



AUGUST 2026 MESSENGER

Spiritual Formation Is Here!

Mtr. Sebastiana, Deacon Art, and Dorry Curran are co-facilitating a new program of spiritual formation training at St. James. The first phase of this program takes place during the Sunday School hour starting on August 2, 2026. This course will continue each **Sunday through September 6, 2026.**

We will be using a video series, Signs and Grace, offered by the Episcopal Church. The sessions will include group discussions and opportunities for self-discovery. This first phase of our coordinated spiritual formation program focuses on the Sacraments and will meet the education requirement for those who wish to be Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church. Other parishioners might also want to participate in this course, especially since we will follow this orientation course with a more comprehensive offering starting in October. If you are interested in becoming Confirmed or Received, please contact:

Mtr. Sebastiana at revsebastiana@stjames-leesburg.org or 352-460-1806.

If you are not seeking confirmation or reception but wish to join us on this first phase of our 2026-2027 coordinated spiritual formation program please contact:

Dorry Curran at tinkrvl@gmail.com or 949-633-8471 .

When you sign up for this program we will need the following information:

Name, Address, Phone Number, and Email Address.



AUGUST GRIEF SUPPORT

Our next Grief Support Gathering is on Thursday, August 6th (Chapel). At the June Dinner gathering we decided to skip the month of July since many of us have other plans the week of July 4th. As usual 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 August is “Understanding Grief Bursts and their Triggers”. Grief Bursts bring our loss rushing back to the surface, often when we least expect it. According to Dr. Alan Wolfelt this is very normal. Join us as we share our experiences and share what triggers our grief bursts.

Our grief support group is open to anyone who has lost a loved one and needs support from others who know firsthand what they are going through.

Blessings to all of you,

Susan Cyrus, Grief Support Facilitator



JULY FOOD DROP



Many children in Lake County are enjoying and receiving nutritional meals and snacks this summer, thanks to St. James parishioners shopping for the JULY Food Drop! The volunteers , Tanina and Dick Singeltary, , Terri and Van Galyon, Jan Tindall, and Bob Clements again met and visited with our faithful donators in the community and members bringing in food and monetary contributions for the July Food Drop.



TOTAL COLLECTED: 434 pounds of food ~ \$930.00

TOTAL TO DATE: 54,022 pounds of food ~ \$62,480.00



We are looking forward to our next **FOOD DROP** on the third Wednesday of the month,, **August 19th from 9:00-12:00.** on **A HOT SUNNYDAY (STILL)!!**

There are also **FOOD BINS** in the parish hall kitchen for earlier drops. The Leesburg Food Bank continues to appreciate the increasing **DONATIONS** for food and monetary contributions for those in our community. Blessings to you all and Stay Safe and Cool.

When God's children are in need, you be the one to help them. ROMANS 12:1

Rita Clements

TWO NEW PROGRAMS FOR OUR ST. JAMES CHILDREN

A strong children's program is an essential part of the church's mission because it helps nurture the faith of the next generation. Through Bible lessons, worship, prayer, music, and fellowship, children learn about God's love and develop a personal relationship with the church in a safe and caring environment.

Junior Daughters of the King ~ Chapter for the Girls Junior Brotherhood of St. Andrew ~ Chapter for the Boys

The meetings will be held twice a month on Sundays from 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m

PROGRAM STARTS ON AUGUST 23RD

Please join us for a sign-up meeting for both chapters on
Sunday, August 16, 2026 from 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

For more information regarding the Jr. Brotherhood of St. Andrew, please contact:

Sean Lahey 407-461-3112 / sean.lahey@yahoo.com

For more information regarding the Jr. Daughters of the King, please contact:

Elizabeth Linberger, Directress 407-417-4849 / Lara Lahey, Co-Directress 407-461-7014



JUNIOR Daughter OF THE KING
SIGN-UP MEETING

EVENT DETAILS

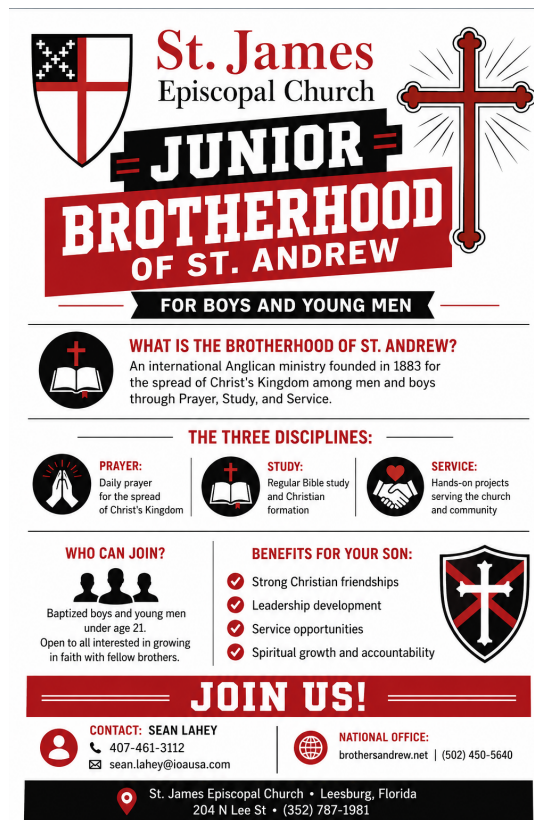
- August 16, 2026
- 12:30-1:00 PM
- St James Episcopal Church Parish Hall
204 Lee Street
Leesburg, Florida

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Learn about activities and service projects.
- Get materials for 8 weekly intro sessions.
- Program start date: August 23, 2026
- Meetings will be held Sundays 12:30-2:00 PM.
- After the intro sessions, meetings will be twice a month.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Elizabeth Linberger — 407-417-4849
- Lara Lahey — 407-461-7014



St. James Episcopal Church
JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW
FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

WHAT IS THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW?
An international Anglican ministry founded in 1883 for the spread of Christ's Kingdom among men and boys through Prayer, Study, and Service.

THE THREE DISCIPLINES:

- PRAYER:** Daily prayer for the spread of Christ's Kingdom
- STUDY:** Regular Bible study and Christian formation
- SERVICE:** Hands-on projects serving the church and community

WHO CAN JOIN?
Baptized boys and young men under age 21.
Open to all interested in growing in faith with fellow brothers.

BENEFITS FOR YOUR SON:

- Strong Christian friendships
- Leadership development
- Service opportunities
- Spiritual growth and accountability

JOIN US!

CONTACT: SEAN LAHEY
407-461-3112
sean.lahey@ioausa.com

NATIONAL OFFICE:
brothersandrew.net | (502) 450-5640

St. James Episcopal Church • Leesburg, Florida
204 N Lee St • (352) 787-1981



CHOIR SEASON BEGINS (For Adults) AUGUST 19, 2026

If interested, please contact John Wilson, Choir Director

NO EXPERIENCE NESSESARY



Two more **NEW** programs for our St. James Children:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd & Choristers



CATECHESIS
— of the —
GOOD SHEPHERD

ATRIUM
A Montessori-based approach to Christian formation

 **BEGINNING WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026**

WEDNESDAYS • 5:30–6:30 PM

ST. NICHOLAS HOUSE
AT ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

204 LEE STREET
LEESBURG, FLORIDA

WHAT IS CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD?
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Christ-centered, Montessori-inspired approach to faith formation that nurtures a child's relationship with God through Scripture, prayer, liturgy, and hands-on materials. In a specially prepared space called the Atrium, children are invited to wonder, reflect, and respond to God's love at their own pace. Rather than a traditional classroom, the Atrium is a peaceful environment where children encounter Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and grow in their faith through joyful discovery.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO SIGN UP CONTACT**
Lara Lahey, M.Ed., M.A.
407-461-7014



St. James
Choristers

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIR
Lift Your Voice. Share His Love.

All children and youth are invited to be a part of this joyful ministry of music and faith!
You can sign up for 1, 2 or all 3 sessions.

SESSION ONE	SESSION TWO	SESSION THREE
Rehearsals 5:00-5:30pm Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30	Rehearsals 5:00-5:30pm October 7, 14, 21, 28 and November 4, 11	Rehearsals 5:00-5:30pm Nov. 18, 25 and Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23
SINGING IN THE 10:15 AM SERVICE OCTOBER 4	SINGING IN THE 10:15 AM SERVICE NOVEMBER 15	SINGING IN THE 10:15 AM SERVICE DECEMBER 13
	Rehearsals will include Christmas music preparation.	Rehearsals will include Christmas music preparation.

Come grow in faith, make new friends, and share the joy of music!

St. James Episcopal Church
204 Lee Street, Leesburg, Florida
(352) 787-1981

Questions? Contact:
Lara Lahey, M.Ed., M.A.
407-461-7014

Ronald McDonald House

It's hard to believe the first Ronald McDonald House was opened 57 years ago in Philadelphia. In 1981, the first International Ronald McDonald House opened in Toronto, Canada. There are 368 Ronald McDonald Houses in 64 countries. These accommodate families with hospitalized children who are being treated at near by hospitals. RMD Houses provide over 7,200 bedrooms to families around the world each night, with an estimate of \$700 million in lieu of hospital costs.

I'm proud that St. James Church of Leesburg, FL has played a poart supporting this wonderful health care institution.



ECW Welcome Back Coffee

Due to Labor Day, the ECW Welcome Back Coffee will be held on **Saturday, September 12th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.**

Whether you are new to St. James or have never attended an ECW event, we warmly invite you to join us for coffee, refreshments, fellowship, and music as we celebrate our traditional Fall Welcome Back Coffee and kick off a new ECW year.

We look forward to welcoming old friends and new faces alike! Hope to see you there.

Barney Woodward



TASTE OF ST. JAMES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND ~ 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

SAVE THE DATE!!!



We are looking for **20 Chefs** to prepare **One Tasting-Sized Item** for approximately **100 guests**. Each sample should be **2–4 Ounces** and may be anything from a decadent chocolate dessert to a savory steak hors d'oeuvre. We encourage creativity and would love to showcase a wide variety of delicious dishes!

If you enjoy cooking and would like to support this wonderful mission, we would be delighted to have you participate.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

Kathleen Trees – 337-241-3434 or Aaralyn Howell – 352-245-4891

Thank you for helping St. James with this amazing Mission. Your support brings hope, healing, and compassionate care to those in need.



LIBRARY CORNER



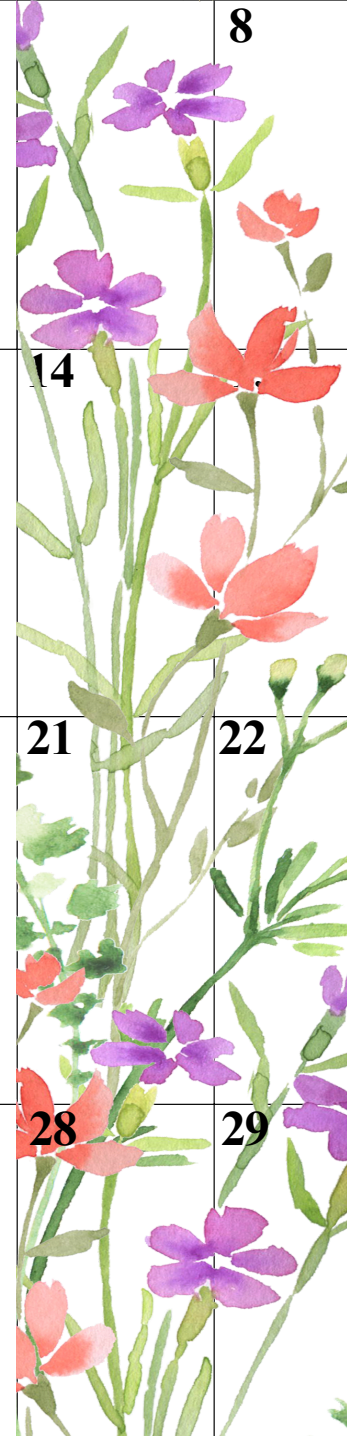
My never-ending theme is **ACTUALLY, YOU DO HAVE TIME TO READ**. So, I was amazed and truly pleased when I discovered an article titled exactly as above in the May 10, 2026 issue of “The Living Church”, which you will find on the parish library book truck. I hope many will read this article, pages **28 & 29**, and recommend it to your fellow parishioners.

For several decades I have had the positive pleasure of serving as Parish Librarian here at St. James. This is a post which was developed as a committee of our ever faithful and active E.C.W., the annual providers of operating funds for our library. This post has given me a major advantage; I get to select and purchase the books and magazines on the shelves, and even more satisfying, I get to read the books first. Thus, I have learned “a lot” about my chosen faith, and grown into a Christian life. What **JOY!**

I strongly recommend that you, dear reader, follow my path. Read often from the Christian book collection available **FREE** in your very own library, following another of my favorite themes: **READING IS FUNDAMENTAL**, and not at all unusual in one’s development as a Christian.

The Parish Library, Room 6, is open on Thursday mornings and on demand. Margaret Branham, P.L. will be glad to help you find some “**Best Books**”, Phone **352-787-5893**.

Margaret Branham, St. James Librarian

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 August: A month to cherish summer's blessings, embrace new beginnings, and give thanks for God's abundant grace. 							1
2 10th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Signs & Grace Course (Parish Hall) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II)		3	4	5 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob)	6 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel)		8
9 11th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Signs & Grace Course (Parish Hall) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 2:30 Dulcimer (Parish Hall)		10 3:00 Stephen Ministry 6:00 Beginner Ukulele 7:00 Advanced Ukulele	11	12 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 2:00 Daughters of the King (Parish Hall)	13 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel)		14
16 12th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Signs & Grace Course (Parish Hall) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 12:30 JDOK / JBSA Parent Meeting (St. Nicholas House) 2:30 Dulcimer (Parish Hall)		17	18	19 9:00 - 12:00 Food Drop 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 5:00 Finance Committee Meeting 6:45 Adult Choir Begins	20 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel) 6:30 Vestry Meeting (Parish Hall)		21
23 13th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Signs & Grace Course (Parish Hall) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II) 12:30 JDOK / JBSA Candlelight Service (St. Nicholas House) 2:30 Dulcimer (Parish Hall)	30 14th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist (RITE I) 9:00 Signs & Grace Course (Parish Hall) 10:15 Eucharist (RITE II)	24 6:00 Beginner Ukulele 7:00 Advanced Ukulele	25	26 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy (Coffee Snob) 6:45 Adult Choir	27 8:30-12 Library Open 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service (Chapel)	28	29
		31					

Veterans Ministry



ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Dear Diocesan Family,

Earlier this year, LTC Rob Soeldner, (USA Retired and Holy Trinity, Fruitland Park) and I were appointed to serve on a new commission of The Episcopal Church focused on ministry with veterans, active-duty service members, and their families. We are grateful to Bishop Ann Ritonja, Suffragan Bishop for Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, and a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, for this appointment and for her leadership in this important work.

This commission reflects a deepening commitment across The Episcopal Church to accompany those who have served—and those who serve still—with faith, care, and dignity through our Chaplain Corps and through connections with local parishes.

As Christians, we know that every story matters. Many among us have served, are serving, or are part of families shaped by military life (probably every member of this Diocese has a parent, grandparent, cousin, or sibling who served our armed forces). These stories often carry courage, sacrifice, transition, and resilience. They are also stories the Church is called to honor and walk alongside.

Our first step as a Commission is both simple and significant: we are seeking to better recognize and understand the presence of veterans and military families in our parishes. To assist the Commission in this work, we are asking every parish to invite veterans, active-duty service members, and the families of each, to complete a brief survey (link below). This will help us understand:

- Who are the veterans and military families in our churches
- What kinds of support are already bearing fruit
- Where there are opportunities for deeper care
- How can local churches build connections to local military installations

Your responses will help shape how the Church strengthens this ministry in the years ahead—so that our care is attentive, faithful, and grounded in the Gospel.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Canon Ellis Brust



https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/veterans_ministry_survey



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
210 S. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34950 (772) 461-5009 | rector@mystandrews.org
www.mystandrews.org | [@standrewsfortpierce](https://twitter.com/standrewsfortpierce)

Memorial & Thanksgiving Flowers

Those wishing to provide flowers for a Sunday service, either in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving, are invited to contact **Bonnie Binneveld**. She coordinates the monthly schedule for the Altar and Madonna flowers on behalf of the ECW .



Bonnie Binneveld,
Cell: 352-255-1658
Email: Binn@aol.com



Once your date has been reserved, you may contact the florist of your choice to arrange the flowers. The florist should bill you directly, not St. James. Many parishioners have had excellent experiences with **Southern Tradition**, although you are welcome to use any florist you prefer.

Bonnie will notify the Parish Secretary, **Victoria**, so that your memorial or thanksgiving dedication can be included in the Sunday bulletin.

You may also reserve the **Altar Candle** for a suggested donation of **\$5–\$10** to the Altar Guild. This donation helps offset shipping costs for the candles. Please make checks payable to St. James and note "**Altar Guild**" in the memo line.



