



The MESSENGER

INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE OUR LIFE AND MINISTRIES AT ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VOLUME 93, NUMBER 42

225-387-5141 • FAX 225-387-1443 • WWW.STJAMESBR.ORG

December 4, 2009

We Look Forward to Seeing You Sunday!

Sunday, December 6, 2009

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 - 8:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the Chapel*
 - 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
 - 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages & Coffee Hour*
 - 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
 - 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chapel
- *Nursery available

Sunday Lectionary: Year C
 Revised Common Lectionary
 Daily Office: Year TWO

The Lectionary — December 6- Second Sunday of Advent:
First Lesson: Baruch 5:1-9; *The Response:* Canticle 4; *Second Lesson:* Philippians 1:3-11; *The Gospel:* Luke 3:1-6.

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Advent at St. James

Advent walks on the labyrinth have begun each **Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.** Volunteers will be available to introduce the method of labyrinth prayer and meditation to you if necessary, and to keep the environment conducive to your walk.

The St. James Center for Spiritual Formation labyrinth is in the Chartres design, where pilgrims of the Middle Ages would travel to walk the symbolic pilgrimage in the pattern.

This Friday, December 4, the Downtown Festival of Lights program begins at dusk. The church will be **open from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** for quiet reflection, meditation, and prayer. Stop in for some soul-soothing time during your Festival of Lights experience downtown.

Remember, the **labyrinth** will be open each Wednesday during Advent from **5:00 to 6:00 p.m.** If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter on any Wednesday during Advent, please email Mother Laurie at lbrock@stjamesbr.org.

Advent Quiet Day



An Advent Quiet Day for adults will be held on **Saturday, December 12.** The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast in the Parish Hall.

Linda Nelson, the Director of Advent House at Christ Church Cathedral in New Orleans, will present meditations on "Reconciling Martha and Mary Within."

Linda, who is certified in Spiritual Direction and Christian Education and an experienced retreat and workshop leader, writes of her plans, "In our time together we will look at ways to find new balance in life and ways to learn to distinguish a sense of being called from being driven when saying yes to new responsibilities and new projects." The Quiet Day will conclude with lunch.

Volunteers Have Flocked to Help in Dinner for Homeless

St. James Church is hosting what has become an annual Christmas Dinner for Our Homeless Neighbors on Sunday, December 13 at noon in Bishops Hall.

Many thanks go to the generous offering of service to our Baton Rouge homeless community by helping with preparations for and offers of service during the dinner for our homeless neighbors. At this time, all 94 volunteer positions are filled, and most positions were filled within 24 hours of an electronic call for assistance!

We have a parish community that is mission-oriented and action inclined. All those who have volunteered for the December 13 event are being contacted as to specific duties these first two weeks of December. Many thanks for answering the call of Christ to serve as He would serve.

Symbol of Christ's Resurrection

The new Paschal candle and stand blessed by Bishop Charles Jenkins at the nine o'clock service on November 15 holds special significance for our parish family.

Parishioner Ford Thomas, nationally recognized for his church furnishings, designed and built the four-foot stand. The four arch design symbolizes a spiritual uplifting like the raising of arms to hold the candle.

The arches are held together at the center by a block of mahogany from deceased parishioner Leo Spann, a life long member of St. James, christened in 1923 who died at age 86. His hobby was creative wood working. His widow, Celeste Spann, donated his wood inventory to Ford for use in church furnishings.

The Paschal candle is lit for baptisms and funerals as well as for the Easter Vigil and throughout the Easter Season. Its pure living light is a wonderful symbol of Christ's resurrection.

See Paschal Candle on page three

St. James Staff

The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins -
Bishop of Louisiana
The Very Rev. J. Mark Holland-
XXIII Rector of St. James
The Rev. John Sloan Miller -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Laurie M. Brock -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Mary Ann Garrett -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Ralph F. Howe, Jr. -
Priest Assistant
Deacon Pat Lyle -
Spiritual Director in Residence
Deacon Mark Hudson
The Rev. Charles A. Wood -
Chaplain, St. James Place
The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Witcher -
Bishop-in-Residence
XIX Rector of St. James
The Rt. Rev. James M. Coleman -
Bishop-in-Residence
XX Rector of St. James

David H. Culbert	Organist-Choirmaster
Alison Nikitopoulos	Children's Ministries
Alina Williams	Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Helen Campbell	Director of Lay Ministry
Sylvia Rabalais	Admin. Secretary
Debbie Stiltner	Comptroller
Cheryl Speights Olinde	Bookkeeper
Tyler Ellison	Maintenance
Mary Davis-Palms	Dietician
Linda Chauviere	Head of School

