

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

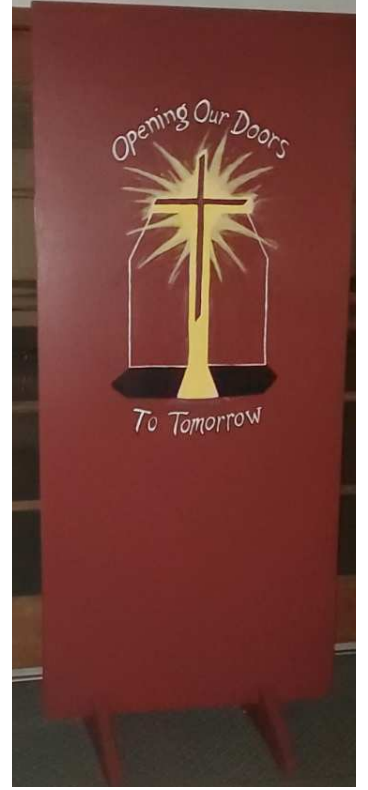
“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close.” Revelation 3:8

We are facing some exciting new beginnings here at St. James. Just a few weeks ago, we reopened our beautiful, newly renovated church building. Now we are opening our doors to a new season of following Christ in worship, discipleship, and outreach.

That is why, for our stewardship program, we want to provide a new way to acknowledge God’s blessings to us to continue opening our doors. It takes many blessings from God and the generous spirit of our parishioners to create the community of St. James. How has God blessed you in the past year? How have you shared His grace with others? What does it feel like to use the blessings God gives you to participate in His work at St. James? How can you pray for God to help us accomplish our mission in the coming year?

When we send you your pledge cards, we will enclose a “blessing note” form with them. Please complete the form with your thanksgivings and petitions. We invite you to return your pledge card with your blessing note to post on our church door replica (painted for us by Scott Daley and his daughter Blythe). There is power in prayer and there is power in community.

There are several ways you can add to our blessing door and submit your pledge cards. You can mail both to the parish office. You can pin your blessing note to the door before a Sunday service. You can participate when you come by the office to pick up a communion kit. We look forward to seeing our door rich with beautiful blessing notes, testifying to the hope we have that, with God’s help, we are opening a door to a vibrant, Christ-like parish family life. It will be a door that no one can ever close!



NOVEMBER 2020

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 Deacons: Rev'ds Charlie Perrin, 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, Ted Bowersox, Marc Crouch, Kristen Daley, Kathy Davidson, Steve Merrill (Junior Warden), Bruce Saylor (Senior Warden), Dick Singletary, Joanie Smalley, Bob Tindall, Steve Treiber, Patti Wolf**

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT



My name is Matthew Hill; I am 16 years old, and a lifelong member of St. James. Recently I began to work on my Eagle project for Scouts BSA, in which I plan to give informational presentations about human trafficking, and collect supplies to donate to survivors of this horrible crime. The coronavirus situation delayed my plans significantly; however, I am determined to proceed.

I would love to give an online presentation to any church groups or congregation members who are interested. My goal is to obtain five or more backpacks from this church, and the ECW has placed a box in the Parish Hall for items that are needed. Each backpack needs to be filled with clothing, basic toiletries, prepaid cell phones, new plush toys, and wet wipes. Alternatively, these items can be purchased off of my Amazon wishlist. Please email me at matthewhill878@gmail.com or call at 352-801-2218 if you would like a link to this list, or have any questions at all. Thanks in advance!

LIVESTREAM TECH SUPPORT

Are you interested in working with the production of our livestream services on Sunday mornings? We could use your help! We need assistants in the areas of audio and visual editing. We are hoping to find enough volunteers to sign up on a monthly basis. If you would like to participate, contact Seth Peter Trees at 352-431-5814.

PRAYERS FOR BILL BREWER



We continue to lift up Susie Brewer, our Minister to Teens, and her husband Bill in prayer, as Bill continues to battle MDS. Bill continues to undergo chemotherapy treatments as he awaits a bone marrow donation.

You can follow Susie's updates on their journey with MDS on her website

<https://teambrewer-fightingmids.blogspot.com/>

St. James Prayer List

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

LONG TERM

Maggie Brooke-Stewart
Kenny Edwards (N. Young)
Dottie Elliott
Margaret Anderson (K.Knight)
Jeffrey Coward
Nancy Austin
Carey Campbell (K. Knight)
John Meier V
Judy Cable
Mason
Donna Gaudet
Bob Cyrus
Charlie Perrin
Donna Baker
Dee Kermode
Lanny Ames
Olga
Erin Byrns
Bob Tindall
Bob Fiebke
Lonnie Johnson
Jim Mitchell
Fr. Ron Peak
Annabelle Wright

SHORT TERM (3 weeks).

