



The June 2026 Epistle

A publication of St. James Lutheran Church,
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MESSAGE from the VICAR

Give thanks to the God of heaven for God's love endures forever.
Psalm 136:26

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!

I find myself tremendously grateful as I look back on the month of May. Allow me to express particular gratitude to the following people.

- Thank you to **Maddie Schmidt** and **Kane Schmidt** for their leadership with our Confirmation Class!
- Thank you to our confirmands – **Anna Forari, Kaylee Pessein, Jude Hewlett, and Elijah Pessein** - for their commitment to the content and classes presented by Maddie and Kane!
- Thank you to **Ellen Hogbin** for preparing a sermon on the weekend I was away for graduation at Wartburg Seminary and to **Jason Forari** and **Steve Abel** who helped lead the services with her while I was away!
- Thank you to our **Congregational Council** for their gift of a brilliant, red cassock for graduating from Wartburg Seminary. I wore it for worship on Pentecost and will be able to use it for the rest of my career!

- Thank you to **Justina Pessein** and the Christian Education Committee for the fun and fellowship on The Feast of Pentecost!
- Thank you to **Tom Sladky**, Council, and **Kelly Wainwright**, Site Committee, for supporting me at the commencement ceremony in Dubuque!
- Thank you to **Madlyn Wolgaert** for keeping things afloat in the office while I have been pulled away for travel and various responsibilities in our synod.
- Thank you to **Anna Forari** and **Justina Pessein** for traveling to Cedar Rapids to represent our congregation at our Synod Assembly.

There are many, many more people I could thank for various things they have done around the church the last several weeks. This list is just the beginning of the people who have blessed me personally during this very demanding month of transition. Thank you to **all of you** for your continued support during these very busy months while I wrap up my degree requirements and continue to make progress on my path to ordination. In any cases where I have not been 100% proficient, you have been gracious with me. Thank you!

As we look ahead to the summer months, I invite you to explore the Gospel of Matthew with us in worship as we look at many of the teachings of Jesus together. It is the Spirit who leads us into all truth. It is the Spirit who has been poured into our hearts as God's promise that *God, who has begun a good work in you, will be faithful to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ* (Philippians 1:6).

I'm looking forward to continuing our life together in Word and in Sacrament in the weeks ahead!

Grace and peace to you,
Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Happy June St. James!

We are finally seeing and experiencing some nice, warm weather! Such a great time to get outdoors and experiment what God has created for us.

Social Ministry just finished their Annual Rummage Sale, and it was a huge success! Also, thank you to Joleen Bakken to help start adding a plant sale to the rummage sale! The funds raised will help Social Ministry pay for activities such as the Zion Meals, Angel Tree, and more!

We recently celebrated Pentecost Sunday and affirmed the baptisms of four Confirmation students, Anna, Jude, Elijah, and Kaylee. They spent the past 8 months learning about Lutheran Faith and tradition, and are all very excited to take this next step in their faith.

Hope everyone has a great month!

Be good. Do good. God bless,

Madeline Schmidt



Men's Prayer

Breakfast

8:00 A.M
SECOND SATURDAY OF
EVERY MONTH IN THE
LOWER LEVEL

*Iron sharpens iron, and one man
sharpens another.*

Proverbs 27:17



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/1 JENNIFER ANDERSON

6/3 SUSAN GIESE

6/3 NIKOLAI PESSEIN

6/4 ELIJAH PESSEIN

6/5 RONALD MANTHE

6/14 LINDA GROSS

6/14 RUTH MANTHE

6/20 KATHY MELBY

6/28 PAUL SOUTHWELL

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/6 BOB & CONNIE JACOB

6/18 REX & MIHNON RIDENOUR

6/23 ERIC & JENNIFER ANDERSON

LUTHERAN SUMMER DAY CAMP

COST: \$50
SCHOLARSHIPS &
FAMILY DISCOUNTS
AVAILABLE!

LOCATED AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
18137 CRISWELL ST. BETTENDORF, IA.

BUS TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE!
SEE BELOW

**AGES 4 years
to 6th grade**

**JUNE
15TH -19TH**
**9 a.m.
to 3 p.m.**

**Scan QR code
to register**



ACTIVITIES:

ARTS & CRAFTS / FUN SPORTS
BIBLE STUDY / GAMES / SKITS

Bus Schedule:

Departs from St. James at 8:30 a.m.

Returns to St. James at 3:30 p.m.

St James Lutheran Church
1705 Oak Street Bettendorf

**Questions? Contact St.
James Lutheran Church**
at 563-355-4161

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5/31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9AM Worship 11AM Dixon Service	4PM Social Ministry Mtg.		6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry		5PM Worship with Baptism
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9AM Worship 10AM Finance Mtg.		8AM Worship & Music Mtg. 4PM Property Mtg. 6PM Christian Ed. Mtg.	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry 11AM Service at BHCC 2:30PM BINGO @ BHCC		8AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 5PM Worship
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9AM Worship with Baptism 10AM Coffee & Convo.		1:30PM Sarah Circle	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry 11:30AM GANG		5PM Worship
LUTHERAN SUMMER DAY CAMP!						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9AM Worship		12-4PM Quilting	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry 11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship



JOHN DEERE CLASSIC BIRDIES FOR CHARITY 2026

We are very grateful for the 11 donors who supported the 2025 Birdies for Charity program last year. We raised \$740 and received a 9% bonus for a total of \$806.60. I would like to double that this year! Last year, Council directed where the funds were to go but this year, I would like to try something new. Funds received are designed to support our programs and

services. A list of 2-3 ideas will be compiled to be voted on by anyone who pledges in this event. Sound like fun?

It's easy! Grab one of the forms located in the narthex and pick one of these options:

- 1) Complete the form and place it in the offering plate, the Birdies box in the narthex, the church office, or you can mail directly to the Birdies for Charity office.

The deadline to return to the church is Sunday, June 21st.

This gives time for the forms to be mailed to the Birdies for Charity office to be received before tournament week begins. Cash, checks, and credit card payments are accepted for pledges.

If you do not include your payment, you will be invoiced by the Birdies for Charity office.

- 2) Donate online at <https://birdiesforcharity.com/donate> - or Scan the QR code which is on the form; be sure to search & enter our Bird Number 960: St. James Lutheran Church.

Please consider contributing to this event – we are guaranteed a 5% bonus on all pledges.

Please contact Ellen Hogbin (309-519-9936) for further information or questions or if you have an idea on where to direct these funds.

Gratefully,
Ellen



Sarah Circle will meet June 16 at 1:00pm. Maggie Bayliss is the hostess and lesson leader.



The next meeting of the St James GANG will be at 11:30 a.m. on June 18th in Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch as usual, beverages and dessert will be provided.

It will be a Game Day, probably Bingo w/prizes. Everyone should bring a small white elephant wrapped prize.

PLEASE SIGN UP on Sunday, June 14th so the hostess will know how many are coming.

Several of the usual members will not be there this time as they will be busy helping fix lunch and snack for our Lutheran Summer Day Camp at Trinity Lutheran.

Pat Larson (563) 343-2142



From the Quilt Block

Three St. James Quilters met May 26 and finished 2 quilts. There are quilt kits in a basket in the narthex for any person with a sewing machine to pick up and stitch together with half inch seam allowances, then return to church and soon you will see the top you stitched sewn into another quilt.

Quilters will meet **June 23 at Noon**. Any interested person may join us to see what it is that we do.

Thank you to the whole congregation for your support.
Pieces be with you,
Shirley Richlen



Social Ministry News

The rummage sale was a great success! Thanks to everyone who helped and contributed! We also added a plant sale this year to the Rummage Sale where we made \$300 from the plants alone! So far we've made \$1932 and that will help with our Angel Tree, Bingo, and Zion meals!

There are no Zion meals until July 27th. Currently we are looking for people to help with serving the Zion meals! It takes less than an hour. It is very fulfilling and the they are so grateful for whatever we serve! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Judy Larson at 563-340-7902!

Bingo is June 18th at Bettendorf Health Care. The residents win prizes such as small stuffed animals (Beanie Baby size), and quarters. We enjoy calling the numbers for them and they are always happy to see us!

Our meetings are at 4:00 p.m. on the first Monday of every month – please consider joining us and thanks for your continued support!

The next meeting is June 1st at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room.

June Worship Assistants

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Usher
6/7/26	Pat Larson	Jason Forari	Jude Hewlett	Fritz Voss	Judy Larson
6/14/26	Shirley Richlen	Pat Larson	Edi Southwell	Yvonne Nichols	Jerry Nichols
6/21/26	Jason Forari	Angie Schmidt	Eli Pessein	Melissa Forari	Ana Forari
6/28/26	Ellen Hogbin	Judie Brooks	Dex Hewlett	Dee Worley	Darryl Worley

Altar Guild: June 6 Marilyn Pieart & Diana Worley
 June 13 Ellen Hogbin & Audrey Lovell
 June 20 Ellen Hogbin & Audrey Lovell
 June 28 Mary Meumann & Pat Larson

*Please Note: If you find you cannot serve on the date/time scheduled, please arrange for your replacement, then **call or email your scheduler** to advise the name of your replacement. Your gracious cooperation is very much appreciated! Thanks!*

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Ed Arp, **Bev** Chappen, **Maxine** Duhm, **Sandy** Henry,
Frieda Houldsworth, **Jeryl** Krumbholz, **Jim** Krumbholz,
LaVonne Mienke, **Shirley** Niewald

Family and Friends

Amanda (friend of Melissa), **Annette & Rick** (Steve & Sue Miller & Pat Sorenson's sister & brother-in-law), **Brenda** (Friend of Janene Anderson), **Donna** (Ed Arp's sister), **Drew** (Pat Larson's friend), **Emmett** (friend of Diana Worley), **Hattie** (Frieda's sister), **Jason** (Sherry Germanio's son), **Karen and Ed** (Shirley's Aunt and Uncle), **Lylah** (friend of Noa), **Mark** (friend of Jason Forari), **Michelle** (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), **Pat** (Judy Larson's Sister-in-Law), **Phil** (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother), **Sloane** (friend of Deb Crooks), **Stacy** (Fritz' son's cousin), **Stan** (relative of Fritz Voss), **Steve** (friend of Pat Larson), **Wally** (Frieda's nephew)

Those Whose Duty it is to Protect Others

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
LT. **Chris** Tribble USN (Erik & Joleen Bakken's friend).
CPT **Eli** Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)
Tyler McLaughlin, First Responder (Family of Pat Larson)

*If you need to add or remove someone from
the prayer list, please contact the church office.*

