

# ***St. James Lutheran Church***

9:00 A.M. Worship Service – 10:30 A.M. Sunday School  
The Rev. Brenda Ferree, Pastor

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*November , 2011*



## **PASTOR'S TABLE TALK**

*“Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the  
Jesus Christ”*

*Lord*

### ***ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON; A PERFECT TIME TO TURN BACK TO THE SCRIPTURES***

Jesus' ministry lasted only a few years yet in that short time God's Son; Immanuel; "God with us," taught, preached, and performed miracles that are captured in the Holy Scriptures; the Holy Bible.

We are called to live lives that reflect Christ and in order to reflect Christ we need to know Him. To know Him, we need to read and reflect on what was written about Him. We need to Turn Back to the Scriptures and study them.

During the Advent season this year that begins on November 27 and the fourth Sunday of Advent; December 18, there will be an Advent Bulletin Bible Study sheet included in each week's bulletin. The Study reflects on the four candles of the Advent Wreath and includes a short introduction, a Scripture or two to read and some thought-provoking questions to think about. Please come to worship throughout the season of Advent and take the Study with you each week, work on it, think about it, and let it settle-in to your busy life.

Here is an excerpt from the Study from the last week for you to peruse. Blessed wandering as you wonder through the Season.

**ADVENT BULLETIN BIBLE STUDY  
WEEK 4**

**PEACE**

We light the Advent Candle during this the fourth week of Advent;  
naming it  
“The Candle of Peace.”

Wondering as we have wandered through this time of reading  
God’s word and reflecting on what it truly means in our lives, we  
are now one week away from Christmas Day.

Into this “crazy and hectic” world we wander, and as we do, we  
imagine amidst the craziness the birth of the Christ-Child; Jesus—  
the One we call the Prince of Peace.

Imagine and reflect on the real peace our LORD can bring into our  
lives.

During Advent and Christmas it is sometimes difficult to think of  
Jesus as an adult.

And yet, his “Coming” at Advent is also about his  
“Coming Again”  
at the end of time as we know it.

Jesus tried to tell his disciples in the gentlest of ways that he was  
about to leave them as he was headed toward the cross.  
Jesus gives the disciples peace in the promise he would send them  
the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, to be with them forever.

Read and Reflect on John 14:15-31.

[Note that Jesus uses the word “Love” 10 times in these 16 verses!  
It must be important!]

Three of my favorite verses are 18, 23, and 27. Verse 18 is so  
fatherly and lovingly spoken by Jesus as he says, “I will not leave  
you orphaned; I am coming to you.”

Verse 23; Jesus’ words about the Father and Him coming and  
making their home with those who love Jesus is a comforting  
thought to me.

Verse 27; Jesus gives the promise of Peace.  
Peace that will keep us from having troubled hearts.  
Peace to keep us from being afraid.  
Peace to live in this “Crazy and hectic” world.

Think about one thing you can do that will help you focus on the  
Joy of Christmas rather than on the busyness.

Write a prayer that gives God all of your anxieties, frustrations,  
worries, joys and things you are thankful for. Then ask God to  
help you in each of them.

May God, the One who will not leave you orphaned; the One who  
gives Hope; the one who Loves you; and the One who brings you  
Joy and Peace, be with you now and forever. Amen.

May you continue to wonder and wander through the Scriptures in  
the New Year and throughout your life.

In Christ,

Pastor Brenda  
+ + +

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**BIBLE STUDY-- THE GREATEST STORY—JESUS**  
Bible Study continues on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the  
parlor.

## SPECIAL SERVICES

### “FIRST WEDNESDAY SERVICE”

#### **BRIEF ORDER of HOLY COMMUNION and SERVICE OF HEALING**

December 7<sup>th</sup> - 12 Noon  
January 4<sup>th</sup> – 12 Noon

Please consider inviting a friend to this brief [1/2 hour] yet meaningful service of Holy Communion and Healing Prayers for Healing can be for ourselves or on behalf of others.

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### “HANGING OF THE CHRISMONS” SERVICE

On the Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 4, during worship, we will celebrate our annual “Hanging of the Chrismons” service, but this year there will be a new focus. During the service we will hear words from Scripture and explanations of the Chrismons; Christian symbols created in the early 1980’s by the women of St. James.

During the service this year each Chrismon will be presented and explained briefly. We are asking for volunteers to participate in the sharing of the meaning of these beautiful symbols that remind us of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Following the service we will have a meal together in the Social Room. There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 4.



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Please begin now to plan for your attendance at either the new “Family and Friends” Service or the traditional “Candlelight, Music, and Communion” Service.

**“FAMILY AND FRIENDS” SERVICE** at 4:00 p.m. This service is designed for children and families but also for those who are unable to attend the 9:00 p.m. service. **ALL** are welcome at this service. Begin now to consider coming and inviting your friends, neighbors, and family!



The service will be approximately 45 minutes long and will include the “telling” of the story of Jesus’ birth. The entire service will be done in a casual way, with familiar Christmas carols interspersed. The children of St. James will be entering into the “telling of the story” in costume as the story unfolds. There will be no Holy Communion at this service.

**CANDLELIGHT, MUSIC, AND COMMUNION SERVICE** at 9:00 p.m. This is the traditional candle-light, music-filled service with Holy Communion. Invite your family and friends to this service and experience the “real meaning of Christmas;” the nativity of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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**CHRISTMAS DAY**, Sunday, December 25 at 9:00 a.m., will be in the format of “Lessons and Carols” and will include the Brief Order of Holy Communion.

**NEW YEAR’S DAY OR “NAME OF JESUS” DAY**, Sunday, January 1, 2012, will be at 9:00 a.m. As we begin the new year, we will call on God in repentance and prayer through our praying of The Great Litany. Luther described the Great Litany as being one of the greatest Christian prayers ever. The service will also include the Brief Order of Holy Communion.

There will be No Sunday School on either of these Sunday



COUNCILPERSONS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS are reminded that Year-End reports for the Annual Congregational Report are due by **the end of November.**

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**AN ADVENT OFFERING ENVELOPE (replacing \$10 quarter coin folder)** is included with this Newsletter. Please use this envelope for your Advent Offering as you previously used the coin folder. Church Council, at their November meeting, will be designating where the funds will be distributed. Please watch the bulletin.



**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON**



*Sunday, January 15, 2012, immediately following the worship service. All active members are invited and encouraged to attend! There will be No Sunday School on this date. (Snow date – Sunday, January 22nd)*

*Reservation forms for the luncheon will be in the bulletin and on the Information Rack beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>*

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OUR ANNUAL HAM SUPPER will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets will be available to purchase from any youth Sonja Hoke after the holidays.

Adults - \$8, Children 6-12 - \$4.00



or

**“COMMITTEE NEWS”**

FROM SOCIAL MINISTRY –

Thank you to all who so generously donated to our Harvest Home project. We collected, along with the Youth Group Food Scavenger Hunt, approx. 6 boxes of food and \$222 at the door. Coffee Social Hour also donated \$44.50. The food and a check in the amount of \$266.50 were delivered to the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry.

Blanket Sunday – October 2, 2011 –

Collected 25 blankets, 24 Health Kits

At the door offering - \$176.00 – used \$30 to purchase additional blankets and sent to LWR \$146 for shipping costs.

November 9, 2011 - Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sale–Profit \$732.37

Distribution \$ 73.37 – 10% to church

\$ 100.00– ARC – Turkey dinner

\$ 559.00 To be used to purchase 2 bikes for

Riley Burns Confirmation Project.

Balance of \$559 after bike purchases to Rescue Mission.

If bikes are not bought money will be given to Salvation Army

**Next Sandwich Sale – January 18<sup>th</sup>** – order dues by January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Social Ministry Winter Project – beginning in January – we will be collecting tissues for residents at Pleasant Acres (Pretty boxes please.)

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**Social Hour Hosts**

December – Youth

January - Christian Ed. Comm.



## Second Sunday Soup

*Sponsored by Hospitality & Evangelism Committee*

### Order Form



Homemade soup will be available for purchase on the Second Sunday of the months of January, February, and March. **The soup will sell for \$5.00 a quart and must be ordered in advance.** January will feature Beef Vegetable soup and February's selection will be Baked Bean soup. Soup may be picked up either on the Friday that precedes the Second Sunday of the month between 11:30 and 12:30 or the Second Sunday of the month after the church service. Please return this order form to the church office by the order deadlines.

**January deadline for orders is Sunday, January 1**

**February's deadline will be Sunday, February 5.**

### SECOND SUNDAY SOUP ORDER

\$ 5.00 PER QUART

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

JANUARY: BEEF VEGETABLE \_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF QUARTS

Please check pick up time \_\_\_\_ Friday, Jan. 6, 11:30am-12:30pm  
\_\_\_\_ Sunday, Jan. 8, 10:30am

FEBRUARY: BAKED BEAN \_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF QUARTS

Please check pick up time \_\_\_\_ Friday, Feb. 10, 11:30am-12:30pm  
\_\_\_\_ Sunday, Feb. 12 10:30am

## From Hospitality and Evangelism:



### Upcoming Events:

**Christmas Caroling/Cookie Exchange**

**Sunday, December 18, 2011, 6 – 7:30 PM**

Everyone is invited to go Christmas Caroling around our church neighborhood and then return to the church to enjoy cookies and coffee/tea/hot chocolate. This is a great way for us to be visible to the community and invite them to our Christmas services.

**Bring 2 dozen homemade cookies.** One dozen to share and the second dozen for our cookie exchange. You will be able to select one dozen cookies to take home with you. This is your opportunity to sample a variety of cookies! If you are unable to carol but still want to come for cookies- that's OK too (be at the church about 7PM).

## Book and Bake Sale

Saturday, January 28, 2012

9 AM-3PM



We need your help:

1. Donate gently used books. You can bring them to the church and put them on the pool table in the social room or contact Mike Cooper 845-6561 to arrange pick-up.
2. Sorting books and set-up for the sale.
3. Day of sale workers.

4. Bake sale donations.

Contact Mike or Judy Cooper 845-6561 or sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

**“GROUP NEWS”**



**DECEMBER MEETING –**  
ST. JAMES SENIOR MEMBERS, those with reservations, are reminded that we will meet on Thursday, December 1st, at 12:00 Noon for our annual Christmas Luncheon at Calvary United Methodist Church.

**JANUARY MEETING –**  
ST. JAMES SENIOR MEMBERS will meet on Thursday, January 5th at 11:30 A.M. in the Social Room. Bring a sandwich of your choice, beverage and dessert will be provided. We welcome all new attendees, no dues to pay, we only pass the basket for a free-will offering to help defray expenses.

**SUNSHINE WORKERS CLASS MEETING**



**Monday, December 5, 1:00 PM**  
Christmas Party at Normandie Ridge

Class **will NOT** be meeting in January.  
Next scheduled meeting will be Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>  
at the home of Janet Hershey, 1PM

Christmas Party for residents at Kelly Manor – December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Party for residents at Sprenkle Village – December 13<sup>th</sup>

**SUNSHINE WORKERS’ BREAKFAST**

Thursday, December 15h – Alexander’s  
Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>  
Watch bulletin for location



Come out and start your day by having breakfast with us.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY TEAM**



*“Threads of Compassion.”* Beginning in January the Group will be meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor. If interested in joining the group please contact Peg Funkhouser for more details.

**PRAYER MINISTRY AT ST. JAMES**

Please consider being a part of our Prayer Chain at St. James. We are re-organizing and are in need of “PRAY-ERS” and someone to be the Leader of the Prayer Chain. If you are interested in being a part of this important ministry, please join Pastor Brenda and those “PRAY-ERS” currently on the Prayer Chain on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2012, in the Parlor, at 10:00 a.m. We will have a time of fellowship and review our current process and discuss any additions or changes as we move forward in the ministry of prayer. **At the present time, please contact Pastor Brenda to add someone to the PRAYER CHAIN for prayers as they go through a crisis or difficult time. 717-542-3505 [Cell], 854-7198 [Church], or 244-4633 [Home].**

**WHEN YOU ARE IN THE HOSPITAL**



When you find yourself in the hospital either unexpectedly or for a planned stay, please let us know by contacting the church office at 854-7198 or the pastor at home, 244-4633 or on her cell phone, 542-3505. Due to HIPPA regulations, we have not

always informed of admissions, and it can be difficult or even impossible for clergy to discover your admission. To ensure that you will receive pastoral care in the hospital, please inform pastor or office.

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## ST. JAMES LUTHERAN YOUTH 'IGNITED' BY THE POWER!

### DECEMBER 2011 – GATHERINGS

- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> and SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – HANGING OF THE CHRISMONS; YOUTH SHOULD BE IN ATTENDANCE. YOUTH ARE ALSO IN CHARGE OF THE BRUNCH AFTER WORSHIP (HELPING TO SET-UP, SERVE, AND CLEAN-UP). We hope to see you at 9 am.
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> – CHRISTMAS PIZZA PARTY!!!! WE HOPE YOU BRING SOME FRIENDS AS WELL FROM 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. A FULL NIGHT OF GAMES, FOOD, AND FUN!
- A Sunday in December, after Sunday School, please stay and help make Luminaries. Please look in your bulletins for further information.

