

The Beacon

"Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad." Psalm 96:11



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Issue 120

St. James Lutheran Church NALC Telephone: (828) 464-1953 Fax: (828) 465-2084

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Sherrie McKean, Secretary
Office Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Monday-Friday
Gary Reitzel, Custodian

Council Members: Wesley Stinson (Vice Chair), Karen Stewart (Secretary),
Celia Reece (Treasurer), Robert & Darbie Crouch, Kristen Link,
Kristy Painter, Ashton Hatley, and Tanya Stinson

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It's Easter Every Sunday!

Early Christians met every Sunday because it was the day Jesus rose from the dead and appeared in the flesh to the apostles (John 20:19, 26). Before there was a church-year cycle, the rhythm of Christian worship was weekly. Sunday was and always is a celebration of Easter. Already in the New Testament Christians were holding worship each Sunday, at the very least (Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Revelation 1:10).

The early Christian writer Justin Martyr explains why: *But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Saviour on the same day rose from the dead. (First Apology, 67)*

(“Lutheranism 101:Worship” by Thomas M. Winger, p. 216. Concordia, St. Louis: 2017)



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Nights - 7:00 pm in the Library to study the upcoming Sunday scriptures.
Thursday Mornings (May 7, 14, 21 & 28) - 10:30 am in the Choir Room with Pastor Ken



CATECHISM INSTRUCTION for 5th, 6th and 7th GRADERS

Confirmation Saturday
May 16 @ 9:30am-12:00pm (The Holy Sacraments, part 1)



WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (9:30am)

Children	Upstairs	Infant - 4 years
Children	Upstairs	Grades K-4 th
Youth	Upstairs	Grades 5 th -12 th
Adults	Library	
Adults	Fellowship Building	



GRADES 5th through 12th

Sunday, May 10 @ 3:00 pm - Servant Project
Sunday, May 24 @ 3:00 pm - End-of-Year Party

WOMEN'S GROUP meets on Monday, May 4th at 7:00 pm.
WOMEN'S CRAFT DAY is Thursday, May 7th at 2:00 pm.
EVANGELISM COMMITTEE meets on Wednesday, May 13th at 6:30 pm in the Library.
CHURCH COUNCIL meets on Thursday, May 14th at 6:30 pm in the Library.
WOMEN'S CRAFT DAY WITH LUNCH is Tuesday, May 19th at 10:00 am.
MEN'S BREAKFAST is Sunday, May 31st at 8:00 am.
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS are in the Secretary's office following Worship Service on Sunday, May 24th.

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MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET is Saturday, May 9th at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Building. A light lunch will be served. All ages are welcome. RSVP to Erica (828-238-8220) with the number attending.



The **Cemetery Committee** is asking anyone who places artificial flowers on a grave at St. James to please use a piece of tape and a Sharpie pen to label them with either the name and/or phone number of the person placing the flowers or the name that is on the gravestone. Rough winds have a tendency to blow flowers off of the graves and the Committee would like to know where to return them.



The piano that has been in the Fellowship Building is available to anyone who would like to have it. We have a new keyboard and the piano is no longer needed. If you would like the piano, please let Pastor Ken know by the middle of May.

2026 GRADUATES: If you are an active member at St. James and are graduating with the Class of '26, please contact the church office (828-464-1953) and give us your information.

ST. JAMES' WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group at St. James is collecting items to take to the western North Carolina mountains. These are items that they are in desperate need of at this time.

- Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, garbage bags)
- Hygiene products (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, wipes, bandages)
- Bed Liners
- Large-sized diapers
- Protein canned foods
- Quick breakfast items

Tables have been set up in the Sunday School Dept. for these items. We would like for all donations to be brought to the church by Mother's Day. **Thanks** for everyone's effort and support.

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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th, the Evangelism Committee has a "surprise" for all the Mothers. Stay tuned!!!

There will be an outdoor service on Sunday, May 31st at 10:30 am. Pastor Bob Alle will lead us in the service. Dress casual. A covered dish luncheon will be served afterwards in the Fellowship Building. Invite your family and friends to join us.

Thank you!
Gary

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**St. James Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes
03.12.26**

Members Present: Darbie Crouch, Robert Crouch, Rev. Ken Reed, Ashton Hatley, Wesley Stinson, Celia Reese, Tanya Stinson

Members Absent: Karen Stewart, Kristy Painter, Kristen Link

Recording Secretary: Rev. Ken Reed

Opening

- Devotions: Robert Crouch
- Prayer List: Kathy Turner, Nancy Springs, Todd York
- There were no minutes from last month's meeting to review.

Consent Package (approved by council).

- Treasurer's report (received by council).
- Pastor's Report (see attachment)
 - Lent/Easter schedule is set.
 - NALC Convocations dates are May 1-2, Aug 7, Delegates are needed.
 - Proposal: New document folder from RJ Young (see attachment) to replace current unit which is no longer operable. (Council approved \$167 lease of new proposed unit)

Committee Reports

- Evangelism: Post card ministry is planned for later this month; dates are also set for Movie Night and to assist at the Corner Table in Newton.
- Youth Ministry: 2 events were held in February and 2 events are planned for March.
- Helping Hands: Work on a member's home is scheduled for March.
- Social Ministry: No report.
- Bereavement: No report.
- Worship & Music: Will meet again on Tuesday, March 17th. Lent and Holy Week schedule is in place.
- Christian Education: The next Confirmation Saturday is March 21st.
- Audit and Finance: No report.
- Stewardship: No report.
- Property: Several members of the committee did a walk-around at the parsonage.
 - Some of the issues identified: repair the concrete pad from water pipe repair, consider commercial gutters/down-spouts, repair front door and consider new flooring for kitchen and mud room.
- Cemetery: Clean up day is March 21st.
 - Safety Team: No report.
 - Laity Team: No report.
 - Tech Team: No report.
 - Investment Team: No report.

.....Continued on Page 4



- 4. Natalie Arndt
- 6. Brian Heavner
- 7. Claire Sipe
- 9. Nancy Alle
- 11. Robert Crouch
- 12. Anthony O'Brien
- 15. Roger Crouch, Rylee Smith
- 17. Tiffany Beal, Randy Cline
- 18. Frances Sigmon, Jay Sipe
- 19. Joe Teague
- 20. Mary Beth Young
- 21. Soundra Huffman
- 23. Chad Deal
- 24. Kathy Hagan, Jessica Hatley, Victor Lineberger II
- 25. Marjorie Moose
- 30. Marie Lingle

- 1. Donovan Painter, Daniel Sipe
- 2. Stephanie Dixon
- 3. Mildred Gilbert, Julia Seitz, Jerry Sipe
- 5. Daniel Clay Sipe
- 10. Ps. Ken Reed, Sue Rogers, Melinda Sipe
- 11. George Young
- 15. Terry Self
- 17. Rorie Grace Jordan, Janice Kelly, Hailee Moose,
- 18. Sharon Sipe
- 20. Ruby Sigmon
- 22. Brenda Schlie
- 23. Lori Devine
- 24. Zachery Link, Avalee O'Brien
- 25. Ben Devine
- 27. Lisa Chapman
- 28. Stephanie Heavner
- 29. Kevin Sipe
- 30. Clint Burgess



- 3. Ps. & Mrs. Bob Alle
- 4. Mr. & Mrs. Chris Valone
- 7. Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Link
Mr. & Mrs. Wrenn Travis
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Thompson
- 30. Mr. & Mrs. Clint Burgess

- 2. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beal
- 9. Mr. & Mrs. David Hawn
- 11. Mr. & Mrs. David Link
- 15. Mr. & Mrs. David Arndt
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Seitz Jr
- 19. Mr. & Mrs. Earl Sipe
- 27. Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Stinson
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Stikeleather

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THE LAITY TEAM

The Laity Team plans to meet monthly to assess the current status of Church members. Prayers, cards, encouragement, and support to each other is our calling from our Lord.

Kristy Painter or Keeley Stikeleather, co-chairs, may be contacted. The committee consists of Robin Burgess, Betty Hawn, Sue Lindley, and Claire Sipe. God's continued blessings and peace to everyone.

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.....**Council Minutes continued from Page 3:**

New Business

- Pastor Ken would like to meet with the three members of the council whose terms are expiring this year. According to the constitution, they are the Nominating Committee. And it would be good for us to gather soon to do some planning.
- Solid Rock Day Camp is looking for college-aged summer counselors.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

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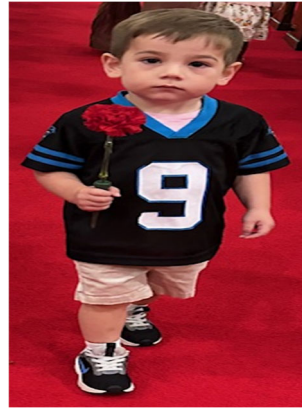


Linda Carswell would like to thank her St. James church family for all the calls and cards she has received.

EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 4, 2026



EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 5, 2026





LEFT:
Riley helps light the Christ Candle.



RIGHT:
Pastor Ken announces that he found his 'lost' Alleluia Box ... Riley clapped.



LEFT:
Mackenzie holds Carter and Rorie so both can light the Christ Candle.



RIGHT:
Clay does a wonderful job reading at the Easter Sunrise Service.

SPECIAL DATES IN MAY

- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 Mother's Day
- May 14 Ascension of the Lord
- May 16 Armed Forces Day
- May 24 Day of Pentecost
- May 25 Memorial Day
- May 31 Trinity Sunday

