

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

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. JAMES

ECW Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 3rd @ 11:00 a.m.

St. James Choir Presentation: The Word Was God

Sunday, December 15th @ 4 p.m.

Jubilate Presentation: Children, Get Ready to Go and Tell It!

Thursday, December 19th @ 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24th @ 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

(Pre-Service Music at 5:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.)

Christmas Day Service

Wednesday, December 25th @ 10:00 a.m.

St. James Advent Devotional



We are pleased to present, for the second year, a Scriptural devotional for the season of Advent, with written by our own St. James parishioners! We have some new faces at St. James who have signed up to participate this year, so be sure to take time to see what they have to say.

Our hope is that this booklet moves you to look further into the rich history of scripture and get excited with us as we anticipate the **Advent of the Savior of the World!** We would love for you to read one devotional each day and celebrate with us in your own joyful way.

DECEMBER 2019

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>

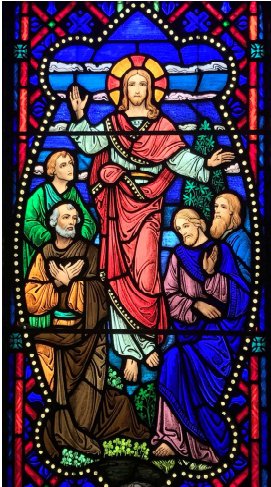
Church Mailing Address:

St. James Episcopal Church
204 N. Lee Street
Leesburg, FL 34748
Services: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:15 AM
Thursdays 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



CHURCH VESTRY & STAFF

Rector: Rev’d Thomas Trees
Assisting Priests: Rev’ds Charles Hay, William J. Boyer, James Martin, Ron Peak
Assisting Deacons: Rev’ds Charlie Perrin, Jerry Steidl
Verger: Horace Harper
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: Nathan Battle, Bonnie Binneveld, Ted Bowersox, Claire Brooks, Kristen Daley, Danny Delgado, Drew Logan (Junior Warden), Steve Merrill, Bruce Saylor (Senior Warden), Dick Singletary, Joanie Smalley, Steve Treiber



*My gifts
My prayers
My pledge*

2020

*Whoever says, “I abide in him,”
ought to walk just as he walked.
1st John 2:6*

A special Thank You to all of you who have made a financial commitment to St. James for 2020. We are excited to see what the Lord does as we see to grow more Christlike, taking steps to walk as Jesus walked. If you have not yet made your pledge for 2020 and would like to do so, cards are available in the back of the church or in the church office.

A Heartfelt Thank You

Dear Friends in Christ,

I want to thank the family of St. James Episcopal Church for your prayers and support during my illness. You have no idea how much strength your prayers and concern brought to me. I thank God for leading Fr. Ron and me to St. James, and for each of you who make up this wonderful caring and prayerful Christian Family.

Susan Debretsky Peak

		
WHAT'S COMING UP!!		
December 3rd	11:00 am	ECW Christmas Luncheon
December 6th	7:30am	Men's Prayer Breakfast
December 15th	4:00pm	St. James Choir Christmas Program "The Word Was God"
December 19th	6:00pm	Jubilate Christmas Program "Children Get Ready to Go and Tell It!"
January 9th	6:00 pm	Alpha Course Begins
January 25-February 1		Jamaica Medical Mission



Christ the King Sunday: Seated are Krisita Jackson, Nat'l President of the DOK, and Dr. Karen Clark, Central Florida Diocesan President of the DOK. Second row are newly admitted members to the DOK, JoAnne Statts, Carolyn Hoth, and Judith Bedell.

Martha and Mary Chapter December 2019

The Daughters of the King had a very busy November. On November 24th we welcomed three new Daughters, Judy Bedell, Carolyn Hoth, and JoAnne Statts. December promises to be busy as well. Our program this month, *A Day in the Life of the Church Secretary*, will be presented by, guess who? our Pat Schaefer. Pat is the one who keeps the wheels turning and does many extras for many of us... and always with a smile. Come hear her story. Our meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 11th at 2:00 in the Parish Hall, and all women of the congregation are welcome.

HOLIDAY TABLE LUNCHEON

The Holiday Table Luncheon and Fashion Show will take place on Friday, February 7, 2020. We are in need of 2 more hostesses to host and decorate a table showcasing your favorite holiday (Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, Halloween, etc). If you have some special holiday tableware that you would like to share, this event offers a great opportunity to do so. We are also in need of 6 volunteers (size 6 to 1X) to model an array of clothing from a local retailer. If you are interested in hosting or modeling, please call Jody Stokes at 352-326-2307.

NEED TO MEET WITH FR. TOM?

If you would like to know when you can come by the church to meet with Fr. Tom, he will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 to noon, and Thursdays from 11:00 to noon. If you would like to arrange for other times to meet, you can contact him by phone or text at (352) 643-1182, or by email at frtrees@stjames-leesburg.org.



Alpha at St James

An Invitation to Explore the Meaning of Life

Starting Thursday, January 9th, and running until March 26th, we will be hosting the Alpha Course. Alpha is an introduction to the Christian faith specifically geared toward those who don't come to church. Each weekly meeting provides opportunity for anyone to ask questions about the Christian faith in a non-threatening environment. Some topics include "Who is Jesus?", "Why Did Jesus Die?", "How Can I Have Faith?", "Why and How Should I Read the Bible?", "Who is the Holy Spirit?" and "Does God Heal Today?"

A number of people expressed interest in Alpha at the Ministry Fair. We will have a planning meeting soon for those wanting to be involved in leading small groups or bringing meals. For more information, contact Doug Ames at 315-404-2311.

Millions of people have been reached around the world with the gospel through Alpha. This will provide an excellent opportunity to reach out to a friend who does not yet have faith—and to strengthen your own!

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The men of St. James meet for breakfast and a time of prayer on the first Friday of each month, from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. Our next meeting will be held on **Friday, DECEMBER 6TH** in the Parish Hall. We are going through a series of videos on the first 11 Chapters in Genesis by a web site called "**Inspiring Philosophy**." The insights are thought-provoking. Come find out!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. JAMES SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM

Our Sunday School for children and adults continues until December 15th. Beth Williams will meet with children grades K-8 in the St. Nicholas House to prepare for the Christmas program, "Children, Get Ready to Go and Tell It!" Fr. Tom will wrap up his fall program in the Parish hall on "The Miracle of the Eucharist".

ECW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, December 3rd at 11:00am in the Parish Hall.

Light Lunch. Pitch-In Buffet

Bring a luncheon dish of your choice

ALL WOMEN PLEASE JOIN US!



Our program for our December 3rd meeting will be **“Sharing Religious Christmas Traditions,”** led by Jan Tindall. We will feature a collection of Nativity sets. If you have a favorite or unusual set you would be willing to display and briefly discuss at the meeting, please contact Jan at jtindall01@gmail.com with your information and a brief description of the creche (origin, material, size, unusual features). We are hoping to have a large variety, and although we may not be able to showcase all of them, we plan to display them all. Thank you for your willingness to share your holiday treasures

ST. JAMES
MARKETPLACE
&


AUCTION

A heart felt and sincere thanks to all who worked so hard on the St. James Marketplace and Grand Auction this year. To the many volunteers, contributors, chairmen, buyers...we appreciate everyone who helped to make both of these successful. We were able to raise over \$19,000 to fund our outreach and mission work. The love and dedication to St. James and God's work was evident throughout the event.

“DAYS FOR GIRLS” IN LAKE COUNTY

While doing the Lake County School District supply collection this year, I had the opportunity to speak with Melinda Redd, R.N., District Health Educator. She shared with me that many girls in Lake County have some of the same needs as girls that we supported in our Days for Girls collection in prior years. Melinda suggested donations of feminine hygiene products suitable for teen girls, (nothing worn internally) or Walmart gift cards that she can use to purchase items ongoing. There will be a container to collect donations in the Parish Hall. Please call Peg Hopper at 518-469-3790 if you have any questions.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITATION

With an increase in homebound parishioners asking for Communion, we are in need of members willing to be trained and licensed to become Eucharistic Visitors. This program is now being overseen by our deacon, Charlie Perrin. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Deacon Charlie at charlie-perrin@outlook.com.

