

## CHURCH PICNIC SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

Join us for a picnic right here in our beautiful new space! We will have fellowship, coffee hour, and lots of activities for the kids' right after the 9:00 am worship service, so wear your picnic clothes to church. Lunch will be provided, and served at approximately 11:30 am. Please bring your own beverages. For food preparation, we need to know approximately how many are coming. If it is likely you will attend, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Also indicate if you would be willing to bring a dessert or fruit to share. Hope to see you there!! Rain or shine.



The next Community Meal is Wednesday, August 1, 2018. The Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. We will be serving Beef Stroganoff with noodles, green beans almandine, salad, rolls and cupcakes for dessert, as well as, milk, coffee and lemonade.

All are welcome to come! Bring a friend and/or a neighbor!



**St. James  
Community  
Meal**



Our St James Youth had a blast at camp! Twelve of our youth went to faith-centered camps this summer including Lutherdale in Elkhorn, Bethel Horizons in Dodgeville, WAPO in Amery, Sugar Creek in Ferryville, and Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca. When youth go to camp, they sing, run, play capture-the-flag, cook over the fire and in the midst of all the activity, they worship God in creative ways, live in community, and meet Christian role models who are ready to dive deep into the relevant questions of faith. Our youth come back to us with energy & excitement for their faith community. Welcome back campers!

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Semi-Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, August 26 at 10:15 am.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect new representatives to the Congregational Council.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**August 1**  
Community Meal

**August 5**  
Church Picnic

**August 6–9**  
Vacation Bible School



**August 19**  
Campfire Worship

**August 26**  
Semi-Annual Meeting

**September 16**  
Regular Worship  
Schedule begins  
Sunday School Kick-off

# FROM THE PASTOR

I recently signed up to receive a few free audiobooks which is, for me, a great way to learn while I drive. The first book I listened to was “An Existentialist Survival Guide” by Gordon Marino. He is a philosophy professor at St. Olaf College (the department my father worked in for 50 years), and the curator of the Howard & Edna Hong Kierkegaard Library (the Hongs were my godparents). The second book, just started, is Brené Brown’s “Daring Greatly.” She is a Research Professor in Social Work at the U. of Houston (also famous for her TED Talk on vulnerability and shame).

Though both books are weighty enough to demand two listens (or a “listen and a read”) from me, I was immediately struck how both centered their thoughts on difficult emotions. Marino on Kierkegaard’s focus on fear, dread, and anxiety, and Brown on her decade-long research

into vulnerability. Both authors, by the way, are Christians, though perhaps not in a typical “Sunday-going” kind of way, but faith is at the center of who they are and how they think.

Both authors, risking and willing to share their own vulnerabilities and fears in their respective books, invite the reader to live authentically (Marino) and to love wholeheartedly (Brown). Of course, this is what Jesus wants for us as well. Not just life after death, or “in the great by-and-by,” but here, in this world, right now. Jesus tells us not to be afraid, and this is often linked with a promise of his presence, his love. In fact, love drives fear away, as “fear has to do with punishment” (1 John 4.18).

It’s easy to feel anxious, depressed, and vulnerable (and hard not to!). The problem is not that we feel this way. The problem is that we try to

push these feelings away through such strategies as being (more) important, entertained, noticed, wealthy (or fill our lives with things), distracted, comforted. None of these solutions ever work, so we seek more, and more....

Wise men and women invite us not to turn away from all that worries us, from all that makes us feel vulnerable. Not to fix them, or chase them away, but to realize we are all afraid at times, we are always vulnerable, and vulnerability is actually what makes love possible at all.

Emotions can become our masters, but they can also be wonderful servants. They are part of what makes us human. I find the times I share with others my worries, my fears, my failures, my confusion, my sadness, my weakness, what I receive is not scorn or ridicule, but support, forgiveness, love.



