

St. James

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE ANCHOR LINES NEWSLETTER

May 6, 2026

Volume 30, Issue 4

St. James Rose Garden

May 2026



The *St. James Rose Garden* is flourishing! Thanks to the dedication of Rene and Patrick Mead, along with their team of faithful volunteers, the rose garden is full of beautiful, healthy roses, and is a wonderful focal point on our grounds that can be enjoyed by all. The recent workday included the removal of non-producing plants, the planting of new rose bushes appropriate for our zone, and the addition of eight new topiary roses donated by The Plant Shoppe in downtown Fairhope. Regular fertilizing, weeding, and dead-heading is required to maintain the garden - if you'd like to volunteer or donate to the rose garden fund, email info@stjamesfairhope.org

Parish News & Events



SAVE THE DATE

Consecration of our New Building

JUNE 28

BISHOP KENDRICK WILL JOIN US TO BLESS OUR NEW BUILDING.
MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!



VBS 2026: JUNE 15-18

RAINFOREST FALLS:
Exploring the Nature of God

Open to ages PK3 (fully potty trained) - 4th grade
Service opportunities are available for 5th and 6th graders
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ALL AGE GROUPS



USE THE
QR CODE
TO REGISTER
ONLINE

Parish News & Events



St. James Women's Retreat at Camp Beckwith



Youth outing to watch the Pensacola Wahoos.

If you missed out on the first order of bricks, not to worry! You can still order a commemorative brick in honor or memory of a family member or loved one. Scan the QR code above, or click [here](#).

May Outreach

Blessing Box Collection Continues

Summertime sees a greater need for food items, as children are out of school, and not able to receive free or reduced meals. Our parish Blessing Box is a wonderful way for us to express love and care for our neighbors. Many of you are already helping to keep it full, and your kindness really makes a difference. Sometimes, the blessing box needs a little extra help. To give it a boost, Outreach will continue collecting supplies during May. **This drive is meant to supplement, not replace,** the everyday kindness of parishioners who add items to the box when they can. If you're already putting things in the blessing box, please keep up the great work! This drive will help us gather supplies for times when donations might be a bit slower. Thank you for supporting this vital ministry.

What's Needed: Non-perishable food items and/or hygiene items. A collection bin is located in Green Hall.



Recent Happenings



It's been a busy few months at St. James! **Confirmation** was celebrated on March 15, as we enjoyed our annual visit from Bishop Kendrick! Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** took place on April 4, and was a huge hit for big kids and little alike. Our graduating seniors were recognized on April 26, which was also **Youth Sunday**. Our youth parishioners did a magnificent job serving as ushers, chalice bearers, lectors, and even delivering the sermon. Our **kindergarteners** were recognized on May 3, and received their very own Bibles as a gift from the church!

*Music News*2025-2026
Concert Series

**May 29, 2026 at 7:00 PM
&
June 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival

St. James welcomes back the Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival as they present two different concerts. ESCMF is dedicated to fostering access to classical music to people of all income levels and cultural backgrounds and seeks to normalize classical chamber performance as an integral piece of our cultural identity.

The Music Festival was founded in 2022 by Fairhopean and violinist Sahada Buckley and her husband, cellist Trace Johnson. Each year Sahada and Trace invite top professional musicians to perform www.escmf.org during a three-week-long summer festival.

Handbells

Are you interested in ringing handbells? I am looking to have a sun handbell ensemble and I'm in need of people who can read music who are in town this summer for rehearsals. If you've never handbells before, it's all good! If you can cast a fishing pole, you can a handbell! Please let me know of your interest by the end of May.
Mary Katherine, choirdirector@stjamesfairhope.org



I am so proud of these young musicians who have been a part of the children's choir this year. It has been an honor to work with them since January. They bring lots of energy and enthusiasm to rehearsals on Tuesday and work hard to learn music for worship. You will notice different color ribbons around their necks. White represents having completed a full year of choir and red represents the completion of two years in choir. **Alora Belli, Connor Glenday, Cooper Holt, Addie Miller, Telly Myrick, and Reagan Schemer.**

Children's choir rehearsals will begin again in the Fall. If you have a child who would like to be a part of this wonderful group, please email me at choirdirector@stjamesfairhope.org

Formation & Events

**Monday Night
Women’s Bible Study**
Currently on break.

**Tuesday Morning Men’s
Prayer Breakfast**
Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 AM in Green Hall.

**Tuesday Night
Adult Bible Study**
**“Questions for a Faithful Heart”,
Led by John Olson**
6:30 PM in the Vestry Room

May 12: what are the different ways that Jesus talks about peace? How do we put them in context? Love who, Lord? “ Love your enemy”. Is this taken out of context? What else did Jesus say that might be helpful as “the rest of the story”.

June 2: Is there any reason we shouldn’t pray for a dead person? Many think so. Is prayer something that we should take sides about?

**Wednesday Morning
Adult Bible Study**
May 13-27, 9:00 AM in the Vestry Room
Join this group May 13 for a study on angels.

**Sacred Ground
Adult Bible Study**
Currently on break.

Children & Youth May Schedule

- May 6** 4pm-5:15pm 5th-12th grade Postcard Ministry
- May 10** 5pm-6:30pm Jr. High EYC
- May 10** 6pm-7:30pm Sr. High EYC
- May 13** 5pm Jr. and Sr. High EYC Prodissee Pantry and Dinner

- May 17** 5pm-6:30pm Jr. High EYC
- May 17** 6pm-7:30pm Sr. High EYC
- May 20** 4pm-5:15pm 5th-12th grade Postcard Ministry
- May 20** You Group End of the Year Party 5:30-7
- May 31** 5pm-6:30pm Jr. High EYC
- May 31** 6pm-7:30pm Sr. High EYC



Thanks to everyone who joined us for Family Day at Camp Beckwith!



School News

St. James Episcopal School has officially been approved for accreditation with the Alabama Independent School Association (AISA)! This recognition comes after a thorough review process, including a self-study, supporting documentation, and a rigorous evaluation by the Accreditation

Review Team. We are honored to have met all the standards and criteria required for accreditation -an achievement that reflects the strength of our dedicated staff and our unwavering commitment to serve our students and families with excellence. Thank you to everyone who helped us achieve this important goal! We look forward to continue to grow, improve, and inspire as we look ahead to the future.

It is hard to believe we are only one month away from the end of another successful year at St. James Episcopal School.

Our 5th Annual Art Showcase was a huge success. It was a wonderful night showcasing and sharing our students' creativity in the Arts. We were so happy to have families and friends on our campus for this special evening. We enjoyed a special performances by our after school B'Dance class. Special thanks to Miss Genie Porter, our incredible Art teacher, and all of our teachers and assistants for making our Art study so magical. Thank you to our school board and parent volunteers for helping with the evening.

During the Art Showcase, guests were afforded the opportunity to have a sneak peek of the new building and its progress. It is truly amazing to see the structure coming together. Our staff and students have had the joy of experiencing the building construction firsthand and seeing it progress from the ground up. We are beyond thrilled as we plan for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

As our school continues to grow, we have space available in our PK3 through 3rd grade for the 2026 - 2027 school year. Please call the school office or email admissions@stjamesfairhope.org. Please tell your friends and neighbors about our hidden gem.

This week we are celebrating our teachers with "Teacher Appreciation Week" and our Mothers with our annual Mother's Day Tea. Our 30 Months class will present their program.

We are looking forward to our First Second Saturday Golf Tournament this weekend at Lakewood.

We have so many activities as we move into the month of May. Please see all the upcoming events and mark your calendar.

Thanks again for your continued support and prayers of our parish school.

Shelley Miller



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. Amanda Doshier,
Associate Rector

OUR VESTRY

Margaret Cadden, *Senior Warden*
Bruce Stone, *Junior Warden*
Mary Mullins Redditt, *Clerk*
Amanda Montz, *Treasurer*

Class of 2026

Dan Campbell
Bill Dowdle
Jennifer Lambert

Class of 2027

Bettsie Norton
Bruce Stone
Cappi Sully
Ken Talbert

Class of 2028

Lisa Hansen
Austin Young
Gary Garner
Rhett O’Keefe

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
1:30-2:30 PM Chair Yoga, Green Hall

TUESDAYS:

7:00-8:00 AM - Men’s Prayer Breakfast
6:00-7:30 PM - Adult Bible Study every other Tuesday

WEDNESDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Chapel
9:00-11:00 AM Adult Bible Study, Vestry Room
7:00 Adult Choir Practice (on break starting 5/20)

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.

ANCHOR LINES DEADLINE: THE NEXT ANCHOR LINES WILL BE PUBLISHED **JUNE 3, 2026**. 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.