

the st. james



August 2023
Volume 22 Number 8



Sunday Schedule

8 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:15 AM Coffee Hour
5:30 PM South Sudanese
Worship

Sunday School Resumes
September 10, 2023

The 10 a.m. Worship Service
is live streamed weekly and
recorded for later viewing
through the St. James
YouTube Channel. The link
is on our website, listed
below.

St. James Episcopal Church
4515 Delray Street
Roanoke, VA 24012
Phone: 540-366-4157
Fax: 540-366-2851
E-mail: stjames@rev.net
www.stjamesroanoke.org

Transition musings...

It's been almost 8 weeks: 7 Sundays, 14 services, 7 coffee hours, 7 treats-of-the-week, 1 funeral, 1 Feast Day, 2 issues of the monthly Saint James Connection, 2 monthly volunteer schedules, 2 vestry meetings, weekly Bible study, weekly prayer group meetings, weekly altar guild preparations, weekly choir rehearsals, weekly grounds keeping, and A LOT OF EMAILS, but who's counting? (Maybe your Senior Warden?!?!) And I must say, we should all be proud of how we are carrying on and being the Saints of James. I am thankful for everyone's support and willingness to help during the transition.

When I think about our St James community during the past 8 weeks, the Zulu word "Ubuntu" comes to my mind. "Ubuntu" means, "I am because you are." "Ubuntu" is based on values of justice, responsibility, equality, collectiveness, relatedness, reciprocity, love, respect, helpfulness, community, caring, dependability, sharing, trust, integrity, unselfishness and social change. "Ubuntu" is about togetherness and looking after each other, and we definitely reflect the spirit of "Ubuntu".

"Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP Page 817)

Avis Aheron
Senior Warden

St. James Episcopal Church

Clergy:

The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas
Bishop, Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

Staff:

Mrs. Connie Bierly, Secretary
Mr. Andrew Cochran, Choir Director & Organist
Mrs. Donna Parks & Mr. Marshall Hudson, Sextons

The Connection:

Send copy to: stjames@rev.net

Internet Web Page:

www.stjamesroanoke.org
Gerald Gordon, Web Master
ggordonva@hotmail.com

The St. James Vestry:

Senior Warden, Avis Aheron
Junior Warden, Tim Buchholtz
† Clerk, Machele Huff
† Treasurer, Kevin Shepherd
† Ass't. Treasurer, Avis Aheron
† Rec. Treasurer, Danny Fainter
Avis Aheron
Tim Buchholtz
Donna Frost
Jessica Price
Katie Rucker
Carla Spencer
Phil Wheeler
Dottie Wrabel
Lynn Wright
(† - Not Vestry members)

Standing Committees & Chairs

Finance: TBA
Property: Tim Buchholtz
Hospitality: Kim Laxton
Stewardship: TBA

* * * * *

Episcopal Church Women:
Dorothy Herndon

Daughters of the King:
Carla Spencer

St. James Cycle of Prayers

In August, we give thanks for all those who participate in the St. James communication ministries – the newsletter, the web site, Facebook page and e-announcements. We pray that their ministries will continue to spread the word about parish events, worship services, and parish news to all the Saints of James and others interested in our parish.

TREASURERS' CORNER . . .

By Kevin Shepherd

Financials: June 2023

(These are Year-to-Date actual amounts not budgeted amounts)

Operating Income: \$80,946.59
Operating Expenses: \$109,811.60
Net (Loss) Operating Income:
(\$28,865.01)

One way to help fundraise for St. James:

(1) Kroger. For your Kroger grocery purchases to be credited towards St. James fundraising efforts, you will need to register online with Kroger (www.kroger.com/communityrewards). St. James' exclusive community rewards organization number is VM990. If you need assistance with signing up, please contact Avis Aheron (avisaheron@hotmail.com or 540-580-9203). It will take just a few minutes to

sign you up, and St. James will receive a check based on the percentage of sales, split among participating organizations.

YOUTH NEWS . . .

EYE Reflections **Submitted by Jordyn Price**

This year, I got to go to EYE: Episcopal Youth Event. It was the most life-changing youth event I've ever been to. On the first day of the event, YMT (Youth Ministry Team) had the opportunity to lead the energizers and icebreakers such as clusters and the Christian song *Montana*. It was really fun to teach the participants our games and learn some of theirs. The next day, when everyone else arrived, we greeted them through the ice cream social. I met many new friends just from that event. Even after the event ended, my new friends and I kept the fun going in the lounge area where we met people from New York, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Georgia, Wisconsin, and many other places. One of the coolest places participants came from was Thailand. It was really cool to compare and contrast the way our lives are among the different states. My favorite part of the whole event was the worship. We had many different speakers who talked to us including Bishop Michael Curry. Each of their sermons was very powerful and meaningful. One of the best experiences that I got out of EYE was the music and the band. The music was so moving and

powerful, especially when our group taught the whole event the movements to *Montana*. Aside from the music, one thing I hope to take with me is the friends I made along the way. And even though we are several hundred miles apart, we will never forget each other because of the bonds we have with each other. EYE was truly a life-changing experience and I'm very thankful that I had the opportunity to go.

Christian Formation **Submitted by Jessica Price**

When I think of Christian formation, I think of my early childhood years here at Saint James. I think back to those years with fondness. I remember waking up early on Sunday mornings, rushed to get dressed and generally to find where I had kicked off my shoes. I remember Daddy swinging by the Dunkin Donuts that sat beside Baskin Robbins on Williamson Road. I remember sneaking my hand into the box of munchkins, otherwise known as donut holes, and hoping desperately to snag a blueberry without brushing against the telltale powdered donut that would surely give me away. Yet, he always knew. Momma would scold me, reminding me that those were for coffee hour.

We would enter the church and go immediately to whatever pew Momma chose for that Sunday, typically towards the back of the church. She was not as much a creature of habit as I am. There were no small heart attacks or feelings of

being unsettled if we sat somewhere new. I remember the children being called to the front of the church to sit in the aisle as Father Tom told us stories. I remember rushing to Sunday School, waiting for the lemonade and the snacks that were going to be divvied out among us.

Then there was the singing. Every Sunday, learning new songs and singing the favorites, like *Father Abraham*, each of us children bouncing up and down with the music. The lessons came shortly after, and at its conclusion, we made a mad dash to coffee hour to see if there were any donuts left over. I and the others darted in and out and around the adults, playing games and giggling. There was never any doubt of whether I belonged in the house of God. We all did. The cookies, the lemonade, the songs, the time that was set aside just for us let us know that we were precisely where we were meant to be.

This is what I hope for the children of Saint James. Beginning in September, Sunday School will resume. Every Sunday, unless otherwise noted, we will work on Christian formation. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will also resume for the children to explore the mysteries of God's love for us using Montessori-based hands-on methods of learning.

Childhood fades away. We lose innocence. We face trials and tribulations. We forget specifics. This is all a part of the growing process. Yet, we never forget how someone makes us

feel. We never forget the roots that bind us to our values and morals. These roots grow deeper into the ground, entrenched in the nutrients that feed our souls. Even long after memories fade, I can hear the remnants of beginnings that formed the foundation of my faith. For me, these foundations started in Sunday School at Saint James. As the year begins, I encourage all youth to take part in these classes. Each of you can help form one another in communion with each other. Bring your ideas and energy into the classroom. Adults, encourage the youth to participate in these offerings. Let us come together, beginning in September as we educate the youth and they educate us in a new year of Christian Formation.

OUTREACH NEWS...

The plate and loose offering received on August 20 goes to the Bradley Free Clinic. Bradley Free Clinic has been serving the people of the Roanoke Valley for nearly 50 years. Today the Bradley Free Clinic continues to serve low-income, uninsured, and underinsured, residents of the Roanoke Valley and surrounding areas. Their mission is to provide compassionate and comprehensive health care services for the underserved by partnering with high quality professional volunteers. The Bradley Free Clinic strives to accomplish this mission through the following health care services: medical, dental, pharmacy, and behavioral health. Please give generously to this worthy organization. Checks should be made payable to St.

James Episcopal Church with “outreach” on the memo line of your check.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

Sunday School Resumes Submitted by Ann Bird

Sunday School will resume September 10, 2023. The 3- to 6-year-olds will be in the rainbow room (Room 8) with Mrs. Bird. The 2nd to 5th grade will meet in Room 16 at the end of the hall with Mrs. Sabrina and Mrs. Amanda Mattox. The older youth 6th grade and up will meet in The Cave (behind the Catechesis) with Mrs. Jessica Price.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Submitted by Carol Eanes

I feel St. James is most fortunate to have a program like this available to children. There are three age groups that this program includes: the young child (ages 3-6), the older child (ages 6-12) and there is a level for children ages 9-12.

At St. James we will have three catechists working with children ages 3-6 this year. The atrium (or prepared environment) is one of the important elements that helps the relationship between God and the child to flourish.

After a theme has been presented, the child is free to choose an activity that will make possible the inner dialogue with the “Interior Teacher.”

The atrium helps to nourish this relationship by providing a place for religious life, for community and worship – not a classroom for instruction. It is also a place of meaningful work through which the child can have a conversation with God. Finally, it is a place of preparation for involvement in the larger worship community.

Treat of the Week Submitted by Karen Martin

I would like to thank you for all your donations for treat of the week for each of our coffee hours. Your creativity and generosity is wonderful and appreciated. We are always welcoming donations for treat of the week.

School Supplies for Round Hill Submitted by Karen Martin

Summer has arrived. I want to take the opportunity to let you know that I can take school supplies and box top labels anytime. I can make trips to the school during the summer or store them and deliver a bigger supply before school starts again for the students.

St. James’s Website

Visit our St. James website, <https://stjamesroanoke.org>, which has been redesigned and updated. When the Diocese did not renew their contract with Digital Faith, that hosted our website, we had to find another web provider and transfer our website to a new platform. The Vestry hired Teresa Martin, owner of Studio Thought Marketing & Design, LLC,

of Floyd, to work with us to redesign and set up our new website. Gerald Gordon is our webmaster and he has worked diligently with Teresa on the layout, content, and the collecting of photos to update our Photo Gallery. The website is still a work in progress, as not all the content is complete, but do take a look, and enjoy the new pictures.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

The weekday Bible Study, led by Bob Canova, is on summer break and will resume in the fall. For more information contact John Whitcomb, 540-563-1708 or Bob Canova, 540-819-7255 (mobile), bob.canova@cox.net.

Little Free Pantry

Our Little Free Pantry continues to be well used and appreciated. Please continue to stock our pantry with non-perishable foods in **unopened** containers, personal care items and paper goods.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS . . .

August 1 Brooke Frost
 August 1 D. W. Hart
 August 3 Mercedes Malick
 August 4 Mary Leigh Capps
 August 5 Susan Bentley
 August 6 Rose Blessing Anderson
 August 6 Liam Hart
 August 6 Ryan Laxton
 August 7 Betty Harnsberger
 August 8 Margaret Williamson
 August 9 Jennifer Champion Hanson
 August 9 Jordyn Rae Price
 August 10 Cathy Cohen
 August 12 Bryan Oliver Witz

August 13 Kirin Lynne Johnstone
 August 13 Shelby Laxton
 August 17 JoAnn Criscione
 August 18 Mark Curley
 August 19 Allison Chan
 August 19 Butch Eanes
 August 19 Steve Wiegandt
 August 20 D. Karen Martin
 August 22 Clay Kasey
 August 22 Kevin Laxton
 August 24 Dawn Hensel
 August 25 Azheni Kiri Sea
 August 29 Avis Aheron

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES . . .

August 4 Ray & Lawton Kasey
 August 6 Rick & Elizabeth Stevens
 August 8 James & Linda Kyle
 August 10 Art Tatman & Andy Cochran
 August 18 Donna & Arby Frost

Is your birthday or anniversary missing?
 Please let the church office know.

REMEMBERING JACKIE LEONARD ...

EULOGY

Submitted by Dr. Sandy Leonard

My mother, Jackie Leonard, was born during the great Depression. You remember that? From your history books? She lived it even being sent to a camp for kids who were malnourished. She grew up in the projects in Massachusetts being outcast for having an alcoholic father. At seven she was physically shoved off a porch by an adult male for being the daughter of an alcoholic. Making matters worse her mother committed social suicide by

getting a divorce. A divorce was unacceptable in the 1930's.

Oh how times have changed.

From these circumstances my mother learned to fight to survive. She worked through high school and stayed at home with her younger brother. No after school sports no extra curricular activities for her. She had to grow up fast.

Jackie met my father and was married at eighteen and moved into one room at his relatives home. They made a great team, my mother working part time in retail, my father driving trucking working two jobs to buy their first house. He was promoted to production and inventory control over time and they bought a house in an affluent town in Winchester Mass. so their three children could attend one of the best school systems in the state.

My mother considered herself a military mother. Her oldest child a 33-year career veteran of the Army and two wars. Another son served three years in the Army and daughter seven years a police officer. All three have college degrees. Not bad for a child from the projects?

The family joined the church of Epiphany where my mother thrived. She found a home in her church as a member of the Women of Epiphany, was on dozens of committees, especially luncheons' bazaars and fairs. Her love affair with cooking was enjoyed by many parishioners. St. James may also have partaken in some of her favorites to include spaghetti sauce and cookies? Treat of the week?

Jackie loved to put together the perfect outfit. And of course, adorned with distinctive jewelry. Man she enjoyed her jewelry. Nothing too expensive but unique and different. Something that accentuated the outfit.

A move to York Maine proved to be beneficial. She found a home at St. George's church and made many friends. When my father passed away in 2004 she was faced with difficult choices. Here she was widowed at 74 years old. What should she do? She had lived in New England her entire life.

Here is where I admire her courage. She researched and decided to move to Roanoke Virginia. Never been there, didn't know a soul but she had her faith. She always had faith. Over the Christmas holiday she and my brother embarked on a new chapter of their personal history.

When she arrived in Roanoke in 2005 she called all the Episcopalian churches and surprisingly St. James was the single church to call her back. It is here at St. James, where she flourished spiritually. And wore her jewelry.

Church Life and activities included: Lay Minister, lector, usher, prayer group, Bible study, fairs, bazaars, hospitality and welcoming activities, healing services, Volunteer Little Church Social Club, Episcopal Church Women. At 87 Jackie volunteered at the Christian Soldier's Food Pantry in Roanoke where she would also lead veterans and others in prayer.

There is a country song that talks about how you have fewer friends as you get older yet the one you do keep have your back. This was so true for her. My father's Godson Door Woodward called every month for the last 19 years. Jasper Fisher made certain she had enough groceries and delivered goods to the house during the entirety of the pandemic. The Harp family across the street is still there to lend a helping hand.

Her son held her hand for a total of fourteen hours while she was still conscious. She died in the company of her children so she was not alone. She had her faith.

There are so many names that enriched my mother's life at St James: Mother Sue, Mike, Alex and Matthew, The Balls, Renee, Doris, Larry and Cole, Linda, Tim, Pam, and all the rest; you know who you are.

My mother loved to laugh, loved to work, Did I mention her jewelry? She had no idea she would be posted on the St. James YOUTUBE channel, yet there she is, giving a nearly flawless reading, in her matching outfit and of course her jewelry. And she showed us that she lived until she died.

I spoke to her last on the 10th of July and she was clearly satisfied with having painted the backyard deck with my brother. At 93 she was still out there enjoying beautifying her home. Hat's off to you Jackie. You left a positive mark during your time on this earth.

Farewell Dear Mother
By an Unknown Author
(Read by Keith Leonard)

Somewhere in my heart beneath all my
grief and pain,
Is a smile I still wear at the sound of your
dear name.
The precious word is 'MOTHER', she was
my world you see,
But now my heart is breaking cause she's
no longer here with me.
God chose her for His angel to watch me
from above,
To guide me and advise me and know
that I'm still loved.
The day she had to leave me when her
life on earth was through,
God had better plans for her, for this, I
surely knew.
When I think of her kind heart and all
those loving years,
My memories surround me and I can't
hold back the tears.
She truly was my best friend, someone I
could confide in,
She always had a tender touch and a
warm and gentle grin.
I want to thank you Mother for teaching
me so well,
And though the time has come that I must
bid you this farewell.
I'll remember all you've taught me and
make you proud you'll see.
Thank you my Dear Mother for all the
love you showed me.
Although you've left this earth and now
you've taken flight,
I know that you are here with me each
morning, noon and night.

THOUGHTS FROM FRIENDS . . .**Submitted by Keith Leonard****AS THE SUN RISES**

As the sun rises on this Sunday morning, I am thinking of you my adopted mother Ms. Jackie! You were truly loved and were amazing! I know you're healthy now and whole again in the arms of our Lord! I shall shed a tear or two but you knew where you were going home. I will miss you dearly but God looked at you and said peace be thine and he took you home to heaven with your beloved Tom was waiting with open arms as you walked through the gates of heaven and into eternity! Gone are the days of you being in pain. Days of joy, peace, and love and grace are ahead for you my dear Jackie! Don't worry about Keith Sandy or Bruce I will there for them as you were for me! Thank you for all you have done for me and my family! Thank you for teaching this Marine how to love again. After being in hell of Iraq, I close my eyes and see you and Tom walking in heaven as the sun rises in my eyes!

Miss Jackie

Miss Jackie was one of those sweet souls who always found time for others. She genuinely cared about people. That is one thing about her that made her so popular with other volunteers and people coming through the line. If you were sick or had a problem, she would always send a little note in a card and offer prayers for you. I knew if she said she would pray for me that she prayed, she didn't just give it lip service. Her prayers were heartfelt and you knew she was actually

talking to the man upstairs. She lived a rich life not in monetary means but in love and caring for those who knew her. She will be missed. If there is anyone that I've ever known is in her heavenly home, I am certain it is Jackie. She is walking on those golden streets with her hair looking perfect and a smile on her face just glowing with the light of the Lord surrounding her. It was an honor to know you Miss Jackie, I'll see you again one day. Until then watch over us still struggling down here.

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2023

Aug 6**8 AM** Lector—*Tim Buchholtz***10 AM** Crucifer Zenon Malick
Acolyte Roman Malick
Chalycist -----Lector 1 Donna Frost
Lector 2 Jessica Price
Prayers Avis AheronUshers Chris & JoAnn Criscione
Coffee Beth & Steve Wiegandt
Tellers Gerald Gordon, Michael Kennedy
Altar Guild Linda Bryant, JoAnn Criscione, Dorothy Herndon,
Sharon Miller**Aug 13****8 AM** Lector—*Phil Wheeler*; Chalycist—*Bill Barksdale***10 AM** Crucifer Madde Shepherd
Acolyte Grant Rucker
Chalycist Kevin Shepherd
Lector 1 JoAnn Criscione
Lector 2 Art Tatman
Prayers Betsy BriggsUshers Kevin Laxton, Larry Mattox
Coffee Danny Fainter, Gail Fields, Gerald Gordon
Tellers Arby Frost, Katie Rucker
Altar Guild Lawton Kasey, Betsy Briggs, Katie Rucker**Aug 20****8 AM** Lector—*Bill Barksdale***10 AM** Crucifer Yuri Malick
Acolyte Mercedes Malick
Chalycist -----Lector 1 Daniel Toler-Pulley
Lector 2 Lynn Wright
Prayers Chris CriscioneUshers Kevin Shepherd, Madde Shepherd
Coffee Daniel Toler-Pulley & Robb Pulley
Tellers Larry Mattox, Kevin Laxton
Altar Guild Boots Ingram, Odell James, Karen Martin,
Debbie Williams**Aug 27****8 AM** Lector and Chalycist—*Tim Buchholtz***10 AM** Crucifer Jordyn Price
Acolyte Zenon Malick
Chalycist Katie RuckerLector 1 Sabrina Mattox
Lector 2 Phil Hobrla
Prayers Donna FrostUshers Ray Kasey, Madalyn Linkous
Coffee Art Tatman, Karen Martin, Lis Turner, Debbie Williams
Tellers Maile Armstrong, Donna Frost
Altar Guild Danny Fainter, Gail Fields, Joan Gurniak**NOTE: If you find you are unavailable on the date show, please be sure to find someone to fill in for you and let the office know.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	2	3 <u>10:00 AM</u> Prayer Group <u>11:00 AM</u> Newsletter Mails <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	4	5 <u>9:30 AM</u> AA
6 <u>2:30 PM</u> AA	7 <u>5:30 PM</u> Women's NA	8 <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	9	10 <u>10:00 AM</u> Prayer Group <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	11	12 <u>9:30 AM</u> AA
13 <u>2:30 PM</u> AA	14 <u>5:30 PM</u> Women's NA	15 <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	16	17 <u>10:00 AM</u> Prayer Group <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	18 <u>5:30 PM</u> Down Syndrome Support Group	19 <u>9:30 AM</u> AA
20 <u>12:00 PM</u> Vestry <u>2:30 PM</u> AA	21 <u>5:30 PM</u> Women's NA	22 <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	23	24 <u>10:00 AM</u> Prayer Group <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	25	26 <u>9:30 AM</u> AA <u>1 to 6 PM</u> Frost Party
27 <u>2:30 PM</u> AA	28 <u>5:30 PM</u> Women's NA	29 <u>6:30 PM</u> AA	30	31 <u>10:00 AM</u> Prayer Group <u>6:30 PM</u> AA		