



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

***"In the City for Good"***



## **Holy Week at St. James**



**Sunday, April 13: Palm/Passion Sunday**

9:30am Processional Eucharist

**Wednesday, April 16**

Noon Eucharist

12:40pm: "Unlikely Moses and the 9 Commandments" Bible Study

**Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday**

Noon Eucharist

The Day of Jesus' Last Supper

**Friday, April 18: Good Friday**

7pm Worship

The Day of Jesus' Death

**Saturday, April 19: Easter Vigil**

7pm Worship

Prayers as Jesus Lies Entombed

**Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday**

9:30am Easter Festival Worship

The Resurrection of Our Lord

4:50pm Easter Jazz Vespers



**April 2025**

**Newsletter**

### **Worship & Learning**

**In-person:**

Sunday Eucharist at  
9:30am

Sunday School at  
11:00am

**Midweek Eucharist,**  
Wednesdays at noon in  
the Pioneer Chapel

**Online:** Live video  
available Sunday  
mornings

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

### **St. James April Jazz Vespers**

April 20, 2025 at  
4:50pm

Pete Petersen,  
tenor sax

## From the Pastor's Desk...

### "But Mary stood outside the tomb and saw..."

- John's Easter story

This month we celebrate what Mary saw on Easter morning, or better yet, did not see. The empty tomb meant Jesus was resurrected.



At St. James we too stop occasionally to see. In 2013 a group of nine looked to our future St. James ministry and prepared a roadmap titled "Vision 20/20." Amid changing circumstances like a pandemic and a \$3.2 million building upgrade, portions of that vision have been implemented. Today we stand strong with a congregational membership of over 225 members, annual giving and income of \$500,000, and an Endowment of \$2 million. So what's next? What's ahead as we celebrate our 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ministry this July?

Your St. James Council and I are forming two short-term taskforces to look two directions at once. We will:

- **LOOK BACK WITH GRATITUDE.** On Sunday, July 27 we will gather for Anniversary Worship with invited guests, a festive meal, a new anniversary banner and giving the green light to St. James member and historian Friedrich Schuler to write a 1990 – 2025 history to supplement our purple "Book of the Century: St. James The First 100 Years."
- **LOOK FORWARD WITH EASTER JOY.** We will view our current-day ministry and review our Mission Statement to offer changes and new visions. President Sue Hammond and I will form a standing visitation team to assist in caring for members and neighbors through visits, listening and providing care and resources. A Ministry Fair on October 12 will feature our 22 active ministries and how you can offer your time and skill.

The Easter story of hope and new life will guide us. Like Mary at the early morning tomb, we may see things we did not expect. I can't wait to see them with you.

Pastor David

## "Unlikely Moses and the Nine Commandments"

Pastor David continues his mid-week Bible Study that explores Moses' life each **Wednesday** immediately after our 30 minute **Noon Eucharist Service** in Pioneer Chapel.

Who was Moses? Is there archeological evidence that he lived? How many people crossed the Red Sea? Do non-biblical writings mention him? How many commandments did God give Moses? Are those commandments relevant today? Here are the upcoming topics of discussion:

**Wed. April 2**

**"The Exodus: Crossing the Red Sea"**

**Wed. April 9**

**"Moses and Bonhoeffer"**

**Wed. April 16**

**Wednesday of Holy Week: "Moses and the Passover"**

**Wed. April 23**

**"The Nine Commandments"**

**Wed. April 30**

**"The Nine Guardrails"**

Contact us at:

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Newsletter Editor: Kathleen McDonald

## March Council Highlights

**Treasurer's Report:** The year-to-date balance is at \$4,024.07.

**Pastor's Report:** 12 new members were received on March 16. The Endowment Board passed eight requests for funding in the total amount of \$30,000. The council confirmed the distributions. St. James congregation will celebrate its 135th anniversary this year on July 27. Two task forces will be formed. The first will lead the planning of a reception, building improvements, and liturgical and historical components. The second will reevaluate St. James' vision statement, what we project ahead, and to address changes in the church. For instance, Pastor Knapp is in need of a group of people who can make visitations to homes.

**Committee's Report:** Charlotte Cook would like to start Box Car health kit donation collection on April 6 and end on April 30. The kits will be packed at the beginning of May.

**New Business:** Larry Larsen submitted a property report on various ongoing projects around the church, including Park Ave. curb repair.

**Other Business:** Pastor Knapp and Carol Bergen have created a "Know Your Rights" draft for a St. James Lutheran Church Policy for being a Sanctuary Church. Patrick Earnest says the CDC will follow Portland Public School's policies if ICE officers enter the building.

## Youth Confirmation

What if you read the whole Bible in one day? That's what our five confirmation students will be exploring after worship on Palm/Passion Sunday (April 13). This overview of scripture will be accompanied by God's baptismal covenant defined in Luther's Small Catechism. Please continue to pray for each student on this faith journey.



## Helping the Unsheltered with Food Boxes

Join us on **Tuesdays, April 1, 15 and 29 at 10am in Pioneer Chapel** to pack food boxes for our neighbors.

## Beautify Our Church Building

Lent is a time to prepare our hearts for Easter joy. But let's also prepare our St. James building. We will gather at **9am on Saturday, April 12** to prepare our worship space for Holy Week. Bring your dust rag. A light lunch is being prepared by Charlotte Cook.



## Holy Baptism at St. James

We welcomed through adult baptism **Dyana Michelle Carcamo** on Sunday, March 23. Dyana is a Fulbright Scholar from Honduras who is studying at Portland State University. **Nora St. Mary** will be baptized on Sunday, May 4. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Patrick St. Mary. On Mother's Day, we will bring to the baptismal font little **Cary Bennett Pierce**, the infant son of Meaghan Wheeler and Ryan Pierce. On June 1, we will baptize **Maya Torrey**

**Hatch**, the daughter of Karin Hatch and Erika Torrey. Welcome to the waters!

## Fair Trade Coffee & Chocolate Sale

Welcome to Spring! The Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate sale for April will be moved back a week to April 13 (Palm Sunday). It is Spring Break and we are taking the Tohlen Spokane granddaughters (10 and almost 8) to Disneyland! We will look forward to seeing you in the Pioneer Chapel following the Palm/Passion Sunday service on Sunday, April 13. In the meantime, we're happy to say 'hi' to all the Disney characters for you.

- **Ann Tohlen WELCA Coffee/Chocolate Lady**



## ST. JAMES WELCOMED TWELVE NEW MEMBERS ON MARCH 16, 2025



**Janet Bailey** was baptized as an infant at St. James and returns to membership today with her daughter Karen. After college, she and her husband moved away from Oregon, and she moved back in 2009 at the time of his death. She was active in starting the Child Care Center at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Beaverton.

**Karen Bailey** joins with her mother Janet. She serves as the Director of Operation at BRAVO Youth Orchestra. The non-profit provides after-school music education in North Portland. When not working, you will find Karen in her backyard garden or watching British mysteries.



**Dyana Carcamo Buendia** is a Fulbright Scholar from Honduras who is studying at Portland State University. Her area of interest is special education and hopes to start a program in her home country in a few years. She is a member of our St. James Visual Arts Group and was baptized on March 23.

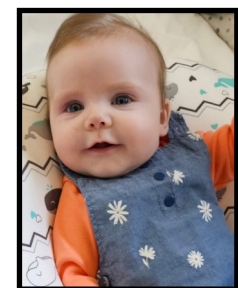
You will recognize **Stephen Guntli** and **Chrisse Roccaro** from our choir where they have shared their musical gifts for many years. Stephen was born in St. Louis, MO while Chrisse grew up in Coquille, OR. They married in Pennsylvania and lived in NYC for some time, attending Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Stephen is retired and Chrisse works as a professional in performing arts.



**Cary Bennett Pierce** is the newest addition to the Wheeler/Pierce family. Born on February 16, little Cary joins sister Agnes and brother Henry. He will be baptized at St. James this spring.



**Maya Lucille Torrey Hatch** is the infant daughter of St. James staff member Karin Hatch and Erika Torrey. Maya was born on December 5, 2024 and joins big sister Hazel who is enrolled in our St. James Child Development Center. Maya will be baptized at St. James this spring.



The **Howe Family (Dave, Sara, Emily, and Quinn)** lives in Vancouver, WA. Dave works with fish and wildlife management while Sara teaches at Hazel Dell Elementary School. Daughter Emily is exploring colleges and son Quinn is in middle school. Most recently they were active at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Vancouver. Dave is in our St. James choir.

**Erik Thorin** and his husband live in Tigard and are dear friends and helpers of Bob and Gerry Grover of St. James. Erik has been active in the Lutheran and Scandinavian communities for many years and you will often see him at our Jazz Vespers service. From time to time you may find him as your Lyft driver!



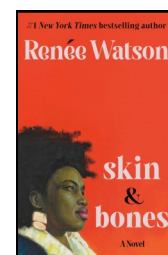
## News from the Childcare Development Center

Spring Greetings from St. James CDC! Our 96 students have been working through new curriculum that was purchased through a generous grant from Multnomah County Preschool for All. Our amazing location allows for learning experiences to take place just beyond our doors. This past month one class was able to attend a theatre production at Oregon Children's Theater. Another group traveled by Portland Streetcar to OMSI where they viewed a show about the solar system in the Planetarium. We're looking forward to the Portland Farmer's Market resuming in a few short weeks. - **Patrick Earnest, Childcare Director**



## St. James Book Club

This month, Book Club will be reading a familiar title, **Skin & Bones: a Novel** by **Renee Watson**. This book was discussed in Open Space awhile back. The New York Post ranked it the Best Book of May 2024 and the title was a Finalist for the 2024 Westport Prize for Literature. Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, April 22 at 7:10pm** at the church to discuss it. Contact Linda Rickert for any questions.



## Reaching Out In Love

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our worldwide ministry know at Lutheran World Relief (LWR). We will celebrate in two ways: **First**, by preparing Personal Care/Health kits that will aid those in need in 16 countries. Our St. James Social Ministry Committee will purchase new hygiene items, organize them into kits, box them, and deliver them to a semi-truck. They travel by train to a LWR warehouse in Maryland, and then to where there is need. We call this our “Boxcar” project and you can make this happen by your special gift of money. **Secondly**, in a few months we will gather funds for a financial gift for LWR’s ongoing work. Our Endowment Committee has encouraged us with their gift of \$4,000 to begin our fundraiser.

## Upcoming Opportunities to Walk with St. James

The time has come to sign up for the walking teams for the **CROP Hunger Walk** later this month and **Lutheran Ligaments Portland to Coast** in late August.



- **CROP Hunger Walk**—The date is **Sunday, April 27**, starting at **2pm** at **First Christian Church**. Go to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org> or look up “Portland CROP Walk”. If you would like to join our team, click “Join or Register a Team” and search “**Soles of St. James**” under the “Find an existing team to join” bar.
- **Lutheran Ligaments Portland to Coast**—The annual race is **August 22-23** from **Portland to Seaside**. Signups are available from now until May. Contact Larry Larsen to join.



## E-GIVING 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](https://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 contact Karin at [karinh@stjamespdx.org](mailto:karinh@stjamespdx.org).

# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>2</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm <b>Noon Eucharist</b> 12:40pm Bible Study	<b>3</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>5</b> 10am Rooted in Christ-Lenten Reflection Meditation and Labyrinth Walk
<b>6</b> <u><b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b></u> <b>9:30am Eucharist</b> 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space	<b>7</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>8</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>9</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm <b>Noon Eucharist</b> 12:40pm Bible Study	<b>10</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>12</b> 9am Church Cleanup
<b>13</b> <u><b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b></u> <b>9:30am Eucharist</b> 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space 11:30am Confirmation Class	<b>14</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>15</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:10pm Council	<b>16</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm <b>Noon Eucharist</b> 12:40pm Bible Study	<b>17</b> <u><b>Maundy Thursday</b></u> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm Noon Eucharist 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> <u><b>Good Friday</b></u> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7pm Good Friday Worship Service (streamed)	<b>19</b> <u><b>Easter Vigil</b></u> 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom) 7pm Easter Vigil Worship Service
<b>20</b> <u><b>Easter Sunday</b></u> <b>9:30am Eucharist</b> 10:30am Coffee Hour 4:50pm Easter Jazz Vespers	<b>21</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>22</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:10pm Book Club	<b>23</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm <b>Noon Eucharist</b> 12:40pm Bible Study	<b>24</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 1pm Artist Group 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <u><b>Second Sunday of Easter</b></u> <b>9:30am Eucharist</b> 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space 2pm CROP Walk	<b>28</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>29</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	<b>30</b> 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 12pm <b>Noon Eucharist</b> 12:40pm Bible Study			



