

# the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • JULY 2007

OUR VISION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*“To Be, and to Become, a Worshiping, Caring, Teaching,  
and Outreaching Congregation.”*

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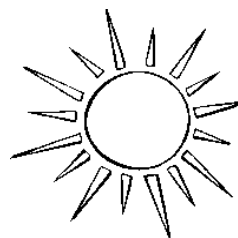
## Summer Sunday Schedule

**Worship**  
9 a.m.

**Coffee Fellowship**  
10 a.m.

**Children's Church**  
9 a.m.  
*(no Children's Church on July 1<sup>st</sup>)*

**Communion Weekly**





## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**  
8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 2:30 p.m.  
**Closed Friday**  
**Closed on Fourth of July**

**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**

Larry Kehler  
home: 610-327-2238

### **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 Edition: July 15, 2007**

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.

### **Weekly Bulletin Announcements on the Website**

Weekly bulletin announcements can be found on the St. James' website under the News section. This section is updated weekly so you can know what is happening from week to week even if you miss worship due to vacations and other summer plans. Check it out for yourself at [www.stjamespottstown.org](http://www.stjamespottstown.org).

### **Prayer List**

If you have anyone who you would like to add to or take off of the prayer list, please use the yellow communication cards found in the pews or contact Suzanne Rigg at 610-970-4865.

## A Note From Pastor Hutchinson

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### Saved by grace; through the blood of Christ

Someone asked me the other day; “**Why do Lutheran churches have red doors?**”

The answer is, for one thing, that it's not only Lutheran churches that have red doors, but you will notice that many Protestant churches from the Reformation era have red doors on their church. There are: Episcopal, UCC, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, along with others, who have painted their front doors red to emphasize that we are saved only by the grace of God in and through the blood of Christ.

The importance of this was brought to a head during the Reformation period when the church was in some places teaching that people could work their way into heaven and obtain God's good graces by the good works that they did (or worse yet) how much they paid the church! Martin Luther and others fought this heresy and finally, broke from the church because the false teaching de-emphasized, and some would say even made irrelevant, the saving work of Jesus on the cross.

By painting the front doors bright red, the color of His blood, the message was sent out loud and clear. It is only by Christ's blood shed and our faith in that good work that we are made right with God and able to have life eternal. So St. James, like many others, is “the church with the red doors.” As it is, those doors will soon be repaired as part of our overall effort to improve and restore our facilities. I pray that you all not only see the importance of the red doors, but also the importance of doing your part to help contribute so that we are able to bring the church up to being a place of proper honor and respect for God to gather his people. Knowing that we do

that, not because it makes us right with God, but in response to God making us right with him, through Christ sacrifice and his blood. Amen.

PASTOR



### Thank You from Pastor

On behalf of the congregation, I want to thank EVERYONE who has been involved in our recent Capital Campaign to help encourage the raising of awareness of the needs as well as raising of funds to do the necessary work here at St. James. There has been so many people involved and so much good work that to begin to mention names and particulars would take up too much space. But I can tell you that I have been so impressed with all the discipleship and efforts and sacrifice put towards making this a success. And still,...at the same time,... I think there was much fun had along the way in our doing this.

God's blessings to you all who worked so hard and to those who have pledged their gifts for the improved and continued good work within this body of Christ in Pottstown.

# WORSHIP NOTES

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## The Feast of St. James Sunday, July 22, 2007

Each year we will 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 22. 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).

**We mark The Feast of St. James as a day to remember both our call as Christians and as a congregation, to not seek our own greatness, but to realize that in serving, God will bless us with glory.**

### New Member Reception on the Feast of St. James

On the Feast of St. James, Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be acknowledging and celebrating with all those who have joined our church in the last year. As part of that celebration, we will be taking in new members to the church that morning at 9 a.m. worship.

**Anyone who would like to officially become a "member" of St. James and has been worshipping, or is in any way connected with St. James can let Pastor or Suzanne know as soon as possible.** If you are not sure about making that commitment, but have some questions concerning that, we would be glad to discuss this further, with no obligation.



