



## St. James Lutheran Church Celebrating 100 years in 2020

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*Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,  
share our faith and serve with the love of God"*

### APRIL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 4/11/20



#### Face masks for Coronavirus:

We're all going to need to wear masks as the Coronavirus pandemic spreads and worsens. A few days ago, Governor Bullock announced that we won't see the peak of the pandemic until about April 25th. Since masks are in short supply, I

would like to share a pattern with our congregation that a friend of mine who is an RN and a pharmacist has been sewing for herself and her colleagues. Perhaps persons within the church who have a talent for sewing might be interested in making them for their family, friends and community. Masks have a short life expectancy. If they are made of material they can be washed – with soap and hot water – and they need to be washed daily.

Here's a link to the pattern.

<https://www.craftpassion.com/face-mask-sewing-pattern/>

*Thank you, Judy Bjorkman*

### NEWS BREAK information.....

#### 10 Mistakes You're Making with Face Masks

EatThis

<https://www.eatthis.com/mistakes-face-masks/>



[Click to read the full story](#)

## Mission Offering for April benefits the Tumbleweed Program!

We encourage you to contribute to this community mission, even while we are in suspension at this time. Please, send your check to: St. James and be sure to note in the memo, it is for the April Mission Offering. Thank you for your generosity!



TUMBLEWEED

### Our Mission

Tumbleweed provides safety, assistance and hope to our community's vulnerable and homeless youth, creating lasting life changes.



### We Could Use Your Prayers!

**FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....**

\*\*Our 2019 monthly budget to meet is \$8,008.33

**FYI.....YTD (Jan - March 2020) (\$6,251.28) UNDER monthly budget**

April 5<sup>th</sup> Offering Gratefully Received \$11,435 OVER monthly budget \$3,426.67

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

*Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May the Lord bless you and give you peace.*

**PLEASE, PLEASE MEMBERS OF ST. JAMES –**

**We need your continued generosity and prayers during this uncertain time.**

**PLEASE, PLEASE MEMBERS OF ST. JAMES –**

**We need your monthly support NOW as much as we did when our church was open.**

## Again, a reminder of how to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church.....

**Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).  
We should consider His church to be the same.**

Fellow Members of St. James,

Thank you for your continuing generosity during this uncertain time. As you pray about your tithes and offerings at this time, we remind you of ways in which you can continue to support the ministry of St. James.

1. Mail your offering to the church at St. James Lutheran Church, PO Box 356, Columbus, MT, 59019
2. Take your envelope offering to Pastor Tonia's parsonage and put in the designated box on her front porch.
3. Stop in at your bank and arrange a monthly auto pay transaction.
4. Give online through **Tithe.ly**, a giving app endorsed by the ELCA. Each transaction carries a small fee. Your gift is safe / secure and goes directly to your church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

**[Tithe.ly](#) (click on this blue "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)**

If you know of anyone sick, preparing for surgery, struggling with health problems, mending or healing from illness or surgery, shut-ins, or loss of a loved one, traveling, in the service of our country, and peace in the world, contact **Judy Bjorkman** at 321-2988, text or call or by email at [jdbjorkman@hotmail.com](mailto:jdbjorkman@hotmail.com)

### **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...**

For those hospitalized, in nursing homes and homebound, and those battling cancer or other illnesses.

#### ***We offer new prayers for:***

Evan Hill, a friend of Joy and Larry Goehner's grandson in California. Evan is in a Los Angeles hospital on a ventilator. It is strongly suspected that he has Coronavirus. Please pray for Evan's comfort, peace, and complete healing.

Hudson, grandson of Patty and Lance Sundberg, as he has been admitted to the children's hospital in Milwaukee for internal bleeding. Hudson recently underwent an endoscopy and a colonoscopy which did not reveal the source of the problem. He is now awaiting the results of a images taken by a tiny pill that he swallowed. Please pray for guidance and wisdom for his doctors, for a quick resolution of Hudson's issues, and for his parents as only one of them can be in the hospital with him due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Jay Jaworski, as he is in a Billings hospital in critical condition from complications from kidney stones. Please pray for comfort and healing for Jay and for a quick resolution of his health issues.

All countries affected by the Coronavirus/Cofid-19 as they struggle to contain it and treat those who have contracted it. Please guide them; heal those who are afflicted with the virus; watch over their doctors, nurses and first responders; and halt its spread.

#### ***We offer continued prayers for:***

Pete Hegg; Max, friend of Pastor Tonia; Brian Wanner's father, Jerry; Harold Riensche; Donna Zeigler; Sally Bisch; Roger Sunvold; Dennis Gauthier; Jason Nielsen, Judy Bjorkman's brother; Les Lane; Kevin Ramer; Arvid Barnam; Roger Mullin; Gary Lofing and Jenny Steffenson.

**Please pray for all of those who serve in our military domestically and overseas,  
As well as their spouses and children at home.**

## ***A HUGE THANK YOU FOR:***

- Patience during this time of uncertainty. We all hope that we will be back to "Normal Church", soon!
- Reading all of the "many", "many" emails that have come to you this past week.
  - ✓ Pastor Tonia, the LPA's and your council want all of you to be as informed as possible about this virus and how we can help **STOP** this spread here and **NOW!**
  - ✓ We are hoping, from having Pastor's inspiring letters, our weekly newsletter information available, our online Worship service and a familiar bulletin to follow on Sunday, it will show some kind of normalcy as to how our little church will continue to connect and worship with each other.
- Patience as we worship together in Spirit through technology. We anticipate future services to explore additional ways of using our resources. For now, please take a moment of silence to breathe and participate as you are able.
- Pastor Tonia taking Palm Branches door-to-door to some of our members before Palm Sunday.



## ***WONDERFUL SINGALONG.....***

*Borrowed the below image from the webpage of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Missoula. This is the home church of Pastor Molly Sasser-Goehner and Allen Sasser-Goehner, Worship / Music Director.*



Watch and enjoy a Sing-along of favorite hymns presented by Allen Goehner.

Go to this website: <http://imluchurch.org/> and enjoy! *OR*

Go to [this link](#) on FB and enjoy!

## ***WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JAMES THIS WEEK & BEYOND.....***

### ***The Three Days***

**Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>:**

***Maundy Thursday*** Service on FB only

***If you missed this service, it is still available on FB.***



Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ***Friendly Reminder.....***



“My daddy told me this, years and years ago when I was a young girl - Just before Easter, pine trees start their new growth. The tallest branch shoots forth, & it forms the shape of a cross. And it all happens just around Easter Sunday. Look up at the Pine trees, you will see the tree is covered with crosses.”

Borrowed this post from a friend on FB



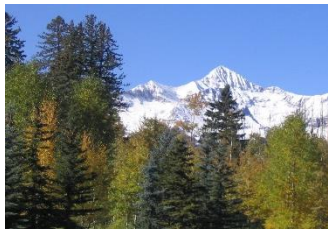
# Story of the Three Trees

Once upon a mountain top, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up.



The first little tree looked up at the stars and said: “I want to hold treasure. I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I’ll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!”

The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. “I want to be traveling mighty waters and carrying powerful kings. I’ll be the strongest ship in the world!”



The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. “I don’t want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me, they’ll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world.”

Years passed. The rain came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, “This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me.” With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell. “Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest. I shall hold wonderful treasure!” the first tree said.

The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, “This tree is strong. It is perfect for me.” With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell. “Now I shall sail mighty waters!” thought the second tree. “I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!”

The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. But the woodcutter never even looked up. “Any kind of tree will do for me,” he muttered. With a swoop of his shining axe, the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought her to a carpenter’s shop. But the carpenter fashioned the tree into a feedbox for animals. The once beautiful tree was not covered with gold, nor with treasure. She was coated with sawdust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals.

The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took her to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ship was made that day. Instead, the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and too weak to sail on an ocean, or even a river; instead, she was taken to a little lake.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard.

“What happened?” the once tall tree wondered. “All I ever wanted was to stay on the mountain top and point to God...”

Many, many days and nights passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams.

But one-night, golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feedbox. “I wish I could make a cradle for him,” her husband whispered. The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and the sturdy wood.

“This manger is beautiful,” she said.

***And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.***



One evening a tired traveler and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveler fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake. Soon a thundering and thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. She knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through with the wind and the rain. The tired man awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand, and said, “Peace.” The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun.

***And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the king of heaven and earth.***

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man’s hands to her. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel.

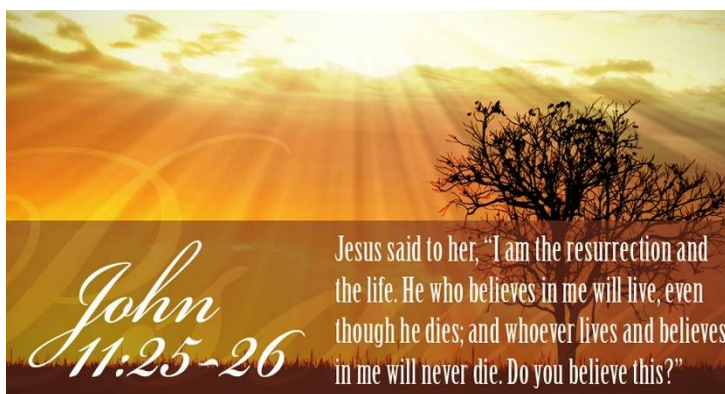


***But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God’s love had changed everything.***

***It had made the third tree strong.***

***And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God.***

***That was better than being the tallest tree in the world.***



*The next time you feel down because you didn't get what you want, sit tight and be happy because God is thinking of something better to give you.*

**Friday April 10<sup>th</sup>:**

**Good Friday** Service on You Tube & FB  
*If you missed this service, it is still available on FB & by the You Tube link.*



Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, & to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>:**

**Resurrection of Our Lord**



Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup>:**

**Easter Day** Synod-wide [live online](#) Easter Sunday Service



O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**On Sunday 4/12 @ 11am, [click here to watch](#) the live service.**

**Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter Worship Service online

**Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Worship Service online



**Happy April Birthday**

RaeEllen Strickland 4/1; Ian Morse 4/4; Patty Sundberg 4/7;  
Maddie Lind 4/11; Cory Wanner 4/13; Dorcas Atzbach 4/14;  
Joe Morse 4/15; Mason Adams 4/15; Don Herzog 4/16;  
Judy Bjorkman 4/19; John Mitchell 4/21; Tim Lofing 4/24;  
Tessa Rouane 4/25



**Happy April Anniversary**

Morgan & Lian Radford 4/27



**As St. James continues to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the year 2020....**We will continue to keep you up to date with all information.

***Please, save these upcoming dates, just in case:***

~~~ 5/17 Remembering our Norwegian Heritage Dinner & fun. Time & events TBA.~~

*The Dinner committee for this event has decided to postpone until the late fall. We will keep you all informed of the projected date & time. We truly hope and pray that this event will continue to happen.*

~ 8/23 Our Church's 100<sup>th</sup> year worship service w/the Bishop & previous pastors & a Banquet to celebrate with all of our members & the community. Time & events TBA.

~ 9/20 Remembering our German Heritage Dinner & music. Time & events TBA.

December – We will enter a float in the Parade of Lights celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> Year!

**We hope you will continue to enjoy excerpts of St. James History throughout this year and remember the “Good ‘Ole Days” and all that has happened for 100 Years in our small but mighty Lutheran Church!!**

**April's Church History report will be celebrating the years 1930 – 1939. Follow the upcoming newsletters to remember these years!**

*Simple Reminders...*

*More Than Mental Health* **Covid-19** *More Than Mums*  
**Mental Health Reminder**

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| <b>Get Dressed</b><br>Even if it's just into comfort clothes, this will help you feel more productive and less in a rut.                                                                                                  | <b>Do Your Hair/Makeup</b><br>Even if you're not going anywhere this can help make you feel "normal" in a very chaotic time. People also often feel relaxed when doing hair or makeup and you deserve that.               |
| <b>Eat New Healthy Recipes</b><br>If you can, eat a variety of food and try different recipes. This will give your day variety and keep your body feeling healthy.                                                        | <b>Get Some Fresh Air</b><br>Fresh air will help you not feel so cooped up or "stuck" in your home. Getting outside would be best but even standing at a window will be beneficial.                                       |
| <b>Be Creative</b><br>Try doing new activities or bring back old ones. Getting creative is a great way to keep your spirits up and your mind relaxed.                                                                     | <b>Unplug</b><br>Everyone everywhere is talking about the virus. Turn off your devices and get some well deserved time away.                                                                                              |
| <b>Stay Connected</b><br>Even though we can't go visiting, make sure you stay connected. A good way is Video chatting or even just a phone call. This will help you and the people you are talking to feel less isolated. | <b>Reach Out</b><br>Mental health is always important but it is especially important during times like this. Reach out if you need to and remember to check in with your friends and family. We are all in this together! |