

Anchor Lines

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



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

September 4, 2024

Volume 28, Issue 8



THE AFTER PARTY

TOWARD BETTER CHRISTIAN POLITICS

Six-week series

SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 30

5:30-7:00 PM in Green Hall

See inside for more information!

Parish News & Events

The After Party is a video/discussion-based series presented by the clergy on Wednesday nights for the six weeks leading up to the election (Sept 25 - Oct 30, 5:30-7:00 PM). A small Agape meal will bring us together each week as we learn how to listen with love and put Christ at the center of our political discussions. The After Party is an invitation to model the virtues of hope and humility, bearing Christian witness to a broken and bitterly divided world.

What is it? The After Party is a 6-week video-based curriculum that promotes the development of a Christ-centered political identity amidst the current culture of toxic polarization we find our country in today. We will learn to listen with love, drop the “us vs. them” mentality that divides us, and move forward with a spirit of reconciliation - not fear.

What is it NOT? The After Party will NOT tell you how to vote, which party to support, or convert you to the “other side.” The focus is not on the “what” of specific parties, policies, or politicians, but on the “how” of political engagement that Jesus teaches us — the virtues of humility, mercy, and justice.

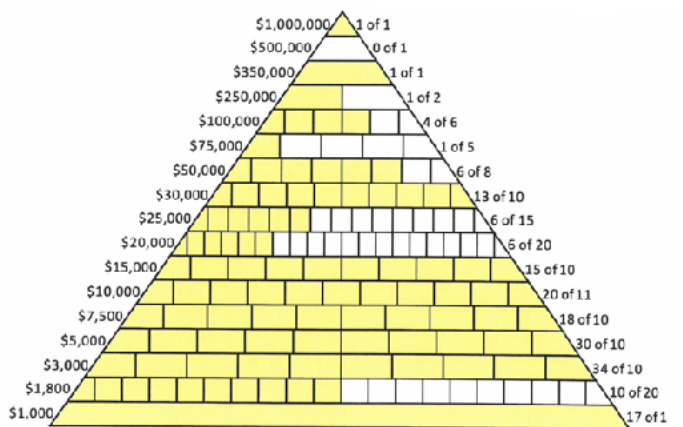
Join us on Wednesday nights this fall as we learn to recenter our political identities around Christ and away from partisan fighting and division. RSVP to info@stjamesfairhope.org or 251.928.2912

Capital Campaign & Building Committee Update

HELP US
fill the pyramid!
Ask about our matching program!



We continue work on the pre-construction phase of our project and we are actively engaged in Design Development. The final building footprints for new construction have been established and the rooms have been incorporated into the floor plans with dimensions shown. Work on the Site Plan by the Civil Engineer continues. We have definitive direction from the City of Fairhope on how we will obtain Site Plan approval, and this is a big milestone! Our contractor selection process has been completed, and we anticipate that the selection will be announced publicly in the near future. The Architect has engaged design consultants for Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, and Fire Protection. These consultants have toured the existing facilities. Meetings with the Contractor will kick off next month and we will begin establishing structural systems, materials, and methods to be used for new construction.



Committed: \$4,900,000

Fill the pyramid: \$1,350,500

Grants Foundations In-kind gifts > Goal: \$1,167,000



Parish News & Events



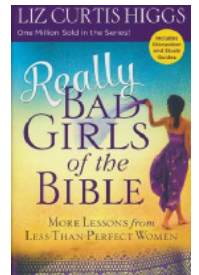
Outreach Fair

Coming to the Harvest Festival? Join our Outreach Committee in Green Hall following the services and learn about the outreach organizations we work with. Questions? Contact Michelle Roberts at

outreach@stjamesfairhope.org

Formation Updates:

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: Resumes September 23 Study kicks off with their annual potluck dinner in the vestry room at 6:00 PM. This group meets every Monday evening from 6:30 - 8:10 PM and will be studying *Really Bad Girls of the Bible* by Liz Curtis Higgs - available on Amazon new and used, and on christianbooks.com



Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast

Start your day with coffee, breakfast, and a devotional. Meets every Tuesday morning at 7:00 AM in Green Hall.

