

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER



1358 South Lake Drive Lexington, SC 29073

Week of April 16, 2017



The Second Sunday of Easter

The Gospel of John records that the disciples were behind locked doors for fear of the authorities. All were there but Thomas, the doubter. We often mock Thomas for his lack of faith but in the Gospel of John Thomas makes the clearest confession of faith calling Jesus “my Lord and my God!” The evidence Jesus offers is not another series of miracles. The evidence is not Jesus’ seeming ability to walk through walls. What Jesus offers are his very wounds, where he was pierced by the nails and the spear. As we continue to celebrate the season of Easter, let us contemplate the mystery of the Risen Christ who opens to us the wounds, that our wounded selves may find comfort and assurance.



New Member Reception April 30th

St. James will receive new members at the 10:30am Service on April 30th. There will be a special breakfast that morning to meet and greet our newest members at 9:15. Please come and welcome these new brothers and sisters here at St. James!

The Second Petition

Your kingdom come.

What is this? OR What does this mean?

In fact, God's kingdom comes on its own without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may also come to us.

How does this come about?

Whenever our heavenly Father gives us his Holy Spirit, so that through the Holy Spirit's grace we believe God's holy word and live godly lives here in time and hereafter in eternity.

One of the most important concepts in Lutheran ethics is derived from this understanding of the Lord's Prayer: we do not bring in the Kingdom of God, we ask God to bring it to us. This is so very important it can hardly be stressed enough. Often we think that if we just work hard enough, think clearly enough, show enough true love of our fellow human beings we can make this world a much better place. And the truth is, we must try no matter what! But we also must remember that the work of bringing the Kingdom in is God's and not ours. Our work is always laced with our own sin, our own short-comings, our own unfocused vision.

Years ago a Norwegian missionary friend of mine thought he had the solution to a problem. The problem was that women in the Antsirabe region of Madagascar were working in the fields planting rice with their husbands. Their small children would have to be with them and so they did not go to school. Getting children to school was a real problem. His solution was simple: give the women work to do at home and then they can see their kids off to school and be there when they come home – problem solved! Well...no. The divorce rate went up, poverty went up. Why? Farming rice by hand is labor intensive. Men can turn over the soil with their strong upper bodies. Women, with a lower center of gravity, can bend over and plant the rice without falling over. Both husband and wife are needed in the field. The program was a failure. My friend was not embarrassed. He wrote up his failure for an academic journal!

We learn from our mistakes and we try again. We do not lose heart because we know that God will bring in the kingdom. We do the best we possibly can today, kneel by the bed before retiring and beg God to forgive our shortcomings and rise in the morning to try again and again until God brings the promised kingdom. This ethic is incredibly freeing! I do not have to be perfect, only faithful. Do not let your fear of getting it wrong stop you! Get involved. The Kingdom will come and it will come to you, too.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Continuing our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation the adult classes combine for the next several weeks to review and study again Luther's Small Catechism come learn again what you learned in confirmation.

Please submit by Wednesdays any Prayer requests, announcements or removals that you would like to see in the Newsletter or Bulletin. Email the requests into the church office at: office@stjames.lex.com. Or call 803-359-2122.

The Owls- will meet for lunch at Harbor Inn in Lexington Thursday (April 20th) at 12 noon. Come share a meal and Christian fellowship with fellow brothers and sisters of St. James. See you there.

Lost and Found- Sunday March 26th a Silver bracelet was found in the parking lot. If this belongs to you it is locked up in the church office.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL ACTION TEAMS

Thrivent Financial is a company started as a fraternal benefits insurance and savings program for Lutherans. The company makes no profits for itself like say, Wells Fargo or Goldman Sachs. Instead, they plow the profits back into the organization for charitable work in Lutheran congregations and their communities. A number of members own their products. Those who do can designate \$50/year to a charity of their choice (including St. James!). Also, they can sponsor 2 “action teams” per year with seed money of \$250 granted. Anyone interested in this program is invited to come here more of how to help others while helping yourself is invited to a special dessert, **Sunday, April 30th at 4pm.**

Rides for Seniors

Several of our church members are no longer able to drive, mostly for medical reasons. They would love to come to church but can't get there. If you would be willing to drive a member to church and back, please let Pastor Kevin know.

Financial Assistance for Vicar Shea

Part of the educational program for seminarians at Southern Seminary is an international trip. Vicar Shea and his wife, Grace, are planning to go to Israel next January. They have set up a Go Fund Me page on the internet (www.gofundme.com/sheandgrace) or you can make a donation through St. James. Vicar Shea will finish his time with St. James in May.

