

The April 2024 Epistle



A publication of St. James Lutheran Church, Bettendorf, IA.

1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722; Phone: 563-355-4161; Email: stjamesbett@gmail.com

*And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you,
will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.
Philippians 1:6*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

I pray this note finds you renewed in hope and celebration after our Great Easter celebration!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The victory trumpet over sin and the evil forces of the world has sounded!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Recently I read the verse from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians at the top of the page and felt comforted and renewed in the hope it gave to me. Through the victory obtained by Jesus Christ in his resurrection, we can be confident that the good work which God began in us will carry through to completion until it is finally finished on the day Jesus returns.

Through the Lenten season there were times when I grew frustrated with the circumstances I faced. But the invitation to adjust my gaze from my despair back to God was always available. Again and again I was reminded that I can look to God because the work that is happening in me is faithfully tended to by God who lives in me by his Spirit. One day that work will be finally finished.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

I must tell you, our journey together through Lent was filled with blessing! Our weekend worship services were full of meaning, challenge, and encouragement. Our midweek meals and evening prayer were also lively, reverent, and comforting. Praise be to God!

I look forward to the Easter season with you all and the Day of Pentecost after that!

Bryce Hewlett, SAM
brycechewlett@gmail.com



President's Message for April 2024

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord. As I contemplate this time of year, with the blooming flowers, gentle breezes, and warm bright sun, I feel a sense of renewal and rebirth. This isn't just from the changing of the seasons, and the outside world coming back to life, but at the thought that Jesus gave his life for me. For me. The thought is overwhelming. I am a sinner. I get angry. I say things that hurt people. I don't pray enough. I should read the bible more. But God's love for me sees past all that. Past all my shortcomings, my faults and my fears. He loves me for the broken person I am.

That kind of love restores in me a sense of worth and a sense of purpose, a renewal in myself, that I am here for a reason, even if only to share the love that God has shown me, with everyone. Every day is new, and another opportunity to share our love with each other.

1 John 4 7 -12 " My dear friends, we must love each other. Love comes from God, and when we love each other, it shows that we have been given new life. We are now God's children, and we know him. God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known him. God showed his love for us when he sent his only son into the world to give us life. Real love isn't our love for God, but his love for us. God sent his son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven. Dear friends, since God loved us so much, we must love each other."

I hope this month of April brings you many flowers, warm sunny days, and lots of love.

Angie Schmidt

St James GANG will meet in Fellowship Hall on April 21st at 11:30AM.

We will be bringing our own lunch as usual, and beverages and dessert will be provided.

We all enjoyed last months speaker and will try to get another interesting speaker for the 21st.

Come and bring a friend. All are welcome!



Freida Houldsworth's name was inadvertently left off the Lily list.

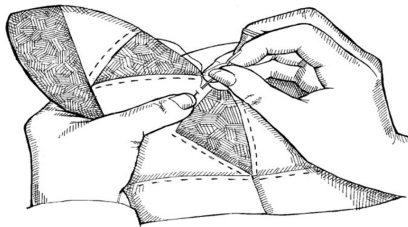
She donated 1 Lily in memory of her husband, Ernie, and her brother, Walter.





Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 16th. Mary Meumann is the hostess and Marilyn Pieart is the lesson leader. We are discussing the readings from Gather magazine. All women are welcome!



From the Quilt Block

In February, four St. James Quilters met and completed 2 quilts and tied one quilt. If you can stand and tie knots we need you. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month except December when we do not meet. Please consider joining us.

The next Quilt day is April 23rd.

If you have any questions, contact me (Shirley Richlen) at 563-355-3942 or 563-949-6545 or at srichlen34@gmail.com

Peace be with you,
Shirley Richlen

WELCA Cluster 6 LAST Gathering

Coming up is the Women of the ELCA Cluster 6 LAST gathering Saturday, April 20th, at Café Express Deli 1507 E. Locust Davenport at 11:00am. A short business meeting to disburse the funds in our treasury and a presentation from the owner of Café Express' charities. Lunch there is on your own.

Personal Care Kits

St. James collected Personal Care Kits for LWR for our Lenten discipline. Thank you for your donations. A full report on the number of kits received will be in next month's Epistle.

April Anniversaries and Birthdays

March Anniversaries

April 14 Steve & Susan Miller

March Birthdays

April 3 Reese Wendell

April 4 Heather Hogbin

April 5 Kelly Crooks

April 5 Roberta Leder

April 6 Myrna Mattly

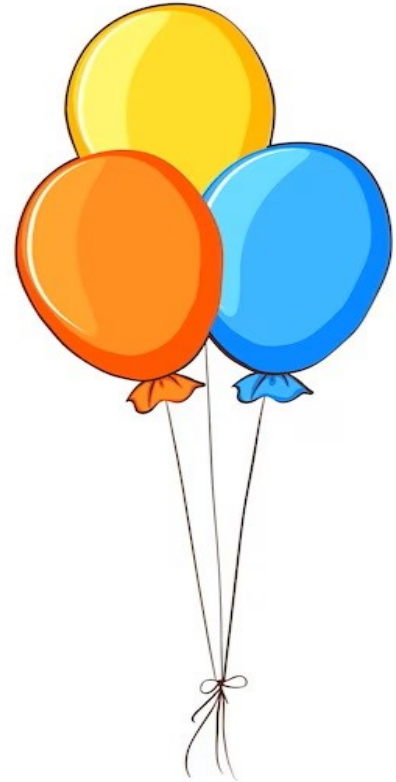
April 18 Ann Larson

April 26 Anna Forari

April 27 Douglas Larson

April 30 Noa Hewlett

April 30 Mel Oswald



St. James family,

Thank you for your prayers and the texts and cards of encouragement and support for both Tom and me.

God Bless,

Karen Stott

thank
you!

Council Votes

APPROVAL OF THE February 18, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes as written and corrected made and passed.

APPROVAL OF THE March 3, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

Motion to approve as written and corrected made and passed.

Approval of \$190 from Lenten meal to go to St James food pantry.

Motion by Erik for approval. Second by Jason. Approved

Approval of St James as collaborative site for Bryce becoming ordained as a Lutheran minister.

Motion by Ellen for approval. Second by Mandy. Approved

Set date for Bishop Amy visit on June 5, 2024 (Wednesday) and congregation vote to support Bryce candidacy for ordination.

Motion by Ellen for approval. Second by Jason. Approved

Approval of updated job description for church secretary.

Motion by Steve for approval as written. Second by Mary. Approved



**REMINDER:
Deadline for
Newsletter Articles is
Wednesday, April 23rd**

2024 Synod Assembly Announcement

Two representatives, preferably one female and one male, are needed for annual Assembly in May. This year's Synod Assembly will take place in person on Friday and Saturday, May 17th and 18th at the Hyatt Regency in Coralville, IA.

If you are interested in representing St. James by attending this year's Assembly, please contact the church office (563-355-4161) or Angie Schmidt (563-570-4928).

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.
Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 NRSV



Church Clean-Up

Church Clean-Up day is Saturday, April 6th. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Many hands make for light work, so please sign up to help keep your church and grounds in tip top shape. The rain date will be Saturday, April 13th.



Social Ministry News

Social Ministry met on Monday, March 4.

We will be serving The Churches United meal at Zion Lutheran on Monday, March 25th.

Our Blood drive is scheduled for April 29th.

We are making plans for the rummage sale to be held on May 23rd and 24th, with set up on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd. Please consider joining us in this event. It is work, combined with a lot of fun and fellowship. We appreciate any and all help. This rummage sale helps us to fund the

meals we serve at Zion, and the Giving Tree. We are grateful for your support and your STUFF!!! Start saving now!! May is just around the corner!



Blood Drive

Monday, April 29th

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM



St. James Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall

To Schedule an appointment time call:

Freida Houldsworth at 563-355-1628 or

Janene Anderson at 563-370-8710 or

jands356@msn.com or go online at

www.bloodcenter.org and use group #028

Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID.

April 2024 Worship Assistants

Please Note: If you find you cannot serve on the date/time scheduled, please arrange for your replacement, then call or email Maggie at the church office, 563-355-4161 or stjamesbett@gmail.com, to advise the name of your replacement.

We appreciate your gracious cooperation. Thanks!

Date	Assisting Minister	Usher	Usher	Altar Guild	Altar Guild	Counter	Counter
4/7/24	Mary Meumann	Janene Anderson	Ellen Hogbin	Marilyn Pieart	Diana Worley	Ellen Hogbin	Doug Larson
4/14/24	Shirley Richlen	Jerry Nichols	Yvonne Nichols	Marilyn Pieart	Diana Worley	Ellen Hogbin	Doug Larson
4/21/24	Diana Worley	Kelly Crooks	Ron Mekalson	Pat Larson	Mary Meumann	Ellen Hogbin	Doug Larson
4/28/24	Jason Forari	Fritz Voss	Judy Larson	Pat Larson	Mary Meumann	Ellen Hogbin	Doug Larson
5/5/24	Judie Brooks	Janene Anderson	Pat Larson	Ellen Hogbin	Terry Martens	Mary Meumann	Shirley Richlen

As you can see, this is the same format as last month. Please look carefully for your name and then find the date and item to which you are assigned.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Maggie at the church office (563-355-4161).

New Sunday School Announcement

Beginning in April, Sunday school will take place DURING our worship service **every Sunday** for April and May. The children will be dismissed after the Prayer of the Day and will be brought back after the Prayers of Intercession to join their families for Holy Communion.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Social Ministry Meeting 4 PM	2	3 Worship and Music 8:30 AM St. James Food Pantry 6-8 PM	4 St. James Food Pantry 9-11 AM	5	6 Saturday Evening Service 5:00 PM
7 Worship 9 AM Christian Ed 10AM	8 Monday Morning Fellowship 9:30 AM	9	10 St. James Food Pantry 6-8 PM	11 St. James Food Pantry 9-11 AM	12	13 Saturday Evening Service 5:00 PM
14 Finance 8:15 AM Worship 9 AM	15	16 Sarah Circle 1 PM	17 St. James Food Pantry 6-8 PM	18 St. James Food Pantry 9-11 AM St. James GANG 11:30AM	19	20 Saturday Evening Service 5:00 PM
21 Worship 9 AM Council 10:15 AM	22 Monday Morning Fellowship 9:30 AM	23 Quilting Noon-4 PM	24 St. James Food Pantry 6-8 PM	25 St. James Food Pantry 9-11 AM	26	27 Saturday Evening Service 5:00 PM Pot Luck 6:00 PM
28 Worship 9 AM	29 Blood Drive 1-6 PM	30				30

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Bev Chappen, **LaVonne** Mienke, **Sherry** Germanio, **Frieda** Houldsworth,
Lynn Chamberlain, **Kelly** Wainwright, **Sandy** Henry,
Paul Jones, **Jeanne** Peters, **Tom** Sladky, **Bert** Leder, **Maggie** Bayliss

Family and Friends

Barry (cousin of Ellen Hogbin), **Amy** (friend of Jenny Martin),
Kelly (Jennifer's sister), **Serece** (Pat Larson's cousin),
Drew (Pat Larson's friend), **Lonnie** (son of Roberta Leder),
Janet and Ted (Maggie Bayliss' sister & brother-in-law),
Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother),
Brad (Shirley Wait's son-in-law), **Karen** (Pat Larson's sister),
Larisa (Sandy Henry's granddaughter), **Michelle** (friend of Ellen Hogbin),
Jason (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),
Jon (Joleen Bakken's nephew)

Military Personnel

Lt. Col. **Brandon** Sandoval USAF, (Pat Larson's grandson)
1st Lt. **Eli** Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)

In Memoriam

Richard Corken and pray for **Sharon** and family

Please submit additions/changes to the church office via email or phone.

Mark your calendar for our **Kickoff to Summer Event** on **Saturday, June 1st**, immediately following the Saturday evening service. We are asking for food pantry items which will be donated to our St. James Food Pantry. The event will begin at 6 PM. More details to come.



one eighty
ANNUAL DINNER
celebration

Thurs May 2 | 2024 | 6-8pm
 Vibrant Arena at The Mark | Moline
 Free meal | Testimonies of freedom and transformation
 RSVP to the table host who invited you,
 use the QR code,
 or to shelly@oneeighty.org
 563-424-4589

freedom to thrive
 one eighty

The Christian Ed Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this year's Backyard Bible Club. Please contact Angie Schmidt at 563-570-4928 or Mandy Peters-Speidel at 563-370-8262 if you would like to participate.

Maggie Bayliss, Secretary; Connie Jacob, Financial Secretary; Darryl Worley, Sexton
 Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday Evening Service: 5 p.m. Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
 St. James Food Pantry: Open Wednesday, 6 -8 p.m. and Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.