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

## ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 608.845.6922

[www.stjamesverona.org](http://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
Barb Roberts	Office Assistant
Susan Zimmer	Office Assistant
Holly Parker	Director of Parish Education Ministries
Paulette Spoon	Adult Choir & Handbell Choir
Susan Bubolz	Youth Choir Director
Rhonda Chalona,	
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

Karen Breitnauer, President	848-8297
Elise Taft, Vice-President	437-7954
Mark Krebsbach, Treasurer	438-6424
Sue Martin-Zernicke, Secretary	246-2025
Dennis Beres	845-9305
Jeff Duesterbeck	381-9567
Jim Rognstad	497-1132
Jill Sommers	845-2693
John Walker	845-8732

Maybe this is why Jesus commends us to “consider the lilies” (re-read Matthew 5-7 for Jesus’ instructions on living well), and why he invites us to trust in him. Then we know we have, and have always had, what we need most: God’s love, God’s presence, God’s promise. And then God gives us what we need next: one another. May the peace Jesus offers calm your fears, and give you the courage to be yourself, be imperfect, and live in love as a forgiven sinner, for that is who you are.

—Pastor Peter Narum

## WOMEN OF ST. JAMES

### SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

***Supplies may be dropped off at church starting August 5***

Mary Circle is again collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. Surprisingly stores are starting their annual school supply sales in July. Following is the list of needed school supplies for those who are bargain shoppers.

70 sheet wide or college ruled notebooks

12” Ruler with both inches and centimeters

Pencil sharpeners

Blunt end scissors

#2 unsharpened pencils with eraser

Black or blue ballpoint pens—no gel ink

Box of 16 or 24 crayons

2 & 1/2” erasers

### SAVE THE DATE

South Central Wisconsin Synod Fall Gathering – September 22, 2018

Fall Bake Sale and Luncheon – November 17, 2018

Saint James Women’s Retreat – March 16-17, 2019

### SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

#### ***The Road Home***

The Mary Circle is currently beginning a new initiative to help in collecting donations for a specific Road Home project. We are teaming with Thrivent Financial and have obtained \$250 to get started collecting all kinds of cleaning and household products for families who are trying to get back on their feet. The collection will take place from July 15th through September 16th. Please place your household cleaning products in the bin provided in the narthex. The items will be picked up each week and given to the Road Home. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Some specific items might include: dish soap, bathroom and kitchen cleaners, paper towels, wash clothes, sponges, SOS, glass cleaner, etc.

### GIVING GARDEN



Our thriving Giving Garden has some new tools thanks to a Thrivent Action Team from the Joanis family! The Action Team purchased \$250 of supplies including; tomato cages, storage and garden tools to keep our garden growing strong! Two of these \$250 mini grants are available to all of our Thrivent Members each year at no additional cost to them. Can you imagine what else we might be able to do with these funds? To learn more about Thrivent Action Teams talk to Robyn Koehler or visit [thrivent.com/making-a-difference](http://thrivent.com/making-a-difference). We still have weeks open to care for the Giving Garden by watering, weeding and collecting produce. Sign up is available at [stjamesverona.org](http://stjamesverona.org)

# TREASURER'S REPORT

*Treasurer's Report for June 2018  
Respectfully Submitted by Mark Krebsbach, Treasurer*

