

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

ST. JAMES MESSENGER

An Invitation to a Holy Lent

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial, and by reading and meditating on God's Word".

Lent begins this year on
Ash Wednesday, February 17th

With services for the Imposition of Ashes in the church at
12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.



Our Ash Wednesday service at 12:00 pm will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person. In addition, we are making ashes available for pick up at the church, so that you may self-administer them at home while you watch the livestream. You can contact the church office to make arrangements for picking up the ashes.

FEBRUARY 2021

The Messenger is a monthly publication of St. James' Episcopal Church in Leesburg, Florida. It is mailed on the last Wednesday of each month and highlights parish news for the upcoming month. Deadline for submissions is the third Wednesday of each month. Submissions should be sent to: Pat Schaefer <office@stjames-leesburg.org>

Church Mailing Address:

St. James Episcopal Church
204 N. Lee Street
Leesburg, FL 34748
Services: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:15 AM
Thursday Healing Service 10:00AM
Office Phone: (352) 787-1981
Office Fax: (352)787-1021
Office Email: office@stjames-leesburg.org
Fr. Trees' email: frtrees@stjames-leesburg.org
Fr. Trees' cell: (352) 643-1182



Visit our website at: www.stjames-leesburg.org



Go to YouTube and type "**Leesburg Stjames**" or
Go to our website: www.stjames-leesburg.org; or
Go to our **Facebook** page!

CHURCH VESTRY & STAFF

- Rector: Rev'd Thomas Trees**
- Assisting Priests: Rev'ds Charles Hay, William J. Boyer, Ron Peak**
- Assisting Deacon: Rev'd Jerry Steidl**
- Parish Organist/Choir Director: Deb Carraway**
- Nursery Coordinator: Carmen Rebusmen**
- Director of Youth and Families: Elizabeth Williams**
- Minister to Teens: Susie Brewer**
- Treasurer: Tom Grizzard**
- Parish / Finance Secretary: Pat Schaefer**
- Sexton: Doug Ames**
- Housekeeping: Diane Smith**
- Vestry Members: Bonnie Binneveld, Bill Cauthen, Marc Crouch, Kristen Daley, Kathy Davidson, Danny Delgado (Senior Warden), Harry Hackney, Chris Leware, Steve Merrill (Junior Warden), Bob Tindall, Steve Treiber, Patti Wolf**

HOLY BAPTISM



Congratulations to siblings Landon and Camden Donovan, and Zoey and Tinsley Rodriguez, who were baptized at St. James on Sunday, January 10th!

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

HOLY MATRIMONY

We rejoice at the marriage of our new parishioners, Kathleen Fegan and Michael Preston, who were married in a small ceremony at St. James on January 20th. Congratulations, and welcome to St. James!



IN MEMORIAM



We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Diane Bozeman Green, who passed away on January 1st, and Paul Sisson, who passed away on January 14th.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord
And may Light perpetual shine upon them.*



St. James Prayer List

Call the church office (352)787-1981 with additions/deletions

LONG TERM

Maggie Brooke-Stewart
Kenny Edwards
Dottie Elliott
Holly Marston
Margaret Anderson
Jeffrey Coward
Susan Peak
Nancy Austin
Judy Cable
Bob Cyrus

Debbie Slappey
Larry Coolbroth
Roxie Rowell
Roxie Rowell
Jennie Whittle
Sandy Ostrowski
Velma Hanson
Clay Stevens
Lyle Haddenham
Darwin Klug
Jaden Cantrell
Ron Davis
Larry Covert
TJ Hagist
Susan Streidl
Jacqueline Summers

SHORT TERM (3 weeks).

