

# the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • JULY 2008

OUR MISSION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Discipleship, Fellowship and Service

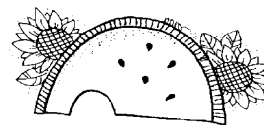
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## Summer Schedule

### Worship

9 a.m.

### Coffee Fellowship

10 a.m.

### Children's Message

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Month

### Holy Communion Weekly



## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**  
8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
8 a.m. – noon

### **TELEPHONE**

610-326-2810

Fax: 610-326-1025

[www.stjamespottstown.org](http://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**

Darlene Jackson

e-mail: [secretary@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:secretary@stjamespottstown.org)

### **Director of Music Ministries**

Sharon MacCabe

email: [sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net](mailto:sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net)

Office: 610-326-2810

### **Custodian**

Glenn Yerger

contact: 610-326-2810

### **Missionaries**

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson

Kathmandu, Nepal

### **Newsletter Editor**

Dawn Detweiler

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

## **OFFICE NOTES**

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

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

### **Newsletter Deadline for August '08 Edition: July 15, 2008**

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.

### **Lower Cost for Altar Flowers Sponsorship**

The cost to **sponsor altar flowers is now \$30**. The cost of the other sponsorships will remain the same, that being \$15 for the eternal light and \$15 for bulletins. Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone interested in one of these sponsorships. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table. Cash or check payment can be placed in the offering or turned in to the office.

### **Grace Matters**

Tune your radio in to Grace Matters. For 30 minutes each Sunday the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America offers a fresh expression of Christian radio. Join host Peter Marty and his guests for engaging interviews, biblical meditations, colorful commentary and life-changing stories. Tune in on Sundays at 7 a.m. on WNTF 990 AM. Listen, and be renewed by God's amazing grace.

## A Note From Pastor Hutchinson

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OK, summer is here. It's time to garden and enjoy fresh produce; to have picnics and barbecue; to go swimming and on vacation; to visit friends and relatives; and to just plain have fun. And do you know what God says about all that? - *"Good! Go ahead and have some fun! Enjoyment and relaxation are an important part of life and what I designed you for"*.

I think sometimes we forget that God wants us to not just produce and be efficient and make the most of our time. I think we sometimes forget that God is not as concerned as we are about "getting things done". I think we sometimes forget that rest and relaxation is as much a part of being human as anything else. And I think that even we in the church tend to forget about the fact that God does not just want us to serve others, but also to sometimes treat ourselves. In doing so it makes us happier people, and besides,...happier people tend to be better servants for the Lord.

Summertime activities refresh us from our anxieties and worries; enable us to connect with neighbors we haven't seen all winter; and help us to find pleasure in some of the goodness of God's creation that we otherwise ignore.

So this month's message is to go out there and have some fun! Go get an ice cream some evening,...go to your favorite beach or swimming hole,...and come to the church picnic at the Pastor's house! Whatever fun you want to have, do it confident that God will be saying "good for you!" Amen.



# WORSHIP NOTES

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## The Feast of St. James Sunday, July 27, 2008

Each year we continue to celebrate The Feast of St. James on the Sunday closest to the actual date of the festival (July 25<sup>th</sup>) in honor of the namesake of our church, the apostle, James. This year that will be Sunday, July 27. You may recall that the disciple James, along with his brother John, wanted to have seats of glory next to Jesus, who then told them that whoever wishes to become great must become a servant (see Mark 10:43-45). James may not have understood what it meant to be a disciple of Christ early on in his following of Jesus, but he certainly did understand later. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

We mark The Feast of St. James as both a day to remember and to celebrate our calling as disciples of Christ. So please plan to join us on this special day of worship.



## Church Picnic - Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

The St. James Picnic will be held on "The Feast of St. James Sunday" at the home of Pastor and Debbie Hutchinson. Meat and drinks will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish/dessert to share and lawn or folding chairs. There will be games for all ages, a swimming pool and an all-around good time is sure to be had. If you would like to attend please sign up in Horn Hall by July 20. **For more information, please see the attached flyer.**

## Bible Study for July

Bible study continues in July with a new study on the Lord's Prayer - ***Lord Teach Us to Pray***. This will be for five weeks on **Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at St. James** and on **Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. at Sanatoga Retirement Community, beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The study, lead by Pastor Hutchinson, will end on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

## Invitation to a Men's Bible Study

Since 2000, a men's Bible study has been held in the Blue Room on Friday mornings at 8:00 am. The format for the study is the reading and discussion of books of the Bible as chosen by the members of the group. Over the eight-year period, the group has studied a total of 26 books (some more than once) covering all the Gospels, many of the New Testament Epistles as well as several books of the Old Testament. Recently, the group studied the Wisdom of Solomon, a book that is not recognized in the current Protestant Bible, but is part of ancient Greek translations of the Hebrew Bible.

The group welcomes any men who would like to get together on a regular basis for study and fellowship. Please contact Dave Garner if you have any questions.

## Women of the ELCA Upper MontCo Bible Study August 5, 2008

The Women's Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study for the summer will be held at the Pottstown Diner, 99 W. King Street (Rt. 100 and King St.) on Tuesday, August 5, 2008.

Bobbi Hoffman, Minister of Discipleship at St. James Lutheran Church, Limerick, will be the presenter. Please bring the June, July/August issues of *Lutheran Women Today* and your Bibles with you. Bobbi will help us explore the images and meanings of baptism and how baptism shapes our lives. "Come to the Waters" is an invitation to "walk wet" – to remember, affirm, and celebrate our baptism throughout life.

The Pottstown Diner will allow us to place individual breakfast orders from their menu and provide us with individual checks. The breakfast gathering will begin at 9 a.m. with the Bible Study to begin at approximately 10 a.m. Reservation can be made to Grace Schafer (610-326-4814) by August 1.



**Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at 7 p.m.**

**Naomi Fuerman**, one of the Rejoicers, and her brother will be sharing with us their musical talent as **she sings and he accompanies on piano**. Please join us on what should be a very special evening.

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.

## Covenant Players Coming to St. James

Mark your calendars for **August 10<sup>th</sup>** when the Covenant Players will be performing at St. James during worship at 9 a.m. The mission of Covenant Players is "to communicate the Lord Jesus Christ through the medium of drama" More information on what they will be performing will be in August's newsletter.

## Third Sunday Offering JULY Recipient

### "Help-Clothe-A-Child" Project

This month's Third Sunday Offering will benefit the Cluster Outreach Center in support of their "Help-Clothe-A-Child" project. The goal of this program is to provide one new outfit of clothing or uniform to school age children in need living in the Pottstown Area. Getting ready to go back to school each fall can often be a financial burden on families. With school supplies and clothes needing to be bought, a family can easily spend hundreds of dollars a year on getting their children ready for another school year. This often creates distress for many families who already struggle to provide for the basic needs. Families and their children will greatly benefit from your help. Please consider helping to support this local ministry .

Upcoming Third Sunday Offering Schedule

AUGUST - Missionaries  
SEPTEMBER - Lutheran World Relief

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## Benefit Piano Recital for SEKUCo

A benefit piano recital will be held on Sunday, July 27, at 7:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Phoenixville. Rev. Richard Mathisen, interim pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Spring City will be playing. All proceeds go to benefit SEKUCo in Tanzania, a ministry of the Tanzanian Lutheran Church, which trains special education teachers. The program includes Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" and a number of other classical works. The suggested donation is \$7.00.

## Salvation Army Community Lunch

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.



## Blood Pressure Checks

Stay well! Blood Pressure checks will be **July 6<sup>th</sup>** after the 9 a.m. service.

## Blood Drive

The next blood drive is **Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>** from **2 - 7 p.m.** Please contact Marge Fegley at 610-323-3936 to make an appointment to give.

## Relay for Life 2008

The Pottstown Relay for Life event is over for another year. The St. James team consisted of 28 members and as of June 11th, we had **raised about \$12,000**. We still have money coming in, however. As of June 11th, the total money raised is at \$720,000.00.

I want to thank the congregation of St. James for your support throughout the year. Our team would not be successful without you. This ends the 4th year of our participation in the Relay event. We are just one of many teams through out the Pottstown area who work very hard on behalf of the American Cancer Society.

Our team this year consisted of: Mary Arnt, Diane Mitchell, Pat & Ted Baer, Jessical Mitchell, Marge Fegley, Laurie O'Connell, Debbie Fisher, Sandy Olock, Dave Hartzman, Annette Renn, Debbie Hutchinson, Bob Rheel, Pat Karpinski, Tracie Rheel, Carol & Harry Keller, Dottie Smith, Vicki Kirsten, Rose Schoenley, Cyndi Krasley, Barbara Thornton, Mike & Janis Lunn, Barbara Ungerman, Jeanette Wert, Connie & Butch Worrall, Gail Yoder. Thanks to all of them for helping in every way to make my job easier. A special thanks to Sara Jane Silver, our banker, and to Olga Christman, our team motivator.

There will be events going on through out the Pottstown area this summer - things for the family to do and at the same time, continue to raise money. Please read the Mercury for listings of these events.

The Relay event may be over, but the fight continues. Cancer does not take time off. We will start planning for next years Relay very shortly. If you would like to be a team member or help out in any way, please contact me. -Pat Baer

# Vacation Bible School

With St. John's U.C.C.

July 20 – July 24

6:30-8:30 p.m.



Get ready for this year's VBS, *Power Lab, Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power* which will be held jointly with and at St. John's United Church of Christ.

VBS is for children in preschool (age 3) through grades 6 (last grade completed). We will have lots of fun sharing God's love with everyone. **To register pick up a registration form in Horn Hall after or call the church office at 610-326-2810.**

**Volunteer opportunities** are available. Please see descriptions below and inquire with Suzanne Rigg if you are interested in helping at 610-326-2819 or [srigg@thehill.org](mailto:srigg@thehill.org)

## Volunteer Opportunities for VBS

**Game Leader:** plans and leads fun and creative games that reinforce the daily Bible story and theme. Resources are provided.

**Game Helper:** assists the game leader with playing the games with the children.

**Crafts Leader:** plans and leads kids in fun craft activities that explore the daily Bible story and theme. Resources are provided.

**Craft Helper:** assists the craft leader and the children in completing the crafts.

**Music Helper:** assists the music leader in teaching the songs to the children.

*(continued next column)*

**Snack Helper:** helps the Snack Leader and help the kids prepare a snack related to the daily Bible story.

**Lab Assistant:** guide a group of kids through their daily activities.

**Preschool Teacher:** teaches the preschool children the daily Bible Story and plans other activities to do with them that are related to the story. Curriculum and other resources are provided.

## More VBS

If you cannot make it to our VBS with St. John's U.C.C. or if one week of Vacation Bible School is just not enough, then please know that you are invited to:



Vacation Bible School  
St. John Lutheran Church  
75 East Main St. Pottstown  
August 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>  
5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Dinner included.

For registration information please contact Penny Griffin at 610-970-5199 or Jenifer MacDonald at 21-541-9052



## Movie Nights Tuesday Evenings in August

Come join the fun on Tuesday nights in August when we will gather to eat some popcorn, drink some soda, watch a movie, and discuss what theological themes or ideas are present in the movie. More information will be coming soon about movie titles and show times. All are welcome!! Don't forget to invite others like your friends and neighbors!

# MEMBER NEWS

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## Birth

Congratulations to Scott and Kim Strichik upon the birth of their daughter **Natalie Margaret** born on June 4, 2008.



## July Birthdays

**2** – Bill Rex, Dennis Rolando, Deborah Stein, Robert Williams; **3** – James Stein; **4** – Bob Clouser; **5** – Cindy Clark; **6** - Doris Wilson; **7** – David Lapreziosa, Leslie Stott; **8** – Millie Casner, Shanon Hoehne; **9** – Madison Smith; **10** – Amy Jones, Michael Noll, Elaine Richards, Herb Ziegler; **11**- Arthella Fritz; **12** – Brian Culp; **14** - Maggie Hutchinson; **16** – Alex Hoffman, Doris Saltzer; **18** - Ed VanBuren; **20** - Shirley VanBuren; **21** – Mark Arnosky, Corinne Daylor, Marie Haller; **22** – Darlene Medvetz, Ruby Starling; **23** – Kelly Hefner, Mary Rigg, Jeffrey Stott; **26** – Christine Bealer; **28** – Dylan Rolando, Tyler Rolando; **29** – Ron Stott; **30** – Kathryn Geist

## A Reminder from the Archives Committee

If you have any photos from any church related events that can be shared, please see that the Archive Committee receives them. We are looking for past & future events. Also, if possible, please try to identify the people in the photos. Thanks!

## Thank yous

To Our St. James Family:

Thank you for all your thoughts, prayers, and cards with the passing of my mother, Betty Chuck.

Donna Rose & Family

Thank you to all who supported and helped with the Spring Rummage sale. Over \$1000 was raised for those in need.

Thanks to Ted Baer for turning on the air-conditioning in our worship space each Saturday night so we have a cooler place to worship on Sunday.

## Deepest Sympathies

to the family and friends of **Kit Weller**.

to the family and friends of **Betty Chuck** (Donna Rose's mother)

pray for the nation  
and our troops



## 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.

**Ron Schafer - President** 610-326-4814  
Email: [ronslibrary@aol.com](mailto:ronslibrary@aol.com)

**Pat Baer - Vice President** 610-326-8598  
Email: [pattedbaer@verizon.net](mailto:pattedbaer@verizon.net)

**Vickie Kirsten - Secretary** 484-300-4915  
Email: [vjkirsten@comcast.net](mailto:vjkirsten@comcast.net)

**Sherry Clancy - Treasurer** 610-323-5977  
Email: [srclancy@comcast.net](mailto:srclancy@comcast.net)

**Barbara Ungerman** 610-718-9368  
Email: [bungerman@comcast.net](mailto:bungerman@comcast.net)

**Mike Lunn** 610-367-8762  
Email: [lunns2@dejazzd.com](mailto:lunns2@dejazzd.com)

**Jim Irwin** 323-1511  
Email: [jei1013hotmail.com](mailto:jei1013hotmail.com)

**Scott Strichik** 610-327-3108  
Email: [sstrichik@verizon.net](mailto:sstrichik@verizon.net)

**Mary Arnt** 610-323-6176

**David Hartzman** 610-909-5806  
Email: [Crittersdad1949@aol.com](mailto:Crittersdad1949@aol.com)

**Tracie Rheel** 610-323-7051  
Email: [trheel@comcast.net](mailto:trheel@comcast.net)

**Chipper Meadowcroft** 610-327-0458  
Email: [meadow1135@hotmail.com](mailto:meadow1135@hotmail.com)

**Carol Keller** 610-326-1013  
Email: [shane550@aol.com](mailto:shane550@aol.com)

**Jessica Mitchell** 610-970-4250  
Email: [jrabbit23@comcast.net](mailto:jrabbit23@comcast.net)

### TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>May-2008</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 17,244.47	\$105,170.52
Expense s	<u>32,146.25</u>	<u>137,927.22</u>
Net Income	(\$14,901.78)	(\$32,756.70)
<i>Regular Envelopes</i>		
Received	\$14,989.00	\$81,787.05
Needed*	<u>19,498.94</u>	<u>97,494.72</u>
Over (Under)	(\$4,509.94)	(\$15,707.67)
<i>Third Sunday Offering</i>		
Collected	\$290.00	Volunteer Home Care
<i>Capital Campaign</i>		
	<u>Apr-2008</u>	<u>Total Campaign</u>
Income	\$5,233.00	\$233,234.75

\*Amount required to balance the budget.

