



# ST. JAMES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Journal

February 2024

### *February Worship Services*

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, February 4<sup>th</sup>  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>  
Worship with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes at 6:30 pm**

**First Sunday of Lent, February 18<sup>th</sup>  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Second Sunday of Lent, February 25<sup>th</sup>  
Worship at 11:00 am**

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

**Lenten Bible Study led by Pastor Fred  
Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and March 6, 13, 20 at 5:00 pm**

**Soup & Sandwich Supper following Bible Study at 5:45 pm**  
Volunteers are needed to provide soup, sandwiches, and dessert.

Volunteers are also needed to serve dinner.  
Please sign up on the dinner list outside of the church office.

**Lenten Evening Worship Services  
Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and March 6, 13, 20 at 6:30 pm**

## A message from Pastor Fred...



Grace and Peace to you,

The earth around us seems to be well at rest. Occasionally, there has been some frost upon the grass in the morning, and even my most eager indoor plants have stopped putting forth new shoots. There is a season for everything, and the bitter cold is getting its day too. Perhaps my garden appreciates the rest as well, since I've taken to the indoors more lately and am not actively micromanaging it. Reflecting on this, I'm seeing winter as a holy time to regather our energy. I hope that you have found the rest you needed this season.

As we live into this season on earth, we are also about to enter into a new season of Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup>. What a time: a day dedicated to love on the same day we dedicate to humility and devotion. The coming together of Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day made me consider Christ as Paul writes about him in Philippians 2.

*If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,*

*<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,*

*did not regard equality with God*

*as something to be exploited,*

*<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,*

*taking the form of a slave,*

*being born in human likeness.*

*And being found in human form,*

*<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself*

*and became obedient to the point of death—*

*even death on a cross.*



In this new season, we're going to start a regular study of scripture. We will begin this in Bible study on Wednesdays in Lent. We will look at the upcoming scriptures that will be read in worship on the following Sunday, so that when Sunday comes, we will have discussed it together and can go into worship with additional insight. Lent, the liturgical season, may come to an end with the Resurrection of Christ on Easter, but we can continue our study throughout the year if we want to take this spiritual discipline with us through the seasons to come.

I wish for you rest and recovery this winter, and I look forward to studying scripture with you in the upcoming season.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor Fred



# Upcoming Events

**Mutual Ministry Committee: Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> following worship**  
**Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Fred: Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**  
**SCLCY Winter Retreat (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade): February 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> at Camp Kinard**  
Contact Mrs. Kathy for registration information.

**Souper Bowl of Caring: Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> following worship**

**Church Council: Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

**Super Bowl Watch Party & Dinner: Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm**  
Dinner begins at 6:00 pm.

**Games & Tie Blankets: Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**

**LAFF Dinner at Feed Sack in North Augusta: Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm**  
All are invited. Please RSVP to Dana DeRemigio at 803-215-4234 by February 21<sup>st</sup>.

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> for lunch at 1:00 pm**  
**followed by the meetings.**

All women and men are invited to join us for our potluck lunch and then 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.



## 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. ***Donation jars will be located in the main hall and in the narthex. Please make checks payable to St. James and earmarked for "Good Gifts."***

  
God  loves you





## **Souper Bowl of Caring- Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

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. Donations will be collected at the church doors by our youth as we leave worship. Please drop your donation of cash or check made payable to St. James into the soup pot bearing the logo of the team you hope will win the Super Bowl football game.

## **Super Bowl Sunday Gathering**



**Join us for good food and fellowship on**

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 pm. Food will start at 6:00 pm.**

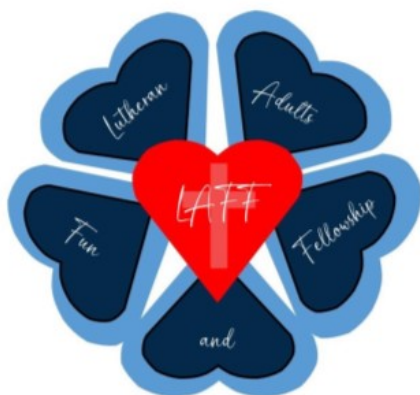
We will be watching the Super Bowl on the big screen in the fellowship hall.

