

CONGREGATIONAL SUMMER PICNIC Sunday August 7, 2016 at Badger Prairie Park

Join us for our annual St. James picnic at the Badger Prairie County Park shelter right here in Verona. Wear your picnic clothes to the 9:00 am worship service, and we'll proceed directly to the park afterward for COFFEE HOUR, games (for all ages), socializing, and of course - food. Yummy!

At the shelter you will find play equipment, restrooms, hiking & biking trails and parking. Lunch will be provided and served between 11:30 am and noon. We are serving Grilled Chicken, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans and Potato Salad. Please bring your own beverages. We need to have an approximate count for food preparation, so if you are planning to attend (or think it is likely you will attend), please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or email the church office at office@stjamesverona.org; where you can also indicate if you are able to bring a dessert, fruit and/or a game to share.

FAREWELL TO KELLY RODGER

On Sunday, July 17, we said our good-byes to Kelly Rodger who served as St. James' Youth Education Coordinator for almost six years.

We thanked Kelly as the one who faithfully oversaw our Sunday School, Confirmation, and Vacation Bible School programs. Kelly also led weekly youth events, mission trips, started the "St. James Garden," and she did all this while working other jobs as well as completing her masters degree at Luther Seminary in Children, Youth & Family Ministry.

Kelly has accepted a position at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Maple Grove, MN, to serve as Associate Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, focusing on elementary aged youth. We wish her every blessing and thank her for her years of service. We will miss you, Kelly!

Note: The Children, Youth & Family Ministry Committee is working on a new job description and staffing possibilities as we make plans for the fall.



Adelia Boehm & Kelly Rodger in NYC July 2016 on the Mission Trip.



LOOKING AHEAD

Summer Worship

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am

Mark Your Calendars

August 1-4

Vacation Bible School

Register Now

www.stjamesverona.org/vbs

See page 5 for more information

August 7

Church Picnic @ Badger Prairie Park

August 28

Semi -Annual Meeting

September 18

Sunday School & Confirmation classes begin

September 22-28

Member Photos will be taken for our new Photo Directory.

Sign up online or in the Narthex each Sunday

FROM THE PASTOR...

Looking Backwards, We Love Forwards

On a Thursday evening during a Congregational Council meeting I stepped out for a moment, and stepped into my office. I saw my phone had a text from my wife, Betsy. It read, "I just received flowers from a man at the grocery store!"

The exclamation point meant it was a positive experience. I went back to the meeting with thoughts I couldn't yet answer — who was this man? why did he give flowers to my wife? And of course I had to wonder about when I last gave flowers to my wife. (Thanks anonymous guy for making me look like a....!").

I later learned this was a totally random act at the check-out line. The man only had flowers to purchase. Betsy turned to him and commented

on how nice the bouquet was. Then the man purchased them and approached Betsy as she was leaving, "I want to give these to you." She declined. "No, really, I want you to have them."

To make a long story of this brief encounter short, Betsy ended up that night with flowers in her hand with the anonymous man walking away. You might say, empty handed.

But his heart was full, or so I'd like to think. It was a simple gift. Perhaps he was "paying it forward." If so, it's now my wife's turn.

Last December a woman at a drive-through at a McDonald's in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, told the cashier she'd like to pay for the car behind her, and asked her to say, "Merry Christmas."

The next car pulled up, was informed of the gift and the message, and that driver asked to pay for the car behind her, or him. The gift was passed along.

It lasted for 250 cars, about the entire length of the cashier's six hour shift, who started keeping track of the number of cars once it hit 15.

When you think about it, any act of love, any gesture of kindness, any expression of generosity is "paying it forward." We give what we have received.

Jesus' own ministry makes this clear — he gives us what he has been given (by the Father). As he was sent into the world, so he sends us into the world. We pass along the gift: Jesus.

