



St James
Lutheran Church

Inside August 2022 Newsletter

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From the Pastor:

I'm a fan of the TV series, *The Big Bang Theory*. It is one of those shows that I can watch over and over again. Among my favorite episodes is a Christmas episode, “The Bath Item Gift Hypothesis.”

In this episode Sheldon shares his distaste for gift giving. His personality requires him to make sure that all things are equal. So, if he receives a gift, he feels obligated to give a return gift of exactly the same value. When Sheldon learns that the neighbor across the hall, Penny, intends to give him a gift, he is distraught. How can he possibly pick out a reciprocal gift of equal value until he knows the value of the gift he is to receive? His solution: go to *Bed, Bath and Beyond* to purchase multiple baskets of bath products, each with a different value. When he receives Penny's gift, he will simply give her the basket closest in value and return the rest. Everything will be in balance.

The problem is that Penny, a waitress at the *Cheesecake Factory*, gives him a napkin that was signed for Sheldon by Leonard Nimoy (who played the role of Spock in the old sci-fi TV series, *Star Trek*). Being the ultimate *Star Trek* fan, the gift is beyond value for Sheldon. In response he gives Penny all the gift baskets. When Penny responds in confusion, Sheldon replies, “I know. It’s not enough.”

Perhaps there is a lesson for us in the interaction between Penny and Sheldon in “The Bath Item Gift Hypothesis.” Sheldon immediately recognized that the gift from Penny was extravagant beyond compare and gave her everything he had. Even with that, he knew it was not enough.

We, too, have all received a gift of incomparable value. God has given us forgiveness, new life and salvation through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. There is no amount of bath product gift baskets that we can give back to God to put things in balance. And God knows that. But as we receive that gift in joy, our response to God ought to be like Sheldon’s response to Penny – to give to God all that we can and recognize that it is not enough.

And so I invite to remember the gift beyond value that God has given you. Know that Jesus died for you. Then consider how you can respond to this great gift. How do we possibly show God how much we appreciate his incomparable gift? We show our love for God through our acts of love for one another. We love God by offering our gifts of time, our gifts of talent, and our gifts of our resources for the work of God in the world.

Though our offerings will never bring things into balance with God, they are a sure sign of how much we appreciate the great gift that God has given us.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

School Kits

Children here and around the world look forward to the future and returning to school with needed supplies. You may purchase supplies to donate now while there are special back-to-school sales.

There will be a collection box in the entry near the info table.

Each Lutheran World Relief school kit contains:

4—70 sheet spiral bound notebooks Wide or College ruled

1—ruler—30 centimeters/12 inches

1—hand held pencil sharpener

1—pair blunt scissors

5—unsharpened pencils

5—blue or black ballpoint ink pens (no gel ink)

1—box 16 or 24 crayons

1—2 1/2 inch eraser

Monetary donations are also welcome and will be accepted, and members of the Missions Team will shop for you!



Worship News

Sunday August 7

First Reading

[Genesis 15:1-6](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 33:12-22](#)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16](#)

Gospel

[Luke 12:32-40](#)

Sunday August 14

First Reading

[Jeremiah 23:23-29](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 82](#)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 11:29--12:2](#)

Gospel

[Luke 12:49-56](#)

Sunday August 21

First Reading

[Isaiah 58:9b-14](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 103:1-8](#)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 12:18-29](#)

Gospel

[Luke 10:38-42](#)

Sunday August 28

First Reading

[Proverbs 25:6-7](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 112](#)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16](#)

Gospel

[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

**St. James Lutheran Church
Annual
“Corn Roast”**

**August 21st
4:00 pm
St. James Fellowship Hall**

Corn will be roasted and the main dish will be pulled pork.

Donations of desserts are welcome.

Members of All Saints Episcopal Church and Calvary Lutheran
Church are
invited to join us for GREAT food, drink and
fellowship.



Presentation on Tanzania at First Lutheran Church in DeKalb

An exciting presentation will be held on **Friday, August 19th at First Lutheran Church (324 N. Third) in DeKalb at 10:00 am.** I plan to attend and welcome others to go with me.

Daudi Msseemmaa (son of former NIS WELCA President Pat Msseemmaa) will be speaking about his role as the ELCA East Africa Regional Representative. His wife, Kellen, will be speaking about her Empowered Girls Program she started in Tanzania. Daudi is also our contact person between our companion Mdori parish and St. James.

Please join me for this insightful presentation and hear more about life in Tanzania and the joint work between the ELCA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania. A luncheon will be provided after the presentations.

Let me know if you would like to go so we can make plans and I can tell them how many are coming.

Ruth Anne Hartman
Missions Team

The next Rescue Mission meal will be served Wednesday, August 10th. Volunteers are needed to serve and to prepare crockpot beans, cheesy potatoes, vegetables, milk, bread, butter, and cookies, brownies, or cake for this meal. Meet in the church kitchen on the 10th at 5:30 pm or bring prepared items before that time.

Sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex



EXCITING NEWS

We are going to order coffee and chocolate from Equal Exchange again. Please let Trish or me know your favorites so we can include them in the order the first week in August.

Thanks
Ruth Anne

Celebrating 35 Years



Thank you for the surprise recognition of the 35th anniversary of my ordination on Sunday (July 17). Thank you to all the Calvary and St. James members who attended the wonderful reception following worship at Calvary. Thank you for all the cards and well-wishes. And most of all, thank you for being an important part of the ministry we share in Moline and Rock Island. God bless you all.





ST. JAMES COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS, June 2022

The in-person and virtual July 2022 Council meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20th, by Vice President Leslie Cox. Nine of ten members were present. Pastor Knowles opened with a prayer. The minutes of the June meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report through June reflected a good year so far. Some of the building and office-related expenses have been a challenge, but we will likely end the year just fine.

Pastor Knowles announced that he will be on vacation September 6th-19th, including two Sundays, the 11th and 18th. He will be camping in beautiful Door County, WI.

We approved a request from the pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Peru, Illinois, to financially help a single mother who wishes to move back to the Quad Cities. She lived in Milan when she was 19.

Both St. James and LSTC have signed the needed documents and acknowledged the other's signatures for the endowed scholarship fund. Although LSTC, not St. James, will be in charge of selecting scholarship recipients from this fund, members should watch for details in the newsletter about how they can help.

The \$2,800 check for the support of the Mdori Parish in Tanzania finally arrived there. We will be notified of what it will be used for.

The Property Team has received bids for replacing the outside doors. Funds for this will come from the Davises' trusts, as will those for windows, skylights, shingled roofing,

and other exterior repairs. It was noted that Bobby Davis was a roofer!

After a thorough presentation by Finance Team member Doug Nelson, we adopted the Finance/Stewardship Team's proposal for the "Distribution of Undesignated Gifts from Bequests, Estates, Insurance Policies to St. James Lutheran Church." More details on this will be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January 2023, so that this documented policy will be officially approved by the congregation.

Preparations are proceeding for the resurrected Annual Corn Roast, set for Sunday, August 21st. Leslie Cox and Jo Kempf are planning a "coleslaw making day" for the event. All Saints and Calvary Lutheran Church will be invited. More details will be forthcoming.

Pastor Knowles expressed gratitude to all those who planned and participated in his surprise 35th ordination anniversary reception at Calvary on July 16th.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21st. Since we will not have an August meeting, the Executive Committee will take care of any urgent issues that arise in the meantime. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully,
Luanne Beinke,
Council Secretary



THANK YOU

for your recent gift to the
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

The Rev. Don Knowles
St. James Lutheran Church
3145 31st Ave
Rock Island, 61201-5551

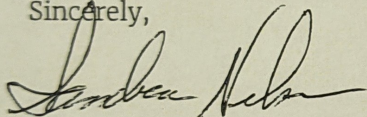
Dear Pastor Knowles,

Thank you for St. James' recent support of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago! The congregation's steadfast generosity over the past fiscal year has been amazing.

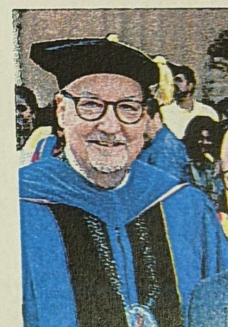
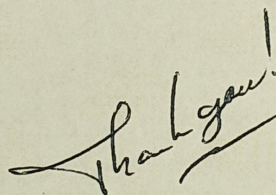
Your investment in LSTC is preparing students for ministry at a critical time for the church. Your support creates an environment where students are formed deeply by living and learning in community, prepared to go beyond traditional boundaries of ministry as they live out their lifelong callings for the whole church.

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff at LSTC, thank you again for your partnership.

Sincerely,



Sandra H. Nelson
Vice President for Advancement



GIFT RECEIPT

St. James Lutheran Church

Gift Date: 6/7/2022

Gift Amount: \$2,000

Gift Designation: St. James Rock Island Scholarship

Save this for your records. The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago verifies that no goods or services were exchanged in consideration of this



Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago

1100 East 55th Street • Chicago, Illinois • 773-256-0712 • lsc

Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA Convention

Be a Humble Servant

9:00 am, Saturday, September 17, 2022

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Freeport

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4



Keynote Speaker, Loni Taylor
Tribal Leader Of Rocky Boy,
Member of ELCA Church Council



Find out more and register at
nisynod.org/women

Women of the **ELCA** 



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Northern Illinois Synod
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
33 rd Annual Convention
Saturday, September 17, 2022

Theme: “Be a Humble Servant”

Philippians 2:4 ”Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the
interests of others.”

Keynote Speaker: Loni Whitford Taylor, Tribal Leader, Rocky Boy Reservation
Member of ELCA Church Council

Location:
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
2700 West Stephenson Street, Freeport IL

Coffee & Registration: 8:00 a.m. Registration Fee: \$40.00
Fellowship – Worship– Singing Songs – Exhibits-WELCA business meeting for voting members

Convention Offering
50% Women of the ELCA
50%. Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Rocky Boy

Physical Offering: Voices of Stephenson County
Gift Cards: (Suggested Gift Cards-Walmart, Aldi, Sullivan’s, Dollar General)
Personal Items: Shampoo, Deodorant, African American Hair care products, Diapers, Size 5 & 6

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Country Inn and Suites in Freeport

1710 S. Dirck Drive, Freeport Ph. 815-233-3300
Ask for rooms in the convention WELCA block
Cost, \$133.20(tax included) per room, 2 queen beds
or \$144.30(tax included) for a king suite
Hope to see all of you there!



**Registration Form
Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA
33rd Annual Convention, September 17, 2022**

**Theme: “Be a Humble Servant”
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2700 West Stephenson Street, Freeport IL**

Article VI – Conventions; Section 2. Representation. Item 1. Voting members of a convention shall be the elected officers of the Synodical women’s organization and one voting member for each unit on the roll of this Synodical women’s organization.

Note: Voting member’s duties include attending the business session of the convention.

Please check one: VOTING MEMBER _____ ALTERNATE _____ PARTICIPANT _____

(Deadline is August 17)

(Deadline is August 17)

Please circle your conference:

Central East North Northeast Northwest South Southwest West

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Address _____ City. Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Special Meal Request: _____ Vegetarian _____ Gluten Free _____

Name of ELCA Congregation where you are a member _____

Address of Church _____

Pastor’s name and phone _____

Your signature _____ Date _____

(If you apply for a Scholarship, please include your completed Scholarship Form with this completed Registration Form and send them both to Ruth Anne Hartman.. Her address is on the Scholarship Form. Scholarship requests are due by August 17.)

If you are not applying for a Scholarship, please complete this form by August 17, 2022 (indicating if you are a voting member or a participant, with the \$40 registration fee) and send to:

Convention Registrar: Kim Choin, 7400 East Oakwood Dr., Wonder Lake, IL 60097

Registration Fee: \$40.00 (Please do not send cash) Make your check or money order payable to: Northern Illinois Synod Women (NISWO)

We encourage you to send your individual and/or unit offering with your registration. The convention offering will be divided between the Churchwide WELCA and Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Rocky Boy Reservation, Montana. In kind offerings will be detailed later.



