



The Messenger

CONNECTIONS

“Live a Life That Matters” – This is a phrase that you will see a lot in the coming months in several different places. You will see this in the bulletin, the newsletter, the website, and on things such as church flyers and banners. What is this and what does it mean? As I was planning out the year in worship and reflecting on our vision statement to share God’s love with others in a community to transform the world I thought that what I really wanted to do was to live my life to make a difference in the world around me. This evolved into the theme of “Live a Life That Matters” for 2009. I invite you to join with me in trying to make a difference in the world by how I live. Watch for ways you can do this in the coming months. One way is to do one of the Mission of the Month projects outlined in this newsletter. Sharing God’s love with others by telling the story of Christ and his church is the kind of witness we are all called to perform. I pray that you will meditate on how you can join with us at St. James United Methodist Church to “Live Life That Matters”.

Pastor Russ



Mark your calendars!

We have an exciting opportunity to be musically blessed. The Simpson College Choir (from Indianola, Iowa) is making their spring tour HERE to Bellevue at the end of the month. Our own Eva Petry sings in this choir and they are wonderful!

They will be singing a concert series of sacred and secular choral works as follows:

- Saturday, February 28, Concert at 7 p.m. - Broadway United Methodist Church in Council Bluffs
- Sunday morning March 1 (8:15 and 9:45 a.m.) St. James East UMC church services
- Sunday, March 1st Concert at 3p.m. - at St. James East UMC.
- Monday they will do a choral clinic at Bellevue West HS after which they’ll drive north to South Dakota continue their tour.

Another special fact...they will be DEBUTING an original choral work by our own local composer BECKY FEGAN!! Wow, that is exciting!

You are invited to help...please!

- Attend a concert and be blessed by their music! (free will donation)
- Donate a hot/cold dish for the potluck at St. James on Sunday after the 11:15 a.m. service

Housing is still needed for four young men; if you can help, contact Laura Petry at 682-9320. Thank you to those who have already volunteered, it is greatly appreciated!



LENTEN ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

It’s not too late to get involved with Lenten activities in the month of March at St. James East. Stop by the church and take a Self Guided Tour of the Sanctuary (pick up your tour guide at the information counter). If prayer and meditation is your calling then stop by our Prayer and Meditation Room that is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and other times by arrangement. If you wish to be in a small group call the office and pick up the book, “Where Do I Go Now, God?” You will be placed in a small group. Or stop by St. James East and pick up the sermon series booklet, “At the Cross” which has great daily activities you can do at home as well as background on all the Sunday sermons in Lent.



Outreach-Mission of the Month: Hungry Souls Part 1

We continue to talk about how we at St. James are called to *live lives that matter*. Now you have your chance. Each month St. James, on behalf of the Outreach Committee, is hosting a Mission of the Month. There will be speakers, events in which to get involved, and opportunities to show your support through your donations. By being the church that reaches out to others, we do things that truly matter!

This month's mission is to feed those locally who are hungry. Please consider bringing food for the pantry, helping serve at the Mosaic/Park Avenue lunch, finding out how you can help the Youth Break the Bread ministry, or supporting a local organization financially or donating your time to help out.

If you aren't sure what a particular service is or what it provides, be sure to catch special speakers as they share on Sundays about their mission. You may also call the church office for further information at (402)291-3881.

Weekly Focus:

- March 1st Bellevue Food Pantry Drive: Bring food items-donations will be taken every Sunday throughout the month of March.
- March 8th Youth's Break the Bread Mission: Learn more about how to get involved
- March 15th Mosaic/Park Avenue Initiative: Learn, and serve on April 4th
- March 22nd Stephen's Center: Find out how you can serve
- March 29th Celebrate a month of feeding hungry souls

Young Adults: Evolve, OHM, and Outing Friends

Evolve is our college and a little beyond group, OHM is our group for those beyond college, who are still getting a good foothold in the world, and our Outings Friends are those who have a good foothold, yet enjoy high-energy laughs and outings. All events are open to any of the groups, but it is helpful to know which events may be geared most toward you! See what's happening:

Outing & Mission: Conversations and New Food, March 7th (Outings & Ohm)

Corkscrew Wine & Cheese; 10924 Prairie Brook Rd; Omaha, NE 68144

Time: 3-5 p.m. **Cost:** \$20 **Mission:** bring food items for the Bellevue Food Pantry **RSVP:** YES! 402-871-8390 (Abbey)

Friday Night at Pastor Jason's: Food, Devotions, Conversations, and Something Else, March 20th (Evolve & Ohm)

11516 Maass Rd. #201, Bellevue 68123

Time: 6 p.m. **RSVP:** you can always call to see what you can bring (402) 933-4969 **Friends:** YES! Them too.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

Submitted by Patti Smith

Our **March Unit Meeting** will be held on Saturday, March 7 at 9:30 a.m. at St. James East. The program will be presented by the **Prayer Shawl Ministry**. We will also present the annual **Call to Prayer and Self-Denial**. The 2009 theme for this offering is "Creating Communities Through Information Technology" and will fund programs related to: marginalized communities, such as the poor, the physically challenged and others, especially women, children and youth that don't have access to information technology. We will be collecting pudding, applesauce and fruit cups to take to Dietz United Methodist Church for the Brown Bag Ministry which serves lunch to 100 homeless folks every Tuesday.