## St. James Ministries and Groups

### Easter Jazz Vespers at St. James: Sunday, April 20 at 4:50pm with Pete Petersen, tenor sax

This upcoming Easter Sunday, we host a special Jazz Vespers featuring Pete Petersen. **Pete Petersen** is a saxophonist and multi-instrumentalist from the Pacific Northwest. His exciting musical fluency and his ability to seem completely at home in a variety of different musical styles have made him one of the area's most in-demand players. He is also a very gifted and diligent orchestrator. His work has been featured on film soundtracks, national touring bands, and recordings. He has arranged and orchestrated horn sections for several working musical artists around the area including Patrick Lamb, Ellen Whyte, Solomon Douglas, Ken DeRouchie, and Chris Baum. Come hear him and the Mike Horsfall Trio on **Easter Sunday, April 20**. Pre-Vespers music starts at **4:50pm**.



### St. James Visual Arts Group: Hilde Morin

There is no artist reception this month, but Hilde Morin's work will remain on display throughout April. Our next featured artist will be the Mirabella Artists, featured from May through June.



### Endowment Committee Approves Eight Requests

Eight requests from the Endowment Fund have recently been approved by the Endowment Committee and Council. Under the field of Lutheran Church and Other Ecumenical Work, requests were approved for **Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Luther Seminary, Camp Lutherwood, and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon** for refugee resettlement work and feeding programs. For local feeding programs, requests were approved for **Milk Crate Kitchen** and the **Portland CROP Hunger Walk**. For global service work, requests were approved for **Global Refuge** and **Malawi Children's Village Sewing Projects**.

### Bach Cantata & Parkside Piano Series Dates

Mark your calendars! Watch for these upcoming musical events at St. James:

**Choral Cantata Vespers on Sundays May 25 and November 2 at 5pm**

**Parkside Piano Series - Fourth Sundays at 4pm: June 22, July 27, & August 24**



### Open Space Classes

Join us for our upcoming April Adult Classes on Sundays at **11am!**

**April 6**                      **Sustainability & Basic Needs**—Director of PCC's Basic Needs Programs, Chelsea Kimmett, will present how she infuses sustainability into basic needs like food.

**April 13**                    **CROP Hunger Walk Information**—Esther Portnoy presenting

**April 20**                    **Easter Sunday**—No Open Space

**April 27**                    **Earth Day Video & Discussion**—The Eco-Social Justice Committee will host a film and discussion on the global water crisis.



## H-1B Visas & The Need for Immigrant Talent in STEM

*From "Facilitating Immigration Will Fuel Innovation," from the editors of Scientific American, March, 2025.*

Beyond the current heated debate over immigration based on asylum and America's need for help in the agricultural and housing sectors, in December of 2024 controversy arose over support for more H-1B visas, a temporary work visa that has led to jobs in the U.S. high-tech industry for skilled foreign-born scientists and engineers. Should America increase granting these visas, or would it deprive Americans from jobs in science and the high-tech industry? After all, last year "25 companies including Microsoft, Infosys and Meta, and Tesla applied for more than double the H-1Bs than the year before." Why?



The answer is the lack of domestic talent. "U.S. math scores have dropped, and the basic level of educational infrastructure is not there: Only 50% of U.S. high schools offer calculus, and 60% provide physics classes, both skills critical for designing quantum computers and achieving innovations in artificial intelligence; currently only 3 percent or so of America's high school graduates join the ranks of STEM [science, technology, engineering, & math] workers."

