



September 2009

All events occur at St. James East unless noted.

The Messenger

It's Time to Go "Back to Church!"

Clear your schedule for Sunday, September 13th as we are gearing up for a special day in the life of St. James United Methodist Church. On that day we are encouraging you to invite your friends, neighbors, relatives, and acquaintances to attend one of our four church services in the morning. Then you are encouraged to come back in the afternoon starting at 2:00 p.m. for fun activities for all ages concluding with a fantastic puppet show from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. There will be prizes and give-aways at all morning worship services as well as the afternoon activities.

Give-away tickets will be given out at the morning worship service to people who qualify as one of the following: 1) you have just started attending St. James since June 1st, 2009, 2) you haven't attended St. James at all in the past six months or longer and are returning, or 3) you brought a newcomer to church with you. Give-aways in the morning service include dinner for two at area restaurants and a \$50 Visa gift card. At the afternoon activities we will be giving away CD's from new country artists, tickets to the family fun center, a \$50 Visa gift card, and a Wii Entertainment System. You must be present to win and you must pick up your ticket for all the give-aways at the morning worship service. No tickets will be given out in the afternoon. Several other prizes will be given away as well. Every child who attends the afternoon carnival will receive a prize package – no ticket needed.

At the morning worship services we will be praising God together as we celebrate how we are living lives that matter. Most people want to belong to an organization through which they can make a real difference in the world and that is exactly what we will be highlighting on September 13th. In the afternoon we are planning a carnival for children and youth that will include a bounce house, fun games, an arts and crafts area for children to make things to take home, pony rides, and an opportunity for children to climb aboard a real fire truck! In the Fellowship Hall we will be serving free ice cream and desserts sponsored by the Outreach Committee who will have a free will basket with donations going towards our mission projects at the church. The St. James Praise Band will be playing your favorite praise songs and we will conclude the afternoon with the puppet show in the sanctuary.

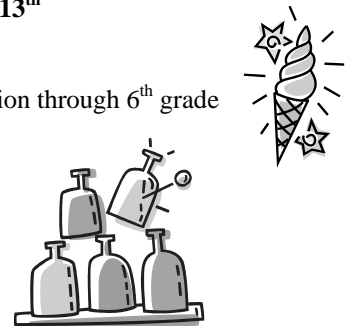
Whew – what a day! Please pick up invitation cards and/or door hangers from the office at St. James East to personally invite those living in your neighborhood to come and see us at St. James on September 13th. This day is dependent upon you inviting those around you so please help us out. This church will only grow as we reach out in the community around us to invite people to get to know Christ at St. James United Methodist Church. Here's your chance to "Live a Life that Matters."

Pastor Russ

"Back to Church" Schedule of Activities for September 13th



- 8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship at St. James East
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at St. James West with Education Connection through 6th grade
- 9:45 a.m. Traditional Worship at St. James East
- 9:45 a.m. Education Connection for all ages at St. James East
- 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship at St. James East
- 2:00 p.m. Carnival and Ice Cream Social at St. James East
- 3:30 p.m. Methodists on a Mission puppet show at St. James East
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Boys and Girls Night (see article)



Family Fun Night for All

Everyone at East and West is invited to come enjoy food, fun, and fellowship on Thursday, September 3rd, from 6-7:30 p.m. at St. James West. We'll enjoy a spaghetti dinner and the M.O.M. Puppet Team. The children will make a hand puppet and perform with the puppet team. Please let us know if you will be there. There is a sign up sheet located at the Information Counter. Free will donation.



Tables of 6-8 New Round begins in September

It is time to sign up for a new round of Tables of 6-8 that will begin in September. Groups will consist of 6-8 people who will meet for dinner once a month. Each group will have a coordinator who will set up the initial dinner in September and then help the group plan subsequent dinners. If you would like to participate, please complete the form below with your preferences and return to the church office or contact Linda Johnson at 934-9873.

Tables of 6-8 September - December 2009 REGISTRATION

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Phone # (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-Mail _____

- I will host a potluck dinner in my home.
 I will be a group coordinator.
 I will host a Dutch-treat dinner in a restaurant.
 I will need a ride to the dinner.
 I am willing to provide a ride for someone.
 I am interested in participating as a family.



Confirmation 2009-2010

Yes! Confirmation starts this month! We are anticipating 15 Confirmands this year and would like 15 prayer partners for their journey. Call the church to pray for one of these young persons. The Confirmands will begin with a “meet and greet” at Dairy Queen on September 20 (7-8 p.m.), and on September 25-26th we’ll have our opening retreat at Camp Fontanelle. It’s not too late, if your 7th grader has not yet registered. Call the church office to register!

Education Connection News

By Sharon Buckley

There will be exciting changes to our Sunday morning classes this fall. The Kindergarten class will be combined with the Pre-Kindergarten class. This Pre-K/K class and the 3 year old class will continue in the same format where children learn traditional Bible stories and principles in a fun and exciting atmosphere. New curriculum will be used for these classes.