John wrote, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God," (1



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 608.845.6922

www.stjamesverona.org

Fax: 608.845.6903

SUMMER WORSHIP

Saturday - 5:00 pm • Sunday - 9:00 am

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday — 8 am to 4 pm
Wednesday & Friday — 8 am to 12 noon

STAFF

Kurt Billings, Pastor	Cell: 235-8122
Peter Narum, Pastor	Cell: 469-9625
Michelle Lichty	Parish Administrator
Emily Jeremiason	Office Assistant
Barb Roberts	Office Assistant
Paulette Spoon	Adult Choir & Handbell Choir
Susan Bubolz	Youth Choir Director
Rhonda Chalone Marilyn Doerfer,	
Alex Ford & Jim Erickson	Accompanists
Barb Rasmussen, R.N.	Parish Nurse/Visitation Coord.
Heather Pearl	Director, St. James Preschool
Lynn Hauski, Holly Parker,	
Lori Rudy & Stacy Zimmerman	St. James Preschool

BOARD OF MINISTRY

David Polet, President	316-5519
Karen Breitnauer, Vice-President	848-8297
Kim Feller, Treasurer	845-6425
Sue Martin-Zernicke, Secretary	246-2025
Dennis Beres	845-9305
Lee DeBaillie	848-1012
Sheri Doyle	848-5466
Jon Schellpfeffer	845-9449
Elise Taft	437-7954

John 4.7) and “We love because God first loved us.” (1 John 4.19) The love given to us is meant to be shared. Love is a giveaway.

God’s acts of kindness towards may not be random, but passing along the love we have received can be – a spontaneous, undeserved gift; an anonymous charitable donation, the offering of time to someone who’s lonely or afraid. The opportunities are endless.

We are not sources of love. If anything, our calling in Christ is simply to keep the love flowing. We can look back in faith, to the story of God and, through the centuries, God’s love flowing through ordinary human beings with the extraordinary love of Jesus. Amazing. Grace.

–Pastor Peter



BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

During the past few months, the conceptual design of our new building has been reviewed. Statements of Qualifications were requested from 5 contractors because the Building Committee determined that an alternative project delivery method should be pursued to better assure that the project budget would be met while delivering the church improvements that were contained in the approved concept plan. After the contractors attended a walk-thru of the church with the architect and members of the Building Committee, the Building Committee has recommended to the Church Council that Findorff be selected by as the construction manager/contractor. This item is on the Council’s agenda on July 28.

The general timeline of the building project has the design development completed by the end of August. Between August and October, the City of Verona will review and hopefully approve our design and construction plan. During this same time period, a detailed estimate of cost will be prepared by the construction manager. Between September 2016 and January 2017, construction documents will be prepared, and we will finalize a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for the Building Project.

Early next year, the Congregational Council will secure interim bank financing. The financing will need to be voted on and approved by the Congregation in 2017. We plan to begin the main construction in April 2017 with completion scheduled for July 2018. Stay tuned! Things are beginning to move now!

There are updated drawings in the Narthex for you to view. We will keep the congregation updated on Sunday Mornings as details become available. Thank you for your support.

AUGUST COMMUNITY MEAL

August 3, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Join us this month for fellowship and dinner at the Community Meal. This month we will serve Brats & Hot Dogs, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw with dessert, coffee, milk, & lemonade.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2016 General Fund Budget approved by the congregation at the semi-annual meeting on February 7, 2016 totals \$562,500, which represents a 5.6% increase from 2015. \$532,000 of the income budget is from Operating Envelopes and/or those contributions received through Electronic Funds Transfer.

YTD Receipts	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year (P/Y)</u>
Total	\$246,031	\$262,045	\$250,344
Offering Envelopes	\$231,246	\$248,250	\$232,518

YTD Receipts	<i>Increase (Decrease) from Budget</i>		<i>Increase (Decrease) from P/Y</i>	
	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Total	(\$16,014)	(6.11%)	(\$4,313)	(1.72%)
Offering Envelopes	(\$17,004)	(6.85%)	(\$1,272)	(0.55%)

