

Anchor Lines

St. James Episcopal Church • Fairhope, Alabama



October 7, 2020

Volume 24, Issue 05



St. James typically uses the month of October as the beginning of a season of stewardship. It is a time to reflect on the blessings we have received from God and to discuss ways to give back. The church community engages in this practice as a means of attempting to grow in all of the areas of ministry God has faithfully led us. If you think back, one year ago this week, we were celebrating the end of our stewardship season with a festive congregational gathering on October 6 which we called Consecration Sunday. It was a day for us to give thanks to God for the abundance of gifts that we have received. We then fed around 450 people a catered brunch out of the same joyful abundance.

At face value, we can probably all agree that 2020 hasn't exactly been a typical year, yet all the same, God's abundance and blessings have come shining through. Most people don't realize it, but blessings and curses often look the same in the beginning. In many ways this year has felt more like a curse than a blessing. Yet if we are to look a little harder, down deep and in faith, we all know that God would never curse us or leave us alone. Has this year been difficult? Sure. But the journey of the church

has always been a difficult one for those who take it seriously. Our God continues to create goodness in abundance and always works to change the negative into something positive.

The famous song "Seasons of Love", from the musical *Rent*, poses the question of how we might measure a year. "In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee. In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife. In 525,600 minutes, how do you measure a year in the life?"

The chorus responds: "How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love. Seasons of love."

There is a universal truth that says, "To approach anything in the spirit of hopelessness is to make it hopeless. To approach anything in the spirit of faith is to make it a possibility." Maybe God wants us to see things through the lens of possibility and love.

Think about this past year from the perspective of God's grace and love shining through: We've been forced to slow down our hectic lives, yet we might actually be better off with less to do... We've not been able to visit our loved ones who are sick or alone, and all of the sudden we're reminded how short life really is and how important these people really are to us... We were kept away from places of worship and sharing in the sacred, and now we realize the peace that comes from our sacred space and the

joy we receive belting out a hymn of praise... We've been unable to shake hands or receive a warm embrace, and now we understand how much we take for granted by being welcomed or embraced through the touch of another human being... We've been forced to cover our faces in public and it's caused us to consider the simple freedoms and the very air that we breathe, and even the effects we have on other people... finding new ways to be a community, and we can go on and on. These are only a few of the scenarios that have plagued 2020, and in each something good is beginning to take form.

Friends, we have many reasons to be thankful. God is always doing something wonderful, even in the midst of our struggles and even if we don't see it at first. Please reflect on the congregational giving patterns we discussed last year. Many of you grew your giving "one step", increasing your weekly commitment to our church. Let's continue that trend and move up another step this year. Remember the underlying stewardship question—What percentage of your income is God calling you to give? Give back to God from the abundance you have been given, and from the love in your heart. Join me in looking for the good things God is doing here, and in our lives.

I remain, your joyful servant in Christ,

Rector

The Rev. De Freeman

Associate Priest

The Rev. Forbes Sirmon

Vestry Members

Pel Henry, *Sr. Warden*

Roger Guillian, *Jr. Warden*

Anderson McKean, *Clerk*

Katie Smith, *Treasurer*

Class of 2020

Drew Downey

Frances Patton

Sallie Smith

Class of 2021

Kris Bradley

Elizabeth Orr

Ed Shell

Class of 2022

Elizabeth Erwin

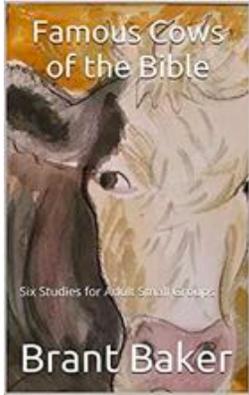
Evelyn Garrett

Shannon Pesnell

Jeanie Smith

News and Events

Women's Monday Night Bible Study Beginning New Book October 19



Dear Friends,
Fall is here and it's time for our Monday Night Bible Study to launch a new, fun, and exciting study. We enjoyed his *Famous Donkeys of the*

Bible two years ago, and now we will be learning new Biblical facts with Brant Baker's *Famous Cows of the Bible: Six Studies for Adult Small Groups*. Our study will begin Monday, October 19 at 6:30 pm. The books are available on Amazon for \$5.99 or on Kindle. I've missed seeing all of you and hope that you will join us for a fun exploration of the cows of the Bible. New members are always welcome! Call or email me for more information.

Here is the link to the book on Amazon:

[*Cows of the Bible Paper Back Book*](#)

Blessings!

Michelle Orr

mollicathome77@yahoo.com
or 251-490-6077

Dear St. James family,

I just wanted to check in and give you an update on seminary. My middler year has started and it's definitely the toughest yet. I'm taking some wonderful classes this year: Introduction to Preaching, Middler



Field Education, Trauma, Theology, & Lived Experience, Biblical Studies III, Couples, Parents, & Family Systems, and finally Theological Ethics I.

My field education parish here in Austin is Episcopal Church of the Resurrection under Fr. Billy Tweedie. This is a wonderful church

and they are taking good care of me while I'm here!

I love and miss each of you, and I'm holding you in my daily prayers. Remember to love one another as God loves us!

Always,
Kenneth White-Spunner



Gentle Yoga

with Jane Tucker
On Mondays

Beginning October 12

9:30 - 10:30 am in Green Hall

or

YOGA

on Thursday Nights

with Stacy Reckeweg

for all ages & levels at 5:45 pm

Did you know that our parishioner and yoga instructor, Stacy Reckeweg, has continued doing her yoga classes throughout the pandemic via ZOOM?

Stacy will send you the weekly ZOOM link if you email her at stacy.reckeweg@gmail.com. Join the Thursday clan for yoga. Your body will thank you.

Worship at St. James

In-Person

8:30 am ~ In the Church
10:00 am ~ In the Church
6:30 pm ~ In Green Hall

Online

10 am ~ Sunday Worship
10 am ~ Wednesday Morning Prayer ****Now in-person & online****
at stjamesfairhope.org, Facebook and YouTube

News and Events

MOVIE

St. James Episcopal Church presents...

TRUNK or TREAT!

a parish - wide event on Sunday, October 25

4-5 pm Set-up

5-6 pm Trunk or Treat in the parking lot

6-7:30 pm **It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown**
Movie on the Parking Meadow
Bring your own Picnic Dinner

CANDY



Trunk-or-Treat Needs Cars!

This year's Trunk-or-Treat is an event for the whole parish including a Storybook Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Games, *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown* movie on the meadow (bring your own blanket and a picnic dinner to eat during the movie). Invite friends. Start thinking about your costume, and how you will decorate your pumpkin and your trunk! If you don't have children, or have children that "think" they're too old to trick-or-treat, please consider decorating your vehicle and handing out treats. Let your imagination run wild! Google "Trunk-or-

Treat ideas," search Pinterest to get your creativity flowing, or order a pre-made kit from Oriental Trading, QVC, or similar company. More details for the Storybook Pumpkin Contest may be found on the School News Page.

Please note: Prizes and treats should be individually bagged and displayed in a way so that multiple hands are not reaching into a bowl or container. For example, individual treat bags could be placed on a table for children to grab after they "win" a game at your trunk.

Storybook Pumpkin Contest

Free Admission



FUN

GAMES



PICNIC

For more information or to let us know you will be bringing a decorated VEHICLE to the TRUNK or TREAT, call 251-928-2912 or email Ellen Huckabay at childrensministries@stjamesfairhope.org.

MUSIC



St. James CONCERT SERIES REVISED SCHEDULE



Quintessential Harp Duo
Friday, November 13 – 7 pm



Jillian Gardner Organ
Friday, January, 15 – 7 p.m.

Concerts are free and open to the public, **HOWEVER**, due to Covid-19 reservations are required and seating is limited.

For reservations call 251-928-2912
Monday-Thursday 8:30-5 pm.

SUNG COMPLINE OCTOBER 18

8 pm, Online

Listen. Rest. Worship.

On the third Sunday of every month, we offer sung Compline online, presented from the Church at 8 pm on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. Go to stjamesfairhope.org.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Interested in Ringing Handbells?

During this time of Covid several choir members will be joining our St. James handbell ringers. If we can find 2 additional ringers, we will be able to use all 3 octaves of our handbells. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays. Music reading skills are a must, but you do not need prior handbell experience to join this group. Contact Helen Rodgers at 251-928-2912 or email her at music@stjamesfairhope.org.



The Lectionary Schedule

Date	The Old Testament	The Psalm	The Epistle	The Gospel
October 11, 2020 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25:1-9	Psalm 23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
October 18, 2020 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45:1-7	Psalm 96:1-9	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
October 25, 2020 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18	Psalm 1	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46
November 1, 2020 All Saints	Revelation 7:9-17	Psalm 34:1-10,22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12

School News

Come see the exciting changes we have made to our school!

Tour Wilson Hall for Episcopal Schools Celebration on Sunday, October 11.



The fall season is a very exciting time for the staff and students at St. James Episcopal School.

Although we have had the pandemic and the recent devastation of Hurricane Sally, the spirit of our children continues to be an inspiration and blessing. It's amazing. Through the eyes of children, every day is a happy new day!

The season brings many special activities. Our students celebrated the Feast Day of St. Francis during Chapel with Father Forbes and received their own special pet blessing. Miss Ellen's

Environmental Science classes are off to a great start. Each class planted a vegetable box and the veggies are already sprouting! The children are anxiously awaiting a delicious salad from the fruits of their labor. Special thanks to Gabe Chamblin for getting the children started with their first earthworm bed.

This month, fireman, policemen and other community helpers will visit our campus as part of our community helpers study. Our students are looking forward to dressing up and celebrating "All Hallows Eve" with the church staff. We hope that everyone will participate in the Storybook Pumpkin Carving Contest this year! To participate please bring a carved, decorated, or painted pumpkin to represent one of your favorite storybook characters—include the book to donate to the library. Pumpkins can be dropped off Sunday morning before or

after the 8:30 am or 10:00 am church services on the 25th. The pumpkin with the most votes wins a prize, and money raised will go toward the purchase of books to enhance our library.

As part of National Episcopal Schools Week, we invite you to walk through our school and see all the new additions and wonderful works of our school children and staff. Wilson Hall will be open before and after each morning church service on October 11th .

Due to the current pandemic, we will not host our October Open House. If you know of anyone who is interested in a tour, please have them email me at schooldirector@stjamesfairhope.org or call 251-928-2912. Registration for the 2021 – 2022 school year begins in November.

Sincerely,

Shelley E. Miller

Shelley Miller, School Director



St. James 
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

is hiring

- substitute teachers
- after-school teachers

Applicants must pass background check and be CPR and First Aid certified.

Send your resumé & cover letter to schooldirector@stjamesfairhope.org.

**PARISHIONERS -
Drop off your
decorated pumpkin &
book donation at the
Church before or
after the 8:30 am or
10 am Sunday
morning services on
October 25.**



St. James ~ Helping Others



Volunteers Needed for Hurricane Sally Clean-up!

We have received many requests from parishioners who need help clearing trees and debris from their property. If you would like to volunteer your time to help parishioners in need, please email Anne McEniry at christianformation@stjamesfairhope.org. You may also call or text Anne at 251-597-5598. Thank you in advance!

CALLING ALL COOKS... MEN and WOMEN!

The meal ministry's mission is to support parishioners who are temporarily suffering from illness, injury, or recent hospitalization by providing meals for them. We hope you will consider joining this important ministry.

Monthly teams are made up of 3, sometimes 4 people. There is currently a need to increase the number of people in each team. As needs arise, the lead person for the month contacts team members to see if they are able to prepare a meal or part of a meal.

Is cooking one of your gifts? Or perhaps hospitality? Search your heart and consider joining this worthy group. Please get in touch with Andy Burton if you have any questions or if you would like to throw your name in the hat. You can reach Andy at 251-422-3431 or happytravelerakb@gmail.com. Thank you!

St. James Feeds Lunch to the Linemen



On Friday, September 25, members of the St. James Outreach Committee, Meal Ministry, and congregation came together and fed Fairhope City workers, as well as some out-of-town crews who came to get us back in business after

Hurricane Sally. With just over 24 hours' notice, this amazing group of volunteers came together to cook and serve hamburgers, baked beans, homemade coleslaw, chips, and homemade dessert to 285 men and women!! Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of all was that the burgers and beans were warm, and the coleslaw was cold at the time of pick-up!

It would be impossible to name everyone, but at least 20 people contributed to this meal, either by cooking or donating money. Andy Burton's Meal Ministry alone provided such a variety of desserts it would've been impossible to choose one if given a choice. Some parishioners made beans for 300 and coleslaw for 100! Thanks to one parishioner and several helpful children,

diners were greeted with posters of gratitude, and each meal box included a prayer and a note of thanks.

At first, the task was daunting, but I knew that if any group could come together and pull it off, it would be St. James. Even with a shortage of hamburger buns at some stores and no condiment packets at others (special thanks to Andree's for coming to the rescue), the community persevered and provided what one city worker described as "the best meal we've had since the hurricane." The coleslaw recipes were in such high demand, that Andy collected them and sent them to the City for distribution.



"Thank you" is not enough to say for the gratitude I feel to be a member of such a loving church family who is always at the ready to be the hands and feet of Christ.

♥ Ellen Huckabay

Youth & Children

Nursery Opens on October 18

for the 10 am Service

*** Please Read our New Policies ***

The St. James nursery will be open for the 10 am worship service, but we have some new policies which you need to be aware of before bringing your child/children to the nursery. We appreciate your cooperation.

- 1) When you and your child arrive at the Wilson Education building, you and your child will be temperature checked and asked a series of screening questions.
- 2) A nursery worker will take your child into the building. We ask that parents do not enter the school building.
- 3) If needed, please send diapers and wipes with your child.

- 4) Your child is welcome to bring a bottle or sippy cup. Make sure to label the bottle or cup with your child's name.
- 5) If your child has a pacifier, the pacifier needs to be clipped or attached your child's clothing.
- 6) Children will not be eating snacks in the nursery. Please do not send snacks from home.
- 7) For pick up, please do not enter the school building. We will bring your child to you outside.



You Group is a special program offered by St. James for 5th and 6th graders and their parent(s) or other adult. You Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month. If you and your child are interested in participating in You

Group, please contact Ellen Huckabay at childrensministries@stjamesfairhope.org or 251-928-2912.

ATTENTION JUNIOR & SENIOR ACOLYTES

Crucifers will begin serving at the 8:30 and 10:00 services. Hopefully, we will add additional acolytes to the services, but we are beginning with just the Crucifers at this time. If you are a Junior or Senior and would like to serve as a Crucifer, please email christianformation@stjamesfairhope.org. Before the Crucifers begin serving, there will be a "refresher" training. More information about the dates and times of the training sessions will be coming soon.

Celebrate our Jubilee Year through Evangelism by Joining a Storytelling Workshop!



Everyone, including you, has a story. God is in each story, and it's worth sharing and listening. In the Episcopal tradition, Evangelism is the spiritual practice of seeking, naming and celebrating Jesus' loving presence in the stories of all people...and then inviting everyone to more! Your story needs to be

told. Other stories need to be heard.

As part of our Diocesan Jubilee, we celebrate Evangelism this October. Join us for a one hour Storytelling Workshop to discover your stories, receive the stories of others, and learn to invite others to more! Storytelling Workshops are available in-person or via Zoom all across the diocese. Ms. Jan Ingram and the Rev. Kammy Young will be hosting a safe, in-person small group opportunity for folks in Convocation II on **Saturday, October 10, 4-5 PM CDT** at St. James Episcopal Church.

Visit [this Sign up Genius Link](#) to see a complete list of offerings and sign up today! If you have any questions, please contact the Rev. Deacon Lydia Johnson at 251-377-7809 or lydia.knizley.johnson@gmail.com.

The Rev. Kammy Young
Canon Missioner for Development: Evangelism & Mission Engagement
The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

NEW DATES FOR BAYLIGHTS OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 1

Halloween activities are being added for adults and youth!



Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

- 8:30 am ~ Holy Eucharist in the Church (in-person)
- 10:00 am ~ Holy Eucharist in the Church (in-person & on-line)
- 6:30 pm ~ Holy Eucharist in Green Hall (in-person)

THIRD SUNDAY of the Month:

- Sung Compline online at 8:00 pm (on-line)

WEDNESDAYS:

- 10 am ~ Morning Prayer (in-person & on-line)

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Currently Closed to Visitors

Friday: CLOSED

If you have good news or a blessing that you would like to share,
the birth of a child, grandchild, an anniversary, etc., email
communications@stjamesfairhope.org.
We will share your news in our Friday email update.

The St. James Staff

Parish Administrator: Meghan Fancher

Director of Music Ministries: Helen V. Rodgers

Associates for Music Ministries: Asheton Green, Frank Stabler

Director of Christian Formation: Anne McEniry

Associate for Children's Ministries: Ellen Huckabay

Director of Finance: Jim Ketchum

Director of Communications: Jennifer Glover

Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Phelps

Director of St. James School: Shelley Miller

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*.

ANCHOR LINES DEADLINE: THE NEXT ANCHOR LINES WILL BE PUBLISHED **NOVEMBER 4, 2020**. PLEASE EMAIL INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE TO JENNIFER GLOVER, AT COMMUNICATIONS@STJAMESFAIRHOPE.ORG, NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE PUBLISHED DATE.

READ THE ANCHOR LINES ONLINE—Call the church office or email communications@stjamesfairhope.org and request to be added to the distribution list. In addition, the newsletter is available on the website at www.stjamesfairhope.org.