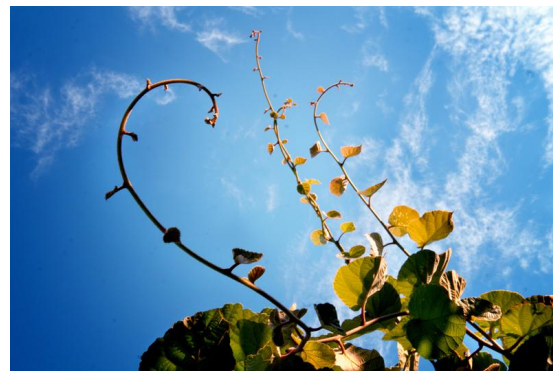


A weekly email publication for the community of St. James Church in College Hill

## Message of the Moment

Dearest Friends,

This Sunday, we welcome our kids back to Children's Chapel. It has been more than a year since we've heard the sounds of laughter, singing, and kids stomping around upstairs. I recently went up there to organize and make sure the space was ready. It felt like I had walked into a time capsule. For more than a year, it's just been me upstairs occasionally filming Sunday school, VBS or Children's Chapel videos. I couldn't help but notice the artwork that kids had been creating last year, books strewn about from them reading, and even stickers and coloring sheets spread over a table. I thought about each child who walks into these classrooms, wondering how they and their family were coping, when I could see them again, and sending them love with every ounce of my being.



I don't believe it is a coincidence that our first Gospel reading we will hear together is John 15:1-8, the vine and the branches. This has always been a personal favorite of mine, but the pandemic has brought a deeper meaning to this passage and what Jesus was expressing in every ounce of his being. Jesus as the vine does not simply stop at the branches where we "sprout," but forms into the branches, and together the vine and the branches become one. It is together with Jesus that we sprout the fruit of blessings. It is together with Jesus that we are pruned gently to bear more fruit of blessings. I used to always cringe when I would hear the part about certain branches withering and being thrown into the fire. However, I now see the vine produces a new branch, which is gently nourished by the vine and the vinegrower as it grows stronger. So the cycle repeats, the old branch that withered becomes the new branch lovingly grown again with the vine.

I wonder what our kids' branches will look like. How Jesus has nourished them this past year. What fruits they have blessed others with and what fruits they received. And together we will make new crafts, read new books, sing our songs, and make our new memories all with our branches intertwined with the vine continuously growing stronger and bearing more fruit.

Lovingly,

Chelsea Whipple  
Director of Programs

## Community matters

**St. James congregation's commitment to the greater community** through the years has led to a nomination for the **Golden Rule Award from HumanKind Ministries**, outreach committee chair Judy Goodpasture reports. Winners will be recognized at HumanKind's fall fundraising event. No doubt other worthy groups have been nominated, Judy noted, but it is an honor for St. James to be recognized. We are grateful to parishioners for their many years of generosity to the Wichita community.



**Ushers, greeters and readers, oh my!** We desperately need more of all of them. If you would like to help welcome people back to St. James or read during services, please contact Peggy Johnson at [johnsonorganist@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonorganist@gmail.com).

**Since church has resumed, so have our weekly fresh flowers at the main altar.** Please donate so we can continue this practice. Just sign up on the calendar in the hallway to the guild hall. Send in your check and put "flower fund" in the memo blank and attach a thanksgiving or memorial note. If you are unable to sign up, call the office and let them know your wishes to donate and send in your check with your thanksgiving or memorial note attached.

**Our first Newcomers Network meetup April 25 went well.** Chelsea Whipple and Deb Bagby enjoyed meeting several people who are relatively new to St. James. Future sessions are scheduled for 7 p.m. May 2, May 16 and May 23 on Zoom. To keep the groups small, please RSVP. The group is open to people who have been at St. James two years or less. Please email or call Chelsea at [formation@stjameswichita.org](mailto:formation@stjameswichita.org) or 316-993-4672 for more information and to RSVP.

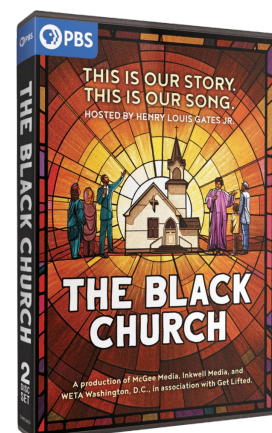
**Mother Dawn's "Radical Acceptance" series continues in today's eTower.** See it under the "Radical Acceptance" section later in this email and on our website.