**Northern Illinois Synod
Women of the ELCA
2022 Convention Scholarship Application**

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

Address _____ City, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Name of ELCA Congregation where you are a member _____

Your Conference _____ Pastor's name and phone _____

1. What is your involvement with the Women of the ELCA? _____

2. What is your goal for attending the Convention? _____

3. Would you be willing to share your Convention experiences? _____

4. Have you received a Convention Scholarship before? _____

When? _____

Your age: 20-35 _____ 36-50 _____ 51-75 _____ 76-? _____

Your Signature _____ **Date** _____

If you apply for a scholarship, please include your completed application and registration form and send it to the address listed below. Each conference will be awarded one full scholarship. Those applying for a scholarship will be notified in a timely fashion and can assume their registration will be covered.

Deadline for Scholarship Application: August 17, 2022

**Please return completed scholarship application and registration form to:
Ruth Anne Hartman, 6522 95th Ave Ct. W, Taylor Ridge, IL 61284-9395**

Serving This Month

August 2022

| Sunday | Ushers | Lector | Communion Assistants | Greeters | Counters | Sound Booth | Assisting Minister |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| August 2 | Tanner & Chip Johnson | Donna Renneke | | | Stacy Miles Jane Massey | Bill Kempf | Stacy Miles |
| August 14 | Tim Warren | Bob Ryden | | | Virginia Johnson Linda Ryden | Bob Ryden | Stacy Miles |
| August 21 | Terrill & Susan Johnson | Peg Simmer | | | Dave Renneke Peg Simmer | Dave Renneke | Stacy Miles |
| August 28 | Bill Hartman | Judy Johansen | | | Ruth Anne Hartman Gary Wolber | Jerry Johansen | Stacy Miles |
| | | | | | | | |

Birthdays:

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Angela Ridolfi | 08/02 |
| Louanne Chambers | 08/03 |
| Lucas Owens | 08/06 |
| Ethan Pressly | 08/09 |
| Sandra Ridolfi | 08/09 |
| Robert Frank | 08/12 |
| Doris Ross | 08/12 |
| Jon McGuire | 08/14 |
| Tricia Barron | 08/15 |
| William Trotter | 08/16 |
| Adam Stire | 08/16 |
| Jeff Christenson | 08/16 |
| Antoinreth Uwimana | 08/20 |
| Ari Rondeau | 08/20 |
| Mark Ridolfi | 08/21 |
| Amy Bower | 08/21 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Nancy Wolber | 08/23 |
| Lori Carstens | 08/23 |
| Butoyi Stire | 08/25 |
| Bukuru Stire | 08/25 |
| Gracie Ryden | 08/25 |
| Josephine Grindle | 08/25 |
| Suzanne Christenson | 08/25 |

Anniversaries:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Deb & Michael Nessler | 08/07 |
| Linda & Robert Ryden | 08/09 |
| Virginia & James Pirch | 08/11 |
| Janice & Douglas Nelson | 08/19 |
| Donald & Mary Knowles | 08/27 |

August 2022

National Back To School Month

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 <i>Office Closed</i> | 6 |
| 7 8:30am Worship (SJ) 9:30 am Fellowship(SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS) | 8 | 9 6:30pm 30/31 Book Club ☺ | 10 9:30am All Saints Worship Service (AS) 5:30pm Rescue Mission Meal | 11 6:30pm Cub Scouts | 12 <i>Office Closed</i> | 13 |
| 14 8:30am Worship (SJ) 9:30 am Fellowship(SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS) 11:30am Vestry | 15 | 16 6:30pm Boy Scouts | 17 9:30am All Saints Worship Service (AS) | 18 6:30pm Cub Scouts | 19 <i>Office Closed</i> | 20 |
| 21 8:30am Worship (SJ) 9:30 am Fellowship(SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS) 4:00pm St. James Annual Corn Roast | 22 | 23 6:30pm Boy Scouts | 24 9:30 am All Saints Worship Service (AS) | 25 6:30pm Cub Scouts | 26 <i>Office Closed</i> | 27 |
| 28 8:30am Worship (SJ) 9:30 am Fellowship(SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS) | 29 | 30 6:30pm Boy Scouts | 31 9:30 am All Saints Worship Service (AS) 7:00pm | St. James Annual Corn Roast August 21st 4:00pm Fellowship Hall  | | |

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
A RIC Congregation
3145 31st Ave
Rock Island, IL 61201

Phone: 309-786-0503
E-mail: saintjamesri@gmail.com

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE