

MAY 2024

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SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Summer Fun

Come and be a part of our summer fun!

- * **Sunday, June 1, we are kicking off summer with a block party.** We will have Worship at 5:00pm and fellowship, barbecue and music from 6:00-8:00pm. Saint James will provide the burgers and hot dogs and we ask you to bring your friends and a salad or dessert to share. Sign up at: [Saint James Lutheran Church: Block Party \(signupgenius.com\)](http://SaintJamesLutheranChurch:BlockParty(signupgenius.com))
- * **Sunday, June 9,** As a reconciling congregation in Christ, we will be providing an opportunity for our members and visitors to attend the Capital City Pride Worship service. In addition to those attending the downtown service, the ecumenical service from the Pride event will be live-streamed at 10am to Saint James in lieu of our normal service. A Supply Pastor will be available to provide the sacrament of Holy Communion.
 - o We will depart Saint James at 9:00 and carpool downtown. Please sign up to be a rider or driver at: [Saint James Lutheran Church: June Pride Worship \(signupgenius.com\)](http://SaintJamesLutheranChurch:JunePrideWorship(signupgenius.com))
 - o The Saturday 5pm service will continue as usual at Saint James.



Youth Camp Night

ANYONE attending Lutheran Lakeside Summer 2024 are invited to join us for a night to prepare for the wonderful week at camp! Join us on WEDNESDAY 05/22/2024 from 6-7pm at Saint James for games, shirt design, and fellowship! Any questions, ask Kristin Rodenberg!



May Youth Group Nights

May 1st @ 7pm: We will finish the Heaven and Hell discussion and brainstorm for the Summer.

May 8th @ 7pm: Last regular night for the school year. We will walk to Van Dee's for Ice Cream.

May 22nd @ 7pm: Time to paint the Youth Room! Join us in your painting clothes.

Youth Group on
5/1 and 5/8 is for
9th-12th graders.

Youth Group on
5/22 is for those
finishing 8th-12th.



Finance & Stewardship

MAY 1, 2024, St. James Financial Update

<u>Through March 2024:</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Operating Fund Contributions	\$140,405	\$150,285
Operating Fund Expenses	\$108,742	\$111,773
Capital Fund Balance March 1, 2024:		\$117,082
+ March contributions & interest		\$4,076
- Mortgage payment		\$ 10,273
Capital Fund balance April 1, 2024,		\$110,885

No significant changes to other Designated or Endowment Funds. (Year To Date, Our contributions far exceed our expenses, but contributions are less than what we have budgeted. This will continue to be monitored.)

Support & Learning Opportunity

Hi everyone! It's Sophie Ruddy live from Evanston, IL. Since you have all been such a big part of my faith, I wanted to share with you a small piece of how I've continued to nurture it at college this year at Lutheran Campus Ministry. I'll be speaking on one of the three student panels and performing some talent! If you're at all interested, see the link below to register for the event livestream.

Feel free to reach out to me at sophieruddy2027@u.northwestern.edu if you have any questions! Sending love to St. James as always!
<https://app.espace.cool/PublicEventRegistration/EventDetails?ministryId=16603&scheduleId=5478774&occurrenceId=69750158>

Gratitude

Debby and I recently traveled to South Dakota and attended Sunday Worship Service at the church we were married in almost 45 years ago. A trip like that reminds us to be grateful for our life together and our time with family and friends.



As it so happened, the Pastor's sermon centered upon the term GRATITUDE. His children's sermon asked the kids to list ten things for which they were grateful. The gospel lesson was about Jesus healing the ten people with leprosy, and the one who returned to show his gratitude.

I realized I am grateful for numerous things, but I frequently take my blessings for granted. We are reminded of our blessings every time a St. James Staff leads us in prayer because they always start, "DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF THIS DAY..."

Gratitude can be shown multiple ways: affection to our family, friends, and others; a generous tip to a server; using your time and skills to help others; or other gestures. I ask you to consider how you can show your gratitude for God's Gifts by your Stewardship contributions of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

The Pastor ended his sermon by telling a short story of a pastor friend. Whenever he is asked the question, "How are you?" his response is "GRATEFUL." Perhaps we should answer that question the same way.

In Your Service, Jerry Wylie, Treasurer and Stewardship Team Chairperson

Community Garden

It's time to get our hands in the soil again! Last year, the Saint James garden contributed several hundred pounds of produce to Johnston Partnership. If you would like to get involved in helping with any aspect of the garden/produce delivery, or would like to learn more about our garden, please contact Rebecca.

Join us for our upcoming "planting parties":

- 5/5 and 5/12 after worship (wear appropriate clothing)
- 5/15 from 6-8 p.m.

Christian Education

Creation Celebration VBS!

- June 17-20, 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- St. Paul Presbyterian Church, 6426 Merle Hay Road., Johnston
- Preschool-5th Grades

Register here: <https://forms.gle/vvoXTtgJYCKaAuQZ>



Or scan the QR code:

Volunteers appreciated:

- Preschool room
- Group guides (lead kids to each activity)
- Center leader (lead an activity/craft/game)
- VBS work nights:
 - May 22 & 29, evening time TBD
- VBS decorate:
 - June 15, 9:00 a.m.

It is not necessary to be available the whole week. We would love to have you join us any day you can. Grades 6-adult welcome to volunteer; please contact Rebecca if you would like to participate in this fun week (education@stjamesjohnston.org).

Sign up to donate supplies here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044AA4AF22A7F58-49270557-vbssupplies#/>

Please have VBS supplies to church by May 20; thank you for helping create a fun and memorable week!

Senior Recognition, Sunday May 19



NATALIE AANONSON will graduate from Bondurant-Farrar High School. She earned her CNA certification this spring and plans to continue studying nursing and Spanish at Des



JOSEPH TATE HARKEN will graduate from Johnston High School. While attending Johnston, Joe played baseball for the Dragons. He plans to attend Kirkwood Community College in the fall. Joe's parents are Jen Plueger Harken and Scott

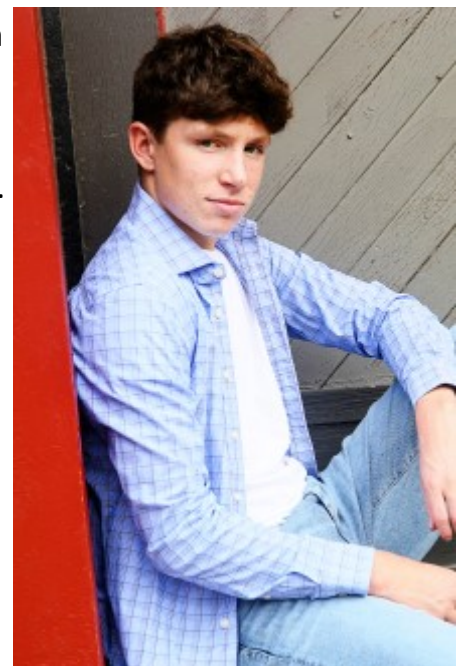


TAYLOR MULLIGAN is graduating from Urbandale High School and will attend the University of South Dakota where she will be enrolled in the honors program, majoring in Sports Administration and minoring in Spanish. Taylor will also be



JACK RUDDY will graduate from Johnston High School and plans to attend Iowa State University where he will major in business.

AUNA LILLIAN REINES-SCHMIDT will be graduating from Martensdale St. Marys High School. She is planning on attending Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD, majoring in Marketing. Auna will also be joining the Women's Acro &



T-Shirt Orders

And...back by your request, we are placing another order of the t-shirts (pictured) the youth sold in 2022. We invite you to wear this t-shirt (or one you already purchased) to our Block Party on June 1!

You can pick from 5 colors and order your t-shirt from May 1-14 at our online store:

<https://www.brokenarrowwearstore.com/products/saintjames>

(Linda will pick up and distribute at Saint James to save the shipping expense.)

Any proceeds from these t-shirts will support our Youth going to the National Youth Gathering in July! Thank You!

FRONT



BACK



COLORS TO CHOOSE FROM

These shirts are a lighter weight than the ones sold in 2022.
Perfect for summer activities!