Upcoming Events:

UMW Board Meeting: Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

Rummage Sale April 14-18

Mother Daughter Tea May 3

The Mother/Daughter Tea will feature a Quilt Show. If you have a quilt you would like to display at the show, please contact Linda Rausch.



To Our St. James Family,
 I deeply believe that all of those who step inside the house of God become carried in the hearts of all others within. For every whispered prayer, for every wonderful card sent and received, for every written message sent with such comfort, care and hope we have held them very close to our hearts. Our family is so very grateful for all of your thoughtfulness and warmth. With our deepest gratitude, Larry and Rikki Vilim and Family

**One Great Hour of Sharing
 March 22**

With this special offering, The United Methodist Church rebuilds lives and communities around the world by helping the United Methodist Committee On Relief keep its promise that 100% of your designated gift goes to specific causes. "For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat." Isaiah 25:4a



Library Notes

We will have an Angel display in the library during the month of March. If you have a book or a figure that you would like to share, please bring them to the library.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

Tom Holaday, Secretary, UMM

Have you given much thought to the fact that Spring happens on March 21. That usually means warmer weather is just around the corner. A multitude of Springs' beautiful colors will burst forth on display for all to see! March also brings the Henry Doorly Zoo membership drive. The cost this year for a family membership is \$73.00, after April 7 the cost increases to \$83.00. To purchase a membership call Tom Holaday at 291-6105, please use personal checks for payment.

Prayer Breakfast!

March 21
 9 a.m.

Thought For the Month

One kind word can warm three winter months!

Blood Drive

Several of you have signed up for the May 16 drive, but there are MANY slots still open. Please call Nora Clingman anytime with your reservation at 291-1009 or email her at cling555@cox.net. A post-card reminder will be sent the week before the drive. Please make your donation a priority!

**Health Ministry Minute
 by Deb Bass**

March is Colon Cancer Awareness month. Did you know that colon cancer is the 3rd most common cancer in men and women? Over 90% of colon cancer cases are diagnosed in adults over 50 years old. Other risk factors include smoking, a diet high in red meats or low in fruits and vegetables, obesity, inactivity and family history. You can reduce your risk by maintaining a healthy weight, eating a healthy diet, being physically active and participating in colon cancer screenings. Know the signs of colon cancer: changes in bowel movements, bleeding, abdominal discomfort or bloating and unexplained fatigue, appetite or weight loss. The best protection is early detection! Don't be afraid or embarrassed to talk to your parish nurse or physician about your colon health. Isaiah 41:13 "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

St. James Health Ministry is accepting donations of used medical equipment or other health care supplies for our Health Ministry Closet. Please contact Deb Bass at 291-5749 if you have items to donate or questions about donating.

Need a Ride - Give a Ride

The newly formed Congregational Care Team would like to know if we have members who would like to attend worship services but are unable to provide their own transportation. We miss you and would like to help you come back to worship. Please contact the church office at 291-3881 if you need a ride to church. Also, we are looking for volunteers to provide transportation to worship services on a regular or occasional basis. Please contact Deb Wilkie at debhousemouse@cox.net if you are able to assist our Team.

OAKS



We will be attending the performance of Seussical the Musical at Bellevue East high school on March 22. The performance is at 2:00p.m. and is free for seniors. No reservations are required. We will meet at the

high school. Call Carol Catherall (292-9144) with any questions.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

St. James United Methodist Church is pleased to announce the offering of two \$500.00 scholarships to qualifying high school seniors. The Fund and the selection is placed under the administration of the St. James United Methodist Church Endowment Committee.

The scholarship funds are to be devoted solely for the purpose of providing financial assistance for higher education beyond the high school level. The scholarship can be used at any school providing post-high school education, including technical and trade schools. Applications are available in the church office or in top bin of the information rack in the welcome center. Call the church office if you have questions at 291-3881.



Youth Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

8 a.m.- 2 p.m. **BREAK THE BREAD**,
Saint James East Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
* We leave for Gene Leahy Mall at 11:30 a.m.

