

The Servitor

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MARCH 2007

**PASTORS ELIZABETH
& JOHN BACKUS**

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THE 2007 LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERIES: MY HEART LONGS TO KNOW

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On our Wednesday evenings, after supper we will explore together questions about our life of faith. We'll start the conversation during Confirmation downstairs, and continue during worship. We'll ask:

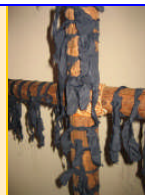
- What do we mean when we talk about the Trinity?
- What about my friends who are baptized, but don't believe?
- What happens to us, after we die?
- What should we say about those disturbing Bible passages?
- How do I know that the Holy Spirit is active in my life?

Come and listen and talk and sing and learn together!



LENTEN SCHEDULE AT SAINT JAMES

During this Lenten season, in preparation for Easter, we invite you to tie a black strip of material on the *cross of cares* in the narthex, symbolizing any care or problem you wish to give over to God's hands.



Wednesdays in Lent continue through March 28, with education, food, and worship. There will be an attendant in the nursery as needed.

Wednesdays in Lent

The evenings of March 7, 14, 21, and 28.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| • 5:30 | Dinner |
| • 6:15 | Junior Choir |
| • 6:15-6:50 | Education for All |
| • 7:00 | Lenten Service |
| • 7:30 | Adult Choir |

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Delegates Needed

We need one man and one woman to be delegates for the **Synod Assembly to be held June 1 to 3 In Overland Park**. If you are interested, please see Hank Guggenmos.

ReStart Dinner

Thanks to everyone that helped with either supplying food or serving food at ReStart in 2006. We will again be serving in 2007, with our first dinner on **Saturday, March 31, at 3:00 p.m.** We hope many of you will volunteer to help.

THE GRAND PIANO COMMITTEE (HEREAFTER KNOWN AS GPC)

The GPC met February 13. Part of the committee had spent two days searching out a grand piano suitable for long-term worship use in the St. James sanctuary. A Boston-brand piano was chosen, for its construction and full sound.

Including delivery, set up, 12-year warrantee, cover, dolly and bench, the cost of this piano in basic black is \$ 19,746. If the piano is ordered in a walnut finish—to closer match the organ

and chancel furnishings, the cost is \$21,472 (\$21,787 in mahogany). Currently, we have \$10,500 in the Grand Piano Fund.

Posters around the church building will keep you informed on how the fund is doing over the next two months. It is the hope of the GPC that members of the congregation will spot them (by their GPC buttons) and ask them questions about this piano,

why it was chosen, and where a piano might be located in the sanctuary.

At the **congregational meeting on May 6**, the GPC will have a resolution to place before the congregation to authorize purchase and placement of a piano. If there is a problem with the funding of the piano, that resolution may be postponed until another meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Pastor John*



NOTES FROM THE PASTORS

Grub Saturday's Coming!

Make plans to help clean up and fix up the church and grounds on **Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** We have much to accomplish and jobs range from no skill to high skill. There will be a list posted in the Narthex shortly! We need you to help! (Rain Date: April 28)

We Want Bibles

Do you have a bible that has a unique design or history to it? AIM Committee would respectfully ask you to let us use it in our planned Bible Exhibit this spring. It is interesting to observe how the same beloved stories and lessons may be presented in a variety of versions

and settings. Please contact [Rachel McNabb](#), [Carol Noland](#) or the church office if you have a Bible that we may exhibit.

St. James Wear

Our Monogrammed shirts will be available again for Sale during the month of April. Shirts will go on Sale **April 1, 15, and 22** after services.



HAVE FUN & SUPPORT MISSION

Lutheran Campus Ministry – an ELCA mission serving students at the University of Kansas – will host KU Lutheran Ministry Trivia Night on **Saturday, March 3, at Westwood Lutheran Church** (5035 Rainbow Blvd. in Shawnee Mission). Doors open at 6:30; trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. Enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship and the opportunity to win great prizes. Proceeds may be matched by area Thrivent chapters.

