

The Spirit of St. James

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

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




March 15, 2017



April 9 8:30am, 11am
Palm Sunday

April 12  **6pm**
Seder

April 13  **6pm**
Maundy Thursday
Service and Stations
of the Cross

April 14 6pm
Good Friday Service

April 15  **6pm**
The Great Vigil of
Easter

April 16  **10am**
Easter Sun-day Service



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Shreveport, LA 71118
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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

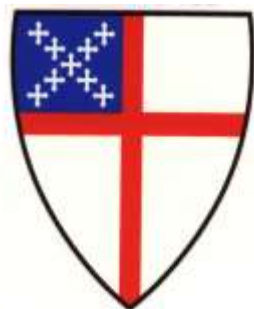
Nursery:
Rhonda Robertson

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)

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@comcast.net
Church website:
www.stjames-shreveport.org



A MESSAGE FROM MARGARET

As we enter April, we look toward Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter. For myself, I find the more intentional I am about walking the week from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter, the more meaning I derive from the journey. I think the same thing happens in life, the more intentional I am in walking through suffering, the deeper the experience is on the other side.

Walking through suffering allows us to develop deep relationship, foster skills to deal with stress and disappointment, deepen our relationship with God, and deepen our appreciation of the strengths God has placed within us.

It takes courage to be authentic, to be vulnerable in life. I cannot imagine **what went through Jesus' mind as he walked from a triumphant entry,** then before Pilate and Caiaphas, and ultimately to the cross in the course of a week. When I feel overwhelmed in life, I take a page from the Garden of Gethsemane; I take time to pray in quiet to God. I ask for the trial to pass me by and if the hardship remains, I call on the Holy Spirit for support. I could not have survived thus far without relying on God. Without the support of prayer, reading Scriptures, meditation through contemplative prayer, and the Eucharist.

We may never know the specific spiritual methods Jesus used and I believe that is good. We are all unique in our spiritual journeys and need to develop our own relationships with God. To that end, I pray you will consider your own Rule of Life; design the prayers and practices which are helpful to you in order to invite a deeper relationship with God. Find others deepening their spirituality to associate with so you do not get lost in challenges to your current thinking. I pray you will find a rich relationship and ever deepening relationship with your Creator, Redeemer, and Advocate!

Blessings,
Margaret +



Photo courtesy Kathy Deal



Outreach News

Goodwill recently picked up 45 bags of clothes and household goods from the Parish Hall. That means St. James will be giving away \$90.00 in Goodwill vouchers to people in need. Thanks to everyone who continues to support this ministry. We've noticed that the shelves are already beginning to fill up with bags from parishioners for the next truckload!

The Salvation Army will be sending a truck this week to swap out the full food barrel in the Parish Hall. This is another vital ministry that our St. James family has faithfully supported for a very long time. Thank-you to those who continue to add non-perishable goods to the barrels so the Salvation Army can continue to feed people each week.

Our Meals on Wheels program remains stable, with a core of individuals who make deliveries twice weekly (members of the St. Mary of the Pines parish make the other two weekly deliveries for this route). Huge thanks to those who regularly make this trek: Suzy Adcock, Mike Endicott, Bobbye Smith, Lorain Thrash, and Kathy Watkins. Thanks are also due to Betty McDonald who has expressed interest in becoming trained for deliveries and who is in the process of taking on this ministry.

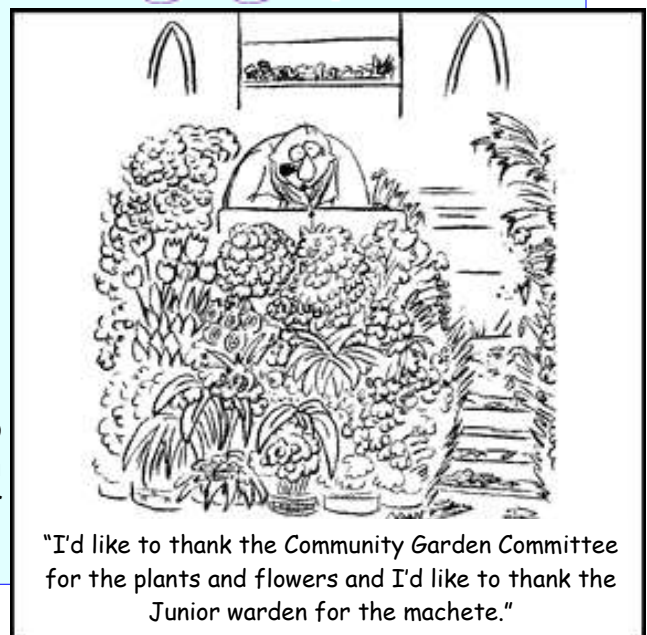
Special 3-compartment containers for Filling in the Gaps are now available in the Parish Hall kitchen, ready for filling and freezing. Whenever we have a big communal dinner (Easter is coming soon) we can easily put meals in the freezer for use as needed. These containers with airtight lids are freezable, microwaveable, and dishwasher safe. If you notice that we are getting low, please notify the parish office so more can be ordered and we don't run out.

The Churches in the Southern Hills area have historically hosted Ecumenical lunches on Wednesdays in Lent. This year, due to a turnover in leadership at many of the churches, fewer churches are participating than in past years. Undeterred, John Calvin Presbyterian Church, Central Christian Church, St. James, and Summer Grove United Methodist Church will continue the tradition. Lunches are scheduled as follows:



- March 15: John Calvin Presbyterian Church
3030 Colquitt Road
- March 22: Central Christian Church
2010 Bert Kouns
- March 29: St. James Episcopal Church
2050 Bert Kouns
- April 5: Summer Grove United Methodist Church
9119 Dean Road

We are counting on a generous show of support in order to continue this essential ministry. Also, inviting friends from the churches who are not hosting this year will help their leadership see the importance of this ministry.



"I'd like to thank the Community Garden Committee for the plants and flowers and I'd like to thank the Junior warden for the machete."

THE GOOD STEWARDS

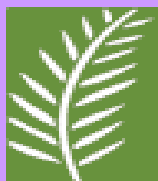
Thanks to everyone who cooked, served, and cleaned up on Shrove Tuesday. The Pancake Supper was truly wonderful, and it brought in \$266.00 to go toward youth scholarships to Hardtner Camp and Conference Center for this summer. We appreciate the many people who turned out for supper that evening to support a good cause!

Special thanks to Jacob King and his mom, Khristen, for cooking breakfast on March 5. Jacob declared the recipient of the proceeds to be the Emilie Gibson Fund, and between the parish and the special visitors Jacob and Khristen invited, \$796.00 was raised. What a wonderful way to start the month!

Check out the beautiful work that has been done recently around the parish grounds. Thanks to everyone who has planted flowers, spread mulch, and raked up pine straw, leaves, and acorns, making our property more inviting. Let us pray it pays off by attracting those in need of spiritual sustenance to join us for worship services.

Tommy and Mattie Mosley have made arrangements for someone to care for the shrubbery planted around the electronic sign. Thanks to them and to the gentleman who has labored to make that area more attractive and inviting.

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.



March 15, 2017

SHROVE TUESDAY

PANCAKE SUPPER



Photos courtesy
Kathy Deal

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

When our Sexton, Khristen King, signed up to cook breakfast the first Sunday in March, she didn't anticipate the enormous success of her endeavor. We all know she is an excellent cook, but once that is combined with her son, Jacob's, desire to designate the proceeds of the meal to benefit

the Emilie Gibson Fund, what was sure to be a wonderful meal became a guaranteed hit. Khristen and Jacob always choose children as the beneficiaries of their breakfast proceeds, and whether it is St. Jude's, Providence House, or our own Emilie, the donation basket fills quickly. Thanks for helping them add

\$793.00 to the fund that is aiding Emilie in the cost of her cancer treatments.



Photos courtesy
Kathy Deal

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 10, 2017

LOS PALOMA • BENTON, LA



St. Luke's
EPISCOPAL MOBILE MEDICAL MINISTRY LLC

SPORTING CLAYS

1ST ANNUAL EVENT • JUNE 10, 2017

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

STACEY MARKS • 318.366.5116

THE MISSION CONTINUES...at the Healthy Haughton Event



Photos provided by Jimmy Deal



The flyer for the Healthy Haughton Event invited the Haughton Community
"to come together for Good Health"

at the Haughton Fire Department, Monday, January 23, 2017 9:00 am -12:00 noon.

