

The Messenger

Saint James
LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

JOYFULLY
Connecting
FAITH • LIFE • PEOPLE



July 2026
Volume 42, Issue 7

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Sunday, June 28 WORSHIP



Our first act of celebration is worship. We give thanks to God for the gifts given over the last 90 years! So many people have been a part of this congregation – classes, worship, retreats, leadership, baptisms, confirmations, funerals, weddings, and more.

God's Spirit has been active in and through the people of St. James.

Join for worship Sunday, June 28, 10:00. Rev. Emily Hartner, Bishop of the NC Synod, will be our guest preacher. The choir will lead with beautiful music. We will share in the Holy Eucharist meal, and be blessed by the presence of God's Spirit.

RECEPTION FOR BISHOP EMILY

Following worship on Sunday, June 28, there will be a reception in the gathering area. Meet Bishop Emily. Spend some time in fellowship and conversation with one another!



Some ways to participate in the 90th Anniversary Celebration

ORDER SOME MERCHANDISE



Check out the merchandise table on Sunday, June 28, for a variety of options with 90th Anniversary / St. James logo printed. Hat, T-Shirt, Polo Shirt, Pullover ¼ Zip, Tote Bags ...

We'll be taking orders Sunday morning and for the next couple of weeks. So, participate in the celebration with some printed apparel!

Did You Know???

Thanks to Donna Runkle for diving deep into the Archives. She'll be sharing interesting info each week about people, passions, actions, and other random historical information.

SIDEWALK-CHALK WELCOME SIGN (on Saturday morning, June 27,)

All of our children (Pre-K – 5th grade) and a family member are invited to make welcome signs on Saturday morning, on the sidewalk in front of the main church building. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Adult volunteer coordinator(s) are needed.

The weather forecast has a slight chance of morning showers. Please check the church web site for updates before you come."

CELEBRATION VIDEO(S)

Rick Boelke is crafting a collection of video greetings from former members and current longtime members, as well as a number of photographs from St. James' archives and individual family collections. If you would like to offer your help with photography, video editing skills, or administrative ability (making phone calls, creating posters, etc.) give Rick a call. He certainly can use your help.

OCTOBER 4 CELEBRATION WORSHIP

The fellowship hall HVAC should be completely installed by late summer, so we will be able to celebrate with a special catered luncheon on Sunday, October 4. Stay tuned! More details will be published in newsletters, worship materials, and on the web site.

OTHER CELEBRATION IDEAS

Do you have an idea for celebration? Give Rick Boelke a call or call the church office. All ideas welcome!

youth activities

Holden, Jennifer, and Daniel Linkous attended Westminster Presbyterian Youth Conference in June. They had such a great experience, they invited the Westminster youth to St. James for our game night on June 14. We hope to create more opportunities for joint fellowship and activities in the future. It was a great time. Our hope is to create more opportunities for joint fellowship and activities.

AND as the Spirit might move, we're going to try a joint beach day trip!! We'll take the **Kure Beach Day trip on July 15** together.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION – We need to make plans about that day. If you are a youth between 6th – 12 grade and plan to go on the July 15 day-trip, please notify the church office SOON! We need to coordinate transportation, adult leaders, supplies and food, etc. So, do so quickly. (NO LATER THAN JULY 8!!)

Cost will be minimal, probably \$5 per person. Paperwork (insurance info, permission form, etc.) will be required, of course.



July 26 Sunday, July 26th 5:00 - 7:00

Enjoy a time of splish, splash, water games! We'll have refreshments and devotions.

For all youth.

Will you be in 7th – 12th grade this fall? Then this event is for you!

July 26, 4:00 pm –one hour before the water games event

The next National Youth Gathering will be in Minneapolis, MN June 28-July 2.

It should be an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime experience. Come to this meeting for a conversation. Ask questions, get information. Start planning, dreaming, working.

