



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3750 E. Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67208

105TH ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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MEETING AGENDA

- Call to Order & Welcome
- Parish Prayer
- Necrology
- Special Recognition
- Elections
- Senior Warden's Report
- Junior Warden's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Endowment Funds' Report
- Deacon's Report
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I. OPENING PRAYER & NECROLOGY

Gracious God, we lift our praise to you for the gift of St. James Church. Our parish, dedicated to your Word, is given by a century of saints now remembered in love on this holy ground. This life-giving communion, through which we know you, comes from the history you established for all time. We give you grateful thanks for this, and for the hope we have, through Christ, of the eternal communion. Lord, make us loving, generous, and imaginative as we strive to secure our second century. May we be found faithful to the traditions of St. James Church and eager servants of the future saints who will find the knowledge and love of you in this place for years to come. **Amen.**

John Osborne
03/04/2024

Terry House
04/10/2024

Jeri Moss
04/11/2024

Robin Spurrier
05/24/2024

Stephen Gleissner
06/30/2024

Willie Kendrick
06/07/2024

Ken Breeden
07/15/2024

Anne Coffin
07/23/2024

Nancy Hercher
10/19/2024

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANKS

2024 VESTRY

The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector
 Joan Moore, Senior Warden
 Danny Blair, Jr. Warden
 Woody Swain, Treasurer
 Deb Bagby, Clerk
 Richard Bowman (2025)
 Pat Butin (2025)
 Suzanne Laycock (2025)
 Dave McDonald (2026)
 Jessica Moore (2026)
 Troy Wells (2026)
 Kennedy Compton (2027)
 Ethan Lindsey (2027)
 Dana Stelter (2027)

2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Richard Bowman (2025)
 Judy Goodpasture (2025)
 Mary Halley (2025)
 Kate Miller (2025)
 Lise Van Arsdale-Hansen (2025)

2024 ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD

Clay Bastian (2025)
 Kelly Harper (2025)
 Deb Bagby (2026)
 Scott Orr (2026)
 Bert Clark (2027)
 Luree Lusk (2027)

Also serving on the EFB:

Woody Swain, Treasurer
 The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector

2024 CONVENTION DELEGATES

Paul Leeker (2026)
 Joan Moore (2026)
 Paul Rillema (2026)
 Rick Milhon (2025) *Alternate*
 Elizabeth Wenger (2025) *Alternate*
 Randy Harrison (2026) *Alternate*
 Mary Sloan (2026) *Extra Alternate*
 Necia Rillema (2025) *Extra Alternate*
 Marilyn Milhon (2025) *Extra Alternate*
**Extra Alternates were due to the loss of delegates for our parish.*

*An annual award for distinguished service to the parish to be announced.

III. ELECTION INFORMATION AND NOMINEES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Everyone elected to a position at the Annual Meeting takes office immediately upon adjournment of the meeting. We vote by written ballot, except when there is only one nominee for an office. In that case, we may take a vote by show of hands.

VESTRY ELECTIONS

INFORMATION FOR AND EXPECTATIONS OF WARDENS AND VESTRY MEMBERS

Vestry members are well-prepared attendees of all vestry meetings. Regular attendance at worship services and parish events is expected. Vestry members lead the congregation in many ways, including through their participation and financial giving to the parish. All vestry members make an annual pledge and strive to tithe. They openly and transparently serve as official communicators between the Vestry and the congregation. They are a council of advice for the Rector. The vestry meetings are scheduled each month, except July. Its meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM in the lounge. There may be one vestry retreat each year. The February vestry meeting includes an orientation for new members. It is very important for all Vestry members to attend. It will be held on Thursday, February 20 at 6:00 PM.

Election of Members of the Vestry for a three (3) year term shall be by one ballot. Each elector may vote for as many nominees as there are positions to be filled. The appropriate number of nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. (Article V. Section 2 . E.)

WARDENS, TREASURER, AND CLERK OF THE VESTRY ELECTIONS

SENIOR WARDEN (*Elect one for a one-year term; maximum is 3 consecutive years.*)

Dana Stelter

I was baptized at the age of 2 and have been an Episcopalian since, I have always felt very at home with the Episcopal church. I lived in Oklahoma City until I moved to Wichita in 2017. I struggled initially to find a church home when I moved here and tried many different Episcopal churches, but on my first visit to St. James I felt like I found a home again. I am a Licensed Psychologist, I retired from the VA after 33 years of service. During my employment I was initially a treatment provider, then became Chief of Psychology and then moved from the mental health specialty to work in hospital administration. I was the Associate Director of the Robert J. Dole VA in Wichita for the last 5 years of my career and served as Interim Medical Center Director at the onset of the pandemic for 5 months. I continue to work part-time providing disability examinations for Veterans as a contractor. Since retirement I have found more time to devote to the church, I serve regularly at the Saturday 5:30 service, work with the Altar Guild to prepare for the communion services as well as assisting in setting up for the holidays. I have served on the Vestry for one year, and am currently the Connect Committee Co-chair. I am married and have 3 grown children.

JUNIOR WARDEN (*Elect one for a one-year term; maximum was set aside by Vestry.*)

Danny Blair

I brought my parents to Wichita in 1957 and started attending St. James Episcopal Church. This was a return to Wichita and St. James for my mother Betty. Her father and Otis Grey served together in WWI and became lifelong friends, so it was only natural that our family settled at St. James. As a youth here, I was in the Men and Boys Choir (I remember Bobbie Bastian so well) and served as an Acolyte. I spent time in EYC and was in the Scout Troop 524 where I attained the Eagle rank. I went on to be the Scoutmaster of Troop 524. Those were great times.



Adulthood took me all over the country as a construction superintendent and then to Pratt, Kansas, with the engineering department of Kansas Department of Parks and Wildlife. Then to Sedan to be the Ranger at Quivira Scout Camp. Back to Wichita and St. James, which I feel is my home. We added Levi to the family mix, and he was baptized here as soon as we were able to formally adopt him. I love this church family and hope to remain here now for some time to come.

Vestry members elect the Treasurer and the Clerk at their first meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025.



NOMINEES FOR VESTRY

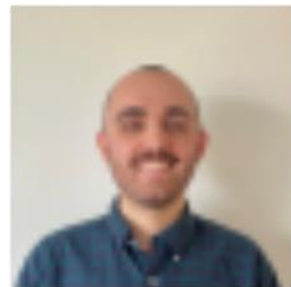
Cast your vote for three individuals for full terms, and one individual to fulfill 2 years of a vacant seat.

Korbin Painter (to fulfill 2 years of a vacant seat)

I began attending St. James when I moved to Wichita in August of 2023, and I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church the following October. I have been an active member of the St. James community ever since, enjoying participation in Basic A, bible study, and the choir. Additionally, I am looking forward to working to support and expand St. James' library.

In my professional life, I am an academic advisor and adjunct professor at Southern New Hampshire University in the humanities department. I attended the University of Iowa, where I earned a graduate degree in history.

I have a passion for racial justice, LGBTQ+ justice, environmental justice, and liberation theology. I am honored to have been asked to serve this community in this capacity, and I hope that my passion, experiences, and resources can help serve everyone in our parish and in the broader Wichita community.



George Bousfield

George Bousfield was born in Canada and educated in the U.S. He was baptized in the Anglican Church of Canada and confirmed in the Episcopal Diocese of Eau Claire. He has been a member of St. James since moving to Wichita in 1991. He has served in the nursery, as a member of the columbarium committee, as a lay reader, as an usher, and two terms on the vestry. His children were baptized at St. James and the memorial service for his late wife, Helen, was held at St. James. He is deeply grateful for the support of the parish in times of sorrow.