Cost is \$120 per table of eight. Soda and light refreshments will be provided. Beverages (beer or wine) and snacks are welcome.

Call Leslie Schweder at (913) 906-9936 or e-mail lschweder@kc.rr.com (put "Trivia" in subject line) by March 1 to reserve your table.

Lutheran Campus Ministry reaches out to Lutheran students and all who are interested, helping them celebrate God's love in worship, serving others, asking important faith questions, developing friendships, and becoming leaders in these areas. Funds will be used to maintain the Lutheran Campus center at KU & provide student program materials.

Committee Reports

All yearly committee reports for the May Congregational Meeting are due to the church office by Sunday, April 22. Please have the reports typed and copy ready (or e-mail the reports to David at the church office). NOTE: David's e-mail address is sec@stjameskc.org.

Clay County Clothes Closet

Clothes Clear-Out!

(Say that fast 6 times!) We will have our annual Clay County Clothes Closet clothes collection drive on **April 15, 22, and 29**. The CCCC serves Northland residents that need a little help. You can donate clothes that you wore, but no longer wear, or new clothes that you just would like to donate. They have many needs, such as shoes, jeans, shirts, and underwear for school age children, along with needs for adults.

PLEASE HELP MLM FIGHT HUNGER IN KANSAS CITY!

As he has for 9 years, Alan Feinstein is donating \$1 million to challenge to fight hunger. Feinstein's past challenges have raised \$480 million for agencies nationwide, including \$53,483 in cash and food items for MLM. Monies raised through this challenge go directly to

stock the shelves of our food pantries and operate three Community Care Centers.

You can help with either **cash donations or hosting a food drive**. MLM receives a "credit" of \$1.00 per item of non-perishable food received during the challenge time. Thrivent

members should complete a Thrivent form with their donation – each two dollars you contribute will be matched by one dollar from Thrivent.

For additional information, go to www.feinsteinfoundation.org.

SERVICE OF HEALING, MARCH 4

Our Lord Jesus healed many who were sick as a sign of the reign of God come near, and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing. Through prayer in Jesus' name, and by the laying on of hands and anointing, the disciples witnessed to the power and presence of God.

In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we entrust to God all who are in

need of healing and hope.

Come join us for a **Service of Healing, March 4**. We will offer our prayers for those who are gathered there, both physically and in our minds and hearts. We will commend to all the grace of Jesus Christ, so that God may ease their suffering and grant them health and salvation.

INQUIRING MINDS?

Wonder what it's like to be a member at St. James? Worship guests have an opportunity to learn in our **New Member**

Class scheduled for **Sunday, April 22, from noon until 2:00 p.m.** Everything you want to know about St. James and Lutherans will be jam-packed into those two brief hours! Come and see!





NEWS IN BRIEF

Souper Bowl Results Are In!

Even though the Colts won on the football field, the Bears trounced the Colts in our annual Souper Bowl. All the monies go to support our MLM Food Pantry in the Northland.

The final result:
BEARS: \$188.00
COLTS: \$ 69.50

Thanks to all who donated.

Senior Games

The next dates will be **Monday, March 12 and 26, at 1:00 p.m.** Anyone is welcome to come and join in on the fun! Please bring a snack to share!

Preschool Scholarships

In partnership with our preschool, St. James has committed to awarding scholarships to help qualified, low-

income families to send their child to our preschool.

Would you be willing to sponsor a child for March, April, and May? The cost is \$30 per student per month and there are 4 students who need assistance. That's only \$120 per month. Are you willing to help?

Please earmark your donation "Preschool". If you

have any questions, please see one of our pastors.

Employment Assistance

The Employment Assistance Support Group meets on the **1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** at St. James. Anyone is welcome to attend! Please encourage your relatives, friends and neighbors.

