



June 2009

All events occur at St. James East unless noted.

# The Messenger

## Reminder!!

Beginning June 7<sup>th</sup> St. James will implement a new summer worship schedule that will combine only the first two traditional services at St. James East. On June 7<sup>th</sup> we will be offering one traditional worship service at 9:00 a.m. with a time “The Connection” for children, youth, and fellowship to follow at 10:15 a.m. There will be no change in the East 11:15 a.m. contemporary worship time and no change in the St. James West 9:30 a.m. worship time. Our summer schedule will continue through August 30<sup>th</sup> after which we will return to our two traditional services.

### St. James West Begins New Ministries

Our West location of St. James has been busy lately! With three groups, Community Cohesion, Community Growth, and Financial Health now alive and thriving, we’re beginning to ignite new energy and momentum.

Starting this summer, St. James West will be going to baseball games, having pool parties, and other activities, and in the fall, we are hoping to launch a new week night Family Night. Also, helping to share the name of St. James West, we plan to host 3 ice-cream socials this summer. Financially speaking, we are working to help worshipers at West learn more about supporting a thriving ministry, and possibly hosting some car-washes, cook-offs, and other fund-raising events.

Also gaining momentum are the West Mighty Rockers! Now singing on the last Sunday of every month, we all have something to with which we can look forward to. T-shirts will be coming later in the summer for all who sing !

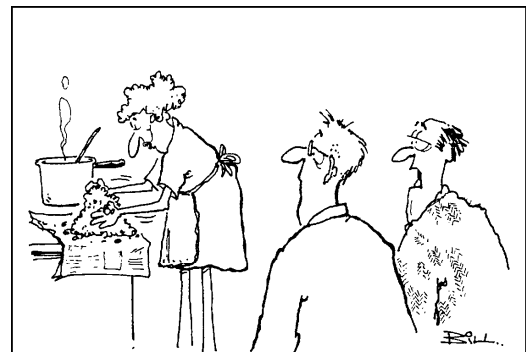
All of these ideas have originated from the sub-groups of the West Leadership Team. In order to make them happen, however, we need everyone’s support. Be a part of the effort and have a hand in growing a stronger ministry for the life-changing, soul-saving name of Jesus Christ!

### Mission of the Month: Tending to the Garden

This month, St. James is called to care for our environment. There are so many things you can do to keep God’s world green! The Outreach Committee has plans to organize a trash pick-up on our newly adopted mile of highway, close to the new building location, and they may also be planning a trip to one of the community gardens hosted by United Methodist Ministries at the District level. Get ready, as dates and times are soon to come.

Here are just a few other things you can do:

- Buy local foods (saves gas, keeps \$ local, & is healthier)
- Buy organic foods (fewer chemicals)
- Reduce the use of Styrofoam at lunches and picnics
- Visit [www.nccecojustice.org](http://www.nccecojustice.org) to speak up about eco-injustice
- Bring your paper and cans to the church to be recycled
- Replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact florescent bulbs
- Use a water glass or cup rather than purchasing disposable bottles of water
- Line-dry your clothes
- Turn off the “heated dry” cycle on your dishwasher
- Use reusable material shopping bags



“You’re looking at the ‘Martha Stewart’ of the Church...Her latest thing is recycling newspapers into papier-mâché church pews.”

### New Musical Group

St. James West’s children’s choir, “The West Mighty Rocker’s” will be performing on the last Sunday of each month at St. James West.



### Summer Special Music Needed!

Share your musical talents in church. While Chancel Choir is on break, we need soloists or ensembles to share music during the summer 9 a.m. service. Contact Laura Petry at 682-9320 to sign up for a Sunday between June 1 and August 30.

### 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 36<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Young Adults:

For the month of June we will be working on another Habitat for Humanity project! Time and location are to be announced. In addition, we will continue to gather for movies, BBQs, and other such outings over the summer. Many of these events happen rather sporadically, so it is CRUCIAL that you let Pastor Jason or Abbey Jackson know that you are interested so we can make sure to include you when we have a plan! Call Jason at 291-3881 or Abbey at 871-8390 or e-mail: [jason.kennedy@warmheart.org](mailto:jason.kennedy@warmheart.org).

