

Special points of interest:

- Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Services
- Annual Meeting updates
- 2023 Outreach Opportunities

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The Seasons of St. James Church

Is it Time for Tea?

The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector

According to long-standing tradition in England, afternoon Tea occurs daily between 3 and 4 pm. Our modern-day tradition of the St. James Church Olde English Tea is that it occurs annually on the first Saturday in May. The first Olde English Tea was held in 1921 and soon thereafter became an annual event.

This spring, while a handful of people in our congregation consider the obligation inherent in the tradition of holding the Olde English Tea, I am making use of this opportunity to reflect on the reason we have the Tea in the first place. The first Olde English Tea (OET) was held only a year after our parish was founded. It was a response to a request from Bishop Wise to help in raising \$300. Mrs. Walter Winte, among many women of St. James Church, accepted that initial challenge by hosting a tea and selling tickets to it. Every iteration of the OET since then has been held for the purpose of raising money for local charities. All of the proceeds each year have been given to Wichita area charities.

Of course, the need for money to support good causes has never gone away, in fact, the need has only grown. Aid organizations need everything we can give – and then some. Think of the need now

in places like Ukraine, Turkey, and Syria. Proceeds from the OET haven't gone to help people in those places; however, what can happen is that desperate need around the globe captures our attention (rightly so!) and our giving. Sometimes, contributions which might have gone to support local organizations are sent instead to help people in their distant, but dire, circumstances. Funding earned at the OET has consistently gone to charities in our area. Many times these gifts have filled gaps and kept much needed charities afloat. The women who run and organize the OET have been committed to supporting good causes in our community.

Aware of Jesus' commandment to us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, this primary Christian value has been at the heart of every properly served cup of tea, mouth-watering tart, lavish table, and the parish adorned in silver, finery, and flowers. Unless you've seen it, you wouldn't believe the preparation, planning, and good old-fashioned work that is poured into hosting the OET.

Our belief in the teachings of Jesus and our desire to serve others is as strong as it ever has been. Yet, as with many

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Is it Time for Tea continued from the front page...

traditions, our culture is changing when it comes to volunteering, ladies' lunches, and polishing silver. Our purpose and the preferences of the culture are not now as well-aligned. So far this year, no one has been identified to lead the 2023 OET. Last year, a handful of people got together to coordinate the Tea as a single individual to oversee the whole event could not be identified. Each year we learn that fewer and fewer people have the time or the inclination to devote to an event like the Olde English Tea.

While the number of people able to devote themselves to lemon curd tarts and fancy hats may be waning, the desire to help people in need is as great as ever. Perhaps the time has come for us to get creative about raising money to fund our outreach. Consider that sometimes the urge to uphold longstanding tradition actually gets in the way of its original purpose for being. The St. James Olde English Tea traditions need re-examination. Our beloved event, which once made perfect sense, may have (painfully) become unnecessary, or even detrimental, to our purposes of charity, fellowship, and community service.

In some cases a long-standing tradition still offers a great value without the need to do away with it entirely. Sometimes a re-vamp is what is needed. In other cases, a traditions has to be gently moved to the museum. As we think about the future and staying relevant in our community, we need to remember that if we decide to change or suspend the Tea, it is not an attack on the past. What has been accomplished is tremendous no matter what happens in the future. Change is scary, difficult, and there's no guarantee that it will bring success. So, why would we change? We would do it with the hope that if we let go of an aging tradition, we will give ourselves the extra bandwidth we need to give life to popular new efforts. Change is risky, but it's worth it.

Consider how some of the biggest risks in Biblical history have given life to something better than people could imagine. Think of Abraham and the risk he took when he followed God's instruction to sacrifice his son Isaac. Think how things when Mary took the risk of responding in the affirmative when an angel appeared and asked her to bear the offspring of God. And not least, think of the risk Jesus took as he carried his own cross to the top of Golgotha. These risks were of the most serious kind, but in each of these instances God brought to fruition something that the risk-takers could not imagine. Things turned out better than anyone dare hoped they would. Through these mighty acts, God opened the way of salvation for the whole world.

As we think about the Olde English Tea and what it means to St. James Church, we give thanks for the fellowship we have had, the fun we have provided for hundreds of women each year, and the sizable funds we have raised for the worthiest causes in our community. Now, today, is the time to join this community conversation about our history and our future. If you want to be the chairperson of the Tea this year, and if you are ready to recruit numerous volunteers to support the event, then please let us know. Only when we agree that the time has come to fill the last pages of the Olde English Tea scrapbook will it be time for us to give thanks and dream about the future.

Adult Formation Opportunities

Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

We have the desire to offer a weekly bible based class. If you are interested in leading this group, please contact Mother Dawn or me. With that in mind, please consider joining a current class or small group:

- **Adult Forum: Going off the Lectionary Grid**
Meets at 9:45 am in the Guild Hall every Sunday (except 2nd Sunday).
Father Andy Houlberg is leading *Bridges Out of Poverty* on the 3rd Sunday
- **Contemplative Prayer Group**
Meets at 5:30 pm on Zoom. Contact Dave McDonald for more information.
- **Education for Ministry (EfM)**
Meets at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays. The class has currently started but if interested contact Deb Bagby for information on joining the next cohort in Fall 2023.
- **The Book Club of St. James & St. Stephens**
Meets at 12:00 pm on Thursdays. Contact Mary Sloan for information on the current book being read.

Youth Group

Anne Clark, Youth Mentor

Youth group continues to meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm with a combination group of 6th to 12th grades. We celebrated the Christmas season helping organize the food baskets for the families the parish adopted as well as decorated cookies for us to enjoy. We took a break during the school break and started back up on January 4th. We've talked about new years traditions, had a game night and had Mother Dawn join us for one evening. We look forward to a trip to the Jewish Synagogue in March,

talking about Purim and making hamantaschen and helping with the Oyster Dinner and Olde English Tea.

We have decided not to have the rummage sale this year but will be doing other fundraisers to raise funds to go to Washington DC in the future. More information to come!

We are still looking for adult help for the youth group on Wednesday evenings. If interested, please contact Chelsea Whipple or the office.



More classes might be added to our Lenten/ Easter line-up. Please stay tuned!

**St. James
Episcopal Church**



**Give the
Gift of Life**

2023 Blood Drive Dates

12 February 2023
18 June 2023
24 September 2023
3 December 2023

Questions? Contact Dottie Evans



Watch for upcoming fundraising announcements to help fund the youth trip to Washington DC!



Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 9th at 10 am

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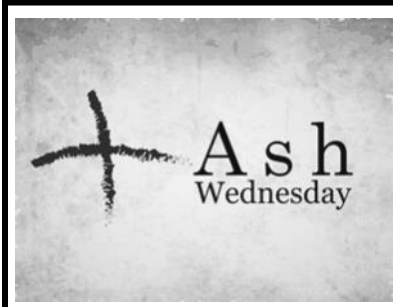
Finding Our Groove: Happenings in the Kidz Zone

Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

The teachers continue to love the excitement and energy all of the kids bring each time to Sunday school. We are learning to be flexible as we all find our groove with Godly Play. It is a time of transition as we navigate using best practices and adapting to the needs of our kids. With that in mind, you might see us outside more often as the weather allows. Our busy bees love the outdoors and expressing their energy in a loving and productive way is what we desire to do. The Disciples class is learning the stories more in-depth and having some reflection time. We will learn about the Parable of the Good Samaritan, the Mystery of Easter, and the Upper Room. Kids, aged preschool -5th grade, are able to join us at any time. We meet on the 1st Sundays of the month starting at 9:30 am. Our next gathering is on Sunday, March 5th. Questions? Contact me at formation@stjameswichita.org or by calling 683-5686.

We enjoyed having fellowship time outside of Sunday school at the movie day during the Greening of the Church. Our hope for next year is to perform the Christmas Pageant but we will need more volunteers willing to help.