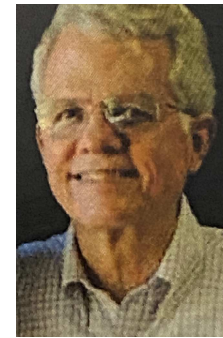
Deanne McVey
Kathy E
Eric B.
Dee & Fred Kermod
Terri Brown
Pat Strehl
Winnie Tucker
Betty Morris
Marion Mooney
Cody Linker & Family
Don Galbreath

LONG TERM (cont'd)

Lauren Benedict
Velma Harbison
Joan Kirby
Claire Bisiere
Florence Deeley
Jacqueline Summers



*And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord,
to comfort and succor all those who in this
transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness,
or any other adversity.*



NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

The 134th Annual Parish Meeting at St. James was held **on Thursday, January 28th, at 6:00pm in the Church.** At that time, the following new Vestry members were nominated and accepted: **Bill Cauthen, Danny Delgado, Harry Hackney, and Chris Leware.** We would like to thank our outgoing vestry members, Ted Bowersox, Bruce Saylor, Dick Singeltary, and Joanie Smalley for their service and dedication to St. James.

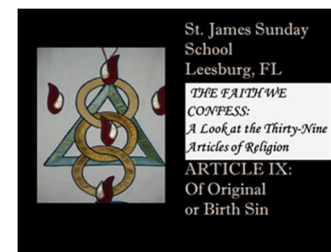
Also at our meeting, Danny Delgado was selected to be our next Senior Warden. Congratulations, Danny!

COFFEE AND PHILOSOPHY



Over the years I've been blessed to meet and talk with a number of you on matters of faith. If you want a regular time and place where you can do that, you can join me every **Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at The Coffee Snob in Leesburg (1101-1 North Blvd) for an hour of "Coffee and Philosophy"**. You can come by and raise any question on the Bible, theology, or philosophy you want. — Fr. Tom

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Adult Sunday School with Fr. Tom continues with the course, "The Faith We Confess: A Look at the Thirty-Nine Articles. We meet each week in the Parish Hall at 9:15am.

ECW NEWS

JODY'S GIFT SHOP

St. James ECW now has a small but lovely gift shop at 204 N. Lee Street just across from our administrative office. We are open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00-2:00 and on Sundays between services. We will also open for you by appointment if those hours don't work. We have a little bit of everything, and our merchandise is ever changing. So try to come visit us and support our ministries by shopping at Jody's Gift Shop... WE'RE READY FOR THE VALENTINE SEASON!!



FOOD DROP PROJECT

The Food Bank truck was parked in front of the church awaiting the January 2021 monthly Food Drop. The volunteers were ready for yet another blessing when our St. James Parishioners contributed food and monetary donations for those in our community.

JANUARY 2021 FOOD DROP

COLLECTED:	1228 pounds of food \$2539.00
NINE MONTH TOTAL:	11,309 pounds of food \$14,209.00

The DNA of JOY is thankfulness. Your generosity of sharing demonstrates:
A little less of you
A little less of me
And a little more of US

We are looking forward to our next Food Drop on **Wednesday, February 17, 2021** (Third Wednesday of the month). Once again, thank you for your incredible generosity for our community and this project. God's blessings to you and Stay Safe.



MUSIC MUSINGS February 2021

“And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand...”

It was a less than stellar instrument residing in an incredibly noble place. Dusty and not in tune, some of the black keys on this piano’s treble end were sheared off and at the same height as the adjacent white keys. If you are a pianist you know this provides quite a challenge; the height and grouping variations of the black keys allow one’s fingers to more easily find and play correct keys without always looking. Add to this the fact the piece I had to play was in the key of G flat, hence my fingers had to quickly find the necessary black keys and play them at appropriate times. Sigh...

I hadn’t thought of this experience in over 40 years until this week, the first week in January, 2021. January 6, to be exact. For this happened to me in our nation’s Capitol Rotunda, the scene of this week’s horrific events.

In 1977, I accompanied a group of singers from my college to Washington D.C., where we were privileged to sing in the White House, as well as in the Rotunda. When we arrived at the Rotunda, someone scrambled to find a piano, and what appeared was what I described above. A flawed instrument, with several broken parts, very difficult to play. It sat in stark contrast to the glorious heritage of the rotunda. But you know what I remember most about that day? I remember playing to the best of my ability, and then hearing the stunning voices lifting up to the rotunda, resonating like the voices of angels. In spite of the flaws and brokenness of the piano, we kept going, hoping for (and hearing) a better outcome than expected or deserved.

