

Anchor Lines

St. James Episcopal Church • Fairhope, Alabama



June 9, 2021

Volume 25, Issue 5

Come and See

Come and see. Believe it or not this simple phrase was one of the first tools of invitation and evangelism. In the Gospel of John, Jesus uses this simple phrase to invite Andrew to come and find out more about who he is and where he stands. Philip uses a similar phrase to answer and encourage Nathaniel, when Philip tells him about Jesus. Nathaniel was a difficult sell, who doubtfully questioned about the messiah and whether or not anything good can come from Nazareth. "Come and see," answered Philip.

Philip's entire pitch on evangelism looked like this:

"I've met the messiah. He's Joe's son, from Nazareth."

"From Nazareth? Yeah right, bruh!"

"Come check him out. You'll see for yourself."

And then Jesus did the rest.

Most of us struggle with how to invite or encourage people to join us for church. And talking about our own relationship with Jesus probably proves to be

harder still. It is difficult because it feels like we are sharing something too personal and possibly way too intimate. How do I broach the subject? How can I invite someone to participate in something I can't even explain? What if they ask me about the service or communion? What will I say?

Evangelism isn't really meant to be about preaching on a street corner or carrying pamphlets from the church. Rather, sharing and proclaiming the gospel is meant to be easy, "come and see." You don't have to be overly eloquent or a biblical scholar. All you really need are three things:

1. Jesus—know and believe he is the Lord
2. Care—the desire, willingness and love to help someone you know or love
3. Trust—the Holy Spirit will work through you.

Evangelism is meant to be personal and simple. It is meant to be a way to show people a door to

God and then let God do the rest.

Who is Jesus to you?
Come and see.

What's the service like?
Come and see.

Will I be welcomed?
Come and see for yourself.

You get the picture.

Our Christian lives all began with someone showing us the way to Jesus. The personal relationship we form after that depends on our own commitment and involvement in our church and our faith. We've all had a lengthy season of restriction and fear, and I thought you could use some encouragement. Maybe you've become too comfortable sleeping in on Sundays. Maybe, you've focused your attention elsewhere, or you've just gotten out of the habit. Consider yourself nudged.

Do you know Jesus?
Come and see... We're open for you.

De +



Changes around St. James

June is shaping up to be a month of transition for many of the faces on our parish staff.

The biggest shift is that our longtime music director, choirmaster and organist Helen VanAbbema Rodgers has reduced her hours from full time to a much more part time role as our Organist. "COVID has given me a time to reflect on my future at St. James," she writes. Her passion is playing the organ, and this shift will give her more time to focus on practicing and playing while also giving her more time on the tennis courts, at the beach and traveling. Helen has been a valued and beloved member of the Staff of St. James since October 15, 1992, nearly 29 years. We have been so very blessed! She plans to begin handing over the reins as "Music Director" to Mary Katherine Kilgore, over the course of the next several months. With these two phenomenal women leading our music, I can only imagine the programs becoming richer still.

Anne McEniry, who is our current Director of Christian Formation, will make a transition to work with the school as Director of Admissions. Anne began her tenure here in January 2017 and quickly became a valued member of the staff. During the long months of the pandemic, Anne's giftedness was put to use helping with our school ministry, teaching Godly Play, filling in as a substitute teacher and assisting with student enrollment and admissions. She felt a call to return to her roots of teaching and school admissions and since early May she has been diligently working on making this transition, passing the torch to Ellen Huckabay, who will become our new Director of Christian Formation. Ellen has been

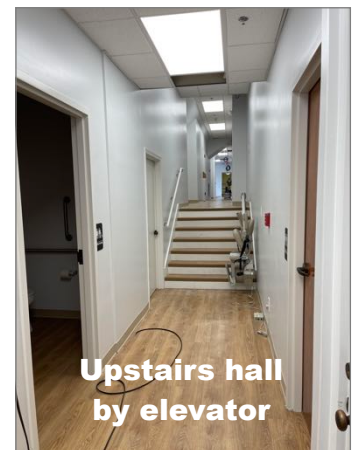
working with Anne on Children and Family Ministry programs, and we look forward to bright futures in both areas of ministry here at St. James.

Probably last but certainly not least, we will say a fond farewell to our Administrative & Communications Assistant, Elizabeth Phelps. She will be moving away to South Carolina later this month. If you've called the offices over the last few years, there's a good chance hers was the friendly voice you heard on the other end of the line, or the friendly face that met you when you came into the office. She was quick to call and check on people or serve as one of our editors on our many publications. We will miss Elizabeth on Sundays and around the office during the week, but we wish her all the best as she heads out for greener pastures to our north. We are currently searching for someone to take over this position, and will keep you posted as we complete our search.

You might also be interested to know that because our livestream was such a lifesaver during the pandemic, we've decided to keep the cameras rolling into the future, for those Sundays when you aren't quite up to putting on your Sunday best. We're hoping to begin training volunteers to man the cameras and the sound as the staff begins to fall back into their primary roles on Sunday mornings. If you're interested in learning more about this ministry, please call the church office 928.2912 or send an email to info@stjamesfairhope.org.

While that seems like it might be a lot, it really isn't everything. If you have not been by the church offices or upstairs over Green Hall, you might take a moment to check it out. Over the course

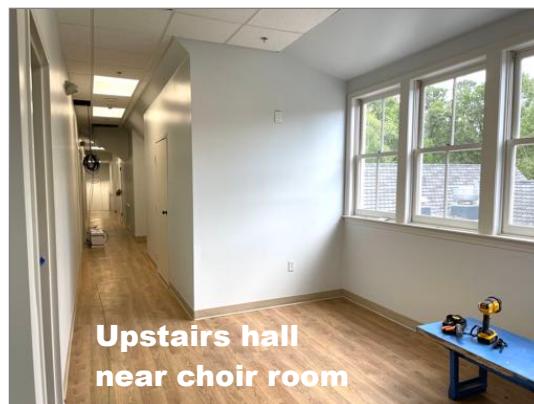
of the last 18-20 months, we have been busy working on some projects that have been in the works for a few years. Just before the pandemic began, we converted some of our primary lobby and reception area into three new office spaces and a large storage area for our formation materials. We never really had an opportunity to show them off, but we've certainly enjoyed the additional room. Over Green Hall, the allocated classroom areas have been remodeled into three large classrooms, with two new bathrooms and a hallway extending between Wilson and Green Hall. We've also replaced the old chair lift on the east-end of the building so that the second-floor classrooms will work for everyone without regard to ability. Hopefully these changes give us room to do more formation and education as we bring our church back to life after our lengthy pause. Come and See~



Upstairs hall by elevator



Front lobby



Upstairs hall near choir room



One of 3 new classrooms above Green Hall

News & Events



The parish office will be closed on Thursday, July 1 & Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day Holiday.



Volunteer Opportunities

Welcome Ministry

Want to be involved in a church ministry but you don't want a "job?" Become a Greeter. Being a Sunday Greeter is very important, because you will be a visitor's first look at what we hope will be their future church home. You just need to be yourself. You will probably only serve about 4 times a year, so there is not a big time commitment. Please call Nancy Dennis for more information at 251-928-8218, or email her at nanhall2001@yahoo.com, or talk to one of our greeters on Sunday morning.



Meal Ministry

The Meal Ministry is in need of new members. All are welcome! You don't need to be a gourmet cook to join. The only requirement is a desire to feed someone in need. If you have a heart for helping others, consider joining the Meal Ministry. It's simple! Work on a team, as needed, one month per year. If you would like to learn more about this invaluable group, please call Andy Burton at 251-422-3431 or email her at happytravelerakb@gmail.com.

Children's Chapel

If you would like to volunteer to teach Children's Chapel on Sunday mornings at 9 or 11, contact our Associate for Children's Ministries, Ellen Huckabay, at 251-928-2912 childrensministries@stjamesfairhope.org.



Please note: Due to our return to "normal" worship services, the guided commentary on our Facebook feed during the livestream Sunday service will end. The bulletin will still be available on our website and the link will be provided each week in the Friday email. If you choose to continue to worship from home, we hope you will be able to follow along without our assistance.

Be sure to *like our Facebook page* and *subscribe to our YouTube channel* so you will be notified when we **GO LIVE!**



Vacation Bible School

VBS 2021 OFF TO A GREAT START!

This week, during Wilderness Escape VBS, 30 children are learning that God guides and provides. Each day, they hear stories from Moses, play games, make crafts, sing songs, and enjoy lots of snacks! I would like to thank all of the volunteers who are working tirelessly to help before, during and will help even after VBS has ended. The week would not be possible without so many people graciously volunteering their time and talent.

~ Ellen Huckabay



Money Matters

ROSE GARDEN MEMORIAL

Please print your memorial neatly on the form below. Memorials received by Thursday, July 1 will be included in the July Anchor Lines newsletter. The cost is \$25.00 per memorial. Please use a separate form for each memorial. Additional forms are available in the narthex of the Church and Chapel, the parish office, Green Hall, and on our website at stjamesfairhope.org. Completed order form and checks made payable to St. James (write "Rose Garden" on the memo line please) may be mailed to the church, returned to the parish office, or placed in the "Drop Box." Please turn in your check and your form at the same time. You may also fill out this form and pay online at stjamesfairhope.org.

*** PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION ***

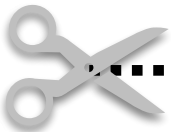
Given by: _____

email: _____ phone: _____

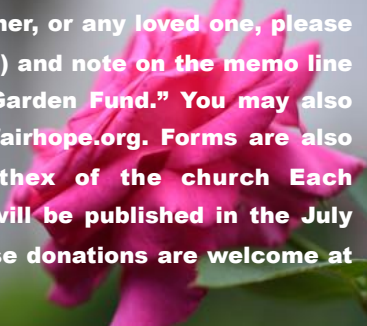
Circle one: In memory of In honor of In thanksgiving for

Please use a separate form for each additional listing.

Mailing address: St. James Episcopal Church | 860 North Section Street | Fairhope, AL 36532



St. James is raising funds for the rose garden now through the end of the month, in honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day. If you wish to remember or honor your mother, father, or any loved one, please fill out the form (above) and note on the memo line of your check "Rose Garden Fund." You may also pay online at stjamesfairhope.org. Forms are also available in the narthex of the church. Each memorial is \$25 and will be published in the July Anchor Lines. Of course donations are welcome at any time!



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St. James Fairhope



Do you shop on Amazon? If so, start your shopping at smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com. If you will make this simple change, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. So choose us, St. James, Fairhope!

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	May 2021	May 2021	YTD 2021	YTD 2021	YTD 2020
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income	\$96,150	\$100,000	\$519,154	\$500,000	\$512,139
Expense	\$85,979	\$100,621	\$502,311	\$543,708	539,792

Note: In addition to the above operating expenses, \$121,463 was spent to renovate the second floor of Green Hall.

School News

We're Hiring

- Full-time Teachers
- Teacher Assistants
- After Care Staff
- Communications Assistants

Email your resumé and cover letter, including 3 references, to communications@stjamesfairhope.org

It's hard to believe that the 2020-2021 school year has come to a close. Our St. James school year ended with a school-wide chapel service that was open to parents and grandparents of the graduates, and included a ukulele ensemble performed by our kindergarten and first graders. The chapel service also included our first on-campus Kindergarten Graduation.

This year our students and staff have risen above the challenges presented to them by the pandemic. The students and staff were more resilient, flexible, and responsive because of the adversity they experienced. I feel like these traits will contribute to us all as we move forward into the future. I am very proud of our students, staff, and parents, and blessed by the support of the St. James church staff. The year brought many changes and requirements, but we all rose to the occasion.

As we move into the summer months, our school is continuing to grow and develop. We will be hosting our Summer Camp starting June 14 - July 30 and our fall session will begin on August 18 for students 30 months in age through 2nd Grade.

Thank you for your continued support of St. James Episcopal School.

Shelley E. Miller

Have a wonderful summer,
Shelley Miller, School Director

Help us grow, by liking, commenting on, and sharing our posts!

Follow us on Instagram and **Like our Facebook page.**



Instagram



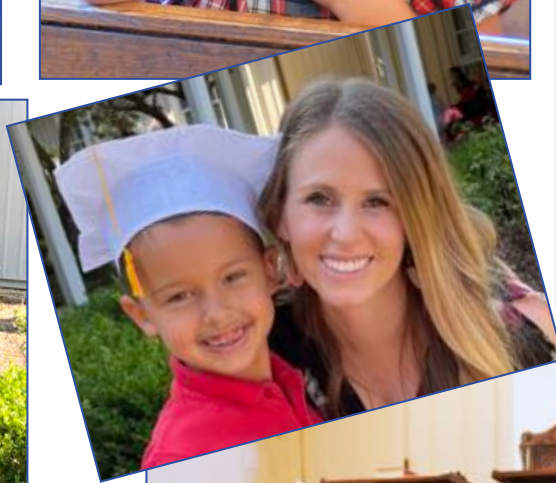
COME GROW WITH US!
860 North Section Street • Fairhope, AL • 36532

For more information, visit our website at stjamesfairhope.school or call 251-928-2912 to schedule a tour of our facilities.

Limited Space Available for 2021-2022
Pre-K2 - 2nd Grade

School News

Kindergarten Graduation



Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

8:00, 9:00, & 11:00 AM
Holy Eucharist in the Church
11 AM also available online

WEDNESDAYS:

7:00 AM ~ Holy Eucharist
in the Chapel

3rd SUNDAY of the Month:

Sung Compline at 7:00 PM
in the church & online

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday ~ CLOSED

The Vestry

Pel Henry, *Sr. Warden*
Roger Guilian, *Jr. Warden*
Bruce Stone, *Clerk*
Katie Smith, *Treasurer*

Class of 2021

Kris Bradley
Elizabeth Orr
Ed Shell

Class of 2022

Elizabeth Erwin
Shannon Pesnell
Jeanie Smith

Class of 2023

Lauren Arington
Bebe Goetter
Earl Jackson
Chris Nelson

The St. James Staff



The Reverend De Freeman, *Rector*
The Reverend Forbes Sirmon, *Associate Rector*
Parish Administrator: Meghan Fancher
Director of Music Ministries: Helen V. Rodgers
Associate Director of Music: Mary Katherine Kilgore
Associate for Music Ministries: Frank Stabler
Director of Christian Education: Ellen Huckabay
Associate for Children's Ministries: TBD
Director of Finance: Jim Ketchum
Director of Communications: Jennifer Glover
Director of St. James School: Shelley Miller
Director of Admissions: Anne McEniry
Housekeeping: Rose Collins
Sexton: Mike Costigan

*For staff email addresses or other contact information
go to the About Us tab on our website at stjamesfairhope.org
or [click here for St. James Staff](#).*

Camp Beckwith's Summer Camp Staff Visits St. James

On Trinity Sunday, Beckwith Summer Camp Staff visited St. James for the 11:00 AM service to worship with us, be lifted up in prayer, and to have lunch at Sunset Point. Fr. Forbes served as the Dean and Chaplain for staff training at Beckwith, as they prepared to minister to campers throughout the diocese and beyond. Each night, the staff gathered for

a Dean's program in Beckwith Chapel to pray together, learn more about the developing spiritual lives of campers, explore their own spiritual journeys, and to expand their understanding of Episcopal identity. It was a deeply profound time together and Fr. Forbes is thankful that St. James could take part of this vital ministry in the diocese.



The Lectionary Schedule

Date	The First Lesson	The Psalm	The Epistle	The Gospel
Sunday, June 13 The Third Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Psalm 92:1-4,11-14	2 Corinthians 5:6-10,[11-13], 14-17	Mark 4:26-34
Sunday, June 20 The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Job 38:1-11	Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41
Sunday, June 27 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24	Psalm 30	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-43
Sunday, July 4 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 2:1-5	Psalm 123	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13

Notes from our Seminarian, Stephen Pecot

October 25, 2020

Dear St. James Vestry,

Greetings from Holy Hill! I'm entering week #8 of the 14 week fall semester at Virginia Theological Seminary. The support and prayers from the St. James family is so very appreciated by Travis and me. Words really do not do it justice. With Travis being in Fairhope and me here, it's been challenging at times. But we are both *so glad* that we made the leap. Travis visited in late September and will be here Halloween weekend.

Seminary is everything I expected and nothing like I expected simultaneously. Attending mostly Zoom classes does get tiring, but the classes are truly great, and we are maximizing any changes to practice community—albeit in spatially distanced ways. Oh well, this too shall pass.

Again, the financial support from St. James was a beautiful gift. We are speechless, but thankful. And I just love hearing the weekly prayers for “our seminarians Kenneth and Stephen!”

Stephen & Travis

P.S. I'll be back home Thanksgiving through the end of January, with spring semester dorm accommodations heretofore unknown because of Covid.

January 24, 2021

Dear St. James Vestry:

Peace, love and happy new year to you all. I am writing from our home in Fairhope where I have been since Thanksgiving. I had opted to wait to send an update until I had received all of my grades for the August and fall terms at VTS. I'm happy to report this seminarian you have generously supported thus far is making all A's.

The spring semester, which starts February 1, will be just as challenging with a full load again. I'm also currently interviewing at seven churches to obtain a Contextual Ministry position (basically an intern) for the fall 2021/spring 2022 time period. I will also be preparing for my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) internship at Baptist Hospital in Pensacola this summer. Finally, as Junior Student Body Vice-President I am tasked with designing, planning, and implementing our class Spring Retreat. Too bad Beckwith is not closer....

Travis and I are very thankful for the support and prayers the St. James Family have extended to us. It really has made all the difference. Truly.

God's Peace Abound In You All,
Stephen & Travis

To my wonderful friends at St. James ~

Many of you already know that my life has led me to Greenville, South Carolina, but I doubt if any of you know how very grateful I am for my time being a part of St. James and working in the church office for the past two and half years.

My heart was moved the moment I walked into my first service in 2017, and I knew I was in an extraordinary church when I observed Father De and a congregation of people doing the work of love and Christ in the world. I have been part of a lot of churches, but I have never experienced anything like it. I found fellow parishioners dedicated to egoless, sincere service—giving, caring, doing everything from coming to my home with a freshly-baked loaf of bread to meticulously making and praying over prayer quilts. So many ministries! So much humility.

During my first conversation with Father De, I think I told him I loved him and asked if he had a brother. You can imagine the honor it has been to work with the amazing, ridiculously loving people in the church office. Because of them, and you, I know so much more about the love of God—and myself. Wish me the best, please, and keep me in your prayers, that I may pass the good tidings forward with some degree of grace.

So you can see why, in finding myself too far away to worship with you physically, or work as a staff member, I feel a mixture of



immense gratitude and deep sorrow in departing. I will, however always be aware of you, sense you through the air between us—probably tear-up—and whisper my thanks and prayers from afar.

Blessings and love to you,

St. James lost a good friend on May 5, 2021, our organ builder Darwin Klug.

I met Darwin in 1994 when St. James moved our historic Hook and Hastings organ to the chapel. Larry Trupiano of Brooklyn, NY agreed to do this move and hired Darwin Klug of Maitland, FL who had a special affinity for the craftsmanship of tracker pipe organs.

In 1997 Larry and Darwin took on the project of moving and rebuilding the large 1968 Schlicker Organ from Lincoln Nebraska. Darwin Klug has



been our organ builder and tuner ever since. As representative of the German organ company Heissler in America, Darwin had special knowledge of the slider chests unique to our organ. While he tuned, I held keys. I will never forget him pausing, squinting his eyes and tilting his head when I would make a mistake on my end. His biannual trips to tune, maintain, and refine this large instrument were enhanced with a fair share of LA Gumbo, his favorite.



Darwin, who signed his emails “Darwind,” made these enormous and challenging tasks fun. He came up with a solution to every problem and calmed down many a tricky international performer on the St. James Concert Series.

Last summer, Darwin drove 7 hours to make an emergency repair on the Schlicker and drove back the same day to get back to wife Angela and son Brian during the challenges of COVID. Soon after he discovered he had cancer.

We are so thankful for the time we had with Darwin.

Rest well, good and faithful servant,

Helen V. Rodgers
Director of Music

To read Darwin's obituary, [click here.](#)

Darwin Klug repairs 1895 pipe rack during 2015 project to stencil the chapel's Hook & Hastings organ. This project was completed in 10 days by St James' artists and project managers Philip Webb and Sonny Howard.