



# SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL



**113<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2018**





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## FINANCIAL APPENDIX



## ST. JAMES VESTRY 2017

George Lipscomb, *Sr. Warden*  
Ed Winkler, *Jr. Warden*

Clay Allen  
Laura Brown  
Gail Burch

Jennifer Jerina  
Christi Jones-McNeill  
Neil Kanipe

Reb Mitchell  
Ileana Shaner  
Kathy Walsh

## ST. JAMES MINISTRY STAFF



The Rt. Rev. W. Andrew Waldo, Bishop,  
Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina



The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades, Rector



Ms. Tina Boyd, Youth Minister



Dr. Karen A. Eshelman, Music Director and Organist



Mrs. Katie Allen, Day School Director

## **ST. JAMES OFFICE STAFF**



Mrs. Dena Veazey, Parish Administrator

Ms. Carol Clark, Office Assistant



## AGENDA FOR THE 113<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### 12:00 p.m.

Registration and lunch

### 12:30 p.m.

Call to Order: The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades, Rector

Opening Prayer

Certification of Quorum & Appointment of Tellers

Review and Approval of Minutes of 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Nominations of Vestry Members

Nominations of Diocesan Convention Delegates

Voting

Parish Administrator's Report

Reports of St. James Commissions and Ministries

    St. James Men's Group

    The Gathering

Final 2017 Treasurer's Report

Presentation of the 2018 Preliminary Budget

Rector's Report

In Memoriam

Report of Elections

Recognition of retiring vestry members

Old Business

    The Stephen Mitchell Porch

New Business

Closing Prayer and Doxology

114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting date: January 27, 2019

Adjournment



## MINUTES OF THE 112<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 22, 2017

Call to Order – During a catered lunch provided through the Hospitality budget, Father Stephen Rhoades called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

Certification of Quorum – A total of 134 persons, including 102 voting members, were in attendance. A quorum was reached.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Robyn Harmon moved that the minutes of the December 13, 2015 meeting be approved as printed. Katie Allen seconded. Passed.

Nominations of Vestry Members – A slate of four candidates was presented to serve three-year terms for Vestry. Bill Allen moved to open nominations from the floor. No names were offered. Robyn Harmon moved that nominations be closed. Christi Jones-McNeill seconded. Passed.

Nominations of Diocesan Convention Delegates – A slate of four names was presented to fill the four Diocesan Convention Delegate positions for 2017. Pam Snape moved to open nominations from the floor. No names were offered. Robyn Harmon moved that nominations be closed. Jody Thompson seconded. Passed.

Voting – The four candidates for Vestry were elected by acclamation. They are Clay Allen, Neal Kanipe, Reb Mitchell and Ileana Shaner. The four candidates for Diocesan Convention were elected by acclamation. They are Janet Atkins, Boyd Cater, John Kaup and Margaret Oakes.

Reports of St. James Commissions and Ministries – Dena Veazey reported that St. James membership has grown over the past year and drew attention to the breakdown of parishioners by age found in the report book. Complete reports from the Staff, Wardens, Commission Chairs and other leaders of St. James' ministries are printed in the Book of Reports. These give a snapshot of what has been happening at St. James. Parishioners were encouraged to read them.

Treasurer's Report – A Preliminary Treasurer's Report for the Operating Fund as of December 31, 2016 was included in the Financial Appendix. Income was higher than budgeted and expenses were lower than budgeted which produced a surplus of \$38,665. Fr. Stephen expressed his appreciation to the Finance Committee. The Operating Cash Report as of 12/31/2016 shows that total cash in the checking and money market accounts comes to \$549,581. The majority of that is in restricted funds, leaving \$78,032 available for operations. The church borrowed money from several of the restricted funds to pay off the mortgage, which completely retires St. James' debt. The affected funds are being paid back one by one in monthly installments.

Presentation of the 2017 Draft Budget – The budgeted income is conservative. The pledge amount will be updated in February when the Vestry and Finance Committee meet to finalize the budget. Fr. Stephen encouraged everyone to submit a pledge form by then. On the expense side, staff salaries



remain the same. The diocesan contribution was increased from 70% to 80% of the asking as we move closer to our goal of paying 100% of the asking. The Vestry and Finance Committee are committed to balancing the budget. Transparency is a priority.

Rector's Report – Fr. Stephen explained that he understands his job to be helping parishioners find their passion for ministry and a way to serve in that ministry at St. James.

Staff Recognition – Fr. Stephen invited Katie Allen, Tina Boyd, Karen Eshelman and Dena Veazey to come to the front where he described their passion for their own ministries and expressed his appreciation for each.

Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members – Fr. Stephen recognized the outgoing vestry class of Sherrie Foster, Christina Harrell, Lee Plumblee and Karen Wolfe (in absentia) and thanked them for three years of faithful leadership and service. He had made a donation in their honor to Casa Adalia, one of the ministries of Cameron and Roberto Vivanco in Quito, Ecuador.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Father Stephen presented to the parish an artist's renderings of a new plan for the Stephen Mitchell Porch renovations project. The scope of the work was underestimated a year ago. A structural engineer inspected the area and found serious issues. The top 12-18" of soil and remains from the Memorial Garden will be removed to a specific location under Fr. Stephen's supervision, and will be returned to the garden at the conclusion of the project. A Columbarium will be added to the Memorial Garden. Details of the plan will also be posted on St. James' website. The work will take approximately three months. Fr. Stephen expressed his thanks to everyone who had been involved in this project and the investment it represents in the future of St. James.

The parish expressed their appreciation of Stephen with applause and a standing ovation. He thanked Anna and their children for the sacrifices and demands which are placed on them daily as the family members of a priest.

Meeting Date for 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be January 21, 2018.

Closing – Fr. Stephen closed the meeting with prayer and the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted by Dena Veazey, Parish Administrator



## VESTRY MEMBER AND DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATE NOMINEES

### 2018 VESTRY NOMINEES

#### Moira Allen

Moira is originally from Auckland, New Zealand. She has attended St. James for 18 months, ever since she retired and moved to Greenville to be close to her daughter. She relocated from Dallas, Texas where she was Director of Student Affairs at Texas A&M Baylor College of Dentistry and a member of the Cathedral Church of St. Matthew.

She chose St. James as her church because the people exemplify the values found in the Baptismal Covenant; they strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being. It is a warm and welcoming place. She currently serves as a lector, a member of the Altar Guild and a member of the Daughters of the King.

While at St. Matthews, she served on the vestry, on the Altar Guild, as the Weddings Coordinator, a lector, a member of the Daughters of the King, involved with the Bishop's Camp (a summer literacy program for inner city kids), and served for several years in a prison ministry for incarcerated women. She was also involved with getting food donations for the food pantry and served as an advisor with the Christian Medical Dental Association. In addition, she served on or chaired one or more Parish Committees on Vocation.

Moira writes, "Outreach ministry is, and always has been, very important to me and the outreach efforts of St. James truly speak to my heart. I believe you could say that I am passionate about outreach ministry and try to be involved in it whenever possible. As to what gifts and experience I can bring to the vestry, these would be a lifetime of diverse personal and professional experiences gained from living and working in various countries throughout the world. I bring my commitment to this wonderful community of worship and worshipers, and my love of being in service to the Lord in this place in whatever capacity He feels me fit to fulfill."

#### Al Geiger

Al is in Community Relations/admissions with Pruitt Hospice. He has lived in Greenville since 1987 and been at St James for two and a half years primarily because it is an outreach/pastorally minded congregation. He also likes the traditional Episcopal style of services, the church staff, the people of the congregation, the stunningly beautiful music, the love he feels on our campus, and the convenience to where he lives.



Al has been involved in various ministries at Triune Mercy Center, Christ Church and here at St. James. Those ministries include Stephen ministry, Youth Christian education, youth mission trips, adult Bible study facilitator, grief support facilitator, mentor and trainer for the Circles of Hope program, Feed Thy Neighbor volunteer, GAIHN program leader, overnight host and room set up/breakdown volunteer, Vestry member, bereavement care. He also has experience with hospice and youth mentoring, and as a Boy Scout leader.

“I am passionate in my Christian walk to the words of St Francis, ‘at all times preach the Gospels, and if there is no other way, use words.’ I love the study of Scripture and theology, but becoming phd’s isn’t what Jesus told us to do. We are called to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoner, and care for the widows and those who need help. Fortunately for me, St. James has a long history of focusing on those needs. I bring to Vestry all of the above-mentioned experience and passions. It should also be noted that I love the Episcopal Church Liturgy and the Book of Common Prayer. Our Leaders bring a majesty to corporate worship that is sublime, and the cadencing of life through the daily office walks us through the good and the bad. What a wonderful culture we enjoy.”

### Monte Hudson

Monte has lived in Greenville since the age of four. He and his wife Kimberly have been at St. James for approximately 19 years. They were confirmed by Bishop Henderson in July of 2001, having attended St. James for some time prior. Monte says that he and Kimberly “have always felt at home and comfortable with the people of St. James. I think we have one of the most inviting and relaxed congregations that I have ever been a part of. We also have always enjoyed the educational benefits of St. James as well, that we neither one experienced in our youth at other churches.”

Monte has been involved in the Feed Thy Neighbor ministry for a couple of years, joined the St. James Finance Committee early in 2015, and serves on the Sound Team. He added that he is “passionate about continuing education for all age groups. I think our church possesses so many talented people who bring a variety of gifts to this field, that there is always an opportunity to learn something new. I hope to bring my willingness to work in whatever capacity is needed to strengthen the Vestry and St. James. I am always seeking ways to think 'out of the box', and believe in being very open and honest in my views or thoughts.”

### Sam Lyons

*No biographical information was available at the time of printing.*



Alice Littlejohn *(to complete last year of vacated term)*

Alice, a Library Media Specialist at Stone Academy, is originally from Gastonia, NC. She and Ken have lived in Greenville and attended St. James since 1993 (25 years), most often the 9:00 service. She joined St. James when she married Ken, who was already a member. It was a good fit then and has remained a good fit. They enjoy the inviting atmosphere and the traditional style of worship and music that they both grew up with in the Episcopal church. She kept nursery before and while her daughter was of nursery age and taught Sunday School during Charlotte's elementary years. She is a member of the Order of the Daughters of the King and participates in 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Lunches for Southernside Community Center. She has served as facilitator for sponsoring Frazee kids to Camp Bob at Kanuga from 2010-present, Vestry from 2009-2012, and previously co-chaired Stewardship. She participates in Parish Fellowship Weekends at Kanuga. She currently serves as Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Coffee Hour Host, and on the Mission and Outreach commission; she recently joined the Hospitality Commission. Alice writes, "I am passionate about making a difference in children's lives and helping to make memories that children will cherish. In my job, I get to introduce wonderful books to children and spark their desire for learning. Many of the children I work with at Stone are also served by the Frazee Center. I have seen firsthand what a difference the Camp Bob experience makes in the lives of children that St. James sponsors each summer. By combining the financial resources of St. James with the programming and facilities at Camp Bob at Kanuga, we can provide a significant outdoor and spiritual experience that children from our community will cherish. I have been part of this parish under the leadership of four rectors. Each of those rectors has had a unique gift and has made a positive impact on the life of the church. The experience I bring is a historical perspective for what has changed, when and why. The changes that have been made at St. James have been thoughtfully considered and communicated. I am willing to be part of the thoughtful and prayerful process that the Vestry undertakes in leading the church forward."

## **DIOCESAN DELEGATE NOMINEES**

Clay Allen

Laura Brown

Gail Burch



## PARISH LEADERSHIP REPORTS

### RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

This past December marked two major personal milestones for me. First, I turned fifty. Second, I celebrated the tenth anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood! This year also marks the tenth anniversary of the installation of St. James' pipe organ. When you reach such milestones, some tend to start looking backwards. However, I choose to look forward. I look forward to many more years of ministry as a priest, and many more years at St. James.

There are many things to celebrate about our past year in ministry, but I would be remiss without recognizing that this past year has also been a year of sadness and loss for St. James. St. James has had an inordinate number of deaths in our congregation this past year. This loss has been keenly felt by your clergy and staff and the pastoral care extended by the clergy and the staff has been wonderful, but it came at a personal price. There were weeks when the loss became almost overwhelming for us, as our sense of balance was sorely tested and we struggled to maintain perspective in the midst of pain and sorrow. However, there are seasons in life, and in the life of the Church and as Christians we are called to be joyful with those who are joyful and weep with those who mourn. It is our call to celebrate the lives of those who have gone on to be with Jesus and to honor their name to the best of our ability. I can say with confidence that your clergy and staff rose to the occasion and that St. James is stronger because of it.

This past year was, however, also about abundant life. St. James is a very busy and lively place – if you have any doubt, just look at our online parish calendar. God is worshipped at St. James in four regular services per week plus special services throughout the year. Bible studies, vacation bible school, adult and children's education series, EYC, the St. James Day School, all fulfill our call to engage scripture and deepen our understanding and appreciation of the faith. We live into our call to offer hospitality by opening our doors to the community: church league basketball, high school sports boosters, music programs and recitals, twelve-step programs, counseling services and student groups all call our facilities home. We live into Christ's call to love our neighbor as ourselves by continuing to expand our outreach through Rise Against Hunger, our work with the St. Francis Community, Kairos prison ministry, St. James Giving Tree, St. James Christmas Angel Tree, Feed thy Neighbor, Camp Bob and many other outreach efforts.

This has also been a year of building and growth, adding to our numbers and the beauty of our campus. We have welcomed our bishop, celebrated weddings, baptisms, confirmations, and new members have joined our family. We have also lived through a major construction project as the front entrance of the church and the Memorial Garden were torn apart, rebuilt, and finally reopened



and blessed by the bishop. We also re-carpeted the Day School, the narthex, the nave, refloored our Adult Christian Education room, and repainted different areas of campus.

In 2018, I anticipate more growth at St. James – not only in numbers, outreach and special projects, but also in growing our relationship with Christ. St. James has a strong leadership team in place, a talented and dedicated staff, a wonderfully diverse congregation, a heart for the community and a desire to go deeper in the faith. Together we will endeavor to be the Kingdom of God in the midst of a divided nation and world, to live the love of Christ and draw others to his light. For only light can overcome darkness – and only the light of Christ can overcome all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by a plus sign (+).



## SENIOR WARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT

To the congregation,

It has been my honor to serve as Senior Warden at St. James this past year. While it has been a sad year with the passing of a number of long-time parishioners, it has also been a time of excitement with new families joining the church, the “return” of Deacon Al, and the continuation of a number of ministries vital to the St. James Community. The completion of the Mitchell Porch has also enhanced our buildings and grounds and will provide us with a safe and attractive entry for years to come.

In addition to my service on the Vestry, I've also been blessed to be involved in a number of activities in the church during the past year including serving as a delegate to Diocesan Convention, volunteering at Vacation Bible School, eating way more than I should have at the Oyster Roast and BBQ & Bluegrass, reading at the Easter Vigil, and preparing hams, turkey, and salmon during Thanksgiving and Christmas. In all of these activities I am continually reminded of the special community we have at St. James and of the many people it takes to help make these ministries and special events run.

While St. James is a thriving community in many ways, I still want to make a few brief suggestions based on my time in the Vestry that will go a long way towards keeping the church vital in coming years.

1. Continue to build relationships within St. James. Go to a different service, join a FEAST group, teach a Sunday School class, introduce yourself to someone you don't know, etc.
2. I know that we are all busy, but look at your spiritual gifts to discern areas in which you can volunteer. For those new to St. James—don't be shy—there are many ministries in which you can help.
3. Keep looking outward. I'm going to Ecuador this summer as part of a short-term diocesan mission team, and there are many areas in both the local and greater community in which you can plug in; financial support is also needed more than ever to provide the outreach that is needed to support the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I want to thank Father Stephen, Dena Veazey, Junior Warden Ed Winkler, and all of the Vestry for their work over the past year, and I look forward to returning to a “regular” role within the congregation.

In Christ,

George Lipscomb ([george.lipscomb@furman.edu](mailto:george.lipscomb@furman.edu))



## JUNIOR WARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The property and grounds of St. James are similar to an automobile in many ways. If you maintain it properly, it will last a long time and serve you well. Sometimes we have a tendency to overlook areas that need to be maintained, not necessarily because it is something we intend to do but because we have grown accustomed to the way it looks. More often than not, money is involved. It takes quite a lot of money to maintain St. James and keep our property looking the way we like.

2017 was a year of major activity for the property and grounds. We completed the major undertaking of giving the front entrance and the Memorial Garden a new look. We removed plants that had passed their maturity and replaced them with an updated landscape. We added beautiful stain glass windows in the Memorial Garden and installed our new Columbarium. All of this was completed without any debt or expenditure from the operating budget of St. James. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the Mitchell family for providing the funds to make this wonderful renovation possible. Thanks also to those who purchased a niche in the columbarium that allowed us to complete that phase of the project without St. James funds.

We sometimes forget about those who donate their time to maintenance projects around the church. A special thanks to those who served on the entrance renovation committee: Luke Mitchell, Mary Mitchell, Nancy LeDonne, Gail Burch, Stan Gibson, Neal Kanipe and Ed Winkler; to Ron and Pauline Kelley for maintaining the rose garden; Mel Pfister for converting our lighting; Kaye Greene for beautifying our entrance; and Shaun Arness and Michael Foster for their hours of helping with projects. I know there are many others who helped us maintain our property and grounds this year and to all of you, a sincere thank you. Bill Wells was one special person who donated countless time, effort and love to St. James as a past Junior Warden and Chair of the Building and Grounds Commission. We thank you, Bill, and we miss you.

We have appointed two committees to oversee property and grounds. Gail Burch will chair the committee responsible for the areas outside the Memorial Garden, and Sherrie Foster will chair the committee responsible for the area inside the Memorial Garden. The Men's Group plans to assist with maintenance projects throughout the year.

### **New and Improved**

New flooring including carpeting and tile in areas of the day school and upstairs  
Painted walls and shelves in the Day School  
Added three kiddie sinks in the Day School  
Added a door between classrooms to improve access and safety for nursery and Day School  
Converted many of our overhead lights to LED

### **On the To-Do List**

Clean area around Parish Life Center  
Add a kitchenette off the foyer  
New signage  
Convert outside pole lights to LED  
Add new landscaping to replace mature plants on front of church  
Additional painting  
Resurface parking lot (a fund has been established to reserve funds for this project)

Ed Winkler (winkofsc@gmail.com)



## ST. JAMES STAFF REPORTS

### ADMINISTRATION

**Membership:** As of December 31, 2017, St. James had 588 active members and 56 other active persons. We added 42 new members in 2017—5 by baptism, 23 by letter of transfer and 14 by request. St. James also lost 32 members (several from our inactive roles)—12 who moved away or transferred, 20 who died.

**Attendance:** St. James reported an average attendance of 213 in 2016. A total of 558 people attended Easter services in 2017, including the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday. 509 people attended services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**2018 Pledges:** As of January 16, 2018, St. James had received 151 pledges for 2018 which total \$469,581. This is an average pledge of \$3,110 per household. 15 new member households have pledged. 19 households who pledged last year and are still involved at St. James have not yet submitted a pledge at this time. It's not too late to submit your pledge!

**Thanks:** I would like to express my gratitude to all those who volunteer their time and talents throughout the year to answer phones during staff meetings, to count weekly offerings, to enter data into the computer, to collate bulletins and other tasks which arise. If you are interested in helping in the office with activities like these, please contact me.

Age Range	# of Parishioners	
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
0-10	61	57
11-17	66	70
18-29	34	45
30-39	33	36
40-49	74	75
50-59	56	59
60-69	91	89
70-79	75	83
80-89	38	40
90+	12	8
	540	562
DOB	30	26
Unknown		
<b>Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>588</b>

Dena Veazey, Parish Administrator (admin@stjamesgreenville.org)

### MUSIC MINISTRY

#### Choirs and Musicians at St. James

##### 1. The congregation

The people of St. James form the largest and most important choir at St. James. Our congregation is known around Greenville for our enthusiastic and joy-filled singing of the hymns and service music. Singing together is a way to pray; it brings us together to create and celebrate the liturgy. The poetry of the hymns fills us with images and truths about the faith we profess. Even those who hesitate to sing can join by praying and meditating on words ancient and new, written by our Christian brothers and sisters across the ages. The use of the hymnal, whether for congregational singing or for prayer and meditation, helps us take on an active role in learning about our faith and in teaching the process of prayer and worship to our children.



## 2. Music education for all ages

St. James offers the ‘Voice for Life’ music and choir education program of the Royal School of Church Music (with which St. James is affiliated) as part of the youth choir curriculum. The Voice for Life program, which involves a series of workbooks, is also available to adults who want to learn more about music and singing. Contact Karen Eshelman for more information.

## 3. 2017 Events

In addition to regular Sunday musical offerings, there were special musical offerings of praise and thanksgiving during Lent, Easter and the Advent-Christmas seasons. Again this year, our choir and organist joined with the clergy in June to lead worship at Faith Memorial Chapel in Cedar Mountain, N.C. Another annual highlight was the service of Advent Lessons and Carols, presented by the St. James Choir and the Youth Choir on Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. An in-house recording was made for our homebound parishioners.

## 4. Youth and children’s choirs

If your child enjoys singing at home, he/she will do well in any of the following groups. In our music activities, we learn all kinds of things about music and about church, and we have fun doing it. Don’t miss out!

***Volunteers are needed to assist in this ministry:** At least one adult (in addition to the choir director) must attend each rehearsal in compliance with Safe Church guidelines. Volunteers are occasionally needed to play the piano during rehearsals and on Sundays. Volunteers are also occasionally needed to measure, label, and hem robes. For the younger children, volunteers are needed to help with putting on choir robes and lining up the children when they sing in church; often a parent will need to sit with the children in the chancel (near the organ) during church.*

- The **Children’s Choir** has a flexible structure designed to accommodate young children and less-experienced singers in K-5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In the fall of 2017, the choir rehearsed on Wednesdays 3:15 – 4:00 p.m. The group’s membership this year is mainly younger students who are beginning to find their singing voices and learning to match pitch. As they progress, they will be exposed to other topics based on the ‘Voice for Life’ choir curriculum from the Royal School of Church Music: the basics of music (melody, rhythm, and harmony), reading music, and becoming familiar with the hymnal. I encourage **all** children to join the Children’s Choir; in addition to singing, children in choir learn about teamwork and about participating in worship – and most importantly, children learn to live their faith when they sing about it together! The Children’s Choir sings for the 9 a.m. Sunday worship service about once a month, and on occasion joins with the Youth Choir and/or St. James Choir. New choir members may join at any time during the year. Contact Karen Eshelman ([music@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:music@stjamesgreenville.org)) to sign up and request a registration form.
- The **Youth Choir** is for all students in grades 6-12 and for experienced singers in grades 4 and 5; they rehearse for an hour on Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Our current membership is eight singers, and we are actively seeking new members. This group sings for the 9 a.m. service about every three weeks and occasionally at 11 a.m., sometimes joining with the St. James Choir for special anthems. The music they sing includes regular choir music as well as a variety of new



and traditional hymns and spirituals. These students also study the music curriculum from the Royal School of Church Music. New choir members may join at any time during the year; parish members and friends are invited to join. Contact Karen Eshelman ([music@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:music@stjamesgreenville.org)) to sign up and to request a registration form.

## 5. St. James Choir

The St. James Choir is for high school and adult singers who enjoy singing weekly as a part of worship. In addition to singing every Sunday at the 11 a.m. service, this choir learns and provides special music for the annual Advent Lessons and Carols service, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Day. Being in the choir and learning music is therapeutic and uplifting; and making new friends at rehearsal is just plain fun! Current membership is 23. Three of our choir members are Furman students who have been chosen to be Choral Scholars. These students earn a small amount to assist with their music study, and by participating at St. James they learn the basics of church music as part of their total music education. The St. James Choir also sends financial support to Education=Hope for schoolchildren in Ecuador.

The choir continues to enjoy their gift of new choir vestments, which they received at Christmas, 2016. Proper choir vestments have made a big difference in our worship, one that impacts the entire congregation.

The St. James Choir is looking for additional singers in all sections, and is in particular need of additional sopranos. We are a friendly and supportive group, and we make it easy to learn new music. In fact, most of the choir members are not trained singers, so everyone is assisted with the learning of their music. If you have previously sung in a choir and would like to pick it back up, please come up to the organ after the postlude and speak with our music director, Dr. Karen Eshelman, or send her an e-mail ([music@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:music@stjamesgreenville.org)).

***Volunteer help needed:*** *music library assistance - file music, stamp new copies, update folders, and update library spreadsheet.*

## 6. Instrumentalists and Vocal Soloists

- Our youth played and sang carol arrangements for the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service in 2017.
- During the summer months, anyone who can play an instrument or sing is invited to offer a solo or duet as a prelude or musical offering. Students and adults are welcome; Karen Eshelman can help you find a hymn or something special to play or sing.

***Volunteer help needed:*** *organizational and rehearsal help for student Christmas Eve rehearsals; preparation begins a week or two before Thanksgiving.*



## 7. The Gober pipe organ

In October of 2017 the Gober pipe organ turned ten, and each season continues to bring more beautiful sounds and musical offerings to our worship. Our organ requires a minimum of maintenance, but requires ongoing preventative care. During the winter months, the humidity of the nave is monitored for the benefit of people as well as the organ.

The organ project was twenty years in the dreaming and planning, and was successfully accomplished with the wide participation of the St. James community. The three large plaques located on the rear wall of the nave are filled with the names of parish members and friends who gave memorial and stewardship gifts in order to make the pipe organ a reality.

The builder of our organ, Halbert Gober, began work on the instrument soon after the contract was signed in June of 2006. By the summer of 2007, the organ had been largely completed in the Gober organ building shop located in Elora, Ontario, Canada. It was then dismantled and shipped here (filling a semi with a 53-foot long trailer) and arrived on September 2, 2007. The people of St. James assisted with the unloading of the cases of pipes and various parts of the instrument, and some of our strongest parishioners even assisted with the initial setup of the organ case, or cabinet! Every available inch of space in the upstairs rooms and hallways was used for the pieces of wood and pipes of the organ, which had to be completely reassembled upon its arrival at St. James – a process that took several weeks. During the early weeks, the nave itself was filled with pieces of the organ which had been laid out across the backs of the pews. As work wound down on Fridays, all the building materials had to be removed from the nave and stacked in other rooms until Sunday services were over. Each week we had teams of parishioners who cleaned the nave on Saturday in preparation for Sunday services.

After reassembling the organ, the next step was the voicing and the tonal finishing of the organ pipes, also the work of builder Hal Gober and his employees. "Voicing" (how the pipes are made to sing, or given voice) and "tonal finishing" (the final regulating of the sounds of the pipes) were done here at St. James so that the sounds of the organ would fit our worship space. Since each of the 1,423 pipes of our organ were individually voiced, this was a substantial part of crafting the organ and required several additional weeks to complete. There were seven additional workers who assisted Hal Gober in building the organ, from its beginning in the Elora shop to the final voicing here in the nave. They were not only our guests at the church, but also stayed at the homes of parishioners and were fed home-cooked meals prepared by parishioners.

The expressions of hospitality to the organ builders, the care of the building, the numerous donations of time and money, and the donation by several parish members of their expertise in architecture, music, organ design, and finance, all played a major part in the building of our pipe organ: the organ you see and hear each week was created not just by the organ builders, but also by the hands and hearts of parishioners and friends of St. James too many to number. So many people – together – built our pipe organ, and our pipe organ helps us give voice – together – to our prayers and praise to God! It has been a wonderful first ten years of St. James' Gober pipe organ! Watch for several events celebrating the organ that are being planned, taking place through the fall of 2018.



### ***A Collect for a New Pipe Organ***

God, whose transcendent harmony speaks to us in the thunder of ocean waves, the jubilation of mountain cataracts, and the still small voice of calm: Grant that the manifold voices of this organ may likewise proclaim the beauty of your holiness, so enlivening us for your service, that we may increase in justice, mercy, and humility, faith, hope, and love, in the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

– *Prayer for the Dedication*, by Albert Blackwell

Karen Eshelman, Music Director and Organist ([music@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:music@stjamesgreenville.org))

### YOUTH MINISTRY

It has been another great year for the Youth Ministry at St. James!

The previous years of building sustainably have paid off! The youth ministry continues to grow and stay active. I've seen them grow closer as a community. I'm regularly floored by their willingness to share about their lives with each other. The ministry serves as a sacred place for young people to be their true selves and spur each other on.

EYC continues to evolve and change around the needs of the youth, grounded in play, food, and prayer.

Our mission partnership with Project Host has held strong and remained sustainable

And we'll be headed out soon for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Retreat!

I am excited to see what all God has in store for St. James in this next year, and I continue to be thankful to all of you in your support of the Children's and Youth ministries of St. James.

Tina Boyd, Youth Minister ([youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org)).

### DAY SCHOOL MINISTRY

The St James Day School serves almost seventy children ages 1, 2, 3 and 4 years. With emphasis on instruction through active play in a loving environment, we offer care Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 1:00. Students enjoy hands-on lessons from the core basics of reading, math and science. Curriculum is rounded out with weekly chapel, music and French as well. This program has a legacy of more than forty years at St James and many current teachers have more than ten years of service to the school. The Day School is committed to a holistic approach to learning; challenging and guiding the entire child – intellectually, spiritually and emotionally. We are proud to serve little ones year after year in a family-centered, healthy and challenging environment.

Katie Allen, Day School Director ([school@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:school@stjamesgreenville.org))



## LAY MINISTRY REPORTS

### ACOLYTES

Acolytes are children, youth and adults who assist the clergy in weekly worship services and special services. They serve as crucifers (carrier of the cross), torch bearers and thurifers (incense bearer). Parishioners who are nine years old and older are invited to participate in this ministry. A roster of 37 acolytes currently serve our St. James worship services. Interested in becoming an Acolyte? Contact Ileana Shaner (ileana.shaner@gmail.com, 864-325-8358).

### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### General Reflections on the last two years

- Adult Christian Education now has a dedicated space, Room 229 just off the Narthex, that is convenient, quiet and equipped for audio-visual presentations.
- The 40 minutes allotted on Sunday mornings, 10:10-10:50 a.m., is not quite enough to initiate a good discussion, monitor and guide the discussion, and sum up basic points. But given the current start times of three worship services, we have learned to adapt to this format.
- We have developed a format that involves one or two teachers for a period of two to eight weeks. This seems to work well in that a variety of topics and teachers are offered. On the other hand, it does seem to work against the development of a cohesive group of persons studying together over the course of the year.
- Attendance has been highest (25-30) for the first couple of Sundays in the fall of each year (2016 and 2017). Then average attendance stabilizes at 10-18.

#### Course Offerings: January 2016-Spring 2017

St. James is blessed with a plethora of good teachers willing to teach courses in adult Christian Education. The following were offered during Spring and Fall 2016 and Spring 2017.

- Carol Bettencourt: Study of a recent book by Francis Collins, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*
- Albert Blackwell: "Calvin in His Own Words" from the Reformation Series and currently a series of lessons on St. James' Stained Glass Windows.
- Christopher Brotherton, Jay Owens, Father Stephen, John Shelley: "Syrian Refugees and Christian Conscience."
- Margaret Oakes: "The Anglican Poets: John Donne and George Herbert"
- Lee and Lavinia Plumlee: "Discussions of Rowan Williams' *Being Christian*"
- Henry and Judy Warnock: "Psychology and Christian Faith"
- Janet Atkins and John Shelley: "Vocation, Integrity, and the Ethics of Ambition"
- Janet Atkins and John Shelley: "The Epistle of James"



**Fall 2017: The Protestant Reformation:** The Entire Fall of 2017 was devoted to a study of the Protestant Reformation and Its significance for Western Europe and subsequently the American Colonies. The heavy lifting for this study was masterfully done by Ken Littlejohn and Chris Turgeon, with contributions from Albert Blackwell, Janet Atkins, Father Stephen, and John Shelley.

### **Plans for Spring 2018**

- Albert Blackwell is currently leading a series on the stained-glass windows brought from the old sanctuary in downtown Greenville.
- Margaret Oakes will lead a two-week study of the development of the English Bible.
- Plans are being developed for further courses in the spring on the general theme of biblical interpretation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Shelley and Janet Atkins

### **ALTAR GUILD**

In 2017, the Saint James Altar Guild participated in over 200 regular church services, in addition to special services throughout the year, including Christmas and Easter. The Altar Guild members did an excellent job. These dedicated members polish brass and silver, hang altar hangings, clean up and setup for and between services, clean and press linens, prepare communion, and set up for baptisms.

This year we lost several members and added a few members, so we reorganized our number of teams from seven in 2017 to six in 2018. Our teams serve on a rotating basis. The Altar Guild schedule is published by the beginning of the year, giving members an opportunity to make arrangements for a substitute if they cannot serve when scheduled. We welcome new members at any time during the year, and training is provided. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Fr. Stephen or the Altar Guild chair, Marjorie (Margie) Davenport ([margiedavenport@charter.net](mailto:margiedavenport@charter.net), 864-288-9096 or 864-414-8871).

### **AV TEAM MINISTRY**

St. James Audio Video Team members are Randy Burch, Michael Foster, Monte Hudson, Jeff Petty, Stacy Pirrone, Chris Sauerbrey, and Ed Snape. Members record Sunday 11:00 a.m. services for reproduction on audio CDs and on the St. James website. Approximately 416 CDs are mailed annually to St. James members who would otherwise be unable to hear the words and music of our weekly services. Parishioners wishing to receive CDs should notify the office. Special services are videoed and Blu Ray discs are published. Videos are also posted to St. James YouTube channel.

We continue to seek to expand and improve our video coverage of Saint James Services and Parish Life activities. – Ed Snape



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION

Children's Christian Education is the heart of our children's ministry at St. James. Sunday School meets downstairs on Sunday mornings from 10:10-10:50 (except for summer and other school holidays). We have classes for children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We are excited about our brand-new, teacher-friendly curriculum that makes it easier than ever to be a part of ministering to the children of our parish. We welcome anyone who is interested in teaching or shepherding to speak to any of the Sunday School teachers, or to contact Tina Boyd at [youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org).

### *Vacation Bible School*

Vacation Bible School at St. James is an important part of both our children's ministry and our community outreach. Each summer we welcome children age 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade to the Parish Life Center for a week of fun, food, friends, and fellowship. This past year we transformed the PLC into a creative inventor's Maker Fun Factory! Four generations of people came together, to make VBS a success! Huge thanks to all our adult and youth helpers! We even had a special visitor every night—"Ian," the Lacrosse Player who was good at every sport he played, but wasn't a very talented inventor (and who also looked markedly similar to Father Stephen)! We look forward to another exciting VBS next summer! We hope to have another great group of youth and adult volunteers to join us in this ministry to our children. We need help with everything from registration, to shepherds, to activity leaders. We also need help in the kitchen to prepare and serve a light meal before the program each evening. Please contact Tina Boyd at [youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org) to find out how to get involved in this great ministry!

## CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL FOR YOUTH (CLBBY)

This has been an incredible year for St James and St Francis. We have approximately 35 students playing on 3 middle school teams and one high school team. Special thanks to coaches Lee Plumblee, Michael Posner, David Williams and assistant coaches Marc McConaghy (middle school and high school teams) and Lance Plumblee. We also added a Men's team this year with 8 players. David Williams and Lee Plumblee also volunteered as gym rep, assistant coaches, and scorekeepers. We are also represented in the CLBBY board by Rob Weber. St James will host 68 regular season games on Monday nights and Saturday mornings. I would like to thank all volunteers who are participating as gym reps and our students and volunteers who are keeping score or keeping the books. Our gym hosts high school girls' games on Monday nights and 4th-5th grade girls' games on Saturdays. Our gym is a popular host sight and a great ministry opportunity for people to witness our wonderful and friendly church community. We also had students play for our neighboring churches if we were unable to field a team for them. If you would be interested in helping with hosting please contact Butch Blair [Butchblair61@gmail.com](mailto:Butchblair61@gmail.com), 706-325-9926.



## COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour hosts provide coffee, lemonade and snacks for the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. We serve in two shifts. The 9:00 a.m. volunteer makes coffee and lemonade, and puts out snacks. The 11:00 a.m. volunteer replenishes snacks and cleans up. Coffee Hour volunteers are always appreciated, by coffee drinkers and young cookie eaters alike. If you would like to help with St. James hospitality, more volunteers are needed and always welcome. Please contact Sarah Britt ([sarahsbritt@aol.com](mailto:sarahsbritt@aol.com), 864-370-2341). Thanks!

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Communications Commission continues to strive to improve communications to the parish through print, website, email and social media. A survey regarding the effectiveness of our communications was sent out by email in December. If you would like to participate in the survey, contact Dena Veazey. Please “like” us on Facebook and “follow” us on Instagram—thanks to Tina Boyd and Mary Dunlap for social media posts. An app is available for your smart phone called “Instant Church Directory.” It provides quick and easy access to our online church directory; only church members have this access. If you would like to be a part of the communications team, please contact Christina Harrell ([ctharrell96@gmail.com](mailto:ctharrell96@gmail.com)) or Dena Veazey ([admin@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:admin@stjamesgreenville.org)).

## THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The Daughters of the King is an order of prayer, service and evangelism in the Episcopal Church. Our current members are Gail Burch, Boyd Cater, Sherrie Foster, Frances Funderburk, Robyn Harmon, Kimberly Hudson, Carolyn Jones, Alice Littlejohn, JoAnne McLean, Elaine Paine, Dianne Posey, Susan Preusse, Pam Snape and Laura Thompson. All women in the Episcopal Church are invited to join. We have a 12-week study course and then we then take vows to live by the Rule of Life which is a self-imposed spiritual discipline to be faithful at prayer, service and evangelism. We pray daily for the church, the clergy, those on the prayer list and those who wish their prayers confidential. We have a box and cards in the Narthex where prayer requests can be placed. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month after the 11:00 service. Our projects include sending grief books to a member of the parish who has lost a loved one and providing Baptismal towels as keepsakes for babies and small children being baptized and prayer necklaces for expectant parents. We read and discuss books that deepen our knowledge of the church, our faith and how to serve God and our community more faithfully. We do not do fund raisers but we contribute to the different funds of the order: Self-denial, Masters, Alpha and Endowment.

One of our projects is 5th Saturday lunches. Every month that has a 5th Saturday we work with St. Philips Church in downtown Greenville to provide a simple bagged lunch—a sandwich, a drink, a piece of fruit, a bag of chips and cookies—for the hungry and those in need at the Southernside Community Center. Currently we provide 80 lunches but the need keeps growing.

We invite any woman who is interested in this ministry to speak to one of our members for more information. A new study group is being started after the first of the year. – Boyd Cater



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW), as always, have had a very active and productive year. In April our ECW dues letter was sent out to all women of the parish, and our generous women responded with \$1,564. From this we contributed \$300 toward our Diocesan dues and the rest supported our World, National, and Diocesan Missions. We were also able to support other ECW Diocesan projects.

Our Annual Attic Sale was held June 17, and after a long week with many workers helping we made a profit of \$4857.62. At least sixty percent of this money goes outside of the church to support local agencies.

The Pastoral Food Response ministry continues to be successful under the direction of Dianne Posey. Thirty-five members on six teams provided many meals for families this year.

In September the ECW Board hosted a Wine and Cheese Party for all the women of St. James in appreciation for their generous gifts of time, talent and treasures throughout the year in support of ECW ministries and projects. It was a fun event and a way to get to know each other better.

Our ECW Board meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month at noon. I would like to invite anyone, who wants to get more involved in the ECW and its activities, to come to one of these meetings or contact me. – Sherry Sponseller (sherrysponseller3@gmail.com)

### *St. Mary Elizabeth Chapter*

This chapter of the Episcopal Church Women meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30am in the Church Library. We start with prayer and have a program, followed by a time of fellowship. The Chapter supports the Sunshine Fund, Memorials and the Bena/Dial scholarship program.



## ECW Distribution of Gifts

**Episcopal Diocesan Gifts** - From monies given by ECW members, Chapters, and proceeds from the Attic Sale

\$ 200.00	World Mission – Jerusalem Primary School Scholarships
\$ 200.00	National Mission – Clover House
\$ 200.00	Diocesan Mission – Camp Air at Gravatt
\$ 100.00	Bishop's Discretionary Fund
\$ 100.00	Church Periodical Club
\$ 200.00	Bena Dial Scholarship Fund
\$ 100.00	Diocesan Seminarian Book Fund
\$ 25.00	Altar Guild
\$ 500.00	Cameron Graham and Roberto Vivanco
<u>\$ 300.00</u>	Diocesan Pledge
\$ 1,925.00	Total

**Gifts within St. James** - From proceeds collected from Cookbooks and Attic Sale

\$ 400.00	Sanctuary Hearing Loop
\$ 200.00	Daughters of the King – 5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Lunches
\$ 156.50	Sunday Inserts
<u>\$ 203.31</u>	Bible for Graduates
\$ 959.81	Total

**Donations to the Community and Beyond** – From proceeds from the Attic Sale, Cookbooks and Notecards

\$ 400.00	Triune Mercy Center
\$ 300.00	Palmetto Boys Shelter
\$ 500.00	United Ministries
\$ 600.00	GAIHN
\$ 800.00	Greenville Free Medical Clinic
\$ 300.00	Greer Community Ministry
\$ 350.00	Education Equals Hope in Quito
\$ 300.00	Finlay House, Columbia, SC
\$ 300.00	Jasmine Road
<u>\$ 500.00</u>	Episcopal Relief and Development
\$ 4,350.00	Total



ST. JAMES ECW ANNUAL REPORT 01/01/2017 – 12/31/2017

ECW ACCOUNT		01/01/2017-12/31/2017				
Beginning Balance		Income		Expenditures	Balance	
ECW Dues	69.00	1,505.00	Member Donations	300.00	Diocesan Pledge	
				200.00	World Mission	22.00
				200.00	National Mission	
				200.00	Diocesan Mission	
				100.00	Dioc. Sem Book Fund	
				25.00	Altar Guild	
				100.00	Bishop's Disc. Fund	
				350.00	Education = Hope	
				77.00	Church Periodical club	
				<u>1,552.00</u>		
Church Periodical Club	0.00	23.00	Offerings - St. Mary Eliz.	100.00	Church Periodical Club	0.00
		77.00	attic sale proceeds 60%			
		<u>100.00</u>				
Bena Dial	0.00	23.00	Offerings - St. Mary Eliz.	200.00	Bena Dial	0.00
		177.00	attic sale proceeds 40%		Scholarship Fund	
		<u>200.00</u>				
DONATIONS (Restricted)	530.88			400.00	Hearing Loop	130.88
ATTIC SALE 40%	2,835.93	2,006.81	Attic Sale	300.00	Jasmine Road	2,187.59
		17.00	cookbooks/notecards	203.31	Bibles for graduates	
		<u>2,023.81</u>		98.00	Postage	
				500.00	Episcopal Relief & Dev	
				270.84	fellowship celebration	
				200.00	Daughters of the King	
				500.00	Vivanco Gift	
				<u>600.00</u>	GAIHN	
				2,672.15		
ATTIC SALE 60%	1,144.57	2,833.22	Attic Sale	500.00	United Ministries	1,378.38
		0.59	interest	800.00	Grnvl Free Clinic	
		<u>2,833.81</u>		300.00	Finlay House	
				400.00	Triune Mercy Center	
				300.00	Greer Community Ministry	
				<u>300.00</u>	Miracle Hill	
				2,600.00		
<b>TOTALS:</b>						
<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>Balance</b>
<b>\$4,580.38</b>		<b>\$6,662.62</b>		<b>\$7,524.15</b>		<b>\$3,718.85</b>

FUND RAISING SUMMARY

	Income	Expenditures	Proceeds
2017 ATTIC SALE	5,082.19	65.16	\$5,017.03



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Your Finance Committee has worked closely with the staff and vestry of St. James to oversee the finances of the church, administer the 2017 budget, and fashion a preliminary budget for 2018. Through close monitoring of our income and expenses, we were able to realize a significant budget surplus in the 2017 fiscal year.

The preliminary budget for the 2018 church fiscal year is approximately \$602,554. This represents an increase of approximately 5% over the 2017 budget. We are grateful to the people of St. James who continue to pledge generously and give faithfully. Based on historical giving trends, we have projected an increase in pledges and plate income in the preliminary budget. On the expense side, St. James anticipates several large expenditures in the next few years, including work on the parking lots and eventually replacing several HVAC systems which are approaching the end of their projected life span. For that reason, we will keep our diocesan contribution at 80% of the asking for this year and have created a plan to increase the Strategic Reserve.

We thank the members for their diligent work throughout the year: Rick Hope (chair), Bob Dillon, Monte Hudson, Bill Nicholls-Wozniczka, Linda Satterfield, Stephen Sperling and Ed Winkler. Your Finance Committee will continue to oversee and scrutinize the finances of St. James with the goal of being good stewards of pledges and offerings given to God for his work at St. James Episcopal Church. We covet your prayers and solicit your input concerning budgetary items for St. James in the upcoming year.

## FLOWER GUILD

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who serves on the St. James Flower Guild: Sherrie Foster, Reb Mitchell, Lavinia Plumblee, Lynn Vines and Hope Winkler. Last year we welcomed two new members, Gay Gaston and Christi Jones-McNeill, and lost one member, Harriett Ennis. Our busiest times are Christmas and Easter. At those times, we need extra hands and help, especially from a few men. If you are interested in serving—training is provided—please contact Kaye Greene (864-908-1270, [justweddings@bellsouth.net](mailto:justweddings@bellsouth.net)).

## GREETERS

St. James Greeters welcome both members and newcomers to services on Sunday mornings and at special services. They help familiarize visitors with the facility and take time to get to know them before and after the service. St. James Greeters help grow our community by introducing new and prospective members to the Rector and other parishioners, ensuring a warm welcome to our church home. This ministry is light, weighing in at only 18 volunteers, and could really use some additional help. Please consider volunteering in this capacity by contacting Gail Burch (864-567-4010, [gailaburch@gmail.com](mailto:gailaburch@gmail.com)).



## HOSPITALITY COMMISSION

This group is involved almost any time food is served at St. James. The Hospitality Commission plans, sets up, serves, and cleans up following events. During 2017, we served at the Agape Meal, the Reception for the Bishop's Visit, the New Member Reception, the Ministries Open House and the Reception following the late Christmas Eve Service. Our commission also supported other ministries such as the Bluegrass & Barbeque and the Oyster Roast.

We currently have 23 members. We enjoy working together and offering hospitality to our church family and guests, and we welcome anyone who would like to join our group at any time. Volunteers are always appreciated to assist in set up, clean up, or providing a plate of cookies, sandwiches, etc. for a specific event.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful cooks of St. James who have so graciously assisted in our ministry by baking all those wonderful cookies and making delicious salads, and those who have helped us wash all those dishes!

Please contact Hope Winkler (864-240-5377, [hwinkler23@aol.com](mailto:hwinkler23@aol.com)).

## OUTREACH COMMISSION

Established in 2015, the current members of the commission include: John Kaup (currently serving as chair); Marie Hovland, Alice Littlejohn, Ben Freeman, George Lafaye, Kent Satterfield and George Lipscomb (vestry liaison). Our meetings enable us to assess the health and effectiveness of our current outreach efforts, providing updates on the outreach ministries with which each of us are involved and considering additional outreach opportunities. The mission publication, *Go Forth*, has provided opportunities for members to share their experiences and also alert all of us to upcoming opportunities. In 2018, we will continue to provide oversight for the variety of mission and outreach activities, provide direct reporting to the vestry about the state of our missions and outreach activities and work toward raising up members of the congregation to lead both current and proposed outreach activities. If you would like to serve on this commission, please contact John Kaup (864-607-2985, [john.kaup@furman.edu](mailto:john.kaup@furman.edu)).

### *Mission Statement*

The mission of the St. James Outreach Commission is to plan and provide for opportunities for local and international outreach by the St James community. Among its tasks are to raise up members of the community to serve in outreach ministry, assess the needs and effectiveness of existing outreach programs at St James and make recommendations and changes as necessary, make decisions as to which outreach ministries to support financially using the funds allocated to the Commission by the Vestry, and work cooperatively with the St James clergy, staff and vestry to support an active and vital outreach ministry.



### *Feed Thy Neighbor*

Feed Thy Neighbor is an outreach ministry that is helping feed the hungry in the Greenville area. It is a cooperative ministry with three other local Episcopal churches and is centered at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church. Feed Thy Neighbor provides a hot, nourishing breakfast every Saturday morning for the homeless and destitute, who otherwise may have nothing to eat. It serves approximately 70 meals each week or 3,500 meals each year. Saint James prepares and serves the food on one Saturday every month. The Men's Group funds Saint James' portion of the costs for Feed Thy Neighbor, which is approximately \$110 per month. There are about 25 Saint James members of all ages currently involved. On average, each volunteer helps one Saturday every two months. Additional volunteers are always welcome and can join this beneficial and rewarding ministry by contacting Ben Freeman (864-419-6590, [bjfenterprise1@gmail.com](mailto:bjfenterprise1@gmail.com)).

### *Frazee Dream Center*

The Frazee ministry provides one-on-one help with homework involving reading, math, and projects such as collages for the children at Frazee. The encouragement which we provide enables the children to know that we care about them and are willing to help them. Reading and math are fundamental skills that they may not have help with at home. We can provide instant feedback to aid their learning process. Our plans for the future are to continue this ministry and encourage other members to join us in this rewarding activity. Our volunteer days are first and third Thursdays each month of the school year. This works well for first and second grade classes because their homework is due on Friday. People who are interested may contact Marie Hovland (864-235-4259, [tomar617@hotmail.com](mailto:tomar617@hotmail.com)).

### *St. James Angel Tree*

Every December the St. James community reaches out in love and caring for the less fortunate in the Greenville area by ensuring that needy families are able to celebrate Christmas with dignity and joy. We connect local families in need with the generous parishioners of St. James by setting up trees in the foyer decorated with tags naming favorite toys, clothing and personal items. St. James parishioners then purchase these Christmas gifts for the children and families and bring them back to the church. They are then delivered in time for Christmas. In 2017 well over 150 gifts for boys and girls went to Salvation Army. Vanessa Vestergaard coordinated the distribution of over 300 gifts to Mental Health America of Greenville County. Other gifts went to the children of the St. Francis congregation. St. James provided over \$1,000 in Jingle Bills! Some of that was used to purchase gifts and the balance was sent to Miracle Hill Shepherd's Gate, a local women's and children's shelter. Thanks to Beate Kindervater, Vanessa Vestergaard and Colleen Woodward for coordinating this ministry in 2016 and 2017; to Becky Walters and the ECW Board who helped with purchasing and wrapping the gifts; and many thanks to everyone who shared the love of the Christ child with those in need.



## *Rise Against Hunger*

As a congregation, we hosted our seventh and eighth meal packaging events in March and November 2017. With well over 100 individuals volunteering at each event and support from members at St. Andrews and St. Philips, we packaged over 20,000 meals—at each event—that were boxed, stacked on pallets, shrink wrapped and shipped off to those in need. The budget for 2018 will again enable us to host two events in 2018. In 2017, funds generated through the Oyster Roast, as well as from the sale of hams, turkeys and salmon by our infamous Men’s Group, enabled us to reach our goal of packaging 40,000 meals. At \$0.29/meal—our congregation will collectively provide over \$10,000 toward this outreach ministry with a goal of packaging at least 40,000 meals in 2018! John Kaup has helped lead this effort over the past several years. Feel free to contact him (john.kaup@furman.edu) if you would like to contribute toward the leadership of this ministry.

## PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION

**Eucharistic and Pastoral Care Visitors 2017:** Eucharistic Visitors share communion with homebound, hospitalized, and nursing home residents at scheduled frequencies and times convenient for the recipient. Most visits occur on Sundays. On an average, 1 or 2 parishioners are visited each Sunday. There were 7 regular recipients and others who desired visits after hospitalization or illnesses. Visits were made by Eucharistic visitors: Janis Bandelin, Marian Blackwell, Martin Darby, Frances Funderburk, Rick Hope, Anne Shelley and Pam Snape.

Pastoral Care Volunteers, Marjorie Davenport and Harriett Ennis, at times accompanied Lay Eucharistic Visitors to share communion. In addition, Eucharistic and Pastoral Care Visitors may be involved in a variety of organized ways:

- Transportation for those in need of a ride to church, health facility, or store: Coordinated by Marian Blackwell (864-246-8206). We transported one of our parishioners regularly to church last year. Laura Brown joined our Pastoral Care volunteers, Marjorie Davenport, Marian Blackwell, and Pam Snape to accomplish this.
- Respite Care: Coordinated by Pam Snape (864-360-5620). Short-term respite visits have helped parish families in the past. Thankfully when asked to join Pastoral Care volunteers, many of our St. James members stepped up to the plate
- Communication by phone calls and cards: Coordinator Frances Funderburk (864-608-5308) leads Daughter of the King and other volunteers to call members on the prayer list and those who have been hospitalized.



Priorities for 2018: We encourage more St. James members to help with these efforts. We accept short or long term commitments. Please prayerfully consider the crucial role you can play in helping your St. James family. We are in particular need for Pastoral Care visitors to accompany the Eucharistic Visitors. We also encourage St. James members to notify the church office when in need so we can organize a response team. Our volunteers do experience over and over the promise "It is more blessed to give than to receive"! Acts 20:38

Coordinator: Pam Snape, 864-360-5620 or e-mail [pamsnape@bellsouth.net](mailto:pamsnape@bellsouth.net)

## PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

"Never be lacking zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. (*Romans 12:11*)

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*)

Serving the Lord characterizes the mature, spiritual Christian. We serve Him in prayer, praise, worship, and the Word of God. We serve Him in loving and serving others. And we serve Him in commitment to His Church and its multifaceted ministries. Spiritual men and women hear from God through the Holy Spirit. This type of sensitivity to the Lord's voice requires an active prayer life.

In 2016, a Prayer and Spirituality webpage was developed for members of St. James. This link currently provides a place for praise and prayer requests. Former St. James member Karen Wolfe led, and was still developing this ministry until she and her husband relocated out-of-state in 2017. I have accepted Fr. Stephen's request to take on and grow this ministry. My goal is to expand our member's awareness of this website, to recruit "prayer warriors" and promote the use of the prayer request form by all members. I also plan to post encouraging and informative messages regarding prayer and spirituality. My hope is to make this a frequent "go-to" site for our members seeking prayer and inspiration. I believe this ministry can and will expand outside of the website! Look for updates in the coming months! Your support and prayers for this ministry are appreciated.

Claudia Hart ([cloudhart@gmail.com](mailto:cloudhart@gmail.com))

## SMALL GROUPS COMMISSION

The Small Group Commission formed two (2) new FEAST Groups in 2017 to strengthen fellowship within our church community. A FEAST Group is a group of 8-12 people who gather frequently (monthly or bi-monthly at the convenience of the members) to share a meal and fellowship and respond to the spiritual needs of the members. Overall, there are six (6) FEAST Groups at St. James with a total of 68 members. The Small Group Commission's focus in 2017 was on maintaining existing and adding new FEAST Groups. On a longer-term basis, additional small groups may be formed for study, prayer, service, spiritual growth and fellowship. — Laura Brown



## STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

The Stewardship Commission helps coordinate the commitment campaign in the fall of each year to gather pledges for the upcoming year. We share information about how financial contributions to Saint James support the church's growth and help fund outreach and mission projects. If you would like to provide input or join the commission going forward, please contact Amanda Davis ([amanda.sloan79@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.sloan79@gmail.com)) or Ben Freeman ([bjfenterprise1@gmail.com](mailto:bjfenterprise1@gmail.com)).

## USHERS

The group of parishioners who serve as Ushers has happily expanded during 2017. These new folks have discovered that serving as an Usher is an easy and fun way to meet, greet and seat members and visitors of our church family. Facilitating a smooth worship service is another function. There are currently 27 parishioners who participate in this ministry. The good news is there's room for several more, so if you would like to become an Usher, please contact Bob Dillon (864-297-9770 or [bnd9770@charter.net](mailto:bnd9770@charter.net)).

## WELCOMING COMMISSION

The Welcoming Commission continues to promote the radical hospitality of greeting and welcoming newcomers to our parish. We have a protocol for contacting visitors and help with the Newcomer Reception in the fall. If you would like to become involved in this commission, please contact Christi Jones-McNeill (864-294-7163, [cmcneill7163@charter.net](mailto:cmcneill7163@charter.net)).

## YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S COMMISSION

With both the Youth and Children's Ministries being under my umbrella, I made the decision to combine the Youth and Children's Commissions together into one singular commission that functions as community-building, visioning for the youth and children's ministries, and then creating and implementing plans that bring that vision to life. We do this through informal meetings every 6-8 weeks, held either at the Piney Mountain Bike Lounge or in someone's home. Should you desire to know more about this commission, and how you can get involved, please contact me!

Tina Boyd ([youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org](mailto:youthminister@stjamesgreenville.org))



## ST. JAMES COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

<b>Commission</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Vestry Liaison</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Adult Formation	John Shelley	864-246-6770	Fr. Stephen	864-907-6565
Buildings & Grounds	Ed Winkler	864-238-7050	Ed Winkler	864-238-7050
Columbarium	Ed Winkler	864-238-7050	Clay Allen	864-906-7298
Communications	Dena Veazey	864-244-6358	Jennifer Jerina	864-420-1407
Day School	Kathy Walsh	864-567-1537	Kathy Walsh	864-567-1537
Finance	Rick Hope	843-200-3155	Ed Winkler	864-238-7050
Hospitality	Hope Winkler	864-346-8838	Reb Mitchell	864-293-0968
Newcomer / Welcome	Christi Jones McNeill	864-630-9159	Christi Jones McNeill	864-630-9159
Outreach	John Kaup	864-607-2985	Clay Allen	864-906-7298
Pastoral Care	Pam Snape	864-360-5620	Fr. Stephen	864-907-6565
Prayer & Spirituality	Claudia Hart	864-616-5963	Ileana Shaner	864-325-8358
Senior Adults	Gail Burch	864-567-4010	Gail Burch	864-567-4010
Small Groups	Laura Brown	704-965-0073	Laura Brown	704-965-0073
St. Francis	Fr. Stephen	864-907-6565	Ileana Shaner	864-325-8358
Stewardship	Amanda Davis	404-449-5441	Neal Kanipe	864-430-6569
Youth & Children's	Tina Boyd	770-361-8469	Kathy Walsh	864-567-1537



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