

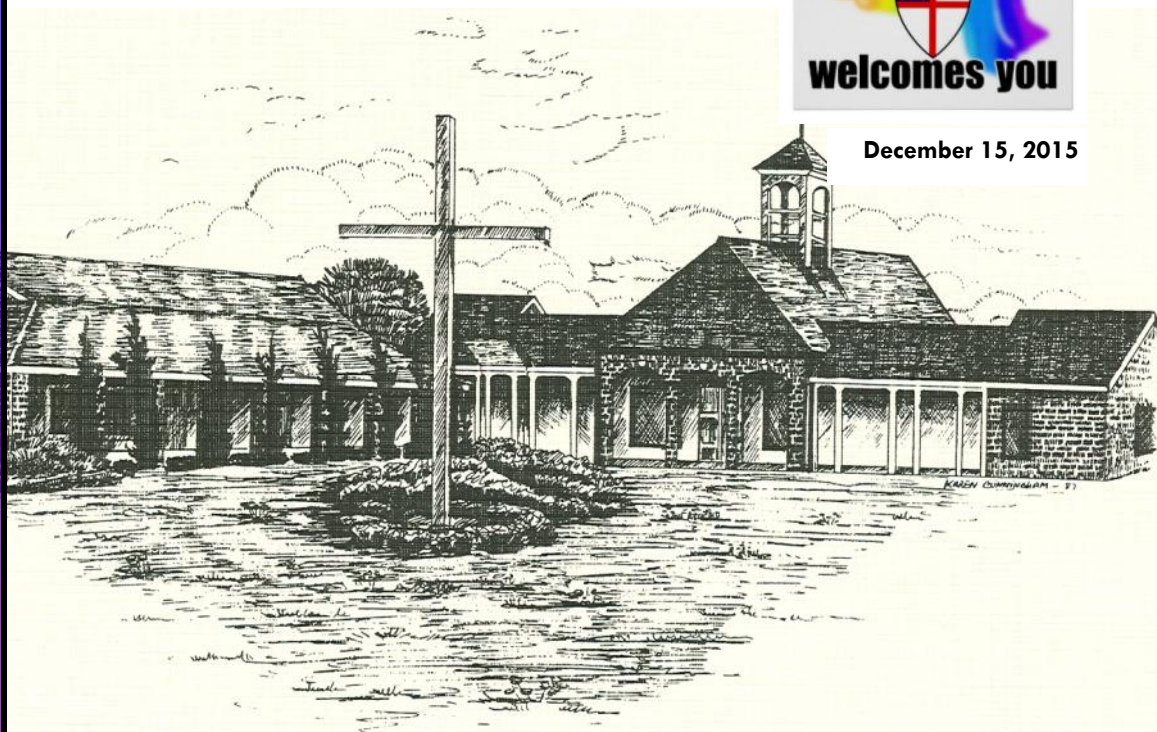
# *The Spirit of St. James*

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

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



December 15, 2015



*December 20*

*8:30am Rite 1 Eucharist  
11am Rite 2 Eucharist with  
Children's Pageant  
Followed by  
Greening of the Church,  
wrapping Angel Tree gifts,  
and soup luncheon*

*December 24*

*5:30pm*

*Family worship  
Rite 2 service with Eucharist*

*10:30pm*

*Christmas Eve worship  
Rite 2 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 Dr.  
Katharine Jefferts Schori

Bishop, Diocese of Western  
Louisiana:

The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Jacob  
Owensby

Rector:  
The Search is On

Organist/Choir Director:  
Kaye Crichlow

Nursery:  
Rhonda Robertson

Parish Administrator::  
Jnanne Zepeda

#### *2015 Vestry:*

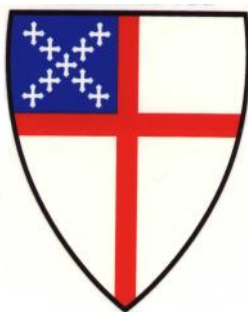
Brian Whatley (17)— Sr.  
Warden  
Dave Caporossi (16)— Jr.  
Warden

#### *Members:*

Chris Bienvenu (17)  
Sissy Brown (18)  
Kathy Deal (17)  
Mike Endicott (16)  
Rory Fitzpatrick (16)  
Jana Kendrick (16)  
Karen McDonald (18)  
Pat Parker (18)

#### *Ex Officio:*

Thomas Mosley—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 THE SENIOR WARDEN

I am writing this on the third Sunday of Advent. Paula Claire+ mentioned in her homily this morning that today is Gaudete Sunday, which comes from the Latin word for "rejoice" in opening of the antiphon "Rejoice in the Lord always." Today is also sometimes called "rose Sunday," and we did in fact light the rose colored candle in the Advent wreath this morning. This reminded me of a conversation that I had with a friend and co-worker early last February. That co-worker is a man of strong Christian faith but is of a different mainstream faith-tradition. He was looking at a calendar, noted

that Mardi Gras was earlier than it had been in 2014, and asked - perhaps rhetorically - how "they" know when to hold Mardi Gras. Well, being a long-time Episcopalian, well-trained in the liturgical calendar by virtue of a confirmation class some years ago, I could not pass up the opportunity to tell him about how "Fat Tuesday," Mardi Gras Day, is the end of carnival season and is also the last day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. My inquisitive friend said he had heard of Ash Wednesday (and maybe Lent) and wanted to know more. I went on to tell how Ash Wednesday is a movable holiday based on the 40 days of Lent - not counting Sunday feast days - leading up to Easter. Ah, yes, he knew about Easter being a variable holiday. I then went through the church year and how it is reflected in popular culture, especially here in Louisiana: Advent—the preparation for Christ's birth and the Church's new year, Christmas (12 days worth, like in the song), Epiphany, twelfth night, carnival season, "Fat" (Shrove) Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent—preparing for Easter, the various days of Holy Week, Ascension, Pentecost, and finally I threw in several feast days of popular saints just to round out the year. My very Protestant colleague was fascinated. Perhaps tomorrow I will tell him about Gaudete Sunday; rejoicing over the coming of our Savior should never be limited to any one denomination.

Well, while we are thinking of seasons, there are some seasons of a more administrative nature coming up shortly after Christmas and the secular New Year's Day. The St. James Annual Meeting will be held on January 24, 2016. At that meeting, our parish will look back over the last year and into the upcoming year. We will also elect delegates to the Diocesan Convention and elect three new Vestry members to fill the three-year positions of those



## Outreach News

### Remember to pluck a card from the Angel Tree in the Narthex.

St. James has agreed to provide Christmas gifts for several local families. The clothing sizes and interests of the children are hanging on the Angel Tree. Please have your purchases in the Parish Hall by December 20 so they can be wrapped and delivered by Christmas Day.

A new year is upon us and as we reflect back on 2015, it has been a great year for Outreach. We have helped many people throughout this year with various needs, i.e, food, shelter, clothing, utilities, medical assistance, Goodwill certificates, Christmas for homeless and families who came to church seeking assistance, daily meals, special meals at the holidays, and the list goes on and on. The individuals who have spent their time reaching out to others is what Outreach is all about. Thank you for your support. As the new year approaches, I will be stepping down as Chairman and Kathy Watkins will be taking over the helm. I know she will continue to ensure Outreach reaches out to those in need within our community and give all the love and care she already does on a daily basis to meet the needs from requests that come to the church.

Merry Christmas and A Blessed New Year to all!

--Karen Waquespack

who are rotating off the Vestry after their faithful service. 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 pledging member (a contributor of record)
- Be a regular attendee of worship and other parish events
- Be available to attend Vestry meetings and perform vestry duties
- Be committed to the spiritual growth of St. James.

Nominations for Vestry members are accepted through the parish office until two-weeks before the annual meeting. I ask all St. James parishioners to seriously consider who would be good prospective Convention delegates and Vestry members. Shortly after the Annual Meeting, the Vestry retreat will be held and the framework for the upcoming year will be laid out.

Please keep our Vestry in your prayers as you remain in ours.  
In Christ,

*Brian Whatley*





# THE GOOD STEWARDS

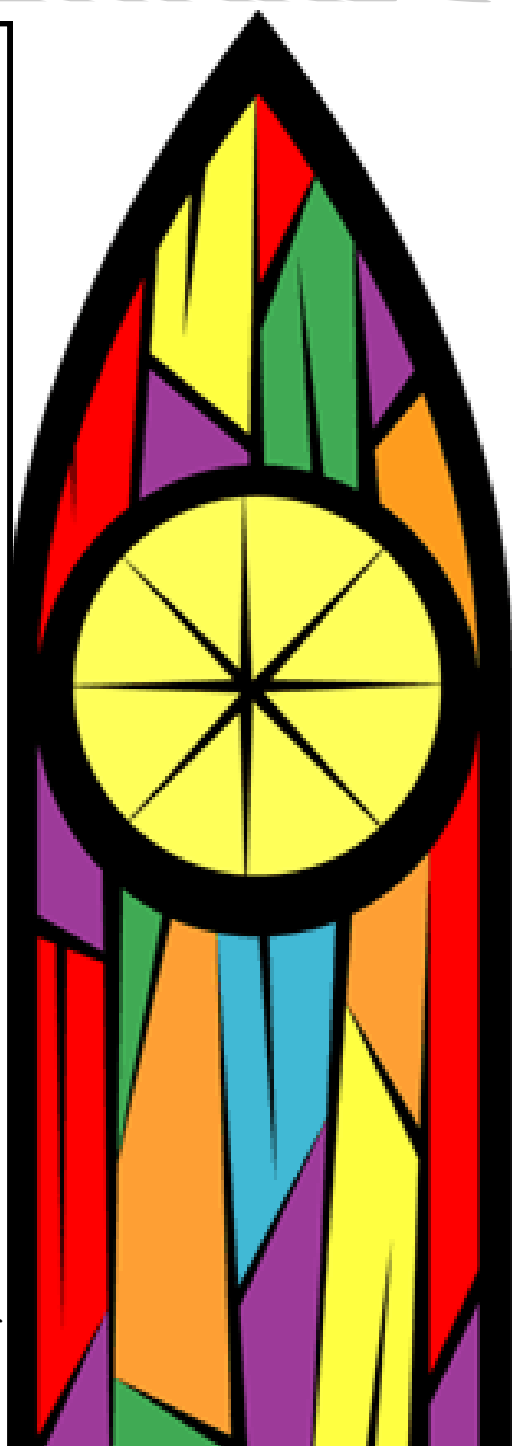
With the holidays upon us it seems there are even more things to do around St. James than usual. And as a result, there are even more people jumping in to assist.

Thanks to everyone who helped to provide, prepare, pack, and deliver food for Thanksgiving as part of the Filling in the Gaps program. With Lorain Thrash's organization, we provided meals to the Meals on Wheels recipients who otherwise would not have received food for Thursday or Friday. We also delivered meals to other local families and a few parishioners who were unable to get to the Parish Hall for the communal Thanksgiving Dinner. There were way too many folk involved in this project for this column to list all the names, and we thank every one who makes this ministry so successful.

The efficiency of the program has become so great that when our photographer, Kathy Deal, arrived to take pictures for the newsletter, she discovered that all the work was completed and all the meals had been whisked away for delivery! Now that shows the enthusiasm and the large number of devoted folk who participated in this endeavor.

The number of meals in the freezer has increased lately, thanks to those families who package home-made items for those in need. When folk come by the parish during the week seeking help with groceries we routinely pass out these tasty and nutritious meals. We also use these on occasion to supplement the Filling in the Gaps program when we have only a few people to feed for the lesser holidays when Meals on Wheels does not provide. Thanks to all who keep this program running.

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.



## WE'LL WORSHIP TOGETHER CHRISTMAS EVE

This year's Christmas Eve Services are scheduled at 5:30pm and 10:30pm. We welcome the Rev'd Andrew Comeaux as our celebrant at both services this year. The earlier service is scheduled to accommodate those families who need to have children in bed earlier than midnight. It will be the full Christmas Eve Eucharist, complete with music. 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.





**The Holiday Cookie Exchange**, hosted by Debbie, Lois, and Janie, December 6th, was a blast. The laughter could be heard beyond the Parker residence. There was plenty of sweets, with "to-go" boxes available for taking home favorites.



I left the party about 3:45 and could still hear the laughter, as I got into my car that was parked down the block and across the street. What a great time!

*~Kathy Deal*





## THE MISSION CONTINUES...

### January Calendar of Clinics

**St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry**  
**January Calendar**

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January 2nd Saturday 9-12noon Minden, Sav-a-lot Grocery (L. Gipson, NP)

January 4th Monday 9-11 Southern Hills Community Center, Shreveport (screening clinic)

January 6th Wednesday 12:30-2:30 Lovewell Center, Cotton Street (screening clinic)

January 7th Thursday 3:00-5:00 Hope Connection, 2350 Levy St (K. Porter, NP; D. Wissing RT)

January 8th Friday 9-11, Mansfield, Higher Ground Community Center

January 10th Sunday 4-6 pm-Christ the King, Bossier (Melanie Petchak, NP)

January 13th Wednesday 9-11-Hope House 762 Austin Pl (Dr. Mercer)

January 14th Thursday 4:30-6:15-Highland Blessing Dinner (screening clinic)

January 16th Saturday-7:30-9:30 am Vivian and 10-11:30 am Oil City (M.Petchak, NP)

January 17th Sunday-10-12 noon-Hope House-762 Austin Place (Dr. Thompson)

January 19th Tuesday 9-12-Susan G Komen Pop-up Clinic-Ringgold-in conjunction with Partners in Wellness and MLKHC (L. Gipson, NP)

January 20th Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Hope Connection, 2350 Levy Street (Dr. Landry and D. Wissing, RT)

January 28th Thursday 4:00-5:30 pm-Fuller Center, Allendale (screening clinic)

January 30th Saturday 9-12noon, Lakeside Middle School, Shreveport (screening clinic)

*\*If you would like to volunteer, please contact Betty, [office@stlukesmedicalministry.org](mailto:office@stlukesmedicalministry.org)*



St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry  
ph-424-0156 \*

[www.stlukesmedicalministry.org](http://www.stlukesmedicalministry.org)

**Our mailing address is:**

St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry  
Post Office Box 53074  
Shreveport, LA 71135

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
After The Epiphany  
10AM Service  
Andrew Comeaux  
JANUARY 24*

*The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
After The Epiphany  
Andrew Comeaux  
JANUARY 31*

*Nehemiah 8: 1- 3, 5- 6,  
8- 10  
Psalm 19  
I Corinthians 12: 12-  
31a  
Luke 4: 14- 21*

*Jeremiah 1: 4- 10  
Psalm 71: 1- 6  
I Corinthians 13: 1- 13  
Luke 4: 21- 30*

**SISSY BROWN**

**KAREN  
MCDONALD**

Dan Bennett

Lynette van Heerden  
Ken Murphy

Bert Babington

Brian Whatley

Karen McDonald

Debbie Fitzpatrick  
Sissy Brown

Kendall Parker

Rory Fitzpatrick  
Mason Garner

Janie Parker  
Linda Endicott

Kelly Parker  
Liz Montelepre

Mike Kendrick  
Mary Taylor

Pat Parker  
Mike Kendrick  
Denise Shelton

Mike Endicott

Mike Endicott

*St. James ECW proudly presents  
The Krewe of St. James*



**Annual Ball**

January 9, 2016 \* 7PM – 'til  
\$25 per person

*Featuring music by*

**WINDSTORM**

## A TASK OF LOVE

You are invited to help green the church after the 11am service on December 20. Gather your family (but leave the greenery, gloves, work clothes, and gardening tools at home, as we will not be making the garlands this year) and bring them all with you when you come for worship that day. Workers will enjoy a hearty stew to give them the energy for the task and everyone will be rewarded with the satisfaction of a job well-done!

For those new to the job, we will be preparing our worship space for Christmas. Wreaths will be hung on the doors. And a tree will be set up in the Narthex. Garlands will be strung around the worship area and the EYC poinsettias will be set around the altar.

Those who find the physical work of the greening to be difficult are invited to help wrap Christmas gifts we have collected for local families in need. Anyone who wishes to donate wrapping supplies is welcome to bring those along.

The more who help, the faster and easier the task!

## 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, as shown in the photo to the left.

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 from early November 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.



# St. James Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	W
<b>3</b> 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM Breakfast 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II  <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Noah Matlock	<b>4</b>   <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Triniti Ann Parker Debbie Fitzpatrick	<b>5</b>   <b>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</b> Keith & Karen McDonald Robert & Rita Haldeman	<b>6</b>   10 am H w/
<b>10</b> 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>   <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Hillary Holland	<b>13</b>   10 am H w/  <b>HAPPY</b> Sa Elizabe
<b>17</b> 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>   10 am w/  <b>HAPPY</b> Fa
<b>24</b> 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II <u><b>Annual Meeting</b></u> <u><b>Potluck Lunch</b></u>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>   <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Mason Sims Dusty Allen	<b>27</b>   10 am w/
<b>31</b> 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Will Bryant			



# January 2016

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1</p>  <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Holy Eucharist Unction</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Nita Magee</p>	<p>9 <u>Mardi Gras</u> <u>Ball 7PM-</u> HAPPY BIRTHDAY Jana Kendrick Dave Caporossi Joseph Thrash</p>
<p>Holy Eucharist Unction</p> <p>BIRTHDAY ra Lewis eth Ollendike</p>	<p>14</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Renee Strickland Lauren Jackson</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 PM</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Roger Wilkinson Blaine Alan Butler</p>
<p>Holy Eucharist Unction</p> <p>BIRTHDAY ye Wynn</p>	<p>21</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Curtis Shelton</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 PM</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Holy Eucharist Unction</p>	<p>28</p> <p>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Ron &amp; Lois Maberry Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 PM</p>	<p>29</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY Bobbie Smith</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Ordination Lois Maberry St. Marks 11AM</p>



		<i>The Feast of The Holy Name</i>  <i>Guido Verbek</i> <i>JANUARY 3</i>	<i>The Epiphany</i>  <i>Guido Verbek</i> <i>JANUARY 10</i>	<i>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After The Epiphany</i>  <i>JANUARY 17</i>
<b>LECTIONARY</b>		<i>Numbers 6:22- 27</i> <i>Psalms 8</i> <i>Philippians 2: 5- 11</i> <i>Luke 2: 15- 21</i>	<i>Isaiah 60: 1- 6</i> <i>Psalms 72: 1-7, 10- 14</i> <i>Ephesians 3: 1- 12</i> <i>Matthew 2: 1- 12</i>	<i>Isaiah 62:1- 5</i> <i>Psalms 36: 5- 10</i> <i>I Corinthians 12: 1-11</i> <i>John 2: 1- 11</i>
<b>VESTRY PERSON</b>		<b>CHRIS BIENVENU</b>	<b>DAVE CAPOROSSI</b>	<b>MIKE ENDICOTT</b>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</b>	<b>8:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	Lynette van Heerden Dan Bennett	Janie Parker Ron Maberry	Lynette van Heerden Ken Murphy
<b>LAY READER</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Brian Whatley	Bert Babington	Rory Fitzpatrick
<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>8:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	Pat Parker Kathleen Calhoun	Betty Langhorst Janet Moore	Pat Parker Debbie Fitzpatrick
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	<b>8:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	Kelly Parker Mason Garner	Melanie Winkler Austin Shelton	Kelly Parker Mason Garner
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>		Debbie Fitzpatrick Holly Johnson	Debbie Fitzpatrick Holly Johnson	Janie Parker Linda Endicott
<b>USHERS</b>	<b>8:30</b> <b>11:00</b>	Pat Parker Sissy Brown Mike Kendrick	Pat Parker Mike Kendrick Mary Taylor	Pat Parker Mike Kendrick Sara Lewis
<b>MASTER OF CEREMONIES</b>		Mike Endicott	Mike Endicott	Mike Endicott

Please join us for the  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**JANUARY 24, 2016**

**10am WORSHIP SERVICE**

FOLLOWED BY  
**PARISH-WIDE LUNCHEON**  
**and BUSINESS MEETING**

Make parish plans for 2016  
 Elect vestry members  
 Elect delegates to the diocesan convention  
 Eat great food & enjoy great company

**Nominations are due in the parish office by January  
 10 in order for them to be published to the parish  
 prior to the meeting.**

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please add the following new information to your directory:

Kathy Watkins' cell phone is  
 (318) 564-6519

Nita Magee's new address is  
 7110 University Drive, Apt# 206  
 Shreveport, LA 71105  
 Her phone remains 318-869-3421

Betty McDonald  
 9853 LaBonne Terre  
 Shreveport, LA 71106  
 (318) 688-1793—home  
 (318) 282-4547—cell  
 Betty.mcdonald39@gmail.com





Photos courtesy  
Kathy Deal



# Thanksgiving



# ST. JAMES HAYRIDE: A WAGON LOAD OF FUN!

I tell you what, Pardner, if you didn't come to our first annual St. James Hayride; you missed a real good time!! Why, the St. James folks ain't had that much fun since the choir got mixed up and was singing "When the Saints Go Marching In" to the tune of "Rock of Ages." (Just kidding, Kaye)

Our country western music was provided by that lil old Texas gal, Keri Howard Winters, and her band the P.B.s. That girl can sing for sure, but we had double good singing cause she was joined up with her sister Kristi Lang. Daddy Jerry Howard accompanied them, (Looking like one of those Austin outlaws) along with Curtis Shelton, Bubba Lewis and a couple of Texas cowpokes. They played all our favorite cowboy and cowgirl songs, some light rock, even a couple of hymns. They turned off the lights with that good ole Roy Rogers tune, "Happy Trails ", but doggone it, Keri's so young she had to larn it.

Folks was out on the dance floor line-dancing, Texas two-stepping, even be-bopping, as well as some slow dancing up close and personal. The sweetest moment of the night had to be when a fellow named Carl (Lynette brung him) grabbed a hold of Miss Gail's wheelchair, took her out on the dance floor and started dancing with her in the wheelchair. She loved it, and so did all of us. Carl, you're a keeper; please come back to see us at St. James!

And let me tell you about that chow! The Parker gang (No kin to Bonnie) outdone themselves with brisket tender as a lady's heart and a potato dish that melted in your mouth. Rhonda even wrangled some sausage for us. Janie had help with the potatoes from Kelly, B.J., Betty Langhorst, Lonnie Howard, and Tina Caporossi. Bless Karen McDonald's little pea picking heart: she cooked up all those chuck wagon beans by herself. And yeah, I'll admit it; the brownies came from good old Sam's. The servers done good too; they really heaped on the chow, thanks a bunch!

Our Parish Hall looked like a big old country barn with hay bales and saddles, two big old Texas stars and lots of boots, both on and off folks. Lonnie outdone herself with table decorations (on red checked tablecloths) of red candles and white mums, perfect for the shindig.

The silent auction kept folks interested all night; thanks to all of you who got donations or contributed some really nice stuff like a guitar from Dave and a mandolin from Janet G. Janet also provided a bunch of CD's. I really wanted the mystery dinner from Karen Mc. Some of that other stuff included gift baskets, dinner certificates, even ornaments for your rear view mirror, all arranged with cowboy boots. Oh, we even sold a few of our cookbooks, nicely wrapped with a kitchen utensil for gift giving.

Speaking of boots, they were the standard footwear for all the cowboys and cowgirls who were wearing jeans, western shirts and vests and lots of fringe. (I hope there's some photos with this) Oh, not to mention the hats. I thought Cathy and Jim won the stylish (for Laredo) couple award with their outfits, though everybody looked like they just got back from Lubbock.

I sure don't want to forget the guys and gals that worked so hard to set up the silent auction and decorate for the hayride so here goes: Betty Langhorst, Liz Montelepre, Tina (she's our trail boss) and Dave C., Kathy Watkins, Kathy Calhoun (who also provided hay bales), Faye Wynn, Karen McDonald (who also gave us line dancing lessons), Linda and Mike Endicott, Lonnie and Jerry Howard (who brought saddles and stuff), Rhonda Robertson, and Mattie Mosley. If I left you off, I apologize! Also thanks to Debbie Fitzpatrick for making up some "real" tickets and to Jhanna Zepeda for taking care of ticket orders.

The best news of the night is that the ECW made lots of money for the kitchen fund from ticket sales, silent auction items and donations for wine and beer, so it really was "Happy Trails!" Sorry about the sarsaparilla, next time we'll order some from Sioux City. You ain't gonna believe this; I just found out that Cracker Barrel sells "Sioux City sarsaparilla"!

*Sioux City Sue*



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Service

# BE A VITA VOLUNTEER

Help low & moderate income families  
prepare and file their taxes for free!

In 2015, VITA and TCE volunteers prepared more than 3.7 million tax returns at no cost for people with low-to-moderate incomes

## WHY VOLUNTEER?

- **Flexible hours**  
Days, nights and/or weekends!
- **Great Experience**
- **Free IRS training**  
Training is offered both online and in the class room!

## WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO

### Intake Specialists

Welcome taxpayers and oversee sign in process  
Ensure that the taxpayer has the necessary information and documentation required  
Explain the process

### Tax Preparers

Participate in the IRS tax training and complete certification  
Prepare tax returns  
Discuss the tax return with the tax payer

### Site Coordinators

Participate in the IRS tax training and complete certification  
Provide support to other tax preparers  
Check completed returns for errors  
File completed returns

## WHO WE NEED

### Finance Professionals

Students studying accounting/tax law  
Experience with preparing taxes  
Individuals who have a desire to help others

**PLEASE CONTACT Tricia James with IRS, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING DURING TAX SEASON OR YOU NEED MORE INFO. 318-683-6334**

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR VESTRY MEMBERS

- Communicant in good standing
- Member of St. James for at least six months
  - At least sixteen (16) years of age
- Contributor of record during the preceding year

Ideal Vestry members have a sense of humor and are keenly interested in the well-being of St. James: the Church, the clergy and staff, the buildings and grounds. Vestry members regularly attend services and parish events, give financially to the work of the parish, and are spiritually attuned. They distinguish between *being* on the Vestry and *serving* on the Vestry. They have sufficient time to dedicate to the work of the Vestry and display a positive nature. They have the courage to speak their mind, even when their positions are in the minority. They are willing to listen to opposing opinions, are open to change, and accept the greater will. They have a sense of humor.

Vestry members are able to leave behind “constituencies” and personal agendas in favor of doing what is best for St. James. They are able and willing to share their talents, abilities, and honest opinions—and then are able and willing to listen to others’ opinions with an open heart and mind. They are faithful to the concept of confidentiality. They have a sense of humor. Vestry members are willing to listen respectfully to all parishioners, seek to serve their needs, and try to find a common ground when there are disagreements. They have a sense of humor.

You may be getting ready for Christmas and probably not thinking about Lent, but let us offer you a very nice Christmas gift opportunity.



Building on the past, ensuring the future

2393 Camp Hardtner Road • Pollock, LA 71467

Phone (318) 765-3794 • Fax (318) 765-0603

E-mail: [office@camphardtner.org](mailto:office@camphardtner.org) • website: [www.camphardtner.org](http://www.camphardtner.org)

Hardtner is hosting two retreats in Lent and as a Christmas offering, individuals who register with the booking fee by December 25 will receive a 10% discount on the entire fee for the retreat. So, for a single room that would be a savings of \$22.50 or \$18.50 on a double room.

These retreats are great opportunities to get reconnected. You can purchase one for yourself or for someone else. All that is necessary is to register by December 25, with the booking fee. (Postmark by 2/25/15).

WAIT! We have more. If a group of at least five people from your congregation registers for either retreat, that group will receive a 10% discount—as long as that registration is received by January 15. (Booking fee must accompany each registration for all members of the party and they must be submitted as a group). That could mean as much as a savings of \$112.50. (less for double occupancy).

Because these retreats come so quickly after the New Year, we wanted to offer the opportunity to register early and make this the possibility of a Christmas gift. As an added bonus, we have just learned that Sr. Barbara Jean's new book, *Convents, Jails, and Other Tales*, will be hot off the presses by the time this retreat comes around. Look for it!

Look for the registration information on the Narthex table. Flyers contain information about the retreats with attached registration forms. Completed registration forms should be mailed to:

Camp Hardtner  
2393 Camp Hardtner Road  
Pollock, LA 71467

May you have a blessed Christmas.

*Camp Hardtner staff*

February 19-21, 2016—**Falling in Love with God Again**—a retreat for women, led by Sr. Barbara Jean Brown

March 24-26, 2016—**Walking Three Days with Jesus**—a silent retreat for those who want to walk the way of the Cross at the Triduum, led by the Very Rev'd Ron Clingenpeel



## VESTRY NOMINATIONS DUE BY JANUARY 10

Please prayerfully consider who you would like to participate in the leadership of the congregation. To nominate a person for the Vestry, just notify the parish office. Give the name of the individual and a short bio, listing things you believe to be important reasons why the nominee would serve the parish well. Bios must be received by January 3 in order for the information sheets to be assembled and mailed to parishioners before January 10.

The Annual Meeting will be held on January 25, and the Annual Report provides the parish with an overview of what we accomplished in the previous year. Heads of each committee should submit written reports to the parish office by January 4 in order for them to be assembled into **The** Annual Report. Please submit in a timely manner so the office staff don't need to nag you with annoying e-mails, phone calls, or notes—and you know I will. Reports are needed from the following sources:

Praise & Worship Team	Choir
Sunday School	ECW
Adult Forum	EYC
Memorial Committee	DOK
Altar Guild	LDI
Acolytes and Altar Party (Lay Readers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers)	
Greeter's Ministry	
A/V support	
Community Garden Committee	
Outreach Committee	
Intercessors	
Eucharistic Visitors	
Daughters of the King	
St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry	
20's and 30's Group	
Cursillo	
KAIROS/KAIROS Outside	
Nursery	
Senior Warden	
Junior Warden	
Treasurer	
Stewardship Committee	
Legacy Committee	
Canterbury House	
Adult Forum	
Garden Committee	

Yes, nominations can be made through the Parish Office until January 10, which is two weeks before the Annual Meeting. However, any nominations received after January 3 may not make it into materials mailed to parishioners prior to the meeting.

Those names submitted between January 3 and January 10 will still be eligible for the positions of Vestry members and convention delegates and will be included in the ballots at the Annual Meeting. Bios just may not be available in advance mailings.

### 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](mailto:stjames_sport@comcast.net), or dropped at the parish office.

**Newsletter deadline: January 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](mailto: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*

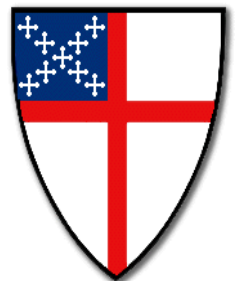
*Sunday School, 9:45am*

*Holy Eucharist, 11:00am*

*Wednesday—Holy Eucharist with Unction, 10am*



	<i>CHRISTMAS EVE</i> 5:30 PM	<i>CHRISTMAS EVE</i> 10:30 PM
	<i>Andrew Comeaux</i> DECEMBER 24	<i>Andrew Comeaux</i> DECEMBER 24
<b>LECTIONARY</b> 	<i>Isaiah 9:2- 7</i> <i>Psalm 96</i> <i>Titus 2: 11- 14</i> <i>Luke 2: 1- 14 (15- 20)</i>	<i>Isaiah 9:2- 7</i> <i>Psalm 96</i> <i>Titus 2: 11- 14</i> <i>Luke 2: 1- 14 (15- 20)</i>
<b>VESTRY PERSON</b>	CHRIS BIENVENU	CHRIS BIENVENU
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</b>		Ken Murphy
<b>LAY READER</b>	Janie Parker	Rory Fitzpatrick
<b>LECTORS</b>	Pat Parker	Debbie Fitzpatrick
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Kelly Parker	Mason Garner
<b>USHERS</b>	Pat Parker Volunteer	2 Volunteers
<b>MASTER OF CEREMONIES</b>		Mike Endicott
<b>VERGER</b>	Janie Parker	



**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.