Karla Fazio

Originally from California, Karla has called Wichita home for over 20 years. She is married to Raffaele and they have a 15 year old daughter, Alegra. Karla is a retired attorney, but enjoys staying active. She is a sustaining member of Junior League of Wichita and has served on the board of several nonprofit organizations including Mark Arts, Junior Achievement of Wichita, Wichita Grand Opera, and Friends of the Wichita Art Museum. Karla and her family are avid travelers and are always planning their next adventure.

Tim Newlin

A lifelong and third-generation member of St. James, I was baptized, confirmed, and married here. I work as a product development engineering manager at CNH Industrial.

At St. James, I am continually enriched by opportunities to serve and participate in our faith community. I have previous experience serving on the vestry and as clerk of the vestry. I have also collaborated on the Finance Committee, the Outreach Committee, and I am currently enjoying the new energy of the Connect Committee. I have served as an acolyte and help support the Altar Guild with the annual decorating of the Christmas greens, poinsettias, and creche. I usually attend early Sunday service with my wife, Kellie, and our three school-aged children.

YOUTH VESTRY APPOINTMENT

Aidan Petty

No biography provided. The youth vestry representative is appointed to a one year term by the vestry.

PARISH DELEGATES & ALTERNATES ELECTIONS

INFORMATION FOR AND EXPECTATIONS OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Delegates are members of the Southwest Convocation Board and the Diocesan Convention, and act as representatives of this parish, speaking for this parish and bringing information back to this parish. They shall attend all Southwest Convocation Board meetings and Diocesan Convention and report back to the Vestry within thirty days following adjournment of each. One responsibility of delegates and alternates is to review the apportionment schedule, to understand the annual diocesan mission plan, and to vote whether to approve the diocesan budget at the annual convention of the diocese. Therefore, Delegates and Alternates (along with parish clergy) attend all meetings of the Southwest Convocation. There will be three Saturday meetings in 2025.

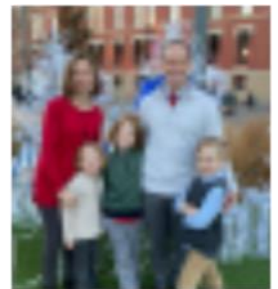
Delegates attend Diocesan Convention which is held annually in October. St. James Church pays for the convention registration fee, convention meals and hotel accommodations for Delegates. If a Delegate is unable to attend, then an Alternate attends in his/her place and receives reimbursement in that circumstance. New since 2020 will be the expectation that Delegates and Alternates participate in meetings, conversations, and exchanges of information with the vestry for the purpose of being informed about parish circumstance and to diocesan news to the vestry.

NOMINEES FOR PARISH DELEGATES

Cast your vote for two individuals to serve as delegates for 2 year terms.

Brandon Whipple

Brandon Whipple, a devoted member of St. James since 2015, brings a wealth of experience and leadership to our community. He served as a Kansas State Representative and Mayor of Wichita, demonstrating a commitment to public service. Holding a doctorate in Leadership Studies, Brandon's insights are invaluable. His previous service on the St. James Vestry further underscores his dedication to our church. Brandon and his wife, Dr. Chelsea Whipple, along with their three sons, AJ, Tristan, and Julian, are an integral part of our parish family.



Adrienne Edwards

No biography provided.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD ELECTIONS

INFORMATION FOR AND EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD

Members of the St. James Endowment Funds Board (EFB) are expected to receive and be familiar with the financial statements and legal documents of the Perpetual Memorial and Endowment Fund (PMEF). This responsibility assumes a basic understanding of financial investment. Members meet monthly at a mutually agreed date and time. Members discuss and propose long-term investment objectives and manage one of the parish's most important assets, the funds in the PMEF. The EFB makes quarterly reports to the vestry, recommends action, and manages transactions. The EFB will develop and implement programs (legacy society, planned giving, memorial giving) designed to grow the good which can be done for St. James Church through the PMEF.

NOMINEES FOR THE PERPETUAL MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD

Cast your vote for two individuals for full 3 year terms, and one individual to fulfill 2 years of a vacant seat.

Clay Bastian

Clay Bastian is a life-long resident of Wichita and member of St. James Church. He graduated in 1979 from the University of Kansas with a degree in Business Administration. He has previously served on the Vestry, Endowment Funds Board, Finance Committee, and the lawn mowing team. After a career in banking, Clay retired in 2018. Clay has been married to Kate for 37 years and they have two adult children.



Scott Orr

I am virtually a lifetime resident of Wichita. My wife Shirley and I have been married for nearly 48 years and College Hill residents for 35 years. We were active members of St. John's in downtown Wichita for 16 years. Shirley has been a vestry member and Senior Warden and I have been a vestry member, Junior Warden and was Treasurer for 5 years. We have both been involved in the Wichita Minster meetings and projects since their inception. We have been attending St. James for about 3 years and have enjoyed being a part of this congregation. I have been on the Endowment Committee for the past 2 years and Shirley has been on the Outreach Committee.



I retired from Pizza Hut corporate nearly 9 years ago after spending over 30 years there in Finance and New Store Development. In addition to my church work I am a Past Commodore of the Ninnescah Sailing Association at Cheney Reservoir and am on the Long Range Planning Committee there. I am also currently the President of the Wichita Region of the Porsche Club of America. In addition to sailing and autocross, track days and other Porsche club events I am an avid golfer and pickleball player. Shirley and I are both very involved with Justice Together, a social justice ministry in Wichita.

Dana Williams (to fulfill 2 years of a vacant seat)

No biography provided.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

INFORMATION FOR AND EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Five members are elected annually to use their knowledge of the parish and familiarity with its members to create a ‘slate’ of nominees for elections to be held at our next Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee is given an important responsibility by the parish. This is a serious task which has great influence on the ministry of the parish. The work must be prayerfully and confidentially undertaken. The committee begins work in August or September gathering suggested names for the positions to be filled. They secure candidates willingness to stand for election. Once candidates are confirmed for all open positions, the committee submits this list (known as the ‘slate’) to the Vestry for the November meeting.

NOMINEES FOR THE 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Cast your vote for five individuals for a 1 year term.

Cheryl Schmeidler

Cheryl is a native Wichitan and has been a member of St. James since 2004. She is a 1992 graduate of Wichita State University and holds degrees in both K-12 education as well as in sports business with a minor in business administration and recently finished her MBA. Cheryl is a procurement manager in the defense sector at Spirit AeroSystems and she also owns and operates Gratitude Management, LLC.



She treasures volunteering and even though her daughter is now in college, you will still catch her volunteering for the Girl Scouts or making bags of food at the Kansas Food Bank! Cheryl has held many volunteer positions in the Wichita community; the latest was as a member of the Board of EMS for Sedgwick County. At St. James, most Sundays, you will see her in the Choir loft doing one of the things she loves and she has been the chair for the Stewardship Committee for the past several years – you might catch her at the Old English Tea or the Oyster Dinner doing something for the cause – because, after all – isn’t that what its all about?

The community here at St. James inspires passion and opens opportunities for growth. Cheryl is eager to participate in that growth.

Peggy Zerger

Originally from Topeka, KS I grew up a cradle Episcopalian where my family attended St. David’s Episcopal Church. After my move to Wichita I married, had two sons and worked as a dental hygienist until my retirement two years ago. My husband Tom and I have been active members of St. James since the fall of 2002, prior to that we were members of St. Albans here in Wichita for 15 years. Over the years I have served as a Vestry member, New-comers committee head, as well as spending time helping with breakfast Sunday clean up, working the Oyster dinner, and heading up the “tray room” at the Old English Tea. Basically helping out whenever and wherever I’m needed. Since retirement we find ourselves traveling frequently to Phoenix and Dallas to see the kids and grandkids (4 grandkids with another due in March!). We are so very thankful for our many blessings.



NOMINEES FOR THE 2023 NOMINATING COMMITTEE *(continued)*

Andy Aiken

No biography provided.

Vicki Evans

No biography provided.

Deb Hager

No biography provided.

IV. LEADERSHIP REPORTS

RECTOR

From The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt

While we are never immune from life's usual ups and downs, our church retained its steady presence. Grounded by a trustworthy foundation established more than 100 years ago, we have a balance of security and inspiration. Our challenge going forward is not just to maintain the status quo but to take another step into being a missional parish. Such a congregation tries new ways to reach out to the people around us and respects tradition without being bogged down by it.

In 2024 the parish held our beloved events, The Oyster Dinner, and The Olde English Tea. Each year as Shrove Tuesday nears we worry about whether oysters will be available and how they will be transported. This year Matt Carroll and the Oyster Dinner team brought the details together just as preparations came down to the wire. This was the first year people were invited to register and buy tickets to the Oyster Dinner Online. The Olde English Tea was led by chairpersons Joan Bledsoe and Karla Fazio who implemented a few new things to its operation. We were able for the first time to accept credit cards for purchases at the Tea and online registration was available. While both events continued to give their proceeds to local charities, the women of The Olde English Tea decided to give 50% of their proceeds to support our ministries at St. James.

We are aware that our culture and the life of the Church continues to evolve. We see this in decreased worship attendance, reticence about volunteering, and operating with a small staff in the church office. The treasurer's report will tell the story of our financial well-being with more details.

The main concern for the future is that we continue to have a community willing to support what we do at St. James. We are learning anew to invite each other into deeper faith journeys and a willingness to commitment to our life together. We must all collaborate to reach out in love to those who need the gospel message. People in our community (and beyond) desperately need to know that we find salvation in God. God's love saves us from the forces of destruction and death begotten by hate, judgment, and greed. God's love calls us to live counter-cultural lives not aligned with the world's preference for the pursuit of power and the abandonment of faith.

Amid these concerns, St. James Church is blessed to have resources which help sustain us. The Perpetual Memorial Endowment Fund now has over one million dollars in it. A portion of the earnings from this fund support the operating budget of the parish, and contributions to the endowment add to its longevity for which we

RECTOR'S REPORT *(continued)*

are incredibly grateful and hope to provide for generations after us. Our “rainy day” savings are now around \$100K. These reserves contribute to the steadiness of the life of our congregation. We will do well to remember that these resources give us the ability to create trajectories into the future, not into complacency.

To that end, after months of preparation, the vestry introduced the ministry of Invite+Welcome+Connect to the congregation over five consecutive weeks at the end of the summer. We learned that this is a way for us to know and share the good news of God in Christ.

All of us did initial brainstorming together and have now created three teams of people who identified themselves as interested in an aspect of carrying this ministry out. The Invite group works on ways to make our presence in the community more visible. They invite people to come and discover God in the way we share love at St. James. The Welcome committee is at work on welcoming people into the parish community. Their ministry is hospitality, to see that no one comes here and feels like a stranger, as we believe Jesus would do. The Connect group provides us with ways to engage with each other, not only to get to know people we welcome to the parish, but also to strengthen the connections among those of us who are already here. Connect gives us the opportunity to meet Jesus in each other. That is where our spiritual journey can deepen and grow. The Invite+Welcome+Connect ministries have been shared, embraced, and begun enthusiastically. All people of the parish are asked to find their own way into participating in Invite+Welcome+Connect efforts. Our hopes are set on seeing this ministry grow in the coming year.

ARCHDEACON

From The Ven. Jeff Roper

As your deacon at St. James, I continue to serve and preach for some worship services each month. Mother Dawn and I make pastoral care visits for those in the hospital in acute care and deliver communion when requested. I help with the Youth Group at St. James and teach Confirmation class for those middle school or high school students looking to be confirmed. I assist with hosting Adult Forum in the Guild Hall. I am a member of the EFM Alumni fellowship group which meets weekly by Zoom. I participate in outreach efforts of the Outreach Committee at St. James. The primary focus of my outreach ministry is prison ministry. I continue to be actively involved in prison ministry at the Winfield Correctional Facility (WCF). Besides the collection and delivery of greeting cards for all occasions to the prison, I serve on the Spiritual Life Center Board of Directors of WCF working to raise \$1.5 million to build a Spiritual Life Center on the campus of the Winfield prison. At this moment, we have raised over \$110,000 for that cause.

As your Archdeacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, I am charged with the responsibility of pastoral care for the fourteen vocational deacons currently serving in the Southwest and Southeast Convocations. I coordinate with the Bishop, Canon to the Ordinary, and the other Archdeacon to plan for visits and take on administrative tasks with those in the process of becoming deacons or assisting with developing Covenant Agreements between the deacon and local parish or the outreach ministries of the deacon. I accompany the Bishop on her annual visits to parishes in the Southwest and Southeast Convocations. I attend monthly Wichita Minister meetings and SW Convocation meetings. I serve on the Inclusion and Social Justice diocesan committee which meets on Zoom monthly. I represent St. James in outreach ministry to the Winfield Correctional Facility, bringing the Rite II Morning Prayer services to the WCF chapel every other month. I coordinate the delivery of greeting cards for all occasions to the Winfield prison and paperback book drives to be delivered to the Sedgwick County Jail.

SENIOR WARDEN

From Joan Moore

I am honored to have been your Senior Warden for the past two years, and although I am eligible to serve one more year in this position, I have declined. The demands of my job as a fundraiser at Hunter Health have become too heavy and I cannot serve as Senior Warden if I don't have the time to do it well. Dana Stelter, a current member of our Vestry, has been asked by Mother Dawn to serve as Senior Warden, and she will do an excellent job! I have enjoyed serving with Dana on the Vestry and am very proud of her commitment to St. James, namely as a co-chair of the Connect Committee.

I have loved seeing the Invite, Welcome and Connect program launch and flourish. There are many activities happening around these three actions of Invite, Welcome and Connect, and there are lots of parish members who are playing an active role in these activities. Please join us if you haven't done so already!

Your Vestry is a strong and vital group of people who really love our church. Please support them and say "yes" if they ask for your help. Last but not least, please support our Rector Mother Dawn, as she takes on almost all of the responsibility for our church without the benefit or aid of an associate rector. She relies heavily on her staff, the Executive Committee, Vestry members and programming chairs to help her, but she needs all of our support to carry out the mission of our parish. Please pray for her and support her, as her journey is often lonely and difficult.

Thank you for your support and help on my journey as Senior Warden. I'm not going anywhere, but I won't be in as visible of a role for now. I appreciate all of your love and support and have enjoyed every day of this position.

JUNIOR WARDEN

From Danny Blair

2024 has been relatively calm as far as the Building and grounds go at St James. We completed a boiler upgrade early in the year which has impacted gas consumption in a positive way. The multi year improvements to the HVAC system have paid off in terms of reliability and comfort but also in terms of energy costs. Energy costs continue to rise as we all know but our total energy costs have remained fairly flat for the last three years. This is due largely to ongoing improvements and repairs to the system as well as some equipment and software upgrades. I anticipate that we have come to the end of maintaining cost due to reduced usage through improvements and that we will now begin to trend upward following the rise in cost of utilities however we are much better positioned to minimize the impact of those increases.

