

St. James Episcopal Church

204 N. Lee Street
Leesburg, FL 34748
Phone (352) 787-1981

APRIL 2026 MESSENGER

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2ND

10:00 a.m. Eucharist & Anointing

**7:00 p.m. Eucharist & Stripping
the Altar**

with Youth and Adult Choirs;

Rev'd Sebastiana

Springmann, Preaching

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3RD

**12:00 p.m. Liturgy w/ Reserved
Communion**

with Adult Choir;

Rev'd Bill Boyer, Preaching

**5:30 p.m. Stations Of The Cross
in the Courtyard**

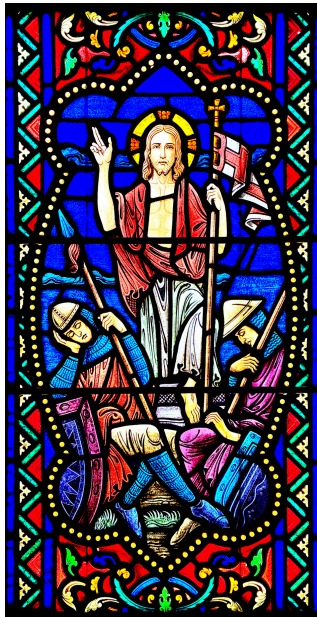
EASTER DAY ~ APRIL 5TH

7:00 a.m.

**Sunrise Eucharist in
the courtyard**

8:15 a.m.

Eucharist (Rite I)



9:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

10:15 a.m.

**Eucharist (Rite II)
with Youth & Adult
Choir**



The Alzheimers-Dementia Care Givers Group welcomes all who have a loved one or are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month to discuss the ways and means of expressing compassion and how to care for our loved ones in the midst of a difficult challenge.

All discussions are kept in strict confidentiality. Please note that our meetings are for caregivers only (and not the one with A/D) to allow the freedom to share as needed. Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 1st at 10:30 in the Parish Hall.**

Jeff Livesay

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April GRIEF SUPPORT gathering

Our next Grief Support Gathering is this **Thursday, April 02, 2026**, at St. James Episcopal Chapel located behind the church (204 N. Lee Street in Leesburg). Meet and Greet will start at 3:00 on the Veranda in front of the Parish Hall. Bottled water and a small snack (usually chocolate) are provided.



Our conversation topic for April is “Grief and Coping with the Holiday Blues”. Anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays, including Easter, can manifest persistent sadness, loneliness, stress and even irritability when you have lost your spouse or someone special in your life. Holidays remind us of memories of past celebrations, and the absence of our loved ones can create a sense of emptiness, longing and take us on an “emotional roller coaster” ride. Join us as we discuss possible ways to help each other cope and “Move Forward”.

Hope to see you **Thursday, April 2nd at St. James Episcopal Church’s Chapel** . Our grief support group meets once a month and is open to anyone who has lost a loved one and needs support from others who know firsthand what they are going through.

Susan Cyrus, Grief Support Facilitator

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GLOW-IN-THE-DARK EGG HUNT!

ARIL 3RD - 6:30 P.M.



Following the Stations of the Cross, on Good Friday, April 3rd all middle and high school students are invited to the St. Nicholas House for dinner, an activity and object lesson, finishing off with a **GLOW-IN-THE-DARK EGG HUNT!** Parents are welcome to stay and participate or pick up between 9-9:30 pm. Feel free to invite friends! Please reach out to Beth Williams to sign up.



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING



The Daughters of the King meet on the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at **2:00 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall**. Our next meeting, scheduled on **Wednesday, April 8, 2026**.

If you are interested in joining the Daughters of the King, please contact: **Catherine Holt**. **All are welcome!**



NEWCOMERS DINNER



Thursday, April 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Father Tom, the Vestry and Staff are hosting a special dinner for “**Newcomers**” who began attending our congregation at St. James this past church year. If you received an invitation, and are planning to attend, please return the RSVP postcard by mail or hand deliver it to the church office by April 2nd.

We’re looking forward to meeting all our “**Newcomers**” and sharing spiritual fellowship.



Join the Mission Team on **Sunday, April 12th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall**, as they share their testimonies of their mission trip in February. There were 50 members on the team this year. Information will be given on the number of patients served in the areas of dentistry, optometry, gynecology, pediatrics, and internal medicine.



