WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

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

PRINT THE ATTACHED 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.

Worship Service - Streaming live @ 9:30am or watch later!



Click on image OR
FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana



Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website: www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org

**Scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube link"

To our faithful followers at home or where ever you are, PLEASE let us know you are watching by writing a post or give your name.

We'd love to hear from you!

**We hope these attachments are an encouragement to you as we are.....





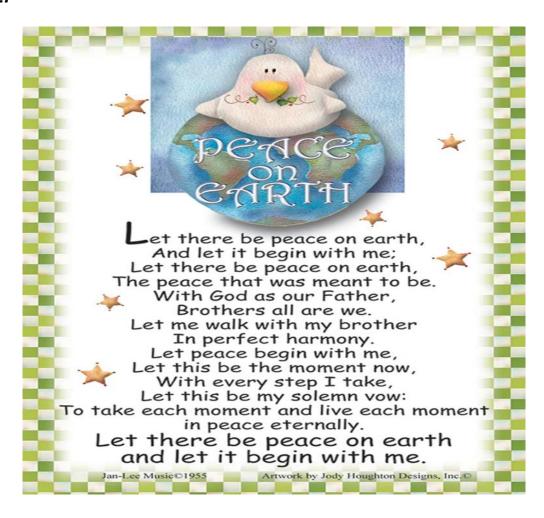
"Fling Wide the Door" Advent Devotional from Luther Seminary
 "Names of Jesus Advent Calendar Weekly Devotional to help you focus on Jesus as we get closer to Christmas Eve.





Isaiah 59:20 John 8:12 John 1:29 1 Timothy 2:5 Isaiah 7:14 Isaiah 28:16 John 6:48,51

PRELUDE:



St. James Lutheran Church

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"

Sunday December 4th, 2022 – 2nd Sunday in Advent - "Comfort and Joy"

Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you alland also be with you.

Second

Special Song by the Combined Choir – "Advent Medley"

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

Call to Worship: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay Remember, Christ, our Savior was born on Christmas day To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came
And unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name? *Refrain:*

Lighting the 2nd Candle of Advent: Pastor Tonia & Donna Zeigler, LPA

WE SING:

**to the tune of "O worship the King, All Glorious Above!"

The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan; The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb. Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war, Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.

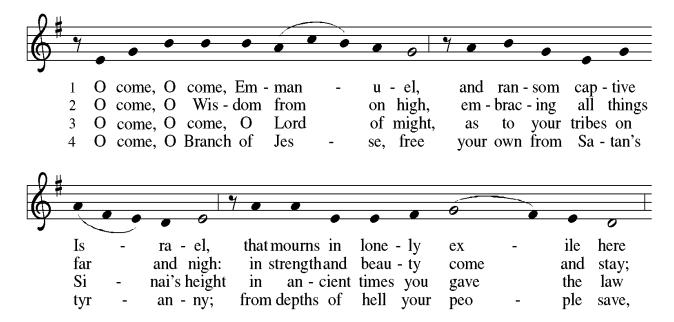
GATHERING

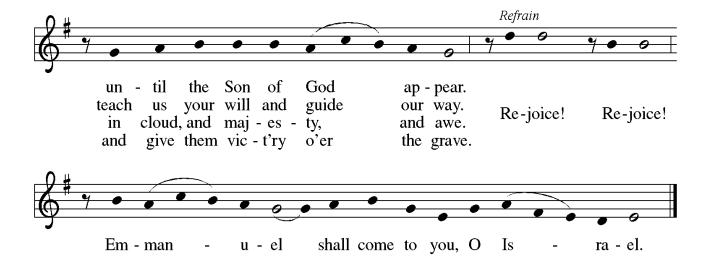
Confession & Forgiveness

God of new beginnings, we confess we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, so we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" vs 1 - 4





Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; 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 1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁵The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁵The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁵They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹oOn that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Read Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 responsively by whole verse

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; ²so he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; ³so the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness. ⁴Let him defend the needy among the people,

rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. ⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. ¹⁸Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds! ¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen.

Hear the 2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ

has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD**.

Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the Gospel

The Gospel Acclamation:

We sing: "Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel according to Matthew:

We sing the response after the announcement: "Glory to you, O Lord"

Matthew 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁵and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ¹But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹0Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹1"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹2His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord:

We sing the response after the conclusion: "Praise to you, O Christ"

Sermon: "The Peaceable Kingdom"

Reflection Hymn: "We Pray for Peace" **to the tune "Be Still, My Soul"

- Vs 1 We pray for peace, O God of love and justice, as once again, we face a time of war.

