



# ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *The Journal*

December 2025  
&  
January 2026

### December Worship Services

#### Advent Evening Services

Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17, at 6:30 pm  
in the Sanctuary

Advent Bible Study at 5:00 pm  
Dinner at 5:45 pm

Second Sunday of Advent, December 7  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14  
Worship at 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21  
Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24  
Preservice at 6:15 pm  
Worship with Holy Communion at 6:30 pm

First Sunday of Christmas, December 28  
Worship at 11:00 am

*Sunday Mornings*  
Coffee & Conversation  
9:15- 9:45 am  
Sunday School at 9:45 am

#### Advent Bible Study

Wednesday, December 3, 4:30-5:00 pm

We will gather to watch  
*A Charlie Brown Christmas*  
to help prepare us for our Advent Bible Study:  
*The Gospel According to Peanuts.*

Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17, 5:00-5:45 pm

December 3 – Charlie Brown: What's the Point?  
December 10 – Lucy: From Fussbudget to Feminist  
December 17 – Linus: Faith, Security, & the  
Foolishness of Hope

#### Advent Dinner & Evening Worship

Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17

Dinner 5:45-6:25 pm

Evening Worship Service 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Volunteers are needed to provide soup, sandwiches,  
and dessert. Please call or email Kathy  
or sign up on the sign-up sheet.

Please join us in this time of anticipation!





# December & January Upcoming Events



## Advent Bible Study, Dinner, & Evening Worship Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17

*(December 3, 4:30-5:00 pm*

*A Charlie Brown Christmas)*

**Bible Study 5:00-5:45 pm**

**Dinner 5:45-6:25 pm**

**Evening Worship Service 6:30 pm**



**Church Council will meet on December 14 at 4:00 pm and January 11 at 5:00 pm.**

**Tie Blankets will not meet in December.**

**The next meeting will be on Monday, January 12, at 1:00 pm.**

## **“It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas” Christmas Dinner & Entertainment Sunday, December 14, at 5:00 pm**

**WELCA/LMM will meet on Monday, December 15, at 1:00 pm for a  
Christmas lunch together and on Monday, January 26, at 1:00 pm for a  
potluck lunch, followed by the meetings.**

**Lifestyle will meet on Tuesday, January 20, at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall.**

*Watch the bulletin and weekly emails in January for more information.*

**The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, January 25,  
with a covered dish meal in the fellowship hall.**



**New Offering Envelopes** will be placed in your St. James mailbox by the end of December. Please do not use 2025 envelopes after December 31st as some of the envelope numbers have changed. Please remember that using the offering envelopes helps ensure that your contributions are recorded correctly.

## *January Worship Services*

**Epiphany of Our Lord Sunday, January 4**  
**Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

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

**Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 18**  
**Worship with Holy Communion at 11:00 am**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany, January 25**  
**Worship at 11:00 am**

*Sunday Mornings*  
*Coffee & Conversation*  
*9:15- 9:45 am*  
*Sunday School at 9:45 am*

**ANNUAL**  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**MEETING**

**The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on  
Sunday, January 25, with a covered dish meal in the fellowship hall.**

**All information for the Annual Report is due in the church office by Monday, January 12.  
Please email reports to [stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesnewsinfo@gmail.com).**



**Zak Moyer was the guest speaker at the October WELCA and LMM meeting. He shared with us the mission and the ministries of Walking Tall Ministries.**



**LMM & WELCA thank you for your generous donations given at the Oktoberfest lunch fundraiser. With your support, \$2,290 was donated to the Valley Empty Stocking Fund.**



**Thank you to everyone who donated non-perishable food items, coats, hats, gloves, socks, underwear, and blankets for 2nd ACTS in Graniteville. Also, thank you to Thrivent for supporting our Food & Coat Drive.**

### **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."***



**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 \$16 each. Checks should be made payable to St. 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.

***The deadline for orders is December 15.***



# December Volunteer List

## Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

December 7: Lanny Valentine (Lay Reader) Charles Busbee (Lay Assistant)  
December 14: Teddy Weeks (Lay Reader)  
December 21: Mike Willis (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)  
December 24: Garrett Maroney (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)  
December 28: TBA (Lay Readers)

## Worship Team

December 7: (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner  
December 14: (A) Spencer Johnson (C) Zoe Ford  
December 21: (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner  
December 24 (Christmas Eve):  
Spencer Johnson, Justin Joiner, Brayden Joiner, Dominic Price, Brayden Weed  
December 28: (A) Dominic Price (C) Brayden Weed

## Altar Flowers

December 7: Donna Hair in memory of Tom Hair  
December 14: Janalyn and Garrett Maroney- \$ ACTS Heaters  
December 21: Gaines & Lang Entrekin in honor of their wedding anniversary  
December 24: Christmas Eve  
December 28: Open Date

**Altar Guild:** Gary & Lisa Bryant

**Ushers:** Mike Cutshall & Steve Murphy

**Greeter:** Carol Horsley

## Sound Technicians

December 7: Robbie Franklin  
December 14: Lane Rogers  
December 21: Robbie Franklin  
December 24: Robbie Franklin  
December 28: Robbie Franklin





