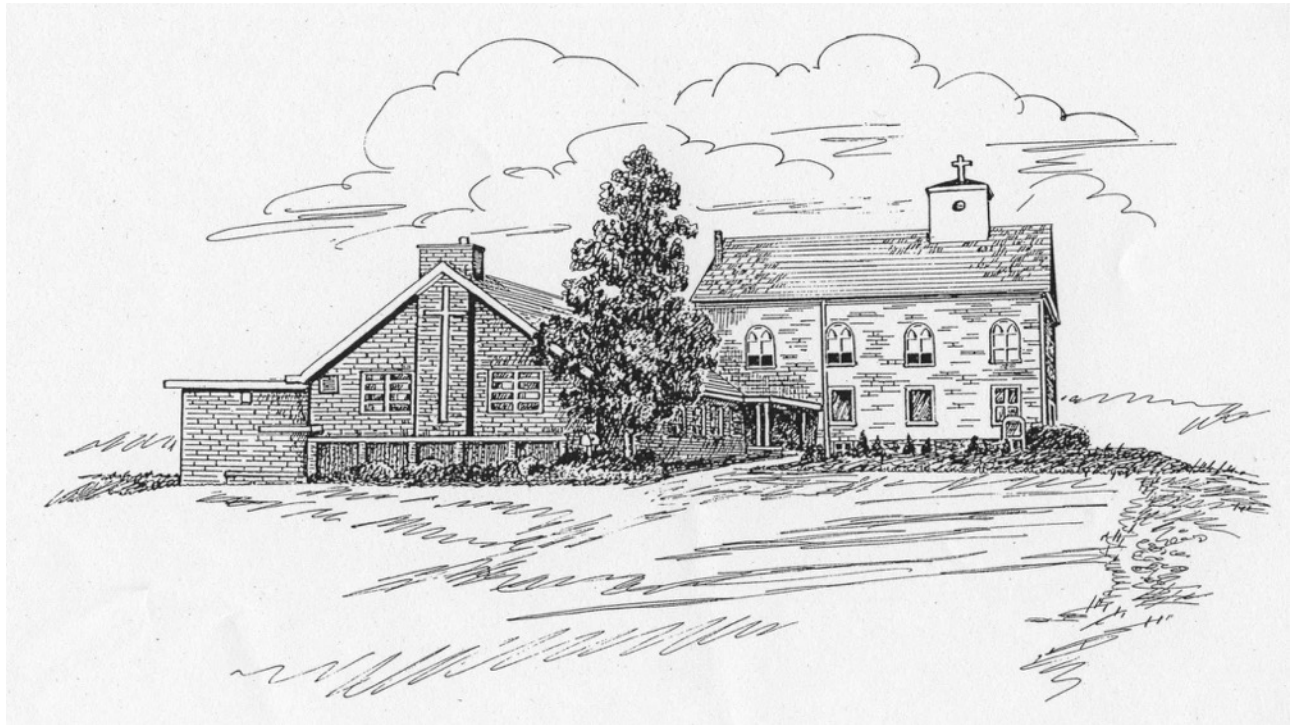


WISPS OF STRAW



St. James Lutheran Church Newsletter

April 2019

Church Office Phone: 908-454-2864

E-mail: strawchurch@gmail.com

Web site: www.strawchurch.com

*“Serving Christ in Word and Deed”
more than 265 Years*

From the Council President

Friends of St. James:

April brings a glimpse of Spring and new life, yet we are also in the midst of forty days. Six weeks that are a time for us to explore our faith during this Lenten season. Our belief in the promise of new things to come helps makes our Lenten season a little easier to cope with. As we get to the last days of the Lenten journey, we reflect on the last days of Jesus and we acknowledge that he followed God's plan; never waivering from His path regardless of how difficult it was. He knew that God had a plan and that the crucifixion was not his last act. For three days later he would be raised from the dead, and the glory of God would be revealed to all to see in an empty tomb.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 1 Peter 5:6

This Lenten season we explore our faith, directing attention towards a God who created us in love, and discover once again whom we are, and whom we belong. As with any journey, it can be easier when traveled together, and we as a family at St. James Lutheran Church are here to help each other on our faith journey.

Within St. James we are preparing for Easter Sunday, although a few other activities to highlight first. In March we officially installed our 2019 council members by a new member of our supply pastor circuit *Seminarian Erich Kussman*. Seminarian Erich also preached at our Ash Wednesday service and we look forward to his return in early May. And while we were disappointed to cancel March's country breakfast due to inclement weather, save your appetite for the **next Country Breakfast** on April 6. Bring your appetite to breakfast as we will also be **hosting a bake sale** to raise money for our **Summer VBS** program - bakers and buyers wanted! Our youth will also be featured on Youth Sunday on April 28 and all are invited to support our Vacation Bible School the week of July 8th.