Monument Dedication Ceremony



Monday, April 13th at 10:00 a.m

Veterans Memorial Park, 600 West Meadows St., Leesburg

This ceremony is to commemorate the men and women who achieved our American Independence. The Monument is given by the Daughters of the American Revolution in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



1st Kane Oldham
 4th Bob Clements
 5th Kathleen Trees
 6th Mary Jane Crane
 7th Charles Doti
 8th Gary Neumann
 9th James Soltysiak
 11th Michael Saylor
 13th Ann Cholewa
 Sebastiana Springmann
 15th Carol Hilbish
 16th Russ Vance

17th Stephen Millett
 19th Linda Weekley
 20th Courtland Hintze
 Meg Johnson
 21st Jeff Binneveld
 2nd Wendy Breeden
 Tanina Singeltary
 23rd Doug Springmann
 24th Maggie Delgado
 25th Carmen Rebusmen
 26th Thomas Danielson
 Richard Singeltary

3rd Robert & Katherine Geyer
 5th James & Wendy Breeden
 15th Patricia & Nigel Bailey
 17th John & Nancy Russell
 18th Cregg & Amy Careins
 Van & Terri Galyon
 Tom & Linda Grizzard
 21st David & Cherie Knowles
 22nd John & Katy Wilson
 23rd Marc & Marie Crouch
 Drew & Shelly Logan
 28th Sean & Lara Lahey



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Please join us in our Men's Morning Prayer service and enjoy breakfast and fellowship. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 8:00 a.m. Our next meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, April 15th.**

For more information, please contact the church office at **352-787-1981.**

Ted Kermode



Sebastiana Springmann Ordination

Congratulations to our very own Deacon Sebastiana on fulfilling her requirements for priesthood!

Sebastiana will be ordained on Saturday, May 16th, at All Saints Episcopal Church in Winter Park. We have arranged for a 56-passenger motor coach from Workman Transportation, the same company we used for her ordination as a Deacon. Once the Diocese confirms the time, we will share additional details, including the cost per seat, etc., and initiate the sign-up process.



We feel truly blessed to have her at St. James and eagerly anticipate celebrating this significant milestone with her.

If you have any questions regarding this event, contact Susan Cyrus or call/email the church office at **(352) 787-1981** or office @stjames-leesburg.org

Cathedral Men's Retreat ~ April 17th-19th

Willis Camp & Conference Center, 4991 Picciola Rd, Fruitland Park, FL 34731

The men of St. James are invited to join the Men's Retreat hosted by the Cathedral of St. Luke in Orlando, held Friday afternoon through Sunday morning at the Warren Willis Camp & Conference Center in Fruitland Park. This weekend offers time for fellowship, rest, and spiritual renewal in a peaceful setting. We are honored to welcome **Dr. Richard L. Pratt, Jr.** as our retreat speaker. Dr. Pratt is the President and Co-Founder of Thirdmill online seminary. He served for more than twenty years as Professor of Old Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary, where he also chaired the Old Testament department. An ordained minister and respected scholar, Dr. Pratt travels extensively around the world to teach and share the gospel.

Dr. Pratt studied at Westminster Theological Seminary, received his M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary, and earned his Th.D. in Old Testament Studies from Harvard University. He is the general editor of the NIV Spirit of the Reformation Study Bible, a translator for the New Living Translation, and the author of numerous books, articles, and commentaries.

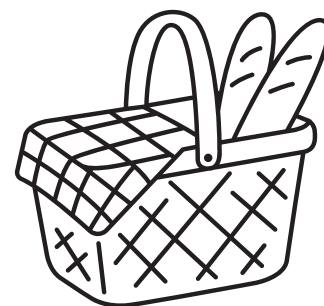
More details and a suggested packing list will go out as we get closer to our weekend.

If you have any questions, please email **Lindy: lzepp@ccslorlando.org**

ANNUAL PARISH-WIDE PICNIC

WHEN: Sunday, May 3rd

WHERE: The Leesburg Boat Club 31 Dozier Circle
(Behind the Venetian Center, facing
beautiful Lake Harris.)