Cooking Demonstrations, Health Screenings, and Garden Information
were available to the attendees, thanks to LSU AgCenter, SNAP, and

St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry.

The pharmacist from Fred's Pharmacy in Haughton
was also there to lend assistance with prescription drug questions.

<i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	<i>Sunday of Easter</i>
<i>April 23</i>	<i>April 30</i>
<i>Acts 2:14a, 22-32</i> <i>Psalm 16</i> <i>1 Peter 1: 3- 9</i> <i>John 20:19- 31</i>	<i>Acts 2:14a, 36- 41</i> <i>Psalm 116: 1- 3, 10- 17</i> <i>1 Peter 1:17- 23</i> <i>Luke 24: 13- 35</i>
Dave Caporossi	Lauren Oemand
Lynette van Heerden Ken Murphy	Brody Fitzpatrick Ron Maberry
Dan Bennett	David Scott
Pat Parker Julie Eason	Chelsea Maielli Janet Moore
Kelly Parker Austin Shelton	Melanie Winkler Mason Garner
Janie Parker Linda Endicott	Kelly Parker Liz Montelepre
Pat Parker Mike Kendrick Betty McDonald	Volunteer Mike Kendrick Sissy Brown
Mike Endicott	Mike Endicott

Person of the day know.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE LOOKING AHEAD

Palm Sunday	April 9	8:30am & 11:00am
Seder	April 12	6:00pm
Maundy Thursday	April 13	6:00pm
Good Friday	April 14	6:00pm
Easter Vigil	April 15	6:00pm
Easter Sunday	April 16	10:00am



COMING SOON:

INQUIRERS' CLASSES

Bishop Jake will be visiting St. James on May 14, so we will be scheduling Inquirers' Classes for April. Dates are not yet set, so keep an eye out for that information. If you are interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church, either in preparation for confirmation or reception, or because you *Just Want to Know*, please contact the parish office and get on the list. We will attempt to schedule classes around the times that people are available to attend.

Margaret welcomes anyone who is interested in the Episcopal Church, whether they are seeking confirmation or not. Folk who are already confirmed and want a refresher course are welcome to attend. Youth are encouraged to participate. If you want to know more—or if you have friends or family who do—now is a great time to inquire. Sign up for the Inquirers' Class through the parish office.

Sand In Your Shoes:

An Adult Education Lenten Study

The life of a 21st century Christian is complicated, but what was it like to be a follower of Jesus in the 1st century. Come see how the times affected the church and how the church affected the times. Live the life of an early disciple and walk a mile in their shoes. Take time to participate in this Lenten study March 12, 19 & 26 at 9:45am. Led by Ken Murphy



St. James Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	W
2 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Parish Breakfast 10:00 AM LEM Training 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II HAPPY BIRTHDAY Elizabeth Sims Alma Perkins John Montelepre III	3	4	5 10 am w HAPPY BIRTHDAY Robbie & HAPPY BIRTHDAY Karen
9 Palm Sunday Reading of "The Passion" at both services. 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	10	11 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Timothy Fitzpatrick	12 10 am w Sed
16 Easter Day 9 AM Potluck Easter Brunch Flowering of the Cross 10 AM Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ Easter Egg Hunt	17 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Chloe Elizabeth Liles	18 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Tricia Windham	19 10 am w HAPPY BIRTHDAY Tr Rob Rebec
23 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 9: 45 Sunday School- Lesson 7 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	24	25	26 10 am w
30 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 9: 45 Children's Chapel 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II		HAPPY BIRTHDAY Melissa Ponder	HAPPY BIRTHDAY Jo

