

FEBRUARY  
2024

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# SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Lent 2024 In-Person and Online

**Ash Wednesday—February 14 at 12noon and 7pm**

**Lent Wednesdays—February 21, 28, March 8, 13, 20**

- Pre School – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Education 6:00 – 6:50pm
- Soup Supper at 6:15pm
- Holden Evening Prayer at 7pm  
(Confirmation Students – Attend Holden Evening Prayer)

**Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 7pm**

**Good Friday—March 29 at 7pm**

*The Passion according to Saint Mark*

**Holy Saturday—March 30 at 5pm**

**Easter Sunday—March 31 at 9:30am**



# Christian Education

## Important February Dates:

- 7- CAMP NIGHT! Britt from Lutheran Lakeside camp will be here to lead camp-style games and activities, as well as answer any questions you may have about a week at Bible camp.
- 14- Ash Wednesday: NO Education for Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade students. Confirmation students: Please attend Ash Wednesday worship at 7 p.m.
- 21- First Lent Soup Supper! **Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade** students will meet from 6-6:50. **Confirmation** will attend Holden Evening Prayer and meet with Pastor and Rebecca briefly after the service (7-8).

## The Christian Education Team has set two big goals for 2024:

1. Get more adults involved on Wednesday evenings:
  - Do you have a talent to share?
  - Can you set out food for supper?
  - Would you like to be a dinner time or classroom buddy?
  - Would you like to join the Confirmation students as we study the Gospel of Mark?
2. Offer more social and service activities for our very engaged middle school students.
  - Could you help at a service event?
  - Would you like to join at a game/craft/movie afternoon?
  - Would you like to participate in a book club?

We are looking to offer a variety of activities. **Expressing an interest does not mean a years-long commitment; if you could share one afternoon or Wednesday evening this year, we think you will find it incredibly rewarding!** Contact any member of the Christian Education team: Wendy Aanonson, Rebecca Allison (staff), Liz Anderson, Lori Burgess (Council liaison), Amy DoBraska, Kristin Rodenberg, Debby Wylie.

## Easter Bake Sale

Let Saint James do the baking for your Easter meal! We are holding our annual bake sale to raise money for camp scholarships. Lots of delicious options are available for a free-will offering at both the Saturday and Sunday Easter services.

***If you are interested in donating baked goods to the sale, please contact Rebecca.***

# Book Studies

## *The 2024 All Iowa Reads Book is: The Seed Keeper by Diane Wilson*

Rosalie Iron Wing has grown up in the woods with her father, Ray, a former science teacher who tells her stories of plants, of the stars, of the origins of the Dakhóta people. Until, one morning, Ray doesn't return from checking his traps. Told she has no family, Rosalie is sent to live with a foster family in nearby Mankato—where the reserved, bookish teenager meets rebellious Gaby Makespeace, in a friendship that transcends the damaged legacies they've inherited.

On a winter's day many years later, Rosalie returns to her childhood home. A widow and mother, she has spent the previous two decades on her white husband's farm, finding solace in her garden even as the farm is threatened first by drought and then by a predatory chemical company. Now, grieving, Rosalie begins to confront the past, on a search for family, identity, and a community where she can finally belong. In the process, she learns what it means to be descended from women with souls of iron — women who have protected their families, their traditions, and a precious cache of seeds through generations of hardship and loss, through war and the insidious trauma of boarding schools.

A haunting novel spanning several generations, *The Seed Keeper* follows a Dakota family's struggle to preserve their way of life, and their sacrifices to protect what matters most.

**Saint James Friends... let's discuss this book Sunday, February 26 at 11am!**

## *The World, The Flesh, and the Devil book study with Deacon Larry*

When I was growing up, cereal boxes would have puzzles on the back which could only be solved with the help of a “decoder ring” inside the box (and below the cereal.) Sometimes, when we read the words of Jesus or Paul in his letters, the ideas seem so strange, upside down, or mysterious that we either dismiss them or get them very wrong. Among those words are “the world, the flesh, and the devil.”

Unfortunately, we often get the meanings that were intended very wrong.

Fortunately, Fr. Richard Rohr has given us a “decoder ring” of sorts in his book, *What Do We Do with Evil? The World, The Flesh, and The Devil*.

Anyone who would like to understand how the gospel of Jesus Christ speaks meaningful to real-world problems and would like to untangle some textual mysteries in our Bible, Deacon Larry is offering a book study during Lent. The book is short: only 96 pages with short chapters. Join us Sundays in March (3, 10, 17, 24) at 11:00am. If you are interested in participating, you may sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B48A4AD29A75-47656153-book>

Books will be ordered based on your sign up.

# Easter Flowers

If you would like to order Easter flowers to decorate the altar for Easter, please let Linda [steward@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:steward@stjamesjohnston.org) or 515-276-0134 know by Monday, March 11.



Easter Lily	(5-9 blooms)	\$12.60
Rieger Begonias	4.5"	\$8.23
Rieger Begonias	6"	\$14.99
Hyacinth	6"	\$10.99
Hydrangia	6"	\$15.99
Daffodil	6"	\$10.99
Tulip	6"	\$10.99
Mum	6.5"	\$11.99

Please include in your order the person(s) you would like the flowers to be in memory or honor of. Thank you!

# Lent 2024: Raise the Roof!!!

Our friends in Tanzania are putting a roof on their new church building.

They need 10 more trusses, which cost about \$1,000 each.

Can we raise \$10,000 between February 14 and March 31???



- The Sunday School Children will be doing a loose change collection beginning February 14.
- Other groups at Saint James are being invited to sponsor a truss... stay tuned.
- Individuals can give a truss in memory or honor of someone: Grandpa, Uncle Fred, Elvis, etc.