We are nearly at the end of the Capital Campaign projects. The three remaining project areas are Elevators, Upstairs Bathrooms and the Chancel Choir seating. The elevators have suffered through challenges getting the design and location finalized and then the permitting process has been challenging. After going back to the Architect for changes that the Inspection Dept wanted, we should be forging ahead. We have designs to look at for the upstairs bathrooms from the Architect and the Choir area changes are in development. We had a few pieces of equipment in the kitchen break down and need repair/replacement sending out Building Maintenance budget higher than expected.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT *(continued)*

I want to take a minute and praise all of the people who work to keep our Building looking great outside. There isn't enough space to list all of the names but the mowing crew, the gardening group and the Creation Care team all put in many hours and quite a bit of sweat mowing, weeding, planting, cleaning, watering and so many things keeping our grounds looking great. Take a minute and learn who they are and thank them individually for all of the hard work that they put into our Church. 2025 will focus on the completion of the Capital Campaign projects and continuing maintenance both inside and outside.

TREASURER

From Woody Swain

The Treasurer's report will be given as a separate hand out on the day of the meeting.

V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial report for St. James Church, with a summary of the previous years' actuals and the 2025 budget will be provided as a separate hand out on the day of the meeting.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD REPORT

From Endowment Funds Board of St. James

Endowment Funds Board (EFB)

January 2025 Report for Annual Parish Meeting

Summary of 2024 Activities

- Our purpose is to acknowledge those who have made a commitment to include St. James as a beneficiary in the disposition of their estate. We give thanks to the current enrollees (**42, representing 60 individuals**) for letting their light so shine that others may see their good works and do likewise!
- We published the annual report of the **St. James Perpetual Memorial and Endowment Fund (PMEF)** and the **St. James Legacy Society**. Included in the report are the names (excluding those who wish to remain anonymous) of all memorial and thanksgiving gifts given through December 31 of the prior calendar year. Through November 2024 we realized \$ 7,145 in new Bequests, Tributes and Memorials. We continue to encourage St. James members and friends to participate in this program by accepting gifts of all sizes (initial minimum \$100) to perpetually recognize and honor loved ones as well as to celebrate and offer thanksgiving for significant life events.
- We provided regular reporting of events in the parish's quarterly newsletter, **SEASONS**.
- We met regularly to monitor the Endowment Funds investment accounts. After examination of the September 30 accounting we recommended to the Vestry, for the 2025 distribution, an amount to be based on 5% of the average of the prior 12 calendar quarter balances of the invested funds. **The Vestry approved a distribution \$53,192** to be allocated as follows: \$5,319 to Outreach; \$1,000 to be retained, by the Legacy Society for general expenses incidental to the management and administration of the PMEF Programs; \$19,218 to be retained for future capital needs; and the balance of \$27,655 to the Vestry to help cover 2025 capital needs.

2024 and Beyond

We celebrate the success of the Endowment Fund in 2024! It has demonstrated remarkable resilience and growth, increasing by \$132,831, or an impressive 11.2%, through November 2024. This achievement is a testament to the diligent management by State Street and the generous contributions from our community—even after accounting for the planned annual distribution and State Street management fees. We continue to encourage, invite, and nurture the active participation of members and friends of St. James Church to support the Endowment Fund and the St. James Church Legacy Society. **We'd greatly value your response when contacted.** Please join us in celebrating this accomplishment by giving to the Endowment through tributes and memorials or by considering membership in our Legacy Society. Your donations not only honor loved ones but also play a crucial role in ensuring the continued success of the Endowment Fund. **Additionally, remember to participate in the Dillons Community Rewards program, which benefits the Endowment Fund!**

ENDOWMENT FUNDS BOARD REPORT *(continued)*

Summary of 2024 Endowment Fund Finances		
Market Value	At 12-31-23	At 11-30-24
State Street Global Advisors (SSgA) Total	\$ 1,179,532	\$ 1,305,904
Revocable Fund Balance	\$ 914,161	\$ 988,154
Permanent Fund Balance	\$ 205,143	\$ 229,361
Retained Capital Expense Fund Balance	\$ 60,227	\$ 88,388
Fidelity Checking Account	\$ 5,184	\$ 11,643
TOTAL FUNDS ASSETS	\$ 1,184,716	\$ 1,317,547
Balance Reconciliation		
Beginning Balance		\$ 1,184,716
Donations Received		\$ 7,145
Other Income		\$ 20
Interest Income (Fidelity Account)		\$ 103
SSgA Management Fees		(\$ 5,676)
Investment Income (SSgA Account)		\$ 4,527
SSgA Appreciation (Depreciation)		\$ 157,501
Expenses & Funds Disbursed		(\$ 30,789)
TOTAL FUND ASSETS at 11-30-24		\$ 1,317,547

How Endowment Has Enriched the Ministry of St. James	
1992 thru 2024 a Brief History	
Initial Bequest	\$ 1,042,966
Additional Bequests, Tributes, Memorials, and gifts, income from coupon sales, sponsored trips, etc.	\$ 1,008,677
TOTAL BEQUESTS, GIFTS, ETC.	\$ 2,050,993
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS THRU 11-30-24	\$ 2,231,677

2024 Endowment Funds Board (expiration of term at Annual Meeting of year indicated)

Deb Bagby, Chair (2026)	Kelly Harper (2025)	Luree Lusk (2025)
Clay Bastian, Vice-Chair & Secretary (2025)	Scott Orr (2026)	Woody Swain, Parish Treasurer*
Bert Clark, Treasurer (2027)	The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector	*Serves with voice, but no vote

Have you remembered St. James Church in your Estate Plan?

To discuss how you can participate as a member of the Legacy Society, contact a member of the Endowment Funds Board Perpetual Memorial, Endowment Fund, and Legacy Society resources: <https://stjameswichita.org/give-to-st-james/endowment/>

VI. MINISTRY REPORTS

A. CHRISTIAN FORMATION MINISTRIES

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

From Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

In 2024, we offered our classes via Zoom and in-person. If you are interested in the ministry of Christian Education for adults, please contact Mother Dawn or Chelsea Whipple for more information. The following classes/small groups were offered in 2024:

- Adult Forum
- Basic A
- Book Club with St. James & St. Stephens
- Contemplative Prayer Group
- Lenten Stations of the Cross
- Sacred Ground (Diocesan-wide)
- Book of Mark
- Education for Ministry
- Graduate Education for Ministry

ADULT FORUM

From Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

Adult Forum is currently meeting in person (starting in Feb. 2025) from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sundays in the Guild Hall. For the program year 2024- 2025, we are continuing the same theme: Going off the Lectionary Grid. Every week, we are learning about the Sunday readings in depth. We discuss the history, language, culture, using a variety of different mediums to help us go deeper into the text and how it applies today. Anyone is welcome to join at any time. Our leaders are Mother Dawn, Ethan Lindsay, Paul Leeker, John Robison, Paul Rillema, Deb Bagby, and others.

BOOK CLUB

From Mary Sloan

The St. Stephen's-St. James Book Club is a group of enthusiastic readers. About half are members at St. Stephens and half are members of St. James.

We meet at St. Stephen's Fireside Room at noon each Thursday. We have a once-a-month luncheon meeting at a local restaurant. If we need to do so because of severe weather or local Covid levels, we meet by Zoom. We brainstorm about books to read and line up several upcoming books to read. – and then we repeat the collaborative book choice process when we have finished the previously chosen books. We are currently reading *The Boston Girl*. Our choice of books ranges from fiction to non-fiction, from science-related to science fiction. Members have described our meeting as stimulating, thought-provoking, and something that gives members both a sense of purpose and of community. You are most welcome to join us. If you need more information, you can contact Mary Sloan at msloan1023@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP

From Anne Clark, Youth Mentor

Youth group continues to be a small but mighty group of 6th graders to 12th graders. Spring 2024 was busy with making homemade ice cream on National homemade ice cream day, a lesson on St. Patrick, and celebrating Cinco De Mayo with the leadership of Anne Clark, Dakota Bennett, Jeff Roper and Racine Zackula. This fall we have talked about confirmation, helped build and put on the haunted maze for the children at the Halloween party, played games, helped fill the Christmas baskets with Mary Druding, had our Christmas party and our annual trip to Illuminations at Botanica. We moved our meeting time to Sunday evenings from 6:30-7:30 for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th weeks, and enjoying the all-church lunch and then meeting after the meal on the 4th week of the month.

The youth group participates actively in “Youth Sunday” services held twice each year, the Christmas pageant, and Diocesan Youth events such as Mega Camp. Many of our youth actively participate in Sunday services as acolytes. Senior High Youth are working to raise funds for an upcoming trip to the Washington D.C. Episcopal National Cathedral this summer.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHILDREN’S CHAPEL

From Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

In 2024 we used the curriculum Godly Play with the whole group of children. The 2023-24 program year we are split into 2 classes due to lack of teachers. Thankfully Kate Miller became our 1-3 teacher and now we are able to split into three classrooms. The program year began in October with an adjusted schedule because of the one service at 9:30. Starting in February we will go back to our usual time of Sunday school starting at 9:30 a.m. and Children’s Chapel at 10:45 a.m. We meet the first Sunday of every month for Sunday school and Children’s Chapel starting at 9:30 a.m. We currently have 9 students enrolled for this program year. We are ALWAYS accepting new students. Thank you to Amber Newlin and Kate Miller for your endless amounts of patience and flexibility in teaching our kids. If you are interested, we are looking for 3 teachers to help in the classrooms. We are not able to have Sunday school without volunteer teachers, please consider this life-giving ministry!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

From Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

Our second-ever Ecumenical VBS included Grace Presbyterian, Plymouth Congregational, College Hill UMC, University Congregation, Pleasant Valley UMC and St. James. This intersectional curriculum was designed to help kids celebrate their own identities as beloved creation of God – just as they are. Over the course of the week, campers were introduced to a cast of neighborhood Gardeners who will help them explore Biblical stories of people who were able to change things for the better. Students practiced sharing what they have, finding their community, and using their voice for others! We learned to shout, call out, stand up, give, and explore. Thank you to the volunteers who helped in the classroom and serve food! Over 60 kids joined us at Plymouth Congregational church from our community to get in the action. Thank you to Adrienne Edwards for volunteering. Thank you to the kids from St. James that were able to make it. As of now, we are planning on participating in the Ecumenical VBS date and location pending.

NURSERY & CHILDCARE

From Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs

We typically serve children birth through age 5 during in-person services and other church-related events. We are always looking for energetic and interested volunteers to help cover these services and events so we can have two trained adults in the nursery at all times. Thank you to Deb Bagby, Anne Clark, Claudette Johns, Leia Pameticky, Lauren Schmeidler, and Susie Stallings for sharing your love with the kids. We are currently looking for volunteers to keep the nursery open. If we do not find the volunteers, we are unable to offer nursery for our families.

VI. MINISTRY REPORTS

B. PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

CONNECT COMMITTEE

From Dana Stelter, Co-Chair

The Connect group is part of the Invite-Welcome-Connect initiative. The group began meeting in September and has met monthly since. A flyer was created with a list of all activities/groups at the church, brief information about the mission and contact person and will be shared with the church members. The Connect group assisted in the annual Chili Cook-off by providing volunteers at the event and sponsoring a trivia contest with prizes. The group then assisted and supported the Greening of the Church event with planning, advertising, providing food and volunteers to assist with the event. Under excellent leadership from Adrienne Edwards and the Altar Guild, first time helpers and experienced greens-hangers alike dressed the church beautifully for Christmas and enjoyed food, music, and fellowship while connecting with each other and the ministry. The group will continue to focus on providing opportunities for members to connect with the people and the mission of St. James by augmenting existing events and creating new events.

CREATION CARE

From Pat Butin & Claudette Johns, Co-Chairs

The five goals for Creation Care work in 2024:

1. Continue to engage the congregation and the community
2. Increase the use of native plants in the landscaping
3. Advocate for the environment
4. Complete its annual energy audit
5. Continue to discuss and research issues pertaining to the environment

Engage the Congregation and the Community: Creation Care partnered with the Sierra Club to bring the first-ever showing of *Hot Times in the Heartland* in Wichita on October 12. Prior to the film, we were able to open the church sharing the long history of our church and the symbolic architecture of the sanctuary. The film, followed by a panel discussion, explored “regional stories on our warming planet and the solutions underway to strengthen climate resilience.”

Increase the Use of Native Plants: Pat Butin completed all paperwork to have our small plot on the west designated as a Monarch Waystation. The certificate was hung at the entry of the Guild Hall. Thanks to several plant donations by members of the committee, we were able to repopulate much of the Yale Street side to supplement purchased plants. The Wichita water shortage cut our watering to once a week. Thanks to the watering crew – Pat Butin, Joan Bledsoe, Marilyn Milhon, Lise VanArsdale Hansen and Claudette Johns.

Advocate for the environment: During our monthly meetings, Mary Sloan kept us updated on federal and state legislation and shares positions that Wichita legislators and city officials have taken. We do not speak for the church on these matters, but like to bring issues of interest to the attention of the congregation through the eTower when appropriate.

Energy Audit Chapter 2: In 2024, Creation Care followed up on the 2023 Energy Audit. Thanks to Junior Warden Danny Blair, St. James has made significant improvements in energy conservation. The Audit reviews energy usage and tracks improvements made in energy conservation over the past year. A full report is available in the church office.

CREATION CARE REPORT *(continued)*

Research Issues pertaining to the environment: Committee members look for articles to share with the congregation in the eTower. Members keep informed on solar opportunities for non-profits and individuals. Vicki Evans previously attended a church that used solar power and will be sharing that information for study by Creation Care. We appreciate the many suggestions and ideas that are presented to Creation Care members from the congregation.

2025 promises to be busy for the committee:

In the Spring, we will sponsor Judy Goodpasture in a Saturday presentation on Eco-Fashion. Watch for more information in the eTower and the service leaflet. This topic has been featured in state and national news and Judy will share with us issues surrounding the textile industry and how we can avoid the evils of fast fashion. While the topic is serious, the afternoon promises to be fascinating.

Working with the Junior Warden, Creation Care will conduct its third annual Energy Audit and report its findings to the Vestry.

Creation Care is exploring a new program entitled, *Love God, Love God's World*. As a group, we will be studying the curriculum to see how it might be offered to interested members of St. James.

The summer will bring attention to the gardens, especially working on the Memorial Garden to prune and compost where necessary. Diane Gossen has consulted with us on keep the plants healthy. Watering will continue as allowed by the City.

Creation Care meets on the second Thursday of each month by Zoom. Please let Pat Butin or Claudette Johns know if you would like to join our group and the lively conversation.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

From Mary Sloan, Chair

The Saint James Chapter of the Daughters of the King engaged in many activities in 2024. Our Chapter Trainer, Kelly Harper, conducted Daughters Training classes. We received one new member, Joan Moore, and installed Mother Dawn as our Chapter Chaplin. We continued Meal Train outreach and support to parishioners. We had an exhibit table at the Diocesan Convention. Additionally, The St. James and St. Stephen's Chapters co-hosted the Diocesan Fall Assembly in October with the Rev. Lisa Senuta as our guest speaker. Daughters from around the state attended the Assembly. Diocesan Vice President, Tish Seeley attended both the Triennial Convention and the Region VII Retreat and reported about these at the Fall Assembly. We held our Annual Cookie Swap Christmas party with the St. Stephen's chapter in the Parish Hall at St. Stephen's. There was food, fellowship, a sing-along with Santa, a Christmas Story reading by Janet Newlin and afterward, many dozens of cookies were delivered to the Lincoln Nursing Home.

