



## Sixth Sunday After Pentecost July 4, 2021

*The Apostle Paul wrote: "Three different time I begged the Lord to take away the thorn in my flesh. Each time he said, "My gracious favor is all you need. My power works best in your weakness" So now I am glad to boast about my weakness, so that the power of Christ may work through me." (II Corinthians 12:8-9)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Everyone knows about "helping hands." But have you ever thought about all the different things hands can really do?

Hands reach up to paint, clean, and mend the church. They do the same for the homes of those in need nearby. Sometimes, they even build those needed homes. Hands can greet a visitor with a firm handshake. Or they could learn a little sign language to help make a new church member who is deaf feel more welcome.



Hands can dip into pockets to make contributions to the church. They can also dip into buckets with a sponge to swirl across many car windows to raise more funds. Hands can hold a piece of chalk in the classroom or a piece of music in the choir loft. Even those hands that are clenched are helping. They're donating blood during a church-sponsored drive.

Surely two of those hands that help belong to someone you know. Maybe they belong to you!

- Join us this Sunday, Worship Service . . . 9:30 AM Pastor Martins Irbe

Scripture Readings	Ezekiel 21-5
	II Corinthians 12: 1-10
	Mark 6:1-13

- Happening Around St. James  
Children's Sunday School is recessed til August  
Adult Forum is still happening at 10:30. Join us.

Reminder.....coffee is available in the Narthex. We hope you stop and enjoy a cup with your St. James family.

- **St James Website is Up and Running.** Let me encourage everyone to visit our new and updated website. We think it is attractive and informative and we hope it will be used fully. We are keeping it current and fresh and there will be links added for the bulletin, newsletter and this weekend update. Please check it out.
- **Vacation Bible School is Coming at the End of July. . . . The title is Rocky Railway . . .** Jesus Power Pulls us through. July 25<sup>th</sup>-July 27<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Sign up in the narthex or also register online [here](#). I need someone(s) to come up to Bethel to help me load and bring decorations and scenery for our VBS. If you can help please contact me.
- **Healing Service online.** I will be leading and preaching at the Healing Service at Bethel next Wednesday evening. It will be available online at [Bethel's Facebook page](#)

- **School Supplies Needed.** Hard to believe, but school start up is just around the corner. As we have in the past we will be helping students in need with what they need to get off to a great start. We hope to have the supplies in by **July 19<sup>th</sup>**. Here are some of the things they need:

Earbuds & headphones with straight jack Kleenex dry erase markers  
 wide ruled composition Plastic pencil boxes notebooks highlighters 3x5 note cards  
 Regular #2 pencils sticky notes crayons plastic sheet protectors  
 Colored pencils erasers 1/2 or 1 inch binders pens  
 Zipper binders with handles calculators hand sanitizer face mask  
 Canvas zipper pencil pouches spiral notebooks water color paint sets  
 Broad tip washable markers college ruled notebooks  
 Heavy duty plastic folders (without brads) –red, blue, yellow, green  
 Scissors –both for young and older students.

If you have any questions, contact Terry Miller. Thanks ahead of time for the help.

- **Sunday School Volunteers are Needed this fall.** It looks like we will have a preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class, a 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade class and a confirmation class. We are now looking for someone(s) to teach the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade class and someone to help me lead the confirmation group. If interested contact me for more information. What an opportunity to help make a difference in the spiritual formation of our young disciples.
- **Adult Sunday Study continues after church.** Join us as we “Join Jesus on His Mission.” We will be reading and discussing Greg Finke’s engaging book by the same name. I think you will find this to be a fascinating and great way to grow in your witness and discipleship.
- **Mission Opportunity.** Our brothers and sisters in Ethiopia are in the middle of construction of a 3.6 million dollar building that will be on the seminary campus in Addis Ababa. Pastor Doug just got word that Dr Bruk, the Mekane Yesus Seminary President, is in need of a good laptop that can process large graphic files in this construction project. I know Dr Bruk personally and he is a man of faith and integrity and vision. The computer needed is in the \$1,500 price range. Our MBO committee is going to match any gifts up to \$600, dollar for dollar. If you would like to make a special mission gift, it be blessed and a blessing as well.
- **Blood Drive Scheduled** July 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM -2:00 PM Registration now available online [here](#) or in the Narthex. Help share the gift of life.
- **Bible Studies**
  - **No Women’s Bible Study this week. Resume next** Monday at 11 A.M.
  - **Men’s Bible Study Gathers . . .**at 9 A.M. on Tuesdays.
  - **Additional Bible Study Opportunity.** . .included with this weekly update is a bible study for you to use in the comfort of your home.
- **Continue to Hold our Call Committee in Prayer** as we await someone who can be a pastoral candidate. May the Holy Spirit move strong in our midst & in the heart of the person who will take the reins of pastoral leadership of St James. In the near future we will be sharing in a Bible Study on the Biblical understanding on the blessing and use of times of waiting.
- **Greetings from the HMD Council** for the month of July 2021. Include in your prayers
  - There is so much pain and conflict across the Middle East. We pray for leaders throughout the region to turn their hearts towards peace.
  - Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Antioch Lutheran Church in Hoagland Indiana and Pastor David Taylor.
  - Pray for the Life-to-Life Discipleship Team’s effort in developing disciple-making congregations and cultures as part of the NALC’s 2020 Vision.

- Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for HMD seminarian Ben Black.  
Thank you all for your prayers.

I can be contacted at [pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com), or by phone 317 727-0612, or calling the St James office.

**Yours in Christ,**

**Pastor Doug**