



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

Week of July 19, 2026

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction to Worship

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, July 19

9:00 am Choir
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am VBS Meeting & Decorating
Kickoff
3:00 pm St. James Gathering for World
Cup Final at Southern Strain

Monday, July 20

10:30 am Quilting

Thursday, July 23

12:00 pm Final Youth Volunteer Day at
Salvation Army

Sunday, July 26

Vacation Bible School Begins
9:00 am Choir
10:00 am Worship
5:30 pm VBS

[Church Calendar](#)

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

July 19 Kim Haberman

July 26 Lindsey Olsen

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

July 19 Samantha Hillegass

July 26 Margaret Garrison

ACOLYTES

July 19 [Volunteer](#)

July 26 Christine Ruff

GREETER

July 19 Barbara Albright

July 26 [Volunteer](#)

VIDEOGRAPHER

July 19 Jason Pittard

July 26 Kim Haberman

USHERS

Chip Popovici, Jimmy Harris, Jeff
Jones, Jeff Gilbert, Phil Tesh

BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Jeff Gilbert

ALTAR FLOWER

July 19

July 26

[Sign Up to Volunteer](#)

Happy Birthday! 🎂

July 21 - Ashley Cline

July 22 - Avery Ziegler

July 23 - Holden Downs, Jill Trott

July 25 - Laurie Miller, Justin Monk

Announcements



St. James Gathering for World Cup

Join us for the World Cup Final this Sunday at Southern Strain Brewing (165 Brumley Ave) starting at 3pm.

Bring the family and friends for fellowship and fun!



Mission Fund Update

The Mission Fund Committee met on June 2 to review grant applications from six local ministry partners. Funding was approved for The Open Door House, 1CAN, Esther's Heart, and Lifeline Christian Mission, supporting projects that provide housing assistance, food security, community outreach, and ministry programs.

The committee requested additional information from Coltrane Life Center before making a final decision and deferred Present Age Ministries' application until the September meeting.

The committee also welcomed Becca Kittel as its newest member. She will begin her term at the next meeting on September 1.

In Case You Missed It...



Save the Date: Blessing of the Backpacks

Join us during worship on **Sunday, August 9** for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks as we pray for students, teachers, and school staff as they begin a new school year. After worship, stay for a congregational lunch. All are welcome!



Save the Date: Stewardship Luncheon

Save the date and join us for a special Stewardship Luncheon after worship on **Sunday, August 23**. Enjoy a catered lunch and fellowship as we discuss the mission of St. James.



VBS Meeting & Decorating Kickoff

VBS volunteers, a friendly reminder that our VBS informational meeting and decorating kickoff will be held on **Sunday, July 19**, immediately following worship. Lunch will be provided for those able to stay and help decorate.

The VBS Committee will also be at the church each morning beginning July 20 until decorating is complete. If you're available to lend a hand, we'd love to have your help then as well!

Reminders



ISO - Props needed for VBS

Vacation Bible School is looking for props to help decorate for this year's theme, Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Needed Props:

- Sleds 
- Skis 
- Ski poles 
- Inflatable snow tubes 
- Snow discs/saucers 
- Artificial Christmas trees 

Items may be dropped off in the Flex Room and picked up following the final night of VBS (July 28). Please label all items before dropping them off.

Questions? Contact Laura Overby or Lisa Folino.



Youth Service Opportunity - Extended through July 23rd!

Rising 6th–8th grade youth are invited to serve with The Salvation Army this summer by helping pack fresh food boxes for local families in need. This is a great way to gain services hours!

Volunteers will serve **Thursdays in June and July from 12:00–2:30pm** at The Salvation Army, located at 216 Patterson Ave SE, Concord, NC 28025.

Youth will help sort, pack, and load food boxes alongside Salvation Army staff and adult volunteers from St. James.

Please [RSVP through SignupGenius](#) and complete a volunteer form. [Volunteer forms may be downloaded](#) or picked up from the church office. Completed volunteer forms should be brought to Cheryl Webb.

For additional information call or text Cheryl Webb: 832-275-8872.



Register for VBS!

Registration for VBS 2026 is open!

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

 **Register by June 30 to guarantee a t-shirt!**

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 to begin the process.

 This year's theme: Snowball Mountain Challenge! 

In Our Prayers

Cecil Berry (Friend of Gretchen Walker)

Family of Michael Black
(Nephew of Patsy Black)

Patsy Black

Patrick Bryn
(Son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn)

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 Marlow's)

Margaret Garrison

Ginger Gibbs
(Friend of Deedee & Jeff Gilbert)

Jeff Gilbert

Nancy Haney (Loved one of Betsy Ballard)

Ryan Hardister
(Son of Bill & Reggie Hardister)

Maureen Hollmeyer

The Hopkins Family

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)

Buddy McEachern

Jason Matthews

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

Corinne Robbins

Lori Ruff (Mother of Christine Ruff)

Jessica Seeley
(Cousin of Christine Ruff)

Ruby Tyer
(Niece of Beth Huss' Friend)

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 also available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

Saint James Lutheran Church | 104 Union Street, South PO Box 684 | Concord, NC 28025 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!