## General Fund

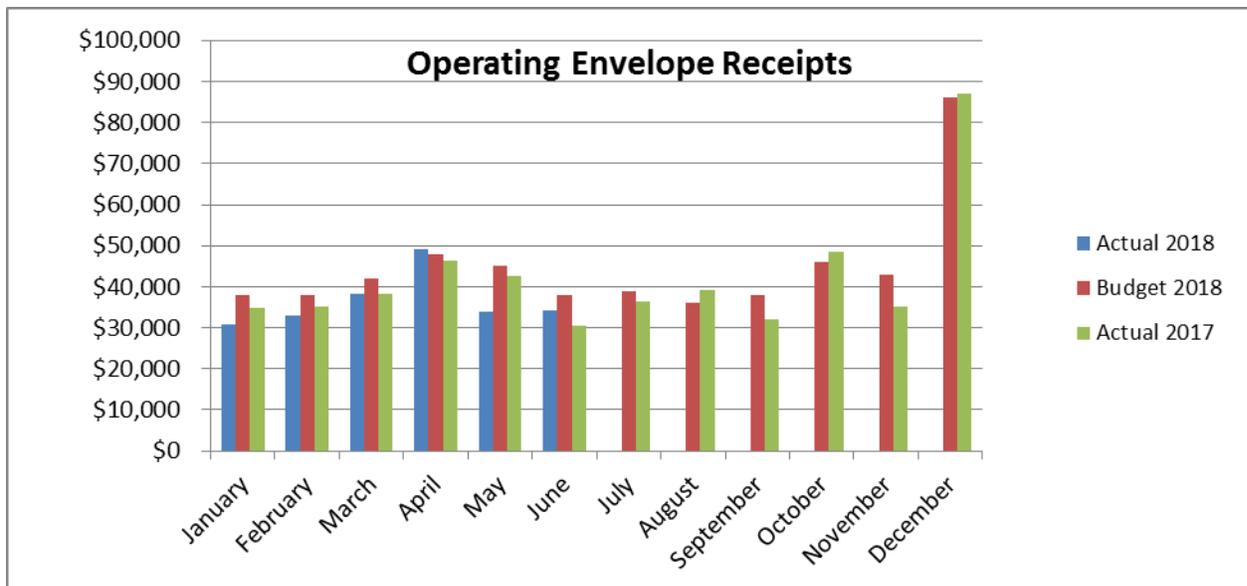
The 2018 General Fund Budget approved by the Congregation at the semi-annual meeting on February 4, 2018 totals \$560,357, which represents a 5.9% increase from 2017 receipts and a 1% increase from the 2017 Budget. For the 2018 Budget, \$537,000 of the income budget is from Operating Envelopes and/or those contributions received through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

<u>YTD Receipts</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Prior Year (P/Y)</u>
Offering Envelopes	\$ 219,489	\$249,000	\$227,343
Other Receipts	\$ 11,552	\$ 11,179	\$ 10,047
Total	\$ 231,041	\$260,179	\$237,390

<u>YTD Receipts</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease) from Budget</u>		<u>Increase (Decrease) from P/Y</u>	
	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Offering Envelopes	(\$29,511)	(11.9%)	(\$ 7,854)	(3.5%)
Other Receipts	\$ 373		\$ 1,505	
Total	(\$29,138)	(11.2%)	(\$ 6,349)	(2.7%)

<b>June 2018 Attendance:</b> 870	<b>YTD June 2018 Attendance:</b> 8,056
<b>June 2017 Attendance:</b> 742	<b>YTD June 2017 Attendance:</b> 7,786

The following graph shows the Operating Envelope Receipts/EFT for 2018 in comparison to the Budget and the Prior Year:



*Please prayerfully consider an increase to your General Fund giving this month so that our fiscal goals are achieved and our ministry programs are maintained.*



## Building Fund

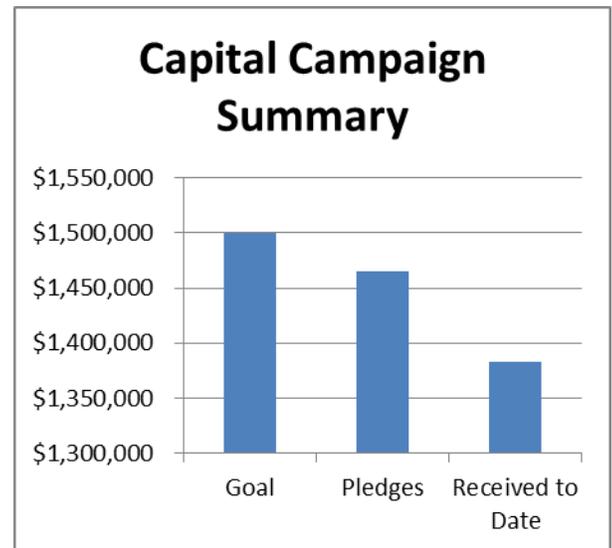
Pledges as of June 30, 2017 total \$1,465,000 towards the Capital Campaign goal of \$1,500,000. The estimated project cost is \$3.5 million with up to \$2.1 million to be financed as long-term debt.

The following shows the Capital Campaign results as of June 30, 2018:

Goal	\$1,500,000
Pledges	\$1,465,000
Received to Date	\$1,382,882

<b>Building Fund Balance, December 31, 2017:</b>	<b>\$355,112</b>
Plus: 2018 Contributions	177,002
Plus: 2018 Interest Income	195
Less: 2018 Construction Costs Paid	(290,200)
Less: 2018 Interest Expense - Cons. Loan	(48,310)
<b>Building Fund Balance as of June 30, 2018:</b>	<b><u>\$193,799</u></b>

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



## SOMETHING NEW? OR SOMETHING GONE?

As we complete our remodeling project at St. James, you may notice “little” changes around the building and property... in addition to the “big” changes like a new parking lot and the old preschool/parsonage that has gone missing! Questions that have come up:

### What happened to the Palm Sunday breakfast donations that were earmarked for “bike racks”?

Two bike racks have been ordered – one for the small bikes (e.g. preschool age bikes) and one for youth/adults. An area of cement was laid when the parking lot was re-done, and the bike racks will sit on cement, not grass. Look for the bike racks later in August.

### What happened to the “eternal light” that used to be on the side of the altar?

The eternal light was really not all that eternal. It was kept burning by the placing of a new pillar-style candle every 7-8 days. Several years ago, our local church source for altar supplies, including the candles, Madison Church Supply, closed, and another store opened in Waunakee. That store has also now closed, and there is no longer a local church supply business. As a result, the cost of purchasing the eternal candles was greatly increased by the added cost of shipping. It was decided that the money used to purchase these candles could be better utilized in other ways, so the eternal candle holder was removed.

# ALL THINGS YOUTH & FAMILY

## BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION!

We are excited for a new year of learning and growing in God's word, connecting with friends old and new and having lots of fun!

### How do I register?

Registration forms will be mailed to families with children ages 3 years old-8<sup>th</sup> grade in early August. Completed forms can be mailed, dropped off in the St. James Office or brought to one of our in-person registration dates: **August 26<sup>th</sup> + September 2<sup>nd</sup>** following the 9:00am service. Registration and payment are due **September 2nd**.

### What curriculum is used?

3 year old-4<sup>th</sup> grade lessons will be taught from the *Spark Lectionary* Curriculum. *Spark Lectionary* offers a Bible-centered curriculum with specially designed age-appropriate activities. The lessons correspond to the *Revised Common Lectionary*, which are the Bible readings we follow in worship. Parents and youth will be able to connect what they learned in Sunday School and during the worship service.

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders will be taught from *CONNECT* – a curriculum designed especially for “tweens.” *CONNECT* takes the youth on a journey through the Old Testament and into the New Testament, exploring connections between several stories each week. The age-appropriate curriculum incorporates funny video clips with solid Lutheran theology. It grows with pre-teens, helping them make sense of the Bible and encouraging them to ask questions, make connections and reflect.

### Join our Sunday School Team!

In order to have successful and low-cost Sunday School programs, many volunteers are needed. We are currently seeking teachers, assistant teachers, Classroom helpers, substitutes, kick-off leaders and event planners. Volunteering in our Sunday School program is extremely rewarding and there's no experience necessary!

Please contact

[hparker@stjamesverona.org](mailto:hparker@stjamesverona.org) or 845-6922 if you're interested or would like more

**Confirmation Class** is a two year program that students may begin in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. We use a curriculum titled *Collaborate*. This curriculum features hands-on investigative learning that leads to deep engagement with the Bible, church history and Lutheran Theology. Confirmation students will shape their faith and understanding through weekly lessons, small group relationships, worship participation and service projects.

### When are classes offered?

#### **Sunday School (September 16<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>)**

8:30am (following the Children's Sermon)-9:30am: Ages 3 years old-2<sup>nd</sup> grade

9:40am-10:30am: Ages 3 years old - 6<sup>th</sup> grade

#### **Confirmation (September 16<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>)**

Confirmation Orientation will be held September 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am. Confirmation students and their parents should attend. Confirmation Class will meet weekly in the Luther Room beginning September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:40am.