5-10 p.m. WINTER JAM,

Mid America Center

* Tickets cost \$10

* RSVP to Abbey by 2/22

Line up includes: TobyMac, Hawk Nelson, Brandon Heath,
NewSong, Francesca Battistelli, pureNRG, Stephanie Smith
& Guest Speaker Tony Nolan.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

7-8:30 p.m. **SMALL GROUPS**,
Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

5-6:30 p.m. **WORLD CULTURES NIGHT**
6:30-7 p.m. **WORLD CULTURES DINNER**
(\$2), Saint James East Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7-8:30 p.m. **SMALL GROUPS**,
Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

7 p.m. **"SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL"**,
Bellevue East High School

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

SPRING BOUTIQUE SETUP,
4-6 p.m. Saint James East

7 p.m. **"JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR DREAM COAT"**,
Bellevue West High School

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

11 a.m.—3 p.m. **SPRING BOUTIQUE**,
Saint James East



Camping Sunday on March 29

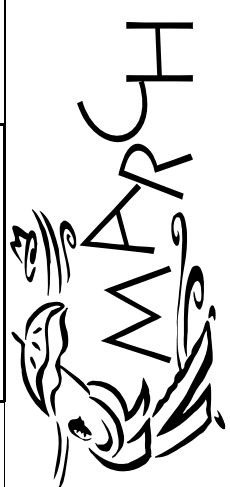
A representative from Camp Fontanelle will be at all the services at both East and West on Sunday, March 29. Come early to the 9:30 a.m. service at West to meet Trent and his special bunny friend. Later Trent and the bunny will be in Sunday School at East and during the fellowship time after the 9:45 service. All former campers are encouraged to wear their camp T-shirts.

Registration has begun at all three of our Nebraska United Methodist Camps. You can visit each site on the web at www.campcomeca.com, www.campfontanelle.com, and www.norwesca.org. Online registration for all programs can be found at www.umcneb.org/register. The 2009 "Breakthrough" summer brochures are also available at the information counter. To get your first choice of the program offerings, pick up a brochure or go to the web site today. If you have any questions, please contact Camp Fontanelle at 402-478-4296 or Sharon Buckley, 293-8995.

Campers may qualify for scholarships. Donations will be accepted from any individual or organization that wishes to donate to the scholarship fund. Please mark your check "Camp Scholarships." Thank you.



**Sunday Worship Times: 8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. at East
9:30 a.m. at West**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
<p>1 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 3:00 p.m. Simpson College Choir Concert 5:30 p.m. Alpha</p>	<p>2 6:30 p.m. Evangelism 7:00 p.m. A.A.</p>	<p>3 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets</p>	<p>4 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups</p>	<p>5 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>6 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. WIC</p>	<p>7 9:00 a.m. UMMW Unit Meeting</p>	
<p>8 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship</p>	<p>9 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>10 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets 7:00 p.m. Trustees</p>	<p>11 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups</p>	<p>12 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Miriam Circle 7:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>13 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>14 9:00 a.m. Naomi Circle</p>	
<p><i>*Daylight Savings Time Begins</i></p>							
<p>15 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship Puppets Bake Sale 5:30 p.m. Alpha</p>	<p>16 1:30 p.m. Carey Circle 7:00 p.m. A. A. 7:00 p.m. SPRC</p>	<p>17 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets 6:30 p.m. Susanna Circle 7:00 p.m. Finance</p>	<p>18 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>19 1:00 p.m. Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>20 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m. WIC</p>	<p>21 9:00 a.m. UMMW Breakfast</p>	
<p>22 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 1:30 p.m. OAKS Outing</p>	<p>23 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>24 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets</p>	<p>25 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p>26 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbells</p>	<p>27 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>28 8:00 a.m. Youth Boutique</p>	
<p><i>*UMM Sunday</i></p>							
<p>29 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 12:30 p.m. Confirmation Claim Session</p>	<p>30 7:00 p.m. A.A.</p>	<p>31 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets</p>					<p>C&P- Celebrate & Praise UMMW- United Methodist Men UMWV- 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</p>

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
Website: Stjames.umc@warmheart.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
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**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 March

March 1	Simpson College Choir Concert, 3 p.m.
March 7	UMW Unit Meeting 9 a.m.
March 8	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 22	OAKS Outing 1:30 p.m.
March 28	Youth Spring Boutique 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Sunday Services St. James East

8:15 a.m. Traditional
9:45 a.m. Traditional
11:15 a.m. Celebrate and Praise

Nursery available at 8:15, 9:45, 11:15

Sunday School at 9:45

Fellowship 9:15, 10:45

Sunday Services St. James West

9:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School

Nursery available at 9:30 a.m.