Email addresses available on the church web site:

www.stjamesbr.org

St. James Vestry

Claudia Black	Senior Warden
John S. Campbell III	Junior Warden
Manette Sammons	Clerk
Kevin Curry	Treasurer
Jane Christensen	Phil Martin
Pat Culbertson	Jay Noland
Daryl Ellis	Chrissie Clark Olsson
Lynnette B. Frazer	Emile Rolfs
Bob Frazier	Tom Wade
Charles Frey IV	Scott Westbrook
Emily Wray Lamont	Otey White
Sue Larisey	



*The Diocese of Louisiana is one church, faithful
to Jesus Christ, united in mission,
reaching out to seekers.
We live in joyous witness to the power of grace
and divine compassion in our lives.*

Christian Education Notes

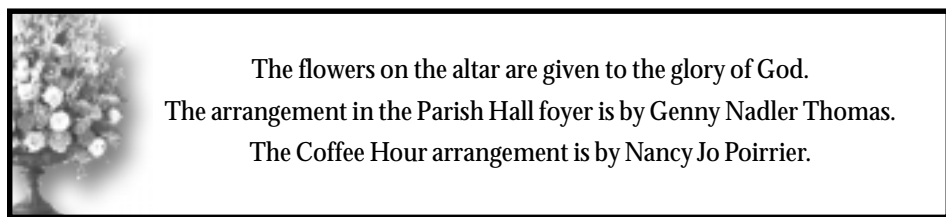
Nursery Care for children three months to four years old is available 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the first floor of the Parish Hall. Pagers are also available for your comfort and convenience.

Children's Programs

Christmas Around the World — On each Sunday in December leading to Christmas, we will learn about a different country and its Christmas traditions: Mexico on Advent 2, December 6; Sweden on Advent 3, December 13; and, Japan on Advent 4, December 20. Volunteers (and natives!) are invited to contact Alison Nikitopoulos to help make this series successful at 387-5141, ext. 222 or email: anikitopoulos@stjamesbr.org.

Adult Class

History of Anglicanism in the 19th Century - On December 20 at 10:00 a.m., Bishop Witcher will finish the series that was started last spring on Anglicanism in the 19th century with Leonidas Polk, Louisiana's Fighting Bishop, in the Ministries Center.



The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

The arrangement in the Parish Hall foyer is by Genny Nadler Thomas.

The Coffee Hour arrangement is by Nancy Jo Poirrier.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers ...

For the dear departed: Patsy King; Anne Harkey Weidig

Prayers are asked for: Debbie Terrell, Michael Kennedy, Jean Fielden, Hayes Taylor, Terry Irby, Ruth MacMurdo, Jennifer Hollenbeck, Jim Fritze, Betty Hertzog, Christopher Leavins, Glenn, Karen, Jesse, Kate Leupin, Cindy Leake Wilson, Jack Hightower, Steve, Carlyle, Elizabeth Beauchamp, Raylynn Gibbs, Sylvia, Zach Romero, Jim Bowers, the family of Tommy Kirkpatrick, the Search Committee for the New Head of School at Episcopal

Our continuing prayers are offered for: O.B. Romero, Estelle Copes, Michael Matassarin, Marguerite Matassarin, Nicholas Yiannopoulos, Bill, Thomas, John and Kathy Gummersell, Sue Tweedy, Donoghue, Nancy, Sallie, Katherine Gant, Cameron

Christmas Pageant Time!

Email Alison Nikitopoulos *this week* at anikitopoulos@stjamesbr.org and let her know that your child would like to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant.

Costumes will be available in the small parlor on Sundays, December 6, 13, and 20. Select a character, slip on a costume, and place your child's name on the costume of the appropriate size, please.

There will be just **three rehearsals**: **Friday, December 4** from 3:45-4:30 p.m. (choir room) a **singing rehearsal** for all participants; **Friday, December 11** from 3:45-4:30 p.m. (choir room and church) a **singing rehearsal** for all participants (children at St. James Day School may stay in after care on those two Fridays until 3:45); and, **Wednesday, December 23** from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the parlor and church for our **dress rehearsal**.

