

St. James Journal

Our Mission Statement:
"We Proclaim and Practice Christ's Love"

May, 2022
www.stjamesmc.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8:00 am -1:00 pm

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00 Traditional Worship
9:30 Contemporary Worship
10:30-11:15 Special Events each
week (see calendar!)

Our 9:30 worship service will be
live-streamed.

*In case of technical difficulties,
the online service will be
uploaded later
in the day.*



2022 FLOWER MINISTRY

A poster size sign up sheet is
available on the bulletin board in the
Narthex. There are plenty of dates
yet to be filled if anyone would like
to Honor or Remember a loved one
with altar flowers.
Flowers are \$21.

It's a month of CELEBRATION!



*Join us as we celebrate spring and milestones and the
opportunity to gather together again with these events:*

- May 1: On Confirmation Sunday, celebrate with our 9th graders as they affirm their faith at the 9:30 service. The congregation is invited to a reception in the gym following the service.
- May 8: We will celebrate the women in our lives at the return of our annual "**Muffins with Mom**" event! Bring your moms, grandmas, aunts, cousins, and friends and join us for crafts and snacks following the 9:30 service!
- May 22: We will celebrate our High School graduates at the 9:30 service as we bless them in this milestone and pray for their next steps. We will have a reception with cake and refreshments following the service.
- May 28: Celebrate MUSIC and SPRINGTIME and help us show North Iowa the wonderful ministry opportunities at St. James at the Band Festival Parade! Join us as we walk in the parade. More information about how you can get involved can be found in the Journal and will be highlighted in upcoming bulletins!

St. James News

VISITS AND PRAYERS

The Hospital is now allowing clergy to visit. Due to privacy laws, there is no longer a list we can check. **PLEASE** let the pastors know if you or someone you know is in the hospital so we can visit and pray for with any in need. Thank you!

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If you would like to be added to the Sunday prayers, please contact one of the pastors or the Church office.

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If you or someone you know would like a communion visit, please contact one of the pastors or the Church office.

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PRAYER CHAIN: St. James has an active Facebook Prayer Chain. Talk to Pastor Jeni about joining that group so you can be in prayer for those in need. You can also contact Pastor Jeni if you have prayer requests to be added to our prayer chain.

CONTINUED COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Masks are no longer required in the building. They are still of course encouraged and welcomed.
- We do have coffee and snacks available between services on Sunday morning.
- Worship modifications regarding offering and communion will remain in place.
 - Services will continue to be live-streamed
- We continue to ask you to stay home if you are sick and practice good hygiene habits!
- Please remember in these ever changing times that some of restrictions may change depending on data and the needs in our community.

We thank you for your patience and care as we navigate these decisions!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who prepared egg bakes and baked goods for our Easter breakfast. Also, thank you to those who helped serve during the marathon breakfast hours, dishing up food, washing dishes, pouring drinks, cooking egg bake, and clearing tables. You are truly appreciated and Easter breakfast could not have happened without your help. Thanks...from Sherri Fitzgerald

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the many tasks of Holy Week. We had so many wonderful volunteers help with the egg hunt, the worship services, the breakfast, and so many other things around the church. It was wonderful to gather again as a congregation to celebrate the hope of Easter! Thank you to all of our staff and volunteers who worked to make it such a beautiful celebration!



HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS will be recognized at our 9:30 Worship Service on May 22. Seniors, please mail or bring in a current photo to display on

Graduate Recognition Sunday by Wednesday May 18. There will be a reception for seniors, their families, and the whole congregation immediately following the service.

ALL graduates, including college and graduate school graduates are encouraged to submit information to the office about your graduations and future plans so that we can celebrate your achievements in our summer newsletters!

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES can be found in the office. If you do not have any envelopes, please contact Jill in the office and she will assign you a box.

Your offerings can be given at Church on Sunday mornings. They can also be received on our web-site: www.stjamesmc.org where you can sign up for one-time or recurring donations. Offerings can also be mailed to the Church office.

We thank you for your continued support of our ministry at St. James!

Let's spruce up the Church for SPRING!

You are encouraged to join us on WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 for a clean up day in the Church yard. We will meet from 5:30-7:30. The Church will provide pizza for all of our volunteers. Hope to see you there!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS for our Summer 2022 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!** VBS will be held in the evenings on June 20th-23rd! Sign ups will be available at Church and on our website beginning in the

middle of May. Invite friends and neighbors. VBS is FREE and open to EVERYONE!

We need lots of volunteers for VBS. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Jeni. We will need people to help in the kitchen, work as group leaders, teach lessons, and help lead music.

Watch for more information in your bulletins, on Facebook, and on our website!

BAND FESTIVAL PARADE!

Join us on Saturday, May 28 as St. James walks in the Band Festival Parade! We will need lots of walkers to hand out fliers and candy.



We also would like to decorate a truck with balloons and signs. If you would be willing to drive in the parade and let us decorate your truck, please contact one of the pastors. Watch for more information about meeting times and ways you can help decorate!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AREA UPDATE! This spring, our outdoor worship area will undergo a makeover!

