

OCTOBER 2024

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5665 Merle Hay Road

P.O. Box 62

Johnston, IA 50131

steward@stjamesjohnston.org

www.stjamesjohnston.org

515.276.0134

SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Jonah the Prophet Bible Study & Worship in November!

November 2/3

November 9/10

November 16/17

November 23/24



Advent Schedule for Wednesday evenings December 4, 11, 18

GROW (<i>Preschool-5th</i>)	5:30—7pm
Confirmation (<i>6th-8th</i>)	7—8pm (dinner is soup supper)
ABIDE (<i>9th-12th</i>)	7—8pm
Bell Choir rehearsal	7—8pm
Bible Study with Isaac	6:10—6:55pm

Christian Education

Upcoming events in November/December:

November GROW Topic: Jonah

- **Sunday, 11/10:** Preschool-5th Graders help Pastor during worship
- **Wednesday, 11/27:** No Christian Education--Happy Thanksgiving!

December GROW Topic: Luke, Chapter 1

- **Wednesdays, 12/4, 11, & 18:** Soup supper begins at 5:30
- **Sunday, 12/15:** Christmas program during worship
- **Wednesday, 12/25:** No Christian Education—Merry Christmas!

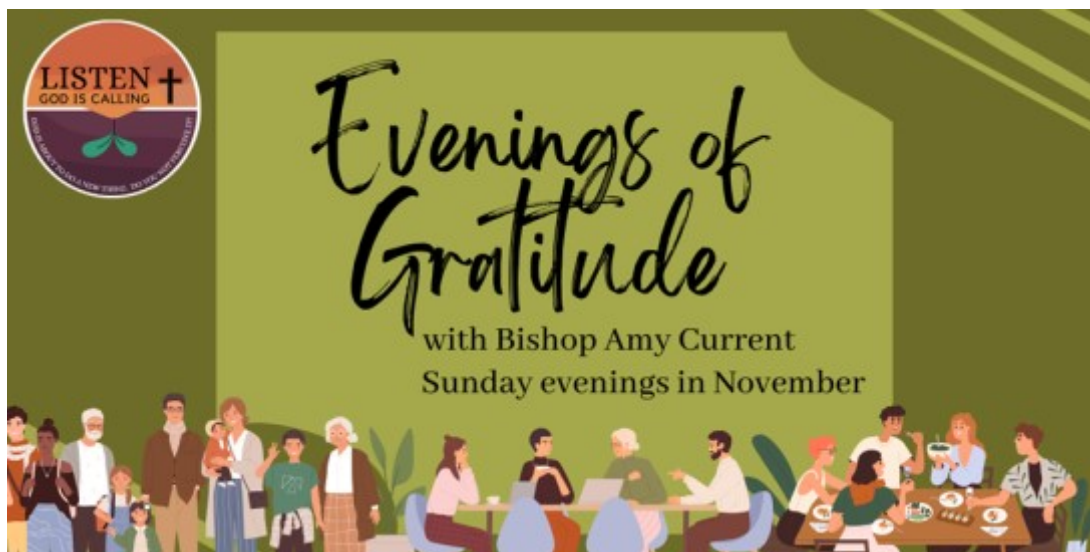


Join us for Blessing of the Animals. God's creation includes creatures with fins, feathers, and fur.

During Worship:

Saturday, November 16, at 5pm

Or Sunday, November 17, at 9:30am



Dear Rostered Minister/SAM/Office Contact,

I give thanks for the ways that you and your congregation/ministry setting listen to how God is calling you into ministry and mission. This fall, I and my staff invite you to join us and other congregation members, deacons, and pastors across the synod on a Sunday evening in November to share in gratitude for God's abundance. We will worship together, receive stories of gratitude, share a meal, and spend time in fellowship.

You are invited to put the date of the gathering location closest to you on your calendar. The schedule for each of the evenings is as follows:

- 4:30 pm to 4:45 pm Gather
- 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm Worship
- 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Dinner, Gratitude Stories, and Fellowship

The congregations in your conference are invited to attend the gathering at: November 24:
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 3820 SW 9th St., Des Moines

Dinner will be a soup potluck. Each congregation is invited to bring a crock pot of soup and either bread or cut vegetables for our meal. The host site will provide beverages, and the synod office will provide cookies for dessert.

I look forward to gathering with you and your congregation members to hear your stories of gratitude and to share stories of our ministry together as a synod and church over the past year.

In Christ,

Bishop Amy Current



Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Looking Ahead—Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 24

4:30pm

6:30pm



Thank you to everyone who participated. We raised over \$700 for our lock in and future youth events!



THANK YOU!

OKTOBERFEST 2024

the ABIDE group wants to thank you
for your generosity.

Because of your generosity, we are
able to have our Lock-In and are now
working on raising funds for our
Mission Trip in June 2025.

Thank you!



ABIDE

NOVEMBER 2024

11.02.24 | 6PM LOCK-IN

11.06.24 7PM SERVICE PROJECT

11.13.24 7PM FUN OUTTING

11.20.24 7PM ABIDE @ STJLC

11.27.24 NO ABIDE: THANKSGIVING

JOIN US WHEN YOU CAN. FRIENDS
ALWAYS INVITED!

?S:YOUTH@STJAMESLUTHERAN.ORG

Monthly Treasurer's Report

<u>Operating Fund by Quarter</u>	<u>Contributions</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
First Quarter	\$140,405	\$150,285	\$108,742	\$111,773
2 nd Qtr cumulative	\$208,120	\$229,160	\$202,473	\$209,915
3 rd Qtr cumulative	\$286,998	\$308,009	\$286,471	\$305,491

We tapped into the Reserve Fund in late September to balance the contributions and expenses. We did not have to tap into the Reserve Fund in October to meet expenses.

Year to date we are matching our contributions to our expenses, but that is occurring because our actual expenses are about \$20,000 less than budgeted.

On 1/1/2024 the Mortgage Fund had a balance of \$107,674. Contributions have been made to this Fund throughout the year, and we have made the \$10,273 monthly payments. On 10/1/2024 the Mortgage Fund had a balance of \$72,546.

Our Stewardship campaign culminates on November 3, and we will report those results shortly thereafter.

November and December will also be 2025 Budget Planning, and we will keep you informed about that process. Our Congregational Budget Discussion will be on Sunday January 12, 2025, and the Congregational Annual Meeting will be January 26, 2025.

Chair Yoga

Our Yoga class is a lot of fun and important to our well being.

Join us Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30am for 30-40 minutes.



Hope Ministries



Here at Hope Ministries, we're about to enter a season of being equipped to serve more struggling women than ever before when our new Hope Ministries Center for Women and Children opens this fall!

At our new 100-bed center, we're going to provide safe refuge, warm meals and life-changing recovery programs for many of the most vulnerable women in Central Iowa. Some single women and moms with kids will stay with us for a short while (days or weeks, maybe a few months) and others will enter our long-term life recovery program, staying with us for up to two years! *No matter how long they stay, we want to help them take their next steps toward a more stable, healthy life.*

Empowering Women might be a group for you if . . .

1. You have a heart for lifting up women who have been through incredible hardship.
2. You have untapped leadership or creative skills you want to put to use in a personal, purpose-filled way.
3. You simply love getting together with other women, making new friends and teaming up for an awesome cause.

If you are a woman interested in volunteering for this ministry, please contact:

Hope Iowa Center for Women & Children at 515-264-0144