

MESSENGER

Volume 9 Number 5

May, 2015

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

WELCOME Pastor Kevin Ogilvie.....

I am pleased to announce that The Reverend Dr. Kevin A. Ogilvie has verbally accepted our Call to be the next Pastor at St. James! At our special Congregational Meeting on April 19, we voted on a recommendation by our Call Committee and the Congregation Council to extend the call. The Official Call Letter was signed by us and the Bishop and has been sent to Pastor Kevin along with the compensation package that was approved. While a few details regarding his move and dates still have to be finalized, the plan is that Pastor Kevin will join us around July 1. He will be finishing his duties as President of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (Canada) and is looking forward to the move to join with his wife who is already here and teaching in Columbia at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

We are Thankful for the Spirit led process that brought us to this decision for St. James and look forward to our future with Pastor Olgilvie and the Ministry we will Share together with him. It will be an exciting time for him and for us as we learn and grow together in this new relationship as the CHURCH at St. James. I would again like to thank the members of our Call Committee, a group that worked diligently together as a TEAM to bring us to this point in the process. It was an arduous and challenging assignment, but an important one for them and for St. James. Thanks to Thomas Backman (Chair), Jason Davis, Mary Hines, H.O. Sharpe, Lynn Sloan, Carolyn Steele, and Joshua West for a job well done!

Looking Ahead....and Back

Also, we look forward to the transition time ahead of us as we await the arrival of our new Pastor. We are thankful for the faithful service and dedicated leadership that our Interim, Pastor Steve Plonk, has provided for the last 15 months. While somewhat different than a Call, his role as Full Time Interim has been a blessing to us and to our continued Ministry together. He has challenged us to become more involved and has succeeded in recruiting many to assist in our worship services. He has worked with many committees in an effort to explore new ideas and approaches to how we do things. He has worked closely with Mot to plan services that have been well coordinated, meaningful, inspiring, and in many cases different (including 2 successful Lenten and Easter Seasons). He has faithfully visited the sick, the shut –ins, and those in need. He has challenged our Council to continue to look at our mission, vision, goals, and OUR roles as leaders of St. James. And, he continues to work to help prepare us for our work ahead. He challenged us ALL last week in his “Christ, the Good Shepherd” sermon to unite as the “flock” to assist and work with our new Shepherd, Pastor Kevin, AND to be as Shepherds for each other, caring for, nurturing relationships, loving as we have been Loved, and ASSISTING those in need at St. James, in our community, and our world.

THANKS Pastor Steve!

We appreciate your efforts and support as you continue to guide us through this transition time. We wish for you and Susan all the best as you complete your ministry with us and as she finishes her seminary time, and together you determine the next chapter in your lives and ministries. Our prayers are that this will also be a Spirit Led process and one that will be good for you both! Thanks for all you do for St. James!

Robert Sharpe
Council President

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Folks,

We continue our **Easter Season celebration** most of the way through the month of May. CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA! Please gather with your brothers and sisters as we mark the completion of the Easter season with the following:

May 3, 5th Sunday of Easter - We hear of vines and branches, vinedressers and fruit bearers. It is also the culmination of our Walk with Jesus Stewardship emphasis. Plan on staying after worship for a luncheon feast, Bar-b-que and Hash, courtesy of Stewardship and Family Life Committees.

May 10, 6th Sunday of Easter – In addition to being Mother’s Day and Baptism Day for Trevor Davis we read Jesus’s words to his disciples, ‘no longer are they servants, but now friends.’ Honor and remember the mothers in your life and join with us as we celebrate God’s grace in baptism.

May 17, 7th Sunday of Easter – We know it as the ‘High Priestly Prayer,’ the prayer Jesus prayed while in the Garden of Gethsemane. He prayed for his followers then and for ‘all those’ who would believe in Him because of the testimony of the first disciples. ‘All those’ includes you and me.