On Thursday, December 24, pageant participants should arrive at **3:15 p.m.** to the parlor to costume and gather for the **Christmas Pageant** which takes place during the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Mott, Linda, Angie Denny, Gordon Loudon, Carole, Anne and Wayne Williams, Prentiss McClendon, Ava Jet Blencke, Penny, Caleb Hutchins, Margaret Blades, Fred Frey Jr., Rubye Harris, Tom Raggio, Estelle Schilling, Vic Roy, Anne Howe, Betty Romero, Lillian Shipes, Donie Schmidt, Mary Ann Ford, Ken Shuler, Russell Fish, Marion Hart LeBlanc, Clyde Harrelson, Donald Killilea, Kip Gremillion, Mary C. Elliott, Kerry Triche, Kevin Stockton, Patrick O'Reilly, Danie Singleton, Sarah Romero

For those in the Armed Forces: Rob Hutchins, PFC Hal Town, Captain John Lyford V, Captain Allison Laine Lyford, Cpl William Martin, PFC Don Ellen, Lt. Col Michael Benson, Pvt Stephen Arnold USMC, Captain Charlie Hines, Sgt Clayton Edmonds, Sgt Toni Edmonds

Birthdays December 4-10

- 4 Carolyn Gibson, Don Capron
- 5 Veda Norfolk, Joy Bagur, Randy East, Bessie Stockton, Hunter Smithburg, William McCarthy
- 6 Peggy Austin, Linda Ohmstede, Randy Rice, Debra Sledge, Derek Mathews, Randall Peterson, Beth Carroll, Kayla Parker, Raegen Harbour, Linde Gautreau
- 7 T'lane Field, Heather Woolf, Cammie Heroman
- 8 John Campbell, Lillie Jantz, Eric Krutz, Matthew Vandal, Anderson Popov
- 9 Juan Barroso, Pat Spann, Laura Collet, Nanette Noland, Brent Rhodes, Stewart Abercrombie, Michelle Stillinger, Josh Bullock
- 10 Nina Fleshman, Jane Henslee, Nancy Hubbard, Ashley Lambert, Chandler Debetaz, Olivia Broderick, James Kurts

Advent Book Discussion

St. Paul's Holy Trinity Episcopal in New Roads invites all interested to an Advent Book Discussion of Phyllis Tickle's *The Great Emergence*. The discussion will be lead by Joan McCaskill, Spiritual Director, MA on **Sunday, December 6** from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Ms. Tickle was the St. James Center for Spiritual Formation's guest speaker for the August Fifth Sunday Event.

Please phone 225-638-8433 for more information.

Coming Soon ...

Garden Guild Work Day, Saturday, December 5 from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

World AIDS Day Interfaith Memorial Service will be held Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m. on the levee across from the River Center in downtown Baton Rouge. Signs will direct you to the exact site.

St. James Associate Vestry hosts the fourth quarter OLOL Blood Drive on Sunday, December 13 from 8:00 a.m. 'til noon. Please give so others may live.

St. James' Young Professionals (20s and 30s) are invited to a **Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet**, in the Parlor after the five o'clock service on **December 13**, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Guests welcome!

Bishop Charles Jenkins Farewell Homily

A reception was held between services on November 15 to honor retiring Bishop Charles Jenkins' 12 years as Bishop of Louisiana. He preached and presided at Eucharist at both the nine and eleven o'clock services.

"The end of 34 years of active ministry can often be a time of fear," he stated as he began his homily. The movie "2012" and the Mayan calendar are "clothed in the language of dire consequences."

"Fear," Jenkins cautions, "whether it is the fear of death or the fear of other things does not promote love. I do not think that God is out to frighten us into loving him."

He emphasized, "Jesus warned us to be aware of snake oil salesmen." The Mesoamerican concept of the 'end of time' is misunderstood. The Mayan end of time on December 21, 2012 is much like a New Year's celebration. It is intended to represent the start of a new beginning ... time and space are cyclical - never ending.

Bishop Jenkins reminded us, "The beginning and the end of spirituality is when we take responsibility for our salvation. I am not saying that we can save ourselves, God alone is salvation. I am saying that when we give another the responsibility that God has given us for ourselves, we have regressed."

He concluded, "The responsibility for my salvation is mine ... and so for you. The consummation of time is but the end of a faithful and mature journey. Beware, but do not be afraid."

Fr. Holland remarked in thanking Bishop Jenkins for his 12 years of service, that when he first began his service, he had a vision of the kind of bishop he would be, but after Katrina and its recovery years, Bishop Jenkins discovered that he became the kind of bishop God called him to be.

