



## In-person Holy Week Worship returns for the first time since 2019

### Palm Sunday, April 10



*Behold the Lamb, a Lenten cantata, will be sung at 8:30 & 10:45 am services*

The Passion narrative is the central focus of Holy Week. On Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday), April 10, we begin Holy Week by telling the Passion story in music and word. The cantata, *Behold the Lamb*, by Lloyd Larson, reminds us that the path to freedom and salvation came with a significant price. The Holy Lamb of God was the Son of the Creator of the universe. Jesus was the sacrificial Lamb who bore our sins on a cross, giving His life for us. We hope that you can join us on April 10.

#### *Palm Sunday Breakfast*

Please join us for a church breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 10, between services from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. The breakfast will be served in the dining room. The breakfast will include egg bakes, sausages, pastries, fruit and beverages. All are welcome! A free will offering will be received.

### Holy Week Worship at St. James

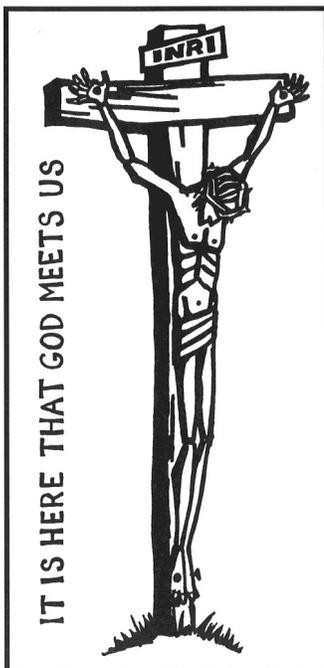


Illustration by Daniel Erlander

April 10, Palm Sunday

8:30 am & 10:45 am  
Palm Procession & Cantata

April 14, Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm—Worship *Livestreamed also*  
First Communion

April 15, Good Friday

7:00 pm—Tenebrae Service

April 16

*No worship scheduled*

April 17

**Resurrection of Our Lord**

7:00 am—Sunrise Worship

8:30 am—Festival Worship

*Livestreamed also*

10:45 am—Festival Worship

IN-PERSON WORSHIP: SATURDAY AT 5:00 PM & Sunday at 8:30 & 10:45 am

8:30 am is LIVESTREAMED ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Communion Served on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month.

Phone: 608.845.6922

[www.stjamesverona.org](http://www.stjamesverona.org)

Fax: 608.845.6903

## From the Pastor

### An Easter Celebration Three Years in the Making

The last time we celebrated Easter in the sanctuary here at St. James, surrounded by the beautiful stained glass windows along with all the Easter Lilies and spring flowers, with the choirs signing and the organ playing (pulling out most of the stops) was Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019. On Easter Sunday, 2020, the church was empty. (We had recorded the service a few days prior to Easter and came to you “virtually”.) Then, on Easter Sunday of last year, we were all out in the parking lot. And, it felt good to be together in that way. But, the Church was once again empty, albeit for a few of us carrying things out to the parking lot. But now on Easter Sunday this year, we will once again celebrate in our beautiful sanctuary, with the stained glass windows, the Easter Lilies and spring flowers as well as the choirs and the organ, and most importantly, an empty cross. Easter is the most important day in the life of the Church. In fact, without Easter there would be no Church. As the Apostle Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians: “We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup>If Christ has not been raised, your faith is

futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have died<sup>[a]</sup> in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>**If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.** <sup>20</sup>**But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.”** Of course, Christians have celebrated Easter in all sorts of difficult circumstances, including world wars and famines, to name just a few. But this year, we are blessed to be able to gather together as God’s people and celebrate Christ’s victory over death, the very foundation of our faith, in our beautiful sanctuary. Come and join us, for an Easter celebration three years in the making.

Happy Easter!

