



St. James Lutheran Church

"In the City for Good"

From the Pastor's Desk...

"We make a living by what we get.

We make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill

When I open my Bible, I read that

- Israel was fed with manna from heaven
- Elijah was sustained by bread and meat brought by ravens
- The disciples traveled with a common purse, and Jesus fed 5,000 with a young boy's lunch.

God has a knack for blessing us in mysterious ways. Perhaps part of that mystery is viewing ourselves with new eyes. While some never get beyond the attitude of always wanting more, we find life in what we give, as Churchill reminded us. We give ourselves away in relationships. We serve those in need because it leads to life. We see our income as a gift of God to be shared. Those ideas are foreign to the world while we see them as avenues to a life of faith.

On November 9th, we will gather all the white "Estimate of Giving for 2026" cards and bless them at the altar. We hope your card will be among them as we offer this prayer:

"God of abundance, as we gift these cards back to you, we know that they are outward signs of your inward work in us. May they become seeds that bring forth newness in the upcoming year.

Bless our intentions; bless our hopes and dreams, and bless the world through these offering to you."

Pastor David

November 2025 Newsletter

Worship & Learning

In-person:

Sunday Eucharist at 9:30am, followed by coffee & Open Space

Online: Live video available Sunday mornings

www.bit.ly/2MzdcxX

St. James November Jazz Vespers

November 16, 2025
at 4:50pm

Israel Annoh,
percussion

Mike Horsfall, vibes

Kevin Dietz, bass

Book Club

There is no Book Club this month. Instead, Book Club will pick back up Tuesday, December 30, discussing Barbara Kingsolver's Demon Copperhead.



Contemplative Prayer

We gather twice monthly, meeting the first and third Saturday from 9:30-11am via Zoom. All are welcome. Please email Sue for the link invitation.

- Sue McBerry

Lutheran Ligaments Walking Team

We have been selected to participate in the 35th annual Providence Portland To Coast Walk Relay, on August 28-29, 2026! Invitations to our individual members will be sent in January.

- Larry Larsen

Christmas Gift Program

Once again we will be sponsoring a Christmas gift program, providing a family with clothing and gifts. Please remember, you do not need to wrap the gift because we will be having a wrapping party on



November 30 in Open Space.

We invite you to scan the QR Code or enter this link: bit.ly/47avgoT to view the Shopping List. All items must be purchased no later than Saturday, November 29.

- Cathie Coffman



Fair Trade Coffee/Chocolate Sunday



Have you finished off all that Halloween candy already? Time to restock for Thanksgiving!

Find true Fair Trade chocolate and coffee for sale in Pioneer Chapel on Sunday, November 2, following service. This is your chance to get a running start on the holiday season, at continued lower prices. Hope to see you there! Sorry – please remember, cash or check only. It helps keep costs down.

- Ann Tohlen – Welca Coffee/Chocolate Lady

Food Box Ministry

Starting in November, food distribution will shift to **Monday–Thursday only**. Thursday deliveries will include extra food to support neighbors through the weekend. **Final Friday delivery: October 31.** Thank you for your continued support and heart for this ministry!

- Mali Jensen



October Council Highlights

Treasurer's Report: Esther Portnoy has resigned as Council Treasurer due to Steve's illness. Sue Hammond moved to install Bill Herbert as new Treasurer. Motion passed. September income was \$40,591.60; year to date income is 73.48% of the annual budget. Year to date balance is now -\$4,923.05.

Pastor's Report: Four Confirmation students will affirm their baptism and confirm their faith on Reformation Sunday on October 26. Meg Allan, Blake Allan, Mira Allan, and Emmett Deitrick. New members will be received on November 23. We will adopt a refugee family for Christmas.

President's Report: Ministry fair had a good turnout and several committee's reported interest and signups. New lighting was installed above the walkway in the back of the nave earlier this month. A Search Committee has been appointed to determine the two permanent positions for Organist and Choir Director or one position for Music Director, and to look for potential applicants.

- Sue McBerry (chair)
- Bill Herbert
- Jules Auger
- Mary Ellen Isensee
- Chrisse Rocarro
- Megan Susuico-Scott

St. James "In The City For Good" News

All Saints Day— Sunday, November 2, Luther Seminary President at St. James

Dr. Robin Steinke will step into our St. James pulpit as we commemorate All Saints Sunday. Dr. Steinke has served as the leader of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN since 2014. St. James member David Rutlen presently serves on the Luther Seminary Board. After worship at 11:00 am she will take your questions at an Open Space titled "Where Have All The Churches Gone."

"Estimate of Giving"— Sunday, November 9

We bless our "Estimate of Giving" cards at the altar. That afternoon our musicians share their gifts with a Bach Cantata Vespers Service. A cut-out card is on pg. 6 or by offering plates.

New Members — Sunday, November 23

St. James will again welcome new members into our church family. On Sunday, November 23, we will introduce them during worship and get to know them better at the reception that follows. If you also would like to make St. James your church home, please speak with Pastor David.

Contact us at:
St. James Lutheran Church
1315 SW Park Ave
Portland, OR 97201

Office Hours: 7:30am-2pm
503-227-2439
office@stjamespdx.org
Newsletter Production: Mali Jensen
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen McDonald

News from the Child Development Center

Happy Fall from St. James CDC!

94 children have been making the most out of the lovely fall weather with outings to the Portland Farmer's Market, South Park Blocks, Portland State athletic field, and Central Library. We love having so many great activities so close to school. Children especially enjoy going to the Portland Farmer's Market on Wednesdays, and each class buys healthy foods to try once they get back to school. Teachers incorporate Harvest for Healthy Kids curriculum in classrooms using their purchases from the market. As a special celebratory treat, classes enjoy yummy, vendor cookies the last week that the market is open in October.

- **Patrick Earnest, Childcare Director**



Don't Get Caught

There has been an increase in phishing attempts recently. Whenever you get a text or email from an unknown source, take caution. Here are some steps to take if you are contacted by anyone with request:

- **Compare** the sender's info with what you know.
- **Contact** the supposed sender using info you have used before or know to be accurate.
- Be **Cautious** in giving out any personal information or fulfilling any requests.
- **Confirm** it's spam, then report and delete/block the sender.

No one from St. James will ever reach out directly via text or email with a "special request" or "favor" or you to purchase gift cards or anything of that sort.

November 30th - The Great Thanksgiving

Coffee Hour on November 30th will be sponsored by the Eco Social Justice Committee in the spirit of considering the importance of limiting food waste. Please consider bringing—to share with the rest of the congregation—appropriate leftovers. We did this last year and the event was a hit. According to the United Nations Climate Change Committee "Food loss and waste account for 8-10% of annual global greenhouse gas emissions; cost USD 1 trillion annually".



- **Mandy Ellertson**

Installation of Presiding Bishop — Yehiel Curry



Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected as the next presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Ariz., on July 30, 2025. He began this role on Oct. 1, 2025, and was installed on Oct. 4 in Minneapolis. Welcome Bishop Curry!

Eco Social Justice



One of my favorite spiritual writers is Sister Joan Chittister. As we are thinking about our stewardship to our community, these words held special meaning for me. They are from her book “The Gift of Years.”

She writes that “each of us leaves a legacy.”

In modern society, to leave a legacy ordinarily means to specify the distribution of property to heirs according to terms described in a legal document. It’s a relatively rare event for most people to be mentioned in a will.

What we are inclined to forget is that each of us leaves a legacy, whether we meant to, whether we want to or not. Our legacies are the quality of the lives we leave behind. What are we leaving behind? That is the question that marks the timbre of a lifetime.

We leave behind our attitude toward the world. We are remembered for whether or not we inspired in others a love of life and an openness to all of those who lived with us. We will be remembered for our smiles and our frowns, for our laughter and our complaints, for our kindness and for our selfishness.

