



# ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

*SAVED BY FAITH ~ SERVING WITH LOVE*

January  
2010

[www.stjameslutheranri.org](http://www.stjameslutheranri.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Spark Your Faith at "Ignite"

High School Youth Event  
with recreation, a live band,  
food and inspiration

**January 16<sup>th</sup> 2010**

**TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.**

**LOCATION: Augustana College PepsiCo Center  
on 30th Street in Rock Island**

**MORE: There is NO COST for high school youth  
and their friends**

### The Gospel of Luke – Trivia Event - January 24 at 10:15 a.m

How many of you have read the Gospel of Luke all the way through?

The author of Luke is a great storyteller and emphasizes in his writings that salvation through Jesus Christ is intended for everyone, even those considered unworthy or outcast.

I believe God will reveal amazing insights when we open our Bibles and start intentional reading. Wouldn't it be great if we could get AT LEAST 100 men, women, and children at St. James to read the entire Gospel of Luke? What would be even better is if we could do that reading by January 24 because that is the day the Education Team is planning a **Fun-filled Intergenerational Trivia Event.**

**This is my challenge – that each of us at St. James would read all of Luke.**

Submitted by *Pr. Lepp*

### Annual Meeting - January 31

The Annual Meeting will be at 10:15 a.m. on Jan. 31. Reports will be available on Sunday, January 17. Contact the church office if you would like a report mailed to you.

## Evermore and Evermore

On January 3 during our 9:00 a.m. worship we will be celebrating the New Year. Our celebration will be one where we are centered upon the ever-lasting presence of God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Christ has been with us through all our yesterdays. Christ is with us at this present moment. Christ promises to be with us into our future.

St. Patrick's Breastplate will serve to help focus our hearts and minds and spirits upon Christ's presence using this bold statement of faith:



Be sure to join with us for worship on January 3 for this opportunity to begin 2010 by placing our trust in God's ever-lasting presence.

Blessings to you this day,

*Pastor Janet Lepp*

Pastor Janet Lepp

## CONGREGATION NEWS

### Sanctuary Task Force

The Sanctuary Task Force committee continues to develop a plan to refurbish our sanctuary. We are working with an architect and interior designer to develop a plan for flooring, pews and sanctuary décor. Our committee meets monthly to work on this project and we continue to discuss our ideas and develop a plan that we will present to the congregation. We would appreciate input from the congregation about the pews and chairs that are on display by the office. Please feel free to contact any of the members of the committee with your comments and or questions. The committee members are Linda Ryden, Larry Peterson, Pastor Lepp, Bob Kruger, and Mary Boehm.

Submitted by Mary Boehm

### Year-End Treasurer Report

Annual reports from our teams are due next week. It appears that the treasurer's report will be easy to write. If December offerings and special gifts are received as budgeted, with just a little extra Christmas Spirit, and if we aren't surprised by an unexpected expense, the report should need no red ink! It will be a great start for 2010 if we don't have a deficit to carry forward. Thanks to all of our faithful members who do a lot of volunteer work and share resources to carry our mission forward.

Doug Nelson, Treasurer

## EDUCATION

### Adult Forum Schedule - Sundays at 10:15

Adult Forum provides a variety of educational opportunities for adult members of St. James. Meet in the front of the Sanctuary.

- Jan. 3** New Years Break
- Jan. 10** Bible Study: Luke 14: 19:27 - Leader, Mary Laidig
- Jan. 17** Bible Study: Luke 19:28 - 24 - Leader, Virginia Johnson
- Jan. 24** Trivia Event for the Book of Luke
- Jan. 31** St. James Annual Meeting

Invite your friends to join us to hear these interesting presentations.  
Submitted by Bob Frank

## HEALTH & WELL BEING

January brings many opportunities to make fresh starts, and in addition we also recognize Sanctity of life Sunday. The following are some thoughts about End of Life Health Care Decisions.

What Principles Should Guide our Health Care Decisions?

- Each person is created in God's image and deserves to be treated with the same standard of care (regardless of age or infirmity).
- As Creator, God alone knows with certainty if a condition is incurable.
- When God given body functions to sustain life are no longer effective and the doctor's judgment is that there is no real hope for recovery, a Christian may in good conscience, let nature take its course.
- It is good ethical practice for doctors to receive a statement signed by the patient indicating wishes to terminate life-sustaining treatment in case of terminal condition.
- Death is not only a physical event, but a crucial emotional and spiritual experience with opportunities for Christian witness and service.
- Euthanasia in its proper sense involves suicide/murder. It is therefore contrary to God's will.
- Any decisions that later appear to misguided, have been redeemed by Christ.

In all of our decision making, may we share David's hope, "But I trust in You, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.'" My times are in your hands." (Ps. 31:14-15a)

Submitted by Elizabeth Johnson, R.N.

### Blood Drive - January 16

Salem Lutheran & St. James Lutheran have combined for a blood drive on January 16 at Salem Lutheran Church in Moline from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. To donate contact Liz Johnson at #786-0069. Free brunch for donors. Door prize drawing for a \$50 Panera Gift Certificate.

## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY



January 24 at 5:30 p.m.

Soup, Bread & Beverage will be served at St. James in Fellowship Hall.

All proceeds from a free will offering will be split between the ELCA Souper Bowl Sunday Hunger Drive and a Quad Cities homeless program.

## New Director of Family Ministries

### Welcome Samuel LaMere to St. James Staff

The Congregational Council, Education Team, and Personnel Committee are pleased to announce that Samuel LaMere will be the new Director of Family Ministries for St. James beginning in January 2010. Mr. LaMere comes to us with extensive experience in youth ministry in congregations, at Camp Shalom, and at a Rock Island Drop-in Center for children. He has a degree from Augustana College with concentrations in Art and Religious Studies. I am extremely excited to be welcoming Sam to St. James, and encourage all of you to greet him warmly and help him get to know us. In Christ's love, Pr. Lepp

## Chick Flick - January 15

**Movie:** *Saving Sarah Cain*

The story of a city girl who discovers a major change in her life when she unexpectedly becomes the legal guardian of five Amish children.

Based on a story by best selling novelist Beverly Lewis.

**When:** (Friday) Jan. 15 **Time:** 6:30 p.m. **Where:** St. James Narthex

Come for popcorn, dessert and interesting discussion. Don't forget to wear your slippers! Call Rhea #794-1781 or Jo Kempf #787-9490 if you need a ride!

## APPRECIATIONS

Thank you to **everyone** who helped with the Advent and Christmas preparations and events at St. James. Our worship services, Christmas program, classes, meals, and fellowship events were filled with lively witness and genuine inspiration. Also, thank you for all the cards and calls and special greetings you shared with my family and me during the past few weeks. We appreciate your kind and generous spirits. God's blessings to all of you, Pastor Lepp

St. James Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for all you have done to welcome us in to your church. You have all made such a huge impact in our lives. Thank you for the wonderful faith chest, the hymnal and crosses. They are all so wonderful! Sincerely, Teresa Maness & Spencer Mar.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Christian Unity Prayer Service - Jan. 24

All Christians are invited to a Prayer Service for Christian Unity,

Sunday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church 2201 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Moline

Rev. Phil Hart, regional supervisor of the United Church of Christ will be preaching. Numerous area clergy, including Pastor Janet Lepp of St. James, will be participating.

### Church Women United Winter Retreat - Jan. 12

Tuesday, January 12 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Theme:** Find God In The Ordinary

**Speaker:** Sis. Charlotte Sonnevill

**Location:** St. Ambrose Catholic Church 312 West 1st Street, Milan, IL

For reservations call 309-558-7884.

Registration Fee \$5.00.

Lunch provided.





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## **WEATHER CANCELLATIONS**

Due to inclement weather events and meetings held at St. James may be canceled.

All cancellations held at St. James will be communicated on the local television and radio stations. You may also contact the event organizer or team leader for cancellation information. Please use good judgment before venturing out in bad weather.



## **ST. JAMES SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:00 AM**

*Worship, Holy Sacrament, Music, Children's Message, Bible Studies, Fellowship.*

### **Epiphany Celebration - January 6**

St. James will be celebrating Epiphany this year on  
Wednesday, January 6.

We will begin the evening at 6:00 p.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall with a chili supper.  
Then we will proceed upstairs for worship.

Epiphany is the day when we celebrate the arrival of the Three Kings to the birth place of Jesus. Our time together will be spent in a traditional way – yet uniquely new for this New Year. We are expecting a visit by some Kings that have traveled from afar to spend some time with us as we marvel at the birth of Jesus.

Be sure to put this event on your calendars.  
It promises to be a wonderful evening for all ages.

*To grow in relationships, invitation, and hospitality as disciples of Jesus Christ.*