



St. James Lutheran Church ***"In the City for Good"***



From the Pastor's Desk...

"Select Your Own Music" *-1954 Juke box*



St. James celebrates 135 years of ministry this month, and we have always had a knack for trying new things.

In 1954 a Juke box (pictured) was installed in the narthex entry area at a cost of \$1,100 (that's over \$13,000 in today's dollars). With the church doors open, the "Select Your Own Music" label encouraged any passerby to pick from 100 songs to play free of charge. The recordings ranged from Bach chorales to old gospel hymns and people with "overwhelming problems found an atmosphere of balm," according to our history. It was deemed a good investment.

This month, we give God thanks for those before us who stepped out in faith to share God's love in a new way. We also project our path forward as our St. James Vision Task Force helps us to define what it means to be "In the City for Good" today. Join us on Sunday, July 20 as our Oregon Synod Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar steps into our pulpit to thank us. Then our July 27 Anniversary Sunday and Meal will feature invited guests, a commissioning of our new Visitation Team, special music, and a generous gift to Lutheran World Relief. We have just begun to attune our ears to new ministries ahead. Maybe you can hear it calling us from the old Juke box.

Pastor David

We celebrate 135 years of ministry!

Sunday, **July 13** - New Member Welcome and Reception

Sunday, **July 20** - Oregon Synod Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar will preach

Sunday, **July 27** - Anniversary Day Worship and Meal
Guests: Pastors Andersen and Neubert

July 2025 Newsletter

Worship & Learning

In-person:

Sunday Eucharist at
9:30am

Open Space will
resume in September

Online: Live video
available Sunday
mornings

www.bit.ly/2MzdcxX

St. James July Jazz Vespers

July 20, 2025 at
4:50pm

Dmitri Matheny,
flugelhorn

Our 135th Anniversary Gift to Lutheran World Relief

As we give thanks this month for 135 years of ministry, we will look beyond our doors and give a gift to the worldwide ministry of Lutheran World Relief. In May, we fashioned over **200 Personal Health Kits** and now we will follow up with a cash gift. Our goal was \$8,000. As of July 1, we have already exceeded our goal and given close to **\$10,000**. Thank you! Let's continue to give this month well beyond our goal until we send the funds on our July 27 Anniversary Sunday. Mark your donation to "LWR Gift".



Anniversary Task Forces

On May 28, our 135th **Anniversary Task Force** met to coordinate plans for our July 27 celebration. These plans include a festive meal, invited guests (including former St. James Pastor Dennis Andersen), a new sanctuary banner, an updated membership directory, improved lighting in the worship area, special music, and a gift to Lutheran World Relief. On June 7, our St. James **Vision Task Force** began their work in providing a roadmap for our future ministry together. Their goal is to shape a "wellness check" rather than an exhaustive strategic plan. With monthly meetings ahead, they hope to present their plan to the congregation at the annual meeting in January 2026.

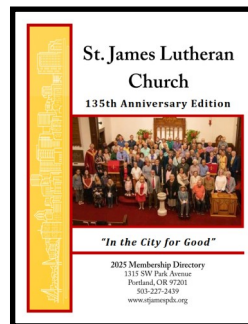


New Member Sunday

On Sunday, **July 13**, we welcome a group of new members. They will be introduced during worship and a reception will follow. Of the group, one was a Pacific Lutheran University roommate of a longtime member. Another speaks fluent Japanese and another recently moved to The Pearl. Welcome as our St. James congregational membership now exceeds 250 members.

Directory Update—LAST CALL

The 2025 Directory will come out during our 135th Anniversary Celebration, and this is the last call for any updates. If you have had a **change in address, phone number, email** in the last year, or would like to **add/change your photo**, please let the office know. The finalized version will be ready Sunday, July 27. You can pick up your copy during the festive meal.



In Memoriam

A memorial service will be held here on Saturday, July 19 at 11am for **Barbara Steege** who died at age 91. Barbara's daughter Beth and the children will be with us from Bend, Oregon as we entrust Barbara to God. A reception will follow. While living in Portland, Barbara was involved in our St. James Book Group, Card Ministry and WELCA group. She often told the story of her first visit to St. James and encountering the welcoming spirit of Carl Cottingham and knew this was the church for her.

Contact us at:
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office@stjamespdx.org
Newsletter Production: Sarah Cutler
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen McDonald

June Council Highlights

Council met on Tuesday, June 24. Look for the highlights in the July Midmonth Newsletter.

Emanuel Hospital and St. James

Our partnership continues this summer with those being trained as chaplains at Emanuel Medical Center. Each Tuesday throughout the summer, Eric, Bonnie, Shanee, Schuyler and Teri assist us in providing food to those in need in the Park Blocks. They then spend time counseling and listening to those who are houseless. We are pleased to be a clinical site for this partnership ministry.