# January Volunteer List

## Lay Readers & Lay Assistants

- January 4: Barbara Cobb (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)
- January 11: Caroline Andrews (Lay Reader & Lay Assistant)
- January 18: Tiffany Coleman (Lay Reader) Steve Murphy (Lay Assistant)
- January 25: Patti Cutshall (Lay Reader)

## Worship Team

- January 4: (A) Spencer Johnson (C) Brayden Weed
- January 11: (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner
- January 18: (A) Dominic Price (C) Zoe Ford
- January 25: (A) Justin Joiner (C) Brayden Joiner

## Altar Flowers

- January 4: Ralph & Donna Abreo in memory of Sheri Abreo- \$ Backpack
- January 11: Ronald & Helen Wood in memory of Allison Katherine Wood- \$ Backpack
- January 18: Kenneth Johnson & Melissa Johnson in memory of Kevin Johnson- \$ Backpack
- January 25: Wesley & Gloria Sloan - \$ Backpack

**Altar Guild:** Tonia Busbee, Angela Vandegrift, Daphne Carroll

**Ushers:** Mike Cutshall & Kenneth Johnson

**Greeter:** Patti Cutshall

## Sound Technicians

- January 4: Robbie Franklin
- January 11: Lane Rogers
- January 18: Robbie Franklin
- January 25: Lane Rogers



# December



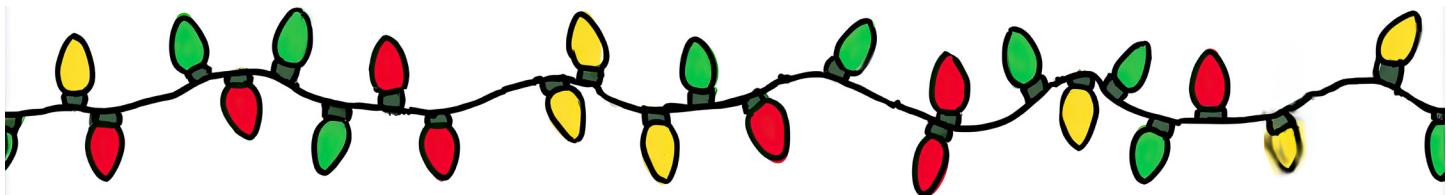
9 - Brent Spletzer  
12 - Garrett Maroney  
12 - Ben Sharpe  
13 - Carol Gibson  
21 - Kyle Vandegrift  
26 - Karmen Spletzer



Jim & Carol Horsley  
December 6

Ronald & Helen Wood  
December 14

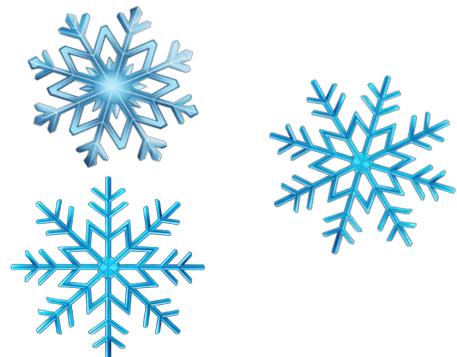
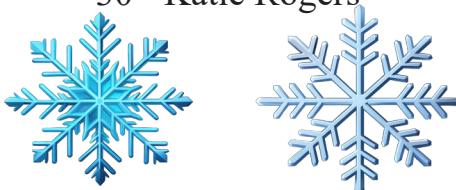
Gaines & Lang Entrekin  
December 22



# January



12 - Tanya Odom  
13 - Angela Vandegrift  
21 - Jaxen Coleman  
22 - Shelley Jones  
30 - Katie Rogers



## Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Garrett Maroney, Gaines Entrekin, Mike Franklin, Otis Gibson, Caroline Andrews, Phil Homan, Robert Coleman, Ben Sharpe, Barry Kirby (Son-in-law of Ronald & Helen Wood), Margaret Wise (Aunt of Charles Busbee), Kaye Pazderski (Friend of Libby Scott), Randy McCormack (Uncle of Emily Sharpe), Benny Hydrick (Friend of Tony Carroll), Libby Scott **Trinity on Laurens:** Bobby Reece, Jean Plunkett **Silver Bluff Grove:** Vicki Bolton



*May the Lord bless them with His healing presence and keep them in true faith. Amen.*



### Offering Option:

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

Donations can be made on the St. James website!

You have the option to give a one-time offering or

set up a recurring donation. In the description box, please specify where you would like your offering to be directed (Current & Benevolence, Capital Fund, Backpack, etc.).



President: Ronald Wood  
Vice-President: Charles Busbee  
Director of Music/Organist: Tonia Busbee

Secretary: Kathy Rogers  
Treasurer: Caroline Andrews

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Rogers  
Newsletter Designer: Tonia Busbee

## Follow us on Facebook!

Share your good news and church events with your church family!

Email the information to: [StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:StJamesNewsInfo@gmail.com)