

May 2022 Newsletter



1741 S. State Street Greenfield, IN 46140

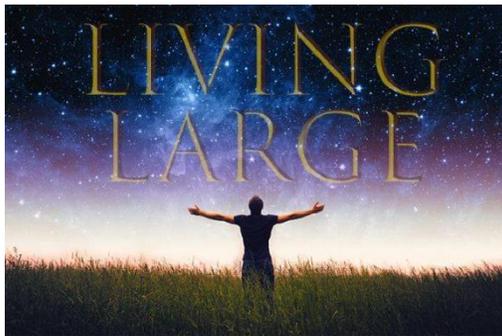
317-462-7340

office@stjamesnalc.org

Website: www.stjamesnalc.org

Our Mission:

*To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships
with Him and others.*



April 24th – June 5th
EASTER SEASON AT ST JAMES
LIVIN' LARGE!!!

“I am the resurrection and the life”

Abundant life

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and
destroy; I have come that they may have life
and have it to the full.: (John 10:10)

This Month's Prayer

Father, St James is looking for Revival. We all have friends or loved ones who do not yet know you. We ask you to pursue and win them, as you have pursued and won us. Show us how to be your hands and feet in bringing them to you.

Amen

Pastor Doug's Musings

May 2022

Do not forget to 
entertain strangers,
FOR BY SO DOING
SOME PEOPLE HAVE
entertained angels
 *without knowing it.*
Hebrews 13:2

I have a Pastor friend who serves in a congregation in central Illinois. In fact his church is just down the street from the state capital in Springfield Illinois. They have a food pantry in the basement of the church which does a booming business helping people have some of what they need for daily bread. As my friend says, "the clientele around the church is far different than the clientele that comes to the church."

One Wednesday evening in Lent, during the middle of the service, a man in ragged clothes walked into the church. He apparently saw that the action was in the sanctuary so that is where he went. Because he was distraught and maybe even a little confused, even perhaps desperate, he walked right down the center aisle of the church announcing that he needed to talk to the Pastor. Every eye in the congregation focused on him. He

disrupted the mood of the moment for all the worshipers there. The ushers followed him up the aisle. As they came forward my friend came down from the chancel to meet him. They sat down in the front row seats. (Remember this is a Lutheran church . . . there is always room down front.) There was a hushed silence in the 100+ people who were sitting there. Pastor Tom and the man talked for what seemed like an eternity...probably only 5 minutes. Then, together with an usher, they went forward to the altar rail and prayed together. Finally Pastor Tom and the usher led the man out of the sanctuary to further respond to his needs. As they left, the organist started to play hymns and the congregation sang. Well, as you can imagine it pretty much disrupted the service but when Pastor Tom returned to apologize for the interruption a member of the church stood up and said, "Thank you Pastor. That was one of the most powerful sermons I have ever seen."

That story touched me because I tried to imagine how I and all of us would have responded if something like that happened here at St James. Would I have had the courage and faith to immediately go down and sit with the man, or would I have told the ushers take him back to my office and I'll deal with him later. Or worse yet, give him a couple of bucks and get rid of him. I often talk about ministry by interruption. It is in the interruptions, not in the things that are on the schedule, that we often have the opportunity to be the church and to do the ministry of care and concern that we are called to carry out.

When we walk into church we may not have raggedy clothes on but whatever we wear carries the stains of sin. The troubles, difficulties and problems of life are burdens we all carry. The daily pressures and stresses tear at the fabric of our very existence. So often we try to maintain the appearance that everything is OK in our house or we have it together in our life. We are afraid to let the world know how undone and how unraveled our personal world has become. When we come to church we are many times more like that street person than we care to admit. We're hurting. We feel so all alone. We wonder if anyone cares. Will they have time for me? Are they gracious enough to accept me even as messed up and as in disorder as my life has become.

During Holy Week, especially on Easter, I noted the number of guests and visitors at our services. Normally they don't walk down the main aisle asking for help. They slip in the back. They stand off to the side. They sit quietly in the pew trying to look like they know how we operate here. But they, like all of us, are looking for the spirit of welcome and acceptance for them. They pray for a smile, an outstretched hand, an invitation to coffee or study. They hope someone has time and more importantly takes time to just "be with them."

As we move out of the Covid crisis of the last several years, we need to remind ourselves of the power of genuine hospitality. As we do, we will find relationships transformed not only with the stranger

but with those in the body of Christ we already know. Practicing hospitality is nothing less than recognizing the presence of Christ in the person next to you, because through you they will come to know that God loves them and cares for them. The greeters of St James are not just the two people stationed at the door as you walk in, nor is it just the ushers as they invite people into worship. It is each of our jobs together. As you become more hospitable your life will be filled with Christ-like passion and vitality and we'll develop a caring and inviting personality that embodies the love and presence of Christ in word and deed.

Give the gift of life! Join us for St James next Blood Drive Today, from 9:30 am to 2:00pm.

Mark your calendars now and sign up on the sheet out in the narthex to give blood and make a life-giving difference for someone in need.



The St James Administrative Assistant Position has been posted.

If you are interested in the job or have a friend that is interested, please call us in the office at 317-462-7340 between 9A.M. and 1P.M. Monday through Friday.

Ask for Amy or Phil.

MOTHER MAINTENANCE



Many of us take better care of our cars than we do of our mothers - and yet we only expect our cars to last 5 or 6 years, but we expect our mother to last for a lifetime.

Maybe we need a maintenance manual for mothers so we would know how to take care of them, at least as well as we do for our automobiles.

Here are some items that might be included in such a manual:

Engine: A mother's engine is one of the most dependable kinds you can find. She can reach top speed from a prone position at a single cry from a sleeping child. But regular breaks are needed to keep up that peak performance. Mothers need a hot bath and a nap every 100 miles, a babysitter and a night out every 10,000 miles.

Battery: A mother's batteries should be recharged regularly. Handmade items, notes, unexpected hugs

and kisses, and frequent “I Love You’s” will do very well.

Carburetor: When a mother’s carburetor floods, it should be treated immediately with Kleenex and a soft shoulder.

Brakes: See that she uses her brakes to slow down often and come to a full stop occasionally.

Fuel: Most mothers can run indefinitely on coffee, leftovers, and salads, but an occasional dinner for two at a nice restaurant will really add to her efficiency.

Chassis: Mothers function best when their bodies are properly maintained. Regular exercise should be encouraged and provided for as necessary. A change in hairdo or make-up in Spring and Fall are also helpful. If you notice the chassis begins to sag, immediately start a program of walking, jogging, swimming or bike riding. These are most effective when done with fathers.

Tune-ups: Mothers need regular tune-ups. Compliments are both the cheapest and most effective way to keep a mother purring contentedly.

If these instructions are followed, the average mother should last a lifetime and give good service and constant love to those who need her most.

- William E. Keller



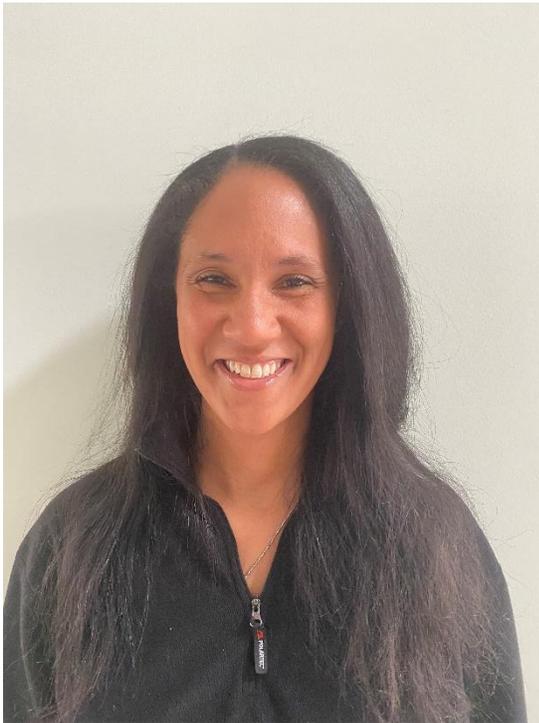
CONFIRMATION CAMP

We will be joining St John’s Lutheran Lake Township and Bethel Lutheran, Noblesville, at Lake Luther in Angola, Indiana, on June 5-12. What a great opportunity to grow in faith under our own NALC pastors, while creating friendships with other mission

district youth. Beautiful setting. Experiential learning. And a ton of fun. The cost is \$395 per youth. Financial assistance is available if needed.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Meet Your St. James Council Member



Jessie Lynn Stearns is a new member of the Council – her term runs through June 2025. She is the Council Liaison and Chair of the Technology Committee and a member of the Mutual Ministry Committee.

