

The Messenger



May 2026
Volume 42, Issue 5

Worship - Christian Education / Youth - Fellowship -

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Pentecost in 2026 is on Sunday, May 24.

Celebrated 50 days after Easter (counting Easter Sunday as day 1). It marks the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, empowering them to proclaim God's love in many languages and uniting people across boundaries.

In the ELCA, Pentecost is seen as the birth of the Spirit-filled church, calling us to live out our baptism by serving others, seeking justice, and sharing the good news. The Spirit continues to guide, comfort, and inspire us, turning the world upside down with hope and newness for all people.

It is a widespread tradition to wear red on Pentecost Sunday to symbolize the "tongues of fire" associated with the Holy Spirit's descent upon the apostles. The color represents the fire of the Holy Spirit, joy, and the birth of the Church.



Wear Red for Pentecost!

June 5th at both services

Saint James celebrates 90 years!

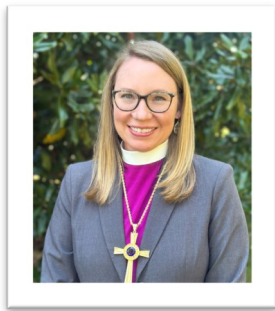


90th Anniversary Celebration Some updates...

On Sunday, June 28th we give thanks to God and celebrate the gift of 90 years of ministry in this place. We'll remember the past people and events; celebrate God's present gifts of people, resources, and energy; and pray for the Spirit's leading us boldly into the future.

NC Bishop Emily Hartner will be with us to preach and offer a Q & A following lunch.

** Look for more details soon.



We need your stories and photographs!

Please record your retelling of fond memories on your phone and email it to saintjameslutheran@gmail.com or contact Rick Boelke (612-386-0293) and he'll be glad can help!

We will have a video reel on June 28th for us all to enjoy



Interested in formal membership in St. James?

Pastor John invites you to a time of conversation: "Introduction to St. James and being Lutheran", tentative date – May 24th following worship (Lunch to be provided!)





Worship and Music Updates

We are so thankful to **Alyssa Hall** for sharing her musical talents and skills with St. James. She plays keyboard for worship, as well as helping coordinate music for the choir. Fortunately for us, she will continue working with us through summer of 2026. During the week, Alyssa is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in music at UNC-Greensboro.



May worship schedule

May 3

Rev. Nancy Oliver will preach and preside at communion while Pastor John and Anna Lisa take a vacation weekend.

May 10

Mother's Day We will recognize all mothers and those who offer motherly love to others.

May 24

Pentecost Sunday. The birthday of the church! We will celebrate with world languages, and a reminder that God's Spirit comes to *ALL* the nations of the world! (*Remember to wear red!!*)

May 31

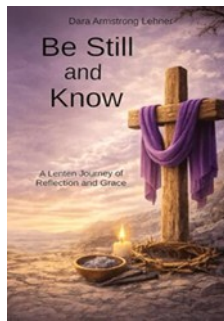
High School Graduate recognition. We offer our congratulations and support to our high school seniors: Victoria Orellano (Jack Britt), Nate Stockham (Pine Forest), and Aaron Thomas (Victory Christian).

From some of the creative and inspiring members of St. James!!



The Daughters Are Right! A new podcast created by Anna Lisa Johannessen that explores the overlooked women of Scripture and the quiet moments where God speaks truth-sometimes in just four words: *the daughters are right!*

Find this inspiring resource at Spotify, iHeart Radio, Instagram, X, Amazon Music, or Apple Podcast. You'll be glad you did!



Be Still and Know offers forty short devotions, written by Dara A. Lehnert, to guide readers through the Lenten season with reflection, honesty, and grace. Each entry invites a pause from the noise of daily life and creates space to listen more deeply—to Scripture, to God, and to the quiet work of faith. And that's what makes it worth year-round reading and study.

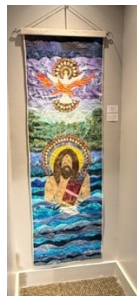
Find your copy at Amazon.com.



This exhibit features some of the best and most stimulating fabric arts you will ever experience. Go by the Arts Council on Hay Street (April 10 – May 10) and check it out for yourself. Two St. James members are displaying some of their works –



Amy Allison



Anna Lisa Johannessen





Saint James participated in citywide annual clean up effort on April 25th. We adopted Dobbin Ave., Calamint Lane, Claremont Street, Raeford Rd, Magnolia Ave., Morganton Rd, N Olive Road, and Ft. Bragg Road.



