

St. James Lutheran Church

December 2022 and January 2023

The Journal

200 Laurel Drive, Graniteville, SC 29829

StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com www.stjamesgraniteville.com



December Worship Services

Advent Evening Services

Wednesdays, November 30th, December 7th, 14th, & 21st

Bible Study at 5:00 pm in the Chapel

Dinner at 5:30 pm

Advent Evening Services at 6:30 pm in the Chapel

Second Sunday of Advent, December 4th

Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Third Sunday of Advent, December 11th

Worship at 11:00 am - ACTS Temple Talk

Children/Youth Christmas Program & Worship Service, December 11th

Service at 6:30 pm followed by a reception in the fellowship hall

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18th

Worship at 11:00 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion, December 24th

Preservice at 6:10 pm & Worship at 6:30 pm

Christmas Day, December 25th

Worship with Holy Communion at 10:00 am

No Sunday School on Christmas Day

Sunday Mornings: Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred at 9:15- 9:45 am

Sunday School at 9:45 am

A message from Pastor Fred...

Happy Advent! We get to prepare for Christ!

Advent is certainly one of my most treasured seasons; from being the origin of many warm childhood memories to people across many lands in different times being excited about Jesus' arrival, Advent is wonderful!

Advent is a time of preparation. Does God need us to prepare the way? God could certainly do whatever God needs to do to make Jesus' arrival perfect, but God gives us a gift: an opportunity to join God in God's work in this world. There's no other purpose we as humans could invent that would be so enriching, life-giving, and perfectly in line with God's will. To join in the preparations is an honor, and we are called into this joy, that Christ's light will shine in this world!

How do we prepare?

As an individual, if we start as God's beloved children, we're already doing it!

As disciples, when we listen to God and the needs of others, we can discern what we are being called into, and then we can put our faith into action! In this our identity, as Children of God, is shown to everyone we encounter, and then the cycle starts again. As God's beloved children, the followers of Christ, we listen to God and what others need, and discern our call, to live it out in love!

How does your family prepare for the arrival of Christ?

How does St. James in the Body of Christ, throughout the world, prepare for Jesus?

Is there anything you want to do this year that is perhaps new or different from last year?

My goal this season is to reflect Jesus to anyone I encounter, in order to prepare his way.

In the first chapter of John, it details:

“What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”

Reflecting the light and life of Jesus brings great joy to the one who reflects it and to everyone who sees it. Though the winter gives us less sunlight, I'm going to focus on the true light of Christ, and look for his bright shining gift of life and love this Advent.

God's peace to you, and lots of love,
Pastor Fred



December Upcoming Events & Practices

Advent Bible Study: November 30th, December 7th, 14th, & 21st at 5:00 pm in the chapel prior to the Advent dinners and worship services

Advent Evening Services & Dinners: Wednesdays, November 30th, December 7th, 14th, & 21st

Dinner in the fellowship hall at 5:30 pm followed by Advent Worship in the chapel at 6:30 pm

If you can provide soup, sandwiches, or dessert, please call or email Kathy or sign up on the sign-up sheet outside of the office. *Please join us in this time of anticipation!*

Confirmation: December 4th & 11th (3:00-4:30 pm)

Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred: Monday, December 5th at 10:00 am on the front lawn

Youth Bells: December 4th at 4:30 pm & December 11th at 5:45 pm

Children/Youth Choir & Service Choir: After worship on December 4th, 11th, & 18th

St. James Ringers: December 5th & 12th at 6:30 pm and December 18th at 4:00 pm

Christmas Play Rehearsals:

December 4th at 9:30 am & 5:00 pm (Pizza Dinner & Dress Rehearsal)

December 11th at 9:30 am (Final Rehearsal)

Dress in Costumes at 6:00 pm & Christmas Program at 6:30 pm

LAFF (Lutheran Adults in Fun & Fellowship) will have a Christmas party at the home of Lanny & Cathie Valentine on Saturday, December 10th at 7:00 pm. Each household is asked to bring their favorite holiday finger food/dessert and a gift for a gift exchange (approx. \$25). *RSVP to Cathie Valentine at 803-292-6794 by Dec. 5th.*

Church Council will meet on December 11th at 5:00 pm

Children/Youth Christmas Program: December 11th at 6:30 pm with reception following the service. If you would be willing to bring refreshments for the reception, please fill out the insert in the bulletin or see Kathy.

Games will meet on Monday, December 12th at 1:00 pm.

