

The MESSENGER

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

stjamesnewcastle.com

AUGUST 2023



Where strangers become family

AUGUST SCHEDULE

ST. JAMES PICNIC	July 30	Lunch
Altar Guild Mtg	Aug 5	Noon
BC Meeting	Aug 9	6:30pm
DOK meeting	Aug 16	NOON
	At Primo's, downtown NC	
Set up for Sale	Aug 16	9 am
Yard Sale	Aug 18-19	

SERVICES

August 6	Eucharist
August 6	Raintree Square 2 PM
August 13	Morning Prayer
August 20	Eucharist
August 27	Morning Prayer



ST. JAMES DAY CELEBRATION

There will be a special lunch following the Eucharist on July 30th. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Pulled pork and hotdogs will be provided, along with homemade ice cream.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

There is an altar guild meeting on August 5th with Father Brown at noon.

****IMPORTANT**** YOUR HELP IS NEEDED



The St. James Yard Sale will be held on August 18-19 from 9- Noon each day. We will set up starting Wednesday, Aug. 16 at 9 AM. We will break for the DOK lunch at Primo's then continue until 3. If we don't get finished on Wednesday, we will show up on Thursday also.

If you want to mark your donated items, you may. It's not necessary to mark clothing as it will be priced by type of item. Nothing is priced below \$.25 We will price to sell. Also shoes, purses, linens, etc will be priced by type. We will be selling breakfast sandwiches so we need a volunteer to put these together. The egg and cheese are precooked so you add cheese and reheat in the oven.

If you need me to pick up your items, I can. Call Peggy at 305-304-9745 or email at scubadog54@bellsouth.net. We'll take small furniture, no TV's unless flat screen, no computers or printers. Please sign up at church to help or contact me. To be successful, we need helping hands.

PEGGY JENT

SWAT is "PACKING THE PANTRY"

SWAT, the weight loss support group that meets at St. James has decided to donate food to "Pack the Pantry" on the 3rd Thursday of each month. In addition, they donate \$100-200 a month for building use.



CAN WE AT ST. JAMES "PACK THE PANTRY" ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH?

Starting on August 6th, we will be collecting food for the pantry.

WE NEED ANOTHER IPHONE

Nancy Brown got us an iPhone from her nephew, Bart a couple of months ago. Unfortunately, 2-3 weeks after getting it, it disappeared. I have been hoping it would be returned but that hasn't happened. If anyone has a newer model of phone lying around (iPhone or Android) we would appreciate the donation. We will be locking it in the office to prevent theft.

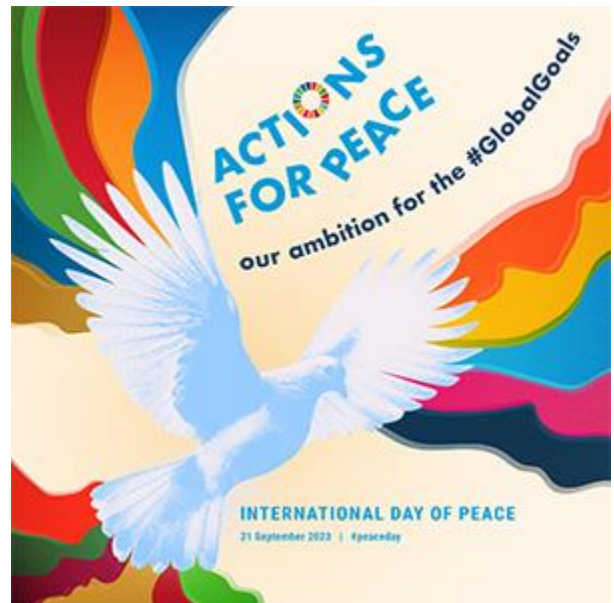
SAWS AT WORK

The SAWS group has completed 3 ramps. The next build is Aug 3-4. If you would like to help, contact Sonny Carter at 465-7044.



The crew with the client on the finished ramp. Sonny was taking the picture.

PEACE DAY PLANS



The 2023 theme is ACTIONS FOR PEACE so we are working on a Peace in Action Festival.

Saint James

Who is St. James, our patron saint? His name is familiar enough, but many of us have only a vague idea of him as one of the apostles. There seems to be little to inspire devotion: He said little that the Gospels record and left none of his writings behind. (The New Testament's "Letter of James" is attributed to another disciple of the name.) But over the centuries this saint has inspired an ardent devotion that has drawn millions from all corners of the earth to his great shrine in Spain, where countless miracles have been attributed to his powerful intercession.

His Ministry With Jesus

Saint James the Greater was one of the first apostles called by Jesus. At the time, James and his younger brother, John, were in a boat mending their fishing nets (Matthew 4: 18 - 22). The two responded without hesitation and were inseparable throughout Jesus' ministry.

The Gospels make it clear that James and John were, with Peter, the most trusted of Jesus' disciples. On certain occasions, Jesus called only Peter, James and John to accompany him. James was with Jesus at the Transfiguration, during the Agony in the Garden, and in the house of Jairus when Jesus raised Jairus' daughter to life.

Acknowledging the zeal of James and John, the Lord called the brother Boanerges, or "sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17).

James also was the first apostle to shed his blood for Christ. He was martyred in A.D. 44 (Acts 12:2) in Jerusalem. His martyrdom won him the title by which we distinguish him from the other apostle of the same name: "Saint James the Greater." His feast day is July 25.

The Pilgrimage and the Seashell



Little else is known of St. James' life. The only certainty is that a tremendous devotion to him grew up around a tomb in Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The mystery, however, is how James came to be buried there. According to legend, he had traveled to Spain in the early years of his brief ministry and met with little success, winning over only a handful of disciples. Legend also tells us that two of these (Theodore and Athanasius) accompanied him back to Jerusalem, where he was martyred at the hands of Herod. It is believed these disciples stole his body and with it climbed into a rudderless

boat. They begged God to be their pilot; the boat drifted to northern Spain, and there James was buried.

His tomb apparently was forgotten for centuries, until his relics were rediscovered in the 9th century. At the magnificent ancient cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, the relics of St. James now are housed in a silver casket below the high altar, which his statue presides over the cathedral.

During the Middle Ages, Compostela became one of the most famous places of pilgrimage in the world. One legend that may explain how this came about is related in the Song of Roland. In one scene of this famous narrative of the crusades against the Moors, the emperor Charlemagne, in a dream, is blessed with a visit from St. James. The apostle promises that Charlemagne will conquer the Moors throughout Spain. He then shows Charlemagne a vision of a starry road in the sky, telling him to follow this path to the saint's tomb.

True or not, the tale of St. James' role in Charlemagne's victory made celebrities of both the emperor and the saint. The apostle's fame as a miracle worker spread, and more and more pilgrims began to make the journey to visit his tomb and ask for his intercession. Miracles often were worked for the faithful who endured great hardships and traveled great distances to pray there.

Upon reaching Santiago de Compostela, the pilgrims of the Middle Ages collected their long-anticipated souvenirs:

- † A "compostela," a certificate verifying that the pilgrim had made the journey and earned a plenary indulgence.
- †The coveted scallop seashell, a symbol unique to the pilgrimage of St. James. This scallop shell was greatly treasured and worn proudly on the breast or hat.



The scallop shell became the equivalent of a passport identifying travelers as pilgrims. Homes along the route would invite shell-wearing pilgrims to stay overnight, and to this day, pilgrims to Compostela identify themselves with a seashell.

The Shell and Our Church

The belief in the miracle of how St. James' body traveled to northern Spain and the symbolism of the shell at Compostela have been incorporated in a number of ways at the St. James church building. From the altar to the baptismal font to the doors and cornerstone, parishioners will be reminded of St. James, apostle and friend of Jesus.

THERE IS A MOVIE CALLED "THE WAY" ABOUT A MAN WALKING THE WAY OF ST. JAMES THAT MEETS SEVERAL OTHERS ON THEIR OWN PILGRIMAGES TO SANTIAGO, SPAIN.