SPRING FLING FOR MLM CHRISTMAS STORE

This year's Spring Fling will be on **Saturday, March 24, from 8:00 a.m. until noon at Bethany Lutheran Church** at 91st & Lamar in Overland Park.

Donations of craft items, homemade candies and baked goods are needed for the Silent Auction. All donations should be dropped off at Bethany on Friday evening (March 23) between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Volunteers are also needed to help set up for the event on Friday afternoon or evening (2 hours), help Chris Cakes' crew

set up early on Saturday morning (1 hour), help wipe tables and replenish pancake supplies (1-hour shifts), help work at one of the booths (1-hour shifts), help set up for the silent auction (2 hours on Friday evening), help work the silent auction (1-hour shifts), help tear down and clean up at noon on Saturday (1 hour if we have lots of help!).

If you have questions, please contact Jim Glynn in the MLM Administrative Office at (816) 931-0027.



PARISH BULLETIN BOARD

God's Blessings...

...to **Teresa Lynn Kueker** who was baptized last month.

Congratulations

... to Jaime & Delvin Rosson on the birth January 21 of their daughter **Josie Lynn Rosson**.

...to those who received their First Communion last month:

- Sara Boomgarden
- Tara Boomgarden
- Erica Brunker
- Cordell Collins
- Shannon Huckins
- Natalie Platel
- Phillip Surprenant



When our 4th graders took first communion, Sara and Tara came dressed for the celebration it truly was. God be praised for the lives of our young saints.

Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Our sympathy is extended to the following:

- George Huckins at the death of his mother, **Ethel Huckins**.
- Alesha Bryson at the death of her grandfather, **Wade**.
- Karen Stover at the death of her brother, **Gary Cliff**.

- Robert Larson at the death of his sister, **Ruth Ohlsen**.

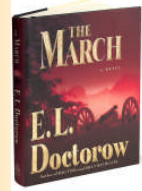
- Carol and Jack Miller at the death of Carol's daughter, **Jeanette M. Naster**.

May God offer them comfort at this time.

St. James Book Club

The Book Club List for 2007 is available in the narthex.

The selection for the next meeting, on **Monday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m.** will be **The March** by **E.L. Doctorow**.



Everyone is welcome to join the book club anytime. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Buehrer at (816) 734-7192.



DIRECTORY CHANGES

Christine M Blank
 4248 NE Kelsey Rd
 Kansas City, MO 64116-2441
 Unlisted

Brian Christopher & Danae Jacobs Von Glahn
 119 W 6th St, Apt 3
 Maryville, MO 64468-1521
 (660) 582-4049

Jane Harlan
 8119 NE 74th Terr
 Kansas City, MO 64158-1276
 (816) 407-7665

Corey McNabb
 1617 NE Vivion Rd, Apt 36
 Kansas City, MO 64118-5986
 (816) 210-3851

E-mail Changes

Monty & Sara Davis
mssbdavis@sbcglobal.net

Chris & Lori Harvey
gofrank150@yahoo.com

Renee Knopf
rknopf@blochandco.com

Richard & Terri Nofsinger
rich0731@sbcglobal.net

Rachel Schumacher-McNabb
mindthegap113@yahoo.com
schumacr@wprii.k12.mo.us

Susan Tarkka
SUSAN.TARKKA@ml.com

Family Matters

NEW ORLEANS PLANS—ROUND TWO

We are still planning on sending a High School contingent of workers to New Orleans this summer to help in the Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. Students must be 16 years old or older when we leave. The OFFICIAL dates are June 23 through July 1. Cost will be low—about \$200 per student. There are a lot of papers to go over, so please contact Pastor John for a sign-up paper as soon as you know you want to go!

⇒ **NOLA is on the schedule**

⇒ QUAKING in April

⇒ Lent Schedule for Confirmation Students

⇒ Super-Secret Surprise Event.

