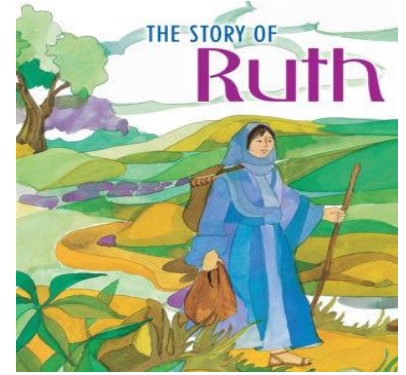


# WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019 (406) 321-5100  
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher Email: [toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com](mailto:toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com)  
Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,  
share our faith and serve with the love of God"



**Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Prelude, Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving**

**P: Alleluia, Christ is risen. All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

## **“Mother’s Day – The Story of Ruth”**

### **Listen to Hannah’s Prayer from 1 Samuel 2:1-3:**

Then Hannah prayed and said: “My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn is lifted high. My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in your deliverance. “There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. <sup>3</sup>“Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by Him deeds are weighed.

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

### **Hear these words of Solomon from Proverbs 31:10-31**

<sup>10</sup>An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. <sup>11</sup>The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. <sup>12</sup>She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. <sup>15</sup>She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household. <sup>18</sup>She perceives her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. <sup>20</sup>She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy. <sup>25</sup>Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. <sup>26</sup>She opens her mouth with wisdom and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. <sup>27</sup>She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. <sup>28</sup>Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: <sup>30b</sup> a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. <sup>31</sup> Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

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

### **Listen to Mary’s Prayer from St. Luke 1:46-55**

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. <sup>48</sup> For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. <sup>49</sup> For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. <sup>50</sup> And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. <sup>52</sup> He has put down the mighty from their thrones And exalted the lowly. <sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, <sup>55</sup> As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever.”

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

**Presentation of “The Story of Ruth”**

**Pastor Tonia & Pastor Kate**

**Reflection Hymn: ELW #419 "For All the Faithful Women" vs 1, 5, 2, last**



Vs 1 For all the faith-ful wom-en who served in days of old,  
Vs 5 For Ruth, who left her-home-land and ven-tured forth in faith,  
Vs 2 O God, for saints and-ser-vants, those named and those un-known,  
Last All praise to God the-Fa-ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



To you shall thanks be-giv-en; to all, their sto-ry told.  
Who pledged to serve and-wor-ship Na-o-mi's Go-d till death,  
In whom thru all the-a-ges, your light of-glo-ry shone,  
All praise to God the-Spir-it, who binds the-chur-ch as one!



They served with strength and glad-ness in tasks your wis-dom gave.  
We praise you, God of Is-ra-el, and pray for hearts set free.  
We off-er glad thanks-giv-ing and fer-vent prayer we raise,  
With saints who went be-fo-re us, with saints who wit-ness still,



To you their lives bore wit-ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save.  
To bind our-selves to-oth-ers in love and loy-al-ty.  
That, faith-ful in your ser-vice, our lives may sing-your praise.  
We sing glad al-le-lu-ias and strive to-do-your will.

**THANKSGIVING for Baptism Confession**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

*As we give thanks for our baptism let us stand and confess our sins:*

P: Risen Christ, **C: Wash away our sin and all which separates us from you.**

**Assurance of God's Love**

## Gathering Hymn: "God of the Women" to the tune "Be Thou My Vision"

- Vs 1** God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all,  
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth — Give us their courage to live in your truth.
- Vs 2** God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray,  
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more — May we give freely as they did before.
- Vs 3** God of the women who ran from the tomb, Prayed with the others in that upper room,  
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day — May we so gladly proclaim you today.
- Vs 4** O God of Phoebe and ministers all, May we be joyful in answering your call.  
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near; That we may share in your ministry here.

### Prayer of the Day:

*(P)* O God, for your gift of motherly love, both gentle and fierce, both strong and humble, both kind and true. **(C)** On this day of celebrating Your love, we lift to You those who have given us life, those who have loved us, those who have blessed us, and those who have taught us, our mothers. May Your blessing pour out upon the woman who gave us birth, and those beautiful, strong women of faith who have been mothers to us along our journey. Amen.