We are putting a new spin on the rotation classes for 1st through 5th grades. The classes will no longer move to different centers each week. Instead each class will remain in the same classroom with the same teacher. These classes will use unique curriculum to teach Bible stories and themes in various ways through cooking, storytelling, arts and crafts, movie clips, computers, science, and activities. The teachers will be able to easily tailor the curriculum to meet their teaching needs.

The 6th graders will be in a brand new class just for pre-teens. This class will help these young people grow in their faith, handle relationships, make good choices, and serve others. The Middle School and Senior High Classes will be using new curriculum to help teens meet with God and navigate through issues that they face.

It’s preferable for two people to team teach, allowing the individuals to have some Sundays off each month. There is also a need for volunteers to lead an occasional lesson on a craft, cooking, etc. Do you like to shop? You can help by purchasing supplies--funds and shopping list provided. Please contact Sharon Buckley, 293-8995, or the church office to volunteer or if you have questions.

St. James Returns to Fall - Spring Worship Schedule September 6th

Sunday Services St. James East

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. Education Connection for all ages
11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship



Sunday Services St. James West

9:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Education Connection through 6th grade
10:30 a.m. Fellowship

Youth Group Activities September 2009

Wednesday, September 2, 7-8:30 p.m. Youth Council, Panera

Sunday, September 6, 8 a.m. -1 p.m. Break the Bread

* Meet in East Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m. for prep; 9:30 church service, and then load and serve downtown

Wednesday, September 9, 7-8:30 p.m. Small Groups (Brynn's House, 2010 Van Buren)

Sunday, September 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Boys Night (Whitfield House, 1306 Cobblestone, Bellevue)
Girls Night (St. James East)

Wednesday, September 16, 7-8:30 p.m. Small Groups (Brynn's House, 2010 Van Buren)

Friday, September 18, 7:30 p.m. Jeremy Camp Concert, Bellevue Christian Center

(Reserve your ticket by 9/1 - \$41)

Saturday, September 19, Fall Boutique, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Reed Center

Wednesday, September 23, 7-8:30 p.m. Small Groups (Brynn's House, 2010 Van Buren)

Sunday, September 27, 7-11 a.m. Fundraising Breakfast

"Fame the Movie" (PG), Time TBA

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



All Young Adults

Join us on September 18 for the Jeremy Camp Concert, Bellevue Christian Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$41 and need to be reserved by September 1. Please call the church today (291-3881) to join other young adults at this amazing Christian performance.

On September 27 there will be a BBQ at Pastor Jason's house (2106 Lloyd St.) at 6:30 p.m. Bring a side dish and we'll see you there!

Omaha Table Talk is an event where "everyone has a place at the table." On Thursday, October 15 from 6:30-9:30 p.m., join hundreds from the metro area to discuss race, religion, poverty and much more. Contact Abbey Jackson at 871-8390 or abbersh81@yahoo.com before October 4 if you are interested in attending.

A Few Words from the Finance Committee

CRAIG'S CORNER

By Craig Nordaker, Finance Committee Chair

As mentioned last month, your Finance Committee has the responsibility to monitor current expenses and 'income', plus look ahead to the remainder of this year and beyond. We do this on behalf of the entire "one congregation, two locations".

Currently (and this could certainly change) your Finance Committee is not so concerned about the remainder of 2009, based upon most everyone meeting their pledge and other projected income. At the same time, we are not projecting any excess of income compared to expenses for 2009.

Your Finance Committee has begun to investigate ways we may wish to address any future shortfalls in income. We believe it will take prayerful consideration and then selecting a combination of agreeable solutions. We are looking into 1.) the positive impacts of growing the membership of our church family 2.) the impact of increases in pledge-giving where feasible 3.) types of small-to-medium fund-raisers 4.) continued diligence regarding every dollar spent and 5.) one or two 'large' fund-raiser(s). We expect some combination of these solutions will be necessary.

We'll share more details as the ideas are developed. Meanwhile, you are encouraged to provide input and feedback to anyone listed below with ideas that you think might help. Thanks in advance for your prayers & consideration.

Lastly, our 2009 Stewardship campaign will kick off in mid-September, so you'll be hearing about five areas of stewardship that are important to be informed about- including **witnessing** to others we care about- whether existing members of St. James' family, or those who need to be invited to join St. James' family.

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

Mission of the Month: International Care

The Outreach theme for September is **International Care**. On Sunday September 13, you will have a chance to demonstrate that you care for “the least of these” by participating in an “Offering of Letters” to our Senators, advocating for foreign aid reform. An Offering of Letters enables individuals to see their concerns translated into policies that help hungry and poor people improve their lives. Some of you will want to write your letter privately beforehand and bring it to the offering plate at our carnival booth, but we will provide everything you need at our carnival booth for those who wish to write it there. See the sample letter below. Your hand-written letter, in your own words, is extremely powerful! Outreach members will provide the postage for the letters.

