

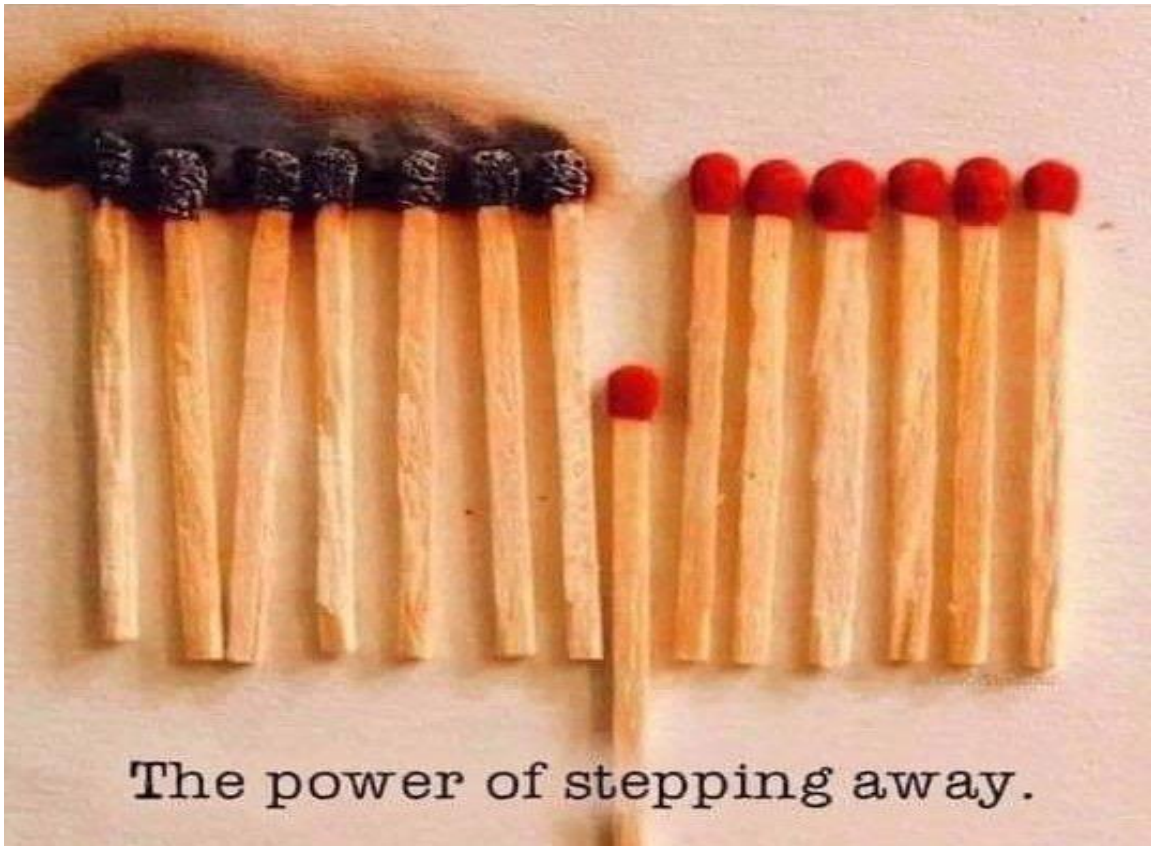


St. James Lutheran Church Celebrating 100 years in 2020

205 E 1st Ave. N Columbus, MT 59019
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557
Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com

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

MARCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 3/27/20



Mission Offering for March benefits the Columbus Senior Center!

***If you still are wanting to contribute to this community mission, send your check to St. James and be sure to note in the memo, it is for the March Mission Offering.
Thank you for your generosity!***

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.**

Ways to continue to honor God, since we are in suspension of worship at this time.

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)

5. Another way to give online is through the **Simply Giving**® Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank. There is no cost to you but the church does incur a processing fee. More information and an enrollment form to complete may be found on this website (or we do have paper copies to pick up at the church) The **Simply Giving**® Program (Simply hit Ctrl + Click to follow this link.)



We Could Use Your Prayers!

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

FYI.....YTD (Jan – Feb 2020)

March 1 st Offering Gratefully Received	<u>\$1,433</u>
March 8 th Offering Gratefully Received	<u>\$1,251</u>
March 15 th Offering Gratefully Received	<u>\$ 890</u>
March online offering gratefully received	<u>\$ 295</u>
March 22 nd Offering Gratefully Received	<u>\$1,355</u>

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

(\$4,671.95) UNDER monthly budget

under monthly budget (\$6575.33)

under monthly budget (\$5,324.33)

under monthly budget (,\$4,434.33)

under monthly budget (\$4,139.33)

under monthly budget (\$2,784.33)

"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.

