

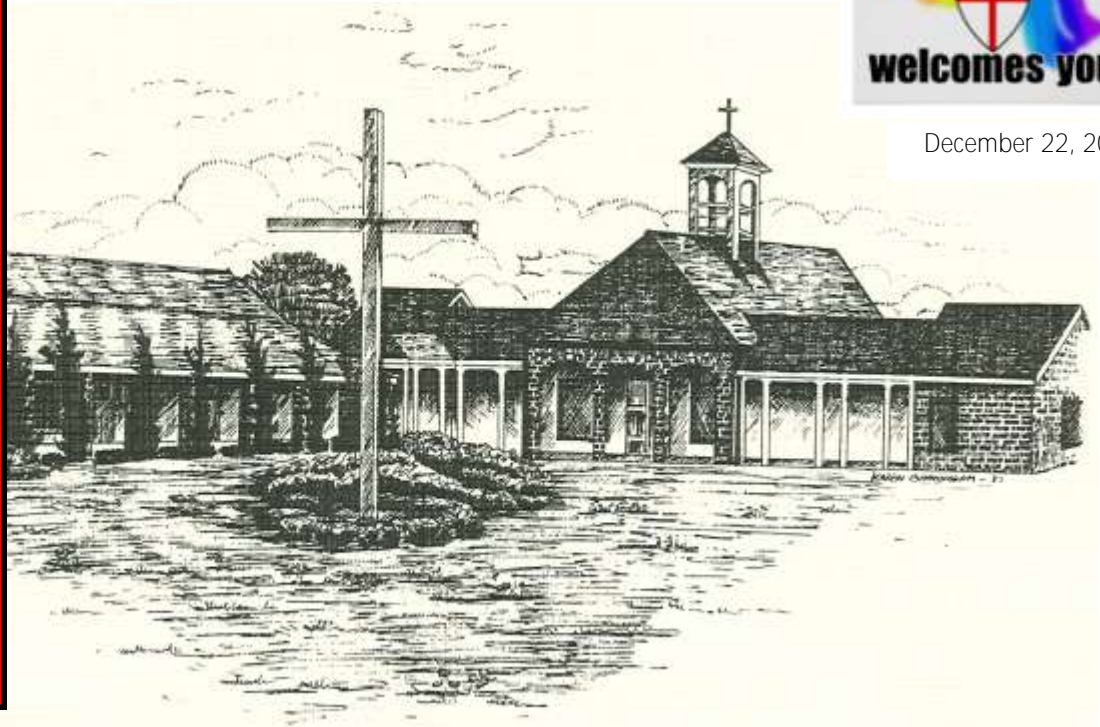
# *The Spirit of St. James*

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

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



December 22, 2016



January 1st  
10am

One Service Only  
New Years Day Worship  
Rite 2 service with Eucharist

January 8th

Degreening of the Church  
following 11:00 service

January 8th—20th  
Margaret traveling to  
Virginia Theological  
Seminary

January 29th  
10am

One Service Only  
Rite 2 service with Eucharist  
Annual Meeting

Non-Profit Org.  
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Mailing Address:  
2050 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop  
Shreveport, LA 71118  
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Presiding Bishop,  
The Episcopal Church:  
The Most Rev.  
Michael Curry

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

Rector:  
The Rev. Margaret Ayers

Organist/Choir Director:  
Kaye Crichlow

Nursery:  
Rhonda Robertson

Parish Administrator::  
Jnanne Zepeda

2016 Vestry:  
Brian Whatley (17)— Sr.  
Warden  
Mike Endicott (19)— Jr.  
Warden

Members:  
Sissy Brown (18)  
Kathy Deal (17)  
Karen McDonald (18)  
Ken Murphy (19)  
Pat Parker (18)  
David Scott (19)

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 MARGARET

Advent has now passed and Christmas is at our doorstep; we have wandered in the wilderness and now are prepared to become God's people. Every time we walk through Advent, we prepare ourselves to meet the Christ child. My fear is that I will not recognize him/her when Jesus returns, do you ever feel that way?

Would I be looking for a wealthy person, a celebrity, a warrior, a politician, a business person or royalty? Or would I look for someone with limited means, a person from the wrong side of the tracks or wrong part of town, a person shabbily dressed, a person who might appear as a "hick" or at least an outsider? If we were to treat everyone we meet as though they were Jesus we might be able to cover all chances of crossing Jesus' path. Trust me, it is an extremely hard thing to do because it calls us into a radical way of being together. Imagine treating the person who injured you physically, who cheated you, who lied about you as though they are Jesus. Imagine treating the homeless person, the drunk or addicted person, or a person with mental illnesses though they are Jesus. It has to change us internally and I think it changes them internally too.

Our outreach in Kairos, Filling the Gaps, Meals On Wheels, St. James outreach projects with the Fuller Center, Angel Tree, and others, help us to move into those areas of respectful contact with those who may be "other" than us without a huge risk to our safety. Try it and see if you are not transformed by these encounters with Jesus.

Blessings,  
*Margaret+*



# Outreach News

## THE FULLER CENTER CHRISTMAS STORE

This year instead of adopting families for our Christmas Angel Tree project, St. James participated in The Fuller Center Christmas Store. On December 17th the store was open for fixed income families to purchase reduced price items for those on their holiday list.

The parishioners of St. James participated in many ways:

- We collected 10 large boxes (and multiple bags) of gifts for children and adults
- Volunteers delivered the gifts and wrapping paper to the Fuller Center Christmas Store on Wednesday, December 14th
- Volunteers helped arrange the shelves on December 16th at 4221 Linwood Ave to set up the store for business
- Volunteers helped set up the wrapping stations on December 16th, to enable all shoppers to have wrapped gifts.
- We worked as elves in the store on December 17th from 9am-2pm, assisting shoppers with their selections and wrapping gifts

Kathy Watkins coordinated the activities with Deacon Lois Maberry and the staff at the Fuller Center.

Many thanks to all who donated gifts and time assisting in this outreach project.. St James is well known for the generosity of its members in serving the community.

## DMin Bound



Just as she's getting settled in, Margaret will be away for two weeks during the month of January. She is attending the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia as required in her pursuit of her doctorate. We have supply priests for the Sundays and Wednes-

days she'll be away. If you have other pastoral needs, please leave a message at the office and someone will get in touch to assist you.

### EFFICIENCY EXPERT OUT OF OFFICE

Jnanne will be out of the office a couple of weeks spending time with her terminally ill father. In the meantime, volunteers are helping out with printing materials, mailings, bill paying, manning the phones and other needs specified by Margaret. Please be patient with us as we stand in the gap for our parish administrator.

Please keep Jnanne and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. And special request for their safe travel home.





*Celebration of  
New Ministry  
& Installation  
of The Rev'd  
Margaret S.  
Ayers*







## 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.



### Reminder!!

The Vestry meeting for the month of December has been moved because the fourth Sunday is also Christmas Day.

The meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on **Tuesday, January 3rd at 6:30 p.m.**

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



### Annual Ball

January 28, 2017 \* 7PM – ‘til  
\$25 per person



## VESTRY NOMINATIONS DUE BY JANUARY 13

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 4th in order for the information sheets to be assembled and mailed to parishioners before January 13th.

The Annual Meeting will be held on January 29th, 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 9th in order for them to be assembled into The Annual Report. Please submit in a timely manner so the office staff doesn'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

Sunday School

Adult Forum

Memorial Committee

Altar Guild

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

Choir

ECW

EYC

DOK

LDI

Yes, nominations can be made through the Parish Office until January 13th, which is two weeks before the Annual Meeting. However, any nominations received after January 4th may not make it into materials mailed to parishioners prior to the meeting.

Names submitted between January 5th and January 13th 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 5th

### 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*

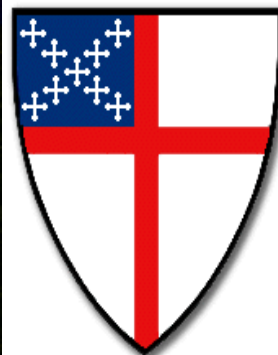


Please join us for the  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
JANUARY 29, 2017

**10am WORSHIP SERVICE**  
FOLLOWED BY  
**PARISH-WIDE LUNCHEON**  
and **BUSINESS MEETING**

Make parish plans for 2017  
Elect vestry members  
Elect delegates to the diocesan convention  
Eat great food & enjoy great company

**Nominations are due in the parish office by  
January 13 in order for them to be published to  
the parish prior to the meeting.**



## **Loving Care of our Decorations**

You are invited to help de-green the church after the 11am service on January 8th.

For those new to the job, garlands will be taken down and stored for next year, bows will be hung on hangers to prevent crushing, the crèche will be wrapped up and stored, the Chrismon tree in the narthex will be taken apart and decorations saved, the candelabras and candles will be removed and stored.

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

**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.