

# MESSENGER

Volume 9 Number 6

June 2015

## FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Though Pastor Kevin Ogilvie wrote and mailed this letter in early May it took more than two weeks to make it through Canadian and Us Postal Services to reach St. James.*

*We look forward to publishing Pastor Kevin's 'personal introduction' in the July Messenger and to his ministry start with us on July 1 — Robert Sharpe, President*



KEVIN A. OGILVIE, Ph.D.  
President

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May 5, 2015

Mr. Robert Sharpe, Council President  
St. James Lutheran Church  
1358 S Lake Dr.  
Lexington, SC 29073  
United States

Dear Mr. Sharpe:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

It is with joy that I accept the call of St. James Lutheran Church to be your pastor beginning on July 1. I am enclosing a copy of the signed compensation package form which I am sending to the South Carolina Synod office. I look forward with great eagerness to be among you and celebrate the joys of the gospel with you.

I am currently in my last week of service here at Lutheran Theological Seminary and will be arranging for movers, etc., thereafter. When I have some time to sit and think I will send you a brief personal introduction that you might use in your newsletter and we can then be in contact about logistics, etc.

Thank you for the confidence you show. May I live up to that confidence and may the Lord bless our work together!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin A. Ogilvie". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Kevin A. Ogilvie

## FROM THE PASTOR

*Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20&21*

This passage was the theme verse at the SC Synod Assembly the last weekend of May. (See a summary of those three days on page four in the Messenger.) I use this verse to frame my farewell note to you.

The him is God, of course who chooses to work in and through us. This year marks St. James' 125<sup>th</sup> year as a worshipping community in the Lexington County (Red Bank) area. August 9, 2015 will be your day of celebration with a worship service built from liturgies of the past. You will in part be celebrating how God has been working in and through you and your forbearers all these years.

Former pastors will be invited to gather with you. (Perhaps those who are unable to attend will send a letter to be read at the celebration). There will be a banquet feast following worship. The Time Capsule will be opened for a glance back at life in 1993. A history display will remind you of events and persons from your past. It will be a day of laughter, reminiscing and rejoicing.

Pastor Kevin Ogilvie will have been among you a bit longer than a month by then. He will be attentive to and appreciative of your joyful remembrances because they will help him get to know you better. You may recall from his video introduction back in April, "*One of the great joys of being a parish pastor is to get know people and their passion for ministry in Christ. I look forward to getting to know you and to what your joys, your sorrows and your hopes are.*"

The writer of Ephesians testifies that God is powerfully present and is accomplishing more than the church has asked for or can imagine. Back in 2011 and 2012 St. James' members engaged in a study of mission and ministry. This process lead to a meeting in 2012 where the congregation voted to change the mission statement from "Go, Share God's Peace, Make Disciples" to a shorter mission statement "Make Christ Known". You also adopted a goal of touching 50,000 lives with the love of Christ in four years through Discipleship Training, Community Outreach & Worship Growth.

That was quite a time of imagining what God wanted you to do and asking God to help you accomplish it. Perhaps you have noticed in the time since the Rice's left, December 2013, and now leading to Pastor Kevin's arrival in July of 2015, there has seen something of a lull in new ministry activities. I believe your time with Pastor Kevin will be an opportunity to renew that imagining and asking. I pray that the fruit of your joint labor, the abundant accomplishments will surprise you and leave you wanting more of God's power and passion in your life together.

I thank you for the ways you welcomed first me, and then Susan, into your congregational life. The set of stoles you gave her are beautiful and a generous gift as she begins her call to rostered ministry. It has been a pleasure to work with Mot Caulder and to share in worship planning and leadership with her. I am thankful for Robert Sharpe's dutiful and positive presence in overseeing Council activities and committee life. I ask for your prayers and blessing as Susan and I work through the discernment process in the coming months. I will be praying for you all as you further discern God's calling to you, individually and as a congregation.

Joy and Peace,  
Pastor Steve

### **Congratulations to Graduates**

- **Jenn Curtis** from White Knoll High School who will attend College of Charleston in the fall to study History.
- **Emily Edmonds** from Upstate Homeschool Co-op who will attend Spartanburg Methodist College. Granddaughter of Gail Long.
- **Aubrey Rose Poplin** from White Knoll High School who will attend Midlands Technical College.
- **MacKenzie Carter West** from White Knoll High School who will attend the Honors College of the University of South Carolina.
- **Thomas H. Backman** with a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering from USC who will be searching for employment.
- **Susan Thisell** from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary who is awaiting Call Interview opportunities in SE Synod, ELCA.

