

## St. James Lutheran Church Mission Statement

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

Children of God,

What a summer it has been, and how hard to believe that we are winding our way towards another fall already! I pray that this summer has brought you some time out in God's good creation, places to be catching up with family and friends, and time to refresh and renew.

A few recent activities at St. James include the Luther League trip to Chicago. We had 7 students and 3 adults on the trip and we were able to serve at Hermitage Street Gardens, the Greater Chicago Food Bank, and Project C.U.R.E. We also had fun exploring Millennium Park, Navy Pier, the Hyde Park neighborhood, and we appreciated Augustana Lutheran Church for hosting us. We learned a lot about food insecurity and food deserts, the Hyde Park Refugee Project, and other social justice ministries and needs within the city. Please join us for worship to hear the students share more about the trip: We will worship with St. Peter in **Wilder Park on August 18 at 9:00am**. St. Peter will host fellowship at the large outdoor shelter following worship.

Please also join us for **Family Fun Night on August 21 at 5:00-6:30pm**. We'll have food, games and celebrate going back to school!

Some September dates to keep in mind include **God's Work, Our Hands on Sept. 8 at 9:00am**. We will have a very brief service in the Parish Hall followed by a morning of service and lunch to follow. Also, the first day of Sunday School will be on **Rally Sunday, Sept. 15 at 9:00am**.

Please consider volunteering your time and gifts this fall. We need you! Look for a "Time & Talents Survey" to come from the Evangelism Committee soon. This will be important for all to fill out so we can determine our greatest needs and help direct you to areas where your gifts best align.

In a season that may seem ordinary, remember the extraordinary love and grace of God, who meets us daily in the most ordinary of things.

In Christ, Pastor Rebecca

### THOSE NEEDING PRAYERS

Bill McDowell, Robert Vieker, Alice Schwab, Travis Terry, Tracy Hoodjer, Deb Hummel, Lois Silver and Duane & Lorna Feltz.



**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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.*



Be sure to save the date... We will have a joint church service with St. James & St. Peter in Wilder Park on August 18 at 9:00am. for brunch and to hear from our youth and leaders about all they learned and experienced on the trip!



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.

Those who volunteered to travel with the youth to do mission work in Chicago

Those who assist with special worship services

Those who worked tirelessly on the west outdoor kitchen steps

To those who will soon brainstorm fundraising ideas



**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  
July & August 2024**

**Syd Brinkman, Shirley Wubbena,  
Deb Blockhus, Robin Morton**

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 will NOT be meeting in August but will resume their Bible Study on Thursday, Sept. 5th.



This Photo by Un-W-ELCA

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR SCHOOL KITS and PERSONAL CARE KITS**

It is time to get supplies for the school kits that are sent to Lutheran World Relief. Stores are having great sales on school items. Listed below are the things needed for our kits. Thank you in advance for you support.

12” centimeter/inch wood ruler

Blunt Scissors

70 Sheet Spiral Wide Line Notebooks

5 Ballpoint Black & Blue Pens (**no advertising**)

Pencil Sharpeners

4-5 oz. bar of soap

Toothbrushes (sealed)

Large nail clippers

Wide heavy combs

**A CONTAINER FOR THE ITEMS IS UNDER THE FOYER TABLE**



This Photo by Noisy Offering project

**Back to School**

Butler County Visions of Wellbeing is holding their annual Back to School project. Each year, B.C.V.O.W. provides schools in Butler County with support to purchase school supplies and health and hygiene items to help meet the needs of students in their classrooms. As you can imagine, the need continues to rise along with the cost of these supplies. Your financial donation will make a difference for a child right here in Butler County. Please consider contributing to this project and thank you in advance for your support.



**HARVEST FESTIVAL!!!!**

The St. James Harvest Festival will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 17th in the Parish Hall. We are going to offer Chicken Noodle Soup for lunch along with Beef-burger sandwiches, chips and assorted bars. There will be a Bake Sale Table, Crafts Table and Produce Table. If you have a craft you like to donate or bake goods and produce, we would love to have them to sell. All proceeds go toward our mission projects. Volunteers will be needed to work and/or donate items for the meal and will be contacted via postcard.



	June end	
	Monthly	YTD
Income	\$13,166.71	\$71,440.55
Expense	\$12,905.66	\$97,703.24



## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Sunday, September 8

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

St. James will begin the day with a brief sending service, work on projects and the gather together for lunch. Projects for ALL ages! Stay tuned for more information!



## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

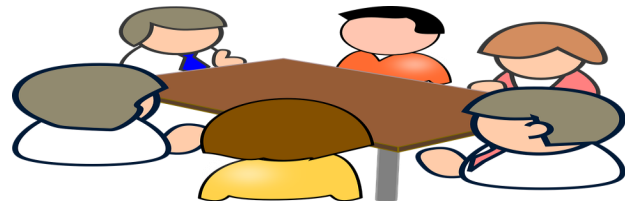
The Evangelism Committee invites one and all to Family Fun Night Wednesday August 21 from 5:00—6:30 PM. There will be grilled burgers and hot dogs, chips, a surprise veggie and bars along with smores to roast. The planned area is outside in the south lot with games planned for ALL ages including bag toss, new games for kids and adults alike. Please come and just have fun!



**Deepest sympathy to the family of Lois McDowell who passed away July 24th. The family will receive friends and family Aug. 5th at the funeral at 10:00 at St. James.**



**Need a morning activity? Want to meet other parents and make new friends? Do you like iced coffee and snacks? Well, join the club! Join Pastor Rebecca and her family at the playground! All ages are welcome.**



## St. James Council Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Jim Davies. Present: Leslie Groen, Mystie Hummel, Jason Shaull, Taylor Salge, Financial Administrator Mindy Pecha and Pastor Rebecca Baird. Devotions given by Pastor Rebecca. Motioned by Jason, second by Leslie to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

### REPORTS:

Treasurer's report was provided by Mindy prior to the meeting. June income was \$13,166.71 with expenses of \$12,905.66. Motioned by Taylor to approve the Treasurer's report, second by Jim. All ayes. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: June minutes were reviewed. Motioned by Mystie, second by Taylor to approve the Secretary's Report. All ayes. Motion carried.

### Standing Committee Reports:

Property Committee: The new outside steps by the kitchen will be installed soon.

Education/Youth Ministry: Pastor Rebecca and Mystie are going on the combined Luther League mission trip to Chicago this week. Luther League will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month and Confirmation

will be the other 3 Wednesdays. We are still in need of Sunday school teachers and new Luther League advisors.

Stewardship and Finance: Will plan to meet in August to discuss proceeds of the parsonage and a church roof capital campaign.

Worship & Music: They will meet again in July. This Sunday is a hymn sing service.

Evangelism: Have a meeting scheduled July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared recent and upcoming activities including care center and home visits, games at the Allison Care Center, and planned youth group activities. Community VBS went very well and the play on the playground event was well attended this month.

Old Business: No additional employee handbook updates were discussed. The parsonage has been sold and a check from the sale will be deposited. Council discussed the roof replacement bid congregational vote on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, which was 32 unanimous votes.

New Business:

Council reviewed the roof bid process including the pricing, signing the contract, a down payment, and a capital campaign this fall. The Council asked about Steward and Finance Committee meeting to get recommendations from them regarding the parsonage proceeds and roof payments.

Council discussed the pastor compensation guidelines from the Synod and discussed the timing of her annual raise being on August 1<sup>st</sup> vs. January 1<sup>st</sup>. Motioned by Leslie, second by Jason to approve the August 1<sup>st</sup> raise increase provided by the Synod as part of the first call promise, and then approve the second raise on January 1, 2025, for ease of annual budgeting and timely cost of living adjustments.

Motioned to adjourn made by Jason, seconded by Jim. Meeting adjourned 6:24 p.m. Next meeting will be held August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.



### Meetings Dates to Remember

Aug. 4, Sunday-Christian Ed @ 10:00

Aug. 11, Sunday-Music & Worship @ 10:00

Aug. 14, Wednesday-Stewardship & Finance @ 4:30



St. James office closed Monday, Sept. 2 in honor of Labor Day