Within our weekend services, we continue to have a full calendar of supply pastors and are completing the final touches for Holy Week and are looking forward to our youth group singing on Easter Sunday. In addition, we will again have a **Sunrise Easter Service** in the St. James cemetery. I invite you to attend all our planned activities.

Peace,

Dan Gulick
St. James Church Council President

Overseas Travel Opportunity

Pastor John of *Word Covenant Church* is traveling to his homeland of Ghana, West Africa to visit the three churches he councils there. St. James has offered his congregation a local place to worship (including Sundays 10:30AM) for over a year now.

He is planning a July trip and has graciously offered any member of St. James free accommodations and guidance if they wish to visit while he is there. Airfare would be at your own expense.

This is an excellent, possibly life changing, opportunity for anyone willing to put themselves in the hands of God and Christian friends, to experience life in a foreign country/culture. If this offer sparks some interest deep down inside you, please contact Dave Morris or Dan Gulick by April 28 for more details.

*"The longest journey begins with a single step."
Lao Tzu*

Vacation Bible School

Christian Education is already working on details for our 2019 VBS program at St. James. The theme will be *ROAR! Life is Wild, God is Good*. This year the event will be run July 8th to July 12th - 9AM to 12PM each day.

Like prior years we will be looking for senior youth and adult assistance to make the event for the children. Look for more information in the weeks to come on how to get involved!



Save the Dates: July 8 - 12

Easter Sunday

WITH

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

6:30AM **8:45AM**

Sunrise Service *With Holy Communion*
in St. James Cemetary

Celebrate the Resurrection

Upcoming Events

Straw Church Country Breakfast

First Saturday of every Month
We'll see you on
April 6, 2019
7AM – 11AM



Holy Week Services

We welcome you to join us.

Palm Sunday

Saturday, April 13, 6:00PM
Sunday, April 14, 8:45AM

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 18, 7:00PM

Good Friday

Friday, April 19, 7:00PM

Easter Saturday

Saturday, April 20, 6:00PM

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 21, 6:30AM / 8:45AM

Seeking Volunteers!

Our St. James Altar Guild needs assistance to keep the altar linens looking their best and replaced during the change of the church seasons. Time Commitment ~1-2/hrs month. Contact the church office if interested.

Social Ministry Notes

Social ministry is collecting money for this year's Links of Love. Donations can be provided in the lobby through Sunday, April 14. All proceeds will benefit Domestic Abuse Crisis Center in Warren County; April is Domestic Abuse month.

NORWESCAP Donations: 122 lbs (Year to Date)

And start to save your appetite, the first bake sale of the year will be April 6th in conjunction with the church breakfast.

How to Find Us?

Our Website:

www.strawchurch.com

Follow Us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/groups/StrawChurch/

For any pastoral needs for members of our congregation, you can contact:

**St. James' Vice-Pastor
Pastor Karol Van Wulfen**

Requests for
Visitations, Funerals, Baptisms,
Counseling, etc.

(908) 689-1976

stlukeswashington@verizon.net

Worship Leaders Schedule - April & May

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Counters</u>
APRIL				
Sat 4/6				
Sun. 4/7	Bob Babcock	Bob Babcock	H. Walters / R. Knoble	S. Stocker / B. Babcock
Sat. 4/13				
Sun. 4/14	Dan Gulick	Dan Gulick	H. Walters / R. Knoble	D. Gulick / R. Avard
Sat. 4/20				
Sun. 4/21	Ralph Avard	Ralph Avard	H. Walters / R. Knoble	S. Agans / C. Morris
Sat. 4/27				
Sun. 4/28	Polly Newbold	Polly Newbold	H. Walters / R. Knoble	C. Steible / L. Steible
MAY				
Sat. 4/4				
Sun. 5/5	Dan Gulick	Dan Gulick	H. Walters / R. Knoble	S. Stocker / B. Babcock
Sat. 5/11				
Sun. 5/12	Ralph Avard	Ralph Avard	H. Walters / R. Knoble	D. Gulick / R. Avard
Sat. 5/18				
Sun. 5/19	Dan Gulick	Dan Gulick	H. Walters / R. Knoble	S. Agans / C. Morris
Sat. 5/25				
Sun. 5/26	Jaime McLain	Jaime McLain	H. Walters / R. Knoble	C. Steible / L. Steible

Saturday role data not collected in advance of publication

***IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON YOUR ASSIGNED DATE,
PLEASE REMEMBER TO FIND A REPLACEMENT AND NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF THE CHANGE***