

St. James Journal

FEBRUARY, 2019

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 am Traditional
Worship
9:15 am Adult Bible
Study
9:30 am Contemporary
Worship
10:30 am LIFT
11:00 am Chapel
Worship

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

7:00 am Men's
Breakfast
10:00 am Staff
Meeting
5:15 pm Meal
6:00 pm Bible Study
6:15 pm 7th/8th
Confirmation
7:00 pm Choir

FEBRUARY 3RD IS SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!

Help feed hungry
people in our
community by
bringing
non-perishable food
items and dollars for
the Hawkeye
Harvest Food Bank!



LENT 2019

“Open My Life, Lord”

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday worship on WEDNESDAY MARCH 6 at 11 AM and 6:30 PM. For the rest of the season of Lent we will be exploring the theme: “Open My Life, Lord.”

Far too often, we find ourselves closed off—closed off from our neighbors, closed off from those who love us, closed off from the voice of God. It is difficult to hear one another, to see the truth, to be willing to risk connecting with the world around us. It just seems safer to shut down, close off, and hide.

But that is not how God intends us to live. God opens us to new life and new possibilities, new learning and new relationships. And when God opens us up, new things are possible. Join us each week as we explore how God is working in our lives to open us up.

Each week you will be given an envelope to open. It will contain brief devotions for each day and an activity for the week. There will be many other opportunities to continue our discussions. The themes each week will be:

Week 1: Open My Eyes, Lord
Week 2: Open My Hands, Lord
Week 3: Open My Ears, Lord
Week 4: Open My Heart, Lord
Week 5: Open My Life, Lord

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Periodically, members of our congregation are in need of financial help. We would like to be able to provide gift cards for groceries or gas or other funds when those needs arise. If you would like to contribute to that fund, you can donate money or bring Hy-Vee or Wal-Mart cards to the church office or give them to Pastor Jeni. Thank you!

CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND PORTALS OF PRAYER

for January thru March are available on the table in the Narthex.

OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE ALSO READY IN THE NARTHEX.

2019 FLOWER MINISTRY

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

THE MARCH JOURNAL deadline is February 21 by 2:00 PM.

THE MARCH JOURNAL will be assembled on February 25th at 10:00 AM. Please call the church office if you are able to help.

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

St. James News

BAPTISM:

River Ann Marie Thomas, daughter of Devin Thomas and Moriah Wendel, was baptized on January 20. River was born on September 26th, 2018. Godparents are Ariel Cook, Christopher Grey, Hannah Wendel, and Ryan Wendel. God Bless River on her new journey with God!

PRAYERS: Remembered in Prayer in January: Kim Townsend, Jeff Borger, & Marlys Nelson

If you or someone you love would like to be added to the prayer list, please contact one of the pastors or the Church Office. Also, please let us know when someone is hospitalized or in need of a visit!

NOTES OF SYMPATHY:

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Marvyl Ransom, who died on December 26. Our deepest sympathy to the family of Randy Carolus, who died on January 9. Our deepest sympathy to the family of Loren Levenhagen, who died on January 28. Our deepest sympathy to the family of Jim O'Donnell, who died on January 30.

GOD BLESS our FIRST COMMUNION participants, who shared communion for the first time on February 3. First Communion youth are: Kane Halverson, Colton Hesley, Kaylee Myers, Anniston Ostrander, Norah Smith, and Kasey Trask.

FACEBOOK PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to be added to our St. James Facebook Prayer Chain, please talk to Pastor Jeni.

SHARING THE LOVE! As we prepare to celebrate Valentine's Day, you are invited to share the love at our Sunday School/LIFT Service day on February 10. Meet in the gym at 10:30 and we will go to a nursing home to spread some Valentine's Cheer (Weather permitting).



Do you like to talk about your faith in a relaxed atmosphere? Are you interested in learning how the Bible speaks to you today? Do you want to make some new friends at church? Join us on Thursday evenings at Mason City Brewing for "**Pub Theology**," a time to share our faith and learn together. Beginning in February, we will look at the story of King David in Scripture. See how this poet, shepherd, king, sinner, and saint is a lot like us! **We will meet in February on the 7th and the 28th at 6 PM.**

OUR WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB continues on Saturdays at 2 PM. We will meet on February 2 and 16 at Cabin Coffee. We are reading the book "For the Love" by Jen Hatmaker. Newcomers are ALWAYS welcome. You can purchase the book on Amazon or any other on-line book distributor. Grab some coffee or tea and a snack and join us on Saturdays for a fun, relaxing, faith-building time with friends!



St. James News

TRIVIA NIGHT will be held on FRIDAY, MARCH 1! All are welcome for trivia and fun with friends. Bring others and join us. Watch your bulletin and Facebook for location and time. If anyone would like to plan the questions and lead the night, please contact Sid or Jeni. Hope to see you there!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR for our **Mardi Gras Pancake FEAST** on Tuesday, March 5! Before we begin the season of Lent, we feast together on pancakes and ham. There will be Mardi Gras activities for families and lots of food. Watch your bulletin, Facebook, and March Journal for more information!

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the congregation for the love and support they have shown us during this time of mourning. ~Ross, Mark, and John Ransom

THANK YOU Thank you to the Nativity set up and take down crew. The Nativity set looked very nice again this year and would not have been possible with out your help.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS

FEBRUARY 2019

Served in Fellowship Hall 5:15 to 6 PM



FEBRUARY 6

- Spaghetti with meatballs
- Alfredo spaghetti
- Buttered noodles
- French bread
- Hot dogs

FEBRUARY 13

- Chicken and Rice casserole
- Green beans
- Mac & cheese
- Hot dogs

FEBRUARY 20

- 3-cheese chicken penne pasta
- Garlic bread
- Hot dogs

FEBRUARY 27

- Chicken Strips
- Hash browns or chips
- Hotdog's

MEAL DONATION:

\$5 per person

All meals include lettuce salad, dessert, and beverage.

Council and Board Members for 2019

will be installed at either of the first two services on February 17. Following the 9:30 service, there will be a Leadership Retreat. Brunch will be served. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Thank you!

LENTEN SERVING GROUP SCHEDULE 2019
BOARD ASSIGNED DATES:

MARCH 6

Ash Wednesday
No meal

MARCH 13

WELCA
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE (Mason City spring break)

MARCH 20

Worship & Music
Deacons

MARCH 27

Memorials
Education Board

APRIL 3

Stewardship
Executive Committee

APRIL 9

Trustees

APRIL 16

Holy Week
No Meal

APRIL 21

EASTER

Note:

Each board will provide people to help with serving, clearing tables, washing dishes, taking out trash, and other miscellaneous items as needed.

Please arrive between 5 and 5:30 PM and be prepared to stay until the clean-up process has been completed, approximately 7 PM.

Thanks, Sherri

WELCA News

Prayer Shawl: We will not be praying over shawls in February but keep stitching. Anyone who has worked on shawls over the past few years, we are going to be celebrated at an event at Trinity Lutheran on Feb. 19th at 10:45am -noon. Thrivent is providing treats for this celebration and a chaplain from Mercy will be there, as well. Let Kathy know if you'd like to attend (641-425-9676), need to pre-register by the 12th. I think it's a wonderful event to thank all our stitches!

The Mitten Tree experienced another successful year. Thank you to all who donated items for the tree. Donations this year were so generous and included: 69 hats, 63 pairs of mittens/gloves, 2 pairs of snow pants, 4 jackets, 13 pairs of socks, 29 pairs of girls underwear, 17 pairs of boys underwear.

Hoover and Jefferson Elementary schools were the recipients of this year's donations. School employees expressed gratitude for receiving the gifts and stated they are much needed. Thank you again, St. James, for your generous donations to the Mitten Tree.

WELCA Mission Action

To the Women of St. James: I am in the process of updating the serving group lists I use to call the women of St. James to help with funerals, either through a donation of food or time to help serve the funeral. We have many numbers that no longer are current, and need you to update your phone number. I am assuming you now are using cell phones as your primary number, so please take a minute and email me or call the church to update your number.

Email: sherrifitzgerald1965@gmail.com

Church Office: 423-4702

Thank you for helping me complete my update,
 Sherri Fitzgerald, Kitchen coordinator

Koinonia: We will be going out to eat on Sunday, Feb. 24th at 5:00 pm at Hy-Vee East. Let's meet there and share good food and fellowship. See you there!

Love Circle: Our February circle meeting will be held at Kathy Follmuth's at 7pm (10 Silver Lane) on the 18th, weather permitting. If you are interested in checking out what a circle is all about, please join us that evening.

Care Team: We will be packing up our last box of the school year to college students and military personnel on Sunday, Feb. 10th. If you'd like to stop by the stage in the Fellowship Hall to add a little something, we have 17 boxes that we are filling. We do these 3 times a year, just a reminder that St. James hasn't forgotten about them.

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. LWR accepts NEW bars of any brand soap, in their original wrapping. All bar sizes accepted; however, bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) are highly preferred. There will be a washtub in the Narthex for you to put the soap in. Thank you!

DURING LENT THE ST. JAMES Women of the ELCA are joining Lutheran World Relief’s Baskets of Promise appeal. Beginning March 3 and ending March 31, 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:

- March 3:** Bath Towels (light-weight, max. 52”x27”, dark color recommended)
- March 10:** Bars of Soap (4-5 oz in original wrapping)
- March 17:** Combs, wide-toothed (no picks or fine-toothed combs); Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)
- March 24:** Adult Size Toothbrush
- March 31:** Any of the Above Items

Our goal is to collect during Lent enough supplies for 40 LWR Personal Care Kits.
~Thank you so much for your contributions~ WELCA Mission Action

St. James Contact Information

February Readers

Schedule	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
February 3	Corrine Bolz	Alyse Hesley	Grant Bohls
February 10	Judy Clarke	Bob Follmuth	Gene Larsen
February 17	Lynn Christensen	Kim Ostrander	Carmen Madson
February 24	Jeanette Priebe	Cindy Rumeliote	Pastor

ST. JAMES STAFF

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