

The Beacon

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.”
1 John 3:1



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PASTOR KEN, I HAVE A QUESTION. Is it okay to pray in a restaurant?

Of course! I am reminded of a restaurant that was featured in a news article for offering a unique discount. Not for students or seniors. Instead, if the server witnessed a customer praying over their meal, the customer received a fifteen percent discount. In Romans 13:14, St. Paul writes “Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.” Praying (in public or private) is one way to clothe ourselves in thanksgiving and praise to God. Outward expressions of our Christian faith are not for the purpose of drawing attention to ourselves. However, when we engage in holy conversation with God (in public or private), we embrace and display an important garment modeled for us by Christ himself: Love of God and love of neighbor. Whereas an unexpected restaurant discount is always a nice surprise, a debt paid in full because of God’s love for us is worth a lifetime of gratefulness.

O Lord, may our light so shine before others that they may see our good works and glorify you, our Father, in heaven. Amen.

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We Have Four Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm (Fellowship Bldg)
(studying scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday)

Thursdays @ 10:30 am (Sanctuary)
(currently studying the Psalms)

Sundays @ 9:30 am (Fellowship Bldg)

Sundays @ 9:30 am (Library)

Come join us! We have a place for you!

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

Haas Heritage Day, Sunday, Oct. 1 at Haas Cemetery and the church (see below).

The **Women's Meeting** will be Monday, Oct. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Legacy Task Force will meet on Oct. 5th and 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

Middle and High School Youth will meet on Oct. 8th and 22nd at 3:00 p.m.

The **Evangelism Committee** will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Building.

Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Movie Night is Saturday, Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Building (see below and flyer on Page 6).

The **Men's Breakfast** will be on Sunday, Oct. 22nd at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Building.

Trunk or Treat will be on Saturday, Oct. 28th at 6:30 p.m. (see below).

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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

We will celebrate **Haas Heritage Day** on Sunday, October 1st at 10:30 a.m. For those who are unable to attend the service at the cemetery, there will also be a service in the church at the same time. Pastor Ken will have the Haas service and Pastor Bob will have the service at the church. We are asking those going to Haas to share a ride due to limited parking there. There will be a meal of hotdogs and hamburgers served in the Fellowship Building after the services. Please bring a dessert to share. This is a Thrivent-sponsored meal.

The E-team is sponsoring a **Movie Night** on Saturday, Oct. 21st at 6:30 p.m. The movie, "*Finding Normal*", is a light-hearted take of a brilliant, big-city surgeon with absolutely no bedside manner. Dr. Lisa Leland is detained while traveling through the tiny town of Normal, North Carolina (population 321), with the slogan "It's good to be Normal". She unknowingly discovers both herself and what a meaningful life is all about - all of which puts her once-sure path to New York into question. See flyer on Page 6. There is free popcorn, snacks and drinks. Bring your favorite lawn chair or use one of our chairs.

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Trunk or Treat will be Oct 28th starting at 6:30 p.m. We will have food, games and a petting zoo. We are asking for everyone able to participate to have their cars set up by 6:00 p.m.. Anyone wishing to donate candy is asked to please leave it on the table outside the secretary's office.



As you do your preparations for the upcoming Fall season, remember that our **Bazaar** will be on Sat. Nov. 18th and it is coming fast! We will take new or slightly used household items, clothes, furniture, etc. We will be selling homemade BBQ plates, chicken pies, cakes, pies, cookies and other goodies. Any questions, please ask...if you need a place to put items, please ask.

Wreaths Across America is on Sat. Dec. 16th at 12:00 noon. Anyone wishing to purchase a wreath is asked to fill out the form in the Narthex and give it to Erica Paquin or Robin Sigmon. **If anyone wants a name read during the ceremony, please give it to Erica as soon as possible.**

The Youth will be selling 2024 calendars soon. The cost is \$8 each. See Karen Stewart for all pre-orders.

OCTOBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1. Harvey Settlemyre
3. Victor Paquin
5. Stephanie Shook
7. Joy Sharpe
9. Anissa Laws, Wesley Stinson
13. Brenda Isenhour, Celia Reece
15. Susan Hullet
16. Twila Sipe
17. MacKenzie Lowman Jordan
25. Aiden Palmer
27. Sharon Ford, Zoie Miller
31. Jonathan Schmutz

NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1. Linda Smyre Brittain, Steve Campbell
3. Jennifer Barr
6. Mickey Bell
7. Barbara Self
8. Clay Chapman, Karen Stewart
15. Bill Seitz, Jr.
18. Madelyn Stewart
20. Charles Smyre
22. Elaine Link, Robert Smyre
23. Natalie Link, Samantha Heavner
25. Betty Williams Cline
26. Carolyn Baucom
28. Carol Baker
29. Gracie Brakefield



1. Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Sigmon
4. Mr. & Mrs. Wally Hill
8. Mr. & Mrs. Anthony OBrien
9. Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Sipe
10. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Campbell
22. Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Miller
27. Mr. & Mrs. Mark Saunders

19. Mr. & Mrs. Joel Reece
21. Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Sipe

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THE LAITY TEAM

Laity Team works include praying, caring, sharing, encouraging, helping, and supporting each other. Everyone in keeping with our Lord's calling is a Laity Team member.

Please contact co-chairs, Kristy Painter or Keeley Stikeleather, at any time to pray and support members with health issues. God's continued blessings to all.

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*Thank
You*

The **American Heritage Girls** would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to St. James for always helping us with our fundraisers. Our mums fundraiser was a huge success because of your generous help. We are so blessed to have St. James supporting us. We are all so thankful for all the support.

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Kathy Turner is currently at Trinity Ridge for rehab. You may visit, call or send cards/letters to Kathy Turner, c/o Trinity Ridge, 2140 Medical Park Dr, Hickory, NC 28603.



Several months ago we reported to the congregation that we were to receive money from the estate of a member of St. James that had passed away. To date, we have received \$653,000.00 and have been told there is more coming. A task force has been formed to help determine how to best use this money. As we learn more, we will keep the congregation informed. If you have any questions, let me or any member of the Council know.
Thank you, Robin Burgess

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IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER

World Communion Sunday	Oct. 1
Pastor Appreciation Sunday	Oct. 8
Columbus Day	Oct. 9
Reformation Sunday	Oct. 29
Reformation Day	Oct. 31



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The following is submitted by Connie Bell who received a post from someone who had spoken to people that got food at a food bank and learned from those in need:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which is hard to get from regular food banks.
2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you put a can opener in too or buy pop tops.
5. Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice-a-Roni which they also get a lot of.
6. Spices or salt and pepper would be a real Christmas gift.
7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
8. Sugar and flour are treats.
9. They fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are cool in Spring and Summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. They rarely get fresh meat.
12. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread.
15. Butter or margarine is nice too.
16. Eggs are a real commodity.
17. Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury and women will cry over that.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

DISCLAIMER: Most of the above items are good ideas for the Blessing Box at St. James. However, we **cannot** supply some items such as milk, butter, meats, produce, breads and eggs as stated in previous newsletters. Please note that the above items were donated to a Food Bank and not placed in a church food box such as ours.

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WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT

- Stop...Call 911...Render Aid...Don't Argue...Do Not Admit Fault
- Get the license tag numbers of all vehicles involved
- Take pictures
- Exchange names and telephone numbers
- Get names and telephone numbers of witnesses
- DO NOT** sign anything unless requested by a police officer

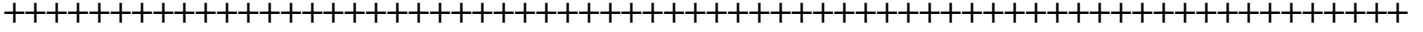
SAY A PRAYER

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS AT ST. JAMES



Pastor Ken assists Logan in lighting the Christ Candle during a Children's sermon on Sunday morning.

Pastor Ken explains the meaning of his 'God's Box' in which he keeps prayer requests.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALEX REED AND ELIZABETH ANGELINA WHO WERE MARRIED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 2023.

MUMS MUMS
EVERYWHERE



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MOVIE NIGHT



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21st , 2023
6:30pm**

Finding Normal

Finding Normal Dr. Lisa Leland, is a brilliant, big city surgeon with absolutely no bedside manner. She leaves her UCLA practice to move to New York's swanky Hamptons, where her concierge doctor boyfriend Dr. Steve treats the rich and famous. Speeding cross-country to her new life, Lisa's distracted driving sends her BMW through the welcome sign of the tiny town of Normal, North Carolina (population 321), slogan "It's good to be Normal." Slightly shaken and cited for numerous infractions by local police officer Lester O'Toole, the town's judge Shelby finds Dr. Leland guilty and orders her to several days of community service – as a traveling doctor, making house-calls to all sorts of residents sorely in need of a local physician. Stuck in a town with no Wi-Fi, no lattes and no credit cards, Lisa grudgingly makes contact with Normal residents, including handy, principled Lucas Craig. Alternately aggravated, challenged, and charmed by each person during this time, Lisa unknowingly discovers both herself and what a meaningful life is all about – all of which puts her once-sure path to New York into question.

Free Snacks Free Drinks

Bring your favorite lawn chair or use one of our chairs.