

St. James Lutheran Church

March 2022

The Journal

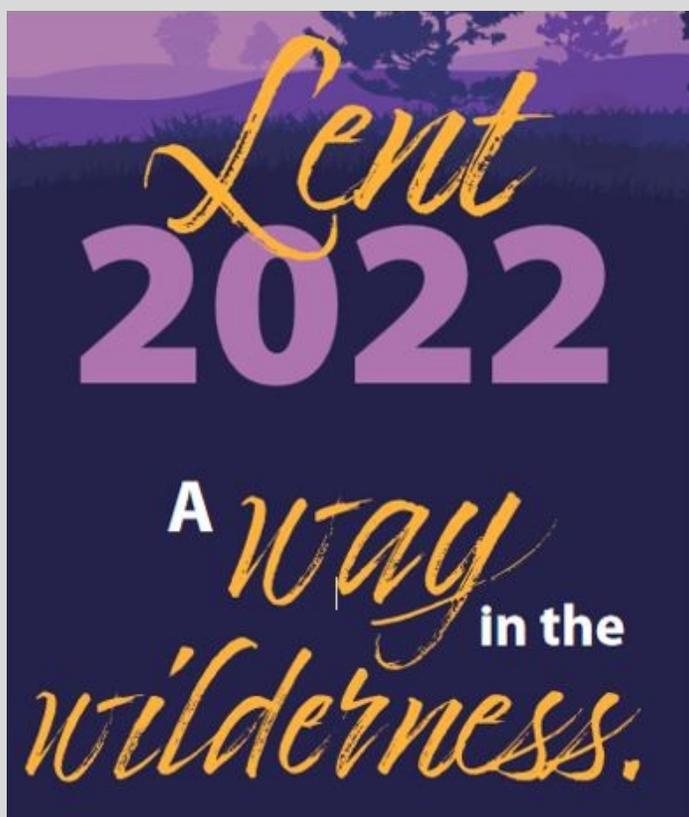
200 Laurel Drive Graniteville, SC 29829
StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com www.stjamesgraniteville.com



Please join us on our Lenten Journey

Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 2, at 6:30 pm
Worship with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Sunday Morning Lenten Worship at 11:00 am
Sunday School at 9:45 am



Lenten Bible Study led by Pastor Fred
A Way in the Wilderness
Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6
5:00 pm

Soup & Sandwich Supper
following Bible Study at 5:30 pm
Volunteers are needed to provide
soup, sandwiches and dessert.
Please sign up on the dinner list
outside of the church office.

Lenten Evening Worship
Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6
Silent Prayer & Meditation 6:15-6:30
Worship 6:30 pm

A message from Pastor Fred...



Lent is upon us!

I love this season of refocus and intentional spiritual discipline; somehow Lent manages to change my life every year. A long Lenten time ago, I began to pray every night before bed as a spiritual practice. This practice of evening prayer didn't stop when Lent was over, and because of it, I have continued to pray every night before bed. My life, as you can imagine, has forever changed because of my connection with God.

Other practices over the years, like not watching TV for all of Lent so I could focus on God and be intentional about how I utilized my free time, have also drastically improved my life. I enjoyed not having to listen to the bombardment of advertisements, and years later this inspired me to get rid of my television. I'll still intentionally seek out a movie on the computer every now and again, but this one Lenten Spiritual Discipline has freed me from unconsciously sitting through one show to the next.

Lenten disciplines like these have continually freed me by helping me refocus on what is important in life. This season is also a reminder that our lives are limited, and what we do now matters. Taking time to see how God is calling is something we can do at all times of the year.

I want to invite you to join us on Wednesdays, for Bible Study, Dinner, and Worship. Making this time commitment does take some discipline, but I do believe that it will change your life. We will be doing a Bible Study called "A Way in the Wilderness" that invites us to study, pray, reflect, and give. I will be praying for you as you respond to your call. If you want to talk about how you want to refocus this season, please give me a call, or join us on Wednesdays. Whether you respond to your call through the love of God or the love of neighbor, know that you aren't alone in this desert. We're here for you, and God is with you!

God's Peace,

Pastor Fred



2022 Council Members, Committee Liaisons & Officers

Council Members:

Caroline Andrews- *Treasurer*

Daphne Carroll- Christian Education/Congregational Community

Jim Cobb- King's Kids

Patti Cutshall- Outreach

Robbie Franklin- *Vice President*, Youth Ministry

Garrett Maroney- *Secretary*, Worship & Music

Georganne Weeks- Mutual Ministry

Mike Willis- Stewardship

Ronald Wood- *President*, Property

St. James has a new website!

www.stjamesgraniteville.com

Offering Option

You can now give online on our website! You can give a one-time offering or set up a recurring offering. In the description box, please note where your offering should be directed (for example, Current and Benevolence, Backpack, etc.)

www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/

Financial Update January 2022

General Fund:	<u>January 2022</u>	<u>Jan-Dec 2022</u>
Offering	\$ 26,840.40	\$ 26,840.40
Expenses	<u>\$ 14,605.39</u>	<u>\$ 14,605.39</u>
Net Total	\$ 12,235.01	\$ 12,235.01



Church Council Minutes and Financial Reports are available in their entirety in the church office. Please contact the church secretary if you would like a copy.

