







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

Week of Sept. 14, 2025

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to Worship

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

Watch the Live Stream:



The Week Ahead

Sunday, Sept. 14

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

Monday, Sept. 15

My Father's House Ministry 10:30 am Quilting

Tuesday, Sept. 16

My Father's House Ministry

Thursday, Sept. 19

6:30 pm Choir

Saturday, Sept. 20

8:30 am Leah's Hope Trailer
7:00 pm Tri-Tone Brass Concert

Sunday, Sept. 21

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

September Ministries:

Blessing Box Drive□ Sonshine Backpacks□

Coming Up

Events:

Sept. 20: Brass Trio □
Oct. 12: CROP Hunger Walk □

Oct. 25 Million Meals Tour

Oct. 26: Trunk or Treat

Nov. 8: Organ Concert

Dec. 13: Carols by Candlelight □□

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

September 14 Barbara Albright September 21 Kim Haberman

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

September 14 Ann Blackwelder September 21 Samantha Hillegass

ACOLYTE

September 14 Noah Pittard September 21 Joshua Rinker

GREETER

September 14 Laura Patterson September 21 Barbara Albright

VIDEOGRAPHER

September 14 September 21

USHERS

Michael Rinker, Ashley Cline, Jeff Koenig, Barbara Albright

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Chip Blackwelder & Mike Rinker

ALTAR FLOWERS

September 14 Deb & Patsy Black September 21

Sign Up to Volunteer

Lector Communion
Assistant

Acolyte

Videographer

Altar Flowers

Happy Birthday!

Sept. 16 - Collins Whisnant

Sept. 17 - Evelina Matthews

Sept. 19 - Trevor Matthews

Sept. 20 - Peter Muniz, Camron Trott, Carson Trott

Announcements

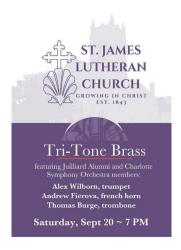


St. James Team Registration Open Now! -CROP Walk Oct. 12

Registration is now open for the St. James Lutheran Team! Register now and join us for the annual Cabarrus County CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, Oct. 12 at 2pm (check-in at 1pm).

This year's walk kicks off at First Presbyterian Church (70 Union St. NE).

St. James supports the CROP Walk each year by sponsorship and participation.



Tri-Tone Brass Next Saturday!

Reminder!

Be sure to join us next Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7pm for a memorable evening of music featuring Juilliard Alumni and Charlotte Symphony Orchestra members:

Alex Wiborn – trumpet Andrew Fierova – french horn Thomas Burge – trombone

Thank you to our Music Ministry Department for arranging this special performance.



Lifeline's Million Meals Tour - Oct. 25

Join us as Lifeline Christian Mission brings the Million Meals Tour to Atrium Ballpark in Kannapolis.

St. James Social Ministry has committed to providing 20 volunteers for Saturday, Oct. 25 at 9:00AM.

Meal packing takes about 1.5 hours leaving plenty of time afterward to enjoy Downtown Kannapolis!

Sign up here. Contact Chris Miller with any questions.



Thank You to everyone who donated pencils for the August Stuff the Pencil Boxes campaign.

The pencils were shared between Irvin Elementary and R. Brown McAllister Elementary School earlier this week.

Over 1200 pencils were collected and distributed.



GWOH 2025 - Thank You!

This past Sunday our congregation joined thousands of others across the ELCA for God's Work. Our Hands.

Together we were able to assemble 60 school kits, 84 personal hygiene kits, 26 fabric kits as well as quilts for Lutheran World Relief and made over 50 cards for our partners at Big Brothers Big Sisters!

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to our Social Ministry team for organizing this annual event!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

No Adult Sunday School Sept. 14 & 21

You are invited to a special informational session on Sundays, September 14 & 21 in the Fellowship Hall. Sessions will be offered at 9:00 AM and again immediately after worship both Sundays—the same content will be shared at all four times.

Together with Pastor Bill and Frank Irvin, we'll explore how your offerings fuel the mission of our church and answer the important question: "Where and for what do our offerings go?"



Come learn, ask questions, and deepen your understanding of how our giving connects directly to our mission!



Carols by Candlelight

A congregational sing-along with full orchestra, choirs and organ

Saturday, Dec 13 ~ 7 PM

Visiting choristers are welcome contact Church Office at 704-786-0166

Tri-Tone Brass

featuring Juilliard Alumni and Charlotte Symphony Orchestra members:

Alex Wilborn, trumpet Andrew Fierova, french horn Thomas Burge, trombone

Saturday, Sept 20 ~ 7 PM

Rev. William C. Ridenhour

Organ Concert

An evening of music for organ and timpani featuring:

Brice Burton

Principle Percussionist for the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Kevin L. Estes
Director of Music Ministry & Organist

Saturday, Nov 8 ~ 7 PM

104 Union Street South Concord, NC 28026 Dr. Kevin L. Estes Director of Music Ministry

Tri-Tone Brass - Sept. 20

Join us for a memorable evening of music as three talented Juilliard graduates share their incredible gifts with our congregation and community. The brass trio group performs on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7pm.

Organ Concert - Nov. 8

Enjoy an evening of music for organ and timpani on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 7pm. Featuring: Brice Burton, Principle Percussionist for the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra & Dr. Kevin L. Estes, Director of Music Ministry & Organist.

Carols by Candlelight Dec. 13

Join us for a congregational sing-along of Advent and Christmas Carols accompanied by full Orchestra, Organ and the Parish & Bell Choirs of St. James Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 13th at 7pm.



Community Candidate Forum

Our neighbors at Central United Methodist, 30 Union Street, N. invite the entire community to a civil, non-partisan, non-sectarian and respectful opportunity to hear from the candidates for the offices of Mayor and City Council. This forum will be held on September 24 from 7-8:30pm. This is a community event not a church event. This is an opportunity for the candidates to speak directly to citizens about our city. There will be no endorsements or political signs in the sanctuary. Mark Plemmons of the Daily Independent newspaper will be the moderator. The forum will be livestreamed and recorded. Remember early voting begins October 16 and election day is November 4.



2025 Cabarrus/Stanly WELCA Fall Conference Gathering

Join the Cabarrus/Stanly Women of the ELCA Saturday, September 20, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM at Mt. Zion Lutheran, Richfield, for food, fellowship, Bible study, and a Candlelight Service of Remembrance. This year's theme is "For Such a Time as This, God's love breaks through" with a study on Peter and Cornelius. Cost is \$12; childcare available. Register by September 15 with Bonnie Smith (704-463-7781).



Sonshine Backpacks □

St. James is partnering with the Sonshine Backpack Ministry, which provides weekend food for Cabarrus County schoolchildren in need. For 12+ years, this ministry (led by Bonita Rowland at St. John's Lutheran) has helped ensure students don't go hungry when school meals aren't available.

How You Can Help (September Collection):

Bring non-perishable food items such as:

- Shelf-stable milk, cereal cups, oatmeal, grits
- Mac & cheese, canned pasta, soup, veggies, fruit
- Granola bars, juice boxes, popcorn, pudding cups
- □ Drop donations on the back counter in the church kitchen by Sept. 28.
- □ Questions? Contact Sylvia Corl (704-425-8621) or **Gretchen Walker**.



Blessing Box □

St. James is once again sponsoring the Blessing Box for the month of September.

Requested items:

- Nonperishable food
- Easy-open Cans
- Baby food
- Bottled water
- Hygiene items
- ☐ Items may be placed in the **Blessing Box at Rotary Square** or in the **collection bin in the portico.**

In Our Prayers

Joyce Beaty (Friend of the Marlow's) Cecil Berry (Friend of Gretchen Walker) Maureen Hollmeyer Mary Frances Johnson (Cousin of Francie Davis) Family of Michael Black (Nephew of Patsy Black)

Patsy Black Angie Buchanan Mike & Debbie Cagle

(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)

Noah Clifton

Bruce Coffey (Friend of Mark Murphy)

Karey Conrad (Friend of Dee Pieschel)

Jennifer Cook (Friend of Fonda Shumate)

Catherine Durst

(Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges)

Nadine Filipak

(Friend of AI & Dee Pieschel)

Ed Frost (Friends of the Marlow's)

Tom Grady

Karen Johnston (Friend of Judy Benz) Ruth Lawler

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

John Ledford (Brother of Deb Black)

Patricia Mahoney

(Sister-in-law of Joan Mahoney)

Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow

(Friends of Shannon Nesbit)

Deb & Roger Myers

(Friends of Deb Black)

Stan Parnell (Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

Al Pieschel

Lori Pittard

Tom Ridenhour

Roger Scarselletta

(Nephew of Joan Mahoney)

Deb Walker

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-need consistent support throughout the year. Thank you for your faithful generosity.



Ways to **Give**

St. James Staff

Rev. Bill Ridenhour, Pastor Email Jill Irvin, Financial Administrator Email Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries & OrganistEmail 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

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