

April 2025

THE MESSENGER

A Publication of The Episcopal Church of the Messiah



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Join Us for Worship:

Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Contemporary) in the Parish Hall

4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (French & Creole) in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Diving Deeper (Adult Study) with Fr. Andrew

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite III-Casual) in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Service:

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library



Go with me to Israel!

July 23-August 5



Walk with me in the footsteps of Jesus, Joseph & Mary, Abraham, and King David, and watch how almost every Bible lesson we hear on Sunday comes alive.

You'll not only grow in appreciation and understanding of the Bible, you'll grow deeper in love and friendship with others in the Messiah family.

Please don't be afraid of the political situation. Though the cease fire between Israel and Hamas may seem precarious now, the war should be well-over by this summer; and we will be enthusiastically welcomed and well-taken-care-of, as the people and businesses of Israel are hungry for tourists.

And, if there is any – ANY – threat of violence, we will NOT go anywhere near it.

Our hosts at Christ (Anglican) Church in the old city of Jerusalem are fully committed to our – and their – safety. It's the oldest Protestant Church in the Middle East, and they take great care of us: housing us in their guest house when we're in Jerusalem and at very nice hotels when we're other places around the country.

Their tours are called *Shoresh*, which is Hebrew for "roots," because their priority (and mine) is introducing us Christians to the Jewish roots of our faith, which gives us a richer appreciation of and relationship with Jesus.

Some of the places we visit around the country are: the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron (where Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebecca, and Jacob & Leah are buried), the Dead Sea, the fortress of Masada, Qumran (where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found), the well where Jesus met the Samaritan woman, Shiloh (long-time location of the Tabernacle and the ark of the covenant), Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee (where we'll have the chance to swim and take a boat ride), the site of the Sermon on the Mount, Caesarea Philippi (where Peter made his confession that Jesus is the Messiah), and Bethlehem.

In Jerusalem, we'll visit the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Pool of Bethesda (where the lame man was healed), the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (the most likely site of the crucifixion, tomb, and resurrection of Jesus), and the Upper Room where the Holy Spirit descended upon the believers on Pentecost.

Yes, it's hot in Israel in July and August, but no hotter than here... and there's no humidity, and the temperatures go down into the 70's at night! The bus and everywhere we stay will be air-conditioned, and, because it's hot, there will be very few other tourists... so we can visit every holy site without the traffic, long lines, and crowds that are there when it's cooler.



For all the details, visit:

<https://shoresh.mvti.net/churchofthemessiah-2025>

What does it take to go?

You need to be able to walk up and down hills and stairs, over rocky ground, and for up to 3 miles a day.

The cost for the pilgrimage (if you share a room with someone) is \$3,686. If you want a single room, it's \$4,980.

Roundtrip airfare is \$1,700-\$2,000 – depending up whether you book your own flights or let the travel agent do it for you.

The cost covers all transportation, lodging, breakfast and suppers, entrance into every museum and site, and tips.

It does not cover lunches, snacks, souvenirs, side trips on your own on our day off in Jerusalem, or the required travel insurance.

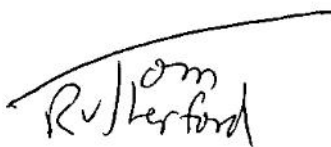
This is my 5th trip to the Holy Land, and each one gets better as I learn new stuff and experience new wonders.

I hope you'll come along!

If you want to go, please register soon, as the deadline for deposits is fast approaching.

Itineraries are in the Narthex and on the Information Table in the Parish Hall.

I love you all.



Messiah's Missionaries

We are representing our Church of the Messiah family and sharing the love of Jesus wherever we go!

Kathy Welty attended the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in New York, New York on Sunday, March 16.

Tom Rutherford attended the Celebration of Life for the Rev. Roger J. Hamilton at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Orlando.

If you visit another church, please pick up a copy of the bulletin and drop it in Wendy's mailbox. Don't forget to add a note letting us know who you are and the location of the church. If you can, please send pictures to: Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

2025 March Vestry Minutes

Sunday * March 16, 2025 * 2 p.m.

Present: Rector Tom Rutherford, Senior Warden Joyce Taylor, Junior Warden Lamar Powers, Clerk Don Grimes, Chris Brown, Laura Buckner, Don Greer, Tom Headley, Jean Pinder, Sandy Sparks, Wally Stewart, Marie Tassy, Lionel Williams; Treasurer Bob Tate, and Apprentice Rector Andrew Lazo.

Absent: No one!

I. FORMATION: Sandy Sparks led Noonday Prayer. Based on Hebrews 13:17, Tom Rutherford asked, “Who has been a leader in your life? How has he/she influenced you? How do you try to imitate him/her?” Vestry shared their experience.

II. INFORMATION:

A. Vestry Ministry Team Reports:

1. Junior Warden Lamar Powers reports:

- a) There is water damage around some of the windows in the church. Quotes have been requested to paint and caulk the buildings to prevent leaks.
- b) Quotes have also been requested to replace the air conditioning units for the youth hall.
- c) Quotes have been requested to replace the emergency lights in the lobby, to install a photocell for the parking lot lights, to replace the can lights in the library and the parish hall with LEDs, and to replace the track lights in the church. SEE DECISIONS TOWARD THE END.
- d) Material has been purchased, and Wayne Sparks will repair the wall in the music minister’s office that was damaged by leaks.
- e) Wally Stewart removed a pipe that was a trip hazard near the “church parking” sign storage.
- f) Paul Buzzonetti replaced burnt out lights at the kitchen door and in the office.
- g) Mike King replaced lights in the sacristy with LEDs and replaced GFIs at the ice maker and the water fountain.
- h) Nine name plaques were installed at the memory garden.
- i) Loose baseboards in the classrooms has been reattached.
- j) A new porch swing has been ordered.
- k) The youth hall bathrooms are being renovated thanks to Jennifer Roper’s family.

2. Laura Buckner reports:

a) Prayer Labyrinth:

- (1) I worked with Dr. Christin Lazo to find a **prayer labyrinth** shape for the east side yard of the Sanctuary. There is 40 ft by 15 ft of usable space. A layout called the Burning Chalice is ideal and has been graphed out.
- (2) I have found a 15ft wide by 50ft long extra durable landscaping cloth to prevent weeds, which will cost \$199.

- (3) The space is quite level but might need some fill here and there. I will ask John Peacock and the Lay-weeders to help me remove the grass as sod for replanting in other areas.
 - (4) The Crepe Myrtle tree in the upper right of center will be removed. The azalea bush on the north side will be reshaped and cut back to represent the flame of the design. The Crepe Myrtle tree within the bush will be cut down or managed as a spot of shade above the “Chalice” which is the central feature of the design.
 - (5) Using 12’x12’ pavers, the design calls for 220 pavers at \$1.45 each.
 - (6) Pea gravel will cost about \$180.
 - (7) Additionally, Dr. Lazo recommended a sign explaining what a Labyrinth is and how to use it. I am estimating \$200 for that without having done any pricing or styling research yet.
 - (8) The total estimated cost is about \$900.
 - (9) I suggest selling the stepping stones to pay for the project. SEE DECISIONS TOWARD THE END.
 - (10) If just 200 adults donate, I will have sufficient funds to execute the project. I hope to have this project completed by the end of May.
- b) The photo wall outside the library** is in the design stage. Bishops of our Diocese since COTM was founded will be the top row. Then will be the Rectors and Assistant Rectors, Associate priests, and those ordained through COTM to the priesthood or diaconate. I envision a background design similar to a family tree. I will entertain putting a portrait of Christ at the very top.
- c) I am just beginning to feel my way through my role as liaison with the people in our Worship Teams.
- d) I am mulling over establishing a **young adult group** that provides insight, how to’s and other advice on “Adulting.” Theological content will be included. We would probably meet on a weekend night at a place like the Crooked Can. This would be along the lines of the “Theology on Tap” group our church had in Brussels. I would solicit experts on different topics so the young adults would get really good advice from someone who knows. I would facilitate the programs according to the needs and wishes of the young adults participating. This effort would probably kick off in the summer when college students are home. We will see what transpires. It may take a long while to get such a group active and a source of outreach with potential new members for COTM.

B. Staff Ministry Reports

1. Children’s Minister Angela Lopez reports: Things are going well in Kidmin land:

- a) I had 3 Vacation Bible School meetings with different volunteers to go over the portions of the programming they will be leading.
 1. Finalized music selections for each daily theme as well as theme songs for the week.
 2. Planned out the menus for dinner and snack to coordinate and build on the daily theme.
 3. Designed and printed postcards which will go in the mail on Good Friday as registration opens on Easter Sunday. Postcards have a QR code for registration and VBSpro has a great landing page so we do not need to add anything to our website.

4. I designed t-shirts with 2 different designs. One for VBS staff that say “pointing kids to Christ,” and one for the kids with an Alaskan theme with “Church of the Messiah VBS.” I have received and approved the digital proof and will be ordering soon.
 5. Coordinated with Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna for website and tech needs for VBS registration and videos
- b) Prepared Lent lessons for SHINE. We will be using “Little Way Lent” and I have invited some of the older kids to plug in for the season of Lent.
 - c) Prepared take home resources for families that include prayers for each evening, breath prayers and an Easter countdown will go home the week before Palm Sunday. I am using The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross by Carl Laferton as the theme for Easter activities, and the calendars coordinate with the book.
 - d) Researched discounts for curriculum, in case I cannot find a free deal at Exponential conference. Can continue with Brite for a 40% discount and will likely do this as it is easy to adapt and the kids are still enjoying the themes and content.
 - e) I prepared a Lenten table that I will add to each week for the children. I also prepared a table for adults to highlight the 3 pillars of Lent. I have included contact information for each of the community service locations that we partner with to encourage folks to plug in and serve during Lent. I also purchased prayer cards for people who want to take a few, pray and then pass them to someone who they have prayed for. I placed a stack of Lenten themed breath prayers out on Ash Wednesday, and they were all taken so I am making more for this week.

2. Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna reports:

- a) After discussing with Fr. Tom, I reached out to the owner of Worship Times, who hosts and manages our website, to find out if they would still be willing to honor the \$1,950 system upgrade that was offered last June (50% off his original quote) and he WAS willing, if we began the process immediately. Fr. Tom agreed so we have begun that process.
 1. I have met with the Project Manager to go over what we need to bring over from the current framework and then deleted additional unused pages.
 2. She also went over the SEO (search engine optimization) with me so that when the upgraded site is live, I can make sure all is optimized there AND explained how Alt Text and image Descriptions can also help our accessibility and search results.
 3. I will be exploring other functionality, that will be available to us as the project progresses and will update as those options are explored.
- b) I am also working with Spectrum VOIP (“Voice Over Internet Protocol,” which has our telephone system working on the internet, rather than regular landline telephone wires) to switch our church phone system from Vonage to Spectrum VOIP, the installation is scheduled for Tues 3/18 at 9am.
 1. There are lots of benefits to the switch, not the least of which is that our monthly bill will be going from an average of \$410/mth to approximately \$235/mth.
 - i. We are eliminating a couple of phones that are no longer used but we are able to keep those lines to utilize as virtual phones through an app.

