



**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

### IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK!

I am excited to be back at St. James after two months. I am especially grateful to Fr. Bill for the excellent job he did while I was away. I also heard that Fr. Brandt Montgomery was very well received here (and Nancy Moran has been wonderful as our musician!). Our family time away was a real blessing. We were able to see the Pacific Northwest, take a train across the country, and relax on the family property in North Carolina. I was also able to take a Biblical studies course, which I will use for our Sunday School class on the Letter to the Hebrews.

After being away, I can certainly say, it's great to be back! That the old adage still holds: there's no place like home. It's essential to have a place to call home when we face the many hardships that will inevitably arise. We've seen them here at St. James over the summer. Sadly, we lost a number of our members and their loved ones. Please remember their family in your prayers. We have also had to face new restrictions at church due to the spike in Covid cases, which includes the return to masks and social distancing for services—but does NOT require signing up (*the complete list, effective August 19th, was sent out by email. If you didn't receive it or would like a copy, contact our office, or look it up on the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida web site*). Many our choosing to stay home again out of precaution. If you do, remember that you can access our Sunday services on YouTube or Facebook, and request Communion packets for celebration at home. We hope to be able to livestream other classes and events as well—stay tuned.

In the meantime, as you can see, life and ministry at St. James abounds, as we seek to follow Christ and express his love to others. St. James is our spiritual home, no matter the challenges that arise. When we are at home with Christ, then nothing can dislodge us from it. So make it your intention, whether in person or away, to draw near to him. The invitation of the Letter to the Hebrews still stands: *"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to find help in time of need". Hebrews 4:16.*

-Fr. Tom

SEPTEMBER 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](mailto:office@stjames-leesburg.org)>

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Thursdays Healing Service 10:00AM  
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Go to YouTube and type "**Leesburg Stjames**" or  
Go to our website: [www.stjames-leesburg.org](http://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  
**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, Bob Tindall, Steve Treiber (Junior Warden), Patti Wolf

**IN MEMORIAM**

Sadly, we have had several of our members and their loved ones pass away recently. We offer our condolences to their family and friends who are grieving their loss.

*"Father of all, we pray to you for Tom, John, Jan, Maggie, Bob, and for all those we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."*



Tom Blake



John Robinson



Jan Danielson



Maggie Brooke-Stewart



Bob Cyrus

**A Word of Thanks...**

I want to express my deepest thanks to everyone at St. James for the care and concern shown after the death of my husband, John Robinson. St. James is a spirit-filled church family, and I have felt surrounded by God's love through you. A memorial service will be held in the fall when John's children, who all live in Europe, can travel.  
God's blessings,  
Gail Robinson



## ECW UPDATE

Plan to attend our **“Fall Coffee”** which will take place, **Saturday, September 11th at 10:00AM on the Verandah**. Following a brief meeting, browse the booths in our Parish Hall of our church artisans for a glimpse of the talents that are such a blessing to St. James. These artisans will be represented at our **“Holiday Bazaar,”** which will take place Saturday, November 6th.

## JODY’S GIFT SHOP

Our advisory board has recommended **A CHANGE IN OUR REOPENING DATE**. This change is based on the revised COVID 19 guidelines applicable in the Diocese of Central Florida. There is a difference from our St. James guidelines.

WE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AN APPOINTMENT BASIS starting SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>. Appointments can be made by calling the office at 352-787-1981 and Pat will coordinate with one of the Advisory Board members. Thank you, stay safe and our prayers go with you. Rita Clements

## BUTTERFLY GARDEN

There will be a workday in the butterfly garden, **Thursday, September 23rd** at 7:30 AM, and **every 4th Thursday of the month, thereafter..** All willing hands are appreciated. - Jan Tindall

## FOOD DROP PROJECT

Bottles of water and Gatorade accompanied our August FOOD DROP as Terri and Van Galyon, Jan Tindall and Rita Clements met with 98 degrees temperatures! Once again, the Leesburg Food Bank expressed their gratitude for the food and the monetary offerings given to them from our generous St. James Parishioners. God is Good.

COLLECTED:	708 pounds of food \$605.00
YEARLY TOTAL	18,192 pounds of food \$23,828

**Thank you and see you on Wednesday ), September 15<sup>th</sup> (third Wednesday of the month.** “Live to make the world less difficult for each other.” George Eliot



## Music Musings September 2021

***“To everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...”***

One of our family’s favorite recipes is Grandmother’s Sour Cream Pound Cake. It has a revered position in the family lore, and there are more anecdotes related to this cake than one might imagine. One thing I know for sure, however, is that the baking time for this cake is critical. One hour in the oven is not nearly enough, but if you aren’t watchful you’ll quickly pass through soupy, to damp, to done, and end up in cardboard cake land. ☹️

You see, it’s all about the timing. As much as we wish we could control every single facet of life, we continue to find that so many things just happen when “it’s time,” when the time is just right.

As we embrace the new season ahead and gently let go of the season that has passed, we live in hope of what God is going to do in and through us in the weeks and months to come. As part of stepping into the next season, here are some ways you might consider getting involved through the St. James Music Ministry:

- St. James Choir – Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 8 at 7 p.m.. All fully vaccinated singers are welcome to join us!
- St. James Christmas Choir – “Hope...The Heart of Christmas” We will be celebrating the gift of “hope” this Christmas season, when the Christmas Choir will present a lovely concert of music on December 19. If you’d like to sing with us for Christmas, call Deb for details about plans for rehearsal.
- Instrumental Ensemble – Pick up that trumpet or flute, or saxophone and bring it to church! If you would like to gather with other instrumentalists who will play occasionally for worship, give Deb a call.

Be watchful, friends, and attentive to God’s leading. Don’t let that cake bake too long! The time may be just right for you to journey into new adventures as our next season unfolds...

Briefly looking back...This summer has been a time of healing and reflection. I am grateful to all who have prayed and sent notes of encouragement since my spinal surgery in June. It has been a challenging time, without a doubt, but I’m getting stronger every day. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Yours in Christ,

Deb Carraway 352.978.3186

- 1 Gloria Flad
- 2 Bob Tindall  
Lorraine Johnson
- 3 H. Pratt Carter
- 4 Haley McCabe
- 5 Valerie Naylor  
Steve Morgan  
Landen Donovan
- 6 Jerrie Jacobus
- 9 Harry Hackney
- 11 Charlotte Boudreau  
Gary Booth
- 12 Sheila Starr  
Wendy Krauss  
Joshua Bills
- 14 Lelani Travers  
Cecelia Rebusmen



- 16 Doug Ames
- 18 Tom Grizzard  
Pat Schaefer
- 19 Hayley Pearson
- 21 Matthew Hill
- 22 Rob Yeager
- 23 Sandy Ostrowski
- 25 Mackie McCabe  
Patti Wolf  
Susan Soltysiak
- 26 Jason Smalley
- 27 Russell Jacobus  
Gloria Gardner
- 28 Dot Vedder
- 30 Sean Graham  
Dorry Curran

- 1 Joe & Margaret Branham
- 8 Lonnie & Meg Johnson
- 11 Marvin & Valerie Naylor
- 13 Jim & Dorothy Martin



- 14 Robert & Catherine Bryan
- 15 Doug & Linda Ames
- 28 Ted & Dee Kermode
- 30 Jason & Gretchen Gray

## LIBRARY CORNER

Have you visited your Parish Library during the summer? We know, you have been busy or sheltering at home, and we have missed you. Your librarians have rearranged the entire book collection for easier access, and have also printed an up-to-date catalog arranged alphabetically by authors, titles and subjects of the main collection of our books - that's 1,245 books! Plenty to go around.

Following a summer presentation of books written by members of the St. James congregation, a new collection on the Parish Hall book truck will feature books by 3 well-known religious authors: Max Lucado, Henri Nouwen and N.T. Wright. We have several books by each of these excellent authors. The most recently published one is by Lucado, titled "Unshakeable Hope". Don't we all need such a book and mind set in this difficult time?! "Nothing lifts us out of fear and weariness like hope."

Among all your activities, we invite you to stop by the Parish Library, Rm. 6, on Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. until Noon to select a book, or to suggest titles which we should add to our collection for both children and adults.

Phone numbers to reach us are 787-5893 (Margaret) and 689-0220 (Linda)

Don't forget READING IS *FUNDAMENTAL*.



The Daughters had a very quiet summer, meeting just twice. Our meetings were not formal. We met to correct the prayer list, and to pray together for those on the list. We also were able to complete our study guide, *Meeting the Spirit*. We learned that the Spirit is not only in our spiritual life but in our relationships and everyday life.

The September meeting of the Daughters of the King will be held on **Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.** On that day, you will be greeted in the chapel by Father Tom, who will install Shirley Long as our next president. All women of St. James are welcome to join us on this special occasion. Many blessings to all and keep healthy.

BLESSED STEWARDSHIP:  
Grateful Children of Our  
Generous God

The St. James Stewardship and Ministry Committee Presents our Fall Course:  
**BLESSED STEWARDSHIP**

**BLESSED STEWARDSHIP** will be a continual learning opportunity for our parishioners to reflect on the gifts God gives us, explore our perceptions of stewardship, and have fun together. The course is free. This is an opportunity to grow in our relationships with God and with His church.

There will be four sessions. The sessions will meet on Thursdays in the parish hall on October 7th, 14th, 28th, and November 4th, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Each session will include activities and discussions. The classes will build on each other, so we hope you can attend all the sessions. Please consider signing up, even if you are not sure you can make all of them.

Here is our Schedule:

10/4- *Who are we to God?*

10/14- *How do we become the people God wants us to be?*

10/28- *What is the church?*

11/4- *How can I help strengthen the church?*

To sign up, please contact Dorry Curran at 949-633-8471 or [tinkrvi@gmail.com](mailto:tinkrvi@gmail.com). If you have questions or are on the fence about joining us, please contact Dorry. She will be happy to answer any questions you have.

# September

# 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	1 4:30 Treasured VBS	2 10:00 Healing Eucharist	3	4
5 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Treasured VBS 10:15 Eucharist	6	7	8 2:00 DOK Installation of Officers 4:30 Treasured VBS	9 10:00 Healing Eucharist	10	11 10:00 ECW Fall Coffee
12 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School/VBS 10:15 Eucharist	13	14	15 9:00 Monthly Food Drop 4:30 Treasured VBS 5:00 Finance Meeting	16 10:00 Healing Eucharist 6:00 Vestry Meeting	17	18
19 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School/VBS 10:15 Eucharist	20	21 ECW Chapter Meetings	22 4:30 Treasured VBS	23 7:30 Butterfly Garden Helpers 10:00 Healing Eucharist	24	25
26 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School/VBS 10:15 Eucharist	27	28	29 4:30 Treasured VBS	30 10:00 Healing Eucharist		
Are you Out of Town? Or Staying Home? Join us for On-Line Worship! Sundays at 10:15 AM						