

WELCOME:

NO IN-CHURCH WORSHIP - Sunday November 1st.
Our Worship Service will be recorded & shown remotely.

Reminder: Your council members again decided to suspend in person worship on 11/1 d/t the spike in Covid-19 cases in Stillwater County.

Sunday November 1st: **Zoom 9am** council meeting to discuss re-opening of church services.
Council members - Watch for your invitation and link for this meeting.

On Sunday November 1st @ 9:30am,

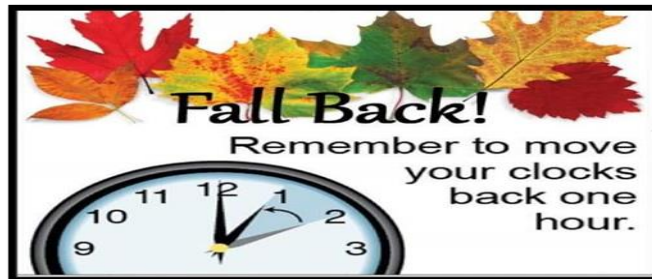
You will have the opportunity to watch our service via....

[YouTube link](#)
Click above to watch on YouTube

or

[Our FB page link](#)
Click above to watch on FaceBook

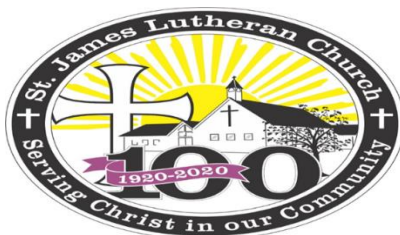
THIS DAY, ALSO...



We ask you to, if you wish.....

PRINT THIS BULLETIN..... to follow along with Sunday's Service.
As you are worshipping from home, you are invited to set aside a sacred space for worship. Light a candle and set out your bread and wine.

We appreciate hearing from all of you joining us online.
We would LOVE for you to share your insights or leave us a greeting.
We are blessed to count you among those who worship at St. James Lutheran Church each Sunday morning.



St. James Lutheran Church

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

November 1st, 2020 – All Saints Sunday

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

I rejoiced with those who said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the LORD." Ps 122:1

Welcome

Blessings to all of you, joining us by watching our remote service or in spirit and prayer.

Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "For All the Saints"

- Vs 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
They name, O Jesus, be forever blest, Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Vs 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Vs 3 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Vs 4 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, **You have sent out Your light and Your truth, to lead us to Your holy hill and to Your sanctuary. Grant us grace to follow in the light of Your blessed saints who lived lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys You have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

Hear the Reading of Psalm 43

¹Give judgment for me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.²For you are the God of my strength; why have you rejected me, and why do

I wander in such gloom while the enemy oppresses me? ³Send out your light and your truth, so they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your sanctuary; ⁴so I may go to the altar of God, to the God of my joy and gladness; and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God. ⁵Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me? Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.

Hear the 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

⁹You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. ¹¹As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, ¹²urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. ¹³We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Hear the reading of the Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

¹Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ²"The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; ³therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. ⁴They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. ⁵They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. ⁶They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. ⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. ⁹And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Send Out Your Light"

Hymn for Reflection: "Christ Be Our Light"

Vs 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Vs 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Vs 3 Longing for food, many are hungry, Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

Back to Refrain:

Vs 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Vs 5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your Kingdom come.

Back to Refrain:

Apostle's Creed

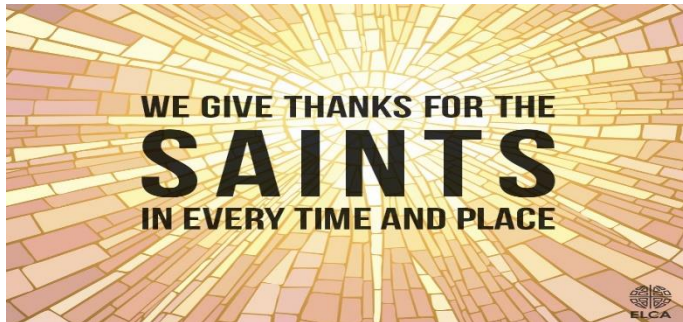
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.



**We lift up our hearts with the
memory of
Your blessed saints who have
gone before us.**

Jon Brown Doug Bruusemma Beverly Chesik
Son of Sean & Ruth Ericson, Special K House Advisors
Harry Fisher Phyllis Heidi Phyllis Heilig
Becky Hemphill Harold Houghton Allen Lein
Don Maxwell Doug Miller Joe Morse, Sr
Caroline Morton Phil Nieman Kevin Ramer
Roger Sunvold Gloria Swanson

and

those that we bring before you in our hearts.

As they rest in You, we also ask for you to give peace and comfort to those who mourn.