- ii. Our customer service is U.S. based so that will help with some communication issues we have had in the past when we need assistance due to equipment or voicemail problems.
 - iii. We are able to add and remove equipment at any time.
 - iv. We are signing a 60-month contract but will be getting a Cancellation Addendum in the event that they are not holding up their end of the deal. The contract locks in our pricing for that time period.
 - v. All phones are under warranty for the full contract period so that if a phone breaks (which we have had several do with Vonage), they replace the phone for free (which we have had to buy while using Vonage).
- c) The sales person from Spectrum VOIP has also said that he will do a conference call with me and Spectrum Business once we are further in the process to work on getting a better internet speed/price.
 - d) The volunteer teams for Sunday worship services are still going strong! Nothing new to report there.
 - e) Lots of ads for Lent and Holy Week as well as special events like the Tea Party and “Mere Christians” C.S.Lewis Conference. I am continuing to create most of the flyers as well as my usual digital ads for the Sunday service slides.
 - f) I will be working with Fr. Tom and Fr. Andrew towards the end of March to film the Palm Sunday outdoor liturgy. This will be our 3rd year, the first was filmed with Fr. Tom and (at the time) Seminarian Andrew Lazo during his interview weekend with us! We will have come full-circle!

3. Office Minister Wendy King reports:

- a) In February I hosted a Valentine’s breakfast for the Office Angels. My mother, long-time parishioner Mimi Pospisil, came to help. See photos in the March Messenger.
- b) The Parochial Report was due March 1st. This year I got the report turned in two days early. Woohoo. Thank you, Fr. Tom, Fr. Andrew, Bob Tate, Angela Lopez, and our Office Angels, who helped pull all the information together so this could be turned in before the deadline.
- c) Met with Steve from AMS who completed the quarterly maintenance on the HVAC and also replaced the part at the chiller plant.
- d) Met with Marc Boese to discuss the upcoming Rummage Sale and to share notes from previous years. Printed posters and signs for the event. Bill Crawford and last year’s team were well-organized and set us up for success. We miss you, Bill.
- e) Met with Mother Kathryn Jeffrey to assist her in printing the info for the Contemporary Way of the Cross and Pictures for Praying with Art and Scripture.

- f) Met with Isaac, the contractor handyman, that is rehabbing the Youth Hall bathrooms. The work is coming along nicely. One bathroom is complete. See Lamar's notes.
- g) I met with our Maintenance Minister, Matthew Barrett, and DBS, the company we hired to clean on Saturdays, to discuss some areas that needed extra love. A new Saturday cleaning crew started a few weeks ago and then had to resign due to not having a flexible schedule. I had a second walk-through with DBS this week with a new crew that starts this Saturday.
- h) The research to purchase the Memorial Plaques from the manufacturer and cutting out the middleman paid off. The latest order of memorial plaques arrived in record time, they were 50% cheaper and tax-free. Woohoo!
- i) Met with Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna and Spectrum to discuss the phone switch from Vonage to VoIP. I'm grateful to Vita, for her knowledge of this system and willingness to take this on.
- j) Reached out to the staff to gain knowledge of what their wants and needs are in Church Management Software. Last year we were looking into switching to Planning Center, but that was halted because I just didn't have enough knowledge of what our needs were and didn't want to blindly switch. I feel that I have enough time working with the current software to know what our needs are and gaining the staff's wants and needs will help me as I speak to vendors at the Exponential Conference that I will be attending at the end of March.
- k) We are in the busy season of Lent leading up to Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. I met with the Fun and Fellowship team to see how I can help them prepare for the upcoming events that they are leading.

4. **Preschool Director Barbara Ellerbe** reports the financial report emailed separately.

5. **Father Andrew Lazo** is actively seeking his next call.

III. DISCUSSION (to help make a decision next month): SEE DECISIONS BELOW.

IV. DECISIONS (usually based on the Discussion last month):

A. Vestry unanimously endorsed Jeremy Adams for Candidacy for ordination to the priesthood.

B. Electrical upgrades: Jr. Warden Lamar got a quote to replace the fluorescent recessed lights in the narthex hallway, library, and parish hall with LEDs, to replace the strip lights in the church that illuminate the altar, and to replace the timer on the parking lot lights with a photocell so they're on from dusk to daylight. It was suggested to use the leftover money from the roof insurance check to pay for this. VESTRY APPROVED

C. Prayer Labyrinth: Canons require Vestry approval to ask for a special offering beyond the regular weekly offertory. Since the Labyrinth is not in the budget, Laura Buckner suggests offering people the opportunity to buy a stepping stone. Vestry APPROVED.

D. Easter Offering is usually \$1,000 to \$3,000. Vestry elected to APPLY THIS YEAR'S OFFERING TOWARD BUILDING REPAIRS.

E. Preschool Sunday Special Offering: Historically, the Preschool puts envelopes in the pew racks on Preschool Sunday (April 27) to solicit donations for their scholarship fund. Do we want to let them do that again this year? VESTRY APPROVED.

V. MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORT – (10 MINUTES):

A. Minutes from last month's meeting: APPROVED.

B. Financial Report from Treasurer Bob Tate: APPROVED.

1. Operating Income last month was MUCH LESS than expenses, turning January's SURPLUS into a DEFICIT of \$27,499.78. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING.

2. Building Fund Income was LESS than needed to pay the \$11,996.00 mortgage, other expenses, and the extra \$10,000 a month on the mortgage, decreasing our SURPLUS for the year to \$18,228.01. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING.

C. The remaining mortgage balance is \$431,904.64, and our Cash and Brokerage accounts total \$625,001.12. HALLELUJAH! PLEASE KEEP PRAYING.

VI. The meeting adjourned in prayer at 3:05.

Respectfully submitted:

Don Grimes, Clerk



A message from our Jr. Warden, Lamar Powers.

Sunshine State Roofing of Florida installed the new roof on the church and the parish hall. They did the work for cost and came in under the insurance coverage. They do quality work, and there were no nails in the parking lot. If you need a new roof, please give them a call at 352 429 4531.

If you work in the building trades, please let me know so we can use your company on future projects. My email address is lamarpowers@cfl.rr.com and my phone number is 407 913 7112.

Lamar Powers
Junior Warden



Clergy

Rector:

The Rev. Tom Rutherford 321-945-3958
TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Apprentice Rector:

The Rev. Andrew Lazo 713-302-6262
AndrewLazo@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Priest Associate:

The Rev. Soner Alexandre 407-452-2952
SonerAlexandre@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Priest Associates:

The Rev. Tracy Dugger 407-201-0951
Tracy.M.Dugger@gmail.com

The Rev. Kathryn Jeffrey 652-815-5702
KJeffrey@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Deacons:

The Rev. Julie Altenbach 407-462-8001
JulieAltenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

The Rev. Angela Lopez 321-287-9089
AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

The Rev. Adelene Smith 845-304-4975
AddieInChrist44@gmail.com

The Rev. Tim Wetherington 407-342-4484
DeaconTim@outlook.com

Treasurer:

Bob Tate
Treasurer@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Staff

Jane Cartelli, *Finance Minister, Event Scheduler*
Email: JaneCartelli@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Barbara Ellerbe, *Preschool Director*
Email: BarbaraEllerbe@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Ricky Jackson, *Music Minister*
Email: RickyJackson@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Wendy King, *Office Minister*
Email: WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Yesika King, *Social Media Minister*
Email: YesikaKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Angela Lopez, *Children's Minister*
Email: AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Vita Mazzaluna, *Media Minister*
Email: VitaMazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

2025 Financial Report

(as of February 28, 2025)

Operating Income.....	\$86,854.70
Operating Expenses.....	\$60,208.08
NET.....	\$26,646.62
All Building Fund Income.....	\$33,933.00
All Building Fund Expense.....	\$22,455.50
NET.....	\$11,477.50

2025 Vestry

Chris Brown, *DART, Missions & Evangelism, Pastoral Care,*
Email: CG_Brown@live.com

Laura Buckner, *Connections Team, Worship Team*
Email: lgb94@yahoo.com

Don Greer, *Business & Development*
Email: DonaldGreer3@gmail.com

Don Grimes, *Clerk, Missions & Evangelism, Pastoral Care,*
Email: grimesltc@gmail.com

Tom Headley, *Business & Development*
Email: twheadley@bellsouth.net

Jean Pinder, *Children & Youth*
Email: jlpinder@yahoo.com

Lamar Powers, *Junior Warden, Properties*
Email: lamarpowers@cfl.rr.com

Sandy Sparks, *History Team*
Email: ssproofing@gmail.com

Wally Stewart, *Business & Development, Intercessory Prayer, Properties,*
Email: stewart3rd@aol.com

Marie Tassy, *Fun & Fellowship*
Email: marietassy173@gmail.com

Joyce Taylor, *Senior Warden, Transportation*
Email: shadesfan@aol.com

Lionel Williams, *Communications & Publicity*
Email: lionelfhw@gmail.com

Vestry Door Duty for April

Opener at 7:30 a.m. ~ Sandy Sparks
Closer after 1:00 p.m. ~ Laura Buckner
Vestry Meeting Host ~ Don Grimes

Who Ya Gonna Call?

LOVING GOD	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Acolytes	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Altar Guild	Karen Stewart	407.625.7615	Kstewart1208@yahoo.com
Altar Guild	Jennifer Roper	407.760.2393	Jennifer.Roper@yahoo.com
Building Maintenance	Lamar Powers	407.913.7112	LamarPowers@cfl.rr.com
Children's Ministry	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Event Scheduler	Jane Cartelli	407.656.3218	JaneCartelli@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Lay Weeder's/Landscapers	John Peacock	407.758.2728	Jpeacox@cfl.rr.com
Music/Choirs/Band	Ricky Jackson	407.656.3218	RickyJackson@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Chain	Amy Eiden	919.931.9423	PrayerChain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Chain	Wilna Brown	407.222.8847	PrayerChain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Intercessors	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Sunday Servant Scheduling Greeters, Lectors, LEMS, LEVS, Ushers	Mary Kay Predmore	352.551.4293	PredmoreMarykay@gmail.com
LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Communications/Publicity	Lionel Williams	407.467.1741	Lionelfhw@gmail.com
Habitat for Humanity	Bob Tate	407.247.0219	Tater7134@gmail.com
Outreach	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Preschool	Barbara Ellerbe	407.654.8415	BarbaraEllerbe@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
D.A.R.T.	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	CG_Brown@Live.com
LOVING EACH OTHER	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Casserole Patrol	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	JulieAltenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Coffee Hour	Dawn Sylvia	845.206.3636	DawnSylvia406@gmail.com
Cursillo	Cindi Shaffer	407.923.3010	CindiShaffer25@gmail.com
Daughters of the King	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Fun & Fellowship	Marie Tassy	407.779.0251	marietassy173@gmail.com
Grief Groups	Jill Brown	407.656.5776	Jlbrown656@embarqmail.com
History Ministry	Sandy Sparks	715.295.4482	Ssproofing@gmail.com
Kitchen Crew	Connie Kraft	407.928.5805	Kraft.cm2008@yahoo.com
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Library	Gene Correll	850.974.6076	Library@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Media Ministry	Vita Mazzaluna	407.748.7895	VitaMazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Men's Supper	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Messiah's Way	Mary Kay Predmore	407.865.1472	PredmoreMarykay@gmail.com
Name Tags	Wendy King	407.656.3218	WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Newsletters/Bulletins	Wendy King	407.656.3218	WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Nursery/Childcare	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Office Angels	Wendy King	407.462.8001	WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Pastoral Care	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	CG_Brown@Live.com
Transportation Aid	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	Shadesfan@aol.com
Women's Dining Club	Janice Hull	352.217.0967	Jhull1049@gmail.com
Youth	Fr. Tom Rutherford	407.656.3218	TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Preschool

SUNDAY



Sunday, April 27th

The students will perform a brief program at the 11:00 a.m. service - always adorable!

**Raffle begins at 9:00 a.m., drawing at 1:30 p.m.
You do NOT need to be present to win!**



Immediately following the service, the Preschool will be serving a picnic lunch in the back parking area.

A love offering will be accepted!

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE
IN ANY AND ALL PARTS OF THE DAY!**



Miss Penny is ready for Easter. Look at those cute bunny shoes.



Cat in the Hat snacks!



Cat in the Hat snacks!



Kids Garfield themed cooking camp!



The kids always take dinner to go. This time it was lasagna, salad, garlic rolls, apple dessert pizza and sugar cookie fruit pizza.



Big THANK YOU to Yolwenn, Sophie and Alexa who were fantastic volunteers with the mini chefs!



Everything was either "pizza" style or layered like a lasagna. This is our Garfield pudding parfait with Reese's pieces. Stretching the pizza dough was everyone's favorite.





The 5th grade students at Dillard Street Elementary participate in the Florida 4-H speech contest each year. After each of the classes have selected a finalist, Partners in Education come to the school to hear all of the speeches. The finalists presented to all of the 5th grade students. Some things we score on are: length of speech, uniqueness of topic, vocabulary, volume, eye contact, and audience engagement. This year the topics varied from crypto currency, life in space, home school vs traditional school, favorite musicians and athletes.

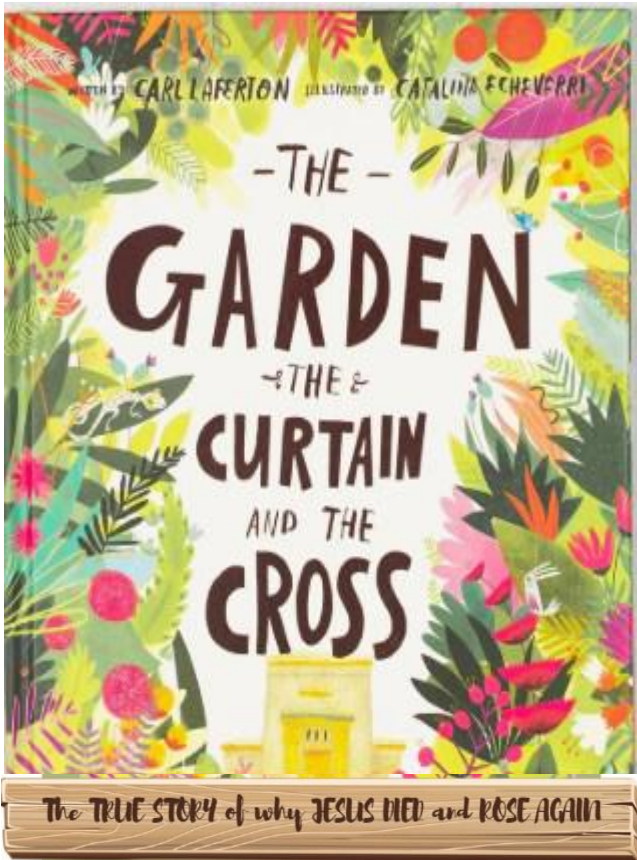


This year's winners were all boys! Each of them scored at least 90 out of the possible 120 points. The other 3 judges and myself had a really difficult time this year. These kids put in some fantastic work! I am looking forward to seeing some more of Messiah's Dragons participate in the next couple of years. We have several 4th grade and younger children at DSE.



*This young man went on to win second place in the district with his speech!

Go Dillard Dragons!



Children's Easter party will
be Saturday, April 19
From noon to 2 p.m.

Please RSVP to
Ms Angela by April 14th

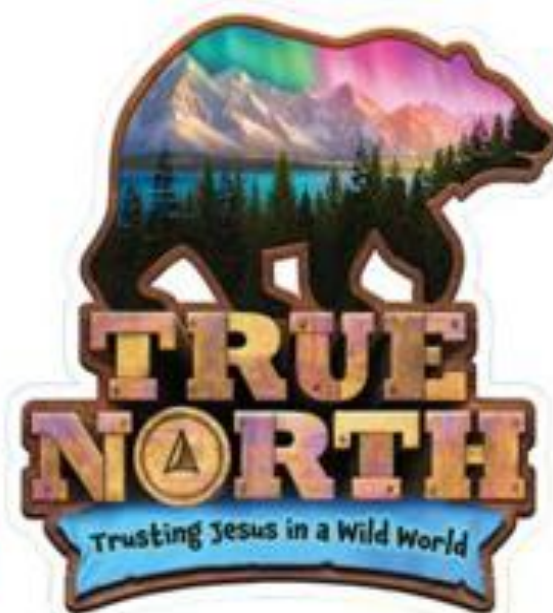
Lunch and snack will be
provided. Please wear
comfortable play clothes.

angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com



Sign up with Deacon Angela to help us throw an end of the school year party for the children living at Edgewood Children's Ranch. The party is scheduled for May 16th at 3 p.m. We need volunteers to serve food, play games, manage the bounce house, and share the love of Jesus with this great group of kids! You will be blessed just to hang out with them.

We hope you'll join us on an ultimate Alaskan adventure where we will point children to Jesus, our Faithful Friend and True North!



“We can trust Jesus”
“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise”. Matthew 7:24



June 23-27 5:30-8:30 PM
Free, dinner included. For ages 4-11
Registration will open on Easter Sunday

Volunteers are still needed for Kitchen Crew, registration, decorating, games, tech and rotation assistants. Please see Ms. Angela to sign up!



April

- 1- Gene Correll
- 2- Kathy Barrett
Amari Pierre
Annette Spigener
- 3- Cydney Babione
Thomas Knappman
- 4- Jonathan Walton
- 6- Peyton Cottle
Mia Hockenhill
- 8- Emmeline Duppenhaler
John Puchein

- 10- Tom Rutherford
Jay Williams
- 11- Paul Buzzonetti
Steve Sylvia
- 12- Kara Altenbach
Lynn Redmond
- 14- Lloyd Cho-Sam
- 15- Ayla Carroll
Karen Peterson
Jeanne Teter
- 16- Doug Faughnan

- 17- Marc Collins
Zachary King
- 18- Elise Bradford
Georgia Gold
- 20- Penn Remington
- 25- Lisa Field
- 26- Stephanie Abell
Richard McRae
- 27- Tom Stachowski
- 28- Tom Johnston
- 29- Wayne Sparks



- 4- C.W. and Stephanie Abell
Paul and Patty Robertson
- 5- Ray and Elaine Nathurst
- 7- Michael and Bobbi Warren
- 14- Chuck and Deborah Grunder
- 15- Bill and Elise Bradford
- 16- Doug and Barbara Ellerbe

- 17- Robert and Eileen Gilbert
Jean and Raymond Pinder
- 18- Will and Tracy Dugger
Don and Betty Stanton
- 21- Tom and Regina Knappman
- 24- Steve and Kristen Coole
Bob and Cherie Greene
Don and Rosemarie Hubert
- 29- Soner and Yolande Alexandre





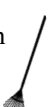




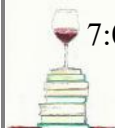




Please pray for our expectant mom, Claudia Bernal.

“I chose you before I formed you in the womb; I set you apart before you were born.” Jeremiah 1:5

*We want to celebrate you! Please share birthdays, anniversaries, and new arrivals with us.
Call the Office at 407.656.3218 or drop a note in Wendy's Office mailbox.*

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Tuesday– Fr. Tom’s Day Off Friday– Fr. Andrew’s Day Off Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.		1  6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Dinner Parish Hall Men’s Supper Youth Hall	2	3	4  12:45 p.m. Prayer & Way of the Cross	5  9 a.m. Centering Prayer
6	7	8	9	10	11  12:45 p.m. Prayer & Way of the Cross	12  9 a.m. Centering Prayer 8 a.m.—Noon Lay Weeder Work Day 
13  Palm Sunday	14  5:00 p.m. Parish Hall	15	16  12:45 p.m. Prayer & Way of the Cross	17  Maundy Thursday 6:00 p.m. Simple Supper 7:00 p.m. Service	18  Noon & 7:00 p.m. Good Friday	19 9 a.m.—Noon Altar Guild Work Day  12 p.m. SHINE Easter Party
20  EASTER	21 	22	23 7:00 p.m. B.A.M.M Fire Pit 	24  7:00 p.m. Book Club	25	26
27  PreSchool Sunday 2:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting 	28	29	30	May 1 2 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> Mere Christians A C. S. Lewis Conference Surprised by Love.  May 2 & May 3 </div>		

Sunday’s Schedule

8:00 a.m. Rite I
9:30 a.m. Rite II
Nursery and Children’s Church
11:00 a.m. Rite III
Nursery and Children’s Church
4:00 p.m. French Service
4:30 p.m. Shine Kid’s Club
in the Youth Hall

5:00 p.m. Youth Band
in the Youth Hall
5:00 p.m. Diving Deeper
with Fr. Andrew in the Parish Hall
6:00 p.m. Simple Supper
in the Parish Hall
7:00 p.m. Rite III

Monday: 5:15 p.m. Men’s Bible Study

Tuesday: 10 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion
 11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library
 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal

For questions or to volunteer to serve, please contact Mary Kay Predmore at predmoremarykay@gmail.com.

If you see an opening that you can fill, please email Mary Kay or call the office at 407-656-3218.

Sunday Servants 8:00 a.m.

8:00 am	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
Lector	Joyce Taylor	Alex Hujik	Aliena Gaye	Sandy Sparks
LEM 1	MK Predmore	Joyce Taylor	Tom Headley	Gretchen Tope
LEM 2	Deborah Alleyne	Tom Headley	Frank Chase	
Altar Server	Wayne Sparks	MK Predmore	MK Predmore	MK Predmore
Ushers & Greeters	Jay Predmore Dan Kiehm	Alex Hujik Jay Predmore	Joyce Taylor Wayne Sparks	Wendy King & Cheri Greene
P. Intercessor	Joyce Taylor	Sandy Sparks	Gretchen Tope	Sandy Sparks

Sunday Servants 9:30 a.m.

9:30 am	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
Lector	Patti Range	Christin Lazo	Jay Williams	Mary Beth Moss
LEM 1	Rodger Watson	Vince Truglia	Lynn Redmond	Tom Buckner
LEM 2	Mary Lynn Levine	Don Grimes	Chris Brown	Stacey Beck
Altar Server	Lily Levine	Kendall Gilmore	Melanie Field	Reese Smith
Crucifer	Reese Smith	Calvin Lambeth	Taylor Smith	Calvin Lambeth
Torch Bearer 1	Taylor Smith	Ainsley Gilmore	Reese Smith	Emma Hayes
Torch Bearer 2	Scarlett Excaliber	Addison Lynn	Scarlett Excaliber	Taylor Smith
Ushers & Greeters	Alex & Nicole Babcock	George & Anida Daniel	Jay & Patti Williams	Ken Miller & John Puchein
P. Intercessor	Susan Kiehm	Karen Stewart	Linda Gold	Doreen Stachowski
Tech Slides	Laura Buckner	Wilna Brown	Sam Lynn	Jim Farrar
Tech Sound	Vita Mazzaluna	Chris Brown	Vita Mazzaluna	Maureen Farrar

Readings

Readings	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
1 st Lesson	Isaiah 43:16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Isaiah 65:17-25	Acts 5:27-32
Psalm	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 118	Psalm 150
2 nd Lesson	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Revelations 1:4-8
Gospel	John 12:1-8	Luke 22:14-23:56	Luke 24:1-12	John 19:19-31

Sunday Servants 11:00 a.m.

