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From the Pastor:



We are approaching a “new normal.” The CDC and the Illinois Department of Public Health have revised their recommendations regarding public gatherings and mask wearing. It feels like there might actually be a light at the end of this COVID-19 tunnel. So, I would like to use this space this month to let you know about changes that are coming to our worship.

Beginning June 6, we will take some steps toward returning to our normal worship. The changes will include:

Singing hymns.

Congregational responses in the liturgy, including saying the Lord’s Prayer.

Additions to the liturgy like reciting the creed and singing the “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

Coming forward to the altar to receive Holy Communion. (Individual communion kits will remain available for those who would prefer not to receive communion at the altar.)

Printing a worship bulletin with the complete liturgy (that I will be asking worshippers to hold on to and bring back each week).

Other things will continue as we have been doing since March. For instance,

The offering plate will be set in the back of the church instead of passing it during worship.

Sharing the peace will be “non-contact.”

Out of love for those who may be uncomfortable with the new mask guidelines, we are still asking worshippers to wear a mask during worship.

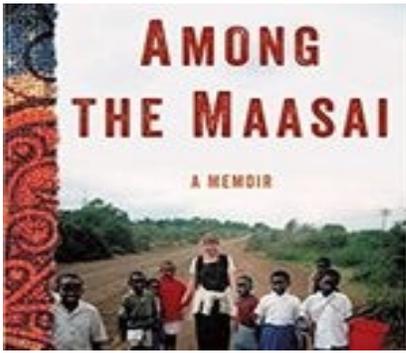
Also, we understand that not everyone is ready to for these steps and may choose not to participate with us in-person. So, we will also continue to livestream the worship services on our Facebook page.

I also understand that it is now possible for me to visit patients in the hospital. So, if you or someone you know would like me to make a hospital call, please let me know. The hospital does not always (rarely) call me. I will also be resuming home communions for those who are comfortable with a visitor coming into their homes.

I don't think we are completely through with COVID-19, so it is important for us to remain cautious. But it is good to begin to return to some of our normal practices. Perhaps before too long this pandemic will be a thing of the past.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



On Zoom, during four Thursday evenings in June, NIS WELCA will be sponsoring a Book Chat on Juliet Cutler's book "Among the Maasai". Participants can register through the NIS WELCA website at , <https://nisynod.org/events>. Interested participants can purchase the book on their own or through the link on the website.

If there are any questions, please contact Deb Quinn, NIS WELCA Discipleship Chair at debraquinn1@comcast.net or 630-334-0330.



New Addresses:

Elaine Lestor
1209—21st Ave.
Rock Island, Illinois 61201
elestor@icloud.com
Phone: (309) 230-3858

Bob Carlson
1479 Grove Park Apt #120
Columbus, GA 31904

Worship News

Sunday June 6th

First Reading

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm

Psalm 130

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

Gospel

Mark 3:20-35

Sunday June 13th

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Sunday June 20th

First Reading

Job 38:1-11

Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel

Mark 4:35-41

Sunday June 27th

First Reading

Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm

Psalm 30

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Gospel

Mark 5:21-43



In honor of Flag Day, we've decided to take a break from our normal Flag Day traditions (i.e., taking any excuse to eat red, white or blue candies) to gain a better appreciation of Old Glory herself.

Not surprisingly, there are a lot of fun facts surrounding the Stars and Stripes — but most of the coolest stuff isn't found in any of our history books. A lot of it is interesting, some of it is surprising, and the one tidbit about "Gilligan's Island" is downright haunting.

Bone up on the American Flag trivia below and use it to impress your friends and neighbors all day long:

#1. Betsy Ross is widely credited with designing the first American flag, but there is almost no evidence to support that claim. The only records of Ross' involvement came from her own grandson in 1870, when he presented the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia with affidavits from his own family members as evidence. Instead, many historians believe that Francis Hopkinson deserves the credit, because early journals from the Continental Congress are said to explicitly name him as the flag's designer.

#2. Karen Burke of Walmart's Corporate Communications revealed that Walmart stores sold around 115,000 American flags on Sept. 11, 2001, as compared to 6,400 flags on the same date in 2000. In the year following 9/11 (Sept. 11, 2001 through Aug. 19, 2011), they sold 7.8 million American flags as compared to 2.5 million the year before.

#3. A 17-year-old student designed the flag as it appears today. In anticipation of Alaska and Hawaii becoming states, Robert G. Heft created the 50-star flag as part of a history project (for which he received a B-) before submitting it to Congress for consideration. In August of 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower chose Heft's design over 1,500 other applicants and informed him of the news over the phone. (Heft's teacher also changed his grade to an A.)

#4. During the [opening sequence](#) (about 22 seconds in) of first-season episodes of "Gilligan's Island," the U.S. flag can be seen flying at half-staff off in the distance. According to a 1994 audio book co-authored by Russell Johnson, who played the Professor, this is because the show's pilot episode finished filming on Nov. 22, 1963 — [the same day President Kennedy was assassinated.](#)

#5. Despite the harsh temperatures and conditions of the moon's atmosphere, [five of the six flags](#) that were planted during the Apollo missions are still believed to be standing. According to Buzz Aldrin, the one that fell was blown over by the exhaust from Apollo 11 during its liftoff from the moon's surface.

#6. According to the U.S. Department of State, the names of the flag's official colors are "old glory red," "white," and "old glory blue." Their HTML codes and Pantone equivalents can be found on the Department of State's [style guide.](#)

#7. Flag Day isn't technically a federal holiday, and it's not a state holiday outside of [Pennsylvania](#) and New York. Furthermore, New York's official observance of Flag Day isn't June 14 (when it's commonly celebrated), but rather [the second Sunday in June.](#)

#8. [Richard Williams](#), the animation director for "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," said that he modeled the title character's colors after Old Glory (red overalls, white fur, blue tie). "It looked like an American flag — subliminally speaking — so everybody liked it."

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#9. There are [federal regulations](#) governing the handling and display of the flag (the U.S. Flag Code), including restrictions on using the flag's likeness for advertising, or printing it on anything intended "for temporary use or discard," like cocktail napkins or paper plates. Under the Flag Protection Act of 1989, there are also federal laws that call for criminal penalties for certain forms of flag desecration, although the Supreme Court found this act to be unconstitutional under the First Amendment in 1990.

#10. [Old Glory](#) was actually the nickname of a specific U.S. flag, namely, the one owned by sea captain William Driver. He was previously given the flag by the women in his hometown of Salem, Mass., but he only named it Old Glory upon seeing it flying on his ship's mast in 1831. The name later went on to become synonymous with any American flag.



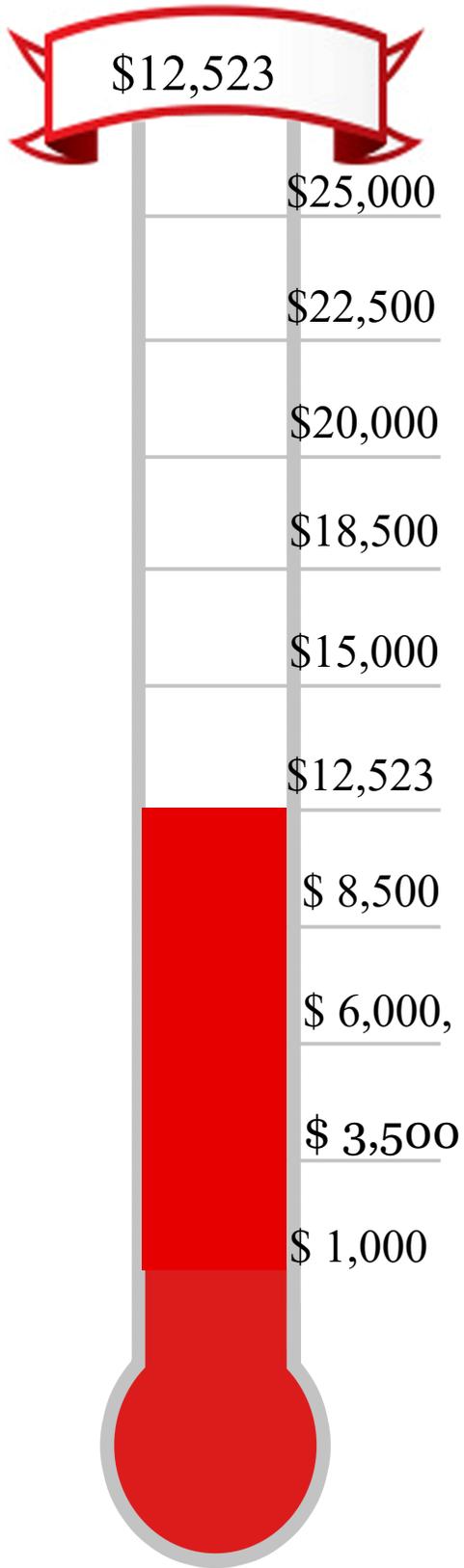
**Match offered to donate to
St. James Endowed Scholarship at
LSTC**



