



September 20, 2023

From Fr. John

The other day I was in a local business, and they had one of those little framed sayings that you find in religious or craft stores, sitting on the counter. It said something along the lines of: “Along my journey I have learned that the more thankful I am, the more I have to be thankful for.” I guess if those pithy little statements are made to make people stop and think — then this one succeeded.

We live in a culture where thankfulness is, if not forgotten, then at least passé. Today it’s all about who is getting the most attention (e.g. people whose profession is “influencer”) or who can attract the most “likes.” Rarely, if ever, do I hear people who are in the public eye give thanks for anything. What those folks don’t understand is that, if God had not given them breath in their lungs on the day that they became famous, someone else would have gotten that spot. Without the God who created all that is, there would be ... nothing. And we should thank God for that day.

When we become aware of all the unmerited gifts we have received, then we can become truly thankful to the One who made it all possible. But if we spend our lives believing that we have “earned” everything we have, we will find ourselves hoarding it all, to make sure we don’t lose it, while we also continue on the hunt for what we can acquire next.

To sum it up, I’ll rely on that great 21st Century philosopher, Oprah Winfrey, who said it well. “Be thankful for what you have (and) you will end up having more. But if you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never have enough.”

Give thanks in all things to the God who gives us all.

Peace,
Fr. John+

Faith & Fellowship Tonight!

Eucharist with a Healing Service at 5:15 in the chapel,

Dinner at 6:00 in Parish Hall

\$5.00 each and free for kids 13 and under

Entree - poppyseed chicken casserole, side dish, salad, dessert

Adult Offerings:

- The Chosen - starting with the first episode and going through all three seasons until the fourth season premieres early next year. Led by Fr. John in the Parlor.
- Yoga is upstairs and taught by our own licensed instructor, Roy Rosenthal. If you don't have a mat, we have one for you.

A PERFECT FOUNDATION PANCAKE BREAKFAST 2023

Thursday, September 21st

6:30 am to 11:30 am

\$7 Donation

Dine-In or Carry Out
(Free delivery in Cenla for group orders of 10+)

St. James Episcopal Church
1620 Murray Street
Alexandria, LA 71301

Presented by



For advance tickets or event information, please call (318) 442-8277.

Additional Sponsors



Community Breakfast This Sunday

Come meet some of our neighbors this Sunday as we enjoy our delicious and free Community Breakfast from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.!

If you wish to volunteer with meal prep and/or serving, plan to arrive at 7:30 a.m.

Adult Class is upstairs this Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

BRIDGING THE GAP:
TRUTHFUL CONVERSATIONS & RACIAL HEALING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 10AM-NOON, RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1620 MURRAY ST., ALEXANDRIA

contact Joy Owensby at joy@epiwl.org for more details
The Episcopal Church in Western Louisiana, www.epiwl.org

Join us on Saturday, October 14, to hear the remarkable story of Rev. Avery Hamilton and Mr. Dean Woods, two men from different backgrounds who have come together to honor the legacy of the Colfax Massacre. The massacre, a shocking event in American history that occurred in 1873 in Grant Parish, Louisiana, resulted in the deaths of over 60 Black men who were

asserting their constitutional rights. Up until now, it has largely been forgotten in the retelling of our history.

Rev. Avery Hamilton, a Black man and the great-great-great grandson of Jesse McKinney, the first man killed in the massacre, is the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Colfax. He grew up in Colfax without knowing about his family's past or the events that took place there. Dean, a white man in Houston and the great-grandson of Bedford Woods, a man who participated in the massacre, grew up in Louisiana without knowing about his family's connection to the event.

Avery and Dean's talk will highlight how they have worked together to establish the Colfax Memorial Organization (<https://www.colfaxmemorial.org/>) to correct a false historical narrative and offer a place of remembrance and reflection. They will also share their vision to continue to make a difference in their community and the world and provide a model of transformation and healing across racial and historical divides.

All are welcome to participate in this informative and inspirational event!
Questions? Contact Joy Owensby (joy@epiwla.org).

WORSHIP



September 24th The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

In-person Worship at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Childcare is available for the 10:30 AM service.

[Click on this link to join the 10:30 AM service.](#)

[Click here for the service bulletin.](#)

September 24, 2023 Evening Prayer Online @ 5:00 PM

[Click on this link to join Evening Prayer.](#)

Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077

Passcode: 1620

[Click here for the order of service & reading.](#)



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

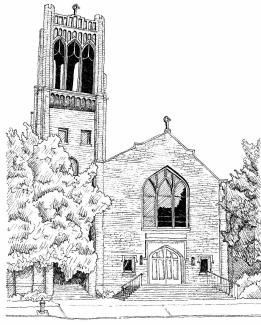
The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Michael Haywood, Rebbie Jones, Edward Butler, Marietta, John Upton, Rita Clancey, Jackie LaCour, Linda Ittner, Gwen Jones, Sophia Frey Bradford, Becky Maxwell, Brady Brown, Heather Craig, Dr. Wesley Davis, Steve Caballero, Anna Stapleton, Ann Vanderslice, Charles Robinson, Bobbie Chatelain, Larry, Eleanor, Carli McGinty, Fr. John, Lacy Shaw, Sam Bejach, Lawrence, Liz McSween, Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Kip Hogue, Jim Bristol, Ellen Moore, Mother Meredith Ward, Beth Hebert, Jimmy Hurt, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Chase Barnfield, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Donna House, Dayna Hill, Jane Tyson, and Mehre Hajjghassem.

For those in the military:

Kyle Jordan, Samuel Hayes, Franklin Watson, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in September (day):

Jim Marshall (8), Virginia White (8), Stella Craig (10), Dcn. Michael Parham (12), Brad Drell (14), Eliza Theus (18), Eric Jones (19), Taylor Thompson (19), Julia Welch (19), Anna Theus (21), James Theus (21), Spencer Brown (23), Pietry Cabrera (23), Michael Sterne (25), Joan Brunson (28), Elaine Hicks (28), Meredith Owensby (28), Jim Leggett (30).



Visit our
Website

St. James Episcopal Church | 1620 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301 | 318.445.9845



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