



## ***St. James Lutheran Church***

*"In the City for Good"*

### **January 2024 at St. James**

#### **Sunday, January 7: Baptism of Our Lord**

*Come meet the Zadas, our Afghan Refugee Family*

9:30am Eucharist

10:45am Coffee Hour

11:00am Open Space: Pastor David's Sabbatical Trip

#### **Sunday, January 14: 2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

*Water to Wine Sunday*

9:30am Eucharist

11am Open Space: Archery Summit Wine Tasting

#### **Sunday, January 21: 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

*St. James Annual Congregational Meeting and Meal*

*Thank you to administrative assistant Elsa Dougherty who steps down from her job in February.*

9:30am Eucharist

10:45am Annual Meeting

4:50pm Jazz Vespers featuring Adriana Wagner, trombone

6pm Artist Reception for Rose Clementi

#### **Sunday, January 28: 4th Sunday after Epiphany**

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer Sunday*

Guest preacher Mark Brocker

9:30am Eucharist

10:45am Coffee Hour

11am Open Space: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Faith Under Fire

### **January 2024 Newsletter**

#### **Worship & Learning**

**In-person:** Eucharist

Sundays at 9:30am

Sunday School at 11:00am

**Online:** Video available

Sunday mornings

[www.bit.ly/2MzdcxX](http://www.bit.ly/2MzdcxX)

#### **St. James January Jazz Vespers**

January 21, 2024

Adriana Wagner, trombone

#### **Highlights In this Issue:**

January 14, 2024

St. James Wine Tasting

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#### **Coffee and Connection**

Kick off the new year with the Coffee and Connection group! Join us at 11am at St. James on **Thursdays, January 4 and 18**. It's just for fun. Hope to see you there.



*"When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone...  
the work of Christmas begins."*

Howard Thurman etched those purposeful words on our hearts forty years ago. The theologian and Dean of Chapel at Howard and Boston universities was a mentor of Martin Luther King. He knew that for many, Christmas is a single day, or perhaps a 12 day season. But what then?

We may be asking the same question at St. James as Christmas turns to Epiphany and the festive tree is removed until next year. What now? Will "Joy To the World" have any lasting impact or be just a fading tune we hum?

Thurman, and this Christ-child, provides an answer:

"Then the work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost, to heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart."

That's the work of Christmas. That's our work in 2024. The gift that Christmas brings is that now the divine presence accompanies us in our tasks; shoulder to shoulder. The Word has become flesh and indeed lives among us full of grace and truth. It is with that nativity gift that we walk boldly into this new year. We know our purpose. We know who walks with us.

**-Pastor David**

## Refugee Gifts Delivered

On Monday, December 18 Cathie Coffman, Jane Lloyd, and Pastor David delivered Christmas gifts and groceries to the Zada family, an Afghan refugee family we've been working with for the past year. The four children, Mohammad Ali, Diant, Maryam, and Behtarin were overjoyed. The Zada family will join us for coffee hour on Sunday, January 7. Come and meet them!



## Lutheran World Relief: Did You Know?

In **GAZA**, your love is delivering \$100,000 worth of hygiene items to those without access to basic necessities. These kits include feminine hygiene products, diapers, laundry powder and garbage bags.

In **LEBANON**, you are caring for neighbors who have been displaced due to the conflict in Israel and Gaza. Emergency food is being delivered to at least 1,000 children, women and men. We are exploring the options for a shipment of LWR Quilts, Personal Care Kits and Baby Care Kits.

In **LIBYA**, your love is sheltering families from the cold. Tents, tarps and winter clothes are reaching 2,000 neighbors that lost their homes in the devastating floods in September.

In **MOROCCO**, your kindness is delivering mattresses, blankets and insulated tents for more than 2,000 survivors of the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that devastated families and homes in September.

Our January 14 wine tasting event will benefit Lutheran World Relief.



## January 14 St. James Wine Tasting

The winemaker needs more time than Jesus did to make water into wine. The process takes place annually in the vineyards of the Willamette Valley when water makes its way into grapes which eventually become wine. It only takes a little longer. You can learn more about the mysterious and elegant characteristics of well-crafted wine on **Sunday, January 14**, in the Pioneer Chapel when

Archery Summit Winery will be sponsoring a wine tasting event following 9:30am worship. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.

If you would like to attend the wine tasting, **please sign up** on the bulletin board in the hall near Pioneer Chapel. There is a **\$10 suggested donation**. Proceeds will be donated to Lutheran World Relief.

