

# The Messenger

**Saint James**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

JOYFULLY  
**Connecting**  
FAITH • LIFE • PEOPLE



November 2023  
Volume 39, Issue 11

Worship - Christian Education / Youth - Fellowship -

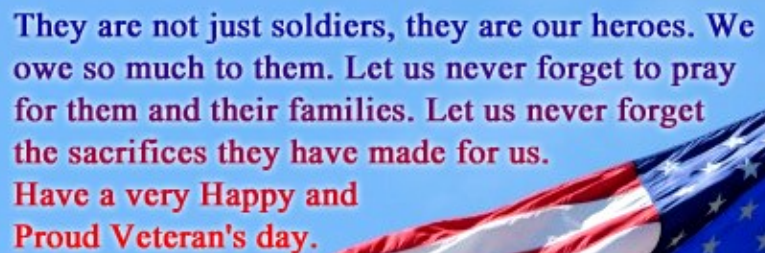
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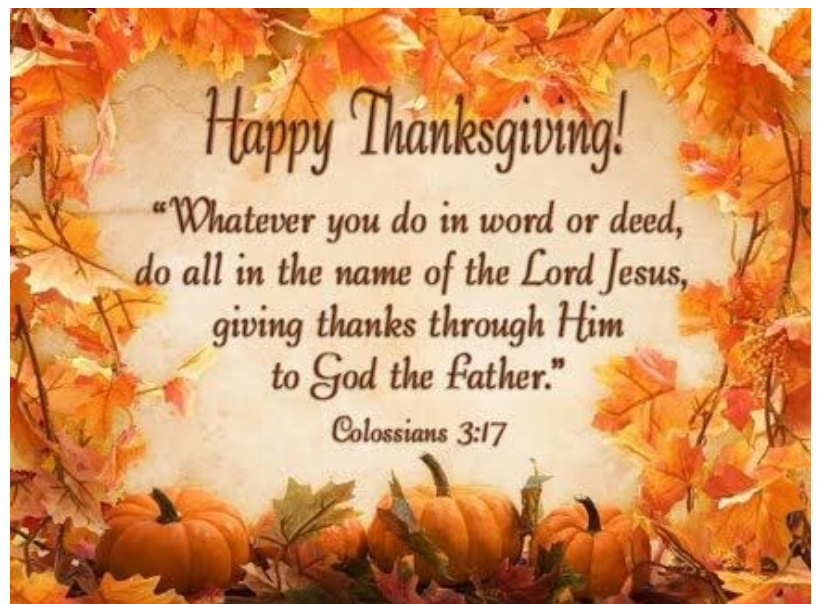
## This November we want to give Thanks

Thanks to all the Veterans on Veterans Day and throughout the year for their many sacrifices.

Thanks to God for his many Blessings on Thanksgiving Day and every day.



They are not just soldiers, they are our heroes. We owe so much to them. Let us never forget to pray for them and their families. Let us never forget the sacrifices they have made for us.  
Have a very Happy and Proud Veteran's day.





*Thanks to you all.*

You offered so many well wishes, loving thoughts, and appreciative comments in the Pastor Appreciation cards given to Anna Lisa and me last Sunday. Each note and name mean so much to us. The love and appreciation we acknowledge and share with one another come from a loving God that forgives and sustains us and makes us more than we could ever be alone.

So, in this season of giving thanks, we give thanks for you, church. Continue to be bold proclaimers of the gospel of love, inclusion and grace!

Blessings – *Pastor John and Anna Lisa*

The following poem was written by Dr, Gerhard Frost, Bible teacher and seminary professor. Seasons of a Lifetime, 1989. It just seemed appropriate for the day.

**Let Us Give Thanks** by Gerhard E. Frost

Let us give thanks this moment:  
for the sturdy fact of God's continuing love,  
for mercies which go before us  
and follow after us,  
for those free gifts  
which cost God so much.

Let us give thanks:  
for memory and expectation,  
for the good that we have known  
and know today in Jesus Christ,  
for the Spirit's brooding presence  
in our nights and in our days.