Her family members include daughters Oliva, Kearsten, Sophia and Amelia and sons Eli and Luke plus furry family members Luna Bell (an aussiedoodle) and two cats Blueberry and Bean.

Jessie was born in Indianapolis and raised in Greenfield, and she has been a member of St. James for about thirty-three years.

Jessie came to St James as a little child and for a few years she and her family left only to come back because St. James is full of warm hearts. People who make you feel like you have another family and will help you continue to grow with Christ.

In her free time, she enjoys being in the outdoors hiking, kayaking and just being with her kids having fun. She also enjoys doing crafts and repurposing furniture.

She visits gardening websites often and other sites when she needs to have an answer to a question or needs to know how to fix something. She wishes she knew more about mental health.

The most interesting places Jessie has been include the Badlands and the Grand Canyon. They are some of the mostly beautiful lands she has seen so far. Every time she travels, she takes in the beauty our Lord has created.

The three most interesting facts about Jessie are: 1) She's pretty handy when it comes to fixing things, 2) she loves to paint the inside of houses – it brings her peace and 3) she also loves gardening and just doing things in the outdoors in general.

She can't narrow it down to just one day - but the best days on the calendar are her kid's birthdays. They have made her the woman she is today. They show her so much strength and growth it warms her heart each and every day.

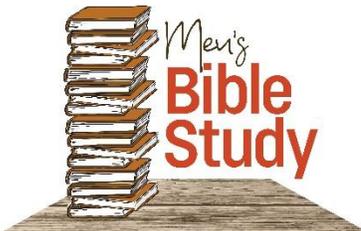


May 30, 2022

Memorial Day was first known as Decoration Day, because it was the day family members decorated the graves of loved ones. Now Memorial Day commemorates all the men and women who have died while serving in the United States military. Memorial Day dates back to the Civil War and honored all the soldiers who had died during that war. As we honor and remember those who have died, may we also give thanks for the sacrifice of so many that we might enjoy the freedoms that bless our country and each of our lives.

There is a country song that has the words, "All gave some, and some gave all." Take some time on Memorial Day to be quiet and reflect especially on the some that gave all.

Bits and Pieces

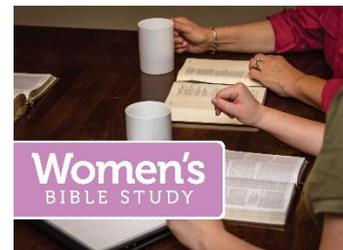


MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study is meeting Tuesday's at 9 a.m.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study is meeting Monday's at 11:00 a.m.





ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School is now meeting.
Questions, please contact Joyce Kissell.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

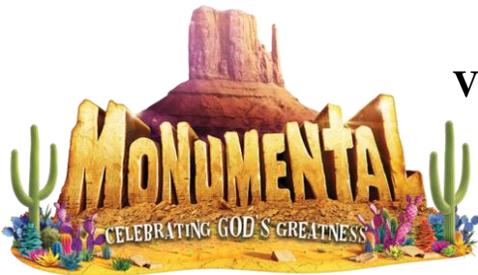
Children's Sunday School is meeting after the
worship service.



DAYLIGHTERS

Daylighters are meeting the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of
the month at 1pm.

Questions, please contact June Gries



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

is quickly approaching.

Dates will be Thursdays. June 16th through July 21st 06:00 pm
— 07:45 pm

Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead.

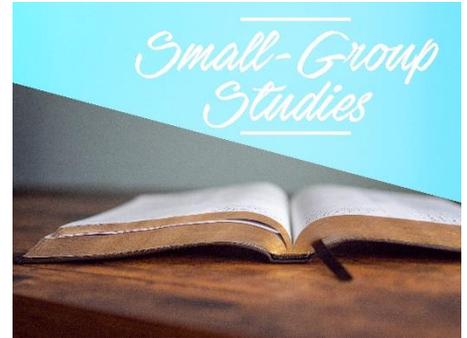
NAME TAGS

If you are needing a new name tag,
please contact the office and we have one ordered for you.

SOUTHERN COMFORT CHRIST CARE GROUP

Southern Comfort Christ Care group is now meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Joyce Kissell at 317.512.9561 if interested in the group.



ALTAR FLOWERS

As of April 1st the price of Altar flower has increased to \$30.00 a vase.

Altar flowers are funded by special or sponsorship through the flower fund. Special contributions for the fund can be placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Sponsors can sign up on the flower chart outside of the office.



NEED PRAISE BAND MEMBERS

Our praise team is small, but mighty! We do have room for more musicians, though. If you are interested in adding to the mix, we could use guitar, bass, drums, or if you're an experienced wind instrument player we'd love to have you! Brother Joe.

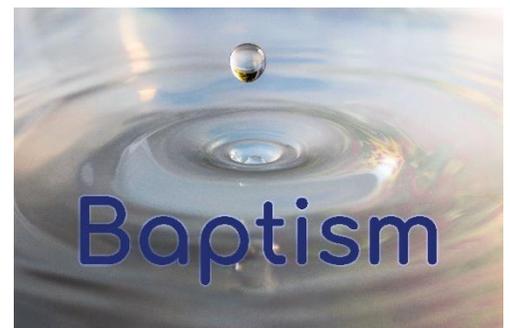


BAPTISM AND FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

The Baptism class will prepare parents or individuals for the Holy Sacrament of Baptism.

The First Communion class is for any 4th or 5th grade students or adults who are baptized and wish to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

If you are interested in these classes or would like more information, please note that on your connection card, call the office or call Pastor Doug directly at 317-727-0612.





Discovery Class for New Members

Participants will discover a deeper understanding and appreciation for Lutheran theology and heritage and have a little fun as you get to know our church and its mission and varieties of ministries.

If you are interested in this class or would like more information, please note that on your connection card, call the office or call Pastor Doug directly at 317-727-0612.



St. James Lutheran Church

**North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
News**

Checkout the latest NALC Newsletter [NALC News](#)

NALC Heartland Mission District Prayer Request – May 2022

Greetings from the HMD Council for the Easter season and the month of May 2022. Please include the following this month in your prayers of the church during worship, through your Churches other prayer ministries and in your own personal prayers:

- Continue to pray for humanitarian efforts underway in Ukraine, for the people of Ukraine and for everyone who is assisting the people of Ukraine.
- Pray for blessings for the new Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Bethany Lutheran Church in LaPorte Indiana and Pastor Dennis Meyer.
- Continue to pray that the Holy Spirit guides the call processes at First United Lutheran Church in Hammond Indiana, Adams Lutheran in Batesville and Antioch Lutheran Church in Hoagland Indiana.
- Pray for all who have life threatening, degenerative or mental illnesses. Pray that individuals and their loved ones facing these illnesses remember that there is more to life than the affliction they are facing. Pray that God gives them strength and comfort and healing.
- Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for seminarian Ben Black.

Thank you all for your prayers.



You can say it too little but I don't think you can say it too much. Again we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Wendy England for her faithful, dedicated and loving service to our St James family. Truly she was a blessing to everyone who worked with her and all who came by the church office. We wish her all the best in her new job venture.

And at the same moment we want to express our appreciation to Amy Soberalski and Phil Miller who have stepped up and stepped in to fill our office duties. They are a blessing beyond measure. Thank you. Phil will be in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Amy will be in the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For both office hours will be from 9 AM to 1 PM. We are actively pursuing looking for an Administrative Assistant. Pray the Lord will send the right person with the right skills and the right personality

Do You Have a Family Member or Friend Serving in the Military?

If you do – please tell us!



We are refreshing our Military Tribute bulletin board that is located to the right of the main doors to the sanctuary and we want to have everyone listed!