### Apostle's Creed ELW #105

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

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

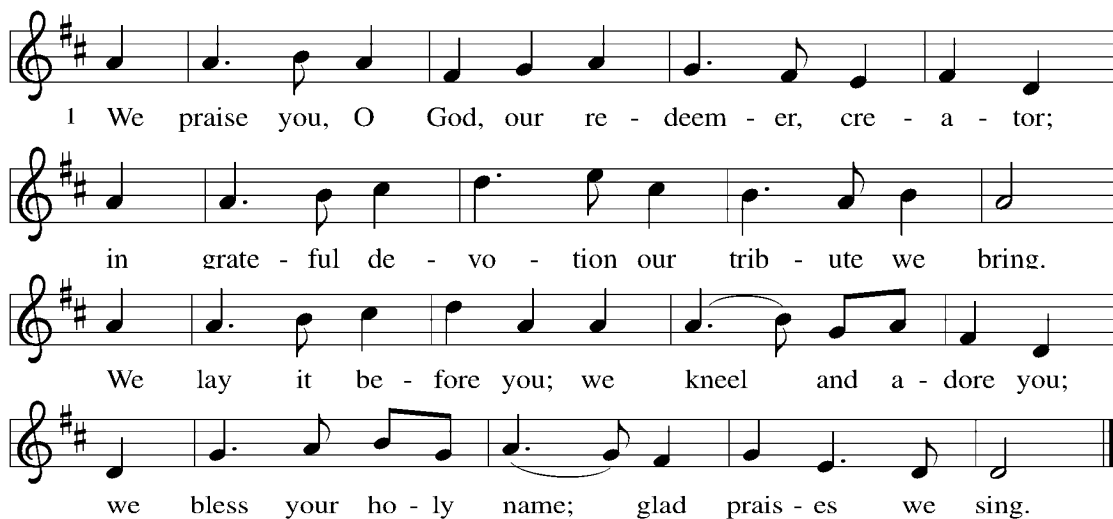
### Passing of the Peace .....and we say: and also with you.

### 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: ELW #870 "We Praise You, O God" vs 1



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.

## Offering Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. **May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

