

MAY 2023

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SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



SYNOD REVIVAL

IMAGINE

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 10 AM - 3 PM
GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY—DES MOINES

What is a Synod Revival?

A one-day event presented by the Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA designed to nourish and connect people and to reimagine our relationships in and with the church.

- * This event is free of charge and intended to be a joyful fun gathering for all ages full of inspiration, worship, food, and prayer.
- * Bring your friends, neighbors, family and watch what God does!
- * Want more details, go to: <https://sites.google.com/seiasynod.org/synodrevivalorg/schedule-and-speakers>

I PRAY THAT YOU MAY HAVE THE
POWER TO COMPREHEND,
WITH ALL THE SAINTS, WHAT IS THE
BREADTH AND LENGTH AND HEIGHT AND DEPTH
AND TO KNOW THE LOVE OF CHRIST THAT
SURPASSES KNOWLEDGE,
SO THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH
ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.
NOW TO GOD WHO BY THE
POWER AT WORK WITHIN US IS ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH
ABUNDANTLY FAR MORE THAN ALL WE CAN ASK OR

IMAGINE

TO GOD BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH
AND IN CHRIST JESUS TO ALL
GENERATIONS, FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

Ephesians 3:18-21



Christian Education

2023 VBS: “Dreams and Schemes: The Story of Joseph”

How can you help beforehand?

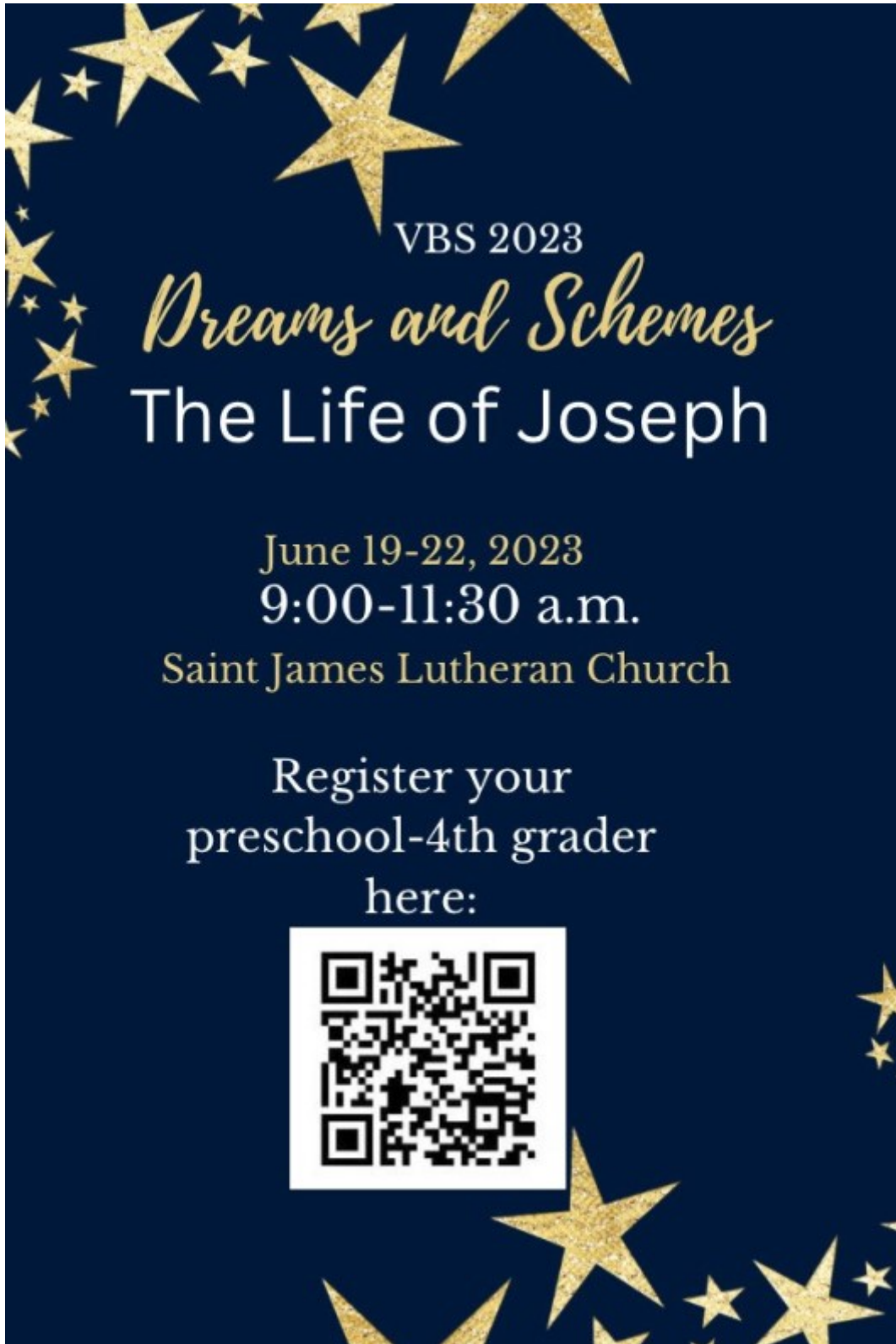
- Donate supplies at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044aa4af22a7f58-vbssupplies#/>
- Join us at a work night—May 24 and June 7 at 6:30 p.m.

How can you help during VBS?

- Be a group guide: lead your group to each station (led by another adult); you will have a partner
 - Lead a station (a simple craft or activity): you will have a partner and instructions well in advance
 - Help set up on June 18
 - Help tear down on June 23
- ✦ If you cannot help the whole week, that is ok! Leading a station is a good option for those who can't come every day.
- ✦ High school students can earn Silver Cord Hours.
- ✦ Those who have completed 5th grade and older are welcome to help.

THANK YOU to all those who helped on Wednesday nights with our education programming. More than 20 people volunteered their time, talents, and energy to create a fun and engaging environment for our young people, as well as feed them. So many parents commented that their children really look forward to coming to St. James on Wednesdays!


Please contact Rebecca (education@stjamesjohnston.org) if you wish to help or have any questions about any of these ministries.



VBS 2023
Dreams and Schemes
The Life of Joseph

June 19-22, 2023
9:00-11:30 a.m.
Saint James Lutheran Church

Register your
preschool-4th grader
here:



**SIGN
UP
FOR
VBS
TODAY!**

Join us as we celebrate our High School Graduating seniors on May 14 during Worship and Fellowship time and remember them in prayer!

This is a special day in the life of the graduates. As they embark on the next chapter in their lives we pray that the same hand that has kept them thus far will continue to be in their lives.

May Your hand of protection be about them, and may Your Word continue to be a light unto their path. Help them to make wise decisions and to always keep You first in everything that they do. Amen



ALEESE BLOCK

Aleese will graduate from North High School in Des Moines and is planning to attend Iowa State University and thinking about majoring in engineering.



ALEX BUCH

Alex will graduate from Ankeny High School and will be attending Drake University in the fall where he will major in Pre-Pharmacy.



CONNOR DIAL

Connor will graduate from Johnston High School and will be attending Iowa State University with an undecided major.



LAURA DUGAN

Laura will graduate from Johnston HS and will attend Iowa State University to study interior design. She wants to thank her St. James family for the support and faith foundation provided to her over the years.



OWEN HELGESON

Owen will graduate from Johnston High School and plans to attend ISU in the fall for business and continue his wrestling career.



CORTLYNN JACKSON

Cortlynn will graduate from Johnston High School and will attend William Penn University where she will be a student athlete on the women's basketball team and major in sports management.



SOPHIE RUDDY

Sophie will graduate from Johnston High School and planning to major in environmental engineering at Northwestern Illinois in Evanston, Illinois



ERIC SCHMIDT

Eric will graduate from Martensdale St. Marys High School and will attend Simpson College. Although undecided, Eric is planning to explore the majors of engineering and actuarial science. In addition, Eric will be playing soccer for the men's soccer team. Go Storm!

AED TRAINING



You can
save a life!

Did you know Saint James has an AED Defibrillator?

Do you know where it is located?

Join us for a demonstration and skills practice on one of these dates:

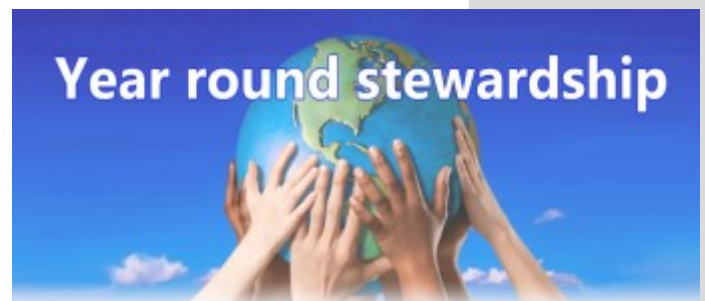
Saturday, June 3, 4:00 pm

Sunday, June 11, 10:15 am

**Electronic Giving is a
convenient, consistent way
to help our church all year!**

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today! Ask for an authorization form in the church office.



Listeners Wanted!

One of the most sincere forms of
respect
 is actually
listening
 to what another
 has to say.

— BRYANT MCGILL

Simple Reminders
 www.simplereminders.com

Jesus' commandment to his disciples at the Last Supper was, "Love one another as I have loved you." As a community gathered in the name of Jesus Christ and intent on living as his body in the world, we need to constantly strive to love one another more faithfully, honestly, and sincerely. Critical to that is respectful listening to those whose views and heartfelt beliefs differ from our own.

To that end Saint James is seeking people to be trained in listening skills so that they might facilitate meaningful discussion around important – and often difficult - topics.

Pastor Erika Uthe of the SE Iowa Synod Office has made herself available for a day to lead a training workshop for those who feel called and gifted to listen and lead healthy, healing discussions. She will be here on one of the following dates for a 2-hour evening session: June 5, 26, or 27.

If this sounds like something you wish to consider or which you would like more information, contact: Penny Schempp at Phone: (712) 251-1441 or email: pennyschempp@gmail.com and let her know which of these dates will NOT work for you.

Make a Joyful Noise

Come, help make a Joyful noise! From now through May 28th, the choir will rehearse on Sunday mornings at 8:15 am, right before Worship. This frees up your Wednesday nights and allows you to come when you can to lead the congregation in Worship.



Church Directory

2023 Photo Directory is complete! An online copy which included photos only was emailed to all households on April 19.

If you would like a complete printed copy with addresses and phone numbers, please stop by the Church office to pick one up or contact steward@stjamesjohnston.org to have one mailed to you.

Special thank you to Shelly Brown for taking all the pictures and pulling this updated information together.

Stamp Out Hunger

On **Saturday, May 13**, be sure to leave out your donation of healthy, in-date, non-perishable food items to be picked up by your letter carrier. DMARC is the local recipient of the Stamp Out Hunger® food drive in Greater Des Moines. In 2019, over 66,000 pounds of food were contributed through Stamp Out Hunger®.

And if you forget to leave out your donation, don't fret! You can make an online contribution to DMARC that will be credited to the Stamp Out Hunger® food drive:

[Make an Online Donation to Stamp Out Hunger® 2023 – DMARC United](#)



37th National Veterans Golden Age

WHEN: May 20-25, 2023

WHAT: The 37th National Veterans Golden Games are looking for energetic, dedicated individuals who will volunteer their time and talents which are essential to the success of the Games. VA Central Iowa Health Care System, Des Moines, Iowa will host Veteran athletes 55 years of age and older who will compete in 18 medal sporting events. We look forward to you volunteering in support of this year's Games.

Volunteer Opportunities can be found at

<https://37thnvgag.my-trs.com/>.