

St. James Journal

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Traditional Worship
9:15 AM Contemporary Worship
9:15 AM Adult Bible Study
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
(Communion is on the 1st & 3rd Sundays)

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

There is something for EVERYONE on Wednesday nights at St. James!

5:15—Join us for a great supper!
6:15—Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders
ONE for 4th-6th graders
WOW for pre-school-3rd Graders
6:15—High School Youth Group
6:00—Adult Bible Study
6:00—Worship Band
7:00—Choir

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE (Feb. 14th)

11:00—Worship
6:30—Worship

WEDNESDAY LENT SCHEDULE (Beginning Feb. 21st)

11:00—Worship
11:45—Meal
5:30—Join us for a great supper!
6:30—Worship
7:00—Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders
ONE for 4th-6th graders
WOW for pre-school-3rd Graders
7:00—Choir

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
"WE PROCLAIM AND PRACTICE CHRIST'S LOVE"

FEBRUARY 2018

Grace and Peace to you,

In January of 2013, my wife Diane and I traveled with a group of folks from Charles City to Haiti to build some homes and also provide a medical clinic for orphans and people in the area.

As we made our daily trip to the work site in I noticed that in the yard near most homes was a large concrete, rectangular box that looked like an above ground burial vault. Some of them were very plain and some had what looked to be religious symbols on them. When I asked one of our interpreters what they were he said that they indeed were burial vaults.

I asked if there was just one person buried there and the interpreter said that sometimes it was just one person but sometimes the whole family ended up in there.

I guess what made a bigger impression on me was that those tombs were right there each morning when you got up and went out the door or looked out the window on that side of your home. I would often see children playing on them or women using

them as a place to lay their fresh-washed laundry for it to dry.

We tend to tuck our burial places away and most days would have to make a special trip to go by the cemetery much less get close to the actual grave of our loved one who has died.

When was the last time that you thought about death, yours or someone else's? When was the last time that you talked about death with anyone? Is it a topic that comes up very often?

My guess is that you very seldom have conversations about death and dying. This may be good because it means that life is not forcing you to talk about these things, but it is also kind of bad because our death in this world is absolutely certain, the time could be any time, and an awareness of the fact that we are going to die can have a PROFOUND effect on how we live our lives today.

The people in Haiti are known for their ability to remain calm in what we would call stressful situations. I am not prepared to say that is

completely because of their awareness of their own mortality but I am sure that it plays a part.

In a few days, on Wednesday, February 14th, we will celebrate Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a day when we remember that we are mortal – that our time on this earth is limited. It is a day that reminds us to try and keep things in perspective, to remain aware that only a short part of our life is lived here and the rest will be beyond that gate called Death.

Ash Wednesday is also the beginning of the season of Lent. A time when we make a conscious decision to do things to remind ourselves and others that this world, with its awards, and its material goods are not to be the center of our lives. Lent is a time to work on improving our spiritual disciplines such as worship, tithing, devotions, Bible reading and study, meditation, etc.

May Lent 2018 find you ready to grow and mature in your walk of faith.

Grow in Faith. Serve the Lord
Pastor Dennis Niezwaag

LENT

Lent begins on February 14 with Ash Wednesday services at 11 and 6:30. Please join us as we mark the beginning of this Holy Season with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Then, join us each Wednesday of Lent for our special Lenten Series on Prayer. How can

we grow in prayer as a community? How can you use prayer in your own personal devotions? How can praying together enhance your family life? These are just some of the questions we will explore. You are invited to a morning prayer service at 11 and/or Holden Evening Pray-

er at 6:30. Each week, we will have optional small group discussions in the Fireside Room following the services.

We will also have hand-outs to help aid your prayer life and Lenten disciplines at home, as well as special opportunities for prayer and devotion during the season.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Your 2018 offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the Narthex. If you did not receive offering envelopes and would like some, please contact the church office and some will be assigned to you. Even if you are enrolled in Simply Giving, you may have envelopes. If you don't plan to use any of them, let Amy know, so she doesn't assign you any in the future.

**Our Christian Sympathy is extended to:**

- The family of Marilyn Lagos
- The family of Tonya Martin

When there is a death of a family member, please call the church office so that we may make a note of it in an upcoming Journal. Also please call the church office if a name has been inadvertently omitted.

Those We Have Remembered in Prayer:

Bridget True, Ray Groth, Pastor Jeni, Jessica Schulz, Margaret Christensen, Harold "Jack" Lien, Roland Brosz, Jan Abrahamson

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:

Did you know? If you are a member of Thrivent, you can designate your choice dollars to the ministry at St. James. Simply go the Thrivent website: Thrivent.com/thriventchoice and follow the instructions. You can also call 800-847-4836 and when prompted say, "Thrivent Choice," then follow the instructions.

