



# The Visitor

January 06

St. James Lutheran Church

517-782-8297

## Church Council

# Lenten Services

**The Reverend David W. Brobston**.....  
**Pastor**

**Lyle Thornton**..... Vice President  
**Joyce Anderson**..... Financial Secretary  
**Karen Dale**..... Secretary  
**Dana Weirich**..... Christian Education  
**Norma Wierenga**..... Worship  
**Mike King**..... Treasurer  
**Doug Brewer**..... Property  
**Rae Anne Alfred**  
 ..... Outreach - (Evangelism/Social Ministry)  
**Edna Souder** ..... Fellowship

Staff:  
**Pastor** .....  
 The Reverend David W. Brobston

**Intern**..... Vicar Jessica Lambert  
**Office Manager**..... Tonia Zanger  
**Parish Nurse** ..... Julie Wyatt  
**Organist**..... Jim Skrocki  
 ..... Catherine Bilow  
**Choir Director** ..... JoAnne Gaffney

**Ash Wednesday -**  
**Ash Wednesday Service**  
**March 1st**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday Services in Lent -**  
**Every Wednesday during Lent**  
**(March 8th - April 5th)**

6:15 - Soup Supper  
 6:45 - Worship



*Everyone is invited to attend! A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you would like to provide a soup for the*

### St. James Mission Statement

St. James Lutheran Church is a grace-centered family of faith that seeks to know Christ and make Him known.

### St. James Vision Statement

We hear and proclaim the Good News of Christ.  
 We baptize in the name of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
 We share in the Lord's Supper.



## Martin Chemnitz.

"If the second Martin had not come, the first Martin would not have stood." This saying from the seventeenth century refers to Martin Chemnitz and Martin Luther. It means that the writings of Martin Chemnitz rescued Lutheran theology which was being undermined by the teachings of Calvinists and Catholics alike. So, who was this "Second Martin?"

Born on November 9, 1522, he had to labor hard for his education, for his father died when he was a young man. In the course of time, however, he became a student at Wittenberg where Philip Melanchthon impressed him. Although the first Martin (Luther) was conducting the Reformation at the time, the second Martin (Chemnitz) paid little attention to what he said. Studying math, he had become so wrapped up in astrology that he was little use for anything else.

Fortunately, for the Reformation movement Melanchthon was able to steer him toward theology. Although at first Chemnitz made his living as a librarian and astrologer, he finally recognized the futility of astrology and turned his entire thoughts to theology, reading the works of the church fathers and the theologians of his own day. As a result, his keen mind became equipped to defend the Reformation teachings of Luther.

Chemnitz engaged in theological debate with a mild disposition, much less attacking than many contemporaries. Chemnitz didn't resort to name calling and jeering, instead letting the theological convictions, reasons, and Scripture speak for him. One of his best-known books was *Loci Theologici*, which is a commentary on Melanchthon's theology. This work allowed Martin to forcefully defend the doctrine of justification. This doctrine had been taking a beating, at the hands of Papists and Calvinists

Chemnitz also published a four volume reply to the Roman Catholics teaching that grew out of the Council of Trent.

But for Lutherans, his most important contribution was his part in drafting the Formula of Concord. This Formula was an attempt to restate Lutheran doctrine in an effort to close the widening gap in the Reformation movement.

Martin died in 1586. In his later years, he turned down many calls to high positions, content to remain a pastor and educator.

# From the Vicar...

God surely does work in mysterious ways. No matter how we try to plan and control the events in our lives, the Holy Spirit always seems to wrap her arms around us and move us gently, or not so gently, elsewhere. As the half-way point of my internship here fast approaches, I am awed by how the Spirit has been moving in my life. You know, it's a strange thing, being a sojourner through the life of a congregation, not to mention two, for just a year of one's life. You move in, you get involved, you get connected, and then it's done and you're back at school. But on the other hand, what a blessing, what a gift to be a sojourner in the life of a congregation, not to mention two, for a year. You get to move in, get involved, get connected, and discover one day that you're doing something you were pretty nervous about doing, and that the relationships you've formed are precious and meaningful. You get to stretch your mind and your heart in new ways, and be challenged. You get to grow in faith with these congregations, and there is no greater gift than that. Yep, I'm feeling really blessed right about now.