We leave behind for all the world to see the value system that marks everything we do. People who never ask us directly what we valued in life never doubt for a moment what it was. They know if we cared for the Earth because they watched us as we seeded our flowerbeds. They know what we thought of people of other colors or creeds by the language we used and the lives we connected with. They know the depth of our spiritual life by the way we treated those around us and what we thought of life and what we gave ourselves to doing.

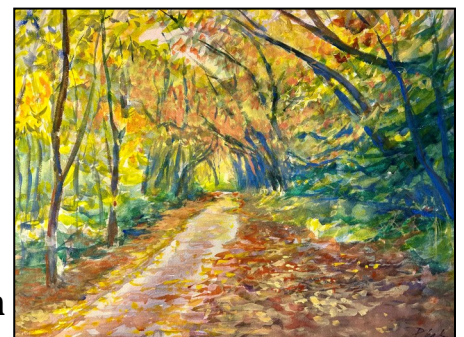
Our legacy is far more than our fiscal worth. Our legacy does not end the day we die. We have added to it every moment of our lives.

- Marsha Gulick

Visual Art Group Exhibit Oct. 26 - Jan. 3

The Visual Arts Group invites St. James member artists to display their art along with guest artists from 2025 in an end of the year group exhibition. There will be an Artist Reception for all of the participants on Nov. 16 at 6pm after the Jazz Vespers Service.

“End of the Road”- watercolor by Paula Carlson



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.

Congratulations to Our Confirmation Students

We joyfully celebrate our newest congregants—Emmett, Blake, Mira, and Meg—as they root themselves in the past and grow toward the future of their faith journey. May God continue to guide and bless them in the years ahead!



2026 Estimate For Giving



In the City for Good
St. James Lutheran Church
Portland, Oregon

2026 Stewardship Emphasis "St. James Is In the City for Good"

With thanks to God, I / we manage the gifts God has shared by: (please ✓ any of the following)

- ☐ _____ Worshiping regularly at St. James
- ☐ _____ Volunteering time to benefit others
- ☐ _____ Giving electronically
- ☐ _____ Placing St. James' ministry in my / our will

AND estimate my / our regular offering in 2026 to be:

\$ _____ per circle one week / month / quarter / year / other

Print Name _____ Date _____

☐ YES, please provide me with **Giving Envelopes**

"You will be called the faithful city."- Isaiah 1

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
2 <u>All Saints Day</u> <u>Day Light Saving</u> <u>Time Ends</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space - Guest President Steinke 11am Music & Worship Support Team Meets	3 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	4 <u>Election Day</u> 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 2pm French Club	5 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	6 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7:30am Preschool CDC	8 10am Bi Brigade
9 <u>Commitment Sunday</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Vision Team Meets 4pm Bach Vespers	10 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 6:30pm Fireside Carolers Rehearsal	11 <u>Veterans Day</u> 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 2pm French Club	12 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	13 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7pm Choir Rehearsal	14 7:30am Preschool CDC	15 9:30am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
16 <u>Twenty-third Sunday</u> <u>after Pentecost</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am Coffee Hour 11am Open Space 11:10am Endowment Committee Meets 4:50pm Jazz Vespers 6pm Artist Reception	17 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	18 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 2pm French Club 7pm Council	19 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	20 7:30am Preschool CDC 8am ESL Class 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 7pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7:30am Preschool CDC	22
23 <u>New Member Sunday</u> <u>Reign of God Sunday</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am New Member Reception	24 7:30am Preschool CDC 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	25 7:30am Preschool CDC 10am Food Boxing 11:30am Feeding the Hungry 2pm French Club 7pm Book Club	26 7:30am Preschool CDC 8:30am Centering Prayer 11:30am Feeding the Hungry	27 <u>Thanksgiving</u> CDC/Office Closed	28 CDC Closed	29
30 <u>First Sunday of</u> <u>Advent</u> 9:30am Eucharist 10:30am Great Thanksgiving Meal						

St. James Ministries and Groups

Jazz Vespers at St. James:

Sunday, November 16, at 4:50p, with Israel Annoh, Mike Horsfall, and Kevin Dietz



Israel Annoh, a renowned master drum set player and percussionist from Ghana, West Africa currently resides in Portland. His music derives from a combination of Ghanaian and West African music and jazz artists Max Roach, Cosy Cole, and Elvin Jones.

Mike Horsfall has enjoyed a successful and diverse musical career for over 35 years, serving as an educator, composer, arranger, recording artist and concert soloist on both piano and vibraphone.



Kevin Dietz is an active jazz and classical bassist, composer/arranger, educator, clinician and adjudicator. He currently teaches Music Theory, Aural Skills, Music Fundamentals, Music and the Media, and History of Rock and Roll at Clackamas Community College.

Bach Cantata Vespers

Please join us on November 9, at 4pm, as we begin our 18th season of Bach Cantata Vespers with one of Bach's earliest cantatas, "Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit." This work (BWV 106), calls for two Viola da Gambas, two recorders, organ, soloists, and choir, and is often referred to as Bach's first masterpiece. The work was written for the funeral of a former mayor of Mühlhausen in 1708. The text blends old and new testament passages, as well as individual verses of hymns by Martin Luther and Adam Reusner.

"God's time is the best of all times.

In him we live, move and are, as long as he wills.

In him we die at the appointed time, when he wills." Acts 17:28

Special Guest Soloists:
Maddy Ross, soprano
Grace Weaver, alto
Brian Tierney, tenor
Jacob Herbert, bass

November Open Space Classes

November 2, 11:00am: "Where Have All the Churches Gone?", with President Steinke

November 9, 10:45am: Dedicated to help set up for the Bach Cantata

November 16, 11:00am: "How Federal Policies and Budget Cuts are Impacting Veteran Population", with Paula Veseth

November 23, 10:45am: New Member Sunday, with Pastor Knapp — Join us during Coffee Hour to welcome St. James newest members

November 30, 11:00am: "Wrapping Refugee Gifts", with Cathie Coffman



In Our Prayers

We ask God's healing for Scott Swope, Lynda Strand, Penny Curtiss, Carol Bergen, Steve Portnoy (hospice), Gus Rutlen, Gail Koester, Keith Amundson, Valarie Brown, Gavin Morisada, Peter Kim, Amy Manning, Chris Hammond, Joel Davis, Rita Toepfer, and the Colasurdo family.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

11/1	Joel Davis & Kathleen McDonald	11/11	Larry Larsen
11/3	Journi Amoussou	11/16	Meaghan Wheeler & Ryan Pierce
11/5	John Danielson	11/16	Erik Thorin
11/7	Donna Dunlap	11/19	Kristine Almquist
11/7	Suzanne Tohlen Martin	11/20	Josh Peters
11/8	Sharon McCarthy	11/20	Penny Curtiss

Sunday Refreshment Hosts and Altar Flower Sponsors

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 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

November 2: Chrisse Roccaro & Stephen Guntli

November 9:

November 16:

November 23: Shelley Immel

November 30:

COFFEE

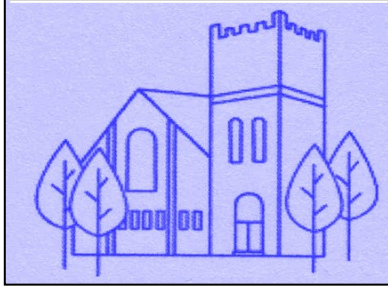
Charlotte Cook

Sharon McCarthy

Shelley Immel

Eco Social Justice Group

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



1315 SW Park Ave
Portland, OR 97201
www.stjamespdx.org
Office Hours: 7:30am-2pm
Tel: 503.227.2439

STAFF

Full Time:

David Knapp, Pastor
Patrick Earnest, Director, Child Dev. Center

Part Time:

Karin Hatch, Parish Administrator
Sharon Kurtz, Bookkeeper
John Cox, Interim Choir Director
Paul Flyger, Interim Organist
Mike Horsfall, Director of Jazz Ministry
Mali Jensen, Administrative Assistant

ST. JAMES COUNCIL

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

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