

# Chapel Notes

## Commitment Sunday is November 16!

On Sunday, November 16, as part of Commitment Sunday, we will have a Combined Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Dr. Thomas Elliott will be joining us for Sunday School and Worship on that day! During the Sunday School hour, he will lead us in a lesson about Contemporary Wesleyan Spirituality and the Means of Grace! Dr. Elliott is a Professor at Candler School of Theology. He is also a singer, songwriter, musician and has published several CD projects.

His message is sure to be both inspiring and entertaining!



Rev. Dr. Thomas Elliott

We hope you can join us for this amazing opportunity.  
Stay tuned for more about Commitment Sunday  
in the coming weeks!

# Announcements

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## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2



On Sunday, November 2, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday. Come and enjoy uplifting musical arrangements prepared for this special occasion! During our communion celebration in both services, we will read the names of those members of St. James who have died since our last All Saints service. There will also be time where those in worship can say the names of others who have died over the years.

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Drop by for a Sunday morning treat sprinkled with a little fellowship. Sundays from 9:30 til 11 AM ...  
in the Fellowship Hall.

Come by before Sunday School or stay and enjoy each others' company til worship service starts!

# Announcements

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## ***YOUR VOICE MATTERS!***

Help us envision new ways to enrich the value of our worship services, grow our faith, and welcome others into our congregation at St. James!

Using the QR below, please  
**complete our short survey by November 15**  
to share ideas on how YOU want to  
experience God's presence together through worship.  
The survey is open to adults and children 12+,  
members and visitors alike.

**Your answers are anonymous.**



*Thank You*

**<https://forms.gle/2GTdciqpWUwVZL9y6>**

If you'd prefer a paper copy,  
please call the Church office (404) 261-3121.

# Announcements

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**\$13/ADULT  
\$7/CHILD, COLLEGE STUDENT, and SCOUT!  
\$35 MAX FAMILY FEE**

**Registration is required by noon on Mondays.**



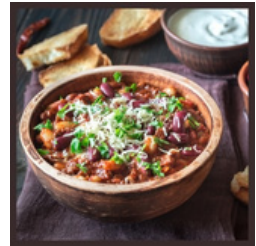
## **NOVEMBER 5**

**Costa Rica Mission Trip** We will hear about the experiences of people who went on the Costa Rica Mission trip last Summer. There are so many ways to get involved with this mission. Come join us to find out how to play a part! Register by visiting [tinyurl.com/msjrcvd4](http://tinyurl.com/msjrcvd4)

## **NOVEMBER 12**

### **St. James Traditional Chili Cook Off is back!**

Bring your famous chili for our annual competition for the coveted Golden Ladle! To sign up to participate in the cook off, please visit [tinyurl.com/4y3ys394](http://tinyurl.com/4y3ys394). Bring your family and friends for some good food and great fellowship! Please register so we know how many to expect by visiting [tinyurl.com/566zwfcw](http://tinyurl.com/566zwfcw). Donations at the door are welcome and appreciated!



## **NOVEMBER 19**

### **Advent Wreath Making**

We will have fresh greenery, wreath and candle bases, and candles available. Please bring any supplies that you have from past Advent wreaths in order to be good stewards with our resources. We will have advent devotional books available for your family to read together at home as you light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!

[tinyurl.com/3w9jvaju](http://tinyurl.com/3w9jvaju)



# Announcements

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## SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

This year's Angel Tree is up!

If you would like to provide Christmas gifts for a child this season, we invite you to visit the Angel Tree outside the narthex to pick out a tag. Instructions are by the tree.

**Gifts are Due by November 30.**

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## GOLF OUTING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9



FORE! Are you looking for a Sunday afternoon golf outing? Would you like to find such an opportunity in your St. James community? Then come play golf with us! We are looking for interested golfers to join us on Sunday, November 9, to play 9 holes at Bobby Jones Golf Course. This is open to any and all adults.

You may sign up by emailing Brooks Gregory  
([brooks\\_gregory@peachtreeplanning.com](mailto:brooks_gregory@peachtreeplanning.com))

Details will follow after signing up.

# Announcements

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## Sing for Advent



Chancel Choir is inviting all who want to sing for Advent and Christmas! Our first rehearsal for those who want to spend the holidays with the choir will be Wednesday, November 5, 7:30 - 9:00 PM in the choir room.

If you cannot come on the 5th, you can start on the 12th.  
Bring your voice and spread some cheer!



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### AUDIO/VISUAL HELP NEEDED

Come lend your support to a very important part of our worship experience! We are looking for adult volunteers who can help manage our Audio/Visual components for worship on Sunday mornings. Previous experience with A/V tech is not required.

All volunteers will have the opportunity to be trained to lead and assist. Reach out to Don Deal ([deal@landru.net](mailto:deal@landru.net)) or Fred Tuck ([fredtuck@bellsouth.net](mailto:fredtuck@bellsouth.net)) for more information.

# Announcements

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## St. James Walking Group Wednesday Mornings | 9:00AM



Join the St. James Walking Group for weekly walks and hikes around our community and surrounding Atlanta area. To receive information about the walks each week, please contact Jim Branan.

404-538-4867

[james.m.branan@gmail.com](mailto:james.m.branan@gmail.com)

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## COME AND PLAY PICKLEBALL!

Join us in the Activities Center for  
Open Gym Pickleball on  
Sundays in October  
from 4:00 to 6:00 PM!

Come dressed comfortably, ready  
to play and have fun! Nets, balls,  
and paddles will be provided.



All are invited to join us! Contact Kent or Maxine Watkins  
or Matt Cason for questions or more information.



# Announcements

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Circle of Sisters, known as COS, is a group of fun-loving St. James women who enjoy sharing their wisdom, spirit, and fellowship with each other.

**Anne Boyd will be the host of our meeting on  
Monday, November 10 at 4:00 PM.  
4068 McClatchey Circle | Atlanta, GA 30342**

**We look forward to seeing you ... and we love guests!  
As always, we promise GREAT FOOD, FUN and FELLOWSHIP!**

COS meets the second Monday of the month at 4:00 PM.

For further information, please contact  
Barbara Bonapfel at [bsbonapfel@gmail.com](mailto:bsbonapfel@gmail.com).



## **BBQ Band of Brothers**

**Tuesday, October 11  
at 6:30 PM**

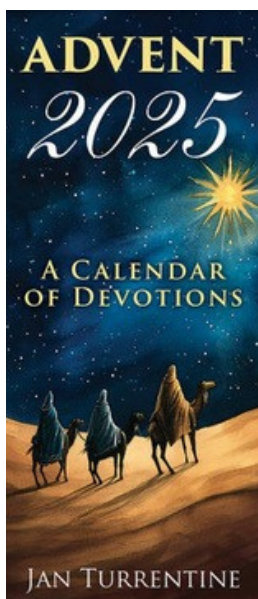
**Come out and join the men of  
St. James for great food and fellowship.  
Contact Jim Costlow with any  
questions at 404-754-3937.**

**We will meet at  
Fox Bros Bar-B-Q in Brookhaven  
4058 Peachtree Road NE**



# Announcements

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## ADVENT IS COMING UP SOON!

Advent Devotionals have been ordered!

They will be available to the congregation on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, in preparation for the First Sunday of Advent, November 30.

If you would like to receive a digital version of the devotional, we can email that to you as well.

Please visit [tinyurl.com/472hnnc4](https://tinyurl.com/472hnnc4) to sign up to receive the digital version of the booklet via email.

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## YOGA @ St. James

Tuesdays at 9:30 AM  
Activities Center  
\$13/Class



Join us for a time to care for your mind, body, and soul. Classes will take place in the Activities Center every Tuesday at 9:30 AM. Please register and prepay if you plan to attend by visiting [tinyurl.com/2uxzws9w](https://tinyurl.com/2uxzws9w).

Drop-ins are also welcome. Please contact Rev. Matt Cason at [mcason@stjamesatlanta.org](mailto:mcason@stjamesatlanta.org) with any questions you may have.

# Announcements

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Parenting in Prayer is a group for parents in the midst of raising their families who want to connect for Fellowship and periodic speakers on relevant parenting and faith-related topics!.

This Fall, Pastors Susan and Matt will be tag-teaming on lessons from the book, 'Speak My Soul', which focuses on how we can listen to God's voice more clearly in our busy, everyday lives. If you would like to order a copy of the book, visit [tinyurl.com/y58xt75](https://tinyurl.com/y58xt75).

For more information, contact Meghan Rachford  
([meghan.rachford@gmail.com](mailto:meghan.rachford@gmail.com))  
or Katie Wilson ([kamorga@gmail.com](mailto:kamorga@gmail.com))!

Class dates for the Fall:

November 9, 16, & 23  
December 7. & 14

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## Get Into the Christmas Spirit at Countdown to Christmas

Adult Elves needed to welcome our children to our annual Countdown to Christmas. No toy building experience necessary. Santa's helpers must arrive from the North Pole by Sunday, December 7 at 2:00 PM to help Santa park his sleigh and welcome our children with cheer!

Contact Marcela Meeks at [mmeeks@stjamesatlanta.org](mailto:mmeeks@stjamesatlanta.org) for more information or to volunteer.



# Children's Ministry



## TRUNK OR TREAT

On Wednesday, October 22, our Children's ministry had our annual St James Trunk or Treat! Our campus welcomed over 300 children and family members. Our Wednesday night supper team did a marvelous job welcoming and directing our guests to the food station where Chef Roger was ready with delicious hamburgers and hot dogs.

As people enjoyed their dinner, our trunk hosts were ready, decorating their trunks and converting our front parking lot into a colorful and awesome interactive experience for our children. We had 22 trunks this year! We had children from our preschool, neighborhood families, and church members here for this awesome event!

We are also grateful for all the candy donations, volunteers, and staff that helped set up, participate during the event, and clean up!



## CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 26, we were blessed to have our children participate in worship. What a joy it was to see them lead our congregation through readings during worship, and to have them inspire us with song!



### A Very Special Thank You!

We would like to express our gratitude to Jack Jernigan for the wonderful artwork that he created, and to Ethan Sinclair for making the origami peace doves presented in the service.





# Children's Ministry



## GIVING TO OUR COMMUNITY

### A Message from Mrs. Meeks:

Starting Sunday, November 9 through December 21, our Children's ministry will be partnering with First Presbyterian Church Marietta's Pantry ministry. This Ministry provides canned goods and toiletries to 300 families every week, year round! Donations can be placed in a cart outside the KIDZ ZONE.

The idea started as I was sitting in their parking lot waiting for my husband so we could go to dinner. As I waited, I saw a line of cars forming. Soon, the line was so long that you could not see the end of it. Each car received a bag or two of necessary items to feed a family for 3 to 4 days. I was very humbled by that experience. I asked Martie Moore, volunteer director of First Presbyterian church pantry, how I could help. She said, DONATIONS!! I am challenging our children, youth, and families to be intentional about making a difference with a weekly donation of canned food or toiletries.

The children will be encouraged to write a note that will accompany those weekly donations letting those families know that they are loved and they are not alone. What a great way to teach our children to be mindful of others that are less fortunate or going through difficult times!



# Children's Ministry

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## ***TOTS Countdown to Christmas*** ***Children up to 4 years old***

Join us in the Fellowship Hall where our St. James Elves will lead your children in games, crafts, stories, and breaking the traditional Christmas Pinata!

*This is a parent and child event, not a drop-off.*

Children are asked to bring an unwrapped toy to be donated to a local charity.

***Cost is \$25 per child.***

***Registration is required.***

***Register at [tinyurl.com/5488t8j4](https://tinyurl.com/5488t8j4)***

***Saturday, December 6***

***10 AM - 12 PM***

***Fellowship Hall***

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## ***Countdown to Christmas*** ***Children PreK - 5th Grade***

Drop off your children in the Fellowship Hall where our St. James Elves will lead them in games, crafts, stories, and breaking the traditional Christmas piñata!

Children are asked to bring an unwrapped toy to be donated to a local charity.

***Cost is \$25 per child.***

***Registration is required.***

***Register at [tinyurl.com/st2xnuwp](https://tinyurl.com/st2xnuwp)***

***Sunday, December 7***

***3 PM - 5 PM***

***Fellowship Hall***



## LAS POSADAS



Make plans to join us for Wednesday Night Supper on December 17! Following dinner, the children will be dressing up to reenact the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and search for lodging. All of us will join them as they make their way to the manger where the Children's choirs will be singing and ringing some Christmas selections.