11:00 am	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
Lector	Ginger Sirola	Jennifer Groenendaal	Steve Borst	Paul Buzzonetti
LEM 1	Marc Boese	Lionel Williams	Vita Mazzaluna	Giada Mazzaluna
LEM 2	Giada Mazzaluna	Karen Williams	Lionel Williams	Vita Mazzaluna
Altar Server	Logan McRae	Jackson Groenendaal	Giada Mazzaluna	Anna Switzer
Ushers & Greeters	McRae Family	Mary Katulic	Borst Family	Lionel & Karen Williams
Tech Slides	Lionel Williams	Lily Groenendaal	Marc Boese	Josie Weiss
Tech Sound	--	--	--	--

Sunday Servants 7:00 p.m.

7:00 pm	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
Lector	Nancy Gordon	Amy Raetz	Larry Cartelli	Ode' Mendoza
LEM	Amy Raetz	Susie Marshall	Steve Raetz	Wendy King
Usher/Greeter	Stephanie Abel	Cindy Shaffer	Amy Raetz	Terry Kraft
Tech Slides	Jane Cartelli	Mike King	Jane Cartelli	Mike King

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

LEV	April 6	April 13	April 20, EASTER	April 27
Visitor	Chris Brown	Janice Hull	Marc Boese	Don Stanton

Holy Week

Servants	Maundy Thursday 4/17	Servants	Good Friday 4/18 Noon	Good Friday 4/18 7:00 p.m.
Lector	Christin Lazo	Lector	Vince Truglia	Dawn Wirbel
LEM 1	Stacey Beck	LEM 1	Chris Brown	Rodger Watson
LEM 2	Lionel Williams	LEM 2	Gretchen Tope	Wendy King
Altar Server	Mary Kay Predmore	Altar Server	Wayne Sparks	Mary Kay Predmore
Usher/Greeters	Jay Predmore Don Grimes	Usher/Greeters	Ken Miller, Tom Buckner	Cindi Shaffer Jay Predmore
Tech Slides	Wilna Brown	Tech Slides	Sam Lynn	----
Tech Sound	Chris Brown	Tech Sound	Vita Mazzaluna	----

Holy Week Readings	Maundy Thursday 3/28	Good Friday 3/29
1 st Lesson	Exodus 12:1-14	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm	Psalm 116	Psalm 22
2 nd Lesson	1Corinthians 1:18-25	Hebrews 10:16-25
Gospel	Luke 22:14-30	John 18:1-19:42



Mentor Orientation

When: Thursday, April 3 at 6:00 PM

Where: West Orange Habitat ReStore
13369 W. Colonial Dr., Winter Garden, FL



BECOME A HOME BUYER MENTOR!

Walk alongside Habitat Homeowner families in their journey!

POSITION PURPOSE:

In cooperation with the Homeowner Services Committee, the MENTOR is one of two mentors responsible for mentoring an assigned Homebuyer from the date of selection through closing and dedication of the Homebuyer's new home and for one year after the purchase of the home. Reporting through the committee, the Mentor is responsible for communication between the Homebuyer and West Orange Habitat for Humanity ("WOHFH") to increase their awareness of the organization and positively mentor them through their journey to complete requirements and serve as a resource to educate, inspire, and encourage their progress in completing goals.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: HOMEOWNER MENTOR
Department: Homeowner Services Committee
Supervision: Director of Homeowner Services
Status: Volunteer Position
Service 8 - 12 months in duration





West Orange
Habitat
for Humanity®



EXPERIENCE/ QUALIFICATIONS

- Dedication to invest time and energy needed to successfully mentor a new Homebuyer through their journey – 12-18 months.
- Experience working successfully with groups and individuals.
- Experience with individuals of varied backgrounds, culture, and language.
- An understanding and patient spirit while leading the effort to positively meet deadlines and outcomes.
- Experience with accessing web tools and online resources.
- Strong writing, oral presentation, and interpersonal skills.

CONTACT: Gayle Fleming
G.Fleming@westorangehabitat.org
407-809-4411 EXT. 104

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Ensure a positive and welcoming relationship between West Orange Habitat for Humanity, the Homeowner Services Committee and the assigned Homebuyer ensuring they have an understanding of the homeownership program toward successful completion of requirements for homeownership.
- Serve as the connection to the assigned Homebuyer for notification of events, opportunities, progress, completion, questions, and answers.
- Attendance at monthly Homeowner Services meetings to report on progress of the Homebuyer and attendance with the Homebuyer at Habitat events including special events, dedications/groundbreakings, fundraising events as available. In addition, offering to accompany Homebuyer to other events/meetings as necessary.
- Regular, dependable attendance with a positive team approach is required.
- Complete training and access Habitat resources for education and clarification.

Surprised by Love: C. S. Lewis Conference Returns

Last year, Messiah hosted the first-annual **Mere Christians: C. S. Lewis Conference**. It was a great success, even gaining very positive attention from the Diocese. Bishop Justin and several clergy and lay people from around the Dio attended.



This year, Messiah will host the conference again, perhaps the last time Fr. Andrew will hold it here, **Friday, May 2nd (2:00-7:30 pm) and Saturday, May 3rd (8:00 am-7:30 pm)**. You'll find tickets and more information at merechristians.net.

This year's theme, **Surprised by Love** will focus on three of Lewis's books:

- Christin, who's writing a new book about Lewis's fiction, will teach *The Great Divorce* (which we read in Diving Deeper).
- Alan Snyder will talk about *Surprised by Joy*, Lewis's most famous spiritual autobiography, which describes his coming to faith in Christ.
- Andrew will talk about the most important book he's read as an adult, *The Four Loves*, which will help us navigate ALL our relationships.

Besides these three internationally-recognized C. S. Lewis experts (all from this Dio, and some from our parish!), we'll enjoy music from well-known singer-songwriter Matthew Clark and a panel discussion, plenty of time for Q&A, and a Children's Track focused on Narnia (did you know that new Narnia movies are coming out next year on Netflix??). We'll also have two breakout tracks: A Reader's Track exploring our three books for this year, and a scholarly Writer's Track, with folks coming from all over the country to work on articles and book chapters for future publication.

And of course we will FEAST! We'll have coffee cakes, a pasta supper Friday night, plus Lisa Headley will again prepare her wonderful Cream Tea, and her British desserts at the delicious Narnia Banquet on Saturday. We certainly hope you'll consider coming—and we have scholarships available to make sure that everyone can attend!

Of course, none of this happens without **HELP!**—and we could certainly use a hand in a few different areas (hey Occasional Event Volunteers—you've got an email coming your way!):

- **Could you HOST AN ATTENDEE?** Of course hotels in the area are not too abundant, and also we have some scholars coming who would be grateful for a place to stay—anyone have a guest room and a gift of hospitality for a few days?
- Could you **PROVIDE PASTA** for our Friday Supper or **COFFEE CAKES** for Friday and Saturday?
- We need **VOLUNTEERS** in LOTS of areas—wanna **help, even for a few hours?**

Please contact Fr. Andrew (andrewlazo@churchofthemessiah.com, 407-686-3218 x203) if you can help or have any questions.

It will be a GREAT event! Would you please pray for it, attend if you'd like, and **help if you can!!**



How often do you get to change someone's entire life?

By Joyce Taylor

I'm sure most of you have heard that many of the members of our Church sponsor over 75 children through Compassion International!

Compassion International works with thousands of local churches around the world to help children who suffer from extreme poverty. The children who participate in these church lead child-development programs receive food, medical care, education, a safe place to play and spiritual mentoring. The frontline churches are best suited to address the needs of the children in their community because the church is already involved in that child's community.

Sponsors pay a monthly fee of \$43 which is used to provide care for each child.



Sponsorship is a one-on-one relationship with the child, and sponsors can write and receive letters from their child throughout the year.

Compassion Sunday will be May 25 this year. There will be a table set up in the narthex with information packets for children waiting for a sponsor. Compassion's website (www.compassion.com) provides a great deal more information about their mission and how they spend the money. But, the most fun for me, is their search engine which will allow you to select a child from a particular country, gender, age group or birthdate! One of my children shares my birthday! I have sponsored Dennis (photo left) for 3 years. He is 17 and will probably age out of the program next year. While there are a lot of adorable toddlers available, there are also a lot of teenagers who have been waiting for someone to sponsor them for a long time!

Please pray for these children and ask the Lord if this is something He wants you to do! If you have any questions or are interested in sponsoring a child, feel free to contact Joyce Taylor (407) 222-1290 or Fr. Tom.

Save the date: Compassion Sunday, May 25

Messiah Folks in the Community.

On Saturday, March 1, Windermere held their 22nd Annual Art Show. Karen Stewart's works of art were displayed at the Art Room located in downtown Windermere.



The Knitting Ministry meets in the Narthex on Monday afternoons from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. If you like to knit or crochet bring your project and come meet with the group.





Cherie Greene and Tina Sydnor at the 7 p.m. service.



Susie Marshall, Dawn Wirbel, Sue Cardaci-Grimes, Susan Kiehm, Linda Gold, and Kelley McRae are prepping platters for a funeral reception.



Thank you
Wayne Sparks for
repairing the
wall in the Music
Ministers office.

We appreciate
our Handymen!



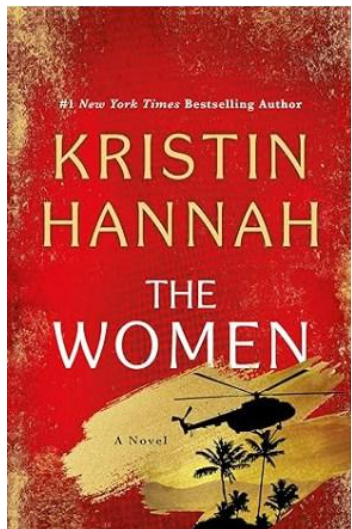
BOOK CLUB
By Patty Tate

Our dear friend Helen Farnsworth wrote Book Reviews for many years that we enjoyed in the Messengers. As her passing, we will greatly miss her comments and perspectives at Book Club.

As leader of the Book Club, I will be writing each month about the most recent book. In February we read “The Women” by Kristin Hannah.

“How did you like the book?” I asked. The consensus was an overwhelming LOVED IT! This historical fiction follows the lives of three women nurses in the Vietnam war. Yes, there were women who served in this war! The main character, Frances McGrath stirs a deep, overdue compassion and tears for every single soldier. The author did her homework in studying the history and often gory description of the devastating hopeless and helpless days there.

The story follows the lives of these women after their return to the states and attempts to put their lives back together. I highly recommend this book! I am donating my copy to the church library.



**TUESDAY, APRIL 1
AT 6:30PM**



**MEN'S SUPPER
IN THE YOUTH HALL**

Sign ups in the Narthex

**Women's Supper
Heritage Potluck**
in the Parish Hall



Lay Weeder Work Day!

**Saturday
April 12th
8am - 12pm**

**Please bring
friends, gloves,
rakes, blowers,
trimmers, etc.**





Altar Guild Workday
Saturday, April 19th, 9am - 11am
*Help prepare the church to
celebrate the
Resurrection of Jesus!*



**Being a Messiah's Man
B.A.M.M
Men's Fire Pit!**

Wednesday, April 23
at 7:00 p.m.
Contact Chris Brown
407-864-1708



**MERE
CHRISTIANS**
A C. S. Lewis Conference
Surprised By Love
May 2-3, 2025

Registration
now open!

See the
bulletin
insert or
Fr. Andrew
for more
information!

BOOK CLUB

**Book for April
JAMES
by Percival Everett**

**Thursday
April 24th at 7pm
in the Parish Hall**

**Huck Finn
reimagined from
Jim's POV**