 The meek and humble try amid the crisis to love and build, to nurture and restore.

 May leaders hear the truth the prophets teach us,
 that gifts of peace are well worth struggling for.
- Vs 2 We pray for peace, O Christ who calmed the waters, who stilled the storm, who stilled disciples' fear.

 You spoke with love and with amazing power; be with us now when trouble is so near.

 May leaders see the miracle you offer that words and deeds can calm the nations here.
- Vs 3 We pray for peace, O Spirit here among us; your love emboldens, judges and restrains. Take any hate and acts of impulse from us; make leaders wise, amid competing claims. May we seek peace, O God of love and justice; may love and mercy be our highest aims.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

.....and we say: and also with you.

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.

Bread & Wine and Our Gifts are brought forward...... while we sing

The Offering Hymn: "What Feast of Love"

**to the tune "What Child Is This"

What feast of love is offered here? What banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?

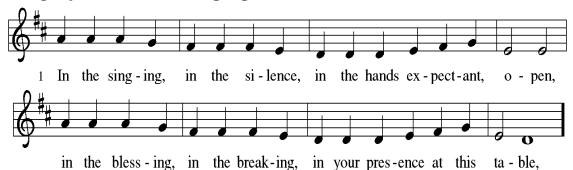
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

Offering Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen

Table Setting Hymn: "In the Singing"



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:

(C) sings: 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

The Lord's Prayer

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

Invitation to Communion

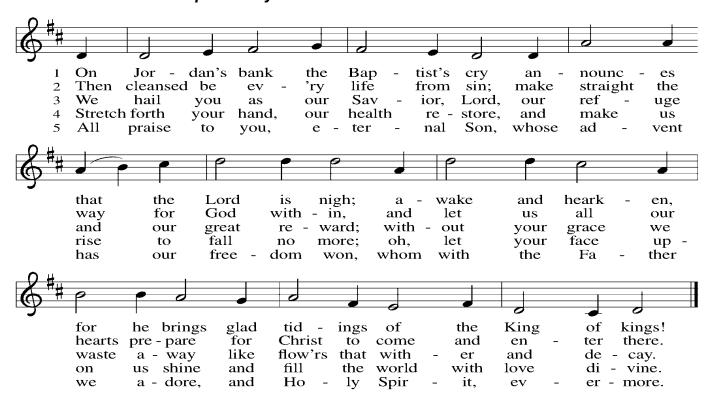
In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

As communion is distributed, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

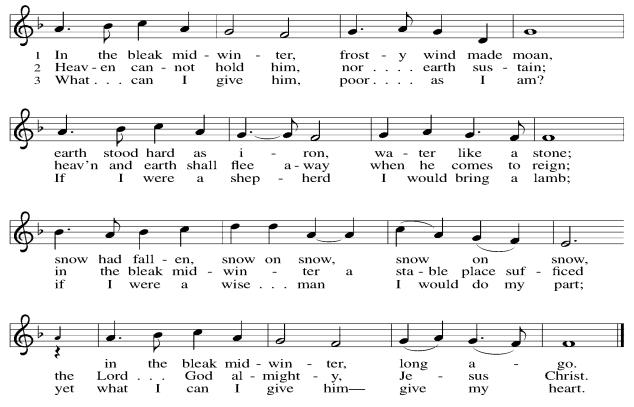
"Wait for the Lord" Repeat:



"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"



"In the Bleak Midwinter"

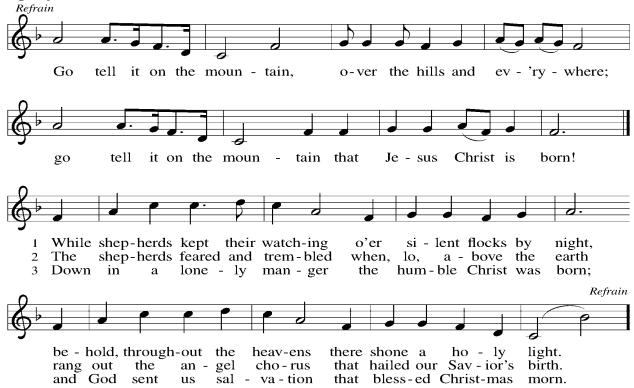


Prayer after Communion.... and we say: Amen.

SENDING

Benediction..... and we say: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"



Dismissal Go in peace. Christ is near. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:



Go now in peace, never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

December Mission offering.....

~ Your continued support benefits

ELCA Charities

i.e. World Hunger & Relief; Freedom in Christ; Good Gifts



We will continue the "Reverse Advent Calendar" for Project Hope's Food Bank

Add your choice to the box at the front of the IGA store or create your own box and give to PH by on December 19th!
Thank you again in advance!!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

December 2022 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

December 2022 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing & Merridy Gauthier **December 2022 Reader(s):** *Will someone sign up to help this month?*

December 4th, 2022 Communion Helper(s): Leslie Mullin and Brian & Sheri Luepke

Thank you, Brian & Sheri Luepke for helping with communion last Sunday

December 4th, 2022 Usher(s): Joy Goehner

Thank you, Carrie Williams for ushering last Sunday.

December 4th, 2022 Gate Keepers: Joy Goehner & Leslie Mullin

2022 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames



Another year of lefse production has been completed and a **BIG VIKING** thank you to Kim B., Maureen H., Betty A., Sheri L., & Chris F. who toughed out two days of the lefse process. The first day there was no water to the church. Yes, we have paid our water bill, there was a city water line break. Maureen brought water from her house for hand washing and boiling potatoes. There is nothing that can deter a Lutheran woman on a mission. Tonight, Friday evening lefse, coffee & coco will be given out to community residents who are watching the Christmas Parade. Thanks to Project Hope for allowing St. James to set up tables to serve the public. Donna Zeigler



and the **BIGGEST VIKING THANK YOU** to Donna for organizing this whole process and event!!

Love from your crew!



A thought: the church needs some "good quality" rags. Old bath towels cut in 1/4's or hand towels cut in half. If you can see through the towel, it is probably not going to stand up to wiping down walls or cabinets. As you are folding your towels and find one that should be good for something, give it the "see through" test! Maybe St. James could use the towel. Donna Zeigler.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May the Lord bless you and give you peace. "Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

FYI: At the annual meeting held Jan 16th, 2022,

\$96,100 was the yearly approved 2022 budget \div 12 months = \$8,008.33 needed each month.

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER......

November 6 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,230.00
November 13 th Offering gratefully received	\$2,215.00
November 20 th Offering gratefully received	\$ 750.00
November 27 th Offering gratefully received	\$1,725.00
Total received this month	th \$5 725 00

**Our 2022 monthly budget to meet is \$8,008.33

Jan (\$634.43) + Feb (\$1,718.33) + Mar (\$3,428.33) + Apr (\$1,868.33) - May \$6,476.91 + June \$(2,613.33) + July (2,248.33) + August (\$2,250.33) + September (\$1,432.33) + October (\$1,528.03) + November (2,283.33) =

YTD UNDER Monthly Budget by negative (\$13,528.19)

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 our church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

<u>Tithe.ly</u> (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 **Pastor Tonia.** Text or call her at (406) 656-9557 or email her at toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.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:

Brian Wanner, who was just diagnosed with kidney cancer and is having kidney removal in December. Lord be with Brian. Give wisdom to his surgeon and bring healing to his body. Give Brian and Sydne peace as they begin this journey. We put them and their family in Your faithful hands. Amen.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Steve & Denise Cowan; Bob & Bev Kem; Vi Ekle; Bonny Rouse; Joy Goehner; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Rick Cox; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; Jim Wilson and Sandy Yoder's daughter in law, Lola.

Those with COVID and those dealing with its lasting effects.

