

NOVEMBER
2022

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5665 Merle Hay Road

P.O. Box 62

Johnston, IA 50131

steward@stjamesjohnston.org

www.stjamesjohnston.org

515.276.0134

SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



All are welcome to the Johnston Community ecumenical thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 20th, at Saint James!

5:15—6:00 pm	Rehearsal for anyone who wants to be part of the community choir who will lead music for this Worship service!
6:00—7:00 pm	Soup Supper
7:00 pm	Worship Service

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1:

Holden Evening Prayer



During Advent again this year, Saint James will offer a meditative service of sung prayer, scripture reading, and silence structured around Marty Haugen's beloved *Holden Evening Prayer*. Come, join us on Wednesdays (November 30 & December 7, 14, 21).

This is an opportunity to step back from the busyness, noise, and rush the season often imposes on us.

Schedule will be:

- 6:00pm Soup Supper with free-will offering
- 6:45pm Holden Evening Prayer (Confirmation students are expected to attend this service instead of having class during Advent.)
- 7:15pm Choir Practice and High School Youth Group

Join us as we move deeper into our watching and waiting for God's unfolding work in our lives.

Christmas Services



Ivuga Partnership

Dispensary

Celebrating 20 Years of Partnership with Ivuga Parish: "Yesu Asifiwe: Praise the Lord"

On October 30, 2002, St. James officially began a partnership with the Ivuga Parish in the Pare Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Over those 20 years, we have prayed for each other, kept in communication about what each of our congregations have been up to, and back in 2008, a group from St. James went to visit. **On November 13th, we'll have special music and treats to celebrate our partnership, you won't want to miss it!**



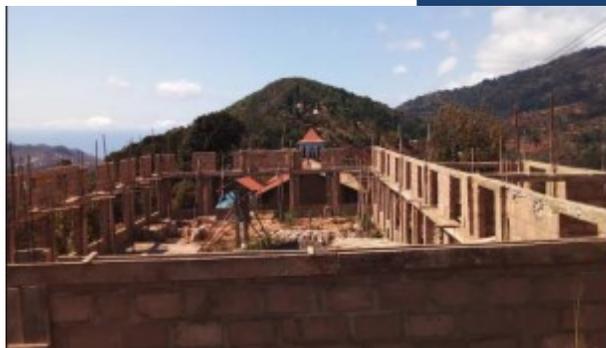
Are you called to visit Ivuga?

We are beginning to plan a second trip to visit Ivuga in July of 2023. The goal would be to engage in fellowship and service projects with our friends in Christ. If you have any interest in joining this group of travelers, please contact Isaac Rodenberg at isaac.rodenberg@gmail.com by the end of November. They are very excited to welcome us to their community and look forward to our visit.

New church building, with old church building in background

St. James' support of Ivuga's ministries

For years, we have collected 5th Sunday offerings and a few times a year, wired the money to Ivuga. It has mainly supported their ability to provide motorbikes for transportation for their staff as they travel from sub-parish to sub-parish. Pr. Mhale has informed me that they are greatly appreciative of this gift as it helps them in their ministry. We have also sent them Christmas Cards for many years. We plan to have a 'loose offering' on Ivuga Sunday, November 13th in place of our 5th Sunday in October to help us celebrate our continued partnership. In addition to aiding us in sending money for motorbikes, we plan to utilize some of those funds to support the visitors to Ivuga in being able to purchase items to support our service projects while we are in Ivuga.



Respectfully submitted by Isaac Rodenberg

Christian Education

Join us on December 11 for the Sunday School Christmas Program; you won't want to miss this!

- Gingerbread village during fellowship time after worship
- Special music during fellowship
- Program begins at 10:30 in the Sanctuary

Would you like to help with the program? We would greatly appreciate the following:

- Supervise 3rd-5th grade skit practice
- Supervise creation of LEGO props
- Help with learning music

Rehearsals will be Wednesdays in November from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Sunday Fun:

October 30: Reformation Sunday—Fun with Martin Luther

November 13: Ivuga Sunday—Let's learn about our friends in Tanzania!

December 4: Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal

December 18: Christmas Party!

Congratulations! The following 9th Graders were confirmed on October 30:

Korben Henry
Luke Lauridsen
Abby Mulligan
Marshall Nesheim
Will Pederson
Marlene Rohlf

Affirmation of Baptism

"We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world."

Financial Update

We will be including monthly updates of our General Operating Fund in our newsletter. This fund is used for the general offerings, benevolence and expenses of the church that are approved at our annual meeting. The other funds are designated for specific uses; like the building fund, which accounts for the donations and expenses for the existing mortgage.

General Operating Fund 9/30/22 Recap:

- Normal monthly expenses.
- \$19,500 in offering, a slight increase from September 2021 of \$17,800.
- Balance of \$30,800, compared to \$26,800 last year at this time.
- Surplus of \$9,800 through September. Any surplus up to \$6k would most likely go to reserve fund budget shortfall to replenish money used for sound system. Balance of reserve fund (when expenses exceed income) is \$77,400.

Category	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Difference
Income	\$285,165	\$294,996	\$9,831 Under budget
Expenses	\$275,649	\$297,793	\$22,144 Under budget

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8



2023 Stewardship Campaign

Please, return your estimate of giving cards on or before November 6th
You can place it in the lock box by the entrance table.
Join Us for a Celebratory Brunch, Sunday November 6, following Worship

Remember, your pledge card helps the council plan our mission and ministry for the coming year. This is one way in which you participate in God's work of blessing. We know that circumstances sometimes change, so make your best estimate and if you need to change that estimate sometime later, call Linda and have it adjusted. It's that simple.

For the blessing that you have been and will be, we thank you and God!

It is with a spirit of gratitude that we offer our pledges for the coming year. For all the ways we have been blessed and for all the ways in which God has used us to be a blessing, we respond with gratitude.

Giving Tree



Our Giving Tree will be up November 19—December 4! Stop by and pick up ornaments with items to purchase that will be donated to:

- ♥ Trinity Center at Luther Park (red ornaments)
- ♥ ChildServe (green ornaments)
- ♥ Johnston Partnership (yellow ornaments)

Please bring new, unwrapped items to Saint James and put them under the tree by Sunday, December 4.

Thank you for your generosity in making Christmas joyful for others!

Contact Lynette Allison (l.allison@mchsi.com) or Rebecca Allison (education@stjamesjohnston.org) if you have questions!

High School Youth

Youth (grades 9-12) meet every Wednesday Night! Fun, snacks, and fellowship! Come and join us and bring a friend!

Youth events this month:

- November 2—Youth Group
- November 9—Youth Group
- November 16—Youth Group
- November 23—NO YOUTH GROUP
- November 27—Youth night at the church! Come eat pizza, play games and work on service projects while watching Harry Potter! We will kick off the night at 6pm! Sign up in your email!
- November 30—Youth Group

All Saints Sunday

We will celebrate All Saints on Sunday, November 6.

Please bring a picture to share of your loved ones who have died. We will use the photos for a church display in Worship as we rejoice in the lives of those whom God has drawn into his eternal embrace.



In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today’s gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior’s body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God’s glory.

Bible Studies at Saint James

You’re invited to one of our Weekly Bible Studies at Saint James. We are currently discussing [The Book of Exodus](#)

Sunday at 10:15am

Monday at 9:00am

Tuesday at 9:00am (on Zoom)



Poinsettia Orders due 11/18

If you would like to order a poinsettia(s) in honor or memory of a loved one for Christmas Eve services, fill out the information below, and make checks payable to Saint James with "poinsettia" on memo line.

- _____ 1 plant branch 4.5" pot with 3-5 blooms **\$5.50** \$ _____
- _____ 1 plant branch 6.5" pot with 5-9 blooms **\$11.25** \$ _____
- _____ 3 plant branch 8.0" pot with 12-15 blooms **\$21.75** \$ _____
- _____ Hanging Garden 10" with 25-30 blooms **\$41.25** \$ _____

_____ Preferred color (white, red, pink or other)

_____ I will purchase from another source and deliver it to the church prior to 4 PM Christmas Eve service. Poinsettias may be taken home after the 6 PM service.

Poinsettia is given to the Glory of God in memory/honor (**please circle one**) of:

_____ by: (Your Name) _____

PLEASE, RETURN FORM IN OFFERING PLATE OR TO CHURCH OFFICE.

