonderful speaker opportunity with our community. Join psychiatrist and theologian Dr. Warren Kinghorn for a conversation about how we can move from isolation and loneliness to connection and belonging. As part of his work with the Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative, Dr. Kinghorn directs a program of Christian theological formation designed specifically for mental health practitioners. In his new book, *Wayfaring: A Christian Approach to Mental Health Care*, Dr. Kinghorn draws from his years of caring for patients and training future clinicians to develop a Christian vision of accompanying those facing mental health challenges. All are warmly welcome! This event is free.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

*Friday, October 4 | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel*

All are invited to bring your non-human family members to our Annual Blessing of the Animals on Friday, October 4 at Mt. Lebanon Chapel from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. We'll celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi by blessing our furry, feathered, or even scaled, friends!

*Please make sure all pets are appropriately leashed or contained.*

## BREAD BREAKERS: OCTOBER HOSPITALITY AT HOME

*Sunday, October 6 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Kirby Home*

The St. James Bread Breakers' are hosting Hospitality at Home in October! The Kirby Family is signed up to host this event at their new home. We invite everyone to bring a side dish and join us at 4:00 p.m. to enjoy time together in a family-friendly atmosphere for a potluck-style dinner. Kids, Friends, and Guests are welcomed! If you'd like an adult beverage and are of age, please feel free to BYOB. RSVP online!

## FALL NEWCOMER MINGLE

*Sunday, October 20 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Smith Home | RSVP*

This fall, all newcomers are invited to join us for the Fall Newcomer Mingle on Sunday, October 20. We will gather at the home of Calvin and Teri Smith in Landfall. Directions will be shared with those who RSVP as we draw closer to event day. Get to know each other, the Vestry and the Clergy at this fun event featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres, plenty of parking and childcare onsite with advance registration. This is the premier church community event for newcomers and you'll want to attend. Stay tuned for how to RSVP!

## HAPPENING #81

October 17-20 | Trinity Center | Team Meeting September 14 at SJP  
Happening #81 is on the way! Happening is a Christian Experience for 9th-12th Graders built and led by youth! If you are planning to be a Team Member this year, please make sure to register on the Diocesan Website **by September 10th** at the latest. All Team Members are required to attend **one of two Team Meetings. Saturday, September 18th at 7:00 PM or September 22 at 3:00 PM.** Happening #81 Candidates (youth & adults who have not previously attended a Happening) must register by **October 3** online at The Diocese of East Carolina. Have questions about Happening? Reach out to Cookie Cantwell at [cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:cookie@stjamesp.org) or 910-264-5910.

## OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

November 3 | St. James Parish

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) Wilmington area "Out of the Darkness Community Walk" will take place on Sunday, November 3 at St. James Parish. Our St. James Youth are leading the charge! There will be many ways to be a part of this important event. If you would like to learn more about how you can support our young people and the ASFP's Out of the Darkness Walk, please reach out to Cookie Cantwell at [cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:cookie@stjamesp.org).



## ST. JAMES ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS

Thursdays, November 7, 14, & 21 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Newcomers are encouraged to be a part of our St. James Orientation for Newcomers (SJON) series. Meet us in the Great Hall to learn about St. James Parish; meet the clergy; find programs and ministries to suit your interests. Childcare provided with advance reservation. Stay tuned for reservation details.

## ECW BAKE SALE!

November 10 & 17 | 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. | St. James Parish

The Episcopal Church Women are hosting a Bake Sale! Traveling? Don't worry! We've got two weekends selected to share our tasty treats. Sign up to bake or volunteer, or just come ready to shop. Proceeds from the Bake Sale go to support ECW's Outreach and Programming projects. Stay tuned for how to sign up online. Have questions about the Bake Sale? Please reach out to Karen Clark at [clarklc11@gmail.com](mailto:clarklc11@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. Please let us know if you would like to serve. Shifts run from 4:30 p.m. to about 7:00 p.m. If you can stand for 45 minutes, you can do this! Reach out to Brian McMerty at [bmcmetry@arris.partners](mailto:bmcmetry@arris.partners) to volunteer!

## MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT SGT. ASHLEY VETERANS' CENTER

On the fourth Thursday of each month, the MoM Squad serves dinner for the homeless veterans who live at the Sgt. Ashley Center on a long-term basis. Shifts run from 5:00 PM to about 7 PM. The guys who have already done this found it to be a very simple, yet highly rewarding, experience. Reach out to Brian McMerty at [bmcmetry@arris.partners](mailto:bmcmetry@arris.partners) to volunteer!

## MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT A SAFE PLACE - CASTLE HAYNE

Every other Friday | 8:00 am - 11:00 am | ASP

The St. James Men on a Mission continue to expand their services to our community. Every other week a MoM Squad will work at the A Safe Place to Go shelter that houses victims of human trafficking to make the shelter a nicer place. If you are interested in participating in this service ministry, please contact Brian McMerty at [bmcmetry@arris.partners](mailto:bmcmetry@arris.partners).

## MEN ON A MISSION FELLOWSHIP EVENT

October 13 | 3:30- 6:00 p.m. | Cowden Home | RSVP

Mark your calendars for Sunday October 13th! All men of St. James and their male guests ages 21+ are invited to join the 200+ St. James Men on a Mission guys in the pleasant backyard confines of the Cowden family home Sunday, October 13th from 3:30-6:00 p.m. This event will be catered and include BBQ with great sides and beverages. More information to follow. Come ready for fun, fellowship, and great food and drink in the shade and friendly confines! \$25/per guest. Online registration is coming soon!

# MORE DATES TO KNOW

## A Day of Thanks

### **CELEBRATING 295 YEARS OF ST. JAMES PARISH**

*November 24 | Faith Formation Hour & Following the Service*  
Wednesday, November 27th is the official 295th birthday of our St. James Family. Our community began worshipping together in November 1729. While buildings have come and gone, our parish family has endured, grown, and thrives still today. During the faith formation hour, our Tricentennial Committee will share plans for the next 5 years as St. James Parish celebrates 300 years of worship together. Following the 10:15 a.m. worship service we'll gather together on the side lawn for the unveiling of our new historical plaque (Goldenrod signifying a structure over 150 years old) and a time of celebration. Yes, there will be a birthday cake..

### **ADVENT WREATH MAKING EVENT**

*November 24th | 4:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel*  
All are invited to join us for an inter-generational-wreath-making event at Mt. Lebanon Chapel before moving inside to join our St. James Youth as they lead us in a Thanksgiving service. 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 stay tuned for updates on this special afternoon together.

### **THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT MT. LEBANON CHAPEL**

*Sunday, November 24 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel*  
Save the date! our St. James Youth will be leading us in a special time of thanksgiving and worship at Mt. Lebanon Chapel. Join us as "we gather together to ask the Lord's Blessing" and as we ponder all for which we can be thankful! Everyone is welcome...people of all ages. Let's share our Blessings and Thanksgivings!



### **SHOP'N'HOP**

*Sunday, December 1 | 5:00 p.m. | Wal-Mart & IHOP*  
St. James Middle School and High School Youth will join together for one of our traditional outreach events! We'll gather at Walmart on Market Street to SHOP for families with children who need our help at Christmas. The youth and advisors will divide into small groups and use our Youth Ministries Outreach Budget to purchase meaningful gifts for each family member. Once we complete our purchases, we will HOP over to IHOP for a delicious supper. Join the fun! Help other people! Bring your friends! SHOP & HOP!

### **ADVENT MORNING - MINI RETREAT: WAITING FOR LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS**

*Saturday, December 7 | 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room*  
Join us on Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the Lippitt Room at St. James Church for this mini retreat to explore Waiting for Light in the Darkness. 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. The mini retreat will led by Mary McKnight and Linda Murchison. All are welcome - parishioners, friends, any age! Childcare is available with advance registration. Stay tuned for how to register. For questions, please email Linda Murchison [lindamurchison@gmail.com](mailto:lindamurchison@gmail.com)

### **LESSONS & CAROLS**

*Sunday, December 8 | 4:00 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.

