



August 2009

All events occur at St. James East unless noted.

The Messenger

CONNECTIONS

As I was preparing for writing this article for the monthly newsletter I looked back over some recent newsletters and was amazed at all that has happened since Joe Scahill and I first came here in 2002. In the last seven years we have made countless changes to our building including a complete renovation of the sanctuary in 2005 as well as a make over of the new Welcome Center starting in 2007 and continuing to the present. We have a wonderful group of ladies who have helped us with upgrades to the look of the outside of the building as well including Josh Roorda's Eagle project of landscaping the south side of the church, the removal of the cement on the West side of the building and the addition of a new fountain, plants, and stepping stone walkway. It all looks so good to me as I walk through the building and view the church from outside.

But leaving the building one evening I was surprised at how I couldn't see those wonderful changes we had made. This was because the outside church sign had electrical problems and the light would not come on. We called the electrician and recently had the problem fixed. Now people driving by the church can see and enjoy the hard work put in by so many.

How this is a metaphor for our spiritual lives as well! We can make several changes in our lifestyle and life itself can change us in so many ways and yet no one will notice the change without the light of Christ shining in our lives. Just as the outside light shows off the work done so does the inside light of the Spirit shine in our lives for others to see. I had a person tell me that when they come to this church they can physically sense the Holy Spirit's presence – that's the light of Christ! May you let your light shine so that others may see it -and if you need some work done on getting your lights to come on - come back to church this Sunday and we will help you out.

Pastor Russ

ARROWS TO AEROSPACE PARADE

COME ONE COME ALL. We will be parading on August 22 in the Arrows to Aerospace parade through downtown Bellevue. The focal point of our entry will be a float carrying our performing MOMS puppet ministry. Behind our St. James UMC banner will be any member of the church desiring to walk and/or distribute bookmarks containing St. James schedules and information. Contact Susan Lorence (adults) or Sharon Buckley (children) if you wish to participate. Assembly time at the church will be announced later.

We are obtaining St James t-shirts (white with the St James "cross and flame" on the front and in large graphic "Live a Life that Matters" in green on the back) for all participants to wear. The cost will be approximately \$10 per shirt (\$2 more for 1x and 2x) and can be ordered or purchased at the Information Counter during services or at the church office. The t-shirts need to be ordered by August 12 and checks need to be made payable to St. James. If you choose not to buy a shirt but wish to participate, please wear a plain white t-shirt.

The MOM puppet team will be led by Jackie Farley. The float is being designed by John Swingholm, built and decorated by the UMM led by Roger Van Epps. Contact John or Roger if you can assist in the float construction.

Mission of the Month: Family Life

We are collecting going back to school items for the Salvation Army. Needed items include backpacks, crayons, markers, rulers, glue, erasers, spiral notebooks, 2-pocket folders, pencils, pens and paper (lined). Donated items can be placed in the clear totes in the coat room at East and the fellowship hall at West.



This is a Mission for St. James Too! If there are any families at St. James who are in need of school supplies this year, please notify one of the pastors. We are a church that reaches outward and inward through the grace of Jesus Christ.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Patti Smith, Secretary

Calling all St. James Women....

Please plan to join us for the annual UMW **Mystery Tour**. We will meet at St. James East at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 6th and will carpool to our mystery destination. We hope that you can join us for a morning of fun and fellowship!

Upcoming Events:

UMW Board Meeting: Thursday, August 6th 7:00 p.m.

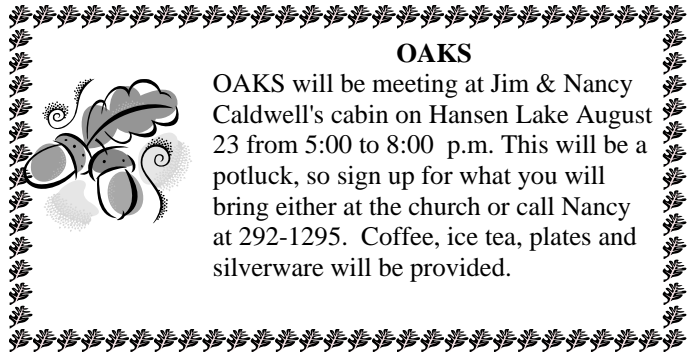
Unit Meeting: Thursday, September 3 7:00 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Saturday, September 19