Mark your calendars for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 9th at 10 am on the South Lawn (weather permitting). We will start asking for Easter Egg donations a few weeks prior, check your bulletin and eTower for more information!



The Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be at 7:00 pm on February 22, 2023.

St. James Episcopal Church



Holy Week & Easter

PALM(PASSION) WEEKEND

5:30 pm (Saturday) - Blessing of the Palms & Holy Eucharist

8:30 am (Sunday) - Blessing of the Palms & Holy Eucharist

10:45 am (Sunday) - Blessing of the Palms & Holy Eucharist

HOLY MONDAY

7:00 pm - Holy Eucharist, Rite I

HOLY TUESDAY

7:00 pm - Holy Eucharist, Rite I

HOLY WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm - Holy Eucharist, Rite I

You are invited to join us for Palm (Passion) Weekend, Holy Week, and Easter services. Palm (Passion) Weekend is April 1 & 2. Holy Week begins the following Monday, April 3. Easter Sunday is April 9

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 pm - Service of Footwashing, Holy Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar.

GOOD FRIDAY

12:00 pm - The Good Friday Liturgy

HOLY SATURDAY

10:00 am - Holy Saturday Liturgy
No Saturday evening service

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

6:00 am - The Great Vigil of Easter

8:30 am - Festival Service Holy Eucharist

10:45 am - Festival Service Holy Eucharist

Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 9th at 10 am
on the South Lawn (*weather permitting*)

Creation Care

Creation Care Committee

As Lent approaches, we in the Creation Committee have been thinking about some of the physical, environmental ways that all of our lives—innocently, hardly even consciously—make an impact on the world around it. Plastics come to mind, and from the perspective of a season of repentance and stock-taking, they begin to look a lot like a metaphor for sin: we pick them up easily, thoughtlessly. The world will hardly let you live without SOME kind of plastic waste. They promise to be easy to get rid of, but the reality proves to be much more complicated (as few as 5% of plastics actually end up being recycled). The situation begins to build up, and before long, it feels unmanageable (the Great Pacific Garbage Patch covers nearly 8 million square miles). Eventually, it ends up poisoning everything (microplastics, found everywhere from our tap water to Mariana Trench, can be toxic).

Admittedly, this is a rather dire (if factual) view of the situation. The solution, as in the rest of our Lenten observance, is not to give ourselves over to a panic attack or beat our breasts in remorse.

Those facts can seem negative and discouraging. We don't relate them to create guilt, though, but to move ourselves toward understanding and concrete action. Even if those actions sometimes feel weak and ineffective, they participate in the work of redemption and recreation. In case thinking about your patterns of consumption and waste is part of your Lenten observance, Creation Care has a few suggestions:

- Perhaps start with an inventory. www.sustainislandhome.org has a good example, and will suggest simple, do-able changes at the end of your survey.
- Write a letter to our legislators: So far, legislators in the Kansas Statehouse are considering proposed legislation that relates to regulations on wind farms, proposed taxes on electric vehicle charging stations, and once again, attempts to prohibit localities from banning excess plastic use. Watch the eTower and our page on the church website for information on specific bills.
- Watch as we work with the Junior Warden to make St James sustainable. A small sub-committee is meeting to begin the Energy Audit as suggested by the Diocesan's Creation Care Committee. Recognizing that much of the work has already been started, our goal is to create an ever-changing document that can be used by church leaders in planning and implementing future improvements. We recognize that all who use the church building have a role in conserving energy. When the audit is complete, we hope to use the knowledge gained to provide information on how we can all be better stewards of our resources.
- The diocese put together some great resources and an increasingly lively community in the Embrace Creation Care Facebook group!
- Help the Committee as we continue to monitor and add native plants and spruce up the Memorial Garden.



Outreach Committee

Judy Goodpasture, chair

Our Outreach Ministry Committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. and features monthly speakers from social service agencies. In February we will hear IRC executives speak about the refugee crisis. Visitors are always welcome. Just come.

