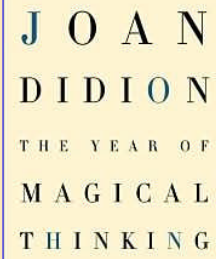


St. James Book Club

The new Book Club List for 2008 is available in the narthex.

The selection for the next meeting, on Monday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m. will be *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion.

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



May MLM Items

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



Adult Education

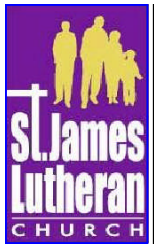
- 4 - MLM Director of Outreach Suzanne Bartling
- 11 - John Gak returns for an update on his trip to the Sudan
- 18 - Open thus far
- 25 - Fellowship

Mark your calendars

- Sunday, May 4Potluck Luncheon after 11:00 service
Congregational Meeting after potluck
- Sunday, May 11 ...Installation of all council members at both morning services
- Sunday, May 18 ...Garden Party
- June 5-8Synod Assembly in St. Louis
- June 14-21Confirmation Camp at Camp Vermillion, MN
- June 28-July 5 ...New Orleans Servant Trip
- July 19-26High School Boundary Waters Canoe Trip



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



St. James Lutheran Church
1104 NE Vivion Road
Kansas City, MO 64118
Address Service Requested

May 2008

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



The Servitor

1104 NE Vivion Rd•Kansas City, MO 64118•(816) 452-1018•office@st.jameskc.org

May 2008

Pastors Elizabeth & John Backus
(816) 531-6078
Internet: <http://www.stjameskc.org>
E-mail: office@stjameskc.org
pe@stjameskc.org
pj@stjameskc.org

Congregational Meeting and Potluck on May 4!

St. James meets on May 4th!

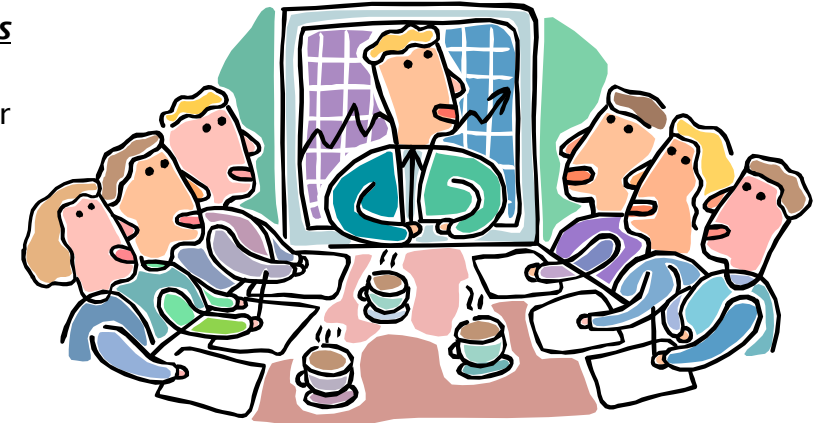
At our December meeting, our primary business is the annual budget.

In May, we elect council members and Gifts, Endowment and Memorial positions for the coming year.

A potluck meal will begin our time together.

The names of the nominees for council are:

- Bob Bergin
- Chris Cline
- Betty Hill
- Marvin McNabb
- April Mundhenke
- Kevin Stephens
- Robert Stivers
- Karen Verducco



For 2 year (youth) term

- Hannah Proctor
- Clare Temperelli

For GEM

- Jeff Boomgarden
- Toby Proctor
- Christy Schliesman
- Karin Shaughnessey
- Richard Wilson

Inside this issue:

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Special point of interest:

Vacation Time for the Pastors

The pastors will each take a week of vacation in May. Pastor Liz will be gone for the week of May 7-13, and Pastor John will be off May 14 through May 20. The other pastor will be working and available during this time.

May Flowers Bring... The Garden Party

This year's Saint James Garden Party will be **Sunday, May 18**. After the flower show, we'll enjoy brats, hot dogs, and potluck dinner at the Pastors' home (you bring the potluck part).

If you want to display your home, call Glenn Bray at (816) 454-8919. Look for the Garden Party schedule in the narthex prior to the event.



