

MARCH 2023

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# SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Saint James Lutheran Church presents...

## Lent 2023: Soups, Stories & Songs

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 6-7pm

**March 1** Matthew 20:1-16 – Laborers in the Vineyard  
*Soup Theme:* Winner, Winner, Chicken Soup Dinner!  
*Support Teams:* Worship & Choir

**March 8** Matthew 22:1-14 – Wedding Banquet  
*Soup Theme:* Chili Cook-off  
*Support Team:* Education & Youth Team

**March 15** Matthew 25:1-3 – Bridesmaids  
*Soup Theme:* Some Like It Hot (And Some Don't)  
*Support Team:* Council & Staff

**March 22** Matthew 25:14-30 – Talents  
*Soup Theme:* Where's the Beef?  
*Support Team:* Property & Stewardship Committees

**March 29** Matthew 25:31-46 – Sheep & Goats  
*Soup Theme:* Around the World in 40 Soups!  
*Support Team:* Bible Studies, Men's Group, Women's Group

*Support Teams:* Set-Up, Clean-Up, Bread, Veggies & Desserts  
*Children's Menu:* Provided by Church  
*Music:* New & Old Favorites!!!  
Conversation Around the Tables & Bible Skits by Children

Sign Up to bring a soup at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B48A4AD29A75-lent3>

# Christian Education

## First Communion:

If you would like your child to make his or her First Communion, please let Rebecca know. Pastor and Rebecca will hold a class for parents and students on **Wednesday, April 5 at 6:00**. The kids will make their first communion at one of the following Holy Week services: Maundy Thursday, Easter Saturday, or Easter Sunday.

## Easter Weekend Bake Sale:

We will be holding our third annual Easter bake sale again this year; all money raised goes to camp scholarships for any Saint James student attending a summer Bible camp. If you would like to provide treats, please let Rebecca know. This is our only fundraiser for the year for camp scholarships, and we appreciate the congregation's generosity for this important mission!



## VBS: REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!

Join us for a fun week of games, music, crafts, and other hands-on fun as we learn about Joseph and his dreams!

**WHEN:** June 19-22, 9-11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Saint James Lutheran Church

**WHO:** Preschool-entering 4<sup>th</sup> → attend

Entering 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and older → help us out during VBS!!

## Can you help?


It takes many hands to host a fun and memorable week of VBS; if you are available for even part of the week, we can use people to:

- Be on the VBS planning team
- Lead an activity station
- Lead a group of kids to each station
- Help in the preschool room
- Help with drop-off and pick-up time
- Help in kitchen with snacks/other food-based hands on activities

Please let Rebecca know, [education@stjamesjohnsaton.org](mailto:education@stjamesjohnsaton.org) if you are available for the whole week, or even one day during the week to join the fun!



# CONNECTED BY FAITH



4 Sundays  
starting 4/16/23

"A Year of Biblical  
Womanhood"  
Rachel Held Evans

Contact Kristin  
Rodenberg to sign up!



**KRISTIN.HACKER@GMAIL.COM**  
**SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## Social Impact

**Lutheran Day On the Hill** is Tuesday, March 14. This annual event is a day of advocacy training and direct advocacy to Legislators at the Iowa State Capitol. It is sponsored by Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) and the three Iowa Synods of the ELCA. Pre-registration is open through March 10.

The day's schedule is:

- 9:00:** Convene and register at St. John's Lutheran Church, 600 Sixth St. in downtown Des Moines.
- 9:30:** Keynote address from Sarah Trone Garriott, Iowa State Senator and ELCA pastor; advocacy training and breakout sessions on legislative emphases for the 2023 session.
- 11:15:** Depart for the Capitol. Bus transportation provided.
- 11:30-2:30:** Group picture and advocacy conversations with legislators. Free box lunches will be provided until 12:30.

You may contact Mark Piel (319-883-2435) or Pastor Bill for more information, or go to [LSIowa.org/LDH](https://www.lsiowa.org/LDH).

**Special Thank You to the Loving Hands group** that sews, knits, crochets, etc. for our members and those in our community. Recent donations:

- ♥ 100 hats made by Jan Longcor that Isaac Rodenberg will distribute to Des Moines students.
- ♥ 80 pillowcases made by several members that will be donated to various agencies such as Homeless Shelter, Johnston Partnership, ChildServe, House of Mercy, Refugee families, etc.



# Monthly Financial Update

## General Operating Fund 1/31/22 Recap:

- Offerings of almost \$50,000 due to members that use their Foundation or RMD distributions to pay their annual pledge.
- For budgeting purposes, we adjust the budgeted amount at the end of the month to closer to actual dollars received. This decreases the amount needed in future months (especially summer). Expenses are budgeted during the month we anticipate the expenses to occur.

Category	Actual YTD	Budget YTD
Income	\$49,564	\$49,400
Expenses	\$25,919	\$26,477

At Saint James, there are many ways in which you can offer your God-given time and abilities to serve in Christ's name! The Stewardship Team encourages you to remember the covenant into which Christ has called you through Holy Baptism to serve joyfully and faithfully in the life and mission of our congregation! Current opportunities:



- **Wednesday soup supper:** bring a soup, bread, relish tray, or help set up or clean up. [Saint James Lutheran Church: Lent 2023: Soups, Stories & Songs \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)
- **Worship assistants:** Be a lector, greeter, usher, fellowship host. [Saint James Lutheran Church: Worship Assistants 2023 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)
- **VBS planning team:** See Page 2 for ways to help!
- **Choir/Bell Choir:** Help us make a joyful noise for Worship Services. Contact Larry at: [larry.christensen@hotmail.com](mailto:larry.christensen@hotmail.com)
- **Good Friday Passion Readers/Performers:** Good Friday worship service will include a proclamation of the Passion from the Gospel of Matthew. We've received 7 of the 17 volunteers so far...we are looking for 10 more members who are willing to present a portion of Matthew's passion from memory. We have 3 rehearsals prior to Good Friday. Contact Pastor at: [pastor@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:pastor@stjamesjohnston.org)



Saint James Lutheran Church presents...

## Holy Week 2023

Palm Saturday	April 1	@5pm
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>April 2</b>	<b>@9am</b>
Maunder-Thursdayer	April 6	@7pm
Good Friday	April 7	@7pm
Easter Saturday	April 8	@5pm
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 9</b>	<b>@9am</b>

Saint James' Worship Services are also on Facebook Live.

## Youth

### Urban Plunge Day of Service

Upon popular request, we are partnering with Urban Plunge on April 29<sup>th</sup> for another day of service! Students in 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome!

We will go to various mission partners in the Metro to do different projects in each location. Last year these projects included serving a meal for families, sorting donations, gardening, and packing meals.

This is a FANTASTIC opportunity to rack up some silver cord hours! If you are interested, reach out to Vicar, [vicar@stjamesjohnston.org](mailto:vicar@stjamesjohnston.org)



# MISSION TRIP EGG-STRAVAGANZA

**HELP THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP RAISE  
MONEY FOR CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS**

THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WILL BE SELLING  
EASTER EGG HUNT KITS:

- \$15 for 20 pre-filled eggs with candy and non-edible fun!
- \$20 for above AND we will be your Easter Bunny accomplice and place the eggs in the yard for you. (Local families)

**PRE-ORDER TO HELP SUPPORT OUR YOUTH AT CAMP THIS SUMMER  
USING QR CODE OR EMAIL [VICAR@STJAMESJOHNSTON.ORG](mailto:VICAR@STJAMESJOHNSTON.ORG)  
KITS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP OR PURCHASE DURING HOLY WEEK**



# Church Directory

New Faces...New Directory

Time to update our membership and photo directory. This is a valuable tool for our members to put names to faces, particularly new members. Special thanks to Shelly Brown for offering to lead this project.

The most current directory information with household picture is available at the church on a table in the fellowship hall. Please take a moment to check your information. Mark any changes on one of the copies or mark ok if photo and information are correct.

Photos:

- If you would like to submit a new photo please email it to: Shelly Brown at: [sbpeiffer@aol.com](mailto:sbpeiffer@aol.com).
- If you would like Shelly to take a new photo in our beautiful fellowship hall (maybe before or after church), contact Shelly [sbpeiffer@aol.com](mailto:sbpeiffer@aol.com) to arrange a time.

Please review your information by March 20. If you have questions, contact Shelly or Linda Queck.