— Pastor Kurt



#### ST. JAMES 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
Grace Parker	Office Assistant
Barb Roberts	Card Ministry
Holly Parker	Director of Parish Education Ministries
Bailey Green	Youth Director
Paulette Spoon	Adult Choir & Handbell Choir
Susan Bubolz	Youth Choir Director
Rhonda Chalone,	
Alex Ford & Jim Erickson	Accompanists
Barb Rasmussen, R.N.	Parish Nurse/Visitation Coord.
Heather Pearl	Director, St. James Preschool
Holly Parker, Lori Rudy	St. James Preschool
Kristin Wills & Stacy Zimmerman	

#### CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Allison Heil President	608-527-2353
Susan Martin-Zernicke, VP	608-246-2025
Mark Krebsbach, Treasurer	608-438-6424
Jim Ruder, Secretary	608-212-6742
Jon Baldock	608-480-4091
Desiree Canto	646-599-7021
Christine Kemnitz	608-886-6363
Julie Murphy	608-345-8533
John Walker	608-845-8732



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

# Budget Update

2022 General Budget through February



<u>Year-to-Date Receipts (under) budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	vs.	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Amount over/</u>
Offering Envelopes	\$83,622		\$83,000	\$622
Seeds Fund Transfer	\$23,654		\$23,654	
PPP Fund Transfer	\$ 5,833		\$ 5,833	
Other Receipts	<u>\$ 663</u>		<u>\$ 567</u>	<u>\$ 96</u>
Total	\$113,772		\$113,054	\$718

## Year-to-Date Expenses

<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$115,261	\$121,256	\$(5,995)

---

## Gift Planning

This is the time of year when people are preparing or have completed their tax returns. Whether you use the standard deduction or itemize, your charitable gifts can reduce your taxes. This provides the opportunity to increase your generosity!

And, if you are age 72 or older, you have another opportunity:

## IRA Transfers

You can transfer funds directly from your IRA to St. James Lutheran Church. Such a transfer is not reportable income to you and can meet your required minimum distribution for the year. Such transfers are limited to \$100,000 per year and not deductible as a charitable donation but have the potential to reduce your tax bill because there is no reportable income. *This way of giving can be helpful even if you don't itemize.*

Thank you for considering St. James in your gift planning.

**Save the Date for a St. James Tradition**  
**The Drive-In Dinner Returns**  
**Wednesday May 18th**  
**Hosted by our St. James Youth Group**

## Children, Youth & Family



### First Communion

Sunday, April 3, 9:30-10:30 am	Instruction (Luther Room)
Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am	Bread Baking & Banner Making (Dining Room)
Sunday, April 10, 9:30-10:30 am	Instruction (Sanctuary)
Thursday, April 14, 6:00 pm	Dinner
Thursday, April 14, 7:00 pm	First Communion Service

If your child has not received a letter, but you would like them to participate in First Communion, please contact Holly at [hparker@stjamesverona.org](mailto:hparker@stjamesverona.org).

### Palm Sunday Processional & Drop-In Activities

*Sunday, April 10 at 8:30 am*



**Before & during the service:** Children are invited to meet in the Narthex and join in a procession of palms at the beginning of the service. After the procession, they can sit with their families. We look forward to this special tradition!

**After the service:** All are invited to visit our Holy Week Stations which will include planting, praying, coloring and playing! You can drop in before or after brunch. There will be signs to point you in the right direction!

### Coming Up in Sunday School & Confirmation

Date	Spark 3's-4th grade	Club Connect 5th-6th grade	Confirmation 7th-8th grade
April 3	Holy Week	Jesus the Savior	Family Time Matters
April 10	Palm Sunday Brunch & Holy Week Activities		
April 17	Easter Sunday - No Classes		
April 24	Doubting Thomas	Jesus the Savior (ctd.)	1st & 2nd Corinthians
May 1	Saul to Paul	The Apostles & The Church	Revelation
May 8	Mother's Day Activities & Review		No Class
May 15	Last Day Celebration & Volunteer Appreciation		Last Day - Faith Talks & Celebration

## Youth Food Group Packed Food for the Weekend Food Program



Each week during the school year, volunteers from St. James and Sugar River UMC pack food bags which are distributed to children in need in our four Verona Elementary Schools to supplement their dietary needs over the weekend. The Food is supplied by Second Harvest Food Bank.

On March 16, the St. James Youth Group took on this service project for the week.

Pictured to the left are four of our wonderful youth volunteers: Braelin Weiss, Parker Sobczak, Caden Jonjak, and Luke Person

## National Youth Gathering Retreat

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will be hosting a retreat in lieu of the ELCA National Youth Gathering this summer! The National Youth Gathering was supposed to take place in Minneapolis in July, but it was canceled due to complications caused by Covid-19.