The children of the world, this is a big request, but God is big. Children who are food insecure & home insecure. Pray especially for a little boy named Luke and a little girl named Nevaeh. Ukraine and her people

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



Happy December Birthday

Pete Hegg 12/4; Sydne Wanner 12/6; Maureen Hemphill 12/7; Nancy Stenerson 12/7; Rusty Stenerson 12/8; Larry Goehner 12/14; Carrie Williams 12/14; Peggy Herzog 12/23; Lisa Kem 12/29



Happy December Anniversary

Steve & Cindy Smith 12/7; Danny & Betty Ames 12/26; Don & Peggy Herzog 12/26; Steve & Denise Cowan 12/28

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES to REFLECT GOD'S LOVE to OURSELVES, to EACH OTHER and to OUR NEIGHBORS

REMINDERS:

- Every Wednesday Watch Pastor Tonia's "Word on Wednesday" message on FB or open the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message and two Bible Crossword Puzzles.
- Every Friday or Saturday The Weekly Preparing for Worship email arrives in your inbox with the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday Worship service and, also, Reflections during Advent. The "Children's Worship Bulletins" series for you to open & enjoy and share with your family & friends will now be available on our website during Advent.

Reminder... GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS at St. James



We are again providing the St. James "Taxi" Service from Meadowlark to Church, this time for Jo Lind.

Anyone, anytime, give Jo a call @ (406) 322-4497 to offer a ride to our Sunday service. She is living in Suite #13.

We have members who have moved away from Columbus and members whom we miss coming to St. James:

Please remember them all in our prayers and reach out to them with a card or phone call.



FUTURE DATES:

> Wednesday December 7th,2022 Choir Practice 4:00pm @ UCC



Help to pass the word to your family and friends, neighbors etc



St. James' Annual Progressive Dinner Sunday, December 11th 4:00pm

First stop – Pastor Tonia will host at the Parsonage with potluck appetizers, then off to the church for the potluck main course, hosted by Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing & Merridy Gauthier and ending at the Morse's for potluck desserts and carols!

Thank you for signing up for your potluck dish to bring to the appropriate house!! Reminder: Join us at all three homes or come to just one or two!



Join us for fun and fellowship during this Christmas Season.

St James' Christmas Eve Service Saturday December 24th 5:30pm



Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

St James' Christmas Day Service Sunday December 25th 9:30am



MORE Community Events for St. James:

- Every Monday we are invited to join:
 - ~The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am.
- Every Tuesday we are invited to attend:
 - ~ The Women's Adult Group at the Stillwater Youth Center at 9:30am and/or 7:00pm for an inductive study on Revelation
 - ~ Absarokee Quilting Group 10am in the basement of the Cobblestone building. Knitters, crocheters and embroideretts are welcome.
- Every Wednesday we are invited to join:
 - ~ Social Hour at the Columbus Senior Center at 9:30am
 - ~ The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am



Upcoming Future Library Events:

Saturday, December 3rd, 10:30 – 12:00 @ Palladium Draughthaus Richard Ford, winning author, and Montana resident will read from his 5th book in the Frank Basconbe Series.

Dungeons & Dragons- Open to kids ages 8+ 1:00-4:00pm Saturday December 10th



Dwelling in the Word

Join in a 30-minute Zoom conversation with others around the Montana Synod for a time of "Dwelling in the Word", a practice of listening to a passage of scripture and pondering what the Holy Spirit might be saying to each person during the time together. Since March of 2020, DEM Peggy Paugh Leuzinger and others in the Synod have joined in this time to pray, converse, and support one another.

The same Zoom link with be used for the rest of 2022. Please save the link to your calendar to use each week or as often as you are able to join.

Topic: Dwelling in the Word every Thursday 8:30 am

Every week on Thu, until Dec 29, 2022, 18 occurrence(s)

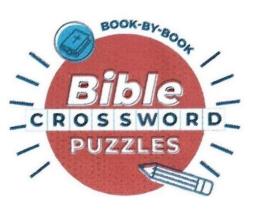
To Join Zoom Meeting: Click on the link below:

https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84336859392?pwd=QXR1ZXNCSjFuZTJQaUZHWWVmK3F6QTo9

Meeting ID: 843 3685 9392 Passcode: 740661

THIS WEEKS ANSWERS:

** Check Wednesday 11/30 e-mail for these puzzles



Daniel

- 1. Transgression
- 2. Desolation
- 3. Heaven
- Delivered
- Multitudes
- 6. Goat
- 7. Gabriel
- 8. Abednego
- 9. Darius
- 10. Angels

Revelation

- 1. White
- 2. Sulfur
- 3. Dragon
- 4. Beheaded
- 5. Resurrection
- 6. Lukewarm
- 7. Reward
- 8. Fire
- 9. Wisdom
- 10. Endurance
- 11. Tongues
- 12. Babylon