Project Reports

- Our **Pocket Change Ministry** continues to provide funds for children and families served by the **Wichita Children's Home, Breakthrough ESS, Kansas Children's Service League, and St. Francis Ministries**. Currently, we are saving for a gift to the **Wichita Children's Home**. We are grateful to this congregation for ongoing generosity. **Project Chair Vicki Evans**
- Following our Feb. 12 Blood Drive, our next **American Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held on **Sunday, June 18, 2022**. Please sign up, knowing that each donation helps as many as three persons. **Project Chair Dottie Evans Clark**.
- St. James has joined the **Wichita Minster's** effort to provide **Saturday Sack Lunches** at St. John's Episcopal Church for the homeless. To help make or deliver sandwiches, please contact **Project Chair Joan Bledsoe** or **Asst. Chair Jessica Moore**.
- This spring we will host our annual **Undies Sundays Drive** for the **Wichita Children's Home**. In the past we have delivered over 1000 items, and we hope to do as well this year. **Project Chair Mary Klocke.**
- In late spring we hope to hold a **Suitcase Drive for Foster Children**. If you are interested in chairing or helping with this effort, please contact Judy Goodpasture.
- St. James has begun sending volunteers to the **Pando Initiative's Reality U**, a workshop for middle and high school students. We have been to Marshall and Curtis Middle Schools.
- Our Charitable Project funded by the **100 Year Celebration** has furnished four **Family Visitation Rooms** at St. Francis Ministries on east Harry. We will complete the fifth and final one this spring. Our committee freshens and restocks the rooms every six weeks. Thanks to donations from **Janet Newlin**, we can refresh the rooms with books and puzzles for at least two years.
- Our committee continues to send **cards** to ill and bereaved parishioners. If you know a parishioner who might appreciate a card, please email jgoodpasture@cox.net.
- And speaking of cards, **Deacon Jeff Roper's Card Ministry** for inmates at the **Winfield Correction facility** continues. Just drop off new cards in the hall basket.
- In February our committee will select a community recipient for the St. James Endowment Fund's charitable gift. This year's gift will be about \$3000.
- The **Oyster Dinner** in February needs volunteers to sell tickets and serve dinners. To help, please call the church office. **Project Chair Matt Carroll**.

Our Outreach Ministry Committee wishes each of you a healthy and a happy spring. **Thank you, St. James parishioners**, for demonstrating that our church cares about community outreach!

Endowment News

Tom Gossen, EFB Representative

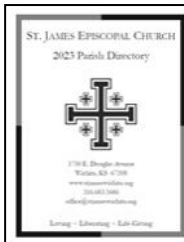
Are you a card-carrying member of Dillons Plus Shopper’s Card? If so, I’m guessing you really appreciate those fuel points you accumulate for discounts on fuel when you fill up the gas tank of your automobile. You must spend money to get fuel points. Did you know you can direct a portion of the money you spend on groceries to the St. James endowment fund? And, it doesn’t cost anything?

Sixty-Two households of St. James are enrolled in the Dillons Community Rewards program and have designated St. James Church as the charitable recipient. Yes, there are other worthwhile community outreach programs that are eligible for you to designate. But I’m wondering why only Sixty-two households out of more than two hundred households have designated St. James as the

charitable recipient. I’m guessing that we have at least two hundred households in St. James who enjoy those fuel points.

If you are someone who indeed enjoys those fuel points and haven’t yet linked your Dillons Plus Shopper’s Card to St. James Church, please consider taking a few minutes the next time you sit down at your computer (or tablet) and visit <https://www.dillons.com/i/community/community-rewards> to link your card to St. James Church.

Your Endowment Funds Board members thank you for taking the time to do this.



Every year in January, an Annual Report that reflects on the previous year and looks at the budget for the new year is distributed. Copies of the Annual Report are available at the volunteer desk and online. An updated directory for 2023 was also distributed. Copies of this new directory are at the volunteer desk.

