

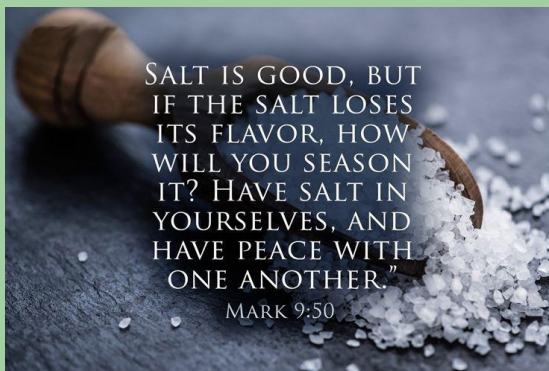
# St. James Lutheran Church

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

## Ring Out A Weekly Newsletter



### WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26



### EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

### IN-PERSON WORSHIP Sunday, September 26

In-Person Indoor Worship will be Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

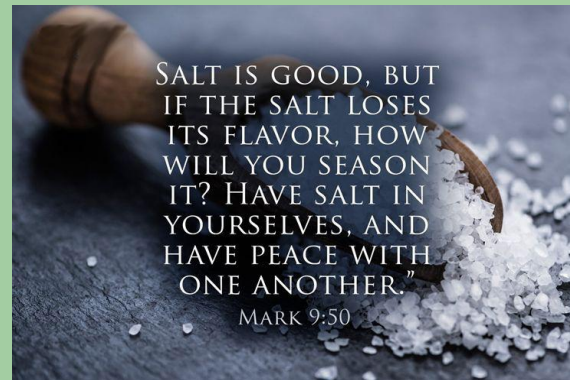
The Health and Safety Committee



and Church Council strongly encourage everyone to wear masks during worship. There will be no congregational singing at this time.

## WEEKLY WORSHIP Live Streamed

Online Worship for September 26 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.



[Bulletin for September 26](#)

[Watch Livestream](#)



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

An Adult Sunday School class will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Cook Fellowship Classroom. Frank Irvin will be teaching and everyone is invited. Please have a Bible or Bible App ready because we're going to look outside the texts listed in the lesson.

[Crossing the Red Sea - Study Guide](#)

[Crossing the Red Sea - Scripture Readings](#)

## ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, September 26**

9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl  
9:50 am Live Stream Begins  
10:00 am In-Person Worship  
3:00 pm Confirmation at  
Kimball

### **Monday, September 27**

10:30 am Quilting Group

### **Thursday, September 30**

6:30 pm Bible Heroes

### **Saturday, October 2**

5:00 pm Wickliff / Davis  
wedding

### **Sunday, October 3**

9:50 am Live Stream Begins  
10:00 am In-Person Worship

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Blessing of the Animals:**  
October 9



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- 27-Sep** Jeff Faggart
- 27-Sep** Tommy Propst
- 28-Sep** Francie Davis
- 28-Sep** Miles Marlow
- 28-Sep** Chris Miller
- 30-Sep** Jo Eng
- 30-Sep** Katie Popovici
- 01-Oct** Chase Lineberger
- 01-Oct** Connor Lineberger
- 01-Oct** Donae Yoos

# CHURCH NEWS

## FROM THE PASTOR

During the pandemic we have had to adapt in many ways. One of those ways has been in streaming our worship service



on Sunday mornings through Facebook and YouTube. Since we began streaming in March, we have averaged 87 views per week. It has become a vital means of reaching the homebound and spreading the gospel to people

who may never come through our doors...and this will not change when folks return to worship.

Therefore, we are in need of worship assistants to help manage the live-streaming process on Sunday mornings. You do not need to be a technology expert to serve. The process is straightforward and simple. First the assistant starts the live-stream. Then using a tablet, the assistant chooses preset locations to move the camera angle during worship to/from the lectern, altar, pulpit, baptismal font, and sanctuary. This can easily be done from where you normally sit in worship.

We hope to put together a team of live-stream assistants and develop a monthly schedule so the ministry is not a burden to any one person. Training will be provided on how to use the tablet and there will be opportunities to practice. Prayerfully consider serving in this important and growing ministry, and if you are interested, please contact Keith Sutton in the church office: [keith@sjnc.net](mailto:keith@sjnc.net) or 704-786-0166.