This National Youth Gathering retreat will be at Bethel Horizons summer camp near Governor Dodge State Park, which is only a short forty-minute drive from St. James. The date is set for the weekend of July 29-31. Youth who have finished 8th grade by June of 2022 and youth enrolled in 9th-12th grade for 2022 are invited to attend. Please watch your email for more information and registration details as the date gets closer!

## Baccalaureate Service

St. James will be holding a baccalaureate service for high school graduates on Sunday, May 22nd at the 8:30 am service. There will be a reception to celebrate the graduates with cake to follow the service. Bailey Green will be in touch with families with details after Easter, so please watch both your snail-mail and email for more information!



## Vacation Bible School

*August 1 – 4, 9:00 am - 12 noon*

Family Celebration on August 4 from 11:45-12:30pm.

For ages 3 through 103!

VBS is truly an experience for all generations! Adults and teens have just as much fun as the kids...if not more! Together, we will enjoy songs, stories, crafts, games and snacks that will bring us closer to God and each other!

*\*St. James families have priority registration through May 1st.\**

To learn more, scan the QR code on the right or visit the Children, Youth & Family page on our website.

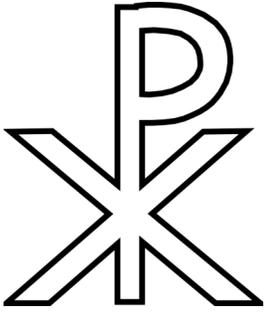


## Sunday School Highlights

We've been "Walking with Jesus" through Lent and learning about temptation, forgiveness, unconditional love and being His most treasured possessions.



# Women of St. James



## Chrismons and Fellowship

*A Mary Circle Event*

*April 23*

Chrismons are Christmas decorations in the shapes of Christian symbols. Handmade Chrismons have decorated the altar trees at St. James for many years. Our Chrismons are starting to show some wear so the Women of St. James Board is sponsoring a day of fellowship and crafting with the “mission” of creating many new Chrismons for our altar trees. The date is April 23. We will gather around 9:00 am for fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, and fruit. We will have a brief presentation about Chrismons, their origin and meaning. Then we will “get to work” on making the new Chrismons. The forms will already be cut into the shapes from Styrofoam and will be ready for decorating. No “crafting” experience is required. Lots of guidance and coaching will be provided. Lunch will be served, and we plan to finish by 3:00 pm. You can scan the code to register or sign up by the Welcome Center. Mark your calendar for April 23 and plan to come enjoy a day of fun and fellowship and help to do something good for our Christmas decor. Because of the intricacy of the Chrismons, we suggest that participants be 14 years of age or older. Questions? Contact Bobbie Wang (coordinator): [bwang799@gmail.com](mailto:bwang799@gmail.com)



## Thank you

Thank you to all who provided food, and set up, served, and/or cleaned up for our Wednesday Lenten table meals. Special thanks to the adult choir, youth, confirmation class and families, Mary Circle, Sarah and March Circles, St. James staff, and the Community Meal crew for their support and assistance. The meals were enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended. Well done!



Thank you to all who supported the Red Cross blood drive at St. James on March 26. Thank you for your commitment to help save lives!

## Martha and Sarah Circle May Meeting

Martha & Sarah Circle will meet at St. James on May 3 in the Luther Room at 1:00 pm. The Pastor led Bible study will begin at 1:30 pm.

## Women's Retreat Rescheduled for 2023

After much consideration, the planning committee for the St. James Women's Retreat, scheduled for April 2-3 has been postponed. We have rescheduled the retreat, which will be held at Holy Wisdom Monastery in Middleton, for April 22 – 23, 2023. We invite you to save the date!

## From the Parish Nurse...

Spring is here!! Easter is upon us!! Both are signs of awakening and fresh new starts. It truly is a Wonderful time of the year. Easter reminds us that Christ died for our sins and rose again to live forever with God in heaven. We have a "fresh start" every time we confess our sins and know that we are forgiven in Christ.

Just as we clean up our gardens and walkways after winter, we have to do the same thing with ourselves emotionally. We have to give up past hurts and struggles and start looking ahead with a new attitude and commitment. Live your faith! Use your gifts, be positive, give thanks for all you have and appreciate it. Don't forget your physical side of attitude. Get up. Be as active as your health permits. Eat well. Commit to your new self in all ways!!

As we get busy, remember to allow time to share with Jesus by yourself. It's a gift we as Christians have. While we reflect again on all that His resurrection means, we should take the time to completely focus on our singular relationship with Jesus. Many of us take a little time in the morning with our first cup of coffee to pray for the day, others, our gifts, and to help us do better and be positive. It doesn't have to be a long time, but it sure makes me feel better just knowing I purposely connected with Jesus to begin my day.

"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost." Romans 15: 13.

God Bless You,

Barbara Rasmussen, RN.,PNC.



### Blood Pressure Checks

Checks will be held on April 10 after the 8:30 service in the church office. All are welcome to come!



### THANK YOU from Harlan Dahlk for all the Birthday Cards

Oh my, what a Birthday for Harlan Dahlk at age 94! Thanks to the St. James family along with his family, extended family, friends, and friends of family that literally showered him with Birthday cards - more than 115 cards - which kept the postal carrier busy and Harlan smiling and active as he opened and read every single card himself. He enjoyed sharing them and talking about how special the senders are. THANK YOU!

PS - The attached photo was taken on his Birthday with his daily visit from Bella who spends her afternoons with "Grandpa Dahlk". They definitely both enjoy one another!





# Saint JAMES PRESCHOOL



Verona Area  
**PreK**  
Partnership in Early Learning

## Vision Screening

The Verona Lions Club will be providing free Vision Screening at our preschool on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:00am.

This vision screening is meant to identify children who are at high-risk for common eye problems. It does not replace an eye exam, and it does not check for all conditions. This service is offered free of charge by certified screeners from the Verona Lions Club and Prevent Blindness Wisconsin.

If you have any children ages 18 months through 6 years old and want to get them tested, you may enter through the Preschool Entrance (down at the end of the parking lot) anytime on 4/13 between 9:00-10:00. Children are allowed to sit on their parent's lap, and nothing touches them for this test.



# PARISH NOTES

If you have someone that you would like to add to this prayer list please email ([office@stjamesverona.org](mailto:office@stjamesverona.org)) or call the church office (845-6922) or fill out a form which can be found at the Welcome Center at St. James.



**W**e remember our members in our prayers, especially Elise Taft, Pat Strand, Tracy Borchert, Monica Pechan, Joanne Prange, and Lorlene Pulver.

We also remember Ben (nephew of Sue Zimmer), Nancy Gerry (mother of Angie Rahn), Bruce & Pearlene Glasrud (brother and sister-in-law of Karen Wolf), Dustin Olmschenk (nephew of Nancy Steinemann), Sally, Sharon Schwinn (sister of Mary Moldenhauer) Mary Watkins (daughter of Renata Henry), Julie Weigel (cousin of Barbara Rasmussen), Dave Wolf (nephew of Doug Wolf), and friends John, Judy, Lynn, Susan Kennedy, Debbie Loughrin, and Pat Stillwell.

**S**acrament of Christian Baptism: Olivia Joyce Scherer, daughter of Taylor & Margaret (Premo) Scherer, on February 13, 2022; and August Paul Schulte, son of Jefree & Amy (Kacmarynski) Schulte on April 2, 2022.

**C**hristian Sympathy is extended to the family of Sue Dahlk as they mourn the death of her brother, Jim Leary; and to the family of Jay Mattison as they mourn the death of his mother, Donna.

**In Residence: Four Winds** - Zelma Danna; **Noel Manor**—Dutch & Dee Becker, Lorena Gerbitz, Dale & Audrey Hagen, James Hatch, Dick Herfel, Ellen & Lloyd Hornbacher, Harriet Instefjord, Marilyn Le Moine, Chuck & Marilyn Roum, & Jim Schumann. **Oakwood West** – Lorine Kahl. **Willow Pointe** - Betty Burgenske, and Kay Hankins. **Oak Park Place** – Audrey Kunstman.

**Serving in the Military:** Wyatt Breitnauer, Hannah Tordoff, Judy Watters, Evan Spoon and Bryan Tordoff.

Verona, WI 53593-1492

427 South Main Street



NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MADISON WI  
Permit # 4013