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ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Stations of the Cross

February 23 - March 30, 2023

EVERY THURSDAY DURING LENT | 6PM
3750 E. DOUGLAS | WICHITA, KS

We will gather in the entryway near the red front doors, then walk together to that week’s location in the church.

SANDWICH SATURDAYS

11 MARCH 2023
10 JUNE 2023
9 SEPTEMBER 2023
9 DECEMBER 2023

**CONTACT
JOAN BLEDSOE
FOR MORE
INFORMATION**



PMEF ~ What's That?

Each edition of Seasons includes news about the Perpetual Memorial and Endowment Fund (PMEF) of St. James Church. **Are you aware of the opportunities and benefits of the PMEF?**

Give thanks to God for a significant event in your life, or for a loved one (or someone else) who has influenced your life by making a gift to the PMEF. **There are two categories of tributes: (1) Living Tributes for those who are still living; and (2) Memorials in remembrance of the deceased.**

Enrolled Gifts are reported in perpetuity in the Annual Report of the PMEF. New - and additions to previously enrolled gifts - are announced in each edition of SEASONS.

Create an Enrolled Gift by completing an enrollment form available on St. James website (or contact the parish office.) Initial gifts to the PMEF can be as small as \$100 (multiple smaller gifts can be combined.)

~ MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS ~

New Enrollments and Additions to the St. James Perpetual Memorial & Endowment Fund**New Living Endowment Gifts from August 1, 2022 thru January 31, 2023**

Clay Bastian & Woody Swain **\$ 500**

In honor of two benevolent gentlemen who helped me sell my Vespa and declined compensation for their good deeds.

In Thanksgiving **\$ 240**

Additions to Existing Living Endowments from August 1, 2022 thru January 31, 2023

Dillons Community Rewards Program **\$ 790**

Endowment Fund Support from enrollees in Dillons Community Rewards Program.

New Memorial Endowment Gifts from August 1, 2022 thru January 31, 2023

Craig Douglas Cowdery (1956-2022) **\$1,000**

In loving memory

Ron Harrison (1931-2022) **\$ 540**

In memory of his many faithful years of service to St. James as a parishioner and a "go to" guy.

Pamela McCausland (1952 - 2022) **\$ 830**

In loving memory

Emily Swain Smith **\$ 200**

In honor of the life of Emily Swain Smith

Additions to Existing Memorial Enrollments from August 1, 2022 thru January 31, 2023

John Luerding (1939-2022) **\$ 50**

In loving memory.

Frances duBrutz Powers Brinegar (1927-2013) **\$100**

A lifelong Episcopalian and member of St. James for over 70 years, she and her husband Wayne Louis Brinegar were married at St James in 1953. They both served the parish in many capacities until his death in 2005 and hers in 2013. They cherished St. James as their spiritual home and their ashes reside in the Chapel Columbarium.

To honor a loved one by making a gift, visit the Endowment page at the St. James website:

<<https://stjameswichita.org/give-to-st-james/endowment/>> for the Enrollment Forms (Living Tribute and Memorial). OR, Contact the Church office 316-683-5686.

Pledging and Budget Update

Woody Swain, Treasurer

At the Annual Meeting of January 29, I presented the 2023 operating budget to the parish. It showed a deficit of \$56,944, based upon pledged revenue of \$410,350 during the year. As of February 14, that picture has improved. 2023 pledging has improved to \$426,480 and the projected shortfall has decreased to \$36,403. We've received a total of 124 pledges, up from 122 for 2022, with the "average annual pledge" decreasing from \$3,474 to \$3,439.

Our current slate of worship services, activities and outreach ministries relies upon this level of giving from our membership. I am hopeful that through careful control of expenses, extra giving from our members and new giving from new members, we will close this shortfall by the end of this year.



