ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
GROWING IN CHRIST
EST. 1843

WEEKLY
Ring Out
NEWSLETTER



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

Week of Oct. 25, 2026

The Festival of the Reformation

Introduction to Worship

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Watch the Live Stream:



Download Bulletin

The Week Ahead

Sunday, Oct. 25
No Adult Sunday School
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
3:00 pm Trunk or Treat! 🎃

Monday, Oct. 26
10:30 am Quilting

Thursday, Oct. 29
6:30 pm Choir
7:30 pm Carols by Candlelight Rehearsals

Sunday, Nov. 1
Salvation Army Meal Week Starts
9:00 am Choir
9:00 am Adult Sunday School
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship

On the Calendar

Nov. 1 - 7 Salvation Army Meal Week

Nov. 22 - Congregational Meeting

Nov. 29 - Advent Activities

Dec. 1 - 27 - Sonshine Backpack Food Drive

Dec. 6 - Bethlehem at the Farm

Dec. 7 - My Father's House Meal Ministry

Dec. 11 & 12 - Carols by Candlelight 🎵

Dec. 20 - Cocoa & Cookies: Children's Christmas Program

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services

Online Calendar

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR
Oct. 25 Christine Ruff
Nov. 1 Margaret Garrison

VIDEOGRAPHER
Oct. 25 Kim Haberman
Nov. 1 Jason Pittard

COMMUNION ASSISTANT
Oct. 25 Margaret Garrison
Nov. 1 Elizabeth Hurley

ACOLYTES
Oct. 25 Volunteer
Nov. 1

GREETER
Oct. 25 Volunteer
Nov. 1 Jean Beasley

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

BUILDING SUPERVISOR
Tommy Propst

ALTAR FLOWER
Oct. 25
Nov. 1

Sign Up to Volunteer

Lector | Communion Assistant | Acolyte | Videographer | Altar Flowers

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Happy Birthday! 🎂

Oct. 27 - Michael Folino, Joan McEachern
Oct. 28 - Cliff Caffery, Linda Hartsell, Riley Moran, Taylor Pruette
Oct. 30 - Adam Hartman, Jackson Propst

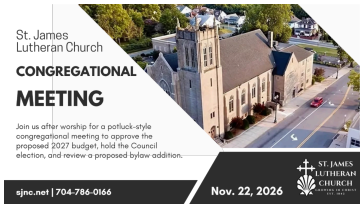
Announcements



🎃 Trunk or Treat! 🎃 - This Sunday!

Be sure to join us **this Sunday at 3pm** for Trunk or Treat! We'll have plenty of candy, games, and trunk-or-treating!

If you would like to donate Halloween candy, please drop off at the designated basket in the portico through Sunday morning.



Congregational Meeting - Nov. 22

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, Nov. 22, following worship, we will have a potluck congregational meeting to approve the proposed 2027 budget, hold the Council election, and review a proposed bylaw addition.

Proposed Bylaw Addition

The voting membership will consider Council's recommendation to adopt a new bylaw under Section 2, Item 3, which would read: "A member elected by a special election to fill a vacant congregational council seat shall serve the remainder of that term." Please direct any questions about

the proposed addition to Pastor Bill, who is proposing the change.

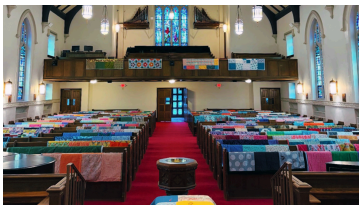


Help Bring Our Chrismon Tree to Life! 🎄

We're looking for families with young children to help assemble and decorate this year's Chrismon Tree, the special Christmas tree in our sanctuary adorned with ornaments symbolizing our Christian faith.

Gretchen Walker has lovingly cared for this tradition over the years and will be there to guide families as they learn how to put the tree together. It's a wonderful opportunity to make family memories and help carry the tradition into the future!

Interested families can contact **Gretchen Walker**, who will help coordinate a time to put up the tree.



Thank You from the Quilting Ministry

The Quilting Ministry would like to thank everyone who donated to help cover the quilt shipping costs and to those who helped fold and pick up the quilts after worship this past Sunday.



Salvation Army Meal Week Update

St. James is providing meals for the Salvation Army **November 1–**7, and we still have a couple of **nights available**.

Can't commit to a full night?

Join Martha Matthews in providing dinner on **Wednesday, November 4, at 6:30 p.m.** for approximately 50 adults. Martha is providing chicken tenders and welcomes contributions of side dishes, desserts, and other items to round out the meal.

To contribute, call or text Martha at 704-787-2180.

In Case You Missed It...

THE MISSION FUND

Mission Fund Q3 Report

At its September meeting, St. James' Mission Fund Committee welcomed Becca Kittel, who will complete Trevor Matthews' term. The committee is also seeking a new member for the next five-year rotating term as the current chair's term comes to an end.

The Committee approved grants for Concord Bible Teaching Association, Elder Orphan Care, and Present Age Ministries. They are also considering increasing the maximum grant

award from $2,000 to $3,000 beginning in 2027, allowing the fund to make an even greater impact through local nonprofit partnerships.

The next meeting is December 1 at 5:45 p.m. in the parlor.



Fundraising Goal Met for CROP Hunger Walk

Final Tally:

Raised: $1,602 | Goal: $1,600

Thank you to everyone who walked, donated, and supported this year's efforts to help reach our fundraising goal.

Click here to view our CROP Hunger Walk Team Page.



A Note of Thanks

Sylvia Corl and Gretchen Walker would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Sonshine Backpack Ministry in September.

Reminders



Salvation Army Meal Week - Nov. 1 - 7

We're once again partnering with the Salvation Army Night Shelter to provide seven evening meals, and we'd love your help! Individuals or groups can sponsor a meal by preparing/purchasing and delivering 50 dinners to 216 Patterson Ave., Concord by **6:30 p.m. on their selected date, November 1st – 7th**. Staying to serve is appreciated but not required.

Meal expenses can be reimbursed through Jill Irvin. Contact Chip Popovici with questions.

Click here to sign up!



Volunteers Needed : Bethlehem at the Farm - Dec. 6

Step back in time to the night Jesus was born at Bethlehem at the Farm on **Sunday, December 6, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.** at the farm of Anita and Jeff Jones, just a few miles from St. James off Old Salisbury Road.

We're looking for about **50 volunteers f**rom our congregation to help create this immersive Christmas experience. Volunteers are needed for just **3-4 hours**, and there are a variety of roles available.

Please consider being part of this St. James tradition. **Sign up to volunteer through the form on our website.**



Carols by Candlelight

Save the dates and plan to join us on **Friday, December 11, and/or Saturday, December 12, at 7 p.m**. for a congregational sing-along tradition featuring full orchestra, choirs, and organ! Contact **Kevin Estes** for more information.

In Our Prayers

Billy Sumner

A Give InKind page has been set up for **Billy Sumner**. **Click here for available dates to provide a meal.**

Prayer List

Chip Allman
(Friend of the Marlow Family)
Cecil Berry
(Friend of Gretchen Walker)
Family of Patsy Black
Angie Buchanan
Mike & Debbie Cagle
(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)
Jay Clemmer
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 Marlows)
Ginger Gibbs
(Friend of Deedee & Jeff Gilbert)
Nancy Haney
(Loved one of Betsy Ballard)
Ryan Hardister
(Son of Bill & Reggie Hardister)
Linda Hartsell
Maureen Hollmeyer
Hunter Huss
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)
Ron Lee (neighbor of Kathryn Radcliffe)
Buddy McEachern
Jimmy Clark Marlow, Jr.
(Son of Lois Marlow)
Barbara Merrell
Deb & Roger Myers
(Friends of Deb Black)
Ruthie O'Brien
(Friend of the Marlow Family)
Dave Olsen (Friend of Patsy Black)
Mason Overby
Stan Parnell
(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)
Al Pieschel
Lori Ruff (Mother of Christine Ruff)
Jessica Seeley (Cousin of Christine Ruff)
Robert Shinn
Doris Smith
Glenda Steel (Friend of Jeff & Deedee Gilbert)
Bobbi Talbert (Friend of Dale & Barbara Merrell)
Ruby Tyer (Niece of Beth Huss' Friend)
John Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Weisel

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

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 available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up for flowers **online**, on the sign-up sheet in the portico, or call the office at 704-786-0166.

Not sure where to start? Email us at **info@sjnc.net** for more information, training, or to connect with a volunteer team leader.

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**

Contact Us

📞 Phone: **(704) 786-0166**
🌐 Website: **www.sjnc.net**
✉️ Email: **info@sjnc.net**

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