Let us give thanks:  
for pleasures which comfort  
and pains which force our growth  
and keep us at the Shepherd's side,  
for deep meanings revealed  
and mysteries mercifully concealed,  
for the image of God within us,  
the capacity to inquire and adore.

Let us give thanks for one another,  
for just being together,  
for differences which complement and complete,  
for gifts which enrich  
and disagreements which challenge,  
for our oneness in Christ.

Let us give thanks for melody and mirth,  
for rhythm and beat,  
for the repeated and the common,  
for the ever-unfolding,  
and for senses with which to respond.

And let us give thanks for Someone to thank.

**From the Stewardship Team: “Attempt Great Things for The Lord”**

Materials are being developed and mailed to each family in the congregation about the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan. We hope to provide information, inspiration, and a request to prayerful offer an intention of giving at the end of November (a few years back, we called it a pledge).

The last two years, our spending for ministry has exceeded our giving through general offerings by a 10-15 thousand dollars. The deficit has been covered by funds generated by an endowment.

One goal for 2024, is to narrow that deficit so that endowment funds are freed up for other ministry. We are seeking a total of 60 giving units to return intent cards. A giving unit is one family regardless of single, married, children, etc. An important part of this goal is to have those 60 intent cards include 5 new giving units (maybe not new to giving through a church, but new to St. James), and 15 giving units that intend to increase their giving.

The next mail piece will offer more information about recent giving patterns at St. James, as well as an overview of the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan.

Thanks for the continued and faithful generosity that allows St. James to be a positive presence in the community. As our theme proclaims: we ask God to work through us and provide the vision, resources, and strength to Attempt Great Things For The Lord!



*Stewardship Team*



ELCA Federal Credit Union

Formed several years ago for rostered leaders and congregations, the ELCA Credit Union has now made membership available for all members, employees, volunteer, or participant in an ELCA congregation.

*Why Join?*

Get great rates on:

- Auto loans
- Personal loans
- Credit Cards
- Home Loans
- No-fee Checking Accounts
- Savings Accounts

*Want to learn more?*

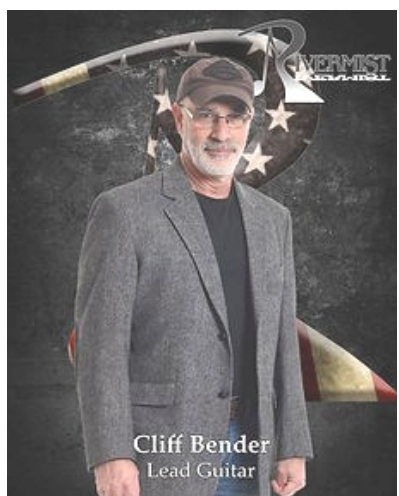
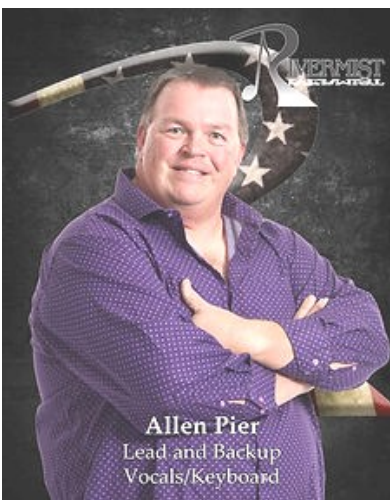
Call 877-715-1111 or visit them online at [www.elcafcu.org](http://www.elcafcu.org).

**ST. JAMES FAMILY CELEBRATION  
FRI., DEC. 15, 6:00 – 7:30 PM**



**- Save the Date! -**

It's a congregational fellowship, with food, fun, fellowship and MUSIC. Come and hear an unplugged version of RIVERMIST, one of the area's premiere bands. They will inspire us with their wonderful gift of song. More details will follow soon.



Rivermist was formed in July 2014 in Fayetteville, NC.

The band is collaboration of musicians that have between them, over 200 years of playing/ singing experience.

Rivermist's love of audience appeal, along with the desire to preserve music familiar to their roots, is what sparked the formation of the group.



**Join us this Christmas season for "O' Holy Night!"**  
Dec 15 and 16 ... shows at 6 pm & 7 pm

[Request tickets now because time slots fill quickly!](#)  
[Click here!](#)

Come to Camp Agapé for an evening of family fellowship and an incredible presentation of the Christmas story. Watch the "Greatest Story Ever Told" unfold, all under the night sky. Whether you have been joining us for years or this will be a first for your family, celebrating Jesus' birth is sure to be a moving experience for all!

There will be wonderful hors d'oeuvre and snack arrangements for you to enjoy before the show, our favorite carols will be sung, and we will experience the joy in the journey to the manger. Enjoy the celebration!



### Youth Adventures!!!

Sunday, Nov. 19 (following worship). All 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited. Games, food, devotions, fellowship ... and some planning for those going to the National Youth Gathering.

Sunday, Dec. 10 (following worship). All 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth. Bring a friend. We'll grab some snacks after worship, then The annual Christmas Scavenger Hunt will commence about 12:30. If you've gone before, you'll remember some of the fun and comical stunts! We return to the church and have a Christmas pizza meal, with some special Christmas treats.

(By The Way – some adult help is critically needed for this activity to be most effective!)



**Congregational Meeting** to elect 2024 Council Members and approve our Spending Plan **Dec 10th after worship.**

## Saint James Card Ministry



Did you know we have volunteers that send cards to those on our prayer list every month?

For 2023 we had the following volunteers:

Suzi Wilkinson, Erika Stockwell, Sheryl Chasse, Priscilla Warren, Tonie Neal, Dara Lehner, Colleen Tichich Hoffmann, Diana Vittoe, Fran DeSilva, Nancy Oliver, Leighann Combs, and Stella San Miguel.

If you would like to be part of this ministry or if you have someone on our prayer list and would like them to get a card of encouragement from Saint James, let the office know.

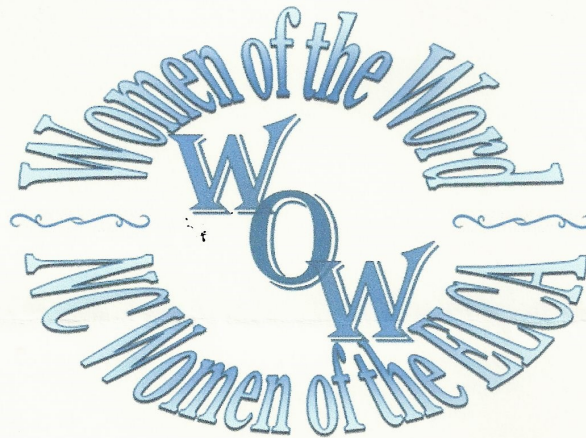


Mark your calendar for GivingTuesday (November 28, 2023), a global day of generosity that takes place on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving each year.

“Give local” and make a difference. Cumberland Community Foundation will host an online GivingTuesday catalog featuring 79 local charitable organizations. CCF is offering \$550,000 in matching funds for donations made through our giving catalog from November 20 – November 29, 2023. Thanks to the contributors to the GivingTuesday Match: Will Gillis, Elizabeth “Beth” Keeney, Daphne and Ray Manning, Carol and Sammy Short, Fayetteville New Car Dealers Association, Healy Wholesale, and three anonymous donors. **The nonprofit we support this year is The Alms House in Hope Mills**

Read more on how to give [here](#)

*You Are Invited to the NC Women of the ELCA  
2023 FALL CONFERENCE GATHERING  
“WOW - Women of the Word”*



**WHAT:** 2023 Sandhills Fall Conference Gathering where we will gather for food and fellowship, collect offerings, experience a thought-provoking Bible Study, and hold a Candlelight Service of Remembrance for the Christine Bohr-Anderson Seminary Scholarship.  
**BIBLE STUDY:** “*WOW – Women of the WORD*” Explore the transforming power of finding ourselves in Scripture through the stories of three women who had Super Powers – Huldah, Esther and Ruth. We yearn for a WOW time of astonishment and adoration of God’s transforming work in our lives and in the life of this organization. We will look to how Jesus and the Holy Spirit guided these women and still guide us today.

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Light continental breakfast between 8-9:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Lutheran Church of the Living Word, ELCA, 1899 Lake Drive, Laurinburg, NC 28352. We have NOT moved. Our mail box was not on Main Street and it was causing problems with mail delivery so we changed our address only. Again, we are in the same place off of Main Street. If you need directions, feel free to call Joyce at contact below.

**COST:** No charge. Feel free to bring a woman guest but let us know her name and contact.

**REGISTER:** Joyce Garner, 17960 Harry Malloy Road, Laurinburg, NC 28352, [gardenat77@yahoo.com](mailto:gardenat77@yahoo.com). (910)361-4330.

**OFFERINGS:** Regular Offering to Children’s Advocacy Centers of N. C. ([www.cacnc.org](http://www.cacnc.org)) an organization dedicated to helping victims of child abuse

2023 Pennies Offering to Bishop’s Challenge “Welcoming the Stranger” with donations going to Church World Services ([www.cwsglobal.org](http://www.cwsglobal.org))

In-Kind Offering: Church Community Services. Please bring a \$5.00 (or more if you wish) toy to be donated to Christmas Cheer to insure every local child gets some type of toy this Christmas.

*Registration Deadline is: Saturday, November 4, 2023*



## Receive Text Updates

If you are not currently on our email news list, sign up on our website: <https://saintjamesfay.org/>

To receive text messages instead, here is how to sign up

To receive messages via text,

Text @8bhg3  
to 81010



You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @8bhg3'.  
Trouble using 81010? Try texting @8bhg3 to (910) 401-3357 instead.

## Recycle your ink cartridges and help support Saint James

We are collecting used desktop ink cartridges.

NOT Xerox type toners. Place them in the marked bin outside of the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you!





Our 10:00 Sunday worship service is being streamed live, and is also available for later viewing. Click [here](#) to watch



**Tech folk are also needed to help with audio and video controls. Training is available. Contact office or Pastor John.**



Potluck Lunch in our Fellowship Hall  
Every first Tuesday of the month.

**Join us November 7th at Noon!**



### ***Men's Fellowship***

***Come join us every first Wednesday  
5:30 pm - 8 pm on the back lawn of St. James  
for brats, beans, and beverages. If you are coming,  
let Dave Runkle or Todd Burns know in advance.***

*Weather plan is in the Annex/Entrance across the parking lot.*

**Assisting Ministers**

11/05 ..... Jason Lorentzen  
11/12 ..... Jordan Slaymaker  
11/19 ..... Ruth Ann Crecelius  
11/26 ..... Allan Winter

**Lectors**

11/05 ..... Sue Rink  
11/12 ..... Gary Crecelius  
11/19 ..... Bill Rettmann  
11/26 ..... Glenn Stockwell

**Communion Assistant**

11/05 ..... Delores Schiebe  
11/12 ..... Dave Runkle  
11/19 ..... Tonie Neal  
11/26 ..... Sue Rink

**Ushers**

11/05 ..... Gary & Joan Eissinger  
11/12 ..... John & Gayle Frinak  
11/19 ..... Roscoe Killett & Gary Eissinger  
11/26 ..... Gary & Ruth Ann Crecelius

**Acolytes**

11/05 ..... Angel VanDervoort  
11/12 ..... Aaron Thomas  
11/19 ..... Victoria Orellano  
11/26 ..... Gianna Orellano

**Greeters**

11/05 ..... Tonie Eissinger  
11/12 ..... Barbara Azzarelli  
11/19 ..... Sue Rink  
11/26 ..... Gayle & John Frinak

**Nursery**

11/05 ..... Colleen Tichich, Kim Lorentzen  
11/12 ..... Lisa Law, Kathy Brown  
11/19 ..... Kim Lorentzen, Valerie Brewer  
11/26 ..... Heather VanDervoort,  
..... Kathleen Heinrich

**Rover**

11/05 ..... Rob Whitt  
11/12 ..... Ed Samuelian  
11/19 ..... Rob Whitt  
11/26 ..... David Moon

## Upcoming Zoom Meetings

Click on the times to connect

**Property Team - 2nd Tuesdays (November 14)**

(Meeting ID: 829 6466 1925 / Password: 977528)

[6:00 pm](#)

**Congregation Council (Saturday— November 18)**

(Meeting ID: 867 0951 0008 / Password: 103028)

[9:00 am](#)

**Men's Bible Study - Sundays**

(Meeting ID 821 3488 9583 / Password: 257977 )

[9:00 am](#)

**Fellowship & Conversation - Tuesdays**

(Meeting ID: 837 4730 9659 / Password: 588450)

[7:00 pm](#)

### THANKS FOR SHARING RESOURCES



We appreciate every gift that is received, and we attempt to make wise decisions in how we use and invest these funds.

Thanks for on-going financial giving.

You can support our ministries by scanning the code or online

Click [here](#)



# Around the Parish



One of the gifts that the Christian community shares with others is praying for those with special needs or concerns. Call the Church Office or fill out the green form in the pew racks to let us know of prayer needs.

The list in the weekly bulletin is intended to be for persons in immediate crisis. Generally those names will be changed after 3 weeks.

The newsletter has our long term prayer list which is updated as you tell us.

Please keep us informed so that we can share accurate information with the Saint James community.

## Remember These

### **People at Home or in Care facilities** (restricted mobility)

- Charlotte Davis
- Claudia Doyle
- Lorraine Breisch
- Brenda Killett
- Warren Porter

## Prayer Concerns:

- ◇ Joe & Dara Lehner
- ◇ Angel Davis
- ◇ John Tucker
- ◇ Beth Sessoms
- ◇ Ellen Blocker
- ◇ Orose Family
- ◇ Thomas Oliver
- ◇ Mark & Ann Mabe
- ◇ Jean Blackman Brauer

## Military Members

(\* *Deployed*)

- Luke Steffen
- Riley Broding
- Grant Alexis
- Earl Stockham
- Nikki Rettmann
- Jessie Hewins
- Ben Schollett
- Brandon Berry
- Darian Dix
- Joshua Trogdon
- Kelly Steenrod
- David Oliver
- Bella Fish
- Sarah Fox
- Rob Whitt
- Austin Hilken
- Dan Gibson
- Tristan Bonde



11/01:	Rob Whitt
11/05:	Penny Kendall
11/05:	Jeff Hoffmann
11/07:	Kim Lorentzen
11/08:	Luke Hoffmann
11/17:	Luke Rush

## Anniversaries

- 11/6: Jordan & Meghan Slaymaker
- 11/26: Gary & Ruth Ann Crecelius



**The Messenger is a monthly newsletter of  
Saint James Lutheran Church,  
P.O. Box 53276; Fayetteville, NC 28305.**

All are welcome to worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.  
Holy Communion is celebrated every week.

**Should you have an emergency or need Pastoral Care, contact  
Pastor John Locke: Cell (704) 530-9969 or [jpl406@gmail.com](mailto:jpl406@gmail.com) .**

**Church Staff Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mo-Th.  
Phone: (910) 484-8052 | 24 hour answering machine.  
[www.saintjamesfay.org](http://www.saintjamesfay.org) E-mail: [saintjameslutheran@gmail.com](mailto:saintjameslutheran@gmail.com)**

*Saint James Lutheran Church*

**Located in the Haymount Area**

1424 Morganton Road  
P.O. Box 53276  
Fayetteville, NC 28305



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**Address Service Requested**