

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIORS!

This year St. James has three high school graduates for the class of 2020. Cousins Ivey Lynn Young and Brynnan Curry are graduating from Leesburg High School, and Caden Smalley is graduating from First Academy.

In the fall, Ivey Lynn will attend Lake Sumter State College, with plans to transfer to the University of Florida to study Public Relations and Journalism. Brynnan is on her way to Santa Fe College in Gainesville to study Nursing, and Caden will be going to Lake Tech in Eustis to study Welding. Well done!

We regret that we are not able to honor them with an in-person worship service this year, but we are planning a special virtual service for Sunday, June 14th. Be sure to watch!

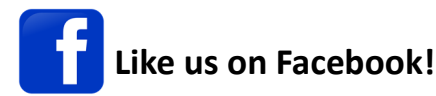
Since we cannot honor them in person, you might want to consider sending them a gift or note of congratulations. You can send it to the church office at 204 N. Lee St., Leesburg, FL 34748. Address it to St. James, with a reference to the graduate's name.

JUNE 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



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

GIVING AT ST. JAMES

I want to express my gratitude those who have continued giving to St. James during our separation. I am well aware that many of you may experience financial loss, either from your paycheck or your portfolio. If you are at a point of need, let us know. We will see how we can help, and lift you up in prayer.

Several of you have asked how you can do that. At this time you can:

- 1. Mail it to the church office at:
204 N. Lee St., Leesburg, FL, 34748;
- 2. Drop it off at church in person (as long as that is feasible). You can come by doing church hours, or simply place it in the slot in the office door; or
- 3. Donate through Paypal on our Church Web site (you can also use your debit card). Just go to www.stjames-leesburg.org and open the link on **Giving**.
- 4. Use your bank’s E-Pay system. Several parishioners use this option. The bank arranges for donations to be sent to the church, either automatically each month, or at your direction.

Again, thank you for your continued support and prayer!

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1st Corinthians 15:57-58)

Blessings to you all.
Tom+

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)

Kenneth Jacobus (R. Jacobus) 03/04/20
Nancy Carlson (K. Cessna) 03/16/20
Lorraine Johnson (self) 03/17/20
Erin (P. Hopper) 03/19/20
Kenneth Jacobus (R. Jacobus) 03/04/20
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
Cheryl Purcell (S. Cyrus) 04/21/20
Judy Cable (B. Logan) 04/23/20
Janet Davis 05/07/20

SHORT TERM

(3 weeks).

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



*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.*

A Note from Fr. Tom: Current Prospects for In-Person Worship

Greetings St. James Family!

While our on-line services continue to be a blessing for many, I know how anxious we all are to come back for in-person for worship. That's not a decision we can make alone; it must be done in conjunction with the guidelines of our Diocese. Recently our Bishop sent out some extensive "Phase 1" directives for churches who wish to open up as early as May 31st. Those directives include numerous restrictions. Some of these are:

- 25% capacity or less, and social distancing of 6 feet.(12 feet for choir)
- everyone wearing masks in church;
- communion only with bread;
- sanitizing all surfaces between services;
- no passing the plate at offertory
- careful orchestration of entering and leaving
- keeping attendance at every service

We discussed our options at our vestry meeting last week, and decided that we are not ready to open up the church just yet. Some felt that safety was still an issue, and everyone agreed that the numerous restrictions would be too difficult to implement and would impede our enjoyment of the service.

We are delaying our opening for another important reason: we are utilizing our time of separation to undertake some important renovations to the interior of our church.

These renovations include:

- installing new oak wood flooring in the altar, organ, and choir areas
- installing new carpet on the main floor around the pews;
- installing all new electrical wiring throughout the whole church.

The current carpet is over 17 years old and has become worn in a number of places. The current electrical wiring goes back to 1947, and is badly in need of an upgrade! We are hoping to start these projects in the beginning of June, and will keep you updated on the progress of each. It is our hope that we can complete these projects around the time that the "Phase 1" restrictions for worship are lifted, so that we can all come back together to celebrate.

We also want to hear back from you. We'll be sending out a survey for you to answer regarding your personal readiness to come back, and what options you might want us to consider for fellowship and discipleship in the meantime.. Stay tuned!

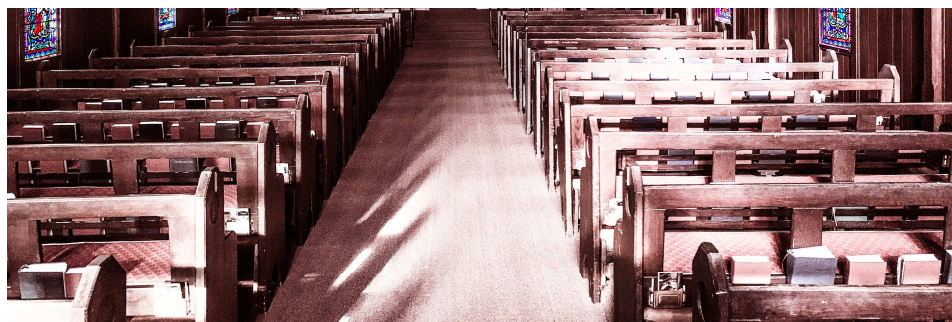
In Christ,
Tom+

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 June 2020

You can probably imagine that there is random music running through my brain at any given time, which is not necessarily a bad thing. I love music, and love being reminded of pieces we’ve sung, pieces we’re going to sing, hymns and songs that are my favorites. Perhaps most particularly in these days where much is uncertain, I appreciate being consoled through the music I love so much. It truly is a gift from God.

Recently I was awakened in the middle of the night (not a new occurrence in and of itself!), but the song that came to mind was one I haven’t thought about or heard in many, many years. It is entitled, “Be Ye Glad,” and was sung by an acapella group called Glad. I commend it to you, and suggest that you “Google” it to hear a sublime recording, which I feel sure will inspire, and perhaps comfort you.

The entire text of the song is poignant and powerful, but this particular phrase stands out to me in the midst of these challenging days:

“For you are timeless and part of a puzzle, you are winsome and young as a lad. And there is no disease or no struggle that can pull you from God, be ye glad.”

And the refrain reminds us again and again of God’s faithfulness, both in this life and the next:

***“Oh, be ye glad, oh, be ye glad, every debt that you’ve ever had
Has been paid up in full by the grace of the Lord.
Be ye glad, be ye glad, be ye glad.”***

Be ye glad, friends, and be wise. Love each other as God has loved each of us, and always be grateful for a Savior who loves and lives beyond measure.

**Yours in Christ,
Deb Carraway
Director of Music**



Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Patricia Parker | 14 Cobe Smalley |
| Samantha Palmer | 16 Lonnie Johnson |
| 3 Jay Rutschow | 17 Peg Hopper |
| Lee Rowell | Carol Young |
| 4 John Drawdy | 18 Edward Johns |
| 5 Chris Hermann | Annabelle Wright |
| 8 Janet Galbreath | 21 Gem Vance |
| Katie Mann | 23 Beverly Booth |
| 10 Ted Bowersox | 25 Luke Logan |
| Robert Sanchez | 28 John Russell |
| 12 Leah Delgado | 29 Danny Delgado |
| 13 Eileen Pens | Liz Tucker |
| Denise Meier | 30 Bev Parsons |
| 14 Marion Belson | Maggie Brooke-Stewart |
| | Patricia Jackson |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Don & Verna Lindskoog | 17 Brian & Claire Brooks |
| 5 Bill & Nancy Boyer | 18 Bob & Jan Tindall |
| Michael & Linda Gray | 20 Robert & Terri Brock |
| Bob & Chris Meade | 22 Steve & Nadine Millett |
| 6 Charles & Dot Hay | 24 Curt & Kay Oestreich |
| 8 Scott & Kristen Daley | 25 Danny & Leah Delgado |
| 14 Nathan & Susan Battle | 27 Andrew & Laura Braun |
| Gary & Tess Neumann | 28 Ted & Gail Ostrander |
| 16 Fred & Carolyn Orme | Dick & Tanina Singeltary |



“Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love, make haste to be kind, and the blessing of God Almighty, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen”

This is a blessing by Henri Amiel, a Swiss Philosopher and poet. He died at age 59 in 1881

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.



JUNE 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!

June 7th

First Sunday After Pentecost (Trinity Sunday)
Celebration of Holy Eucharist

June 14th

Second Sunday After Pentecost
Youth Sunday Service
(Join us as we celebrate our Graduating Seniors!)

June 21st

Third Sunday After Pentecost
Happy Father's Day!

June 28th

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

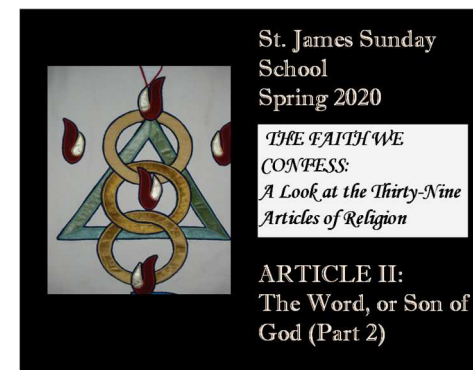


During our time of separation, we will offer Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. You can pick up a Communion packet at the church, and receive Communion at home while you watch the service. Our next Communion service will be on **June 7th**. Please contact Pat at the office to set up a time to pick up your packet. You can call (352-787-1981) or email (office@stjames-leesburg.org)



FOOD DROP PROJECT

St. James “SCORED” with The Food Drop Project on May 20th! We collected 2608 lbs of food with two additional donations that will be held until next week. We also collected \$1000.00. Thank you, thank you and thank you!! I loved our visiting and sharing with social distancing! You all are great. The next Food Drop will take place on the **3rd WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH...JUNE 17TH**. The Food Truck will be there. Hope you can join us. “Hugs from afar”
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.