



**A weekly email publication for the community
of St. James Church in College Hill**

Message of the Moment

Giving Grace is Beautiful

Most of us struggle with things that others simply don't have a clue about. Even the person who you think "has it all" — brains, a big bank account, beauty — is struggling about something that is eating away at their heart or their mind or both.

Not everyone is like me — a big open book — and for that we should all be eternally grateful. Not everyone can tell you when they're hurting, have experienced a loss or are worried about their future or even their present.

Give grace. Instead of complaining that a dear one hasn't returned your call, text or letter, or doesn't show up to things you've planned together, endeavor to take a moment to think about *why* that might be.

Give people the benefit of the doubt. Instead of assuming the worst about someone, maybe instead make the choice to think the best. Employ empathy, which is also one of the greatest gifts we can give as humans.

Try not to judge. Instead of focusing on someone's weaknesses, choose instead to focus on their strengths.

Most of the time most people are doing their best.

Their best may look different today than it did a month, two years or 15 years ago, and it may look different in a month, two years or 15 years from now. Their best may be vastly different than your best. That's OK, too.

We're all in this one place together. As much as we can, let's make it a nice place to be.

With blessings,
Deb G.

p.s. While so *obviously* not a priest, I'm pleased to share with you that I'm getting confirmed on March 6 at St. John's Episcopal Church, where my husband and I worship. I want to thank those of you who have helped restore my faith, which I fully lost in 1983. I've been on quite a journey since I started working here on Nov. 17, 2020. I may not worship at St. James, but it's definitely where my faith began to return.

First Things First

We are sadly pausing the sale of tickets to the St. James Annual Oyster Dinner due to supply chain issues. We will keep you updated about the status of the popular dinner here in the eTower and on our Facebook and Instagram pages. We are not yet throwing in the kitchen towel.

Our American Red Cross blood drive is Sunday in the Guild Hall. Please remember your appointment. Many thanks to Dottie Evans for organizing our drives.

Come together on Zoom with people from across the Minster to find **God at the Oscars!** Every Friday at 5:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 18 and until the Academy Awards on March 27, we will gather online to theologically reflect on the 10 movies nominated for Best Picture this year and to see more broadly what they tell us about where we are as a society. You do NOT have to have watched the films. There are no barriers to participation except spoiler alerts, because we will be discussing the plots! Minster Curate Dillon Green hopes to see you there. Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/92290938815?pwd=Z21JVkg4dmFkVGZ6V0RreGwwK3FQQT09>
Meeting ID: 922 9093 8815
Passcode: 9B8by2

100th Anniversary Capital Campaign

Look here for interviews in future eTowers with people who have chosen to make a pledge for our 100th Anniversary Capital Campaign.

We are hoping to raise \$375,000 over a three-year period.

If you have any questions, please contact Mother Dawn, Joan Moore or Woody Swain.

Readings This Week



O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[Click here to go to the Lectionary Page](#)

[Click here for a free PDF download of the Book of Common Prayer](#)

Lessons appointed for the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany:

[Jeremiah 17:5-10](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:12-20](#)

[Luke 6:17-26](#)

[Psalm 1](#)

Calendar

Click here to view our
current calendar of events

Calendar



Parish News and Updates

The **Creation Care Committee** is preparing for Lent. Forward Movement has published a collection of daily devotions exploring creation. It has watercolors by Katherin Burleson and includes a contribution from our former rector Kate Morehead. Books must be ordered by Feb. 16 to be delivered by Ash Wednesday (Forward Movement also has Kindle, Nook, and Apple editions). To order, click here: <https://www.forwardmovement.org/Products/2633/the-creation-care-bible-challenge.aspx>.

The **Book Club of St. James and St. Stephens** meets at noon Thursdays by Zoom. New members are welcome. The club is reading the **Big Read** selection "The House on Mango Street" by Sandra Cisneros. The Zoom link is:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84276590594?pwd=RnFDRmVKeVhUZzZlZOGd5MIVFR29ZUT09>
The passcode is 20469.

Gardening work is planned on the following dates: March 5, March 26, April 9, April 30, May 21, June 4, June 18, July 2, July 16, July 30, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 8 and Nov. 19. Volunteers generally meet at 9 a.m. in the spring and 8:30 a.m. in the summer.

Children and Youth

Due to low attendance, we've decided to **cancel Youth Sunday School** for middle and high schoolers for the rest of the program year. We do hope to return in the fall when the new program year starts with more participation from everyone.

Outreach

Our **Pocket Change Ministry** is now saving for a gift to **Breakthrough/ESS**. Please remember that COVID-19 has made fundraising for nonprofits very difficult. And yet, Breakthrough/ESS has continued to offer vital programs to people in need throughout the pandemic. Please help show our support for this vital organization in our community.

Please consider helping with **Sack Lunch Saturdays** at St. John's, 402 N. Topeka. Volunteer times on each day are 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Our volunteer days are March 12, June 11, Sept. 10 and Dec. 10. Contact [Joan Bledsoe](#) for more information.

Wichita Minster News

The Rev. Dillon Green is offering **Morning Prayer by Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The Zoom link is:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85465386325?>

YAW (Young Adults Wichita) is a ministry of the Wichita Minster led by Dillon. It includes members from St. James, St. John's, Good Shepherd, and St. Stephen's. We meet weekly, currently Mondays at 6 p.m. (time/dates subject to change). If you know anyone interested in participating, please connect them with Dillon at 256-762-5110 or at dillongreen7@gmail.com. If you aren't a young adult (18-35) and want to be involved, we are always looking for people to provide meals for the group each week. Instructions are to prepare for six to 10 people. If you're interested in helping out that way, please contact Dillon.

See more information about the [Wichita Minster on our website.](#)

Prayer

Parish Prayers for the Week of Feb. 13

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer: The people of Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland

In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Epiphany, Sedan

Pray for those serving in the military: Will Corkins, J. David Anderson-Lusk and Maureen Tanner.

Pray for those who have died: Dan Chegwidden (son-in-law of the late Joan McRae and the brother-in-law of the late Marsha McRae Bacon), Donna Littleton, Patricia Bayles, Frances Brinegar, David Childs, Frederick Harrison, Geraldine Lynd, Jess Sanders and Elizabeth Taggart.

Pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity: Ly (daughter-in-law of Cathy Wu), Katy (daughter of Jerry Malone), Barry, Nancy, Matt, Angee, Dylan, Glenna, Greg W., Pat, Marilyn, Sue, Pam, Jim T., Sage, Gary, Helen, Jean, Marge, Dal, Jayne, Betty, Gus, Bob, Joe, Judy, Joy, all people with COVID-19 and all health care workers.

Our Parish Prayer List: All members of our parish community are asked to pray for each person on our prayer list. To share your prayers of thanksgiving (births, weddings, new jobs, anniversaries, etc.), to notify us that someone you love is serving in the military, to share that you or someone you love is suffering, or to tell us of a death, please call 316-683-5686 or email office@stjameswichita.org.

**If your prayers have been answered,
we would love to rejoice with you.**

**Please let us know so your name may be removed
from our list of people most urgently in need. Thank you.**

Let Us Pray

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the holy One. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Helpful Links

[View Last Week's Service](#)

[Contribute to St. James Church](#)

[Parish Leadership](#)



**Whoever you are and
wherever you find yourself
on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here.**



St. James
Episcopal Church
CELEBRATING

YEARS
1920-2020
A COMMUNION
OF SAINTS

Get in Touch with St. James Episcopal Church



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