Tuesday Night Adult Bible Study: Resumes September 17

6:00 PM in the Vestry Room. "Questions for a Faithful Heart" will meet **every other Tuesday evening**. Led by John Olson.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Study: Resumes September 11 This group meets in the Vestry Room from 9:00-11:00 AM. This 7-8 week study will focus on *Faith and Fire: Elijah* by Priscilla Shirer, which is available on Amazon in both new and used options.



Girls & Boys Choir News



The St. James Girls and Boys Choir will rehearse on **Tuesday afternoons from 4:00-5:30 in the Choir Room starting on Tuesday Sept. 10th**. Their first service at St. James will be Sunday, October 6th. Interested in joining? Contact Joe Setzer at organist@stjamesfairhope.org

2024-2025 Concert Series

Thursday, October 10 at 7:00pm

Monica Berney, organist

A true star among young classical musicians, Monica Berney has made a name for herself as one of the finest organists on the scene today. Known for her technical mastery, effortless musicality, and engaging stage presence, she has been inspiring audiences from coast to coast. Ms. Berney was appointed Director of Music at St. Paul's Parish, K Street (Washington, D.C.) in August 2023. Her robust leadership of this celebrated music program has already generated ripples of excitement across church music spheres.



Friday, November 8 at 7:00pm

Seraph Brass

Celebrating its tenth-anniversary season, Seraph Brass was founded by trumpet soloist Mary Elizabeth Bowden with a mission to showcase the excellence of female brass players and highlight musicians from marginalized groups, both in personnel and in programming. Winners of the American Prize in Chamber Music, the group has been praised for their "beautiful sounds" (*American Record Guide*), "fine playing" (*Gramophone*), and "staggeringly high caliber of performance" (*Textura*). Seraph primarily performs as a quintet, with a dynamic roster drawing from America's top brass musicians. Seraph Brass is a Yamaha Performing Group and performs exclusively on Yamaha instruments.

2024-2025 Concert Series



**February 2, 2025
at 4:00pm**

*Jihye Chang
and Benjamin Sung*

Husband and wife duo, Jihye Chang and Benjamin Sung will present a program of "Life in (and) Music" featuring works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Antonín Dvořák, Amy Beach, Maurice Ravel and more!

Jihye Chang enjoys a diverse career as a soloist, collaborator, educator, scholar, and advocate for new music in the United States and abroad. Her performances focus on the creative process of collaborating with living composers, curating programs that connect to various audiences, and giving context to contemporary works. Chang graduated from Seoul National University and earned her Master's and Doctorate degrees from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. She will join the esteemed piano faculty of Boston University as a Senior Lecturer in the Fall of 2024, after serving as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Florida State University. Chang is also a faculty member at the Brevard Music Center and the director of Piano Intensive Bulgaria.

Associate Professor of Violin at Florida State University, violinist Benjamin Sung is also a Faculty Artist at the Brevard Music Center, where he acts as Violin Coordinator and Concertmaster of the Brevard Opera Orchestra. Sung holds a Bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music, and Master's and Doctorate degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

Sunday, April 13 at 4:00pm

Bob Chilcott's St. John Passion

performed by the St. James Choir with chamber orchestra and soloists

Chilcott's mighty setting of words from St. John's Gospel is a dramatic yet optimistic re-telling of the Passiontide story. Bob Chilcott has become one of the world's most widely performed composers and arrangers of choral music. His compositional output reflects his wide taste in music styles and his commitment to writing music that is both singable and communicative. He has been involved in choral music most of his life – he was a chorister and then a choral scholar in the choir of King's College, Cambridge, and was a member of the British vocal group The King's Singers. His most often performed pieces include *Can you hear me?*, *A Little Jazz Mass*, *Requiem*, and *the St. John Passion*.

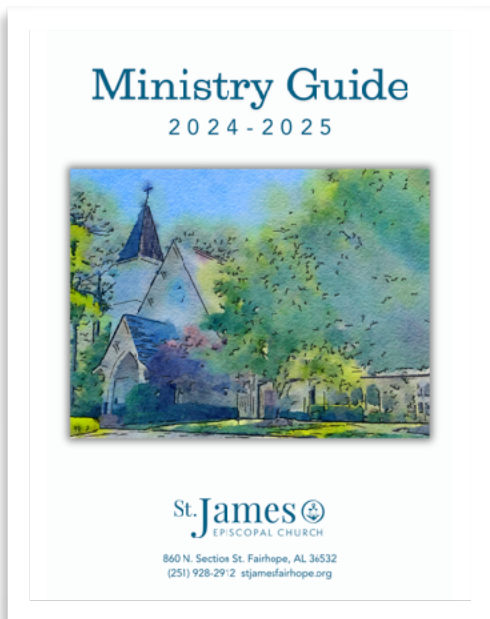
Parish News & Events



Upcoming Children & Youth Events:

- September 4** 3:30-4:30 K-4th grade Communion Instruction
- September 4** 5pm Jr. and Sr. High EYC Prodissee Pantry and Dinner
- September 8** 10:30am First Communion
- September 8** 5:30pm-6:30pm Sr. High EYC
- September 11** 4pm-5:15pm 5th-12th grade Postcard Ministry
- September 15** 5:30pm-6:30pm Sr. High EYC
- September 18** 5pm Jr. and Sr. High EYC Prodissee Pantry and Dinner
- September 20-22** Happening
- September 25** 4pm-5:15pm 5th-12th grade Postcard Ministry
- September 29** 5pm-7pm Jr. and Sr. High back to school EYC Event

Rally Day 2024



Thank you to everyone who attended Rally Day and signed up for our various ministry opportunities! It's not too late to sign up. Check out the latest edition of our Ministry Guide for a complete list of parish life, worship, outreach, education, and pastoral care opportunities available at St. James. Online signup form available [here](#). If you have questions, give the office a call at 251.928.2912.

School News



St. James School welcomed new and returning staff and students to campus on August 14th. "Back to School" has been an exciting time for our staff and students and we have many events planned moving into September!

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and for our September outreach project, we are asking our school and church community to collect aluminum can tabs in support of the Ronald McDonald House in Mobile. A collection container is located in Green Hall. Additionally, St. James School will participate in the Greer's "Apples for Students" program. After shopping at your local Greer's, save your register receipts to turn into our school Sept. 1 through March 31. Register receipts become FREE educational equipment and supplies. Collection Box in Wilson Hall.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be on campus in the St. James Library September 17th - 24th. We welcome parishioners to shop after services on September 22. A percentage of the funds raised will be returned to us for the purchase of new books for our school library.

We are gearing up for our 5th annual **Zebedee-Do-Dah Fest** on Friday, November 1st! This is our biggest fundraiser for the school. We hope you will join us again this year for this fun-filled event, and we thank you for supporting St. James Episcopal School!

Blessings,
Shelley Miller

New Staff Spotlight



Savannah Partin
First Grade Teacher

Savannah is originally from Mobile, Alabama. She has moved around a bit and now moved her way right back to Fairhope. She has a Masters in

Early Childhood Education and is currently working on her PhD. She is married and has 3 children and 2 dogs. In her free time, Savannah loves vacationing with family and eating at new restaurants around town. "I am so excited to be the first grade teacher at St. James this year and to help children be their best selves academically, physically, and spiritually!"



Emma Strength
Assistant

Hey! My name is Emma Strength. I was born and raised here in Fairhope. I have a black Lab (Gunner) that I enjoy

spending a lot of my time with. I also enjoy spending time with family as much as possible. I have always enjoyed working with kids and I have fallen in love with St. James in just a short time and I am so excited for this new chapter.



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
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:

6:30-8:00 PM, Women's Bible Study, Vestry Room*
9:30-10:30 AM Gentle Yoga, Green Hall

TUESDAYS:

7:00-8:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast
6:00-7:30 PM - Adult Bible Study**

WEDNESDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Chapel
9:00-11:00 AM Adult Bible Study, Vestry Room
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:*

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

**Begins September 23*

***Begins September 17*

ANCHOR LINES DEADLINE: THE NEXT ANCHOR LINES WILL BE PUBLISHED **OCTOBER 2, 2024**. PLEASE EMAIL INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE TO 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.