

Anchor Lines

JULY NEWSLETTER



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

July 10, 2024

Volume 28, Issue 6

S T . J A M E S

Feast Day

Sunday, July 28

CAMP BECKWITH

FOLLOWING THE 10:30 SERVICE

HOTDOGS | HAMBURGERS | FELLOWSHIP

Please RSVP to info@stjamesfairhope.org so we can plan accordingly!

Capital Campaign Update

1. We are very close to having raised \$4,500,000!!
2. First Fruit Sunday, when everyone gave the first of their pledge, brought in \$897,000!!
3. A professional grant writer is in the process of applying for two separate ADEM grants.
4. The Development Committee is preparing proposals for 8 Charitable Trusts and Foundations that have all given to Episcopal causes with similar requests.
5. Any building materials for the school are purchased tax free – no sales tax!
6. The church will receive for the campaign \$250,000 from the school fundraiser over the next 5 years.
7. The school is in the process of conducting their own campaign among parents, grandparents, and suppliers.
8. We have been offered in-kind gifts – for example security, technology, and furnishings.



St. James
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AND SCHOOL

Growing Faithfully

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2024

As you can see, the campaign has been very successful, but we need your help. We're excited to share that we have a handful of parishioners who have offered a matching grant opportunity. They will match up to a total of \$500,000 in new commitments to the campaign. Every dollar up to \$500,000 will be matched. If you have not yet committed to the campaign, this is a wonderful opportunity to do so!

Have questions about the campaign? Take a look at our **Vision Brochure** at left. (You may click the image, or download it from our website at www.stjamesfairhope.org/capital-campaign)

This document contains FAQs, architectural renderings, and much more.

Parish News & Events

BINGO
NIGHT
AND TACO BAR!

Wednesday,
July 24 6:00-7:30

Green Hall

Get ready for a night of fun (and tacos!) in Green Hall! Let us know you're coming so our cooks can plan accordingly.

info@stjamesfairhope.org

HYMNS
and Brews

SUNDAY, JULY 14
4:00-6:00
 THE BOOK CELLAR
 (INSIDE PAGE & PALETTE)

HOSTED BY THE ST. JAMES OUTREACH COMMITTEE
 ALL ARE WELCOME
adults only, please

St. James

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING
SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

DROP-OFF BOX
LOCATED IN GREEN HALL

PLEASE BRING SUPPLIES APPROPRIATE FOR KINDERGARTEN AGE CHILDREN. DONATIONS TO BENEFIT HEAD START OF BALDWIN COUNTY.

SAVE THE DATE!
Rally Day 2024
August 25

Coffee Ministry
VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Send an email to info@stjamesfairhope.org to volunteer.

Children & Youth News

VBS 2024 was a tremendous success! Kids of all ages took a deep dive into God's love during this scuba-themed week of games, learning, and community outreach. Thank you to the many wonderful volunteers who helped lead the children through this amazing week!



Children & Youth News



Youth Mission Trip 2024

Our youth have departed for a mission trip to Chattanooga! They will be volunteering at a food pantry and a sustainable farm, and will also go white water rafting and kayaking!

They will also have the opportunity to visit the Sewanee campus.

Please keep these youth and volunteers in your prayers.



SAVE THE DATES!

Backpack Blessing

Sunday, August 11 at the 10:30 AM service

Communion Instruction Classes

Wednesday, August 21 3:30-4:40

Wednesday, August 28 3:30 - 4:30

Wednesday, September 4 3:30 - 4:30

Sunday, September 8 First Communion Service at the 10:30 AM service

Email Natalie to sign up stjameseyc@stjamesfairhope.org

Upcoming Children & Youth Events:

July 8-12: Sr. High EYC Mission Trip

July 14: 5:30pm-6:30pm Sr. High EYC

July 17: 5pm Jr. and Sr. High EYC Prodissee Pantry and Dinner

July 21: 5:30pm-6:30pm Sr. High EYC

July 24: 4pm-5:15pm 5th-12th grade Postcard Ministry

July 31: 5pm Jr. and Sr. High EYC Prodissee Pantry and Dinner

School News

St. James School Summer Camp has been another huge success. We have had maximum attendance each week. It has been a joy seeing new and returning campers on campus.

Our campers have had a great time seeing their friends and making new ones all summer! We've had many adventures, from becoming paleontologists during dinosaur week to delving into the rainforest and diving into God's love for VBS week. We were thrilled to have our STEM teacher, "Miss Marsha", back for our science week. Our 1st and 2nd grade campers were afforded the opportunity to have off-campus field trips visiting Alligator Alley, the USS Alabama, Eastern Shore Bowling, We Rock the Spectrum and Tortuga Adventure Golf.

Our camp counselors have been remarkable role models and have led the way to a great summer for all of our campers. Each day they have brought fun and energy while keeping us safe. Thanks to the entire staff who have helped make this summer a success!

Although we have been in full summer camp mode, we are continuing to move forward planning and preparing for the start of the new school year. We are so excited with the growth of our school, especially adding our first grade. Throughout the summer new students continue to enroll while our PK2 and PK4 classes are on a wait list. Classroom furniture and curriculum are arriving daily as we get set for our first day of school on August 14th.

As our school continues to grow, there are always volunteer opportunities for your involvement. Please come by the St. James School table and sign-up on Rally Day or call the school office at 251-928-2912.

Blessings,

Shelley Miller

The advertisement features a photograph of a young girl in a red and white plaid dress with her hands clasped in prayer. To the right of the photo, the text reads: "GROW WITH US" in large blue letters, followed by "Experience the joy of growing in a Christian environment with a personalized approach to learning at the only Episcopal School on the Eastern Shore!" in smaller black text. Below this, it says "ENROLLING NOW FOR 1ST GRADE BEGINNING FALL 2024." in red. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "HELP US SPREAD THE WORD! Invite your friends to take a tour and learn more."

School News

Meet Our Summer Camp Counselors!



2024 Summer Camp Counselors

Camp Leaders: Emily Byrd & Mayelys Martin

PK3: Marcella Covington, Emmie Freeman, Francesca Martin

PK4: Virginia Guilian, Angela Mondragon

PK4: *Christie Baker, *Anabelle Doshier, *Ava Farmer, Ana Kangsumrith, Anna Randle

Kindergarten: Kiersten Krebs, Sarah Delahunty

1st and 2nd Grade: Karagan Brown, Dylan Freeman, Kellie Graves

*Not pictured



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*



Rev. Amanda Doshier, *Associate Priest*

OUR VESTRY

Jeanie Smith, *Senior Warden*
Margaret Cadden, *Junior Warden*
Mary Mullins Redditt, *Clerk*
Bruce Stone, *Treasurer*

Class of 2024

Ben Coddling
Peter Gaillard
Laura Jones
Matthew Myrick

Class of 2025

Margaret Cadden
Tracy Corte
Jim Daniell
Dee Gambill

Class of 2026

Dan Campbell
Bill Dowdle
Jennifer Lambert
Misty Whitehead

Weekly Recurring Schedule

SUNDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
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

MONDAYS:

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

TUESDAYS:

6:30-7:30 PM - Adult Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Chapel
12:30 PM Centering Prayer
7:00 Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAYS:

12:00 PM Healing Service
5:45 PM Yoga, Green Hall
7:00 PM Chess, Green Hall

3rd SUNDAY of the Month:*

Following the 7:30 service, and between the 8:30 and 10:30 services - Parish Breakfast

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 **AUGUST 7, 2024.** 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.

Letters Home

An Update from Ellen Huckabay

I cannot believe that it has already been a year since we moved to Austin! Equally unbelievable is that my first year of seminary is behind me. What a year it has been for the entire Huckabay Family!

First, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every person at St. James, and to the congregation as a whole, for your overwhelming support. We truly could not do this without your prayers, gifts, and encouragement. St. James is modeling how to be the hands and feet of Christ, and the community at Seminary of the Southwest knows it! I give thanks daily for how you loved us in Alabama and how you continue to love us in Texas.

The first year of classes felt a lot like treading water, and sometimes feeling like the water was winning. It was exhausting and hard and beautiful and a highlight of my life to date. Even on the most difficult days, I have known we are right where God wants us to be. This summer I am doing Clinical Pastoral Education at Dell Children's Hospital and Dell Seton Medical Center UT. This is proving to be another treading water experience; but it will be a transformative summer. When I return to regular classes in the Fall, I will be one of two Sacristans from my class. Sacristans serve as the altar guild and schedulers for services in Christ Chapel on campus. St. James, especially the Altar Guild, prepared me well for this role! My field education parish for the next two years will be at St. Richard's in Round Rock. I look forward to learning from them, and seeing how my gifts fit their ministries.

George is the seminary spouse extraordinaire. In typical George fashion, he likes to cook for the community. On Easter Monday this year he cooked crawfish for the student body, and they were a hit! He is also the handyman: Doorknob fell off? Car battery dead? Computer problem? Call George! George is still George in Texas; thanks be to God! Will is settling in, as well. He loves his school, played lacrosse this spring, and will play football this fall. He has found a church home at All Saints' where he is an acolyte and active in the youth group. They just returned from a Mission Trip to Galveston. He's excited to spend a week at Beckwith this summer and then have some time with my parents.

We miss you all and are looking forward to visiting over the holidays! Our hearts will always be at St. James!

Love,
Ellen

An Update from Drew Downey

Grace and peace to y'all from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. It has been a busy year at Virginia Theological Seminary filled with new and exciting things as Chris and I move towards our final year in Alexandria. Last summer I completed my Clinical Pastoral Education at MedStar Washington in D.C. where I served as a chaplain. It was a formative experience visiting with the patients and families. Sometimes we would talk, and other times the most powerful thing was to not say anything; to let the grace and peace and God fill the room rather than words. Serving at MedStar Washington was a wonderful experience – and also, I am glad to have that requirement completed.

Classes have been intense and deeply rewarding. In the fall I took *Nicea and Chalcedon*, where we discussed an easy topic – the Trinity. I am joking of course. Our professor did offer a joke regarding the Trinity: there are 5 notions, 4 relations, 3 persons, 2 processions, 1 God, and 0 problems. Meaning there are zero problems attempting to understand the Trinity. It was a knee-slapper for sure.

Letters Home

Even with all the breaking-apart and discussion of the Triune God, there are still elements of mystery. I had the realization my attempts to explain God's infinite love with human words and thoughts is beyond my capacity sometimes.

This past January I took a class lead by Dr. Lisa Kimball, called *Camps, Conferences, and Retreats*. We talked about the intentions that guide us when forming a retreat, camp or conference. We discussed how a disruption of the everyday, intentional hospitality, being submerged in the divine, and variations of contemplative practices, are only a few aspects to consider when creating an event. It was an intense (only a weeklong) and rewarding class I'm glad I took. This past spring I took Historical Liturgy which was a fascinating and eye-opening class. It's cool, for lack of a better word, to try and connect these threads of how worship in the early church was formed, or how we think it was formed, and how it is developing. The big warning I take away from this class was to avoid universalizing interpretations and taking one particular account and assuming the entire Church was doing it.

All these classes energized my passion for discussing theology, God's love in our lives, and the understanding how our past is continuing to shape my theology of God's presence in our sacraments and worship.

At the beginning of the spring semester, I was selected to be the lead sacristan for our chapel services at VTS. As a sacristan we have several responsibilities such as: caring for the vessels, marking the readings, and assisting liturgical leaders with training their team members. If you haven't thanked your altar guild today – be sure to. As Lead Sacristan I am responsible for these duties in addition to scheduling the other sacristans, running our weekly meetings, and communicating with the Associate Dean of Chapel. Some of my favorite times at VTS have been in the early mornings before our daily eucharist where I am alone in the chapel. I am also serving as the President of the Student Aid Society which assists students and their families with financial assistance in the event of an emergency. Both roles are wonderful opportunities to serve God and the VTS community.

Chris is doing well and still enjoying his job at Burke & Herbert Bank where he is the Assistant Branch Manager for one of the busiest branches. He will be going through a merger in a few months and is immersed with all the details to ensure a smooth transition. We're currently car shopping since we are sharing one vehicle and while manageable, there are some days where we both need to be somewhere different at the same time. Pray for us as we navigate the car market. In October we are planning a fall trip to Maine. We've never been before and are looking forward to being *leaf-peepers* and gorging on *lobstah* along the coast of Maine from Portland to Bar Harbor.

I am always appreciative of all your love, prayers, and financial assistance. Even this far north we are reminded of you all when we cover ourselves with the quilts St. James so graciously made for us. We are truly covering ourselves with your love. As August approaches I am also asking specifically for your prayers and love as I meet with the Commission on Ministry, Standing Committee, and Bishop Kendrick for my candidacy interview. I ask for your prayers of peace and courage as Chris and I continue walking the path towards God's call in our lives.

May the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with all y'all now and forever.

Drew Downey