TIME: 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Our annual Parish Picnic is a valued and longstanding tradition within our church community. BBQ, sides, and beverages will be provided, and we kindly ask that each guest bring a favorite dessert to share.

Please mark your calendar and join us for an enjoyable time and fellowship.

Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1 10:30 Caregiver Support Group (Parish Hall) 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 4:00 Youth Singers 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p>2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Holy Eucharist & Anointing Service <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 3:00 Grief Support (Chapel) 7:00 Eucharist & Stipping of the Altar</p>	<p>3 GOOD FRIDAY 12:00 Service with Reserved Communion 5:30 Stations Of The Cross 6:30 Glow in the Dark Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 Sunrise Eucharist (Courtyard) 8:15 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt 10:15 Eucharist (RITE I)</p> 	<p>6 6:00 Beginner Ukulele</p>	<p>7 9:00 ECW Board Meeting 10:00 ECW General Meeting (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>8 <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 2:00 Daughters of the King (Parish Hall) 4:00 Youth Singers 5:45 6:45 Adult Choir Bell Choir</p>	<p>9 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel) <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 6:00 Newcomer's Dinner (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>10 10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</p>	<p>11 8:00 A.M. BUTTERFLY GARDEN CLEAN UP DAY!!</p> 
<p>12 2nd Sunday of Easter 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Presentation by Stuart Mowatt <i>9-12 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 11:30 Cantate 3:00 Dulcimer 6:00 Young Adult Bible Study (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>13 3:00 Stephen Ministry 6:00 Beginner Ukulele 7:00 Advanced Ukulele</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 - 12:00 Food Drop <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 4:00 Youth Singers 5:00 Finance 5:45 Bell Choir 6:45 Adult Choir</p>	<p>16 8:30-12 Library Open <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel) 6:30 Vestry Meeting Parish Hall</p>	<p>17 10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open 6:00 English Dance</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 3rd Sunday of Easter 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) <i>9-12 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 11:30 Cantate 6:00 Young Adult Bible Study (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>20 6:00 Beginner Ukulele</p>	<p>21 Chapter Meetings 10:00 St. Annes (Parish Hall) 10:00 St. Francis (St. Nicholas) 3:00 St. Cecilians (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>22 <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 4:00 Youth Singers 5:45 Bell Choir 6:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>23 8:00 Butterfly Garden Weeding 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel)</p> 	<p>24 <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i></p> 	<p>25</p>
<p>26 4th Sunday of Easter 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 11:30 Cantate 3:00 Dulcimer 6:00 Young Adult Bible Study (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>27 6:00 Beginner Ukulele 7:00 Advanced Ukulele</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 <i>10-2 Jody's Gift Shop Open</i> 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 4:00 Youth Singers 5:45 Bell Choir 6:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>30 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel)</p>	<p>LEESBURG BIKEFEST</p> 	



KEEP FLIPPING THOSE TOPS



Tuesday, March 10th, six ECW women pack several cars and set off for Arnold Palmer House in Orlando. Why and what for? The date had been set to serve dinner to 30-35 guests at the Ronald McDonald House. These guests had seriously ill children in the hospital there on campus.

We unloaded the cars, with the making of a wonderful dinner, serving, chicken tetrazzini, a green salad, rolls & butter, and a dessert that caught everyone's eye, strawberry shortcake with a dab of cool whip!

At the stroke of 6:00 p.m. the families began to arrive. They were tired and worried, but cheerful, as their babies are making progress. The dinner smelled wonderful and many returned for seconds. We were thanked for all the paper goods members of St. James donated. And, the very large bag of pop-tops.



LIBRARY CORNER

As I write this article, **LENT** is drawing to a close, and the most Christian of our church seasons, **EASTER** is about to begin, on **APRIL 5th**, to be exact. Eastertide's both a joyous and sad season, a time to celebrate and strengthen the depth of our faith.

On the parish hall book truck, I hope you have found a special Easter message and a new book relating to our own church community, titled **FIRST FAMILIES OF ST JAMES**, by Nancy Boyer & Margaret Branham, just published and containing 24 brief, intriguing biographies written by longtime members of St. James. The book also includes historical accounts of our parish, its founding, furnishings and development, highlighted with, family photos and stories of beloved artifacts. There will be a few copies in the parish library for checking out, but if you would like to obtain a personal copy, you may order by computer: Go to **Barnes & Noble website**, enter **FIRST FAMILIES OF ST. JAMES** to place your order.

