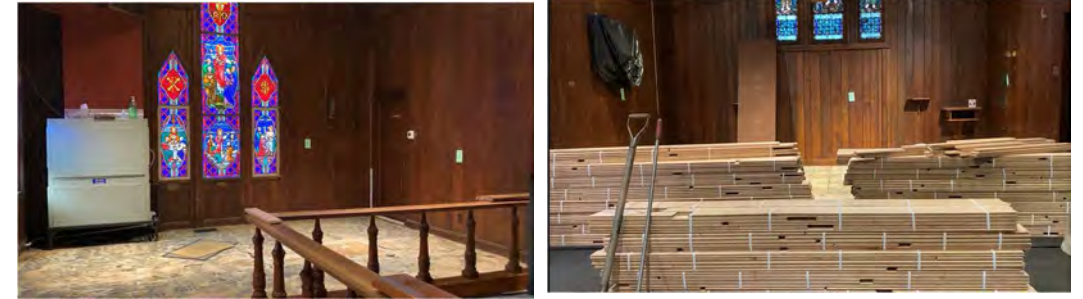


St. James seeks to be a community that grows more Christlike, expressing the love of Jesus Christ in our worship, our outreach, and our commitment to discipleship.

ST. JAMES MESSENGER



PREPARING FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We want to thank those of you who participated in our Survey Monkey Questionnaire about the prospects of returning to in-person worship in the near future. The vast majority of you said that you would like to wait until current restrictions are lifted. However, a number of you also said that if the renovations to our church extend into late July, you would be interested in meeting for Sunday worship in the Parish Hall. So we are currently considering a Sunday Eucharist service starting on July 26th. The latest news on spikes in COVID-19 cases may impact the possibility of doing that, so we will have to wait to see if there are any further restrictions put in place. In the meantime, we'd like to send out a follow-up questionnaire through Survey Monkey to see how many of you would want to come if we began on July 26th. So keep your eye out for it, and let us know what you think.

If we do decide to go ahead with the service, we will let you know. We will also let you know what rules and restrictions that will apply (such as wearing face masks, attendance limits, cleaning surfaces, etc.).

In the meantime, we are pleased to report that work on the church is underway. The new hardwood flooring is ready to be installed in the altar, choir, and organ areas, the electrical wiring is ready to be replaced, and the new carpet is on order. We are also hoping to use this time to replace the large HVAC unit in the choir area with some smaller and more efficient ones. The completion of all these projects hinge largely on the speed in which the permits are received and the timing of the carpet's arrival.

Stay tuned!

JULY 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
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



 **Like us on Facebook!**

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
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

A POEM BY DORRY CURRAN

Of Course

Of course, I see...
That your skin color is different from mine
That you are of a different ethnicity than I am
That your hair is a different texture from mine
That your facial features are not the same as mine.

Of course, I hear...
That your speech patterns and inflections and tones are different from mine
That you express yourself differently than I do
That you pray differently than I do
That the story you tell of your life is not the story that I have lived.

Of course, I feel...
That some of your culture and traditions are different from mine
That the broken places in your heart are different from the broken places in mine
That there is segregation between our lives, be it intentional or not
That it is painful to find sturdy common ground on which to live in justice and peace together.

Of course, I know...
That we are both hurt
That we are both angry
That we are both scared
That we are both much-loved children of our mighty God.

Of course, I love you.

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.

St. James Prayer List

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

LONG TERM

Kenny Edwards (N. Young)
Dottie Elliott
Holly Marston (M. Kirste)
Margaret Anderson (K.Knight)
Susan Peak
Jeffrey Coward
Nancy Austin
Carey Campbell (K. Knight)

Desire Welch (N. Millett) 04/02/20
Dot Vedder (R. Vedder) 04/07/20
The Grasia Family (J. Baxter) 04/13/20
Elizabeth Baxter (J. Baxter) 04/13/20
Kristin Warren (J. Baxter) 04/15/20
Judy Cable (B. Logan) 04/23/20
Janet Davis 05/07/20
Sue Roeglin 05/18/20
Ernest Peters (A. Snyder) 05/21/20
Margaret Branham 05/21/20
Richard Gabriel 05/26/20
Bill Brewer 05/26/20

SHORT TERM

(3 weeks).

Desiree Battle (S. Battle) 06/02/20
Barbara Mittemeier 06/02/20
JoAnn Statts 06/09/20
Eugene Crinigan 06/11/20
Judy Baxter 06/11/20
Helen Robertshaw 06/11/20
Averly Waddell 06/17/20
Gordon Roeglin 06/18/20
Donna Nelson 06/29/20
Donna Gaudet 06/29/20



*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.*



EAGLE SCOUT

Congratulations to John Hill, who earned the rank of Eagle Scout in June! It is estimated that only 4% of Scouts make it to Eagle. John earned his Eagle Scout rank by designing and installing a garden behind the Parish Hall utilizing several native Florida plants that will prevent runoff from the gutter drains.

HOLY BAPTISM

We rejoice with Gideon and Ethan Williams at their baptism at St. James during our Pentecost service on May 31st. The recorded service also featured a lively question and answer time between Fr. Tom and the boys on the subject of Pentecost. If you haven't seen it yet, it's well worth watching!



IN MEMORIAM

We offer our condolences to the family and loved ones of Ray Emerson, who passed away on June 8th, 2020. A private service of interment was held for Ray at St. James on June 13th (with hopes for a full service in the church at a later date). Ray was an active member of St. James for many decades, and was regular in attendance at the Sunday 8:00 service until the recent quarantine. He and his wife Sara Jane were married for 56 years until her passing in 2009 (their wedding was held at St. James).

*Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord,
And let light perpetual shine upon him.*



ECW MONTHLY UPDATE

The ECW is now on hiatus for the summer. They will resume in the fall starting with the “Fall Coffee’ on Saturday, September 12th. Our chapter hostesses are:

- St. Ann Shirley Dunne (352-314-0048)
- St. Cecilia Terri Ross (407-399-7492)
- St. Francis Dorry Curran (949-633-8471)
- St. Mary Nadine Millet (352-250-4997)

The ECW is open to all the women of St. James. If you would like to join please contact any of the chapter hostesses, or ECW president **Becky Binneveld**.



We invite you to Sponsor a Pew (or two!)

Your Vestry and ECW are taking advantage of the time we cannot spend together to make beautiful and badly-needed improvements to our beloved church home. A committee has carefully researched options for replacing our 17-year-old carpeting in the sanctuary. After many meetings with local experts, we have agreed upon new carpeting that will grace the area where we sit. From the stairs back, the altar area will be a sturdy oak that should enhance the acoustics greatly. ECW has contributed \$5,000 towards this projected \$25,000 project. We welcome individuals to SPONSOR A PEW (OR EVEN TWO) by donating \$50 per pew to offset the cost of removing them and reinstalling them. Warning: This will not mean you have a reserved seat! No nameplates are involved. It is simply an opportunity to participate in upgrading the worship facilities at St. James. Checks should be made out to St. James, earmarked “pews,” and dropped off or mailed to Pat in the office. Please continue to stay safe at home until we can gather without putting anyone’s health at risk.



MUSIC MUSINGS July 2020

*“I see America through the eyes of love; I long for all her people to be free.
And if you see, put your hand to the job for there is work that must be done
Till freedom’s song is sung, and freedom’s bell is rung, from sea to shining sea.”*

I See America, Ken Medema, 1976

his snippet of a lyric is from a song written by Ken Medema, a Christian musician, in honor of the American bicentennial in 1976. Unlike other songs of the era, and other patriotic songs in general, it doesn’t paint the rosiest picture of a perfect nation, one free from strife. Instead, Medema has written and sung this piece which challenges us even today, reminding us that all people are not free, and all people are not afforded the liberty and justice which we easily espouse and often take for granted. Put your hand to the job, friends; reach out to those who are disenfranchised, love all with the love of Christ, be kind and inclusive, pray for the mind of Christ to take root in you so that others may see Jesus, and all persons may feel welcomed and cherished in our beautiful country, as well as in God’s kingdom.

As we continue to worship in a “virtual” way this summer, I pray that you will be blessed and well. Here are some of the musical offerings you will enjoy in worship:

- | | | |
|---------|--|----------------------------------|
| July 5 | “America the Beautiful” and “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” | Jan Tindall, Flute |
| July 12 | “Holy Manna” | Worship Ensemble |
| July 19 | “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me” | Dan Tenwinkel |
| July 26 | “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” | Elizabeth Ames and Beth Williams |

Yours in Him, the Author and Finisher of our Faith,

Deb Carraway
Director of Music and Organist



- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Nancy Russell | 14 Mandy Tweedle |
| 4 Harold Jackson | 16 Kurt Cessna |
| Peggy Bryson | Sandra Bryant |
| 5 Anne Ozanne | 16 K.C. Docie |
| 6 Isaac Trees | Timothy Knowles |
| 7 Robin Rebusmen | 18 Leslie Bennett |
| 8 Jeff Engel | Wilma Braun |
| Cheryl Nann | Bill Binneveld |
| Robert Bowersox | 19 Kristen Daley |
| 9 Thomas Grizzard | 21 Lee Hilbish |
| Makenna Grizzard | 23 Carolyn Orme |
| 10 Dottie Elliott | Michael Huey |
| Grady Logan | 24 Wylie Hill |
| 11 Linda Oldham | 25 Donna Tweedle |
| 13 Kathryn Knight | 24 Winnie Tucker |
| Valerie Abbott | Marti Doty |
| Steve Merrill | 29 Kevin Braun |
| Susan Battle | 30 Jason Booth |



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Jeff & Bonnie Binneveld | 16 Jerry & Susan Steidl |
| 2 James & Nancy Moran | 22 Ron & Dot Vedder |
| Ed & Sandy Ostrowski | Bill & Chris Leware |
| 4 James & Patricia Parker | 25 Bill & Donna Tweedle |
| B. Murray & Linda Tucker | 26 Gordon & Sue Roeglin |
| 5 Douglas & Eileen Pens | 29 Bill & Becky Binneveld |
| Jason & Joanie Smalley | Gary & Mary Lynne Gentzle |
| 10 Wes & Diane Brannon | 31 Bill & Robin Cauthen |
| 11 Charles & Betty Stephens | Bob & Rita Clements |
| 12 Bruce & Debbie Saylor | |



“Lord, we are a nation struggling with several problems. Guide our nation’s leaders to make the right decisions to guide us and protect us, using You as their guide.”

Please join us in prayer for solutions to these national problems.

The Daughters here at St. James have not met this past month, but keep in touch with each other, by prayer, service and kindness to one another.

In preparation for our future meetings we are reading *Meeting the Spirit*, by Douglas Connelly. The book is divided into 10 chapters. Each chapter requires you to read a passage of Scripture, to complete the chapter you answer questions how you personally interpret the reading. This should produce an interesting number of programs.

We have several extra copies of the book. If you would like to join us for these lively discussions, I invite you to join us. Call me to obtain a book.

I sincerely hope you are able to come, the second Wednesday of the opening month.

Keep well, be safe
fHs Meb Bremer

RAFFLE for JAMAICA MEDICAL MISSION

AN ORIGINAL PAINTING of Venetian Gardens

Painted by DONNA TWEEDLE

is being raffled to raise funds for the

2021 Jamaica Medical Mission.

The drawing has been postponed until we can attend at least 2 Sundays at church.

TICKETS are One for \$20, Three for \$40, Eight for \$100

Call Sharon McCabe for tickets and info, 352-267-8188

Tickets are also available in the Church Office.



July 2020

Join us for On-Line Worship and Sunday School!



Go to YouTube and type “**Leesburg Stjames**” or
Go to our website: www.stjames-leesburg.org; or
Go to our **Facebook** page!

July 5th

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of Holy Eucharist

July 12th

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19th

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Guest Preacher: Fr. Bill Boyer

July 26th

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

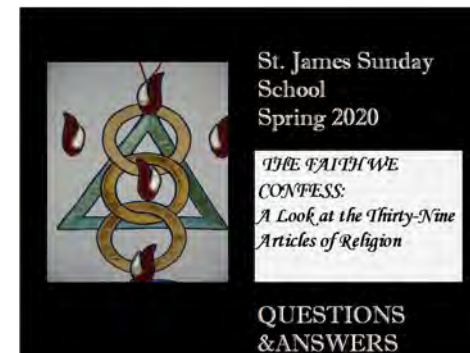


During our time of separation, we will offer Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. You can pick up a Communion packet at the church, and receive Communion at home while you watch the service. Our next Communion service will be on **July 5th**. Please contact Pat at the office to set up a time to pick up your packet. You can call (352-787-1981) or email (office@stjames-leesburg.org)



FOOD DROP UPDATE

The Food Bank team sends out many “BIG THANKS” for St. James and our JUNE FOOD DROP! We did it again ...dropping 996 pounds of food and \$1040 in donations for a grand total of 3604 pounds of food and \$2040 for our two months! You all are fantastic as we reach out to so many people in our community. Let’s keep it going! Our next FOOD DROP will take place **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH** (the third Wednesday of each month). Gratitude to all the workers who take the food and to you workers who DROP the food and money donations. Hugs and God’s blessings to all of you! - Rita Clements



FOCUS ON
THE INSIDE:



ST. JAMES
YOUTH
LESSONS

We continue to offer Christian Education by YouTube with our Sunday School class, “The Faith We Confess: A Look at the Thirty-Nine Articles.” A new class has been uploaded each Sunday. We invite you to go through each lesson, and send any comments or question to: frtrees@stjames-leesburg.org

Beth Williams is staying in touch with our families through her Facebook group called **Focus on the Inside: St. James Youth Lessons**. It is a private group that allows you to participate safely through pictures, videos, and the like. You can message Beth to join the group if you want to be part of it.