We will also stay in touch with your service members(s) and provide prayers and support.

We need the following for each service member:

Picture (if possible)

Name

Rank

Address

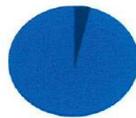
Your Name(s)

Relationship to you (nephew, niece, husband, wife, cousin, friend, etc.)

Send the information to office@stjamesnalc.org or drop it off at the office!

WHAT IS PTSD?

Posttraumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, is a mental health concern that some people develop after they see or experience a traumatic event.



7 to 8%
of the U.S. population will have PTSD at some point in their lives.



What it's like to have PTSD may be different for everyone. There are four types of PTSD symptoms.



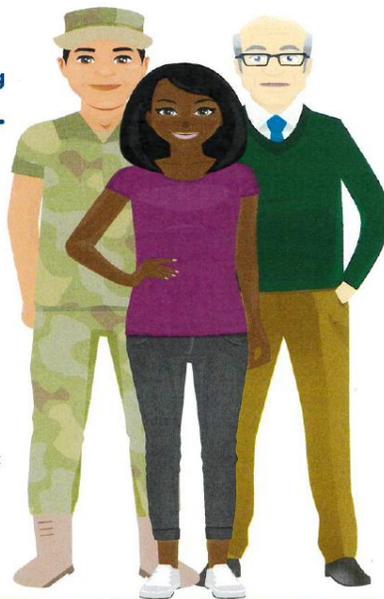
Reliving or re-experiencing the event

- Nightmares
- Flashbacks
- Triggers



Hyperarousal or being on guard

- Being jittery or overly alert
- Difficulty sleeping or concentrating
- Feeling angry or irritable



Avoidance

- Avoiding crowds
- Avoiding certain smells, sights, or sounds
- Avoiding talking or thinking about the event



Negative changes in beliefs and feelings

- Losing interest in things you used to enjoy
- Feeling guilty or ashamed
- Unable to trust others

Do you have PTSD Symptoms?

- Hear Veterans share their experiences with PTSD and PTSD treatment at **AboutFace**
- Learn about and compare effective treatment options using the **PTSD Treatment Decision Aid**
- Explore the National Center for PTSD website for information, videos, and tools to help manage PTSD: www.ptsd.va.gov

National Center for
PTSD
POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Let's Talk About it

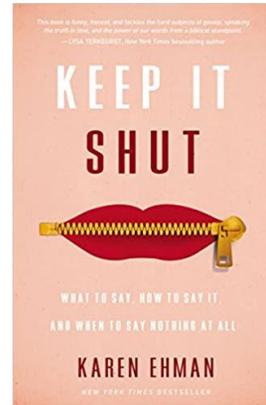
We are not connected with the National Center for PTSD or Veterans Affairs

St James Lutheran Church
1741 S State St (State Rd 9)
Greenfield IN 46140

2nd Tuesday of each month
Starting January of 2022
6:30 pm to 8 pm
A light meal provided at 6:30

For Vets, First Responders, Healthcare and Domestic Abuse Trauma

A new Bible Study, *Keep It Shut*, is now meeting Thursday evenings at 6pm. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Guffey



Grief Share

You are invited to join our 13-week sharing group -- **April 20 through July 13th**. 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 6:30-8:30 PM every Wednesday. Questions? Contact Cindy Gregory.



Blood Drive St. James Lutheran Church

Gathering Area
1741 S. State St.
Greenfield

**Sunday, May 1, 2022
9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



Click [here](#) to register online



It's time to be thinking about your **Via de Cristo Weekend**.
No one has ever come back disappointed.

What is Via de Cristo?

Via de Cristo is a Spanish term meaning "Way of Christ." It is a three-day leadership experience with a New Testament look at Christianity as a lifestyle. Via de Cristo is a highly structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, through them, their families, churches and the environment in which they live and work. It is a united effort of laity and clergy to aid congregations **in developing Christian leaders** to more effectively serve Christ in the church.

Think of it as Vacation Bible School for Adults!

Go to <https://inkyvdc.org/> for more information

Women's Weekends

Womens: 83
November 10-13, 2022
Jennifer Hinton
Camp Lakeview,
Seymour IN.
[Map](#) [Covid Guidelines](#)

Men's Weekends

Mens: 82
October 20-23, 2022
Rector: Doug Mueller
Camp Lakeview,
Seymour IN.
[Map](#) [Covid Guidelines](#)

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES INDIANA-KENTUCKY

SUMMER 2022



EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT CAMP



SCAN QR CODE TO
REGISTER ONLINE



For more information to register online please scan the QR code, or

<http://lomik.org/>

If you know someone in need of help, contact Phil Miller or Terry Clark

Worship Leaders & Congregational Care Schedule



May 1st – Pastor Martins Irbe

May 8th – Pastor Doug Gast

May 15th – Joe Rudy

May 22nd – Mary Jo Mikulski

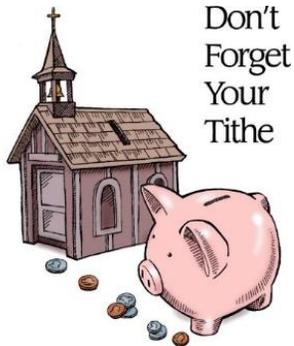
May 29th – Ben Black

Pastor Doug will be with us 3 days a week albeit one will be remote and is available the rest of the week except for one week each month.

Pastor Doug can be reached at (317) 727-0612 (mobile), pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com or by calling or emailing the church office.

During the month he is off Pastor Martins Irbe and Joyce Kissell has agreed to be the point of contact for any Pastoral Care needs that are needed.

Pastor Martins can be reached by calling or emailing the church office or by calling him at (317) 379-7526 and Joyce Kissell at (317) 512-9561.



Don't
Forget
Your
Tithe

Reminder...

Please continue your generous support for this ministry by clicking the "giving" tab on the St. James website at <http://www.stjamesnalc.org/> or send your contribution to the church at 1741 S. State Street, Greenfield, IN 46140.



Check out the REWARDS table . .

Give a gift that gives back! Purchase gift cards from the Rewards Table in the Narthex and St. James receives a percentage back at no extra cost to you. You can give the cards themselves as gifts or use them to purchase that special item for those you love. We keep a variety in stock, but if we don't have what you need, we can likely order it from our extensive list of suppliers. Questions? See Cindy Gregory.



Happy Birthday....

Debbie Mowrey	May 2
Ronald Kissell	May 13
Steve Brooks	May 15
Liz Clark	May 24
Cody Guffey	May 26
Linda Hess	May 26

Happy Anniversary....

Carol and Joe Hudson	May 6	50 years
Ronald and Joyce Kissell	May 13	55 years



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Blood Drive 9:30 AM In-Person & Live Stream Worship Service 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Coffee with Council	2 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study 1:30 PM Tri-Kapa Meeting	3 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study	4 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Daylighters Small Group 6:30 PM Griefshare 7:00 PM Choir Practice	5 6:00 PM Keep It Shut Bible Study	6	7
8 9:30 AM In-Person & Live Stream Worship Service 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 1:30 PM Linda Petty-4 H	9 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study	10 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM PTSD Meeting	11 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:30 AM Worship Committee Meeting 1:00 PM Prayer and Care Committee 5:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Griefshare 7:00 PM Choir Practice	12 7:00 PM Southern Comfort Christ Care	13	14
15 9:30 AM In-Person & Live Stream Worship Service 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School	16 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study	17 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Church Council	18 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Daylighters Small Group 6:30 PM Griefshare 7:00 PM Choir Practice	19	20 Wedding	21
22 9:30 AM In-Person & Live Stream Worship Service 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School	23 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study	24 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Gods Embrace Game Night				

Did you know that you could access this from your home computer?
 Go to <http://stjamesnalc.org/> and look for "CALENDAR" in the dark blue bar.

Life at St. James in Pictures



**Easter Service –
Sunday, April 17, 2022**



Easter Breakfast – Sunday, April 17, 2022



Welcome Meal for Pastor Blue's Visit – March 10, 2022



Women's Bible Study Farewell to Wendy – Monday, April 11, 2022

COUNCIL CONTACTS

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(Administrative Assistant)
317-462-7340 or office@stjamesnalc.org