Finally, we began a new Chapter Study of the Sacred Ground curriculum. We will continue studying at each meeting in 2025. Meetings are after the second Sunday service on the third Sunday of the month in the Lounge. Everyone is welcome to join the Daughters in this meaningful and important study.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

From Judy Goodpasture, Chairperson

The St. James Outreach Committee manages charitable projects in our parish to benefit the Wichita community.

Through speakers at our meetings and tours of social service agencies, we educate ourselves about community needs. Our speakers during this year included **Sharon Fearey** reading her research paper on **Homelessness**; **CEO Penny Olsen** and **Daniel Mumford** from the **Pando Initiative**; **Jennifer Garrison** from **Passageways**, a Wichita faith charity assisting homeless veterans; and **Sarah Robinson** from the **Urban League**. Our tours included the **Sedgwick County Child Abuse Center** and the **Urban League**. Parishioners are always welcome at our meetings, which are held at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Speakers are announced in the eTower in advance.

Throughout 2024, we completed these projects.

1. **Christmas Food Baskets and Gifts:** Eighteen large food baskets as well as gifts for each family's members were delivered to eighteen families served by the **Kansas Children's Service League** and **Breakthrough ESS**. St. James's generosity made Christmas happier for needy people this year! Special thanks to the many parishioners who contributed food and gifts, to the **Youth Group** for filling baskets, and to all who delivered baskets. Special thanks to **Mary Druding, Jenny Kroeker, Jeanne Kroeker, and Jose Alonso** for their help. Chair: **Mary Druding**
2. **Pocket Change Ministry:** Thanks to the faithful charity of this congregation, during 2024 we gave **\$4000.** to six agencies serving children and families. Specifically, we gave \$1000. to **Breakthrough ESS**; \$1000. to the **Kansas Children's Service League**; \$500. to the **Wichita Children's Home**; \$500. to **The Pando Initiative**; \$500. to the **Urban League**; and \$500. to **Passageways**. Since 2014 this project has contributed **\$27,500.** to community charities. Chair: **Vicki Evans**
3. **IRC Refugee Project:** Our original commitment to this project supervised by the International Rescue Committee was six months. We extended that commitment to a full year, and then added rent subsidy payments for a number of months beyond that time. The total cash sent to IRC for this family is \$11,021.12, and \$1642.38 remains in the family's IRC account to offset rent. We are most grateful for the very capable leadership and well-organized efforts of both Co-Chairs and committee members. Co-chairs: **Suzanne Laycock** and **Jessica Moore**. Committee Members: **Deb Bagby, Suzi Miner, Rachel Muscat, Linda Guyot, Chase Moore, Clay Bastian, and LoWaine Robison.**
4. **Undies Sundays:** Our spring project provided more than 1000 items of underwear, and diapers for the **Wichita Children's Home**. **Kim Pennington** from the **Children's Home** expressed sincere gratitude. Chair: **Louise Brinegar**
5. **Back-to-School Supply Drive:** Our drive for school supplies to assist **The Pando Initiative**, which serves needy children in USD 259, was very successful. A heaping carload of supplies was delivered to the **Pando Initiative**. Chair: **Mary Klocke**
6. **10th Annual Blanket Drive:** In the fall, our parish contributed **70 blankets** for the homeless shelters sponsored by **HumanKind**. Chairs: **Judy** and **Hew Goodpasture**
7. **American Red Cross Blood Drive:** St. James is pursuing the development of a College Hill Drive among several parishes. We are grateful for **Dottie Evans's** leadership of Red Cross Blood Drives for the past five years.
8. **Justice Together:** St. James supported the community's faith-based effort to alleviate homelessness and the problem of mental illness through a community-wide advocacy effort. Chairs: **Shirley Orr, Scott Orr, and Vicki Evans.**

OUTREACH REPORT *(continued)*

9. **Aluminum Pop Can Pull Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.** A box for the receipt of pop can pull tabs has been placed in the entry, and it is slowly but surely filling. One load has already been delivered. Chair: **Vicki Evans**
10. **Saturday Sack Lunches for the Homeless:** As part of St. James's cooperation with the Diocesan Minister program, sandwich sack lunches were prepared by St. James volunteers quarterly. They were delivered to St. John's Episcopal Church for distribution. Chairs: **Joan Bledsoe**
11. **Greeting Cards for Inmates at the Winfield Correctional Facility.** Hundreds of new cards for various occasions and a huge load of Christmas cards were delivered to the Winfield facility. Chair: **Deacon Jeff Roper.**
12. **Alternative Gift Market:** We publicized the Alternative Gift Market's location, time, and dates of operation in the eTower. Chair: **Suzi Miner**
13. **Prayer Cards for Parishioners:** Cards were regularly sent to parishioners needing prayers. Chairs: **Joan Bledsoe, Mary Druding, and Judy Goodpasture.**

Reality U Volunteers: St. James sent volunteers to several Reality U finance workshops.

In January the Outreach Committee will recommend a charity to receive the 2024 **endowment community gift**. The Vestry will approve this recommendation.

I am deeply thankful for our most generous congregation and for the dedicated members of the Outreach Committee. St. James parish exhibits remarkable compassion for the needy in our community. Thank you **Joan Bledsoe, Deb Brinegar, Louise Brinegar, Dottie Evans Clark, Mary Druding, Vicki Evans, Hew Goodpasture, Susan Graybill, Linda Guyot, Mary Klocke, Suzanne Laycock, Marilyn Milhon, Jessica Moore, Shirley Orr, Sarah Robinson, Marilyn Taylor, and Marcia Wilder.**

Thank you St. James!

SANDWICH SATURDAYS

From Joan Bledsoe, Chair

Sandwich Saturday continues to help feed the food insecure from the parking lot at St. Johns Episcopal Church. This group has helped for many years to help feed people on Saturday when other food options are not available. Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers at both St. Johns and St. James we continue that mission. Other churches who help this outreach on Saturday are Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, St. Stephens Episcopal Church, a Mennonite Church, Pathways group, and others.

If you are interested in making 10-20 sack lunches for 2025, please let me know (Joan Bledsoe, pansy1918@icloud.com), I will get back with you. We generally need a total of 80-100 lunches. If you want to sign up ahead of time I will add your name to that month and send out reminders about 1-2 weeks ahead of time and then the week that we are delivering and serving our lunches. Not everyone needs to help distribute lunches, many people meet me at St. James around 10:25 am, and I take the lunches up to St. Johns to distribute with other volunteers.

A sack lunch needs a sandwich (Pb&J, meat, cheese, meat & cheese), chips, cookie or power bar, and fruit (banana, orange, applesauce with spoon). Apples are hard for many people to eat due to dental issues. I provide the water for the lunches each time. **Our dates for next year 2025 are:** March 8, June 14, September 13 and December 13. We meet at St. Johns around 10:45 am, serve lunch at 11:00 am and are usually done by 11:45 am.

VI. MINISTRY REPORTS

C. WORSHIP MINISTRIES

MUSIC MINISTRY

From Dakota Bennett, Director of Music

The first part of 2024 was a short six week span between Christmas and Ash Wednesday made even shorter by winter weather and illness. None the less, the choir persisted beautifully singing Schubert's Mass setting along the way. Lent through Pentecost (the end of the music program year) went well and was relatively uneventful apart from the fact that this was our first program year working together with me as music director. After the disruptive Covid years, uneventful has gone from a neutral descriptive to a more positive one in my book! We were particularly blessed on Easter this year by a brass quintet from East High School featuring Andy Aitken's children and some of their fellow musical classmates. Many thanks to Eilidh and Iain Aitken, Adrien Obregon, Grant Parcell, Isabella Powellpandiri, and Martha Sanchez; music masters student at WSU and private lessons teacher to some of the aforementioned musicians.