Helping the Unsheltered with Food Boxes

Join us on **Tuesdays, July 8 and 22 at 10am** in **Pioneer Chapel** to pack food boxes for our neighbors. If you are interested and available to take out food on Fridays, please let the front desk know.

St. James Participates in Portland Pride Festival

On Sunday, **July 20** at noon, Pastor David and St. James members will join with those from St. Mark's Lutheran Church in staffing our Lutheran booth. We will provide water and Holy Communion to any who participate in the Pride Parade and Waterfront Park gathering. You are welcome to join us in showing your support of our LGBTQ+ community. See Pastor David or Karin Hatch if you would like to serve with us.



Packing Food Bags with PCC for Panther Pantry

On June 8, the Eco-Social Justice Committee hosted a food bag packing event for Portland Community College's Panther Pantry. Joined by students and staff from PCC, the group packed 200 food kits for students in need. Our thanks to the Endowment Committee for financing this event and all who helped put together the bags of food.



Fair Trade Coffee & Chocolate Sale

It's true, it's a holiday weekend, but Fair Trade Chocolate and Coffee will be available for purchase in the Pioneer Chapel on **Sunday, July 6** following the morning service. Also, watch for the monthly donation box alongside the Sunday coffee pots, and feel free to drop in a dollar or two. Thanks for your continued support of Fair Trade coffee, and our Fair Trade small farmer partners.

- Ann Tohlen WELCA Coffee/Chocolate Lady



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. 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.

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Personnel Committee 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	2 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	3 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	4 <u>Independence Day</u> No CDC/Office Closed	5 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
6 <u>Gift of Nation Sunday</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour/ Fair Trade Coffee Sale	7 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	8 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	9 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 9:30am Personnel Committee 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	10 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	11 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	12
13 <u>New Members Sunday</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am New Members Reception	14 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	15 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:10pm Council Scholarship Application Due Date	16 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11am Visitation Team 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	17 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	18 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	19 11am Barbara Steege Memorial Service
20 <u>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:30am Eucharist—Bishop Larson-Caesar 10:30am Coffee Hour 12pm Portland Pride Festival 4:50pm Jazz Vespers	21 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	22 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7:10pm Book Club	23 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	24 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	25 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	26 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
27 <u>135th Anniversary Sunday</u> 9:30am Festival Eucharist 10:30am 135th Anniversary Celebration and Meal	28 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	29 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	30 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	31 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry		

St. James Ministries and Groups

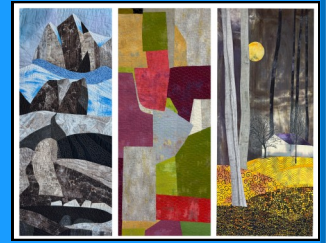
Jazz Vespers at St. James: Sunday, July 20 at 4:50pm with Dmitri Matheny, flugelhorn

Celebrated for his warm tone, soaring lyricism and masterful technique, American musician Dmitri Matheny has been lauded as “one of the most emotionally expressive improvisers of his generation” (*International Review of Music*). Matheny’s discography lists over 120 albums on which he appears as a composer, arranger, producer, annotator or flugelhorn soloist. Matheny presents clinics, lectures, master classes and workshops at leading universities and conservatories, and is gratified to have staged more than 500 free, curriculum-based concerts for kids, introducing over 50,000 school children to jazz. Today, Dmitri leads the Dmitri Matheny Group, “an all-star jazz band featuring some of the most accomplished musicians in the western United States” (*All About Jazz*). Come hear Dmitri and the Mike Horsfall Trio on **Sunday, July 20**. Pre-Vespers music starts at **4:50pm**.



St. James Visual Arts Group—MIX Fiber Artist Group

The Visual Arts Group at St. James presents in July and August an exhibit titled “**Inspired by Her**” by MIX which is a Portland -based group of fiber artists who meet regularly to share ideas, explore designs and create original work around shared themes. This exhibit features textile pieces inspired by women artists from various media and styles . Each MIX member chose a woman artist whose work sparked their creativity resulting in a personal interpretation in fiber.



St. James 2025-26 Scholarship Application Now Open

For the past 25 years, the St. James Scholarship committee has awarded financial scholarships to members pursuing higher education. The scholarship application form for the 2025-26 school year can be found at the St. James website, **stjamespdx.org**, under the **Life at St. James** tab, and **Education** section. Please fill it out and send via mail or email to the office **by July 15, 2025**. If you would like a hard copy of the application, simply inform the office.