	<i>5th Sunday In Lent Rev. Bill McBride April 2</i>	<i>Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday April 9</i>	<i>Easter Day 10 AM Service April 16</i>
LECTIONARY	<i>Ezekiel 37: 1- 14 Psalm 130 Romans 8: 6- 11 John 11: 1- 45</i>	<i>Isaiah 50: 4- 9a Psalm 31: 9- 16 Philippians 2: 5- 11 Matthew 26: 14- 27: 66</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31: 1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14- 24 Acts 10:34- 43 Matthew 28:1-10</i>
VESTRY PERSON	David Scott	Mike Endicott	Pat Parker
EUCHARISTIC 8:30 MINISTER 11:00	Brody Fitzpatrick Brian Whatley	Janie Parker Ron Maberry	Brian Whatley
LAY READER 11:00	Dan Bennett	Ken Murphy	David Scott
LECTORS 8:30 11:00	Chelsea Maielli Sissy Brown	Debbie Fitzpatrick Kathleen Calhoun	Karen McDonald
ACOLYTES 8:30 11:00	Melanie Winkler Mason Garner	Kelly Parker Austin Shelton	Melanie Winkler
ALTAR GUILD	Debbie Fitzpatrick Holly Johnson	Debbie Fitzpatrick Holly Johnson	Janie Parker Linda Endicott
USHERS 8:30 11:00	Pat Parker Mary Taylor Betty McDonald	Pat Parker Sissy Brown Mike Kendrick	Mary Taylor Denise Shelton
MASTER OF CEREMONIES VERGER	Mike Endicott	Mike Endicott Janie Parker	Mike Endicott

If at any time you cannot serve at your appointed time, please find a replacement or let the Vestry

Upcoming Calendar Events

March 8 – April 5 – Wednesday evening Lenten Soup and Study Series “The Gifts Of Imperfection; Let Go of Who You Think You’re Suppose To Be And Embrace Who You Are ” by Brene Brown, PhD, L.M.S.W
 March 12, 19 and 26 – Lenten Education Program between services “Sand in Your Shoes” with Brother Ken Murphy
 March 22—Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon Central Christian Church
 March 24 – 26 CLEY High School Youth Event Grades 9-12
 March 29—Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon St. James
 March 30 – April 2 Cursillo #151
 April 2—10am LEM training in the Sanctuary
 April 5—Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon Summer Grove United Methodist Church
 April 9—Palm Sunday with procession
 April 12—6pm Seder in the Parish Hall, with instruction from Margaret Ayers
 April 13—6pm Maundy Thursday Service followed by Stations of the Cross
 April 14—6pm Good Friday Service
 April 15—6pm The Great Vigil of Easter
 April 16—9am Easter Brunch, 10am Easter Service followed by Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn

Extended Calendar Look

May 14 – Bishop Jake’s visitation and Mothers’ Day
 May 21—Teacher and Graduates Sunday
 June 4—Mass on the Grass
 June ?—Legacy Luncheon
 June 25—Juneteenth Celebration
 July 23—St. James Day

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please add the following new information to your directory:

The Rev’d Margaret Ayers
 PO Box 7776
 Shreveport, LA 71138
 318-751-4173

JUST KEEP SWIMMING

Emilie Gibson has been undergoing periodic vaccine shots in San Francisco using her own blood to create the vaccine. She is involved in a special study for DIPG patients and continues to display the fantastic attitude for which she has become so well-known.

Support for Emilie and her family remains strong at St. James. Her Edward Jones account was the recipient of the March Breakfast, which raised \$793.00 through Kristen King and her son Jacob's efforts.

Photo swiped without permission from
Trey Gibson's Facebook page.



Emilie is a member of Legacy Elementary School's Destination Imagination Fine Arts Team—which won first place at the state level and is on the way to Global Competition! In addition, they won the Renaissance Award for props and use of animation and the Spirit of DI Award for their teamwork and determination and for accepting a new member partway through the year. Congratulations to Emilie and her teammates. Their hard work and dedication have certainly paid off.

CANCELED

ST. JUDE'S BUNCO FUNDRAISER TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017

CANCELED

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances (mostly bureaucratic red tape), the St. Jude Bunco that was scheduled for April 11th has been canceled. My friend, Becky Dyar who was one of the organizers, is beyond disappointed and sorry for any inconvenience. Anyone with any questions can call her at (318) 455-7782 and she would be happy to answer any questions. Those who have already sent in their money they will get a refund.

—Sissy Brown



CANCELED





IN MEMORIAM THE REVEREND SUSAN "SUE" WRIGHT BELL

St. James has had a number of priests come through our portals, but none were more beloved and appreciated than Sue Bell, the first woman priest at St. James. Sue died on February 15, 2017, after a courageous eleven-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. In 2002, our rector left just before Advent and the Christmas season, but difficult as this was, Sue Bell came to the rescue! Christmas with Sue's ministry was as glorious as ever. She was to remain with us until the arrival of the Reverend Newby in late 2003. Sue returned to St. James from 2005 until the latter part of 2006, serving as Assistant Priest and Coordinator of Christian Education during the tenure of Father Bryant.

Sue was born on February 23, 1932, in New Haven, CT, the daughter of the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Godsell Wright. She graduated from the University of Texas, El Paso, and received her master's + 30 from LSU-Shreveport. A devoted teacher for thirty years, Sue retired from the Caddo Parish School System in 1999. She loved her students and teaching, which included English, fine arts, and Spanish. Her students knew her expectations were high, and she wanted them to do well.

At a very young age, Sue knew she wanted to become a priest, following in her father's footsteps, but priesthood for women was not acceptable at that time. So, after retiring from teaching (at the age of 67), she attended the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest and was ordained to the priesthood in 2002. What a trendsetter she was as a seventy-year-old woman! Besides serving at St. James, she served at the CORE treatment center, Holy Cross Villas, and countless other charitable organizations. Sue was a wonderful priest: dedicated, conscientious and loving. I remember one time I asked her if she would take communion to one of our elderly and ill parishioners who had moved to the wilderness of Caddo Lake. "Of course," she said. I had directions of a sort (before GPS), but believe me, Ethel lived in the backwoods, down several dirt roads. Margaret Anderson went with us and thought we were lost, but Sue was brave of heart; "We'll find her", she assured Margaret, and we did. We had stopped on the way to eat lunch, but when we got to Ethel's she had prepared a full course meal. We just looked at each other and ate again without letting Ethel know. Sue had such wonderful manners! She loved the English language and wanted us all to use it correctly; she would even underline and circle misspellings and poor grammar in the newspaper. She also loved "plays on words" and puns, but most of all, she loved bringing Christ into the lives of people. She inspired us to be true Christians.

Sue is survived by three daughters: Nancy Bell McAllister, Margaret Bell Badgley, and Marian Wright Bell, six grandchildren, and a brother, Daniel Wright and his family. I knew the family before Sue came to St. James; I always thought the name "Bell" was so appropriate for the three since they were all "Belles": beautiful, talented and intelligent! Sue was always so proud of her daughters, but sometimes she would embarrass them. For example, she would sing hymns in the grocery store to drown out the "elevator music".

A wonderful memorial service was held for Sue at St. James with Bishop Jake as celebrant and a number of her fellow priests in the diocese participating (including our own Margaret) or being in the congregation. Father Carter delivered a thoughtful, delightful homily. The readings included a favorite passage from Revelation "the new Jerusalem" and the Prayer of St. Francis. Both our choir led by Kaye Crichlow and our praise team performed and sang the hymns that Sue loved including "O God our help in Ages Past" and "The Strife is O'er". The ECW of St. James prepared a delicious and bountiful reception following the service, and we all loved meeting and talking with Sue's family. Sue accomplished so much in her lifetime despite her long years of suffering at the end. "Neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rest in peace, dear Sue.

Mattie Mosley

March 15, 2017



Photos courtesy
Kathy Deal



LENTEN SOUP AND STUDY

Lenten Soup and Study is being held each Wednesday evening at 6pm through April 5. Margaret is leading a discussion about the book, The Gifts of Imperfection, by Brené Brown. Each topic stands alone, so it is not necessary to attend every session in order to take home some wonderful wisdom. If you have not already joined the party, it is not too late!

On Wednesday, April 12, we will celebrate Seder in the Parish Hall at 6pm. This is the Jewish Passover meal, similar to what Jesus would have eaten at The Last Supper. Margaret will instruct us in the meaning of the ceremony. Please join your St. James family for this celebration, which was an integral part of our Savior's life on earth, and is still practiced today by those of the Jewish faith around the world.



Photos courtesy Kathy Deal



KAIROS #41 Cookie Bake

March 15, 2017



March 14, 2017
4:30 pm - 9:30 pm



The kitchen at St. James had an assembly line going at full throttle as a contingent of bakers sent 144 dozen cookies through the process: scooping dough, filling baking sheets, baking, and cooling. The cookies then went to the dining area for additional cooling and packaging. With the 40 or more dozen cookies brought in by other parishioners, the St. James team will have over 180 dozen cookies to take to David Wade Correctional Center for the **KAIROS** prison ministry.