HAPPY EASTER from your Parish Librarian, Margaret

P.S. Seeking a misplaced book from our library collection, written by Bishop Budde of Washington, D.C .. "How we Learn to be Brave", please return if you have this book.

Thank you,

Margaret Branham, St. James Librarian

ECW APRIL NEWS

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

ECW wants to take this opportunity to say thank you to the dedicated people who put countless hours into collecting and organizing auction items for ECW's largest fundraising event of the year, **The Grand Auction**. Many thanks to Dr. Bob Tindall who volunteers just under a year's worth of preparation and planning time, each year, to make this fabulous event possible.

This year over **\$13,000.00** was raised and will be returned to our local community through our ECW Charitable Giving, to locally vetted organizations that exist to meet the needs of our local population. Many of those organizations have been highlighted by ECW each month in the Messenger.

Bob, our leader in this endeavor, was supported by other dedicated church members. Ted Wolf is our auctioneer extraordinaire who kept everything moving and was assisted by Mackie McCabe. The wonderful hors d'oeuvres were provided by the ECW ladies. A big thank you also to the ticket sellers, the bar tenders, the auction donors and purchasers and all those who bought tickets.

Sincerely,

Barnelia Woodward, ECW President

ECW MEETINGS

APRIL 7TH

ECW Board Meeting ~ 9:00 a.m. (St. Nicholas House)

ECW General Meeting ~ 10:00 a.m. (Parish Hall)

St Francis' Chapter will be hosting & our program will focus on Early Stages of Dementia.

ST. MARTHA'S CHAPTER

This group focuses on Christian Fellowship and is especially popular with busy working women and mothers of younger children.

This Chapter meets monthly usually in the evening and at a restaurant. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Lara Lahey at the following:

(407) 461-7014 or **lara.lahey@yahoo.com**

CHAPTER MEETINGS ~ APRIL 21ST

10:00 a.m. ~ St. Anne's (Parish Hall)

Study: Walk In Love Episcopal Beliefs

10:00 a.m. ~ St. Francis' (St. Nicholas House)

Study: Walk In Love Episcopal Beliefs

3:30 p.m. ~ St. Cecilia's (St. Nicholas House)

Study: The Parables (Parish Hall)

ECW is open to all Women! ! If you have any questions, please contact:

Barnelia Woodward, President - barneliawoodward@gmail.com

MARCH FOOD DROP

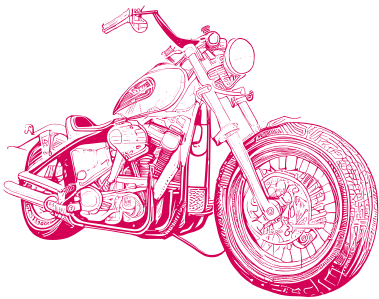
Volunteers, Terri and Van Galyon, and Bob and Rita Clements with dog, Kobi met our faithful food and monetary givers for the March Food Drop.

TOTAL COLLECTED: 434 POUNDS OF FOOD \$750.00
TOTAL TO DATE: \$51,455 POUNDS OF FOOD \$60,692

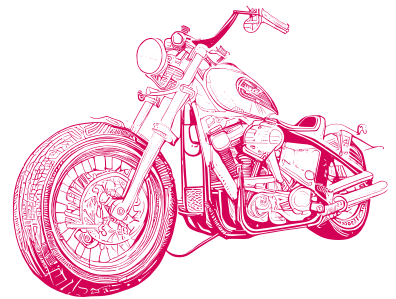
God's blessings to all faithful parishioner at St. James. Thank you for your **INCREDIBLE SUPPORT FOR OUR MARCH FOOD DROP!** We look forward to our continued giving as our Leesburg Food Bank has great need for food and monetary contributions for those in our community .

See you at the next **FOOD DROP** , Wednesday, April, 15th from 9:00-12:00. We are expecting clear, beautiful skies with the courtyard blooming in color and shades of green welcoming us.

