



St. James Newsletter

January 2026



*Wishing Everyone a Blessed New
Year!*

Pastor Don & Mary Knowles

Rescue Mission Meal

St. James will serve the evening meal at the Christian Family Care Center on Wednesday, January 14.



We will buy the ham and needed supplies. If you would like to help, we need volunteers to serve and prepare crockpot beans and cheesy potatoes.

A sign-up sheet is on the info table in the narthex. Meet in the church kitchen on January 14 at 5:30 pm or bring prepared items before that time.

Thank you to everyone who has donated a cake, brownies, or cookies for dessert.

- ◆ Jane Massey
- ◆ Terri Warren
- ◆ Brad Hubbard



Meetings

- Property Team
January 5 at 7:00 pm
- Welcoming Team
January 7 at 6:00 pm
- Vision Team
January 13 at 3:00 pm @ Calvary
- Stewardship/Finance Team
January 19 at 4:00 pm via Zoom
- Council
January 21 at 7:00 pm in person and via Zoom.



Women's Circle

The St. James Women's Circle will meet on January 20 at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Hostess: Jo Kempf
Bible Study: Donna Renneke

"Embodied Prayer" by Rev. Liv Larson Andrews

Bible Study - Matthew



Bible Study led by Pastor Knowles will be on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm. We are in person at the church, or you can participate via Zoom.

If you would prefer a daytime group, the Bible study is on Monday mornings at 10:00 am in the Upper Room at Calvary.

The Zoom links are on our website. The studies resume on January 5 and 6.

Café Women's Bible Study

This group meets on the third Saturday of the month, so the next time is on January 17 at 10:30 am. Anyone interested, should RSVP to Rhea Frank-Cottingham, 309-781-8546.

Quilters



St. James Quilters will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, January 17 at 1:00 pm. All are welcome, even beginners. Please join us as we quilt.

Annual Congregation Meeting

The Annual Congregation Meeting will be on Sunday, January 25 in the Fellowship Hall directly after our 8:30 am service (around 9:30 am). It will be held in person and on Zoom. The link will be on our website.

All committee reports and other items wishing to be added to the agenda should be submitted to the church office as soon as possible.

Children's Christmas Pageant



Endowment Fund

Dear Members of St. James,

The Endowment Fund Team is once again pleased to announce that gifts can be distributed from the Endowment Fund. In accordance with the Endowment Fund bylaws and by previous motions made by the Endowment Fund Team and approved by the Congregation Council, it was deemed that five percent (5%) of the total Endowment Fund shall constitute the income of the fund. Distribution from the fund is determined by the value of the fund on December 31 of each year. We are not able to determine the exact value as of this date, but it appears the amount that can be distributed will be approximately \$12,000.

The Endowment Fund Team is ready to receive applications from individuals or groups who wish to participate in the distribution. Please use an *Endowment Fund Application for Gift* form. If you as an individual or group have a need for additional funds that would meet one of the seven categories of the approved Endowment Fund Ministries as stated in the Endowment Fund bylaws (listed for your convenience in item nine on the application form), please feel free to complete an Endowment Fund Application for Gift Form. The completed form must be received in the Church office no later than **January 15, 2026**. Forms received after this date may be considered if funds are available after the initial distribution. Your application will be reviewed by the Endowment Fund Team in late January and may be accepted or rejected in part or in full.

A gift to the Endowment Fund keeps giving over and over again as the principal of the fund cannot be distributed. We hope the amount available for distribution from the Fund will increase in future years as the fund continues to grow with your generous gifts. Please keep the Endowment Fund in mind for your future giving and your estate planning. This giving is an excellent way to remember or honor a friend or loved one. Please indicate that your offering is designated for the St. James Endowment Fund when you annotate your gift amount.

The application form on the next two pages is available on paper (at the office or information table), as a [PDF file](#), as a [Word file](#), or this [online form](#).

Yours in Christ,

The Endowment Fund Team

St. James Lutheran Church
Endowment Fund
Application for Gift

All questions must be answered. One page only may be attached to this application to provide more details about your request.

Initial application deadline is **January 15**. Applications received after this date may be considered if funds are available.

1. Name of organization/person: _____
2. What is the purpose of this request?

3. Project title: _____
4. Please provide a complete description of the project:

5. Date(s) of project _____
6. Amount requested: _____
7. What Team (s) of St. James Church or the Community (if any) will this grant serve?

8. Does your Team have any other source of income for the project described in #4? If yes, please explain.

9. Which category (listed below) of the approved Endowment Fund Ministries authorizes this gift?

- a. Encourage new developments in the ongoing work of St. James
- b. Support the mission of the *ELCA Designated Advanced Gifts Program*
- c. College and seminary scholarship grants and loans
- d. St. James staff development
- e. Community outreach in ministry activities
- f. St. James capital improvements
- g. Any other cause as determined by the Endowment Fund Team to be of sufficient charitable, educational, or religious value (**please specify**)

10. If this gift request is approved, who is the check to be made payable to? Please include complete address where the check is to be mailed.

11. Printed name, address and telephone number of the person submitting this form:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form by January 15 to

St. James Lutheran Church
Attention: Endowment Fund Team
3145 31st Ave
Rock Island IL 61201

Assisting on Sunday – January 2026

| Sunday | Lector | Counters | Sound Booth |
|---------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Jan. 4 | Todd Gann | Stacy Miles Tina Wieland | Mike Olinski |
| Jan. 11 | Daryl Empen | Todd Gann Linda Ryden | Bob Ryden |
| Jan. 18 | Linda Ryden | Dave Renneke Rhea Frank-Cottingham | Dave Renneke |
| Jan. 25 | Chip Johnson | Ruth Anne Hartman Gary Wolber | Jerry Johansen |
| | | | |

Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Tanner Johnson | 1/5 |
| Etienne Ntiriniga | 1/5 |
| Darryl Johnson | 1/10 |
| Douglas Johnson | 1/10 |
| Keith Petersen | 1/13 |
| Donald Knowles | 1/14 |
| Rebecca Resch | 1/14 |
| Larry Coronell Jr. | 1/15 |
| Jason Schroeder | 1/15 |
| Jadon Johnson | 1/16 |
| Jaimie Schroeder | 1/22 |
| Tom Fox | 1/25 |
| Alicia Grindle | 1/29 |



| January 2025 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | 1 Office Closed  | 2 Office Closed | 3 |
| 4 8:30a Worship (SJ) 9:30a Fellowship, SS (SJ) 10:30a Worship (AS) | 5 10:00a Bible Study at Calvary or via Zoom 7:00p Property Team | 6 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30p Bible Study at church or via Zoom | 7 9:30a Worship Service (AS) 6:00p Welcoming Team | 8 8:30p Cub Scouts | 9 Office Closed | 10 |
| 11 8:30a Worship (SJ) 9:30a Fellowship, SS (SJ) 10:30a Worship (AS) | 12 10:00a Bible Study at Calvary or via Zoom 10:30a Retired Pastor's 6:00p Junior League | 13 6:30p Boy Scouts 3:00p Vision Team @ Calvary 6:30p Bible Study at church or via Zoom | 14 9:30a Worship Service (AS) 5:30p Rescue Mission Meal | 15 6:30p Cub Scouts | 16 Office Closed | 17 10:30a Café Women's Bible Study 1:00p Quilters |
| 18 8:30a Worship (SJ) 9:30a Fellowship (SJ) 10:30a Worship (AS) | 19 10:00a Bible Study at Calvary or via Zoom 4:00p Stewardship/ Finance in person or via Zoom | 20 6:30p Boy Scouts 2:00p Women's Circle 6:30p Bible Study at church or via Zoom | 21 9:10a Worship Service (AS) 7:00p Council at church or via Zoom | 22 6:30p Cub Scouts | 23 Office Closed | 24 |
| 25 8:30a Worship (SJ) 9:30a Annual Meeting (SJ) 10:30a Worship (AS) | 26 10:00a Bible Study at Calvary or via Zoom | 27 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30p Bible Study at church or via Zoom | 28 9:30a Worship Service (AS) | 29 6:30p Cub Scouts | 30 Office Closed | 31 |

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PARISH WISHES YOU
BROTHER & SISTER OF
ST. JAMES LUTHERAN
CHURCH

HAPPY NEW YEAR OF
2026

*And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon
us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon
us: yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.*

Psalms 90:17

FROM MDORI PARISH 2026



St. James on the Web

stjamesri.org



309-786-0503

saintjamesri@gmail.com

At our website you will find
single-click links to

[Facebook](#)

and St. James photos

[Flickr photos](#)

St. James is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

In our awareness that we are all broken people, we rejoice in God's abundant grace. Therefore, we welcome all who are seeking God's love and forgiveness regardless of national origin or ancestry, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, abilities, beliefs, political views, financial resources, or family status.

There will always be a place for you at St. James.

For more information check out [Reconciling Works](#).



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3145 31st Ave

Rock Island, IL 61201

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE