



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"*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP.....

Sunday, February 2nd, 2020 – Presentation of Our Lord

Confession and Forgiveness

Mighty and loving God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm 84

¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! ²**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.** ³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God. ⁴**Happy are they who dwell in**

your house! They will always be praising you. ⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. **Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.** ⁷They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion. ⁸**LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.** ⁹Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed. ¹⁰**For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.** ¹¹For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity. ¹²**O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

²²The time came for Mary and Joseph to do what the Law of Moses says a mother is supposed to do after her baby is born. They took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem and presented him to the Lord, ²³just as the Law of the Lord says, "Each first-born baby boy belongs to the Lord." ²⁴The Law of the Lord also says parents have to offer a sacrifice, giving at least a pair of doves or two young pigeons. So that is what Mary and Joseph did. ²⁵At this time a man named Simeon was living in Jerusalem. Simeon was a good man. He loved God and was waiting for God to save the people of Israel. God's Spirit came to him ²⁶and told him that he would not die until he had seen Christ the Lord. ²⁷When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple to do what the Law of Moses says should be done for a new baby, the Spirit told Simeon to go into the temple. ²⁸Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God: ²⁹"Lord, I am your servant, and now I can die in peace, because you have kept your promise to me. ³⁰With my own eyes I have seen what you have done to save your people, ³¹and foreign nations will also see this. ³²Your mighty power is a light for all nations, and it will bring honor to your people Israel." ³³Jesus' parents were surprised at what Simeon had said. ³⁴Then he blessed them and told Mary, "This child of yours will cause many people in Israel to fall and others to stand. The child will be like a warning sign. Many people will reject him, ³⁵and you, Mary, will suffer as though you had been stabbed by a dagger. But all this will show what people are really thinking." ³⁶The prophet Anna was also there in the temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. In her youth she had been married for seven years, but her husband died. ³⁷And now she was eighty-four years old Night and day she served God in the temple by praying and often going without eating. ³⁸At that time Anna came in and praised God. She spoke about the child Jesus to everyone who hoped for Jerusalem to be

set free. ³⁹ After Joseph and Mary had done everything that the Law of the Lord commands, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. ⁴⁰ The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him.

Next Week's Readings – February 9th, 2020 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20

Also, February 2nd:

**GROUND
HOG
DAY**



Will he see his shadow?

Superbowl Sunday – Who are you rooting for?



OR



February Mission Offering will again benefit Project Hope! Their food bank is really struggling after the Holidays so your gracious gift will be much appreciated!

Please come prepared to put your FEBRUARY MISSION OFFERING into your “favorite” teams’ bucket and we will give you the results in next week’s newsletter!

.....AND MORE!

Lost & Found:

**On Christmas Eve,
did some little one lose or leave
these cute slippers?**

They are at the church waiting for you!



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

Tuesday February 4th: Bible Study @ 2:00pm

Wednesday February 5th: **Choir Practice @ UCC 4:30pm**

Sunday February 9th: Combined choir will sing for us this morning.

Special Guests: Flathead Camp Ministry personnel will talk to us about their camp today!



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

**We are still providing the "TAKE HOME" Taxi Service
for Irmgard Houghton.**

**When her daughter Gerlinda brings her mom to church, she is asking for us to
take her home! Please & Thank You!**

If you have signed up, look for Irmgard's attendance at church that day.

If she is there, you're on!



If she is not there,

you can graciously sign up for a different Sunday! Thanks to all!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US.....

February 2020 Altar Guild: Denise Cowan

February 2020 Reader: Leanne Sekora

Ushers & Eucharistic Ministers: Members of our congregation who graciously volunteer

February 2020 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing, Leslie Mullin & Betty Ames

February 2nd Gate Keepers: Eric Bjorkman & Joy Goehner

February 9th Gate Keepers: Steve Cowan & Harold Riensche

Musician(s): Marge Sunvold and Betty Ames



We Could Use Your Prayers!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP PASTOR TONIA AND HER FAMILY IN PRAYER...

Please pray for Harry Fisher, Pastor Tonia's father, as he is very weak and facing death and is under Hospice care. Please pray for Harry to have peace on this journey. Please pray for strength for Sharon, Pastor Tonia and their family as they support and care for Harry around the clock. Please also pray that they may all experience God's peace, comfort, and love at this time.

If you have any needs, please call one of our LPA's or a Council Member. We will contact Pastor for direction.