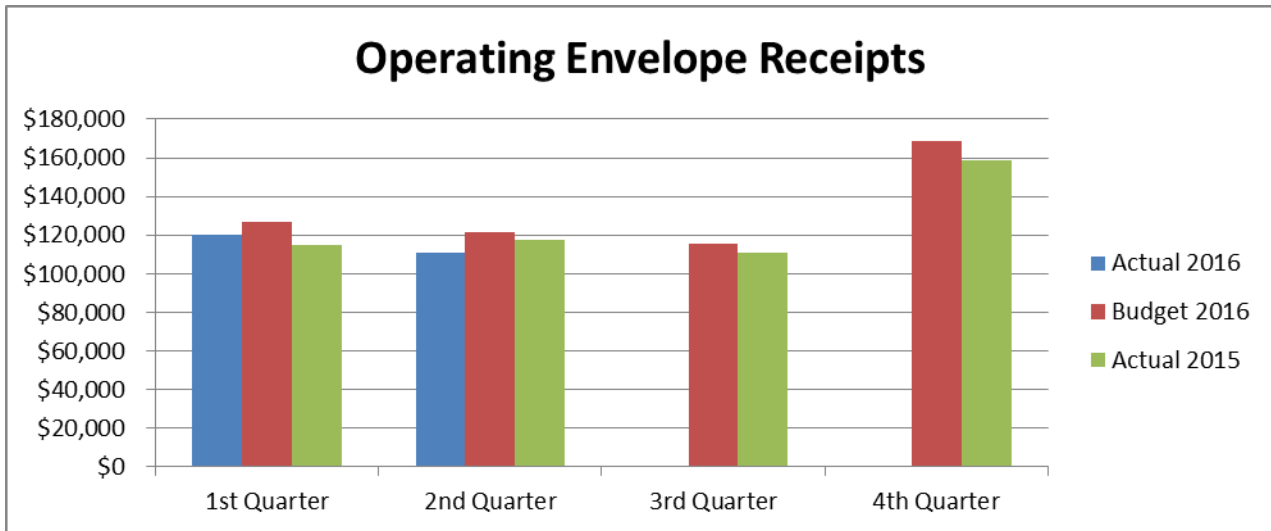
June, 2016 Attendance: 741

June, 2015 Attendance: 816

YTD June, 2016 Attendance: 7,880

YTD June, 2015 Attendance: 7,574

The following graph shows the Operating Envelope Receipts by Quarter for 2016 in comparison to the Budget and the Prior Year:



Total receipts for YTD period ending June 30, 2016 are \$246,031 compared to a budget of \$262,045 and show that the 2016 results are running 6% behind the YTD budget. Total receipts at this time last year were \$250,344 for a decrease YTD of (\$4,313), which is almost 2% behind the prior year. Although expenses are running favorable to budget by \$9,425 at the June 30, 2016 mid-point in the year, we are experiencing a net short-fall to the YTD budget as of June 30, 2016 of (\$6,589).

The short-fall to budget and decrease from the prior year giving is concerning and not something we have experienced in recent years. Please prayerfully consider an increase to your General Fund giving this year so that our fiscal goals are achieved and our ministry programs are maintained.

Building Project Financial Summary

The Building for God's Tomorrow Capital Campaign from 2015 had a goal of pledges to be secured in the amount of \$1.5 million. Pledges received to date total \$1,370,000, and we are in the midst of collecting on the pledges at the same time that the Concept plans are drawn up as Architectural plans. The project is expected to be ready for a construction bid in early 2017. Construction would follow in the Spring of 2017 and is expected to take about a year to complete.

It is important to have a significant percentage of the 3-year pledges monetized into building fund deposits according to member commitments and before construction begins. Pledge dollars are received weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, and as a one-time lump sum. Please follow your pledge commitment to the Building Fund and one-time lump sum contributions are welcome and accepted during 2016 so that the Building Fund balance grows significantly for securing bank construction and permanent financing.

The estimated project cost is \$3.5 million with up to \$2.0 million financed as long-term debt. When construction is finished, the debt reduction phase of the Capital Campaign will start in order to significantly pay down on the mortgage within the first three to five years after construction is completed.

The following shows the Capital Campaign results as of June 30, 2016:

Goal	\$1,500,000
Pledges	\$1,370,000
Received to Date	\$381,137

Building Fund Balance, December 31, 2015:	\$179,230
Plus: 2016 Contributions	166,515
Plus: 2016 Interest Income	160
Less: 2016 Architect Fees Paid	(15,454)
Less: Mortgage from General Fund	(71,481)
Building Fund Balance, June 30, 2016:	\$258,970

Thank you for your financial support of both the St. James General Fund and the Building Fund.



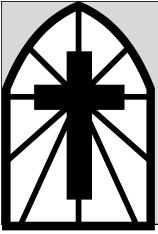
ST. JAMES PHOTO DIRECTORY/MEMBER PHOTOS TO BE TAKEN THIS YEAR

Next Session: September 22—28, 2016

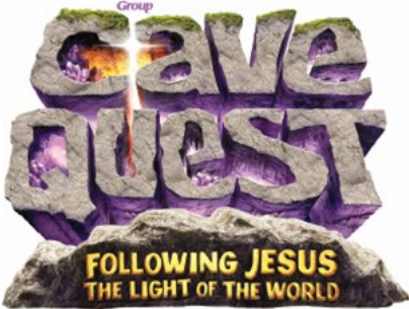


We will be compiling a new photo directory of members this year because it has been five years since our last directory was produced and we have many new members. **We would like all members to have their photos taken for the directory** and there is no obligation to purchase photo packages.

Photo session signups will be available in the Narthex on Saturday and Sunday each week. The online signup is posted on the home page of our website and is open to reserve a time Monday – Friday of each week.



ALL THINGS YOUTH AND FAMILY



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT ST. JAMES

August 1-4, 2016 from
9:00 am – 12:00 noon.
Ages 3 years to 3rd grade.

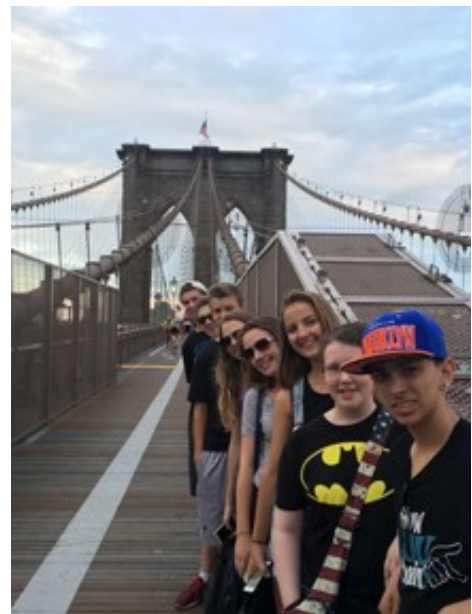
All youth older than 3rd grade are encouraged to help out!

There is still time to register for Vacation Bible School. This year youth will have a great time learning how to *Follow Jesus: The Light of the World!* Each year participants from 3 years old through 3rd grade and volunteers alike, have a fun time learning, playing and singing. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity. There will be a dinner and presentation on August 4th, 5:30 pm–6:30 pm.

Registration is live! Visit the St. James Website, **VBS Tab** to register or to sign up to volunteer! (This is a great opportunity for confirmation students to get their service hours!) You can also sign up on the 1st day. Please arrive by 8:45 am to register. Cost: \$15 per child. We will collect fees on the first day of VBS!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION BEGIN SEPTEMBER 18

Registration for Sunday School & Confirmation will be available in August.



ST. JAMES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THEIR
MISSION TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY IN JULY.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE...Barbara Rasmussen, RN.,CPN

AUGUST is here and many of us are doing lots of outdoor cooking and picnics. Don't forget the **Congregational Picnic, Sunday August 7 at Badger Prairie Park!!** There are ways you can minimize your family's risk of food poisoning by following some simple guidelines about food safety.

TOP SUMMER FOOD SAFETY TIPS

CLEAN: Wash hands and surfaces often to avoid the spread of bacteria.

SEPARATE: Keep raw foods separate from cooked foods to avoid cross-contamination.

COOK: Make sure you kill harmful bacteria by cooking food until it reaches the proper temperature. (Hamburger 71degrees C; and Poultry at 74degrees C.) Reheat leftovers to at least 165 degrees F. Always use a meat thermometer.