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT EPHESIANS 5:18



LEESBURG BIKE FEST APRIL 24TH - APRIL 26TH



This year, two of our ministries will be hosting fundraisers during this event:

The Youth Ministry ~ Friday, April 24th & Saturday, April 25th

Every year the Youth ministry sells parking during Bikefest in the St. James Parking area. Not only is this a great way to financially support our parish young people, but it also provides an opportunity to show the community who we are! We always have a great time together as we welcome the thunder! Come join us for a fun, rewarding experience!

If interested, please see **Beth Williams** or call the **church office** at **352-787-1981**

ECW~ Saturday, April 25, 2026

ECW will be selling hot dogs, popcorn, cookies, soda and water, primarily targeting guests parking their cars/bikes at St., James. We are looking for volunteers who would like to help by working one of the three available shifts below:

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
or 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

If you are interested, please contact **Catherine Holt - 912-230-7845.**



ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST



Short Term ~ 3 Weeks

Kelly Rolon	March 9th	Robin Robuck Manchester	March 10th
Tiffany Meyer Hood	March 10th	Deacon Janet Galbreath	March 17th
Karen Sofield	March 10th	Cynthia Sharer	April 1st

3 Months

Don St. Cyr Debbie	January 8th	Asher Drew	February 24th
Kendall	January 9th	Jim Christian	February 10th
Rory Zack	January 13th	Casey Little	February 4th
Donna Shanosk	January 15th	Anthony Gannon	March 2nd
Kathy Shanosk	January 15th	Deacon Art	March 2nd
Joshua Felkins Sarita	January 15th	Hollows	March 2nd
Millette	January 15th	Alex Biby	March 2nd
Judy Leavers	January 26th	Martha Biby	March 2nd
Desmond Williams	January 29th	Kurt Cessna	March 4th
Linda Williams	January 29th	Michael Gray	March 5th
Michael Baker	January 29th		

In Memoriam

Paul Smigel



PASTORAL CARE UPDATE

St. James has some exciting news to share regarding Pastoral Care. The Rev'd Dr. Sebastiana Springmann will now be the "Coordinator of Pastoral Care" for St. James. After her ordination to the priesthood, her title will be "Priest Associate for Pastoral Care." This means that Rev'd Sebastiana will be the central person for coordinating all Pastoral Care issues that might arise.

Here is how it will work. **All Pastoral Care input/requests will be sent to Rev'd Sebastiana**, regardless of their source. She will then triage the information and pass the need along to the Pastoral Care Ministry that can best meet the need. For instance, if someone cannot make it to church, and would like communion brought to them, Rev'd Sebastiana will send that information to the person who coordinates Eucharistic Visitors. If there is a loss, and the person would benefit from receiving the Grief Booklets, that information will be passed along to the person who coordinates that ministry.

We are thrilled to now have a "Clearing House" for all Pastoral Care needs. This will certainly enhance the delivery of Pastoral Care services to the members of St. James.

If you have any questions about all of this, please contact:

Rev'd Sebastiana: (352) 460-1806 / Revsebastiana@stjames-leesburg.org

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. (Rite 1) & 10:15 a.m. (Rite II)

Healing & Anointing Service:

Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Church Office Phone: (352) 787-1981 / Email: office@stjames-leesburg.org

Please visit our website at: www.stjames-leesburg.org



CLERGY & STAFF

Rev'd Thomas Trees, Rector
Cell & Email - (352)-643-1182 / frtrees@stjames-leesburg.org

Rev'd Art Hollows,	Deacon
Rev'd Sebastiana Springmann	Deacon
Victoria Mymudes	Parish Secretary
John Wilson	Parish Organist/Choir Director
Elizabeth Williams	Youth Ministry & Choir Director
Wylie Hill	Sexton



VESTRY

(Senior Warden) Cherie Knowles, (Junior Warden) Bert Sofield,
(Treasurer) Tom Grizzard (Assistant Treasurer) Nigel Bailey

Members: Bill Binneveld, Claire Meade, Rita Clements,
Tony Cobb, Susan Cyrus, Sean Lahey, Nancy Moran, Stuart Mowatt,
& Dee Saylor.



OUR MISSION

Saint James seeks to be a community that grows more Christ like, expressing the love of Jesus Christ in our worship, our outreach, and our commitment to discipleship.

