

St. James Lutheran Church Mission Statement

~To connect people to God and one another, welcoming all and changing lives!~

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Happy Easter! During the Easter season, we celebrate the hope and new life God brings through Jesus Christ's resurrection. We are called to proclaim new life in Christ and that death does not have the final word over our lives.

During the 50 day season of Easter, Jesus appears to his disciples many times— at the empty tomb, on the road to Emmaus, in a locked room sharing the words “Peace be with you,” and on the beach, having a breakfast picnic and reminding us how to live in love. These moments encourage us to look for Christ in *unexpected places*, especially in the parts of our world and lives that are most in need of hope and renewal.

Christ has surely shown up in the life of our congregation this season, especially through service! On March 29, 14 members of St. James joined others in Aplington for the Feed My Starving Children mobile food pack—together packing over 26,000 meals. W-ELCA made school and hygiene kits, along with 105 quilts, which were blessed for Lutheran World Relief. LOL Afterschool Program continues to make sleeping mats and blankets for those in need, as well as bird feeders for Heery Woods State Park.

God's love was poured out in many ways this past season. I especially enjoyed the Palm Sunday activity stations after worship, sharing Holy Communion with our first communicants, worshiping on Good Friday with the leadership of confirmation students, and celebrating Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday with special music and the leadership of Luther League- who also hosted a yummy breakfast! Thank you to all who helped serve during our various activities and services throughout Holy Week and Easter. Your gifts are a blessing. I invite you all to consider how God might be calling you to serve in this new season. Maybe you'd like to join a committee, share your faith story after worship, or help with VBS. Whatever it is, I'd love to chat with you about it!

As we continue through Easter, may we remain open to the ways God is creating us anew and calling us to share the Good News of love, grace, and hope with all.

In Christ,

Pastor Rebecca



Church roof renovations should begin May 5th weather permitting. Please be very cautious around the area and on the street due to large equipment and delivery vehicles. We have yet to meet our fund raising goal and we welcome any and all donations for the completion of the project. Thank



The St James church office would appreciate announcements for the bulletin by Weds. morning for the weeks printing. Articles for the months newsletter are due by the 20th of the month. The church office is open M-TH 8:00 AM-12-noon.

THOSE NEEDING PRAYERS

Travis Terry, Jeff Dreier, Kent Gulick , Sylvia Schrage, Will DeBower, and Karen Bennett (Pr. Rebecca's mother)



WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH

INDOOR CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, May 3, will be Indoor Clean up day at St. James beginning at 8:30. We will need many hands to dust, polish furniture and general cleaning.



ALLISON CARE CENTER WORSHIP

Worship with Holy Communion at the Allison Care Center is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month @ 9:15 A.M. Thanks to all who lead this service.



The May Bible study will be held on **Thursday, May 1**. Connie Wix will have the Bible study lesson and Nancy Davies serves coffee/treat. Study lesson can be picked up from Syd.



Synod Assembly takes place June 6-7 at Bien VenU Event Center , Cedar Falls.

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Parent Bible Study continues during the Sunday School hour. Join other parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles for a relaxed open forum Bible study. Multiple generations of parents supporting each other in God's Word. Meetings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.



ACOLYTES SCHEDULE FOR MAY

May 4: Landon Debner & Jack Hummel

May 11: Henry Salge & Jack Hummel

May 18: Braxton Buss

SENIOR SUNDAY



Sunday, May 18, St. James will honor High School Seniors and other graduates. NB High School seniors are Ava Wiegmann, Pryor Wiedekehr and Henry Endelman. If you have a student in your family graduating, please let the church office know.

SADDLE UP

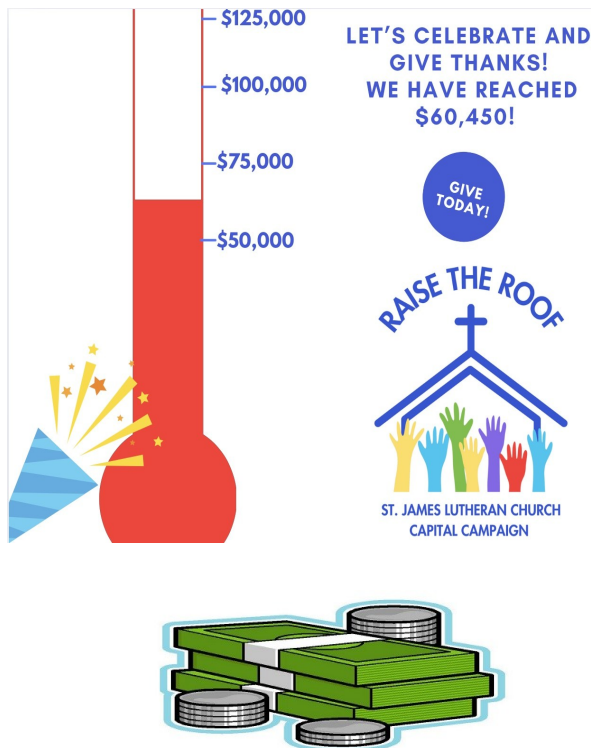
Allison Community VBS will be held June 10,11,12 under the theme "Saddle Up for a Fun Week of Celebrating Jesus' Life". The children and volunteers will meet at Wilder Park from 9 AM-11:30. This activity includes kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade.