Meg Johnson
Ron Vedder
Maggie Brooke-Stewart
Holly Marston
Bill Brewer
Bob Bremkamp



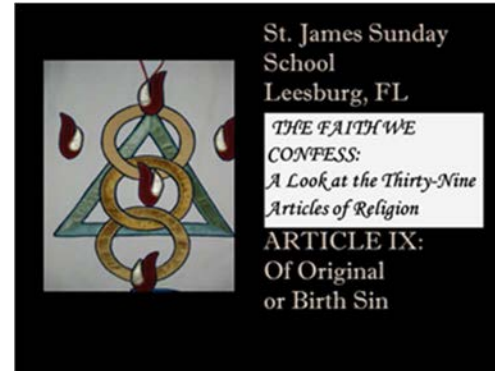
*And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord,
to comfort and succor all those who in this
transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness,
or any other adversity.*

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY AT ST. JAMES



Greetings, St James families!

Sunday School is back for kids! We meet at the St. Nicholas House 9:15 AM, and learn each week how to stay on track trusting God with the curriculum, "Rocky Railway". We'll have music, a craft, a Bible lesson and prayer. Take-home kits and online video will still be available for families who are continuing to worship at home. Ages 4 thru 12 are welcome, and parents are invited to stay, as well.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

THURSDAY HEALING EUCHARIST



Thursday Morning Healing Eucharist services have now resumed each Thursday at 10:00 (to be held in the Parish Hall).

Attendance at both is limited to social distance seating, and attendance will be taken for safety purposes. To reserve a seat, contact the church office 352-787-1981

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour and take back the hour we lost in the Spring!!!



ECW MONTHLY UPDATE

Bizarre Time

Normally, this is the time of year when we are busily preparing for our Annual Fall Bazaar. This year we had planned to hold it on November 4th. Due to Covid-19 safety concerns, this is not an option in 2020. ECW still has many valuable missions to support in our community and world. We hope to have a fundraiser in late winter or early spring, but it may have to be in the form of a virtual auction. So, as ECW President in this challenging year, I challenge you to channel that money you usually spend on preparing pies, cakes, cookies, candy, lunch, crafts, antiques, etc. and donate it to the ECW. Don't forget to add in what you typically spend as a customer at the events! Then do that on a monthly basis until we reach our \$20,000 goal. Checks can be made out to St. James ECW with a notation at the bottom "bazaar donation."

Bonnie N. Binneveld

FOOD DROP PROJECT

Cloudy skies did not dampen the spirit of giving from our St. James parishioners during the October Food Drop.

Collected: **1,344 lbs of Food**
 \$1,575 in Donations

Six Month Total: **8,634 lbs of Food**
 \$10,105 in Donations

The Food Bank expresses their appreciation always and especially at this time as the Stimulus Money for food stamps is being delayed. The NEED IS GREAT! We are looking forward to our next Food Drop on Wednesday, November 18th. (Third Wednesday of the month) You all are incredibly generous with our community and this project. Thank you and God's blessings.

Rita Clements



MUSIC MUSINGS

November 2020

*"Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee."*

I have a confession to make: My Christmas village is still up from last year. It typically goes up a bit before Thanksgiving and comes down sometime in January. (When I say "it," I actually mean "they." Our villages consist of eighteen Dickens-era buildings, many given to us as gifts through the years. They bring us much joy because of the memories attached to them.) Well, our January and February schedules got really busy, with concerts and an out-of-town wedding, so then it got to be March, and we all know what happened then. After a while I just decided to leave them up as a reminder that someday this joy-filled season would return. And here it comes!