### Celebrate Our Graduates!

#### HIGH SCHOOL

Sarahbeth Averill  
Megan M. Craig  
Scott Johnson  
Zachary Thomas Miller  
David Schumacher  
Heather Wilkie

Derrick Bass  
Kevin Farley  
Kelsey Liebguth  
Jeremy Prier  
Laura VanEpps

Raymond Yance Cox  
Sean Fegan  
James Mathew  
Emily Rech  
Sara Warner

#### COLLEGE

Joshua Brown  
Valerie Nigro

David Catherall

Catherine Crider

### St. James 2009 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to David Schumacher and Laura VanEpps, the 2009 \$500 scholarship recipients. David is the son of Jerry and Brenda Schumacher, and a graduate of Bellevue West High School. He plans to attend UNL and major in forensic science. Laura is also a Bellevue West High School graduate and the daughter of Roger and Danette VanEpps. She will attend Hastings College and pursue a degree in physics.

### UNITED METHODIST MEN

Tom Holaday, Secretary, UMM

I’m reminded of the tune line that goes “June is Busting out all over!” That tune line also reminds me of so many activities going on in St. James. We are a ‘busy-busy’ group aren’t we?

#### Prayer Breakfast!

Saturday, June 20

9:00 a.m., St. James East

#### Thought For the Month

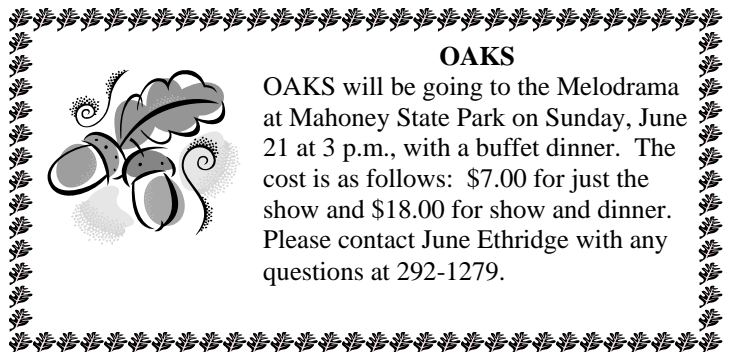
“A thing of great beauty is a joy forever!”

### Blood Drive

Thank you to all those who came on May 16 and donated blood. Please mark your calendars for the next Blood Drive on September 19, 2009.

#### Look Who Has a New Address:

June Ethridge  
2309 Greenwald St. #1220  
Bellevue, NE 68123  
(402) 292-1279



**OAKS**

OAKS will be going to the Melodrama at Mahoney State Park on Sunday, June 21 at 3 p.m., with a buffet dinner. The cost is as follows: \$7.00 for just the show and \$18.00 for show and dinner. Please contact June Ethridge with any questions at 292-1279.

### An American Legion Event

In 1919, the US ARMY decided to plan and execute a motor convoy of various vehicles across the country, on the newly-formed Lincoln Highway. In general, the route began at the White House, in Washington, DC and ended at Lincoln Park, in San Francisco, CA – some 3,250 miles and 62 days later. This would be the first motor transport convoy – ever – to cross the US. Now, in 2009, the 90th Anniversary of the original convoy, the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA), along with members of the Lincoln Highway Association (LHA) are retracing the route of the first convoy. This convoy is arriving in the Omaha area on Tuesday June 23rd, and will be on display all day Wednesday June 24th at the Gretna American Legion. Come out and see more than 60 restored military vehicles on display! With some dating from the WWI-era through current vehicles still in use by our military today, this is the largest display of these vehicles the Omaha area is likely to ever see! The open house is free to the public, and the vehicle owners will be on hand to answer your questions about the many jeeps, trucks, and armored vehicles on display. A BBQ dinner will be available for purchase after 5 pm, with a band from Offutt AFB playing around 7 pm. Come out and make an evening of it! The Gretna American Legion is at 11690 S. 216th Street. Follow the signs! For more info or to help support the convoy, call Rich at (402) 639-9250 or George Embrey at 291-3275.