## Faith and Leadership Academy 2007

Our Synod's Faith and Leadership Academy is a six-week adventure in faith and discipleship. **Through lectures, discussions, prayer and mutual encouragement, participants discover new insights about their faith, their church and themselves.** Classes are led by seminary staff, pastors, and trained lay leaders.

The 2007 session will run Saturdays, **October 13 - November 17, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia from 9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

If you would like more information or if you are interested in registering for the Academy, please contact Pastor Hutchinson or Suzanne Rigg. **There is no cost to any member who would like to attend.**

## 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 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 .

*Note: The Third Sunday Offering for July was originally scheduled to go to our missionaries. That offering will now be in August when our missionaries from Nepal, Dr. and Mrs. Stephen and Becky Thorson will be visiting St. James.*

### Third Sunday Offering Schedule

AUGUST - Missionaries  
SEPTEMBER - Lutheran World Relief  
OCTOBER - Cluster Outreach Center  
NOVEMBER - Open  
DECEMBER - ELCA World Hunger



**Next** Rejoicing Spirits worship  
at St. James  
**Wednesday, July 11, 2007**  
**7 p.m.**  
**All are welcome!**

Please remember that even though Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities 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.



### Altar Flowers, Eternal Light and Bulletin Sponsorships

**Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall** for anyone who would like to sponsor the altar flowers, eternal light and/or bulletins. No one automatically has the same week they reserved the previous year, so be sure to sign up again for 2007.

The cost is \$15 for eternal light, \$40 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Envelopes for payment are available in Horn Hall. They can then be placed in the offering plate or returned to the office.

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## Cluster Outreach Center

### ***Current Volunteer Needs:***

Clothing and food sorters, servers for Community Meals

**If you would like to volunteer, contact Regina or Dianna at the Outreach Center at 610-970-5995.**

### ***Pantry Needs:***

Teabags, cereal, canned pasta, macaroni and cheese and tuna.

### ***Clothing & Household Needs:***

Adult size diapers, sizes 4, 5, 6, new women undergarments, can openers, coffee makers, queen and king size sheets.

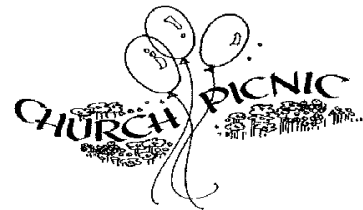
### ***Baby Needs:***

Similac Advance with iron formula, diapers sizes 5,6 and newborn, stage 1 and 3 baby food.

### ***Always needed:***

Brown paper grocery bags, quart and gallon size Ziploc plastic bags (freezer or regular), empty water bottles with lids.

**Donations accepted Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-11 a.m. and Wednesday 3-5 p.m. Also from 9-11 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month. The Cluster is located at 137 Walnut Street.**



**Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The St. James Picnic will be held on "The Feast of St. James Sunday" at the Warwick County Park! Meat and drinks will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish/dessert to share. There will be games for all ages, 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 15. **For more information, please see the attached flyer.**



## **Movie Nights Thursday Evenings in August**

Come join the fun on Thursday 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!

## **Community Meal**

This month, **volunteers are needed July 26** to provide desserts, cook, set up and clean up. For more information, please call Susan Cameron at 610-718-9926.

# Great Bible Reef

Guess what's swimming up ahead?  
**Great Bible Reef VBS!**

Place: St. James Lutheran Church

**Dates: July 23-27, 2007**

**Time: 9:30 a.m. – Noon**

All kids between the ages of 3 and grades 6 are invited to dive in! We will listen to great stories about Jesus, make cool crafts, sing fun songs, play zany games, and make a school of friends!  
Register today!

Stop by the VBS registration table after worship to sign up.

Or call the church office at 610-326-2810

See you at Great Bible Reef!

## Volunteer Opportunities for Vacation Bible School

**July 23-27, 2007**

**9:30 a.m. - Noon**

The Great Barrier **Games Activity Site Leader** is responsible for

- leading fun and creative games that reinforce the daily Bible story and theme
- encouraging fair play and affirming kids' efforts

( continued next column )

The Coral Crafts **Activity Site Leader** is responsible for

- leading kids in fun craft activities that explore the daily Bible story and theme
- affirming kids' efforts and connecting the craft activities to the daily theme

The Reef **Rhythm Activity Site Leader** is responsible for

- teaching kids fun songs and actions that reinforce the daily Bible story and theme
- engaging kids in musical activities and affirming kids' efforts

The Deep Sea **Storytelling Activity Site Leader** is responsible for

- helping kids explore the daily Bible story through storytelling and creative activities
- leading brief discussions that pertain to the daily Bible story and theme

The Hungry Kids **Snack Leader** is responsible for

- planning snacks that connect to the daily Bible story.
- helping the kids prepare a snack related to the daily Bible story

A **Navigation Guide** is responsible for

- guiding a small group of kids through their daily activities
- leading group-building activities with your Small Group

The **Registrar** is responsible for

- checking in kids who are pre-registered.
- registering children as they arrive and helping parents/caregivers complete forms.

**To volunteer for VBS stop by the VBS  
Table in Horn Hall  
or call the office at 610-326-2810.**

**WELCA**  
**"Act Boldly for Mission"**

**Summer Bible Study**  
**Tuesday, July 31, 2007**

Sheila Specht, Presenter

Please join the women of the Upper Montgomery Cluster for a **breakfast at the Limerick Diner at 9 a.m.** Bring a friend.

Individual orders will be taken and checks given. The study will begin around 10 a.m. when we have finished breakfast. Bring your copy of June's and July/August's issues of Lutheran Women Today if you are a subscriber. Please **call Grace Schafer at 610-326-4814 to reserve your place before July 25.**

**Thank you notes**

Thank you to Pastor Hutchinson, David Hartzman and John Pioko for helping to move beds and a sofa to the Royersford home our of newest refugees from Liberia.

Thank you to our Property Committee for hanging the outdoor VBS sign.

To my Church Family,

The genuine warmth of the church family brought me to St. James seven years ago. Faces have changed but the warm, friendly feeling stays. Thank you for lifting my impatient spirit with your many cards and visits. I am so blessed.

Love,  
Dottie Smith

Thank you to Sara Jane Silver and Julia Jackson for their ongoing support in the Refugee Resettlement Ministry.

A "thank you" to pastor and all others involved in arranging the celebrating of my retirement from the chancel choir, including the privilege of selecting the hymns and the choir anthem for the service, inviting my family to the service and the reception in Horn Hall on June 10. The commemorative plaque has been placed on the wall above our piano. Thanks to Sharon and the Chancel Choir for the extra work involved in preparing the anthem. It was a memorable event and one that I will remember for some time.

Love to all,  
Jonathan (Jon) Fink

On behalf of the Preeclampsia Foundation I would like to sincerely thank you for the recent \$500 sponsorship contribution in support of the 2007 PA charity golf event to be held this September to benefit this cause. Personally, I am so touched and encouraged by St. James' gift. Donations such as this help with the organization's global mission of reducing maternal and infant illness and death due to preeclampsia. Your contribution has made a difference in the lives of women and babies affected (locally and globally) by this disorder, and provides hope for healthier outcomes in pregnancies influenced in the future.

With heartfelt thanks,  
Dawn Detweiler

# MEMBER NEWS

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## 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

## Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family **Cassidy Jade Kuchenbrod**, daughter of Diana and Raymond Kuchenbrod, baptized June 10, 2007.



## Members Moving

Bill and Marian Rex have sold their home locally and are moving to a new residence in the State College area near to where their daughter lives. They have long looked forward to retiring there and to being closer to the Nittany Lions, who they fervently support. We wish them the best and God's blessings in their new home and new church.

## Deepest Sympathies

to the family and friends of Wayne Kreider.

## Congratulations Graduate



**Nicole Bealer** graduated from Pottsgrove High School this June. At Pottsgrove Nicole was a varsity Basketball player, participated in many clubs and activities. Nicole will be attending DeSales University in Center Valley, PA. in the Fall. Nicole will be majoring in Biology and Secondary Education. She plans to teach high School Biology or Chemistry.

**Kristy Lapreziosa** graduated from Owen J. Roberts on June 8. She will be attending Albright College in the Fall majoring in communications. Kristy was awarded a talent grant and will be singing in the Albright choir.

### BLOOD DRIVE INFO

The Miller- Keystone blood drive **will be held Monday, July 2, 2007 from 2 - 7:30 p.m.** Please call Marge Fegley at 610-323-3936 to schedule an appointment to donate. Remember that donating one pint of blood can help three people.

### BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Blood pressures will be taken in Horn Hall on July 1<sup>st</sup> after worship.

## Council Member Contact

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

**Ron Schafer** 610-326-4814  
 President, Represents Christian Ed. Comm.  
 Email: ronslibrary@aol.com

**Vickie Kirsten** 484-300-4915  
 Vice-President, Represents Fellowship Comm.  
 Email: vjkirsten@comcast.net

**John Ungerman** 610-718-9368  
 Secretary, Represents Property Comm.  
 Email: john.ungerman@thrivent.com

**Mike Lunn** 610-367-8762  
 Email: sklunny@aol.com

**Jeff Leiby** 610-327-9454  
 Email: jefnrobn@yahoo.com

**Alison O'Donnell** 610-779-1119  
 Email: Alison.C.O'Donnell@GSK.com  
 papodonnell@comcast.net

**Dottie Smith** 610-323-8226  
 Represents Personnel Comm.  
 Email: dsmith@whcgpa.com

**Scott Strichik** 610-327-3108  
 Email: sstrichik@verizon.net

**Mary Arnt** 610-323-6176

**David Hartzman** 610-909-5806  
 Represents Evangelism Comm.  
 Email: Crittersdad1949@aol.com

**Tracie Rheel** 610-323-7051  
 Represents Stewardship Comm.  
 Email: trheel@comcast.net

**Chipper Meadowcroft** 610-327-0458  
 Email: meadow1135@hotmail.com

**Jessica Mitchell** 610-970-4250  
 Email: jrabbit23@comcast.net

<b>TREASURER REPORT</b>		
	<u>May 2007</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 21,895.47	\$ 120,795.18
Expenses	<u>25,146.38</u>	<u>115,602.24</u>
Net Income	(\$3,250.91)	\$5,192.94
<i>Regular Envelopes</i>		
Received	\$18,202.00	\$92,147.00
Needed*	<u>19,780.31</u>	<u>98,901.57</u>
Over (Under)	(\$1,578.31)	(\$6,754.57)
<i>Third Sunday Offering</i>		
Collected	\$258.00	
Beneficiary	Manatawny Manor	
*Each month includes \$14,729 actual pledged and \$5,051 needed growth to balance the budget.		

# WELCOMING THE STRANGER

## Refugee Resettlement Ministry

**"I was a stranger and you welcomed me" - Matthew 25:35**

All our refugees from Liberia have arrived. Winnie (Ike and Delvin's half-sister), Etta (Ike and Delvin's mother) and Mercy (Ike and Delvin's niece) arrived in the United States on June 14, 2007. They are living in Royersford with other refugee family members being sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church, Royersford. Later this month we will be moving them to Pottstown into their permanent home.

**More help is needed in the following areas. Please consider helping where you can:**

- 1. Provide transportation** - Our refugees still need help getting to places such as doctor appointments, grocery shopping, work, etc. Individuals will be needed to provide transportation from time to time. If you can help with this there is a **sign up sheet in Horn Hall asking what days and times are best for you and the number of passengers that you can accommodate.**
- 2. Visitations** - We are looking for someone who can visit Winnie, Etta and Mercy while they are living in Royersford. Visits can be short, about for 15 - 30 minutes at a time, and are primarily intended to check in with them. **If you would like to be a visitor, please sign up in Horn Hall with the days and times that are best for you.**
- 3. Help move them** - Sometime in July we will be moving our family together in an apartment or house in Pottstown. Vans, trucks and muscle will all be needed to make this happen. **If anyone can with the move, please contact Pastor Hutchinson, Suzanne or the church office.**
- 4. Help with life skills** - especially with our new refugees, help is needed in this area. They to learn about the post office, bank, library, riding buses, shopping, etc. Each of these activities can be done according to ones own schedule. **Please sign up in Horn Hall for any of the above.**

Getting involved with these people is a very rewarding experience. **Remember what Jesus said: 'If you do it unto the least of these my brethren, you do it unto me.'**

Thanks ahead of time for your help and concern and prayers.