



**Worship Schedule**

**Contemporary  
Worship**  
9:00 a.m.

**Sunday School**  
9:55 a.m.

**Traditional  
Worship**  
11:00 a.m.

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**Much More!!**

# the Scroll

## Remember...

*“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

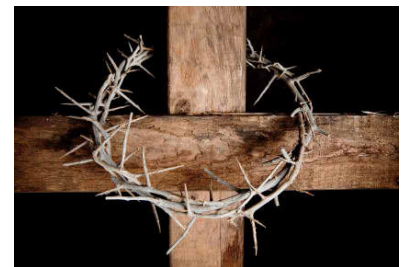
When we gather together on Ash Wednesday (February 22), we will once again hear a word that God weaves intentionally into the fabric of our faith. Can you spot it below?

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Which word jumped out at you? When you hear these words, which one receives the most emphasis? For years, whenever I would hear or say these words, I would focus on the “dust”. I think maybe that’s part of the reason that the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday and this phrase, was never really one of my favorite times of the year. This year, when I sat and thought about them, the word that stood out for me was “remember”. With the season of Lent, God invites once more to remember. To reflect upon our life and recall all of the places where God has been active.

What will you remember this Lent, as we journey from the mountaintop to the cross? What will you reflect on as God leads along the path of Jesus? Where will those thoughts take you, and how will they prepare you for the celebration of the joy that lives beyond the shadow of death?

Jesus’ disciples journeyed with him from the mountaintop-where he was transfigured, shining with the full glory of God-to the cross. Throughout Lent we will read the stories of where they traveled, what they saw, and who they met along the way. As we do, we will remember these stories once more, as we weave them into our own stories-our own lives of discipleship. As we do this, week in and week out, we will do what Jesus asked of those first disciples. We will gather around the table and we will remember his last supper, a meal that we share each week.



Jesus invites us to remember this story that God wrote for us. It is a story that God is still writing for us, and with us.

*“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” -  
Matthew 28:20*

God’s peace,  
Pastor Andrew



*Living in God's amazing grace*

### Church Directory

#### Pastor

The Rev. Andrew Simon  
[pastor@stjames-ri.org](mailto:pastor@stjames-ri.org)

#### Director of Music Ministry

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[musicminister@stjames-ri.org](mailto:musicminister@stjames-ri.org)

#### Secretary

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#### Signer

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#### Scroll /Website Editor

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### **Editor's Preferred Deadline**

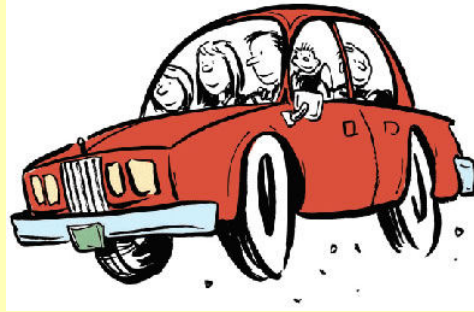
**for submission of Scroll  
articles will be  
the 15th of each month.**

**Last minute additions may  
be accepted – as space  
allows – until  
newsletter is completed.**

**Please send all content to  
[Scroll@stjames-ri.org](mailto:Scroll@stjames-ri.org) or  
leave it in Debi Curry's  
office mail cubby.**

## DRIVERS NEEDED

Several St. James members who are no longer able to drive are in need of rides to the doctor and other appointments. If you have some availability to help out as your schedule permits please contact Pastor Andrew.



## CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Mary Hassan  
 Vice President - Dave Erickson  
 Secretary - (Vacant)  
 Ellen Zawislak - Treasurer

Communications - Debi Curry  
 Cultivating Community in Christ - (Vacant)  
 Finance - George Bowen  
 Outreach Ministries - Jill Bowen  
 Property - Jack Zawislak  
 Worship and Music - Mary Hassan  
 Youth Ministry - Gail Feeny

### At Large

Kim Bergstrand  
 Steven Dumas  
 Mike Nadeau

## *Financially Speaking...*

**For the first time since 2007 St. James finished the year with a surplus.**

With income of \$146,384 and expenses of \$145,297, St. James Church ends year 2011 with a surplus of \$1,087. Income exceeded estimates by \$5,384 while expenses were \$17,062 under budget wiping out a projected deficit of \$21,359 and creating a small surplus.

With a tough economy we at St. James are most fortunate. Thank you to all.



## Thrivent Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup> Helps St. James Missions!

Eligible benefit members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes a portion of its charitable outreach funds through Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup>, part of the organization's Thrivent Choice<sup>SM</sup> charitable grant program.

2010 Thrivent Choice facts and figures

- More than 20,000 Lutheran organizations and congregations are enrolled in the program.
- Members directed Choice Dollars nearly 496,500 times, recommending where Thrivent Financial distributes charitable outreach funds to Lutheran organizations.
- More than \$25 million has been distributed.
- Members direct an average of \$59,000 Choice Dollars every day.

**Thanks to Thrivent Financial members, St. James Lutheran Church has already received \$1208 in program funding.** Help support what matters most to you by directing Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup> to St. James.

## DOING WHAT MATTERS - SPRING MISSION ASSEMBLY



### You're Invited To Be Doing What Matters At Your Annual Spring Mission Area Assembly

Please join the Ad Hoc Committee for the Election of a New Bishop and the "Doing What Matters" Facilitateam for a day of prayerful conversation and fellowship at one of the seven Mission Area Assemblies scheduled for this spring. We need your insight and your voice as we come together to discern what directions the synod will pursue in both our leadership and mission. We invite you and a big crew from your congregation to come and explore these central questions:

*What is God up to in the New England Synod? Where is love leading?  
Who is love calling the New England Synod to serve?  
Who is love calling to serve the New England Synod?*

Dates, time and locations as follows:

Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-3:00pm:  
East Central- Trinity, Chelmsford, MA  
Northeast- Immanuel Indonesian/Holy Trinity, Newington, NH  
Central MA- Bethel, Auburn, MA

Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-3:00pm:  
Northwest- Trinity, Brattleboro, VT  
Southern- St. John, Stamford, CT  
Southeast- Sanctuary, Marshfield, MA

Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 9:30am-3:00pm:  
South Central- First, New Britain, CT

Register now to take advantage of the early registration fee:

\$15.00 per person before March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012  
(After March 1<sup>st</sup> the fee is \$20.00 per person)

Click [HERE](#) for link to registration forms.

For more information about "Doing What Matters" visit us on [facebook](#) and [web](#)

For more information about the Election of a Bishop visit the synod's [webpage](#)

**Be Who You Are. . . See What You Have. . . Do What Matters to God!**

If you have trouble viewing the registration forms please reply to [kimbergstrand@comcast.net](mailto:kimbergstrand@comcast.net)

*Acts 20:35<sup>35</sup>*

*In everything I did,  
I showed you that  
by this kind of hard  
work we must help  
the weak,  
remembering the  
words the Lord  
Jesus himself said:  
'It is more blessed to  
give than to  
receive.'*

## Midweek Lent Soup Supper Series



Our Midweek Lent Series will resume on Wednesday February 29 at 7 pm in the Community Room and continue each Wednesday through March 28. Volunteers are needed to provide soup, bread, and refreshments, as well as to help with setup and cleanup. There are sign up sheets in the community room.

This year we will use a DVD series by Marcus Borg entitled "Embracing an Adult Faith". This series explores what it means to be a Christian. All are welcome to attend!

**FOOD DRIVE:** A basket has been placed outside the sanctuary to collect non-perishable food. Items received are sorted and delivered to families from St. James as well as Tap-In. Please help, as you are able.

### What to give

- Protein: Canned soup, tuna, meat, peanut butter, nuts.
- Canned fruits and vegetables including juices, dried fruit and tomato sauce.
- Carbohydrates: Breakfast cereals, pasta, rice, boxed macaroni-and-cheese.
- Crackers, granola bars, cheese-and-cracker packages
- Olive oil and canned or dried beans.

Please check expiration dates.



**Feeding the  
Community**



*Our hot meatball sandwiches and coffee brought welcome relief to those living on the street or staying in shelters.*

## MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES: DOING WHAT MATTERS

It was really, really cold those January days when the St. James crew manned the Mobile Loaves & Fishes truck and drove to Woonsocket and Providence. We planned for it, dressed for it; and rested in the heated truck between stops. We were able to weather the cold knowing that we would be going home to a nice warm house; most of those we were serving were not so fortunate. The group handed out as much warm clothing as we had along with dry socks and a few blankets. Our hot meatball sandwiches and coffee brought welcome relief to those living on the street or staying in shelters. Thanks to everyone for continuing to fill Lou's Closet month after month. At this time of year we especially need warm coats in good repair, all sizes, all styles. Also needed are blankets, mittens, hats, scarves etc.

### St. James is scheduled for three runs in February:

*Saturday, February 11th – Woonsocket*  
Prep begins at 10:30am; the truck will leave a noon

*Sunday, February 12th – Providence*  
Prep begins following the Contemporary Service (10:15ish), the truck will leave at noon

*Wednesday, February 15th  
Providence and Pawtucket*  
Prep begins at 3:30; the truck will leave at 5:00pm

There is always a need for peanut butter, jelly, tomato sauce, frozen meatballs, bags of chips, juice boxes, cookies, zip lock sandwich bags, instant coffee, tea bags and hot chocolate.

*Please continue to pray for the homeless in our community and around the world. Please pray that the St. James volunteers will be able to bring comfort and a warm meal to those in need.*

### January Mission Collection

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Mission Collection in January raised over \$150 for heating assistance. Thanks to everyone for your generous support.

### February Mission Collection

Has been allocated to the Community Soup Kitchen. This is a cooperative effort of ten Rhode Island Churches to staff the kitchen and provide a nutritious weekly meal to low income and homeless individuals and families at the Park Place Congregational Church in Pawtucket. St. James provides 6-7 meals per year. A complete schedule will follow at a later date. Please see Nancy Kutz if you are able to provide meals or help with serving and clean up.

## Lou's Closet

The Outreach Ministries Team was able to deliver clothing to Tap-In and Dorcas House in January along with filling the Mobile Loaves & Fishes truck for three runs.

Lou's Closet is low on warm clothing in all sizes. Thanks to all for your continued support.



## Upcoming Dates to Remember - St. James Youth

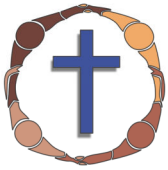
- Youth groups (TFC and KFC)  
February 11, March 24, April 28 and May 19
- February 1 – May 1 - Early registrations for VBS
- Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup> - No Kids Club. Super Bowl snack sale (Annual Youth Activities Fundraiser)
- Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup> - First Communion
- Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> - No Kids Club
- April 27 – 29 - Sunday School retreat at Calumet for 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> graders
- May 1 – July 2: VBS registrations
- May 20<sup>th</sup> – last day of Kids Club & Second Annual Congregational BBQ and Picnic
- July 16 – 20: Vacation Bible School



### A Special Valentine

Winter's come to Windy Hill,  
 I walk through falling snow,  
 It softly covers every pine,  
 And blankets earth below,  
 Then changes to a freezing rain,  
 In mere moments of time,  
 As windowpanes are frosted with,  
 Some intricate designs,  
 Sketched by the Master Artist's hand,  
 And when the storm is done,  
 Diamonds sparkle everywhere,  
 In the winter sun.  
 It's time to ski the mountains,  
 And skate ponds as smooth as glass,  
 Or take a youngster sledding,  
 The merriest of tasks!  
 It's a cold and frigid season,  
 yet somehow I keep quite warm,  
 As I walk in stillful silence,  
 In the clear, crisp winter calm.  
 And high up in the maple,  
 Sits a black-capped chickadee.  
 He sings a song of winter,  
 God's valentine to me!

~ Margie Rieske



# St. James Lutheran Church

*... a community connected in Christ*

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<http://stjames-ri.org>



*Living in God's amazing grace*

## *First Communion: Maundy Thursday*



Children who have not yet received communion will be invited to share in their First Communion during our Maundy Thursday service (April 5, 7:00 pm). First Communion instruction will take place during the month of March, and will consist of three gatherings.

Parents who would like their children to receive communion at this time are invited to sign up on the sheet in the community room. Pr. Andrew will contact interested families to find the best time to schedule these classes.

In the Lutheran church, baptism is the entry point into the life of the church. Everything that we believe flows out of our baptism, and is shaped by it. If your child has yet to be baptized and you would like for him or her to receive communion on Maundy Thursday, we can schedule a time for this to happen. Pr. Andrew would be glad to sit down with anyone who is interested or has questions.