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Our live nativity participates in the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service.

This is open for children 3 years old to 5th grade.

Please contact Marcela Meeks at [mmeeks@stjamesatlanta.org](mailto:mmeeks@stjamesatlanta.org) to register your child so they can be assigned a costume prior to the service.

Children participating must be able to attend our rehearsal on Sunday, December 21, after the 11:00 AM service.

We will have pizza for the children in the Fellowship Hall and run through the Live Nativity walk with their costumes.



# Young Adult Ministry

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Join our Young Adult Ministry Activities! Sign Up to receive emails about upcoming events by scanning the QR Code.



## TRIVIA NIGHT

Come and test your knowledge of geography, sports, pop culture, among many other areas on Wednesday Nights!

For more information, please reach out to Rev. Matt Cason ([mcason@stjamesatlanta.org](mailto:mcason@stjamesatlanta.org)).

# Youth Ministry News

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The youth had a lot of fun in the month of October with Trunk or Treat, a Halloween party, and weekly youth activities. The fun is just getting started in November as we begin the holiday season!

This month during youth group we are focusing on prayer - What is prayer? | How do we pray? | Why do we pray? We will also be looking at ways we can incorporate prayer into our everyday lives by participating in various prayer practices together.

In Sunday School, we are finishing up our lesson series about the book of Ephesians and looking toward Advent! Our next Starbucks Sunday will be November 16, during the Sunday school hour!

**Come and get a free coffee on us!**

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There will be no youth activities on November 30 due to Thanksgiving weekend. Youth will resume the following Sunday, December 7, with Countdown to Christmas! (please email Victoria ([vcason@stjamesatlanta.org](mailto:vcason@stjamesatlanta.org)) if your student would like to sign up to help!)

# Youth Ministry

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Friendsgiving is November 16 from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall! Please sign up to help provide a main dish, side, or dessert! Visit [tinyurl.com/3a5pzvyt](https://tinyurl.com/3a5pzvyt) to sign up. We would love for the parents to join us for the meal as well as some games afterward!

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Thank you to all who have provided dinner for youth group on Sunday nights! We are still looking for volunteers for Sundays in November and December.

# Announcements

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## Church Council Charge Conference

Sunday, November 16 | 3:30 PM

St. James UMC Sanctuary

All are welcome to attend!

Charge Conference will be led by District Superintendent,  
Rev. Dr. Julie Boone.

# Celebrations & Concerns

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## Prayer Concerns

Jennie Brooks - Home

Elizabeth Grace - Home

Laura McLemore - Home Hospice

Sandra Owen - Bud Terrace

Natalie Pawelski - Home

Betty Sykes - Huntcliff Rehabilitation

Celebrating the birth of Liam Luther Plunkett,  
child of Patrick and Sarah Plunkett, born October 9, 2025.  
We celebrate with them and proud grandparents,  
Carl and Beth Plunkett.

# Memorials & Honoraria

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In Memory of Doug Scales

(Troop 370) Clara & Ed

Hackney David Redding

# Staff Directory

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Susan Landry

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Matt Cason

**Pastor of Visitation:** Rev. Dr. Jim Cantrell

**Director of Music Ministry:**  
Dr. Andrew Schmidt

**Director of Children's Arts and Ministries:**  
Marcela Meeks

**Interim Director of Youth Ministry:**  
Victoria Cason

**Organist:** Dr. Craig Smith

**Building and Grounds Director:**  
Steve Hicks

**Finance and Membership Manager:**  
Shannan Wassel

**Communications and Office Manager:**  
Kitty Turner

**Director of Activities Ministry:** Cody Ellis

**Administrative Assistant:** Lee Padhye

**Preschool Director:** Susan Viers

**Missionaries:** Will & Ella Faircloth



**St James**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4400 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, GA 30342

**Church Office** (404) 261-3121 | **Preschool Office** (404) 237-7354

[stjamesatlanta.org](http://stjamesatlanta.org)

*Stay connected with us!*



*"As a Christian community, our mission is to help every person grow in faith that translates belief into action."*

- ST JAMES IS A RECONCILING CONGREGATION -

