

The October 2024 Epistle

A publication of St. James Lutheran Church,
1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722;

Phone: 563-355-4161;

Email: stjamesbett@gmail.com



M E S S A G E
from the
M I N I S T E R

OCTOBER

2 0 2 4

St. James Family:

On Sunday, September 22nd we looked at the *Lesson of the Child* found in St. Mark's gospel. Jesus says, to be great, one must become a servant of all. Then he gives his central teaching.

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

Mark 9:37

Notice the three corresponding elements in this statement from Jesus: the child, Jesus himself, and the Father. If we want to welcome the Father, then we must welcome the child.

Do you want to welcome God the Father into your life? Learn the *Lesson of the Child*. When adults welcome children we learn: simplicity, wonder, and child-likeness.

Adults learn from children what it means to be close to God in gladness and simpleness of heart. We learn to be dependent and vulnerable. We learn to have faith.

What would our church look like if we so deeply yearned for the presence of God that we welcomed children the way Jesus teaches in this gospel?

- ◇ How would we learn together what it means to be child-like?
- ◇ How would our children's team adjust their activities as they hold our children each week?
- ◇ How greatly would our children's team overflow with volunteers if all of us wanted to learn how to welcome God in the face of a child?

How might you play a role in welcoming children to Jesus by welcoming them to our church? There are many ways to welcome children here.

- ◇ You could be an assistant once a month in the classroom for Children's Church.
- ◇ You could prepare a snack once a month for our monthly kids meetup we call Kids Club.
- ◇ You could pray for the children we have and the children who will come to us in the future.

This is a call to step more deeply into the invitation extended to us by Jesus in this gospel. "Welcome the child," he says, "and in so doing welcome me.

Bryce Hewlett, SAM

M A R K 9 : 3 7

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”



Adult

OCTOBER

Prayer and Learning Group

Starting in September and continuing through Spring 2025, the Christian Education Committee with Bryce Hewlett will host monthly prayer and learning groups for adults.

The sign up sheets for these groups are located in the Narthex. Contact the church office with any questions you may have.

We hope to see you there!

October: The Bible for Faith Formation

Dates: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The Bible is the book of Christianity. We read from it in worship. It guides us corporately and personally. It is used more broadly in the world in a lot of different ways- both for good and for ill.

How do we use the Bible for faith formation and not just knowledge and facts about people of faith in ancient eras of the world?

Scripture Study: Psalm 119 (on your own)

Recommended Reading: Recommended Reading: "Eat this Book" by Eugene Peterson (on your own)

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

October 2024

Happy October St. James! My favorite month of the year has arrived, bringing cooler temperatures and all the beautiful colors Fall has to offer. It is harvest time. A time to reap all the benefits from the diligent work that was spent tending to gardens in the summer heat. It is time to start canning and freezing produce for the long winter ahead. I can't wait to be wrapped up in a blanket, having some homemade soup and watching Hallmark movies.

Sometimes during the summer rain is sparse, or we get too much rain, and we think that maybe our garden isn't going to fare so well. We get discouraged and think that maybe next year we just won't plant. That the work is too hard and the outcome too unpredictable. Why bother? If you look to the Bible, it has a lot to say about harvest.

Galatians 6:9 says, *"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."*

This refers to growing and harvesting in the literal sense. If we tend to our gardens and don't give up we will reap the benefits of those delicious tomatoes, beans and peas in due time. We must be patient and have faith that all our hard work will pay off.

This is also true in the spiritual sense. We need to continue to do good because eternal life comes from planting God's spirit through faith in Christ. We trust that we will be rewarded for this. Sometimes this is hard, as life is always throwing us curve balls, trials and testing our patience and faith. It takes a garden quite a while to grow and produce a harvest. It has to withstand summer heat, lack of rain, bunnies and squirrels trying to steal its rewards, and fights off weeds invading its space.

It is much the same for us. It takes time to grow our faith, and patience in dealing with the weeds and animals that try to steal our space. But we have the reassurance from God that if we stay strong, don't give up, and continue to do good, we will have our harvest.

Be kind, take care of each other.