### JANUARY 2012 – GATHERINGS

- FRIDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> – SUNDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> – WINTERFEST 'GO'! THERE WILL BE NO YOUTH GATHERING AT THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>. Please meet at the

church on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> by 4:00 pm with all materials (clothes, papers, etc...) ready to go. You will be taken to Lancaster County Convention Center.

- SUNDAY, JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> – YOUTH GATHERING FROM 6 PM – 8 PM. Welcome to the New Year!! We hope you enjoyed the first several months we had youth gatherings, now is the real time to start getting you motivated!!!

### Youth continued

Please be aware, we need congregational support for several events that are taking place in the New Year, one of those events is called the "30-Hour Famine." We need congregation members to help make a breakfast for those participating, sponsor the youth who will be without food for 30 hours, and help with activities. Please offer your help where necessary! Please see AJ (Youth Leader) or Pastor Brenda if you are able to help.

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### FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

WANTED - Person to snow blow church property. We need someone to take care of clearing the sidewalks and walkways around the church and the apartment buildings when it snows by shoveling and using the church's snow blower. This does NOT include plowing the parking lots. It is a paid service of around \$13 / hour and all equipment is provided by the church. If interested, please contact Scott Stock (843-7822) or the church office.



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

- During the tropical storms of August and September, some roof leaks became evident in the bell tower, sanctuary wall, and the pastor's office ceiling. With the help of a contractor, we have identified several likely causes and obtained a price of \$11,790 to repair. Trustees are currently working with Council on this work and more details will be presented in the future. This is the second major roof repair we have had to tackle this year and it has caused a strain on the Building Fund. Please consider increasing your

donations to the Building Fund to help make these necessary repairs.

- Many of the exterior doors have been painted thanks to Dave Scott, John Burns, Carol Knaub, Peg Funkhouser, Tom Meckley, and Scott Stock. The remaining doors will be done next year.

The spot lights on our main sign along Market St were vandalized and Tom Meckley is currently in the process of replacing them.

Trustees continued

- We passed our bi-annual inspection by West York Borough with no problems.

- The boiler at our apartment at 1429 W Market St (middle unit) failed in early November. Trustees and Council are currently working to get a new heating unit installed for the tenant. Thanks to Deb Rinehart for her extensive help on this matter.

Trustees and Council are currently working on a plan to renovate the Sanctuary (I think we can all agree that it is due). As we finalize details we will present them to the congregation, but there is currently not enough money in the Building Fund to cover the cost. So, please consider contributing to the Building Fund to help us accomplish this much needed work to the focal point of our church building.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATION UPDATE



We are working on a plan for some additional notification methods so that the Congregation will be better informed in the case of inclement weather requiring cancellation of services. This information will be placed in upcoming newsletters and bulletins.

Pastor, Council President and Sexton confer and decide that the weather conditions and the advisory to stay off the roads warrant that a service be cancelled.

The Council, Board of Trustees, and those scheduled to serve in worship on Sunday morning are to be contacted by phone. The announcement of closing will be placed on Channel 43 WPMT TV [Comcast channel 5] and WGAL 8 [Comcast channel 3]. The announcement of closure will be on our phone system and our website.

DIRECTORY CHANGES – Dec/Jan

EISENHART, Shirley, deceased 11/18/2011

EYSTER, Dorothy, Country Meadows, Shiloh,

1920 Trolley Rd., Room 50 - Phone – 854-3375

MIEDWIG, Gloria, deceased 10/16/2011

SHIREY, Janet, Autumn House West, 914 W. Market St, 17401

Room 2111 Phone – 659-6328

TREASURER’S REPORT - MONTHLY UPDATE

	<u>Oct. 2011</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Current Receipts	\$ 14,689.21	\$ 134,603.71
Current Disbursements	<u>\$ 15,806.44</u>	<u>\$ 146,202.85</u>
Current Receipts less		
Disbursements	[\$ 1,117.23]	[\$ 11,599.14]
Benevolence Receipts	\$ 887.00	\$ 7,899.50
Benevolence Disbursement	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ 5,662.50</u>

Aug., Sept. & Oct. 2011 Benevolence not sent \$2,237.00

Treasurer’s Financial Update – Transferred Funds

Have not yet reimbursed Building Fund for \$4,212 previously borrowed; in addition we have borrowed \$7,500 from Building Fund to cover expenses and maintain a minimal balance in our checking Account. Total owed Building Fund \$11,712.00.

Please consider an extra year-end donation to help eliminate this deficit!

NICKEL JAR October—December

BELL FAMILY SHELTER

Whatever you can place in the "Nickel Jar" will be greatly appreciated by those who need to use the Shelter.

**FOR OUR RECORDS –** So that we have accurate records for all members having taken communion during 2011 we ask that everyone please complete a updated communion record card during the month of December and give it to an usher as directed.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All contributions to St. James that you would like to have recorded on your 2011 year end financial statement should be submitted by Sunday, December 25th. Offerings received after December 25<sup>h</sup> will be recorded on the 2012 financial statements.

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**DECEMBER THANK YOU NOTES:**

Dear St. James Ev. Lutheran Church: On behalf of the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry we would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$430. May God Bless you!

*Mary F. Wivell, Harvest of Hope Food Pantry, Inc*

Lee and I wish to thank Pastor Brenda for her many visits and encouraging words and prayers. Lee also enjoyed the beautiful flowers and the visits and cards that he continues to receive from his friends at St. James. *Sincerely, Jean Paxton*

With appreciation to each of you for being so thoughtful. The flowers are beautiful and really appreciated. *Dorothy Reid*

To Pastor Brenda and Friends at St. James,  
Thank you for your visits, phone calls and prayers during my recovery from knee surgery. They were greatly appreciated. I also enjoyed the cards received from my St. James friends.

*Sincerely, Dick Mummert*

A big thank you to all the ladies who helped knit baby hats for children in Central America. Your Christian love is spreading around the world. *Sue Martin*

Pastor Brenda and St. James Parishioners,  
Thank you for altar flowers delivered by Joann Urey and Peggy Funkhouser. It was so nice to see them. Thank you Pastor Brenda for your hospital visit, prayers and well wishes.

*Most Sincerely, Linda Clark*

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL - DECEMBER 2011**

12/01 KOLLER, Brock  
12/02 BAILEY, Bode & Brady  
12/02 EYSTER, Nancy  
12/03 RAFFERTY  
12//06 SHULTZ  
12/09 HESS, Robert  
12/10 WAGNER, Elizabeth R.  
12/14 COOPER, Judith  
12/15 BOLLINGER, Jennifer  
12/15 BOLLINGER, Robert  
12/15 OERMAN, Mary E.  
12/18 RICE, Michael  
12/19 HOACHLANDER, Alysha,  
12/20 McCLELLAN, Rebecca  
12/22 DRAWBAUGH, Sarah  
12/22 EDWARDS, Nancy  
12/23 DENNIS, Mary  
12/23 RICE, Ashley  
12/24 MUMMERT, Joyce  
12/26 HOFFMAN, G. Jeanne  
12/28 HENRY, Lowell  
12/29 BECKER, Natalie S.  
12/29 BOYER, Gladys  
12/29 FERREE, Pastor Brenda  
12/29 HENZE, Linda A.  
12/29 VARNER, Hailey Elizabeth

12/30 CLARK, Linda,  
12/30 STOCK, Ava  
12/31 NUNES, Christopher



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**JANUARY 2012**

**TO ALL -**

01/30 HOKE, Matthew  
01/31 HESS, Dana (Boyer)



01/01 KERN, Philip E., Jr., 2215 W. Market St., 17404  
01/01 RUSSELL, Grace  
01//02 KRAUT, Robert K.  
01/02 STARNER, Bryce W.  
01/03 ASHTON, Jean Marie  
01/03 GLATFELTER, Phillip, III  
01/05 GERRICK, Kurt  
01/06 HEBERLIG, Nathan  
01/08 SHIREY, Janet  
01/09 BRODBECK, Susan  
01/11 ZEMAITIS, Ruth  
01/15 BOYER, Raymond E.  
01/17 MERGENTHALER, H. Lee  
01/17 WEAVER, William G.  
01/19 ALTLAND, Philip J.  
01/19 HOACHLANDER, Elizabeth  
01/20 WILHELM, Richard I.  
01/21 STOUGH, Agnes  
01/21 MYERS, Millard  
01/23 MEALS, William L., Jr.  
01/24 DIETZ, Jane,  
01/25 BOYER, Jon S.  
01/25 MARKEY, Phyllis,  
01/26 BOYER, Steven  
01/26 HART, Michael C.  
01/28 STARNER, Deborah  
01/29 MIEDWIG, Norma J.  
01/29 STARNER, Jeffrey C.



