

St. James Lutheran Church Mission Statement

~To connect people to God and one another, welcoming all and changing lives!~



I give thanks for you this season and appreciate all your gratitude shared for me during Pastor Appreciation Month! This month I give thanks for all of *you*, especially our council and committees, staff, and the many people who do unseen tasks around the church and community and lead our many ministries. I am grateful for our ministry together.

As we enter a season of giving thanks, we also know that this is a season of heightened anxiety and dread for many. Not only is it election season but also the start of the busy holiday season, too. This time of year can be difficult as holidays may bring up reminders of our grief and loss, those who will not be present with us to celebrate Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. In the midst of everything going on in the world and our own lives, Professor Benjamin Stewart of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago asks “How can we live in hope and integrity when it looks like the end of the world?” (Prof. Benjamin Stewart, “All Saints Day”, *Living Lutheran*, 2022.) Well, we begin this season with a beautiful, hopeful and important holiday in the church- All Saints’ Day. This is a day that invites us to remember all the saints who have gone before us, and remember that we, too, are a part of the company of the saints formed in Christ Jesus. Professor Stewart says All Saints’ Day is a holiday of hope: “All Saints reimagines the world—all of it. Even in death, God is making all things new.”

In worship on Sunday, November 3rd, we will gather with all the saints and share in the meal of Holy Communion, giving us a foretaste of the feast to come. We will also remember church members who have died within the past year: Jerald Heeran, Lois McDowell, Terry West and Donald Henrichs. You will be invited to light candles to remember family, friends, and community members who have died. If you worship at home, I encourage you to light your own candle in honor of the saints you remember this day. Candles serve as a symbol of light and hope in the midst of darkness and remind us that Jesus is the “light of the world” (John 8:12).

Let us enter this season bringing our anxiety and hope, our doubt and our fear, our joy and sorrow, our sinner and saint selves to the table of grace, remembering that Christ’s death and resurrection has formed us all into the company of saints and we are promised new life in Christ.

What are you grateful for this season? What anxieties, fear, or grief do you lift to God this day? Who do you remember on All Saints’ Day?

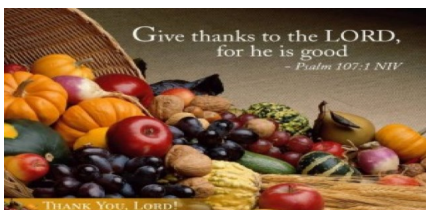
With Thanksgiving, Pastor Rebecca



The St James church office would appreciate announcements for the bulletin by Weds. morning for the weeks printing. Articles for the months newsletter are due by the 20th of the month. The church office is open M-TH 8:00 AM-12-noon.



Currently St. James is holding public worship via YouTube, and Dumont Cable channel 1004. If you need assistance accessing worship virtually, please call the church office. Worship with Holy Communion will occur each Sunday of the month.



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service will be held Weds. Nov. 27th @ 6:00 @ Trinity Ref. Church.

It takes many people to keep this congregation running smoothly and efficiently. Thank you to the many members who have given of their gifts. It makes our worship services special and inviting to attend. Your service shows in our communities as a witness to mission and it is appreciated.

To those who have assisted with Food & Fellowship
 To LOL for raking the south lawn
 To those who moved Flood Buckets and a very heavy T.V.



ALLISON CARE CENTER WORSHIP

Worship with Holy Communion at the Allison Care Center is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month @ 9:15 A.M. Thanks to all who lead this service.

**St. James Visiting Committee for
Nov. & Dec. 2024**

**Bonnie Dralle, Nancy Davies, Ann
Chinander, Deb McWhirter, &
Roberta Wiegmann**

Illness and COVID are an ongoing concern at Care Centers and Asst. Living facilities. Please call first to know what the policy is. Call those homebound members to see what their preference is. You may wish to call or send a note to them.



St. James W-ELCA Bible Study with Connie Wix will be held on Thursday, Nov. 7 @ 9:30. Roberta Wiegmann will provide refreshments.

BINGO will played at the Care Center Nov. 21st.

LWR Quilt making will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 19 and Wednesday, Nov. 22 beginning at 9:00.



St. James will be hosting the Advent Service at Elm Springs on Saturday, Nov. 30. Help is always welcome for this service. We remember most of the residents at Elm Springs cannot get out to attend worship at their own church and so bringing them an Advent Service is special for them.



	September end	
	Monthly	YTD
Income	\$17,462.71	\$289,423.83
Expense	\$12,799.30	\$136,000.68

THOSE NEEDING PRAYERS

Travis Terry, Tracy Hoodjer, Jeff Dreier, Dale Thorne, and Deb Steere.



In November the **Evangelism Committee** will be collecting needed clothing items for NB Elementary school going into the cold weather season. The youth are from ages 3 - 11 and grades Pre-K through 5th grade. Items needed include:

- Boots
- Snow Pants or Bibs
- Coats
- Stocking caps
- Mittens or gloves
- Underwear and Socks (must be new)
- Sweat Pants & Sweat Shirts

If you have gently used items above that may have been outgrown at your home please share also. There will be a container in the entryway of the church. If you prefer, a cash donation of any amount will be used to purchase items also.

Thank you for your participation in this outreach program.

WITH DEEPEST
sympathy

Prayers and sympathy are extended to the family members of Don Henrichs as they mourn his passing.

We pray: Comfort them as they bear the pain of his death, and receive us all into your everlasting arms, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



ACOLYTES SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

November 3: Braxton Buss & Landon Debner

November 10: Henry Salge & Blake Wubbena

November 17: Jack Hummel & Wes Wangness

November 24: Carter Deuell & Braxton Buss



The mission of St. James Lutheran Church is to connect people to God and one another, welcoming all and changing lives!

Your support of the capital campaign will not only help us "Raise the Roof" but help us continue to live out our mission. We have enclosed an envelope for gifts that you are invited to place in the mail or in the offering plate on Sunday. More envelopes are available for pick-up in the church office. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity.

Please see the back to learn more about giving options.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

"CHURCH" GIVING

Join us as we give thanks through worship, decorating and a potluck!



9:00am: Worship

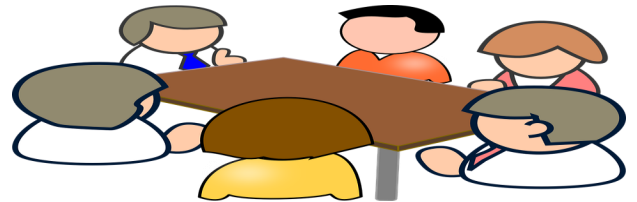
10:00am: Sunday School

10:00am: Church decorating

Please stay during the Sunday School hour to help decorate for the Advent season

11:00am: Church potluck!

All are invited to bring a dish to share



St. James Council Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Jim Davies. Present: Taylor Salge, Aimee Deuell, Leslie Groen, Mystie Hummel, Jeremy Idler, John Heeren, Financial Administrator Mindy Pecha and Pastor Rebecca Baird. Devotions given by Pastor Rebecca. Motioned by John, second by Mystie to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's report was provided by Mindy prior to the meeting. August income was \$17,462.71 with total expenses of \$12,799.30. Motioned by Leslie, second by Aimee to approve the Treasurer's report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: September minutes were reviewed. Motioned by Aimee, second by Jeremy to approve the Secretary's report. All ayes. Motion car-

ried. Jim discussed some updates the bank needs from the August minutes. Leslie suggested taking action on those updates today, so they are referenced in this month's minutes for the bank.

Motioned by Jim, second by Pastor Rebecca to take the following action at Lincoln Savings Bank. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update the Sunday School Account ending in 7359 authorized signers to be Alyssa Endelman and Syd Brinkman and we wish to remove Kendrick and Lindsey Renken as authorized signers of the account.

Update the Community Bible School Account ending in 7937 authorized signers to be Syd Brinkman and Taylor Salge and we wish to remove Pastor Jeffrey Blank, Robin Morton and Daleth Pothast as authorized signers of the account.

Standing Committee Reports:

Stewardship and Finance: Nothing new to report.

Property Committee: Nothing new to report.

Education/Youth Ministry: Met last week to begin working on the Sunday School Christmas Program.

Evangelism – Nothing new to report

Worship & Music – Nothing new to report but will be meeting soon to discuss Advent.

Pastor's Report: Pastor helped with the WELCA Harvest Festival, attended the Wilders Harvest Moon Festival, completed her annual review with Jim Davies and Deb McWhirter, attended a North Butler choir concert, has continuing education next week, is holding a Death and Desserts event on Oct. 21st at 6:30 pm open to anyone to attend. Pastor also had member visits and calls including Don Henrichs being hospitalized.

Old Business: The Raise the Roof Committee will meet on October 21st to discuss progress and how to proceed.

New Business: Pastor informed the council pulpit supply/lay leaders are needed for Nov. 10th and December 29th services. Council also discussed Christmas Day services. Based on past attendance in previous years and no comments regarding no service last year, the council decided not to have a Christmas Day service this year. Council discussed Pastor's continuing education funds and the possibility of carrying over unused funds from year-to-year. Motioned by Jim, second by Aimee for unused continuing education funds to accrue for a maximum of three years. All ayes. Motion carried. Pastor asked council members to check in with the chair of their committees to schedule meetings between now and December. The 'Church-giving' potluck discussed last month is scheduled for November 24th.

Motioned to adjourn made by John, second by Taylor. Meeting adjourned 6:24 p.m. Next meeting will be held November 13th at 5:30 p.m.



Syd will be out of the office from Thursday, November 21-Dec. 1. The office will be open on usual office days, M-TH, with a volunteer in the office.

PLEASE be aware that the newsletter for DECEMBER will need to be printed before the 21st and the office volunteers will assemble and send it out. It's a push but truthfully we are already thinking about December. Thanks for all your patience!