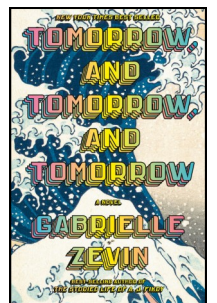


Our Endowment Ministry

At their June 7 meeting, our St. James Endowment Committee approved three requests for funding. They were later approved by the St. James Council on June 24. The financial gifts will benefit Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble (providing scholarships to BIPOC artists), The Giving Plate (a food bank ministry in Central Oregon) and flood relief for those of the Burns-Paiute Tribe in partnership with our Lutheran Church of the Living Waters in Burns, Oregon. This year we will distribute over \$60,000.

St. James Book Club

This month, Book Club will be reading **Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow** by Gabrielle Zevin. Goodreads Choice says "In this exhilarating novel, two friends-often in love, but never lovers-come together as creative partners in the world of video game design." Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, July 22 at 7:10pm** at the church to discuss it. Contact Linda Rickert for any questions.



Our Child Development Center—107 enrolled!

Warm Summer Greetings from St. James CDC! We celebrated our kindergarten cohort as they graduated this past month. The class of ten children gave speeches, performed several songs they have been working on, then accepted their diplomas. We wish all of the children the best in their future educational endeavors.

A successful Summer Family Picnic Fundraiser was held at Alderbrook Park in Brush Prairie, Washington in June. More than 200 attendees came together to support the Child Development Center with a day of fun filled outdoor activities. Field games, swimming, a train ride, pedal boats on the lake, and mini golf were just some of the activities offered. A delicious catered lunch was enjoyed by all. The event raised \$16,500 to benefit the early learning program at St. James. Staff will be updating equipment and supplies in each classroom with the funds earned.

- **Patrick Earnest, Childcare Director**



Youth Confirmation

Since January, our five confirmation students have been learning about their relationship with God through exploring the Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, and a journey through the Bible with special emphasis on the life and ministry of Jesus. This month, Pastor David will make a home visit with each. In August, September, and October, their monthly sessions will continue and conclude with Confirmation Sunday, October 26. Please continue to pray for our students Meg, Blake and Mira Allan, Eric McCargar and Emmett Deitrick.

Wine Tasting at St. James

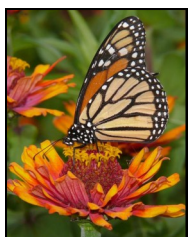
The past month, St. James hosted a Wine Tasting event with St. James members Barry and Carol Ann Rogge. They poured four different wines, enlightened our understanding of how wine is made, and even challenged our minds with a quiz! Our thanks to Archery Summit in Dundee for sponsoring this event.



In the Neighborhood

With the February closing of our neighboring church St. Stephen Episcopal Church (SW 13th and Clay), we look forward to the possible creation of "St. Stephen's Parish Overnight Shelter for Unhoused Individuals" on-site. If approval is given, St. James hopes to contribute with hands-on participation where needed.

Additionally, Pastor David is working with Pastor Derek Austin of 1st Congregational Church (one block away) to form a four week fall gathering and learning time on the theme "I am the vine, you are the branches" from John 15:5. It will be a way of bringing our two faith communities together and help us each discern what it means to be connected to Christ in our individual downtown ministries.



July Contemplative Prayer

Contemplative Prayer meets on **Saturdays, July 5 and 26 at 9:30am** on Zoom. Consider joining our group for time of intentional silence and meditation. New members are always welcome. Contact Susan McBerry at mcberry@lclark.edu for the Zoom link.



In Our Prayers

We ask God's healing for Gail Koester, Donna Metz, Keith Amundson, Gerry Grover (hospice care), Scott Ellertson (knee surgery), Gavin Morisada, Peter Kim, Amy Manning, Chris Hammond, Rita Toepfer, and Claire.

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

7/3	David Scott	7/18	Steve Decker
7/5	Patti Dietz	7/18	Judith Smith
7/6	Leigh Nelson	7/19	Becky Slapper
7/11	Meredith Amon	7/24	Brooks Nelson
7/11	Lynda Strand	7/25	Jane Pahlmeyer
7/14	Mandy Ellertson	7/26	Ron Zellar
7/16	Carol Bergen	7/31	Stacy Nelson
7/16	Ryan Pierce		

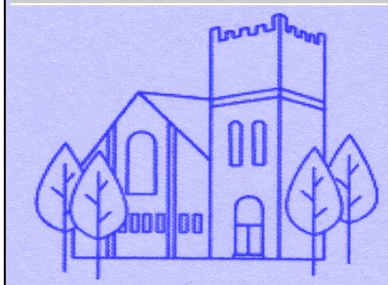
Sunday Refreshment Hosts and Altar Flower Sponsors

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
July 6:	Becky Slapper	Becky Slapper
July 13:	New Member Reception	Paula Carlson
July 20:	Mandy Ellertson	OPEN
July 27:	Jane Lloyd and David Rutlen	OPEN

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



1315 SW Park Ave
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Office Hours: 7:30am-2pm
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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
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