



Sixteenth Sunday After
Pentecost
Rally Day
September 12, 2021

“One day some parents brought their little **children** to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But when the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents for bothering him. Then Jesus called for the **children** and said to the disciples, “Let the **children** come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these **children**. I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn’t receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.” (Luke 18:15-17)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I thought with the beginning of the startup of our fall education hour and focus on our Discipleship Ministry, where and how better to start than with prayer. Here’s one I thought was good.

A Prayer of Dedication for Teachers and Other Support Leaders

Eternal God, who is mighty in power but tender in love; we humbly seek to teach the children of this church of your glory and your redemption. Help us to remember your strength, instead of our own weakness. Strengthen us so we may teach in the light of your promises, rather than from the darkness of our frailties. As we gather before you, we dedicate ourselves to the task you have set before us. We pray for a new power, a greater skill, and a deeper love of teaching, so that we may truly reach the hearts of these, your children. Give to us an understanding of these young souls, a comprehension of their needs, and a revelation of your Holy Spirit. Infect us with a joy for our work, and remind us that as we teach, you teach with us. Give us the words to say and the thoughts to share. May all our teaching bring glory to your wonderful name; for we pray in the name of the Great Teacher, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



- **Join us this Sunday, Worship Service . . . 9:30 A.M.** Pastor Doug Gast
 - **Scripture Readings** James 3:1-12
Mark 9:14-29
- **Happening Around St. James**
 - **Children’s Sunday School is back and ready to welcome all our students**
 - **NEW Adult Forum starts Sunday entitled Waiting (see details below). All are welcome.**
 - **Rally Day is THIS SUNDAY, September 12th.** This is our fall kick off Sunday School and Adult Bible Study, with Teacher leader’s installation. We are also celebrating with Anna Marie Turner her confirmation. We welcome one and all. Sign up your children and invite neighbors and friends. We have a good thing going. A disciple is a learner. That’s means it is for all of us. So we ask God’s blessings on this discipleship part of our ministry.
 - **New Adult Bible Study starts this Sunday September 12th lead by Tracy Guffey.** The title is “Waiting . . . a study on patience, hope, and trust.” This is a timely topic that all of us will benefit from. Join us following worship.

- **Darrel's Benefit September 18th.** Shelbyville VFW Post 2695, American Legion Post 70 and American Legion Rider Post 70 are uniting to help Darrel and his family. They are sponsoring and cooking up a delicious Lasagna or Spaghetti dinner with all the fixings. They will be serving dinner from 4:00 pm til 7:00 pm. Cost is \$10 a person. There will be a band playing from 7:00 pm to 10 pm. There will also be a silent auction and a 50/50 drawing. Address is 1622 East State Road 44. Come join the good food and fellowship and support Darrel in process.
- **Grief Share . . .** has returned. This a 13 week course that began August 11 and runs through November 3rd. This is a wonderful program of support for those who have lost a loved one and are struggling through the grief process. Time will be 6:30 PM every Wednesday. Questions? Contact Cindy Gregory.
- **September is St James turn to take responsibility for filling the Community Blessing Box.** The Blessing Box is located at the Greenfield Police Dept. and is sponsored by different churches each month. We are collecting shelf stable products (like cocktail franks, canned meats, cracker filled with cheese or peanut butter. Cereal bars, and Raman noodles. There will be a more detailed list in the September Newsletter. Ahead of time let me express personal appreciation for your generosity and support.
- **Bible Studies**
 - **Women's Bible Study** Mondays 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 Church 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 Here are prayer concerns to lift up to the throne of God as we join in prayer both individually and as a church family:

- Intentional and intensive prayer for Ethiopia during this time of significant political unrest. Pray for the seminary community there which is reeling from a devastating flood that took the lives of 8 people including 2 who were pastors. The flood also destroyed a number of buildings on the campus. The NALC is in a full-communication relationship with the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, the largest Lutheran church in the world.
- Pray for Afghanistan - they need urgent prayer right now, more than ever. Please pray for the small group of believers in the country. Pray for the displaced. Pray for the women. Pray for the sick. Pray that the healthcare system will not collapse. Pray that the country will not be a haven for extremists.
- Pray for the Spirit to empower our North American Lutheran Churches for ministry.
- Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Elizabethtown Kentucky - including Pastor Pam Thorson, Dean of the NALC Heartland Mission District.
- Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for HMD seminarian Ben Black. Ben will be spending the next 4 months in officer training school in South Carolina

Thank you all for your prayers.

I can be contacted at pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com, or by phone 317 727-0612, or calling the St James office.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug