

Anchor Lines

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



St. James Episcopal Church | 860 N. Section St., Fairhope, AL, 36532 | 251.928.2912 | stjamesfairhope.org

September 6, 2023

Volume 27, Issue 9



It's that time of year once more in the SEC! Classes are in full swing, the fall semester is in motion, and the campus is vibrant with activity. On the weekends, our entire community comes together for an electrifying event. The massive overhead lights beam brilliantly, and the entrance doors swing wide open. Friendly attendants stand ready to welcome you with a warm smile and a program in hand. Families and friends, spanning all generations, make their way in while the music swells, filling the atmosphere with anticipation. Conversations, and maybe even a touch of playful banter, linger from the previous week's game. And then, as everyone takes their seats, we prepare to immerse ourselves in the spectacle about to unfold before our eyes.

My apologies if you thought I was talking about a college football game. I was actually talking about our life together here at St. James. I realize I was being a bit tongue-in-cheek here but in reality, college football is often referred to as the "other religion of the South". Author Chad Gibbs journeyed through this very phenomenon in his book, *"God and Football: Faith and Fanaticism in the SEC,"* which tracks college football's near-religious following in the heart of the Bible Belt, where fans worship their SEC teams on Saturdays and God on Sundays. Gibbs became interested in this topic when he noticed that he had become so fanatical about his team, he wondered if football had replaced God as his god. Gibbs says, "I don't know if people have stopped looking forward to church, but that's a part of it though, this weird identity we have with our teams where we want to be part of something bigger than ourselves".

Friends, joining something bigger than ourselves is exactly what we are called to do as people of faith and as a church. Joining something bigger than yourself is like finding a missing piece of the puzzle in your life. It's an invitation to step beyond your individual boundaries and embrace a collective purpose that transcends the ordinary. In this unity, we discover strength, purpose, and a sense of belonging that not only amplifies our impact but also enriches our souls. It's the journey from "me" to "we," a path that leads to a deeper understanding of your place in the world, your place in God's kingdom, your place in God's field of mission, and the profound satisfaction of contributing to a greater whole.

As we enter into our Fall season here at St. James, I urge you to come and engage in a cornerstone that anchors our spiritual growth: the pursuit of formation and study. In this ever-evolving world, where information flows ceaselessly and distractions abound, encroaching on every facet of our lives, the significance of ongoing formation and dedicated study cannot be overstated. Our faith, like a flame, requires the nourishment of knowledge and understanding to burn brightly.

Inside this issue of Anchor Lines, you will find many opportunities to learn, grow, and teach... For all generations of our St. James team. Don't stay on the sidelines: jump into the action, get on the mission field, come play, and be a part of the team. Our faith is more than a spectator sport!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Forbes Sirmon

Nine St. James acolytes will be traveling to Washington, DC for the National Acolyte Festival in October. If you would like to contribute to this endeavor to help defray costs, please contact Natalie at

stjameseyc@stjamesfairhope.org

Thank you for your support!

Formation



Children & Youth Upcoming Events:

EYC by the Bay (Sr. High) - Sunday, September 17, 5:30-6:30
Prodisee Pantry Volunteer Night - Wednesday, September 20, 5:00-6:30.

We are still in need of formation leaders for children and youth! Natalie would love to chat with anyone interested in helping out on Sunday mornings - even if you're only able to commit to one or two Sundays a month. Curriculum will be provided, but if you have a program or book in mind, Natalie is open to discussing! Contact her at stjameseyc@stjamesfairhope.org.

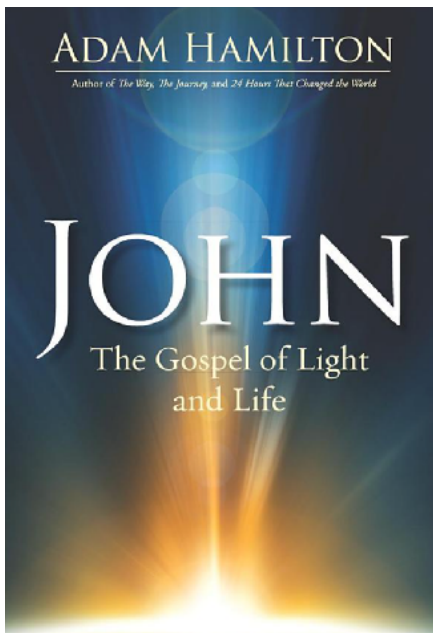
Many of our Sunday formation offerings will begin on September 10. Please refer to class leaders for specific information.

Rector's Forum - With Fr. De. Freeman, meets in Green Hall during the formation hour (between the 8:30 & 10:30 services).

Lectionary Reading Round Table - With Jim Daniell. Meets in the library during the formation hour.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Study

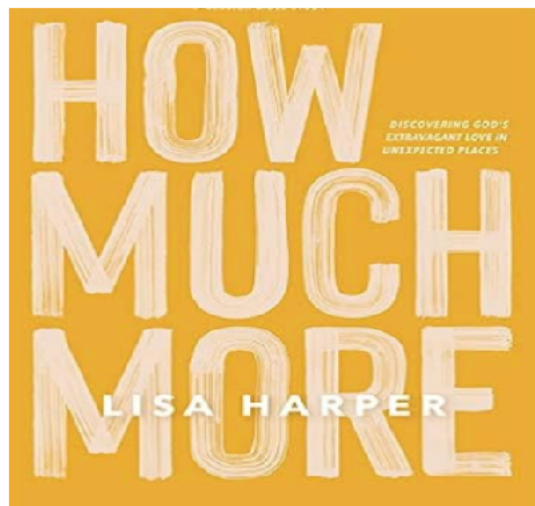
The Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume on **September 6**. This group meets at 9:30 AM in the Vestry Room. The study's latest focus will be *John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton. Books may be purchased on Amazon [here](#).



Monday Night Women's Bible Study

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study will explore Lisa Harper's newest Bible study, *How Much More*, which shows us how to discover God's extravagant love in unexpected places. We will begin our 7-week study on Monday night, **September 11, from 6:30 pm to 8:10 pm in the Vestry Room of Green Hall**. The books are available from Amazon and LifeWay Books.

For more information, call Michelle Orr at 251-490-6077 or email at mollieathome77@yahoo.com.



Parish News & Events



Harvest Festival & English Tea Info:

Harvest Festival:

Bring fresh fruits and vegetables, and non-perishable goods for the 8:30 and 10:30 offerings. These items will be donated to local organizations.

English Tea:

The tea will take place in Green Hall following the 10:30 service. Seating is limited. Please RSVP to info@stjamesfairhope.org or call 251.928.2912 if you'd like to attend the tea.

BLOOD
DONATION
SAVES
LIVES



LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

Thursday, September 7
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Sponsored by St. James Episcopal Church & School
860 N. Section St.
Fairhope, AL 36532

Parish
BREAKFAST



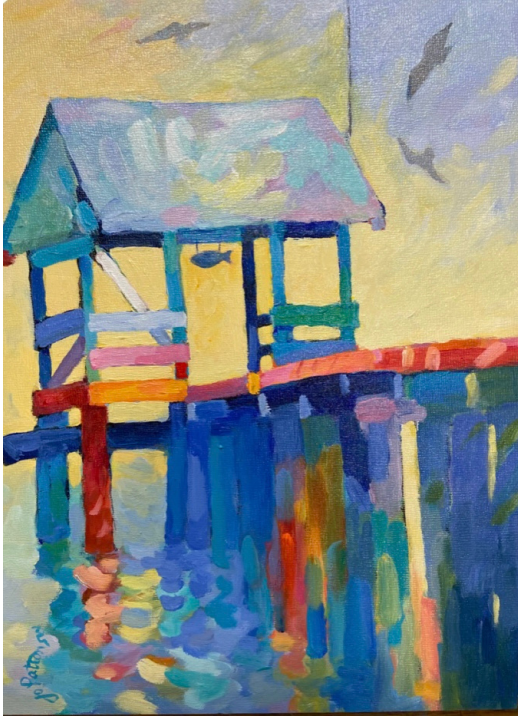
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
Between the services
in Green Hall

\$3 per person . \$10 max per family . Reservations not necessary

Our 7:30 AM service begins this Sunday, September 10, in the chapel. If you're interested in being added to Ministry Scheduler for this service, please email parishadmin@stjamesfairhope.org

Cookbook Updates

FAIRHOPE
Favorites



RECIPES FROM PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF



It's not too late - order your copy of **Fairhope Favorites: Recipes from the Parishioners and Friends of St. James Episcopal Church** today!

Our cookbook team has been working hard putting the final touches on this latest edition! The book has been submitted to the publisher and will arrive in time for holiday gift-giving.

We thank everyone who contributed recipes! We are still accepting orders. Use the form below, or visit with us on Sunday mornings in Green Hall.

Stay tuned to Anchor Lines for more updates.

- The Cookbook Team



ST. JAMES COOKBOOK

ORDER FORM

1 COOKBOOK - \$25 EACH
2-4 COOKBOOKS - \$23 EACH
5 + COOKBOOKS - \$20 EACH

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 EMAIL _____
 PHONE _____
 NUMBER OF BOOKS ORDERED _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____
 DATE _____

AVAILABLE IN NOVEMBER FOR HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING
COVER ART BY JO PATTON

Proceeds go to the St. James General Fund

Parish News

Rally Days 2023

Our annual Rally Days took place on August 20 and 27th. It was wonderful to see so many of you jumping back into the many ministries, studies, and volunteer opportunities the parish has to offer. If you weren't able to attend, not to worry: our [2023-2024 Ministry Guide](#) can be found on our website. In it you'll find information about everything going on in our parish. If you have questions about any of our ministries, or would like to sign up, you're not too late. Send an email to info@stjamesfairhope.org and we'll put you in touch with the right contact for each ministry. Don't see what you want in the Ministry Guide? Give us a call!



School News



St. James School welcomed new and returning students to campus on August 17th. “Back to School” has been an exciting time for our staff and students. We have many events planned moving into September.

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. For our **September Outreach** project we are asking our school and church community to collect aluminum can tabs. A collection container is located in Green Hall. We will be hosting a **Blood Drive** in the St. James Church parking lot on September 7th from 10:30 - 5:30. Donors will receive a free cholesterol screening.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be on campus September 20th - 27th. The book fair will be located in the church library and open on Sunday, September 24th after church services for shopping. A percentage of the monies raised from the book fair will be returned to us for the purchase of new books for our school library.

We are gearing up again for our 4th annual **Zebedee-Do-Dah Fest** on Sunday, November 5th! This is our biggest fundraiser for our school. We hope that everyone will join us again this year for this fun-filled event to support St. James Episcopal School.

Thank you for all your support of our growing parish school.

Shelley Miller,
Director of School



THE APPLES FOR STUDENTS PROGRAM ENABLES OUR SCHOOL TO EARN COMPUTERS, IPADS, SPORTING EQUIPMENT, SCIENCE SUPPLIES AND MORE!



PLEASE SAVE YOUR GREER'S RECEIPTS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - MARCH 31



THE FAIRHOPE GREER'S IS LOCATED DOWNTOWN AT 75 S. SECTION STREET

From the Office

From the Communications office...

Prayer List - Need to add someone to the St. James Prayer List? It's simple. Fill out a Prayer Request Card that can be found in the narthex of the church, chapel, or the church office. You may also call the office or email Leslie at communications@stjamesfairhope.org Please note that when adding someone to the prayer list, we ask that you have their permission in order that we may be respectful of privacy.

Prayer List Updates - If you are currently on the prayer list and would like to be removed, please email Leslie or call the church office. Names are generally left on the list for 2 months, unless otherwise requested.

St. James EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Instant Church Directory™

OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY IS ONLINE
View our directory online or via the FREE mobile app today!

- To view the online directory, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in. Only members have access.
- Download the FREE mobile app at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "Instant Church Directory" to get the download.
- You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a login the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.
- Need help or have questions? Email communications@stjamesfairhope.org or call 251-928-2912.

OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY IS POWERED BY INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY.

St. James EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Instant Church Directory™

If your Instant Church Directory photo looks like this:

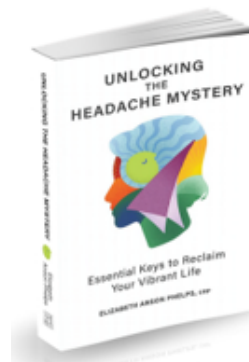
We need your photo!

Please upload it directly into Instant Church Directory or email it to communications@stjamesfairhope.org.

St. James' own Elizabeth Phelps is coming for a visit, and will be talking about her book, *Unlocking the Headache Mystery, Essential Keys to Reclaim Your Vibrant Life* at the **Fairhope Library Sept. 30 at 1:00 p.m.** This book was written while Elizabeth was living in Fairhope and working at St. James, so it's truly part of our own community. She is thrilled to finally be able to share the information with us, and can't wait to see everyone!

The book brings science, methods, and new perspectives to readers in accessible, friendly language, and describes Elizabeth's personal journey to find solutions. From experiences with the giants of headache research--Diamond Headache Clinic, The Cleveland Clinic, iconoclast Dr. David Buchholz of Johns Hopkins Medical—Elizabeth walks you through therapeutic and alternative solutions. Each topic is brought to life with her personal stories, including how her own experience with suffering led her to realize a spiritual gift of hands-on removal of headaches from others. The content applies to a range of chronic miseries. "It's not just about headaches. The information pertains to healing chronic emotional and physical pain in general. For me, healing requires a spiritual walk through the woods while tending to basic healing protocols."

You can learn more (or just say hi) at theheadachemystery.com or write to elizabethansonphelps@gmail.com.





We are a community anchored in Christ, seeking God, sharing His love and serving others.

860 North Section Street
Fairhope, AL 36532
251- 928-2912 phone
www.stjamesfairhope.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday ~ CLOSED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit # 16
Fairhope, AL

OUR CLERGY



Rev. De Freeman, *Rector*



Rev. Forbes Sirmon, *Associate Priest*



Rev. Amanda Doshier, *Associate Priest*

OUR VESTRY

Jeanie Smith, *Senior Warden*
Lauren Arington, *Junior Warden*
Mary Mullins Redditt, *Clerk*
Katie Smith, *Treasurer*

Class of 2023

Bebe Goetter
Earl Jackson
Chris Nelson

Class of 2024

Ben Coddling
Peter Gaillard
Laura Jones
Matthew Myrick

Class of 2025

Margaret Cadden
Tracy Corte
Jim Daniell
Dee Gambill

Weekly Recurring Schedule

SUNDAYS:

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church
10:30 AM* Holy Eucharist in the Church **also online*
Children's Chapel at 10:30 AM
Nursery available at both services
7:30 AM **beginning September 10**

MONDAYS

9:30 - 10:30 AM Gentle Yoga, Green Hall

WEDNESDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Chapel
12:30 PM Centering Prayer

THURSDAYS:

5:45 PM Yoga, Green Hall
7:00 PM Chess, Green Hall

3rd SUNDAY of the Month:

9:30 - 10:30 AM Breakfast
7:00 PM - Compline on 6/18

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 **OCTOBER 4, 2023**. PLEASE EMAIL INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE TO [COMMUNICATIONS@STJAMESFAIRHOPE.ORG](mailto: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.

Diocesan News



To visit the diocese’s **Racial Justice & Reconciliation** webpage, click [here](#) or go to <https://www.diocgc.org/racial-justice-and-reconciliation>

Pilgrimage to Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

Jackson, MS
Saturday
September 9

Cost: \$20, which covers travel and admission to the museum.

Roz will leave from Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 902 Daphne Avenue, Daphne, Alabama, at 7 am. Please arrive no later than 6:45 am. We anticipate return to Daphne at approximately 7 pm.

Please bring a lunch and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Explore the movement that changed the nation. Discover stories of Mississippians like Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Vernon Dahmer, as well as those who traveled many miles to stand beside them, come what may, in the name of equal rights for all.

Sponsored by

Eventbrite Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y2hny4r>

Pilgrimage to Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

Saturday, September 9

Register [here](#):

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pilgrimage-to-mississippi-civil-rights-museum-tickets-660436211487?aff=oddtcreator>

To visit the **Camp Beckwith** website, or register for Baylights, click [here](#) or go to <https://www.beckwithal.com/baylights.html>



Register and Purchase Tickets at www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights

Friday, Sept. 29th
6:30pm - \$25.00

Music by Casey Kearney (with Fr. Richard Proctor on the drums)
Includes dinner, beer & wine
Bring a lawn chair
www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights

Saturday, Sept. 30th
Live ticket draw down
\$100

www.TuscanResort.com
www.AntiguaCaribbeanBliss.com



Weekend Includes

- Friday, Sept 29th**
6:30pm Music and dinner
- Saturday, Sept 30th**
12:00pm Bishop's BBQ
2:00pm Diocesan Ultreya
5:30pm Live Music
6:00pm Low Country Boil
8:00pm Last ticket drawn
Fun activities for the family
Football games shown in Wilson Hall



Last ticket drawn wins

Win a week in Tuscany, Italy or Antigua for 2 or 4 people
\$100 ticket
Purchase tickets at www.BeckwithAL.com/BayLights
You do not have to be present to win

Trips do not expire and can be taken any time in 2024 or later
Winner chooses their destination

Music News

2023-2024 Concert Series Dates Announced

St. James
Concert Series
2023-2024 SEASON



Nathaniel Gumbs

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
7:00 PM

Concert organist Nathaniel Gumbs has performed at many venues in the U.S.A. and abroad. He is Director of Chapel Music at Yale University where he coordinates music for three worshipping communities: the University Church in Battell Chapel, and at Yale Divinity School in both Marquand Chapel and Berkeley Divinity School. In 2017 The Diapason magazine recognized Nathaniel as one of 20 outstanding organists under 30 years old for his achievement in organ performance and church music.

Byrd Ensemble

DIRECTED BY MARKDAVIN O BENZA
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AT 4:00 PM

Described as "pure and radiant" (Gramophone), "immensely impressive" (Early Music Review), and "rich, full-voiced, and perfectly blended" (Early Music America), the Byrd Ensemble has been internationally acclaimed for its performances and recordings of chamber vocal music, particularly Renaissance polyphony. They are a Seattle-based professional ensemble made up of 10 to 12 singers. The Byrd Ensemble has also performed in London, where John Rutter described the ensemble as "a fine group that has achieved an enviable standard of tuning, blend, and ensemble." The Byrd Ensemble is named after Renaissance composer William Byrd.



Tickets are required for this event and will be available for purchase September 1. Visit the church website for information to purchase tickets: www.stjamesfairhope.org.

The Byrd Ensemble will also sing during the 10:30am worship service on November 5 at St. James.



Trout Quintet

BY FRANZ SCHUBERT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18
4:00 PM

For some time we had hoped to present Quintet in A Major D667 on the St. James Concert Series. Inspired by a walking tour in Austria when he was 22, Schubert composed this quintet in the form of theme and variations using the folk song, "Die Forelle" and utilizing uncommon instrumentation. Also featured: Monteverdi's "Si dolce el tormento" with all instruments accompanying soprano, Mary Katherine Kilgore.

Performers:

- Enen Yu, violin
- Razvan Berindean, viola
- Guosheng Huang, cello
- Taylor Hollyer, string bass
- Robert Holm, piano

Men's Sung

Compline

September 17
in the church at 7:00 PM

Come pray with us

Compline is a contemplative service that emphasizes spiritual peace, and is a relaxed, come-as-you-are evening service. We ask only that you listen. There are no bulletins, no hymnals, no prayer books; it is a time for you to disconnect from the cares of life and be with God.

Children are welcome.

This service lasts about 30 minutes.

860 N. Section. St. Fairhope, AL 36532
[251.928.2912 stjamesfairhope.org](http://251.928.2912.stjamesfairhope.org)

Want to learn more about the St. James Concert series, or about the music ministries at St. James? Visit the link below or scan the QR code to check out the music page of our website. [Music Ministry Online](http://www.stjamesfairhope.org/music)