Paschal Candle

Continued from page one

To enhance the symbolic power, candles are decorated with appropriate images. The candle, symbolizing the body of Christ, is often décor-ated with "nails" representing the crucifixion wounds. Our new candle is decorated with Easter Vigil symbols.

eyc

• **Sunday, December 6, 3:00-5:00 p.m.:** EYC will meet at the Mall of Louisiana (outside of Menchie's Frozen Yogurt on the Boulevard) to shop for their Angel Tree child.

• **Sunday, December 13, after 11:00 a.m. service:** EYC will be participating in the Christmas Dinner for our homeless neighbors.

• Service Hours Alert!

• Junior high and high school students are needed to help with the Advent Noisy Day on December 12 and to help supervise the Children's Program during the lunch on Sunday, December 13. If interested, please contact Alina Williams, awilliams@stjamesbr.org. Service hours are available!

• **Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.:** EYC will meet for church then deliver toys and other gifts to the Angel Tree children.

• **Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m.:** EYC will attend Lessons and Carols as a group.

Congratulations to ...

Jane F. Shank, proud grandmother of **Eden Marie Shank**, born October 23, 2009 to Erin and Jeremy Shank.



A Busy Weekend



L to R, Don Bell, John Cadwallader, John Miller, Celene Miller, and Arthur Perkins at the Red Stick Farmers' Market

St. James members started a recent weekend with the Blue Ribbon celebration, moved on to the Fall Hospitality Party, stopped by the Farmers Market (above) to sell coffee and make friends, and then celebrated with Bishop Jenkins his retirement!



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We proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and invite you to join with us in ministry together in his name.

Ministries and Worship December 4-10

Friday, December 4, 2009

- 8:15 a.m. Day School Eucharist
- 3:45 p.m. Children's Choir & Mastersingers Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. Gather prior to the Downtown Festival of Lights
- 5:30 p.m. Church open for prayer until 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 5, 2009

- 8:00 a.m. Garden Guild Work Day
Election for Bishop of Louisiana

Sunday, December 6, 2009 - Second Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 8:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship in the Chapel*
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Coffee Hour*
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
- 3:00 p.m. EYC
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in Chapel

Monday, December 7, 2009

- 8:20 a.m. Day School Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Scout Pack Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministers Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

- 7:00 a.m. Bible Study Group
- 9:00 a.m. Spiritual Direction with Linda Nelson
- Noon Holy Eucharist & Healing Service
- 3:30 p.m. Mastersingers Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. Labyrinth in Bishops Hall open until 6:00 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 10, 2009

- 8:00 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting
- Noon EFM Graduates Gathering
- Noon EFM
- 6:00 p.m. EFM

* Indicates Child Care Provided for Children Three Months to Four Years of Age

Lay Ministry - Sunday, December 6, 2009

7:30 a.m. Mary Jarnagin, Joyce Rucker, John Bilisoly

8:45 a.m. Liz Treppendahl

Ushers 9:00 a.m. Gary Poirrier, B Phillips, Ford Thomas, Chuck Oliver
11:00 a.m. Phillip Wright, D.J. Richard, Norman Martinusen, Brian Sheely

Acolytes 9:00 a.m. Sarabrent McCoy, Catherine Courtney Curry, Grant Curry

11:00 a.m. Peyton Peele, Emma Jane Peele, Elise Weinfurter

Eucharistic Ministers 7:30 a.m. Tony Carter
8:45 a.m. Gordon Ellis, Honey East
9:00 a.m. Margaret Culbertson
11:00 a.m. Ben Larisey
5:00 p.m. John Ozier

Lectors 7:30 a.m. Jane Christensen
8:45 a.m. Liz Treppendahl, Honey East (P), Pat Colquette
9:00 a.m. Paige Gagliano, Pat Culbertson
11:00 a.m. Nancy Litton, Nancy Penn

Intercessor 7:30 a.m. Tony Carter
8:45 a.m. Claudia Black
9:00 a.m. Margaret Culbertson
11:00 a.m. Chuck Munro

Welcome Committee 8:45 a.m. Liz Treppendahl
9:00 a.m. Linda & Bob Bowsher, Helen West
11:00 a.m. Herndon Spillman, Sara Lyle

Altar Guild 7:30 a.m. Dodie Edmonds, Mildred Taylor
8:45 a.m. BB Stirling
9:00 a.m. Zoe Harrell, Nancy Jo Poirrier
11:00 a.m. Susan Rolfs, Ann Holmes, Jane Henslee
5:00 p.m. Sheila Feigley