



# 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.*

## The Annual Parish Meeting



Friendly reminder that Annual Reports are due electronically by **January 15th, 2024.**

Email: [HERE](#)

**Reports due:** Sr. and Jr. Wardens, Altar Guild, Communications, Deacon Ministry, Flower Guild, Garden Guild, Hospitality, Lay Servers, Membership, Music, Outreach, Parish Nurse/Pastoral Care, Stewardship, Worship.

Meeting will be held on  
Sunday, January 21st at 9am (between services)  
in the Parish Hall

### Vestry Candidates



Ann Inman and Kathleen Johnson are candidates for Vestry, Class of 2026

Information about the Annual Meeting can be found on the: [St. James Website](#)

Over the next two weeks information on this webpage will be updated with the

## Thoughts from a Deacon

### Thoughts From a Deacon 12/27/2023

Some of God's names: Yahweh (the Lord), Elohim (God Creator), Adonai, El-Shaddai (God Almighty), Ancient of Days, Shepherd, El Elyon (God Most High), El Roi (God Who Sees), I AM, The Word, Father/Abba (Hebrew for Most High).

Some nicknames are: The Divine artist, Sky Daddy, Bug Guy, Man Upstairs, Big G and maybe you have your own name for God.

Hase was my mother's nickname for me. It means young bunny in German. I loved hearing it because it was special, only for me. Now, when she used my real name in a stern voice, "Susanne", I came running because I knew she meant business, but I digress.

My students had positive nicknames that developed over time as I got to know them. It was our expression of love for each other and even the silly ones remind us of our ties. They all wanted a special nickname and when I see them today, they refer to that special name with good memories, laughter, and love.

Someone recently told me her Mema called her Sambrusco, her nickname and hers alone, special. It wasn't until her early 20's she figured out where that nickname came to be. She smiled so big when she told me about it. Poopsie started at birth for someone else and only her Daddy could call her that. She loved him so.

Our own names are our identity. It's what people call you - it's what you respond to. A name can carry deep personal, cultural, family, and historical connections. The names God calls you reveal your truest self. We will receive new names in Heaven. God says, "To his servants he will give another name" (Isaiah 65:15) and (Revelation 2:17)....And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it." God is going to give each of us a new name, an endearing nickname. This name will have special meaning - a message of the work God wants to accomplish through you.

We are so very loved by our Father in heaven that one day He will give us a new name that is ours alone, that no one else will ever call us. I know I will love it and enjoy the sound of it every time He calls me.



## Father Jim's Schedule

A few of you have asked me how I'm going to manage the schedule here working half time, splitting my residences between Clayton and Savannah.

Most importantly, I will be here every Sunday except one Sunday each month unless I'm on vacation which means usually I'll be in Clayton two or three weeks in a row with a few exceptions.



Although "technically" I don't work full-time, in my mind and with my energy I'm available to you full-time. I am available by phone, Email, Text, Zoom, satellite, telegraph, drums, smoke signals, etc. whether I'm physically in Clayton or in Savannah.

I will remain in contact with Sam at the office every week whether I'm here or in Savannah and I will routinely communicate with the senior warden. I will plan to be present by zoom for meetings and classes if I happen to be in Savannah.

I especially would hope that when I'm actually in Clayton, and since I have no family here, that you will feel free to invite me to do things together.

During the season of Advent, I've already been to ladies night out, the master gardeners meeting, the retirees luncheon, the golf course several times, Christmas parties, book groups, visits to Cannonwood, visits to the local hospital and Northeast Medical Center, visits here in the office, and many visits to your homes, and in coffee, shops, bars and restaurants.

I will of course, plan to be physically in Clayton for high, holy days, Holy week, funerals and weddings, and other special occasions, such as the flower festival and shrimp boil.

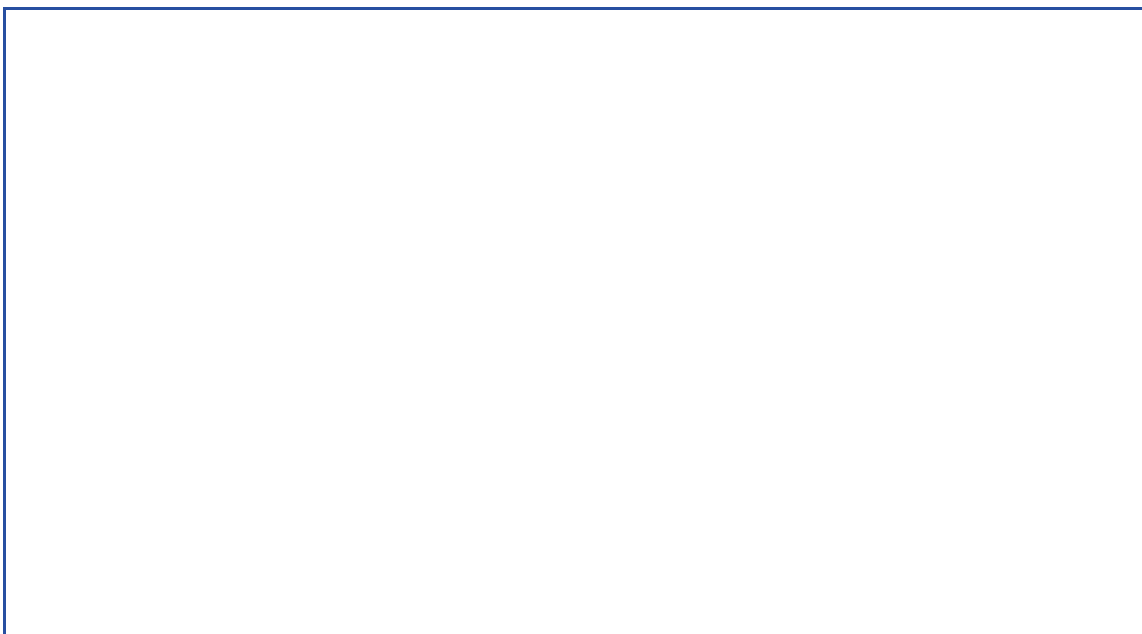
I feel your energy and excitement, and I am energized and excited by it, and I look forward to our time together.

Father Jim

By the way, I had a nice drive down to Savannah on Christmas morning and a great time with my family. Matthew and I will return on January 6. Thank you.

*"We come to know God as love, as light, and as indwelling presence, so that we may become love and light and presence for others. In this season, reflect on how you can come to know God more fully. Pray that you may live and act so that others may know God through you."*

*-Br. Lain Wilson*





## Daughters of the King



**The Daughters of the King** will gather on the **2nd Saturday of each month** in the Parish Hall at 10am beginning January 13th, 2024.

The Daughters of the King (DOK) is an Order of women dedicated to a life of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. We have made a commitment to Jesus as our Savior, and we follow Him as Lord of our lives. We welcome new members. DOK members are

communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate. Today our membership includes those in the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran (ELCA), and Roman Catholic churches. Contact Mary Flanigen [HERE](#)

## Fellowship



The Georgia Mountain Convocation Presents

# The Philadelphia Eleven



## MOVIE NIGHT & BBQ DINNER

A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT  
THE FIRST WOMEN ORDAINED PRIEST IN  
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday, January 7th, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
1755 Duncan Bridge Rd, Sautee, GA 30571

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### St. James Book Club

This month we are reading *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. Everyone is invited to join us on Thursday, December 14th, 11:00am at 147 Village Lane for lunch and discussion.

Contact Becky Callahan [HERE](#)



### Join us for lunch?

The Retirees will begin meeting at noon **EVERY 3RD TUESDAY** of each month in 2024 beginning on Tuesday, January 16th at Ishy's Restaurant in Clayton. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Questions? Contact Roland Clemmons [here](#).

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### January Celebrations

#### Birthdays

- 1- Shelley Urban
- 2- Kathy Ford
- 3- Linda Sanders
- 6- Robin Rogers

10- Jack Brandon  
11- Jeff Rice  
20- Ferris Leslie  
23- Tatum Young  
26- Bob Grant  
28- Susan Fleming

### **Anniversaries**

7- Liz & Rocky Hopper  
23- Tatum Young  
24- Jane & Tom Burniski  
27- Shannon & Leon LeMoine



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### **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:

Shelley:

Cell Phone (727)515-3501

Email – [HERE](#)

Nanette:

Cell Phone (813) 428-3182

Email- [HERE](#)

Ginny:

Cell Phone (706) 490-2867

Email- [HERE](#)

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**Timeline for the Bi-Weekly Messenger:**

Articles received by Monday evening will be in the next Messenger. Please contact the **church office** if you have any questions.

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30525 | [www.stjamesclayton.org](http://www.stjamesclayton.org) | email: [click here](#)