### A Few Words from the Finance Committee

#### Did You Know . . .

#### APPORTIONMENTS?? MISSION SHARES??

Every year a large portion of our budget is an item that used to be called “Apportionments” and now is called “Mission Shares”. Roughly \$80,000 of our \$470,000 budget for 2009 is sent to the Annual Conference offices in Lincoln to pay our part of the Mission Shares of the Nebraska Conference. These Mission Shares go to pay for the expenses of the conference that all United Methodist churches in the conference are expected to pay and share the expenses – to pay their fair share. One way to think of this part of our local budget is to be sure that if you are a member of our church you are contributing your fair share so we can continue to pay our church share at 100% -- which we have been able to do for several years in a row. We have approximately 800 members and that calculates to the Mission Shares portion of our local budget to be \$100 per member. Are you contributing at least that much annually to St. James? Remember that this amount is per member and not per family. Multiply \$100 by the number of St. James members in your family to get your annual cost to the church. Since the church has made a commitment to pay this part of our budget in full each year we will pay it whether you contribute towards our local budget or not. As you can see, your local contribution to St. James in the amount that at least equals what the church is paying for you as a member is critical to our financial stability. For more information on how Mission Shares are calculated for each church in the Nebraska Conference and/or what specifically the Mission Shares pay for in our conference pick up an informational leaflet entitled “Mission Shares: A Closer Look” at the information counter at church.

#### CRAIG’S CORNER

By Craig Nordaker, Finance Committee Chair

As you may have noticed in last month’s newsletter, your St. James Finance Committee is made up of nearly 20 members, from both East and West locations. Also included are representatives from many of the church organizations. One of the topics that we began looking at recently was a more in-depth analysis of St. James’ longer term finances (1-3 years). Our purpose is to look beyond how we are doing ‘so far this year’. We’re not certain as yet exactly where this somewhat longer view might lead, but we believe it would be financially prudent to look beyond ‘are we meeting expenses this month’. So, please stay tuned as your Finance Committee reports the results of digging deeper into where our finances have been in recent years and also as we try our best to project what 2010 and the year or two beyond might look like. Now, back to today. . . While it is somewhat risky to present only a couple of numbers from our detailed financial condition, please understand that the ‘detailed’ picture is always available to you via our monthly financial reports and meeting notes. The intent here in the newsletter is to show one or two highlights. Here they are: Our year-to-date expenses are slightly less than the same period in 2008, which is good. Our year-to-date income is running about 8.1% behind projections (includes all income categories), which is a concern as we enter the summer months. As mentioned last month, your Finance Committee is committed to sharing more about its work in the months to come. Please let any of us know of any questions you may have!

**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 Embrey, Linda Johnson

### GET CONNECTED!

Starting Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> St. James East will have a special time in between the 9:00 and 11:15 worship services. We are calling this time "The Connection" because during this time we can connect with each other through fellowship and connect with God through activities, classes, and small groups for all ages. The East Connection will be from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and we will offer children's activities, youth small groups, adult Sunday School and a special Pastor's Class. If none of this appeals to you just enjoy fellowship time. The West Connection will include children's activities during the 9:30 worship service and fellowship at 10:30 a.m. following the worship service at St. James West. There will be something for everyone so let's --- get connected!



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 27<sup>TH</sup>-31<sup>ST</sup> ST. JAMES EAST 9:00-12:00

All children ages 3 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend this year's vacation bible school adventure. CAMP E.D.G.E. 2009 takes your children to an extreme adventure camp where they Experience and Discover God Everywhere! CAMP E.D.G.E. VBS is not your typical stroll through the woods. It's an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition that teaches kids their strength and might come from God. Through rockin' contemporary music, larger-than-life recreation games, mind-boggling science activities, extreme sports videos, and cool, challenging crafts, you'll show your kids how to live on the E.D.G.E. in their faith. CAMP E.D.G.E. VBS 2009 Daily E.D.G.E. Pledges:

- God is with me. I will stay close to God.
- God guides me. I will follow.
- God teaches me. I will learn.
- God loves me. I will love God and others.
- God sends me. I will go.