## Table Setting Hymn: ELW #472 "Eat This Bread"

*Refrain*



"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry,



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

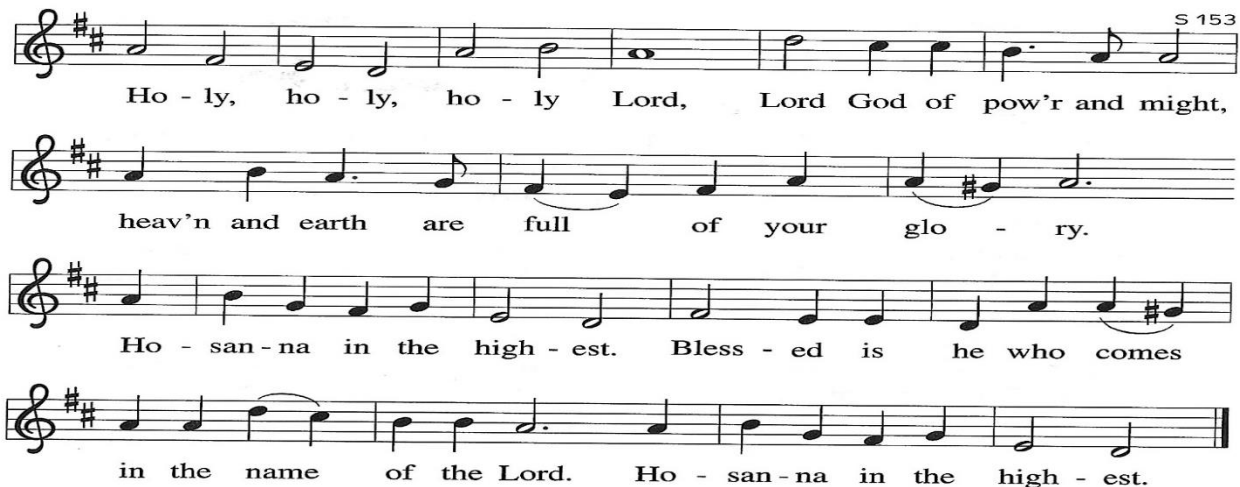
## Great Thanksgiving ELW #153

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

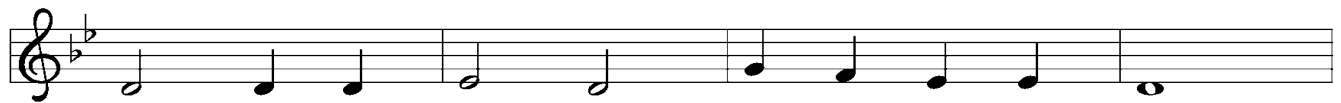
Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## 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:

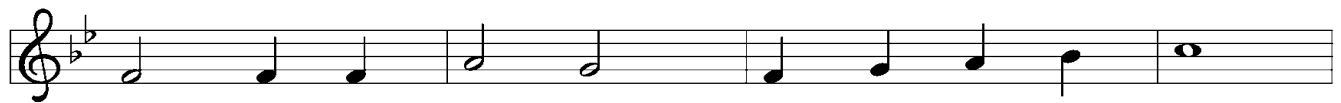
ELW #800 "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies;  
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wear it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,  
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;  
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!  
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

ELW #801 "Change My Heart, O God"

*Refrain*



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

*End*



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

*Refrain*



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

ELW #810 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



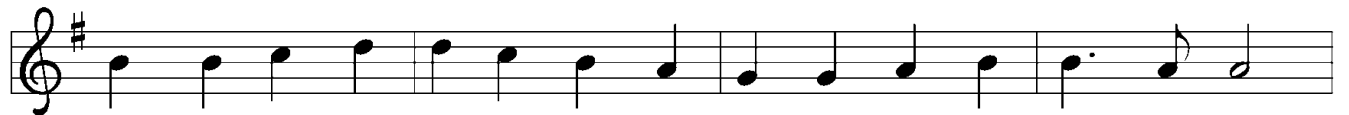
nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.  
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

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

**SENDING**

**Benediction:** ..... and then we say: **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: ELW #836 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"**



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

**Dismissal:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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

**TODAY May 12<sup>th</sup> –**



**Happy MAY Birthday**

Jean Voldseth 5/5; Lance Sundberg 5/10; Kim Behrent 5/12; Lian Radford 5/21;  
 Jennifer France 5/21; Bev Kem 5/23; Ingrid Short 5/24; Mike Koski 5/29; Chip Kem 5/30



**Happy MAY Anniversary**

Lance & Patti Sundberg 5/17; Ken & Pam Carlson 5/27

**Bless you for giving to the "Good Gifts" cause. Your coin DOES make a difference. Jesus said, "Feed my sheep". You are feeding God's people. Thank you for your generosity.**



**\*\* watch for more info of the amount collected and what we will be able to purchase**

**May Mission Offering benefits.....**

**The Project Hope Food Bank**



May Mission Project funds will be designated for Project Hope Food Bank. Project Hope supplies food boxes to those families who have a need to supplement their monthly budget for family or self needs. While we all feel the increased cost for daily needs, those with limited funds and a family to feed especially feel the need for help.

About 90 Stillwater County families receive food assistance from Project Hope each month.

We greatly appreciate any donations to our food pantry, and non-perishable items are always welcome. Currently we could use canned fruit and Manwich. During the summer, fresh produce from your garden would be wonderful.

**Thank YOU for your support & generosity to this very important ministry for our community!**



*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.”**

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

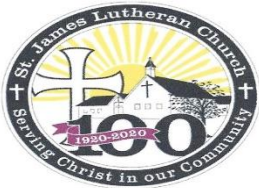
May 5th Offering gratefully received: \$11,260.00  
Total received so far this month **\$11,260.00**

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

Mail your offering to the church; Take your offering to the parsonage; Auto pay thru your bank and **Tithe.ly**.