This spring/summer, progress has been made towards a chancel and organ masterplan. As many of you know, the capital campaign provided funding to address some long-standing shortfalls of the current chancel setup. This project was inherited from my predecessor, Marlene Hallstrom. My first action on this has been to work towards making a masterplan to guide future chancel/organ related projects. In the early stages of this endeavor, a historic organ located in Kentucky in need of a home came to attention. With the Vestry's blessing, a committee was formed to look into the complex organ-specific details. This committee was made of myself, Richard Bowman, Mark Laycock, Susan Picotte, and Dean Roush. Upon evaluation of the historic organ, our current instrument, and a variety of other options, the committee reported our findings back to the Vestry. While the Vestry decided against pursuing replacement of our instrument with the historic organ in question, the report was found to be worthwhile; providing a thorough evaluation of our current organ and it's shortcomings both present and future. This report will also inform resuming efforts to finalize a chancel masterplan. The tentative goal upon completion of said masterplan is to utilize the designated capital campaign funds towards chancel improvements this summer. Specific projects being considered are moving the baby grand piano from the choir room to the chancel and making more space in the chancel for instrumentalists and choirs. If you have any questions or feedback about this project, please reach out to me (music@stjameswichita.org).

The spring also saw the transition of the chorister program. Facing numbers too low to sustain as an independent choir, we developed choristers into a hybrid program with the adult vocal choir. When there are youth (age range from old enough to read - adulthood) who want to participate in choir, I hold a special 30 minute rehearsal for just them prior to adult vocal choir rehearsal. Then, the youth are invited to participate with the adult choir as able. This provides a structured framework in which youth receive age-appropriate music education and a stable, low pressure environment in which to learn through observation. This is a flexible format able to transition back and forth to accommodate as few as one youth or expand back into an independent program as needed. Additionally, this is a more efficient model needing no additional staff support beyond my role as music director. That being said, many thanks to Christy Manning in her role as chorister assistant as we worked through what to develop the chorister program into.

The summer was one of changes. In June, we switched to one Sunday Mass at 9:30am. This made particularly good sense over the summer when many are traveling and thus fewer are attending church. It also gives the staff a welcome slower pace of parish life after the busyness of the rest of the year. As for change in our parish music

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT *(continued)*

community, we said goodbye to Kennedy Compton who moved to Houston, TX and is now teaching music in a Houston-area school district. We also were saddened to learn in August of the passing of Ken Breeden the prior month. For many years he led and had been involved in music ministry both here and at other Episcopal parishes around the community. Even as health problems prevented him from singing with us on the regular, I could always rely on him to support the bass section in a pinch and on major feasts. May the souls of Ken and all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

The fall, as per usual, brought the joyous return of the full music ministry to enrichen our worship. With it, we kept the one 9:30am Sunday Mass schedule and saw the addition of six new choir members! Stevie Cooke, Fiona Halley, Diana Morton, Tom and Teresa Snyder, and our new bass section leader Malachi Biffle. That being said, we are always looking for more folks to be involved in the music program. There are opportunities for all ages and abilities! If you are interested, please reach out to me at music@stjameswichita.org. Additionally, feel free to stop by one of our choir rehearsals and see what it's like! Currently, the handbell choir is meeting on Tuesdays and the vocal choir on Wednesdays. Both meet weekly at 7pm in the music room to the left of the main entrance.

We finished out 2024 with a wonderful lessons and carols service during Advent and a beautiful Christmas Eve. For the Christmas Eve anthem, the choir was accompanied by the first organ used in the existing church in 1926. It is a small, "field" pump organ that belonged to the Rev. Otis Gray; first rector of this parish; and accompanied him as a military chaplain in Europe during WW1. The blending of this instrument with the choir's voice served as a warm reminder of St. James' full and rich past interwoven with us; the present and future of this special communion of saints. May we continue to build upon this legacy in 2025 and for many years to come.

2024 music participants:

Adult Vocal Choir: Andrew Aitken, Malachi Biffle, Celia Blair, Richard Bowman, Ken Breeden, Angee Carroll, Kennedy Compton, Stevie Cooke, Adrienne Edwards, Fiona Halley, Mary Halley, Kurt Harper, Randy Harrison, Rick Milhon, Joan Moore, Bernie Mutzke, Korbin Painter, Cheryl Schmeidler, Tom and Teresa Snyder.

Bell Choir: Anne and Bert Clark, Mary Druding, Adrienne Edwards, Kurt Harper, Diana Morton, Allie Mutzke, and Connie Timmons.

Choristers: Allie Mutzke, Blake Mutzke, and M.J. Pameticky.

Other musicians: Eilidh and Iain Aitken, Adrien Obregon, Grant Parcell, Isabella Powellpandiri, and Martha Sanchez (Easter brass), Ken Breeden (guest conductor), Jeanne Kroeker (oboe), Christy Manning (substitute organist and chorister assistant) Rick Milhon (saxophone and recorder), and Dean Roush (substitute organist).

LIVESTREAM VOLUNTEERS

From Bert Clark

The Livestream ministry at St. James is active, and we are now 100% volunteer run and have been since the beginning of December. Our team includes: Dayana Viveros, Deb Bagby, Ethan Lindsay, Ian McMains, John Robinson, Woody Swain, and Bert Clark. If you'd like to learn and volunteer on the livestream team, contact Bert Clark or Woody Swain.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

From The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt, Rector

Lay worship leaders: Shannon Johnston, Paul Leeker, Chase Moore, and Elizabeth Wenger continued to support our worship through participation and offering of sermons through the year. They supplement a diminishing pool of service volunteers and step into any role as needed. Our remaining acolytes, chalice bearers, and lectors continue to be faithful. They need help with more people on the schedule to serve so that they are not asked to serve more frequently than they bargained for. The Altar Guild was skillfully led by Adrienne Edwards with assistance from her husband, Gary Cheever. As in all works of the parish, more members are needed – in this case – for the altar guild. This is mostly a behind-the-scenes ministry and one which can be taken on as a contemplative practice on the faith journey. Greeters and Ushers are in the same position as these other service volunteers. There are a few faithful people who steadfastly show up to carry out these all-important commissions. Thank you to those who continue to serve in one or more of these capacities. You are making worship as we know it possible. We could not do it without you.

After the real need for volunteers, the main item of note in the worship life of the parish was a troubling push and pull over the time of our services. We combined the 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday service for the summer (the 5:30 p.m. service on Saturday was not changed). Members had fun worshipping with people from a service they didn't usually attend and re-kindling old connections. Scheduling one service on Sunday eased some of the pressure of scheduling service volunteers.

The combined Sunday service also served the spirit of the Invite+Welcome+Connect implementation. Our overall sense of communion with more people together at once reinforced the way we are connected as members of the Body of Christ. It felt good to be with a group of hopeful people where we felt a strong sense of belonging. For these reasons, when the school year began we elected to retain the one 9:30 a.m. Sunday service. With apprehension, near the end of 2024 we decided to return to two services on Sunday morning beginning February 2025. We seek the best way to reach the most people. While we know it isn't a best practice to frequently change the time of worship services, that is what we are doing. We are also necessitating an increased plea for volunteers. The success or failure of this change will be a communal effort.

Please give thanks to the volunteers who continue to serve as deacon, lay worship leader, altar guild member, greeter, usher, acolyte, chalice bearer, or lector. These servants give us a great gift by their participation in weekend services.

