

St. James the Elder

St. James Episcopal
Church

100 St. James Place
Eufaula, AL 36027
334-687-3619

stjames@eufaula.rr.com

www.diocgc.org

Facebook

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

8:00-12:30

Friday

Office Closed

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:00 Holy Eucharist

8:30 Breakfast

9:15 Christian Ed

10:00 Nursery available

10:30 Holy Eucharist

Treasurer

Janis Biggers

VESTRY

Senior Warden

Karen Benefield

Members:

John Lawrence

Margaret Russell

Ed Garrison

Sallie Garrison

Derek Thomas

Phil Clayton

Susie McCathran

Adam Reeves

St. James Newsletter

Thursday, November 14, 2019

THE RECTOR'S CORNER

On Saturday, November 16 a group of interested "hikers" will meet at the Wehle Center to go an easy hike. We'll enjoy fellowship, hear about nature, have time for reflection and even celebrate the Eucharist in the great outdoors. After our hike we will share lunch together. This "Holy Hike" is not unique to Eufaula, Alabama. There is a movement across the country to join nature and our spirituality along with a healthy dose of fun. Below is an article about the "Holy Hike" movement. I hope that you will consider joining us. The trail is for hikers of all levels of experience (or no experience).



The Rev. Furman Buchanan celebrates Holy Eucharist on April 14 at Conestee Park in Greenville, South Carolina, during the inaugural hike of the Holy Hikes chapter based at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Photo: Holy Hikes Upper South Carolina, via Facebook

[Episcopal News Service] The Blue Ridge Mountains have always been God's country. Now they have a liturgy to match.

"I call it giving credit where credit is due," said Laura Snow Hawkins, founder of the Holy Hikes chapter in Greenville, South Carolina. "The woods, the nature, the creation, that's God's. That's God's handiwork."

Hawkins is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, which is sponsoring the Holy Hikes chapter, one of about a half dozen chapters (and counting) around the country modeled after the original Holy Hikes in Northern California. The Upper South Carolina Holy Hikes held its first official hike on April 14 at the Conestee Park in Greenville.

The concept is simple and could be described as Holy Eucharist in the wilderness. Most hikes are short, easy loops that people of all abilities can join, and the leader, typically a priest, presides over an Episcopal liturgy along the trail, complete with hymns, readings, prayer and communion spaced out along the hike route.

"It's kind of a stational Eucharist," said the Rev. Justin Cannon, Holy Hikes' founder and the rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in San Leandro, California. He received \$5,000 this year through a Stewardship of Creation grant from the Episcopal Church to help expand the reach of the hiking ministry as it sets up new chapters like the one in Greenville.

Continued

“For me, the Earth is our home. We are connected to the wind, to the water, to the creatures, to the sun,” Cannon said. “Our life, and therefore our life in Christ, and everything we do spiritually and secularly has its roots in the Earth, so this is really for me about honoring that relationship, reconnecting with our home and rebuilding communion with the Earth.”

Hawkins has felt a love of the outdoors since childhood hikes with her family and their camping outings in western Pennsylvania. As an adult, she found natural beauty all around her in South Carolina’s mountain region, but Hawkins hadn’t thought of the liturgical potential of those surroundings until an August 2016 church hike in DuPont State Recreational Forest just across the border in North Carolina.

That hike was a one-time outing organized by the Rev. Dorian Del Priore, who was assistant rector of St. Peter’s at the time. He led the hike, celebrated Eucharist and spoke of care of creation. “It was just awesome,” Hawkins said, and responding to her interest, Del Priore told her about Cannon’s Holy Hikes ministry.

Holy Hikes, while inspiring similar ministries around the country, was itself inspired by an earlier ministry called Worship in the Wilderness that was led by the Rev. Jon Anderson in Santa Fe, New Mexico. While Cannon was attending seminary, he received a grant to spend summer 2008 exploring the connections between his faith and his love of the outdoors, and that exploration included experiencing Worship in the Wilderness first hand.

Anderson called it “liturgical hiking.” To bring church outside, he organized monthly gatherings to celebrate Holy Eucharist in natural settings in and around Santa Fe. The experience spoke deeply to the connection Cannon felt between the Earth and his Christian spirituality.

Worship in the Wilderness ended in November 2011 when Anderson left Santa Fe for a new call. By then, Cannon was already following in Anderson’s footsteps, launching Holy Hikes in 2010 as he began diocesan ministry.

At each call, Cannon has asked his parish to sponsor Holy Hikes, and it now is a ministry of All Saints. Cannon tries to design the monthly hikes to be as accessible as possible, including for children and people with handicaps. Most are led by Cannon, though California Bishop Marc Andrus, wearing jeans and carrying a crozier, has been known to join the group and preside over the Holy Eucharist on some hikes. And while the hikes average about a dozen participants, some have drawn as many as 40. At the beginning of each, the hikers are asked to say where they are from and what congregation, if any. Some have been invited by friends, adding a light evangelical element to the hikes. “I think people are more prone to bring their friends on a Holy Hike than they are to a church,” Cannon said.

It’s an experience that can be felt anywhere, which is why Cannon has been helping other Episcopalians start their own monthly hiking groups in places like northern Wisconsin, central Pennsylvania, northeast Ohio, southern Indiana, Vermont and West Virginia. Hawkins’ chapter in South Carolina is the newest. Its first Holy Hike last month was led by the Rev. Furman Buchanan and drew two dozen participants. The next is planned for May 19 at Paris Mountain State Park. Hawkins was raised Methodist, and her husband was Baptist. Several years ago, they began looking for a new congregation to call their own and found a home in the Episcopal Church, partly because of its emphasis on preserving God’s creation, she said.

After working for a couple years in Key West, Florida, Hawkins settled with her husband in Greenville, and in February 2017 she retired from her customer service job at Southwest Airlines to spend more time pursuing her interest in the outdoors and outdoor education. The time was right for her to start a local Holy Hikes chapter. Cannon helped Hawkins step by step with details like picking liturgies, getting approval from the vestry and setting up a Facebook page for the chapter. “I couldn’t have done it without him,” she said.

Continued

Now that her chapter's hikes have begun, Hawkins' voice readily conveys her excitement about the ministry. Like Cannon, she appreciates how it combines her twin passions for faith and nature. "When I'm outside I can truly see the majesty and the amazement of God out there the creation," she said. In something as common as the variety and complexity of the wildflowers on the trail, "I see and feel the presence of God."

Peace in Christ



John

Join us for a short hike and enjoy fellowship and Holy Eucharist in the beauty of nature. Interested participants will meet on **Saturday, November 16th at 9:30 a.m.** at the Forever Wild Day Use Hiking parking area adjacent to the Wehle State Park.

Holy Hike



Upcoming Youth Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Saturday, November 16th	Holy Hike with Brad Moore	Details and trail information coming soon
Sunday, November 24th	Fruits of the Earth-lunch and deliver baskets to shut-ins	After church-6th-12th grade
Sunday, December 1st	Intergenerational Christian Formation-Advent Wreath Making	9:15 a.m.-Entire youth
Wednesday, December 18th	Caroling with the choir	TBD-6th-12th grade
TBD	Dirty Santa Christmas Party	TBD-6th-12th grade

Upcoming



- * **Saturday, November 16th—Holy Hike 9:30 a.m.** at the Forever Wild Day Use Hiking parking area adjacent to the Wehle State Park.
- * **Sunday, November 17th—**Ingathering for the Food Pantry/Vestry Meeting immediately following 10:30 service
- * **Tuesday, November 19th—**Food Pantry 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- * **Wednesday, November 20th—**12:10 Holy Eucharist in Chapel followed by Brown Bag Bible Study/ Coffice at Superior Pecans 4:00-4:45/ Yoga at 5:00 p.m. in loft area in Margaret Hall/ Choir rehearsal 5:30/ **ECW Auction at 6:30 p.m. at 527 St Francis Road**
- * **Sunday, November 24th—**Fruits of the Earth
- * **Tuesday, November 26th—**Food Pantry 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- * **Wednesday, November 27th—OFFICE CLOSED/NO ACTIVITIES TODAY**
- * **Thursday, November 28th—OFFICE CLOSED-**Thanksgiving Day
- * **Sunday, December 1st—**Ingathering for Rector's Discretionary Fund
- * **Tuesday, December 3rd—**Food Pantry 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- * **Wednesday, December 4th—**12:10 Holy Eucharist in Chapel followed by Brown Bag Bible Study/ Coffice at Superior Pecans 4:00-4:45/ Yoga at 5:00 p.m. in loft area in Margaret Hall/ Choir rehearsal 5:30/

Adult Sunday School Series

Jonah: Beyond the Whale

November 10th, 17th and 24th

We all know the tale of Jonah and the days he spent in the belly of a whale. But that is where the story ends for many. Who was this prophet of God? What did he have to say to people in his time and why are his words and story just as packed with meaning for God's people today? Join us as we explore the Book of Jonah. We will go chapter by chapter through this short book of the Bible and discover a story that goes beyond the waves and the shore and into the heart of every life.

This class will not require preparation before class but we will expect participation in class. Each class will consist of Scripture reading, presentation/background, reflection and discussion.

Bishop Russell Kendrick Visit To St. James Sunday, February 2, 2020 with reception to follow

Growing in Grace begins Sunday, January 5th at 9:15 a.m. in the Library. This class is designed for those seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church and those wishing to make a reaffirmation of faith; however, it's open to all. It's a great way to "brush up" on the origins of Christianity and the Episcopal Church. The class looks at what we believe, our origins and why we do what we do in worship. It's a great introduction to the Episcopal Church and a lot of fun. We hope everyone makes an effort to attend. There are many out there, more than you think, who identify as Christians but don't have a regular church home. Maybe they were "burned" by a church experience in their past, they didn't connect to a previous church and never went back or they have always felt unworthy. Everyone is looking for a relationship with God and a place to belong, whether they know it or not. It's in our DNA and we won't know peace until we have that relationship with God. We need to reach out to those people in our lives and neighborhoods and invite them to church and this class. It will be a casual way for them to learn and connect (and they get breakfast).



Annual ECW Christmas Auction

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

6:30 p.m.

527 St. Francis Road

For more information, contact:

Cally Dixon at callydixon@gmail.com or

Lauren Reeves at lauren.u.reeves@gmail.com

*Food assignments are as follows: last names beginning with A-
G vegetable dish or salad, H-N starch (rice, potatoes, pasta),
O-P dessert, Q-Z appetizer.*

Be on the lookout for that special auction item.

All parishioners and their guests are welcome.

Fruits of the Earth

Episcopal Church Women

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 24th, the ECW fills the windows of the church in order to support the ministry of the Food Pantry who weekly help the less fortunate. Please fill your assigned window with the following: canned vegetables, fruits, soups, meats (tuna, chicken), packaged rice, grits, potatoes, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti noodles and sauce, fruit cups, dried fruit, and peanut butter. Fresh fruit and greenery can be used as decoration.

Window Assignments

Johnston Window Resurrected Jesus

Regina Riley
Susan Bishop
Mary Foy Kirkland
Sherri Musgrove
Jean Thomas

Mitchell Window Jesus and Woman

Kathy Holland
Courtney Potthoff
Debbie Jones
Nina Beasley
Raye Ann Calton

Smith Window Good Shepherd

Beth Reeves
Virginia Hamby
Betsy Lawrence
Verna Scroggins
Sallie Garrison

Copeland Window The Annunciation

Janie King
Mary Dixon
Phronsie Ericson
Marilyn Daniels
Carla Packard
AJ Sims

Merrill Window Sermon on the Mount

Merrill Dillon
Ann Blondheim
Stephanie Hawkins
Renee Molette
Kay O'Connor
Missy Thomas

Bray Window The Ascension

Jo Watson
Cindy Clarke
Ann Bartlett
Julie Hill
Margaret Russell
Cally Dixon

Hoole Window Easter Cross

Karen Benefield
Mary Bidy
Kim Blackman
Gail Mitchell
Lindsey Bennett
Diane Voors

Shorter Window Gethsemane

Keitt Robertson
Holland Utley
Catherine Lehman
Linda Perdue
Charlotte Booth
Ann Wilkinson

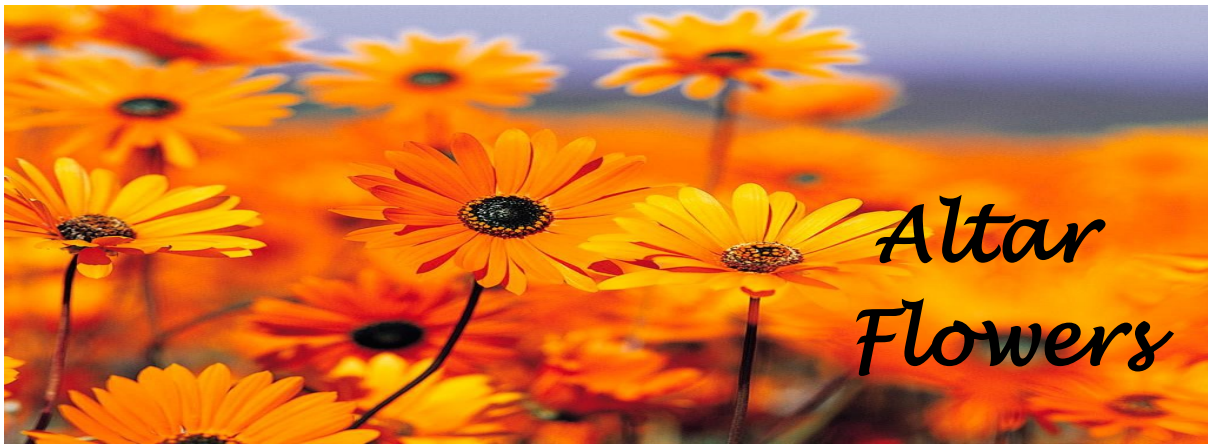
Pugh Window The Prodigal Son

Mary Jo Ridle
Lauri Lawrence
Cyndie Moore
Paige Garrison
Liz Harmon
Shea Speake

McClendon Window Lily of the Valley

JoAnn Little
Susie McCathran
Connie Garrison
Babe Perry
Connie Taylor
Pat Schiller

****The first name on the list is the chairperson who will coordinate placing your team's donations for your assigned window. Please take your donation to the table outside the office if you are going to be out of town the last Sunday in November.**



November

3. Gary and Debbie Jones
 10. Betsy and Buddy
 Lawrence
 17. Mary Jo Ridle
 24. Debbie Jones

December

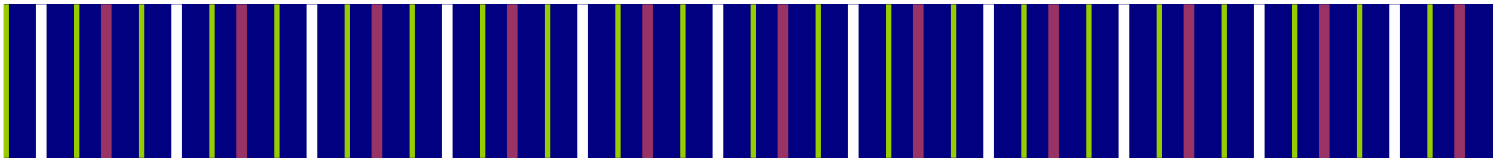
1. Patrick and Stephanie
 Hawkins
 8. Ann Blondheim
 15. _____
 22. Mary Dixon
 24. Mary Dixon
 29. _____

January

5. _____
 12. _____
 19. _____
 26. _____

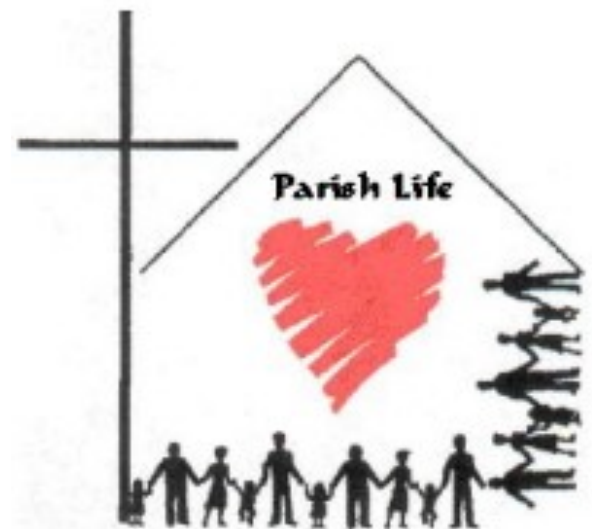
***The Flower Chart for
 2020 is up!

If you would like to sign-up for altar flowers, the
 flower chart is located outside the church office on
 the bulletin board or call the church office.



November Parish Life Hostesses

Mary Dixon, Debbie Jones, Verna
 Scroggins, Dot Steely, Liz Harmon





Parishioners

Les Wallace

Other

Tara Bennett
Dennis Fineout
Sharon Frith
David Perdue
Kent Thomas and
Family
Danny Moore
Pegge Abraham



Janis Biggers 11/21
Lindsey Calton 11/21
Nancy Spitzer 11/24
Marshall Speake 11/25
Gary Jones 11/26
Zach Hawkins 11/28
Catherine Lehman 12/01



Frank and Connie Garrison
11/14

Adam and Lauren Reeves
11/22

ASSISTING WITH OUR WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 17—THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Acolytes: Bailey and Britton Lawrence

Lay Readers: Jan Spitzer (8:00), Sherri Musgrove (1st Reader), Gary Jones (2nd Reader)

POP: Mary Jo Ridle

Oblationers: Thomas Family

Altar Guild: Brad and Cyndie Moore, Jo Watson, Ann Bartlett

Chalice: Brad Moore (8:00), Diane Voors

Ushers: Derek Thomas and Ben Reeves

Children's Chapel: Adam and Lauren Reeves

Breakfast: Ed and Paige Garrison, Gary and Debbie Jones, Derek and Missy Thomas, Phil and Mitzi Clayton, Paul Voors, Larry Thomas

NOVEMBER 24—THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Acolytes: Daniel and Elliott Clayton

Lay Readers: Jan Spitzer (8:00), Lauren Reeves (1st Reader), Karen Benefield (2nd Reader)

POP: Ben Garrison

Oblationers: Riley Family

Altar Guild: Linda Perdue, Diane Voors, Susie McCathran, Frankie Bartkiewicz

Chalice: Brad Moore (8:00), Jo Watson

Ushers: Derek Thomas and Ben Reeves

Children's Chapel: Debbie Jones and Betsy Lawrence

Breakfast: Scott and Susie McCathran, Lindsey Bennett, Wayne Ericson

DECEMBER 1—THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Acolytes: Lawton Riley and Kyle Zack

Lay Readers: Brad Moore (8:00), Ben Garrison (1st Reader), Gary Jones (2nd Reader)

POP: Verna Scroggins

Oblationers: Voors Family

Altar Guild: Keitt Robertson, Marilyn Daniels, Verna Scroggins, Linda Perdue

Chalice: Cyndie Moore (8:00), Diane Voors

Ushers: Ben Garrison and Paul Voors

Children's Chapel: Scott and Susie McCathran

Breakfast: Buddy Lawrence, Chantel Holbrook, John and Lauri Lawrence, Richard Freeman

DECEMBER 8—THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Acolytes: Mack and Hamilton Dixon

Lay Readers: Brad Moore (8:00), Ann Blondheim (1st Reader), Susie McCathran (2nd Reader)

POP: Paige Garrison

Oblationers: Terry and Susan Bishop

Altar Guild: Jan Spitzer, Renee Molette, Stephanie Hawkins, Liz Harmon, Julie Hill



Chalice: Jan Spitzer (8:00), Karen Benefield

Ushers: Ben Garrison and Paul Voors

Children's Chapel: Ben and Beth Reeves

Breakfast: Kim Blackmon, Brad and Cyndie Moore, Kathy Holland

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10: The Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Christian Ed 10:00 a.m. Nursery Available 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist	11 Communities of Transformation 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in library 6:00 p.m	12 Food Pantry Volunteers—Catherine Lehman and Merrill Dillon 	13 12:10 Holy Eucahrist II in the Chapel followed by Brown Bag Bible Study in Library Coffice at Superior Pecans 4:00-4:45 Yoga 5:00 p.m. in loft in Margaret Hall Choir Practice 5:30	14	15	16 Holy Hike Wehle State Park 9:30 a.m.
17: The Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Christian Ed 10:00 a.m. Nursery Available 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Ingathering for the Food Pantry	18 Communities of Transformation 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in library 6:00 p.m	19 Food Pantry Volunteers—David and Connie Taylor 	20 12:10 Holy Eucahrist II in the Chapel followed by Brown Bag Bible Study in Library Coffice at Superior Pecans 4:00-4:45 Yoga 5:00 p.m. in loft in Margaret Hall Choir Practice 5:30 ECW Auction 6:30	21	22	23
24: The Last Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Christian Ed 10:00 a.m. Nursery Available 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Fruits of the Earth	25 Communities of Transformation 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in library 6:00 p.m	26 Food Pantry Volunteers—Jo Watson 	27 Office Closed No Activities	28 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	29	30
1: The First Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Christian Ed 10:00 a.m. Nursery Available 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Ingathering for Rector's Discretionary Fund	2 Communities of Transformation 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in library 6:00 p.m	3 Food Pantry Volunteers—Wayne and Phronsie Ericson 	4 12:10 Holy Eucahrist II in the Chapel followed by Brown Bag Bible Study in Library Coffice at Superior Pecans 4:00-4:45 Yoga 5:00 p.m. in loft in Margaret Hall Choir Practice 5:30	5	6	7