



Pastor's Musings



I took my plate outside and saw an empty spot (there were a few). May I sit with you I asked. How was I to know it was Johnny D. The famous Johnny D, I found out. The stories that were told were fascinating. That is what homecoming is about. It is about remembering our history, your history. 88 people came to celebrate our history.



People were remembering their time at St. James, laughing, joking and sometimes being a little serious. There were a few people who sent us greetings and reflections on the day (see them below.)

The church was in great shape, the new pavilion was a highlight, and the food was tremendous. Thanks to the Women's Open Circle that spearheaded and really made it happen. Thanks to the Men's Friday group for helping. And thanks to a number of people who worked behind the scene to make this such a wonderful day.



Photos by Steve Straw and Paul Rohal

Blessings,
Pastor Gordon



From Pastor Ted & Fran Koehl –
Dear friends,
Worshipping with you was such a wonderful time
in our lives. One we will never forget!
We wish we could be there to help you celebrate
your 140th year of praising God together and
growing in faith.
We love each and every one of you!



From Theron White –
Greetings,
The gathering was a wonder, and it was so good to see and
visit with everyone there. As usual I was so proud of all the
efforts of Joyce Dull and friends in the preparation of all of
the delicious food. I also understand that countless hours
were spent in the condition of the church itself as
evidenced by its presentation. I look forward to further
personal participation in our mutual spiritual journeys.
Many thanks for all that you do.

From Pastor Bill & Phyliss Stewart -
Dear Members of St. James:
We continue to bask in the lovely memories of
your 140th anniversary / homecoming
celebration! What a special day it was for
St. James and for all who gathered to
celebrate such an important milestone. It was
a joy to reconnect with people we don't get to
see very often. Accolades to everyone who
worked so hard during the past year to make
this event happen. It was a wonderful
opportunity to learn more about St. James'
history.
We especially enjoyed
the meaningful Compline evening
service. The newly completed
beautiful outdoor worship area is such a
wonderful addition to the ministry of St. James.
Thank you so very much for the invitation to be
part of your homecoming weekend.
May God continue to bless each one of you.

September
3rd Bambi Straw
10th Sam Diehl
17th Lynda Diehl
24th Anne Putnam

Prayer Concerns

Ongoing Need for Prayer

Norma Turak, Cecilia Shott, Jean Geiser, Betty Diehl, Gillian Taylor, Eliza Kelley and family (Sherie's great niece), Bob Dixey, Charlotte Shifflett (Danny's aunt), Jimmy Snyder (Danny's father) and Inez Johnson (Becky and Debbie's aunt).

Prayer Request for

Cindy Wright, Zeby (Ellen & Charles' grandson), Susan Zirges (friend of Sherie & Paul), and Bonnie Blanchard (Bambi's aunt).

Community Conversations

- September flowers will be provided by Betty Bartley.
- The goodwill offering from August Salad Luncheon will go to benefit the Back Packs Program.
- Men's Group is taking a vacation with Pastor Gordon. We will resume on September 22nd.
- The Open Circle is on vacation, no September meeting.
- Pastor Gordon and Anne will be on vacation from August 28th through September 17th. If there is a pastoral need please call Pastor Gordon.
- For prayer concerns, contact Pastor Gordon.
- Council Person of the Month
 - September—Ivan Diehl

SEPTEMBER



BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 2 nd | Danny Snyder |
| 9 th | Christopher Dull |
| 18 th | David Diehl |
| 26 th | Travis Thompson |
| 26 th | Phyllis Stewart |



Community Conversations Continued

For the second time in a few short months*, St. James has had one of our own recognized for the OUTSTANDING work that he does! We're talking about Paul Rohal.

In a letter from the SACRA Board of Stewards, Paul was acclaimed for his repairman-construction talents as well as his ability to solicit businesses to provide the needed materials.

The letter went on to say that the SACRA office looks better every day because of Paul. It has become a brighter, more welcoming space for clients and volunteers alike.

Not only that, the letter lifted up Paul's "wonderful spirit that is contagious and is getting other people involved." Paul's "faith in action is a true blessing."

We at St. James agree with SACRA – you are amazing Paul, and we are truly blessed to have you in our "family".

*You'll remember that in May, Joyce was recognized for her dedication to the BackPacks Program.

Our Homecoming Celebration was a huge success, in large part because of the efforts of our small band of talented and hard-working ladies.

Now we step back for a brief time to catch our breath and enjoy the "no meeting" month of September. But not to worry, we'll be back in full swing in October.

On August 12th, Anne, Bambi, Joyce, and Pastor Gordon enjoyed the SVWO sponsored Sight & Sound movie "Noah". It was quite the production! If you have an opportunity to see it, do. Afterward, we enjoyed lunch and fellowship on the patio at The Cracked Pillar in Bridgewater.

The recipient of the goodwill offering for the final salad luncheon of the summer is the Back Packs Program. The \$\$\$\$\$ given will supplement your generous food donations each week. Thank you for all that you do to feed hungry children in our area.

