

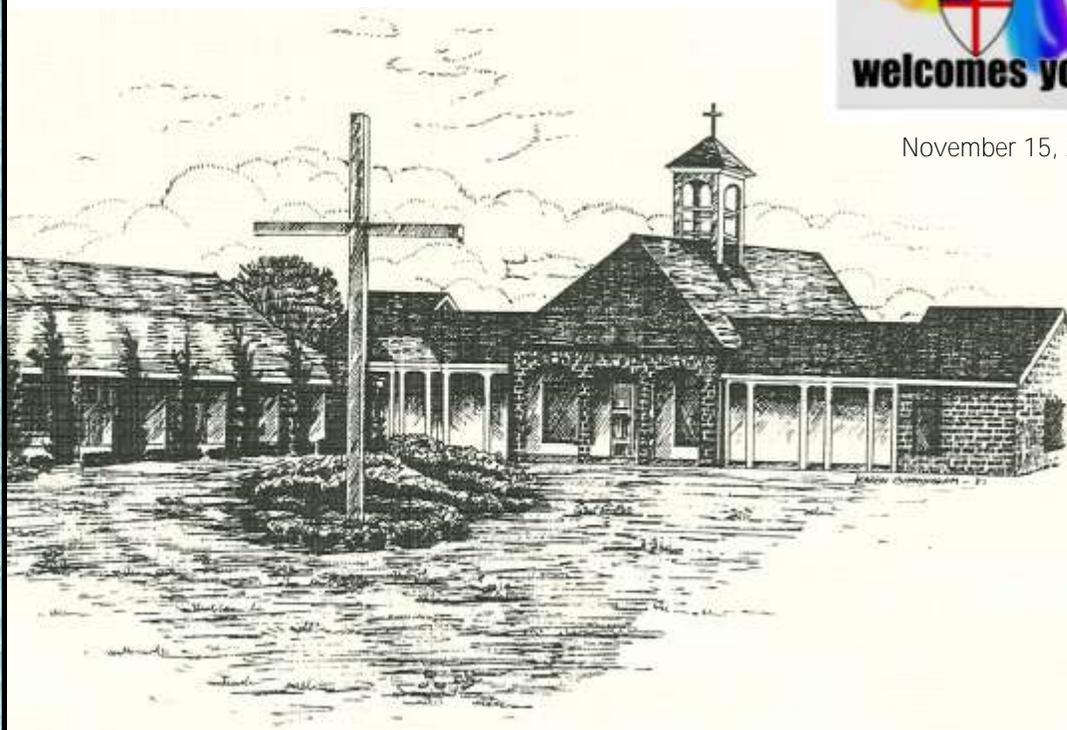
The Spirit of St. James

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

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



November 15, 2017



December 17

8:30am

Rite 1 service with Eucharist

11:00am

Christmas Pageant

Lessons and Carols



December 24

10am

Rite 2 service with Eucharist

4:30pm

Family worship

Rite 2 service with Eucharist

10:30pm

Christmas Eve worship

Rite 2 service with Eucharist



December 25

9am

Christmas Day Worship

Rite 2 service with Eucharist

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2050 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop
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

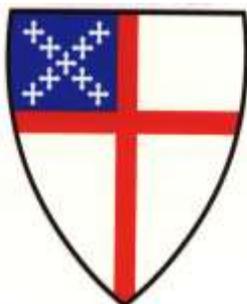
Nursery:
Rhonda Robertson

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)
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



St. James has indicated a desire to grow; not into a mega church but a church with more youth and young adults. Across the United States and Europe, Christianity has wondered how to attract more youth and young adults. How are we missing the boat? It seems we, St. James, the Episcopal Church, and Christianity, are facing such a rapid pace of change in our culture that we are fearful. We read about people of the Bible interacting with God's messengers who always seem to tell people, "Do not be afraid!" Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah, Joseph, the women at the tomb. Jesus spoke to the Disciples and Paul and in Mark 5:36, "But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do **not** fear, only believe.'" Fear can keep us from change.

St. James, and indeed the Episcopal Church, is very attractive to middle to upper middle-class people who are over 50 years of age because that is who we are and we have made the church comfortable for us. We need to adapt to a generation (Millennials) who are the best educated generation, are under financial constraints with high education debt, have a desire to balance financial security and self-care, trust technology, and work hard to achieve their passions; don't call them lazy.

St. James is looking at making some changes toward being tech savvy. Please, do not be afraid! St. James will always accept your check or cash but many people do not carry either and we are looking into accepting credit cards (you can charge, pay it off monthly and get points!). We are also looking at how we can tell St. James' story and our mission in a way Millennials can embrace. We are not changing our mission or ministries, we are only changing our language so we can talk to another generation.

Will St. James change? We hope so. Everyone of you came to St. James, even if it was through birth, and changed us. A new child in a family changes the family dynamics; the death of a family member also changes our family dynamics; family members moving away from home or back again changes our family dynamics. If St. James knows anything, it is how to be a family.

There are people out there looking for us, but they cannot find us. Our job is to figure out how to find those who are searching and bring them into our family. It sounds easy but it will be hard work. The book of ACTS tells of the creativity of the early church, while Mrs. Mattie Mosley's history of St. James tells of the creativity of members of St. Paul's and St. Matthias' churches in implementing a Church Plant in the 1950's—named St. James.

Please hold communication as a very high value. Communicate with me instead of behind me; please, talk to me. We will fail if communication breaks down. I will do my best to keep you all informed; I am getting better at One Calls and coordinating with other groups in the church so we may synchronize our communications. I know I am in and out of the office, many times it has to do with pastoral care. I have two phones 601-618-4173 and 318 -751-4758, my email is ayersma@aol.com and I do **not** have a land line/home phone number.

Margaret+

PS: We have had enormous loss this past month, with the loss of Emilie and Karen, as well as other family members of parishioners. I am working with the Rev. Dr. Rowena White to bring options for tending to grief, mourning and suffering. Times of grief, mourning, and suffering are times it is easy to fall into doubt, anger, and pain. As a family we need to attend to our own needs and those of others; find someone you can talk to. and listen to those who turn to you in a loving and nonjudgmental way. If you feel a need to fix people, this is not the time; send them to someone who can simply listen. Grief, mourning, suffering, doubt, anger, and pain are not fixable.

Outreach News

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and we will be preparing and delivering Thanksgiving meals to our neighbors again this year. If you know of someone in the Southern Hills area who would benefit from a meal, please notify the parish office. Lorain has checked with the regular recipients of the Meals on Wheels program to be sure those without prior plans get a great holiday meal for the household. Any parishioners in need who are unable to attend the communal dinner in the Parish Hall may also receive meals for their households—just let us know!

Thanks to all who have participated in the Filling in the Gaps ministry so far in 2017. This is a very important ministry at St. James and the main impetus for **upgrading our kitchen**. We've made use of the kitchen upgrade quite a bit—warming pizzas for teenagers twice per week, preparing meals for needy families, and feeding hungry people who show up at the parish office door throughout the week. What began as a couple of parishioners providing meals on holidays for a handful of folk has grown into a thriving service that benefits many people throughout the year.

THE FULLER CENTER CHRISTMAS STORE

The Angel Tree will soon be sporting red and green tags with items for the Fuller Center Christmas Store. On December 16 the store will be open for fixed income families to purchase reduced price items for those on their holiday list.

You can help in the following ways:

- Pluck tags from the trees and return the items on the tags to St. James before December 11 so they can be used to stock the shelves of the Christmas Store
- Help arrange the shelves on December 11-15 at 4221 Linwood Ave
- Help set up the wrapping stations on December 11-15 at 4221 Linwood Ave
- Work as elves in the store on December 16, 9am-2pm, assisting shoppers and wrapping gifts

Contact Deacon Lois Maberry at 286-5414 or lois@stmarkscathedral.net to volunteer or to get more information.