And that’s what we must do now...My heart is broken for what happened in our nation’s capital, for the anger and resentment that overflowed there, the flaws and brokenness that erupted into expressions of hate and violence. As we stumble through these difficult times nationally, my friends, my prayer is that we can rise above our own brokenness to a place where God can hold us in the palm of his hand, tenderly allowing us to heal and move forward with grace and peace for all.

Love and Prayers,
Deb



- 1 Linda Gray
- 2 James Breeden
Ed Ostrowski
- 4 Linda Hintze
Elaine Samson
- 5 Charles Stephens
- 6 Seth Peter Trees
Meaghan Young
- 7 Janice Tindall
Katie Van Beek
- 8 Mark Palmer
- 9 Ronald Luth
Ferrell Young
- 11 Margaret Bolton
- 12 Dewey Waddell III
Elwood Baxter
Bill Tweedle
Tess Neumann
Charmaine Tenwinkel

- 12 Lisa James
Ross Hackney
Trey Wassell
- 13 Carolyn Hoth
Joel Trees
- 19 Jim Parker
Linley Van Beek
- 20 Margaret Green-Witt
Lita Sergio
- 22 Dot Gustafson
Doug Pens
- 23 Susan Cyrus
- 25 Fran Deems
Ron Parsons
- 26 Nancy Moran
- 27 Avery Brooks
- 29 Sue Roeglin

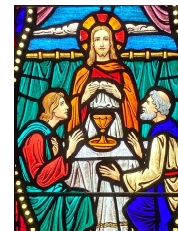


- 6 William & Lisa James
- 12 Dan & Nancy Austin
- 14 Wayne & Delores Griffin
- 15 James & Susan Soltysiak
- 27 Ron & Bev Parsons
- 28 Robert & Amy Bowersox

FAMILY CHURCH SERVICE Sunday, February 7th

A number of our families with school aged children have refrained from attending our Sunday services to avoid putting our older parishioners at risk. To allow space for them to attend, we are designating the 10:15 service on the first Sunday of each month as our Family Service. Parents are especially invited to come with their children on those days. Anyone else is free to come as well—just note that families with kids will be there!

Our next "Family Service" will be on February 7th. We will have a Children's Sermon, and our Jubilate kids will have a song to sing!



THURSDAY HEALING EUCHARIST

Our Thursday Morning Healing Eucharist services have now resumed each Thursday at 10:00 in the Parish Hall.

OUR PARISH LIBRARY

Bishop Michael Curry, in the 3rd year, 2018, of his nine year tenure as Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America wrote a wonderful book titled THE POWER OF LOVE. It includes four sermons on the subject of the enriching and spiritual power of love. One is the sermon he delivered on the occasion of the royal wedding, Meghan and Harry, on May 19, 2018. It is inspirational and we hope you will choose it from the library book truck in the parish hall. There are other books by Bishop Curry available in our parish library collection; all are special.

-Margaret Braham, Parish Librarian

The Parish Library is open every Thursday from 8:30am-11:30am. Stop by and see the vast selection of books for your enjoyment.



2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:00 ECW Board Mtg 10:00 ECW Gen'l Mtg	3 1:00 Coffee & Philosophy	4 10:00 Eucharist	5	6
7 5TH EPIPHANY 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	8 10:00 DOK Board Mtg	9	10 1:00 Coffee & Philosophy	11 10:00 Eucharist	12	13
14 6TH EPIPHANY 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	15	16 ECW Chapter Mtgs (10:00am St. Ann's In Parish Hall) (10:00 St. Francis' In the Chapel)	17 ASH WEDNESDAY Distribution of Ashes 12 noon, 6:00pm 9-12 FOOD DROP 1:00 Coffee & Philosophy 5:00 Finance Meeting	18 10:00 Eucharist 6:00 Vestry Mtg.	19	20
21 1st LENT 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	22	23	24 1:00 Coffee & Philosophy	25 10:00 Eucharist	26	27
28 2ND LENT 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist						