

THE SEASHELL

A Newsletter of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

25 N Adams Street, West York, PA. 17404

717-854-7198

www.stjamesyork.org



**SEPTEMBER, 2021
VOLUME 1 ISSUE 5**



**RE-ENGAGE SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

RENEW YOUR FAITH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Sunday School begins for all ages at
10:30 AM.

Mark Snyder and Shirley Trout will be
teaching the Adult Sunday School class
with occasional special guests.

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CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION BEGINS

Any student from 6th grade-up who has
not affirmed their faith, may register
for CATECHESIS (aka Confirmation
classes). Classes will be held every
other week on Sundays and occasional
Saturdays or Friday nights beginning
September 12. Cost for the year is \$300
and covers all events, transportation,
and food for the student. Registration
materials including a complete
schedule are available through
Pastor Liz. lpolanzke@yahoo.com,
717-654-2334

OUR COFFEE/FELLOWSHIP TIME will resume following worship on Sunday, September 12. Carol Knaub and Nancy Laird will be coordinating and providing paper supplies and beverages. Volunteers are needed to provide the snacks: baked goods, fruits, pretzels, cookies, etc. A sign-up sheet is posted on Adams Street bulletin board. Please sign-up to help us continue this enjoyable fellowship time each week.



September 19 – Parents, Kids & Money Matters Event will be at 10:30am on Sept. 19th during the Sunday Sch. Hour.



What affects kids' attitudes about life and money? You might be surprised. This workshop brings parents – and kids ages 6-10 – together to:

- Reflect on the values you want your children to learn.
- Use the concept of stewardship to teach your kids how to take care of the resources God has entrusted.
- Explore four tools to make teaching smart money habits easy and fun for everyone.

No products or services will be sold.

Beth McKinley, Thrivent Representative Presenter

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Put it on your calendar! The Children's Christmas Pageant will be December 19 during worship at 9 AM. Rehearsal will be the day before on Saturday, December 18 at 9 AM. Meanwhile, you can practice "Away in a Manger" and "Angels We Have Heard on High" with your child at bedtime, in the car, whenever you can! Engage them on YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/t-BcLKW1rQ0>



PHONE PRAYER CHAIN is an important quick prayer service ministry for members of St. James. Those wanting to add a name to the phone prayer chain are asked to please contact Pastor Liz 717-654-2334, and you may also call Shirley Trout, 717-846-4784, Janice Sewell, 717-767-4122, or Deb Meckley, 717-764-0372 for prayer.

ALTAR FLOWERS: UPCOMING SUNDAY FLOWER SPONSORS - If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers for our worship services please sign-up on the FLOWER SPONSOR sign-up sheets posted on the Adams Street bulletin board or call the office (717-854-7198). We are asking those who sponsor the flowers to please plan to pick them up following the service. (Cost - \$32 per Sunday)



September sponsors: **Sept. 5th** – Pat Mummert, **Sept. 12th** – Phyllis S-Ehrhart, **Sept. 19th** – Mike & Judy Cooper, **Sept. 26th** – Rod & Marie Drawbaugh



THE ST. JAMES SENIORS meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 2nd **has been cancelled** due to increasing numbers of Covid cases. St. James Covid team and the Seniors' Executive Committee are trying to keep everyone safe and healthy by



following CDC suggested guidelines. Please watch the bulletin and newsletter for future meeting dates



BREAKFAST BLESSINGS: The month of August we handed out 81 take-out meals! We will continue with takeout only for the September 4th breakfast. Thank you to Weis markets, the Sunshine Workers and the congregation for your ongoing support to our outreach program. We continue to need body wash, laundry soap, toilet paper, nonperishable food and pop tarts. *God Bless You, Breakfast Blessings*

Sunshine Workers will meet for a covered dish luncheon/class meeting on Monday, Sept. 13th at 12 noon in the social room. Please bring a dish to share.



Sunshine Workers continue to sell Weis, Giant & Hoss's gift cards. Stop by the Social Room on Sunday mornings to purchase cards or contact Rosemary Rafferty.

UPCOMING THEATER EVENTS:

September 9th – **Carpooling** to Dutch Apple Dinner Theater- *Mamma Mia* - \$59.

November 2nd - Bus transportation provided
 The Christmas Tree Ship @ Bird In Hand Theater - \$78 -. Lunch included.

