

WORSHIP

On Sundays there are three services of the Holy Eucharist, all traditional and using the Book of Common Prayer.

- 8 am, the service is spoken, simple and shorter.
- 10 am, our magnificent choir and organist lead us in song and chant.
- 5 pm is chanted and children are a big part of all we do..

Opportunities for service include:

- reading the lessons, acolyting, serving at the altar
- singing in the adult or children's choir
- setting the altar and serving in the Altar Guild
- ushering and greeting people
- Taking communion to those who can't come to church (Eucharistic Visitors)

OUTREACH

Special emphasis is laid upon helping the poor. We use the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for eradicating extreme poverty as our guide. St. James funds creative work to help end poverty both locally and internationally. You can help by donating canned goods to our food basket, participating in fundraisers, and serving on our MDG committee

PASTORAL CARE

It is easy to get isolated when we are sick, in crisis or when our bodies are growing infirmed through the natural process of aging. The pastoral care team visits people who are homebound, in the hospital or in nursing homes. Team members also give rides to church or to the doctor's, do grocery shopping, or cook a meal. You can help.

HOSPITALITY

The Breakfast Club serves up the best breakfast in town on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. This is a great time to eat, meet and greet one another between morning services.

SHIFT

Our youth group is open to all youth and all faiths. Meeting the 2nd and 4th Monday, SHIFT was the main fundraiser for the local charity People Helping People last year, through "flocking" (you'll have to ask). SHIFT also takes on recycling, environmental concerns, and studies of different religious traditions.

EDUCATION

Education is important at St. James. We have weekly classes for children up to age 13 on Mondays and Tuesdays, and a youth group. We also have adult Bible study on Sundays, along with an array of adult classes and book studies on Wednesdays. Whether you are new to the church, or have studied the Christian tradition for years, there is likely to be a class that will enrich your understanding and challenge you to grow in your spiritual life. And you can also help by teaching a class.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Every woman in the church automatically belongs to ECW, a group dedicated to fellowship, service, and mutual support. The major project of this group is the annual Silver Tea, an event which kicks off the community's Christmas observance and benefits a local non-profit organization. In addition, ECW supports the United Thank Offering, sends birthday cards to all church members and messages of support to those experiencing difficulties, and hosts special events such as receptions and dinners. Meetings throughout the year offer uplifting programs.

NURSING HOME MINISTRIES

Active ministries serve both the local nursing homes: Peachtree Village in Holiday Island and Brighton Ridge in Eureka Springs. The Peachtree service is Sundays at 1:30 pm, and there is a monthly gospel sing on Friday mornings as well. Contact the Rev. Betsy Porter for more information. The Brighton Ridge service is on Wednesdays at 10:15 am. Contact the Rev. John Burton for more information.

VESTRY

The Vestry consists of seven members elected for terms of three years each, plus the vicar, the treasurer and the clerk who attend meetings but do not vote. The seven elected members are responsible for overseeing the church's financial stewardship and caring for our buildings and grounds. A Senior Warden and Junior Warden oversee the practical care of the church property. The Vestry meets monthly and meetings are open to all church members. Opportunities to assist include helping with the annual stewardship education and pledge drive, serving as a money counter for church offerings, and tending the garden.

LIBRARY

St. James' boasts an abundant library of spiritual classics, contemporary spiritual writing, studies in theology, church history, Scripture, Christian mysticism, interfaith dialogue, Sufism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, ecology and psychology. Over 2100 volumes in our collection so far, and growing. Open Tuesday – Friday, 8:30 – 3:30 pm. Books can be checked out and taken home. Come browse at 34 Prospect (St. James' House).

THIS FRAGILE EARTH, OUR ISLAND HOME

Good stewardship is basic to Christian practice. To this end, we are mindful of how we relate to all of God's gifts to us: our daily work, our relationships, our money, and the things we make use of. In keeping with this, we are called to examine how we live effects the ecosystems of the Earth itself. Regular ecological reflections in the newsletter, recycling office paper, using cloth napkins and washing dishes instead of throwing away paper plates are some of the habits we try to keep at church. There is also a group, Planet Home, that meets monthly to study and reflect on our ecological responsibilities. All are welcome.



MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

At Baptism, we commit ourselves to our own conversion. We vow to renounce the old ways of the world, represented by our old habits of thinking and acting, in favor of a life centered upon reverence for God and humble service of others. Our adoration of God grows as we pray. Our humble obedience to Christ grows as we engage in service and this is called ministry. All of us resist the call of God in many ways. The church offers us some wonderful ways of committing to the baptismal journey, and facing our own resistance to the conversion of the heart. To commit our lives to prayer and ministry is to dare ourselves to be truly converted and transformed. Many opportunities to walk with one another on this journey are available in this vital church. Prayer and ministry are not for the faint of heart, but the aim of seeking and serving God is worth all the trouble.

The Rev. Edie Bird



SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
8:30 AM	Breakfast in the Undercroft
9:00 AM	Bible Study
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
1:30 PM	Service at Peachtree
5:00 PM	Holy Eucharist (child friendly)

Monday

4:00 PM	Episcopal Children's Curriculum
4:00 PM	Godly Play 2
4:00 PM	SHIFT Youth (2 nd & 4 th Mon)
6:00 PM	ECW - 1st Mondays (Sept - May)

Tuesday

10:30 AM	Morning Prayer & Godly Play (offsite)
6:00 PM	Planet Home (2 nd & 4 th Tues)

Wednesday

10:15 AM	Prayer & Praise at Brighton Ridge
12: Noon	Adult Classes (call 253-8610)
2:00 PM	Holy Eucharist & Healing Service
6:00 PM	Choir Practice

Thursday

8:30 AM	Yoga with Laura Barker
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Friday

11:00 AM	Gospel Sing at Peachtree (2 nd Friday)
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April 2008

St. James' Episcopal Church

A church family where all are invited by the limitless love of God to be nourished, blessed, and empowered to love and serve the world.

Celebrating our
MUTUAL MINISTRY
as seekers and servants of Christ



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