St James Lutheran Church

# Inside November 2022 Newsletter


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## *From the Pastor:*

Working at camp, one of our most effective teaching tools was storytelling. Among my favorite stories from those days is still "Barrington Bunny," by Martin Bell. While the story is too long to share in its entirety (and probably would be a violation of copyright laws), let me share the essence of the story with you.

Barrington is a lop-eared bunny who believes he is alone in the forest on Christmas Eve. He hops from potential friend to potential friend looking for a family to be with for that special night. But the squirrel family and mouse family and beaver family are all at a loss on how to include this furry bunny in their tree or hole or river den homes. Despondent and in tears, Barrington starts home. On the way he encounters the Great Silver Wolf who teaches Barrington two important lessons: being furry, warm and able to hop is a gift unique to bunnies and is given for a reason, and that all the animals of the forest are his family.

Revived by this new insight Barrington returns to the homes of his new families and quietly leaves them special Christmas gifts, each one with a note that says it is free gift with no strings attached from a member of their family.

I will save the end of the story for some time when I can read the whole thing for you. But it is that message that Barrington Bunny learned from the Great Silver Wolf that I thought about as I contemplated my Thanksgiving thoughts for you. While "Barrington Bunny" is a story that takes place on Christmas Eve, the message, I think, is fitting for Thanksgiving.

Revived by this new insight Barrington returns to the homes of his new families and quietly leaves them special Christmas gifts, each one with a note that says it is free gift with no strings attached from a member of their family.

What Barrington learns from the Great Silver Wolf is a message I hope we can all remember at Thanksgiving. First, we have all been given gifts from God. We may not always recognize those gifts as useful, but they are given to us nonetheless. And those gifts are given to us for a reason. Second, all the animals of the forest are members of our family. We don't all look alike, or act alike, or think alike. And each of us has been given different abilities. Yet each of us is a part of the same family – children of God. And it is for the benefit of these family members that our gifts are to be used.

So, as you gather around the table at Thanksgiving, remember that you have been blessed by God with the gifts that make you who you are. And know that you are not alone, but that all the animals of the forest are your family.

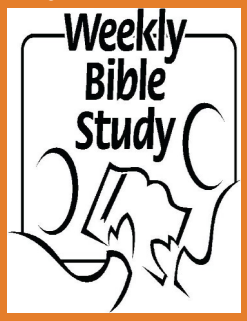
In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*

Church office will be closed
November 24th – 28th

*Discovering the Bible,* an introduction to the Bible, will be held on Nov. 1, 6:30 pm. Topic for Nov 15, 22, and 29 is yet to be determined.

This Bible study will be via Zoom. The link is on the church homepage.




**St. James Women's Circle**
**2:00 pm**
**Nov. 17, 2022**

All women of St. James are invited. Contact Ruth Anne Hartman if you would like to join us. Call the office (309)786-0503

Prayer Requests

Bob Hein
of Bellbrook, Ohio

(Brother of Liz Johnson)

## *Worship News*

### *Sunday November 6*

First Reading
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm
Psalm 149
Second Reading
Ephesians 1:11-23
Gospel
Luke 6:20-31

### *Sunday November 13*

First Reading
Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm
Psalm 98
Second Reading
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Gospel
Luke 21:5-19

### *Sunday November 20*

**First Reading**
Jeremiah 23:1-6
**Psalm**
Psalm 46
**Second Reading**
Colossians 1:11-20
**Gospel**
Luke 23:33-43

### *Sunday November 27*

**First Reading**
Luke 23:33-43
**Psalm**
Psalm 122
**Second Reading**
Romans 13:11-14
**Gospel**
Matthew 24:36-44

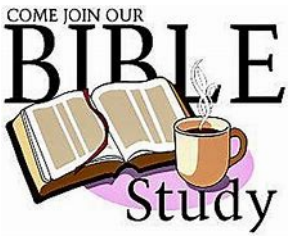
## Committee Meetings

**Stewardship/Finance Team** will be meeting on Nov. 14th at 4:00 pm via ZOOM.

**St. James Council** will be meeting on Nov. 16th at 7:00 pm via ZOOM.

Calvary Lutheran Church is looking for an Organist. If you know of anyone that would be interested, please contact Pastor Knowles at (815) 866-9595

We will again be gathering for Bible Study on Monday mornings @ 10:00am. We will meet in person in the Upper Room at Calvary. Or, you can participate virtually via Zoom. You will find the Zoom link on the St. James homepage.

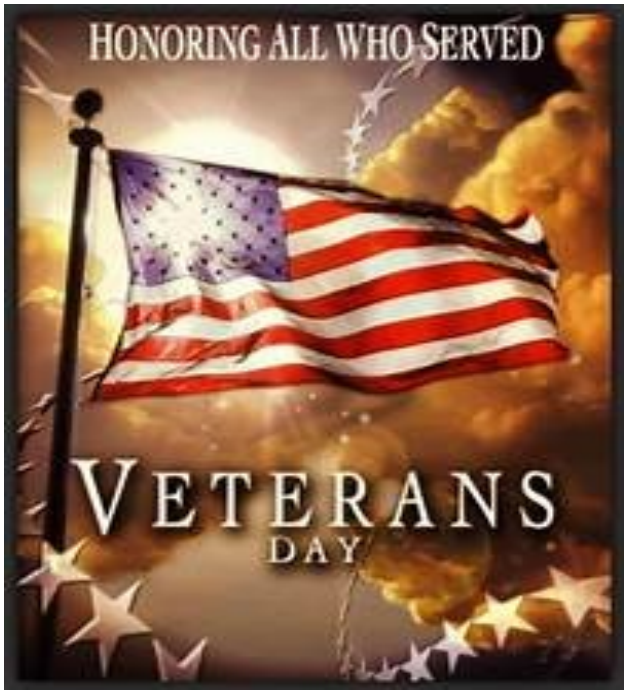



ADOPT A HIGHWAY

**The next cleanup date for Adopt -A-Highway will be on Saturday, November 12th, from 8:45 to 10:00 am. All are welcome!**

**Please meet at the eastern parking lot of Mel McKay park in South Rock Island at 8:45.**

**Safety vests, gloves, garbage bags, grabbers, and garbage bag holders will be provided.**



# World Community Day

Church Women United of Rock Island/Milan will be having a World Community Day Celebration on **Friday, November 4 at Church of Peace,** Rock Island. Please come that morning and gather once again with your sisters from other denominations.

They will be collecting **signed Christmas cards and stamps** that day which are sent to individual inmates in the Illinois prison system. The cards are collected by Companions, Inc. and are sent to individual inmates in the Illinois prison system.

Project instructions:

DO

- Use cards that represent a diverse population
- Place stamps in a separate envelope, NOT on card envelopes
- Refrain from using cards that talk about masses or novenas
- Sign your first name only
- Add a simple message (suggestions below)

DO NOT

- Use markers or crayons when signing cards
- Use cards with anything taped, glued or pasted to them. No labels
- Sign any cards that contain glitter in any amount
- Enclose anything, seal envelopes or place stamps on envelope

Suggestions for messages on the cards. They should be uplifting and caring.

- Wishing you peace and joy this Christmas season
- May you have a blessed New Year
- Peace be with you
- Wishing you a joyful Christmas and New Year full of promise
- Wishing you a peaceful and blessed holiday season

You may have received unsolicited cards from fundraising efforts in the mail that may be appropriate for this project.

If unable to attend Nov. 4, please bring cards to church this Sunday, Oct. 30. Cards will be gathered on World Community Day, Friday November 4 which I plan to attend.

