

December 2024/ January 2025

# 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

## SEE INSIDE

In our Church .....	2
Service Ministries .....	4
Miscellaneous.....	5
In Our Diocese .....	5
Our Parish Family .....	6
Calendars.....	7

## Odds and Ends


December is always a very special time of year, what with Christmas and all. December also marks the beginning of a new Church year. In the Church, we mark the passage of time with seasons and observations. The new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which falls on December 1 this year. We will be reading primarily from Luke's gospel this year, having read through most of Mark this past year.

Advent, of course, leads us into Christmas Day and the twelve days of Christmas. Christmas season culminates in Twelfth Night and the Feast of Epiphany. We then have the season after Epiphany leading us into Lent and then on into Easter.

Christmas can be a complicated time. A great many people feel overwhelmed by planning and company or traveling. And Christmas is such a mixture of the religious and the secular that it adds to the confusion. Christmas is such a large part of our culture that folks for whom the holiday has no religious connotations still celebrate, often with interesting traditions. What's a Christian to do?

For Episcopalians, it is a pretty easy answer: Enjoy it all. Put up a tree, deck the halls, talk about Santa, use "Merry Xmas" (more on that in a moment), drink eggnog (in moderation), and celebrate the birth of Christ.

When God became incarnate in Jesus Christ, God put his stamp of approval on humanity by becoming one of us. Jesus complains that people called him a drunkard and a glutton, so I'm thinking Jesus was known to enjoy a good party. But I'm also thinking he enjoyed it responsibly, so we should, too.

So about the whole "Xmas" thing. While we pronounce it "ex", that is really the Greek letter "chi" χ, which looks like an X but sounds like "ch," as in "Christ." It is a legit abbreviation, just like using a fish symbol , which has a similar origin.

This time of year is complicated enough without letting irrelevant, contrived controversies bother you. It is a time of celebration. So celebrate.

Peace,  
Fr. Brandt+

VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.STJAMESGREENVILLE.COM](http://WWW.STJAMESGREENVILLE.COM)

## IN OUR CHURCH



We will be making Advent wreaths on December 4 at 5:00 pm immediately after Kids Connection. Come to the Parish Hall and enjoy fellowship while making a wreath for your home.



### Christmas Memorial Flowers

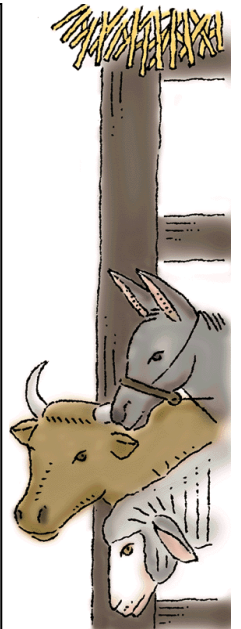
The Christmas memorial name list will be on the volunteer desk beginning November 24. If you would like to remember your loved ones with a poinsettia in the church please check the list and follow the instructions. The minimum donation is \$30.00. Deadline for names is December 16.

### GREENING the Church

The Greening of the church will take place on December 22, right after the 10:30 service. Please stay for a few minutes to help make everything beautiful for Christmas Eve.

### 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. 23 - 26 for Christmas, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day and Jan 20 for MLK Day. The church building will be closed From Dec. 23 through Dec 28 and again Dec 30-Jan 1. The office will re-open Jan. 2 at 8:00 am.

**Your New Vestry Members are:**

Cary Karlson  
Cristy Stone  
Susan Sutherland



Food Boxes for In-Home at-risk families are now available to pick up in the St. James Room. Pick and box and sign you name on the list next to the number of the box you have selected. There is a list attached of items to purchase. Deadline to return boxes is December 8.



The Men of St. James will be breakfasting together on Thurs. Jan. 16, at 7:00 a.m.

ECW will meet at noon Dec 10 at the Lake Village Country Club and Jan.14 at the Greenville Country Club.

**Pledges due Dec. 1**

Don't forget to return your 2025 pledge by Dec. 1. We cannot begin to finalize the budget until all pledges are in.

Year-end reminders of pledges due for 2024 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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- Dec 1 Deadline to return 2025 pledges
- Dec 4 Healing Service 12:00 pm
- Dec 8 Food Boxes due back for Annis' Children
- Dec 10 ECW Luncheon @ Lake Village Country Club 12:00 pm
- Dec 16 Deadline for Christmas memorial names
- Dec 17 Day School Christmas Program 8:30 am
- Dec 17 Vestry 5:30 pm
- Dec 22 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 6 Pastoral Care Committee
- Jan 8 Healing Service 12:00 pm
- Jan 14 ECW Luncheon at the Greenville Golf & Country Club 12:00 pm
- Jan 16 Men's Breakfast 7:00 am
- Jan 20 Office closed MLK Jr. Day
- Jan 21 Vestry 5:30 pm
- Jan 31 – Feb 2 Annual Council in Biloxi

## SERVICE MINISTRIES

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 1

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Jim Martin

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Ashley Hines

**LEM:** Noel Harris

**Lector:** Ed Egger

**Ushers:** Bill Andrews

**Vestry Assignment:** Brad Jones, Ginny Cochran

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 8

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Brister Lee

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Geoffrey Lewis

**LEM:** Sonya Bixler

**Lector:** Lee Engel

**Ushers:** Ed Egger

**Vestry Assignment:** Ellen Frye, Noell Harris

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 15

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Betsy Alexander

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Dotti Lowe

**LEM:** Noel Harris

**Lector:** Austin Frye

**Ushers:** Lee Engel

**Vestry Assignment:** Debi Hendrix, Rak Koestler

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 22

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Jim Martin

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Ashley Hines

**LEM:** Sonya Bixler

**Lector:** Deanna Harper

**Ushers:** Rak Koestler

**Vestry Assignment:** Brister Lee, Beth Naaman

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 24 Xmas Eve

**5:00 PM Worship Leader:** Geoffrey Lewis

**LEM:** Noel Harris

**Lector:** Warren Harper

**Ushers:** Peter Nimrod

**Vestry Assignment:** Wesley Smith, Doug Wade

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Dec 29

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Brister Lee

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Dotti Lowe

**LEM:** Sonya Bixler

**Lector:** Robin Kelly

**Ushers:** Ralph Owens

**Vestry Assignment:** Finley Edwards, Brad Jones

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 5

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Betsy Alexander

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Ashley Hines

**LEM:** Noel Harris

**Lector:** Rak Koestler

**Ushers:** Wesley Smith

**Vestry Assignment:** Ginny Cochran, Ellen Frye

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 12

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Jim Martin

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Geoffrey Lewis

**LEM:** Sonya Bixler

**Lector:** Mickey Naaman

**Ushers:** Bill Andrews

**Vestry Assignment:** Noell Harris, Cary Karlson

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 19

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Brister Lee

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Dotti Lowe

**LEM:** Noel Harris

**Lector:** Ralph Owens

**Ushers:** Ed Egger

**Vestry Assignment:** Brister Lee, Wesley Smith

### Service Ministries for Sunday, Jan 26

**8:30 AM Worship Leader:** Betsy Alexander

**10:30 AM Worship Leader:** Ashley Hines

**LEM:** Sonya Bixler

**Lector:** Charlie Weissinger

**Ushers:** Lee Engel

**Vestry Assignment:** Cristy Stone, Susan Sutherland

Revenue & Expenses Oct 2024	
Total Revenue	\$18,560.94
Total Expenses	\$24,762.74
Net Total	\$(6,201.80)



Deadline for articles for the next *Wayfarer* is Jan. 24.

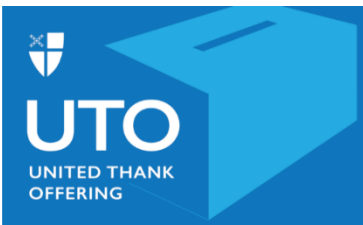
### Next Dates for Baptisms

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. 12**, Easter Vigil, **Apr. 19**, The Day of Pentecost, **June 8**, and All Saints' Sunday, **Nov. 2**. To schedule a baptism, please call Betsy at the Church Office or speak to Father Brandt.



### Altar Flowers

The new altar flower sign-up sheet for 2025 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.



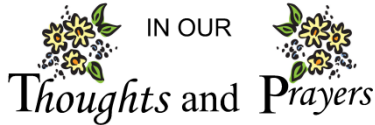
### UTO Update

Our UTO ingathering was Nov. 10. This year we collected \$214.35

The 198<sup>th</sup> Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi  
 January 31 - February 2, 2024 at Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention  
 Center, Biloxi, MS

Go to [Dioms.org](http://Dioms.org) to register and for more information.

