



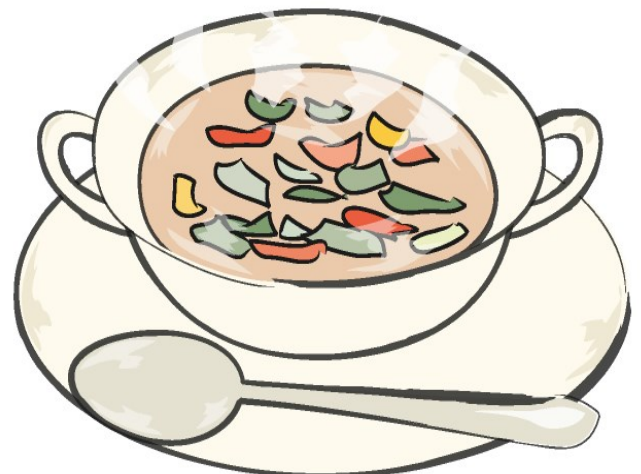
The Beatitudes and Sermon on the Mount

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Moses brought us the Law from Mount Zion. Jesus brought us a new way of living. He taught us that we live in the “now and the not yet.” We know what the future holds because it is God’s future. Those who mourn now will be blessed. We know those who are powerless and meek now, will inherit the earth. All that is in the future. We live in that future now, poor in spirit and even persecuted but nonetheless we are blessed! Jesus calls us to live into his future by living the future’s values now!

Souper Sunday by the Youth Group!

This Sunday after church you can buy a container of soup to take home or you can stay and have a warm bowl of soup, some dessert and a great time of sharing with friends and family. Proceeds will help fund the Youth Group’s trip to the 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas.



CATECHISM CORNER

From Martin Luther's Small Catechism:

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Third Commandment

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

What is this? OR What does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not despise preaching or God's word, but instead keep that word holy and gladly hear and learn it.

I heard once a great insult. It went, "He is a self-made man who worships his creator." So often we think whatever it is we have achieved is solely due to our own hard work. Yet that is simply not true. If we achieved in business, it is because we worked with great people and had loyal clients. If we achieved in education, it is because we had great teachers and mentors. If we are lucky to be considered "good folk," it is because our parents trained us well. And all of these things are gifts from God who created us, provided the rain that nourished the land and caused the fields to produce and fed our feeble frames. We take a day without work to remind ourselves that even when we rest God continues to provide. God made us for God's own pleasure, for joy and contentment. Too often we cannot trust that what we have will survive without our daily diligence so that we forget it was never ours to begin with. God gave us everything. And the God who gave us everything continues each day to provide more and more. Stopping at least one day a week to remind ourselves of that is important otherwise we might just begin to believe our own press—that we created ourselves.

And God not only created us and sustains day to day, God has chosen to renew this world, to forgive our sin, our mistakes and our very ruining of the good things God has made. God gave us Jesus and Jesus' call to radical love, to lives of non-judgment and hospitality towards all is not an easy message to square with the workaholicism of our culture. We need to hear week after week, even day after day, that God is for us, that we are beloved and of infinite worth, that even a day of rest has been given us that we might know joy now and eternally. So put away your work email, close the computer, set aside the project. Come to church, visit your family, take a walk in the woods or by a stream, or take a nap! And all the while, remember that you are the product of God's amazing love and that love will sustain you all week!

Bible Study of Matthew

Pastor Kevin is offering a Bible Study on the *Gospel of Matthew* on Thursday nights at 7pm. Matthew wrote his gospel for his community that was reeling from the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. They had been expelled from the Jewish synagogues and were living in exile in Syria away from the Jewish homeland. “What does it mean to be the People of God?” and “How do we reach out to people not like us?” were the questions being asked. Perhaps we are asking similar questions. Matthew’s gospel maybe a place to start!

Thursday evenings at 7pm in the Fellowship hall! Bring your supper!

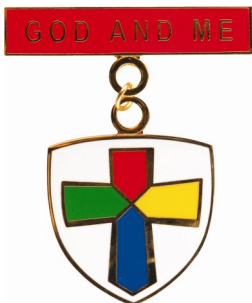
Adult Sunday School Classes

John Harmon’s class, meeting in the NE Age Room on Sunday mornings will be looking at our **Lutheran heritage** during this year of celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

Adam Steele’s class, meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings will be studying the **Sermon on the Mount** from the Gospel of Matthew.

For boys and girls in grades 1-3

Earn the God and Me award. The God and Me curriculum is designed to help children become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of “God and Me” together. Children will make games and keep them in a GAMEBOX (God And Me Exploring BOX). These games will reinforce the Bible lessons and provide opportunities for families to explore God’s love together. Vicar Shea Berbaum will lead this class beginning Sunday, January 22nd at 2:30pm and running several weeks.



For boys and girls in grades 4 & 5

Earn the God and Family award. The God and Family curriculum is designed to help children and families to explore their faith together, to learn 6 ways of strengthening families and to better know the 10 Commandments. We’ll use a Pizza theme to talk about all this. Pastor Kevin will this this class beginning on Sunday, January 22nd at 2:30pm and running several weeks.

Member Prayer List

Alice Raffa
Whitney Taylor
Doris Sharpe



Member Shut-ins

Bobby Frazier
Frank McLeod
Robertta 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
Jacob & Alberta Dooley - Relative of Margaret & 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
Haley Hilliard - Friend of the Freeman's
Colene Hook - Mother of Kristie Joyner
Keith Gossett - Brother of Brenda Poplin
Bob Florence - Father of Megan Joyner
Ann Addy—Friend of Katrina Shealy
Karen Henderson—Dalton Freeman's mother-in-law
Michelle Brown Quintans- Cousin of Kim Backman and
Tammy O'Quinn
Nancy Spinella—friend of Cora Nevitt

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
Corey Taylor - Friend of Mary Hines
Hazel Tisdale - Friend of Tracy Shealy
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 Sam Baily — Cousin of Margaret
& Allen Hollis

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
Keith Zeigler - Son of Tom Zeigler

This Week At St. James

Monday, January 23

7:00PM Lutheran Men in Mission– Conference

7:00PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, January 24

6:00PM Girl Scouts

Wednesday, January 25

6:30pm Choir Practice

7:30pm Handbell Choir

Thursday, January 26

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

7:00PM Bible Study

Sunday, January 29

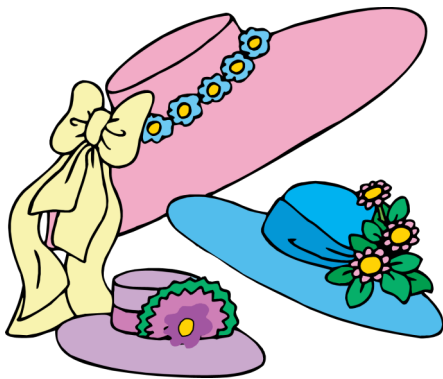
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Holy Communion

2:30 PM Cub & Girl Scout Classes

4:00 PM Confirmation Class



Ladies' (& Men's) Hat Sunday

Have some fun, wear a hat on the last Sunday of the month. This month that is this Sunday!

Birthdays

1/25

Tom Zeigler

Eric West

1/26

Anna Ree Roland

1/27

Michael Bouknight

Sheryll Norton

Beverly Christenburg

Mike Crumpton

1/29

Linda Taylor

1/31

Cody Gantt

Tiffany Barrs

2/4

Lynette Steele

Bryan Kyzer, Jr.

2/5

Gene Joyner

2/6

Zoey Standridge

2/7

Melaine Juergens

Timothy Roark

2/8

Gwen Freeman

2/9

Adrienne Burgess

Your Help is Needed to Update Our Records

Each year we try to update our directory information. If you have any changes in your address, telephone number or email, would you please let the office know or make the corrections on the sheets in the Narthex this Sunday! Thank you for your help!

WORSHIP LEADERS IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 29

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte
Daunte Smith

Crucifer

Communion Assistants
Mary Browder

Altar Guild
Tammy O'Quinn

Lector
Mary Browder

Ushers
Dick Kyzer
Tom Boozer

Sunday, February 5

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte
Alyssa Long

Crucifer

Communion Assistants
Von Goff

Altar Guild
Jan Sharpe

Lector
Cheryl Austen

Ushers
Larry Kyzer
Luke Roland

Sunday, February 12

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte

Crucifer

Communion Assistants
Bill Hogan

Altar Guild
Jan Sharpe

Lector
Tammy O'Quinn

Ushers
Larry Kyzer
Luke Roland

Sunday, February 19

Presiding Minister
Pastor Kevin Ogilvie

Assisting Minister
Vicar Shea Berbaum

Acolyte
Emmerson Hibbs

Crucifer

Communion Assistants
Cora Nevitt

Altar Guild
Jan Sharpe

Lector

Ushers
Larry Kyzer
Luke Roland

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.

COUNCIL CORNER

The new church council met on retreat at Camp Kinard on January 14th. The first priority was electing officers and assigning duties (see next page). Pastor Kevin led an extended devotional time, John Harmon and Adam Steele presented the learnings from the two adult classes' study of *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* this past fall and a great discussion followed. The council has set the following as priorities for 2017:

1. **Implementing an attractive Christian education and youth program** with the possibility of hiring a person in this area by March to help.
2. **Improving congregational involvement and communication.** Some specific items were: posting council pictures and bios to help members know who their council members are, inviting any congregation member who wishes to attend council meetings, encourage the use of name tags in worship to help us know each other, consolidate committees to reflect our reduced membership, post council minutes in prominent places, increase fellowship opportunities.
3. **Improve our outreach in the community.** Two initiatives were considered—participating again in Operation Inasmuch (April 1st) and inviting our community to join us for Shrove Tuesday Supper.
4. **Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation** by having an Oktoberfest (in October!), having a 95 Theses door display inside and outside, having a special educational event for members and others.

In other business the council is seeking quotes to repair the HVAC unit in the Fellowship hall. Dale Hutto was appointed chair of the Endowment Committee. The annual

Last Week:

Offering	\$3,439.00
Needed weekly	\$5,165.90
Budget Year-to-date	\$20,663.62
Received Year-to-date	\$14,880.00
Attendance	93

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

~ Anyone interested in volunteering as worship assistant in one, or more areas, please feel free to call the church office or sign up in the narthex. We are in need of assistants in all areas of worship.

~ Any articles that you would like to have included in the Weekly Messenger need to be emailed to office@stjameslex.com or simply brought by the church office prior to Wednesday of the week you would like to see it in the publication. Thank you!

**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

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>		