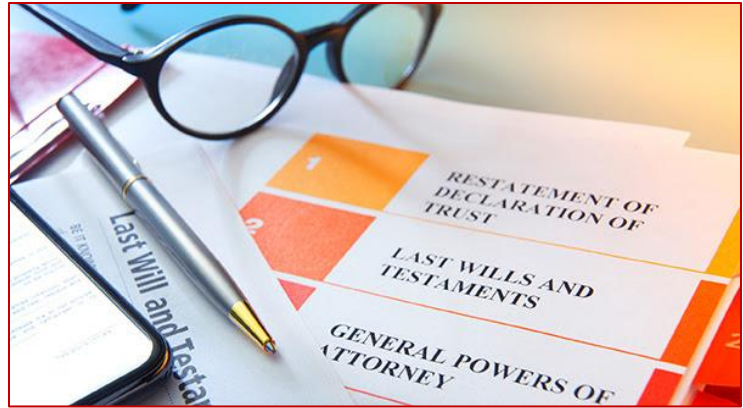




Click the Logo on the left to learn about Legacy Giving and gift planning

I'M HERE TO HELP
Stephanie Burke

stephanie.burke@elca.org
(704) 293-9436



Legacy giving that reflects your passion and purpose.

Explore our faith-focused gift planning options designed to support your values, your families, and the ELCA ministries you care about the most.

ESTATE PLANNING RESOURCES

The ELCA Foundation can help you with your Estate Planning.
Click blue link above



Sunday classes

There are no classes during pre-worship Sunday School time during the summer. A planning session will be scheduled in late July-early August to make decisions for the fall and into 2027.






SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

Esther & Ruth

Join us this summer as we journey through the stories of two remarkable women of the Bible — Esther and Ruth.

-  Courage in uncertain times
-  God's providence and faithfulness
-  Identity, purpose, and redemption
-  Friendship, loyalty, and hope

-  SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM
-  ROOM 127
-  LIGHT SNACKS & FELLOWSHIP

“All because someone was willing to say yes... for such a time as this.”

There will be no Esther class in July.

The study on Ruth will begin Sunday August 2nd

NC Women of the ELCA 38th Annual Gathering Report

June 12-13, 2026, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, N.C.



Our weekend for the Annual Gathering was not a weekend. It was two days. We saved a lot of wear and tear, expenses, exchanging of duties at our home churches, and time by cutting our normal of 37 years from 3 days to 2 days of Gathering. It was efficient, it was productive, it was joyful, fact and fun filled, but it wasn't our "not like it used to be" Gathering. The day was we would have 500 ladies at our Gatherings; we had 60 this year. So of course, we were efficient, with that number you would certainly hope to be.

About 50 churches represented. We had our regular programs, passed the budget, elected new leaders with Churchwide National Representative Merrily Burmeister on board. She also had some diminishing facts and figures as did the state level report. Locals support National, so it goes.

Special guests:

We had Deacon Wendy Roberts as our Gathering Chaplain. We had entertainment, we had singing, we had representatives from Lumbee Tribal Council and members of N. C. as our keynote speakers. As a tribute to Maxine Amos, we had Bartow Tucker from the Fuller Center Housing. Terry Edwards, NCLMM Men's Ministry Coordinator, and Beth Huber from Lutheran Services of the Carolinas attended, as well as Ruth Ann Sipe from Lutheran Disaster Response.

We had meals in the cafeteria, beds in the dorms, great Bible Studies, dorm devotions, great camaraderie, and the topper was our own Bishop Emily Hartner as leader of our worship service!

We have started a new grant. Support our Sisters, for those starting new businesses.

Applications for scholarships and grant are [online](#)

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
Friday	56 attended	\$858.00
Saturday	60 attended	\$ wasn't counted before ending

Budget for 2027 \$46,500.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonie Neal, Voting Member, representing St. James Lutheran Church WELCA

Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship opportunity for women!



Our monthly breakfast group (**Salty Women**) meets on second Thursdays, **July 9 at 9am** at

Eggs up Grill, 2951 Town Center Drive

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



Men's Fellowship – July 1



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



Join us every first Tuesday, at Noon!

Potluck Lunch in our Fellowship Hall

July 7 at Noon

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

Week 2 Week Devotion



BEYOND SUNDAY:
 Monday: Psalm 139:1-4 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Tuesday: Psalm 139:5-6 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Wednesday: Psalm 139:7-8 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Thursday: Psalm 139:9-10 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Friday: Psalm 139:11-12 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Saturday: Psalm 139:13-14 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)
 Sunday: Psalm 139:15-16 (God is everywhere and knows the secrets of our hearts)

A weekly devotion is being offered at Sunday worship, produced by Pastor John and his son, Pastor Daniel Locke of Jacksonville, FL.

There is a short reflection, usually based on Sunday’s gospel reading. In addition, there are readings for each day of the week. Many people have found the devotional piece helpful.

The devotional can be downloaded from the church web site.

Additions to our prayer list



Stella San Miguel died on June 2, at the age of 92, in her home in Spring Lake. Stella was a longtime member of St. James, involved with many ministries over the last 50 years. Her funeral was held at St James on June 15. Stella’s spirit and passion will be missed.

Thomas Oliver, son of Nancy Oliver, passed away on Saturday, June 20 at Harmony assisted living facility in Hope Mills. Final details are undecided at this writing.

Valerie Brewer was diagnosed recently with pancreatic cancer. Please keep Valerie in prayer for her strength and faith.

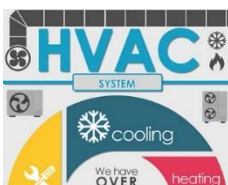
Summer sessions have begun at our outdoor ministries –

Lutheridge, Lutherock, and Agape-Kure Beach.

Please pray for the strength, creativity, and faithful leadership of counselors and staff.



Update of the Fellowship Hall HVAC replacement.



Our HVAC unit is currently scheduled for installation early July. We thank everyone who has made an HVAC donation!

Social Ministry Community Outreach for July

St. James community will collect school supplies for our neighbors at Alma O. Easom Elementary School

(located 4 blocks from St. James on Fort Bragg Rd.)

Below is a list of their anticipated classroom supplies for Kindergarten and First Grade. Copies will be available in the Gathering Space for your "shopping trip." May God guide our generosity as we assist the approximately 200 families at Easom Elementary with successful learning in the 2026-27 school year.

4-pack of Black Dry Erase Markers (Fine Tip)	8-pack of Elmer Glue Sticks
24 pack Crayola Crayons	1 pair Fiskar child size scissors
Pack of pre-sharpened #2 pencils	Play doh (4oz)
Clorox Wipes	Magic Erasers
Tissue Boxes	Pink Erasers
Baby Wipes	Small (3 oz) Dixie Cups
Hand Sanitizer	White Card Stock 8x11
Quart and Gallon Ziplock Bags	1 pack multicolored card stock (8x11)





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 - (July 13)

- 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

7/05	Ruth Ann Crecelius
7/12	Nathan Stockham
7/19	Lindsey Smith
7/26	Jane Boelke

Lectors

7/05	Kathy Brown
7/12	Rick Black
7/19	Johannes Mn
7/26	Rick Boelke

Communion Assistant

7/05	Tonie Neal
7/12	Jacky Hummel
7/19	Sue Rink
7/26	Nancy Oliver

Ushers

7/05	tba
7/12	tba
7/19	tba
7/26	tba

Acolytes

7/05	Victoria Orellano
7/12	Gabriel Thomas
7/19	Willow Linkous
7/26	Aaron Thomas

Greeters

7/05	Gayle & John Frinak
7/12	Patsy Linkous
7/19	Sue Rink
7/26	Sonia Nazario

Rover

7/05	Tom Liedig
7/12	Dave Runkle
7/19	Todd Burns
7/26	Johannes & Christopher Min

Nursery

7/05	Sue Rink, Tonie Neal
7/12	Erika Stockwell, Jennifer Linkous
7/19	Sue Rink, Patsy Linkous
7/26	Amber Habermehl, Verena Min

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)

- Jacque Yacobucci
- Charlotte Davis
- Dara Lehner
- Brenda Killett
- Carolyn Uchtorff
- Betty Kern

Prayer Concerns:

- ◇ Angel Davis
- ◇ John Tucker
- ◇ Beth Sessoms
- ◇ Mark & Ann Mabe
- ◇ David Herring
- ◇ James Peterson, Jr.
- ◇ Wes Davis
- ◇ Family of Stella San Miguel († 6/2/26)
- ◇ Staff and counselors at Lutheridge, Lutherock, and Camp Agape

Military Members

(* *Deployed*)

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



- 7/01 Carolyn Uchtorff
- 7/01 Glenn Stockwell
- 7/02 Paul Orose
- 7/04 Ewa Thomas
- 7/06 Kathleen Heinrich
- 7/06 Teri Bumphrey
- 7/09 Ann Gibson
- 7/10 Avery Walker
- 7/18 Jaye-Lynn Orellano
- 7/22 Henry Orellano
- 7/26 Georgette Miller
- 7/28 Tyler Burns
- 7/30 Renie Johnston
- 7/31 Troy VanPelt

Anniversaries



- 7/05 Avery & Mary Walker

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



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