



October 2009

All events occur at St. James East unless noted.

The Messenger

What's Happening at West

There is not one stale moment in the ministry life of St. James United Methodist Church, and St. James West can certainly attest to that!

St. James West continues to be a growing and vital ministry at St. James, and continues to dream of a bright future. As of last month, West is now 3 years old and starting to develop some very strong character traits. Although it tends to be a little more on the edge of the worship experience, it is all Methodist, all Holy, all the time! West worshipers feel tied to family and community and believe they are called to be a witness in the community for those who are looking for social and family activity connections. West also offers a chance for all who enter to reconnect with their faith. And as always, St. James West is honored to be a vital and vibrant part of the big St. James Family. Here is what's new from our last report:

Even during the summer months West had worship numbers in the high 80's.

9 people have joined since January, and there are many who are in preparation.

Giving is healthy and above projections as folks become passionate about dream-casting.

A West Leadership Team has come together to help lead others into ministry leadership and start new programs.

4 Ice Cream Socials were held, with the support of many from both locations, with great success.

A children's choir has started, called the West Mighty Rockers.

Family Fun Night now happens every 1st Thursday at 6, and has attracted nearly 50 each time.

A Women's Bible Study regularly meets there and a new installation of the Bible in a Year also meets.

The praise band is growing, and new efforts to start a middle school Connection Class are under way!

As you can see, St. James is alive. The West location is pleased to be a part of this excitement! Your support and continued prayer is appreciated and essential. Thank you St. James for taking a risk and stepping out into the unknown frontier of radical ministry!

Pastor Jason

Young Adults Unite!

There are many opportunities to join in fellowship this fall.

Sunday, September 27th: 6:30 p.m. BBQ at Pastor Jason's House, 2106 Lloyd Street

* Bring a side to share

Sunday, October 11: 12:45 p.m. Picnic & Hayrack Ride

*Big Lake Park, Council Bluffs. We'll leave from the church at 12:30. \$1/person + a side.

*Hayrack & Bonfire: \$6/person. We'll have s'mores and fun. Bring a chair.

*R.S.V.P. to Jason at jason.kennedy@warmheart.org or 933-4969

Thursday, October 15th: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Omaha Table Talk

*This event is community wide and offers a chance to meet others and discuss race issues and relations.

*For more information and to register: visit www.omahatabletalk.com

* Deadline to register is October 1

Saturday, October 17th: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Park Avenue Meal

* Volunteer your time to serve a meal and have a conversation with someone in need.

*Meet at St. James East @ 10:30 a.m. We might have lunch after.

Thursday, November 19: 7-9 p.m. Talk & Taste Event

* \$15/per person

* Winestyles (1110 South 71 Street #K - Aksarben Village)

* Please RSVP to Abbey Jackson or Jason Kennedy by Monday, November 16th

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Patti Smith, Secretary

We would like to extend an open invitation to ALL St. James women to be a part of the United Methodist Women. There are five circles which meet at various times and locations, but you do not have to belong to a specific circle to participate in our many activities. Please plan to join us in any of the circle or unit activities throughout the year.



Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting: Thursday, October 1st 7:00 pm

Rummage Sale: Friday, October 16th and Saturday, October 17th

Unit Meeting: Thursday, November 6th 7:00pm

Worldwide UMW Assembly: April 30 – May 2, 2010 at St. Louis, Missouri

Registration must be completed by December. Please call June Etheridge if you would like to attend or want more information about the assembly.

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 fall 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

22 OAKS members want to thank June Ethridge for giving us an impromptu professional tour of historic Bellevue on September 9.

The OAKS outing will be on October 26. We will meet in the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and carpool to the Bellevue Volunteer Fire Department Training Center off of Cornhusker. After a tour of the facility we will meet at Summer Kitchen for lunch. If you plan to attend, please sign up at the Information Counter. Any questions, contact Ed or Twila Wooton at 291-4256.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Come join your friends at St. James Oct. 23 for this amazing musical based on the Old Testament story of Joseph and his coat of many colors at the Omaha Community Playhouse. This "terrific, high-energy event," includes several musical styles set against a story of humanity and spirit. The show starts at 7 p.m. With a group of 15, adults tickets go down to \$29 per ticket and students go down to \$18 per ticket. Anyone at St. James who already has OCP memberships that include *Joseph* may use their tickets for this performance. Sign-up sheets will be available at St. James East and West. Reservations and money is due Oct. 8. For more information, contact Tess Sykes 350-7356.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

Tom Holaday, Secretary, UMM

October and time marches on. Its time for all to celebrate and enjoy the trees changing colors. I recommend trips through the surrounding country side full of beautiful fall colors! Think of it as God with his big paint brush full of wonderful colors wherever you look. Enjoy!

I'm told Roger Van Epps made the trip to Virginia to watch the ballgame between Nebraska and Virginia Tech. It will be interesting to listen to Roger's story about the game.

J.R. Warak announced there is still a need to clean out the storage building (garage). You can reach J.R. at 291-9371 if you can help with this much needed job.

Prayer Breakfast!

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. October 17, 2009 at St. James East

Thursday mornings, 6:30 a.m. at No Frills Supermarket

Thought For the Month

Better to slip with the foot than with the tongue!

Picnic and Hayrack Ride

Come one, come all and join the St. James family for a picnic and hayride beginning at 12:45 p.m. on October 11. The picnic will be held at Big Lake Park in Council Bluffs. The cost for the picnic is \$1 per person or \$3 per family. Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks and paper products will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Then join us at 3:30 p.m. for phase 2 of a wonderful afternoon. \$6 person (3 yrs and under are FREE) buys you a meandering hayrack ride, time around a roaring bonfire, and of course s'mores. See Claudia Schwarting or sign up in between services at East. You can sign up on the blue card or see Vicki Warner at the West location. The hayrack fills up quickly so get your reservation and payment in as soon as possible.



Big Lake Park is off of I-29 just north of Council Bluffs. Take I 29 north to Exit 55 and turn right on to 25th St.. Make your immediate left at Nash Blvd and follow the road until you get to the park.

Education Connection News

By Sharon Buckley

The Senior High class at St. James East will be starting on Sunday, October 4 at 9:45 a.m. The class will be using new curriculum called "Claim the Life." God is already at work in the lives of our youth. This class will help them . . . Claim It! Feel It! Live It! Claim the Life brings together the hopes everyone has for our youth: spiritual formation, discipleship, Christian community, and faith knowledge. All Senior High youth (9 - 12th graders) are invited to come check it out.



Bible Sunday is Sunday, October 11. 3rd Graders at West will receive their Bibles during the 9:30 a.m. service while 3rd Graders at East will receive their Bibles during the 9:45 a.m. service. Letters will be sent to parents explaining the details. If you do not receive a letter by the week of October 5, please contact Sharon Buckley or the church office.

Outreach Mission of the Month: Captive Souls

There are many people held captive in prison because of their crimes, others are held captive by poverty and some are held captive by their addictions.

On October 4 a special presentation on prison ministries will be made. On October 11 at St. James West and October 18 at St. James East we will have a speaker who will inform us about activities at the Open Door Mission. On October 25 there will be packets available for anyone to pick up with Community Resource information on gambling, alcoholism, drug and other addictions.

Confirmation 2009-2010



The journey has begun! This year's class will be 14 strong. Our first activity will be on Sunday the 4th, as the class joins the youth for the Break the Bread Mission. They will prepare the meals at 8 a.m., and go downtown at 11:00 p.m. On October 18th, the class will hold its first session at East, at 3 p.m. Bring your notebooks, and be ready for some fun. If you are NOT a confirmand but would like to be involved, call Jason at 291-3881.

Family Fun Night for All

Do you know fun facts about our church and interesting things about our members? Whether you are a trivia wiz or just want to have some family fun, come join us on Thursday, October 1 from 6-7:30 p.m. for the October family night at St. James West. Everyone at East and West is invited to join us for a chili dinner and discover a little about St. James and the people within. The teams will consist of all ages so bring everyone! Please sign up to bring either chili, cornbread, a side dish or a dessert. See you there!



Youth Group Activities September 2009

Sunday, October 4
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Break the Bread
St James East Fellowship Hall/Gene Leahy Mall

Wednesday, October 7
7-8:30 p.m.
Youth Council
St James East Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 11
1 p.m. All Church Picnic
3:30 p.m. All Church Hayride

Wednesday, October 14
7-8:30 p.m.
Small Groups
Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)



Sunday, October 18
5-6:30 p.m. Mission Youth Group
6:30-7 p.m. International Dinner (\$2)

Wednesday, October 21
7-8:30 p.m.
Small Groups
Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)

Sunday, October 25
5-6:30 p.m. Halloween Youth Group
6:30-7 p.m. Halloween Dinner (\$2)

Wednesday, October 28
7-8:30 p.m.
Small Groups
Brynn's House (2010 Van Buren)

St. James' Couples Group

The group will renew our monthly study on the first Sunday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at St. James East in the East Fellowship Hall starting on Sunday, October 4. Couples group focuses on encouraging and enriching couples in Christian marriage. All couples are invited. Childcare can be provided at the church if needed. On Sunday, Oct. 4, Craig and Jane Nordaker will provide a presentation on their trip to Israel last February. Please plan to come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. If you have questions or need childcare, please contact Jane Pound at 712-322-1775.

A Few Words from the Finance Committee

CRAIG'S CORNER

By Craig Nordaker, Finance Committee Chair

A.C.T.S. of Discipleship. By now most of us have heard about this. ACTS is not only a New Testament book of our bible, but its letters also represent the type of discipleship we each need to consider and choose how to act upon. Our stewardship campaign is asking each and every one of us to consider how we can:

Align ourselves with God

Come together in Love

Tithe our Gifts to God

Serve God and Others

After giving each of these four actions a few moments of consideration myself, I came up with at least one thing I can do for each of the four that will help me further my own personal calling. I also believe that the fellowship, friends and neighbors that make up our 'one church, two locations' are guidance for us as we let these four actions speak to our hearts. So, what are these four A.C.T.S. saying to your heart?

In the way of a financial update, our year-to-date income is close to meeting year-to-date expenses, but not quite. Additionally, your Finance Committee is hoping to hold our 2010 budget to zero increase over 2009, if at all possible. Doing so will require careful analysis of projected 2010 expenses by each organization of the church body. Important also will be projected pledge income (in addition to other income). As mentioned last month, a 'large' fund raiser is still being considered for sometime in 2010.

Please let anyone on the Finance Committee know of any questions or suggestions you might have to further God's work.

Yours in Christ,

Craig Nordaker- Finance Committee Chair



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

St James United Methodist Women's

2009 FALL RUMMAGE SALE

October 13 - 17 (Thurs - Sat)

Oct 13-15 Accept Donations/Set up/Sort/Price
 Oct 15 5-7 p.m. Church Members/Friends Only
 Oct 16 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Bargain Sale Prices
 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. OAKS Fundraiser Lunch
 All day - Bake Sale
 Oct 17 8-12 Super Bargain Sales Prices
 ½ off or \$2/bag in Main Sale Area
 12 - 2 Clean Up

*Miriam Circle
 providing dinner for
 volunteers
 Oct 14*

Visit our Boutique
 Finer Quality Items at
 Marked Down Prices

Friday Only

Friday Only
 Bellevue Needlecraft Guild
 Fund Raiser for Bellevue's
 Safe Haven

**Due to new legislation over the problem with lead paint on toys made in China and the ever-growing recall list for baby furniture, the UMW Board has decided not to sell toys (other than stuffed toys) or baby furniture at the rummage sale. If toys or furniture are donated, we will take them directly to the Salvation Army which is better equipped to deal with the situation.

Just show up when you can help

HELP WANTED

Able-bodied participants to help set up rummage sale tables on Tuesday, Oct 13th 5-7 pm in Church fellowship hall. **AA has volunteered to do this for us!**

HELP WANTED

Sales staff for rummage sale.

Friday, Oct 16th	8 a.m.—7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct 17th	8 a.m.—12 noon

HELP WANTED

Cheerful willing hands to help sort, display and price rummage sale donations on Tues.—Thurs. 9 a.m.—7 p.m., Oct 13-15th in Church fellowship hall. Limited slots for old grouches!

HELP WANTED

New volunteers to help the exhausted crew pack up Rummage sale left-over's.

Saturday, Oct. 17th	12 noon—2 p.m.
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FOOD IS AVAILABLE - Wednesday night for volunteers, furnished by Miriam Circle
 - Thursday night: Make It Yourself Subs, Free Will Offering
 - For sale on Friday: Bake Sale sponsored by Martha Circle, Lunch Sale sponsored by OAKS
 - Saturday lunch: Pizza furnished by Rummage Sale Committee

All proceeds are used to help with Missions and Outreach Programs

When we join St. James United Methodist Church we promise to support it with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. Our 2009 Stewardship Campaign “A.C.T.S. of Discipleship” is all about this promise. Our vision at St James is to be disciples of Jesus Christ sharing God’s love with others in community to transform the world. When we come together as a church family combining our gifts of time, service, and offerings we can achieve this mission.



Witnessing Through Prayer – Aligning Ourselves with God

Please join us in supporting St. James and the 2009 stewardship campaign with prayer. Use the acronym of P.R.A.Y. to align ourselves with God. We **P**raise God for the blessings of worship and fellowship and the many gifts we have received. We are challenged to **R**epent from the sins keeping us separated from our true potential. We **A**sk God to bless the path our church is on. Lastly, we seek God’s will and **Y**ield to his plans for ourselves and our church.