Love and Peace,

Angie



Sarah Circle will meet **October 15th at 1:00PM** in the Fellowship Hall.



From the Quilt Block

WELCA Quilters is a group that meets once a month to sew and tie quilts that are donated to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and to Lutheran Services in Iowa (LS). The quilts donated to LWR are shipped worldwide by request and the quilts donated to LS are distributed locally to those in need.

Our yearly ceremony of the Blessing of the Quilts and School Kits will be held on **October 13th** during our Sunday morning service.

Our next Quilting meeting is *noon to four o'clock* on **October 22nd**. All are welcome, no sewing skills required.

We are still looking for Fabric. If you know of any fabric that is sitting around just waiting to be included in a quilt, we would love to include it!

Keep stitchen'
Shirley Richlen
(563)-949-6545



St. James G.A.N.G. will meet next on **October 17th at 11:30AM** and will be going on a field trip to the Recycling Center! There will be a sign up sheet located in the Narthex in the coming weeks—it will be first come first served. There will be a lot of walking/standing for it, and part of the tour includes steps—there is no elevator.

Council Votes

Approval of the July 21, 2024,
Council Meeting Minutes

No Motions to be approved at this
council meeting.

A decorative border of colorful confetti in shades of pink, blue, green, and orange surrounds the top of the page.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/2 FRIEDA HOULDSWORTH

10/6 BILL MARTIN

10/10 CONNIE JACOB

10/13 OLIVER SOUTHWELL

10/14 JIM MARTENS

10/19 TAMMI MEYER

10/24 MAGGIE BAYLISS

10/24 LORA GWIN

10/24 JUDY LARSON

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/5 LINDSAY & STEVE MILLER II

10/12 DONNA & DENNIS SCHOENING

10/14 DAVE & ANGIE SCHMIDT

10/15 DARRYL & DIANA WORLEY

10/18 TERESE & STEVE TOUVELLE

CHRISTIAN

E D U C A T I O N

Words with Women—NEW!!!

Open to all women looking to share stories, life, and laughter!

This is intentional time to build friendships and mutually support each other through life's ups and down with kindness, prayer, and listening ears.

Words with Women will kick off on **October 1st at 6pm** and meet **monthly on the first Tuesday evening each month thereafter.**

Together we are stronger! Join us in building sisters in faith! No sign up necessary—just show up!

REMINDER!

**Deadline for November Epistle Articles
is Thursday, October 24th**

PSALM

119:105

Your word
is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my
path.





FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024

9 AM - 12 PM - TEACHING/PRAYER WITH PASTOR ELAINE OLSON

12 PM - 1 PM - LUNCH

1 PM - 3 PM - CRAFTING/JOURNALING/CREATIVE TIME

STORE UP TO FILL UP YOUR CUP

1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722

\$25/person, registration to follow,

please bring payment to retreat

Questions? Please reach out:

kimhewlett18@gmail.com



The background of the entire page is a solid orange color. It is decorated with white line-art illustrations of pumpkins and leaves. At the top, there are three pumpkins. On the left and right sides, there are vertical columns of leaves and pumpkins. At the bottom, there are more pumpkins and leaves. The central text is contained within a white rectangular area with an orange border.

RALLY DAY

CELEBRATING OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER 6TH

Following the Sunday Service

Sloppy Joes are provided
please bring a side to share!

Pie Contest - crust and
filling must be made from
scratch!

Donate a pumpkin for the
kids to do a "pick your own
pumpkin patch" and paint
them!

For more information contact
Mandy Peters-Speidel at
(563)370-8262 or
mandypeters8720@gmail.com



Social Ministry News

Social Ministry serves meals every other month at Zion Lutheran in Davenport and served the last meal on Monday, September 23rd.

Our blood drive is scheduled for October 28th from 2:30PM-5:30PM.

Giving Tree: We have requested names from 15 families from Lutheran Services in Iowa. We will also get names of 10 seniors from Bettendorf Health Care. Some of these people would not otherwise receive gifts.

We voted to contribute \$200.00 to our food pantry—this comes from our rummage sale proceeds.

We meet at **4:00PM every 1st Monday**. Please consider joining us!! We are always open to new ideas on how to better serve the less fortunate in our community.

Judy Larson (563)340-7902.

Supper at St. James—NEW!!!

On **October 9th** St. James will open the doors to anyone in our community needing of a hot meal. Spread the word!

All are welcome!

Supper will be served by members of our church family at 6:00pm.

Join us for food and fellowship!

Food Pantry

The food pantry is in need of egg cartons! If you have egg cartons you're able to donate, drop them off at the pantry or the church office!

The food pantry is accepting donations—there will be a spot at the front door to place your donations!

Starting the first week of October and continuing through the rest of the month there will be a food drive with a different request each week;

October 6—Cereal

October 13—64oz Juice

October 20—Peanut Butter

October 27—Cans of Tuna

School Kit Donations

Please consider putting a kit together to donate
to *Lutheran World Relief*

— Bring your donation to the box located in the Narthex —

Please include ONLY the following items in each School Kit:

-Four 70-80 sheet notebooks (280-300 sheets total) of wide-ruled or college-ruled paper approximately 8"x10 ½"
(No loose-leaf paper)

-One 30-centimeter ruler or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

-One pencil sharpener

-One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

-Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

-Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)

-One box of 16ct or 24ct crayons

-One 2 ½" eraser

**Contact Shirley Richlen with any questions
at srichlen34@gmail.com or
(563)355-3942**



September & October 2024 Worship Assistants

Date	Assisting Minister	Usher	Usher	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
10/6/24	Judie Brooks	Fritz Voss	Judy Larson	Mary Meumann	Audrey Lovell
10/13/24	Ann Larson	Janene Anderson	Ellen Hogbin	Mary Meumann	Audrey Lovell
10/20/24	Pat Larson	Kelly Crooks	Ron Mekalson	Marilyn Pieart	Diana Worley
10/27/24	Marilyn Pieart	Diana Worley	Caroline Hicks	Marilyn Pieart	Diana Worley
11/3/24	Caroline Hicks	Ellen Hogbin	Ann Larson	Mary Meumann	Terry Martens
11/10/24	Mary Meumann	Jerry Nichols	Yvonne Nichols	Mary Meumann	Terry Martens
11/17/24	Tom Sladky	Fritz Voss	Judy Larson	Shirley Richlen	Mary Meumann
11/24/24	Diana Worley	Janene Anderson	Pat Larson	Shirley Richlen	Mary Meumann

October Counters: Mary Meumann & Dee Worley

November Counters: Erik Bakken & Joleen Bakken

*Please Note: If you find you cannot serve on the date/time scheduled, please arrange for your replacement, then **call or email;**
Maggie at 563-349-6727 or maggieb@bayliss.us
to advise the name of your replacement.
We appreciate your gracious cooperation.
Thanks!*

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Kenny Bayliss, **Lynn** Chamberlain, **Bev** Chappen,
Sherry Germanio, **Lora** Gwin, **Sandy** Henry,
Frieda Houldsworth, **John** Leder,
LaVonne Mienke, **Jeanne** Peters, **Minhon** Ridenour

Family and Friends

Addie (Diana Worley's co-worker's daughter), **Amy** (friend of Jenny Martin), **Barry** (cousin of Ellen Hogbin),
Carol (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),
Connie (friend of Maggie Bayliss),
Drew (Pat Larson's friend), **Dotty** (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),
Donna (Ed Arp's sister), **Grant** (grandson of Carol Leacox),
Jason (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),
Jerry (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken)
Jon (Joleen Bakken's nephew),
Konnor (Bert Leder's grandson), **Lon** (friend of Deb Crooks),
Mary (friend of Pat Larson, Ann Larson & Ellen Hogbin),
Michelle (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),
Michelle (friend of Jason & Melissa Forari),
Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother),
Ruthann (Justina Pessein's mom)

Military Personnel

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
Lt. Col. **Brandon** Sandoval USAF, (Pat Larson's grandson)
1st Lt. **Eli** Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Samantha Richard (friend of Larson family)

In Memoriam

Karen (Pat Larson's sister), **Paul** Jones

*If you have anyone who needs to be taken off or added,
please notify the church office.*

HAPPY FALL