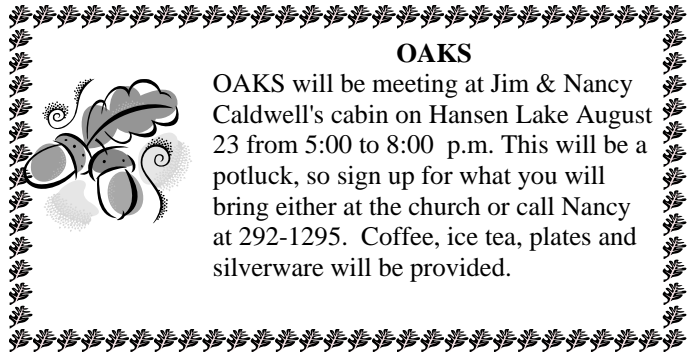
St James Bike Club

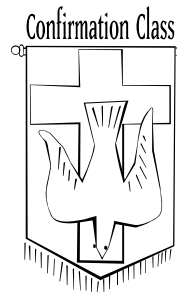
St. James Bike Club meets the second Saturday of the month in the parking lot just north of the Culvers by the Twin Creek Theater off of 36th Street. During the summer we will be gathering at 8 a.m. This will be a “go at your own pace” ride so you needn’t worry about “keeping up”. It’s a concrete trail with many different options to explore. Helmets are mandatory. We will meet back around 11 a.m. to decide on which restaurant we want to gather at. If you have a suggestion for a club name or for more info call Pastor Jason at the church or Greg Schraeder at 292-3685.



OAKS

OAKS will be meeting at Jim & Nancy Caldwell's cabin on Hansen Lake August 23 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. This will be a potluck, so sign up for what you will bring either at the church or call Nancy at 292-1295. Coffee, ice tea, plates and silverware will be provided.





Calling the 2009-2010 Confirmation Class

Is there anyone at St. James going into the 7th grade this year? If so, it's time for confirmation! Pastors Russ and Jason will be visiting with each confirmand in August and September, and our first retreat will be in September. Confirmation is an exciting and powerful experience in the church that starts each individual on his or her personal faith journey. We would like to enroll all who are interested, and will consider any going into 8th grade who weren't here last year or any going into 6th who have special situations. Please call or e-mail the office (291-3881, stjames.umc@warmheart.org), or speak with Sharon Buckley to sign up for this year's class!

New Musical Group

St. James West's children's choir, "The West Mighty Rockers" will be performing on the last Sunday of each month at St. James West.

New Address

John and Jeanne Crown
809 Esslinger Rd. SE
Huntsville, AL 35802

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Tom Holaday, Secretary, UMM

In case you've forgotten my stories about the "Dog Days of Summer" -- otherwise referred to as August, I will not bother you with anymore detail on that subject. But we may experience a hot time come August 1st! Remedy -- lots of cold iced tea and enjoy the air conditioning.

On Friday, August 7th at Pershing Center in Lincoln a men's event is happening from 6-11 p.m. Lots of great men's speakers will be present including Joe White (formerly of Promise Keepers) and Gary Smalley. Along with good praise music you will be filled with inspiration, motivation, and education on how to be the man God wants you to be. The cost is \$29 and you may get your ticket at www.menatthecross.org. A group of men from St. James is planning to attend and you are invited to come along. See Pastor Russ for more details or for scholarship help.

Prayer Breakfast!

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. August 15th, 2009 at St. James East
Thursday mornings, 6:30 a.m. at No Frills Supermarket

Thought For the Month

"A person who aims at nothing has a target he can't miss!"

Health Ministry Minute

by Deb Bass, RN, BS, FCN

August is generally a time when we prepare our children to return to school. We're buying school clothes and supplies and scheduling their annual physicals and immunizations. It's easy to put all the focus on children in August. However, did you know that August is Immunization Awareness Month? We all know how important it is for children to be up to date on their immunizations, but we often forget that we still need routine immunizations as adults. Did you know that Tetanus can lead to death in 1 out of 10 cases? When was your last Tetanus shot? The shots that we receive as children can weaken or wear off over time; which is why it is important to get another "booster" shot as an adult. All adults need a Tetanus booster every 10 years; don't wait until you get cut to get your shot! Adults age 50 or older should have a flu shot every year. Pneumonia shots should be given to all adults age 65 or older. Talk with your physician about your immunizations and stay healthy by keeping up to date on your immunizations.