Please also pray for safe travels for Pastor Tonia, as she will be traveling back and forth to Billings to be with her father and family. She has arranged coverage of all upcoming services & events of the church, if she is called out of town for an emergency or to care for her father.

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

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

January 5th Offering Gratefully Received \$3,285 under monthly budget (\$4,723.33)

January 12th Offering Gratefully Received \$ 766 under monthly budget (\$3,957.33)

January On-line Offering Gratefully Received \$ 295 under monthly budget (\$3,662.33)

January 19th Offering Gratefully Received \$3,271 under monthly budget (\$ 391.33)

January 26th Offering Gratefully Received \$ 836 **OVER** monthly budget \$ 444.67 😊

"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.

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 new prayers for:

The Forest Dana family, friends of Chris and Brett Hollingsworth as they struggle to absorb the not guilty verdict in the negligent homicide trial recently held in Glendive. Please pray for Forest's family's comfort and safety as they return home. Please continue pray that God's justice be done, that whomever is responsible for Forest's death will undergo a change of heart and come forward. (Forest Dana was struck and killed by a vehicle while in an alleyway in Absarokee in 2013.)

Please also pray for the people of China as they struggle to contain the Corona virus. 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:

Bob & Maureen Hemphill & family; Irmgard Houghton & family; Dennis Gauthier & family; Kathy Novasio; Araceli Enano; Lane; Kevin Ramer; Dennis Moore; Arvid Barnam; Roger Mullin; Kaci Noble; Darren Cate; Gary Lofing; Jenny Steffenson and Tut Robinson.

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



Happy February Birthday

Jennifer Gauthier 2/4; Heather Gauthier 2/10; Bill Strickland 2/10;
Cindy Smith 2/15; Jim Salte 2/18; Brian Wanner 2/19;
Raeli Evig 2/20; Jason Williams 2/23; Ruth Gaustad 2/28



Happy February Anniversary

Gary & Pat Lofing 2/12; Jim & Barbara Salte 2/19;
Jason & Holly Williams 2/29

FB users

Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana

Thanks for checking out our new information

Thanks for "joining" us for our services each Sunday



***Simple
Reminders...***

*"To succeed in life, you need three things:
a wishbone,
a backbone,
and a funny bone."*

Reba McEntire, actress, singer.



As St. James celebrates
our
100th Anniversary
in the year 2020....

.....**We are excited for you to:**

- **Keep turning in your recipes for our Anniversary Cookbook!**

So.....We need your attention!

Right now, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH RECIPES TO MAKE A COOKBOOK!

Our plea goes out to ALL members receiving this email! We would LOVE for you to submit a recipe! If you have already submitted a few.....**SEND A FEW MORE!** I have attached the recipe collection sheet that you can print off and send back to us!

(Church address is at the top of this email) **OR** if you can't print, contact Denise Cowan (text her @ 671-6459, email her @ denisecowan48@yahoo.com or send her a note @ 45 Bugling Elk Lane, Columbus MT 59019) and she will be happy to send you copies to use.

Please, Please SEND MORE RECIPES!



- **Donate to "Food Bank Sunday"**

**Please bring your items by 2/26 – Thanks!



Project Hope's FOOD BANK
NEED for
February 2020

"100"
CANS of SOUP
&/or BEANS



Thank you in advance for ALWAYS being so generous!

- **Share your memories & pictures of our history**
- **Attend & participate in our many planned events to make this year so special and memorable. (Stay tuned for a calendar of events – *it's coming, I promise*)**

OUR 1ST VERY IMPORTANT DATE FOR ST. JAMES TO CELEBRATE IS.....

MARCH 7TH 1920 – OUR FOUNDING DATE!

**Watch for event happenings and plan to celebrate
on Sunday March 8th, 2020! 100 (&1) days later! *Woo hoo!***

- **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.....



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

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility. 😊

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

Ha, Ha, Ha! Thanks, Harold & Laura

REMINDER.....

**Are you starting to put change into your
“PIGGY” Bank or your “BARNYARD” Bank?**



ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love.



Just \$30 can provide a piglet to a family in need. When this little piggy grows up, she will give birth to as many as 16 piglets each year. Pigs help fertilize fields, provide food to eat and can be sold at market for much-needed income. What a BIG difference a pig can make! We are distributing these coin boxes for our entire congregation to collect offerings.

**There are extra banks in case you haven't picked yours up yet!
Thank you, Donna for starting this opportunity to help!**

Here's to 100 Years at St. James Lutheran Church!