Donna Renneke
St. James CWU rep

# ST. JAMES COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 2022

The in-person and virtual October 2022 Council meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19th, by President Bethany Weipert. All ten members were present. Pastor Knowles opened with a prayer. The minutes of the September meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report through September continued to reflect a balanced year. Fifty people were served at our missions meal at the Christian Care Center on October 12th. This event, which is held on the second Wednesday of all even-numbered months, has been funded by a variety of sources, the most recent being a Thrivent Action Grant. However, this event will be included in the proposed budget for 2023. As part of the outside door repair project, we approved the spending of an extra $2,940 to have the supplier paint the six doors prior to installation. Funds will be taken from the Bobby Davis Trust. The Property Team is getting bids on snow removal, as last year's company has insufficient workers. (SECRETARY'S NOTE: By an email vote on Friday, October 21st, we approved Dave Tompkins's bid for snow removal. Tompkins, who services Calvary Lutheran Church, will charge $275 per removal event, including salting.) We approved Andersen Windows' bid of $25,000 to replace ten windows. They are rotting and one is broken. Andersen costs $5,000 more than Pella, but the latter subcontracts the installation. Several Council members offered to investigate whether the lights on the top of the west end of the building need replacing, as they appear to be dim. We felt blessed that Todd Gann and Mike Olinski joined our church on October 9th. We discussed the possibility of resurrecting the Ecumenical Service, held around Thanksgiving. It would be St. James' turn to host it. We concurred that it should wait another year because of COVID. However, to keep the idea alive for future years, Pastor Knowles will contact a few area churches to see what their thoughts are. We approved the request for use of our building by the Boy Scouts to host a spaghetti dinner on Friday, October 28th. It was mentioned that we have not yet been trained to use the defibrillator (AED). We will contact Calvary's Parish Nurse Becki Maxson about possible training. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully,
Luanne Beinke,
Council Secretary

CHURCHES UNITED

October 24, 2022

St. James Lutheran Church

3145 31st Avenue

Rock Island, IL 61201

Dear St. James Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United.

We have received your $125.00 donation for Rock Island Care Link. This enables us to keep helping those in need for rent and utility assistance for this area. We are seeing an increase in calls, so the need is still great for this ministry. Thank you for your most appreciated continued commitment to enrich the lives of those among us who are most in need.

***Together we can do this!***

Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes

Executive Director

Betsy Vanausdeln

Associate Director

**St. James, All Saints Episcopal,**
**& Calvary Lutheran Church**
**will join together for a**
**Thanksgiving Vigil Service**

**Wednesday November 23, 2022**
**6:00pm**

Dorothy Ellen Hedberg, age 99 years, passed away peacefully on October 24, 2022, at home, in the presence of her daughter, Sara and son, Ken.

Dorothy was born in 1923 in Princeton, IL, to Gilbert and Ruth (Larson) Samuelson. She grew up on a farm and attended a one-room school through the 8th grade. Ever the fine student, she graduated from high school a year ahead of her peers, with the class of 1940. She came to the Quad Cities during WWII to attend business school. Dorothy married Howard G. Hedberg in June 1955 in Boone, IA. They had two children, Ken (1956) and Sara (1958.)

During her working career she was employed as a secretary at Deere & Co., then at Augustana College. While working there she took classes to further her own education, earning the equivalent of at least 2 years of college credits. Dorothy later worked for Frank Foundries in Moline, retiring in 1990 as administrative assistant to the company's CEO.

She and her husband Howard enjoyed overseas travel, making several trips throughout Europe and Russia. Later, Dorothy journeyed as far as Australia, at the age of 80.

A lifelong volunteer, she was involved for over 40 years with the Meals on Wheels program. She was a regular reader to the blind with APRIS. Dorothy was also a longtime volunteer at the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. Her enthusiasm and energy were truly remarkable. Playing bridge was one of her favorite activities, and she always enjoyed the social aspect of the game.

She was strong-willed, opinionated, and direct. You always knew just where you stood with her.

Dorothy attributed her longevity to her stout Swedish genes and strong Lutheran faith. She was a charter member of St. James Lutheran Church in Rock Island and later joined First Lutheran Church in Moline.

Per her wishes, her body has been donated to medical science. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at First Lutheran Church, 1230 5th Avenue, Moline, IL. Memorials may be made to the Moline Public Library. Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home and Crematory, Rock Island, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Sara (Mark) Dopke; son, Ken Hedberg; grandchildren, Elizabeth and Luke (Courtney); nieces and nephews, Lauren (Terry) Lawrence, Jennifer Wambeke, Bryn (Courtney) Lawrence, Evan (Kelly) Lawrence, Kathy Samuelson, Cindy Carroll, and Brian Gittings; and sister-in-law, Sallie Jo Samuelson. She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; and siblings, Donna, Gil, Donald, and Delmar.

Dorothy's family would like to give a special thank you to: Pastor Daniel Witkowski of First Lutheran Church, nurse Carol Curry, and the wonderful hospice care nurses from Unity Point Hospice. They were like angels to everyone with their care and compassion during this time!

Dorothy lived not just a good long life, but a long good life. She will be dearly missed and forever loved.

# Serving This Month

## November 2022

| Sunday | Ushers | Lector | Communion Assistants | Greeters | Counters | Sound Booth | Assisting Minister |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| November 6 | Tanner & Chip Johnson | Donna Renneke | | | Stacy Miles Jane Massey | Bill Kempf | Stacy Miles |
| November 13 | Tim Warren | Sandy Ridolfi | | | Virginia Johnson Linda Ryden | Bob Ryden | Stacy Miles |
| November 20 | Terrill & Susan Johnson | Doug Nelson | | | Dave Renneke Peg Simmer | Dave Renneke | Stacy Miles |
| November 27 | Bill Hartman | Todd Gann | | | Ruth Anne Hartman Gary Wolber | Jerry Johansen | Stacy Miles |
| | | | | | | | |

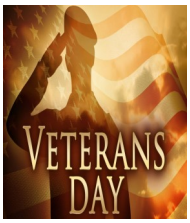
**Birthdays:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Chip Johnson | 11/03 |
| Marilynn Stone | 11/05 |
| James Cox | 11/07 |
| Jane Massey | 11/11 |
| Nathan Ray | 11/12 |
| Hannah Ohlsen | 11/17 |
| Theresa Warren | 11/17 |
| Rachel Deisenroth | 11/18 |
| Daniel Mulongeca | 11/19 |
| James Pirch | 11/21 |
| Timothy Johnson | 11/25 |

**Anniversaries:**

| | |
|---|---|
| James & Leslie Cox | 11/02 |

# November 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1**<br>6:30pm<br>30/31 Book Club ©<br>**6:30pm Bible Study VIA ZOOM** | **2**<br>9:30am All Saints Worship Service (AS) | **3**<br>6:30pm Cub Scouts | **4**<br>**9:00am CWU *World Community Day***<br><br>*Office Closed* | **5** |
| **6**<br>8:30am Worship (SJ)<br>9:30 am Fellowship( SJ)<br>10:30am Worship (AS) | **7**<br>**10:00am Bible Study via ZOOM** | **8**<br>6:30pm<br>30/31 Book Club © | **9**<br>9:30am All Saints Worship Service (AS) | **10**<br>6:30pm Cub Scouts |  | **12**<br>**8:45 Adopt A Highway** |
| **13**<br>8:30am Worship (SJ)<br>9:30 am Fellowship( SJ)<br>10:30am Worship (AS)<br>11:30am Vestry | **14**<br>**10:00am Bible Study via ZOOM**<br>1:30pm **Retired Pastor's**<br>4:00pm Stewardship/ Finance Team Via ZOOM<br>**6:00pm Jr. Bd of RI** | **15**<br>6:30pm Boy Scouts<br>**6:30pm Bible Study VIA ZOOM** | **16**<br>9:30am All Saints Worship Service (AS)<br>**7:00pm Council (SJ) Zoom** | **17**<br>**2:00pm St. James Women's Circle**<br>6:30pm Cub Scouts | **18**<br><br>Office Closed | **19** |
| **20**<br>8:30am Worship (SJ)<br>9:30 am Fellowship( SJ)<br>10:30am Worship (AS) | **21**<br>**10:00am Bible Study via ZOOM** | **22**<br>6:30pm Boy Scouts<br>**6:30pm Bible Study VIA ZOOM** | **23**<br>9:30 am All Saints Worship Service (AS)<br>6:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service | | | **26** |
| **27**<br>8:30am Worship (SJ)<br>9:30 am Fellowship( SJ)<br>10:30am Worship (AS) | **28**<br>Office Closed<br>**10:00am Bible Study via ZOOM** | **29**<br>6:30pm Boy Scouts<br>**6:30pm Bible Study VIA ZOOM** | **30**<br>9:30 am All Saints Worship Service (AS) | | | |

## St. James on the Web

stjamesri.org

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.

St. James Lutheran Church
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Rock Island, IL 61201

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE