

St. James Lutheran Church

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

Ring Out A Weekly Newsletter



[View as Webpage](#)

WEEK OF MARCH 21



John 12:24

*"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit."*

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Sunday, March 21, 10:00 am

GATHER WITH US FOR
IN-PERSON WORSHIP

In-Person Worship will be Sunday at 10:00 am. To provide for everyone's safety, you will have your temperature checked, stay masked during the service, and be seated by the ushers to be socially distanced. At the current time, there will be no nursery or Sunday School.



WEEKLY WORSHIP

Live Streamed

Online Worship for Sunday, March 14 will be live-streamed on YouTube beginning at 9:50 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.

[Worship Bulletin March 21](#)

[Watch Live Stream](#)



ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday, March 21

9:50 am Live Steam Worship
10:00 am In-Person Worship

Wednesday, March 24

6:30 pm Drive-In Worship / Communion
9:30 pm College Online

BIRTHDAYS

22-Mar. Jimmy Propst
23-Mar. Chip Blackwelder
23-Mar. Landon Trott
24-Mar. Elliott Horton
24-Mar. Charlie Pittard
25-Mar. Audrey Glatz
25-Mar. Jill Strahl

Thursday, March 25

6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2nd

7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3rd-5th

27-Mar. Isaac Jay

Sunday, March 28

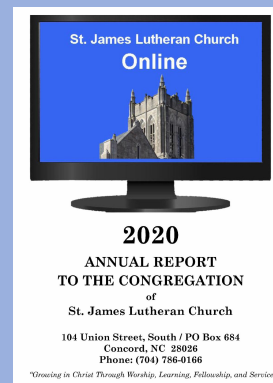
9:50 am Live Steam Worship

10:00 am In-Person Worship

CHURCH NEWS

ANNUAL REPORT

The 2020 Annual Report for St. James' Lutheran Church was emailed to you this week. There will be a limited number of printed copies available in the Narthex on Sunday. If you did not receive an email copy along with a Church Directory, please contact the church office.



WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

St James has joined with other local churches to prepare an ecumenical Lenten devotional that will be posted on YouTube and Facebook each week. A link will be sent to you each week so you can watch.

March 24 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Praise and Worship: Rev. Carol Carkin (Central UMC)

Devotional: Rev. Marcus Singleton (Aldersgate UMC)

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 4

Join us for an outdoor Easter Egg on Easter morning at St. James! The time will be determined in the next couple of weeks.

Depending on the number of children attending, we will stagger the hunt in order to be socially distanced. If you would like to help, donations of filled eggs can be placed in the marked basket inside the portico door. Thank you!





BI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On April 11, prior to worship, we will hold our bi-annual congregational meeting to approve the 2020 annual report, elect a nominating committee and voting members for the NC synod assembly, and consider other business as necessary.

FLOWER CHART

Now that we have resumed in-person worship, you may sign up for flowers for the altar. We do not use flowers during Lent so the first Sunday available will be Easter Sunday, April 4. You may contact the church office to check for available dates. 704-786-0166 or keith@sjnc.net



COMMUNITY NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



For over twenty years, area churches and individuals have participated in a Good Friday Stations of the Cross walk through downtown Concord. This year's walk is scheduled for April 2nd at 3:30 pm, and will last about 75 minutes.

The walk will begin at Grace Lutheran Church (corner of Chestnut and Tournament) followed by stops at St. James Lutheran Church (corner of Union St. and Corban Ave.) Memorial Gardens (Spring St), City Hall, Central United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and Forest Hill United Methodist Church.

If you would like to participate by reading at a station, please contact Mark Murphy. Please share this information with others you know outside your church who may be interested in the walk.

Please wear masks. If we have inclement weather we will hold the program at Grace Lutheran Church. If the police determine we cannot walk due to COVID restrictions, we will record the readings. We're

praying we can walk this year.

If you have questions please call Mark Murphy (704-301-2816) or Teresa Hillie (704-785-0126)

THE LAST SUPPER EXPERIENCE



If you and your family experienced Bethlehem at the Farm back in December, you will not want to miss The Last Supper Experience. If you were not able to make it to Bethlehem, we hope you will be able to make it to the Last Supper Experience. On March 28, we will visit the farm once again to get a glimpse of the Last Supper. Sign up to experience the merchants at the Market Place, you will hear the stories of the locals, sit, and watch the Last Supper while enjoying a Seder Meal to go. What do you need to do to be part of The Last Supper Experience?

- [Sign Up to reserve your time and spot](#)
- You are asked to bring a yard chair or blanket to sit on.
- Please understand that food will be prepared and provided based upon the sign ups. If you sign up and cannot attend, please let us know so that we can adjust as needed.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Last Supper. If you would like to contribute to help lower the cost of the Last Supper Experience, there will be a donation bucket available.



CCM FOOD PANTRY

I'm looking out on a *sunny* day at our drive-through pantry for the first time in about a week! Praise the Lord! We also are praising the Lord for a marvelous response to the annual Scouting for Food drive earlier this month. I know many of your congregations sponsor Boy Scout troops. So far they have collected and brought in a record-smashing 14,000 lbs.! And it's still coming in. Much of that already has been shared with our satellite pantries scattered around the county.

Donations can be dropped by the church during office hours. Pull up under the Portico and call the office. 704-786-0166

Our current big needs are:

- Peanut butter & jelly
- Canned carrots, peas, potatoes and mixed vegetables
- Diced tomatoes
- Canned fruit
- Canned beans (not green or pinto)
- Any dried beans
- Pasta sauce
- Toilet paper

As always, we especially seek low sodium items, no-added-sugar items, and whole grain items.

CHURCH-WIDE NEWS



GOD WILL TRANSFORM THIS CHURCH

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. That's our name. At least two parts of our name, "**Evangelical**" and "Church," are either misunderstood or an outright stumbling block for a significant percentage of the American population.

Pew Research reports that over one-fifth of the U.S. public—and a third under 30—are religiously unaffiliated. These are the "nones." The religiously unaffiliated, whether never churched or dechurched, don't have a favorable impression of church. They see it as extremist, full of hypocrites, judgmental, anti-science, anti-intellectual, dogmatic, overly concerned about other people's morality, naïve and out of touch. Ouch.

In the eyes of the nones, the ELCA gets lumped in with everyone else. Though we aren't perfect, and some of the characteristics of church apply to us at various times, we have a theology based on a liberating gospel of Jesus Christ that is the euangelion—the good news. The "Evangelical" in our name points to the transforming love of Jesus, to reconciliation, to freedom, to grace. It's expansive, for everyone and all creation. It doesn't require our effort or our merit, only our trust in God's promise.

It's not naïve. Scripture, Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and others were clear-eyed about the reality of human sin and brokenness and the devastating consequences for individuals, groups of people and creation that result. There is judgment, but it is God's, not ours. Our evangelical understanding of God's word is that it is both law and gospel, judgment and promise. We aren't an everything goes,

Continue Reading

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH MEETINGS

- March 21
- March 28



SUNDAY'S COOL!

WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2021

WELCOME TO SUNDAY'S COOL!

LOVE ONE ANOTHER!

BIBLE HEROES: Bible Heroes will not meet this week due to Mike being out of town. Ann and I will be heading to the beach for a few days and I hope to be able to fly some kites while I'm there. If the wind will cooperate, and I'm able to do so, I'll send you guys some pictures. I look forward to seeing you all next week.

ATTENTION ALL CURRENT FIFTH GRADERS: SAVE THE DATE! MAY 23rd IS YOUR STEP UP INTO YOUTH DAY! Congratulations! You are invited to step into the Youth Ministry! What does that mean? It means getting together with other youth on Sunday evenings, having a good time and growing in your faith. It means that you can participate in this Summer's Adventures (as long as COVID cooperates). It means you can join us on the Middle School Beach Trip and the Middle School Mission trip. It means you can join us as we make a big difference by serving others. And, it means that we will be creating memories that will last a lifetime. Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 23 at 5:00. We hope to see you then!



****CHECK OUT THE YOUTH MINISTRY PAGE AT BOTH CHURCHES LATER THIS WEEK FOR SUMMER INFO AND FORMS.****

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9 ⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.⁶ Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.⁷ Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.⁸ Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem⁹ on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

SUNDAY'S COOL!

Click to Read

[Week of March 15, 2021](#)

CHURCH RESOURCES

ONLINE GIVING



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.

Give Now

ST. JAMES STAFF

- **Rev. Tony Bradshaw**, *Senior Pastor* [Email](#)
- **Jill Irvin**, *Financial Administrator* [Email](#)
- **Keith Sutton**, *Parish Administrator* [Email](#)
- **Mike Holt**, *Youth and Family* [Email](#)
- **Cindy Cruse**, *Hospitality Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Kathryn Radcliffe**, *Nursery Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Joseph Beasley**, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

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