May 24, Pentecost Sunday – The last Sunday of the Easter season marks the ‘Baptism’ of the church of Christ with the Holy Spirit. Tongues of flame and witness in multiple languages were on display long ago. We remember this joy as we share Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation for Emerson Hibbs and Mattie O’Quinn. Remember, it is a WEAR RED Sunday!

May 31, Trinity Sunday – We celebrate the idea of One God in Three Persons. It is something of a paradox and mystery. We are invited to celebrate the powerful, loving and life giving relationship between God the Father, who created and continues to create; Jesus the Son, who redeemed and continues to redeem; and the Holy Spirit, who calls, gathers, enlightens, makes holy and keeps safe the people of God.

Congratulations on the **call** you extended **to Pastor Kevin Ogilvie**.

I believe your Call Committee has worked hard and discerned well who your next shepherd should be. As you probably know, other candidates were visited, heard preach and interviewed. In each of those cases either the committee or the candidate (in some cases, both) decided to withdraw from the process because they discerned there was not a call to serve together at this time.

I look forward to serving as your Interim Pastor until sometime in June, the exact date to be determined when we know about Pastor’s Kevin’s date of availability. In the meantime pray for the work I continue to do with your Council on leadership development. Also, pray for Susan and me as we plan for interviews and future calls in the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA.

Joy and Peace,
Pastor Steve

COMMUNICATIONS

From **LUTHERAN SERVICES CAROLINAS** –

Greetings from Lutheran Services Carolinas (LCS). We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of a gift from St. James Lutheran Church through the Gifts of Hope Christmas program. We are always appreciative of the efforts of our friends and supporter that result in gifts such as this.

LSC is proud to serve

VETERANS

INDIVIDUALS with INTELLECTUAL and/or

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

INDIVIDUALS with MENTAL ILLNESS

REFUGEES

CHILDREN suffering from ABUSE or NEGLECT

The HOMELESS or NEAR HOMELESS

Generous donor support helps LSC equip those we serve with the tools they need to improve their quality of life. Any gifts, and especially continual and consistent gifts, from congregations help LSC stay nimble in response to the government's varying funding streams.

We are grateful for this gift and will use it to serve today and prepare for the future.

Yours in Christ,

Ted W. Goins, Jr., President

Regarding **NEWBERRY COLLEGE** –

On May 17, 2015 St. James will observe **NEWBERRY COLLEGE SUNDAY**. There will be a bulletin insert and an envelope for your use if you choose to make a donation.

Why Newberry College? Students and Faculty reply:

“The faculty and staff are amazing, caring and hardworking people. In my three years here, every one of the professors remembers me and always asks me how I have been. I love Newberry College. It is my home away from home.” Ashley Ramsey, Columbia, SC.

“I love that everyone is here to support me along my journey. Everyone is willing to help me when I need it and always put a smile on my face.” Lauren Rawls, Cayce, SC

“Newberry College is a wonderful place for students, faculty and staff to study, learn and share ideas. Our small liberal arts college is a ‘David among Goliaths.’ We are family support each other in the classroom, on the playing field and the community.” Dr. Joe Franklin, Chair of Business Administration.

“I absolutely love our family atmosphere. There isn't a finer place than Newberry College!” Assistant Professor John Lesaine, Class of 2007

Announcements

Come Prepared for Early Lunch, Sunday May 3!!! We will be feasting on BAR-B-Q and HASH, courtesy of Stewardship and Family Life Committees.

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

Family Life Committee is sponsoring another **coffee house on May 31st** at 5:30 PM. Live entertainment will be provided by Bob Michalski, who is a very talented musician and singer. You can go to his website and hear a bit of his music and read a short biography. Go to Bobthesaxplayer.com. Light refreshments will be served.

You are invited to Susan Thisell's graduation from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Graduation at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Columbia, SC, 10 AM May 23.

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.

American Red Cross would like to thank Pastor Steve, Susan, and Kevin Turner who donated blood, and to Cora for staffing the sign-in table on Monday at our Red Bank Community Blood Drive. We collected 27 units of life-saving blood on our goal of 35. The next drive at St. James will be Monday, December 7th from 2 to 7 PM. Please mark your calendars, and plant to donate the gift of life.