In the future, if you are able to volunteer in any capacity we will support you with training and work with your scheduling needs. Weekly worship, including Holy Communion, is the first and foremost function of the parish. Please take part in its provision. Without the corporate worship of God each week, we, the Body of Christ, risk becoming more like a mere secular community service center than a church. This is not the reason our parish exists. May God give us the grace to know our call to participate in the liturgy of the Episcopal Church where the meaning of liturgy is defined: it is the work of the people.

ALTAR GUILD

From Adrienne Edwards, Chairperson

2024 was a busy year for the Altar Guild, we provided support for multiple funeral and wedding services. We said Hail and Farewell to two members; Michael Kephart stepped down from the Guild after decades of loyal and helpful service to St James. Fiona Halley moved back to Wichita during 2024 and rejoined the Guild. Thanks to several generous memorial contributions we were able to send our primary wine and water cruets used during the Eucharist to be refurbished. They had sustained several dents and the lid of the wine cruet had been bent. The cruets were returned 30 days later, dent free, lid straight and polished to look like new. Gary Cheever inspected and tightened all the pew kneelers screws. The Youth Group rotated all the church pew pillows thus ensuring their long life. This past October the annual convention of the Diocese of Kansas was held in Wichita and we provided Eucharist vessels, linens, wine, water, Priest Host and wafers to the support the service. Special thanks to Andy Aiken and other members of the choir who helped clean up and return the items back to the church.

VII. AFFILIATED PROGRAM REPORTS

GUILD HALL PLAYERS

From Phil Speary, GHP Program Director

The Guild Hall Players continued their tradition for the 18th year as an outreach fine arts ministry for the parish. The group presented the classic comedy *Blithe Spirit* and the renowned family drama *I Never Sang for my Father* in the Spring. In July, *Hello Dolly* had the largest audiences in the history of the group. The fall saw a very successful production of *What the Constitution Means to Me*.

GHP shows drew over a thousand people from the area to the performances. GHP is made up of members of the parish working with others from the Wichita theatre community. More than 70 people came into the welcoming St. James environment to put on the four 2024 productions. Guild Hall shows are financed through audience admissions and private donations. The theatre annually contributes to the parish operating budget.

VIII. PARISH MINISTRIES & CONTACTS

ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE – *Sr. Warden*

Library – *Korbin Painter*

Building Use and Management – *Parish Office*

Delegates, Diocesan Convention & Convocation – *Sr. Warden*

Nominating Ministry – *Sr. Warden*

Office Volunteers – *Parish Communicator*

Parish Staff – *Rector*

Policies and Personnel – *Parish Office*

Recordkeeping – *Parish Office, Sr. Warden, & Clerk of the Vestry*

Vestry – *Parish Office*

Guild Hall Players – *Phil Speary*

BUILDING & GROUNDS – *Jr. Warden*

Facilities & Grounds – *Jr. Warden*

- Maintenance, repair and improvement
- Budgeting, planning, prioritizing
- Landscaping, mowing, & irrigation

Creation Care Committee – *Pat Butin & Claudette Johns*

Columbarium and Memorial Garden – *Parish Office*

Furnishings and Memorials Ministry – *Jr. Warden*

Safety and Security – *Jr. Warden, Parish Office*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION – *Director of Programs*

Adult Christian Education – *Director of Programs*

Adult Forum – *Director of Programs*

Basic A / Confirmation – *Rector*

Children's Sunday School – *Director of Programs*

Education for Ministry – *LoWaine Robison*

Graduate EfM – *Archdeacon Jeff Roper, Richard Bonman*

Nursery – *Director of Programs*

Vacation Bible School – *Director of Programs*

Youth Group – *Director of Programs, Anne Clark*

COMMUNICATIONS – *Parish Communicator*

Internal & external – *Rector, Sr. Warden, Parish Office*

Website and social media – *Parish Communicator*

eTower, newsletter, direct mail – *Parish Communicator*

Service bulletin, annual report, banners – *Parish Communicator*

CLERGY – *Rector*

Priests, deacons, employed and associated clergy – *Rector*

Deacons – *Archdeacon Jeff Roper*

Clericus and Diocesan responsibilities – *Rector*

Pastoral counseling and care ministries – *Rector*

Prison ministry – *Archdeacon Jeff Roper*

FINANCE MINISTRY – *Treasurer*

Bookkeeper – *Parish Bookkeeper*

Endowment Funds Board – *Deb Bagby*

Financial Reports – *Treasurer*

Annual Budget – *Treasurer*

Stewardship Ministries – *Cheryl Schmeidler*

MEMBERSHIP & PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

All Souls Guild – *Deb Hager*

Parish Meals – *Jessica Moore, Troy Wells, Randy Harrison*

Daughters of the King - *Mary Sloan*

Invite Committee – *Woody Swain*

Welcome Committee – *Kate Miller*

Connect Committee – *Phil Speary & Dana Stelter*

Olde English Tea – *Joan Bledsoe & Karla Fazio*

Oyster Dinner – *Matt Carroll*

Scouts - *Danny Blair*

WICHITA MINSTER – *Archdeacon Jeff Roper*

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Pocket Change Ministry – *Vicki Evans*

Christmas Giving Trees – *Mary Druding*

Sandwich Saturdays – *Joan Bledsoe*

Undies Sundays – *Louise Brinegar*

Back-to-School Drive – *Mary Klocke*

Blanket Drive – *Hew & Judy Goodpasture*

Alternative Gift Market – *Suzi Miner*

Justice Together – *Scott & Shirley Orr, Vicki Evans*

General Outreach Ministry – *Judy Goodpasture*

Breakthrough/ESS – 316-269-4160

St. Francis Ministries – 316-831-0330

WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRIES

Choristers (Youth Choir) – *Music Director*

Handbell Choir – *Music Director*

Instrumentalists/Musicians – *Music Director*

Liturgy – *Rector*

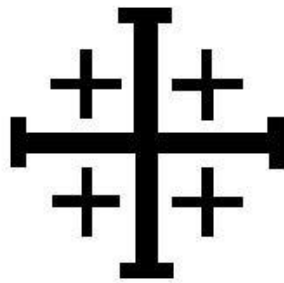
St. James Choir (Adult Choir) – *Music Director*

Service Volunteers – *Parish Office*

Altar Guild – *Adrienne Edwards*

Worship Committee – *Rector*

Lay Worship Leaders – *Rector*



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3750 E. Douglas Avenue, Wichita, KS 67208

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

LOVING ~ LIBERATING ~ LIFE-GIVING

The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt, Rector
The Ven. Jeff Roper, Archdeacon
Dakota Bennett, Director of Music
Chelsea Whipple, Director of Programs
Susan Stallings, Parish Bookkeeper
Jose Alonso, Sexton

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www.stjameswichita.org
www.youtube.com/c/stjameswichita
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[@stjameswichita](https://www.instagram.com/stjameswichita) (instagram)

**WHOEVER YOU ARE AND WHEREVER YOU FIND YOURSELF ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

You will hear these words every week at St. James as we invite you to join us for the Word and Sacraments that are God's gifts to all. It does not matter who you are, what you look like, what you have done in the past, or who you love. God's grace is not petty; it is not earned. It is radical and universal. We at St. James seek to mirror God's healing love by making this community a safe place for skeptics, doubters, seekers, those who have been wounded by the church, those who have never darkened its doors, those who have wandered, as well as new believers and those who have never left. As a diverse community we have discovered in God a oneness greater than our differences. We have come to know that our variety reflects the divine comprehensiveness of God. Engaging God is a lifelong process. Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we believe God invites you to keep traveling. In some subtle or profound way, the Spirit of God drew you here. Our hearts are open to God and to you.