Youth and Family News

THE MARCH JOURNAL deadline is by February 16 by 12:00 PM.

THE MARCH JOURNAL will be assembled on February 26 at 10:00 AM.

Please call the church office if you are able to help.

BULLETIN ARTICLES are due on Wednesday by 9:00AM every week.

2018 FLOWER MINISTRY sign up sheets are now available in the Narthex. Flowers are \$21.

First Communion Sunday will be celebrated February 18 during the 9:15 Worship Service for all those who have completed First Communion Instruction.

Attention Riverside Campers: If you have service hours eligible for the Andi and Rich Halverson Youth Fund, the cut-off date to turn these in is May 1st for this summer's activities. It's not too late to earn some service hours if you haven't done any! *Early Bird Registration for Riverside Bible Camp ends on February 15. There are brochures available in the Narthex.*

Mardi Gras Party!! Join us on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13th for a Mardi Gras Party for all ages! We will have activities for kids, and pancakes for everyone. Come any time between 5:30-7:00 for pancakes and ham. A free-will donation will be taken for the meal.



CONFIRMATION STUDENTS are required to attend all mid-week Lenten Services (except for the week of Spring Break). Please sit in the front with your small groups. Small Groups will meet after the services until 7:30 each week but Spring Break week.

WOW AND ONE continue during the season of Lent. Children should sit with their parents OR with their WOW or ONE leader during worship. They will then go to their groups until 7:30.

Care Team & WELCA News

CARE TEAM: will pack up 16 boxes on Sunday morning, Feb. 11th, on the stage. These boxes are going to 15 college students away from home and happy to be able to add Connor Tlusty back to our list who is in the military. Check us out that morning or better yet, bring 16 items to add to these boxes. Any questions, call Kathy Follmuth or Gloria Hesley.

Rub A Dub Dub, Please Fill the Tub!

No one likes to be dirty. Soap keeps hands clean, germs at bay and helps people present themselves with dignity. This simple thing is one of the many building blocks to success. Lutheran World Relief accepts NEW bars of any brand soap, in their original wrapping. All bar sizes are accepted, however, bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred. There will be wash-tub in the Narthex for you to put the soap in. Thank you!

THE WELCA MISSION ACTION COMMITTEE would like to thank the St. James congregation for their generous donations to the annual Christmas "mitten" tree. The tree was well decorated with 53 stocking caps, 57 pairs of gloves and mittens, 45 pairs of boys and girls underwear, and 69 pairs of boys and girls socks. The donations have been divided and delivered to Hoover and Roosevelt schools. The schools are very appreciative of these gifts from St. James.

DURING LENT THE ST. JAMES Women of the ELCA are joining Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise appeal. Beginning February 25 and ending March 25, we'll collect a different item each week that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. On the following Sundays, please bring the items listed below and put them in the baskets in the Narthex. We appreciate any donation you can give.

HERE'S OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE

February 25: Bath Towels (light-weight, max.52" x 27", dark color recommended)

March 4: Bars of Soap (4-5oz in original wrapping)

March 11: Combs, wide-toothed (no picks or fine-toothed combs); Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)

March 18: Adult Size Toothbrush

March 25: Any of the Above Items

Due to a surplus from last year, toothbrushes are not needed this year.

Our goal is to collect during Lent enough supplies for 40 LWR Personal Care Kits. The Kits will be assembled after Easter.

~Thank you so much for your contributions~

CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND PORTALS OF PRAYER

for January through March are available at the church on the tables in the Narthex.

Board, Circle News, & Prayer Shawl News

LOVE CIRCLE will meet on Monday, February 19th, at 7pm, at the church.

DO DAYS QUILTING meets every Tuesday at 9:00a.m.

SENIOR SAINTS will meet on February 15th at 5:00.

KOINONIA: We will be meeting at Hy-Vee East for supper on Sunday, Feb. 25th at 5:30 pm. Dave and Karrie Frenz are our hosts for the night. (I doubt they'll be picking up the tab)

PRAYER SHAWL: We will not be meeting again until Sunday, March 4th at 9:00 AM in the Board Room.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to be included in the St. James Prayer Chain, please email the church office at stjamesofficemc@gmail.com



Church Council and Board Members

ALL Church Council AND Board members are invited to a **PLANNING DAY AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATION** on **Tuesday, February 13th at 7:00 PM.** Join us as we begin planning for a new year of ministry at St. James. There will be time for brainstorming, time to network with other boards

to plan GREAT ministry together, and time to get to know each other better. Come early for pancakes at our Mardi Gras Party! **Let's work to get as many of your board members as possible to attend so we can begin our new year with LOTS of new ideas!**

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS will be held on Sunday, February 11 at all services. ALL Council and Board Members are asked to attend one of these services that day.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITY!! READ THROUGH THE GOSPELS DURING LENT 2018

Wed	February 14	Matthew	1-3
Thu	February 15	Matthew	4-6
Fri	February 16	Matthew	7-9
Sat	February 17	Matthew	10-12
Sun	February 18		
Mon	February 19	Matthew	13-14
Tue	February 20	Matthew	15-16
Wed	February 21	Matthew	17-18
Thu	February 22	Matthew	19-20
Fri	February 23	Matthew	21-22
Sat	February 24	Matthew	23-24
Sun	February 25		
Mon	February 26	Matthew	25-26
Tue	February 27	Matthew	27-28
Wed	February 28	Mark	1-3
Thu	March 1	Mark	4-6
Fri	March 2	Mark	7-9
Sat	March 3	Mark	10-12
Sun	March 4		

Sat	March 10	Luke	10-12
Sun	March 11		
Mon	March 12	Luke	13-14
Tue	March 13	Luke	15-16
Wed	March 14	Luke	17-18
Thu	March 15	Luke	19-20
Fri	March 16	Luke	21-22
Sat	March 17	Luke	23-24
Sun	March 18		
Mon	March 19	John	1-2
Tue	March 20	John	3-4
Wed	March 21	John	5-6
Thu	March 22	John	7-8
Fri	March 23	John	9-10
Sat	March 24	John	11-12
Sun	March 25		
Mon	March 26	John	13-14
Tue	March 27	John	15-16
Wed	March 28	John	17-18

Souper Bowl Of Caring

Before you feast on your favorite snacks while watching the biggest game of the year, join us as we help fight Hunger on Superbowl Sunday, February 4, with our Annual SOUPERBOWL OF CARING. Youth will be out in the narthex before and after

worship with soup kettles and baskets collecting food for the Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank and money to benefit ELCA World Hunger.

Wear your jerseys or favorite team colors to get into the spirit of the day!



WEDNESDAY NOON LENTEN MEAL
Served 11:45 am in Fellowship Hall
St. James will provide the soup and we wish for you to bring a salad or dessert to share.

February 14

Ash Wednesday
No Meal

February 21

Chili
Sandwiches

February 28

Beef Stew
Sandwiches

March 7

Bean Soup
Sandwiches

March 14

Chicken Noodle Soup
Sandwiches

March 21

Pot O'Luck Soups
Sandwiches

March 28

Holy Week
No Meal

April 1

EASTER BREAKFAST
Served 8:45 to 9:45

Suggested Meal Donation: \$5.00 per person

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN MEAL
Served 5:30 to 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall
St. James provides the main dish and we wish for you to bring a salad or dessert to share.
Hotdogs will be provided for the kids.

February 14

Ash Wednesday
No Meal

February 21

Chicken Ranch Wraps
Shredded Chicken Sandwiches
Chips

February 28

Walking tacos, soft tacos
Nachos & cheese

March 7

Chicken & Rice Casserole
Green Beans
Macaroni & Cheese/Hot Dogs

March 14

Spaghetti
French bread

March 21

Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Bean & Ham Soup
Sandwiches

March 28

Holy Week
No Meal

April 1

EASTER BREAKFAST
Served 8:45 to 9:45

Suggested Meal Donation: \$5.00 per person

**LENTEN SERVING GROUP
SCHEDULE 2018
BOARD MEMBERS arrive 5-5:30**

February 14
Ash Wednesday
No Meal

February 21
WELCA

February 28
Congregational Life
Education

March 7
Worship & Music
Deacons

March 14
Stewardship
Memorials

March 21
Trustees
Executive Council

March 28
Holy Week
No Meal

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS FEBRUARY 2018
Meals served 5:15 to 6:15 PM

FEBRUARY 7
Pancakes
Egg bake
Sausage/bacon
Muffins/cinnamon rolls

Suggested meal donation:
\$5.00 per person
All meals include lettuce salad, dessert and beverages.



Reader Schedule

	8:00 AM	9:15 AM	11:00 AM
Feb. 4	Marvyl Ransom	Alyse Hesley	Grant Bohls
Feb. 11	Judy Clarke	Bob Follmuth	Gene Larson
Feb. 18	Lynn Christensen	Kim Ostrander	Carmen Madson
Feb. 25	Jeanette Priebe	Cindy Rumeliote	Pastor

SCRIPTURE READERS

If you are unable to read on the scheduled Sunday please call the church office.

St. James Contact Information

ST. JAMES STAFF
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