We will be serving BBQ, hamburgers and hotdogs, as well as other sides.

Please let Charles Busbee or Andy Cone know if you would like to come.

**Even if you do not like football, please come for some good food and good Christian fellowship!**

For those that don't like to drive at night, please let us know if you need transportation and would like to attend.



**LAFF (Lutheran Adults in Fun & Fellowship) will meet at the Feed Seek in North Augusta for dinner (Dutch treat) on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm.** An open invitation is extended to all of St. James to come and enjoy this time together. Please RSVP to Dana DeRemigio at 803-215-4234 by Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> to ensure enough seats are reserved. If you would like to attend and also need a ride, please let Dana know.



A group of ladies from WELCA met in January and made six tie blankets for the patients at the Blind Rehab at the VA Hospital. They also made fleece scarves to put in cold weather kits (scarf, hat, gloves, tissues, and hot chocolate) that were placed in Blessing Boxes in our community. All are invited to help make blankets for those in need in our community on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

**Prayer List** As we begin a new year, our weekly prayer list is being revised. Those that are in the hospital, shut-in, or in a long-term care facility will be included each week. All other prayer requests will be added as they are shared with Pastor Fred or Kathy.

***In order to keep our prayer list current, the prayer list will be updated at the beginning of each month.***

**Please remember in your thoughts and prayers:**

Ben Sharpe, Lisa Kirby, Tom Hair, Robert Coleman, George Brunson (Father-in-law of Sarah Swygert Brunson), Alison Ergle Berry (Cousin of Georganne Weeks), Aimee Scott (Friend of Tanya Odom), Kensley Napier (Daughter of Philip Napier- Pastor of Breezy Hill Baptist Church), Gates Meadows (Friend of Libby Scott), Benny Hydrick (Friend of Tony Carroll), Libby Scott **Anchor:** Mary Ellen Johnson **Trinity:** Bobby Reece **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.



*Thank you!*



## **ACTS Heater Drive**

Thank you for your generous donations, which raised \$1,425 for this important project.



**Offering Option** [www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/](http://www.stjamesgraniteville.com/giving/)

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.)



## December Events

### LCY CAROLING



Our St. James LCY, joined by some of our college students and youth leaders, went Christmas caroling to the residents at Trinity on Laurens and to some members of our congregation. After caroling, the youth had a Christmas party at the home of Lane & Kathy Rogers. The youth enjoyed party foods and a lively game of football in the freezing cold.



Advent Evening Worship was held in the sanctuary this year by the Christmas tree and Advent wreath.



# February Volunteer List

## Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

**February 4:** Patti Cutshall (& Lay Assistant)

**February 11:** Mike Willis (& Lay Assistant)

**February 14:** Karmen Spletzer (& Lay Assistant) –Ash Wednesday

**February 18:** Carol Horsley (& Lay Assistant)

**February 25:** Tiffany Coleman



## Worship Team

**February 4:** (A) Dominic Price (C) Brayden Weed

**February 11:** (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner

**February 14:** (A) Dominic Price (C) Brayden Weed –Ash Wednesday

**February 18:** (A) Kaylee Sharpe (C) Brayden Weed

**February 25:** (A) Spencer Johnson (C) Zoe Ford



## Altar Guild

**February 4 & 11:** Sandra Johnson & Mycah Klinker

**February 14, 18, & 25:** Tonia Busbee, Angela Vandegrift, & Daphne Carroll

**Ushers:** Mike Cutshall & Ronnie Johnson

## Sound Technicians

**February 4:** Robbie Franklin

**February 11:** Lane Rogers

**February 14:** Lane Rogers –Ash Wednesday

**February 18:** Robbie Franklin

**February 25:** Lane Rogers



## Altar Flowers

**February 4:** Bobby Reece in memory of Carolyn & Jeffrey Reece- \$ Backpack

**February 11:** Ronnie Gordon in memory of Ann Gordon

**February 18:** Ruth Vance in memory of Gilbert Vance - \$ LMM

**February 25:** Lent

## Greeter

Sara Rutland







# February

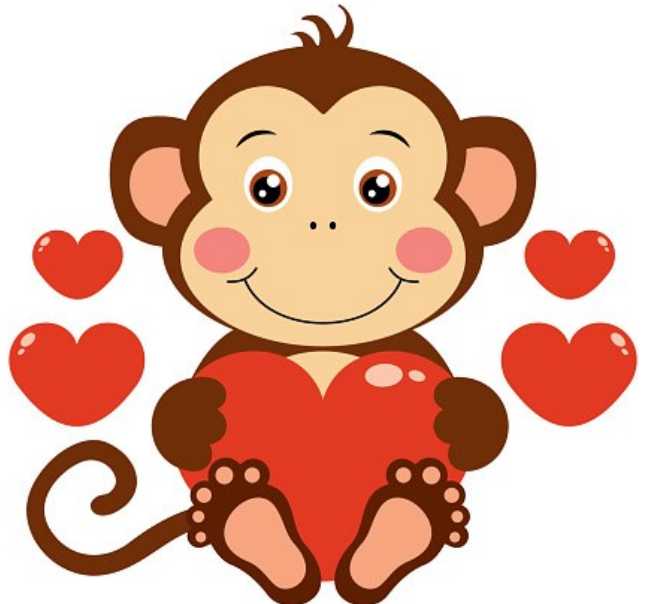
## Happy Birthday

Doris Ann Homan	2
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 Brunson	26



## Happy Anniversary

Donald & Cindy Hatcher  
February 25





## Building a Culture of Generosity Campaign



# ST. JAMES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building a Culture of Generosity Campaign

What started as a Capital Fund campaign has morphed into an overall giving campaign. St. James has always been generous with the needs of others through the Backpack program, the school supplies drive and purchasing heaters for those in need. Now it's time for St. James to be generous to St. James. This is the kickoff for our Building a Culture of Generosity Campaign and will go through the Easter season.

In the weeks ahead, you will be hearing more about generosity. Newsletter articles, bulletin inserts, mission moments, letters and more will be used to share this story and our hopes for an even more robust ministry this year.

In the coming weeks, please engage the materials.

Think about what St. James means to you and where you would like to see St. James grow. And pray about how you can become more generous.

Charles Busbee, Chairman of Capital Fund Committee

*Thank You!*

Dear St. James Lutheran Church Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you all so very much for your prayers for Zion Lutheran Church. Your letter was shared with the congregation this past Sunday and many in attendance were touched by your thoughtfulness and action to pray for us.

We are particularly grateful for your prayers and trust God to put them to good use as we journey through the call process for a new pastor.

The Congregation of Zion Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

Dear Congregation Family of St. James Lutheran Church of Graniteville SC,

I hope this finds you doing well!

My name is Cyndee. I am the office secretary at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Leesville, SC. When I checked the mail today, I was truly blessed! There in our box was a letter from your congregation family telling us that you had prayed for our congregation family. This could not have come at a better time as on Christmas Eve, our organist/Choir Director/Worship & Music Leader was admitted to the hospital after being sick the week before. He was diagnosed with a staph infection that spread throughout his body. God called him home to Heaven on Christmas morning. His family is devastated...so are we. He had been our all things music since he was 14...41 years total.

So, I want to say thank you...Thank you for listening to God, praying for us and sharing the love of God!

God's Blessings to You All! We pray the New Year will be happy and filled with God's blessings of Peace, Hope, Love, Joy, Strength, and Courage.

With love in Jesus' name from our family to yours,  
The Congregation Family of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Leesville, SC

# ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

200 Laurel Drive • Graniteville, SC 29829 • (803) 663-6809  
StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com • StJamesGraniteville.com

*Pastor:* Rev. Fred Klinker

*President:* Lisa Bryant

*Director of Music/Organist:* Tonia Busbee

*Secretary:* Kathy Rogers

*Treasurer:* Caroline Andrews

*Newsletter Editor:* Kathy Rogers

*Newsletter Designer:* Tonia Busbee

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