## Annual Meeting

The St. James Annual Congregational Meeting will take place after service on **Sunday, January 21**. All members are asked to attend as we hear reports of last year's ministry and set plans for 2024. Your voice and vote will be needed to make decisions. An Annual Report will be available Thursday, January 18 on our website (**stjamespdx.org**) for you to print at home and prepare for the discussion. There will be a luncheon following the meeting.

### Contact us at:

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1315 SW Park Ave  
Portland, OR 97201  
Office Hours: 7:30am-3pm

503-227-2439

office@stjamespdx.org

Newsletter Production: Elsa Dougherty  
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen McDonald





## St. James Child Development Center

Happy New Year from St. James CDC!

The holiday season at St. James was a joyous one. Children explored winter holidays and cultural practices from all around the world. Our kindergarten classroom kept up their annual tradition of providing gifts for two five-year-old children in the community who may be experiencing hardship. The group is tasked with completing service tasks to earn funds that were used to buy the gifts. Children took the bus all the way to Bridgeport Village to do their shopping and to also visit with Santa Claus. We're looking forward to a 2024 filled with love and learning.

**-Patrick Earnest, CDC Director**

## Pastor David's Sabbatical Presentation

On **Sunday, January 7**, Pastor David will provide an 11am Open Space class on the learnings of his Autumn Sabbatical trip. You generously granted him the time away after his completion of five years at St. James.

- **Did you know...**On his 3rd Missionary Journey, St. Paul sailed to the island of Kos where Hippocrates (the Father of Medicine) held his "medical school" under a tree?
- **Have you been...**to the Spanish exclave of Ceuta in North Africa where bronze dragons protect the hotel?
- **Did you know...**that the oldest university in Europe is located in Bologna, Italy?
- **Have you Worshipped...**at Sacre Coeur Basilica on All Saints Day as Paris' evening lights began to glow?



Join Pastor David as he shares these events through the words and images of his fifty days of travel...and be willing to share a story of your sacred places.



## Pastor Brocker Will Lead Worship and Open Space

Pastor Mark Brocker will lead us in worship on Sunday, January 28. He will also present at Open Space on January 28 and February 4 with a series titled, **Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Faith Under Fire**. Regarding the series, Pastor Brocker writes,

"Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor and scholar, was executed by the Nazis on April 9, 1945, for his role in a plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler. Bonhoeffer's life and writings teach us a great deal about what it means to be a faithful witness under fire. What we learn from Bonhoeffer is that there is no formula for being a faithful witness, especially in the most difficult circumstances. In the end, for Bonhoeffer, God's faithfulness is the firm ground on which we stand through the most severe tests of our faith."

## Offering Envelopes

If you requested offering envelopes for 2024 they are available for pick up in Pioneer Chapel.

## December Council Meeting Highlights

**Treasurer's Report:** The month of November showed a deficit with cash receipts on track but expenditures unusually high, some due to heating. **Pastor's Report:** New members will be received in early March. From Ash Wednesday through Pentecost there will be a Wednesday noon Eucharist service followed by a study session. Habitat Project funds, which we have held for several years will be split evenly between an ongoing Habitat (or similar) project and Camp Lutherwood. Some congregation members have requested new vent covers for the air vents between the choir loft and the piano. **President's Report:** The congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 21, 2024 and will include elections. There are three openings on Council and two openings on the Endowment Committee. Carl will have a proposed budget for the annual meeting. Note that the CDC will increase its contribution. With increasing attendance, preparing for coffee hour may become more difficult. Pastor suggests that at a minimum, coffee should be paid as a regular budget item, rather than depending on WELCA contribution. Some building concerns: New Advent lighting is up and working. Some asbestos was uncovered in the basement and will have to be dealt with by licensed specialists. The Fire Marshall wants us to clean the heads of 68 sprinklers.

## Year End Offerings

Thank you for your faithful giving. This year you donated **\$282,249.63** as of mid-December. Your gifts help sustain our ministry at St. James. Thank you.



## Helping the Unsheltered with Food Boxes and Winter Coats

Due to your generous financial gifts to the "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" we purchased two dozen warm coats for our houseless neighbors. We distributed these coats on the South Park blocks and to our houseless neighbors who attended the spaghetti dinner in the Pioneer Chapel on Friday, December 16. We also continue to provide food boxes 5 days a week at 11:30am to those in need who gather in the park, just steps from our St. James doors. This month we will gather to prepare food boxes on **Tuesdays, January 2 and 16 at 10am in Pioneer Chapel.**

## Wednesday Noon Eucharist Returns

We gather for Noon Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes on **Ash Wednesday, February 14** as the Season of Lent begins. Then join us every Wednesday following for Noon Eucharist in Pioneer Chapel and a Bible Exploration Class led by Pastor David. These events will continue until the Festival of Pentecost in May.

## Welcome to our Three New Choral Scholars

We are blessed to have three new choral scholars in our St. James choir! Della Simone studies Jazz Voice and Music Education at PSU, Zachary Martin studies Vocal Performance at Lewis & Clark, and Henry Alexander studies Music Composition at PSU. Welcome!

## New Members to be Welcomed

We will welcome new members to our church family in early March. Please see Pastor David if you too would like to be part of St. James.

# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <u>New Year's Day</u> Office Closed 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>2</b> 8am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>3</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>4</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11am Coffee & Connection 11:30am Feeding the Houseless 7pm Theater Group (downstairs) 7:15pm Choir	<b>5</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <u>Baptism of Our Lord</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:45am Refugee Reception 11:00am Open Space: Pastor David's Sabbatical Trip	<b>8</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>9</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>10</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>11</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Houseless 7:15pm Choir	<b>12</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <u>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</u> 9:30am Eucharist 11am Open Space: Archery Summit Wine Tasting (\$10 donation to LWR)	<b>15</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>16</b> 8am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Houseless 7pm Council Meeting	<b>17</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>18</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11am Coffee & Connection 11:30am Feeding the Houseless 7:15pm Choir	<b>19</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>20</b> 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
<b>21</b> <u>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:45am Annual Meeting (Thank you, Elsa!) 4:50pm Jazz Vespers 6pm Artist Reception	<b>22</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>23</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>24</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>25</b> 8am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Houseless 7:15pm Choir	<b>26</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <u>4th Sunday after Epiphany</u> <i>Bonhoeffer Sunday</i> 9:30am Eucharist 10:45am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Faith Under Fire	<b>29</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>30</b> 8am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Houseless	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

## St. James Ministries and Group



### January 21 Jazz Vespers featuring Adriana Wagner, trombone

Our guest artist for January is Adriana Wagner, trombone. Adriana is a trombonist and composer who draws inspiration from a wide array of influences, combining traditional and modern jazz sounds. Her original compositions weave styles together under a decided jazz banner, submerging the listener in visionary storytelling. As a performer, Wagner uses lyrical elements to create melodies combined with a soft, rich tone that can resonate above or become immersed within the composition's harmonic structures.

Join us on **Sunday, January 21** or a night of great music. Adriana will be joined by our St. James house band. **Pre-Vespers music begins at 4:50pm. Freewill offering. Artist reception to follow.**

### St. James Visual Arts Group

St. James member, Rose Clementi will be exhibiting her abstract inks starting on December 30 through January 27. A reception will be held for her after the Jazz Vespers Service at **6pm on January 21** in the Pioneer Chapel.

### The 2024 Exhibition Season

**January:** Rose Clementi

**February:** Monica Setziol

**March:** Joel Nickel

**April:** Eileen Holzman

**May:** Warren Knapp

**June:** Chris Perf

**July:** Sue Schrenk

**August:** Hilde Morin

**September:** Larry Gross

**October:** Albert Alter

**November:** Friedrich Steenbock

**December:** Group Show

### Contemplative Prayer

You are invited to consider a contemplative practice with the St. James Contemplative Prayer group who gather via Zoom to pray, learn and share through silence and breath prayer. We will meet **via Zoom at 9:30am on January 20**. Contact Susan McBerry if you would like the link.



### Hiring New Administrative Assistant

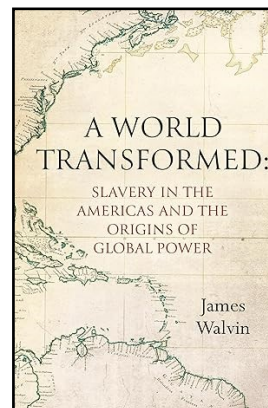
We are so pleased that Elsa Dougherty at our St. James front desk was able to work with us for two years. At the end of January she will move over to our St. James Child Development Center. Please join us for a thank you reception on **Sunday, January 21**, the day of the Annual Meeting. ‘





## Caring For Creation: Reflections on James Walvin's book *A World Transformed: Slavery in the Americas and the Origins of Global Power*

I finished this recently published book in my attempt to become “woke.” It explains the global impact of the enslavement of Africans in the West over more than four centuries. The Papacy authorized Portugal’s enslavement of Africans in 1452. By 1560, 30,000 Africans had been shipped to Hispaniola where Columbus had first set foot. At the end of the slave trade in the Americas in 1867, 12 ½ million Africans had been embarked to the Americas with goods from all over Europe having been used to trade for Africans.