Passing of the Peace

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing us to do God's work with our hands.

Please say this **Offering Prayer** in your hearts:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...we join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Communion will look a little different during our season of Covid-19.

It will still be the Lord's supper.

As you worship from home, you are invited to eat your bread and drink your wine when invited to the table.

Prayer after Communion..... *and we say:* **Amen**

SENDING

Blessing..... *and we say:* **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "Shall We Gather at the River"

Vs 1 Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God!

Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Vs 2 On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.

Back to Refrain:

Vs 3 Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.

Back to Refrain:

Vs 4 Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;

Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. **Back to Refrain:**

Dismissal: Remember the poor as you are sent to **reflect the love of God.** Go in peace.

*Music Published by Permission, CCLI #11445215
Worship Service recorded by Permission, CSPL #168651*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US FOR THIS SERVICE:

Pastor Tonia, Betty Ames, Larry & Joy Goehner, Brian & Sheri Luepke.

2nd Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of an upcoming **Special Congregational Meeting for St. James – Sunday, 11/8**, immediately after our worship service, provided that the council approves of our re-opening r/t the current COVID cases in Stillwater County at that time.

1st Official Notice (according to our By-laws) of our upcoming ***Annual Congregational Meeting for St. James – Sunday, 11/15, immediately after our worship service.***

Wednesday October 28th: Pastor Tonia recorded.....

**A “Word on Wednesday” –
“God Knows”**



Watch on St. James’ FB Page –

*****Click on the picture to be directed to the church FB Page.***

Welcome to a word on Wednesday.
We take a few minutes each Wednesday to hear from God’s Word.
Let God speak to you.
Bring up memories, bring out deep thoughts.
Reflect on how God speaks to our world today, to the situations
we are facing as individuals,
as a church, as a country, and as the world God so loves.

Or read the full Pastoral Letter below!

*Trust God from the bottom of your heart;
don’t try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God’s voice in everything you do, everywhere you go;
God’s the one who will keep you on track,
Don’t assume you know it all. (Proverb 3:5-7)*

A few quotes which have floated around for years and eons have, for me, described the past year, or my take on it.

From an old calendar: Life is mysterious – don’t take it too seriously – Flavia

“I can calculate the motion of the heavenly bodies, but not the madness of people.” so said Sir Isaac Newton

An oldie but a goldie: “There are decades when nothing happens, and there are weeks when decades happen.” Lenin

Probably the scariest thing one can quote this Halloween will be, “2020.” Just say it and everybody understands.

But, in our living lament, we need a quote of hope. And Scripture comes to our rescue with the perfect words. “Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don’t try to figure out everything on your own.” We are not the master of our fate, we’re not even in control of our day. This year we have found this all too true. A pandemic took over everything. Businesses

and governments. How we dress, where we eat, our social life, how we worship, our shopping habits, how we fellowship. Our meetings are held in front of a computer instead of in a conference room.

We've had to rethink where we put our trust. We don't know what to trust. We spend a hunk of our day checking numbers we are not sure we can trust. We listen to experts we're not sure deserve our trust. We read emails, some sent from reliable sources – but none of them agree on what the truth is. Mask. Don't mask. Our temperature is the main symptom, no, it's the loss of smell and taste. Hospitals are full, no there's plenty of room. It's a virus, no, it's the flu. On and on. Information, misinformation. Instead of working together, or finding the real truth we attack each other for their stance. Each side assumes they know it all. Why can't we come together to love and care for one another? Why can't we figure it out on our own?

We've all but lost our sense of time. The past 9 months seem like a blink of an eye – we remember the first warning, the first dismissal. It also seems like we've been in a holding pattern forever. I can't remember the last time I went out for a meal. Gathered for a live event.

It's important to do some research, find a source you can trust. We certainly can't believe everything we read – nothing agrees. How **do** we care for one another?

Where is God? Where do I find God in this? How do I worship? Who can I trust in this midst of this Pandemic?

On top of the medical information, and misinformation – this is an election year. Another time to wonder – whom can I trust. All of those political ads, where each candidate calls the other one a liar.

So again, we have to do some research. Who will best serve the needs of the people of our nation?

Who has the truth? To whom do we listen? On one level we do have to do our part, but on another level, we need to realize we can't figure out everything on your own. At the end of the day, we remember the wisdom from Proverbs, where we are told, "Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; God's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume you know it all."

And our lament comes full circle. We don't know everything, we feel lost and like everything is out of control, BUT we come to realize, to acknowledge, we don't know it all, but God does, and God will keep you and me, the pandemic, the country, in fact – everything on track.

Let us pray.

God of all wisdom, we are so thankful you do know everything. We are thankful we can trust You with our lives, the rulers of all nations, the wisdom of scientists and health workers. God, Your love for us is immeasurable, we trust You from the bottom of our hearts and we listen to You, knowing You alone keep us on track. Help us to do our part to flatten the curve and to remember to vote. Amen.

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

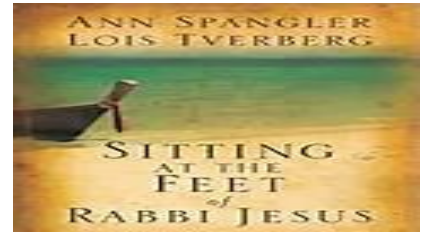
Tuesday November 3rd:

***Bible Study @ 2:00pm by **ZOOM** OR IN-PERSON**

.....depending on decision from Church council.

***B.Y.O.B.B. & B. - Bring your own Beverage, Bible & Book!**

We are reading and discussing the book, *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg.



****To the participants if Zoom meeting is recommended, watch for your personal invitation to arrive in your email on Monday November 2nd. Instructions on how to connect will also be provided to you.**

Wednesday November 4th: Pastor Tonia will record.....

A "Word on Wednesday" – Watch on our FB page.



Happy November Anniversary

Chris & Brett Hollingsworth 11/1; Bob & Lanita Maurer 11/15



Happy November Birthday

Linda Alton 11/4; Carli Lofing 11/4; Brenna Rouane 11/14;
Stacy Lofing 11/22; Amber Lofing 11/24

"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.

Continued reminder of how to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church..

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)

Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

For new prayer requests, please 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:

Bill Strickland, husband of Rae Ellen Strickland, as he will be undergoing back surgery on Monday.

Please pray for a safe and successful surgery, relief from pain, and a speedy recovery.

Jenny Steffenson as she recently had a PET scan that revealed the presence of enlarged breast tissue.

Please pray for wisdom for her doctors and for resolution of the cause of the swelling.

God's peace, timing and comfort for the family and friends of Deloris Etchart.

God's loving presence to surround the residents & staff at Meadowlark Assisted Living affected with Covid19 and also, James Nieman, brother of Phil Nieman, who was recently diagnosed with Covid.

Praise God, Denise & Steve Cowan's son-in-law, Don Meierhoff, is doing well and at home recovering.

Your continued healing God for Janet Overhuls; Roger Mullin, Gary Lofing, Jenny Steffenson and Barb Salte.

We lift up those living with cancer: Dennis Gauthier; Arvid Barnam, Les Lane and Jim Wilson.

Health to our Montana Synod staff during their office closure for 2 weeks quarantine associated with contact tracing.

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.

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

How exciting!

Cookbooks have arrived!!

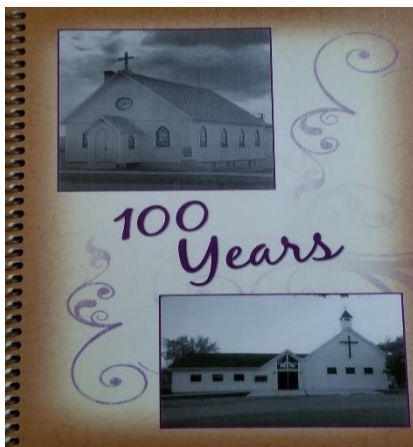
They are for sale **NOW!** **\$10 each**

ALSO.....

100th Anniversary etched mugs and wine glasses have arrived!!

They are on display at the church!

They are **also** for sale **NOW!** **\$10 each**



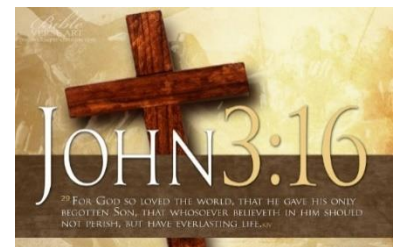
Pick yours up at church ~~on Sunday~~, doors are open for Bible Study on Tuesday's 2pm-3pm (church closed for two weeks) or get in touch with Pastor Tonia, Karen, Denise or Betty and we will make sure you get a copy/mug/glass or two or three of each! 😊

****Please designate on your check memo or envelope the purpose of your money.**

TO CONNECT YOUR DEVICE,
PHONE or IPad/TABLET, to the church Wi-Fi:

CLICK ON - **St. James**

Then, USE THIS PASSWORD: **SJLvs3:16**



*Mission Offering for November benefits...
Project Hopes' "Thanksgiving Care Box"*





REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY - ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.

ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20TH, DONATE THE CONTENTS TO PROJECT HOPE!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO OUR COMMUNITY

October 26 –box of cereal
October 27 –peanut butter & jelly
October 28 –macaroni and cheese
October 29 –canned fruit
October 30 –canned tomatoes
October 31 –Halloween candy
November 1 –canned tuna
November 2 –jar of applesauce
November 3 –dessert mix
November 4 –can chili
November 5 –box of crackers
November 6 –package of rice
November 7 –package of oatmeal

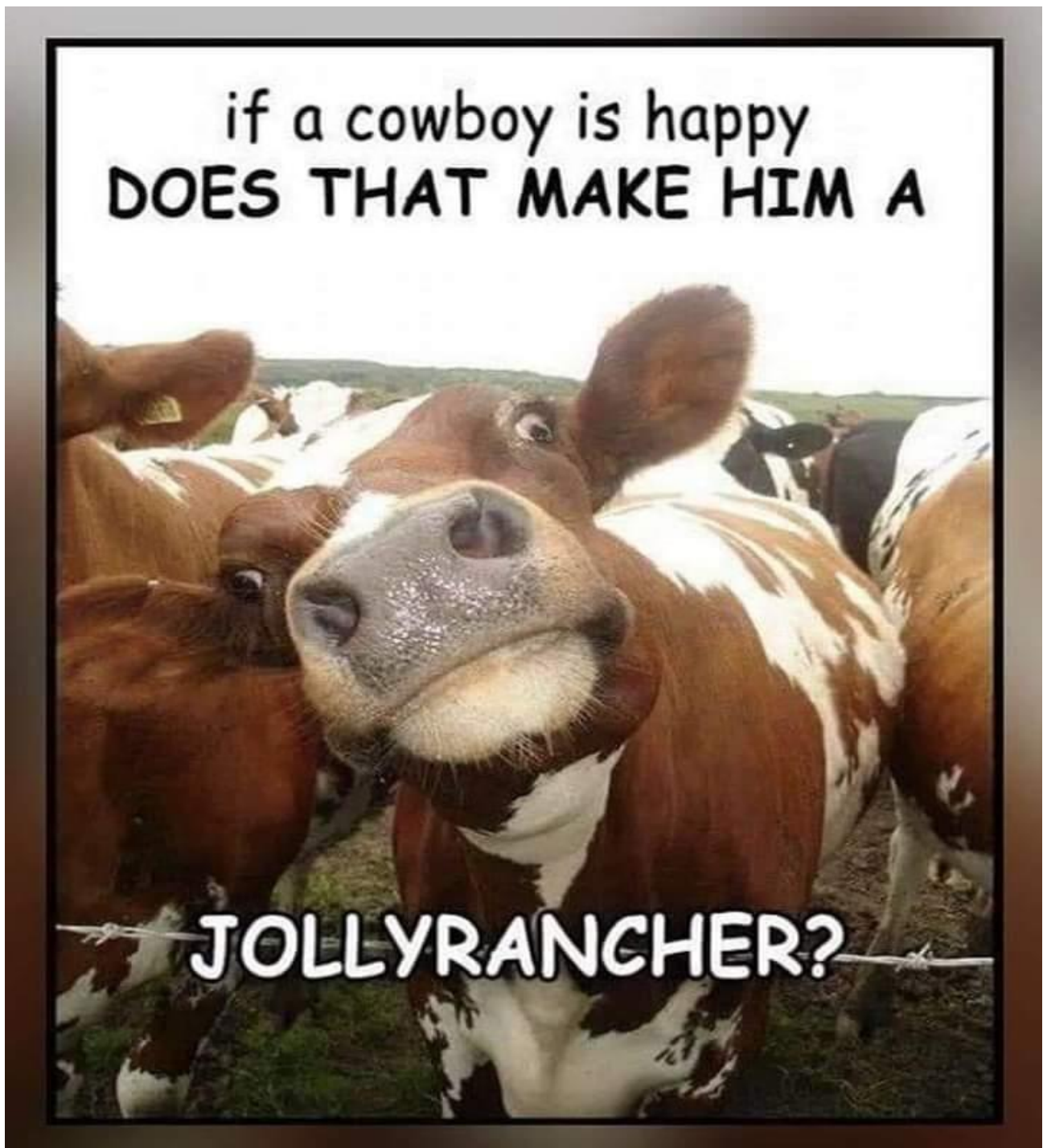
November 8 –package pasta
November 9 –spaghetti sauce
November 10 –chicken noodle soup
November 11 –cans of vegetables
November 12 –stuffing mix
November 13 –boxed potatoes
November 14 –canned sweet potatoes
November 15 –can green beans
November 16 –cranberry sauce
November 17 –box of roll mix
November 18 –pie filling
November 19 –box pie dough mix
November 20 –Thanksgiving decorations

Thankful

**Deliver to Project Hope and know that you blessed
a family in Stillwater County.**



Simple Reminders...



Asking for a friend.....heehee! 😊