### **Farewell Pastor Steve and Susan!**

Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup> will be Pastor Steve's last Sunday with us. We will have a dinner at **Tom's Den at 6:00 PM** to recognize his time with us at St. James. All are invited to attend this send-off event to thank Pastor Steve for his work with us as our Interim Pastor for the last 16 months.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex so please sign up or call the Church Office 803-359-2122 so that we know how many to plan for.

Tom's Den is at the home of Tom and Glenda Boozer **5062 Augusta Road in Lexington.**

**Father's Day** is a special day for all fathers and The Lutheran Men in Mission will be producing a Father's Day bulletin in celebration of the day. If you would like a dedication for a loved one, a form will be in Sunday's Bulletin, please return it, along with your contribution to the offering plate or the church office no later than June 17. All Checks should be made payable to 'St. James LMM'. Thank you.

**Thank you** from Hilda West to everyone for prayers, cards, calls and text messages while in the hospital. Thank you for your continued prayers and also Pastor Steve for his visits. Love you all.

**T. A. P.—Text and Pray** – Sign-up sheet in the Narthex for Text and Pray is for those who want prayer in emergency situations. Prayer needs are sent by text for quick sharing of needs.

**Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting** Wednesday the 10th at 6:00 pm for those who are helping out with Vacation Bible School. Please mark your calendar to attend the meeting.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held June 16-18 from 6:30 – 8 PM. Please see or call Gwen Freeman with questions or to volunteer.

**Owl's Luncheon**, Luce Cucina Italiano Restaurant. It is on the right of US#1 as soon as you pass Lexington Memorial Cemetery. (That's going out of Lexington toward Batesburg-Leesville.) As usual, congregation is invited, and we need to be there, seated and ready to order by 12 noon.

**Backpack Program** – We are taking a break from collecting donations during the summer, but will start again in August.

**Food Pantry** – We are in need of donations that come in a pack which requires 'Add Water Only'. (Grits, Bisquick, Muffins, etc.)

**Youth Group**, grades 7-12, meets Sundays 10:45 AM. We alternate weekly between a Sunday school lesson and youth program activity. Join us!

## South Carolina Synod Assembly – 2015

**Dick and Debbie Kyzer** along with **Mike and Charlene Crumpton** served as ‘voting members’ and represented St. James at the 190<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of SC Lutherans. At this year's assembly the theme was "**Glory to God throughout all Generations**", based on Ephesians 3:20-21,

*Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."*

Thursday afternoon's **gathering worship** service was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Spartanburg. Bishop Yoos gave the sermon. *(If you like, you may view Bishop Yoos' sermon on you tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YesXeKJt-zo>)* The Reverend Eric Wolf was installed as Assistant to the Bishop, with a focus on youth and young adults. We also heard the Necrologist's Report and celebrated the lives of pastors and spouses who died in the last year.

A **highlight for Pastor Steve** was attending the Friday evening banquet to celebrate the successful conclusion of the **Growing in God's Mission Campaign** and **Mel Amundson's retirement**.

**Saturday morning worship** was in the form of **Edu-Worship based on Faith5** principles of sharing, reading, talking, praying and blessing. A humorous sermon/skit on favorite and not-so-favorite Bible verses was a hit with assembly goers. Bible verses John 3:17, Mark 8:34, Matthew 5:44 and Psalm 23 were personified, came to life & shared their joy (or frustration) at being popular (or not) Bible verses.

**Public education and poverty issues** were a main focus of the South Carolina Synod Assembly. Voting members approved a resolution to pray for school leaders and students; find ways for congregations to partner with local schools; and called for the Bishop, and those appointed by that office, to advocate with legislative and education officials the commitment of South Carolina's Lutherans to help meet the needs of the education system. *(Go here if you want to read the resolution <http://scsynod.com/uploads/pdf/public-education-resolution-2015-south-carolina-synod-assembly-final-1.pdf>)*

An in-depth presentation by Dr. Tammy Pawloski Ph. D., Director of the Center of Excellence to **Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty** at Francis Marion University, spoke on the connection between poverty and childhood learning. *(To see Dr. Pawloski's presentation go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oX-20vMbUyc>)*

**Elections** were held in which we elected SC Lutherans to the following positions: SC Synod Council, Mission Endowment Fund Grant Committee, SC Lutheran Retreat Centers Board, NovusWay Ministries (Lutheridge, Lutherock,) and to ELCA 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

The **ELCA** (our national church body) has begun a **fundraising campaign**, similar to *Growing in God's Mission*. It is called **Always Being Made New**. Other synods have already begun. Our participation was delayed a bit to allow for the completion of our own campaign. *(To see a video on Always Being Made New go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBraHRaZ-yE>)*

### **Mission and Vision of the SC Synod**

*God's purpose for the people of the South Carolina Synod:  
Joining neighbors, serving boldly, loving all, through Christ.*

### **SC Synod Four Missional Priorities**

- *Equip congregations to engage in their communities*
- *Deepen discipleship*
- *Engage congregations and the synod in addressing issues of education in their communities*
- *Engage congregations and the synod in addressing issues of poverty in their communities.*

## St. James Lutheran Church Council

### Council Mini Minutes

May 17, 2015

Members in attendance: Cheryl Austin, Dwight Bachman, Mike Crumpton, Gwen Freeman, Mary Hines, Rebecca Koch, Carolyn Steele, George Steele, Robert Sharpe, Russell Taylor, Pastor Steve Plonk and Treasurer Sharon Duke.

Members with excused absences: Dick Kyzer, Hazel Kyzer.

#### Action Items

Approved membership of Danny Austin by Affirmation of Baptism, May 31, 2015

Approved membership of Scott Harrelson by Baptism, June 7, 2015

Approved Newberry College Appeal May 17-31

#### Non-action Items and discussions of upcoming events included:

Gwen Freeman reported there will be a three night **Vacation Bible School**, each night Focusing on a Water theme.

- 1) Isaac Digs a Well
- 2) Jesus Heals a Blind Man
- 3) Paul's Sea Tossed Adventure.

Gwen reported there will be **Summer Sunday School** on the same schedule.

- John Harmon will have Adult Class
- Gwen, Hilda West and Rosemary Davis will plan for Pre-school and Grade School Age
- Youth will have their 10:45 Class/Meeting.

**Worship and Music** reported we will continue to use *Now the Feast and Celebration* liturgy through the summer and discuss fall plans after Pastor Kevin is on board.

125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans are coming together and include

- + Regular morning worship at 9:30 AM
- + 3 PM Anniversary Worship  
(with liturgy created from historic liturgies)
- + Previous pastors will be invited to worship as guests
- + Banquet served in Fellowship Hall
- + Historical Displays provided by St James' History Committee



