

The BELLS of St. JAMES

*news, inspiration,
and opportunities
for ministry*

Message from Mother Mariclair

Introducing: Wednesdays at St. James

This fall, we are going to build on the momentum of our summer monthly parish-wide gatherings with "Wednesdays at St. James". Every Wednesday starting Aug 13th will feature the following:

5:30 EYC/Older Youth Gathering in the Youth Room
6:00 Dinner for All
6:30 Evening Prayer
Cherub Choir practice in Rm 206
Chorister practice in the Choir Room
7-7:30 Express Christian Formation
with Mo. Mariclair
7:30 Adult Choir practice in the Choir Room.

We are bringing back a familiar face, Mr. Russell Gibbs, to prepare dinner. Each Wednesday he will serve two main courses, sides, salads, and dessert. The suggested donation is \$10 per person, with a maximum of \$30 for families.

In the parish-wide survey of St. James completed during the interim period, the top three priorities for the congregation were

- 1) attracting families with children and youth to our church,
- 2) developing a comprehensive strategy to reach newcomers and incorporate them into the life of the parish, and
- 3) creating more opportunities for current parishioners to spend time together and form meaningful relationships.

This Wednesday evening schedule will offer all three, so mark your calendars and bring your appetites on August 13th!

Thursday

August 7, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS



August 10, Sunday

Christian formation
resumes for age 4 - grade 5,
youth, and adults
98:30-10:15a

August 13, Wednesday

Youth group
5:30-6:15p
+
dinner for all
6:00
+
worship
6:30
+
choirs for age 4 - grade 1
and for grades 2 - 12
6:30-7
+
Express Christian
Formation with Mo.
Mariclair
7-7:30
+
parish choir
7:30-9

August 16, Saturday

Refresher training for
worship volunteers
10-11:30a
readers 10a, LEMs 10:30,
LWLs 11

August 17, Sunday

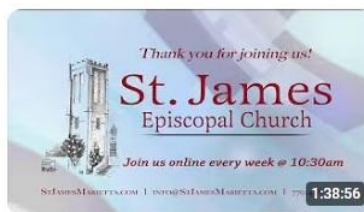
P.S.- If you know a child who likes to sing, please invite them to participate in the new Cherub Choir (4 yo- 1st Grade) or our continuing Choristers (2nd- 12th Grades). For more information, or to enroll your child, please contact Dr. Bryan Black! Email him at music@stjamesmarietta.com

Regular schedule
+
Holy Eucharist at Sterling
Estates -- all are invited
3p
*come 30 minutes early to
help set up*

August 18, Monday
Reach Out Mental Health
lunch and BINGO
11a
*volunteers come
30-90 min early*
+
Vestry
7p

August 20, Wednesday
Refresher training for
worship volunteers,
alternate time
noon - 1p

Livestream HQ - Links & Booklets for Worship at Home

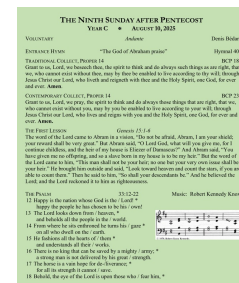


10:30 Service On Line
Click on "live" to see a service
live or archived.

[Link
to livestream
on YouTube](#)

**Worship Booklet
for the Season**
contains prayers, service
music, and responses that we
will use until late August

[Download
Worship Booklet](#)



The Service Bulletin,
updated weekly, contains
lessons, hymn numbers, and
announcements: items that
change each Sunday.

[Download the
Service Bulletin](#)



Missing photos in *The Bells*? Missing the blue shaded "Pulse of the Parish" at the end of your issue? You can tell your email service to show blocked or dropped content. Need help? Email communications@stjamesmarietta.com

New Orchid-colored Stewardship Forms

We give back to God by pledging our talents and treasure. When you fill out a stewardship form, you indicate your interest in different ministries, and you also help the Vestry to estimate what resources we'll have this year



Photo: D. G. Reisinger demonstrates how to deposit the stewardship form in the giving box located by the church office. D. G. gives twice: her pledge and, every Tuesday, her cheerful presence at the reception desk.

for the work we plan to do.

Why orchid? We discovered reams of the paper in a cabinet under a box of cassette tapes and floppy disks. Nancy Eubanks remembers ordering it for children's Sunday school long, long ago.

You may print the stewardship form at home with [this link](#).

How will YOU Share God's Abundance in 2020?

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you will share your time, talents, and financial gifts in the year ahead. Please complete the form before your personal stewardship pledge for the coming year. For the financial section, only one pledge is needed per household. To indicate your ministry pledge, place a checkmark next to ministries you currently participate in and circle those you are interested in exploring.

My Commitment to St. James for 2020

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Preferred Phone: _____ Email: _____
 I am the Parent/Guardian of: _____

I/we pledge to contribute the total annual sum of \$ _____
 by offering the amount of \$ _____ (please circle one) weekly monthly every 2 weeks twice a month
 every 3 months annually

(Only two individuals entering the pledge amounts in the computer will use your financial pledge information. Absentees, you may choose to submit your financial pledge online through our website.)
 In 2020, I plan to continue serving in the ministries I've checked below. I've also circled any new ministries I'm interested in exploring or learning more about.

WORSHIP & MUSIC <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School <input type="checkbox"/> Church Women's Lay Exchange Ministers <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Ministry Leaders <input type="checkbox"/> Sacristy / Lay Readers <input type="checkbox"/> Serving House Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Servers <input type="checkbox"/> Vestments	Worship Support Team <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Guild <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcaster / Audio Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Guild <input type="checkbox"/> Guild of the Church Child <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Committee	Ringling & Ringing <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Choir <input type="checkbox"/> Children & Youth Choirs <input type="checkbox"/> Handbell Choir <input type="checkbox"/> Tower Bell Change Ringers <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy (see on back)
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10/21/2020 2020 Stewardship Form Page 1

Sunday Highlights

Sunday's sermon included an assurance that the work we do each day is an offering to God. In that spirit, Mother Mariclaire blessed backpacks and other representations of work. The photo from the balcony was shared by Jeff Picken. The Communications Coordinator got another angle while he waited for his lunch box to be sprinkled with holy water.



Among the many ministries exhibited at the Ministry Fair, this pair of hand-crafted models stood out. One models how each ringer can lift a ton of metal with a wheel and a rope. The other model shows how the bells are situated in the tower above the room where our musicians pull the ropes every Sunday. Some parishioners have never seen that room, and a few have even been surprised to find out that our ringing is *live*. If you haven't watched them, climb the stairs to the balcony to see ringers in action. They put windows in their door for just that purpose!



This is a panoramic view of the parish hall during the Ministry Fair. There were lots of displays, and lots of interest. The crowd stayed late.





Daysi Turcios (L) and **Heather Blalock** (R) both joined our staff Sunday morning. Daysi (pronounced "Daisy") now tends children age 0-5 in the nursery with Melissa Powers. Daysi is already on the faculty of our Wonderful Days preschool, and she has also been filling in while our sexton Rosemary recovers from surgery. Heather is a music educator who will lead a new choir for our youngest members, age 4 through grade 1, beginning this Wednesday. To have your child involved, email music director Bryan Black, music@stjamesmarietta.com

Children & Youth News



Sunday School starts this week! Natalie welcomes children age 4 through grade 5 upstairs in the education wing. Riley will meet youth upstairs in the youth suite.

Acolytes scheduled for 10:30 Sunday are crucifer Jessica Reynolds, with torch bearers Lauren Malsby and Matilda Reynolds.

Apologies from the Communications Coordinator: I put those names in for last Sunday. You're really scheduled for *this* Sunday.

We're looking forward to the Braves game Sunday. Those who RSVPd to Riley last week will have seats in the general seating area.

The Diocesan Youth Calendar is [here](#). Highlights include two Happenings, an overnight at the Diocesan council in November, a middle school retreat, and a hunger walk/run at Mercedes Benz stadium.

Contact Us

Natalie Fowler, Children's Ministry Coordinator children@stjamesmarietta.com

Riley Dugan, Director of Youth Ministries youth@stjamesmarietta.com

Keep up with the Diocesan Youth Council at <http://eycdioatl.org/>

Free Books!

Nancy Eubanks writes: Beginning this Sunday, there will be a table in the Parish Hall from which you may choose as many books as you'd like to take home.

The St. James Library Committee has been busy sorting the vast collection of donated books that have "taken over" the library space and we'd like to offer the books not



needed to parishioners. *Photo: Kristin Picken sets the table. Photo by Sue Hannan.*

The table will be refreshed with additional volumes, so check back next Sunday as well.

Please keep holding on to any library donations until we have space to accept and process them.

Look to *the Bells* for more updates on our progress!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God by the **Flower Guild**.

Volunteers take flowers from the altar to shut-ins who tell us that they appreciate the flowers and the visit. To volunteer, email communications@stjamesmarietta.com

Left: flowers on the altar August 3.

REMINDERS

Prayer list. To receive the weekly prayer list, email Cari Edwards selvine@hotmail.com Leave prayer requests in the offering plate or at the desk by the parish office. You can phone in prayer requests 770-428-5841 Mondays through Thursdays, 9-12:30.



Parking passes for St. James. Cornerstone Parking doesn't charge us fees at the Polk Street lot during scheduled church events. Outside of scheduled times, we each need a parking tag to hang in our autos.

To receive a parking tag, contact Lucia Bird luciabird@gmail.com or 770.402.0024 with your name, make and model of your vehicle, the license plate number, and the vehicle's **COLOR** (this is a late addition to the notice). If your vehicle has changed since you got your hang tag, you will need a replacement, so give Lucia the information on the old hang tag, too.

Your *pledge* helps the Vestry plan for the year . [Pledge here.](#)

Contact Us

*Program staff available via email Sunday - Thursday;
office staff, Monday - Thursday, 9am-1pm*

Mother Mariclaire is rector@stjamesmarietta.com

- Emergency phone or text: 678.369.1775
- To make an appointment with the rector, sign up for a 15m check-in, a 30m chat, or a coffee hour at <https://calendly.com/rector-stjamesmarietta>

Riley Dugan is youth@stjamesmarietta.com

Natalie Fowler is children@stjamesmarietta.com

Dr. Bryan Black is music@stjamesmarietta.com

Scott Smoot is communications@stjamesmarietta.com

Phone 770-428-5841.

Pulse of the Parish

from Scott Smoot, Communications Director

If the blessing of backpacks and ministry fair aren't signs enough that summer is over, we also have **Sue Hannan** back from rural New York, where she visited family for a few weeks. She does so many different things here at the church -- counting donations, checking addresses, recruiting for EfM, recycling you-name-it -- that the office sometimes seemed to be in suspended animation without her.

Sue kept Marietta in her heart while she was away, as evidenced by this photo that she sent us from Chestertown, NY:



Yesterday morning, while my phone recited the scriptures for **Transfiguration Day** (yes, your phone can do that, too -- ask me how), I imagined the glow of Jesus as any boomer would -- an eerie emanation or force field. Then my little dog **Brandy** sat beside me, eyes glowing with her gratitude for the home I provide and her anticipation of whatever wonderful thing might happen next.

Later, at the church office, we had visits by some little ones recently baptized at St. James, **Wells Trost** and **Tomas Nuñez**. They, too, looked as if each new sight was a delightful surprise.

I wonder if the glow of Transfiguration has less to do with something that we see in a holy person, and more to do with how they see the world?

Below: Besides some faithful regulars, Wednesday's holy eucharist for the feast day of the Transfiguration drew Carol (seated beside Mother Mariclaire), a member who has been unable to attend Sunday services in person. For her, the livestream has been a lifeline to St. James. She plans to attend Wednesdays as often as possible.



Know any good news items about goings-on in the parish? Share them with me at the [communications](#) desk.



Message from Mother Mariclaire

Blessing of the Backpacks

I can vividly remember getting my very first briefcase as a graduation gift at the end of law school, and how I felt packing it up and heading to my first day as a judicial clerk. My only jobs before that were helping in my family's business over summers and making coffee in a cafe on the Square in high school, so it really brought the "adulthood" of my new life into focus.

Not too long ago I found that briefcase, long abandoned, in my closet and sent it to a vintage loving friend.

Physical items have a way of holding memories and emotions, and that briefcase represented more than just a long abandoned brown leather bag with some old cough drops and business cards in it. I cleaned it up and sent it on its way, and gave thanks for the vocational journey that brought me from that first day at the Paulding County Superior Court, to New York, to Pennsylvania, and finally back home to Marietta and to St. James.

This Sunday we will be blessing backpacks for all of our kids preparing to go back to school on Monday (or who just started on Friday in Marietta City Schools), as well as backpacks prepared by our youth group for local students in need.

I hope that you will bring your work bag or other tool of your vocation and join in the blessing.

The way we spend our days earning our livings or caring for family members or volunteering for organizations dear to our hearts is as much a part of our faith lives as the time we spend in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, and this simple little liturgical flourish- a prayer spoken from the altar, a sprinkle of holy water, a fun tag if you like- is a holy acknowledgment of that reality.

In Christ,

Thursday

July 31, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3, Sunday

Ministry Fair
after both the
8:00 and 10:30 services

+

blessing of backpacks,
laptop cases & other work
equipment at the 10:30
service

+

RSVP for the Braves Game
of the following week

August 6, Wednesday

Healing Service in the
Lawrence Chapel
12:30p

+

Holy Eucharist for the
Feast of the
Transfiguration of our Lord
Jesus Christ
6:30p

+

Bryan has flown to MI --
no choir practice!



August 10, Sunday

You can download a PDF of this newsletter suitable for printing. [Link here](#)



St. James

Episcopal Church

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