We will also be providing ice cream and toppings at the carnival. Your monetary gift will support our participation in Bread for the World, a Christian Advocacy organization supported by the United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society.

We also invite you to bring bags of rice dried beans and lentils to send to Afghanistan, for a need that Glen Stinn has encouraged us to support. We will be collecting these in the marked bins throughout September.

Senator Ben Nelson / Mike Johanns
U.S. Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson / Johanns:

I am writing to ask you to take the lead in reforming foreign aid so our resources can be both effectively and efficiently shared where they will do the most good for the poorest of the poor.

I hope **you** will support the Senate bill, [S.1524](#), The Foreign Assistance Revitalization and Accountability Act of 2009. Rep. Lee Terry is one of over 100 cosponsors of H.R. 2139, The Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009.

The Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network has worked to focus efforts on elevating **development** to a more prominent role alongside defense and diplomacy. Poverty-focused development assistance has proven reductions of child mortality. (My church, the United Methodist Church, is part of this Network.)

Current U.S. foreign assistance policy and programs are scattered and poorly coordinated. Our assistance needs to be more accountable for clear outcomes and be better coordinated.

Thank you for helping with this important work.

Sincerely,
Name
Address

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.

New Address

Julia Travis
1634 Pepperwood Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63146
314-434-9395
julia.travis@sbcglobal.net



A Little Slice of Heaven

Pastor Jason will be welcoming family and friends of St. James to see his new home on September 4 from 6-8 p.m. To celebrate his new "little slice of heaven," he'll be serving pie to his guests. The address is 2106 Lloyd St. in Bellevue. Please stop by, your presence is your present!



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Kim Embrey
Memorial, chairperson

In memory of Diane Beach

To the Memorial Fund:

Fran Moore
Keith & Sharon Buckley
Chris & Gayle Christenson
Bob & Linda Rausch
Craig & Jane Nordaker
Virginia Lakin
Gene & Deb Wilkie
Steven & Cheryl Haffke
Herm & Ann Lehman

Bill & Cyd Craig
Allen & Sheila Moore
Bob & Brenda Robeson
Charles & Elaine Frey
Vern & Anita Carson
Lois Richardson
Carolyn Standerwick
Mike & Janet Wilberger



To the Endowment Fund:

Dean & Barb Eckel
Carol Allman
Paula Muth

Handbell Ringers Needed



Handbell choir rehearsals will resume Thursday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. New ringer instruction will be held Thursday, September 3, for anyone grade four or older at 7 p.m. Bell polishing will also be held at the same time. Questions, contact Kathy Lieben-guth at 250-5956 or jakklieben1@msn.com.

Upcoming Events:



The St. James annual all church picnic and hayrack ride will be held together on October 11. Please watch your Sunday bulletins, the church website: www.come2stjames.org, and the October Newsletter for more information.

Paper Newsletter or Online Newsletter?—The Choice Is Yours!


Are you trying to "go green?" Would you like to have one less piece of mail each month? Do you want to know exactly where to find your St James Monthly Newsletter when you want to refer back to an item you read? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may be interested in opting out of receiving a paper copy of the newsletter and instead read the newsletter on the St James Internet Website which can be found at www.come2stjames.org. The Office Manager will send out an email with a link to the newsletter when it is posted on the website. You may even receive this sooner than you would receive the "snail mail" version. You can save the church money, paper, and time; and you can save the environment a tree. To opt out of paper newsletters, please fill in the form below and return it to the church office.

Yes! I would like to "go green" and save a tree by opting out of receiving paper newsletters!

Name _____

Email _____

**Sunday Worship Times: 8:15, 9:45 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>
						
6 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship Break the Bread - Youth	7 7:00 p.m. A.A.	8 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study	9 9:15 a.m. OAKS Outing 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	10 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Miriam Circle 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice	11	12
13 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 4:30 p.m. Boys and Girls Night <i>Back to Church Sunday and Carnival</i>	Labor Day - Office closed 14 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting 7:00 p.m. A. A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study	15 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting	16 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	17 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice	18 8:00 a.m. WIC 7:30 p.m. Jeremy Camp Concert	19 7:00 a.m. Blood Drive 9:00 a.m. UMM Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Fall Boutique
20 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Confirmation	21 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. S.P.R.C. Meeting	22 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets	23 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	24 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Handbell Practice	25	26
27 THE WORSHIP OF GOD 9:15/10:45 a.m. East Fellowship 10:30 a.m. West Fellowship	28 7:00 p.m. A.A. 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study	29 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Puppets	30 6:30 p.m. C & P Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> Confirmation </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: right;"> Retreat </div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> 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 OHW- Our Hands Ministry Evolve- Young Adult Group </div> </div>						

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 September

September 3	UMW Unit Meeting
September 4	Family Fun Night
September 6	Fall - Spring Schedule Resumes
September 9	OAKS Outing
September 13	“Back to Church” Sunday
September 18	Jeremy Camp Concert
September 19	American Red Cross Blood Drive
September 20	Confirmation Meeting

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.