THE WORD
WAS
GOD

Presented by St. James Choir
Jubilate and Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, December 15, 2019 @ 4:00pm

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God. John 1:1



Children, Get Ready to Go Tell It!

Presented by Jubilate

**Thursday, December 19 @ 6 pm
In the Parish Hall**

Please come and support our youngest
choristers as they reflect on the story
old as time, yet still relevant today!

Christmas Eve

@ St. James

6:00 p.m. and 10:00
p.m.

Each service will be
preceded by a 30 minute
concert of Christmas
music, featuring solos and
ensembles, both vocal and
instrumental.

Please join us to celebrate
the birth of Christ.



- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Midge Shotwell | 16 James Pearson |
| Dennis Koski | Sam Musso |
| Alexandra Fuentes (f/k/a Northcott) | 19 Ferrell Young III |
| 3 Gail Robinson | 20 Horace Harper |
| John Robinson | 21 Bill Cauthen |
| Terri Brock | Jason Gray |
| 4 Andy Braun | 24 Dee Kermode |
| 5 Claire Brooks | Fred Kermode |
| 6 Ruth Mitchell | 26 Meredith Kirste |
| Maddison Young | Caden Smalley |
| 7 Margaret Branham | 27 Gene Vaughn |
| Ron Vedder | Benjamin Trees |
| 8 Jean Baynes | 28 Lauri Grizzard |
| 10 Robin Cauthen | 29 Betty Stephens |
| George Kramer | Ann Holden |
| Bruce Saylor | Lila Van Beek |
| Charlene McKinley | 30 Anna Eckles |
| 11 Jim Mitchell | Bonnie Binneveld |
| Callie Polk Wilkes | |
| 14 Byron Oldham | |



- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 13 Trey & Katie Waddell | 21 Ted & Judy Bedell |
| 18 Gary & Beverly Booth | 27 Lee & Carol Hilbish |
| Jeff and Stephanie Engel | Jim & Becky Mitchell |
| Ferrell & Carol Young | 31 Charles & Winnie Tucker |



HOLY BAPTISM

We rejoice in celebrating the baptism of **Madeline Grace Macdonald**, daughter of Kyle and Cori Padgett Macdonald, who was baptized on November 3rd.

*“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.”*

IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones of **Joe Flad**, husband of Gloria Flad, who passed away on October 21st and **Linda Bremkamp**, mother of Victoria Mymudes, who passed away October 19th.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
May light perpetual shine upon them.*



If you would like to make a donation of \$12.00 to our Christmas Flower Fund in honor of a loved one, please complete this form, and return it , along with your donation. The names of all donors and honorees will be included in the Christmas bulletin if received not later than **Monday, December 16th.**

Name: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____



2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Eucharist NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 Eucharist	2 6:00 Teen Ministry 6:30 Stephen Ministry	3 10:00 ECW Board Mtg. 11:00 ECW Gen'l Meeting Holiday Luncheon	4 4:45 Jubilate 7:00 St. James Choir	5 10:00 Eucharist	6 7:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast	7
8 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	9	10	11 1:00 DOK Board Mtg 2:00 DOK Meeting 4:45 Jubilate 7:00 St. James Choir	12 10:00 Eucharist	13	14
15 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist 4:00 "The Word Was God" St. James Choir	16	17 There will be no ECW Chapter Meetings in December	18 5:00 Jubilate Dress Rehearsal in Parish Hall	19 10:00 Eucharist 4:45 Jubilate meets PH 6:00 "Children Get Ready to Go and Tell" St. James Youth Choir	20	21
22 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 6:00PM Eucharist 10:00PM Eucharist 5:30 & 9:30PM Carols	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00AM Eucharist	26 10:00 Eucharist	27	28
29 8:00 Eucharist NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 Eucharist	30	31				