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

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

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

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.

CHURCH BULLETIN.....

.....WILL BE SENT SUNDAY MORNING - Sunday March 29TH.

You will again, be able to view this service as a link to You Tube.

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.

Friendly Reminder.....

Do you have any elderly neighbors who are scared? Remember, they might not have any idea how to order food or groceries online, or with their cellphone. Help them out. If you’re going to store, see if they need anything. Together, we can get through this if we help each other out! Be kind

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

Sunday March 29th: 5th Sunday in Lent online Worship Service on You Tube & FB
Wednesday April 1st:



Please watch the last Lent Holden Evening Prayer Service on You Tube & FB.

Sunday April 5th: Palm Sunday online Worship Service on You Tube & FB
Thursday April 9th: Maundy Thursday Service on FB only
Friday April 10th: Good Friday Service on You Tube & FB



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Read the Bishop's full letter by clicking on this Montana Synod website.

A letter from Bishop Laurie Jungling
March 27, 2020

An excerpt from her Pastoral letter:

"God's grace and peace be with you and your congregations during these stressful and anxious times. You may have already heard, but I am restating that yesterday Governor Steve Bullock issued a "Stay at Home" Order for the state of Montana, effective Saturday morning, March 28, at 12:01 a.m. until April 10, 2020...though I expect it to last longer....."

Also, despite the governor's deadline of Friday, April 10, I am recommending that the cancellation of all in-person worship and other gatherings extend through April 19. All indications are that the governor's directive will be extended beyond Easter Sunday. Consequently, I am making my recommendation now so that you can plan ahead.....

The synod is working on putting together a synod-wide online Easter Sunday worship opportunity. Stay tuned for more details.....

Thank you for your leadership at this time. Please know that even though we are not meeting in person for worship, the Word of God continues to be proclaimed in various and exciting ways. The mission of the Gospel of Christ is not cancelled and we will find innovative avenues to follow our calls to proclaim and serve Jesus Christ during this time.

May God bless and keep you all! And remember that Jesus "is with you always until the end of the age." (Mt 28:20)

Bishop Laurie

Sunday April 12th: Synod-wide **online** Easter Sunday Service
Sunday April 19th: 2nd Sunday of Easter Worship Service on You Tube & FB

A SUGGESTION FOR THE UPCOMING “CLEANERS” DURING THIS TIME.....

Thank you to Bob & Maureen Hemphill & Steve & Denise Cowan for cleaning our church early March.

FYI – to the Hemphills & the Cowans and to Greg & Kristi Lofing, Chris Fleury, RaeEllen Strickland (cleaners signed up for April) and possibly to Brian & Sheri Luepke and Bill & Karen McDonald (cleaners signed up for May):

When this church suspension is lifted, will all of you, along with other members willing to help, come to the church for a much-needed deep cleaning day or days?

We just closed the doors; checked the heat, refrigerator & toilets and emptied the garbages. A few of us once a week are in the building, so we will be able to see if something needs attention. A date will be set and communicated to all members when this is over!



Happy March Birthday

William Adams 3/1; Tyler Kem 3/4; Kristi Lofing 3/6;

Vanessa Wanner 3/7; Edward Fleury 3/9; Morgan Radford 3/11;

Evan Makoff 3/16; Pat Lofing 3/17; Greg Lofing 3/17; Jo Lind 3/19;

Holly Williams 3/19; Alex Alton 3/22; Bob Hemphill 3/25; Irmard Houghton 3/25;

Gary Lofing 3/29; Malachi Moulden 3/30; Sheri Luepke 3/31;



Happy March Anniversary

Bill & Karen McDonald 3/6

As St. James continues to celebrate our 100th Anniversary in the year 2020....

As our council is reassessing & deciding weekly of our closure or opening, according to the CDC Guidelines, we will also discuss our upcoming church events and the special events planned for our 100th Anniversary Celebration. 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.

~ 8/23 Our Church's 100th 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 100th 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!!

Speaking of Good 'Ole Days..... *These are the last two! I certainly hope that you loved them and laughed as much as I did!*



Remember, those wonderful "Ladies with Typewriters" and the church bulletin announcements.....

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM . The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

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Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Ha, Ha, Ha! Thanks, Harold & Laura

REMINDER.....



Have you been stashing change into your "PIGGY" Bank or your "BARNYARD" Bank?

**There are extra banks and we could actually SEND you one if you need!
Thank you, Donna for starting this opportunity to help!**

*Simple
Reminders...*