Share your good news and church events with your church family!
Email the information to: StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Confirmation: March 13th, 20th, & 27th at 3:00 pm

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred will not meet in March.

Crafts & Games: Monday, March 14th at 1:00 pm

Lifestyle: Wednesday, March 16th at 12:00 pm

WELCA/LMM: Monday, March 28th at 1:00 pm

Thanks to the congregation for your participation in this year's Souper Bowl of Caring Collection! Strong support for the Bengals brought in \$576 and the Rams brought in \$154. A total of \$730 was collected for Valley hunger ministries.



WELCA NEWS



WELCA put together care packages for our St. James college students. The care packages included embroidered pillowcases, candy, hot chocolate, and school supplies. The packages were mailed to arrive before Valentine's Day as a reminder that they are loved by their St. James family.



Crafts and Games



Crafts & Games had their first meeting on February 14th. Those that attended had the choice to participate in several different activities. Some chose to learn the beginning skills of crocheting while others learned how to make fleece tie blankets. The group also learned about some of the needs of Children's Place of Aiken and worked together to assemble and wrap family fun night baskets to be donated to families that are served at Children's Place.



Crafts and Games

Crafts & Games will meet on Monday, March 14th at 1:00 pm. All men and women are invited to come and enjoy crafts or games monthly on the second Monday of each month.

Donations are being accepted during the month of March to purchase fitted pillowcase nap mat covers for the children at Children's Place. The cost of a nap mat cover is \$20, but any amount is appreciated. Please make checks payable to St. James and earmarked for "Nap Mat Covers."



Lifestyle



Two meetings of Lifestyle have taken place since the new year began. The first meeting was well attended, the second one not so much.

The next meeting will be on March 16 starting at 12 noon. Clay Killian, the Aiken County Administrator, will be the guest speaker. A light lunch will be served. We urge you to attend the meeting for the fellowship and food and also to be informed about what's going on in Aiken County.

We welcome your suggestions about the format of Lifestyle, future speakers or entertainers, and luncheon and food thoughts. Just put a note in my box, call me at 803-663-7787, or stop and talk to me. Ronald Wood



Thank you Don Hatcher for sharing information and history about Gregg Park Civic Center and the Gregg-Graniteville Foundation at the February meeting of Lifestyle.

March Music Calendar



Sundays:

March 6:

9:30-10:00 Youth Bells/Choir
After Worship: St. James Ringers

March 13:

9:30 – St. James Ringers Rehearsal
11:00 - Performance
After Worship: Youth Choir

March 20:

9:30-10:00 Youth Bells/Choir
11:00 - Performance
After Worship: St. James Ringers

March 27:

9:30-10:00 Youth Bells/Choir
After Worship: St. James Ringers

April 3:

Music practice TBD

April 10:

Palm Sunday
9:30 – St James Ringers
9:45 – Youth Choir
10:40 – Adult and Youth Choir Combo practice
Performance of all choirs at 11:00
Afternoon Practices: TBD

Service Choir Rehearsal

Wednesdays:

March 9: Service Choir at 7:00 pm
March 16: Service Choir at 7:00 pm
March 23: Service Choir at 7:00 pm
March 30: Service Choir at 7:00 pm

(some short practices after worship on Sundays may be added in March)

April Practices TBD



April 17:

Easter Sunday
Youth Bells, Youth Choir, St. James Ringers,
Adult Service Choir, Brass Ensemble
Warmup at 7:15
Preservice music starts at 7:40 am
Worship Service at 8:00 am

March Volunteer List

ALTAR GUILD: Ruth Vance & Linda Pritchard (March)

USHERS: Mike Cutshall & Ronnie Johnson (March)

LAY READERS & LAY ASSISTANTS

March 2: Garrett Maroney (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

March 6: Patti Cutshall (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

March 13: Teddy Weeks (Lay Reader)

March 20: Ralph Abreo (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)

March 27: Donna Maria Abreo (Lay Reader)

WORSHIP TEAM--Acolyte (A) & Crucifer (C)

March 2: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C)

March 6: Dominic Price (A) Kaylee Sharpe (C)

March 13: Brayden Weed (A) Dominic Price (C)

March 20: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C)

March 27: Kristen Franklin (A) Zoe Ford (C)

SOUND TECHNICIANS

March 2: Lane Rogers --Ash Wednesday

March 6: Ben Sharpe

March 13: Lane Rogers

March 20: Robbie Franklin

March 27: Ben Sharpe





President's Message

On Saturday, February 19, your Church Council held a Planning/Work Session to develop a 3 year plan for St. James. Goals and missions were established for Year 1 that are measurable and ambitious, but attainable.