In addition to industry jobs, basic and applied research takes place at our nation's universities that is highly reliant on overseas talent. "Foreign-born employees make up 43% of U.S. STEM workers who hold doctoral degrees, and 60% in the computer science industry...40% of American Nobel prize winners in chemistry, medicine and physics in the past two decades have been immigrants."

"A 2024 National Academy of Sciences report notes that between 2019 and 2023, the U.S. fell from first to eighth worldwide in scores for attractiveness to highly educated workers." Considering these facts, we should ask ourselves if the current anti-immigrant atmosphere and promised mass deportation of undocumented immigrants will prevent foreign students and engineers from coming to the U.S, "an outcome that would benefit no one."

- Submitted by Doris Nielsen, the Eco-Justice Committee

### Contemplative Prayer

Please join us for an **in-person time on April 5** to reflect on the sacrifice of Christ for us as we consider being rooted in God and strengthened by the taproot of faith.

Contemplative Prayer will continue on **April 19**, the day before Easter at **9:30am** on Zoom. For information or to receive the meeting link, contact Susan McBerry at [sumacberry@gmail.com](mailto:sumacberry@gmail.com).

*St. James Lutheran Church Lenten Reflection Time*

*Saturday, April 5, 2025*

*10:00 - 11:30 AM*

*Being Rooted in the Soil of Faith*



10 - 11 AM: Outdoor Labyrinth walking, silence and journaling available.  
11AM: Meditation about Rootedness during these times, led by Susan McBerry and Pastor David Knapp.

Reservations requested by March 31. Contact Susan McBerry at [sumacberry@gmail.com](mailto:sumacberry@gmail.com)





## In Our Prayers

We ask God's healing for Jim Eickmann, Gavin Morisada, Peter Kim, Amy Manning, Gail Koester, Donna Metz, Rita Toepfer, Keith Amundson, Chris Hammond, Claire Davis, Gerry Grover (hospice care), Victoria, and Gary Rodgers.

## Wedding Bells

Best wishes to **Irina** and **Nima** who will be united in marriage here in early May, and to **Sarah Nelson** and **Thomas Morisada** who have set a wedding date for next January.



## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

4/3	Paula Carlson	4/15	Simon Jacuinde
4/6	Tim & Sharon McCarthy	4/21	Rocky Johnson
4/6	Charlotte Cook	4/23	Sarah Cutler
4/7	Candace Johnson	4/25	Cassandra Hackett
4/10	Mike Nelson	4/27	Carol Rogge
4/10	Agnes Pierce	4/27	Colin Stave
4/11	Blake Allan	4/30	Cameron Herbert
4/11	Mira Allan	4/30	Mary Ellen Isensee
4/12	Gary Rodgers		

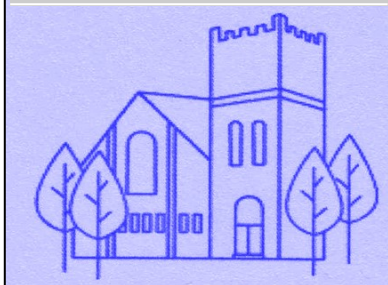
## Sunday Refreshment Hosts and Altar Flower Sponsors

**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
April 6:	OPEN	No Flowers—Lent
April 13:	Charlotte Cook/Altar Guild	Palms—Palm Sunday
April 20:	Council	Roberta Bell/Sue Hammond
April 27:	OPEN	Chrisse Roccaro

*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  
Colin Stave, Director of Music Ministry  
Mike Horsfall, Director of Jazz Ministry  
Sarah Cutler, Administrative Assistant

### **ST. JAMES COUNCIL**

Sue Hammond, President  
Charlotte Cook, Vice President  
Leigh Nelson, Secretary  
Esther Portnoy, Treasurer  
Charlie Tohlen  
Susan Gallagher  
Eric Deitrick  
Gretchen Rodgers  
Carol Bergen  
Bill Herbert

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