### What is the cost?

The cost of **Sunday School** is \$15 per child or a maximum of \$30 per family. The cost of **Confirmation** is \$25 per student. Payment can be submitted with your registration form. All families are welcome to be a part of our programs regardless of their ability to pay. If you need a scholarship, please contact [hparker@stjamesverona.org](mailto:hparker@stjamesverona.org).

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

**AUGUST** is here and many of us are doing lots of outdoor cooking and picnics. 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. (172F); and Poultry at 74degrees C.(178F). Reheat leftovers to at least 165 degrees F. Always use a meat thermometer.

**CHILL:** Keep cold foods cold at 4 degrees Centigrade,(approx..32-38F) 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.

Have a great time at that next bar-be-que and picnic by being safe!!

God's Blessings,

Barbara, Parish Nurse

### BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Checks will be held on August 12, in the church office. All are welcome to come!



### 2018-2019 Preschool Registration

We still have spots available in the 2 ½ and 3's class for next school year. Please contact Heather at [sjp@stjamesverona.org](mailto:sjp@stjamesverona.org) if you would like a tour or to register for a class.

# PARISH NOTES



We remember in our prayers – *Members of St. James:* Laurie Hambrecht, Lester Luehring, Monica Pechan, Charles & Ruby Reuter, and Dodie Syvrud. *Friends of St. James:* Chester & family, Colleen, Eric Jelinek, Mark, Laura Schurman, Jim Zwettler. *Relatives of Members:* Helen Abplanalp (mother of Chuck Abplanalp), Don & Georgi Anderson (parents of Jackie Johnson), John Bittrich (father of Elise Taft), Teresa Bottcher (sister of Lori Wing), Marlene Favor (mother of Julie Farmer), Genevieve Fleury (grandmother of Mike Piché), Brad Haferman (brother-in-law of Sandy Saether), Steve K. (Uncle of Brett Weiss), 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), Becky Murray (sister of Mary Fauble), Margaret Rasmussen (mother of Lauri Halminiak), Tom Severson (father of Rebekah Jonjak), John Thilgen (son-in-law of Vince Reed), Don Waalen (father of Karen Breitnauer), Julie Wiegel (cousin of Barb Rasmussen), Jennifer, and Dan and Melissa Zimmer (son and daughter-in-law of Greg and Sue Zimmer).

*In Residence:* **Four Winds** - Zelma Danna, and Dona Nyhus; **Noel Manor**—Alfred & Lorena Gerbitz, Dale & Audrey Hagen, Margaret Hendrickson, Marilyn Le Moine, Maureen Rand, Chuck & Marilyn Roum, Jim & Ginny Schumann, Ernest Stuber, Bob Syvrud, & Cookie Thompson; **Oakwood West** – Lorine Kahl. **St. Mary's Care Center** - Bill Gilbert. **Willow Pointe** - Betty Burgenske. **Willow Pointe Memory Care** - Dodie Syvrud.

**Serving in the Military:** Wyatt Breitnauer, Nicole, Dylan, , Andrew Zenz, Evan Spoon, Scott Halstead, Hannah Tordoff, Bryan Tordoff, Dan Sullivan, Adam Jeziorski, Casey Biggins, Mark Nyhus, Ryan Nyhus, Adam Pechan, Casey Pulver, David Pulver, and Shandra Pulver.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family Franklin Schwenn as they mourn his death; to the family of John Volker as they mourn the death of his mother, Dorothy; to the family of Florence Ceniti as they mourn her death; and to the family of Marvin Thompson, as they mourn his death.

Sacrament of Christian Baptism: Cedar Johanna Koehler, daughter of Robyn (Wayne) and Benjamin Koehler on July 1, 2018; and Tenley Marie Breunig, daughter of Matthew & Jill (Endrizzi) Breunig, on July 21, 2018.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

427 South Main Street  
Verona, WI 53593-1492

