

The Spirit of St. James

The Newsletter from St. James Episcopal Church

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



December 15, 2018

December 16

8:30am

Rite 1 service with Eucharist

11:00am

Rite 2 service with Eucharist
Christmas Pageant



December 24

5:30pm

Christmas Eve worship

Family service with

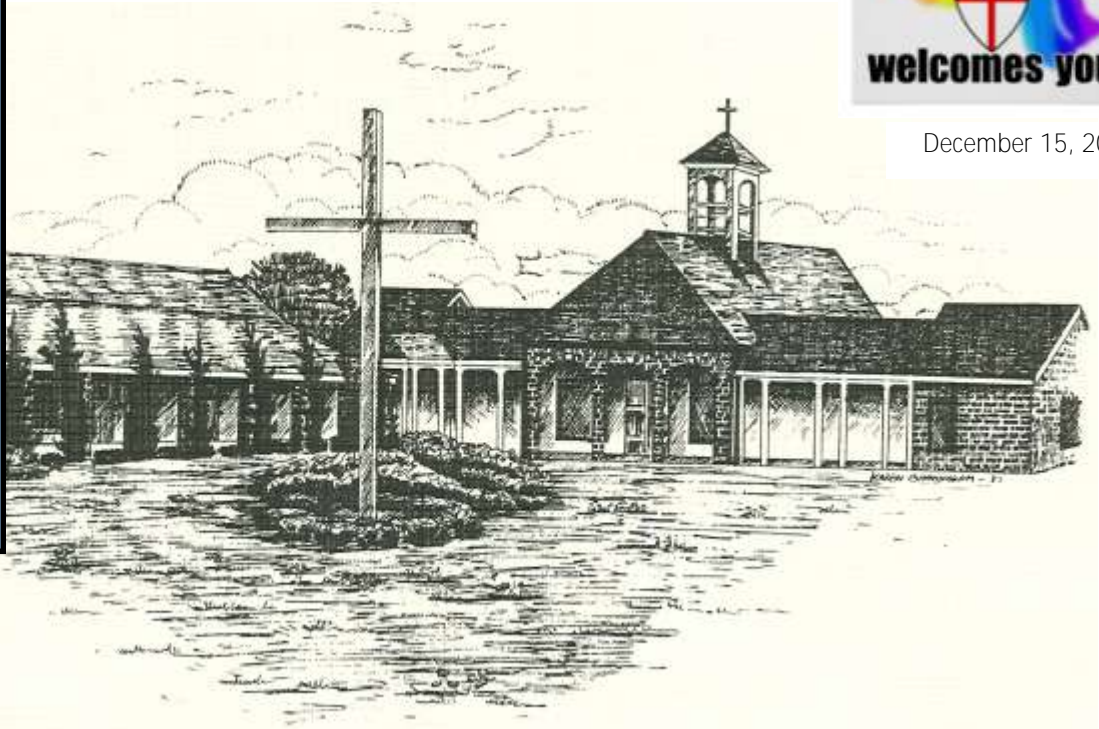
children's sermon

Rite 2 service with Eucharist

10:30pm

Christmas Eve 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:

Organist/Choir Director:
Kaye Owen

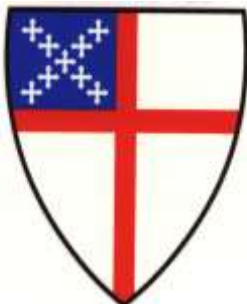
Nursery:
Rhonda Robertson

Parish Administrator:
Jnanne Zepeda

2018 Vestry:
David Scott— Sr.
Warden
Curtis Shelton (21)— Jr.
Warden

Members:
David Caporossi (20)
Krystal Eason (20)
Mike Endicott (19)
Debbie Fitzpatrick (21)
Mason Garner (19)
Ken Murphy (19)
Lauren Ocmand (20)
Matt Parker (21)

Ex Officio:
Julie Eason—Treasurer
Tommy Mosley—Treasurer
Emeritus
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



A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN



I would like to take this time to personally thank Mike Endicott and Ken Murphy for their service on the St. James vestry over the past three years. Mike has been a steady hand for me, especially for me during my first year as Senior Warden with knowledge and wisdom to handle many issues as they came up, and a resource that I still lean upon. Ken is like a brother to me, willing to help out at a moment's notice, and just as willing to point out my mistakes to everyone and laugh to the heavens. Both have been a wonderful influence on me here, and I am a much better person for their influence. I will miss them on the vestry, but I am glad that I can call them as friends.

Annual report time is here! Over the next few days, I will be following up with emails and personal calls, but consider this the official call for your write-up for the Annual Report. Please start now on your reports so that it can be completed and turned into Jnanne by January 11, so that the Annual Report can be printed in time for the January 27, 2019 Annual Meeting.



In Christ,
David Scott
Sr. Warden

Outreach News

The Outreach Committee continues to provide needed services to our community, but only because it is supported by St. James parishioners. Recently St. James collected medical supplies and reading glasses for St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry, continuing to fulfill our parish pledge to participate fully in keeping this ministry alive and well. We have also donated toys to the Fuller Center Christmas Store so that local low-income families can purchase gifts for their loved ones at a price significantly below retail. All the money from this endeavor goes toward building homes for low-income families.

We continue to participate in the Harvest Program, collecting unsold pizzas and other foods from Pizza Hut and distributing them to Common Ground, Hope House, and the athletes at Green Oaks High School. We are pleased to be a part of a local ministry that gathers food from restaurants and feeds hungry people—preventing the waste of nutritional items and warding off hunger in our community.

Thanks to those who are already filling the bins in the Parish Hall with items we will need to fill backpacks next summer. We encourage everyone to stock up on school supplies when you see them on clearance, getting those things you know the students will need—at reasonable prices when they are available.

As we anticipate activities in 2018, please be aware of opportunities to purchase items on sale or clearance that you know will be useful later for any of the following ministries:

- Fuller Center Christmas Store
- Shoebox challenge
- Food Bank of NWLA canned goods drive
- Backpack program

These are ministries in which St. James participates regularly. If we take advantage of the sales when we see them we can be better stewards of the money we spend on charitable giving by increasing the number of people we can afford to help!

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE UPDATE

As of this printing St. James has received twenty-five commitment cards pledging \$113,220.00 toward the general fund in 2019. Money in the general fund goes toward Outreach, ministries, salaries, and everyday expenses such as utilities and supplies. Some parishioners choose to pledge a little extra each month, indicating those additional funds be placed in the Building Fund which is designated only for use in building projects, maintenance, and upkeep of the buildings and grounds.

Last year we received 34 pledge cards totaling \$129,090.00.



THE GOOD STEWARDS

St. James thanks those who generously donated to the December breakfast—giving a total of \$425.00 to Fair Park School students to help fund their spring trip to New York City. Thanks to Julie Eason for hosting the breakfast and for introducing the parish to some of the students who will participate in this project. The luggage donated last year was stored for future trips, so these kids already have suitcases to see them through the journey!

Thanks to everyone who makes a difference in our community—calling Bingo and providing meals to those at Hope House, warming pizzas for school athletes, donating warm clothing to those in need. St. James filled four boxes with blankets, coats, hats, mittens, and other warm clothes that were given to Hope House for distribution to individuals who are currently homeless.

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.

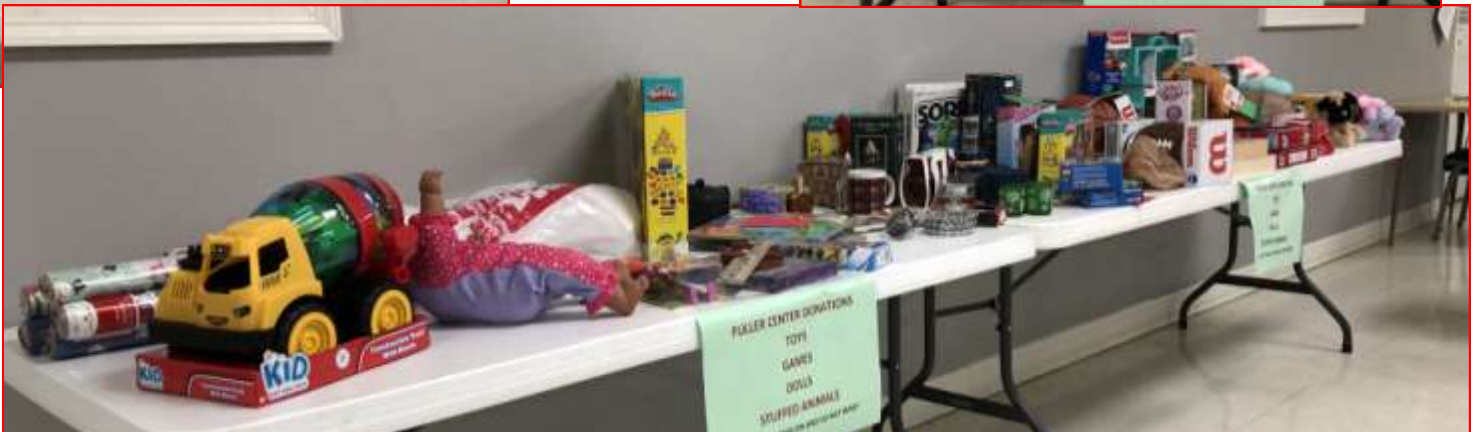
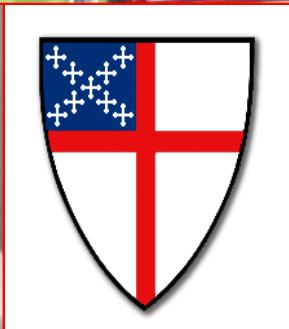


CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

The Fuller Center Christmas Store will be open 9am to 1pm on December 15 at . It is not too late to volunteer to help out during the sale. To get your name on the list and receive your assignment, contact Deacon Lois Maberry at (318) 286-5414. You could end up witnessing the joy of parents who discover they are able to purchase something nice for their kids for Christmas!

St. James collected a large number of toys to donate to the Fuller Center Christmas Store. These will be sold to families who are on a fixed income, with the prices set at 75% below retail cost.

There are wrapping stations at the store, so families do not need to incur the cost of wrapping paper, ribbons, bows, etc. Volunteers from local churches will wrap the gifts for participants, making it easier for them to take home surprises for their families.





THE MISSION CONTINUES...

Volunteering with St Luke's Episcopal Medical Ministry is a great way to share your talents and give back to your community. We are staffed primarily by volunteers.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO VOLUNTEER!

- Medical professionals - physicians, nurses, social workers, and other health professionals to provide basic health care and preventive health screenings during our missions. We also need people to offer their expertise in their field when developing new programs.
- Non-medical personnel to help with registering clients during our missions.
- Drivers to drive the RV to the missions.
- Other skilled professionals, such as those with computer expertise, or grant-writing experience.

<i>2nd Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<i>The 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany</i>
JANUARY 20	JANUARY 27
2:1-5 6:5-10 1 Thians 12:1-11 1-11	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21
E FITZPATRICK	LAUREN OCMAND
van Heerden Murphy	Lynnette van Heerden Dan Bennett
Murphy	Julie Eason
ter Brown	Debbie Fitzpatrick Kathleen Calhoun
arker Scott	Melanie Winkler David Scott
Watkins Wynn	Kathy Watkins Faye Wynn
ker Dendrick Taylor	Pat Parker Sissy Brown Betty McDonald

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

TEENAGER FOR HIRE:

Need some help taking down those Christmas decorations? Raylie Carroway is still working to earn money for her trip to Scotland in July. Please give her a call to coordinate a time she can help store your ornaments and decorations until next year. She can be reached at 318-751-5641.

HELP CARE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

You are invited to help de-green the church after the 11am service on December 30, making the space ready for the celebration of the Epiphany on January 6.

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.



St. James Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	
		1 	2 10 am The Rev'
6 <i>The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ</i> 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	7	8 The Vestry Nominations are due on January 9	9 10 am The Rev' HAP Ja Da Jo
13 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II HAPPY BIRTHDAY Sara Lewis Elizabeth Ollendike Peyton Hartley	14 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Renee Strickland Lauren Jackson	15	16 10 am The Rev' HAP Ro
20 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II HAPPY BIRTHDAY Faye Wynn	21 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Curtis Shelton	22	23 10 a The Rev'
27 10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II Potluck Annual Meeting	28 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Ron & Lois Maberry HAPPY BIRTHDAY Madelyn Johnson	29 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Bobbye Smith	30 10 a The Rev'

Annual Reports
are due
on January 11

	<i>The Feast of the Epiphany</i> JANUARY 6	<i>1st Sunday after the Epiphany</i> JANUARY 13	<i>The</i>
LECTIONARY	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	Isaiah 6 Psalm 3 1 Corin John 2:
VESTRY PERSON	MATT PARKER	CURTIS SHELTON	DEBBI
EUCCHARISTIC 8:30 MINISTER 11:00	Lynnette van Heerden Ron Maberry	Lynnette van Heerden Dan Bennett	Lynnett Ken Mu
LAY READER 11:00	Ken Murphy	Julie Eason	Ken Mu
LECTORS 8:30 11:00	Debbie Fitzpatrick Sissy Brown	Chelsea Fitzpatrick Kathleen Calhoun	Pat Park Sissy Br
ACOLYTES 8:30 11:00	Melanie Winkler David Scott	Kelly Parker David Scott	Kelly Pa David S
ALTAR GUILD	Kelly Parker Liz Montelepre	Kelly Parker Liz Montelepre	Kathy V Faye W
USHERS 8:30 11:00	Pat Parker Mike Kendrick Mary Taylor	Pat Parker Mike Kendrick Betty McDonald	Pat Par Mike K Mary Ta
<i>The Rev'd Robert Dandridge will Officiate on January the 2, 8, 16, 23, and 30</i>			

Please join us for the

ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 27, 2019

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

Make parish plans for 2019
 Elect vestry members
 Elect delegates to the spring diocesan convention
 Eat great food & enjoy great company

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please add the following new information to your directory:



2018



THANKSGIVING DINNER AT ST. JAMES



Food was plentiful and delicious at the St. James Communal Thanksgiving Dinner. Eleven people attended this year, bringing salads, vegetables, dressing, gravy, and lots of desserts to compliment



the turkey provided by Matt Parker. There was enough left for Kathy to take some leftovers for Hope House, Jacob to take some home for his mom (who had to work), for our visitor to take a plate to a friend, and for



all of us to take some for later. Good food, Good company...What a blessed day. ~Kathy Deal

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

DECEMBER 16

The children's pageant will take place during the 11am service on December 16, in lieu of the sermon. Please come and support our children and youth as they teach us about the Christmas season.



LOOKING AHEAD

December 16	8:30am Rite 1 Eucharist 11:00am Rite 2 Eucharist with Children's Pageant
December 23	8:30am Rite 1 Eucharist 11:00am Rite 2 Eucharist Greening of the Church followed by potluck luncheon
December 24 Christmas Eve	4:30pm Rite 2 Eucharist with Children's sermon 10:30pm Rite 2 Eucharist
December 30	8:30am Rite 1 Eucharist 11:00am Rite 2 Eucharist De-greening of the Church
January 6 Epiphany	8:30am Rite 1 Eucharist 11:00am Rite 2 Eucharist
January 27	10:00am Rite 2 Eucharist Followed by Annual Meeting and potluck luncheon



WE'LL WORSHIP TOGETHER

CHRISTMAS EVE



Christmas Eve

This year's Christmas Eve Services are scheduled at 5:30pm and 10:30pm on December 24. Each will be the full Christmas Eve Eucharist, complete with music. During the earlier service the Reverend Andrew Comeaux will present a children's sermon and we will hear his regular homily at the later service. 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.

A TASK OF LOVE

You are invited to help green the church after the 11am service on December 23, the last Sunday of Advent. Gather your family, gloves, work clothes, and bring them all with you when you come for worship that day. Once the task is complete we will share a potluck soup and sandwich luncheon—so come prepared!

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.



NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY DUE BEFORE JANUARY 9

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 2019 Diocesan Convention. Vestry nominations are due by January 9. This allows time for the names to be mailed to parishioners prior to the Annual 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. We will be electing two new Vestry members, as David Scott will remain as Senior Warden, rather than rolling off the Vestry.

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

- 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
- Be committed to the spiritual growth of St. James

And remember, the Diocesan Convention will be held in the spring, beginning in 2019. The convention dates are March 8-9, 2019. Nominations for delegates will be taken from the floor during the Annual Meeting. We will need four delegates and four alternates.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VESTRY

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

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

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

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

GOD DOES NOT DEFINE US BY OUR MISTAKES

Christmas season is almost upon us. During Advent we are joyfully preparing for the birth of our Savior—sent to this world to redeem us. God saw beyond the sins, mistakes, errors, and ugliness of humanity and recognized something he deemed worth saving. Instead of condemning all humanity for our lack of perfection, he created a way to make it easier for us to come to him.

So, if God does not define us by our mistakes, why do we so often do so? When we look at others we should strive to see the goodness inside, whether it is obvious to us or hidden. All people are deserving of our love, acceptance, and help—because God has said it is so. **We don't get to pick and choose who is worthy and who is not. We've been instructed to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless. We've been told that whatever we do for the least of God's creation, we do for him. By the same token, whatever we deny to the least of God's creation, we deny to him.**

Let us enter together into the Christmas season with the joy of **knowing God's great love, and the shared knowledge that he loves every one of his creation.** None of us are cast aside as not worthy, for all of us are made in the image of God.

And let us remember and share the news with our friends, family, and neighbors: The Episcopal Church welcomes every one. None of us are not welcome—no matter what.

—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@att.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@att.net or dropped off at the parish office. And if you are shy about doing the writing, just telephone the information to 686-1261 and the writing will take care of itself.

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

Our Schedule of Services:

Sunday—Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 8:30am

followed by Coffee Hour and donuts in the Parish Hall

Sunday School, 9:45am

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 with music 11:00am

Wednesday—Holy Eucharist Rite 2, 10am



IT IS TIME TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Meeting will be held on January 7th, 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 11th in order for them to be assembled into The Annual Report. Please submit in a timely manner so the Senior Warden doesn't need to nag you with annoying e-mails, phone calls, or notes. Reports are needed from the following sources:

Praise & Worship Team

Adult Bible Study

Children's Sunday School

Memorial Committee

Altar Guild

Acolytes and Altar Party (Lay Readers,
Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers) *****

Greeter's Ministry

Community Garden Committee

Outreach Committee

Intercessors

Eucharistic Visitors

LDI (Filling in the Gaps)

St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry

20's and 30's Group

Stewardship Committee

KAIROS/KAIROS Outside

Nursery

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Treasurer

Legacy Committee

Canterbury House

Choir

ECW

EYC

DOK

Cursillo

A/V support



***** **Already turned in! Thanks, Mike!**

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.