A scholarship was established in the name of St. James Lutheran Church (RI) at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in 1999. This year the St. James Endowment Team approved that \$2000 be sent to this scholarship at LSTC. This scholarship will support and encourage a talented student to continue work toward their goal to become a pastor. However, for it to be endowed and provide scholarships, the total investment needs to reach \$25,000. Following the recommendation of the Finance/Stewardship team, the St. James Church Council approved establishing a fund to which members could donate for adding to the scholarship. These new donations are matched from funds on hand, up to \$10,000 from the Eleanor Blomberg Bequest.

At the end of May, our scholarship fund at LSTC has grown to \$12,523 including donations and matching funds. We are halfway to our goal. Gifts of any amount may be sent to the church at any time for this purpose. Donations could also be part of an RMD investment non-taxed rollover. Funds will be sent on to LSTC with their match as received, perhaps monthly.

Should the St. James Scholarship fund reach the \$25,000 by June 30, 2021, LSTC could award the scholarship to a student in the fall of 2021. If that level is reached later in the summer, they could deploy this in the second semester as new students sometimes begin at that time or if needs arise with current students.



\$25,000

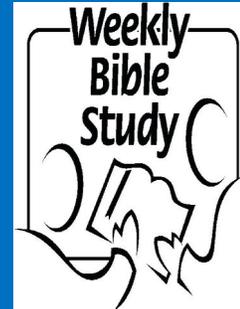
Our goal

Thanks!

Weekly Bible Study

We are holding an internet Bible Study (via Zoom) on Tuesday evenings June 1st, 15th, 22nd & 29th at 6:30 pm. There will be no Bible Study on the June 8th.

The Zoom link will be included in the Bible Study article of the website homepage.



Committee Meetings

Stewardship/Finance Team Meeting will be held June 14th @4:00pm via Zoom.

St. James Executive Committee will not meet this month.

St. James Council will meet June 16th @ 7:00pm via Zoom.

Please Note: Hospitals are again allowing pastoral visits. If they would like Pastor to visit in the hospital please make sure they let him know (815) 866-9595.



I would like to thank all the many St.

James members who called, sent cards, flowers & messages, during my time on leave. Each and every thoughtful expression touched my heart and brought a smile to my face. You are the BEST!

Although it will take me awhile to be fully recovered, I am on the road to recovery.

