



ST. JAMES
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Journal
October 2024

OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 6th

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Sunday, October 13th

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Sunday, October 20th

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Sunday, October 27th – Reformation Sunday

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Sunday Mornings

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred

9:15- 9:45 am

Sunday School at 9:45 am



Grace and Peace to You,

It is officially fall! It seemed like there was a cool breeze that graced us as the season changed. The leaves are falling to make way for next year's growth, and the days are growing shorter as we prepare to rest. I give thanks for fall.

In our worshipping body we recognize the season changes too. The paraments have been green all summer, but soon new colors will draw our attention to what Christ is up to in this world. As we follow Christ, we reflect Christ. As a church, a body of Christ set free by Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, we turn outward to serve the world.

"For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become servants to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'" (Galatians 5)

This month we will serve in many ways and in ways that mirror Jesus' life. We have the Midland Valley Football Dinner, where we will feed young people in our community. We will be a part of the Trunk or Treat at Gregg Park, where we will show God's love to many families dressed up for the festivities. We will also celebrate Reformation, recentering our life of worship on Christ alone, on faith alone. Afterwards we will have a taste of Oktoberfest, giving a nod to our denomination's cultural heritage, which also happens to be my favorite secular holiday. Through a free-will offering collected at our Oktoberfest lunch, we will help provide children in our community with Christmas gifts by supporting the Valley Empty Stocking Fund.

There is so much to celebrate and be thankful for in this season. I give thanks to God for you and all we get to do together. I pray that you see the freedom Christ has given you so that you can take in the joy of what it is to be a Christ follower in our time. It is truly a gift. What a wonderful fall ahead of us!

Peace be with you,
Pastor Fred



OCTOBER

Upcoming Events

Midland Valley JV Football Meal – Thursday, October 10

Church Council will meet on Sunday, October 13, at 5:00 pm.

Tie Blankets will meet on Monday, October 14, at 1:00 pm.

**Trunk or Treat at Gregg Park Civic Center
Thursday, October 24, 6:00-7:30 pm**

**Lutheran Men in Mission & WELCA Oktoberfest Lunch
Sunday, October 27, following worship in the fellowship hall
A free-will offering will be collected for the Valley Empty Stocking Fund.**

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, October 28,
for lunch at 1:00 pm followed by the meetings.**



Midland Valley Junior Varsity Football Meal Re-scheduled for October 10th

St. James will host the Midland Valley JV Football Team on Thursday, October 10th with a pre-game meal. If you would like to make a monetary donation to help with the meal, please make checks payable to St. James and write "Football Meal" on your offering envelope.



**Empty
Stocking
Fund**



Oktoberfest Lunch & Valley Empty Stocking Fund Fundraiser October 27

Following worship on Sunday, October 27, the congregation is invited to celebrate Oktoberfest with our Lutheran Men in Mission and WELCA. Our Lutheran Men will be grilling bratwursts and hot dogs for lunch. German side dishes and desserts will also be served. A free-will offering will be collected for the Valley Empty Stocking Fund.



Please join us for Trunk or Treat!

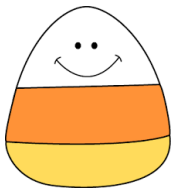
We are teaming up again this year with
Gregg Park Civic Center!

Thursday, October 24th

6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Gregg Park Center Parking Lot
(If it rains - this will be moved inside.)

Monetary donations are needed to help purchase candy.



If you would like to help or need assistance in decorating your vehicle or ideas, please contact Tonia Busbee.



Something New Is Coming this November

Near The Exit, Travels with the Not-So Grim Reaper is the title of a new Sunday morning study at St. James beginning on November 3, All Saints Sunday.

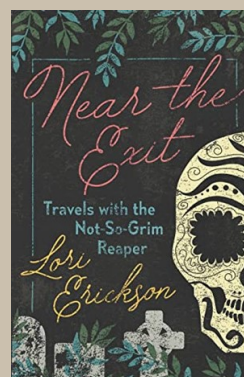
Join Bob and Beth Barkhau each Sunday morning at 9:45 am for the month of November for an engaging book study focusing on life, death, and resurrection.

After her brother died unexpectedly and her mother moved into a memory-care facility, spiritual travel writer, and Episcopal deacon Lori Erickson felt called to a new quest: to face death head-on, with the eye of a tourist and the heart of a pastor.

Blending memoir, spirituality, and travel, *Near the Exit* examines how cultures confront and have confronted death. Traveling from Egypt's Valley of the Kings and Mayan temples to a Colorado cremation pyre and Day of the Dead celebrations, to Māori settlements and tourist destination graveyards, Erickson leads readers to reflect on mortality. Her writings assist readers to celebrate the saints of their lives, look at ways people avoid discussing mortality, the ways we cope with death, and the ways life is made more precious by accepting it.

Throughout her personal journey and her travels, Erickson helps us readers see that one of the most life-affirming things we can do is to invite death along for the ride.

Copies of *Near the Exit* are located in the Church Office. Stop by to pick up your copy and dive into this engaging and delightful read. Participants are asked to have read the Introduction, Prologue, and Chapter 1 so as to have an engaged learning time on November 3. Questions? Reach out to Bob or Beth at bbarkhau@gmail.com.

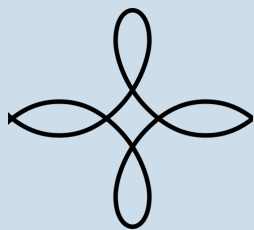




FOOD and COAT DRIVE FOR 2ND ACTS



We will be collecting non-perishable food items and coats, hats, gloves, socks, underwear (adults and children, all sizes), and blankets for 2nd ACTS in Graniteville through the month of October. Any foods are fine, as long as they are non-perishable. Ready-to-eat canned goods with pop tops are also welcome, as they can be given to the homeless. Items may be left on the pews in the fellowship hall.



Lifestyle

Since the first meeting in January 2022, Lifestyle has featured many wonderful speakers from our community that have shared information on a wide variety of topics from local history to health to finances. As we prepare for Lifestyle meetings to begin this fall, we would like your help planning the topics and securing the speakers/presenters for the monthly meetings. Please share your ideas with Pastor Fred or Kathy.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Ben Sharpe, Robert Coleman, Dottie & Lew Iritz (Sister & Brother-in-law of Gloria Sloan), Bruce Ashby (Brother of Karmen Spletzer), Allison Ashby (Niece of Karmen Spletzer), Kathleen McCarvell (Friend of Katherine Sundstrom), Curtis English (Friend of Butch & Marcia Shaffer), Carol Sievers (Friend of Libby Scott), John Allen Eidson (Cousin of Cathie Valentine and Mike Willis), Alison Ergle Berry (Cousin of Georganne Weeks), Kensley Napier (Daughter of Philip Napier- Pastor of Breezy Hill Baptist Church), Benny Hydrick (Friend of Tony Carroll), Libby Scott **Anchor:** Mary Ellen Johnson **Trinity:** Bobby Reece **Silver Bluff Grove:** Vicki Bolton **May the Lord bless them with His healing presence and keep them in true faith. Amen.** Please review the prayer list and contact the church office with updates.



Offering Option www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/

You can now give online on our website! You can give a one-time offering or set up a recurring offering. In the description box, please note where your offering should be directed. (for example, Current and Benevolence, Backpack, etc.)

RALLY SUNDAY FUN



Rally Sunday Fun

We dove into a new year of Sunday School at St. James on Rally Day with a congregational dinner and team trivia tournament. Pastor Fred was the host of the tournament and quizzed the teams with questions on everything from Aiken & Graniteville history to past presidents to ad slogans. The first category of the day was a “sweet” one. These pictures show the teams hard at work concentrating as they tried to name the 10 types of candy in their candy bag within the time limit. Tasting was allowed! It was a great time of fun and fellowship.



RALLY SUNDAY FUN

Thank you!

Dear St. James Family,

Thank you for all the love and sympathy you have shown me and our family upon the loss of my mother, Virgie. Your prayers, calls, messages, and cards were a great comfort to us. All of you at St. James have been a blessing to us over the years and will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Else & Bill Cegelis and Family



Gathering Room...

We are excited to announce a new project that will enhance our church community at St. James. The room next to the nursery will become a "gathering room", which will serve as a welcoming space for all. The room was recently painted and a new countertop and toilet were installed so only new furnishings are needed to complete the project. This updated area will offer many new opportunities for our congregation and serve as a comfortable space for small group meetings and fellowship. As part of the 3-year plan, Church Council has approved bringing this vision to life. We are thankful for the generosity of donors who have provided the funds to furnish the room so that we can get started on this project this fall. The congregation is invited to stop by and take a peak in the coming months at the transformation of this space into an inviting and functional space for all to enjoy and that reflects our love and care for one another. If you have any questions, please reach out to a member of church council.



*"The Lord will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest."
Psalm 85:12*



October Volunteer List

Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

October 6: Barbara Cobb (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

October 13: Karmen Spletzer (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

October 20: Mike Willis (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

October 27: Garrett Maroney (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

Worship Team

October 6: (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner

October 13: (A) Spencer Johnson (C) Dominic Price

October 20: (A) Zoe Ford (C) Brayden Weed

October 27: (Reformation Sunday)

Worship Team: Justin Joiner (A/C), Dominic Price (Word)

Zoe Ford & Brayden Joiner (Torches)

Brayden Weed (Banner)

Altar Guild: Becky Johnson & Elaine Johnson

Ushers: Mike Cutshall & Steve Murphy

Altar Flowers

October 6: Gary & Lisa Bryant in honor of
Alyssa, Matt, & Chris - \$ Capital Fund

October 13: Mike & Sharon Willis - \$ Backpack

October 20: Becky Johnson in memory of Everett Johnson

October 27: Mike & Patti Cutshall

Sound Technicians

October 6: Lane Rogers

October 13: Robbie Franklin

October 20: Andy Cone

October 27: Robbie Franklin

Greeter: Sara Rutland





October



Happy Birthday

Bob Barkhau	3
Cassel Sloan	4
Helen Wood	5
Kaiden Palmer	9
Jean Plunkett	9
Ralph Abreo	14
Matt Bryant	14
Chris Bryant	14
Jodi Tyler	22
Cydney Odom	23
Gemma Carter	24
Ethan Youmans	30
Otis Gibson	31
Elaine Johnson	31
Kara Willis	31

Happy Anniversary

Gary & Lisa Bryant
October 3

Phil & Doris Ann Homan
October 9

Mike & Sharon Willis
October 3

Cale & Laura Johnson
October 23





DEAR FRIENDS,
LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER,
FOR LOVE COMES FROM GOD.
EVERYONE WHO LOVES HAS BEEN
BORN OF GOD AND KNOWS GOD.

1 JOHN 4:7

 **ST. JAMES**
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President: Lisa Bryant
Director of Music/Organist: Tonia Busbee
Secretary: Kathy Rogers
Treasurer: Caroline Andrews

Newsletter Editor:
Kathy Rogers
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Tonia Busbee

Share your good news and church events with your church family!
Email the information to: StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com