



WEEKLY  
**Ring Out**  
NEWSLETTER



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

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## Week of May 17, 2026

*The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

### **Introduction to Worship**

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

### **Watch the Live Stream:**



[Download Bulletin](#)

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## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, May 17

#### ***Cook Scholarship Applications Due!***

9:00 am Adult Sunday School  
9:00 am Choir  
9:30 am Children's Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00am **Join us! - Honoring our Graduates** 🎓

### Monday, May 18

10:30 am Quilting

### Thursday, May 21

6:30 pm Choir Practice

### Sunday, May 24

#### ***VBS Registration Open*** 🎒

9:00 am Adult Sunday School  
9:00 am Choir  
9:30 am Children's Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship

[Church Calendar](#)

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## Sunday Ministries

### LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

**May 17** Barbara Albright  
**May 24** Margaret Garrison

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

**May 17** Samantha Hillegass  
**May 24** Margaret Garrison

### ACOLYTE

**May 17** Noah Pittard  
**May 24**

### GREETER

**May 17** Martha Matthews  
**May 24** Barbara Albright

### VIDEOGRAPHER

**May 17** Kim Haberman/Ashley Cline  
**May 24**

### MAY USHERS

Wendell Overby, Frank Irvin, Tony Folino, Nick Lovelace, Jason Pittard

### MAY BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Wendell Overby

### ALTAR FLOWER

**May 17** Nita & Jeff Jones  
**May 24**

# Sign Up to Volunteer

Lector

Communion Assistant

Acolyte

Videographer

Altar Flowers

## Happy Birthday! 🎈

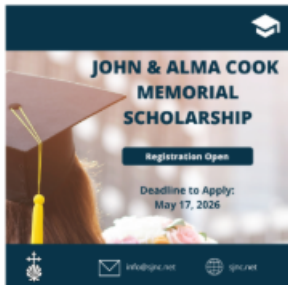
- May 17 - Liz Klein
- May 18 - Harrison Propst, Amy Whisnant
- May 19 - Nick Lovelace
- May 20 - Karen Benson, Greg Hartman, Rich Rezza, Louise Walker
- May 21 - Beverly Heilig, Emma Parks, Ethan Patterson
- May 22 - Wayne King
- May 23 - Grayson Downs, Mason Overby

## Announcements

This Sunday, May 17:

### Cook Scholarship Deadline! 🕒

### Honoring Our Graduates 🎓



The Cook Trust Fund Committee is now accepting Scholarship Applications for the 2026/27 academic school year.

Open to St. James members of all ages (college and graduate students).

Pick up an application in the church office or email: [holly@sjnc.net](mailto:holly@sjnc.net)

**DEADLINE: MAY 17, 2026**



### Save the Date - Aloha Summer Party 🌴

Join us **Sunday, June 7**, following worship for our Aloha Summer Party! Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall, with activities continuing on the playground. Stop by for fun, fellowship, and food as we roll out the red carpet for summer - tropical snow cones included!



### Mission Fund First Quarter Update 📄

The St. James Mission Fund Committee met on March 3 and approved a \$2,000 grant to Families First of Cabarrus County in support of their expanding preschool ministry and community outreach efforts.

The committee also reviewed upcoming meeting dates for June 2, September 1, and December 1 at 5:45 p.m. in the Parlor, and discussed a candidate to fill the open committee position.

The Mission Fund continues to encourage local organizations to apply for future grant opportunities.



## VBS Registration Opens May 24 🧑‍🎒

Registration for VBS 2026 opens **May 24**. Please plan to register by the end of June to guarantee a t-shirt!

VBS will be held Sunday, July 26–Tuesday, July 28, beginning each evening at 5:30 p.m.

If you are available to volunteer, please check to make sure your *Safe Gatherings* background check is current. If you are a first-time volunteer, please email [holly@sjnc.net](mailto:holly@sjnc.net) to begin the process.

❄️ This year's theme: Snowball Mountain Challenge! ❄️

## In case you missed it...



### Parish Choir Performing at American Guild of Organists Concert (Sunday, June 14)

The St. James Lutheran Parish Choir will be performing as part of a concert presented by the American Guild of Organists on **Sunday, June 14, at 4:00pm** at Providence United Methodist Church (Charlotte). Please make plans to attend this special afternoon of beautiful choral and organ music and support our choir in this exciting performance!



### This week's lesson...

Mary, the Loyal Mother - Luke 2:15-19; John 2:1-5; John 19:25-27

Luke's Gospel provides many details about Mary and her experiences - more than any other Gospel. Luke records the angel Gabriel's visit, Mary's miraculous conception, and details of Jesus' birth. The text from John's Gospel focuses on the two times that Mary is mentioned: 1) the wedding at Cana, and 2) at Jesus' crucifixion. Mary experienced joy beyond measure at times, and at others, excruciating pain as she watched the unfolding of God's perfect plan: the salvation of the world through Jesus Christ, our Lord! Mary was a model disciple. She knew the significance of Jesus' life and trusted that He could make a difference in times of need. Jesus was a model son. He did all he could to provide care and support for his mother. Through it all, Mary didn't waiver in her belief, and her love and loyalty were rewarded by continued care and belonging in God's family!

# Reminders



[Click here to see available dates and to sign up.](#)

Please be sure to fill in the details of how you want the bulletin to read.

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## In Our Prayers

**Cecil Berry** (Friend of Gretchen Walker)

**Family of Michael Black**

(Nephew of Patsy Black)

**Patsy Black**

**George Brinkman**

(Friend of Margaret Garrison)

**Patrick Bryn**

(Son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn)

**Angie Buchanan**

**Mike & Debbie Cagle**

(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)

**Noah Clifton**

**Karey Conrad**

(Friend of Dee Pieschel)

**Catherine Durst**

(Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges)

**Nadine Filipak**

(Friend of Al & Dee Pieschel)

**Phyllis Freeman**

(Mother of Fonda Shumate)

**Ed Frost** (Friends of the Marlow's)

**Ginger Gibbs**

(Friend of Deedee & Jeff Gilbert)

**Jeff Gilbert**

**Tom Grady**

**Nancy Haney** (Loved one of Betsy Ballard)

**Ryan Hardister**

(Son of Bill & Reggie Hardister)

**Maureen Hollmeyer**

**Hunter Huss**

**Family of Dale Johnson**

(Friend of Dale Merrell)

**Mary Frances Johnson**

(Cousin of Francie Davis)

**Karen Johnston**

(Friend of Judy Benz)

**Mary Anne Lanahan**

(Aunt of Francie Davis)

**Ruth Lawler**

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

**John Ledford** (Brother of Deb Black)

**Buddy McEachern**

**Barbara Merrell**

**Deb & Roger Myers**

(Friends of Deb Black)

**Dave Olsen** (Friend of Patsy Black)

**Mason Overby**

**Stan Parnell**

(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

**Becky Phillips**

**Al Pieschel**

**Lori Pittard**

**Lori Ruff**

(Mother of Christine Ruff)

**Jessica Seeley**

(Cousin of Christine Ruff)

**Ruby Tyer**

(Niece of Beth Huss' Friend)



## Meal Train Opportunity

The Meal Train for St. James member Jay Clemmer is ongoing. Volunteers are invited to [sign up for dates](#) that work best for them.

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## Secure Online Giving

Supporting your church is just a few clicks away! With [online giving](#), you can make a one-time gift, set up automatic recurring donations on the date you choose, and view your complete giving history.

Automated recurring gifts are a convenient way to provide our church with much-needed consistent support throughout the year. Thank you for your faithful generosity.



### Ways to Give

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## Volunteer!

### Assisting in Worship

[Sunday Worship Volunteer Opportunities](#) are now open! We're looking for Ushers, Greeters, Communion Assistants, Lectors, Acolytes, and Videographers to help on Sundays.

Altar Flower dates are also available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Not sure where to start? Email us at [info@sjnc.net](mailto:info@sjnc.net) for more information, training, or to connect with a volunteer team leader.

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## St. James Staff

Rev. Bill Ridenhour, Pastor [Email](#)

Jill Irvin, Financial Administrator [Email](#)

Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries & Organist [Email](#)

Holly Sloop, Communications Coordinator [Email](#)

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator [Email](#)

Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian [Email](#)

Kim Haberman, Congregation President [Email](#)

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## Contact Us

 Phone: (704) 786-0166

 Website: [www.sjnc.net](http://www.sjnc.net)

 Email: [info@sjnc.net](mailto:info@sjnc.net)

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