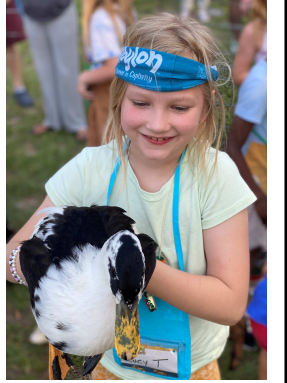


St. James seeks to be a community that grows more Christlike, expressing the love of Jesus Christ in our worship, our outreach, and our commitment to discipleship.

ST. JAMES MESSENGER

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023



Thank You to all our volunteers, leaders, helpers, and students who made Daniel's courage in Babylon a fantastic VBS experience! Along with our lively worship celebrations, we learned some new crafts, took part in some fun games, and heard from Daniel himself (along with Ashpenaz, the King's Officer) about how he interpreted the king's dream, how his friends survived the burning fiery furnace, and how he emerged alive from the lion's den! And we even had a petting zoo!



JULY 2023

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



Sunday services are livestreamed at 10:15 AM:
Go to YouTube and type "Leesburg Stjames" or
visit our **Facebook** page.

CHURCH VESTRY & STAFF

Rector: Rev'd Thomas Trees

Assisting Priest: Rev'd William J. Boyer

Assisting Deacon: Rev'd Art Hollows

Parish Organist/Choir Director: John Wilson

Nursery Coordinator: Carmen Rebusmen

Children's Choir Director: Elizabeth Williams

Treasurer: Linda Weekley

Parish / Finance Secretary: Pat Schaefer

Sexton: Doug Ames

Housekeeping: Diane Smith

Vestry Members: Bill Cauthen, Dorry Curran, Danny Delgado (Senior Warden), Harry Hackney, Terry Galyon, Linda Grizzard, David Knowles, Chris Leware, Drew Logan (Junior Warden), Mackie McCabe, Dick Singeltary, Linda Weekley

BISHOP'S CONSECRATION



We were blessed to have over 20 members of St. James attend the consecration of the Rt. Rev'd Justin Holcomb as the 5th Bishop of Central Florida on June 10th. The service took place at Calvary Church in Orlando.

Deacon Art Hollows took part in the service as a Eucharistic Minister, and Benjamin Trees served as the Banner Bearer for St. James. Ben also managed to secure a selfie with Bishop Justin afterward!

A special Thank You goes out to our Fellowship Committee for arranging bus transport, and ensuring that we were well represented!

LIBRARY CORNER—Margaret Branham

With the activities of our Invite, Welcome and Connect committees, the summer of 2023 thus far has been a busy time here at St. James, not the usual quiet time "off".

One committee member is working on a power point video production of the history of St. James. Fortunately, the library has a 5 page history, written by Georgiana Morris, included in the 1995 parish directory, completed during our centennial (100th) year. Maybe you have a copy of this directory. If so, keep it safe. We are now in our 138th year as the Episcopal parish in Leesburg, Florida. There is a need for an historical update, so I am requesting that if you, dear congregants, have any precious memories, interesting facts and stories, please share them in written form with the librarian, Margaret Branham, who will in turn share them with the team preparing the video update of life at St. James.

Meanwhile, you will soon find a condensed history of life at St. James in the narthex book rack. Check it out.

St. James Prayer List

Call the Church Office (352)787-1981 with additions/deletions

LONG TERM

Judy Cable
Dottie Elliott
Joyce Huey
Charles Hay
Charles Stephens
Stephen Norris
Jim Mitchell
Becky Mitchell
Doug Springmann
Pratt Carter
Janet Davis
Ron Vedder
Justin
Paul Smigel

Janet Galbreath
Kurt Cessna
Helen Williams
Sandy Oberholtzer
Clyde Jonathan Smith
Jimmy
Nadine Millett
Rosie Bello
Ann Terrill
Gabie Selton
Bishop Michael Curry

SHORT TERM

Bishop Dan Herzog
Paul Jordan
Charlene Kreeger
Chris Collins
Kathy Billington
Juanita Mander
Lauri Grizzard



GRIEF SUPPORT

The Grief Support Gathering will meet **Thursday, July 6th, 2023, at 4:00 PM at the Coffee Snob** (1101-1 W. North Blvd, Leesburg). The topic will be, [“Actions Taken That Would Make Your Loved One Proud.”](#)

Want to find out more? Contact Susan Cyrus at (352) 636-8969

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

St. James has a support group for those who are dealing with, or have dealt with family members suffering from dementia. This group meets on the Fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:00PM in the Parish Hall. **Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 26th.** If you, or anyone you know are dealing with these challenges and are interested in participating please call Dot Hay (352-552-8986) or the Parish Office at (352-787-1981).

Come Be Our Guest- In ALPHA!



St. James will be starting our fourth ALPHA Course on **Tuesday, August 8th**. An ALPHA course is an opportunity to grapple with the bigger questions of life and faith in a fun, nonthreatening, nonjudgmental environment. While ALPHA was originally designed for people who would not necessarily identify as churchgoers or Christians, we have found that it is also a wonderful program for ANYONE who wants to feel closer to God and His Church.

ALPHA is a 12-week course, meeting from 6:00-8:00pm on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Hall. It also includes one Saturday retreat day. There is no cost to participate in the program. Please consider joining us and, also, inviting people in your life that may be searching for answers to their spiritual questions.

Each evening starts with a shared supper, and continues with a short video addressing some question about Christianity. The evening then concludes with small group discussions. Some of the topics include: “Who is Jesus?”, “Why Did Jesus Die?”, “How Can I Have Faith?”, “How and Why Do I Read the Bible?,” and “Why and How Do I Pray?”, and “Does God Heal Today?”

In the small groups, the guests are encouraged to bring up any ideas, perspectives, questions, doubts, or objections they have. You can say as much or as little as you wish. This program is designed to be a safe place where guests can voice what is on their hearts about Christianity and know they will be respected.

If you would like more information or would like to sign up to attend the ALPHA course, please contact **Dorry Curran at 949-633-8471 or tinkrvl@gmail.com**. You can also see Dorry to get a brochure with more details, which includes comments from past ALPHA @St. James guests. Also, if you can help provide a supper for one of the sessions or would like to participate in producing the course, Dorry would love to have your assistance!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

ECW OUTREACH

The ECW members have been active this summer making plans for our Holiday Bazaar and The Old Time Christmas Market. We are blessed with a creative group of women and Craft Workshops will be offered in both daytime and evening hours. The dates for the Craft Workshops will be announced in the next few weeks. All St. James women are welcome to attend.

Becky Binneveld and Susan Cyrus are conducting a workshop to make Snowman Hershey Bar Gifts. It will take place on **Wednesday, July 20th from 9:30 am to 12:00pm**. The materials will be supplied by the organizers and the ladies in the congregation are encouraged to participate.

Please note that the first meeting of the new Board is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1st at 10:00am, in the Parish Hall. Our primary agenda is to plan our September Coffee Morning.

Remember we are still collecting 'Pop Tabs' from cans to support the Ronald McDonald House in Orlando.

JODY'S GIFT SHOP

St. James Episcopal Church Women (ECW) continued to provide dedicated service to JODY'S GIFT SHOP throughout the months of September through May. The shop will open on September 10th, 2023 on Sunday, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00-2:00 pm and Sundays, 9:00 to 12:00. The donations given to the shop for sale continues to support the ECW and their local, state and world ministries. Even though the shop is closed, it can be available on an appointment basis. There will be a list in the church office with contact telephone numbers. We are thankful for the VOLUNTEERS and the support that has been given and look forward to the re-opening of the shop in September. Good news will be shared for the selection of a new stained glass ornament. We will welcome our members' choice chosen out of five windows. Additional information will be shared for the "chosen window process". Grateful for the support. Sent with God's blessings.



JULY MUSIC UPDATE



Thank you to everyone for such a warm welcome at St. James. Even after just a few weeks, new friendships are forming, and hopes for what this newest ministry can be are starting to take shape. As I continue to pray about the direction of the music here at St. James, I remain committed to the growth of some of the music programs already present within our church.

As such, I would like to encourage and invite any aspiring singers to participate in the St. James **Summer Singing Saints**. For the first three Sundays in August you are invited to come to the altar and join me and other members of the choir in song. This is a great opportunity to take part in a ministry maybe you have thought about doing but have not yet tried. It's a "try out" without being a "try out"!

Blessings,
John

INVITE-WELCOME-CONNECT

Our IWC Committee has been busy since our weekend with Mary Parmer last February. Not only have we been following through on the plans generated from that meeting, we are making every effort to communicate them to everyone at St. James. We had a review meeting on June 25th, which was recorded and will be made available. Additionally, during the Sunday services in June and early July, we have hosted a series of talks on inviting, welcoming, and connecting people to St. James. You can view those talks by going to on our website (www.stjames-leesburg.org). Thank you, Sherry Lash, Babs Treiber, John Russell, Sue Roeglin, and Bob Tindall for preparing these talks!

"Why We
Invite"
With Sherry
Lash



July

Birthdays

- 1 Eunice Mattear
- 1 Nancy Russell
- 1 Morgan & Riley Raczkowski
- 4 Harold Jackson
- 4 Peggy Bryson
- 5 Ann Ozanne
- 6 Isaac Trees
- 7 Robin Rebusmen
- 8 Jeff Engel
- 8 Cheryl Nann
- 8 Rob Bowersox
- 9 Makenna Grizzard
- 10 Dottie Elliott
- 10 Grady Logan
- 11 Linda Oldham
- 13 Kathryn Knight
- 13 Valerie Abbott
- 13 Steve Merrill
- 13 Susan Battle
- 14 Mandy Tweedle
- 16 Kurt Cessna
- 16 Sandra Bryant
- 17 James Christian
- 17 Peggy Steeves
- 17 Timothy Knowles
- 18 Leslie Bennett
- 18 Wilma Braun
- 18 Bill Binneveld
- 19 Kristen Daley
- 23 Carolyn Orme
- 23 Michael Huey
- 24 Wylie Hill
- 25 Donna Tweedle
- 26 Winnie Tucker
- 28 Kara Pearson
- 28 Marti Doty
- 29 Kevin Braun
- 30 Marvin Naylor
- 30 Jason Booth
- 31 Sandi Nolan

July

Anniversaries

Anniversaries

- 1 Jeff & Bonnie Binneveld
- 2 James & Nancy Moran
- 3 & Susan Hughes
- 4 James & Patricia Parker
- 4 B. Murray & Linda Tucker
- 5 Douglas & Eileen Pens
- 5 Jason & Joanie Smalley
- 7 Bert & Karen Sofield
- 10 Wesley & Diane Brannon
- 11 Charles & Betty Stephens
- 12 Bruce & Debbie Saylor
- 16 Gerry & Susan Steidl
- 20 James & Jean Christian
- 22 Bill & Chris Leware
- 22 Ron & Dot Vedder
- 25 Bill & Donna Tweedle
- 26 Gordon & Sue Roeglin
- 28 Jim & JoAnn Statts
- 29 Bill & Becky Binneveld
- 29 Gary & Mary Lynne Gentzle
- 31 Bill & Robin Cauthen
- 31 Bob & Rira Clements

ECW MONTHLY FOOD DROP

Umbrellas and hooded rain jackets were suggested as the attire (if needed) for the ST. JAMES JUNE FOOD DROP. Volunteers, Terri and Van Galyon, Jan Tindal and Tanina Singletary greeted 20 cars accepting food and money supporting our Leesburg Food Bank.

COLLECTED: 630 pounds of food.
\$788.00

TOTAL TO DATE: 35,584 pounds of food
\$44,457.00

Thanks for delivering your donations in the rainy weather. You are appreciated for your support and we look forward to the next FOOD DROP that will take place on Wednesday, July 19th, 9:00-12:00.. With God's blessings.



The Daughters of the King meet the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00PM in the Parish Hall. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, July 12th**, when we continue our study of Parables. All women of the Parish are invited. Please join us for prayer and study.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our **Men's Prayer Breakfast** will meet again on **Wednesday, July 19th, at 8:00am** in the Parish Hall. We are going through the series, "What is Mere Christianity?"

To learn more about our Men's Fellowship, contact Fred (Ted) Kermode at fkermode@verizon.net, (941) 807-3176 or (941) 807-3176

FR. TREES ON VACATION

Father Tom and family will be away on July 16th and 23rd. Fr. Bill Boyer will preach and celebrate on both of those Sundays, as well as the Thursday Eucharist services on July 13th, 20th, and 27th. Deacon Art will host the Wednesday Coffee and Philosophy meetings on July 12th, 19th, and 26th. Thanks Fr. Bill and Deacon Art!

JULY

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 5th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	3	4 Office Closed	5 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy	6 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service 4:00 Grief Support Gathering	7	8
9 6th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	10	11	12 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy 2:00 DOK	13 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service	14	15
16 7th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	17	18	19 8:00 Men's Prayer Bkfst 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy	20 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service	21	22
23 8th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	24	25	26 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy 2:00 Dementia Support Group	27 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service	28	29
30 9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	31					