

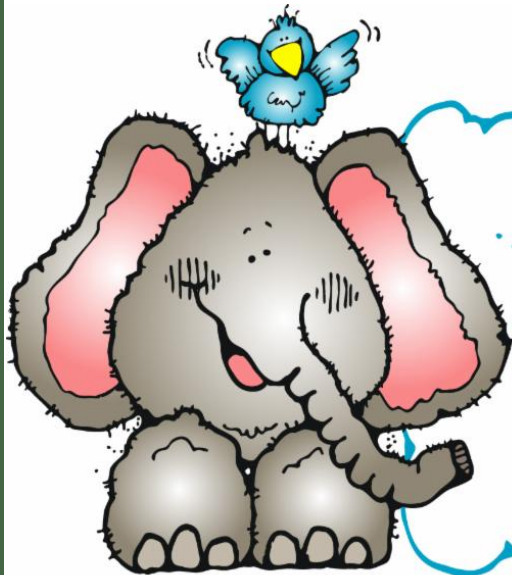


St. James Episcopal Church

Messenger

Visit our website

*Our mission is to preach the Gospel, worship God,
renew our hearts and minds, and serve others.*



Don't
Forget!

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

- March 31st—*Easter Sunday* 8am & 10:30am

EASTER POTLUCK



Join us at our annual Easter gathering!

St. James, people, friends, family....

All are Welcome! Come as You Are!

Terra Incognita Winery

Sunday, March 31 at 2:00pm

Bring a dish to share.

Morning Prayer



Join Father Jim for
Morning Prayer

Each week during Lent

Monday - Friday
7:30am-8am

ZOOM ONLY

[ACCESS HERE](#)

Thoughts from a Deacon



Thoughts From a Deacon 03.25.2024

Weeds, overgrown bushes, sticks, more weeds, then mulch, mulch, mulch!

That's what St. James gardeners encountered this past week. We worked hard weeding, raking, blowing, spreading the mulch. It looks good. The weeds are gone – for now! We pick the weeds, spread a thick layer of mulch, pick some more at those that try to pop through but eventually the weeds come back.

Our sin is like that. We repent, we try hard to have no sin, for a short while. We mulch over our sin. Sin, like the weeds in our garden, are weeded today, but tomorrow, the weeds are

back and they keep coming back.

Lucky for us we are part of the Lord's Garden. Lucky for us we have His Word, the Sacraments, His body and blood, His sacrifice. There will be days when we are lost, unsure, scared. Let us remember that night in an upper room, where Jesus celebrated the feast with his disciples. We remember the one who sacrificed for us and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. We remember as Jesus commanded us, in the bread and wine we share together as a community.

Let us spend these last few days of Lent reflecting and preparing ourselves, remembering. Look for the grace of God and spread it like the mulch so to love and serve one another. Then we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a true miracle like no other.

Preaching Baptism

The subject of the Lenten program held on Saturday, March 24th was "Everything You Wanted to Know About Baptism but Did Not Know to Ask". Father Jim engaged the participants with questions and answers and went over the 5 baptismal vows which are:

Participation-We will continue in the apostles' teachings.

Repentance-Repent and return the Lord when we sin.

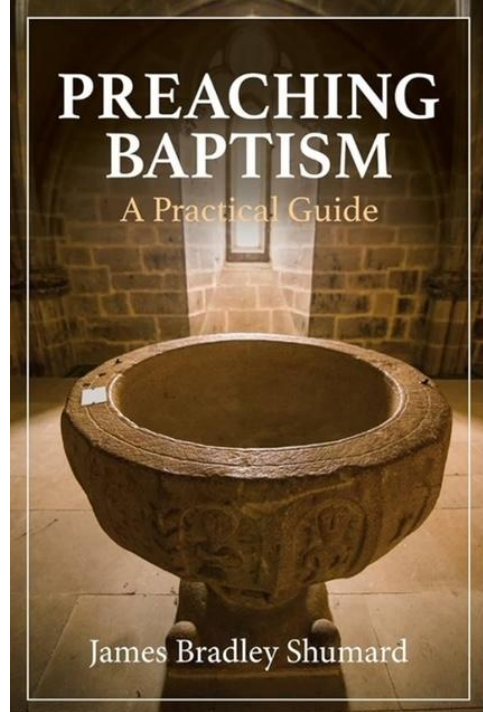
Preaching-We vow to proclaim the good news of Christ in word and deed.

Outreach-We will seek and serve Christ in everybody.

Justice-We will strive for justice and peace, respecting the dignity of every human being.

Father Jim also discussed his book, "**Preaching Baptism**" which you may purchase [HERE](#).

After the program everyone enjoyed a lunch of 2 soups, chili, cornbread and bread. Thank you to the ladies who prepared the lunch!



