

St. James Lutheran Church

*"Growing in Christ Through Worship, Learning,
Fellowship, and Service."*

Ring Out A Weekly Newsletter



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WEEK OF OCTOBER 15

SUNDAY WORSHIP OCTOBER 15, 2023

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER

**5
HOLY COMMUNION
with RITE OF
INSTALLATION of a
PASTOR
4 P.M.**

Pastor Bill will be installed as the Pastor of St. James Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 5th at 4 p.m. The Rite of Installation will take place within a festive Communion Liturgy. Great, singable hymns too.



Sunday Worship for will be live-streamed on YouTube beginning at 9:45 on Sunday morning. An email with the link will be sent on Sunday morning. You can also watch a recorded version later by visiting our [YouTube Page](#).

You can open or print the bulletin and follow along with the service.

**[WATCH THE
LIVESTREAM](#)**



ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

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Sunday, October 15
9:15 am Parish Choir
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Christian Ed Mtg
w/ Parents/Grandparents/
Caregivers of 0 yr- 5th
Grade

Monday, October 16
10:30 am Quilting Group
6:30 pm Scouts

Tuesday, October 17
5:30 PM Mission Fund
Committee (Parlor)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

15-Oct Erin Everett
Morgan Trott
17-Oct Isla Glatz
18-Oct Laura Baker
19-Oct Stephanie Harris
Kim Williams
20-Oct Katie King

COMING SOON

Our Scouts will be at Rotary
Square Park this Saturday

Wednesday, October 18

2:00 pm Staff Meeting
 5:30 pm Wednesday Night
 Together
 7:00 pm Parish Choir

Thursday, October 19

6:00 pm Handbells

Saturday, October 21

8:30 am Leah's Hope
 Trailer

Sunday, October 22

9:15 am Parish Choir
 10:00 am Worship
 Blessing of the Quilts
 Stewardship Sunday
 w/ Stewardship Luncheon

Thank you to all that donated their time and monies for the 2023 Cabarrus County CROP Walk. St. James surpassed the \$1,000 goal that we aimed to reach! 25% of monies collected goes to our local food bank - Cooperative Christian Ministry.

The family of Lorene Caudle Ledford deeply appreciates the outpouring of love and support to us.

- Deb Black

I deeply appreciate my fellow singers in the Women's Chorus for their exceptional talents and gifts - Thank you for your contribution to my mother's service.

- Deb Black

October 14th to offset the cost of activities by selling pumpkins and popcorn from 10 AM to 1 PM. Please Consider supporting Scouting by purchasing a NC Grown pumpkin, sizes small to Jumbo. Donations are always appreciated, we accept check, cash or credit cards. The market is across from our church at 111 Union Street South.

Christian Education Meeting with Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers of children ages 0 - 5th Grade

We will meet this Sunday, October 15th at 11:15 a.m. following Worship. Please plan to attend to meet with the CE Committee and Pastor Bill to discuss Nursery, Sunday School and other opportunities for our children.

Wednesday Night Together

October 18 at 5:30 p.m.
 Chicken & Dumplings,
 Blackeyed Peas, Baked Apples..

For dinner purposes, please communicate your intention to join by signing up via e-

mail to info@sjnc.net or call the church office no later than October 16. Please let us know number attending from your family.

**Stewardship Sunday,
October 22**

Join us for a Time and Talent Fair and Luncheon following worship. Please make reservations for lunch by Tuesday, October 17 - by e-mail to info@sjnc.net or call the church office.

SJLC Trunk or Treat

Candy, Popcorn, Music, and Bounce House

Sunday, October 29

4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Parking Lot

SUNDAY MINISTERS

LECTOR/INTERCESSORS

Oct 15 Barbara Albright

Oct 22 Christine Ruff

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Oct 15 Elizabeth Hurley

Oct 22 Dianne Lambert

ACOLYTES

Oct 15 Noah Pittard

Oct 22 Noah Dixon

GREETERS

Oct 15 Gretchen Walker

VIDEOGRAPHER

Oct 15

Oct 22

OCTOBER USHERS

Brad Baker, Chip Harward, Taylor Pruette, Al Pieschel, Jon Miller

FLOWERS

Oct 15 Jo Eng

CHURCH NEWS

CCM FOOD TRUCK



We look forward to our rescheduled **Mobile Food Pantry on Thursday morning, October 26.** We greatly appreciate your congregation for sticking with us and being willing to co-sponsor this make-up date. Hopefully we'll have great weather!

We are recruiting volunteers: We will be in the parking lot of Elevation Church Concord, at 545 concord Pkwy N, Concord, 28027 (the old K-Mart). We ask volunteers to come by 8:30 a.m. and if at all possible stay until noon (or a few minutes after). It wouldn't hurt to have a few folks who are willing to help with traffic control to come around 8:00 a.m. Most of the volunteers will be involved in bagging or boxing the food, and then helping to load it into cars as they drive thru. We do need a few volunteers to help with lining the cars up, and a few others to help with registration (going car-to-car and completing a short form for each household).

Kris Edscorn
Food Program Manager

Please let the church office know if you are willing to help and we will forward that information to CCM. E-mail info@sjnc.net or call the church office 704-786-0166.

Letter from Pastor Bill...

To the Saints of God at St. James Lutheran Church:

As I write this brief “stewardship” note early in my tenure, please allow me two simple and direct observations. First, it takes money to pay for the ministry you receive at St. James and the ministry you offer through St. James. Second, I invite all of us to consider our spiritual need to give. There is something life giving when we give for the sake of another. It’s one of those mysteries of God and

paradoxes Jesus loves to observe.

“Stewardship” is the fancy term that many of us in church only want to use in the fall of the year while limiting its use to “money” and the giving thereof. Stewardship is more than money and the asking of you to give it. Primarily, and its chief endeavor, St. James is a steward of the means of grace and the mysteries of God. God shows up here, in Water, Word, Bread and Wine, with gifts for you. The gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Wherever we may seek God, God for sure shows up here.

St. James is also a steward of Christian community. Something drew you to St. James and something keeps you returning. Maybe someone brought you to St. James or maybe you accepted another’s invitation. However, that happened you are still here. How do we best steward and strengthen our community? How do grow this community to be a place that something is missing for you when you are not here? What are the components of that community? How will we have to **change** to make that happen? How do we build a community that overcomes our Lutheran genetic code that makes us reluctant to invite another to worship with us (see how I avoided that nasty word ... evangelism).

Make no mistake, I am concerned about having the resources necessary “to do” ministry in this place and will offer my money to help. I am more interested in us being good stewards of our community and in building St. James into a healthy, vibrant community with clarity about who we are and what we do in response to what God has done, is doing and will continue to do for us. As concerns “stewardship,” I am more concerned about this community finding the best way to hold a wide conversation that will build and strengthen (and, yes, even heal) relationships among us while finding the sweet spot intersection between our gifts and talents and the needs of our wider community. I suspect this conversation among the Saints at St. James is a little overdue. Step one is figuring out how best to do that.

Thanks for indulging my thoughts.

Peace,

Pastor Bill Ridenhour

Family and Friends

- Family of Doris Francis, daughter-in-law of Martha



- Summers.
- Steve Conrad, Lauri Lyn Hodges, friends of Al and Dee Pieschel

Members of St. James

- Patsy Black
- Tom Grady
- Tom Ridenhour
- Deb Black and Family

Council Highlights October 10, 2023

Customary Review and Approvals of Minutes and Monthly Finance.

Heard brief update on Administrator Opening. No candidates to date. Interim, part-time Administrator Debbie Wilkinson is fabulous. Office is still functioning inefficiently.

Accepted report of Nominating Committee. Announcement of names standing for election to church council forthcoming.

Reviewed deadline dates related to November 19th congregational meeting for the purpose of acting upon recommended 2024 budget and church council elections.

Set Budget Workshop / Informational Meeting for November 12th. More details forthcoming.

Property motion to address damaged boiler burner tubes delayed by requirement to acquire multiple bids.

Forwarded proposed 2024 budget to the November 19th congregational meeting for its action. This was done after reviewing how Finance Committee struggled to balance the budget when anticipated personnel, property and ministry committee expenses exceeded anticipated income.

Heard off-agenda concern from Music and Worship emphasizing the need to replace the original 1928 organ electrical wiring.

CHURCHWIDE / COMMUNITY

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS (BBBS)

of Cabarrus County whose offices are housed at our Parish is looking for male mentors. There is an immediate need for a male mentor and an overall need in general for male mentors. The obligation is approximately one hour a week to meet with a child at lunch. The Program Director, Elizabeth Hutchins, can provide you with additional information. Elizabeth can be reached at 704-562-1144 and her e-mail is Elizabeth.hutchens@bbbscentralcarolinas.org

CHURCH RESOURCES

You can manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions or make a one time contribution and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. In a few short minutes, you can make a one-time gift or set up a donation that will process automatically on a recurring basis. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year.



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Instagram

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ST. JAMES STAFF

- **Rev. Bill Ridenhour**, *Pastor* [Email](#)
- **Jill Irvin**, *Financial Administrator* [Email](#)
- **Scott Foppiano**, *Organist / Director of Music* [Email](#)
- **Kathryn Radcliffe**, *Nursery Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Teresa Honeycutt**, *Custodian* [Email](#)
- **Debbie Davis**, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

[{View as Webpage}](#)

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