### **WRAP'N'YAP**

*Sunday, December 8 | 5:30 p.m. | St. James Parish*  
Stick around after Lessons and Carols! It's time to WRAP all of the gifts that we have purchased at "Shop & Hop." All Middle and High School Youth are invited! Even if you could not join us for "Shop & Hop" there are LOTS of gifts to wrap so please come and help us! We will also be watching a Christmas Movie as we act like an ELF and WRAP our gifts! YES! We will have pizza.

### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

*Sunday, December 22 | 10:15 a.m. | St. James Parish & Livestream*  
Save the date! On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our parish Children's Ministries will present the Christmas Pageant. You won't want to miss this special telling of Jesus' birth.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

Our Service Schedule for Christmas Eve 2024 will be:

**3:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service**

**5:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service**

**11:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service**



## CHRISTMAS DAY

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

## EPIPHANY EVE SERVICE

*Sunday, January 5 | 5:00 p.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel*

Follow the star and join our Youth at Mt. Lebanon Chapel for a very special Epiphany service.

## EPIPHANY MORNING MINI RETREAT: LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY

*Saturday, January 11 | 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Lippitt Room*

Join us on Saturday, January 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the Lippitt Room at St. James Church for this mini retreat for a time to reflect and explore Light for the Journey. Epiphany is when we remember the appearance of the bright star to the three Magi (wise men) and celebrate the light of Jesus that has come into the world. Through scripture, poetry, music and prayer, we will spend an unhurried morning together as we consider questions like: Who/What is the light we are following? Who/what gives us light for the journey and hope in the darkness? The mini-retreat will be led by Linda Murchison and Mary McKnight! All are welcome – parishioners, friends, any age. Childcare is available with advance registration. Stay tuned for how to register. For questions, please email Linda Murchison, [lindamurchison65@gmail.com](mailto:lindamurchison65@gmail.com).

## SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MEETING

*Sunday, January 26 | St. James Parish*

Our Annual Meeting is set for January 26th. All ages are invited to attend. 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 2025, the budget, and what to expect as we move forward together.

## ALTAR FLOWERS UPDATE

### DID YOU KNOW ST. JAMES HAS AN ALTAR FLOWER MINISTRY?

We are excited to announce that our Sunday morning altar flowers process at St. James Parish is changing! Effective January 1, 2025, those requesting altar flowers and a remembrance will order the flowers straight from the florist.

We are requesting all altar flower sponsors confirm by October 31st, 2024 whether they plan to keep a specific date in 2025. Please email Office Coordinator Bill McKenzie at [coordinator@stjamesp.org](mailto:coordinator@stjamesp.org) or call the Parish office at (910) 763-1628.

If we do not hear from you, we will assume you DO NOT want to continue participating in this ministry. With that in mind, we will open the date for someone else to offer flowers in memory of a loved one. Again, in order to facilitate a smooth transition, please respond no later than October 31st, 2024.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry or want to learn more, please visit the St. James website.

## DIRECTORY PROJECT

### HELPING US CONNECT: UPDATING THE DIRECTORY

There is a clear need and desire for an updated physical pictorial directory for our parish family. REALM is a great tool serving as our online directory and so much more. However, there is still a simplicity to having the parish directory available in a physical format for those in the parish family who would like one. With this in mind, we would like to rekindle the Pictorial Directory Project and are looking for several hands to help us make this project happen! If you are interested in supporting the Pictorial Directory Project with your time and talents, please reach out to Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

**If you aren't already connected with our online directory through REALM and would like to be, please let us know!** It's a great platform that allows you to manage your personal information, and who is allowed to see it, control your giving, and keep in touch with the groups that matter to you. REALM even has an app! In order to access the information in REALM, parishioners must be invited by a member of the St. James Staff. If you have questions about how St. James uses REALM or your REALM account, please reach out to Maria Hollopeter at [finance@stjamesp.org](mailto:finance@stjamesp.org) or Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

# 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](mailto:coordinator@stjamesp.org) and he will help you get connected.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### 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](mailto:janerippy@yahoo.com) & Mary Elizabeth Roberts, [maryelizabethroberts@seacoastrealty.com](mailto: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. Our mission is 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](mailto:bethsoutherfish@gmail.com) and she will help you get started.