OMAHA QUAKE STILL OPEN

The youth quake in Omaha is scheduled for April 20–22. We would leave after school Friday, and return Sunday in the afternoon. We can sign up

for this Quake until the 6th of March, so if you are still interested in going, please get connected with P.J. as soon as you can. At this writing, only a few stu-

dents are signed up to go!



LENTEN SCHEDULE FOR CONFIRMATION

PJ's Confirmation students are still expected to be at St James on Wednesday evenings, even though our class structure is different. This is a great night for families to relax, eat a meal somebody else cooked without spending a bundle,

take part in some education together, and worship together. The *Pressure* is low, the *Togetherness* is high and everybody is always glad they came to Lenten Wednesdays. See you there!



SUPER SECRET SURPRISE EVENT

A super-secret surprise event for Middle School students will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 18th. Arrive at Church at 12:30. There will be lunch ... but that's all the details I can release at this time! Guess you'll just have to show up to find out what's going to happen! Wow!

Worship Assistants

Please try to find a replacement if you cannot attend, or call the church office. Thank you!

	March 4 8:30	March 4 11:00	March 11 8:30	March 11 11:00	March 18 8:30	March 18 11:00	March 25 8:30	March 25 11:00
Acolytes	Libby Verner Erica Brunker	Becky Verner Katherine Cross	Samantha Brunker	Katie Bradshaw Ellie Brashaw	Micah Proctor Phillip Surprenant	(1) needed	Luke Temperelli	(2) needed
Assisting Ministers	Mary Verner Bobbi Stracker	Bud Stracker (1) needed	John Hilderbrand	Gene Carbaugh Tom Ericksen	Diane Laughlin Dean Werner	Sue Tarkka	Eva Husted	Fred Barth Carole Barth
Common Cup	Diane Laughlin	(1) needed		Susan Seyboth	Kevin Acton			Bobbi Stracker
Ushers	Barb Buehrer Bob Brunker	Mary Verner Maria Verner	Ray Pinnick Toby Proctor	Gary Snyder (1) needed	(2) needed	Donna Wrede Ken Wrede	Marij Rupard Don Carsten	(2) needed
Altar Guild	The Sherbo Family	Pam Kerns Adele Sandstede		Lenna Taylor Marilyn Schweitzer	Cathy Stone Christy Schliesman			Gail Estes Neva Locke






SAINT JAMES PRESCHOOL is looking for willing assistants who would be able to volunteer in the pre-school. If you would be available from 9:00-12:00 weekdays, please call Ms. Sherry at 816-808-1971 and we will put your name on our volunteer list. We have a need for someone that could help us on Friday, March 23rd and/or Monday, March 26th.

Congratulations to Phillip Surprenant for receiving the highest award in Cub Scouts. Phillip received his Arrow of Light Award at the Blue and Gold ceremony for Pack 376 on Saturday February 17th. Congratulations Phillip and have fun in Boy Scouts.

Pastors	Church Staff	HOME PHONES
Church Secretary	Liz and John Backus	816-531-6078
Custodian	David Killen	816-453-6265
Organist/Choir	Jack Miller	816-454-5366
Director	Evelyn R. Mesley	816-833-2890
Preschool Director	Sherry Clark	816-808-1971

Worship With Us

MARCH 2007

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lent 2 SERVICE OF HEALING 8:30—Communion 9:45—Adult Education— Wind Symphony Sunday School 11:00—Communion 5:00—Sunday Night Live 6:20—SERMs (High School) Youth Planning Team		4 7—Church in the World	5 6—Employment Assistance	6 5:45—Lenten Soup Supper 6:15—Junior Choir 6:30—Education for All 7:00—Lenten Service 7:30—Adult Choir	7 9—TLC 	1 2 3	8 9 TIME CHANGE SPRING FORWARD 
Lent 3 8:30—Worship 9:45—Adult Education— Update on North of Ireland Sunday School Assisting Minister Meeting 11:00—Communion 3:00—Outside the Box 5:00—Sunday Night Live 6:20—SERMs		11 1—Senior Games 7—Church Council	12 7—Property Education Arts in Ministry Meeting	13 10—Project Group 3:15—Staff 5:45—Lenten Soup Supper 6:15—Junior Choir 6:30—Education for All 7:00—Lenten Service 7:30—Adult Choir	14 SERVITOR DEADLINE 9—TLC 7—Stephen Ministry	15 16 17	15 16 17
Lent 4 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUNDAY 8:30—Communion 9:45—Adult Education— Evolution of the Mass Sunday School 11:00—Worship 5:00—Sunday Night Live 6:20—SERMs		18 7—Book Club	19 6—Employment Assistance Finance Meeting Neola Circle	20 10—Project Group 3:15—Staff 5:45—Lenten Soup Supper 6:15—Junior Choir 6:30—Education for All 7:00—Lenten Service 7:30—Adult Choir	21 9—TLC 	22 23 24	22 23 24 MLM SPRING FLING 6—Shalom House
Lent 5 8:30—Worship w/ Baptism 9:45—Sunday School Evangelism Adult Education— New Hymnal ELW 11:00—Communion 5:00—Sunday Night Live 6:20—SERMs		25 1—Senior Games	26 6:30—Mutual Ministry Meeting 7:30—Worship & Music Meeting	27 10—Project Group 3:15—Staff 5:45—Lenten Soup Supper 6:15—Junior Choir 6:30—Education for All 7:00—Lenten Service 7:30—Adult Choir	28 9—TLC	29 30 31 3—ReStart Dinner	28 29 30 31

HEART OF AMERICA WIND SYMPHONY

The Adult Education Committee and the Arts in Ministry Committee will co-sponsor a performance by the Heart of America Wind Symphony during **the adult education hour March 4**. As education is one of the Adult Education Committee's goal, director Ron Mundt is preparing a transcription of the

Nicene Creed as set by Palestrina from one of his masses. Martin Luther would have heard Palestrina's sacred music during his lifetime.

Mundt will present a discussion of Palestrina's life and works; his group will present samples of musical devices in the Nicene Creed. The program will conclude with a per-

formance of the Nicene Creed in its entirety.

This group performs free; however, they ask for donations, which will go to a specified char-

ity. The Arts in Ministry Committee will match up to \$150 of donations which will go toward the Habitat for Humanity, Thrivent Builds project.

AUTISM 2007

Saturday, April 14, marks the fourth annual Walk for Autism Awareness in Kansas City. I'm interested in forming a team to participate in the walk. This year it will be 2 miles at Unity Village in Lee's Summit.

Autism Society of America recent studies show that 1 in 150 children are diagnosed as having an Autism Spectrum Disorder. My son, Stephen, who is 16, has autism. My life has changed because of him, the challenges and the blessings. Most people don't understand the different types of Autism Spectrum Disorders and the struggles with communications that children and adults face daily. Yet, it's the leading developmental disability today around the world.

The two goals of the autism walk are to provide public awareness for autism spectrum disorders and to help fund programs throughout the Kansas City community such as: *the Sherwood Center, Johnson County Autism Society,*

workshops for teachers and community support groups. Recent cuts in various programs have affected families with special needs children. The money raised helps fill this need.

If individuals or families are interested in becoming part of the team, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. Registration and fees are due in the beginning of April (date will be posted later). Additional pledges may be raised up until the day of the walk. I will provide the pledge sheets. The morning of the walk we can meet together and car pool over. **Last year we raised \$1,420!**

Come and join us, even if you don't have time to raise pledges, and learn more about autism and recent advances affecting those with this disability. Hopefully some day they will find the truth where autism comes from. Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions about the walk, please contact me, Vicki Catt, at (816) 468-7098 or e-mail vcatt@kc.rr.com.

SAVE THE DATE—APRIL 14

Northland Assistance Center (NAC) is hosting its First Annual Awards Banquet – “Honoring Those Who Serve” – with special guest speaker Katie Horner, Chief Meteorologist at KCTV-5, along with Kansas City artist, Tom Palmer.

This special evening includes a buffet dinner, beautiful music from Oak Park High School's finest students, and an awards presentation. The banquet will be held at **Piropos**, overlooking downtown Parkville, **on Saturday, April 14 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased by calling NAC at (816) 421-2243 or e-mail NAC@planetkc.com.

All ticket proceeds support the services provided by NAC. In 2006, Northland Assistance Center provided emergency financial aid assistance and a food pantry to nearly 2,000 men, women and children from Clay & Platte counties. NAC is able to serve our community only through the generous contributions of caring citizens in our community like you. Thank you for your continued support!

MLM Items for March

- 4 Macaroni & Cheese; Jell-O
- 11 Bath Soap & Toilet Paper; Spaghetti
- 18 Peanut Butter & Jelly; Baby Food
- 25 Canned Fruit & Vegetables; Pork & Beans

Adult education for March

- 4 Heart of America Wind Symphony
- 11 Update on North of Ireland with Craig Smith
- 18 Evolution of the Mass with Tom McCready
- 25 The New Hymnal ELW



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2 Norb Stracker	Marjorie Rupard	12 Toni Owens	25 Ken Gillespie	Kristi Cavanaugh
3 Jane Adney	Julie Sherbo	13 Cynthia Bruner	John Hilderbrand	Todd Ellwein
John Haggerty	Mary White	14 Tina Jacobs	Ava Jean Wilson	Richard Greene
4 Rob Bergin	9 JoNell Priestly	17 Scott Jones	26 Tara Coffman	31 Mary Crooks
Thierry Hale	Gladys Scheelk	22 Alanna Sherbo	Stephen Grafelman	Steve Schlarmann
6 James Ressler	Mufaro Siyakwazi	23 Christine Blank	Americo Mabrey	
7 Shamiso Siyakwazi	10 Shane Jennings	24 Kristy Odle	28 Tabitha Greathouse	
8 Susan Barrett	11 Myron Schultz	Madison Wirick	29 Jamie Baskin	

CONTROL: TO EXERCISE DIRECTING INFLUENCE, POWER, AND AUTHORITY OVER CONDITIONS



Humans like to be in control, having the power to choose exactly what is going to happen and when. Unfortunately, life isn't like that - we only think we're in control. So when something happens and we realize we're not in control, we feel lost,

overwhelmed, angry, and even terrified.

Stephen Ministers are trained to help when things are out of control. They provide support and encouragement while helping a person put faith and trust in God.

If you would like more information on our Stephen Ministry, please contact Pastor Liz.

Join us for one or more of our Sunday Services:
8:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Sunday, March 11 Assisting Minister Meeting (between services)
- Sunday, March 18 Habitat Sunday
- Saturday, March 24 MLM Spring Fling (at Bethany Lutheran Church)
- Sunday, June 17.....Saint James Garden Party



JOYFUL SONG!

It is an exciting time in the ELCA. A new hymnal has been created and is now available for congregations. There are some new and uplifting hymns, but also many, many of the familiar hymns you love from LBW and WOV. In fact, of all the hymns we have sung since September 1, there are less

than 15 that are not included in the new **ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship)**.

Look for further information here in the future, and set **March 25 on your calendar for the Adult Education Time**. The Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book will be discussed then, and you will have time to see the books and ask any questions!

NANO NORE: NORTHERN EXPOSURES: NORWEGIAN & ENGLISH LANDSCAPES

Come and see Saint James' own Nano Nore and her work on exhibit at the Stocksdale Gallery of Art, Brown Hall, William Jewell College, 500 College Hill in Liberty. The opening reception is on **Sunday, March 4, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.** The display runs through March 30.



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Address Service Requested

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Online Edition



ST JAMES IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

Saint James welcomes all of God's children with open arms; we embrace people of all colors, race, disability or economic background. Saint James welcomes persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities to share in the worship of God and the work of God's dominion.