Due to some landscaping changes, our outdoor worship area needs to be updated. We are considering a couple of options and would like YOUR input! The options will be displayed at the Church for you to vote on, and will also be emailed to the congregation. Watch for the information and deadlines for voting both at worship and in your email.

RAGBRAI will once again be passing through Mason City! St. James St. James will host campers and parking for RV/support vehicles. We will have showers available. We will host a meal of pork chops, baked potatoes, salad bar, and pie from 3-8, as well as a light breakfast early the next morning. We will also have live music in the afternoon/early evening.

We need LOTS of help for this undertaking! Last time Mason City hosted Ragbrai, St. James fed and housed thousands of bicyclists. Here are things we will need:

- Food donations
- Volunteers for kitchen duty, shower duty, clean up, greeters, and many other tasks.
- Help with publicity

What you can do now?? Contact Diane Francis or the Church office if you are interested in helping in any way. You can also spread the word that we have places available for bicyclists to camp out for the night and spread the word about the delicious meal we will have. If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please contact Diane or the office. Thank you!

Let's work together to make this another fantastic outreach event!!



St. James News

SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP: The

National ELCA Youth Gathering to Minneapolis for Summer of 2022 has been cancelled. We would like to plan a Mission Trip or Service opportunity in place of that for our High School Youth. *If you are interested in this opportunity, join us for a meeting on Sunday May 15 at 9 AM* in the Fireside Room or contact Pastor Jeni.

THE ST. JAMES SOFTBALL TEAM will begin practicing and playing in May. If you are interested in signing up to be a part of the softball team, there will be a sign up sheet available in the Narthex. Games are played on Friday nights. We will post the schedule as soon as it is available so everyone can come out and cheer on our St. James team!

OUR ST. JAMES DRAMA CLUB will be an important part of our SUMMER WORSHIP! We would love lots of budding actors to be part of our skits during the summer. If you would like to be a part of the St. James Drama Club and have not yet signed up, please contact one of the pastors. We will hold a meeting before summer worship to make a schedule and go over more details.

PLANNING EVENTS??

If you have a graduation open house, anniversary party, or other event you would like to invite the congregation to attend, please feel free to contact us about inviting people through our monthly Journal. Journal deadlines are listed on your monthly calendar.

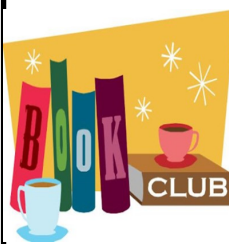
We also have rooms available for your events. Please contact Jill about reserving space.

DO DAYS

We always welcome anyone to Do Days on Tuesday mornings! No experience necessary! We sew, tie, iron, cut, laugh and eat. I'm sure you could do any of those. See you at 9 in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays!!

OUTREACH AND MISSION TASK FORCE!

In 2022, we are beginning a new ministry of outreach and we would LOVE for you to be part of it! This Task Force will be a group of volunteers committed to planning events, programs, and service projects to reach out to our community and beyond with the love of Christ. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 24 at 6:00 PM. We would love lots of mission-minded people to join us! Contact one of the pastors for more information or to sign up.



Our St. James Women's Book

Club will meet on Saturday, May 7 and Saturday, May 21 at 10 AM at Cabin Coffee. All are welcome!

We will be reading the book "Atlas of the Heart" by Brene Brown.

Sign up with Pastor Jeni, or simply join us. Start your spring off right with a good book and conversations with friends!

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NEW BIBLE STUDY **COMING THIS** **SUMMER**

Keep an eye out for a new Bible study beginning in June. It will be a time of Bible study and conversation for adults led by Pastor Sid. Location and time will be in the next newsletter, in bulletins, on our website, and on our Facebook page.



Opportunities to Serve and learn!

GREETER & USHERS NEEDED

We are working on scheduling greeters & ushers for the fall. If you're interested please contact Diane or Tim Francis, or Jill in the office.

HOME, HOSPITAL, AND NURSING HOME

VISITS: If you, or a family member would like to schedule a communion visit or any kind of visit with a pastor, please contact them or the office to set that up.
Thank you!

OUTDOOR SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

begin the first Sunday in June. The schedule will remain the same with services at 8 and 9:30 AM. There will be special events following the services throughout the summer. Watch for more information in your June Journal!

SUMMER WALKING PRAYER GROUP: In June, we will begin a walking group that will meet once a week to walk through the neighborhood and pray. If you would like more information or to be a part of this group, contact Pastor Jeni. Keep an eye out for more details about times and days!

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS! If you would like to provide special music or help out as a song leader for the summer worship services, please contact Bill Grant to sign up. We would love to have lots of voices and talents filling our services through the summer!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP LEAD YOUTH OR FELLOWSHIP EVENTS AT ST. JAMES??

We are always looking for new ideas and volunteers to help create fun and exciting events at the church. If you are interested in helping with our youth ministry or community life, please contact the pastors about ways to get involved!

St. James Staff & Contact Information

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