

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEW VBS Snacks Needed!** Sign up here to donate snacks (or money) for VBS:  
[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044AA4AF22A7F58-64557243-vbssnacks#/  
The kids and volunteers of VBS thank you!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044AA4AF22A7F58-64557243-vbssnacks#/)

**NEW Backpack Buddies is Back!** As the need for assistance in our community grows, we have committed to helping Johnston Partnership fill 50 backpacks for Summit Middle School this year. We invite you to either buy some of the supplies listed or fill a backpack and bring it back to church in the designated bins. Each backpack contains:

- 5 Blue or Black Pens
- 12 #2 Pencils
- 1 Package of Wide Ruled Loose-Leaf Paper
- 2 Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- 4 Folders
- 1 Pair of Earbuds
- 1 Highlighter
- 1 Dry Erase Marker
- 1 Pencil Pouch
- 12-pack of Colored Pencils

Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

**Christian Ethics on Wednesdays during June: What does Jesus teach about right and wrong?** Pagliai's Pizza at 6pm.

**Save the Date for Upcoming Youth Fundraiser!** On Friday (8/14) and Saturday (8/15) we will be having a Rummage Sale at Saint James to benefit our students attending the National Youth Gathering in June 2027. Donations are welcome and collection dates are as follows:

- Monday 7/6 from 6-8pm
- Thursday 7/16 from 3-5pm
- Thursday 8/6 from 4-6pm
- Sunday 8/9 from 11am-1pm
- Thursday 8/13 from 9am-12pm and 3pm-5pm

All items not sold at the end of the event will be donated to Hope Ministries Thrift Store on Merle Hay Road.

If you are interested in volunteering your time to run the event OR have questions, please contact Kristin Rodenberg at [youth@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:youth@stjamesjohnston.org).

## Prayer of the Day

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>16</sup>“And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 read responsively

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing;  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**‘I will establish your line forever,  
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”**

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who know the festal shout!  
They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

<sup>16</sup>**They rejoice daily in your name;  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength,  
and by your favor our might is exalted.

<sup>18</sup>**Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord;  
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

## **Matthew 6:7-15**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> “Pray, then, in this way: Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy.

<sup>10</sup> May your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world...

Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division. Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Bless caregivers as they show God’s hospitality through their generous service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## What's Happening

### June 24-26

- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga  
6:00pm Community meal; Pagliai's pizza (freewill donations)  
6:30pm Confirmation for the Rest of Us
- Friday Church Offices Closed

### June 27-July 3

- Saturday 5:00pm Worship In-Person
- Sunday 9:30am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live  
10:30am Fellowship
- Monday 9:00am Bible Study  
10:30am Chair Yoga
- Tuesday 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group at HyVee  
9:00am Online Bible Study ([Connect Here](#))  
8:00pm AA meeting, all are welcome
- Wednesday 10:30am Chair Yoga  
6:00pm Community meal; Pagliai's pizza (freewill donations)  
6:30pm Confirmation for the Rest of Us

### Celebrations June 20–July 3:

**Birthdays:** Tammy Dial, Mark Piel, Debbie Griffin, Laura Shaw, Hogan Hannan, Dave Dygert, Cindy Cooper, Brian Burns, Matt Dial, Chloe Helgeson, Susan Henry, Iola Aldrich, John Brown, Brant Mutch

**Anniversaries:** Stephen & Barb Bean, Stan & Loryn McLenna

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### Connect with Us!

5665 Merle Hay Road, PO Box 62, Johnston, IA 50131  
(515) 276-0134 – [Steward@StJamesJohnston.org](mailto:Steward@StJamesJohnston.org)

**[www.StJamesJohnston.org](http://www.StJamesJohnston.org)** Here you can connect to:

- Our online service and our online giving portal
- Our calendar
- Our Online Bible Study
- Our staff and much more!

Text Pastor Bill at 515.669.7631 or Email Pastor Bill at [Pastor@StJamesJohnston.org](mailto:Pastor@StJamesJohnston.org)

***First time visitor? Email Pastor for a Welcome gift.***