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

	May 4 8:30	May 4 11:00	May 11 8:30	May 11 11:00	May 18 8:30	May 18 11:00	May 25 8:30	May 25 11:00
Acolytes	Megan Unterreiner Katherine Cross	Mufaro Siyakwazi 1 needed	Luke Temperelli 1 needed	2 needed	Erica Brunker Samantha Brunker	2 needed	Micah Proctor	2 needed
Altar Guild	Joyce & Ed Acton	Gail Snyder Lou Whittier	Carol & Terry Noland	The Hill Family	Carolyn & Hank Guggenmos	Sharon Grafeiman & Adele Sandstede		Pam Kerns & Robyn Smith
Assisting Ministers	2 Needed	2 Needed	2 Needed	Tom Ericksen Needed	Fred Barth Carole Barth	Bud Stracker Bobbi Stracker	Needed	Tom Ericksen Needed
Common Cup	Bob Bergin	Susan Bray	Bobbi Stracker	Glenn Bray	Bob Bergin	Needed		Needed
Ushers	Rick Hill Betty Hill Bob Brunker	Amy Todd Neva Locke	Ray Pinnick Barb Buehrer	Gail Snyder Gary Snyder	Joyce Acton Ed Acton	Windy Greathouse Michael Cook	Bud Stracker Toby Proctor	Lloyd Kerns Chris Hill

HELP! MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE STILL OPEN!



The Sunday school Lesson was from the 14th chapter of John. Jesus told his disciples: "If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it." To show his students what that meant, Teacher Kevin Acton told them he would do anything they asked. They wanted to change him into a "glitter bug" and walk him about the church building, showing their handiwork to everyone they could find. Kevin said: "Yes." Why do our children love St. James? Because the adults they find here love them. Thank you, Kevin, for showing Christ's boundless love so elegantly and personally.

Church Council "Bios"

Clare Temperelli

Clare is a student at Platte County High School who enjoys tennis, swimming and reading. Clare plays in the school band and likes to ride horses. She has been a confirmation mentor and junior choir singer, and has been on numerous retreats with St. James. Clare would like to see St. James make improvements to our physical plant, especially in the area of outside appearance, and she wants to be on council so that there will be a voice from the youth group there.

Richard Wilson (GEM)

Richard enjoys playing golf and watching Hoosier Basketball (that's Indiana for those not in the know) and Husker Football. Richard travels as regional sales director for Summit Pump. These things do not distract him greatly from his true life—which is being Tyler's Dad. Richard would point to Tyler's baptism as being one of the most significant church influences in his life.



News in Brief

Spring Graduations

In the June Servitor, we would like to list those family members who will be graduating this spring. Please call or email the information to the church office by May 15.



Senior Games

The next date will be **Monday, May 12** (no meeting on the 26th due to Memorial Day) at 1:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come and join in on the fun! Please bring a snack to share!

Employment Assistance

The Employment Assistance Support Group meets at Saint James on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. **In May, those dates will be the 6th and 20th.** Anyone is welcome to attend! Please encourage your friends and neighbors.

Simply Giving

If you are new to St. James, or are already giving through the Simply Giving program and wish to change the dates, bank name or amount of your pledge, please remember to fill out a new form. Then give it, along with a voided blank check, to Pastor Liz. **Simply Giving** helps you contribute to St. James. Your gifts are made on the same day they are withdrawn from your bank account at no cost.

Souper Bowl Runs Up the Score Again!

The annual "Souper Bowl" anti-hunger campaign broke another record in donations this year — reaching \$9.5 million from 14,654 congregations by March 5, officials said.



St James collected \$336.75, which was sent to the Metro Lutheran Ministry Food Pantry behind our building.

Church Council "Bios"

Printed here and throughout this month's Servitor are the brief biographies of those running for Council and GEM committee office.

Robert Stivers

Robert works for DHL delivering and picking up packages. Reading is one of his hobbies. He also loves to cook both in the kitchen and at the grill.

Robert has taught Sunday school in the past. He accepted this nomination because he would like to give more time to the church.

Kevin Stephens

Kevin works within State Street making peoples wishes of higher education come true. His hobbies include gardening and spending quality time with his wife. He loves working on his house and is especially proud that after two years he hasn't caused any fires or explosions.

Kevin has served two years as Vice President of the Church Council, served as committee representative for Property, Education and AIM Committees, and represented St James on the MLM

Board of Directors. He also served on the special committee to rewrite and update St. James Constitution and By Laws. He is also an honorary member of the TLC group.

Kevin believes that St James already has everything it needs, the best people with the biggest hearts and he is convinced that they are the most motivated people in Kansas City. Kevin feels as though he has matured as a church leader and as a person during the past four years spent on the church council. There are many things that lay ahead in the future of the church that he feels the church will benefit by electing him to church council. If not elected, he plans to continue being a leader within the church.

Karin Shaughnessey (GEM)

Karin teaches 7th grade Communication Arts at Antioch Middle School. Her hobbies include golf, scrapbooking, reading, and spending time with friends. She enjoys being Megan & Danny's mom and Sean's wife.

Karin was a former member of St. James' youth groups and former Servi-

tor editor. She is currently assisting with Sunday school. She thinks St. James needs more members who attend on a regular basis & financial peace. She agreed to be a nominee because she was asked.

Toby Proctor (GEM)

Toby works for a family owned steel distributor, Steel Manufacturing and Warehouse, in outside sales. He enjoys sports, especially when it involves the grand and glorious Clemson Tigers. He also enjoys collecting sports cards and playing Golden Tee Golf. Toby enjoys being around people.

Toby has previously served on Church Council and has just recently retired as chair of the Church in the World Committee. He is currently am on the GEM Committee after serving on both Endowment and Gifts & Memorials during the merge. He thinks St. James needs to get more participation in the workings of St. James. He was involved in both of the merged committees that formed the GEM Committee and feels that it is important to keep the momentum going.

(bios continued on page 7)

Family Matters

Events before School ends:

There are a few more things to happen here before our summer travels begin!
For Middle Schoolers: The Great World Champion Nerf-O-Lympics competition on Friday, May 23rd from 6:30 until 9:00 pm. All middle Schoolers are invited. We'll have pizza, and then the games begin. If you've got nerf-toys, bring 'em!
For High School Students: the Video Scavenger Hunt takes place on Saturday, May 10th from Noon until 5pm. If you have a video camera, bring it. We'll be sent out to record interesting things and then watch the results on TV's back at St. James. It'll be a blast! Lunch will begin our time together.

Confirmation Camp—June 14-21 to Camp Vermillion in Minnesota.

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Laura Boomgarden | Rick Greene | Amanda Odle |
| Sara Boomgarden | Dennis Hanson | Jim Ressler |
| Tara Boomgarden | Abbey Gonzales | Megan Unterriener |
| Katie Bradshaw | Libby Hill | Becky Verner |
| Ellie Bradshaw | Jessica Lee | Libby Verner |
| Loryn Eaton | Kyla Odle | Taylor Wheeler |



Confirmation Camp is on Lake Vermillion in Northern Minnesota. We grow in our faith relationship with Jesus during our time at Camp Vermillion. We will also take along WLAAFJs Andrew Matheney & Danielle Wheeler Adult sponsors Tim Verner, Nina Leip, and Pastor John will accompany the students .
 (a WLAAFJ is Working like an animal for Jesus!)

This summer, your Students and adults

⇒ Will travel a little over 4,800 miles (120,000 person miles which is about 1/2 the distance to the moon.)

⇒ Will spend about 500 person hours working on other people's houses

⇒ Grow greatly in their baptismal covenant!


High School Trip Rosters

- | | |
|---|--|
| Boundary Waters Canoe Trip in July | New Orleans Servant Trip in June/July |
| Tom Backus | Nyssa Brockhoff |
| Nyssa Brockhoff | Mona Coe |
| Sam Bruncker | Maria Ganniger |
| Matt Hillman | Rich Leip |
| Craig Layman | David Leip |
| Jessie Page | Ryan Mason |
| Hannah Proctor | Kasey Quinlain |
| Micah Proctor | Cody Simon |
| Bud Stracker | Bud Stracker |
| Kelly Stover | Pastor John |
| Becky Verner | |
| Tim Verner | |
| Pastor John | |



Do you enjoy scrapbooking? Then we have a monthly evening event for you. Come join us on Friday, May 16th from 6:30 to 11:00 pm in the St James Café room. Bring your photos and scrapbooking supplies, your favorite drink, snack to share if you want, and of course yourself and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Bruncker at 746-1834 or Lori Cross at 746-1978. We hope to see you there!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Seventh Sunday of Easter 8:30—Worship & Communion 9:45—Sunday School / Ad Ed Suzanne Bartling-MLM 11:00—Worship & Communion Noon—Congregation Pot Luck and Meeting 5:00— <i>Sunday Night Live!</i>	6:30pm—Church in the World 7pm—Evangelism Leadership Team	6pm—Employment Assistance 7pm—Neola Circle	10—Project Group 3pm—Staff Meeting	9am—TLC	9am—TLC	9:am Pente-cost Decorating Noon—5pm Video Scaven-
Day of Pentecost: Council Installation 8:30—Worship & Communion 9:45—Sunday School / Ad Ed John Gak—Sudan 11:00—Worship & Communion 5:00— <i>Sunday Night Live!</i>	7pm—Church Council	7pm—Property 7pm—Arts in Ministry	14—Project Group 3pm—Staff Meeting	9am—TLC Servitor Deadline!	6:30 pm—11 pm Scrapbooking	17
Holy Trinity Sunday 8:30—Worship & Communion 9:45—Sunday School / Ad Ed Parish Health Meeting 11:00—Worship & Communion 5:00— <i>St James Garden Party Sunday Night Live!</i>	7pm—Book Club 	6pm—Employment Assistance 7pm—Finance	21—Project Group 3pm—Staff Meeting	9am—TLC 6:30 pm—Stephen Ministry Dinner at Backus Home	6:30—8:30pm Nerf-O-Lympics (Middle School)	24
Pentecost 2 8:30—Worship 9:45—Sunday School / Ad Ed 11:00—Worship & Communion 5:00— <i>Sunday Night Live!</i>	7pm—Outside the Box	6:30—Mutual Ministry 7:30 Worship & Music	28—Project Group 3pm—Staff Meeting	9am—TLC	9am—TLC	31

Pastor Liz on Vacation

Pastor John on Vacation

Pastor Liz on Vacation

Pastor John on Vacation



Notes from the Pastors

One Delegate Needed

We need 1 male to be a delegate to the Synod Assembly to be held **June 5 to 8 in Saint Louis**. If you are interested, please see Pastor Liz.

Hymnal Display

The Arts in Ministry committee has decided to hold the Hymnal Exhibit later in the spring than anticipated. The change in our scheduled time will allow extra time for more of you to participate in the exhibit.

Thank you to each of you who have already helped by lending your cherished hymnals for display. Your personal involvement is the huge factor that will give beauty and depth to this project.

Greeter Families

We are inaugurating a program at St. James designed to help first time worship guests feel more welcomed, and help them get in touch quickly with the life of our congregation. We

don't really have a name, but these are greeters and greeter families. One class has already met. We are looking for new volunteers to learn about the program, and see if they are interested in attending a one morning class in how to be a Greeter Family/Person. Please see Pastor John to learn more!

Evangelism Committee is Gone

In its place, the Evangelism Leadership Team has arisen. While a name change doesn't change much but a name, this is a more accurate reflection of what this group does. The Evangelism Leadership Team (ELT) doesn't "do" evangelism - they help the congregation by leading in our evangelism effort. We meet on May 5 at 7pm.

We are a team, working together to show the way. We don't go out knocking on people's doors. If you would like to take part in this rejuvenating effort at St. James, please see Pastor John!

Invitation for Musicians — Youth and Adults

OOPS! I didn't mean to imply that summers are better because the choir doesn't sing! The choir is one of the most fabulous things happening at St. James.

Services during the summer months ARE easier to schedule for individuals wanting to share their musical gifts with the congregation. THEREFORE, the invitation goes out again to people — adults and youth — to enrich the worship with musical talents.

Contact me if you can share.

Evelyn

Where Two or Three Are Gathered in My Name I Am Among Them...

In Matthew 18, Jesus promises to be with us. That's one of the great miracles of Stephen Ministry. When a Stephen Minister meets one-to-one with his or her care receiver, Jesus is present too. He brings the power of his transforming love, and the peace, healing, and comfort that only God can give.



May Birthdays

1 Joseph Backus	11 Bryan Guggenmos	24 Marge Paille
Neneng Bishop	Anya Kuhn	25 Bob Brunker
3 Elizabeth Backus	12 Kacey Elwein	Sarah Grafelman
4 Esther Bricker	13 Katie Brainard	26 Madison Hernandez
Bob Martin	16 Mary Meyer	Lauren Treat
Jacob Wallace	17 James Lee	Dean Werner
5 Laura Mortimer	20 Dakota Rosson	27 Don Alshouse
6 Jim Foley	Craig Simon	Earleen Goodman
7 Jenny Kam	21 Chad Kerns	Danielle Hankes
Linda Stivers	Deanna Wheeler	Matt Hillman
8 Bill Pape	22 Cathy Stone	Nina Leip
Megan Unterreiner	23 Marie Dahl	28 Tammalyn Brothers
9 Michelle Mason	Anna Mae Layman	Lou Whittier
Connie Royal		



Parish Bulletin Board

Congratulations

We rejoice in the baptism of **Julia Christine Schliesman** on April 20. Julia is the daughter of Christy & Ty Schliesman.

Our Sympathy...

We grieve with the family and friends of **Mary White** in her death.

Council and GEM Nominees continued. Hannah Proctor

Hannah spends most of her time going to school, doing homework, and after school activities such as theater, teacher appreciation, National Honor Society, and the Foreign Exchange Program.

Hannah loves to play the violin. She is the vice-president of the Children of the American Revolution local chapter and is a mentor at her former elementary school and at confirmation. She also loves movie night with her family and enjoys long walks on the beach and getting caught in the rain!

Hannah has been on the Church in the World Committee for the last 5 years and has been in charge of the Back to School Project. She has also been a Junior Leader at Confirmation Camp and has gone on the High School Youth trips. She thinks that if everybody at St James can get involved in a small way then no one person has to do everything themselves. Hannah loves St. James and wants to help make/keep it great!

April Mundhenke

April works as a Special education paraprofessional in an Emotional/Behavioral Disorder class in the Liberty School District. She enjoys fitness, bicycling, reading, crossword puzzles, and Sodoku. She also volunteers at Liberty Hospital.

April has been a member/chairman of the Worship and Music Committee. She worked on the startup of Sunday Night Live. At previous churches she has worked on Fellowship Committees, taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School. She has also helped with fellowship and youth activities at her husband and children's church, St. James Catholic Church in Liberty. April believes that she can bring the perspective of our members who are part of two church families. She believes that she can communicate well and is a good listener.

April thinks St. James needs to continue what we are doing with community and congregational outreach. She believes that we need to find ways to increase our resources, both in contributions and in time and talent. She'd like to see us respond to social issues

Hollis Crossings!

Hollis has a new name for the Christian day camp program that brings suburban and urban core youth together for a week of faith, camp fun and fellowship: *Hollis Crossings*.

Send your 1st to 6th grader to one of three weeks: **June 9-13, 16-20, or**

drawing the Synod apart today. She wants to be a nominee because she's looking to serve the church in a new way and hopes to contribute to the discussions which determine the future of our church.

Chris Cline

Chris is a big-league computer guy, working at a computer in the health care industry during the day, and doing website creation and on-line auctions when not at work. Family comes first, though, to Chris. He also enjoys singing and debate. Chris would like to help St. James develop a shared focus and direction for the majority of the congregation, and a documented set of approved policies and requirements in the instances where the focus is not, or cannot be shared by all. Christ would like to see clear focus for the days ahead at St. James.

Marvin McNabb

Marvin is a computer administrator for Ferrellgas during the day, and a fisherman during "off" hours. He spends a lot of his St. James time interacting with our children, and is well known as a Pre-school Sunday School teacher. Marvin has been on council before, and sees council as a place to set the course for the congregation's responsible use of resources. Marvin sees days ahead that will test the stewardship of our congregation, and wants to be a part of meeting those challenges.

Karen Verduco

Karen is the office manager for CPU Help, a computer firm, and is the Meeting Receptionist for Weight Watchers, Inc. As befits that, Karen likes to cook and try new recipes. Gardening and walking are favorites. Many St. James members know Karen by the mural she did years ago which still graces the nursery—and the newer one in the women's room on the main floor. Karen's St. James roots go back to the

23-27. Each day camp runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., except Friday which ends at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$65 per child per week.

Please call Hollis with any questions or to register. Sign up before June 1. Downloadable forms are available on the Hollis website: www.holliscenter.org.

1970s, and include stints in the choir and as a worship leader for Sunday Night Live!

Karen was curator of the first Arts in Ministry Exhibit: "What Does Easter Mean To Me?" - Easter 2006. Karen would like to bring her creativity into play, encouraging the entire congregation to involvement.

Christy Schliesman (GEM)

Works for KPMG in Human Resources and likes to read, travel and listen to music. Christy has been a youth sponsor, a Sunday School teacher, an altar guild member and a worship leader at Sunday Night Live! Christy things that the GEM committee is a good place to serve St. James as St. James continues to serve the community.

Betty Hill

Betty has been on the council, and is finishing up filling out an unexpired term. Betty spends a lot of time with her grand-daughter, and likes to watch movies. She likes to read and did she mention spend time with her grand-daughter!? Betty was a Lutheran Women's group treasurer in the 1970s, and is involved today as one of our counters that care for the offering of the church. Betty would like to see more Bible Study at St. James, and wants to help by serving on Council.

Bob Bergin

Bob is a Substitute teacher at Winnetonka and NKC High Schools. In his spare time, he likes to read, golf, and internet-connect which is a natural because Bob likes meeting people. He has served on council before, and in various other ministries of St. James, including as a Stephen Minister and leader. Bob currently represents St. James on the board of Yarco Properties (with MLM). Bob would like to see the church council be a strong body, with a vision for the future. Bob brings a long-term sense of commitment to St. James to his run for church council.