

December 2023/ January 2024

THE WAYFARER

A PUBLICATION OF ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

8:30 am	H.E. Rite I
9:30 am	Adult Christian Ed
9:30 am	Choir
10:30 am	Children's Church
10:30 am	H. E. Rite II

STUDY SCHEDULE WEDNESDAY

10:30 am	Bible Study
3:00 pm	Kids Connection

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Time's A Changin'

We are a little over a week into standard time as I write this. I have seen scores of Facebook memes decrying this time of year. Folks complain about it being dark when they get home from work. As one post put it, "Welcome to the season of picking up your dog's droppings by the flashlight on your phone."

Personally, I love it. I like that evening comes sooner. By the time I get home, the light is fading. We gather the family in, have supper, and settle for the night. The house feels cozy. I know that not everyone has a cozy place to be when the sun sets, but most of us do. I appreciate the early evenings.

Perhaps I like the fading of the light because of its association with Christmas. When the days get darker, we are closer to that joyous celebration of the birth of our savior. The darker the world gets, the brighter God shines. Perhaps it's just the thought of cooler weather after months of sweating. No, let's go with the light of Christ one.

It is important to remember that no matter how dark it gets, the light still shines. Though the sun dips below the horizon earlier and earlier, it is still there. The sun still shines even when it is covered by clouds. Or as John's Gospel puts it, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness [does] not overtake it."

God's light always shines. And if at times it seems obscured by clouds, how much more magnificent does the beam that breaks through appear? Sometimes it is only through darkness that we can appreciate the light.

If the days are seeming darker, metaphorically or physically, remember that the light isn't changed. It still shines. And it always will.

Peace,

Fr. Brandt+

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.STJAMESGREENVILLE.COM

IN OUR CHURCH



Our Advent Wreath event has been moved to December 6 at 5:00 pm. Come make an advent wreath for your family to enjoy at home. There will be soup and pizza and hot chocolate for a sweet treat!



Christmas Memorial Flowers

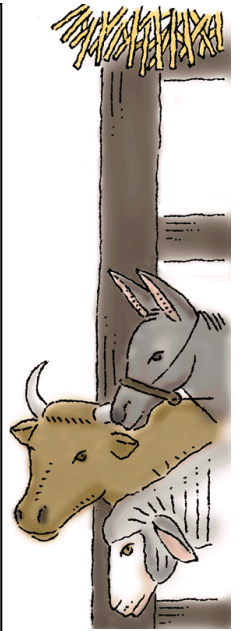
The Christmas memorial name list will be on the volunteer desk beginning November 26. If you would like to remember your loved ones with a poinsettia in the church please check the list and follow the instructions. The minimum donation is \$30.00. Deadline for names is December 16.

GREENING the Church

The Greening of the church will take place on December 24, right after the 10:30 service. Please stay for a few minutes to help Brister. The Christmas Eve service is that evening!

Children's Creche Building on Christmas Eve

All children age three and up are invited to participate in the building of the creche at the Christmas Eve service. All children are welcome to participate, even grand-children and/or nieces and nephews who are visiting from out of town. The more kids the better.



Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 PM



The Church office will be closed Dec. 25 & 26 for Christmas, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day and Jan 15 for MLK Day. The church building will be closed From Dec. 25 through Dec 29. The office will re-open Jan. 2 at 8:00 am.

Our New Senior Warden is:
 Finley Edwards
Your New Vestry Members are:
 Ginny Cochran
 Ellen Frye
 Brister Lee



The Men of St. James will be breakfasting together on Thurs. Jan. 18, at 7:00 a.m.

ECW will meet Dec 5 and Jan.9 at noon at the Greenville Golf & Country Club.

Revenue & Expenses
 Oct 2023

Total Revenue	\$26,843.19
Total Expenses	\$24,948.05
Net Total	\$1,895.14

Pledges due Dec. 4

Don't forget to return your 2024 pledge by Dec. 4. We cannot begin to finalize the budget until all pledges are in.

Year-end reminders of pledges due for 2023 will be mailed the first week of Dec. Your payment must be postmarked by December 31 to appear on your year-end tax statement from the church.



UTO Update

Our UTO ingathering was Nov. 19. This year we collected \$273.22

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dec 3 Set up for Annis' Children Xmas party 5:30 PM
- Dec 5 ECW Luncheon @ Greenville Golf & Country Club 12:00 pm
- Dec 5 Annis' Children Xmas party 5:30 -7:30 pm
- Dec 6 Advent Wreath making 5:00 pm
- Dec 10 Fill stockings for in-home kids for Annis' Children 3:00 pm
- Dec 10 Food Boxes due back for Annis' Children
- Dec 12 Day School Christmas Program 8:30 am
- Dec 15 Deadline for Christmas memorial names
- Dec 19 Vestry 5:30 pm
- Dec 24 Greening the church 11:30 am
- Dec 24 **Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm**
- Dec 25 -Jan 1 Office closed for Christmas and New Year's
- Jan 8 Pastoral Care Committee
- Jan 9 ECW Luncheon at the Greenville Golf & Country Club 12:00 pm
- Jan 15 Office closed MLK Jr. Day
- Jan 16 Vestry 5:30 pm
- Jan 18 Men's Breakfast 7:00 am



The new altar flower sign-up sheet for 2024 is on the hall bulletin board. You are invited and encouraged to sign up for altar flowers in memory or celebration of your loved ones.

Next Dates for Baptisms

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is appropriately administered within the Eucharist at the chief service on a Sunday. The next dates for Baptism are The First Sunday after the Epiphany, **Jan. 7**, Easter Vigil, **Mar. 30**, The Day of Pentecost, **May 19**, and All Saints' Sunday, **Nov. 3**. To schedule a baptism, please call Betsy at the Church Office or speak to Father Brandt.

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 3

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Brister lee

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Ashley Hines

LEM: Sonya Bixler

Lector: Erica Dick

Ushers: Ed Egger

Vestry Assignment: Austin Frye, Debi Hendrix

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 10

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Jim Martin

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Geoffrey Lewis

LEM: Noel Harris

Lector: Ruby Edwards

Ushers: Lee Engel

Vestry Assignment: Graham Hollister, Rak Koestler

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 17

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Betsy Alexander

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Dotti Lowe

LEM: Sonya Bixler

Lector: Ed Egger

Ushers: Rak Koestler

Vestry Assignment: Beth Naaman, Wesley Smith

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 24

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Brister Lee

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Ashley Hines

LEM: Noel Harris

Lector: Lee Engel

Ushers: Mickey Naaman

Vestry Assignment: Doug Wade, Charlie Weissinger

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 24 Xmas Eve

5:00 PM Worship Leader: Geoffrey Lewis

LEM: Sonya Bixler

Lector: Austin Frye

Ushers: Peter Nimrod

Vestry Assignment: Austin Frye, Debi Hendrix

Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 31

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Jim Martin

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Dotti Lowe

LEM: Noel Harris

Lector: Deanna Harper

Ushers: Ralph Owens

Vestry Assignment: Graham Hollister, Rak Koestler

Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 7

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Betsy Alexander

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Ashley Hines

LEM: Sonya Bixler

Lector: Warren Harper

Ushers: Wesley Smith

Vestry Assignment: TBA

Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 14

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Brister Lee

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Geoffrey Lewis

LEM: Noel Harris

Lector: Robin Kelly

Ushers: David Cochran

Vestry Assignment: TBA

Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 21

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Betsy Alexander

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Dotti Lowe

LEM: Sonya Bixler

Lector: Rak Koestler

Ushers: Ed Egger

Vestry Assignment: TBA

Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 28

8:30 AM Worship Leader: Brister Lee

10:30 AM Worship Leader: Ashley Hines

LEM: Noel Harris

Lector: Mickey Naaman

Ushers: Lee Engel

Vestry Assignment: TBA



Deadline for articles for
the next *Wayfarer* is
Jan. 22.



Christmas Party plans are underway for Washington County Foster Children for December 5, from 5:30-7:00 pm. The party will include a meal, crafts, singing and maybe a visit from Saint Nicholas. We will be filling food boxes again this year. These are the boxes that you can pick up at St. James with a list of food items to be purchased. Purchase the food items and then return the box to St. James. There are many opportunities for church members to help with this mission.

- Dec. 03 Set up tables for party and decorate tree
- Dec. 05 Foster Children Party 5:30 pm
- Dec. 10 Deadline to return Food Boxes
Fill stocking for in-home kids 3pm



Church Women United is accepting mail-in donations for “Christmas House” for the Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield through December 11. Make your check payable to Mississippi State Hospital and mail it to:

CWU
c/o Martha Bray
195 Anne Drive Inn Rd.
Leland, MS 38756

Because of your past support CWU received the 2023 Nancy B. Foreman award from the Friends of Mississippi for outstanding volunteerism at the Mississippi State Hospital

The 197th Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi
February 2-4, 2024 at St. Andrew’s Middle and Upper School,
Ridgeland, MS

Go to Dioms.org to register and for more information.

OUR PARISH FAMILY



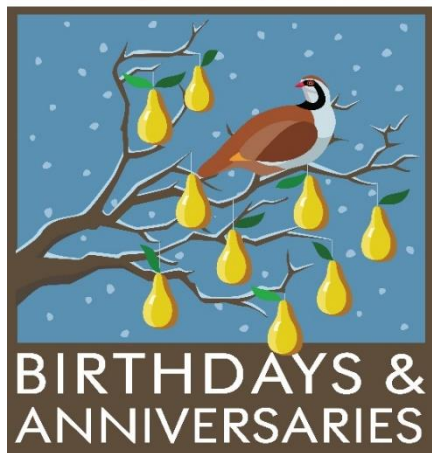
For parishioners: Robin Kelly, Mike Williams, Sandy Welsh, Lynn & Bill Schaffarzick, Haley Holbrook, Jimmy Lee, Linda Owens, Dudley Stewart, Susan Sutherland, Elizabeth Smith

For friends and family: Liddell Shoffner, Paul Martin, Maria Sherman, Portia Wise, Andy VonAntz, Bob Provine, Tammy Barnes, Lucy Alexander Maples, Wanda & Bob Lowry, Cheslie Edwards, Paul Corbin, Jerry Alford, Linda Fratesi, Morgan & Casey Rorie, Brittany Hill, Nicholas Gault, Laura Stell, Lalie Eskay, Christin Fisher, Phil Lee, Jr., Millie Wright, Kaye Buchanan, Penny & Rick Byler, Evan & Pookie Davis, Bob Jones

For those serving in the Armed Forces: Jackson Mitchell, Tyler Owens, Nathan Thomas, Sean Williams, Thomas Griffin, Barry Jackson, Marcus Shoemaker, Beau Swain.

For expectant couples: Melonie & Thomas Sandidge

DECEMBER



Miriam & Michael Ables 12/31
Theresa & David Skelton 12/31

Kate & Andrew Tominello 1/03
Elizabeth & Victor Smith 1/27

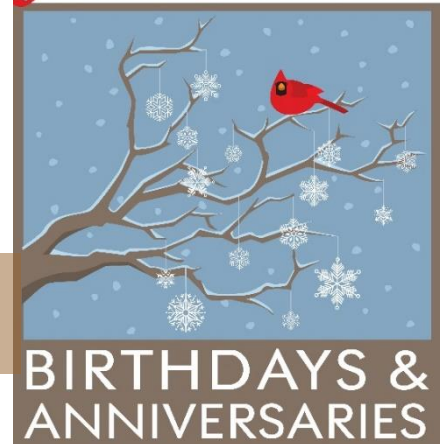
- Michael Ables, Jr. 12/04
- Daryl Chastain 12/04
- Lily Chastain 12/04
- Martin Mitchell 12/04
- Ruby Edwards 12/11
- Sandy Welsh 12/11
- Linda Owens 12/12
- Maggie Wade 12/15
- Cary Karlson 12/17
- Dudley Stewart 12/17
- Mike Williams 12/20
- Erica Dick 12/21
- Mickie Sandidge 12/22
- Katie Elliott 12/23
- Lynda Lavers 12/25
- Elizabeth Holbrook 12/27
- Mia Andrews 12/28
- David Cochran 12/29
- Jeffrey Tonos 12/29
- Nolan Andrews 12/31
- Warren Harper 12/31



We welcome into Christ's flock

Lainey Biesemier
Victoria Macvaugh
Felix Sterling
Hunter Sterling
and
Mae Weissinger
who were baptized November 5


JANUARY



- Kenyon Williams 1/01
- Ellen Daniels 1/03
- Mamie Hollister 1/03
- Ellen Frye 1/06
- Evvie Dick 1/10
- Gil Macvaugh 1/10
- Margaret Wade 1/12
- Courtney Ayres 1/15
- Dotti Lowe 1/22
- Bill Andrews 1/23
- Ila Elliott 1/23
- Noell Harris 1/23
- Jackie Burnett 1/25
- Joey Polk 1/26
- Mary Frye 1/27
- Jenny Burnette 1/28

CALENDARS

DECEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
3 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II 5:30 PM Set Up for A C Xmas Party	4 12:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee	5 12:00 PM ECW @ GGCC 5:30 – 7:30 PM Annis' Children Xmas Party	6 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 5:00 PM Advent Wreath making 6:00 PM Choir	7	8	9 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
10 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II 3:00 PM Fill stockings for in -home Food Boxes due back	11	12 8:30 AM Day School Xmas program	13 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Choir	14	15 Deadline for Xmas Names	16 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
17 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	18	19 5:30 PM Vestry	20 10:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir	21	22	23 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
24 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II 11:30 AM Greening of the church 5:00 PM Xmas Eve Service	25  Office Closed for Xmas Holiday	26	27	28	29	30 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
31 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	1	2	3	4	5	6

CALENDARS



						2024
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 OFFICE CLOSED 	2	3 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Choir	4	5 Clergy Sabbath	6 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
7 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	8 12:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee	9 12:00 PM ECW Luncheon @ GGCC	10 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Choir	11	12 Clergy Sabbath	13 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
14 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	15 OFFICE CLOSED 	16 5:30 PM Vestry	17 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Meet & Greet Bishop Candidates	18 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast	19 Clergy Sabbath	20 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
21 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	22	23	24 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Choir	25	26 Clergy Sabbath	27 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
28 8:30 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Adult Sunday school 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM H.E. Rite II	29	30	31 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kid's Connection 6:00 PM Choir			