

# the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • AUGUST 2010

## OUR MISSION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

***“We welcome all to receive God's love through Christ and to share it with the world.”***

### Pastor's Message

It's summer,...a more laid back time,...so I'll be brief this month.

I just wanted you to know that I recently enhanced my commitment to God. How did I do that, you ask - by more prayer, increased study of Scripture, or by trying to do more good things in daily life? Not really. I did it by enrolling in **Simply Giving**, the automated program that gives my offering to the church directly from my bank account.

Before that, we gave during offering time.... when we came to church. The key phrase there is *when we came to church* because, the truth is when we were away or on vacation (like most of us) we did not always make our contribution or fully catch up the next Sunday.

Our intentions were never to “jip” the church, but we just sometimes kind of forgot about meeting our commitment for that week. With **Simply Giving** we didn't increase the amount we give, we will just now more deliberately give God a fair portion of our gifts on a regular basis without short-handing him when we're absent.

And so now, we are more fully living up to our financial commitment to God in the offerings we make to the church of Jesus Christ. Remembering that he is always present for us, both at church and in our daily lives, we are more faithfully helping the work of Jesus to continue, even when we're not at church on a Sunday through **Simply Giving**.

It's something I would like you to think about doing yourself.

Have a nice summer.

Pastor

### Church Council News

At their June meeting, the Church Council unanimously passed a motion recommending and encouraging the use of **Simply Giving** by members of the congregation *“for the good of the church to continue in our ministry”*.

**Simply Giving** is the easy and regular automated deduction of offerings to the church from an individual bank account with amounts and dates of withdraw set by you.

For more information contact the Church Office or Treasurer, David Garner.

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

Worship  
9 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship  
10 a.m.  
Holy Communion Weekly

### FALL SCHEDULE begins September 12

Worship  
with Holy Communion  
8 and 10:45 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship  
9 a.m.  
Adult Education and  
Confirmation  
9:30 a.m.



## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**  
9 a.m. – noon  
**Friday**  
CLOSED

**TELEPHONE**  
610-326-2810  
www.stjamespottstown.org

## **STAFF**

### **Ministers**

Each and Every Member of St. James

### **Pastor**

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson  
e-mail: [pastorh@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:pastorh@stjamespottstown.org)  
home 610-718-0313

### **Director of Discipleship**

Suzanne Rigg  
e-mail: [srigg@thehill.org](mailto:srigg@thehill.org)  
office 610-326-2810  
home 610-970-4865

### **Secretary**

Karen Orchard  
e-mail: [secretary@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:secretary@stjamespottstown.org)  
contact: 610-326-2810

### **Financial Administrator**

Sherry Clancy  
[stjamespottstownfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespottstownfinance@gmail.com)  
contact: 610-326-2810

### **Custodian**

Glenn Yerger  
contact: 610-326-2810

### **Missionaries**

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson  
Kathmandu, Nepal

### **Newsletter Editor**

Dawn Detweiler  
contact: [newsletterstj@wi.rr.com](mailto:newsletterstj@wi.rr.com)

## **OFFICE NOTES**

### **Pastor's Vacation**

Pastor and Debbie will be away on vacation in Ireland from August 5<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. Rev. John Smolik and Rev. Don Eisenhower will be covering any pastoral needs while Pastor is away. Please call the church office for their contact information.

### **Newsletter Deadline for September 2010 Edition: August 15, 2010**

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to [newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org) or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

### **Master Calendar / Room Scheduling**

All room reservations, including committee meetings and private gatherings, should be made with Suzanne by calling the office. Please indicate to her any need for room rearrangement, (extra chairs, tables) so proper preparations can be made.

### **Altar Flowers, Eternal Light, Bulletin Sponsorships**

The cost of each sponsorship is \$15 for eternal light, \$30 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table. Cash or check payment can be placed in offering or turned in to the office. Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone interested.

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# WORSHIP NOTES

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**Rejoicing Spirits Cookout**  
**August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.**  
**Worship at 7 p.m.**



Come join us for food and fellowship as we enjoy time together with members of our Rejoicing Spirits community. We will have hot dogs off the grill, root beer floats and other munchies. **Please sign up in Horn Hall by August 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities and it is also open to everyone in the community. If you have not had a chance to come and worship with us, give it a try and see for yourself the love and joy that is shared among all who attend.

## Third Sunday Offering

**AUGUST Recipient**

### The Ministries of Main Street Mobile Homeless Shelter

What would you do if you had no place to sleep tonight? Many individuals face that situation day after day. According to the National Alliance for Homelessness

- There are **671,859 people** experiencing homelessness on any given night in the United States - roughly 22 of every 10,000 people are homeless.
- Of that number, **37 percent are people in families** and **63 percent are individuals**,
- **18 percent** of the homeless population is considered "**chronic**," and
- **20 percent** of the homeless population is made up of **veterans**.

*(continued next column)*

"Chronic" homelessness is often the public face of homelessness. "Chronic" has a specific definition, involving either long-term and/or repeated bouts of homelessness coupled with some sort of disability (physical or mental). People experiencing chronic homelessness often end up living in shelters.

Thanks to the work of The Ministries of Main Street, the homeless of Pottstown have some place to sleep in the coldest months of the year. The Ministries of Main Street have made it their mission to see that these folks have a place to rest and receive shelter from the cold and food for their nourishment. Their mission is as follows:

*"We, the Ministries at Main Street call the church to BE THE CHURCH, caring for the poor as Jesus the Christ has instructed us. We, the Ministries at Main Street, have been called and sent to be the light of the world on behalf of Jesus the Christ. We shine that light in the direction of all who are without permanent places to live, inviting them to come and be fed and offered a bed."*

Through the help of volunteers, donations from congregations, schools and organizations, and thanks to the hospitality of local churches who serve as host churches, the Ministries of Main Street are able to provide a seasonal mobile homeless shelter from the months of November through February. In addition to a place to sleep, dinner is served every night and breakfast is available in the morning.

Monetary donations and volunteers are often the most crucial needs of guaranteeing the success of this outreach ministry to the homeless of our community. You can find information on being a volunteer at [www.ministriesatmainstreet.org](http://www.ministriesatmainstreet.org) or by calling 610-970-2444.

The Ministries of Main Street helps to organize and oversee a much needed service for our community's homeless. Please consider supporting their efforts through this month's Third Sunday Offering.

### 2010 Third Sunday Offering Schedule

SEPTEMBER – Lutheran World Relief

OCTOBER – Cluster Outreach Center

NOVEMBER – Lutheran Theological Seminary (Seminary Sunday)

DECEMBER – ELCA World Hunger

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## Children Church Leaders Needed

The fall is soon approaching when we will be returning to our normal schedule of two services and Children's Church. With the return of Children's Church in the fall we could use a few more individuals who would be willing to lead our Children's Church during the 10:45 service. **Individuals can either lead our preschool-kindergarten group of children or our elementary children who are in grades 1- 5.**

Children's Church leaders present a brief lesson and lead the children through an activity (game, craft, worksheet, etc.) that reinforces the lesson. Lesson plans and materials are provided. **Leaders teach approximately 6 times a year. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Suzanne at 610-326-2810.**



## Nursery Attendants Needed

Do you love young children? If so, please consider sharing some of that love by serving in our nursery on Sunday mornings. Additional nursery attendants are needed for the nursery during our 10:45 a.m. service in the fall, winter and spring. Please contact Suzanne (610-326-2810) for more information or to express your interest in helping.

## Looking to be involved with the life and ministry of St. James?

Forms are available in Horn Hall if you would like to join or get more information on a ministry, team or way to serve. The green forms are located on the resource table of Horn Hall and once completed can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the office.

## Movie Nights



Yes, it's almost time for Movie Night again! Mark your calendar to come on **Thursday nights at 6:30, on August 19, 26 and Sept. 2.** Popcorn, snacks and sodas will be provided as always.

This summer we will start a bit later than usual, but we'll be viewing three excellent films to help enable us to see and talk about how God works his goodness in the world. Below are brief reviews of each.

August 19 (*Invictus: 2009, PG-13*) – The true story of the South Africa 1995 integrated national rugby team's participation in the World Cup after the end of the racist system of apartheid. Morgan Freeman plays newly elected president, Nelson Mandela, whose humble yet principled approach towards reconciliation helps to promote the healing and reuniting of the people in that nation. A story that helps us to see how God can bring good out of bad by working through forgiveness to turn things around!

August 26 (*Sweet Land: 2005, PG*) – A beautifully filmed exploration of prejudice, personal strength, love, friendship and attachment to the land in rural Minnesota in 1920 that shows the best and the worst of human nature. As a romance between native farmer, Olaf, and his German mail-order bride, Inge, develops *very slowly...*, they together face the hardships of the anti-German sentiment that existed after World War I and the struggles of life for an immigrant. This is a sweet (but not sugary), simple and honest film that touches on the ideas of devotion, community, growth of character, morality and forgiveness.

September 2 (*Blind Side: 2009, PG13*) – Michael Oher is an oversized African-American, who is 16, from the wrong side of the tracks, and who is going nowhere except probably down the tubes. His terrible home life has left him with not even a place to sleep, when an affluent white Memphis couple takes him in. Through their love and kindness and help, Michael amazingly betters himself and rises to eventually become a star in the National Football League. A true story about second chances and a Christian woman who does more than just talk about her faith in Jesus. It's been said that audiences in theaters have erupted into applause at the end of this film.

## New Florist-Hedwig House

We are glad to announce that the flowers supplied for our weekly worship service are being provided to us from the flower shop at Hedwig House, located just east of the church on High Street.



Hedwig House was been providing fellowship, vocational training and long-term housing to persons with mental illness since 1975. Their goal is to provide support and assistance to persons with mental illness to enable them to pursue and enjoy success in their lives. We welcome the partnership we now have with Hedwig House and the services they are providing to us.

## Swahili Words of the Month

As we wait to hear who our companion congregation from Tanzania will be, we have been learning some Swahili each week in worship. Here are the words and phrases we learned in July:

- July 4 – Vuko – “cross”
- July 11 – Jirani – “neighbor”
- July 18 – Mola – “Lord God”
- July 25 – Sala – “prayer”



## 2010 V.B.S.- Baobab Blast St. John Lutheran Church

This year St. James will not be sponsoring a VBS for kids, but children of St. James are invited to participate in the VBS program at St. John Lutheran Church.

St. John Lutheran Church  
75 East Main St. Pottstown  
**August 2 - 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 - 8p.m.**  
Dinner included. Call 610-326-1120.

## Confirmation Class Starting in September

Pastor will be starting confirmation classes in September. Classes will **meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15 a.m.** Any parents of children who are entering **sixth grade or older** who want their child to participate in Catechetical Class (Confirmation Class) should notify the pastor so that they may be included in this year's class.



**The confirmation process is a three-year obligation** in which students learn more about the Christian faith through instruction following an outline designed by Martin Luther. It covers study of the Old and New Testaments, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion as well as a look at liturgy and worship throughout the church year.



**Let your light so shine . . .**  
Get trained as an acolyte!

On **Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>** following the 10:45 a.m. worship, we will be training all young people (**1<sup>st</sup> grade or older**) interested in becoming acolytes. Those who have served as acolytes are welcome (and encouraged) to refresh their understanding and to encourage others. You will be fitted with an alb and given instruction sheets. Parents are welcome to sit in! **Please let Suzanne Rigg (610-362-2810 or [sirgg@stjamespottstown](mailto:sirgg@stjamespottstown)) know if you plan to attend.**

## Salvation Army Community Lunch August 11, 2010

Each second Wednesday of the month a group of volunteers from St. James prepares and serves the community lunch at the Salvation Army. Help is needed at different times between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.



### Community Meal

This month, volunteers are needed **August 26<sup>th</sup>** to provide desserts, cook, set up and clean up for the community meal. For more information, please call Susan Cameron at 610-718-9926.



### Next Miller-Keystone Blood Drive

**Our next scheduled blood drive will be on Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2 – 7:30 p.m.** If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Ellen Ibach at 610-323-4477.

### News from the Pottstown Cluster

**Some current needs for the food pantry:** Desperate need of egg cartons and plastic bags, also need toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, deodorant, bath soap, laundry detergent, dish detergent, canned vegetables, juice and oatmeal **and for the clothing closet and housewares:** Summer clothes, especially sizes: 2T Boys, Infant Boys, Size 10 Boys, summer PJs, all sizes flat and fitted sheets, blankets, washcloths, dish sets.

Donations for the Cluster can be brought to St. James and placed in the basket by the lower level mailboxes, or donations can also be taken directly to the Cluster.

### Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities

137 Walnut Street Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 970-5995

### Blood Pressure Checks Second Sunday of the month

Stay well! Blood Pressure checks will be on **August 8<sup>th</sup>** after the 9 a.m. service.

### Women of the ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference

#### Bible Study

The WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on **Tuesday, September 7, at 10 a.m. with coffee at 9:30.** The leader will be Barbara Lutz presenting *The Book of Faith (Romans 15:4)*.

**All women** are invited to participate in these Bible Studies based on the theme *To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans*. Study materials are found in Lutheran Women Today magazine. Subscriptions are available for \$12 per year. This is the 26th year of meeting and sharing together. Bring your friends. We welcome inter-denominational viewpoints. If you would like to attend, please contact Grace Schafer for carpooling.

### WELCA News

The first 2010-2011 WELCA meeting will be **Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. in Horn Hall. It's an "**Alphabetical Pot Luck**" which means bring a dish to share that begins with the first letter of your name. So, if your name is Nancy, you could bring noodles of some type; Barbara could bring beans, Bar-B-Que or Bananas.

The **Fall Rummage Sale is October 4<sup>th</sup>** (4 – 6 p.m. for St James members to shop) **and October 5<sup>th</sup>** for the sale open to public.

We will also be doing the "Y" personal care gift bags again this year, in case anyone wants to begin collecting those personal care items.

## MEMBER NEWS

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### Want to Help Build a Better Community?

Why not volunteer to teach adult learners reading, writing, math and computer skills. Tutor training will be held on **Saturday, August 21 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the YWCA Adult Literacy Center.** If that date does not work then there is a second training held on three evenings: Wednesday, September 29, Monday, October 4 and Wednesday October 6 all from 6-8 p.m.

The cost is \$12 and covers all expenses and light refreshments. For more information please contact the YWCA Tri-County Area Adult Literacy Center at 610-326-READ (7323) located at 1830 East High Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.



### August Birthdays

1 – Betty Darocha;  
3 – Mary Littlefield; 4 – Warren Emery, Judy Kochel; 7- Sam Davies; 8- Ava Fusco; 10 – Kyle Kirsten, Michele Horger; 12 – Paul Eshbach; 13 – Dave Brewer, Taylor Rothenberger, Scott Strichik; 15 – Aaron Hoehne, Hank Hoehne, Josephine O’Neill, Alyson Taylor, Cassandra Groff; 16 – Isabel DuBois, Eleanor Hetrick, Ron Schafer; 19 – Deb Geesey; 20 – Ruth Neiffer; 21 – Jackie Klaus; 22 – William Degler, Donald Erb, Ryan Hall; 23 – Cheryl Detweiler; 24 – Alisha Sandoe; 26 – Eva Kehler; 28 – Michele Hoffman, David Rothenberger; 29 – Chad Widmann; 30 – Rick Geesey, Noelle Hartzman; 31 – Herbert Kenney

*Happy belated birthday to **Doris Saltzer** who’s birthday was missed in July. Her birthday was July 16.*

**Congratulations** to Amy Lapreziosa and Robert Anciso, Jr. who were married at St. James on July 17, 2010.



### Thank You Notes

Thanks to Ted Baer for keeping us cool on Sunday morning by turning on the air-conditioning in our worship space each Saturday night.

Dear St. James Lutheran Church:  
Thank you for your gift to the ELCA International Disaster Response: Haiti Earthquake Relief. Gifts like yours have made a great difference to the people of Haiti. It brings them help now and hope for the future. Your generosity makes it possible for us to be there with our neighbors in Haiti for as long as it takes. Thank you.

Together in Christ’s Service,  
Rev. Daniel Rift, Director  
ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

Dear Friend at St. James Lutheran Church.  
You have honored us with a very generous gift in support of our charitable mission. We are delighted to receive your n=donation to the Visiting Nurse Association of Pottstown & Vicinity. It’s received in the same caring spirit in which it was giving.

Sincerely,  
Lucille D, Gough, RN, MSN, MBA  
President and CEO

# CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Jun-10</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$22,505.10	\$142,264.52
Expense s	<u>25,944.25</u>	<u>161,629.49</u>
Net Income	(\$3,439.15)	(\$19,364.97)

### Regular Envelopes

Received	\$18,967.50	\$106,734.33
Needed*	<u>19,717.89</u>	<u>118,307.72</u>
Over (Under)	(\$750.39)	(\$11,573.39)

### Third Sunday Offering

Salvation Army

Collected \$292.00

### Capital Campaign

	<u>Jun-2010</u>	<u>Total Campaign</u>
Income	\$6,385.00	\$447,226.25

\*Amount required to balance the budget.

## Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, contact one of the following elected Council members.

Pat Baer - President 610-326-8598  
Email: pattedbaer@verizon.net

Cyndi Krasley- Vice-President 484-945-0165  
Email: nannahsbmd@gmail.com

Barbara Ungerman - Secretary 610-718-9368  
Email: bungerman@comcast.net

Dave Garner – Treasurer 610-970-7560  
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