Personnel Committee is looking to hire a **Nursery Worker**; adult (18 +) non-member of St. James. \$25 for 9-11 AM time slot. See Jan Sharpe, Carin Seward or Hazel Kyzer if you have a recommendation.

Food Pantry—Please share items that comes in a pack that only need water added(Grits, Bisquick, Muffins, etc.). **Backpack Program** - Please share ready to serve, non-perishable individual cups of fruit, Jell-O and pudding, crackers, chips, etc.

Lexington Interfaith Community Services (LICS) offers thanks to our congregation for the contributions we gave in 2014. With generous contributions from our church family and many others, LICS served over 20,000 people in Lexington County. 2015 brings continued emphasis in programming for LICS clients and the promotion of self-sufficiency of the entire family. Thank you to everyone for your support of our community!

While St. James members may choose to give food donations to our Food pantry, **LICS** can still use the following: **Personal Care Items**— soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, laundry detergent, all purpose cleaner, toilet paper and paper towels. **In the Thrift Shop**— Clothing for Men, Women & Children, shoes and undergarments, scrubs, coats & jackets, books and DVD's, furniture, toys & video game systems, jewelry, working electronics, arts and crafts, housewares, linens.

St. James Lutheran Church Council

April 19, 2015 Council Mini Minutes

Present: George Steele, Gwen Freeman, Rebecca Koch, Hazel Kyzer, Dick Kyzer, Russell Taylor, Carolyn Steele, Cheryl Austin, Robert Sharpe, Pastor Steve Plonk

Absent: Dwight Bachman, Mike Crumpton, Mary Hines

Action Items

- Approved Youth request to paint walls in the youth room (excluding hand prints wall.)
- Approved request for Julian Leech to join congregation on April 26.
- Approved May 24th Affirmation of Baptism for Mattie O'Quinn and Emerson Hibbs.
- After council discussion and with council consensus, the following persons agreed to assist Pastor Steve with updating the published Parish Directory (active members and friends of St. James Lutheran Church): Gwen Freeman, Russell Taylor, George Steele and Hazel Kyzer (who will also ask husband Larry Kyzer to join us). This group will also review the By-laws and discern the best process moving forward to remove long time inactive members from the congregation membership roll.

Information and Non – Action Items

- Congregation voted to call Dr. Rev. Kevin Ogilvie
- \$355.00 collected on Tanzania Water Sunday will be forwarded to SC Synod
- Bible School will be held on June 16,17 and 18
- Dick and Debbie Kyzer, Mike and Charlene Crumpton and Pastor Steve will attend the SC Synod Assembly in Spartanburg, Thursday through Saturday, May 28-30.
- Gwen is recruiting folks to help with June Vacation Bible School.
- Family Life reports they have scheduled another Coffee House for May 30.
- Personnel reports no activity as yet on Nursery Worker Hire and we have a Temp Secretary who we anticipate will be with us at least until Pastor Kevin arrives.
- Stewardship Program began on April 12 and will run through May 3, concluding with Commitment Sunday and Bar-b-que and Hash Feast provided by Stewardship and Family Life Committees
- Youth have lock-in scheduled for May 1 & 2.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Steele and Pastor Steve



MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/2 Lara Backman
5/6 Thom Backman
5/8 George Knox
5/9 Elaine Sutcliffe
5/10 Betty Jean Tyson
5/12 Barbara Roland
5/17 Leon Browder
Alyssa Jenkins



5/17 Adam Steele
Lynn Sloan
5/19 Doris Sharpe
5/25 Joe Joyner
5/28 Roberta Pound
5/31 Wendy Frazier
Jeff Hibbs
Sheryl Jeffords



We Pray for Our Members, Friends and Family:



