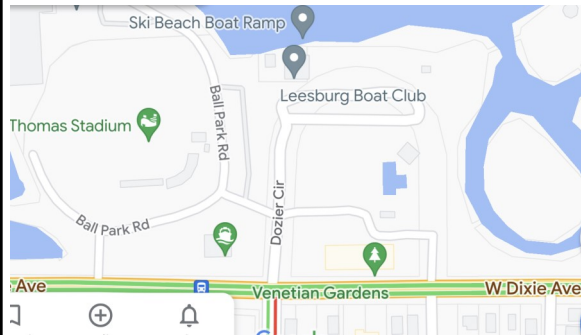


St. James seeks to be a community that grows more Christlike, expressing the love of Jesus Christ in our worship, our outreach, and our commitment to discipleship.

ST. JAMES MESSENGER



TIME AGAIN FOR THE PARISH PICNIC!

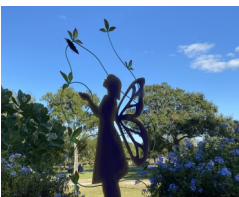
May 5TH @ 12:00 PM

Our St. James Annual Parish Picnic will take place on Sunday, May 5th at the Leesburg Boat Club in Venetian Gardens (31 Dozier Circle). We will gather at Noon. Meat, beverages and sides will be provided. We invite you to bring a dessert to share. The church replica will also be available for you to make a donation. Spend your Sunday in fellowship with your St. James family!



BUTTERFLY RELEASE May 12th @ 9:15 AM

Once again, our children will participate in our Butterfly Release by singing for this special celebration on Mother's Day! They will sing "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me". Butterflies have been adopted as memorials to loved ones, or in thanksgiving for loved ones. Names will be announced during the release.



MAY 2024

The Messenger is a monthly publication of St. James’ Episcopal Church in Leesburg, Florida. It is mailed on the last week 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: Denise Cornett <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



Sunday services are livestreamed at 10:15 AM:
Go to YouTube and type “**Leesburg Stjames**” or
visit our **Facebook** page.



CHURCH VESTRY & STAFF

Rector: Rev’d Thomas Trees
Assisting Deacon: Rev’d Art Hollows
Parish Organist/Choir Director: John Wilson
Youth Ministry and Choir Director: Elizabeth Williams
Treasurer: Linda Weekley
Parish Secretary: Denise Cornett
Finance Secretary: Pat Schaefer
Sexton: Wylie Hill
Housekeeping: Diane Smith
Vestry Members: Bill Binneveld, Rita Clements, Terri Galyon (Senior Warden), Linda Grizzard, David Knowles, Drew Logan (Junior Warden), Mackie McCabe, Stuart Mowatt, Marvin Naylor, Dan Robuck, Dick Singeltary, Linda Weekley

St. James Prayer List
Call the Church Office (352)787-1981 with additions/deletions

LONG TERM

Judy Cable	Bill Jones
Dottie Elliott & Family	Carol Davis
Charles Hay	Bryan Hollows
Charles Stephens	Olive
Jim Mitchell	Nick Martin
Doug Springmann	Dee Kermode
Paul Smigel	Lisa Allen
Fr. Bill Boyer	Brandon Morrison
Larry Bonofiglio	Margaret Bolton
Mabel Burns	Janet Davis
Kathryn Knight	Baby Violet
Pratt Carter	
Shirley Long	
Haley Williams	
Brian Tuttle	

SHORT TERM

Jim Mitchell
Betty Luther
Pam Thomas



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

A prayer shawl ministry is a ministry of compassion and the love of knitting or crocheting. The shawls are a source of God’s unconditional love, wrapped around a person for comfort and solace, for people going through difficult times, as well as, times of celebration and joy.
If you are interested in this Ministry, you may contact
Joyce Walworth 727-517-5078 or joywalw2@gmail.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The Grief Support Gathering meets on the
First Thursday of every month at 3:00 PM at the Coffee Snob.
Our next meeting is **May 2nd**
“Challenges of Living Without Our Loved Ones”
Coffee Snob - 1101 North Blvd. W, Ste. #1 Leesburg
Want to find out more? Contact Susan Cyrus at (352) 636-8969

LIBRARY CORNER

Since it is now SPRING, I am thinking of gardens, so I will share with you, dear reader, this gardening plan: THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING Planting your Spring Garden? Put in 3 rows of Peas, 1. Peace of mind, 2. Peace of heart, 3. Peace of soul. Plant 4 rows of squash, 1. Squash gossip, 2. Squash indifference, 3. Squash grumbling, 4. Squash selfishness. Plant 4 rows of Lettuce, 1. Lettuce be faithful, 2. Lettuce be kind, 3. Lettuce be patient, 4. Lettuce truly love one another. No garden is complete without Turnips, 1. Turnip for meetings, 2. Turnip for service, 3. Turnip to help out. To finish our Garden, we must have Thyme, 1. Thyme for each other, 2. Thyme for family, 3. Thyme for friends. Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. You will have a good crop, because you reap what you sow. (Pass it on and pardon the misspellings).

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Jeff Brooke-Stewart's Bible study is on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. They are continuing to study the Book of Acts., verse-by-verse. There is plenty of time to join!



INVITE-WELCOME-CONNECT UPDATE

In April, we met with Hanah Diebold, Director of Student Experiences for Beacon College. She has agreed to post info for church services, activities, and ministries at St. James. We are specifically targeting our young adults' group, "The Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen Group for Christ," led by Joel and LeAnne Trees. Subsequently, we were offered and accepted a table at their

Community Wellness Fair on April 12th. Marie Crouch and Jan Tindall (in pic) spent the afternoon interacting with the students who attended.

Need to Meet with Fr. Tom?

If you would like to come by the church to meet with Fr. Tom, he will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to noon, and Thursdays from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. 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-

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our **Red Letter Edition** Sunday School has been meeting at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall this past year. For each lesson we seek to apply the words and actions of Jesus in a lively and interactive setting, focusing on the Sunday's Gospel reading. Breakfast is included!



We will have our final lesson for the season on May 5th, covering John 15:9-17: **"This is my commandment, that you love one another"**.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

Thursday, May 9th

@ 6:30 PM

St. Edward's, Mt. Dora

For the few couple years, St. James has teamed up with St. Thomas in Eustis, and St. Edwards in Mt. Dora, for joint services on special Holy Days. Our next joint service will be on **Ascension Day, May 9th, at 6:30 PM at St. Edward's Episcopal Church in Mt. Dora** (460 N Grandview St, Mt. Dora). Clergy and Parishioners from the other churches will participate with us.

MEN & BOYS' FISH FRY

Hosted by The Men's Fellowship
at the Home of

Jim Logan

(35329 Grays Airport Road, Fruitland Park)

Tuesday, May 21st at 5:30 pm

Tickets are \$25.00

Join us for Fish, Fun and Fellowship!



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Join us for our **Men's Prayer Breakfast** on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 8:00am** in the Parish Hall. We will have a DVD Bible study on "Searching for the Historical Jesus".

ECW UPDATE

The May General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 7th**. The Spring Covered Dish Luncheon, which is hosted by both the Hospitality Committee, ECW Committee, and the Board, will commence at 11am. Entertainment will be provided by the St. James Ukulele Ministry. Don't miss this opportunity to see the debut of this exciting new group. Remember to mark your calendars for the Butterfly Release on Mother's Day, May 10th. It is a wonderful event, enhanced by a performance from St. James Jubilate Choir. Chapter Meetings on Tuesday, May 21st:

St. Anne's
St. James Parish Hall, 10.00 am.
Hostesses: Valerie Naylor and Fran Bollenbach
St. Francis'
St. Nicholas House, 10.00 am.
End of Year Potluck
St. Cecilia's
St. James Parish Hall, 3.45 pm.
Hostesses: Susan Cyrus and Becky Binneveld
St. Martha's meets on Wednesday, May 15th,
6.00 pm Location: TBA

MONTHLY FOOD DROP

The predicted April Showers that bring May flowers stayed away for a beautiful sunny April 17th food Drop. Volunteers, Terri and Van Galyon, Nina Bonney, Tanina Singeltary, Jan Tindall and Rita Clements shared the day in short sleeve shirts meeting 22 cars with drivers and walk-ins " giving their donations for the LEESBURG FOOD BANK.

COLLECTED: 760 pounds of food
 \$1970.00
TOTAL TO DATE: 42,587 pounds of food
 \$52,572.00

Again, thank you for your generous monthly giving to the LEESBURG FOOD BANK as it is invaluable for our community with great needs.
We are looking forward to the May 15th FOOD DROP FROM 9:00-12:00.
Thanks be to God for gifts beyond words! 2 Corinthians 9:15

Ronald McDonald House
March 27 2024

The cars were packed, coolers with ingredients needed to prepare dinner for the 30-35 guests staying at the Arnold Palmer House in Orlando. The guests are the families of seriously ill children being cared for in the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. Also packed were the millions of Flip-Tops collected, which add support to the three RMD Houses in Orlando. The thoughtful Wish Gifts given by ECW members were also included. Along for the ride were the twelve hostesses who cooked and served the meal of, Chicken Tetrazzini, Italian tossed green salad, fruit cup, croissants & butter, for dessert pound cake with sliced strawberries with whipped cream topping. Boxes were prepared for those who would eat at the hospital.

With so many smiles and thanks we were happy to have spent our evening with the guests staying at the Arnold Palmer House. Remember to save your Flip-Tops!

FROM JOHN, OUR ORGANIST....

I hope everyone is having a blessed spring and Easter season. Thank you to everyone who helped to make Holy Week and Easter such a meaningful and joyous celebration of our faith. With choir season coming to a close, I'd like to invite anyone interested in joining our bell choir to come see me. Also, please consider singing with us in the fall. You do not have to commit to the entire year and we would love to have you join us. Blessings, John

FROM BETH, OUR YOUTH MINISTRY & CHOIR DIRECTOR...

Everyone mark your calendars for **WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND** as the St. James Youth Choirs finish out their season with a spring program: **THE POWER OF PRAYER!** During Sunday morning Children's Church, the kids have been focusing on how, when, and why to talk to God. Now, they are excited to share with you some of the truths and tips they have learned! The evening will include singing, skits, scripture readings, handbells, flute, and ukulele, as well as our annual Young Chorister Awards presentation. The program will be in the **Parish Hall from 6-7pm**, and light refreshments will be provided at its conclusion. Following this program, we will pause our regular Wednesday evening activities until school resumes in August. The kids have had a wonderful year and would love your support as we wrap things up before summer break. So invite a friend and join us for an excellent presentation of truth and music!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Led by Joel and Leanne Trees

Ours is a vibrant and fun young adult ministry dedicated to engaging young Christians in discussions about how to navigate and represent Christian values in today's society. We welcome people from all backgrounds to join in open discussions, offering equal opportunities for everyone to share their views and opinions. Our goal is to embody and share Christ-like faith authentically and openly, encouraging even the toughest questions as part of our journey together. This group meets weekly for dinner and fellowship on **Saturday nights at 7:00 PM in St. Nicholas House**. The primary focus is on young adults, aged 18 and over. However, it is open to teenagers aged 16 and above, provided we have their parents contact information and consent for their attendance.



1	Loretta Tyson	18	Ted Bedell
1	Denise Cornett	19	Marie Crouch
2	Bob Bryan	20	Helen Williams
2	Rylan Beck	20	Sarah Araque
3	Luke Wilson	21	Sadie Rae James
6	Delores Griffin	22	John Crane
7	Butch O'Kelley	22	Colten Northcott
7	Chris Meade	25	Sydney Johnson
8	Connor Rebusman	25	Dot Hay
9	Cynthia Kennedy	26	Karen English
9	Olivia Grizzard	26	Nadine Millett
10	Jim Gustafson	27	Carole Warner
10	Ivey Young	28	Charles Johnson
13	William Boyer	28	Allison Waddell
13	Gretchen Gray	30	B. Murray Tucker V
14	Charles Hay	30	Linda Hopkins
15	Paul Motto	30	B. Murray Tucker
16	Shirley Dunne	31	Amy Bowersox
16	Rebecca Hill		
17	Roger Reitter		



1	Eric and Lysie Anselmo
2	Butch and Dianna O'Kelley
10	Paul and Charlene Smigel
12	Jack and Deborah MacIntyre
16	Ted and Patti Wolf
19	Ted and Sharon Bowersox
23	H. Pratt and Brenda Carter
23	George and Robin Rebusmen
23	Steve and Babs Treiber
27	Durham and Kimmey Young
30	David and Ann Cholewa
31	Mackie and Sharon McCabe

JODY'S GIFT SHOP

A special thank you for your support throughout the year. As summer approaches, we will be doing inventory, still accepting donations while preparing to CLOSE FOR THE SUMMER on May 31st. If needed, please contact the office for special shopping . There are several new items in the shop including lovely and fun butterfly items available during the regular hours until May 31st. Looking forward to your visit!

Operation Homebound is a mealtime ministry that volunteers from St. James support. It's a daily meal delivery program available to those who are not able to prepare meals for themselves. They do not have to be homebound or disabled. They can be someone that lives alone and can't cook for themselves or finds it difficult getting out and about shopping for their meals.

If you know of someone who would benefit from this program – perhaps a neighbor or a friend or even a family member – and they live in the immediate area of Leesburg or Fruitland Park, please share this information! For additional information or to register, they should call **352.689.1075 – North Lake Presbyterian Church**

Operation Homebound provides one meal (per person) per day, Monday through Friday – including holidays. There is a cost involved, but it is minimal. Also, scholarships are available for those that need financial assistance.

To participate in this ministry as a volunteer, please reach out to Ann Kupferberg at 301.305.7093 or Debi MacIntyre at 352.408.2009. Thank you for your support!



The Daughters of the King meet the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Our next meeting will be on **May 8, 2024 at 2 pm**. Fr. Tom will be leading us in a Bible Study.

Our Parish DOK Chapter had the honor and privilege to host the CFD DOK NW Deanery Meeting Saturday, April 6th. A total of TEN Chapters were represented at the Gathering. Everyone enjoyed fellowship, food, and our Guest Speaker, Stuart Mowatt who spoke and answered questions regarding the Jamaican



Medical Mission. Holy Eucharist was celebrated in the Sanctuary with Guest Officiate, Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva, Rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fruitland Park assisted by our Deacon, Rev Art Hollow and Lay Eucharistic Minister/Daughter Valerie Naylor along with music by our own Organist/Adult Choir Director, John Wilson.



2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 12:00 Coffee &Philos. 4:00 Jubilate 7:00 Adult Choir	2 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service 3:00 Grief Support 6:30 Bible Study	3 1:00 Memorial Service : Rev'd Jim Martin	4 1:00 Domnissie-Anderson Wedding
5 Sixth Sunday of Easter 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Eucharist 12:00 Church Picnic – Leesburg Boat Club	6  7:00 Ukulele Lessons	7 10:00 ECW Board Mtg 11:00 ECW General Mtg	8 12:00 Coffee &Philos. 2:00 DOK 4:00 Jubilate 7:00 Adult Choir	9 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 St. Edwards Ascension Day service	10	11
12 Seventh Sunday of Easter 8:00 Eucharist 9:15 Butterfly Release 10:15 Eucharist	13 1:30 Membership Committee Meeting 6:30 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Ukulele Lessons	14	15 8:00 Men's Prayer 9 - 12 Food Drop 12:00 Coffee & Philos. 7:00 Adult Choir	16 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service 6:30 Bible Study	17	18
19 Pentecost Sunday 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	20	21 ECW Chapter Meetings 5:30 Men's Fish Fry	22 12:00 Coffee &Philos. 5:00 Finance Meeting 6:00 Jubilate Spring Program	23 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service 6:00 Vestry Meeting 6:30 Bible Study	24 4:00 End of Year Youth Choir Party	25
26 First Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Eucharist 10:15 Eucharist	27 7:00 Ukulele Lessons	28	29 12:00 Coffee &Philos.	30 10:00 Healing & Anointing Service	31	