There will be no blood pressure screening in August. The screenings will resume in September on the last Sunday of the month, between services in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to have your blood pressure checked prior to September 27, please contact Deb for an appointment at 291-5749.



Make a Joyful Noise!

FOOD – FUN – MUSICAL FELLOWSHIP!

You are invited to attend the WELCOME NEW MEMBERS NIGHT! Wednesday, August 19 from 7-8:30 p.m. (in the Chancel Choir room). Come meet friendly choir members and join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord. No experience necessary, no audition required. Light refreshments served! Call Director, Laura Petry for details at 598-5814.



Thank You

We wish to thank all our friends of the family of St. James United Methodist Church, East and West for their prayers and cards while Nancy was hospitalized and for her continued recovery. Also to Pastors Russ and Jason for the hospital visits and many phone calls made for lifting us up with prayers of healing. This is truly a caring congregation.

God Bless,
Nancy and Al Philippon

Christian Education News

By Sharon Buckley

"A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove...But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child." -Author Anonymous-

When I look back on my Sunday School experience, the thing I remember most are some of the terrific teachers I had. These people not only taught me that Jesus loved me and died for my sins, but they cared for me as an individual. They wanted to know how my week went and what was going on at school. My teachers often sent a birthday card or a note when I was sick. I still keep in touch with one of my favorite Sunday School teachers and always make sure I seek her out when I visit my parents' church.

You can be a special part of a child's or youth's life and make a difference to them by teaching a class on Sunday morning. Teaching a Sunday morning class doesn't require you to be a Biblical scholar. Many people say they never really learned much about the Bible until they taught a class. Here's your chance to learn more yourself.

Some exciting changes are being made to a number of the classes this fall. Stay tuned for more details as we finalize our plans. St. James is looking for teachers for all age levels from three year olds through senior high. There is room to start another adult class if there is interest. The classes run from September through May. We need volunteers to commit to lead a class from September through December or for the entire year. There is a need for people to teach a class or lead a special project for a couple of weeks at East. Two people may team teach a class, allowing the individuals to have some weeks off each month. Remember, you will gain as much from this experience as the children you are leading. Please contact Sharon Buckley or the church office to volunteer or if you have questions.

Family Night

Join us for our first monthly family night, Thursday, August 6th at 6 p.m. at St. James West. We will enjoy a pizza dinner and family water games (be prepared to get wet). Come join the fun as we celebrate the last days of summer and getting to know our St. James families.



Youth Group Activities

Sunday, August 2: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Break the Bread (meet in Saint James Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m. for prep)

Saturday, August 8: Omaha Royals Game/Fireworks/Big Daddy Weave Concert (depart from Bellevue at 6 p.m. - Game starts at 7:05 - Fireworks/Concert to follow) Deadline to order tickets through Abbey is a week from today - Tuesday, July 28

Sunday, August 9: 1-3 p.m. Ollie the Trolley Ride (meet at Saint James East at 12:30 p.m. in back parking lot)

Sunday, August 16: 2-5 p.m. Back to School Bash (boating, tubing, swimming, food, celebration) at 8502 Kauai Drive (Hawaiian Village) Bring a snack to share.

Wednesday, August 19: 7-8:30 p.m. Small Groups, Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)

Sunday, August 23: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Epworth Field Day, Epworth Village
** Need drivers

Wednesday, August 26: 7-8:30 p.m. Small Groups, Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)



A Few Words from the Finance Committee

CRAIG'S CORNER

By Craig Nordaker, Finance Committee Chair

The global economy in general versus St. James economy in particular. So much could be stated about the global economy. However, I'd like to shed some light on our St. James "economy"- regarding 2009 so far, and with an eye toward 2010.

Similar to most every company and congregation, large or small, overall income and expenses need to be monitored. Your Finance Committee has that responsibility on behalf of our entire "one congregation, two locations". Based upon the diligence of our church staff and volunteer leadership team, 2009 revenues appear to have an opportunity to cover 2009 expenses by the end of the calendar year. However, it may be "tight" (that's a term based upon my personal analysis). It will also require prayerful consideration on the part of every member of St. James as we truly are 'one congregation'.

Looking ahead to 2010 and beyond, your Finance Committee sees an opportunity to better communicate how money is used at St. James. Some are certainly familiar with a few of the ways St. James uses their contributions to do God's work, but few of us are familiar with the many ways those contributions are used. We hope to enlighten everyone in the coming months.

We also need to consider how we wish to address giving in 2010 and beyond so as to ensure our income does not fall below expenses. Looking to the later part of 2010 and beyond, we see a potential shortfall in income that will eventually need to be addressed. We want to start thinking about that during 2009.


Meanwhile, one of the most impactful things each of us can do is to consider how we can further our own spiritual journey, along with the work of St. James. This includes disciplining others we care about- whether existing members of St. James' family, or those who need to be invited to join St. James' family. Growing our St. James family is important.

Yours in Christ.

2009 Finance Committee: Craig Nordaker- Chair, Brad Annis, Ernie Orendorf, Jane Palmer, Tom Carnes, Kris Rock, Shane Gardner, John Bertolino, Bret Brasfield

Ex-Officio Committee Members: Mike Catherall- Financial Secretary, Howard Roorda- Treasurer, Pastor Russ, Gary Spivey, Gary Edwards, Ginny Rynders/Michael Schellerer, June Ethridge, Kathy Liebenguth, Kim Embry, Linda Johnson

**Sunday Worship Times: 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. at East
9:30 a.m. at West**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
2 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship Break the Bread - Youth	3 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 7:00 p.m. A.A.	4 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets	5 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal	6 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 8:30 a.m. UMW Mystery Tour 6:00 p.m. Family Fun Night 7:00 p.m. UMW Board Meeting	7 8:00 a.m. WIC	1 8 8:00 a.m. Bike Ride	
9 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship	10 7:00 p.m. A.A.	11 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets	12 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal	13 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Miriam Circle	14	15 9:00 a.m. UMM Prayer Breakfast	
16 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship	17 7:00 p.m. A. A. 7:00 p.m. S.P.R.C. Meeting	18 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting	19 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	20 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast	21 8:00 a.m. WIC	22 10:00 a.m. Arrows to Aerospace Parade	
23 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 5:00 p.m. OAKS	24 7:00 p.m. A.A.	25 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets	26 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	26 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl	28	29	
30 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship	31 7:00 p.m. A.A.						C&P- Celebrate & Praise UMM- United Methodist Men UMW- United Methodist Women OAKS- Older Adults in Kinship Service WIC- Women, Infant, Children SPRC- Staff Parish Relations Committee AA- Alcoholics Anonymous OHM- Our Hands Ministry Evolve- Young Adult Group

Stay Tuned

For closings and postponements please check our website (come2stjames.org), local TV stations (KETV, KMTV, WOWT) and radio stations (KLOVE 88.1 FM, KFAB 1110 AM).

**ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

ONE Congregation...Two Locations

St. James East: 1501 Franklin Street

Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

St. James West: 3005 Golden Hills Boulevard

Golden Hills Seventh Day Adventist Church

Bellevue, Nebraska, 68123

Phone: (402) 291-3881

Email: stjames.umc@warmheart.org

Website: www.come2stjames.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



One Congregation...Two Locations

Please send address correction/changes to church secretary, call or e-mail the office.

NON-PROFIT ORG.

US POSTAGE

PAID

BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA

PERMIT NO. 18

Church Staff

- Russ Tompkins
Senior Pastor
- Jason Kennedy
Associate Pastor
- Laura Petry
Director of Music
- Abbey Jackson
Youth
Coordinator
- Sharon Buckley
Christian
Education Director
- Wendy Bevilacqua
Office Manager

Important Dates in August

August 6	UMW Mystery Tour
	UMW Board Meeting
August 8	Bike Club
August 15	UMM Prayer Breakfast
August 19	Chancel Choir Practice Begins
	Youth Small Groups Begin
August 22	Arrows to Aerospace Parade



Sunday Services St. James East 9:00 a.m. Traditional 11:15 a.m. Celebrate and Praise Nursery available all morning The Connection at 10:15 a.m. Fellowship at 10 a.m.
Sunday Services St. James West 9:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Nursery available at 9:30 a.m.