Upcoming Events:

September – No Meeting – We're on Fall Break!

October 3rd - Meeting at St. James. Joyce is our hostess.

October 8th – Our SVWO Fall Gathering: "Weave Us Together" will be held at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church, 281 E. Market St., Harrisonburg. Alicia Thomas, from the Virginia Quilt Museum is our guest speaker. Registration begins at 2pm with opening devotions at 2:30.

All ladies of St. James belong to our Circle. Please consider joining us for meetings and events.

| Season after Pentecost | Continues First reading | Psalm | Second reading | Gospel |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9/3/2023 | Exodus 3:1-15 | Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b | Romans 12:9-21 | Matthew 16:21-28 |
| Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9/10/2023 | Exodus 12:1-14 | Psalm 149 | Romans 13:8-14 | Matthew 18:15-20 |
| Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9/17/2023 | Exodus 14:19-31 | Psalm 114 | Romans 14:1-12 | Matthew 18:21-35 |
| Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 9/24/2023 | Exodus 16:2-15 | Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 | Philippians 1:21-30 | Matthew 20:1-16 |

Consider volunteering a few hours of your time to help pack 20,000 meals. It is not strenuous, you meet some members of other churches and it is fun.



Saturday, September 9

10 am - 12 pm
at Kate Collins Middle School



**HAVE
FUN
WHILE
HELPING
SO MANY**

***Help us package
over 20,000 meals
to fight global
hunger!***

St. James Church Business

St. James Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
August 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Ivan Diehl, Lynda Diehl, Joyce Dull, Anne Putnam, Pastor Putnam, and Paul Rohal

Council Members Absent: Gene Giltner

Visitors Present: None

Call to Order: Ivan Diehl, Vice-President, called the meeting to order.

Pastor Gordon opened the meeting with a devotion from the ELCA on Matthew 14:14, "When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick." Jesus had a great deal of compassion for those in need. The emphasis of the devotion was to look at our own compassion for others, realizing that we all have different ways to express it. The prayer asked Jesus to help us have compassion and to reach out to those in need.

The **Minutes** for the July 12th Council Meeting were presented. A motion was made by Paul and seconded by Lynda to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

The **Financial Report** for July was presented. A motion was made by Lynda and seconded by Joyce to accept the report. The motion passed. After discussion, the council asked Pastor Gordon to meet with John Wright to discuss noted items on the report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Gordon reported that he continues to visit those members unable to attend worship in person.

He reported that Barren Ridge Vineyard cancelled the 8/20 worship service. He is working to reschedule for 9/24 or 10/1.

Pastor Gordon reported that he and Anne will be on vacation from August 28th through September 17th. Pastor Carl will be leading worship the first three Sundays in September.

Correspondence: Anne shared a note from Pastor Ted & Fran Koehl and an email from Theron White regarding our Homecoming Celebration.

Committee Reports:

- **Property Committee:** Paul reported that the committee met, and a list has been created to identify property priorities. Debbie Snyder and Joyce Dull are working on replacing the 13 outdated fire extinguishers. Anne made a motion to approve up to \$750 from the property fund for the purchase of rechargeable fire extinguishers. The 3 estimates obtained range from \$550 to \$920. Joyce seconded the motion. The motion passed. Nine smoke detectors and a carbon monoxide detector have been purchased (\$132) and were installed by the fire department. A cover for the carbon monoxide detector is needed. Joyce stated that the fire department recommends a lock box with a key to the church in the event of an emergency. No action was taken. The expense for the brush clearing was \$420.
- **Stewardship & Finance:** Anne, no report.
- **Social Ministry & Evangelism:** Joyce reported that we have 11 kids enrolled in the BackPacks Program for the start of the school year.

- Worship, Music, & Altar: Ivan, no report.

Unfinished Business:

- Homecoming (8/5-6/2023) - Anne reported that we had 88 in attendance on Saturday and 38 in attendance on Sunday. We received two offerings from attendees. Paul made a motion that the money be used to offset Homecoming expenses. Lynda seconded the motion. The motion passed. Anne will send thank you notes. Lynda volunteered to arrange for moving the picnic tables from the driveway to the grassy area.
- Secure the building and make sure the lights are turned off on Sundays after church.
 - August = Lynda
 - September = Ivan
- The Rise Against Hunger event will take place on September 9th at Kate Collins Middle School. All those interested in participating should be at the school before the start of the event at 10am. The Social Ministry Committee will make a financial donation of \$250 to be sent to Grace Lutheran.

New Business:

- Paul praised the many people who helped to prepare for Homecoming, especially Open Circle and the ladies who worked diligently to clean the building. With that, Paul suggested that we establish a cleaning schedule going forward. He asked Anne to prepare such a schedule.
- There was discussion about naming our pavilion.

Next Council Meeting – A change of date, because Pastor Gordon and Anne will be on vacation, to Tuesday, September 19th in the Fellowship Hall.

With no further business, Ivan moved to adjourn the meeting and we closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Putnam

Anne Putnam, Secretary

St. James Lutheran Church Financial Report
July 2023

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| DCCU Checking Acct Bal as of 7/1/2023: | \$ 2,782.20 |
|---|--------------------|

| Receipts Deposited: | <u>July 2023</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Record of Contributions | \$ 4,265.00 | \$ 29,278.00 |
| Loose Offering | 112.01 | 210.30 |
| *Property Improvement Fund | 200.00 | 1,540.00 |
| *Social Ministry | 30.00 | 210.00 |
| *Louis Dixey, Jr. Fund | - | 1,000.00 |
| *Transfer from Raymond James Acct | 6,164.62 | 6,975.39 |
| *Transfer from DCCU Savings Acct | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Benevolence | 500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Other Special Appeals | - | 810.91 |
| Dividend/Interest Income | 0.77 | 4.24 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 13,272.40 | \$ 44,528.84 |

| Disbursed: | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Rev. Putnam - Monthly Compensation | \$ 1,250.00 | \$ 8,750.00 |
| 3 Services @ \$200 | 600.00 | 4,050.00 |
| 168 Miles @ \$0.66/mile | 113.52 | 797.58 |
| Rev. Trost | | |
| 2 Services @ \$200 | 400.00 | 2,500.00 |
| 48 Miles @ \$0.66/mile | 32.28 | 194.13 |
| Musician - 3 Services | 375.00 | 875.00 |
| Supply Pastor | | 200.00 |
| Mileage | - | 7.92 |
| Worship Supplies | | |
| - Art Supplies | 11.99 | 83.93 |
| - Annual Bulletin Service | - | 398.00 |
| - Church Year Calendars | - | - |
| - Communion Supplies | - | 49.45 |
| - Copy Paper | - | 45.99 |
| - Toner | - | 29.53 |
| - Directory | - | 21.00 |
| - Offering Envelopes | - | - |
| - Postage | 39.60 | 183.81 |
| - Web Page Renewal | - | - |
| - Flowers (Easter) | - | 313.90 |
| Hannah Pingel, Pianist - 2 Services | 250.00 | 3,250.00 |
| Betty Bartley, Pianist | - | 250.00 |
| Glenda Strickler - Sexton | 200.00 | 1,250.00 |
| Cleaning Supplies | - | 19.00 |
| Christmas Gifts | - | 500.00 |
| Bank Safe Deposit Box | - | 40.00 |
| Fuel Oil | - | 3,146.26 |
| Electricity | 34.05 | 724.17 |
| Benevolence | 500.00 | 2,900.00 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 71.90 | 1,230.82 |
| Fire & Liability Insurance | 412.40 | 2,833.50 |
| HomeComing Expenses | - | 440.64 |
| *Transfer to Raymond James Account | 2,090.00 | 3,971.40 |
| *Transfer to DCCU Savings Account | - | - |
| *Transfer to Social Ministry | - | 180.00 |
| *Pavillion | 6,164.62 | 6,164.62 |
| Total Disbursements | \$ 12,545.36 | \$ 45,400.65 |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| DCCU Checking Acct Bal as of 7/31/2023: | \$ 3,509.24 |
|--|--------------------|

St. James Lutheran Church Financial Report
July 2023

| | 7/1/2023 <u>Beg Balance</u> | <u>Deposits</u> | <u>Withdrawals</u> | 7/31/2023 <u>End Balance</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Dividend/Interest Income</u> | | | | |
| DCCU Savings Acct Bal as of 7/31/2023: | \$ 3,005.10 | \$ 0.07 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 1,005.17 |

| Raymond James Investment Account | 7/1/2023 <u>Beg Balance</u> | <u>Income</u> | <u>Withdrawals</u> | 7/31/2023 <u>End Balance</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Detail of St. James Fund Designations: | | | | |
| Property Committee Fund | \$ 38,894.08 | 90.00 | | 38,984.08 |
| Building Fund / Pavilion | 4,270.00 | | 4,270.00 | - |
| Youth Account | 2,208.46 | | | 2,208.46 |
| James Williams Memorial | 1,365.00 | | 894.62 | 470.38 |
| Linda Diehl Memorial | 2,670.55 | | | 2,670.55 |
| Louis Dixey, Jr. Memorial | 1,000.00 | | 1,000.00 | - |
| Non-Designated Funds | 7,192.07 | | | 10,257.45 |
| Accrued Int. & Dividends & Change in Value | | 3,065.38 | | |
| Balance as of 7/31/2023 | \$ 57,600.16 | \$ 3,155.38 | \$ 6,164.62 | 54,590.92 |

| Operating Budget Barometer | July Receipts | July Disbursements | Over (Under) |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| | \$4,877.78 | \$4,290.74 | \$587.04 |
| *Does not include transfers into or out of the DCCU or RJ accounts or the Property Fund, which is a pass-through to the RJ account. | | | |
| | YTD Receipts | YTD Disbursements | Over (Under) |
| | \$32,803.45 | \$33,855.26 | (\$1,051.81) |

