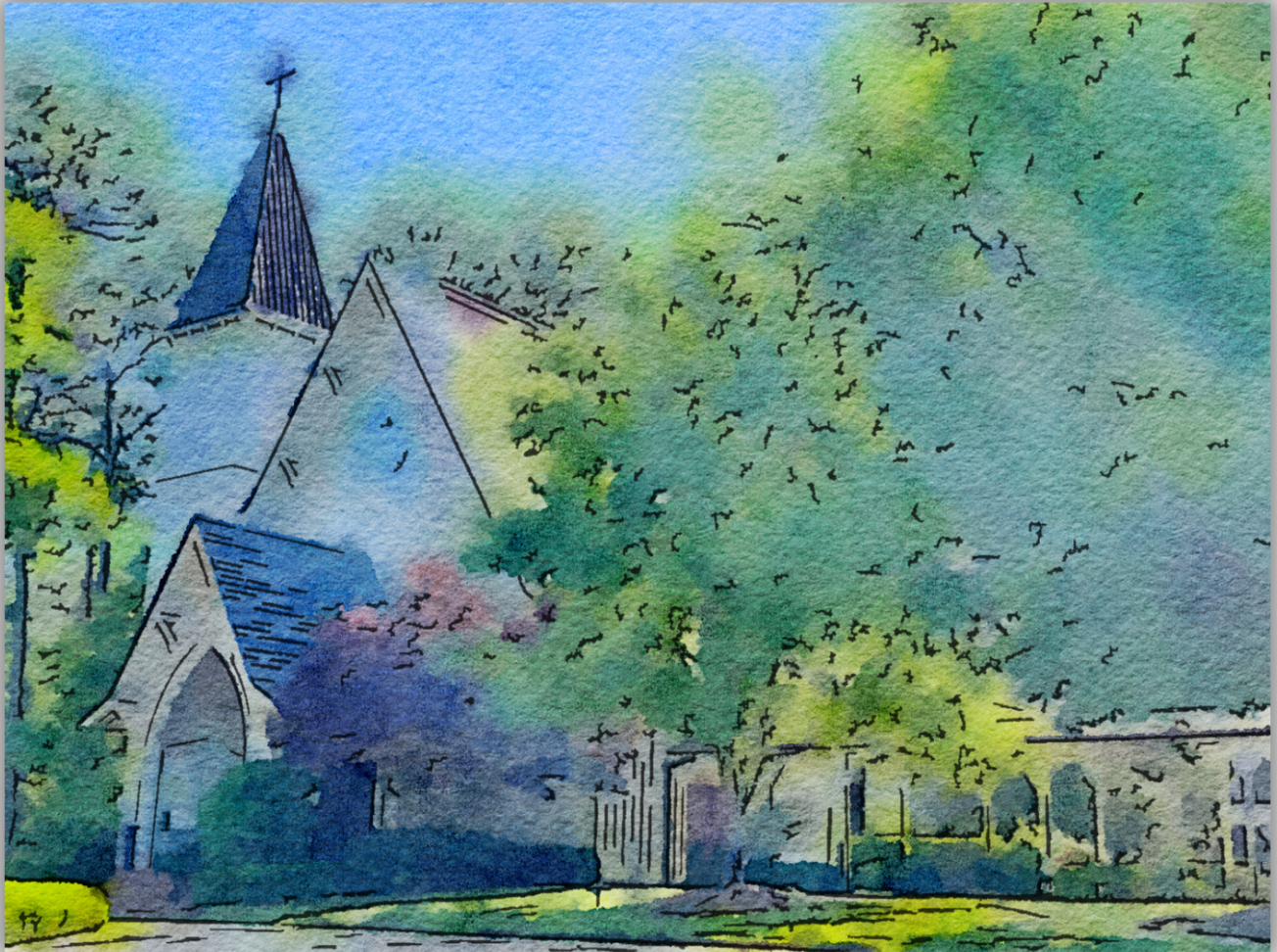


Ministry Guide

2024 - 2025



St. James 
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

860 N. Section St. Fairhope, AL 36532
(251) 928-2912 stjamesfairhope.org

Worship Ministries

Acolytes

All young people at St. James in grades 5-12 are invited to serve as acolytes. After being trained by clergy and staff, acolytes serve in various roles during Sunday morning worship, and at other services as requested. The acolyte's service is an offering to God.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is responsible for making the church and chapel ready for Sunday, weekday and special services such as baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Its members maintain the liturgical vestments, hangings, and linens, and care for the silver and brass vessels. Each team serves for one week per month with a fifth team serving on fifth Sundays. Previous experience is not required. All you need is a servant's heart and a joyful spirit!

Eucharistic Minister

Eucharistic Ministers are trained by the Rector and are licensed by the Bishop to assist the clergy in the administration of the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Flower Guild

The talented and creative members of the St. James Flower Guild bring the beauty of God's world to our worship space. The guild members purchase **(these purchases are reimbursed by the church)** and arrange Altar flowers for Sunday mornings as well as Easter and Christmas. They are also called upon for special services or events. The current members are happy to mentor interested persons who may not have experience with flower arranging. New members may work in pairs if they would like.

Lay Eucharistic Visitor (Home Communion)

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are trained by the clergy to go from a Sunday eucharist or other principal celebrations of the eucharist to share the sacrament with members of the congregation who are unable to be present at the celebration because of illness or infirmity.

Lectors (Readers)

A lector is a lay person trained in reading scripture who is appointed by the clergy to read lessons or lead the Prayers of the People. The term is from the Latin, "to read." There is no license required for this lay ministry. A lector may also be known as a reader. Readers may choose to serve at their preferred Sunday service, and may be asked to serve at special services during the year such as Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve, or funerals.

Music Ministry

St. James's Music Ministry is lead by Director of Music, Mary Katherine Kilgore, and assisted by Associate Director of Music and Organist, Joe Setzer..

The Adult Choir is directed by Mary Katherine Kilgore and leads music in worship for both Sunday services with full choir at 10:30 AM throughout the year. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM (mid-August – May). If you are interested in participating in this choir, please contact Mary Katherine at choirdirector@stjamesfairhope.org.

The Men's Compline Ensemble is directed by Mary Katherine Kilgore. This group rehearses throughout the year and leads a 7:00 PM Sunday evening Compline Service in the sanctuary on the third Sunday of the month several times a year. These services last around 30 minutes.

Taizé Service is offered on the third Sunday of the month when there is no Compline service. This is a simple, meditative, candle-lit service filled with songs, scripture, prayers, and silent reflection. This service is held in the chapel and will last around 30 minutes. All are welcome.

Ushers

The mission of this ministry is to extend God's love and to welcome those who enter our doors each Sunday. This important lay ministry is composed of men and women from a variety of age groups who volunteer their time on Sunday mornings and at special services when needed.

Wedding Team

The members of the Wedding Ministry Team assist the clergy with weddings at St. James. They are present for wedding rehearsals and wedding ceremonies. A member of the team makes every effort to meet with the bride prior to the wedding to go over what to expect and gather more information. They also coordinate with the altar guild and flower guild regarding flowers and altar setup. The wedding team members act as liaison between the bride and groom and the church staff to ensure that the service runs smoothly.

Welcome Ministry

"Good morning and welcome to St. James"—so simple and so welcoming. Greeters make the first impression of St. James, so put on your happy face and join the group. If you are too shy to greet people, we have a need for someone to write a note to recent visitors. If you want to do something else, our name tag board is always in need of proper sorting. Do as much or little as you choose, but be a part of our very important group. Sign up today and feel the love.

Outreach Ministries

Outreach at St. James is evangelism that allows us to be the hands and feet of Christ. We, as servants, take His love and mercy out into the world, meeting the needs of our community and beyond. If you would like to get involved, email the committee at

outreach@stjamesfairhope.org

Alabama Free Clinic

The Alabama Free Clinic (AFC), the first free clinic in the State of Alabama, was formed in Bay Minette on August 28, 1998. The clinic's mission is to improve the overall health of the adult citizens of Baldwin County who are without health insurance. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the clinic and are always welcome to join the effort. Volunteers needed include doctors, nurses, and those with clerical experience as well. Since its inception, St. James has been a sustaining supporter of the AFC along with parishioners Dr. Bill and Bebe Goetter.

Baldwin Family Village

Baldwin Family Village is a transitional housing facility for women and children in Baldwin County experiencing homelessness, and engages its residents with a holistic plan for restored hope and personal transformation. The 13-unit facility operates as a program of the Dumas Wesley Community Center. <https://www.baldwinfamilyvillage.org/> There are monthly volunteer opportunities. Please contact the church office for information.

Christmas Gifts for Veterans

Many veterans in the William F. Green State Home in Bay Minette do not have families or loved ones. This outreach ministry helps make their Christmas special and is a wonderful way to show our appreciation to those who have served our country. Volunteers organize donations and deliver packages to the Veterans' Home.

Christmas Giving

Each Christmas season St. James parishioners have the opportunity to help local agencies provide Christmas gifts to those that they support. The agencies provide a list of gifts for families, children, and elderly in our community who are in need of extra resources to support their holiday celebrations. Christmas giving begins in November.

Concert Series

The St. James Concert Series hosts 3-4 concerts per season. Volunteers are needed to usher for these events. Please contact Mary Katherine Kilgore at choirdirector@stjamesfairhope.org for more information.

Domestic Youth Mission Trips

Each summer, the St. James youth in grades 6-12 travel to various destinations in the US. They learn about homelessness, hunger and other social concerns, and have an opportunity to experience firsthand the very real needs of humanity in our own country. Past trips have been to such locations as Atlanta, Nashville, Memphis, and Houston.

Ecumenical Ministries

Ecumenical Ministries, Inc. is a non-denominational, comprehensive social service agency providing aid to low-income families and individuals in Baldwin County. By addressing the urgent financial and material needs of clients, EMI provides a hopeful path to self-sufficiency and long-term economic stability. EMI is currently in need of intake counselors; training and acclimation is provided. Other opportunities include delivery of Meals on Wheels; stocking and/or sorting food in the pantry; working on Repair Baldwin projects, such as building a handicapped ramp at a home; or even working in retail at Emmy's Thrift Shop.

Family Promise

The mission of Family Promise of Baldwin County is to provide temporary shelter, related services, and nurturing support to homeless families with children and to assist them with obtaining suitable and permanent housing. Family Promise utilizes area church facilities and their members to serve families with children in crisis. 90.2% of those enrolled in Family Promise leave the ranks of homelessness. St. James parishioners serve this program by housing Family Promise participants at the church for a week every quarter. When St. James hosts, you can provide or serve meals, read, play games with the children, join others in staying overnight, or clean up after the week.

Kairos Outside

Kairos Outside is a 2 and a half-day Christian weekend designed to demonstrate God's grace and love through Christian support for women who have been impacted by incarceration. Kairos Outside offers a comfortable, non-judgmental retreat for women to support each other as they journey through the incarceration of a friend or relative. Kairos Outside is a Christian program, although no religious affiliation is necessary to attend.

Kairos Prison Ministry

Kairos Prison Ministry is an international prison ministry that provides two yearly events with monthly follow-up, inside area prisons. Kairos Inside is present in each of the correctional facilities in Alabama. The program has been successful and continues to minister to inmates. Visit with those who are incarcerated, pray for them, and assist with inmate letter writing. Bake cookies for the event weekends or help with other food. For more information, please contact John Olson at johnolsonw@aol.com

Neighborhood Bridges

Neighborhood Bridges Baldwin County is a 501(c)(3) non-profit now serving all 42 Baldwin County Public Schools as well as several outside organizations such as CARE House, Rotary Boys & Girls Club, Ruff Wilson Youth Organization, and Baldwin County Boys Ranch. *Neighborhood Bridges Baldwin County* facilitates direct local giving to disadvantaged students and families by inviting school professionals (like school counselors and social workers) to advocate for them. Recipients remain completely anonymous. Those needs are shared via email (never more than 1/day) and social media posts, engaging community members to fulfill them. Please sign up on our website to be notified when new needs are posted: www.neighborhoodbridges.org/community/BaldwinCounty-al

Prodisee Pantry

Prodisee Pantry is a non-profit community ministry providing emergency food and disaster relief for families who are having trouble making ends meet. The Pantry provides food to single parents, homeless persons, retirees, families in transition, under-employed and unemployed households, grandparents raising grandchildren, and others in need. The Prodisee Pantry cannot assist the community without the help of individuals, youth groups, civic organizations, school clubs, church groups, and local businesses. Here's what

you can do: sort produce and groceries, distribute groceries, make food boxes, unload trucks, and help in the warehouse.

South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program

The South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program (SAVLP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works with more than 700 local volunteer attorneys to provide free legal assistance in certain civil legal matters to low-income residents of Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile, and Washington Counties. SAVLP often collaborates with Prodissee Pantry, Housing First (Project Homeless Connect), the United Way of Baldwin County, and other nonprofits to identify and serve those in need. The organization manages the "Wills for Heroes" program, which provides estate planning services to first responders and also assists people who are at risk of losing their homes, who want to adopt children, and who need legal guidance that they could not otherwise afford or obtain.

Wilmer Hall

Wilmer Hall Children's Home is a non-profit faith-based organization that has been serving young people in need in Mobile, Alabama since 1864. Wilmer Hall serves children and young adults through several programs that provide tutoring, on-campus living, and other tools needed to succeed. Wilmer Hall currently has five programs: The Residential Program, the Transitional Living Program, the Transitional Family Program, the on-campus after-school education program (called Education4Life), and the Community-Based Education Program. The Community-Based Education program consists of the Philipa Stirling Hamilton Education Center and the Max Miller Education Program. Learn more at www.wilmerhall.org

Pastoral Care Ministries

Calls and Cards

This ministry is great for parishioners who want to care for others right from their own home. If you are interested, you can make telephone calls or send cards to parishioners who are going through an illness or surgery or many other pastoral needs.

Community of Hope

Community of Hope International is a Christian community united in prayer, shaped by Benedictine Spirituality and equipped for service in pastoral care ministries. As Lay Chaplains, this group assists the clergy in the pastoral care of the parish and are available for a one time check in (hospital stay or followup) or a long term commitment (homebound or resident at a nursing home) depending on the situation. These Lay Chaplains are members of St. James that provide a listening presence and come alongside anyone who may be feeling lonely, distressed, or facing the many challenges of life.

Flower Delivery

Flowers from our Sunday altar are arranged by volunteers for home or hospital delivery. Arrangements are made following the final service on Sunday; deliveries may be made that afternoon or on Monday. Volunteers may arrange, deliver, or both based on their preference.

Funeral Receptions

Helping a St. James family in their time of grief is the mission of this ministry. The members of this ministry prepare the reception food, setup, and cleanup.

Meal Ministry

The Meal Ministry is organized into 12 teams with each team serving one month of the year. Our mission is to provide meals to members of our parish as they recover from illness, injury, or hospitalization. The only thing necessary to be part of this ministry is a desire to feed someone in need whether from your own kitchen or purchased. Everyone is welcome in this group!

Memorial Garden

The St. James Memorial Garden, located behind the sacristy, is a sanctified location to be used by the communicants of St. James and their immediate families for interment of their ashes (cremains) either in the ground or in a niche in the columbarium wall. The members of the Memorial Garden Board handle all facets of the Memorial Garden including meeting with families, transporting cremains, preparing plots and opening niches, assisting with Memorial Services, and conducting the financial business of the Board.

New Moms Meal Ministry

The New Moms Meal Ministry welcomes you to join us. This ministry provides meals to families of newborns for two weeks after arrival of the baby. We hope you will join us in showering these families with not only food, but also God's love from our parish, during this special time!

Prayers and Squares

Prayers & Squares is a ministry that combines the pastoral gift of a hand-tied quilt with the gift of prayer for someone in need. The quilts are a statement of our faith, a testimony to our strong belief in God, and in the ultimate power of prayer. You do not need to be experienced in quilting to be a part of this ministry. If sewing is not your thing, you can help in other ways.

Parish Life Ministries

Breakfast Volunteers

Breakfast is served for the parish in Green Hall on the third Sunday of the month (unless otherwise noted) between the services. Parishioners are needed to prepare food, serve and/or clean-up. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow parishioners better.

Brunch and Supper Groups

Supper Club Groups meet once a month on Saturday evenings at 6:30 PM, from October through May. The host for each month provides drinks and a heavy hors d'oeuvre in their home, and the other members bring an additional appetizer and/or beverage.

These groups are expected to consist of 14-16 participants. For those who wish to participate but whose home may not accommodate the group, it may be possible to co-host with other members. Every attempt is made to balance each group with couples and single participants. We will make all attempts to include you with other couples/singles you might request. Adults only.

Restaurant Brunch Groups meet on Sunday mornings after church services and host selects a different restaurant to try out each month. These groups usually consist of 10-12 members. Adults only.

Buildings and Grounds Ministry

The Junior Warden is the head of this ministry. We are looking for men and women who are willing to help with indoor and outdoor maintenance and cleaning tasks at the church. This ministry also includes people who can help set-up and take down tables and chairs in Green Hall for special events.

Care for the Church Altar Kneelers

The needlepoint kneelers, chair cushions, and prie-dieus in the church and chapel add beauty to our worship spaces. Care for these items is simple—they need to be vacuumed once a month. It takes approximately 20 minutes and can be done at your convenience.

Chess Club

Chess enthusiasts meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM to play chess. All parishioners and friends of St. James are welcome.

Coffee Hour

St. James' coffee hour, following the Sunday morning service, is our weekly chance to demonstrate the love of God to one another—especially newcomers. Volunteers serve on a rotational basis to assist with making coffee, putting out snacks, and cleaning up.

Parish Event Volunteer

The parish hosts at least one major event each month and the staff just cannot do it all. Sign up to volunteer on an as-needed basis for setup, cleanup, and other needs of parish-wide events. The office will call volunteers from the list as the need arises.

Rose Garden

We need a group of dedicated parishioners who would like to keep the rose gardens healthy, growing and blooming for the pleasure of our Lord and community congregation. Volunteers are asked to help with pruning, deadheading, weeding, fertilizing, along with a couple yearly events for maintenance and/or fundraising.

Yoga Classes - Jane Tucker

Parishioner and yoga instructor, Jane Tucker, offers Gentle Yoga classes on Monday mornings from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in Green Hall and Chair Yoga from 1:30 - 2:30 PM in Green Hall. On Fridays, Jane Tucker offers a Yoga Flow class. Contact Jane for information about the time and location for the Friday class.

Yoga Classes - Stacy Reckeweg

On Thursday evenings, a yoga class taught by Stacy Reckeweg (RYT500) is available for all levels of participants - beginners welcome! This Thursday evening one-hour class begins at 5:45 PM in Green Hall. Yoga classes are free of charge and open to all St. James parishioners and friends.

Spiritual Formation & Education Ministries

For Adults

Confirmation - Youth (9th grade and up) and Adults

Confirmation is one of the sacramental rites of the Episcopal Church in which candidates “express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop” (BCP, p. 860). Confirmation classes offer candidates an opportunity to “discover the meaning of Christian commitment in their lives, and explore ways that their Christian commitment can be lived. This preparation draws upon the baptismal covenant (BCP, pp. 416-417) and An Outline of the Faith (BCP, pp. 845-862).” Adult and youth classes are normally offered on Sunday mornings for six weeks.

Cursillo

Cursillo (“Cur-see-yo”) is a three-day, life-changing weekend that introduces people to simple methods for nurturing and growing their relationship with Christ. It provides an experience of living in a Christian community centered in worship, prayer, study of scripture, and interaction with other Christians. Its mission is to build up our parish churches by encouraging and empowering its members to prepare for doing the work of the church: the spreading of the Gospel.

Men’s Tuesday Morning Prayer Breakfast

Tuesdays at 7:00 AM in Green Hall. Start your day off with a hot breakfast, coffee and short devotion before beginning the day.

Rector’s Forum

The rector will lead a forum in Green Hall on Sunday mornings between the 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM services. The class will offer an opportunity to dive more deeply into scripture—to open up conversation, and learn from the lessons God teaches us. Join us whenever you can. The sessions are not interdependent.

Small Groups Study & Fellowship

Small Groups meet at parishioners’ homes for fellowship and study, and are grouped by age. Each group meets once a month, and members take turns hosting. Childcare is provided for participants.

St. Anthony’s Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is a method of meditation used by Christians placing a strong emphasis on interior silence. It is also an ancient form of meditation with roots in monastic traditions of St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross. We begin with a prayer, are silent for 20 minutes while returning our focus to God, and end with a prayer. This takes 20-25 minutes and we meet at 12:30 PM on Wednesdays in the Chapel. All are welcome.

St. James Library

The St. James Library is open to parishioners of all ages, and is dedicated to bringing spiritual nourishment, enlightenment, insight, and a deeper understanding of God's precepts and Christ's teachings through our collection of a wide variety of books. We have a self-checkout honor system that is easy to use. The library is always open to meet the needs of our diverse congregation.

Sunday Reading Round Table (The Lectionary Class)

This class meets on Sunday mornings to further discuss the readings appointed for the day from the Revised Common Lectionary. The focus of the weekly study is to learn how scripture applies to your daily faith life. The study will meet in the library during Sunday formation time.

The Order of the Daughters of the King®

After a period of study and discernment, DOK® members take lifetime vows of daily prayer, service and evangelism. The Mary and Martha of Bethany Chapter at St. James is a community that meets monthly for prayer and study, and members take an active role in service to the parish and community. New chapter presidents are elected in April.

Tuesday Night Bible Study

Weekly rotational study at 6:30 PM for an hour to discuss various Christian topics. Prep time for class is about one hour per week. The group usually meets in the Vestry room. For more information, contact John Olson or Rev. Amanda Doshier.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Offered on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Vestry Room, this Bible study chooses a variety of spiritual growth topics. Come early at 9 am for coffee and fellowship. The group study begins promptly at 9:30 AM in the Vestry Room and lasts until 11:00. All adults are welcome.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study

The Monday Night Women's Bible Study meets every week in the Vestry Room. This group discusses books of the Bible and a variety of Christian topics. All women are welcome. The study begins at 6:30 PM and ends no later than 8:15 PM with prayer. Class preparation/homework time varies based on the study.

For Children

Nursery- infants to 4 years old

Childcare is provided during the 8:30 and 10:30 services. We have a fully staffed nursery with snacks provided each week.

Children's Chapel ~ Age 5 through 4th grade

On Sunday mornings during the 10:30 church service, children will gather in the narthex and process into the church behind the Clergy Cross to the chapel. In the chapel, they have a structured time of worship and prayer. The children return to the main service during the Peace before Communion.

Communion Instruction - Kindergarten - 4th grade

Classes will be held once a year for 3 weeks. Upon completion of these classes, children will celebrate their First Communion during Sunday morning worship. During these classes, children will learn about the sacrament of Eucharist with hands-on activities. It is our hope that in completing the Communion instruction classes, children will have a deeper understanding of Communion.

Sunday School- Ages 5 through 6th grade

Children will gather before the 10:30 service at 9:45 in their respective age groups to learn from leaders within the church. These classes will follow different curriculums based on each age group.

St. James Episcopal School

Mission: We are an Episcopal School anchored in Christ, educating the whole child, mind, body and spirit, in a nurturing environment. St. James Episcopal School is a parish school providing early childhood and educational programs for students 30 months through first grade with school day and full day options. St. James Episcopal School stands as a vibrant expression of the Episcopal Church's historic commitment to quality education. Our goal at St. James is to provide an enjoyable learning experience and ensure that our students become lifelong learners.

Seasoned Saints - Members of this ministry of St. James Episcopal School assist with special events such as Grandparents Day, Mother's Day Tea, Father's Day Lunch, Mardi Gras Parade, etc., and can also volunteer as readers for the children. Members can sign up for events that fit into their schedule.

YouGroup ~ 5th and 6th grade

This program is specifically designed for St. James 5th and 6th graders and their parents. The program, which started in 2009, meets once a month in Green Hall for fellowship, outreach, and service. Parent participation is required.

For Youth

EYC (Episcopal Youth Community)

The EYC program provides a variety of fellowship opportunities for students. These opportunities involve service, worship, learning, and fun! EYC is split into two groups: Jr. High (6th-8th graders), and Sr. High (9th-12th graders).

Rite 13

Rite 13 is a two-year program designed to celebrate the individuality of each young person, while exploring stories of God and God's people. The program culminates with a liturgy that serves as a community expression of the passage from childhood to adulthood. This service is the tangible beginning of the young person's individual spiritual journey.

Sr. High Sunday School

Students in grades 9 - 12 meet for class during the Sunday school hour, at the church.

OUR CLERGY



The Reverend De Freeman
Rector



The Reverend Forbes Sirmon
Associate Priest



The Reverend Amanda Doshier
Associate Priest

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services

7:30 AM - Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

8:30 AM - Holy Eucharist in the Church

10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist in the Church

Nursery is provided during 8:30 and 10:30 services.

Children's Chapel is at 10:30 AM.

Wednesday Mornings

7:30 AM - Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel

Thursday Afternoons

**12:00 PM - Healing Service with Holy Eucharist,
in the Chapel**

OUR VESTRY

Jeanie Smith, *Sr. Warden*

Margaret Cadden, *Jr. Warden*

Mary Mullins Redditt, *Clerk*

Bruce Stone, *Treasurer*

Class of 2024

Ben Coddington

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

Sign up for any of the ministries listed in this booklet
at www.stjamesfairhope.org, email info@stjamesfairhope.org,
or call 251-928-2912.