Wednesday, Dec. 8th – Bus transportation provided
 American Music Theater Christmas Show- \$68, Lunch (on your own) at Cracker Barrel

Please contact Rosemary Rafferty, 771-767-4536 or 717-424-1776 for reservations or additional details for all events.
 Please make all checks payable to Sunshine Workers

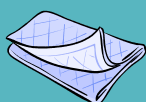
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for a Social Ministry Committee Ham & Cheese Pretzel Sandwich Sale, Wednesday, September 15th – orders will be due September 5th - \$4.00 each.

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SOCIAL MINISTRY FALL PROJECT: "INGATHERING"



Through Sunday, October 3rd we will be collecting new, full-size **blankets (60"x80")** for Lutheran World Relief Ingathering on Sunday, October 3rd.

Please no afghans or throws. A LWR shipping fund envelope will be provided for donations to be received on October 3rd to help defray the cost of shipping the blankets. Social Ministry, as well as Lutheran World Relief, appreciates your help in this project. Thanks to all who participate.

SOCIAL MINISTRY continuing Bulldog Pantry Project



WEST YORK BULLDOG FOOD PANTRY A Win/Win Project!

We may not be able to save the world but we can make a difference in our own neighborhood.

A growing number of families in the West York School District area suffer from “food insecurity”.

West York teacher, Amanda Burt and her Life Skills class started the Bulldog Food Pantry in 2019. The pantry is open to any West York student or family in need of food and household goods. The Life Skills Support students run the pantry learning real work skills like following directions, quality of work, pace and initiative which prepare them for employment opportunities. It also gives them opportunities to learn compassion and the importance of helping others.

The Bulldog Pantry helps 20-40 families a month and has recently partnered with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank to be able to distribute perishable foods such as meat, milk and eggs. Although the Bulldog Pantry is closed during July and August, they will need donations again beginning in August to restock for the first distribution in September. The Social Ministry Committee has been collecting food items for the Bulldog Pantry for the past nine months. We'll begin collecting again in August. A list of items is included here and you can pick up a “shopping list” at church.

This is an opportunity to help our “neighbors”. This is an opportunity to partner with our school and model Christian values for our youth. Please consider giving generously to this project. Thank You.

Questions?? Contact Pat Mummert

Drop off info – Please continue to put your donations in the plastic bin which will be on the first table in the Social Room. If bin is full, place on table.

SUGGESTIONS:

Taco Kits

Hamburger meal kits

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Pasta,

Pasta sauce

Canned soup

Cereal bars

Canned vegetables

Canned fruit, Applesauce

Cereal

Mac & Cheese

Paper towels

Toilet Paper

Tissues

Cleaning supplies

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Bar Soap

Body Wash

DISCERNMENT for Strategic Planning –

At its May meeting, the Congregation Council adopted a process for discernment. The Congregation Council will serve as the Discernment Task Force. This process will engage congregation active and inactive members, church leaders, community leaders, neighbors, community organizers, government officers and anyone with a vested interest in the West York community in which St. James was planted.



The goals are to (1) clarify the congregation's unique identity and (2) identify the congregation's gifts and (3) develop a strategic plan for how to proceed in building-up the congregation and our neighbors in growing grace-filled lives following Christ.

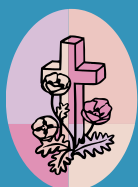
- 1) After 122 years of ministry, who is this congregation? What is our shared *vocation*? What is it that God has shaped us to be and do in the world?
- 2) To whom is God sending us?
- 3) What gifts has God given to St. James?
- 4) How might we steward those gifts to make disciples?

On August 25 the Council will begin this work in earnest and with prayer. The Council will pray and shed their own preconceived notions, opinions and plans in order to sincerely listen for God's voice as it is revealed through the process. This posture is called a spirit of indifference.

After establishing this posture of **prayer and a spirit of indifference**, the Council will meet to consider all matters that may create parameters or precedents for this process. They will review the congregation's constitution, ELCA Social Statements and policies, congregational and community demographics, Biblical and historical stories that may appear similar in nature to explore previous solutions, patterns and conclusions, and previous mission plans. That meeting will occur on **August 29**.

In September, the Council will organize **Listening Clusters**. A Listening Cluster will be gatherings of congregation and community members at which the pastor and one Council member will be present to listen to the congregation's answer to those questions at the center of discernment. From each cluster the responses will be gathered, in writing. The Listening Clusters will occur throughout October and November.

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IN SYMPATHY: Our Lord says, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted," [Matthew 5:4]. We join in prayer and mourning for the loss of Nancy J. Hoachlander on July 31, 2021. Nancy's Memorial Service was held at St. James on August 5th. Please keep her loved ones, family, and friends in your prayers.



A belated VBS thank you - Thank you to Taylor Hoke for volunteering at our 2021 VBS school, Taylor's name was missed in last month's re-cap of VBS, for this we apologize. Taylor was a helper with the games and helped anywhere she was needed. Again, thank you, TAYLOR, and ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

THANK YOU NOTE as received: Dear St. James, I would like to thank you for all the special get well cards sent to me during my illness. I miss everyone at church. It's great to hear from everyone. Thank you very much. Margie Gross.

Dear St. James Ministry, Thank you for your generous donation of the beautiful prayer shawls. Our patients and their families greatly appreciate your care and ministry. Sincerely, York Hospital Spiritual Care & Education.

Note: **23 Prayer Shawls/Small afghans** were donated in August to Wellspan York Hospital's Spiritual Care department. Thank you God, for St. James' talented knitters and crocheters!



GOOD SAMARITAN FUND



Thank you to the many who donate to the Good Samaritan Fund. The Fund provides emergency support to those in special circumstances. The current balance of the fund is approximately \$1700. If you are interested in contributing to this fund, see Pastor Liz or make a check out to St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church and designate it for the Good Samaritan Fund.

CONGREGATION CHECKBOOKS

As the Council and Finance Committee continue to transfer bookkeeping responsibilities to the new firm, we request all those who hold a checkbook of the congregation to discuss with Jeff Laird, Financial Secretary, how to coordinate getting him on the account (if he isn't already), and reporting account balances to the bookkeeper and Council.

If you are holding or managing an account for the congregation, and no longer wish to do so, also discuss this with Jeff. He will be happy to help you. Jeff may be reached in-person on Sunday morning at church or via e-mail or phone as indicated in the congregation directory.

Funds given for a specific purpose cannot be spent on another purpose without consent of the givers or (in cases where givers cannot be convened) vote of the Council. Funds for a designated purpose will be tracked by the bookkeeper and reported to the Council to ensure accountable stewardship.



APARTMENT REPAIRS

In order to keep our apartments safe and within township requirements, the Executive Committee approved a recommendation by the congregation’s Board of Trustees (BOT) for Facilities to repair a balcony at 1427 W. Market Street. The budget for the repair is \$10,000 and there are sufficient funds in the designated fund for the repair.

We expect to have clarity on the future plan for the apartments as a consequence of our discernment which begins this August. In the meantime, it was determined that this repair could not wait. Questions about this repair may be directed to Brian Funkhouser, BOT chairperson.

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FINANCIAL REPORT – July 2021

	Actual	YTD
Actual Current Receipts –	\$ 11,913	*\$ 90,368
Actual Current Expenses	\$ 21,290	\$ 104,780
	(\$-9,377)	(\$- 14,412)
 (Does not include Building Fund Receipts.)		
Actual Benevolence Receipts	\$233	\$2,604
Actual Benevolence Disbursements	\$233	\$2,604
 Building Fund	 \$464	 \$3,961

*(includes \$5,005 ERTC credits received for Qtr 1, 2021)
Transferred \$0 to checking (YTD transfers \$0)

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York Conference of Lutherans
Working Together to Support the Mission of Christ's Church
NEEDED: TUTORS FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES K-6

The York Conference of Lutherans Tutoring Program is seeking volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with students on Monday or Tuesday evenings during the upcoming school year! Tutors need not be teachers, or even have a degree. We need people who are willing to assist elementary grade students with homework, read with them, help them learn spelling, math facts, etc We welcome tutors of ages 15 and up! If you like young people and want to make a difference in the life of a young person, then this is for you!!! Tutors over 18 must apply for clearances, but there is no charge to you as a volunteer. Can't commit every week? We always need substitutes!

Note: One of our primary goals is to maintain the health and safety of our tutors and students. We will be following the guidance of the PA Dept. of Education and the PA Health Dept. regarding safety protocols.

Contact Shari Young at ycltutoring@gmail.com or 717-586-9310 for more information.

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Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St James Lutheran Church in York on Wednesday, October 27, 2021.

A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- Carotid artery ultrasound to identify plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, a major risk factor for stroke
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound to identify presence of an enlargement in the largest blood vessel in the body
- An EKG to identify the presence of atrial fibrillation, which increases the risk for stroke
- Ultrasound of the lower legs to look for plaque buildup known as peripheral artery disease
- Ultrasound of the shin bone to identify risk for osteoporosis

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$149 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 discount.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or text the word "circle" to 797979

LITURGY" IS THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

The word "liturgy" means "the work of the people". It takes a cast of dozens to offer worship every Sunday.

All worshippers are asked to participate in assisting with worship. There are many opportunities. Now, that we have returned to communing at the altar and singing, we need as many hands-on deck as possible. If you are able to help, please consider joining the choir or serving as an usher, communion assistant, lector, tech operator, nursery team member or altar guild member. Instructions and training are available in all positions.

WORKERS / SERVERS SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

September 5th

Usher Team 6: Phyllis Stevens-Ehrhart
Lector: Jeff Laird
Altar Guild -Aurela Wilhelm, Carol Knaub

Communion Assistant – Gabe Besore
Nursery: Tm. 1: Ann Marie Loucks, Kelly Scott

September 12th

Usher Team 7: Rod Drawbaugh
Lector: Deb Meckley
Altar Guild – Norma Smith, Vicki Besore

Communion Assistant – Theresa Scheuing
Nursery: Tm. 2: Emily Kramer

September 19th

Usher Team 8: Deb Meckley
Lector: Mark Snyder
Altar Guild – Pat Mummert, Norma Smith

Communion Assistant – Ruth Hoover
Nursery: Tm. 3: Sue Brodbeck, Sonja Hoke

September 26th

Usher Team 1: Mike Cooper
Lector: Jacob Drawbaugh
Altar Guild – Pat Mummert, Carol Knaub

Communion Assistant – Sue Brodbeck
Nursery: Tm 1: Ann Marie Loucks, Kelly Scott

October 3rd

Usher Team 2: Cindy Rutkowski
Lector: Rod Drawbaugh
Altar Guild -Steph Laird, Pat Mummert

Communion Assistant – Jeff Laird
Nursery: Tm. 2: Lisa Santiago, Jada Torres

September 2021 at St. James Ev. Lutheran Church–West York, PA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  Tyler Stock Birthday	2 St. James Seniors- Cancelled  Kayla Laird Birthday Ch. Reh. 7PM	3  Margie Gross Birthday	4 Breakfast Blessings  7:30-9:00a.m.
5 Pentecost 15 9AM Worship/Comm.  Jerrold May Birthday Sandwich orders due	6	7	8 Board of Trustees 6:30	9 DUTCH APPLE Carpools Iv. St. James 10AM Chris Hied & Zach Snyder birthdays Ch. Reh. 7PM	10  Jeanie Rice Birthday	11  John Sauter Birthday
12 Pentecost 16 9AM Worship/Comm. Fellowship Hour resumes 10:30 Sunday School resumes for ALL  Shonna Cardello & Richard Mellon Birthday	13 Sunshine Workers 12 Noon–Soc. Rm. Covered Dish Mtg. Christian Ed. 6PM	14 Pastor Liz away for Continuing Ed.- 14 th -16 th	15 Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sale Pickup 11-12:15 and 5-6 pm NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 Ch. Reh. 7PM	17  Gloria Becker Birthday	18  Sarah Hess Birthday
19 Pentecost 17 9AM Worship/Comm. 10:30 Sunday School Parents & Kids Money Matters Workshop 10:30	20 Soc. Ministry Mtg. 11AM -Soc. Rm.	21	22 Church Council 6PM - Parlor  Steve Ferree Birthday	23 Ch. Reh. 7PM	24  Sonja Hoke & Marth Nary Birthdays	25
26 Pentecost 18 9AM Worship/Comm. 10:30 Sunday School  Marie Drawbaugh Birthday	27  Chuck Reeder & Melissa Starner Birthday	28	29	30 Ch. Reh. 7PM		

CHOIR

September 2 – First regular rehearsal for Fall – 7PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 12 -
 Sunday School resumes for ALL – 10:30 a.m.

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

25 N. Adams St., West York, PA 17404

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SEPTEMBER, 2021

STAFF AT SJELC

Office Phone (717) 854-7198

Pastor Liz Polanzke, 717-654-2334, lpolanzke@yahoo.com

Rod Drawbaugh, Congregational Council President, rdrawbaugh@verizon.net

Becky Pulling, Music Minister, pulling4@comcast.net

Mrs. Pat Breneman, Administrative Assistant, secretary@stjamesyork.org

Mr. David Smith, Sexton

Mrs. Sonja Hoke, Custodian

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.STJAMESYORK.ORG