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## PUMPKINS AND POPCORN

**Saturday, September 25**

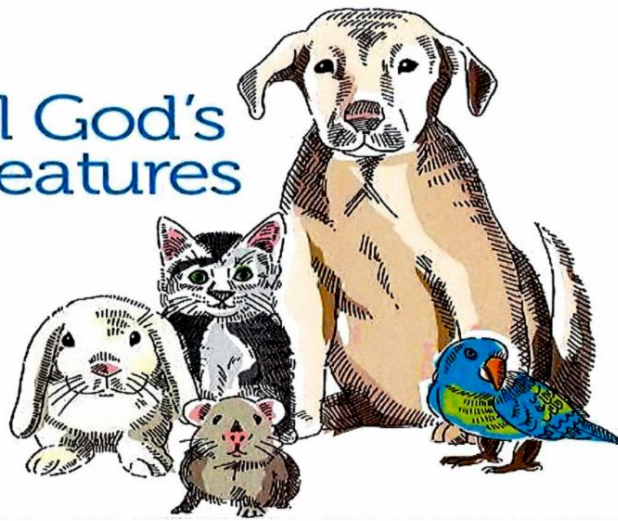
Our Scout Troop is selling pumpkins and popcorn at Rotary Square Park across from Saint James Lutheran, 111 Union Street South this Saturday **September 25** to help offset the cost of Scouting.

Popcorn and pumpkin prices range for \$10 to \$15 each . We will be in farmers market space from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Social Distancing will be practiced. We accept cash, checks and credit cards.

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## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

## All God's Creatures



### Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 9, 2021

10:00 until 12:00 noon

Reading and special blessing at 10:30

Rain date: TBD

**Far Fetched Farm**

**835 Brafford Drive, Concord, NC 28025**

**All are Welcome!**

**Bring your special pet(s) and enjoy the farm.**

We will be collecting dry cat kibble, gas cards and donations of money and/or gift cards to help the Cat Smart Coalition in their efforts to trap, spay/neuter and release the multitude of stray cat colonies.

*All animals must be on leash, carrier or restrained. Masks and social distancing.*

**ONLINE GIVING  
APP**



**Vanco Mobile Faith  
Engagement**

Vanco Payment Solutions

Vanco's mobile app is getting an upgrade! As of September 30, 2021, the Vanco GivePlus Mobile App for Android and Apple phones will be retired and replaced with a new app – **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**. You will need to download the new Vanco Mobile app from either the Apple App store or Google Play store. Search for “St. James Lutheran Church”. Once you launch your new giving app, you

will be able to log in using your existing username and password. All scheduled recurring gifts will process as planned.

You may also give on the St. James Website under the “Giving” tab. The Vanco Website has been upgraded as well, so you may see some differences in appearance. However, you should be able to log in as usual.

If you have any questions, please contact our Finance Administrator, Jill Irvin at [jill@sjnc.net](mailto:jill@sjnc.net) or 704-786-0166.

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## **PART-TIME DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST**

### **Saint James Lutheran Church Concord, North Carolina**



Saint James Lutheran Church of Concord, North Carolina is seeking a part-time Director of Music/Organist. Working under the supervision of the Senior Pastor, the Director of Music/Organist will provide leadership, direction and support for the worship and music life of the church. The Director of Music/Organist will serve as the primary musician of the congregation and a resource to all musical groups in the congregation and church programs.

Please submit a letter of interest, resume and at least three references to [sjlcjobs@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcjobs@gmail.com) A complete job description will be provided upon request.

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

### **BLESSING BOX** **September**

What is the Blessing Box? It's a box that is located in Rotary Square that is stocked with food and other necessary items (List Below) available to those in the community.



St James has agreed to stock the Blessing Box during the month of September. You can place items in the box yourself or you can drop them off at the church. Mark Murphy will be the contact person for any questions.

- Canned goods / Crackers / Cereal
- Bags of rice / Ramen / Pasta
- Peanut butter / Jelly
- Granola bars / Raisins
- Fruit snacks / Pudding cups / Fruit cups
- Baby food / Bottled water
- Other non-perishables
- Shampoo / Soap / Deodorant
- Toothbrush and toothpaste

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## CCM FOOD PANTRY SEPTEMBER



We are moving into food drive season, which is a very good thing. Some of our inventory is getting low! Normally, one of our biggest annual food drives is the Cabarrus County Fair Food Drive (normally the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of September). For the second year in a row, it was cancelled. We are OK now, but that drive especially benefited our satellite pantries, and now we're having to really dip into our regular warehouse inventory to keep them stocked. If your church or community organization is planning a food drive soon, here are the items we needing the most:

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:

- Canned Chicken and Tuna
- Canned Pasta with Meat
- Beef Stew
- Chili with Meat
- Canned Corn
- Canned Carrots, Peas, Potatoes, and Mixed Veggies
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Diced tomatoes
- Canned Pinto Beans
- Soup
- Rice / Macaroni and Cheese
- Toilet paper

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

# GETTING ALONG



Some of the most amusing moments of my ministry have occurred while interviewing others to work in the various congregations I have served. “So what interests you in this Administrative Assistant position at our church?” I asked a candidate in Boone. “Well,” she replied, “I’ve worked in a law office for several years now, and I’m honestly just sick and tired of how people can treat each other so terribly, so when I saw this position advertised, I thought, ‘Wow, wouldn’t it be great to work in a place where everybody always gets along for a change!’” Her assumption seemed to be the rule rather than the exception. Church people always love one another, and therefore they never behave in anything other than a loving way.

She should have read St. Augustine’s daily prayer for the late 4th/early 5th century when he served as Bishop of Hippo in northern Africa. “...Lord, save us from the forces of evil and from all these Christians.” Apparently, the 5th-century job description or practical reality for bishops was similar to that of the 21st. Manage conflict. Apparently, given St. Paul’s 1st-century words to the church in Corinth, even the very earliest days of the church were rife with conflict. Heck, why was he in Corinth to begin with? Because he and Peter didn’t get along back in Jerusalem! Jesus himself anticipated conflict in the Christian community and how to address it in Matthew 18. Anyhow, Paul urges Corinthians to stop their squabbling by focusing not on a convergence of opinion but on their common baptism into Christ.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord



Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? (1 Corinthians 1:10-13)

The problem with the Church is the same as the problem with Communism, or Capitalism, or the Republican Party or the Democratic Party, or with the 4th, 12th, or 18th century, or the Royal Order of Buffalo: there are people in them! People are selfish, sinful, broken. Conflict happens, inevitably.

In counseling with couples preparing for marriage, we talk about the church in Corinth. Well, maybe not explicitly, but I always remind them that the fact that Jane loves Joe or Joe loves Jane or even the sum total of those loves won't sustain them over the long haul. There must be something bigger than Joe's love, bigger than Jane's love, at the center of this relationship, which is why we pray fervently for and focus mightily on Christ's presence at the center of that relationship binding them together in communication, sacrifice, commitment, and forgiveness.

Christians do not—and have not from the get-go—based their unity on shared preference, politics, or opinion. As different as we might be, what binds us is that somehow we are caught up in the story of Jesus and its promise and claim on our lives. So long as there are people in the church, which at the end of the day and even for all the challenge of it I greatly prefer, there will be divisions, hurt feelings, differences of opinion, and conflict along with all the positives of human community. Christ at the center, Christ as the lens through which we interpret everything, Christ as the peace we share before communion, will always be the tie that binds. May we always start and, when we stray, return there!

Walking with you,  
The Rev. Timothy M. Smith, Bishop, NC Synod



## WE ARE THE BRANCHES

Each week we will remember in prayer our brothers and sisters at one of our partner Lutheran churches in the NC Synod. Please lift them up in your prayers during the week also. This week we remember:

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Salisbury, NC

200 W. Innes St.  
Downtown Salisbury  
704-636-3431

Pastor Rhodes Woolly, Sr. Pastor



[Learn More about  
St. John's Lutheran](#)

*I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.*

~John 15:5

## YOUTH NEWS



## SEPTEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

Sept. 29 9:00 pm College Online



## SUNDAY'S COOL

Below is a link to this week's  
Sunday's Cool. Check it out!

[Read Now](#)

# 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

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](#)

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## 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](#)
- **Dr. Glenda Poole**, *Organist* [Email](#)
- **Cindy Cruse**, *Hospitality Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Kathryn Radcliffe**, *Nursery Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Joseph Beasley**, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

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[View as Webpage](#)

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

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

