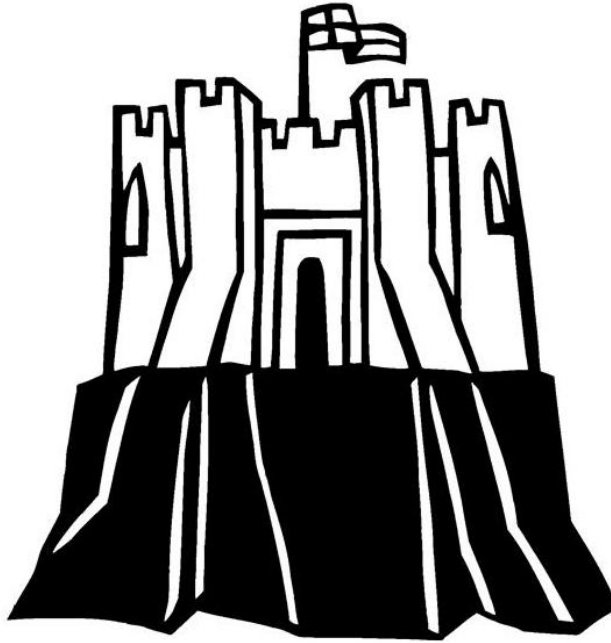


Saint James Lutheran Church

October 25, 2026

Reformation Sunday



The Rev. John Locke

704-530-9969 (cell)
1424 Morganton Rd.
PO Box 53276
Fayetteville, NC 28305

JPL406@gmail.com
910-484-8052 (office)
www.saintjamesfay.org

Musician: Alyssa Hall

Worship Leaders		
	October 25 Reformation Sunday	November 1 All Saints Day
Assisting Minister	Scott Marosek	Ruth Ann Crecelius
Lector	Jim Wright	Beverly Beale
Communion Assistants	Jacob Smalley, Gianna Orellano, Christopher Min, and Gabriel Thomas	Sue Rink
Ushers	Agnes Rybar, Ben Burt	John & Gayle Frinak
Greeter	Teri Bumphrey	Fran DeSilva
Acolyte	Henry Orellano	Ricky Van Pelt
Rover	Edward Samuelian	Tom Liedig
Worship Nursery	Amber Habermehl, Jennifer Linkous	Erin Fuhr, Patsy Linkous

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Congregational Meeting to elect a nominating committee, who will nominate council members for 2027.

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Listen, God Is Calling

ELW 513

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Following Children's Time, children (Up to 5th grade) are invited and encouraged to participate in the Children's Worship Time in the lower level. They will return prior to Holy Communion.

- Children up to Kindergarten will be in the nursery for a supervised play time.
- Children 1st - 5th grade will participate in a more structured learning time led by Jacky Hummel.

(Adult volunteers are needed in both areas. If you can help, please talk with Amber Habermehl, Pastor, or call the church office.)

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM **Psalm 46**

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **"Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**
- ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Thy Strong Word* ELW 511 vs, 5,6

GOSPEL The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 8:31-36

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit

SERMON

Pastor John

We stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 504

Congregation remains standing

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Those making affirmation are presented by Sue Rink, teacher of confirmation class:

I present Jacob Smalley, Gianna Orellano, Christopher Min, and Gabriel Thomas, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and these brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself,
enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

We stand

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

We sit.

AFFIRMATION

The pastor will ask each confirmand:

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support this sister and these brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The pastor will place hands on each individual, offer a prayer for blessing.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

We stand

HYMN OF PEACE *We Are Called*

ELW 720, verse 1

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
Lord! We are called to be light for the king-dom, to
live in the free-dom of the cit-y of God.

Refrain
We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to
love ten-der-ly; we are called to serve one an-
oth-er, to walk hum-bly with God.

PEACE

The peace of God be with you always.
And also with you.

We share this peace as a sign of our baptismal unity as children of God. The “exchange of peace” (also commonly called “sharing the peace” or “passing the peace”) is an act of reconciliation that serves as a transition point between the Word and Meal portions of the liturgy.

We sit

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.



Support of the ministries of St. James, as well as the wider church, is appreciated. To donate with cash or check use an envelope from the back of the pew or scan the QR code to donate digitally. Thank you for your generosity.



ANTHEM *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

We stand.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Names of those on the congregation's prayer list are listed in the back of the bulletin)

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW setting 8)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional Version)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
Thanks be to God!

We sit.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

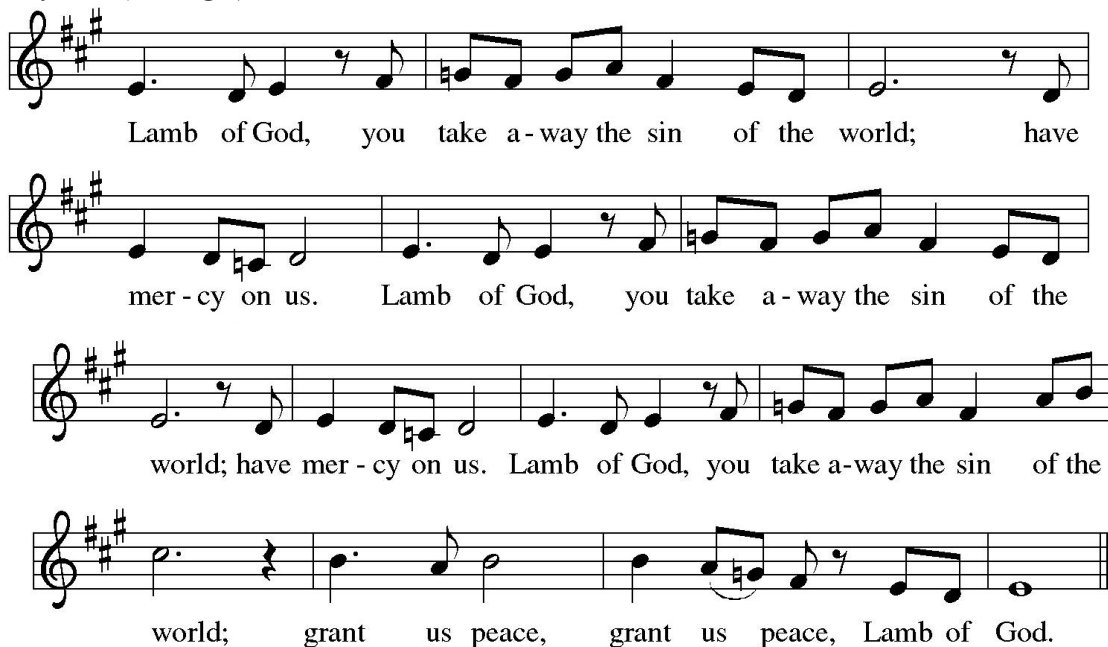
All are welcome at Holy Communion. Lutherans believe that Jesus' real presence is in, under, and through the bread and wine. The sacrament is effective in either bread or wine, so if you have an issue with either bread or wine, you may commune with one element. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available for those who prefer. We will distribute bread and wine by individual cup. Children and others not communing may fold arms across their chest, and they will receive a blessing from the communion minister.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
And each person may respond **Amen**

COMMUNION SONGS

Lamb of God (Setting 8)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

ELW 470



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Jesus Loves Me

ELW 595



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

To Barbara Azzarelli and Linda Stellfox as they relocate.

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
The God of grace + bless you now and forever.
AMEN

SENDING HYMN *Thy Strong Word* ELW 511 Verses 1, 3, 5, 6

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Join us for a reception in honor of our confirmands

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

October 25, 2026

The list in the weekly bulletin is intended to be for persons in immediate crisis. Generally, those names will be moved to the newsletter after 3 weeks. The newsletter has our long-term prayer list which is updated as you tell us.

Members · Beth Sessoms · Larry Schiebe · Philip Williams · Anna Lena Andersen · Cayla Chaplin
· Gary Eissinger · Barbara Azzarelli · Suzi Wilkinson

Friends & Family

· Diane Stultz · Stasha · Katie Maxwell · Charlotte Choice and family · Sara Brown · Mindy Quinby
· Morgen Jensen · Buddy Prevatte · James Rose · Ethan Thompkins · Simone Ryan · Sharon Decatur
· Mike Crecelius · Connie Vargas · Priscilla Unger · Irene Ferguson · Sal LoGalbo · Kathy Huling

People at Home or in Care facilities: · Charlotte Davis · Brenda Killett · Betty Kern

Our military members (*deployed)

· Earl Stockham · Dan Gibson · Joshua Trogdon* · Bella Fish · Hochang Min · Alex Habermehl
· Matthew Porter · Derek Carlson · Howard Hogan* · Zach Fuhr · Addie Piatz* · Douglas Gearing*
· Chad Kennedy · Riley Broding



Ministry at St. James ... October 25 – November 1, 2026

Sun. Oct 25

Reformation Sunday

9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation
10:00 am Worship and Affirmation of Baptism
Congregational Meeting to elect a nominating committee, who will
nominate council members for 2027.
11:30 am Choir Practice

Mon. Oct 26

9:00 am Quilting Ministry (Annex)

Tue. Oct 27

6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 747
7:00 pm Fellowship on Zoom

Wed. Oct 28

6:30 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal

Sun. Nov 1

All Saints Sunday

9:00 am Sunday Morning Faith Formation
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Choir Practice

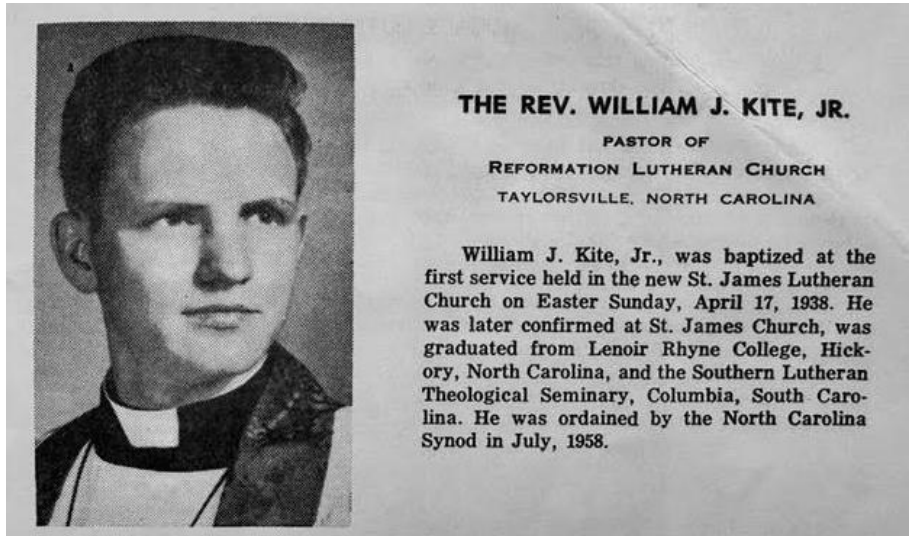
Upcoming Worship Highlights:

Nov. 01 All Saints Time of Remembrance
Nov. 08 Veteran's Day Observance
Nov. 22 Renewal of Vows for Agnes and Georgette (10 year anniversary)
Nov. 29 First Sunday of Advent; Baptism of Colt Broding (Riley and Caitlyn)

MEMORIES of NINETY YEARS

To celebrate our 90th anniversary, a small snippet of our history will be featured in the bulletin each week.

The 25th anniversary of the church was celebrated on June 28, 1961. Former Pastor George W. Lingle returned to preach while Pastor Mauney served as liturgist. After the service a picnic lunch was served in the Lutheran Service Center. On Wednesday evening a congregational dinner was held followed by a historical pageant "A Time to Build" telling the story of the history of the church. A special guest was the Rev. William J. Kite, Jr., pastor of Reformation Lutheran Church, Taylorsville. He was baptized and confirmed at St. James, and was the first "son of the congregation" to become an ordained minister.





Sunday School Series

Ruth

Join us as we study about the remarkable Ruth. Famous for her loyalty, kindness and faithfulness.



Courage in uncertain times



God's providence and faithfulness



Identity, purpose, and redemption



Friendship, loyalty, and hope

You don't want to miss the exciting study with Anna Lisa in Room 127
Sunday mornings at 9 am



All Saints Sunday is November 1, 2026

We remember those who have died **since last All Saints Day, November 1, 2025.**

Please use the strip insert in this bulletin to list your loved one. We will mention them by name in the prayers during worship.



Remembering Loved Ones for All Saints Day

There are two different ways to honor the memories of loved ones for All Saints Day.

- For family and friends who have passed away since November 1, 2025, please fill out the slip of paper in the bulletin or contact the office by (Th. 10/29) Their names will appear in the bulletin on All Saints Day.
- To honor those who have passed away at any time, you may add bell(s) to the ribbons on the cross downstairs in the Gathering Space. It will be carried into the sanctuary during the processional on All Saints Day.



STAY IN THE LOOP

Receive Text Updates



Not on our email news list yet?

Sign up at <https://saintjamesfay.org/>

Get church updates by text

Join in a few seconds—text the keyword below to get started.

TEXT THIS KEYWORD

@8bhg3

SEND TO

81010

Open a new text message, enter the keyword, and send it to the number.



You can opt out at any time

Reply "unsubscribe @8bhg3" to stop messages.

Having trouble with 81010?

Text @8bhg3 to (910) 401-3357 instead.

Celebrating 90 Years, 90 Acts of Grace

As we celebrate 90 years of God's faithfulness at Saint James, we want to honor the living, breathing impact of Christ's love in our community. Over nine decades, our church has been built on quiet prayers, shared meals and open doors.

To celebrate this milestone, we are launching the
90TH ANNIVERSARY KINDNESS JOURNAL

Our goal is to physically record 90 distinct acts of kindness—both big and small—that happen within our congregation and community. This book will be in the gathering space for the next few weeks and then be safely stored in our Archives room for future generations.

How you can participate:

- Notice the good: Did someone bring you a meal, send a timely card or offer a helping hand? Did you witness someone else showing kindness to a neighbor? Or did you offer those things to your neighbor?
- Write it down: Stop by the table in the gathering space to journal the kindness given or received. Entries can be signed or anonymous.
- Pass it on!: Let this challenge inspire you to be the answer to someone else's prayers.

Let's fill these pages with gratitude, bridging 90 years of faith with 90 tangible expressions of love.

With joy,
The 90th Anniversary planning team



JOYFULLY
Connecting
FAITH • LIFE • PEOPLE