With many thanks,

Trish

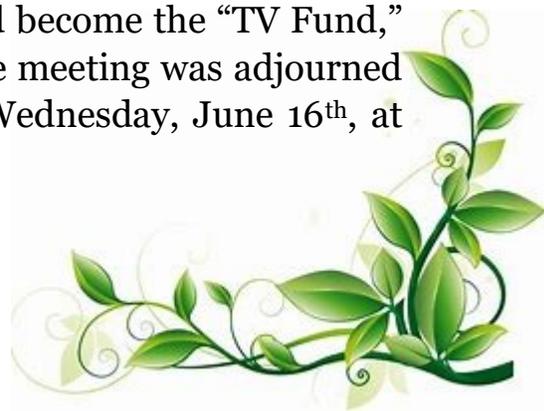


St. James Council Highlights,

ST. JAMES COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS, MAY 2021

The in-person and virtual May 2021 Council meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19th by President Chip Johnson. Nine out of ten members were present. Pastor Knowles opened with a prayer. The minutes of the April meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report for April featured a prorated surplus of \$1,140, with expenses being on target. Pastor Knowles announced that he will be taking a week's vacation starting at the end of June, including Sunday July 4th. To enable live streaming, we approved the purchase of a Mevo streaming camera and an iPad mini with case and screen protector. The total cost will not exceed \$900. This will likely come from the Memorial Fund, pending approval of that Committee. As the first phase of re-opening Sunday worship services to the pre-pandemic level, we approved June 6th as the first Sunday in which singing and responses will take place. Worshippers will continue to wear masks, and Holy Communion will be conducted similarly to what we have been doing. More details will appear in the June newsletter. We endorsed the installation of new flooring in the Choir Room. This will involve getting a bid for materials, as Custodian Bethany Weipert and husband Derek have offered to do the work free of charge. It was announced that \$8,250, obtained from the Eleanor Blomberg Bequest and member donations, has been sent to the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC). We decided that future Council meetings should start at 7:00 instead of 6:30 p.m., as the latter interrupts members' dinner hour. We also decided that the long-unused Piano Fund become the "TV Fund," to replace the ailing TV in the Bride's Room. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 16th, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully,
Luanne Beinke,
Council Secretary



Close out sale! Help support small-scale farmers with Equal Exchange

1/2 Price Sale

We have decided to close out our Equal Exchange items for now. Use the provided envelope for your half-price donation.



Birthdays:

Jo Kempf	06/03
Jan Nelson	06/08
Ciza Estella	06/10
Frank Palicki	06/10
Roman Terry	06/14
Stephen Lucas-Heinrich	06/14
Corbin Macke	06/15
Cynthia Newberry	06/15
Helen Douglas	06/16
Cam Palicki	06/19
Cora Schafman	06/24
Carol Hubbard	06/25
Christine Owens	06/25

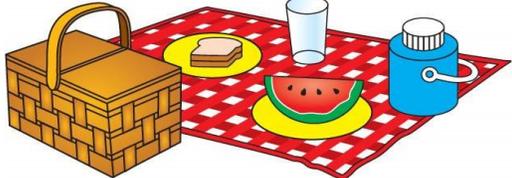
Dave Chambers	06/28
Patricia Sheldahl	06/28
Dave Renneke	06/29
Doug Nelson	06/29
Lisle Hubbard	06/30

Anniversaries:

Timothy & Theresa Warren	06/01
Frank & Cam Palicki	06/01
Craig & Lori Carstens	06/06
Tom & Judy Fox	06/08
Richard & Rebecca Resch	06/24

June 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30pm Bible Study Via Zoom (SJ)	2 6:15pm Bible Study (AS)	3 6:30pm Cub Scouts (C)	4 <i>Office Closed</i>	5
6 8:30am Worship (SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS)	7	8 6:15pm Vestry 30/31 Book Club (c)	9 6:15pm Bible Study (AS)	10 6:30pm Cub Scouts (C)	11 <i>Office Closed</i>	12
13 8:30am Worship (SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS)	14 4:00pm Stewardship/ Finance Via Zoom (SJ) 6:30pm Jr. Board ©	15 6:30pm Bible Study Via Zoom (SJ)	16 9:00am FOOF (C) 6:15pm Bible Study (AS) 7:00 pm Council Via Zoom	17 6:30pm Cub Scouts (C)	18 <i>Office Closed</i>	19
20 8:30am Worship (SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS) HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!	21 	22 6:30pm Bible Study Via Zoom (SJ)	23	24 6:30pm Cub Scouts (C)	25 <i>Office Closed</i>	26
27 8:30am Worship (SJ) 10:30am Worship (AS)	28	29 6:30pm Bible Study Via Zoom (SJ)	30 6:15pm Bible Study (AS)			

Did you know St. James has a Facebook page?

Check us out and give us a like!

[Facebook.com/saintjamesri/](https://www.facebook.com/saintjamesri/)



If you are not on Facebook you can find photos on our flickr page!

www.stjamesri.org/photos



St. James a Reconciling In Christ
Congregation

In our awareness that we are all broken people, we rejoice in God's abundant grace. Therefore, we welcome all who are seeking God's love and forgiveness regardless of national origin or ancestry, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, abilities, beliefs, political views, financial resources or family status.

There will always be a place for you at St. James.

Adopted on June 11, 2017

For more information check out Reconciling Works at www.reconcilingworks.org



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