

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 22

SUNDAY WORSHIP OCTOBER 22, 2023

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

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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 22
9:15 am Parish Choir
10:00 am Worship
Blessing of the
Quilts/Stewardship Sunday
11:15 am Time & Talent
Fair/Stewardship Luncheon

Monday, October 23
10:30 am Quilting Group
6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, October 25
7:00 pm Parish Choir

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

22-Oct Calen MacFarlane
Joyce Smith

23-Oct John Eury
Nancy Faggart

Mark Frye
Allison Guilfoyle

24-Oct Naomi Lovelace

25-Oct Vero Grady

27-Oct Michael Folino

Joan McEachern

28-Oct Cliff Caffrey

Linda Hartsell

Thursday, October 26
6:00 pm Handbells

Sunday, October 29
9:15 am Parish Choir
10:00 am Worship
Reformation Sunday
4:30 - 6:00 pm Trunk or
Treat (Parking Lot)

**Stewardship Sunday,
TODAY - October 22**
Join us for a Time and
Talent Fair and Luncheon
following worship.

Blessing of the Quilts
Our quilts will be distributed
globally through Lutheran
World Relief.
*Thank you Quilters for your
hard work and dedication!*

Riley Moran
Donnie Peterman
Taylor Pruette
Tessa Rafiee
Heather Wilson
Drew Yoos

COMING SOON...

SJLC Trunk or Treat
Candy, Popcorn, Music, and
Bounce House
Sunday, October 29
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
(Parking Lot)

*We need folks to sign up for
"trunks"*

Sign up sheet @ Back
Portico Door

SUNDAY MINISTERS

LECTOR/INTERCESSORS

Oct 22 Christine Ruff
Oct 29 Kim Haberman

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Oct 22 Dianne Lambert
Oct 29 Christine Ruff

ACOLYTES

Oct 22 Noah Dixon
Oct 29 Noah Dixon, Jason
Pittard, Noah Pittard, Joshua
Rinker

GREETERS

VIDEOGRAPHER

Oct 22
Oct 29

OCTOBER USHERS

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

FLOWERS

Oct 22 Joyce Smith

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 we 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 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](#)

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