**This week's Parishioner Profile — about Shannon Johnston and Troy Wells — is below in "Parishioner Profile and Parish News."**

Photo by [Brett Jordan](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## Congregational Book Read

**The Congregational Book Read** will begin a new video series on May 13. We will watch **["The Black Church: This is Our Story, This is Our Song"](#)** by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. It is a moving series tracing the 400-year-old story of the Black Church in America and explores its role in African American survival and grace, organizing and resilience, thriving and testifying, autonomy and freedom, solidarity and speaking truth to power. The documentary reveals how Black people have worshipped and, through their spiritual journeys, improvised ways to bring their faith traditions from Africa to the New World while translating them into a form of Christianity that was not only truly their own but a redemptive force for a nation whose original sin was found in their ancestors' enslavement across the Middle Passage. This is a



great time to join us! We meet every Thursday at 11 a.m. or 7 p.m. on Zoom.

**May 13 & 20- Part 1** : Trans-Atlantic slave trade and the extraordinary ways enslaved Africans preserved and adapted their faith practices from slavery to emancipation.

**May 27 & June 3- Part 2** : How the black Church expanded its reach to address social inequality and minister to those in need, from the Jim Crow South to the heroic phase of the civil rights movement and the Black Church's role in the present.

The Zoom link for the 11 a.m. group is:

<https://zoom.us/j/94318073867?pwd=UWICSVhidnFqOWpTSFpacmFhME5FQTo9>

The Zoom link for the 7 p.m. group is:

<https://zoom.us/j/96988499682?pwd=enIEbndxTFdoNWJqZk5SUIBkMmJEZz09>

## Mental Health Awareness Month

### May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Wichitans are fortunate to be served by the **Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas (MHA)**. The association helps people live their best lives. It provides access to therapies for emotional health and wellness as well as services for substance use, developmental disabilities, and acquired brain injury. MHA also helps people with housing. With respect, integrity, and compassion, MHA provides individualized service. Its person-driven programming fosters independence, community engagement, and wellness. Clients served range in age from three to 103 years. To reach the association, call 316-685-1821.



The outreach committee chose these quotes to recognize Mental Health Awareness Month.

**“I haven’t a clue how my story will end, but that’s all right. When you set out on a journey and night covers the road, that’s when you discover the stars.” — Nancy Willard, author**

**“Someone’s opinion of you does not have to become your reality.”  
— Les Brown**

**“You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream.”  
— C.S. Lewis**

## Readings This Week

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the



unity of 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 Fifth Sunday of Easter:

[Acts 8:26-40](#)

[John 15:1-8](#)

[1 John 4:7-21](#)

[Psalm 22:24-30](#)

## Service to the Community

**The next Sack Lunch Saturday is coming up May 8.** We have a great group of volunteers who make sack lunches the second Saturday of each month. We are doing this ministry with three other Episcopal churches: St. John's, St. Bartholomew's and, most recently to join us, Good Shepherd. If you are interested in helping from time to time by making or delivering sandwiches to St. John's for distribution, please let Joan Bledsoe know. If you'd like more information or have questions, email Joan at [pansy1918@icloud.com](mailto:pansy1918@icloud.com).



**The Annual Undies Sundays Drive is underway .** Our project to collect new underwear for the **Wichita Children's Home** continues through the week of May 9. Please help by donating new underclothes sizes infant through adult. There is a special request for diapers sizes 4, 5, and 6. There is a basket by the red doors for donations.

**Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services** is having a come-and-go reception for retiring executive director Barbara Andres from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 13 at Botanica Pavilion.

**Please remember to help us collect funds for the Pocket Change Ministry's gift** to Breakthrough/ESS. You may send a check to St. James with "Pocket Change" written in the memo section.

## Children and Youth

**Check out our most recent Children's Ministry email** for important and fun information. The link is [here](#).

**Episcopal Summer Camp at Camp Wood will be June 6 to 12.** This fun summer camp is for third to 12th grade (you must have completed third grade).

Registration is available and open to all kids. There are scholarships available from the Diocese and St. James. Register at <https://edokformation.wordpress.com/camp/>.



Register at <https://edokformation.wordpress.com/camp/>.

**VBS is coming ...** join us June 21 to 24 for fun, learning, games, and more. [Click here for more details and to sign up.](#)

**Have you been spring cleaning? We are planning the youth rummage sale** for July 8 to 11. Please begin to collect items from your home and arrange a time to take them to church by calling or emailing Anne Clark at 816-797-6177 or [aws1155@yahoo.com](mailto:aws1155@yahoo.com). The youth will need lots of help setting up the weekend before as well as people to help work the sale. Please let Anne know if you can help.

[Click here to join our Children's Ministry Email list.](#)

[Click here to read the latest Children's Ministry email.](#)

## The Calendar This Week

### Sunday, May 2

**9 a.m. - Adult Forum**

Topic: How Episcopalians view evolution

Join Zoom meeting at this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95070519126?pwd=MINPSUszSUF2akFhRmtWOW05c1N1dz09>

**10:45 a.m. - Children's Chapel**

**10:45 a.m. - Worship Service**

**7 p.m. - Newcomer Network**

[Contact Chelsea Whipple](#)

### Monday, May 3

**5:30 p.m. - Contemplative Prayer Group Online**

[Contact Mary Kay Chavez](#)

**7 p.m. - Graduate EfM Online**

[Contact Jeff Roper](#)

### Tuesday, May 4

**7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir**

[Contact Marlene Hallstrom](#)

### Wednesday, May 5

**6 p.m. - Evening Bible Study on Zoom**

[Contact Phil Speary](#)

6:30 p.m. - Youth Group  
[Contact Tristan Holmberg](#)

7 p.m. - Choir  
[Contact Marlene Hallstrom](#)

**Thursday, May 6**

6:30 p.m. - EfM Online  
[Contact Deb Bagby](#) or [Paul Rillema](#)

## Parishioner Profile and Parish News

### Meet Shannon Johnston and Troy Wells

Shannon Johnston and Troy Wells visited St. James for the first time the Sunday after Easter in 2019. That was the first Sunday after they got engaged, and the couple said that finding a place to worship was important as they started their life together.

Troy grew up Catholic, and Shannon grew up Presbyterian. They visited several churches trying to find a good "middle ground" between their backgrounds. A friend recommended St. James.

"We haven't left since," Shannon said. "The warm welcome we received from the community here as well as solid biblical teaching combined to make it the right church home for us."

A Wichita native, Troy is a graphic artist, and Shannon was an "Air Force brat" who kept a nomadic lifestyle into adulthood. She lived in 15 different cities, and missions work led her to Australia and Japan.

God kept bringing her back to Wichita, where her parents had retired, "probably to eventually meet and marry Troy," she said.

Shannon is an art professor and art gallery director at Newman University.

#### **What do you do to rest and return to God?**

"Sunday is a special and sacred day for us. Regardless of if we're in the pews, joining virtually, or spending the day in private reflection and meditation, Sundays have become the day that grounds us as individuals and together in our marriage. As two artists, experiencing the creativity of others through visiting art galleries and museums, concerts, or even enjoying a well-prepared meal really serves to remind us of the God whose image we are made in and inspires us creatively."

#### **What do you like about St. James?**

"There are so many things! But mainly that we have felt genuinely welcomed, wanted, cared for, encouraged, and challenged from the moment we first walked through those red doors. Each Sunday we find new ways we can be living out the Gospel better in our community.

We love that St. James actively is pursuing being the hands and feet of Jesus in Wichita, and we are excited to join in that effort more. We are so thankful that St. James has been a part of our family from the beginning and are excited to grow our family within this community."



### **The gardening crew is at it again and needs your help!**

We'll plan on being there about 9 a.m. on the dates below. If these time or dates don't work for you, please don't hesitate to go and work on your own. If you are interested in helping, please send Anne Clark a text at 816-797-6177 or email [aws1155@yahoo.com](mailto:aws1155@yahoo.com) so she can update you on tasks for that week.

**May 1:** work on Celtic Garden

**May 15:** pruning and planting

**June 5:** preen weed prevention application and cleanup

**June 19:** cleaning

**July 3:** cleaning

**July 24:** cleaning

**August 7:** cleaning

**August 21:** cleaning

**Sept. 4:** cleaning

**Oct. 9:** cleaning and planting fall bulbs

**Nov. 6:** cleaning prep for winter

### **Remember Breakfast Sundays, OPUS, countless potlucks, luncheons, dinners and receptions?**

This year, we launch our second century and look forward to eventually being able to gather for food and fellowship. With that goal in mind, it's time to replace our heavy pottery due to the number of dinner plates that have chipped or broken. We are asking for donations of CorningWare Corelle "Winter Frost White" dinner plates. Corelle is practically indestructible and resists chips and cracks. Lightweight and easy to handle, plates stack up in less space (12 plates in only 2 inches!) If you have dinner plates to donate ("Winter Frost White" ONLY), or find some at a garage sale or thrift store, please bring them to the church.

**Forms to order our 100th anniversary book are online . [Click here to go directly to the order form](#), which you can print out and return in person, by mail, or by email to the church office. Books are \$25, and shipping is \$5 for every two books.**

## **Radical Acceptance**

### **Radical Acceptance – Sometimes problems can't be solved**

One of the four options you have for any problem is "Radical Acceptance" (Linehan, 1993). Radical Acceptance is about accepting life on life's terms and not resisting what you cannot or choose not to change. Radical Acceptance is about saying "yes" to life, just as it is.

Imagine that you talk with an apartment manager about leasing an apartment in a popular complex that is completely full. He agrees to call you when the two-bedroom apartment is available. You wait for months, then stop by to check with him. When you arrive, he is signing a lease agreement with a couple for a two-bedroom unit. When you confront him, he shrugs. That shouldn't happen. It isn't fair. But it did happen.

The pain is the loss of an apartment that you really wanted. You may feel sad and hurt. Suffering is what you do with that pain and the interpretation you put on the pain. Suffering is optional; pain is not. It's difficult to accept what you don't want to be true. And it's more difficult to not accept. Not accepting pain brings suffering.

*By Karyn Hall Ph.D.*

*Reference: Linehan, M. CBT of Borderline Personality Disorder. New York: The Guilford Press, 1993.*

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/pieces-mind/201207/radical-acceptance>

**Yours in Christ,**

**Mother Dawn+**

## **Prayers**



**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Anglican Church of Korea

**In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the people of Eritrea and Ethiopia

**In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Church of the Covenant, Junction City

**Pray for those serving in the military:** Alexis (Lexi) Reed, Will Corkins, and J. David Anderson-Lusk.

**Pray for those who have died:** Marsha Bacon; Nancy Rollins; Christopher "Chris" Erickson, son of Jennifer and Mark Erickson; David T. Childs, The Rev. Wayne Blakely, Jeff Gibson, (son of Deacon Barbara Gibson), Larry Edwin Rahal (father of Nancy Carroll), and Caroline Rudnick-Rowley (wife of Bruce, mother of William and Madeline).

**Pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity:** Pray for Marge Rine, her son Wes, and the rest of their family. Pray also for Dal Harrison, her husband Rick, and their family. Pray for Joan Janzen and her daughter, Catherine. Please continue in your prayers for the recovery of Gary, Bill, and Pete. Lift up all people with COVID-19 and all health care workers. Please pray for Pam; LouAnn M.; Jayne; Iola; Martha; Betty; Gus; Jessica; Bob; Joe; Jean; Jerry; Teresa; Larry S.; Jan and Joan; Mary; Joann, Mike and their granddaughter, George; George II; Christina; Bill; Floyd; Gene; George; Jean; Jan and family; Tucker; Ashley and Taylor; and Carly, granddaughter of Delmar and Mary Klocke.

**Our Parish Prayer List** — The most up-to-date parish prayers appear here weekly. All members of our parish community are asked to pray for everyone 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](mailto:office@stjameswichita.org).

### Let Us Pray

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, **hear our prayers for this parish family.** Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: **Inspire our witness to Christ,** that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech thee to **behold, visit, and relieve thy sick servant for whom our prayers are offered.** Look upon them with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort them with a sense of thy goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience in their affliction. In thy good time, restore them to health, and enable them to lead the residue of their life in thy fear, and to thy glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servant for whom we pray the help of your power, **that their sickness may be turned into health,** and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you **drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity.** Be present in your goodness with your servant for whom we pray, that their weakness may be banished and their strength restored; and with their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and **practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain.** Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, your compassions never fail and your mercies are new every morning: **We give you thanks for giving both relief from pain and hope of health renewed.** Continue in the course of recovery, we



pray, the good work you have begun; that those who heal and daily increase in bodily strength may rejoice in your goodness, and order their lives and conduct to always think and do those things that please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Helpful Links

[Watch and Listen to Last Week's Service](#)

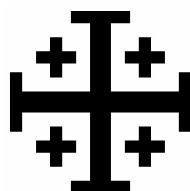
[Parish Web Calendar](#)

[Contribute to St. James Church online](#)

[2021 Parish Leadership](#)



## Contact Us



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[Jose Alonso](#), Sexton

[The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt](#), Rector\*

[The Rev. Christine Gilson](#), Priest-in-Charge during Mother Dawn's sabbatical

[Deb Gruver](#), Administrative/Communications Assistant

[Marlene Hallstrom](#), Organist and Director of Music

[Susie Stallings](#), Bookkeeper

[Chelsea Whipple](#), Director of Programs

\*Mother Dawn is on sabbatical through June 20.



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

St. James  
Episcopal Church

CELEBRATING



1920-2020

A COMMUNION  
OF SAINTS