

St. James Lutheran Church

The Journal

February 2023

February Worship Services

**Sunday, February 5th
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Sunday, February 12th
Worship at 11:00 am**

**Sunday, February 19th
Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Wednesday, February 22nd
Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 pm
Worship with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes**

**Sunday, February 26th
First Sunday of Lent
Worship at 11:00 am**

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

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A message from Pastor Fred...



Grace and Peace to you, from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

In Matthew 5:14, Jesus says, “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.” It is apparent to me that St. James is living into Christ’s Word and is a light in the world. 2023 has already shown itself to be a host to war, to high food prices, to lost jobs, but amidst all this darkness, there is a light burning bright.

St. James is a beautiful work of God, who has brought us together, and it is in this that we are a part of the Gospel being physically manifested through the love of God poured through us into the world. We have been proclaiming the love of Jesus through our service to the world. Please check the bulletin board in the hallway if you want to see what all we’re involved in, and if you would like to get involved, check out the Outreach Committee. All are welcome to join. I find that my spirit is uplifted when I am able to serve and love those around us. It’s great that what we’re called into, as disciples of Christ, is also what fills us.

CPR

We had CPR training in late January where we learned how to perform CPR and also how to operate the AED (automated external defibrillator). I learned that it is very easy to operate an AED. The hardest part about operating an AED is just having one available: St. James has two! There is one in the fellowship hall on the wall right next to the water fountain. There is one in the narthex, the area between the red front doors and the sanctuary, on the wall under the stairs that lead to the sound room. Please take a moment, when you can, to find them. If you know where an AED is located, you can help in the event of an emergency. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the training. Being equipped to love and serve our neighbor in an emergency is a way we proclaim the good news of Jesus!

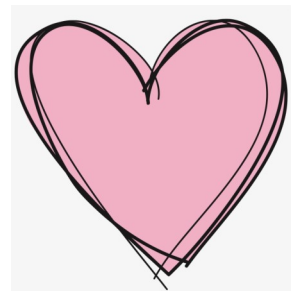
Thanksgiving for Baptism

In celebrating Jesus’ baptism this year (and remembering our identity as Beloved Children of God in our own baptism), the sign of the cross was marked on our foreheads from the water in the font as we came forward for communion. Though we give thanks for baptism as a congregation, remembering our baptism is central to our lives as individual followers of Jesus. One baptism is enough, but Martin Luther was intentional to remember it every single day. As we go forward, we will continue to celebrate our remembrance of baptism in worship, and we will have water in the font available, so that if you wish, you may dip your finger into the water and mark yourself with the sign of the cross, remembering that you are forever loved, forever forgiven, and forever a child of God.

As Children of God who gather together as St. James, we shine Christ’s light in a world that longs for the love that surpasses all understanding. I give thanks to God for you.

Have a Love- Filled February!

God’s Peace,
Pastor Fred



Thank you to Helen Thompson from Aiken Regional Hospital for leading CPR training. Eleven members of St. James were trained in adult CPR and how to operate the AED.



AED

Automated external defibrillator



CPR

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation





February Upcoming Events



LAFF (Lutheran Adults in Fun & Fellowship) Dinner at Shealy's BBQ:

Friday, February 3rd at 6:00 pm

All are invited. Please RSVP to Dana DeRemigio at 803-215-4234
by February 1st.

Confirmation: February 5th & 26th (3:00-4:30 pm)

Games will meet on Monday, February 6th at 1:00 pm.

Coffee & Conversation will not meet in February.

Souper Bowl of Caring: Sunday, February 12th following worship.

Church Council will meet on February 12th at 5:00 pm.

Lifestyle will meet on Wednesday, February 15th at noon.

Dr. Stephen Youmans will be the guest speaker. A light lunch will be served.

**SCLCY 11th/12th Grade Winter Retreat: February 17th -19th
at Coastal Retreat Center.**

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, February 27th for lunch at 1:00 pm
followed by the meeting.**

All women and men are invited to join us for lunch and the meetings.
Members are asked to bring a donation to the February meeting for the Men's
Overnight Shelters operated by Mt. Salem Ministries. Items that are needed
are toilet paper, paper towels, new twin blankets, new twin sheets
and new pillows.

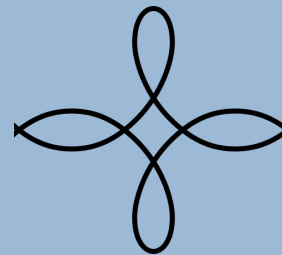
Lifestyle

Lifestyle Meal Volunteers Needed

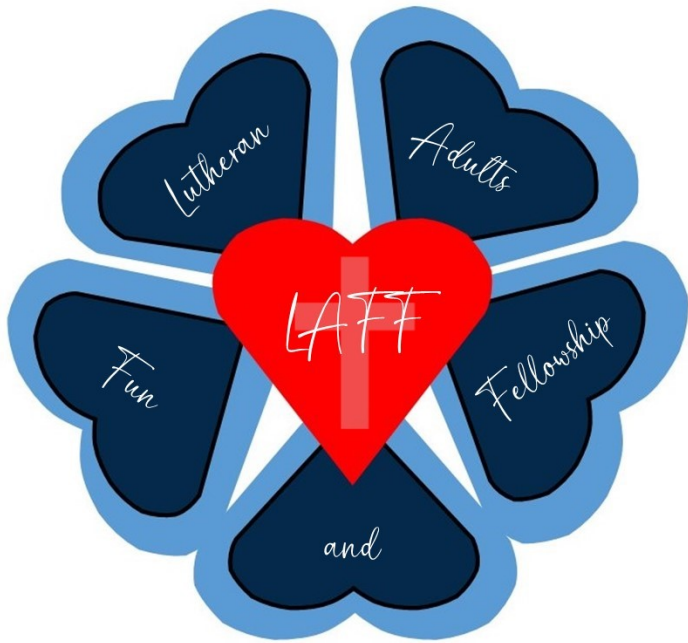
The planning, preparation, and serving responsibility for Lifestyle meals in 2023 is being redefined to include more congregational families. The congregation approved the addition of a line item in the 2023 church budget to cover the cost of the luncheon meals so no member/family will incur any personal expenses associated with serving the meals. January and February are covered. President Ronald Wood is asking for members who support Lifestyle and would like to see the meetings continue to accept the responsibility of planning, preparation, securing, and serving the light luncheon meals for a calendar month. Two or more members are encouraged to serve as a team. Please let Kathy know if you are willing to accept the responsibility of promoting a Lifestyle luncheon.



Chris Austin, an attorney with the law firm of Austin & Pethick, was the featured speaker at the January Lifestyle meeting. He shared information about estate planning including wills, trusts, and probate administration. Thank you to Thrivent for sponsoring the delicious lunch.



Dr. Stephen Youmans will be the featured speaker at the February 15 Lifestyle meeting. He will address health tips and signs that our bodies tell us when we need to seek medical help and advice. The meeting will begin at 12:00 pm with a devotion and a light lunch. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet outside of the office if you plan to attend.



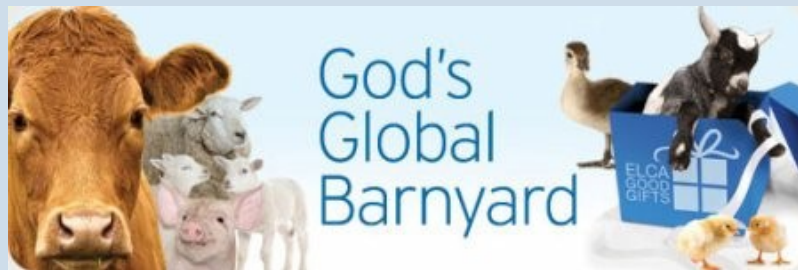
LAFF

The next LAFF event will be held at **Shealy's BBQ in Batesburg on Friday, February 3rd**. We will meet at Shealy's at 6:00 pm to enjoy a delicious meal (Dutch treat) with our Lutheran Adults in Fun and Fellowship. An open invitation is extended to all of St. James to join and enjoy this time together. Transportation can be provided for anyone needing a ride. Please RSVP to Dana DeRemigio at 803-215-4234 or dana.deremigio@gmail.com by Wednesday, February 1st, to ensure enough seats are reserved. If you would like to attend and also need a ride, please let Dana know.



Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 12th

Support your favorite Super bowl team with a donation for local valley food ministries: Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Center, Hope Ministries of the Valley, and Mt. Salem Ministries.



ELCA GOOD GIFTS

During Lent, there will be an opportunity to help support God's Global Barnyard, which supports the sustainable development ministries of ELCA World Hunger, which include training, education, and resources to help communities care for animals and create new market opportunities like starting a small business selling eggs, meat or dairy products. Your gifts support this comprehensive approach to animal husbandry.

President's Message

St. James' evolving three year plan adopted by Church Council at its January 7 planning meeting is published here for your information and review. The word "evolving" needs to be emphasized. The plan is merely a footprint to offer direction, but the plan will certainly change as circumstances change. The newsletter will be used to keep members apprised of our progress in adhering to this plan.

Ronald Wood
Church Council President



St. James Lutheran Church Three year Plan for 2023-2025

<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. Laminate flooring for two rooms on first floor of Sunday School wing	\$3370	1	Completed
2. Make two bathrooms in the fellowship hall wheelchair accessible		1	Hire an architect
3. Demolish shed at parsonage and erect fence as designed		1	Shed demolished
4. Clean carpet in the sanctuary and tile in the fellowship hall		1	Need quotes
5. Replace carpet in sanctuary		3	
6. Paint outside handrails	\$725	1	On schedule
7. Church Safety and Security Plan		1	Committee formed; asked for recommendation by April
8. Replacement plan for heat pumps		1-2-3	In progress
9. Replace heat pump in narthex	\$4100	1	In progress
10. Remove unsafe playground equipment	\$500	1	Completed
11. Replace playground equipment		3	
12. Determine extent of work and cost to make locking mechanisms more effective on exterior doors	Approx. \$800 each	1	TBD
13. Dedicate a room for young adults including furnishings		2 or 3	TBD
14. Replace pew cushions		3	TBD
15. Access to altar for impaired individuals		1	Hire an architect
16. Improvements as required to sound and recording equipment		1 or 2	TBD

Outreach at St. James



St. James has been making tie blankets. The blankets and stuffed animals were delivered to the Cumbee Center in December.



In December, the Outreach Committee provided doughnuts and coffee to the teachers and staff of the Aiken County Career Center. Funds were provided by Thrivent.



NO PARKING



St. James has learned that we are often in violation of a parking law found in South Carolina Section Code 56-5-2530. The statute reads as follows:

- Do not park within 30 feet of a stop sign.
- Do not park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
- Do not park in front of a private driveway.
- No parking alongside or opposite of traffic.
- No parking in any way that can obstruct traffic.

In an effort to conform to the spirit and letter of this state statute, Church Council is asking that all parking on the parsonage side of the road leading to the back parking lot be discontinued.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Benny Hydrick (Friend of Tony Carroll), Moe Terry, Theresa Sanders, John Tillman (Barbara Cobb's friend), Mary Lyons (Friend of Gloria Sloan), Barry Franklin (Mike Franklin's brother), 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, Bobby Reece **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 December 2022

General Fund:	<u>December 2022</u>	<u>Jan-Dec 2022</u>
Offering	\$ 13,998.98	\$ 195,463.21
Expenses	\$- <u>24,489.62</u>	\$ <u>-193,713.69</u>
Net Total	\$- 10,490.64	\$ 1,749.52



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



Christmas 2022 at St. James



Children/Youth Christmas Play,
Chrismon Tree & St. James Choir Party



Christmas 2022 at St. James



Sunday School Christmas Parties



Youth Christmas Caroling



February Volunteer List



Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

February 5: Karmen Spletzer (& Lay Assistant)

February 12: Teddy Weeks

February 19: Barbara Cobb (& Lay Assistant)

February 22: Garrett Maroney (& Lay Assistant) - Ash Wednesday

February 26: Robbie Franklin

Worship Team

February 5: Trey Johnson (A) Spencer Johnson (C)

February 12: Kaylee Sharpe (A) Zoe Ford (C)

February 19: Dominic Price (A) Brayden Weed (C)

February 22: Justin Joiner (A) Brayden Joiner (C) -Ash Wednesday

February 26: Trey Johnson (A) Spencer Johnson (C)

Altar Flowers

February 5: Bobby Reece in memory of Carolyn & Jeffrey Reece- \$Backpack

February 12: Ronnie Gordon in memory of Ann Gordon

February 19: Ruth Vance in memory of Gilbert Vance- \$LMM

February 22: Ash Wednesday

February 26: Lent

Altar Guild

February: Becky Johnson & Elaine Johnson

Ushers

February: Mike Cutshall & Karmen Spletzer

Sound Technicians

February 5: Lane Rogers

February 12: Ben Sharpe

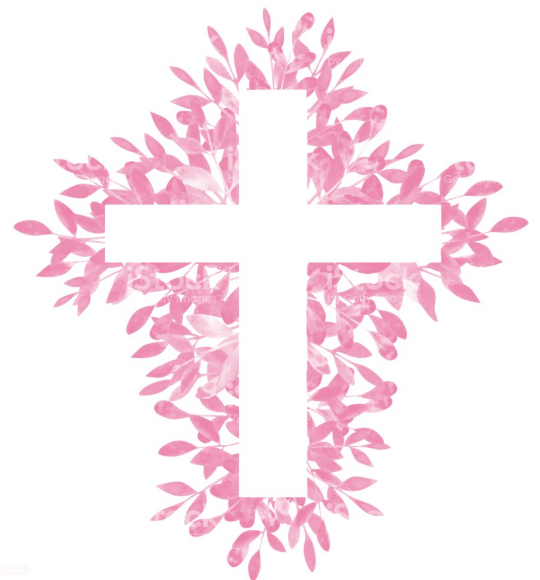
February 19: Robbie Franklin

February 22: Robbie Franklin -Ash Wednesday

February 26: Ben Sharpe

Greeter

February: Carol Horsley



February

Happy Birthday

Kathy Rogers	2
Timothy Gonya	4
Mike Willis	6
Patti Cutshall	8
Becky Johnson	9
Teddy Weeks	9
Barry Antley	12
Mike Cutshall	14
Jen Storey	14
Kaylee Sharpe	14
Lang Entrekin	16
Scott Vandegrift	18
Jeffrey Maroney	19
Ronnie Johnson	22
Kenneth Johnson	22
Sarah Swygert	26

Happy Anniversary

Donald & Cindy Hatcher
February 25th





ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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