The plan for Year 1 is included with this message for the purpose of informing you of what we are trying to accomplish in 2022. Work on expanding and amending the objectives for Year 2 and Year 3 will continue to be addressed.

The often used cliché, “Plan the work and work the plan,” applies to the 3 year plan being considered for St. James. The key to successful implementation and execution depends on how St. James’ collective membership accepts, embraces, and contributes to accomplishing these goals and missions to the honor of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please consider donating to the Capital Fund in addition to your monthly offering so that we can meet our budget for operating expenses while accomplishing our physical goals over the next three years. Very little has been done at St. James in restoration since 2008. Maintenance and replacing aging equipment have been the primary focus. Please give this prayerful thought.

Council welcomes your questions and suggestions. The President’s Message will appear in this newsletter once a quarter to keep you apprised of what your elected Council is doing to address the physical and spiritual direction of St. James.

Ronald Wood
Church Council President





**St. James Lutheran Church
3 Year Plan**

Year 1

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Best use of restricted memorial funds
- Combine/grow capital funding
- Improve Church Council communication with Congregation (Newsletter)
- Establish new Mutual Ministry Committee

PHYSICAL

- Playground improvement or secure to close
- Driveway access to ramp in front of church
- Sanctuary lighting improvement
- Ice machine
- Fire extinguisher(s) inspected and updated as required
- Office flooring: Copy room, pastor's office, and secretary's office
- Restripe parking lot
- Upgrade nursery area
- Chain link fence installation on part of backyard of parsonage

WORSHIP & OUTREACH

- Rebuild committees (add 2 new members to each committee)
- Visit and invite absent members to return to worship
- Lifestyle support
- Bible Study (Lent: *A Way in the Wilderness*)
- New member hospitality
- Visitor Parking
- Website calendar



March 2022

Happy Birthday



Happy Anniversary

Lanny Valentine	6
Cale Johnson	7
Tom Hair	9
Donald Hatcher	14
Alyssa Weed	15
Caroline Tyler	18
Joe Knight	19
Jeana Carter	23
Donovan Moreno	26
Milton Rogers	28
Emily Cobb	29
Beau Ford	30

Andy & Melissa Cone

March 16th

Bill & Elese Cegelis

March 27th

Help us keep our church records up to date... If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or missing from our list, please contact Kathy Rogers so our membership records can be corrected. Thank you!

StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Barry Kirby, Ruth Vance, Nanci Carter (Bob Petrulovich's daughter), Charles McGee, Bobby Reece, Ben Ashby (Karmen Spletzer's brother), Gene Moyer, Libby Scott, Ronnie Gordon, Wendy Speight, David Speight, Bobbie Bauserman, John Thompson, Pat Weeks. At **Anchor**: Mary Ellen Johnson. At **Trinity**: Ruth Orr, Carolyn Hendrix. *May the Lord bless them with His healing presence and keep them in true faith.*

St. James has a new website! www.stjamesgraniteville.com

**Daylight Saving Time begins March 13th.
Please remember to Spring Forward!**



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent members, please remember to direct your 2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31st. You may do so by calling 1-800-847-4836 or online at thrivent.com. If you need more information about Thrivent Choice Dollars, contact your Thrivent financial representative or contact the church office for help with general questions.



Ages: 9th and 10th Grade Winter Retreat

- Theme: infinite Blessings
- Details: This weekend we will explore some thought provoking questions.
 - o What it means to be blessed? What are blessings in our lives?
 - o How do our blessings allow us to better love our neighbor as ourselves?

We will venture through these and much more through large group discussions, small group material, and through fun and fellowship!

Ages: Middle School Winter Retreat (6th-8th grade)

- Theme: Infinite Welcome
- Details: This weekend we proclaim that Christ welcomes ALL people! We will discuss how this welcome, love, and grace of Christ affects us and how we can share that welcome with others in our daily lives.



ST. JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. Fred Klinker 803-292-1400

President: Ronald Wood 803-663-7787

Director of Music/Organist: Tonia Busbee 706-830-8418

Secretary: Kathy Rogers 803-648-0815

Treasurer: Caroline Andrews

Newsletter Editors: Tonia Busbee & Kathy Rogers

Follow us on Facebook!!



**Create in me
a clean heart,
O God,
and renew a
steadfast spirit
within me**

We can email you our newsletter in color!!
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