

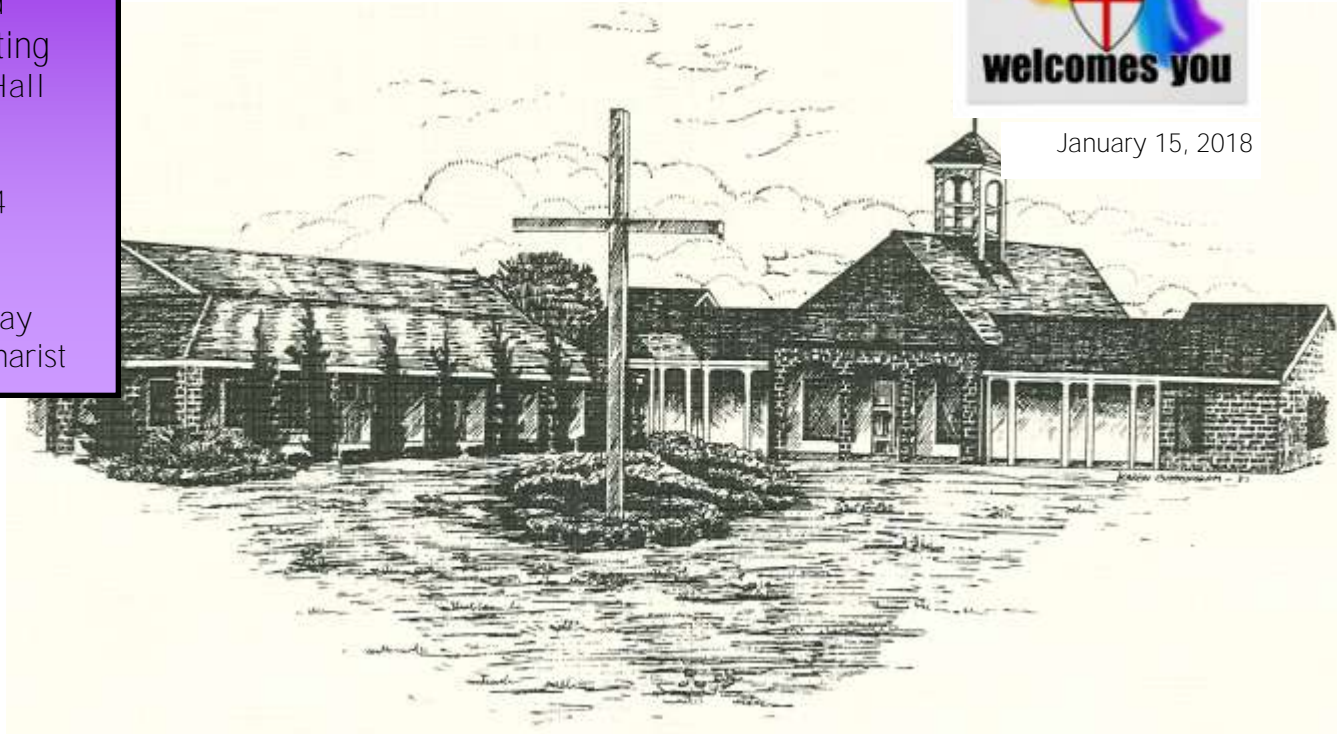
The Spirit of St. James

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

2050 Bert Kouns
Shreveport, Louisiana, 71118
318-686-1261



January 15, 2018



January 28

10am

Rite 2 service with Eucharist

Followed by parish-wide

potluck and

Annual Meeting

in the Parish Hall



February 14

10am

6pm

Ash Wednesday

Service with Eucharist

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 359
Shreveport, LA

Mailing Address:
2050 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop
Shreveport, LA 71118

Return Service Requested



Presiding Bishop,
The Episcopal Church:
The Most Rev'd
Michael Curry

Bishop, Diocese of Western
Louisiana:
The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Jacob
Owensby

