



COMMUNION

While we will celebrate the Lord’s Supper this Sunday via Facebook Live Worship, we are aware that some members may not be able to join us. If you miss communing with us on Sunday, you can celebrate the Lord’s Supper on your own!

- Prepare your elements: water, juice, or wine to represent the blood of Christ; bread or crackers to represent the body of Christ.
- Partake of the elements.
- Pray the Lord’s Prayer, and sing a song Christ.



“A Church of Unconditional Love”

Sunday, June 7, 2020

Our Mantra for Covid-19

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:58

A Word About Homegoings During the Pandemic

Brothers and Sister,

I am truly grieved as I hear of the loss of our friends and family during this time so social distancing and quarantine. This grief is further complicated because we are unable to gather in our traditional worship setting to celebrate their lives. However, we are confident in the promise of the gospel that those who die in Christ live on in Him in eternal life and await our arrival there as well.

While we would all love to be present for the homegoing of our loved ones. However, as Covid-19 spreads in our community, it is essential that we honor the recommendations of our local and national health officials. **Please be mindful that graveside services are limited to the spouses, children, parents, siblings, and grandchildren.** Persons who are ill or at high risk are asked to stay home. Members of St. James who pass away during this time are afforded the opportunity to have a full memorial service and repast at a later date if their families so desire.

I understand who meaningful homegoing services are. They are ways in which we honor those how have left us and at the same time provide a degree of closure in the midst of our pain. However, ask yourself if those you love would want you to risk your health and the health of others by coming to the services. As a pastor, husband, father, son, and brother, I would rather my love ones stay safe until we can gather together safely. I pray that you would consider the recommendations of the medical professionals, the state of our community, and what your loved ones may desire as we celebrate their lives during these unprecedented times. Blessings.

Pastor B

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

It is with a longing heart that I write to you. It is hard to believe that we are approaching our 16th consecutive week without a gathered worship service. While I have seen many of you around James Island, it is by no means the same as hugging you, singing with you, and experiencing the presence of God with you in worship. While my spirit dearly misses each of you, I remain confident that God works all things together for good (Romans 8:28) and that in time, we will gather again.

Even in our distance, I am amazed that St. James continues to be an faithful body of believers. You faithfully answered the call to service during our food give away, our leaders and staff continue to work diligently to maintain the ministry of the church, and you continue to obey scripture by bringing the tithe and offering. This continued spirit of excellence and devotion to God is a testament to the presence of the Holy Spirit among us, as well as to the tradition of faithful teaching, preaching, leading, and ministry during the 150 plus years of our existence. Your actions during this time is a witness to the world that the church is not a building, rather, it is a body held together by a common faith in the risen Christ and His felt presence in our lives everyday.

While I am humbled at the performance of St. James during this time, I am sadden at the actions of some within our community. Unfortunately, many have chosen to act irresponsibly by not practicing social distance and not wearing masks. As a result, we have seen a spike in Covid-19 within our community and our hospitals and health care system are approaching capacity again. While progress is being made in our efforts to fight the virus, Covid-19 continues to affect communities of color disproportionately and consequently more lives are lost. **Therefore as your pastor, I am asking you to stay home as much as possible, wear a mask when you must go out, limit your visitations to persons that do not live with you, and continue to pray for God’s grace and favor in our community.**

In his second letter to Timothy, the apostle Paul tells Timothy that **“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7, NKJV)**. Here, we are reminded that a sound mind is a gift from God. The NIV version of this scripture translates sound mind as “self- discipline”. No matter what version you read, Paul makes clear that good mental judgment is something that God gives us and thus is something to be pursued and enacted by believers. While the isolation we are facing is difficult, it is without question preferable to an increase in the spread of Covid-19 within our community. Furthermore, if each of us does our part, we will see the decline of the virus in our community and in time, life will get back to normal So please be governed by the Spirit of God that leads to sound mental judgment and self-discipline.

Remember that while the church building is closed, ministry continues. In the month of May, the session created a Return Task Force that is finalizing plans for a safe re-entry into the building. In the meantime, due to the spike of Covid-19 in our community, we have no timeline for return to in person worship. In the meantime, we are working to improve the services offered on Facebook Live, our church’s website, and ZOOM. As you have need, your Shepherd Leaders and pastoral staff are available for counsel via phone and ZOOM. Your pastors are praying for you, your church is here for you, and remember that God goes before us all. Blessings!

Pastor B

SICK AND SHUT-INS

PLEASE PRAY, SEND CARDS, AND CALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE SICK AND SHUT IN.

Samuel Aiken	Ethel Gourdine	Louise Prioleau	George Washington
Dorothy Bennett	Maybond Graham	Clarence Richardson	George Washington, Jr.
Barbara Brown	Lillie Mae Grant	Clarence Richardson, Jr.	Lillian Washington
Louise Brown	Richard Ladson	Jerry Richardson	Julia Bell Whaley
Mamie Chavis	Thelma Ladson	Ralph Richardson, Jr.	Larry Whaley
Terrell Dobson	Wilhelmina Ladson	Sandrella Richardson	Melvina White
Martha Eden	Charles (Richard) Mack	Viola Richardson	Marie Young
Elouise Frazier	Altheia Martin	Brenda Singleton	
Ursulee Frazier	Louise S. Moore	John Henry Smalls, Jr.	
Lena Gilliard	Cynthia Murray	Edwin Walker	



The Women's Conference that was scheduled to be at sea has been cancelled by the cruise line. However, we are still going to have our conference via ZOOM on July 18th from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon. It is free for anyone who desires to attend. Information pertaining to registering for the event will be forthcoming. We are looking forward to setting sail on the waves of the internet.



Calling all Youth!

We will hold another Youth Group meeting next week!

Youth ages 11-13 - Monday, July 6th @ 7:00 P.M.

Youth ages 14-18 - Tuesday, July 7th @ 7:00 P.M.

We will send the ZOOM link and Bible Study handouts soon!



Children's Church!

Every Sunday!

1:00 P.M. via ZOOM!

The ZOOM link will be sent on Sunday!

St. James is on ZOOM!

If you are interested in joining worship on Sunday morning where you can see and be seen by several other St. James members, **get dressed and meet us on ZOOM.**

Meeting ID: 849 4386 7103

Password: stjamesji

Stewardship Corner

Shepherd Leader Rally!

July 12, 2020!

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

This year we are asking each member to give \$50 during our Annual Shepherd Leaders Rally! We thank you in advance for your generous support as we continue to make improvements and support ministry in the church and beyond.

Ways to Give at St. James!

Cash App!

\$stjamesji

Via Text To Give

Text STJAMESJI to 73256 and follow the prompts!

Via the Church Website

Go to the church's website, www.stjamesji.org, on your computer or phone, click the giving tab, and follow the prompts.

The trustees are also at the church on Fridays from Noon to 2:00 P.M. and Sundays from Noon to 11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. to receive the tithe and offerings.