



SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL



Christian Education

Fall 2016

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

ST. JAMES CLERGY AND
MINISTRY STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Waldo, *Bishop of Upper South Carolina*
The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades, *Rector*
Tina Boyd, *Youth Minister*
Dr. Karen Eshelman, *Minister of Music*
Dena Veazey, *Parish Administrator*
Carol Clark, *Office Assistant*
Katie Allen, *St. James Day School Director*

ST. JAMES VESTRY 2016

Jennifer Jerina, *Senior Warden*
Lee Plumlee, *Junior Warden*
Laura Brown
Gail Burch
Sherrie Foster
Christina Harrell
George Lipscomb
Christi Jones-McNeill
Kathy Walsh
Ed Winkler
Karen Wolfe

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
COMMISSION 2016

The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades, *ex officio*
John Shelley
Janet Atkins
Jay Owens

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FROM THE RECTOR

ὁ δὲ ἀνεξέταστος βίος οὐ βιωτὸς ἀνθρώπῳ

Plato, *Apology* 38a

In Plato's *Apology* (the account of the trial of Socrates), he records Socrates as once saying, "An unexamined life is not worth living." While Socrates was making the argument from a philosophical perspective that the only way to truly know oneself is to examine one's life, I believe there is an analogous proposition for us as people of faith: *The unexamined faith is not worth having.*

I believe passionately in Christian education for children and adults. Having been raised in another Christian tradition, I did not truly embrace the Christian faith until I had struggled with the deep questions of faith, sought gifted teachers and writers to help guide me on my journey, and finally reached my own understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

Exploration, examination and intellectual engagement are the genetic markers of the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. We are a thinking Church: scripture, tradition and reason are essential to our understanding of the faith once delivered.

Unfortunately, I fear that the Church hasn't given Christian education the attention it deserves. People simply haven't been taught what the scriptures are, who wrote them, why they were written, and what they are saying to us today. We have neglected teaching Church history, the doctrines of the Church, theology, and the meaning of the sacraments. Many Christians have simply never been given the tools to see past the surface and to engage the deep questions of the Christian faith.

I encourage you to reengage our heritage and immerse yourself in wonderful Christian education offerings at St. James this program year. We have been blessed with incredibly gifted teachers in different disciplines, all who have offered to share their gift of teaching with us. Take full advantage of what they have to offer as we struggle with the deep questions of faith, marvel at the beauty of creation, and seek to understand the faith that so many have sacrificed to hand down to us.

I know that you will find that an examined faith is a faith well worth having.

The Rev. Stephen J. Rhoades

WEEKDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS 1 : 0 0 P . M .

Faith Seeking Understanding

This class is based on the catechumenate: an ancient term for the spiritual and theological training that one received prior to baptism. At St. James, we believe that education is life-long process and vital to becoming personally transformed to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

We will begin at the very beginning and journey through world history, scripture, church history, theology, liturgy, architecture and music as we broaden our knowledge and deepen our understanding of the Christian faith. This is a class for seekers and seasoned Christians where all questions are welcomed in an atmosphere of intellectual curiosity, faithful inquiry, and mutual respect.

Father Stephen

Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Resumes September 20th

Christian Education Classroom



W E D N E S D A Y E V E N I N G S
7 : 0 0 P . M .

Pilgrim: A Course for the Christian Journey

Pilgrim is a teaching and discipleship course that helps inquirers, new Christians, and seasoned Christians explore what it means to travel through life with Christ. A Christian course for the twenty-first century, Pilgrim offers an approach of participation, not persuasion. Following the practice of the ancient disciplines of biblical reflection and prayer with quotes from the Christian tradition throughout the ages, Pilgrim assumes little or no knowledge of the Christian faith.



There are many different aspects to helping people learn about the Christian faith. This course takes as its starting point Jesus' summary of the commandments. We are called to offer our lives to God through loving God with all our mind, soul, strength, and heart, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Learning about Christian faith and growing in Christian faith is about more than what we believe. It's also about the ways in which we pray and develop our relationship with God, about the way we live our lives and about living in God's vision for the Church and for the world.

Father Stephen
Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
Begins September 21st
Christian Education Classroom

T H U R S D A Y M O R N I N G S
1 0 : 4 5 A . M .

Thursday Morning Bible Study

On Thursday mornings, St. James parishioners and others gather to study the Word of God together.

Boyd Cater, Facilitator
Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.
Library

SUNDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY MORNINGS
10:10 – 10:50 A.M.

At St. James, our mission is to train and equip disciples of Jesus Christ. We offer a series of Sunday morning educational offerings designed to meet Christ-followers wherever they may be on their journey with one unifying goal: to deepen individual faith and understanding, and to give them the tools to share that faith with the world. Our instructors are drawn from the many gifted teachers and professors in the St. James community.

Pentecost Season

The Christian Conscience Part I: Remembering 9/11

Suggested reading: *Writing in the Dust: After September 11*
by Rowan Williams

It has been fifteen years since the nation awoke to an unfolding tragedy in New York as commercial airliners were weaponized and used to bring down the twin towers of the World Trade Center killing thousands of Americans, foreign nationals, and first responders.



On this, the fifteenth anniversary of that fateful day, we will engage the events of that day and our response as a nation from a Christian theological perspective, with the reflections of the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, as our guide.

September 11
Adult Christian Education Classroom

The Christian Conscience Part II: The Crime of Darfur

Suggested reading: *Night* by Elie Wiesel

The collision of cultures, religions and ethnicities in Sudan -- including those of sub-Saharan Africa and those of the Arab Islamic world -- have led to nearly 50 years of civil war. Since 1956, when Sudan first gained independence from the United Kingdom, there have been only 11 years of peace. Government neglect has left the people throughout Sudan poor and voiceless. In February 2003, the non-Arab ethnic groups of Darfur launched an uprising against the Kartoum government. The government responded by implementing their campaign of genocide, enlisting the help of Arab militia in Darfur called the Janjaweed. The dispute is racial, not religious: Muslim Arab Sudanese are killing Muslim black Sudanese.



Since the 1983 start of the civil war, more than 4 million people have been displaced, and an estimated 2 million have died. Opposition groups as well as the government have been accused of atrocities in the conflict. Since 2003, violence in Darfur -- called ethnic cleansing by some and genocide by others -- has left an estimated 50,000 to 80,000 dead and an estimated 1.2 million to 2 million people displaced. Survivors face severe shortages of food and clean water.

How could the world once again stand by and do nothing as genocide was visited upon an innocent people? Join us as we ask the hard questions of how world community and we as Christians failed the people of Darfur. Guiding our discussion will be *Night*, the highly acclaimed book by Elie Wiesel who escaped the genocidal death camps of Nazi Germany.

September 18
Adult Christian Education Classroom

The Christian Conscience Part III: The Shame of Aleppo

Suggested reading: *The Parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37*

Sometimes it takes a photograph to bring the cost of war into focus. Such was the case with the photograph of five year-old Omran Daqneesh who was pulled from the ruins of Aleppo and placed in the back of an ambulance. His photograph has become the defining symbol of the crisis in Aleppo as a civilian population is besieged, terrorized and starved in the midst of a seemingly endless civil war.



What are the lessons that 9/11 and Darfur have taught us as Christians and the entire world community as we watch another civil war spiral out of control with the wholesale slaughter of civilians, the displacement of millions of people and an endless flood of refugees streaming into Europe? What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself in the midst of war?

September 25

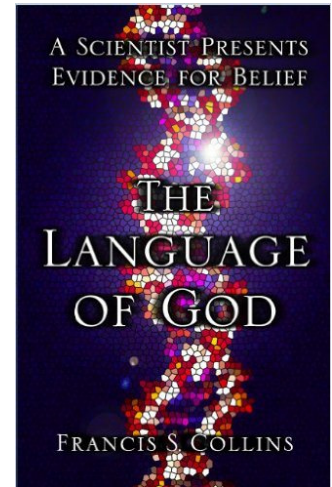
Adult Christian Education Classroom

Science and Religion: The Language of God

Suggested reading: *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*, Francis S. Collins

Does science necessarily undermine faith in God? Or could it actually support faith? Beyond the flashpoint debates over the teaching of evolution, or stem-cell research, most of us struggle with contradictions concerning life's ultimate question. We know that accidents happen, but we believe we are on earth for a reason. Until now, most scientists have argued that science and faith occupy distinct arenas. Francis Collins, a former atheist as a science student who converted to faith as he became a doctor, is about to change that as he offers an inspiring tour of the human genome to show the miraculous nature of God's instruction book. Collins' faith in God has been confirmed and enhanced by the revolutionary discoveries in biology that he has helped to oversee as a geneticist. We will utilize Collins' book as our guide as we examine the relationship between faith and science.

October 2 – November 20
Adult Christian Education Classroom



Advent Season

Angels in the Anglican Tradition

led by Fr. Stephen

Angels have been the source of great controversy for millennia. They are found in the holy texts of many of the world's major faith traditions, they have been noted by historians, described by theologians, painted by great artists, personified in marble and stone, and have become part of popular culture through books, music and films. However, such familiarity has bred confusion as to what angels are and their proper relationship to the created order. This multi-media workshop will examine angels from an Anglican perspective, firmly grounded in the scriptures and shaped by the experience of the early Church, as we seek to increase our understanding and appreciation of angels as a unique class of God's creation.

December 4, 11 & 18

Adult Christian Education Classroom



CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

SUNDAY MORNINGS

St. James Nursery

Our nursery is a special place where children will learn about Jesus' love through the hugs, smiles, songs, and play of the nursery workers. Infants and children through the age of four years old are invited to stay in the nursery while their parents worship. After the exchange of the peace, parents are encouraged to pick up their children from the nursery so the family can receive Holy Communion together. Children can then be returned to the nursery for the Christian education hour.

Sundays, 8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lower Level

Children's Sunday School

Our Sunday School program for children is led by "Shepherds" – adults who are gifted in teaching and leading children. Children three years of age through fifth grade will be taught Bible stories and the basics of the faith in an environment of fun using new curriculum from Sparkhouse.

Sundays, 10:10 am – 10:50 am

Various rooms on the Lower Level

YOUNG ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY MORNINGS

10 : 10 A . M .

Sunday Morning Youth Study

Our middle and high school youth gather each Sunday morning to study and reflect on a passage of scripture with their peers.

Sundays, 10:10 am – 10:50 am
Youth Room, Lower Level

SUNDAY EVENINGS

5 : 00 7 : 00 P . M .

St. James EYC

St. James EYC consists of 6th graders through seniors in high school. On Sunday nights, St. James EYC offers a high-energy mix of community building games, activities, bible study, worship and teaching with a view toward encouraging a deeper relationship with Christ.

Tina Boyd, *Youth Minister*
Sundays, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Parish Life Center

SPECIAL EVENTS

Retreats, Trips, and Summer Camp

St. James EYC participates in a number of local retreats and trips throughout the year. In the past there have been service day trips, ski trips, snow tubing trips, camping trips, trips to local attractions and summer camp.

Mission Trips

St. James EYC has also previously been involved in summer mission trips to different areas of the country as well as Ecuador, ministering to the poverty-stricken. These trips are planned based on availability and interest.

ST. JAMES DAY SCHOOL

St. James Day School exists to nurture the whole child through Christ and we serve children from one year old to four years old. In addition to our regular pre-school classes, we also offer a summer program called Camp Fun which includes weekly sessions in the months of June and July.

At St. James Day School we believe that children are God's most precious gift and we are committed to nurturing them through Christ. We emphasize five interrelated areas that are important for growth: spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive, and physical. We believe that the first five years of life are critical to a child's development and we are dedicated to providing an environment where they are assured of God's love while providing opportunities for their development.

If you have children or grandchildren between the ages of one to four years old and are looking at preschool options, we would love to speak with you! For more information or to schedule a tour, please call Katie Allen at 864-244-6358.

OCCASIONAL OFFERINGS

Baptismal Preparation

This class helps parents, godparents and candidates for baptism understand the promises and responsibilities of baptism. Holy Baptism is administered during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the following days throughout the year.

All Saints Day <i>Preparation Class</i>	November 6, 2016 <i>Nov. 2</i>
Baptism of our Lord <i>Preparation Class</i>	January 8, 2017 <i>January 7</i>
The Easter Vigil <i>Preparation Classes</i>	April 15, 2017 <i>April 8</i>
Pentecost Sunday <i>Preparation Classes</i>	June 4, 2017 <i>June 3</i>

To request a baptismal date, go to our website <http://www.stjamesgreenville.org> and click "Become a Member and Get Involved" under the Welcome tab. You can also contact Dena Veazey 864-244-6358 to register. For adult Baptism preparation, please also use our website or contact Fr. Stephen Rhoades 864-244-6358.

Church Nave.

Confirmation Preparation

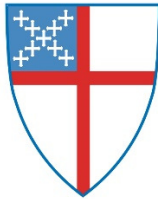
Confirmation preparation classes help prepare adults and youth (must be 17 years old or rising Juniors in high school) for the sacramental rite of confirmation which is administered during the biannual Bishop's visit. Classes will be announced once the Bishop's schedule for 2017 is released.

Please contact Fr. Stephen Rhoades for more information.
rector@stjamesgreenvile.org
864-244-6358

MASTER CALENDAR

St. James Open House	August 28, 2016
Resume Three Services (7:45, 9 & 11).....	September 11, 2016
Christian Education Begins	September 11, 2016
All Saints Day ✕	November 6, 2016
Christ the King.....	November 20, 2016
Thanksgiving Eve Service (Wed.)	November 23, 2016
Advent Wreath Workshop	November 27, 2016
Advent Lessons & Carols	December 4, 2016
Annual Meeting.....	December 11, 2016
Christmas Eve (Sat.)	December 24, 2016
Christmas Day (Sun.)	December 25, 2016
Epiphany (Fri.)	January 6, 2017
Baptism of Our Lord ✕	January 8, 2017
Ash Wednesday	March 1, 2017
Palm Sunday	April 9, 2017
Holy Wednesday Tenebrae	April 12, 2017
Maundy Thursday	April 13, 2017
Good Friday	April 14, 2017
The Great Vigil of Easter (Sat.)✕.....	April 15, 2017
Easter Sunday	April 16, 2017
Christian Education Ends.....	May 14, 2017
Summer Service Schedule (7:45 & 10).....	May 21, 2017
Parish Fellowship Weekend (Fri.)	May 26, 2017
Pentecost ✕	June 4, 2017
Trinity Sunday	June 11, 2017
Faith Memorial Chapel	June 11, 2017

✕Indicates Baptismal Days



*St. James Episcopal Church is, above all,
a welcoming, caring community.
We are dedicated to worship, outreach,
fellowship and growth in the service of Christ.*

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WWW.STJAMESGREENVILLE.ORG