Saddle Up for a great time!

St. James Visiting Committee for May & June 2025

**Bonnie Dralle, Nadean Dralle,
Roberta Wiegmann and Karla
Schmidt**

Illness and COVID are an ongoing concern at Care Centers and Asst. Living facilities. Please call first to know what the policy is. Call those homebound members to see what their preference is. You may wish to call or send a note to them.



March end

March income was \$14,563.42 with \$1,540.00 of that for the Raise the Roof campaign.

Income~\$14,563.42

Expenses~ \$16,054.64

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Jim Davies. Present: Danny Bohlen, Robin Lursen, Alyssa Endelman, Kiley Shear, Ted Koester, Aimee Duell, Leslie Groen, Pastor Rebecca Baird and Mindy Pecha, Devotions given by Kiley Shear. Motioned by Leslie, second by Kiley to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: January income was \$17,248.64 with \$4,590.00 of that for the Raise the Roof campaign and total expenses of \$81,015.45 with \$51,770.67 to Jaeger Associates for the roof down payment. Motioned by Kiley second by Aimee to approve the Treasurer's report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Motioned by Ted, second by Alyssa to approve the February 13, 2025, Secretary's report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Stewardship and Finance: Nothing to report.

Property Committee: Randy Brinkman was present and provided an update. The roof removal and replacement will begin May 1st and they will likely be blocking off the street. In addition, the Property Committee met, did a walk around the church and will be planning an outdoor clean-up day on April 5th. Randy provided a list of projects for Council to consider and prioritize.

Projects:

1. New louvers for bell tower – Fabricator to make out of steel, powder coat, and hopefully installation completed by congregation members would be a total cost of \$5696.00. Since this is over \$5000 it will require a congregational vote. Randy recommended to complete this project first since the roof is being replaced.
2. Basement carpet
3. ADA operator on ed unit door
4. New chair lift – Current lift max is 450 lbs, and new lifts can be 650 lb. Randy mentioned to provide a quick approximate cost he noticed a 550 lb lift had an online price of \$16000, not installed.
5. Painting the sanctuary and basement.

Council considered the project list and discussed moving forward with Randy's recommendation to complete the new louvers for the bell tower now to complete all high outside projects. Motion by Jim to move forward with the bell tower louvers and schedule a congregational meeting on May 4th to vote for project approval. Motion was seconded by Aimee. All ayes. Motion carried.

Education/Youth Ministry: Pastor shared during Sunday School the kids made Lent chains with activities to complete each day during Lent.

Evangelism: An indoor cleaning day has been set for May 3rd.

Worship & Music: Nothing to report.

Memorial Committee: Jim shared that no entries made in the memorial book for several years and they have gone through as best they can to see if any specific purpose for memorials has been mentioned. They did not find anything specific for new memorials and that fund currently has a balance of approximately \$50,000. The Council executive team will meet to discuss what and how to use those funds, provide future recommendations and establish bookkeeping procedures. Ted will work on these items in the coming month for everyone to review.

Pastor's Report – Pastor attended a synodical conference meeting, held a service at the care center played bingo there with 5th and 6th graders. With Ash Wednesday services cancelled due to weather, Pastor did ashes on Sunday instead. Pastor will be taking bereavement Sunday March 16th following church through Thursday March 20th for the passing her lovely grandmother Phyllis.

Old Business

1. CD Renewal – 11 Council members responded via email on February 11th and approved to renew a CD due on 02/27/25 for 12 months.
2. Audit Committee members – Leslie will check with Kathy Bruns to see if she would be willing to be on the Audit Committee since Aimee is already on Council.
3. Synod Assembly – 2 representatives – Pastor Rebecca provided details including the dates of June 6 & 7th in Cedar Falls and Jim shared his past experiences. Pastor will announce it again in church on Sunday.

Photo directory – Evangelism will be handling this.

New Business

Parent Bible Study reflections – Aimee spoke on those who attended enjoyed it. There are still some materials available if others would like to join and the next one bible study is March 23rd.

Lent/Holy Week details – Dinner church during Lent will continue with the Everything In-Between theme. Holy week will be the same as last year including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services. Kiley has volunteered to help Luther League with Easter Breakfast.

Long-range planning committee goals – Pastor felt that before we start inviting members that council should reflect and come back in April with some goals.

Motioned to adjourn made by Ted, second by Danny. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. Next meeting will be held April 9th at 5:30 p.m.