WE SHOULD ALL BE COMMITTED

As of this publication date, St. James has received twenty-nine commitment cards with pledges totaling \$121,229.00 toward the 2018 income of the parish. (The 2017 budget was approximately \$198,000.00). We request completed commitment cards in order for our Budget Committee to have solid information available to them when they compile the budget for the following year. The committee will meet in late November to begin their work—and plan to have everything completed and ready for the Annual Meeting in January. If you have not yet submitted your commitment card, please do so by mailing it to the parish office, placing it in the offering plate at any service, or giving it to a member of the Vestry or the Stewardship Committee. Pledge information is kept confidential and only the Parish Administrator and the Treasurer ever see any of the numbers. Our target for collecting cards this year has passed, but we will accept pledges later than that!

You may also change your pledge at any time by notifying the parish office. Nothing is set in stone. St. James realizes that sometimes circumstances change, and as a result pledges may need to be adjusted. Feel free to notify the parish office or the Treasurer if you wish to change your pledge. This would allow for adjustments in prioritizing how money is spent, should that be necessary.

Mid-year and at the beginning of December we send statements out so parishioners know what they have given. These are not bills. They are just a way for people to keep track. A similar statement is sent out in January which is suitable for proof of charitable giving for tax purposes.

THE GOOD STEWARDS

Special thanks to Kathy Watkins for the wonderful job she did organizing the funeral reception for Emilie Gibson. Thanks also to the large number of parishioners who came together to prepare food, to arrange and decorate the Parish Hall, and to stay late and clean up afterward. This truly was a communal act of love as we came together to support Emilie's family and honor her life. Losing a child is always poignant, knowing that the potential for a fabulous future has been cut short. Thanks to each person who worked to make November 4th a bit easier for each of Emilie's family members.

This is one 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.





Emilie Michelle Gibson

Bossier City - Ten year old Emilie Michelle Gibson from Bossier City, Louisiana passed away October 31, 2017. The name Emilie means rival which was evident in her fight against DIPG, a rare brain cancer, for nearly 14 months. Defined not by cancer, but by courage, humor, and sass, her crazy hats helped ease hospital woes, her sparkly rainbow unicorn-loving sense of style established her independent free spirit, and her ability to fight was reinforced through her competitive love for swimming and games of all sorts. When asked what was her favorite thing to do, she said dancing and never had qualms about spontaneously bursting out in dance wherever she was. Even in her last days, every situation had a theme song, spreading smiles and laughter to all.

She is survived by her father and mother Trey & Candice Gibson, her brother Alex Gibson, her dog Max, her maternal grandparents Michael & Linda Endicott, her paternal grandmother Anne Gibson, two uncles, Jeremy Endicott and Kevin Gibson, along with beloved great aunts, uncles, and various cousins. She is preceded in death by her paternal grandfather Gordon Pearce Gibson Jr. and her great grandparents.

A Celebration of Life service was held Saturday, November 4, 2017 at St. Mark's Cathedral, followed by a reception at St. James Episcopal Church in Shreveport. The Rev. Margaret Ayers and The Rev. Whit Stodghill officiated.

Honorary pallbearers will be AJ Edwards, Bob Alexander, Jeremy Cowthorn, Michael Hampton, Jared Ocmand, and Angus MacIntire.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the PNOG Foundation (pnocfoundation.org), The Michael Mosier Foundation (defeatdipg.org), Texas Children's Hospital, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, or any cancer research charity of choice to aid in the fight against the devastation that is childhood cancer and especially DIPG.

Revised from the article originally published in Shreveport Times from Nov. 3 to Nov. 4, 2017



JUST KEEP SWIMMING



THE MISSION CONTINUES...with the Blessing of the new St. Luke's Medical Van



The St. Luke's Medical Ministry Van was at Hope House to receive a blessing from Bishop Jake, October 19, 2017.



Jimmy Deal received a plaque recognizing him as the Rev. Ken and Martha Cooper Volunteer of the Year 2017. He was very pleased and honored to accept such an award.

A plaque was presented honoring the Coopers, who gifted the original medical van. The plaque will be hung in the newly blessed van.



A lunch of sub sandwiches, chips, and drink, was served in the backyard of Hope House. ~Kathy Deal

Day of at Service 0:30 PM	<i>The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ</i> <i>Christmas Day</i> <i>9:00 AM service</i>	<i>The 1st Sunday After Christmas Day</i>
er 24	<i>December 25</i>	<i>December 31</i>
5-20)		<i>Exodus 33: 18-33</i> <i>Psalm 92</i> <i>1 John 1:1-9</i> <i>John 21:19b-24</i>
TT		DAVE CAPOROSSI
		Brody Fitzpatrick Ken Murphy Bert Babington
oun		Chelsea Maielli Brian Whatley Kelly Parker Jan Jones
	Kathy Watkins Faye Wynn	Kathy Watkins Faye Wynn
		Mike Kendrick Debbie Fitzpatrick
		Mike Endicott

Volunteers are needed to serve at the Christmas Eve services at 4:30pm and 10:30pm and at the 91m Christmas Day service. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to serve.

**IT IS BETTER TO GIVE
THAN TO RECEIVE**



give the gift of
warmth

We are asking that St. James parishioners give the **Gift of Warmth** when we gather for our communal Thanksgiving Day celebration. Boxes will be set up in the Parish Hall throughout the months of October and November, so anyone who wishes to donate warm coats, hats, scarves, mittens, boots, and blankets may do so. You don't have to take part in the dinner to help another person stay warm during the cold months. Let's continue to support this ministry as faithfully as we have the last several winters!

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

PARISH WORK DAY

The St. James Vestry asks your help with a few important tasks on Parish Work Day. We have some cleaning and sprucing up to do before the Christmas services. Please contact Dave Caporossi or Mike Endicott to express interest in helping the parish look its best for Christmas!

— Dave Caporossi



*1st Sunday of
Advent*

*2nd Sunday of
Advent*

*3rd Sunday of
Advent*

*The 4th Sun
Advent
10am
Christmas Ev
4:30 PM & 1*

December 3

December 10

December 17

December

LECTIONARY

*Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18
I Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37*

*Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
II Peter 3: 8-15a
Mark 1:1-8*

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
I Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1: 6-8, 19-28*

*Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-4, (1*

VESTRY PERSON

SISSY BROWN

PAT PARKER

MIKE ENDICOTT

DAVID SCOTT

**EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER** 8:30
11:00

Lynette van Heerden
Bert Babington

Brody Fitzpatrick
Brian Whatley

Janie Parker
Ken Murphy

Julie Eason

LAY READER 11:00

David Scott

Ron Maberry

Dan Bennett

Ken Murphy

LECTORS 8:30
11:00

Lynette van Heerden
Debbie Fitzpatrick

Chelsea Maielli
Julie Eason

Janie Parker
David Scott

Kathleen Calhoun

ACOLYTES 8:30
11:00

Melanie Winkler
Austin Shelton

Kelly Parker
Jan Jones

Melanie Winkler
Austin Shelton

Kelly Parker
Jan Jones

ALTAR GUILD

Janie Parker
Linda Endicott
Chelsea Maielli

Kelly Parker
Liz Montelepre

Kelly Parker
Liz Montelepre

Kathy Watkins
Faye Wynn

USHERS 8:30
11:00

Mike Kendrick
Denise Shelton

Sara Lewis
Mary Taylor

Mike Kendrick
Denise Shelton

Sissy Brown
Mary Taylor

**MASTER OF
CEREMONIES
VERGER**

Mike Endicott

Mike Endicott

Mike Endicott

Mike Endicott

GIVE THANKS AS A FAMILY...

WITH YOUR ST. JAMES FAMILY

What do you prepare for Thanksgiving? Turkey? Ham? Sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, stuffing, **cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, cake, veggie tray, fresh rolls...** Instead of doing it all this year, join the St. James community for a covered dish family-style feast. Sign up to bring your favorite and **taste everyone else's favorites, too.** Join us for Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 23, at 12:30 pm in the Parish Hall.



Due to generous donations by parishioners the turkeys are already provided. (Special thanks to Matt Parker for cooking them for us). Please bring a dish to share—dressing, bread, gravy, vegetable, salad, or dessert—you decide. Make your reservations by signing up on the sheet in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please call Tina Caporossi (318) 683-4002. Your presence will make Thanksgiving a true celebration of all the many things we at St. James have for which to be thankful.

November 15, 2017



Karen Somdal Bryant

Karen Somdal Bryant passed away on November 8, after a lengthy illness. A celebration of her life will be held in December.

She was predeceased by her parents Dewey Andersen Somdal and Eugenie

Watson Somdal and her brother Dudley Andersen Somdal.

Karen is survived by her daughters, Barbara Scott and husband, Kenny of Malvern, AR, and Eugenie Karen Bryant; and her brothers-in-law, Jon Alan Bryant of Washington, DC and The Rev'd Canon William Reid Bryant and wife, Judy of Minden.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jay Barton, Francis Randall, Charlie Lindenmeyer, Jessica Luce and Craig Lang.

Special thanks to her caregivers Yolanda Vance, Dyaushaua Jones, Roshena Vance, Shelinda Collins, Erica Mayshack and Janice Johnson.

The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations be made to the local animal rescue organization of your choice or [Shriner's Hospital](#).

Published in Shreveport Times from Nov. 10 to Nov. 12, 2017



In memorium

From the moment we first spoke I knew I was going to like Karen. We shared a love of quilting, of creating beauty in a useful and practical manner. We shared a love of reading, also, and exchanged books occasionally, generally those with characters who loved to quilt. We also shared a love of St. James Episcopal Church, a parish full of people who care deeply. There was no doubt in my mind that Karen loved this parish. Before I met her she had been received from the Roman Catholic Church. While part of that decision **may have been based on the presence of Rev'd Bill Bryant as Priest-in-Charge**, it never would have happened had she not felt the love and acceptance of the people who make up the parish. Karen will be missed very much. Let us share our love of Karen with her daughters, Eugenie and Barbara, and provide comfort to them in their grief.

—Jnanne Zepeda



NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY DUE BEFORE JANUARY 14

Please begin considering who you believe would be an asset to the St. James Vestry and who you would like to represent the parish at the 2018 Diocesan Convention. Vestry nominations are due by January 14, two weeks before the Annual Meeting. This allows time for the names to be mailed to parishioners prior to the meeting, in accordance with state laws governing corporations. The names will be included in the January issue of the *Spirit of St. James*. Nominations for delegates may be made in advance or may be made from the floor during the meeting.

According to our Parish By-laws, qualifications to serve on the Vestry are:

- Be a communicant in good-standing
- Be a member of St. James for at least 6 months
- Be at least 16 years old
- Be a contributing member of record
- Be a regular attendee of worship and other parish events
- Be available to attend Vestry meetings and perform vestry duties, and
- Be committed to the spiritual growth of St. James.

**CHRISTMAS
BAKE SALE & BAZAAR**

SPONSORED BY
WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Saint Stephen Lutheran Church
8400 Kingston Road, Shreveport, Louisiana

Saturday, November 18th
8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

BAKED GOODS • CASSEROLES • CRAFTS • RAFFLE
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT DECEMBER 17

On December 3 (even though we are having a breakfast at St. James) and December 10, all children and youth are asked to meet at 10am in the Parish Hall to go over the Christmas Pageant. All young people, no matter what age, are invited to participate. There are roles for the youngest all the way through high school aged youth. Please come and be a part of this annual St. James tradition.

The pageant will take place during the 11am service on December 17, in place of the sermon. Please come and support our children and youth as they teach us about the Christmas season.



GRACE THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR WITH EYC POINSETTIAS



Throughout the year the altar at St. James is adorned with flowers, given to the glory of God and in honor of our loved ones. We generally have two lovely arrangements, but during the Christmas season we invite everyone to make a dedication to fill the space with poinsettias.

A fifteen dollar donation will help offset the cost of the flowers. Dedication forms will be available in the Sunday bulletins and the Parish Hall through the Advent season. Should there be any extra money collected, the proceeds will be placed into the EYC fund, which is used for service projects.

A TASK OF LOVE

You are invited to help green the church after the 10am service on December 24, the last Sunday of Advent. Gather your family, gloves, work clothes, and bring them all with you when you come for worship that day. We are foregoing the usual luncheon because of the Christmas Eve services later in the day.

For those new to the job, garlands will be strung around the worship area, the crèche will be set up, the Chrismon tree will be erected in the narthex, and the EYC poinsettias will be set around the altar.

The more who help, the faster and easier the task! Please join us.



CHRISTMAS DAY

A very simple, no-frills Christmas Day service will be held at St. James at 9am. Rite 2 Eucharist without music.



WE'LL WORSHIP TOGETHER CHRISTMAS EVE

This year's Christmas Eve Services are scheduled at 4:30pm and 10:30pm. It will be the full Christmas Eve Eucharist, complete with music led by the Praise & Worship Team. The later service will be the traditional Christmas Eve Eucharistic service with organ and hymns. No matter which one you choose, remember that you are welcome to bring family members who may be visiting, friends, neighbors, etc. As with all of our services and events, everyone is welcome at St. James. Let's fill the church with people, as well as praise.



GIVING, THANKS AT THANKSGIVING

One thing that St. James parishioners are not shy about is giving—and at Thanksgiving we go all out. We give special meals to those in need, sharing our family feast by taking extra meals to the individuals on our Meals on Wheels route and sending box dinners to local families. We collect warm coats, scarves, gloves, etc. for distribution to homeless individuals. What are we really doing?

There are many reasons for giving, especially when it is done in a manner that others can see. For some it is a way to look good in the community. For others it is a way to help those who are less fortunate. Some folk see this as a time to clean out the closets and the pantry, giving castoff coats and overstocked foodstuffs away to make room for more. Other individuals go out of their way to purchase and procure items specifically to share. And you know—the end result is the same. Hungry people are fed and cold people get warmer.

Only God knows what is in our hearts. How, when, and why to give is an individual or family decision. We know that people are in need year-round, and that is why we have the Salvation Army food barrels. That is why we have weekly Meals on Wheels deliveries. That is why we provide afternoon snacks to a hungry football team in a low-income neighborhood. That is why St. James is involved in community outreach programs throughout the year. We are aware that we are blessed in ways that others may not be and we know that it is our responsibility as Christians to generously help those in need.

So, thanks for the giving—not just at Thanksgiving, but year-round. We are a parish family of individuals who are imperfect, but loving and generous in ways we could not necessarily be as individuals. It is the community of the Church that brings us together and that brings the best out in us.

So, thanks also for being here where we are together and learning to be better—where those who are giving out of obligation grow to become those who give out of love and concern. Our Christian life is a journey and we are scattered along the path, providing encouragement to each other as we each learn to be better at being Christian. Thanks for providing support and guidance to each other, for modeling Christian values, and teaching our younger generations to become the best spiritual givers they can be.

Thanks for welcoming each other and visitors to worship with us. Thanks for remembering and demonstrating that 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: December 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, adult and children

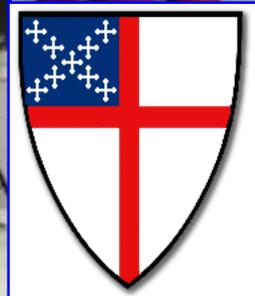
Holy Eucharist, 11:00am

Wednesday—Holy Eucharist with Unction, 10am



ECW HORS D'OEUVRES PAIRNG OCTOBER 28

The ECW grand finale of painting the parish pink in October was a huge success. Attendees paired hors d'oeuvres with appropriate beverages, enjoying conversation with friends along with great food as they raised money for the St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry. Thanks to the overwhelming participation of the parish, they raised a total of \$3,250.00.



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.