Mountain Ivy Prelude to Spring



The Mountain Ivy Garden Club celebrated its 30th anniversary here at St. James on 3.19.2024.

Prelude to Spring A Garden Symposium

An Event Celebrating MIGC's 30th Anniversary

March 19, 2024 • 8 a.m. till 4 p.m.
St. James Episcopal Church • 260 Warwoman Rd., Clayton, Georgia
All Tickets Sold in Advance \$50 • Price Includes Lunch

Speakers

Firmly Rooted Flower Farm's Victoria Carver <i>How To Plant a Cutting Garden</i>	Native Appalachian Plant Expert Adam Bigelow <i>A Discussion on Native Plants</i>	UGA Extension Agent Dr. Laura Nye <i>Importance of Pollinators and How to Plant for Them</i>	Floral and Landscape Designer Gail Bell <i>How To Create a Container Like a Pro</i>
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FOR TICKETS
CONTACT BESS
AT 706-491-5577
OR VISIT US ON FACEBOOK
MOUNTAIN IVY GARDEN CLUB

Event dedicated to the
memory of Mrs. Carol Reeves

About the event

Prelude to Spring A Garden Seminar

A day-long garden seminar featuring expert speakers, demonstrations and garden related vendors and activities.
Tickets sold in advance \$50. Lunch included. Ticket info contact Bess 706-491-5577.







Work Day in the Gardens 03.22.2024

The first day of Spring was

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

We celebrated this wonderful occasion with a workday in the St. James Gardens.





Intro to LINE DANCING



Everyone is invited to sign up for an Intro to Line Dancing to be held **Saturday, April 6th at 10am until 11am in the Parish Hall.**

Line Dancing can often be recognized at weddings, events, dance halls and other social gatherings. This dance form practices the fundamentals of ALL dance styles in synchronized routines with sections repeating on either 2 or 4 walls. Line Dancing is accessible to all ages or skill levels.

When she isn't in the office, we think that it's safe to assume that our Parish Administrator, Samantha Joedicke, is probably out somewhere cutting a rug with her dance crew!

Sam has acquired 24 years of dance experience since the age of 8, with twelve of those years of experience spent growing up in a studio with disciplines in both TAP and CLOGGING, and competing on the Southern Jewels Ruby Clogging Team for two of those final years. She then went on to discover "line dancing" in winter of 2018 before becoming certified through NTADance in Dance Fundamentals Levels I & II in November of 2022 with plans to obtain her DFIII in late April.

Sam has since started her own business, Neon Embers Entertainment, and has been teaching at numerous locations within the Rabun (Clayton Health and Fitness - Tuesdays 6pm-7pm), Oconee, and Pickens Counties and surrounding areas not only for weekly classes but also for private parties and events. She is excited for the opportunity to introduce this activity to her Church Community as a fun way to get moving!

Sam's Neon Embers Dancers can also be found participating in local events,

fundraisers and happenings - they just performed at the Block Party over the weekend on Saturday, March 16th in Downtown Clayton.



Pictured left to right: Debbie, Veronica, Sam and Dina.



Another fun tidbit, Sunday, March 17th, 2024 Sam and some of her Neon Embers dancers had the opportunity to attend the 34th Annual Peach State Country Dance Festival held in Atlanta, GA and participated in workshops held by some of the top names known within the Line Dance industry. Here she is pictured with her dancers and world renowned, internationally recognized award winning Dancer, Instructor and Choreographer, Mrs. Jo Thompson-Szymanski, who is currently Sam's biggest influence in the industry. Sam's goal is to compete at this event next year.

Pictured left to right: Jennifer M, Samantha J., Jo Thompson-Szymanski and Marissa D.

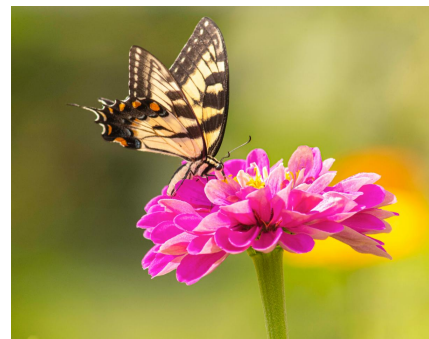


REGISTER FOR CLASS - \$5. per
person

St. James Flower Festival to return in 2025

Happy Spring!

With all of the wonderful flowers appearing outside, people have been wondering if we are having a flower festival this year. Last year's event was an incredible success! We had record numbers of visitors and demonstration attendees.



We need a creative rest this year, and the festival will return in 2025. Thank you for the continued support and generosity for the Flower Guild.

Tim Burns

Victory Home Greenhouse

Need to get rid of plastic flower pots? Victory

Home Greenhouse will recycle pots for you. They can use any size, but especially 1, 2, and 3 gallon pots. Please leave them in a plastic bag at the picnic table area or contact Kathy Booker [HERE](#), and they will be delivered to the greenhouse.