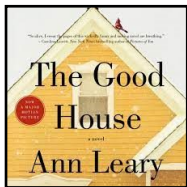
With the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade in 1808 in the U.S, enslaved families in the U. S. were brutally broken and marched, often in chains, from the Old South to the expanding cotton plantations in the west: a total of ½ million persons by 1860. Cotton production accounted for much of the wealth of the United States and Europe in the 19th century. Cotton was transported on ships owned by New Englanders to textile mills in New England and Europe. The cotton brokers and financiers resided in New York City. Lancashire’s cotton mills, the primary driver of Britain’s industrial revolution, received the vast bulk of its cotton from the U.S. Raw cotton arrived in Liverpool and resulting textiles departed through Liverpool which had earlier risen to prominence as a center of the slave trade. Sugar production in the Americas led to the rise of tea and coffee consumption and subsequent importation from China of porcelain ware for serving sugar in Europe and the Americas. Mahogany was harvested on the backs of the enslaved in the Caribbean and Central America and shipped to Europe and the U.S. for the manufacture of fine furniture.

The next time I am in a museum and see an exquisite Chippendale mahogany table set with fine China from the 19th century, I will consider that these pieces represent the great wealth of the world that came about due to the enslavement of Africans.

**-submitted by David Rutlen**

## January Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate Sale

WELCA will be in the Pioneer Chapel following service on **Sunday, January 7**. See you there!



## St. James Book Club

Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 23 at 7:10pm at St. James to discuss Ann Leary's *The Good House: a Novel*.



## E-GIVING IS LIVE AT ST. JAMES!

Open the camera on your smartphone and direct it to the image to the left. It will take you to the e-giving page: [stjamespdx.org/e-giving](http://stjamespdx.org/e-giving). You can also access the page from any internet enabled device (desktop/laptop computer, tablet, phone, etc.). **You can also give using the Vanco Mobile app.** If you have issues accessing your account in the new app contact Karin at [karinh@stjamespdx.org](mailto:karinh@stjamespdx.org).





## In Our Prayers

We ask God's healing for Sandra Arbaugh, Joel Davis, Rose Clementi, Bruce Richards, Gavin Morisada, Paul Matson, Peter Kim, Amy Manning, Barbara Roady, Gail Koester, Lynn Strand, and Granny Lee.

## January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Paula & George Veseth	1/2	Gerry Grover	1/18
Ashley Allan	1/2	Andrew Johnson	1/20
Esther Portnoy	1/4	Jared Bolt	1/21
Steve Gross	1/5	Emily & John Chase	1/22
Scott Ellertson	1/6	David Rutlen	1/26
Charlie Tohlen	1/9	Megan Scott-Susuico	1/26
Paula Veseth	1/13	Sandra Arbaugh	1/29
Scott Swope	1/15		

## Sunday Refreshment Hosts and Altar Flower Sponsors

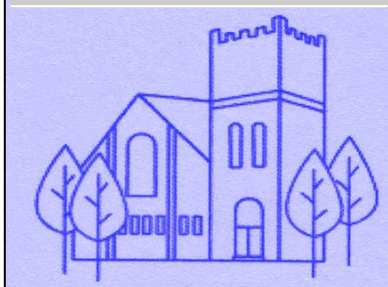
**COFFEE HOUR:** Will you sponsor a Sunday coffee hour? Coffee hours help to build community and connections in our congregation. We always appreciate contributions. It's an easy and a fun way to get to know members. **FLOWERS:** If you would like to contribute flowers to Sunday Worship, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the hallway. Another option for those short on time would be to provide flowers or cash to Judith Smith, who is happy to arrange a bouquet on your behalf!

### COFFEE

### FLOWERS

January 7	Cathie Coffman and Jane Lloyd	Don & Doris Nielsen
January 14	Barry Rogge	Pastor David
January 21	Charlotte Cook	OPEN
January 28	Open	OPEN

*St. James shares God's inclusive and  
eternal love with everyone*



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### **STAFF**

#### **Full Time:**

David Knapp, Pastor

Patrick Earnest, Director, Child Dev. Center

#### **Part Time:**

Karin Hatch, Parish Administrator

Sharon Kurtz, Bookkeeper

Elsa Dougherty, Administrative Assistant

Colin Stave, Director of Music Ministry

Mike Horsfall, Director of Jazz Ministry

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Carl Cottingham, President

Kathleen McDonald, Vice President

Esther Portnoy, Secretary

David Scott, Treasurer

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