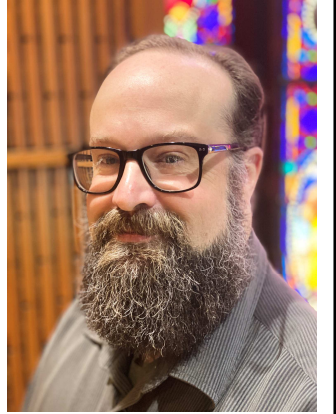


St. James seeks to be a community that grows more Christlike, expressing the love of Jesus Christ in our worship, our outreach, and our commitment to discipleship.

ST. JAMES MESSENGER

WELCOME OUR NEW ORGANIST!

We are delighted to have John H. Wilson Jr. join us as our new Organist/Music Director, starting on **Sunday, June 11th**. Please join us in greeting him and his family at either the 8:00 or 10:15 service that day.



A NOTE FROM JOHN...

Hello St. James Episcopal Church !

My family and I have met so many wonderful people here at St. James and we are so delighted to be part of this congregation. I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and the family, and to share a little of who I am and my hopes for this new ministry here at St. James.

First off, my name is John Wilson; my wife is Katy and my sons are Marvin (15) and Luke (9). Katy is a 2nd grade teacher at Callahan Elementary in northeast Florida and she has been teaching for over 20 years. She and I met at church and I've been blessed to call her my wife for 17 years. Marvin is our quiet child and an academic. He excels in the classroom, but yet still finds time to participate in weightlifting and football. Luke is our outspoken, but equally sweet, creative child. He loves his legos and beating his dad at basketball. I can wholeheartedly say my family enjoyed our first visit to St. James and look forward to worshipping with you all. Without a doubt the Holy Spirit is here at this church.

My story is a simple one...

I'm originally from Illinois (as is Katy) and I moved to Florida in 1986. My first church position was at a Catholic Church when I was 13. I graduated from the University of North Florida with an arts degree in music/ piano performance in 1998. I continued my work as an organist and choir director and with the help of Katy opened a private music school in 2003 where we had a number of teachers and at one time more than 200 students. For the last 2 decades we have been blessed with teaching children both in the studio and in the classroom.

(Continued on p.3...)

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

HOLY MATRIMONY

Congratulations to **Eric Anselmo and Lysie Baldwin**, who were married in the Chapel at St. James on May 1st!

"The Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. Amen."



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our **Men's Prayer Breakfast** will meet again on **Wednesday, June 21st, 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

LIBRARY CORNER—Margaret Branham

Here comes summer, with its chances and changes; it is a season for travel with visits to mountains, salt water beaches, to resume or start a new hobby, or maybe just catch up with household chores and the garden. Maybe you simply stay home and read more. This last is where your Parish library comes in, because we have some good books to recommend, both entertaining and informative about the Christian faith. I am starting at THE TOP, with a display on the library book trucks of our collection of books about GOD. Yes, that God. Personally, I am re-reading "The Mind of the Maker", by Dorothy Sayers, who was a friend of both C.S.Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. Although she was known primarily as a writer of mysteries, she also wrote a few books of a theological nature. If that book is already checked out, try one of the books by Tim Keller, Eg. "The Prodigal God" and "The Reason for God". There are many ways to approach the subject of God, so I hope many of you will accept the challenge and share your discoveries with others.

And our Parish Library, in Rm. 6 opposite the parking lot, will be open Thursday mornings throughout the summer. Looking forward to your visits.

Margaret Branham

St. James Prayer List

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

LONG TERM

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

SHORT TERM

Janet Galbreath
Haley Grace Hart
Kurt Cessna
Helen Williams
Sandy Oberholtzer
Clyde Jonathan Smith
Jimmy
Nadine Millett
Rosie Bello

Gabie Selton
Lauri Grizzard
Quanita Mander
Joan Reid
Kathy Billington
Ann Volmer

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Jeff Brooke-Stewart's Bible Study is now on hiatus for the summer and will resume Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The Grief Support Gathering will meet **Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 4:00 PM** at the **Coffee Snob** (1101-1 W. North Blvd, Leesburg). The topic will be, "Bible Verses that offer comfort to our grieving hearts"
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. **Please note that the group will be off for the month of June, and will resume in July.** 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).

...A Note from John Wilson *(Continued from p.1)*

My ten years as the music director at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Jacksonville was equally rewarding. I am so thankful for the bonds I made there and for the people who helped me to grow in my musicianship and faith. It is a priceless gift to worship at the Eucharist table where all who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. It is the heart of who we are as Christians and it is the hope, the knowledge, of what is to come.

And that is my hope for my new ministry here at St. James Episcopal Church. That I and my family will continue to grow in the faith of Jesus Christ. That I can continue in the loving musical traditions of Miss Deb Carraway and your magnificent St. James Choir. That I can study and learn from Father Tom and other church leaders. And to be someone you all can call brother-in-Christ and member of St. James.

I am so very excited and humbled to be part of this new chapter at St. James. I pray that God guides me in this new ministry and I thank Him for all the blessings in this life. -John

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 26th-30th, 5:30-8:00 PM

It's time again for VBS! We invite you to join us for our weeklong adventure, **BABYLON: DANIEL'S COURAGE IN CAPTIVITY!** Crafts, Dramas, Games, and Songs will reinforce the Daily Bible Point that is carefully integrated into each activity. **Dinner will be served!** Our VBS is open to ages Pre-K through 5th Grade. Families may attend as a unit, and teen helpers are welcome!

To register, or to volunteer to help, please contact **Kathleen Trees** at **337-241-3434**. See you there!



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

The ECW ended its year with a Spring Luncheon attended by 48 women. A big thank you to Susan Battle and Cheryl Nann for organizing a lovely lunch. During the lunch Deb Carraway and Nancy Moran were honored and thanked for sharing their musical talents at St. James.

As of June 1st, a new ECW Board will take command.

President, incoming-Sherry Lash, outgoing-Sharon McCabe

1st Vice President, incoming-Chris Meade, outgoing-Cherie Knowles

2nd Vice President, incoming-Becky Binneveld, outgoing-Marie Crouch and Dorry Curran.

Secretary, incoming-Linda Merrill and Eileen Pens, outgoing-Kathy Davidson

Treasurer, Mary Burnett. Assistant Treasurer, Barbara Morgan

Chaplin, incoming-Nancy Mitchell, outgoing-Linda Ames

Chapter Chairwomen:

St. Martha's, Sue Hackney and Leah Binneveld

St. Cecilia's, Katie Mann

St. Anne's, Shirley Dunne

St. Francis, incoming-Nora Cameron, outgoing-Dee Kermode

The ECW has set up an email to send your photos to so that we can continue with the history of St. James in our scrapbooks. Please send any of your photos to ecwscrapbook@gmail.com.

It has been a pleasure and many blessings to have served as your ECW President.

Mark your calendar for the ECW Fall Coffee on September 9th.

-Sharon McCabe

Our May **ST. JAMES FOOD DROP** depicts a wonderful rendering of :
1st JOHN 3:18: "Let us not love only in words or in talk, but let us put our love in action and make it real."

Our volunteers, Terri and Van Gaylon, Jan Tindall, Tanina Singletary and Rita Clements greeted 24 cars accepting food and money donations.

COLLECTED: 735 pounds of food
\$12,00.00

TOTAL TO DATE: 34,954 pounds of food
\$43,669.00

Schools are closing for the summer and FOOD NEEDS for our families will continue to grow. Thank you for your awesome support helping our community with your donations. The FOOD DROP will continue throughout the summer months. See you on Wednesday, June 21st, 9:00-12:00. God,s blessings to you.

-Rita Clements

IWC Update

The IWC teams are close to full implementation of their plans! Plans were completed in April and critical elements are in development. To inform the parish, we plan the following:



1) Between services in the Parish Hall on **June 25th at 9:15**, our Team Leaders Seth Trees, Chris Leware, and Bob Tindall will review their plans.

2) During announcements at each service on the following dates, they will deliver brief talks on these subjects:

June 4	Why We Invite (People to St. James)
June 11	How We Invite
June 18	Common Conversations (in Inviting)
June 25	The Congregation's Role in Welcoming Guests
July 2	Connecting people to St. James.

BIKEFEST 2023

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to everyone who helped at Bikefest Parking! Together we raised over \$3000 for our Youth! Whether you organized, set up, parked cars, fed volunteers, or collected money, you were an essential part of this project. Thank you all! Pat Schaefer, Doug Ames, Rob Bowersox, Steve Merrill, Marc and Marie Crouch, Burt Jackson, Victoria Mymudes, Tom Danielson, Bill Cauthen, Fr Tom, Kathleen, Joel, Elijah, Ben, and Lucy Trees, Eric and Lysie, Jeff and Stephanie Engel, Janet Davis, Nancy Russell, Drew, Grady, Luke, and Audrey Logan, Becky Binneveld, Dan Tenwinkle, Carole Fischer, Tom and Linda Grizzard, Ann Kupferberg, Paula O'Conner, Elaine Sampson, Sherry Lash, Ted and Dee Kermode, Angel and Hailey Pearson. Thank you again. I hope you will join us next year!- Chris Leware

ALPHA IS RETURNING!

We are planning to start another Alpha Course, beginning in August. **ALPHA** is a 12 week program that grapples with the big questions of life and faith in a nonjudgmental environment. It offers an opportunity to share fellowship with other people who are traveling the same path. To sign up, stay tuned!





Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Patricia Parker | 14 Coburn Smalley |
| Samantha Palmer | 16 Lonnie Johnson |
| 3 Lee Rowell | 17 Peg Hopper |
| 4 John Drawdy | Carol Young |
| 5 Chris Hermann | 18 Annabelle Wright |
| 8 Janet Galbreath | Rebekah Shuniak |
| Katie Mann | 21 Gem Vance |
| 9 Eric Kubicsek | 23 Beverly Booth |
| 10 Ted Bowersox | 25 Luke Logan |
| Deb Ballabio | 26 Nora Cameron |
| 12 Catherine Bryan | 28 John Russell |
| Leah Delgado | 29 Danny Delgado |
| 13 Eileen Pens | Elizabeth Tucker |
| Denise Meier | 30 Patricia Jackson |
| 14 Marion Belson | |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Seth Peter & Bethany Trees | 17 Brian & Claire Brooks |
| 5 Bill & Nancy Boyer | 18 Bob & Jan Tindall |
| Michael & Linda Gray | 20 Robert & Terri Brock |
| Bob & Chris Meade | 21 Jeff & Denise Carpenter |
| 6 Charles & Dot Hay | 22 Larry & Mary Frances Block |
| 8 Scott & Kristen Daley | Steve & Nadine Millett |
| 9 Doug & Sebastiana Springmann | 24 Curt & Kay Oestreich |
| 14 Nathan & Susan Battle | 25 Danny & Leah Delgado |
| Gary & Tess Neumann | 27 Andrew & Laura Braun |
| 16 Fred & Carolyn Orme | 28 Ted & Gail Ostrander |
| Michael & Denise Saylor | Dick & Tanina Singeltary |

BISHOP'S CONSECRATION
The Rev'd Dr. Justin Holcomb will be consecrated as the Fifth Bishop of Central Florida on **Saturday, June 10th, at 11:00 AM**, at Calvary Church in Orlando. St. James has chartered a bus to attend. The service will be livestreamed.

ECW OUTREACH

It was a lovely day in April when 10 members of St. James were greeted at the Ronald McDonald House in Orlando. The Ronald McDonald House is one of 3 such dwellings in Orlando that is able to accommodate families who have seriously ill children, ages from new born to 21. These dwellings are on the campus or near the hospital and their child. The Ronald McDonald House is able to provide private lodgings for 37 families. Including meals and many amenities.

The minute you enter the house there is an aura of peace and tranquility. Our hostesses spoke in quite tones with understanding and empathy of the concerns of the families. Of course there are many sad times, but also there are many, times great joy.

The ECW is very active collecting 'Pop Tabs' from soda cans, pet food cans, soup and even beer cans in support for Ronald McDonald House in Orlando. Last year \$10,000 was raised, so let's all pull the 'Pop Tabs' to do our share to raise the roof of the house in the Parish Hall. The house was constructed by Dee and Ted Kermode, and the roof does come off to allow your tabs to build our gift for Ronald McDonald House of Orlando.

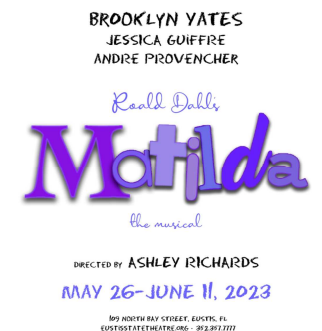
ECW is thankful for all the tabs you've pulled, but please keep pulling those 'Pop Tabs'. -Meg Bremer



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, June 14th**, when we continue our study of Parables. All women of the Parish are invited. Please join us for prayer and study.

Matilda the Musical

For those who would like to support Beth Williams' sons Gideon and Ethan, they will be performing in The Bay Street Players' production of Roald Dahl's Matilda, which is running from May 26th-June 11th, at The State Theater (109 North Bay St, Eustis). Their contact info is: 352-357-7777 or info@baystreetplayers.org





2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 Healing and Anointing Service 8:30-11:30 Library Open 4:00 Grief Support Gathering	2	3
4 First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday 8:00 Morning Prayer 10:15 Morning Prayer Deacon Art Hollows, Preaching	5	6	7 12:00 Coffee and Philosophy	8 10:00 Healing and Anointing Service 8:30-11:30 Library Open	9	10 Bishop Justin Holcomb Consecration 11:00 (Calvary Orlando)
11 Second Sunday after Pentecost John Wilson's 1st Sunday 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist 12:00 Newcomer Luncheon	12	13	14 12:00 Coffee & Philosophy 2:00 Daughters of the King 5:00 Finance Meeting	15 10:00 Healing and Anointing Service 8:30-11:30 Library Open 6:00 Vestry Meeting	16	17
18 Third Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	19	20	21 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 12:00 Coffee and Philosophy	22 10:00 Healing and Anointing Service 8:30-11:30 Library Open	23	24
25 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 IWC Update 10:15 Eucharist	26 5:30 VBS	27 5:30 VBS	28 12:00 Coffee and Philos. 5:30 VBS	29 10:00 Healing Service 8:30-11:30 Library Open 5:30 VBS	30 5:30 VBS	