Please note the typical costs:

- Altar flowers (two arrangements): approximately **\$100 or more**
- Madonna flowers (one arrangement): approximately **\$60**, depending on the flowers and florist selected.

Following the final Sunday service, the flowers are yours to take home and enjoy. **Please do not remove the Altar flower containers or plastic liners**, as these belong to the church. An Altar Guild member will be happy to assist you after the service. Madonna arrangements are self-contained and may be taken as they are. Unless other arrangements have been made, the Altar Guild will dispose of any remaining flowers by the end of the week.

If you have a special date you reserve each year, please let Bonnie know. She is happy to accept reservations months in advance and will send a reminder as your date approaches. Reservations are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

In addition to the Altar and Madonna flowers, you may also sponsor flowers for the **wooden flower box in the Narthex** as a special way to welcome worshippers. The cost is generally similar to that of the Madonna flowers. The box measures approximately **19 inches long, 5 inches wide, and 5 inches deep**.

Thank you for your generosity in helping keep St. James Episcopal Church filled with beautiful flowers that enhance our worship and glorify God each week.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



1st William James Sydney Tucker Finley Weber Durham Young	9th Mitchell Graham 11th Elle Beltran 13th Fran Bollenbach Dennis Gaillardet	27th Nancy Boyer David Dunmire Jeff Register
3rd Rebecca Binneveld Georgianna Kelly Kay Oestreich	15th Van Galyon Jeff Livesay	28th Dr. Uju Amadi 29th Ed Walter Barney Woodward
4th Judy Bedell Michael Kennedy Suzanne Oldham	16th Victoria Mymudes Nancy Mitchell 17th Kimmey Young	30th Charlene Smigel 31st Keith Reddick
5th Bethany Trees 6th Ryan McCabe 8th William Hoth David Lossing Linda Merrill	19th Ann Kupferberg 20th Thomas Reynolds 21st Matt Beck 21st Delcie Durham 23th Cherie Knowles 24th Patsy Cyrus	



♥♥ AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES ♥♥

2nd Stuart and Herma Mowatt 5th Charles and Lorraine Johnson Steve and Linda Merrill 12th Lindsey & Karsten Weber 14th Larry and Barbara Demaline Sean and Beth Graham 15th Michael and Patsy Cyrus	17th Terrell and Beverly Bounds James and Mary Hooper Kathleen Taylor 18th Dr. Uju Amadi 19th C.L. and Doss Herman John and Suzanne Oldham 23rd Michael & Tara Meyer 24th Chip and Fran Deems
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ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST



The St. James Prayer List is organized into two sections: A **Short-term list** and a **Three-Month List**. Names are initially placed on the short -term list for three weeks, after which they are moved to the three-month list. At the end of the three -month period, names will be removed unless a request is made for them to remain. Please call the church office if you would like to place someone on the Prayer List. (352) 787-1981 / office@stjames-leesburg.org



Short Term ~ 3 Weeks



Charlie Johnson	July 28th	Alexis Dunmire	July 18th
Kay Haddenham	July 28th	Cheryl Dudley	July 16th
Kristen Daley	July 19th	Wylie Hill	July 15th
Lynn Olson	July 19th		

3 Months

Jim Gustafson	July 13th	Jim Slovik	June 23rd
Bonnie Kern	July 13th	Ann Cholewa	June 23rd
Jan West	July 13th	Barbara Morgan	June 18th
Jim Hooper	July 13th	Rita Clements	June 17th
Sam Kingsbury	June 11th	Meredith Kirste	June 16th
Jim Mitchell	July 10th	Court Hintze	June 16th
Gabie Millett	July 10th	Pat Dechello	June 10th
Cynthia Sharer	June 28th	Raychel Black	June 9th
Dott Vedder	June 25th	Steve Rubini	June 9th
		Charlene Smigel	June 8th



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 Information

Monday-Thursday ~ 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday ~ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Closed ~ Saturday & Sunday

(352) 787-1981 / office@stjames-leesburg.org

CLERGY & STAFF

Rev'd Thomas Trees,

Rector

(352)-643-1182 / frtrees@stjames-leesburg.org

Rev'd Dr. Sebastiana Springmann

Priest Associate

Rev'd Art Hollows

Deacon

Victoria Mymudes

Parish Secretary

John Wilson

Parish Organist/Choir Director

Wylie Hill

Sexton

VESTRY

**(Senior Warden) Cherie Knowles, (Junior Warden) Bert Sofield,
(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.