While this year's holiday season will be much different than anyone could ever have imagined, it can still be a season of light and love, even in the midst of a pandemic. We have opportunities to count our blessings, and then reach out to bless others, especially those who are feeling particularly lonely and isolated. There are many tangible ways to do this, from a phone call to a distant friend, or a card to let someone know you are thinking about them, or even a care package of goodies sent to brighten someone's day. If this year has taught us anything, it might be that we must re-evaluate our priorities, and continue reaching out to all who need a touch of God's grace, whether we are in a pandemic or not. God goes before us every single day, calling us to be his hands and feet in a world that is hurting and in need. Be that person, and continue counting every single blessing, whether large or small, so that God's love can be experienced and shared, perhaps in quite unexpected ways. To brighten your holiday season, I hope you will consider attending one (or all) of our Advent/Christmas mid-week mini-concerts, starting on Wednesday, December 2. You could even invite a friend to join you! Each one will start at noon, and will last 30-45 minutes. This will be a "Christmas Mosaic," consisting of a variety of musical offerings, including instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles. Due to limited and distanced seating in the sanctuary, reservations will be required through the Church Office, and admission will be a donation in any amount (or a non-perishable food item) to support ECW's ongoing ministry to Leesburg's food pantry.

Be that person, friends – LOVE LARGE during this season, showing the world that we serve a God who loves them and who cares about them every single day!

Yours in Him,
Deb Carraway
Music Director and Organist



- 2 Kathy Billington
- 3 Debbie Saylor
- 5 Charlie Davidson
Dan Robuck III
- 7 Mary Berry
Diane Brannon
- 8 Sarah Sisson
Sara Gray
- 9 Sue Hackney
- 10 Chip Deems
- 12 Libby Hackney
- 14 Nancy Young
Joyce Huey
- 16 Pam Thomas

- 17 Betty Luther
Becky Mitchell
- 18 Larry Demaline
Jim Hooper
- 19 Susan Steidl
Ann Tuke
- 21 Alberto Gan
- 22 Dan Robuck Jr.
Andon Gray
- 26 Jeannine Rowell
Eddie Robinson
Kay Palmer
- 27 Kathy Davidson
- 28 John O'Kelley



- 1 Bob & Wilma Braun
- 5 Charlie & Angela Perrin
- 9 John & Denise Meier

- 12 Ross & Marion Belson
- 17 Dan & Iris Robuck
- 25 Jim & Barbara Logan



Holy Communion packets are available each week! Please contact Pat at the office to set up a time to pick up your packet. You can call (352-787-1981) or email (office@stjames-leesburg.org)



The women of DOK have now had two meetings, since the church has opened. Each one on the veranda. Yes, we wear our masks and are 6 feet apart.

We have changed our meeting time, still the second Wednesday, but now we meet at 10:00. We hope that this new time will encourage you to visit us and join in prayers and also in the discussion of the book we are reading, *Meeting the Spirit*. There is one book left, \$7.50 ! Based on the biblical book of Matthew.

Many people have admired the cross we wear. It is a symbol of our commitment, daily prayer, service, and personal evangelism. The cross is a Greek Fleury cross with equal arms. The inscription reads, 'Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine' meaning 'with heart, mind and spirit uphold and bear the cross'. One of our members calls us the Prayer Warriors, this is true. We pray for those of our family and many of our friends who have asked for prayers during this time of uncertainty. If you have loved ones, friends and concerns let us know the names to be added. You do not need to identify the problem.

Keep well, keep safe.

"Be joyfull in hope, patient in afflictions, faithful in prayer"
Romans 12:12


UNITED THANK OFFERING (UTO)

"The National UTO Board is changing the focus for the next round of grants to center around recovery efforts from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. UTO will be there to help with the spiritual and economic recovery process here and throughout the world until 2022!"

Therefore, the Board is accepting donations for what is now called the remaining 2020 Ingathering. To contribute, make checks payable to St. James ECW and note UTO on the memo line. Mail to St. James Episcopal Church, 204 Lee St., Leesburg, FL 34748. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our St. James' Family. You help so much by giving thanks and providing offerings to share your blessings. God bless you -- stay safe, stay well, stay grateful." Dottie Elliott, UTO Chairwoman



2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	2	3 9:00 ECW Board Mtg 10:00 ECW General Meeting	4	5 10:00 Eucharist	6	7
8 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	9 10:00 DOK Board Mtg	10	11 10:00 DOK General Meeting	12 10:00 Eucharist	13	14 Pastel Society of Central Florida
15 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	16	17 ECW Chapter Meetings (St. Ann's chapter will be meeting in PH at 10:00) St. Frances Chapter will meet in Sanctuary 10:00	18 5:00 Finance Meeting	19 10:00 Eucharist 6:00 Vestry Meeting	20	21
22 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist DOK Installation	23	24	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving 	27	28
29 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	30					