Prayer List Members

Lunette Davis
Margaret Kyzer
Betty Jean Tyson

Gerry Jeffords
Norma Moore
Hilda West

Evelyn Knox
Anna Ree Roland

Friends & Relatives of Church Members

Gina Amick-Niece of Russell Taylor

Gene Bachman—Brother of Dwight Bachman

Sydney Bachman—Granddaughter of Dwight Bachman

Courtney Cagle-Granddaughter of Dollie Pounds

Jacob & Alberta Dooley

Aunt & Uncle of Margaret and Allen Hollis

Clarence Davis-Father of Jason Davis

Donna Florence - Mother of Megan Joyner

Robin Goodman - Neice of Hank Poplin

Mildred Gunter - Cousin of Anna Ree Roland

MC Grubbs—Uncle of Miranda West

Lee Hamilton - Grandson of Norma Moore

Terry Moore Hamilton, Daughter of Norma Moore

La nell Hicks - Mother of Miranda West

Huey Johnson—Friend of Kim Backman

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

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 Crumptions and Taylors

Our Military Workers

Michael Anderson - Friend of St. James

Dwight Barrs - Grandson Eunice Backman

Joseph Brown - Grandson of 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

Our Shut-ins

Jerry Hutto

Margaret Kyzer

Roberta Pound

Dollie Pounds

Alvin "Jr." Sharpe

Dorothy Shealy

Kathleen Smith

Worship Assistants

Acolytes
 May 3 Emily Enlow
 May 10 Collie Poplin
 May 17 Emerson Hibbs
 May 24 Mattie O'Quinn
 May 31 Marshall Hibbs

Altar Guild **Sound Board**
 Lisa Tyson Mike Long

Announcements
 May 3 Robert Sharpe
 May 10 Gwen Freeman
 May 17 Rebecca Koch
 May 24 Carolyn Steele
 May 31 George Steele

Assisting Ministers
 May 3 Lisa Tyson
 May 10 Adam Steele
 May 17 Kim Backman
 May 24 Susan Thisell
 May 31 Katrina Shealy

Communion Assistants
 May 3 Cheryl Austin
 May 10 Hank/Brenda Poplin
 May 17 Ronnie/Tracy Shealy
 May 24 Susan Thisell
 May 31 Jeff Hibbs

Lectors
 May 3 Cheryl Austin
 May 10 Rebecca Koch
 May 17 Ronnie Shealy
 May 24 Tammy O'Quinn
 May 31 Laura Hibbs

Ushers : Thomas Backman
 Ronnie Shealy

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Youth lock-in until Sat noon.	2 Youth lock-in - noon. Cub Scouts-Blue/Gold Fellowship Hall 4-8
	3 9:30 AM - Holy Communion 10:45 AM - BBQ Lunch	4 7PM - Cub Scouts	5 6PM - Girl Scouts	6 6:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM Hand-bells	7 6 PM Duty & Delight	8	9
	10 9:30 AM - Holy Communion 10:45 AM - Sunday School 10:45 AM - Youth Meeting Fellowship Hall -Lunette Davis family until 2:00 PM	11 7PM - Cub Scouts	12 6PM - Girl Scouts	13 6:30 PM - Choir 7:30 PM - Hand-bells	14 6 PM Duty & Delight	15	16
	17 9:30 AM - Holy Communion 10:45 AM - Sunday School 10:45 AM - Youth Meeting 3:00 PM - Confirmation 7:00 PM - Church Council	18 7PM - Cub Scouts	19 10-11 AM Food Pantry 6PM - Girl Scouts	20 6:30 PM - Choir 7:30 PM - Hand-bells	21 12PM—Owls Luncheon meet at Creekside at Old Mill 6 PM Duty & Delight	22	23 10 AM Susan Thisell Seminary Graduation Ebenezer Lutheran Columbia, SC
	24 9:30 AM - Holy Communion 10:45 AM - Sunday School 10:45 AM - Youth Meeting Fellowship Hall -Confirmation Tammy O'Quinn	25 7PM—Cub Scouts	26 6PM - Girl Scouts	27 6:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM - Hand-bells	28	29	30
	31 9:30 AM –Holy Communion 10:45 AM Sunday School						

**St. James Lutheran
Church**

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

office@stjameslex.com

Visit us on the web at
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