OUR PARISH FAMILY



**For parishioners:** David Cochran, Claire Quittmeyer, Robin Wells, Stephanie Lowe, Emma Jean McIntyre, Tommy Mills, Thorne Crosby, Sandy Welsh, Jimmy Lee, Linda Owens, Dudley Stewart, Susan Sutherland, Elizabeth Smith

**For friends and family:** Terri Shilling, Jean Williamson, Rosa Tobiansky, Al Fava, Marie Edens, Sharon & Butch Ashmore, Grace Koehn, Joy Haddock Davis, Ivy Wood, Brad Branscome, Lee Yancy, Cindy Low, Martha Moore, Mac Baker, Andy Von Antz, Julie Boswell, Mary Louise Miller, Ruth Ellen Coffey, Linda Fratesi, Christin Fisher, Phil Lee, Jr., Millie Wright, Kaye Buchanan, Bob Jones, Penny & Rick Byler

**For those serving in the Armed Forces:** Barry Jordan, Jackson Mitchell, Tyler Owens, Nathan Thomas, Beau Swain.

**For expectant couples:** Katie Beth & Grant Muncher

**DECEMBER**  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

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
Elizabeth Holbrook	12/27
Mia Andrews	12/28
David Cochran	12/29
Jeffrey Tonos	12/29
Nolan Andrews	12/31
Warren Harper	12/31

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

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



*Transitions*  
We pray for  
the repose of the souls of  
Fay Prince Alexander  
who died Oct. 21  
and  
Ann Hogan Macvaugh  
who died Nov 2

**JANUARY**  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

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



We welcome  
Donald Eugene Blades  
who was confirmed,  
&  
Nancy Carole Abshire  
who was received  
Nov. 17.

**We welcome into Christ's  
flock**  
Oscar Knight Zorn who was  
baptized Nov. 17.

CALENDARS

DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite I  <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Sunday school  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir  <b>10:30 AM</b> Children's Church  <b>10:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite II  <b>Deadline for pledges</b></p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>12:00 PM</b> Pastoral Care Committee</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> Dayschool chapel  <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study  <b>12:00 PM</b> Healing Service  <b>3:00 PM</b> Kids Connection  <b>5:00 PM</b> Advent Wreath Making  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Clergy Sabbath</b></p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>10:00 AM A.A. mtg</b></p>
<p>8</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite I  <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Sunday school  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir  <b>10:30 AM</b> Children's Church  <b>10:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite II  <b>Food Boxes due back</b></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>12:00 PM</b> ECW @ GGCC</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> Dayschool chapel  <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study    <b>3:00 PM</b> Kids Connection  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>Clergy Sabbath</b></p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>10:00 AM A.A. mtg</b></p>
<p>15</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite I  <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Sunday school  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir  <b>10:30 AM</b> Children's Church  <b>10:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite II</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Deadline for Xmas Names</b></p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> Day School Xmas program    <b>5:30 PM</b> Vestry</p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> Dayschool chapel  <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Study    <b>3:00 PM</b> Kids Connection  <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Clergy Sabbath</b></p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>10:00 AM A.A. mtg</b></p>
<p>22</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite I  <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Sunday school  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir  <b>10:30 AM</b> Children's Church  <b>10:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite II  <b>11:30 AM</b> Greening of the church</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Xmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>10:00 AM A.A. mtg</b></p>
<b>Office Closed for Xmas Holiday</b>					<b>FATHER BRANDT, BETSY &amp; VERONCIA ON VACATION</b>	
<p>29</p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite I  <b>9:30 AM</b> Adult Sunday school  <b>9:30 AM</b> Choir  <b>10:30 AM</b> Children's Church  <b>10:30 AM</b> H.E. Rite II</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>FATHER BRANDT, BETSY &amp; VERONCIA ON VACATION</b></p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>

CALENDARS

**JANUARY 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 	2	3 Clergy Sabbath	4 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
5 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	6 12:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee	7	8 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kids Connection 6:00 PM Choir	9	10 Clergy Sabbath	11 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
12 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	13	14 12:00 PM ECW @ GGCC	15 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kids Connection 6:00 PM Choir	16 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast	17 Clergy Sabbath	18 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
19 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	20 OFFICE CLOSED 	21 5:30 PM Vestry	22 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kids Connection 6:00 PM Choir	23	24 Clergy Sabbath	25 10:00 AM A.A. mtg
26 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	27	28	29 8:30 AM Dayschool chapel 10:30 AM Bible Study 3:00 PM Kids Connection 6:00 PM Choir	30	31	1 Annual Council in Biloxi through Feb. 2