Rector:
The Rev'd Margaret Ayers

Organist/Choir Director:
Kaye Crichlow

Nursery:
Rhonda Robertson

Parish Administrator:
Jnanne Zepeda

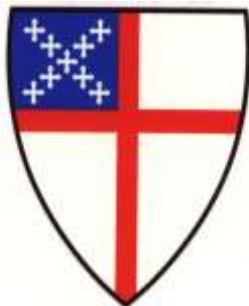
2017 Vestry:
David Scott (19)— Sr.
Warden
Mike Endicott (19)— Jr.
Warden

Members:

Sissy Brown (18)
David Caporossi (20)
Krystal Eason (20)
Karen McDonald (18)
Ken Murphy (19)
Lauren Ocmand (20)
Pat Parker (18)
Austin Shelton (18)

Ex Officio:

Thomas Mosley—Treasurer
Julie Eason—Deputy
Treasurer
Janie Parker—Clerk



Church phone: 318-686-1261
Church fax: 318-686-4527
Church E-mail address:
stjames_sport@att.net
Church website:
www.stjames-shreveport.org



Margaret's Musings



I always loved the wise men; the Magi. They were mysterious men of comprehensive wisdom, understanding literature and science, yet they were also adventurous, traveling a great distance with valuables in search of Jesus. It was an impossible journey, following a star to find the Messiah whom the prophets foretold.

We catch up to the Magi as they approach King Herod, asking directions to the Messiah. The Magi thought surely King Herod had the same information they had and had already honored the **Messiah, but they were wrong. Herod believed he was God's** anointed and he would put down any challenge to his authority from family or stranger. The Magi bypassed King Herod and his claims to the power and privilege of being the King of the Jewish people and went to the house of a poor toddler to honor the Messiah.

The Magi found the anointed one in the face of a poor child, not a wealthy monarch; in a powerless child, not a powerful man; in a house of poverty, not an elegant palace. Where are you looking for Jesus? Where have you found him?

I have seen the face of Jesus in a young girl who valiantly fought cancer, in her family who ministered to her with love and hope, in the actions of people who supported the child and her family in whatever way they could, in the face of a mother as she worked for the recovery of her son who suffered a brain injury in a mugging, an older woman who fought a return of cancer and tried to protect her daughters from her impending death, in the face of people devastated by the deaths at St. James and experiencing additional losses in their lives, a family who continues to mourn the loss of their baby and will mourn their son for the rest of their lives. I also see the face of Jesus in a couple planning their wedding, in youths preparing for Happening, in the faces of women praying for their church and other concerns, in adults learning and sharing in a study group and, yes, in a Vestry meeting. Do you see the face of Jesus in the face of a High School student athlete eating pizza, a homebound person receiving food or garden produce, an elementary student receiving a backpack of school supplies, and a woman receiving a breast exam on the St. Luke's Episcopal Medical Ministry Van?

I challenge you to see the face of Jesus in all you meet; He is there. The more you look, the more you will find Him and the more He will change you. Finding Jesus changes people; Jesus changed the disciples, the people He healed, even the woman **at the well who wasn't looking for Jesus or transformation. St. James is a place for us** to search and find Jesus and help others to do the same. The Kingdom of God has exploded at St. James and Jesus dwells among us; let us rejoice and proclaim His presence!!

Blessings,
Margaret+

Outreach News

Outreach was busy again during the months of November & December: In November we did our usual Thanksgiving meals to needy families along with help from our Filling-in-the-Gaps dinners to the Meals on Wheels seniors and shut-ins, which we repeated for Christmas. Warm coats were delivered to Hope House, this also has been an on-going St. James project which is very successful.

Pizzas from Pizza Hut, are being provided to a school in the Caddo Parish area that has teens that otherwise don't always get this treat. When school is out, we share them with Hope House as a treat. We also send the individual pizzas, pasta, or breadsticks to the Meals-on-Wheels recipients; they love the little pizzas.

Our biggest project for the month of December was the Fuller Surplus Center Christmas toy sale. This is a project we helped with last year for the first time and it was a great success both years. With the help of ALL the members of St. James in collecting toys, being an elf and helping price the toys, selling the toys at 75% off retail, and wrapping the toys, we helped make many people's Christmas a happy time. It's amazing watching the shoppers pick the gifts out that their children want and pay a bit for it, then get everything wrapped free. I'm sure this makes them feel such joy, that there is place where they can do this and feel like a part of providing for their families' Christmas celebration.

So I'm going to take this time to THANK everyone that helped us make this a success. We continue to support the Goodwill and the Salvation Army food barrels, so please keep these items coming. The fourth quarter check was also sent to support the St. Luke's Medical van.

I pray you each had a Merry Christmas and I wish you ALL the very best in 2018.

Kathy Watkins
Outreach chair

CHRISTMAS DAY AT ST. JAMES

The Wise Men greeted churchgoers from their perch on the narthex table on Christmas morning, as they were still finding their way to the Christ child. The crèche, located at the base of the altar had all the other members of the nativity scene. The 9am service provided Eucharist for those who attended, as well as the familiar comfort of communal worship.



Photos courtesy
Kathy Deal



THE GOOD STEWARDS

It seems the Christmas Season always goes by too quickly. We green the church one week and the next it is time to de-green. Thanks to all the people who stuck around after the service on December 24 to hang the Christmas garlands, wreaths, and other decorations in preparation for the Christmas Eve services later that day. Equal thanks to those who stayed around December 31 to remove the beautiful greenery in preparation for the Epiphany Season.

We appreciate that our Rector took the time to prepare a special new Christmas service for us this year, offering an opportunity for comfort to those in special need during the Christmas season.

Thanks are also due to the many individuals who have taken the time to write annual reports regarding the groups who gather to do God's work at St. James. Whether the group is formed for liturgical reasons (such as the Altar Guild and the Altar Party) to address the needs of the community (such as the Outreach Committee, the Community Garden, and Filling in the Gaps), or to help us with knowledge and growth (such as Christian Education and Bible Study), it is important that the news of their work during 2017 be shared with the parish.

These are some of the ways that St. James makes use of the time and talents of our parishioners as we strive to be good stewards toward each other and our community.

Thanks to the ladies who volunteer in the office. They serve St. James each week with tasks such as folding bulletins. However, when extra work comes along, they happily show up for the jobs. Special thanks to Lorain Thrash, Bobbye Smith, Tricia Windham, and Kathy Watkins for giving of their time to help get the January newsletter, the Annual Report, and the Parish Photo Directory out on time. Thanks also to Kathy Deal and Rhonda Robertson for sharing their photos throughout the year, so we have lovely illustrations for the stories and to help us put names with faces in the directory.





Photos courtesy Rhonda Robertson



ST. JAMES SHARED A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

For the first time ever St. James parishioners shared a Blue Christmas Service. Recognizing that not every person feels cheerful during the holidays, our Rector offered the parish a chance to participate in a service designed to provide validation of those feelings, comfort for grief during periods of grief or illness, and some healing of the soul. The flyer advertising the event explained:

Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in, "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other dis-ease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregations and communities. This service creates a sacred and reflective space for people living through dark times; accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope.

This is a service of worship on the longest night of the year, which falls on or about December 21st, the Winter Solstice. There is an interesting convergence for this day as it is also the traditional feast day for Saint Thomas the Apostle. This linkage invites making some connections between Thomas' struggle to believe the tale of Jesus' resurrection the long nights just before Christmas, and the struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss.

Blue Christmas services include an emphasis on candles, with people in the congregation invited to come forward and light a candle in memory of someone or to mark an event in their lives. Some will say words out loud, others in silent prayer. Candles are also sometimes lit as prayers or Scripture readings are recited.

Everyone in the community is welcome.





THE MISSION CONTINUES...

Dear Friends of St. Luke's

As 2017 draws to a close, we at St. Luke's would like to share the many blessings this ministry has received over the year. All of us, the Board, Staff and Volunteers know that the work of St. Luke's is only possible because of your faithfulness.

Our biggest celebration came when the van was replaced; a 33 foot industrial Winnebago was purchased and equipped in June and we have been rolling along ever since. The dedication service on October 19th allowed us to remember where this ministry began... in the heart of Father Cooper. We also recognized Jimmy Deal as a dedicated volunteer, his tireless efforts have, and continue, to keep the van working.

We will finish out 2017 having held 171 clinics throughout northwest LA. Over 1,700 visits allowed St. Luke's to provide screening, primary care and education to the most vulnerable among us. 116 of the visits to the van were by documented homeless individuals. There are many stories, like "Mike" a severe diabetic who went from living on the street to a nursing home because of the efforts of St. Luke's case manager. St. Luke's provided approximately \$8,000 in financial assistance for medications, purchased glasses or helped with copays, and facilitated dental care for numerous individuals.

Each person has a story, and every encounter an opportunity to experience what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ. It is humbling, this work. Sometimes it seems our efforts are so small, and don't carry much impact. Then a story comes, a thank you, a smile and I am reminded of Mother Theresa: "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier".

St. Luke's does amazing things; We spread love. We see people. We offer what we have.

As the year ends, please know that this is the ministry you are a part of, it happens because of you.

May your life be filled with the joy of knowing that the world we walk in is indeed a better place because of you.

Blessings,

Betty Johnson, the staff and Board of Directors
St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry



The ECW of St. James invites you to attend

**Krewe of St. James
Mardi Gras Ball
January 20, 2018**

7pm – 11pm * Parish Hall
\$30 per person

featuring
WINDSTORM

Reservations required: misshappydog@aol.com

BYOB with set ups provided;
Please bring a nibble to share.
(Designated drivers available)

Please make checks payable to: **St. James ECW**

Any time you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement or advise the Vestry Person of the Day.

Please join us for the

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

JANUARY 28, 2018

10am WORSHIP SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY
PARISH-WIDE LUNCHEON
and BUSINESS MEETING

Make parish plans for 2018
Elect vestry members
Elect delegates to the diocesan convention
Eat great food & enjoy great company

IT'S TIME ONCE MORE

**FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING**



St. James Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<p>Breakfast February 4 will benefit one of our children. Jacob King will be having heart surgery out of town soon and this breakfast will help fund travel expenses for his family to be by his side throughout surgery and recovery.</p>			
<p>4</p> <p>8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Parish Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Acts of the Apostles Wizard room 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10 am w</p> <p>6:30pm A</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Acts of the Apostles Wizard room 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p>12</p> <p>←HAPPY BIRTHDAY Eugenie Bryant Hannah Mattlock</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:00PM</p>  <p>SHROVE TUESDAY</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:</p>  <p>10A</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 Acts of the Apostles Wizard room 9:45 Ken Murphy - Forgiveness 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p>19</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Betty Langhorst Brandon Taylor</p> <p>←HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Jack & Sissy Brown</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 am w</p> <p>HAPPY A Matt & Connor &</p> <p>6:30pm A</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 Acts of the Apostles Wizard room 9:45 Ken Murphy - Forgiveness 11:00AM Holy Eucharist Rite II</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Rory Fitzpatrick</p>	<p>26</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Connor Hunt</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 am w</p> <p>HAPP Eamon</p> <p>6:30pm A</p>



5th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4

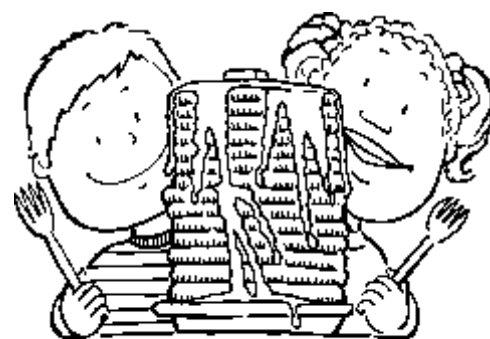
Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 11

LECTIONARY		<i>Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-12, 21 I Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39</i>	<i>2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9</i>
VESTRY PERSON		DAVID SCOTT	DAVE CAPOROSSI
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	<i>8:30 11:00</i>	Brody Fitzpatrick Bert Babington	Lynnette van Heerden Ron Maberry
LAY READER	<i>11:00</i>	Ken Murphy	Bert Babington
LECTORS	<i>8:30 11:00</i>	Chelsea Maielli Brian Whatley	Lynnette van Heerden Kathleen Calhoun
ACOLYTES	<i>8:30 11:00</i>	Melanie Winkler Austin Shelton	Kelly Parker Jan Jones
ALTAR GUILD		Kelly Parker Liz Montelepre	Kelly Parker Liz Montelepre
USHERS	<i>8:30 11:00</i>	volunteer Mike Kendrick Mary Taylor	volunteer Mike Kendrick Betty McDonald
MASTER OF CEREMONIES		Mike Endicott	Mike Endicott

Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2018
Eucharist &
Imposition of Ashes
10am
6pm

February 13
Pancake
Supper
6:00pm
Parish Hall



SHROVE TUESDAY

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS:



KEN MURPHY TO TEACH A CLASS ON FORGIVENESS BETWEEN SERVICES BEGINNING JANUARY 18

Ken offered the following regarding what participants can expect at his class, which will meet in the library: **“Lent is a time for people to study their heart... a time where we give up things... a time where we give glory to God and release our animosities and find a forgiveness. It is a time where a true beginning takes place because the culmination is Jesus taking all our sins, taking those animosities... to the cross... our anger and wrongs died there.... in the bloodied hands of our Savior. This Lenten series will give us a vision for our church to see and find the great forgiveness that Christ gave and accept the greatest gift ever offered. Come and find your heart... come and forgive and come and see a renewal of the power of your church, St. James.”**

REV MARGARET’S CLASS ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES MOVING TO THE WIZARD ROOM

For several weeks Rev Margaret has been teaching an adult education class between the services. It has been meeting at a table in the Parish Hall. However, to make it easier for those attending to focus on the lessons, space has been cleared out in the Wizard Room and a table has been set up.

ADULT EDUCATION MEETS AT 6:30PM ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN THE PARISH HALL

Rev Margaret is also conducting a class each Wednesday evening for those who want a dose of theology mid-week. All parishioners are invited to attend, and to enjoy a light repast as they study.

Photos courtesy Kathy Deal



CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. JAMES

The Christmas Eve tradition of having the youngest child at the service carry the Christ Child to the crèche is long-standing in the Anglican Church. Norah Ollendike performed the honors at the 4:30pm family service and Olivia Zepeda served in this capacity at the 10:30pm service. With poinsettias gracing the sanctuary and wreaths and garlands in abundance, the cheery candles in the aisles helped us proclaim the coming of our Lord.



The communal caroling at the beginning of each service helped set the mood, and we thoroughly enjoyed the contemporary music provided by the Praise and Worship Team and the traditional music led by the choir. Both of our New Year's Eve celebrations have a lot to commend them, and we are blessed to have talented people willing to lead us in each. We thank those in the altar party also, for choosing to spend their holiday in service to the parish.



Photos courtesy Kathy Deal and Rhonda Robertson

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

Like many of you, I have constant thoughts of Emilie, our valiant, darling child who lost her life after a long and courageous battle with cancer. My memories of Emilie are precious, just like the words of that old gospel song that I remember from my childhood. Yes, I admit, tears come to my eyes when I think of that precious little girl who went through so much, who suffered uncomplainedly, who fought the good fight just as St. Paul did. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." No, she did not lose that fight; she was the victor and has reached her reward in Heaven. Her long battle will help other children in their own struggle with that most terrible disease, so I will remember the good moments with Emilie, and the joy she brought to my life.



Photo courtesy
Rhonda Robertson

My memories of knowing Emilie and hearing her delightful comments on whatever I was asking her about will be with me always. When asked about Camp Hardtner, for example, her response was "It was great!" which was often a standard response for her. On the other hand, I can hear her answer about school and her teacher this past September. I could tell she was thinking about her response since she didn't want to sound critical. Oh, she said, "It's all right." I laughed and said: "I know what that means!" This past summer I gave Emilie a book of poetry that was all about how colors relate to us (since purple was one of the poems). When I later asked her if she read the book she told me: "Yes, and I did what you said, I read it out loud so I could hear as well as see the words." I had to give her a hug for that; she was listening to what I had told her!

Tommy and I still have on our refrigerator the hand printed and decorated "get well" card that she and Alex made for Tommy. "Just Keep Swimming!", it says. On Sundays I still can see Emilie coming back down the aisle from the communion rail, maybe a small skip to her step.