~Kathy Deal



CLEANING OUT AND CLEANING UP

From talk around the parish and posts on Facebook, it appears several parishioners have decided that their Lenten discipline this year includes cleaning, sorting, organizing, purging, and in general, setting things to right. While we are doing this with physical clutter we feel a sense of freedom and a release of burdens. We experience the joy of renewal and a fresh start in our environment. If we peer closely, we may even discover that the feeling goes deeper. The physical act and the visible, even measurable, results can produce emotional and spiritual consequences, if we allow them to do so.

There are several ways to do this. The simplest is just to enjoy the endorphins created by our labors. We may also end up with a few pangs and twinges from reaching and toting in a manner that is not on our usual list of daily activities, but overall, the body is pretty good at rewarding us for moderate levels of work. Our minds frequently play along, providing a sense of well-being at a job accomplished or relief at a task no longer put-off, but tackled and defeated.

Another is to intentionally and with forethought put meaning into the work. Assign each task a corresponding emotional event. As you clean and organize, work out the angst of that event, so that by the time the project is completed, you have confronted and come to terms with the problem. Is there someone you wish to forgive, but just **haven't been able to do so? Are you confused about your role in a situation or how to react to something that has happened?** A mindless cleaning chore provides the perfect time to pray about your problem, seeking insight into yourself and your situation.

A third way to make scrubbing an emotional gain is to take all those things that you determined you no longer need and donate them to a deserving charity. Sharing our bounty with others is as helpful to us as it is to those we serve. Take home some Goodwill bags and bring them back to the Parish Hall with clothes you no longer wear, toys your children no longer want, and household goods that are cluttering up your space. Fill the Salvation Army Food barrels with non-perishable goods that you overbought and doubt you will get around to using. The new dog chow that your **pet won't eat can be donated to an animal shelter, along with worn blankets, linens, and towels and any unused pet dishes, toys, leashes, and collars.** Old prescription eyeglasses can go to the Lion's Club to help someone else see more clearly.

Lent is a spiritual journey. As we prepare for Easter, let's make the most of the journey. And while we are at it, let us always remember, The Episcopal Church welcomes us all.

—Jnanne Zepeda

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 8:30 am until 2:00 pm. Announcements that are in printed form may be mailed, sent through e-mail to stjames_sport@comcast.net, or dropped at the parish office.

Newsletter deadline: April 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@comcast.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, 8:30am

followed by Coffee Hour and donuts in the Parish Hall

Sunday School, 9:45am

Holy Eucharist, 11:00am

Wednesday—Holy Eucharist with Unction, 10am



ANOTHER SEASON BEGINS

The Community Garden Committee is readying the plots for planting. Before long we should be able to see young vegetables and herbs reaching for the sun and preparing to produce a bountiful harvest. Each spring the Garden Committee members do something new to enhance the garden. In the past they have installed an irrigation system that is buried so as to eliminate the hoses stretched across the lawn, added additional beds, and elevated beds to make them more accessible to people who are wheelchair-bound or who just have difficulty reaching the ground or getting back up. They plan to make the poles and trellises more solid this year, as high

winds snapped the supports for the pole beans and some of the tomatoes last year.

The Committee has doubled the garden's capacity. We now have six raised beds, each measuring approximately 32" X 23' on the inside and 4' X 24' around the perimeter. There is also a patch of blueberry bushes immediately to the north of the beds, which just may produce a few berries this year. By next year we may have enough to call it a harvest.

Dave Caporossi of the Garden Committee says, "There's always room for more people to come and play in the dirt. It is environmental therapy." He and the rest of the committee invite you to join them in planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting this year's crops. Contact Dave, Pat Parker, Jana Kendrick, or Jimmy Deal for more information or to volunteer to help.

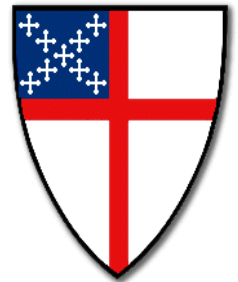


Photo courtesy Kathy Deal

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.