Brown Bag Sunday



Brown Bag Sunday the 4th Sunday of each month.

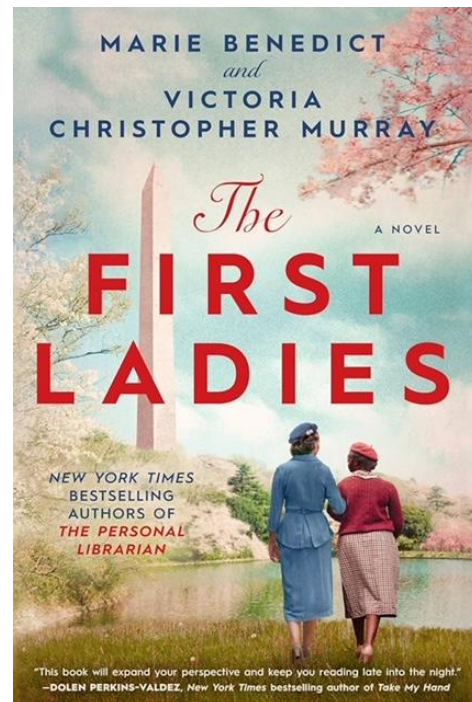
Help Sharing and Caring with their most needed items:

- Sugar
- Oil
- Flour
- Corn Meal
- Eggs
- Salt
- Pepper
- Margarine

Fellowship

St. James Book Club

This month we are reading "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Everyone is invited to join us on Thursday, April 18th, 11:00am in the Parish Hall. Contact Becky Callahan [HERE](#)



Enjoy some pictures from the latest book club meet on 3.28.2024 as we met to discuss "Light on Bone" by Kathryn Lasky.



Join us for lunch?

The Retirees will begin meeting at noon **EVERY 3RD TUESDAY** of each month in 2024 and will meet at Ishy's Restaurant in Clayton April 16t, 2024. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Questions? Contact Roland Clemmons [here](#).

April Celebrations

Birthdays:

4- Katherine Grice
7- Bob Clayton
8- Nannette Curran
9- Bonnie Klinect
15- David Tatum
16- Chery McKay
17- Sandy Hunter
24- Mike Shahan
26- Lynda White

Anniversaries:

13- Terry Wright & Steve Bull
15- Traci & Kevin Cagle
20- Lynda & Alan White
27- Maggie & Bob Hatcher



Have you seen "The Chosen"?

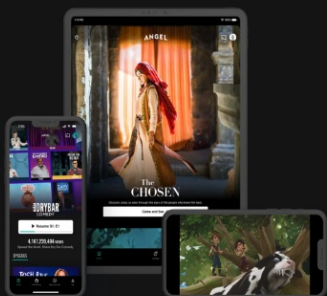


"A charismatic fisherman drowning in debt, a troubled woman wrestling with real demons. A gifted publican ostracized by his family and his people. A religious leader struggling with his beliefs. See Jesus through the eyes of those that met him."

This series is made available via the **FREE** Angel Studios app [HERE](#).


Season 4 will release in theaters on 02.01.2024


From Sam in the office: *"AMAZING. I LOVED this series and will definitely be viewing the new season in theaters!"*



Watch Anytime. Anywhere.

The Angel app is the home of record-shattering stories that amplify light. In the Angel app users can watch full episodes, cast to their television, pay-it-forward to fund future seasons of shows they love and buy official merchandise. Download the app below for free.

Download on the  **App Store**

GET IT ON  **Google Play**



Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram

The St. James social media team is keeping our Facebook and Instagram channels updated with current information about St. James events, fun features about our parishioners and their good works, and inspirational thoughts and themes.

Shelley Urban and Nanette O'Hara are sharing social media duties, with an able assist from Ginny Heckel. Dustin Emhart also will be pitching in.

Find us on Facebook at [St. James Episcopal, Clayton, GA](#)

Follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/saintjamesclayton/>

Content suggestions are welcome. We also need photos from any St. James activities current or past, or just photos of our beautiful church and gardens that you're willing to share. You can reach us by phone, text or email as follows:

Sam:

Office Phone: (706) 782-6179

Email - [HERE](#)

Shelley:

Cell Phone (727)515-3501

Email - [HERE](#)

Nanette:

Cell Phone (813) 428-3182

Email- [HERE](#)

Ginny:

Cell Phone (706) 490-2867

Email- [HERE](#)

[Give Now](#)



Click the icon to **like us** on Facebook or **follow us** on Instagram.



Timeline for the Weekly Messenger:

Articles or other content received by NOON on Wednesdays will be in the next Messenger. Please contact the **church office** if you have any questions.

St. James Episcopal Church | 706-782-6179 | 260 Warwoman Rd. Clayton, GA
30525 | www.stjamesclayton.org | email: [click here](#)