CHILL: Keep cold foods cold at 4 degrees Centigrade or colder. Letting food sit at unsafe temperatures puts you at risk for foodborne illnesses.

(Information from the Environmental Health Dept.)

Keep Hot foods Hot and Cold foods Cold! Remember the 2 hour Rule. Keep ALL raw meat wrapped separately. Always use a meat thermometer.

Chill leftovers as soon as possible and reheat them to at least 165 degrees.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

Members of St. James will once again have the opportunity to collect school supplies.

Why school supplies? To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free, but in the places where LWR works, even a few supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford.

School Supply List:

70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper

30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

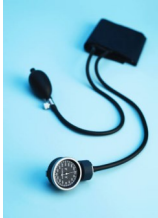
Manual pencil sharpeners

Blunt end scissors

Box of 16 or 24 crayons

Please give only new items with no religious or patriotic symbols or messages. Your donations can be dropped off in the narthex area of our church thru September 11. Questions can be directed to Sue Bubolz 608-558-6460 or suebubolz@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting this Mary Circle project.



**BLOOD
PRESSURE
CHECKS**

August 14

Blood Pressure Checks are taken the second Sunday of each month at 10:15 am in the Church Office.

PARISH NOTES



We remember in our prayers – *Members of St. James:* Laurie Hambrecht, Kirsten Hansen, Lynn Marquardt, Chris & Michelle Nass, Pat Martinelli, Carol Path, Monica Pechan, Charles & Ruby Reuter, Amanda Spencer, Dale Thompson & David Thompson. *Friends of St. James:* Kirsten Curtis, Eric Jelinek, Debbie Loughrin, Patty Oskorep, Heidi Peterson, & Laura Schurman. *Relatives of Members:* Helen Abplanalp (mother of Chuck Abplanalp), John Bittrich (father of Elise Taft), Anne Bloomer (Rob Frederick's grandmother), Eberta DeBaillie (mother of Lee DeBaillie), Janine Gerke (sister-in-law of Red & Diann Chapman), Brad Hafermann, (brother-in-law of Sandy Saether), Hillary Knobloch (niece of Sandy Saether), Don Koch (brother of Cookie Thompson), Al Miller (brother-in-law of Cookie Thompson), Sally Mueller (sister of Susan Mueller), Hank Murphy (great nephew of Jim & Mindy Storch), Terri Mykisen (cousin of Laurie Halminiak), Sandy Opsal (daughter of Burnell & John Morton), Craig Parman (brother-in-law of Sandy Saether), Laurie Ronning (mother of Beth Jonjak), Martha Stolgren (mother of Michelle Viney), Don Waalen (father of Karen Bretnauer), David Wallace (father of Sheri Doyle), and Chris Watters (brother of Ben Watters).

In Residence: **Four Winds** - Lorraine Crownhart, Roberta Miller, and Dona Nyhus; **Girlye's Manor at Ingleside** - Duane Eliason; **Oakwood West**—Lorine Kahl. **The Sebring Assisted Care Residence:** LeRoy Dockter; **St. Mary's Care Center** – Olga Ascher and Bill Gilbert. **Willow Pointe** - Betty Burgenske, Margaret Hendrickson, Roberta Miller, Vera Schreiner and Marv & Cookie Thompson. **Willow Pointe Memory Care** - Bob

Miller, Doris Stuber, Dodie Syvrud.

Serving in the Military: Bryan Tordoff, Dan Sullivan, Adam Jeziorski, Casey Biggins, Mark Nyhus, Ryan Nyhus, Adam Pechan, Casey Pulver, David Pulver, and Shandra Pulver.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism: Elle Owen Wainwright, daughter of Luke & Lee (Owen) Wainwright, on June 26, 2016; and Jonathan Charles Montry, son of Craig & Rachel (Johnson) Montry, on July 1, 2016.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Kate Pederson as they mourn of her father, Harry Chaudoir; to the family of Marilyn LeMoine, as they mourn the death of her sister, Janet Edwards, and to the family of Patricia Rienks, as they mourn her death. We also pray for the family of Sofia Luna, a classmate of many of our young members, as they mourn her death.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

427 South Main Street
Verona, WI 53593-1492