The mid-point of my internship is turning out to be the busiest, fullest time yet, the time filled with the most planning and the most opportunities. My internship project is well under way; a Passover Seder on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The leadership team is hard at work already doing a lot of creative planning, and I'm really excited about it. I think it will be a profound and wonderful way to begin Holy Week, where we can root ourselves in ancient origins and tradition as well as express our deepest hopes for the future. At Immanuel I am involved with the preparations for a 24-hour prayer vigil in March and with the writing of Lenten dramas for Wednesday services. Here at St. James I am exploring spiritual autobiography with the Life Changes group. And in addition to all of these important activities, there are opportunities to preach, teach Sunday School, be involved with committees and conferences, not to mention my up coming six month evaluation, by both pastors and my internship committee (yikes).

On a more personal note, my fiancé Nathan and I continue to have fun planning our wedding this summer in Baltimore, and Nathan has discerned a call to ministry in the Episcopal Church even as he continues to work towards his PhD at the University of Michigan. All of this should keep us busy and on the move for a good while, but I am proud of him and feel blessed to be on this journey with him. I still hope to have my sister and her two little boys out here for a visit soon so that I can share the little apples of my eye with you.

Looking ahead at the next six months, I pray that I am able to make connections with even more of you and your families, and that we grow even closer in Christ's love; I pray for growth in the areas of teaching, preaching, pastoral care and the articulation of my faith; I pray for more learning opportunities in new situations; I pray for the graciousness to live every day in thanksgiving for God's love, for being here with you, for the ministry of this church, and for the work of the Holy Spirit in all of it.

Grace and Peace,  
Vicar Jessica

# From Our Parish Nurse...

Dear Family and Friends,

This month I would like to consider the area of family health and specifically focus on Family Communication. All relationships involve conflict and we can focus on God pleasing ways of managing it. The following are ideas for responding to conflict in our family relationships.

*Conflict Management as God's Children:*

- Cool down before you start - All of us need to manage our anger in ways that respect our Creator, others and ourselves. Share a prayer as you begin discussion (Eph 4:26; 1 Cor.11:3)
- As a Family decides together, what the problem is - Everyone's perspectives, feelings and hopes deserve to be calmly discussed. Feelings belong to each person and should not be debated. We can try to view the concern from the perspective of each person (Prov 18:13).
- Brainstorm possible solutions and agree on an approach - There is always more than one way to solve a problem. What a joy to sit together, understand each person's perspective and agree together on a better approach (Ps 14:14).
- Revisit later about how the new approach worked

May we all experience this gift of reconciliation and be empowered to share it within our families (II Cor. 5:14-19).

You may come to me if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,  
Julie

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## **B**lood Pressure Clinics:

The following dates (all Sundays) have been set by our Parish Nurse for blood pressure clinics:

March 5th; April 9th; May 28th; June 25th; (July and August off) September 17th; October 15th; November 12th and December 10th.

Please feel free to see Julie on any of these given dates following worship for your blood pressure check!



**Church  
News &  
Notes**

**Stampin' Up will be on Saturday, March 11th from 9:00 – 12:00 p.m.** here at St. James. Come on out and join the fellowship and fun! Learn to stamp birthday, get well, anniversary (or any kind of) card you can think of.

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**Tuesday's with the Men...**

All men of St. James are invited to meet for breakfast at Bill's Coffee Manor, 3306 Francis Street, Jackson, each Tuesday of the month: March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. Meeting time is at 8:00 a.m.

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**Ash Wednesday Service** will be Wednesday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m.

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**Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship** will be held on Wednesday, March 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th. Soup supper begins at 6:15 p.m. with worship following at 6:45 p.m.

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**Easter Schedule** - Our Holy Week schedule is as follows: Maundy Thursday Service, April 13th at 7:00 p.m.; Good Friday Service, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. and our Easter Vigil will be on Saturday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. We cordially invite you to all of our services!

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**Easter  
SERVICE**

**Please take note!!!** On Easter Sunday ONLY our service time will change! Coffee hour will be prior to worship with the Easter Service following at **9:30 a.m.** More information will be available in April's newsletter regarding the special coffee hour time!

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**Newsletter Deadline!** If you would like to submit an article for April's issue of 'The Visitor', please have all articles in to the office no later than Sunday, March 19th!

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**Confirmation  
Class**

**Attention Class!** Class will meet here at St. James on Sunday, March 12th and Sunday March 26th. Class begins at 6:00 p.m.

**Spring Begins  
Monday, March  
20th!**



**R.S.V.P. for PASSOVER SEDER** - The Seder will take place Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, with members of Immanuel, St. James and Christ Lutheran. To R.S.V.P., it will be \$7.50 for adults (for the cost of the celebratory meal) and children under 12 are free. Registration continues today, in the Narthex. There you will find a team member with a registration form. Seating will be limited, so sign up early, and come experience a wonderful, interactive, faith enriching, family worship event. After you register you will receive an introduction to the Passover in the mail to help you prepare, and to give you a background. There are many opportunities in the service for readers, so if you are interested, let us know. All are welcome at the table! Please contact Vicar Jessica with any questions, at (517) 817-0858, or at [lambert.jess@gmail.com](mailto:lambert.jess@gmail.com).

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**Don't forget we have Divine Chocolate Bars available!** Does the Easter Bunny need help filling those Easter baskets? May we help? We have available delicious Equal Exchange chocolate available in the following flavors: Divine Heavenly White Chocolate with a Heart (3.5 oz.), Heavenly Devine Milk Chocolate with Hazelnuts (3.5 oz.) and Divine Heavenly Milk Chocolate (3.5 oz.) for \$2.00 each; we also have 1.5 ozs. Of Divine Dark Chocolate Divine Milk Chocolate bars for \$1.00 each. Mmmm...

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**Julie Wyatt is doing a fundraiser to help earn money for her trip to Guatemala through Helps International.** She needs to raise \$1200 and is offering to you the opportunity to purchase her homemade Chocolate Easter Bunnies and other Chocolate confections. She will have on display in the Narthex samples of her work. Please see page 8 for more details.

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**Living Simply With God: A 40-day Hunger Calendar:** Any calendar helps you mark your days on Earth, comparing them to each other, making sense out of each one. This calendar is about hunger that God wants us to abbreviate, alleviate, eliminate. The calendar is also about how you can live a joyous and abundant life, filled with generosity towards others. A life modeled on Jesus' own. A life that's lived simply so that others can simply live.

**What is this calendar for?**

The 40-day calendar is a simple way to:

- Take stock of your life;
- Simplify how you spend your time;
- Move God's version of the good life into your life;
- Help change the lives of people whose personal "calendars" hold unending hunger, bone-crushing poverty and insulting injustice every day;

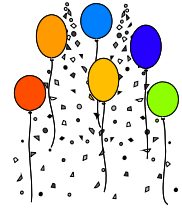
Find hope for your life and the lives of others.

*These calendars are available in the Narthex. If you are unable to get to the church, please contact the office and we'll send one to you.*

**Church  
News &  
Notes  
Continued...**

# Our Church Family...

## March Birthday's



3/02	Gerry Gygax	3/21	Evan Jones
3/07	Jim Hong	3/23	Ritchey Marken
	Sherry Mauch	3/24	Sue Walker
3/8	Jeanne Thomas	3/25	Sara Tackett
3/10	Jessica Tackett	3/26	Randy Shuberg
3/13	Carol Mueller	3/27	Mark Kolevar
3/15	Julie Wyatt	3/29	Allison Wyatt
3/20	Orville Sillman		



3/29  
Rick & Michelle Veneziano (9th)

**It's A Boy!**



On Sunday, February 5th, Oliver & Julie Morian had a little boy named Miles Avery Morian-Thornton. Miles weighed 7lb. 12oz and was 20 inches. Dad, Mom and baby are doing great!

Miles is the grandson of Lyle and Susan Thornton. Congratulations to all!

*May God richly bless this new life!!*

**In Memory of Skip Ernst:** As many of you know, grief is not a short thing to deal with. I have been doing a lot of different things to deal with my grief. It is not easy, but I am making progress. I am sending this out to ask for your help.

I have a request of you.

I want to put together a memory box. What this entails is that I would ask everyone to take a note card and write a memory of Skip. **This could be what he was like, or how he affected your life.** I am planning to put them all together and keep them in a special box. Memories are not very easy for me yet, I only seem to remember all the bad stuff from the end, but I remember that there were a lot of people who said good things about him at the appreciation ceremony we had at church before his death, and those are some of the type of things I would like to capture. **If he touched your life, please find an index card and write a memory for me.**

Do you think you could send a note or an email to people who you think were touched by Skip? Maybe everyone could just put their card in my mailbox at church.

**I really appreciate everyone that would be willing to take the time to help me with this!**

Thank you all for your help,  
Karen





# Fundraiser

Help Julie Wyatt earn money for trip to  
Guatemala through Helps International  
Needs \$1200


Chocolate Easter Bunnies and other Chocolate  
confections can be ordered  
Samples may be seen in the Narthex

## Servant List March/April

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
<b>Greeter</b>	Bill & Joyce Anderson	Paul & Arlene Barosko	Doug & Marty Brewer	Morris & Nancy DeGryse
<b>Acolyte</b>	Betsy Tackett	Conor Brobston	Kyle Bitner	Caroline Tackett
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Julie Wyatt	John & Pat Reynolds	Art & Norma Wierenga	Mike & Sara Tackett
<b>Nursery Care</b>	Edna Souder	Sara Tackett	Jim & Kim Williams	Warren & Dana Weirich
<b>Counters</b>	Mike King & Sherry Knight	Lyle Thornton & Donna North	Jim Souder & Sara Tackett	Paul Franck & Karen Dale
<b>Ushers</b>	Paul & Susan Franck	Bill & Joyce Anderson	Don & Dorothy Harsch	Neil & Melinda Robb
<b>Readers</b>			Mary Palleson	
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>				
<b>Altar Care</b>	Becky Stevick	Becky Stevick	Becky Stevick	Becky Stevick

	April 2	April 9	Maundy Thursday, April 12	Good Friday, April 13	Easter Vigil, April 14	Easter Sunday, April 16	April 23	April 30
<b>Greeter</b>	Karen Ernst & Tim Ernst	Paul & Susan Franck				Don & Dorothy Harsch	Brian & Kim Hurley & Family	Mike & Kim Jones
<b>Acolyte</b>	Nathan Caves	Tim Ernst	Evan Jones	Betsy Tackett	Conor Brobston	Kyle Bitner	Caroline Tackett	Nathan Caves
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Mike & Sara Tackett	Jim & Edna Souder				Matt & Deb Schroeder	Neil & Melinda Robb	John & Pat Reynolds
<b>Nursery Care</b>	Dan & Rae Anne Alfred	Karen Ernst	Paul & Susan Franck		Brian & Kim Hurley	Mike & Kim Jones	Mike & Kathy King	Audrey Kolevar
<b>Counters</b>	Mike King & Sherry Knight	Lyle Thornton & Donna North				Jim Souder & Sara Tackett	Paul Franck & Karen Dale	Lyle Thornton & Donna North
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim & Edna Souder	Tom Gaffney & Jim Williams	Roy Kelly & Denny Wyatt		Lyle Thornton & Art Wierenga	Morris DeGryse & Doug Brewer	Dale Walker & Chuck Thor	John Reynolds & Tim Ernst
<b>Readers</b>								
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>								
<b>Altar Care</b>	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck	Susan Franck

# March 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Every Sunday:</b> 9 am - Worship 10 am - Sunday School and Coffee Hour	On page 9 is the servant schedule for the next two months. Check the schedule and see when you are to serve. If you are unable to serve on a given date, make arrangements with someone and let the office know. <b>T.W.T.M. = Tuesday's with the Men</b>		<b>1 Ash Wednesday</b> 1 pm - Bridge 7 pm - Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm - Choir	2	3	4  4 pm - Marken/O'Neil Wedding
5 <b>Following Worship:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blood pressure Clinic</li> <li>Judit Pethó Adult Form</li> </ul> 3 pm - Bowling	6 1 pm - Life Changes  7 pm - Living Waters	7 8 am - T.W.T.M - Breakfast @ Bill's Coffee Manor	8 6:15 pm - Soup Supper 6:45 pm - Worship 7:30 pm - Choir	9	10	11  9 am - 12 noon— Stampin' Up
12  6 pm - Confirmation Class Here	13  7 pm - Church Council	14  8 am - T.W.T.M - Breakfast @ Bill's Coffee Manor	15 4 pm - W/M Committee Mtg. 6:15 pm - Soup Supper 6:45 pm - Worship 7:30 pm - Choir	16  Capital Pastor's Conference - Here	17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 	18  Newsletter Deadline
19	20 <b>Spring Begins</b> 1 pm - Life Changes 7 pm - Living Waters	21  8 am - T.W.T.M - Breakfast @ Bill's Coffee Manor	22 6:15 pm - Soup Supper 6:45 pm - Worship 7:30 pm - Choir	23	24	25
26  6 pm - Confirmation Class Here	27	28  8 am - T.W.T.M - Breakfast @ Bill's Coffee Manor	29 6:15 pm - Soup Supper 6:45 pm - Worship 7:30 pm - Choir	30	31	