I want Emilie's parents and brother and grandparents to know that I know that I speak for the entire family of St. James when I say I have never seen the bravery, the compassion, the love manifested that all of you have shown. You all were right there in the front lines of Emilie's long war. How blessed she was to have all of you there with her, sharing all of the hope and fear, the dreams and the despair.

I know that all of your hearts are broken, but please know that all of us at St. James love and care about you and pray that you will find a measure of peace and comfort in the words of our Lord: "In my father's house are many mansions." I used to think that meant there was room for all, but could it also mean there are different aspects of heaven? Again, I quote St. Paul: "For now we see in a glass darkly." Perhaps heaven is what we dream of in this life. I see Emilie in a fairy tale heaven with unicorns and hobbits and elves and adventures to be had. And lots of purple. I worried about Emilie being alone in heaven, but her great uncle,

Mike's brother, reminded me at the reception (so many, many people love Emilie and attended the funeral and the reception) that she wouldn't be alone. Jesus, of course, but also her grandfather (Trey's father) and her great grandparents would be there to take care of her.

I know Emilie will always be with Tommy and me; I will always have my precious memories of that darling child, and I know she is free from suffering.

"Precious memories, how they linger,
How they ever flood my soul."

Mattie Mosley



Photo borrowed from Mike Endicott's Facebook page

2018 VESTRY NOMINEES



I am a cradle Episcopalian, and I am fortunate to have called St. James my church home since 2004. The members of St. James have helped me raise my two sons and have welcomed all of us since we moved back to the United States and Tim and I decided to retire from the Air Force and live in Louisiana.

In my time at St. James, I have tried to always be active and contribute to the church and the community. I began serving as the director for children's Christian education in 2005. I took a brief hiatus from those duties in 2015 and 2016 and returned to them in 2017. I was also the EYC leader until the end of 2015. I led the ECW in 2005 and 2006. I am currently the leader of Daughters of the King, am a member of the Altar Guild and a lector.

From 2007 to 2009 I served on the vestry. I was the junior warden in 2009. I served on the search committee leading to the appointment of Morgan McIntire and I also participated in

the annual audit of our financials 2 times. I have been a delegate to the diocesan convention 3 times, most recently this past fall. I am the diocesan treasurer for DOK and served as a delegate to the last DOK Triennial and will be a delegate in June of 2018.

I helped spear head the project to build our main playground and I helped with the refurbishment of the Garrett Hall building.

I always want to do my part and insure that others have a community built on a common faith to come to and worship. I also want to help others find ways to serve and build on our history of community outreach.

Sincerely,
Debbie Fitzpatrick

I have been a member of St. James since 1984. I was raised in this church and was active as a youth member. My wife Kelly and I got married here and we have raised our daughters in the church as well.

I have mowed and maintained the grounds of St. James for 22 years. I have participated in and overseen many projects at St. James over the years: building and installing the main playground, renovating the Garrett Hall building, installing and maintaining the columbarium and later the additional niches, adding the portico, additional parking lot and St. James sign, building the community garden beds and most recently renovating the nursery, kitchen and main room of the parish hall.

I served on the vestry from 2007 to 2009 and was the junior warden in 2008. Whenever a project needs accomplishing at St. James, I am always willing to pitch in and help. I have participated in many fund raising efforts including leading our Revel fundraiser for several years.

I always want what is best for the people at St. James. I think it is important to have a strong vestry, focused on the fiscal health of our church so that we all can continue to serve God and our community well.



Respectfully,
Matthew Parker



I have been a member of St. James for around eight years. I've previously served on the Vestry, and I am willing and ready to do so again if so honored. I've previously been a Senior Warden. I am active in Kairos Prison Ministry and have attended and participated in Cursillo. I attend services regularly. In my professional life, I work to solve problems for people and to help them avoid problems.

Curtis Shelton

YEAR-END STATEMENTS

It's that time of year, again. 2017 statements of giving are currently in the narthex and will be available for pick-up at the Annual Meeting. Please save the parish the cost of postage and take yours from the narthex table or during the Annual Meeting on January 28.

For those who are new to St. James, here is a brief synopsis of how to read the statement:

- Pledges are entered into the computer when they are made. The computer program divides the pledge into equal amounts for each week and assumes the giver plans to stretch the total amount in this manner. If the statement indicates, "over," or "under," it refers to how closely the amount received meets the program's parameters.
- Contributions refers to undesignated money that is given by someone who has not made a pledge. If your statement shows contributions and not pledge, it means a pledge card was not received in the parish office. If your statement shows contributions and pledge, it means some money was posted before the pledge card was received.
- Many statements also include money given for a specific purpose, such as the Building Maintenance Fund, Easter Flowers, or Memorials. This money is separate from the pledges to the general fund.

If you believe you have found an error on your statement, please notify the parish office. St. James appreciates all you have given and encourages you to **continue to keep the church's work alive. We are able to pay bills and contribute to outreach and support missions due to your generosity.**

If you planned to make a pledge for 2018 and have not yet done so, pledge cards are available in the narthex. Feel free to drop them into the Sunday offering plate or deliver them to the parish office. You may also mail them to the office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS SUBMISSION DEADLINE

If you would like an announcement placed in the Sunday bulletin, please submit it by 10:00 am on the previous Wednesday. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30am until 2:00pm. Announcements that are in printed form may be mailed, sent through e-mail to stjames_sport@att.net, or dropped at the parish office.

Newsletter deadline: February 1st

SPREAD THE WORD

Would you like to brag on your family's achievements, share family milestones with friends, or invite the parish to an upcoming event? You can do so easily by submitting articles to the parish office for publication in the Spirit. There is always room for news of a baptism, wedding, or school achievement. Photographs and stories can be sent via e-mail to stjames_sport@att.net or dropped off at the parish office. And if you are shy about doing the writing, just telephone the information to 686-1261 and the writing will take care of itself.

*Our Mission Statement: A COMMUNITY CALLED BY GOD TO WORSHIP,
LOVE, AND SERVE.*

Our Schedule of Services:

Sunday—Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 8:30am

followed by Coffee Hour and donuts in the Parish Hall

Sunday School, 9:45am

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 with music 11:00am

Wednesday—Holy Eucharist Rite 2, 10am



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VESTRY

The Vestry of the congregation is responsible to provide a safe working environment for the Rector as well as for the congregation. To that end, Vestry members should participate in safe boundary education for both children and adults, provide for the temporal care and spiritual renewal of the Rector, and support the ministry of the Rector.

Vestry members attend an annual retreat which includes a mutual ministry review of the Vestry and Rector and development of goals for the congregation over the following year. While the Vestry is responsible for setting policies for the operation of the congregation (that are in keeping with the Canons of the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Western Louisiana, and the laws of the State of Louisiana), the Rector's duties include enacting these policies. The Rector also has sole oversight of all employees of the parish. In short, the Vestry shall minister in union with the Rector.

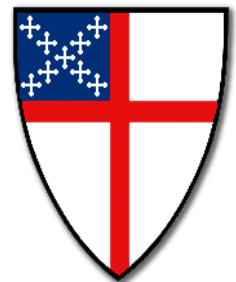
QUALIFICATIONS FOR VESTRY MEMBERS

- Communicant in good standing
- Member of St. James for at least six months
 - At least sixteen (16) years of age
 - Possess a sense of humor
- Contributor of record during the preceding year
- Keenly interested in all aspects of St. James
- Regularly attend services and parish events
 - Able to serve on the Vestry
 - Possess a sense of humor
 - Able to speak up and to listen to others
- Able to put St. James first when making decisions
 - Faithful to the concept of confidentiality
 - Possess a sense of humor

The persons listed on page 14 have been nominated for the 2018 Vestry. Each individual meets the above requirements.

The Vestry is responsible for seeking ways in which the congregation may minister to the needs of the City and Parish in which it is set, and shall participate in formation programs meant to teach the faith, expand the ministry of the congregation, and live the Gospel.

(paraphrased from the contractual agreement between Vestry and Rector of St. James Episcopal Church)



Vision Statement of St. James Episcopal Church: We see St. James as a spirit-led congregation that is a beacon of God's love shining in the community, welcoming all by reaching out through worship, service, mission, and programming to bring peace and healing to all of God's children. We strive to serve our members by nourishing our faith, giving support in times of need, and becoming a congregation from which community-based outreach programs have their genesis.