### International Ministry

Our chancel Choir members and congregation members are attending the International Church Music Festival in Rome, Italy June 10-20. Keep them in your prayers as they meet in worship and music ministry with Christians from multiple countries. As part of the Bellevue Festival Choir they will sing in the Pantheon independently and in St. Paul's and St. Peters Cathedrals as part of a 400 voice international choir. They will also attend a Papal Audience at the Vatican.

### St. James Families going to the International Church Music Festival

Frank and LeWanda Hicks  
Bonnie Comstock  
Frances Moore  
Steve Gentle  
Laura and David Petry  
Randy and Kathy Prier and Jeremy  
Mark and Becky Fegan and Sean  
Bob and Nancy Fuhr  
Germaine Charleston  
Linda Rausch  
Roger and Danette VanEpps and Laura  
Kitty Hart

### Rent a Youth

Have some work around the house or in the yard that needs to be done? Hire a youth and help them pay their way for the 2009 Mission Trip. To coordinate, please contact Abbey Jackson at [abbersh81@yahoo.com](mailto:abbersh81@yahoo.com) or 402-871-8390.



Youth Mission Trip  
leaves July 10, 2009

### St. James Youth Activities

**June 7:** 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Break the Bread Summer BBQ, Saint James East Kitchen/FH and Gene Leahy Mall

**June 14:** 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Father's Day Grill Out Fundraiser, Saint James East FH/Parking Lot  
5-7 p.m. Belly Dancing/Ethnic Food  
Youth Group

**June 19:** Mission Trip Retreat

(Times/Location TBA)


**June 21:** Stock Sales (all three services)

**June 28:** Stock Sales (all three services);

4-7 p.m. Game/Movie Night at the Brown's House



**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>	
	1 7:00 p.m. A.A.	2 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting	3 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal	4 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Puppets 7:00 p.m. UMW Board Meeting	5 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. WIC	6	
7 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	8 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 7:00 p.m. A.A.	9 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting	10 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal I.C.M.F. leaves for Italy	11 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Puppets	12 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast	13 8:00 a.m. Bike Club 9:00 a.m. Naomi Circle	
14 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social (more information to follow)	15 1:30 p.m. Carey Circle 7:00 p.m. A. A. 7:00 p.m. S.P.R.C. Meeting	16 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Susanna Circle 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting	17 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal	18 1:00 p.m. Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Puppets	19 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. WIC	20 9:00 a.m. UMM Prayer Breakfast I.C.M.F. returns from Italy	
21 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 3:00 p.m. OAKS Outing	22 7:00 p.m. A.A.	23 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets	24 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal	25 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. West Appreciation & Rejuvenation	26 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast	27	
28 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 10:00 a.m. East Fellowship 10:15 a.m. The Connection 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship	29 7:00 p.m. A.A.	30 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets					C&P- Celebrate & Praise UMW- 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 (come2st.james.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](mailto:stjames.umc@warmheart.org)  
Website: [www.come2stjames.org](http://www.come2stjames.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



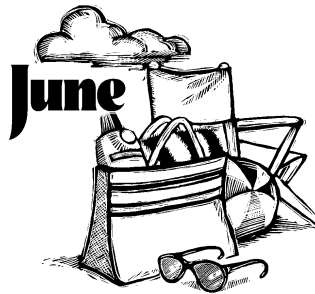
*One Congregation...Two Locations*

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

*Important Dates in June*

June 6	Bike Club
June 7	Summer Worship Schedule BEGINS
June 14	West Ice Cream Social
June 19	Youth Mission Trip Retreat
June 21	OAKS Outing
June 25	West Appreciation & Rejuvenation



**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

**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.