

The Messenger

Saint James
LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

JOYFULLY
Connecting
FAITH • LIFE • PEOPLE



February 2024
Volume 40, Issue 2

Worship - Christian Education / Youth - Fellowship -

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Lent is the 40-day period leading up to Easter Sunday. It is a period of sacrifice, in keeping with Christ's sacrifices leading up to his crucifixion and resurrection. Typically, many people "give up" something during this period.

The things that we give up – like smoking, chocolate, or fast food – are things that we should usually have only in moderation, if at all. Of course, those sacrifices are also mostly self-serving.

This Lent, in addition to "giving up" something to ourselves, maybe we can add a "take up" activity. Give up some of our time each day to serve others and see what affect God can make with our "bits" at the end of 40 days.

We could "take up" something as simple as cleaning our wardrobe each day by choosing one article of no longer needed clothing, resulting in 40 items "given away" to bless someone in need of clothing - and choosing one item a day is much easier than trying to clean out your wardrobe all at once!

Even little children can participate in this activity – a parent can choose two items of clothing, two books, or two toys that are no longer age-appropriate and ask, "Which one do you want to give away today?" "Give up" time to do yardwork for 40 days – and "take up" the gift of a tidy and trimmed yard for a neighbor. "Give up" 7 dozen baked cookies or a large casserole/stew in one day, and "take up" gifting servings for the next 7 days to a shut in or a member of the neighbor who you would like to know better.

Keep track of your activities on a daily calendar, noting what you did and for whom. (We hope to have one prepared and available by Feb 14.) A daily calendar lets you note your progress each day. At the end of the 40 days, you and your children can see how many people, family, or friends God has blessed through our "giving away". God makes disciples of each of us through small acts of kindness and service done daily and intentionally. A new habit can be developed – serving others, and therefore Christ, each day.

Thanks to Valerie Brewer for sharing this idea for ministry!

Congratulations to our Congregation Council Officers for 2024:

President:

Vice president:

Secretary:

Youth representative:



Kevin Hoffman



Valerie Brewer



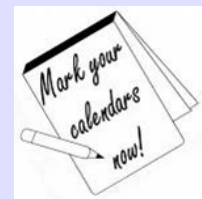
Nikki Rettman

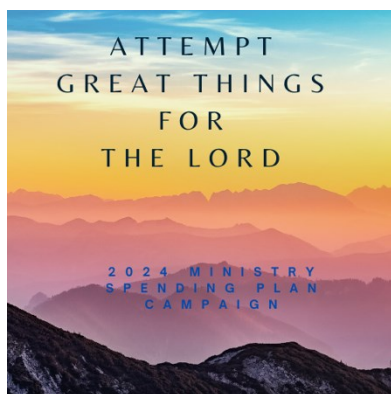


Hannah Rea

Mark your calendar!

- Sun. Feb 04 Scout Sunday
- Sun. Feb 11 New member Sunday
- Tue. Feb 13 Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and fun fest - 6:00pm
- Wed. Feb 14 Ash Wednesday worship - 7:00 pm
- Wed. Feb 21 Lenten Meal 5:45-6:30 pm / Lenten Worship 6:45 pm
- Sun. Feb 25 Youth at LYO
- Wed. Feb 28 Lenten Meal 5:45-6:30 pm / Lenten Worship 6:45 pm





Thanks be to God!

After six weeks, we can joyfully report that the 2024 campaign is off to a good start. This campaign is the most involved and focused stewardship campaign we've done since COVID. So far, 39 Intent Cards for 2024 have been returned, with a total amount of intended giving of approximately **\$157,000**

– **almost 60% of the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan!**

Our sincere thanks to those who have prayerfully returned a 2024 intent card*. Your generosity will enable our ministry focus of developing new relationships, sharing and proclaiming God's mercy in our community, and modeling and teaching faith to children and youth.

30 FAMILIES / INDIVIDUALS STILL NEEDED

TO RETURN INTENT CARDS

TO MEET OUR GOAL OF 70!

Not yet completed a 2024 Intent Card? No problem. You still have time. Please prayerfully consider doing so this week. You may place your card in the offering plate on Sunday morning or call the church office and speak with Michelle.

Have reservations about writing a specific amount? Also, no problem. Just say, *We're not sure. ... We'll give as we can, but we can't list an amount right now. ...* or something similar. That prayerful action is a positive step forward for you and is also a sign of support to the congregation council for ministry vision.

All gifts make a difference, are a sign and act of generosity, and share God's love on earth.

**If you returned an Intent Card but have not received a letter of thanks and confirmation, please contact the church office, so that we can make sure we have your information.*

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'.

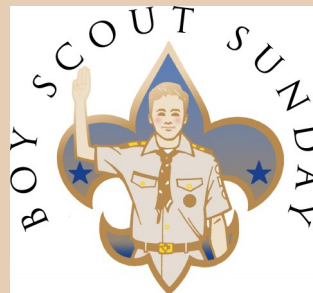
Trouble using 81010? Try texting @8bhg3 to (910) 401-3357 instead.



Lent, the 40 days of spiritual preparation before Easter, comes early this year. Ash Wednesday is February 14. **The Ash Wednesday worship will be at 7:00;** it will include the imposition of ashes.

If an additional service time is desired by enough people, we will add an afternoon or morning worship opportunity.

Mid week Lenten vespers will be held each Wednesday evening (starting Feb. 21) Meal at 5:45 pm / Worship at 6:30 pm



SCOUT SUNDAY

Saint Congregation has been the charter organization for Troop 747 and Pack 747 for many years.

We will observe Scout Sunday on February 4 and celebrate our joint ministry. Scouts will be participating in various aspects of worship leadership.

Lent 2024 Activities, Programs, and Worship

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Fellowship



Lenten Mid-Week Wednesdays

Meal at 5:45pm and Vespers at 6:45 pm

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal

human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

We'll use the lyrics of "Come Thou Fount" as we study Peter's faith journey. It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God.

In this series, we want to affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We want to affirm the ways Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter's story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people—in fact, time and again, that's precisely who God claims and calls.

This Lent, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.

*This series is developed by the creative and faithful talents of **A Sanctified Art**, a talented creative team of pastors, artists, and writers. Trained theologians and pastors, they are also artists and creators. They are called to be artists just as much as ministers; in order to faithfully offer their gifts to the Church and world, they cannot set their creativity aside. They offer their creative gifts to resource, provoke, guide, facilitate, and enrich the spiritual lives of worshipers around the world.*



1424 Morganton Rd.
Fayetteville, NC 28305

Ukrainian Easter Egg Decorating class

Learn to create one of these beautifully-crafted Easter Eggs.
Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am – 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Bring at least one (1) RAW egg.
All other materials will be supplied.

Cost is a \$25 donation to Ukrainian Relief.

Minimum age is 10 (or be able to focus for a long period of time,
and able to respect open flame near paper and plastic.)

To signup:
email
saintjameslutheran@gmail.com
or call
910-484-8052





January 8, 2024

St. James' Lutheran Church
Attn: Marcia Katt
1424 Morganton Road
Fayetteville, NC 28305

Dear Marcia,

On behalf of the staff and the board of directors, thank you for the wonderful blankets donated to the Child Advocacy Center. Your organization is the first to donate blankets in the new year! We appreciate receiving items selected with care that will benefit our children. We sincerely appreciate your continued support, and the children enjoy the items that you donate.

Without you and your support, we would not be able to help those children begin the healing process. Thank you again for your support and compassion for Cumberland County's children.

Sincerely,

Roberta Humphries
Executive Director
roberta@cacfaync.org
www.cacfaync.org

Thank you as always for the wonderful support through your blanket ministry. Roberta

No goods or services were provided by the Child Advocacy Center in consideration of your gift.

Child Advocacy center is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code for 1984, as amended. Our tax identification number is 56-2161682.

222 Rowan Street • P.O. Box 488 • Fayetteville, NC 28302-0488
phone 910.486.9700 • fax 910.486.8677
www.CACFayNC.org



The ALMS HOUSE coordinates with the Hope Mills area school social workers to provide packs of food items each Friday for those children who might otherwise have nothing to eat over the weekend.

This program has been expanded to now include seniors.

Kids Assistance Program Plus - KAPP (that "plus" is for the seniors)

The attention is concentrating on is Chef Boy R D microwave cups.

It just makes it easier for young and old to pop into microwave for a quick meal.



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!



Thank you

St. James Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your donation of clothing protectors for our patients! They have been greatly received and are so appreciated. We have received positive feedback from both staff and families. Your talents and generosity are definitely making an impact! 😊
Thank you,
Cape Fear Valley Hospice

Parsonage Repair

A few months ago, we discovered evidence of possible damage to the flooring of the parsonage kitchen. Last Wednesday, Beck's Home Improvement began work to repair the damage. After removing lower cabinets, appliances, sink, and the subflooring, they discovered that several joists and part of one main support beam has suffered significant moisture damage – probably over the last 10-15 years. The necessary repairs are taking place, and the job should be finished on Friday, February 2.

Anna Lisa and I are grateful to Todd Burns and Dave Runkle for their attention to the task and their oversight to make this repair happen. We didn't know the extent of the damage, nor the possible safety hazard that was developing; thanks to Walt Beck and his crew for diligence to detail and quality; and, thanks to the kind folks of St. James for providing such a wonderful place for us to call home.

Pastor J and Anna Lisa



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.



Join us every first Tuesday, at Noon!

Potluck Lunch in our Fellowship Hall
The next meeting is February 6th



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.



January 16, 2024

St. James' Lutheran Church
Attn: Marcia Katt
684 Bartons Landing Pl.
Apt. 8
Fayetteville, NC 28314

Dear Marcia,

On behalf of the staff and the board of directors, thank you for the wonderful blankets donated to the Child Advocacy Center in recognition of Human Trafficking Awareness month. We appreciate receiving items selected with care that will benefit our children. We sincerely thank you for your continued support, and the children enjoy the items that you donate.

Without you and your support, we would not be able to help those children begin the healing process. Thank you again for your support and compassion for Cumberland County's children.

Sincerely,

Roberta Humphries
Roberta Humphries
Executive Director
roberta@cacfaync.org
www.cacfaync.org

*Thank you for
always thinking
about the children
we serve & the
beautiful blankets
you buy for them.
Roberta*

No goods or services were provided by the Child Advocacy Center in consideration of your gift.

Child Advocacy center is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code for 1984, as amended. Our tax identification number is 56-2161682.

222 Rowan Street • P.O. Box 488 • Fayetteville, NC 28302-0488
phone 910.486.9700 • fax 910.486.8677
www.childadvocacycenter.com

Assisting Ministers

Feb 04 Jordan Slaymaker
Feb 11 Ruth Ann Crecelius
Feb 18 Jane Boelke
Feb 25 Allan Winter

Lectors

Feb 04 Kathy Brown
Feb 11 Gary Crecelius
Feb 18 Anna Lisa Johannessen
Feb 25 Nancy Oliver

Communion Assistant

Feb 04 Delores Schiebe
Feb 11 Paula Burns
Feb 18 Dave Runke
Feb 25 Sue Rink

Ushers

Feb 04 Roscoe Killett, Gary Eissinger
Feb 11 John & Gayle Frinak
Feb 18 Gary & Ruth Ann Crecelius
Feb 25 Tonie Neal, Kathleen Heinrich

Acolytes

Feb 04 Ian Gibson
Feb 11 Hannah Rea
Feb 18 Aaron Thomas
Feb 25 Angel VanDervoort

Greeters

Feb 04 Linda Stellfox
Feb 11 Kathy Brown
Feb 18 Joanie Eissinger
Feb 25 Kathleen Heinrich

Nursery

Feb 04 Colleen Tichich, Erika Stockwell
Feb 11 Lisa Law, Kathy Brown
Feb 18 Jeffrey Hoffman, Valerie Brewer
Feb 25 Heather VanDervoort,
..... Kathleen Heinrich

Rover

Feb 04 Dave Runkle
Feb 11 Todd Burns
Feb 18 Davin Moon
Feb 25 Rob Whitt

Upcoming Zoom Meetings

Click on the times to connect

Property Team - (February 13th)

- 2nd Tuesdays

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

[6:00 pm](#)

Congregation Council (February 18th)

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

[11:30 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

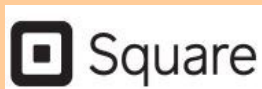


We appreciate every gift that is received, and we attempt to make wise decisions in how we use and invest these funds.

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
- 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*)

- Riley Broding Allen
- 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



Allen Winter	02/04
James Peterson	02/07
Colleen Tichich	02/07
Ron Gearing	02/14
Roscoe Killett	02/14
Ruth Ann Crecelius	02/19
Sarah Parrish	02/20
Grant Alexis	02/23
Charlton Whitt	02/28

Anniversaries



02/07	Rhonna and Joel Wilson
02/14	David and Donna Runkle
02/21	Riley & Caitlyn Broding
02/25	Heather and Jason VanDervoort

**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 .**

**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 E-mail: saintjameslutheran@gmail.com**

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Located in the Haymount Area

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Address Service Requested