WORSHIP LEADERS IN APRIL/ MAY

Sunday, April 23

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte
Callie Poplin

Communion Assistants

Altar Guild
Lisa Tyson

Lector
Brenda Poplin

Ushers

Sunday, April 30

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte

Communion Assistants
Gwen Freeman

Altar Guild
Lisa Tyson

Lector
Mary Browder

Ushers

Sunday, May 7

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte

Communion Assistants
Von Goff

Altar Guild
Laura Hibbs

Lector

Ushers

Sunday, May 14

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte

Communion Assistants

Altar Guild
Laura Hibbs

Lector
Brenda Poplin

Ushers

WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED

St. Peter writes: ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:)

You are that royal priesthood and all Christians are invited to help in leading worship. We have many opportunities from reading lessons, assisting with communion, serving as an acolyte or in the choir. Please be sure to sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or speak with Pastor Kevin! He is happy to give you instruction in how to do the service you choose.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

Would you like to remember a loved one or honor someone special? Please consider a donation of flowers for our altar area on Sunday morning! A sign up sheet is in the Narthex. You are asked to speak directly with the florist or to bring the arrangement yourself. Speak with Pastor Kevin for details.

Member Prayer List

Pastor Bill Kyzer
Chuck Backman
Kathleen Smith
Sandra Chapman



Member Shut-ins

Bobby Frazier
Frank McLeod
Roberta Pound
Dollie Pounds
Anna Ree Roland
Kathleen Smith
Joan Leskoske
Norma Moore

Friends & Relatives of Church Members

David Ball - Father of Rosemary Davis
Randy Baker - Friend of the Freeman's
Pam Crossland - Friend of Cheryl Austin
The Family of Alberta Dooley - Aunt of Margaret & Allen Hollis
Jacob Dooley-Uncle of Margaret and Allen Hollis
Clarence Davis - Father of Jason Davis
Barbara Eckard - Cousin of Mary Hines
Donna Florence - Mother of Megan Joyner
Gracey Goodman - Great Niece of Henry Poplin
Mildred Gunter - Cousin of Anna Ree Roland
Lee Hamilton - Grandson of Norma Moore
Terri Moore Hamilton - Daughter of Norma Moore
Colene Hook - Mother of Kristie Joyner
Keith Gossett - Brother of Brenda Poplin
Bob Florence - Father of Megan Joyner
Ann Addy—Friend of Katrina Shealy
Laurie Williams— Marshall O'Quinn Teacher
Calla Wood— Granddaughter of Adam and Carolyn Steele
Mary Dunham— Friend of Mary Browder
Mickey Steele and Rita Cromer— Friends of the Austin Family.
Bill & Linda Dottery —Cousins & friend of Margaret Hollis

Lanell Hicks - Mother of Miranda West
Rick Kyzer - Son of Richard Kyzer
Roger Lindler - Brother of Mendel Lindler
Billy Long - Brother of Mike Long
Sandy Martin - Friend of Janet & Russell Taylor
Samantha Molnar - Sister of Carolyn Steele
Gerald Roof - Brother of Debbie Kyzer
Priscilla Shealy - Sister of Alice Raffa
Allie Snider- Granddaughter of the Freeman's
Johnny Starnes - Brother of Anna Ree Roland
Susan Russell - Friend of Brenda Poplin
Caleb Bratcher— Friend of Mary Hines
Sandra Voelker - Friend of Margaret Hollis
Lois Watson - Mother of Debbie Areheart
William Watson - Father of Debbie Areheart
Julia Shealy—Friend of Katrina Shealy
The Family of John Price — Cousin of Margaret & Allen Hollis
Mike and Janet Crumptions family
Gene Crumpton— Uncle
Family of Karen Lamond as they celebrate her going home to the lord this week-Friend of Mary Browder

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

This Week At St. James

Monday, April 17
Office will be closed
6:30PM Yoga
7:00PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, April 18
6:30PM Girl Scouts

Wednesday, April 19
6:30PM Choir Practice
7:30PM Handbell Choir

Thursday, April 20
7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00PM Service

Sunday, April 23
Second Sunday in Easter
9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Holy Communion

Useful Information to know.

First aid kits are available and are located in the church office and the kitchen area.

Fire Extinguishers are also available throughout the building. There are a total of 12. One is in the parish behind the pulpit area of the choir. There is also one upstairs. If you would like a detailed placement of the locations please email the office and I will let you know.

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

Kevin Ogilvie, PhD.

pastor.kevin@stjameslex.com

Music Director

Martha Caulder

Secretary

Sharon Summers

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15am Sunday School

10:30 Holy Communion

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

St. James Lutheran Council for 2017

Cheryl Austin,	<i>President</i>	Dick Kyzer	<i>Property</i>
Adam Steele,	<i>Vice-President/Cemetery</i>	Larry Kyzer	<i>Evangelism</i>
Kevin Turner,	<i>Secretary/Family Life</i>	Katrina Shealy	<i>Worship & Music</i>
Jeff Hibbs,	<i>Fin. Secretary/Personnel</i>	Pastor Kevin	<i>Ex Officio</i>
Ben Freeman	<i>Treasurer/Finance</i>		
Kim Backman,	<i>Christian Education</i>		
Mary Browder	<i>Social Ministry</i>		
John Harmon	<i>Stewardship</i>		
Mary Hines	<i>Youth</i>		