↑Left to Right:
Todd Burns, Sue Rink, Rick Black,
Gary Crecelius, Jacob Smalley, Jake Smalley

WESTMINSTER

June 10-12
5-9pm

Youth Conference

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

5:00pm

Energizers & Music
Keynote Speaker

5:45pm

Dinner

6:30pm

Break Into Small Groups
Workshop #1

7:15pm

Workshop #2

8:00pm

Small Group Reflection

8:30pm

Closing



More [INFO](#)

Click the link above to see more information



WORKSHOPS

yoga

baking

drama

games

crafts

recreation

Registration

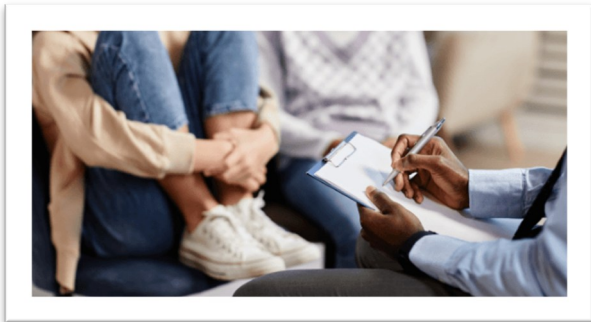
Click [here](#) to register

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2505 Village Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304

Social Ministry Outreach for May
Those affected by child abuse

In May we collect for: Child Advocacy Center.

They offer a wide range of programs and services to meet the needs of those affected by child abuse.



These children of all ages would appreciate a stuffed animal, bottled water, juice boxes, individually wrapped snacks, coffee, canned soda.



Cub Scout Pack 747 has announced it will **no longer be collecting aluminum cans** for recycling.



We appreciate the congregation's support in the past for this project.
We hope you will continue to recycle your cans in other places.

In honor of 40 days of Lent our **Quilting Ministry** donated a combined total of 40 fidget blankets, crumb catchers, and lap quilts to Visiting Angels and Fayetteville Council on Older Adults.



Episcopal Farmworker Ministry
2989 Easy St, Dunn NC 28334



Dear:
James Evangelical Lutheran Church



We want to offer our deepest thanks to everyone who supported the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry over the years. Your generous donations, your time, and your prayers have made an incredible difference in the lives of the farmworkers and families we serve. Each contribution, no matter the size, has helped us continue our mission of providing care, support, and a sense of community to those who need it most.

Looking back on 2025, we are filled with gratitude for the many ways our supporters have stepped forward!!!



As spring nears, we are preparing for the return of the farmworkers who bless our communities every year. Unfortunately, they are returning to a much-changed economic landscape, given that the federal government has lowered the minimum wage for them by more than 37% and the dollar has dropped by more than 16% against the Mexican peso. Therefore, we may get fewer farmworkers this year, but whoever comes will be doing less with less money to support their families. Each farmworker will have far less discretionary income to spend here, which means that, if we are to serve them, we will need more resources. One way we plan to do more, with donor support, is to start a laundry service on-site. Which will cost between thirty-five and Forty-Five Thousand dollars to set up.



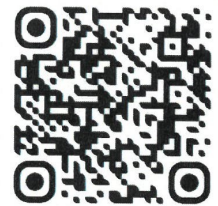
This Lenten season, we invite you to be intentional about your love of neighbor and help clothe them with clean clothes through the Farmworker Ministry of La Sagrada Familia. Please consider becoming a monthly sustainer as a church or contributing generously to our laundromat fund. As we move forward, we hope that you will continue to walk alongside us in this mission.

Your ongoing support—whether through donations, volunteering, or spreading the word about our ministry—helps sustain our efforts and enables us to reach even more people in need. Together, we can make a lasting impact, sharing hope, compassion, and the love of our church with those who rely on us.



From all of us at the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, thank you for being part of our community, for believing in our work, and for helping us create a brighter, stronger future for those we serve. We look forward to a future of growth, service, and shared purpose with you by our side.

Thank you!



Sincerely,
Episcopal Farm Worker Ministry
De La Sagrada Familia





March 23, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Child Advocacy Center, thank you for the 40 “Comfort Blankets” that you made for the 40 days of Lent and donated. We give each child that comes to the Center a special blanket to provide comfort and healing. Thank you for your willingness to provide very tangible items for the children we serve in Cumberland County. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Your contribution will help the Child Advocacy Center’s mission of providing a safe, child-friendly place for child victims of abuse.

Thank you again for your support of Cumberland County’s children.

Sincerely,

John Webster
Executive Director
john@cacfaync.org
www.cacfaync.org





April 1, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Child Advocacy Center, thank you for the 20 “Comfort Blankets” that you made commemorating the seven-year anniversary of donating to the CAC. We give each child that comes to the Center a special blanket to provide comfort and healing. Thank you for your willingness to provide very tangible items for the children we serve in Cumberland County. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Your contribution will help the Child Advocacy Center’s mission of providing a safe, child-friendly place for child victims of abuse.

Thank you again for your support of Cumberland County’s children.

Sincerely,

John Webster
 Executive Director
 john@cacfaync.org
 www.cacfaync.org

For 7 years, the CAC has given a comfort blanket to every child who comes through their doors. These handmade blankets are created with care by our amazing volunteers, including Marcia (pictured here with our CAC team), who helps make this special tradition possible.

Pictured here are Penny Kendall, Marcia Katt and Willa Porter in 2019



Fellowship Opportunities



Fellowship opportunity for women!

Our monthly breakfast group (**Salty Women**) meets on second Thursdays, **May 14 at 9am** at Biscuitville (3110 Raeford Rd - Tallywood Shopping Center)

If you are interested, please let Ruth Ann know: 910-309-1007



Men's Fellowship - May 6

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



Join us every first Tuesday, at Noon!

Potluck Lunch in our Fellowship Hall

May 5 at Noon

The Prime Timer group is designed as a fellowship opportunity for all members over 55.



Associated Local Ministries in Service
Helping Others in Unfortunate Situations and Experiences

P.O. Box 65
5512 West Patterson Street
3909 Ellison Street
Hope Mills, NC 28348

Thank you, Saint James Family!

Your response to the "Forty Items" during Lent has truly gone above and beyond!
Total items received amounted to 712 (far more than the suggested "40 items per week.")
Families have been blessed - and continue to be blessed because of your generosity.

Thank you in for your very generous hearts.

Wishing you joy and blessings at Easter and beyond!

Delores Schiebe,
Executive Director

Moving with Purpose: Health, Hope, and Happiness!

SENIOR LIVING EXPO

Presented by Cumberland County Department of Social Services

The Senior Living Expo aims to educate the community about the services available to the 50+ population in Cumberland County through the Older Americans Act and other government funded programs.



Wednesday
May 6, 2026
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.



Dept. of Social Services
1225 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, NC

For more information, call:

O’Kisha Wells
(910) 677-2822
Bridgett Autry
(910) 677-2489





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



Recycle your ink cartridges and help support Saint James

We are collecting used desktop ink cartridges. NO Xerox type toners.

Place them in the marked bin outside of the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you!



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 as well, or instead of email, 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.

Upcoming Zoom Meetings

Click on the times to connect

Property Team - (May 12)
- 2nd Tuesdays

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

[6:00 pm](#)

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](#)



Assisting Ministers

5/03 Jane Boelke
 5/10 Ruth Ann Crecelius
 5/17 Scott Marosek
 5/24 Nathan Stockham
 5/31 Lindsey Smith

Lectors

5/03 Jane Boelke
 5/10 Valerie Brewer
 5/17 Holden & Daniel Linkous
 5/24 Rick Boelke
 5/31 Anna Lisa Johannessen

Communion Assistant

5/03 Tonie Neal
 5/10 Jaye-Lynn Orellano
 5/17 Jane Boelke
 5/24 Hannah Rea
 5/31 Dave Runkle

Ushers

5/03 John & Gayle Frinak
 5/10 Tonie Neal, James Peterson
 5/17 Hannah Rea, Joan Eissinger
 5/24 Sharon VanPelt, Edward Samuelian
 5/31 Gary & Ruth Ann Crecelius

Acolytes

5/03 Victoria Orellano
 5/10 Willow Linkous
 5/17 Gabriel Thomas
 5/24 Ian Gibson
 5/31 Aaron Thomas

Greeters

5/03 Patsy Linkous
 5/10 Erika & Glenn Stockwell
 5/17 Sharon VanPelt
 5/24 Sue Rink
 5/31 Kathy Brown

Rover

5/03 Dave Runkle
 5/10 Ed Samuelian
 5/17 Paula Burns
 5/24 Tom Liedig
 5/31 Todd Burns

Nursery

5/03 Sue Rink, Kathy Brown
 5/10 Amber Habermehl, Jennifer Linkous
 5/17 Verena Min, Patsy Linkous
 5/24 Erika Stockwell, Valerie Brewer
 5/31 Tonie Neal, Amber Habermehl

Around the Parish

PRAYER REQUEST

WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU



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
- Carolyn Uchtorff

Prayer Concerns:

- ◇ Angel Davis
- ◇ John Tucker
- ◇ Beth Sessoms
- ◇ Thomas Oliver
- ◇ Mark & Ann Mabe
- ◇ Brenda Tinney
- ◇ Ashley Littman
- ◇ Joseph San Miguel
- ◇ David Herring
- ◇ James Peterson, Jr.
- ◇ Claudia Joyner

Military Members

(* Deployed)

- Earl Stockham
- Joshua Trogon *
- Darian Dix
- Bella Fish
- Dan Gibson
- Hochang Min
- Alex Habermehl
- Robert James
- Matthew Porter *
- Justyce Crecelius *



- 5/03 Earl Stockham
- 5/10 August Schalk
- 5/15 Dara Lehner
- 5/18 Beverly Beale
- 5/19 Erika Stockwell
- 5/19 Dawn Burt
- 5/22 Lucian Linkous
- 5/23 Elizabeth Robertson
- 5/25 Edward Samuelian
- 5/30 Nathan Stockham
- 5/30 Aaron Thomas

Anniversaries

- 5/09 Scott & Stephanie Marosek
- 5/28 Jeffrey & Elizabeth Hoffmann



**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**

Saint James Lutheran Church

Located in the Haymount Area

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



www.saintjamesfay.org

Address Service Requested