LCY Christmas Caroling & Party: Sunday, December 18th at 5:00 pm

WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, December 19th for lunch at 1:00 pm followed by the meeting. All women and men are invited to attend. *Members are asked to bring a donation of individually packaged snacks (goldfish, granola bars, etc.) for the nurse at a local school.*





Poinsettias given for the beautification of the sanctuary and in memory or in honor of someone are available for purchase through the church office. The poinsettias are red in color and in 6 inch pots. ***The cost is \$15 each. Checks should be made payable to Saint James Lutheran Church.*** Order forms are available in the bulletin and in the narthex. Please place the completed form and payment in the offering plate or in the box on the secretary's desk. ***Deadline for orders is December 15th.***



ACTS Heater Drive

Give the gift of warmth for Christmas.

Donations are being accepted through December 31st for ACTS to purchase small heaters for clients. The cost of a heater is \$25, but you may give any amount that you wish.

Please make your check payable to St. James and earmarked for "Heaters."

Lifestyle

Rev. Rick Carter, Assistant to the Bishop of the SC Synod, shared information on church safety and security at the November Lifestyle meeting.

Chris Austin, an attorney with the law firm of Austin & Pethick, will be the featured speaker at the January 18 meeting of Lifestyle. Chris specializes in estate planning to include asset protection, powers of attorney, health powers of attorney, wills, trusts, and probate administration. Lifestyle got off to a good start in 2022; we will work hard to build on that success in 2023.



Red-Letter Christmas

**Children/Youth Christmas Program & Worship Service
Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 pm**

The congregation is invited to a reception following the Christmas Program to share in the celebration of Christmas with our children and youth.

Would you like to help provide refreshments or share your favorite holiday treat for the reception?

Please fill out the insert in the bulletin or call or email Kathy to sign-up.

St. James has been making tie blankets to deliver to the Cumbee Center.





Christmas is Coming

Featuring the Aiken Singers

A Concert Celebrating
the Music of Christmas

December 8, 2022 at 7:00 pm

St. John UMC

104 Newberry St. NW, Aiken

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Beverly Quarles (Gaines Entrekinn's sister), Bobby Reece, Theresa Sanders, John Tillman (Barbara Cobb's friend), Mary Lyons & Kathy Grant (Friends of Gloria Sloan), Barry Franklin (Mike Franklin's brother), Joe Lockhart (Kenneth Johnson's friend), Priscilla Thomas (Bob Petrulovich's sister), Camille Morris (Donna Abreo's granddaughter), Angela Vandegrift, Lincoln Glover (Barbara Cobb's nephew), Nanci Carter (Bob Petrulovich's daughter), Gene Moyer, Libby Scott, Ronnie Gordon, Bobbie Bauserman, Pat Weeks. **Anchor:** Mary Ellen Johnson **Trinity:** Ruth Orr **Augusta Gardens:** Sheri Abreo **Silver Bluff Grove:** Vicki Bolton *May the Lord bless them with His healing presence and keep them in true faith. Amen.*

Please review the prayer list and contact the church office with updates.

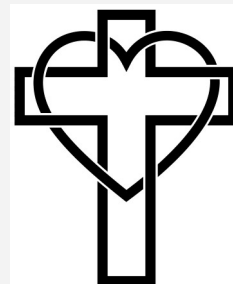
Offering Option

You can now give online on our website! You can give a onetime 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 October 2022

General Fund:	<u>October 2022</u>	<u>Jan-Dec 2022</u>
Offering	\$ 17,334.06	\$ 163,905.83
Expenses	\$- <u>15,516.43</u>	\$ <u>-155,797.75</u>
Net Total	\$ 1,817.63	\$ 8,108.08



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

December Volunteer List



Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

December 4: Mike Willis (& Lay Assistant)

December 11: Angela Vandegrift

December 18: Barbara Cobb

December 24: Garrett Maroney (& Lay Assistant)

December 25: Barbara Cobb (& Lay Assistant)

Worship Team

December 4: Kaylee Sharpe (A) Zoe Ford

December 11: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C)

December 18: Trey Johnson (A) Spencer Johnson (C)

December 24: Christmas Eve

Trey Johnson (A/C) Justin Joiner (Word)

Spencer Johnson & Brayden Joiner (Torches) Dominic Price (Banner)

December 25: Christmas Day Dominic Price (A) Brayden Weed (C)

Altar Flowers

December 4: Tom & Donna Hair in memory of Effie Redd & her parents, J.E. & Olive Black

December 11: Jan Maroney in honor of Garrett Maroney's birthday

December 18: Gaines & Lang Entrekin in honor of their wedding anniversary

December 24 & 25: Bill & Elese Cegelis in memory of Elese's grandparents,
Rev. J. Virgil & Mrs. Elese Addy and Mr. L.T. & Mrs. Deasaux Fulmer

Altar Guild

December 4: Patti Cutshall & Carol Horsley

December 24 & 25: Jim & Barbara Cobb & Shelley Jones

Ushers

December: Mike Cutshall & Steve Murphy

Sound Technicians

December 4: Ben Sharpe

December 11: Lane Rogers

December 11 (Children's Christmas Program): Lane Rogers & Charles Busbee

December 18: Ben Sharpe

December 24: Ben Sharpe & Robbie Franklin

December 25: Ben Sharpe

Greeter: Sara Rutland



December

Happy Birthday

Joel Antley	1
Ronnie Gordon	5
Brent Spletzer	9
Garrett Maroney	12
Ben Sharpe	12
Carol Gibson	13
Kyle Vandegrift	21
Karmen Spletzer	26



Happy Anniversary

Jim & Carol Horsley
December 6th

Ronald & Helen Wood
December 14th

Gaines & Lang Entrekin
December 22nd

January

Nelson Johnson	9
Tanya Odom	12
Angela Vandegrift	13
Else Cegelis	15
Bob Petrulovich	20
Makayla Storey	20
Jaxen Coleman	21
Shelley Jones	22
Katie Rogers	30

Happy Birthday



January Volunteer List

Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

January 1: Lang Entrekin (& Lay Assistant)
January 8: Karmen Spletzer (& Lay Assistant)
January 15: Lanny Valentine
January 22: Tiffany Coleman
January 29: Jim Cobb

Worship Team

January 1: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C)
January 8: Trey Johnson (A) Spencer Johnson (C)
January 15: Kaylee Sharpe (A) Zoe Ford
January 22: Dominic Price (A) Brayden Weed (C)
January 29: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C)

Altar Flowers

January 1: Judy Lees in memory of Bob, Irv, & Ellie Lees
January 8: Ronald & Helen Wood in memory of Allison Katherine Wood- \$ Backpack
January 15: Kenneth Johnson & Melissa Allgood in memory of Kevin Johnson- \$ Backpack
January 22: Open Date
January 29: Open Date

Altar Guild

January: Ruth Vance & Linda Pritchard

Ushers

January: Mike Cutshall & Kenneth Johnson

Sound Technicians

January 1: Ben Sharpe
January 8: Robbie Franklin
January 15: Lane Rogers
January 22: Robbie Franklin
January 29: Ben Sharpe

Greeter

January: Patti Cutshall



January Worship Services

**First Sunday of Christmas, January 1st
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Baptism of Our Lord Sunday, January 8th
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 15th
Worship at 11:00 am**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany, January 22nd
Worship at 11:00 am**
Annual Congregational Meeting after Worship with a Covered Dish Meal
All information for the Annual Report is due by January 12th.

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, January 29th
Worship at 11:00 am**



January Upcoming Events

Confirmation: January 22nd & 29th (3:00-4:30 pm)

No Coffee & Conversation in January.

Church Council will meet on January 8th at 5:00 pm.

Games will meet on Monday, January 9th at 1:00 pm.

SCLCY 9th/10th Grade Winter Retreat: January 13th-15th at Camp Kinard

Lifestyle will meet on Wednesday, January 18th at noon.

**Annual Congregational Meeting: January 22nd after worship
with a covered dish meal**

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, January 23rd for lunch at 1:00 pm
followed by the meeting.**

The Annual Congregational Meeting is on January 22nd after worship with a covered dish meal in the fellowship hall.

All information for the Annual Report is due in the church office by January 12th.
Please email reports to stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com.

New Offering Envelopes will be placed in your St. James mailbox by the end of December. Please do not use old envelopes after December 25th as some of the envelope numbers have changed. Please remember that using the offering envelopes helps ensure that your contributions are recorded correctly.

An updated **Church Directory** will be printed in January. Please send any information (address, phone number, email) that has changed to stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com by January 15th.



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. Fred Klinker 803-292-1400

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Treasurer: Caroline Andrews

Newsletter Designer: Tonia Busbee

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Rogers

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