

The Visitor - September 2019



A Publication of St. James Lutheran Church, 4425 South Jackson Rd. Jackson MI 49201 (517) 782-8297
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Dear St. James

I have been re-reading the book “Comeback Churches: How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can Too” by Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson.



On page 30, the statement that stood out to me was “Churches wanting change must discuss, discuss, discuss. The church really needs to take a realistic look at its current effectiveness. This does not mean just the pastor and lay leaders. The entire church must embrace its current state before it can move forward. It needs to take an honest look at its current situation so that it can make an honest effort toward revitalization.”

I took encouragement when I read that statement, as engaging every voice in the conversation was the reason for calling these Cottage Meetings, and the conversations have been very productive. We are nowhere near done, and the discussions will need to continue if

we are to envision a strategic plan which we are willing to work hard to implement.

Thank you for your initial ideas and thoughts. I want to ask everyone to keep thinking, to keep talking with each other, and to keep adding to our lists. But there is one more thing I would like to request from each of you that was not suggested during all of our brainstorming ideas; it is to pray.

That sounds like such a simplistic thing to ask, and yet, it was not listed as something we could all do corporately during worship and individually. I recently decided to add this specific prayer to our Intercessory Prayers each week and to add it to our prayer list on the bulletin. I think it has been assumed that we are doing this, but I suggest we make it intentional.

I have heard a lot of private feedback from our members, and what I am hearing is a desire to participate and a confidence that the Holy Spirit will guide us into the future.

God Bless

Pastor Martha

WORSHIP

PET BLESSING



Your furred, feathered, or otherwise covered friends are invited to join us for a Service of the Word (no communion) and Pet Blessing on **September 22**. Please bring your pet in a carrier or on a leash. There will also be seating available in the Narthex for those who wish to take their pets from the

FELLOWSHIP

THANK YOU

Morris DeGryse would like to say THANK YOU to everyone for the cards and prayers while he was in the hospital and healing.

RALLY DAY LUNCHEON

will be held Sunday, **September 8th** after service. Lasagna will be provided. Please sign up in the Narthex and let us know if you can bring something toward the salad, garlic bread or dessert.

OUTREACH

CROP WALK

Members of St. James will be participating in the Crop Walk on October 13. Please consider walking or contributing to stamp out hunger.



At Work at St. James God's Plans...Our Hands



Type of Outreach/Fellowship	August
Communion Visit	2
Home Visit	2
Summit Worship	6
Prayer Shawl	1
Preaching Outside Sj	1
Wedding Outside Sj	1
Funeral Outside Sj	1

Please send us the stats for what you would like to report each week, so we can recognize the great work done by St. James members.

NOISY OFFERING:

Thank you for your Noisy Offering on Sunday, August 18th of \$98.21 will to go toward the Cascades Humane Society. Thank you for your generosity!



Our next Noisy Offering will be on **Sunday, September 15th** and will be designated to the Crop Walk. Laura Trombley will be the temple talk guests on **September 8th** and will speak about the walk and who it helps. Don't forget to bring your loose change. to make a joyful noise!

EDUCATION

ADULT FORUM

Led by Pastor Martha and Laura Trombley

We will be studying the Journey through Revelation for the fall Adult Forum. Books are available in the Narthex. Pick up a book and read the first chapter. We will begin September 15th following worship.

THURSDAY STUDY GROUP

Led by: Susan Thornton

The Thursday Study Group is going to experience important events in Christianity from 1600 to present day this year. We will review the main names in the century of the Reformation and then continue on into the following centuries. Some of the important events and people we will highlight are George Fox and the Society of Friends, Isaac Watts, John Wesley, Dwight Moody, the Fundamentalist movement, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Billy Graham to name a few. We will end the year looking at the history of Lutheranism in the United States. We will begin our class in October looking at the importance of the King James Bible, the Pilgrims and the Westminster Confession of Faith. Our reference books are The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History by Curtis, Land and Petersen and Turning Points by Mark A. Noll as well as other sources. Please plan to join us in the sanctuary at 1:30 on the first Thursday of each month. Our first class will be **Thursday, October 3rd**.


Servant List –September 2019–October 2019

	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
Greeter(s)	Deb & Matt Schroeder	Mike & Sara Tackett	Becky Stevick	Jeanne Thomas	Chuck Thor
Ushers	Neil & Melinda Robb	Jim Souder & Joyce Anderson	Chuck Thor & Help Needed	John Reynolds & Roy Kelly	John Reynolds & Roy Kelly
Assisting Minister	Deb Schroeder	Laura Trombley	Mike Tackett	Pat Reynolds	Laura Trombley
Reader	Pat Reynolds	Jack Noren	Becky Stevick	Laura Trombley	Chris Zebarah
Projectionist	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed
Fellowship Time	Tim & Emily Ernst	NOT Needed/ Rally Day	Help Needed	Mike & Sara Tackett	Help Needed
Counters	Mike King & Pat Reynolds	Jim Souder & Mike King	Kristi Laird & Sara Tackett	Karen Dale & Rae Anne Tolonen	Karen Dale & Rae Anne Tolonen
Altar Care	Pat Reynolds	Pat Reynolds/ Laura Trombley	Sara Tackett	Pat Reynolds/ Laura Trombley	Sara Tackett
	October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27	
Greeter(s)	Rae Anne Tolonen & Ida Anderson	Karlyn Blank	Joyce & Bill Anderson	Nancy DeGryse	
Ushers	Neil & Melinda Robb	Jim Souder & Joyce Anderson	Chuck Thor & Help Needed	John Reynolds & Roy Kelly	
Assisting Minister	Mike Tackett	Deb Schroeder	Pat Reynolds	Pat Reynolds	
Reader	Deb Schroeder	Laura Trombley	Becky Stevick	Help Needed	
Projectionist	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	
Fellowship Time	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	
Counters	Mike King & Pat Reynolds	Jim Souder & Mike King	Kristi Laird & Sara Tackett	Karen Dale & Rae Anne Tolonen	
Altar Care	Sara Tackett	Laura Trombley	Becky Stevick	Becky Stevick	




St. James Lutheran September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am-- Worship	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:30am-- Worship 10:45am-- Rally Day Luncheon	9 9:30am-- Prayer Shawl Group 7:00pm-- Church Council	10 7:00pm-- Mutual Ministry	11	12	13	14
15 9:30am-- Worship 10:45am-- Adult Forum	16	17	18 5:30pm-- Worship/Music Meeting	19	20	21
22 9:30am-- Pet Blessing Worship 10:45am-- Adult Forum 2:00pm-- Summit Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30am-- Worship 10:45am-- Adult Forum	<u>30</u> 9:00am-- Women's Breakfast	1	2	3	4	5



09/05 Kathi King
 09/06 Matt Schroeder
 09/08 Nancy DeGryse
 09/08 Dorothy Tackett
 09/11 Rhea Matteson
 09/14 Sabra Niemi
 09/20 Ken Zebarah
 09/26 Don Pomeroy
 09/26 Pat Reynolds



09/02 Gus & Carol Mueller (69)
 09/18 Jim & Edna Souder (48)



Jan Lehman and Robin Vogel	Jim Skrocki
Tim Ernst	Anna Pedrotte
Rev. Martha Porter-Reid	Pastor
Parish Administrator	Tech Director
Organist	Custodians

Staff Listing:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion

Worship with us:

“We are a grace-centered family of faith that seeks to know Christ and make Him known.”

St. James Lutheran Church
4425 South Jackson Rd.
Jackson, MI 49201



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.stjameslutheran.com>