## EVANGELISM

### 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 Ann Mueller at [aniam4nc@gmail.com](mailto:aniam4nc@gmail.com), Randy Inge at [randybinge@gmail.com](mailto:randybinge@gmail.com) or Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

### GREETER TRAINING SESSIONS

*Sunday, September 15 | 11:30 a.m. | SJP Church*  
*Monday, September 16 | 5:30 p.m. | Tatum Parlor*  
Calling all new and prospective Greeters!

The Greeter Ministry hosts Greeter Training September 15th & 16th! Established Greeters who would like a refresher are welcome to come too.

On September 15, following the 10:15 a.m. service downtown, we'll gather in the church to go over the procedures and what to expect when you Greet at St. James. If you cannot attend, please don't worry! We have another opportunity on 16th.

Have questions about the St. James Greeter Ministry? Please reach out to Elizabeth Hinshaw at [ehinshaw@ec.rr.com](mailto:ehinshaw@ec.rr.com), Frances Trask at [francestrask9@gmail.com](mailto:francestrask9@gmail.com), or Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).



# OUTREACH

Outreach is ready to see everyone back downtown for a fun fall! You can learn more about the missions in which St. James works in the new Ministries Packet. Please take a look at what we have to offer, then come talk to us! We are always looking for people to volunteer and support our wonderful partners. We have various opportunities available.

OUTREACH COULD USE HELP SPECIFICALLY IN THESE AREAS:

## ANGEL TREE MISSION LEAD

This event takes place during Advent; late November and early December. The volunteer in charge of the Angel Tree will receive a list of children and their information. Tags will be made to be handed out at church on specific Sundays. Then the volunteer will help review the gifts once all are returned to the church office. You do not have to worry about delivery of gifts or acquiring the list of children. *Time Commitment: 5-7 hours once a year.*



## GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION LEAD

This position is open, and has freedom with it. St. James already has a relationship with Good Shepherd through the Men on a Mission group. We'd like to add to that relationship! This position is open for discussion and growth. If you'd like to offer ideas, we are open! *Time Commitment: 2-4 hours/ month.*

## OUTREACH COMMUNICATOR

Not ready to commit to co-chair but still want to be involved monthly with Outreach? Communicator would be a great job for you! The main role is to write the Grapevine update each month. This varies based on what our Missions need to advertise or ask for. How that happens is through communicating with the Mission Leads, the organizations themselves, and Erin Becker. This position is primarily accomplished through emails and phone calls. *Time Commitment: 1-2 hours/ month.*

Reach out to Taber Stockstill-Tornes, the current Outreach chair, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns!  
[outreach@stjamesp.org](mailto:outreach@stjamesp.org)

## MEALS ON WHEELS

*Sunday, September 29 | 7:30 am | St. James Parish*  
*Next Dates: December 26th & December 29th!*

St. James is once again responsible for the delivery of Meals on Wheels on Sunday, September 29th and we need volunteers! Anyone willing to drive, cook, and/or bring rolls is greatly appreciated. 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. Your active participation in this vital program is greatly appreciated.

This round we need at least 10 cooks, 20+ volunteers to bring food/dishes (recipes and list of specific needs online now), 3 packers, & 20 delivery drivers.

If you are able to help us pack, please let Molly know that you plan to be in the Perry Hall Kitchen by 7:30 am on the 29th.

If you are interested in cooking or providing supplies, please reach out so we can send the recipe for the meal. For those planning to bring supplies or food items, please know donations need to be in Perry Hall no later than Thursday, September 26th.

If you are willing and able to participate, especially drivers, please contact Molly Roush at [mollyroush@botmail.com](mailto:mollyroush@botmail.com).



# 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: Catie Hodsdon, [cmrichardson93@gmail.com](mailto:cmrichardson93@gmail.com), Ginny Woodruff, [ginny@vcwoodruff.com](mailto:ginny@vcwoodruff.com), Barbara Whitesides, [whiteside6@me.com](mailto:whiteside6@me.com)

## PARISH LIFE

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS AND FELLOWSHIP

During October, we will host series of Wednesday Night Suppers. We invite you to save your Wednesday nights (October 9 - 30th) for dinner and fellowship. A donation of \$10 per person/ \$25 per family is requested to help support this family ministry. Stay tuned for how to RSVP.

We are looking for “teams” to adopt a WNS by cooking or organizing the meal. Dinner will be hosted in the Great Hall. All are encouraged to sign up to volunteer or bring a dish. These wonderful nights of fellowship need hands and hearts to serve. If you have questions about how to support these great parish dinners, please reach out to Brandon Tully at [brandoncandler@me.com](mailto:brandoncandler@me.com) or Erin Becker at [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

### LEMONADE MINISTRY/COFFEE HOUR

*Begins Sunday, September 15th*

Coffee Hour returns on September 15th! You're invited to participate in a ministry of hospitality. For many years St. James offered a lemonade and coffee time after the Sunday 10:15 service. It was well attended on the lawn (during good weather) or breezeway. To make it happen, we need your help to volunteer. It will be a wonderful time for fellowship after the 10:15 service. If you have any questions or would like to know how you can support this ministry, please reach out to Missy Pretlow at 910-619-3571. Visit the website for the Sign-Up Genius.

### FAMILY BREAKFAST AT ST. JAMES

On September 15th, we resume one of our favorite St. James Parish traditions: Sunday morning Family Breakfast at church! To help us get started, 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! There are roles available for all skill levels.

**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 8:30-9:00 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.

The goal is to have enough teams so that each only rotates 3-4 times per year. We plan to host our first breakfast on Sunday, September 15, 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](mailto:web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com)





# WORSHIP

## BE A PART OF THE MUSIC

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: Dr. Bill Weisser, [music.director@stjamesp.org](mailto:music.director@stjamesp.org)

## ST. JAMES ADULT CHOIR

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

All who are interested are warmly invited to join the St. James Choir for our weekly evening practice. Choir practice always begins with vocal warm-ups. As a transition from warmups, we sing through the hymns for the upcoming Sunday to polish up the phrasing and four-part harmonies. 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!

## YOUTH & ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR

*Dates and Times to be Announced*

Calling all Handbell Ringers and those who are interested in ringing bells, especially Youth and Adults! Beginning in September we are organizing a Handbell Choir. We need approximately 10 ringers to cover 3 octaves of bells. Being able to read music and having some body coordination is a real asset. Each ringer is assigned specific notes of the scale. Each bell (note) is then rung at the appropriate time found in the musical score. Please consider joining us. Once we have enough ringers to begin we will establish a regular day and time to rehearse. The Handbell Choir will play regularly for Preludes, accompany the Adult Choir, and various seasons of the year, especially Advent and Christmas. Come and have some fun!

## CHILDREN'S & CHERUB'S CHOIRS

*Select Wednesdays in October | 5:45 - 6:15 p.m.*

- Children's Choir (2nd - 5th Grades) meet in the Choir Room- Leader: Dr. Bill Weisser
- Cherub's Choir (age 4 - 1st Grade) meet in the Children's Chapel - Leader: Erin Trask

**The children's choirs will sing on All Saint's Sunday, November 3rd.**

## 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 through out the church year. Contact: Kathy Bush, [kathybush1995@yahoo.com](mailto:kathybush1995@yahoo.com)

## ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is comprised of communicants who care for and prepare the church for regular and special services. Team members are assigned duties every 4-5 weeks. Please let our Rector, The Rev. Phillip Craig, know if you are interested in serving as a member of the Altar Guild. Contact: Susan Ingle, [slingle@gmail.com](mailto:slingle@gmail.com)

## EUCCHARISTIC 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](mailto:ckeller68@ec.rr.com)

## EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Similar to LEMS, Lay Eucharistic Visitors are a group of laity licensed by the bishop to bring communion to those who cannot attend service. Contacts: Bill Bivins, [wpbivins@](mailto:wpbivins@)

## 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](mailto:coordinator@stjamesp.org) - Leadership opportunity available.

## 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](mailto:franklin@franklinrouse.com), Mason Hawfield, III [mason.hawfield@ubs.com](mailto:mason.hawfield@ubs.com)  
[gmail.com](mailto:gmail.com), The Rev. Beth Lilly, [motherbeth@gmail.com](mailto:motherbeth@gmail.com)

## VERGERS

Often robed in grey and black, vergers function as the leader of the procession. They help direct the flow of service and often serve to direct Acolytes as needed. Contact: Andy

# 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](http://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: The Rev. Phillip Craig, [pbillip@stjamesp.org](mailto:pbillip@stjamesp.org), The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org) Jane Martin, [martinjane@ec.rr.com](mailto:martinjane@ec.rr.com)

**CARE GUILD-** Contact: Beth Souther, [bethsoutherfish@gmail.com](mailto:bethsoutherfish@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL (COHI)-

Contact: Eldridge Dodson, [EDD@wardandsmith.com](mailto:EDD@wardandsmith.com)

**FLOWER GUILD-** Contact: Kate Goodman, [katherinergoodman@gmail.com](mailto:katherinergoodman@gmail.com)

**LIVING WELL IN THE MIDST OF GRIEF-** Contact: The Rev. Phillip Craig, [pbillip@stjamesp.org](mailto:pbillip@stjamesp.org)

**ST. MARTHA'S GUILD-** Contacts: Jane Rippey, [janerippy@yahoo.com](mailto:janerippy@yahoo.com) & Mary Elizabeth Roberts, [maryelizabethroberts@seacoastrealty.com](mailto:maryelizabethroberts@seacoastrealty.com)

**SUPPORT GROUPS-** Contact: The Rev. Phillip Craig, [pbillip@stjamesp.org](mailto:pbillip@stjamesp.org), The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@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."

Contacts: Randy Inge, [randybinge@gmail.com](mailto:randybinge@gmail.com), Ann Mueller, [anniam4nc@gmail.com](mailto:anniam4nc@gmail.com)

**GREETER MINISTRY-** Contacts: Frances Trask, [francestrask9@gmail.com](mailto:francestrask9@gmail.com), & Elizabeth Hinshaw, [ehinshan@ec.rr.com](mailto:ehinshan@ec.rr.com)

**NEWCOMER OUTREACH-** Contact: Beth Souther, [bethsoutherfish@gmail.com](mailto:bethsoutherfish@gmail.com)

**NEWCOMER EVENTS-** Contact: Randy Inge, [randybinge@gmail.com](mailto:randybinge@gmail.com) & Ann Mueller, [anniam4nc@gmail.com](mailto:anniam4nc@gmail.com)

**PRAYING SHAPES BELIEVING-** Contact: The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org)

**ANNUAL AZALEA FESTIVAL & MT. LEBANON CHAPEL TOUR-** Contact: Ann Mueller, [anniam4nc@gmail.com](mailto:anniam4nc@gmail.com)

**FALL MINGLE AND PARISH MEET & GREET-** Contact: Ann Mueller, [anniam4nc@gmail.com](mailto:anniam4nc@gmail.com)

**DOWNTOWN CAMPUS TOURS-** Contact- Beth Souther, [bethsoutherfish@gmail.com](mailto:bethsoutherfish@gmail.com)

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

## FAITH FORMATION

Every Sunday, we invite parishioners to join us in our Sunday Morning Faith Formation Classes beginning at 9:10 a.m. We also offer Bible Studies and other opportunities to pray and gather throughout the week.

Contacts: St. James Clergy, [clergy@stjamesp.org](mailto:clergy@stjamesp.org) & Erin Trask, [erin.scott.trask@gmail.com](mailto:erin.scott.trask@gmail.com)

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES-** Contact: Taber Stockstill-Tornes, [christianformation@stjamesp.org](mailto:christianformation@stjamesp.org)

**NURSERY SERVICES-** Contact: Taber Stockstill-Tornes, [christianformation@stjamesp.org](mailto:christianformation@stjamesp.org)

**YOUTH MINISTRIES-** Contact: Cookie Cantwell, [cookie@stjamesp.org](mailto:cookie@stjamesp.org)

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION-** Contacts: The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [grey@stjamesp.org](mailto:grey@stjamesp.org), Frances Trask, [francestrask9@gmail.com](mailto:francestrask9@gmail.com), & Carrie Young, [cey26@cornell.edu](mailto:cey26@cornell.edu)

**EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY-** Contacts: Karen Clark, [clarklc11@gmail.com](mailto:clarklc11@gmail.com), & Rachel Pace, [rppace@hotmail.com](mailto:rppace@hotmail.com)

**ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES-** Contact: John Jordan, [jvjilm@aol.com](mailto:jvjilm@aol.com)

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE-** Contact: Tom Dodson, [tom.dodson.nc@gmail.com](mailto:tom.dodson.nc@gmail.com)



ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL

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

## 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: Taber Stockstill-Tornes,  
[outreach@stjamesp.org](mailto:outreach@stjamesp.org)

### **2SHARE FURNITURE-**

Contact: Alex Murchison,  
[alexsmurchison@gmail.com](mailto:alexsmurchison@gmail.com)

**ANGEL TREE-** Contact: Taber Stockstill-Tornes, [outreach@stjamesp.org](mailto:outreach@stjamesp.org)

**EPISCOPAL FARM WORKER MINISTRY-** Contact: Catie Hodsdon, [cmrichardson93@gmail.com](mailto:cmrichardson93@gmail.com)

**HELP HUB-** Contact: Sonja McFarland, [helphubdirector@gmail.com](mailto:helphubdirector@gmail.com)

**MEALS ON WHEELS-** Contact: Molly Roush, [mollyroush@hotmail.com](mailto:mollyroush@hotmail.com)

**ONE LOVE TENNIS-** Contact: Ashley Walton, [ashleys@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleys@yahoo.com)

**THE PARISH SHOP-** Contact: Karen Clark, [clarklc11@gmail.com](mailto:clarklc11@gmail.com)

**EDEN VILLAGE-** Contact: Alex Wnek, [caswnek@icloud.com](mailto:caswnek@icloud.com)

**NORTHSIDE FOOD CO-OP-** Contact: Alex Wnek, [caswnek@icloud.com](mailto:caswnek@icloud.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](mailto:poyoung@ec.rr.com), Virginia Pierce, [virginiaspierce@gmail.com](mailto:virginiaspierce@gmail.com), & Hannah Brownlow, [hannahbrownlow@msn.com](mailto:hannahbrownlow@msn.com)

**BREAD BREAKERS-** Contact: Rachel Colonna, [rcolonna85@gmail.com](mailto:rcolonna85@gmail.com), The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org)

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)-** Contact: Karen Clark, [Clarklc11@gmail.com](mailto:Clarklc11@gmail.com)

**FAMILY BREAKFASTS-** Contact: Web Cowden, [web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com](mailto:web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com)

**FOYER GROUPS-** Contacts: Sheila Osann, [osannshe@aol.com](mailto:osannshe@aol.com) & Nina Inge, [ninabet55@gmail.com](mailto:ninabet55@gmail.com)

**MEN ON A MISSION (MOM)-** Brian McMerty, [bmcmertry@arris.partners](mailto:bmcmertry@arris.partners), Web Cowden, [web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com](mailto:web.cowden@mirimichigreen.com), David Brownlow, [dbrownlon@ec.rr.com](mailto:dbrownlon@ec.rr.com), The Rev. Gray Hodsdon, [gray@stjamesp.org](mailto:gray@stjamesp.org)

**PARISH EVENTS -** Contact: Marietta Gwathmey, [mgwathmey@gmail.com](mailto:mgwathmey@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS -** Contact: Brandon Tully, [brandoncandler@me.com](mailto:brandoncandler@me.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](mailto:dawnbcarter@gmail.com), The Rev. Phillip Craig, [phillip@stjamesp.org](mailto:phillip@stjamesp.org)

**MUSIC & CHOIRS-** Contact: Dr. Bill Weisser, [music.director@stjamesp.org](mailto:music.director@stjamesp.org)

**ALTAR GUILD-** Contact: Susan Ingle, [slcingle@gmail.com](mailto:slcingle@gmail.com)

**BAPTISMAL BANNERS-** Contacts: Jennifer Craig

**LINEN GUILD-** Contact: Topsy James, [topsyjames@aol.com](mailto:topsyjames@aol.com)

**SEASONAL DECORATION-** Contact: Lydia Hines, [beehinesdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:beehinesdesigns@gmail.com)

**ACOLYTES-** Contact: Kathy Bush, [kathybush1995@yahoo.com](mailto:kathybush1995@yahoo.com)

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS-** Contact: Carl Keller, [ckeller68@ec.rr.com](mailto:ckeller68@ec.rr.com)

**EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS-** Contacts: Bill Bivins, [wpbivins@gmail.com](mailto:wpbivins@gmail.com), The Rev. Beth Lilly, [motherbeth@gmail.com](mailto:motherbeth@gmail.com)

**LECTORS-** Contact: Bill McKenzie, [coordinator@stjamesp.org](mailto:coordinator@stjamesp.org)

**USHERS-** Contacts: Franklin Rouse, [franklin@franklinrouse.com](mailto:franklin@franklinrouse.com), Mason Hawfield, III [mason.hawfield@ubs.com](mailto:mason.hawfield@ubs.com)

**WEDDING GUILD-** Contact: Billie Holland, [bebeholk@gmail.com](mailto:bebeholk@gmail.com)

**VERGERS-** Contact: Andy Goodman, [Andyg66@yahoo.com](mailto:Andyg66@yahoo.com)

## COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL UNITY

The St. James Committee on Racial Unity's goal is to offer more education, outreach, and relationship-building opportunities to address racial relations in our community.

Committee Contacts: Catie Hodsdon, [cmrichardson93@gmail.com](mailto:cmrichardson93@gmail.com) Barbara Whitesides, [whiteside6@me.com](mailto:whiteside6@me.com), Ginny Woodruff, [gabby@rcwoodruff.com](mailto:gabby@rcwoodruff.com)

## ST. JAMES FOUNDATION

The St. James Parish Foundation was established in 2003 with the mission of supporting the needs of St. James Parish in perpetuity. Contact: Claire Parker, [mclaireparker@gmail.com](mailto:mclaireparker@gmail.com)

# ST. JAMES PARISH

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Wilmington, NC 28401

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# ST. JAMES PARISH

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## STAFF

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

**Associate Rector** The Reverend Joseph "Gray" Hodsdon | **Deacon for Pastoral Care** The Rev. Deacon Kitty Davis

**Director of Operations & Administration** MaryPaul Beall | **Interim Director of Music** The Rev. Dr. Bill Weisser

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

**Bookkeeper** The Rev. Deacon Rhonda Thomas | **Director of Youth Ministries** Cookie Cantwell

**Day School Director** Ansley Trask | **Interim Children's Ministries Coordinator** Taber Stockstill-Tornes

**Communications Director** Erin Becker | **Registrar** Mary Beth Tallman

**Director of Facilities** Wes Clewis | **Sexton** Latoya Lettley-Bryant

## VESTRY

**Senior Warden** Alex Murchison

**Junior Warden** Rachel Colonna

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

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

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

**Class of 2026** | Tom Dodson | Todd Hinshaw | Billie Holland | Mary Lyons Rouse

25 S. Third Street | Wilmington, NC 28401

Visit us online: [stjamesp.org](http://stjamesp.org)

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

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