Witnessing Through Presence – Coming Together in Love

We ask you to consider your presence at church. Your presence at church is important. You are part of the church family and seeing you each week connects us as a group. Do you ever ask why we meet as a Christian family? Think about what it really means to be “present.” Understand our need to love each other and our need for sharing God’s love with others. Try sitting in a different pew or perhaps the other side of the church, reach out to those you haven’t met before, attend a different service time and see what we as a Christian family all have in common: Love for each other and sharing God’s love with others.

Witnessing Through Gifts – Tithing Our Gifts to God

Financial stewardship is about giving to the church not only to pay the monthly bills but also to continue the services and programs the church provides to your family and to the community. Children are learning about Jesus, youth are growing in faith, adults are active in service, the sick are being visited, the grieving are being comforted, and the hungry are being fed. People are being ministered to because of your gifts. Lives are being changed because of your financial giving to the church. Please consider an increase in your pledge so that our congregation can grow and expand in mission and ministry.

Witnessing Through Service – Serving God and Others

We also invite you to consider growing in your service. Many of you are already involved in your service to the church and we thank you. There are many opportunities that you can become involved within the church—singing in the choir, teaching Sunday school, ushering, missions. The list is long and continues to grow. Many things happen at the church, and not just on Sunday morning. Find an interest you may have and get more involved in doing God’s work through out our church, the Bellevue community, and the world!

Thank you for your support of this Stewardship Campaign. It is about how you fulfill the promise you made to the church and in doing so find the promise of fulfillment. Now it is your turn to respond to the 2009 Stewardship Campaign with your “A.C.T.S. of Discipleship”. See you at church!

2009 Stewardship Campaign Dates

October 4

“Witnessing Through Presence”

October 11

“Witnessing Through Gifts”

October 18

“Witnessing Through Service”


October 25

“Commitment Sunday”

November 8

“Celebration Sunday”

**Sunday Worship Times: 8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. at East
9:30 a.m. at West**
All events occur at St. James East unless noted.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						
<p>4 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship Break the Bread - Youth/ Confirmation 6: 30 p.m. Couples Group</p> <p><i>"Witnessing Through Presence"</i></p>	<p>5 7:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Bible in a Year Meeting (W)</p>	<p>6 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible in a Year Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets</p>	<p>7 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible in a Year Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible in a Year Meeting</p>	<p>8 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Miriam Circle 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice</p>	<p>9 1:00 p.m. Offutt Home School Group</p>	<p>10 8:00 a.m. Bike Club 9:00 a.m. Naomi Circle</p>
<p>11 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Bible in a Year Gathering 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 12:45 p.m. All church Picnic 1:00 p.m. Single Sisters 3:30 p.m. Hayrack Ride</p> <p><i>"Witnessing Through Gifts"</i></p>	<p>12 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 7:00 p.m. A. A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (W) 7:00 p.m. Bible in a Year Meeting (W)</p>	<p>13 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible in a Year Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets 7:00 p.m. Trustees</p>	<p>14 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible in a Year Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Group 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible in a Year Meeting</p>	<p>15 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 1:00 p.m. Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:00 a.m. UMM Prayer Breakfast</p>
<p>18 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 3:00 p.m. Confirmation Claim Session 5:00 p.m. Youth Group</p> <p><i>"Witnessing Through Service"</i></p>	<p>19 1:30 p.m. Carey Circle 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (W) 7:00 p.m. S.P.R.C. Meeting 7:00 p.m. Bible in a Year Meeting (W)</p>	<p>20 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible in a Year Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets 6:30 p.m. Susanna Circle 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting</p>	<p>21 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible in a Year Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Group 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible in a Year Meeting</p>	<p>22 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice</p>	<p>23 1:00 p.m. Offutt Home School Group</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Youth Group</p> <p><i>"Commitment Sunday"</i></p>	<p>26 10:00 a.m. OAKS Outing 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (W) 7:00 p.m. Bible in a Year Meeting (W)</p>	<p>27 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible in a Year Meeting 6:30 p.m. Puppets</p>	<p>28 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible in a Year Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Group 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible in a Year Meeting</p>	<p>29 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice</p>	<p>30 1:00 p.m. Offutt Home School Group</p>	<p>31</p>

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 October

October 1	Family Fun Night
October 4	Couples Group
October 8	Miriam Circle
October 10	Naomi Circle
October 11	All church picnic and Hayrack ride
October 15	Martha Circle
October 18	Confirmation Claim Session
October 19	Carey Circle
October 20	Susanna Circle
October 26	OAKS Outing

Sunday Services St. James East

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship

9:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship

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

Education Connection at 9:45 for all ages

Fellowship 9:15, 10:45

Sunday Services St. James West

9:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Education Connection through 6th grade

10:30 a.m. Fellowship

10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School

Nursery available at 9:30 a.m.