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/2 Jackie Metz

Tracy Shealy

6/8 Jessica Blanks

6/9 Pastor Bill Kyzer

Lisa Curtis

6/10 Wayne Areheart

6/11 Stan Hutto

6/16 Tim Davis

6/18 Dalton Freeman

Donna Zeigler



6/19 Chuck Backman

Jett Joyner

Stella Kate Joyner

6/23 David Hines

6/25 Bob Koch, Maria Wyville

6/26 Scott Strickland

Emerson Hibbs

6/27 Carin Seward

6/28 Kathryn Kyzer

6/29 Hannah Turner



## **We Pray for Our Members, Friends and Family:**

### **Prayer List** **Members**

Jean Frazier  
Evelyn Knox  
Anna Ree Roland

Gerry Jeffords  
Frank McLeod  
Betty Jean Tyson

Gene Joyner  
Norma Moore  
Hilda West

### **Friends & Relatives of Church Members**

Gene Bachman and Sydney Bachman  
Brother & Granddaughter of Dwight Backman

Courtney Cagle - Granddaughter, Dollie Pounds

Cue Cantrell - Aunt of Brenda Poplin

Pam Crossland - Friend of Cheryl Austin

Jacob & Alberta Dooley  
Aunt & Uncle of Margaret & Allen Hollis

Clarence Davis - Father of Jason Davis

Donna Florence - Mother of Megan Joyner

Gracey Goodman - Great Niece of Henry Poplin

Roland Gossett - Brother of Brenda Poplin

Rachael Gould - Mother of Henry Poplin

Mildred Gunter - Cousin of Anna Ree Roland

Lee Hamilton - Grandson of Norma Moore

Terry Moore Hamilton - Daughter, Norma Moore

Lanell Hicks - Mother of Miranda West

Huey Johnson—Friend of Kim Backman

Michele Johnston—Friend of  
Miranda & Eric West

Patricia Jolly - Daughter of Hazel Rawl

Rick Kyzer - Son of Richard Kyzer

Joey Langley - Friend of George Steele

Roger Lindler - Brother of Mendel Lindler

Jack Morich - Father of Krisie Turner

Frankie Pounds - Grandson of Dollie Pounds

Jerry Pounds - Son of Dollie Pounds

Randy Pounds - Son of Dollie Pounds

Douglas Sampson  
Son-in-Law of Doris & H.O. Sharpe

Fred Sharpe - Friend of Danny & Cheryl Austin

Priscilla Shealy - Sister of Alice Raffa

Hope Slyce - Friend of Gwen Freeman

Johnny Starnes - Brother of Anna Ree Roland

Lois Watson - Mother of Debbie Areheart

William Watson - Father of Debbie Areheart

Randy Willyerd - Friend of  
Crumptons and Taylors

### **Our Military Workers**

Michael Anderson - Friend of St. James

Dwight Barrs - Grandson Eunice Backman

Joseph Brown - Grandson, Bill & Kathryn Kyzer

Ryan Caulder - Son of Mot Caulder

Daniel Herb - Son in Law of Mot Caulder

Jeremy Jolly - Grandson of Hazel Rawl

Wayne Watkins - Nephew of S. Jeffords

Keith Zeigler - Son of Tom Zeigler

### **Our Shut-ins**

Jerry Hutto

Margaret Kyzer

Roberta Pound

Dollie Pounds

Alvin "Jr." Sharpe

Dorothy Shealy

Kathleen Smith

## Worship Assistants

# June, 2015

**Acolytes**  
 June 7 Emily Enlow  
 June 14 Callie Poplin  
 June 21 Emerson Hibbs  
 June 28 Marshall Hibbs

**Altar Guild**      **Sound Board**  
 Laney Strickland    Chuck Backman

**Announcements**  
 June 7 Rebecca Koch  
 June 14 Robert Sharpe  
 June 21 George Steele  
 June 28 Carolyn Steele

**Assisting Ministers**  
 June 7 Adam Steele  
 June 14 Robert Sharpe  
 June 21 Lynn Sloan  
 June 28 Adam Steele

**Communion Assistants**  
 June 7 Rebecca Koch  
 June 14 Hank & Brenda Poplin  
 June 21 Lynn Sloan & Bill Barley  
 June 28 Von Goff & Carin Seward

**Lectors**  
 June 7 Rebecca Koch  
 June 14 Brenda Poplin  
 June 21 Cheryl Austin  
 June 28 Carin Seward

**Ushers :** John Harmon  
 Jeff Hibbs

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
7			2 <b>6 PM</b> Girl Scouts (last meeting for Summer)	3 <b>6:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	4	5	6
14	8 <b>9:30 AM</b> Holy Communion <b>10:45 AM</b> Sunday School	9	10 <b>6:00 PM</b> Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting <b>6:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	11 12:00 PM Owls Luncheon at Luce's in Lexington	12	13	
21	15 <b>9:30 AM</b> Holy Communion <b>10:45 AM</b> Sunday School	16 <b>10-11 AM</b> Food Pantry	17 <b>6:30-8:00 PM</b> Vacation Bible School	18 <b>6:30 -8:00 PM</b> Vacation Bible School	19	20	
28	22 <b>8:30 AM</b> Lutheran Men's Meeting/Breakfast <b>9:30 AM</b> Holy Communion <b>10:45 AM</b> Sunday School <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting	23	24 <b>6:30 PM</b> Handbells	25	26	27	
28	29 <b>9:30 AM</b> Holy Communion <b>10:45 AM</b> Sunday School	30					

**St. James Lutheran  
Church**

1358 South Lake Drive  
Lexington, SC 29073  
(803) 359-2122 or  
(803) 359-7803

[office@stjameslex.com](mailto:office@stjameslex.com)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.stjameslex.com](http://www.stjameslex.com)

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor

**G. Steven Plonk**

Music Director

**Martha Caulder**

Secretary

**Michele Holliday**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:30 Holy Communion

10:45 Faith Formation

Sunday Church School

**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Non-Profit Org.

U. S. Postage

P-A-I-D

Permit No. 64

Lexington, S.C.



**St. James**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH