

The Messenger

Saint James
LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

JOYFULLY
Connecting
FAITH • LIFE • PEOPLE



June 2026
Volume 42, Issue 6

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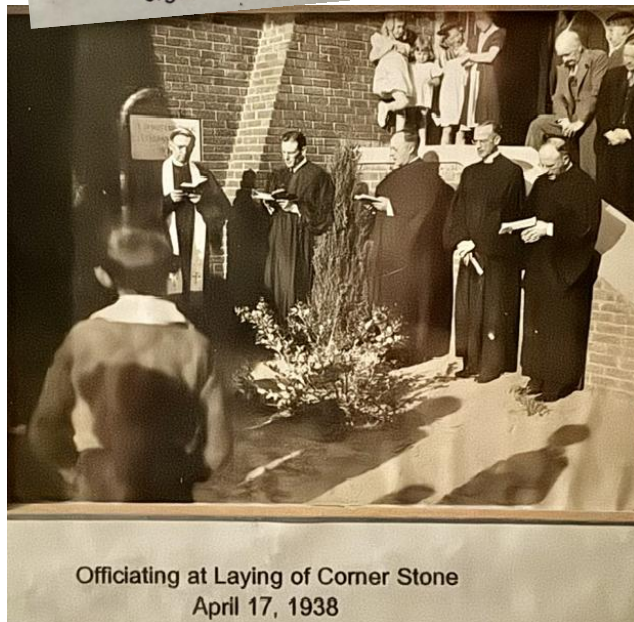
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Saint James celebrates 90 years!



**Join us for our
90th anniversary
on June 28th.**

The Rev. Emily Hartner, Bishop of the NC Synod will be preaching that morning.





Summer Event Calendar

Date	Event	Description & Objectives
June 14 (5-7 PM)	Kickoff Game Night	Games, fun, laughter, friendship, and food. Come, bring a friend!
July 19 or 26	Water Day	An outdoor fellowship event focused on fun and community, integrated with a relevant biblical lesson.
Aug 9 or 16	"Ready for School" Escape Room	An end-of-summer celebration featuring a themed escape room challenge, followed by dedicated time for food and fellowship.



Special Trips & Long-Term Planning

- **Kure Beach:** Planning is underway for our summer beach trip. Wednesday, July 15
- **National Youth Gathering (Minneapolis, MN – July 2027):** This is a high-priority initiative. **Immediate Action:** We must begin a formal headcount to determine interest and start the logistical planning phase.



THE NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING JUNE 28 - JULY 3, 2027

Every three years, thousands of high schoolers and their adult leaders from across the ELCA come together for the ELCA Youth Gathering. It's not just an event but a movement in which faith ignites and community comes alive. Through inspiring speakers, experiential learning and transformative connections, young people experience the church in bold, unforgettable ways. Each night, participants share a unique faith experience through high-energy worship and powerful storytelling. The Gathering is an opportunity to ask big questions, grow in faith and be part of something bigger than yourself. Youth from ST. JAMES have attended approximately the last 5 or 6 Gatherings.

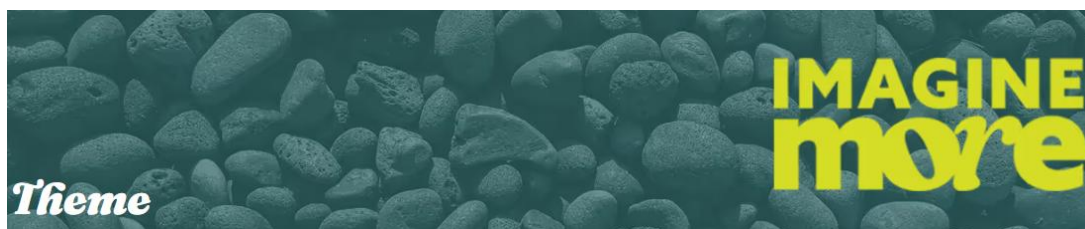
- The 2027 Gathering will be in Minneapolis, MN, June 28-July 3, 2027. (Travel time may extend the trip by 2 days.)
- Youth who will be in 8th-12th grade in the fall of 2026 are eligible to attend.
- Many details are not yet known, i.e. exact cost per youth, means of travel, how much money will need to be raised/invested, adult leaders, etc.
- Registration begins in the fall of 2026,
- But, first we need to know how many youth are interested.

Are you ready to join the movement?



There will be more information available, and questions answered, at the youth meeting on June 14. (If you would like to know more, go to <http://www.elca.org/gathering>).

ELCA Youth Gathering-Jun 28-Jul 3, 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.”

ESTHER SERIES
May 24 – June 21

May 24	Esther Overview
May 31	The Making of a Queen
June 7	For Such a Time as This
June 14	Parades and Parties
June 21	Fighting and Feasting

June 28 St. James Anniversary Celebration!!



June 28 St. James Anniversary Celebration!!

July 5 & 12 No Sunday School (I'll be in Greece)

July 19 & 26 No Sunday School

2ND SUMMER SERIES
Aug 2 – Aug 30
The Story of Ruth – A Plentiful Harvest



Thanks to Ryder Wardlaw and Ian Gibson for the improvements of the St. James campus.

Both of these young men recently completed projects for Eagle rank in Scout Troop 747.

Ian Gibson's project included removing and replacing the worn fencing surrounding several HVAC units behind the Fellowship Hall with white, vinyl fencing. Additionally, his project included expanding the adjacent landscaped area around the prayer garden to include a stone firepit for use by our congregation.



Ryder Wardlaw's project re-landscaped an area outside the church office. An old, broken concrete table was removed, and the area was cleared of significant roots and debris. A brick patio was carefully constructed, and a new concrete table was placed upon it. Two small azaleas were added to further enhance that area. Both projects have greatly improved our property's appearance and will provide spaces for fellowship for years to come.



Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship opportunity for women!



Our monthly breakfast group (**Salty Women**) meets on second Thursdays, **June 11 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



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.

A promotional poster for a Pentecost Praise service. The background features a white dove in flight over a field of colorful, flowing fabric in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The text is arranged as follows:

HYMNSingers!
presents
PENTECOST
Praise
IN ORDINARY TIME
*In this season of Ordinary Time,
experience the enduring power of
the Holy Spirit through hymns,
praise songs, and gospel music.*
3PM | SUNDAY
JUNE 14, 2026
St. Luke AME Church
522 Hillsboro St.
Fayetteville, NC 28301
SPONSORED BY:
ST. LUKE AMEC JOY MINISTRY

GOOD NEWS in Worship and Music Ministry

Alyssa Hall, who has been our primary music accompanist and choir leader for the last 5 months, has informed us she is available to continue in that role for the rest of the year.

Alyssa is a wonderful talent on keyboard, although harp is her primary instrument (she is currently pursuing her doctorate in music at UNC-G). If you don't know her yet, stop by the keyboard some Sunday, and say hello!

WELCOME to new members

A special welcome to David and Susan Oliver, Jim and Jodie Smith, John Andersen, and Zach, Erin, and William Fuhr, who plan to become formal members of St. James on Sunday, June 14.

We will receive them during worship and have an opportunity to say hello and meet them during a reception following worship.



MORE about Welcome !

There is a stand in the Gathering Space at the bottom of the steps. This stand holds name tags, hopefully for every person that attends worship frequently. Please stop by on your way into worship on Sundays, pick up your name tag, and wear it during worship. Getting to know one another begins by having a name to go with a face. Let's make this part of our effort to build relationships and grow community at St. James.

If you cannot find your name tag, take a blank one and write your name on it. Make a note on an attendance sheet, and one will be printed for you by the next week.



Saint James is celebrating its 90th anniversary on June 28!

We have received news that the new Fellowship Hall HVAC will not be installed prior to 28 June. Considering that summer temperatures will be here by late June, our planning team has made the following decisions:

The planned anniversary lunch will be postponed until a later date; however

A Celebration of thanksgiving in worship is still planned. Bishop Emily Hartner will be our guest preacher and the choir will lead with wonderful music. We will give thanks to God for the blessing of ninety years of ministry. **Please make plans to be in attendance on June 28.**



Help Needed

*** We need of 4-5 people to join the Greeters ministry team (a part of the Evangelism ministry.)

The Greeter's role is to make sure folks are welcomed to St. James, answer questions about building locations (restrooms, nursery, elevator, hospitality room, etc.), offer a name tag, sign visitor book, introduce guests to pastor and other members, etc. Qualifications and skills needed: friendliness; ability to engage with new people; and, be willing to learn about St. James facility, general history, and some general info about Lutheranism.

*** We need 2-3 people are needed to work with the Stewardship Ministry Team.

A primary responsibility of this team is, while working with Pastor John, to inform the congregation about the visions and goals represented in the yearly Ministry Spending Plan (MSP), to inspire the congregation through the telling of stories of what is happening in ministry as well as casting possible future stories, to ask the congregation to develop and grow in generous giving, to give thanks for that commitment, and to tell what has happened in ministry due their giving. We use the Stewardship for All Seasons model, which encompasses these responsibilities.

Qualifications: Any, some, or all of the following: creativity, storytelling (and ability to use "God language"), photography and/or videography skills, understanding budgets and financial reports, passion to grow in generosity (and to help others do the same).

*** We need 2-3 people to work with pastor and congregation staff to creating, update, and maintain the congregation's social media ministry. Since this would be a new committee, particulars are still to be worked out. This work might involve weekly or monthly time commitments.

Qualifications: Knowledge and experience of any or all of the following: Facebook, Instagram, Canva, Wordpress, Web Site management skills, storytelling, photography/videography abilities, general computer knowledge, passion for telling the story of God's people doing God's work.

If you want to be a part of any of these exciting areas of ministry here at St. James, please speak with Pastor John or Council President Rick Boelke, leave a note on an attendance pad, contact the church office (phone or email).

We're looking forward to hearing from you soon!! – Pastor John



Autism Center for Enrichment
422 McArthur Rd
Fayetteville, NC 28311

GREENSBORO NC 270
PIEDMONT TRIAD AREA
9 MAY 2026 AM 3 L

Thank
You

Penny and the Amazing Ladies
St. Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 53276
Fayetteville, NC 28305

We appreciate all
that you all do for
us & our kiddos,
thank you for
your kindness!
-Kristen

Thank you for the
busyboards that you
all created for the
clients. May God
continue to bless you
all.
Dr. Hampton

Dear church members.
Thank you, so much for all
you do to our ABA clients.
with much love and gratitude.
-Ribbon P.

Thank You
We really appreciate it!!!
-Zahra

Thank you for the
amazing busy boards!
The kiddos love them!
we appreciate you!
-Mama Ina

Thank you for
your kindness
and support.
We appreciate
it so much.

I can't begin to tell you
how much your busy boards
are loved by all of our
kiddos. we truly appreciate
all you ladies do for
us. ♥

Raina
Reg Director of OPS.

Thank you for all
that you've done
for our clients!
-Carolina

Thank you for thinking
of the children they
love the blankets.
-Trinell

you ladies are
a true blessing!
Thank you ♥
we appreciate it so
much & the kiddos LOVE THEM!
-Rhianna, etc



Week-2-Week Devotions

Beginning June 7, the *Week-2-Week** devotion flyer will be available for daily use. Pastor John is partnering with his son Rev. Daniel Locke (St. Marks Lutheran-Jacksonville, FL) on this devotion ministry. It offers the daily Scripture reading from the Revised Standard Lectionary (what we use for our scripture readings in worship), thought provoking questions, and a prayer. The focus of *Week-2-Week* is to help us take Sunday's readings into the following week, as well as help us prepare for the next Sunday. The flyer will be available on Sunday mornings at the entrance to the sanctuary, as well as on-line at the church's web site.

Pick one up this Sunday. Give it a try! ~Pastor John

*We used this devotion a few years ago during the summer/Pentecost season. A number of people appreciated it. So, we thought we'd offer it again.

camp-agape.org
919.552.9421

SUMMER CAMP!

Register today!

Camp Agapé 2026 Summer Camp

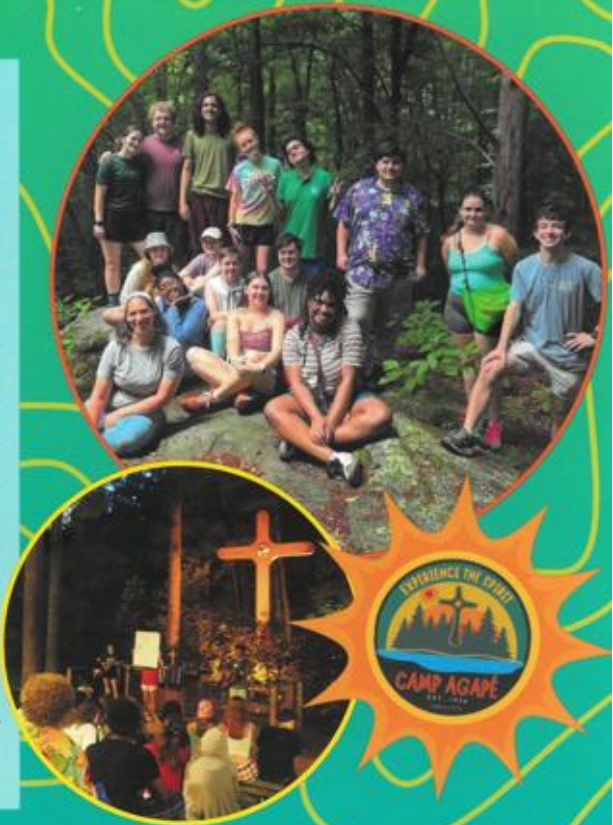
Registration Now Open!

Register by February 14, 2026 and receive a \$15 Camp Store credit to be used onsite June 21st - August 7th

Grade = grade entering fall 2026

Date	Camp Program	Grades	Cost
June 21-26	SIT Leaders	10 - 13	\$850.00
June 21-26	Campfirmation*	7 - 9	\$685.00
June 28 - July 3	Prime	3 - 6	\$685.00
June 28 - July 3	Classic	7 - 9	\$685.00
June 29 - July 3	Base Camp! (on-site day camp)	2 - 5	\$300.00
July 5 - 7	Young Folks	2 - 5	\$380.00
July 6 - 10	Base Camp! (on-site day camp)	2 - 5	\$300.00
July 8 - 10	Grand Camp**	All ages	\$200.00
July 12-17	Prime	3 - 6	\$685.00
July 12-17	Classic	7 - 9	\$685.00
July 12-17	Nature Camp	5 - 8	\$685.00
July 19-24	Prime	3 - 6	\$685.00
July 19-24	Classic	7 - 9	\$685.00
July 19-24	Music Camp	7 - 10	\$700.00
July 26-31	Prime	3 - 6	\$685.00
July 26-31	Classic	7 - 9	\$685.00
July 26-31	High School	10 - 12	\$700.00
August 2-7	Night Owls***	7 - 12	\$725.00

Register by February 14, 2026 & receive a \$15 Camp Store credit to be used onsite June 21st - August 7th!
 *Before registering for Campfirmation, connect with your pastor or youth director to decide if it's the right fit for your youth.
 **Grand Camp pricing based on per person rate. Ages 6 and under are free.
 ***Campers will be placed in cabin groups with others of a similar grade level.
 Questions? Contact our Registrar, Jamala at agape@agapekurebeach.org or 919.552.9421.





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 - (June 9)

- 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

6/07	Jane Boelke
6/14	Ruth Ann Crecelius
6/21	Jacky Hummel
6/28	Scott Marosek

Lectors

6/07	Erin Smith
6/14	Jim Wright
6/21	Beverly Beale
6/28	Rick Black

Communion Assistant

6/07	Jacky Hummel
6/14	Sue Rink
6/21	Delores Schiebe
6/28	Henry Orellano

Ushers

6/07	Teri Bumphrey Lindsey Smith
6/14	Edward Samuelian, Avery Walker
6/21	Agnes Rybar, Georgette Miller
6/28	Hannah Rea, Joan Eissingering

Acolytes

6/07	Gianna Orellano
6/14	Holden Linkous
6/21	Ricky VanPelt
6/28	Henry Orellano

Greeters

6/07	Barbara Azzarelli
6/14	Nancy Oliver
6/21	Teri Bumphrey
6/28	Linda Stellfox

Rover

6/07	Dave Runkle
6/14	Paula Burns
6/21	Verena & Christopher Min
6/28	Edward Samuelian

Nursery

6/07	Sue Rink, Patsy Linkous
6/14	Verena Min, Patsy Linkous
6/21	Amber Habermehl, Valerie Brewer
6/28	Erika Stockwell, Kathy Brown

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
- ◇ Thomas Oliver
- ◇ Mark & Ann Mabe
- ◇ David Herring
- ◇ James Peterson, Jr.
- ◇ Wes Davis

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



Deaths

- 4/22/26 – Marjorie Hendrix
- 6/02/26 – Stella San Miguel



- 6/06 Cynthia McLamb
- 6/06 Holden Linkous
- 6/06 Theodore Porter
- 6/08 Conrad Gregory
- 6/13 Jane Boelke
- 6/14 Lindsey Smith
- 6/16 Shelby McLamb
- 6/20 Frank Vittoe
- 6/23 Meghan Slaymaker
- 6/24 Lela Pell
- 6/26 Gary Eissinger

Anniversaries



- 6/01 Susan & David Oliver
- 6/04 Jane & Rick Boelke
- 6/05 Amy & Herman Allison
- 6/19 Erin & Paul Orose

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



Address Service Requested

www.saintjamesfay.org