St. James 2023 Leadership: Vestry

The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector	Danny Blair, Junior Warden	Deb Bagby, Clerk
Joan Moore, Senior Warden	Woody Swain, Treasurer	
Dave McDonald (2026)	Jessica Moore (2026)	Troy Wells (2026)
Richard Bowman (2025)	Pat Butin (2025)	Suzanne Laycock (2025)
Diana Morton (2024)	Drew Rucker (2024)	Mary Sloan (2024)

St. James 2023 Leadership: Nominating Committee

Richard Bowman (2024)	Erin Compton (2024)	Judy Goodpasture (2024)
Kate Miller (2024)	Marilyn Taylor (2024)	

St. James 2023 Leadership: Endowment Funds Board

Deb Bagby (2026)	Scott Orr (2026)	<u>Also on EFB:</u>
Clay Bastian (2025)	Kelly Harper (2025)	The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt
Erin Compton (2024)	Jay Price (2024)	Woody Swain

St. James 2023 Leadership: Delegates & Alternates

Delegates

Rick Milhon (2025)	Paul Rillema (2025)	Racine Zackula (2025)
Randy Harrison (2024)	Joan Moore (2024)	

Alternates

Marilyn Milhon (2025)	Necia Rillema (2025)	Elizabeth Wenger (2025)
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Terms end after the annual meeting in January of the year listed by each name

Creation Trustees & Friends Lunch and Gathering

Episcopal Diocese of Kansas

Throughout 2022 and 2023, Bishop Bascom visited Kansas Episcopalians who are actively engaged in caring for God's natural world. Now we invite you all to gather, meet these Creation Trustees, and share encouragement and best practices with one another.



As well as pleasing and healthy food the shape of the day will include:

- An introductory plenary session
- Time to meet regional neighbors
- Time to share best practices in affinity groups (those who work with livestock, community gardeners, solar and green build, wildlife and biodiversity...)
- Three learning tracks to choose from
 - Spirituality Session, ancient wisdom for today
 - Managing Invasive Species (red cedars, Johnson grass...)
 - Gifts of Land to the Diocese or to Land Trusts

When: Saturday, March 25, 11 am - 2 pm

Where: Grace Cathedral, Upton Hall, and Bethany Gardens (Topeka)

Who: Creation Trustees, clergy, and anyone interested in this work

Please RSVP online by March 20 or call the Diocesan Office at 785-235-9255.

Episcopal Relief & Development: Earthquake Aid

Episcopal Diocese of Kansas

A devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake recently struck southeast Türkiye (Turkey) and northern Syria. The reported death toll is in the thousands and climbing after buildings all over the region crumbled, burying civilians beneath the rubble. Please help us work with our local partners to provide relief and support. Make an urgent tax-deductible donation to Episcopal Relief & Development today.



Note: You may also write a check to St. James, marking ERD or Earthquake in the memo and we will send a check from our parish.

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter,
2023

Loving — Liberating — Life-Giving

**ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL**

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The
Seasons

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Dates of Note: Lent, Holy Week, & Easter 2023

Lenten Season

February 21: Oyster Dinner at 5:30 pm

February 22: Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist
with Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 pm

February 23: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

February 25/26: The Great Litany

March 2: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

March 4/5: The Second Weekend in Lent

March 9: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

March 11/12: The Third Weekend in Lent

March 16: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

March 18/19: The Fourth Weekend in Lent

March 23: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

March 25/26: The Fifth Weekend in Lent

March 30: Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm

Holy Week

April 1/2: Palm (Passion) Weekend

April 3: Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 at 7:00 pm

April 4: Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 at 7:00 pm

April 5: Holy Eucharist, Rite 1 at 7:00 pm

April 6: Maundy Thursday Service of

Footwashing, Holy Eucharist, and stripping
of the altar at 7:00 pm

April 7: The Good Friday Liturgy at 12:00 pm

April 8: Holy Saturday Liturgy at 10:00 am

No Saturday evening service on April 8

Sunday of the Resurrection

April 9: The Great Vigil of Easter at 6:00 am,

Festival Service Holy Eucharist at 8:30 am

& 10:45 am, Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 am