**Tithe.ly** (click on this “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)**



Email with important monthly information  
\*watch your inbox

**May Calendar of Events Kids May Coloring Calendar**

**Review information from April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Council Meeting:**

**Mar. Meeting Minutes; Mar. Monthly Donation Deposits; Mar. Profit & Loss with YTD Comparison View and Mar. Yellow House Financials.**

**Note:** You should have received your Calendar & Council Chatter email on **Thurs. 5/9/24.**

*For new prayer requests, please contact **Pastor Tonia**. Text or call her at (406) 656-9557 or email her at [toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com](mailto:toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.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:**

Your blessed saints now rest in You and we lift up the family and friends of Arlene Mitchell (service @ St. James 5/17 @ 2pm with reception following at the Senior Center) and of Jo Lind (TBA) who both recently passed away.

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Alex Alton; Vi Ekle; Pat Lashley; Pastor Tonia; Merridy Gauthier; LaNita Maurer; Joy & Larry Goehner; Steve & Denise Cowan; Ken & Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing and Bonny Rouse;

Those living with cancer: Randy Allen; Kaci Thomason; Brian Wanner; Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Ashley Foster; Shane Fouhy; Jenny Hansen Cheff and Sandy Yoder’s daughter in law, Lola.

The children of the world, this is a big request, but God is big. Children who are food & home insecure.

Victims of violence and of natural disasters

**Pray for all of those who serve in our military, domestically & overseas, their spouses and children.**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING**

**May 2024 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent**

**May 2024 Cleaner(s): Brian & Sheri Luepke and Bob & Maureen Hemphill**

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Reader(s): Pat Lashley**

*Thank you, Pat Lashley for reading last Sunday*

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Communion Helper(s):**

*Thank you, Kim Behrent & Pat Lashley for serving communion last Sunday.*

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Usher(s): Betty Ames**

*Thank you, Leanne Brian Luepke for helping to usher last Sunday*

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Gate Keepers: Mina Morse & Leslie Mullin**

**2024 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames**



## OPPORTUNITIES to SERVE at ST. JAMES.....

Would you consider helping each Sunday with **Ushering**,  
being the **Reader**, assisting during **Communion** w/Pastor Tonia,  
being a member on the **Altar Guild**, OR

offering to **Clean** our church (with another family) one or two times per year?

If you are interested in helping, please let Pastor Tonia or Bill S. know!!

More detailed information on our opportunities may be found on our website:

[www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org) Click on the "Serve With Us" tab. Thanks!

## We certainly hope you are

### Having Fun with Faith...

We hope you are enjoying the series of "Children's Worship Bulletins", which are *found on our website*.

[www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org)

These games are geared toward all age levels, so, everyone can join in the fun!

PLEASE FORWARD & SHARE these bulletins with your kids, grandkids, friends & friend's friends!!!



**Every Tuesday,**

Bible Study is held at St. James 2:00pm.

We study the upcoming Sunday lessons.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE**

**Every Wednesday**, continue to watch for the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message or watch recorded on our FB page. Enjoy!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES

TO REFLECT GOD'S LOVE TO EACH OTHER AND TO OUR NEIGHBORS

### MORE Community Events for St. James:

- Every Monday we are invited to join:
  - ~The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-10am.
  - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am
- 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
- 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 8-10am
- Every Thursday we are invited to join:
  - ~ The Columbus Senior Center exercise class at 10:30am
  - ~ A Community Co-ed Yoga Class at 5:45pm @ the Little Stone Church starting March 7<sup>th</sup>.

For more Library information, see the "Table Posters" at St. James.



**Join the fun each week.....**

STORYTIME - EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 10AM

**BINGO** is EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 1pm!

**Crochet and Knit club Every Saturday from 10 - 11:30am**



**UPCOMING 2024 DATES:**

- Chorale Practice - Always from 6 – 7:00pm @ Congregational Churches  
May 14<sup>th</sup> – Abs      May 21<sup>st</sup> – Col      May 28<sup>th</sup> - Abs

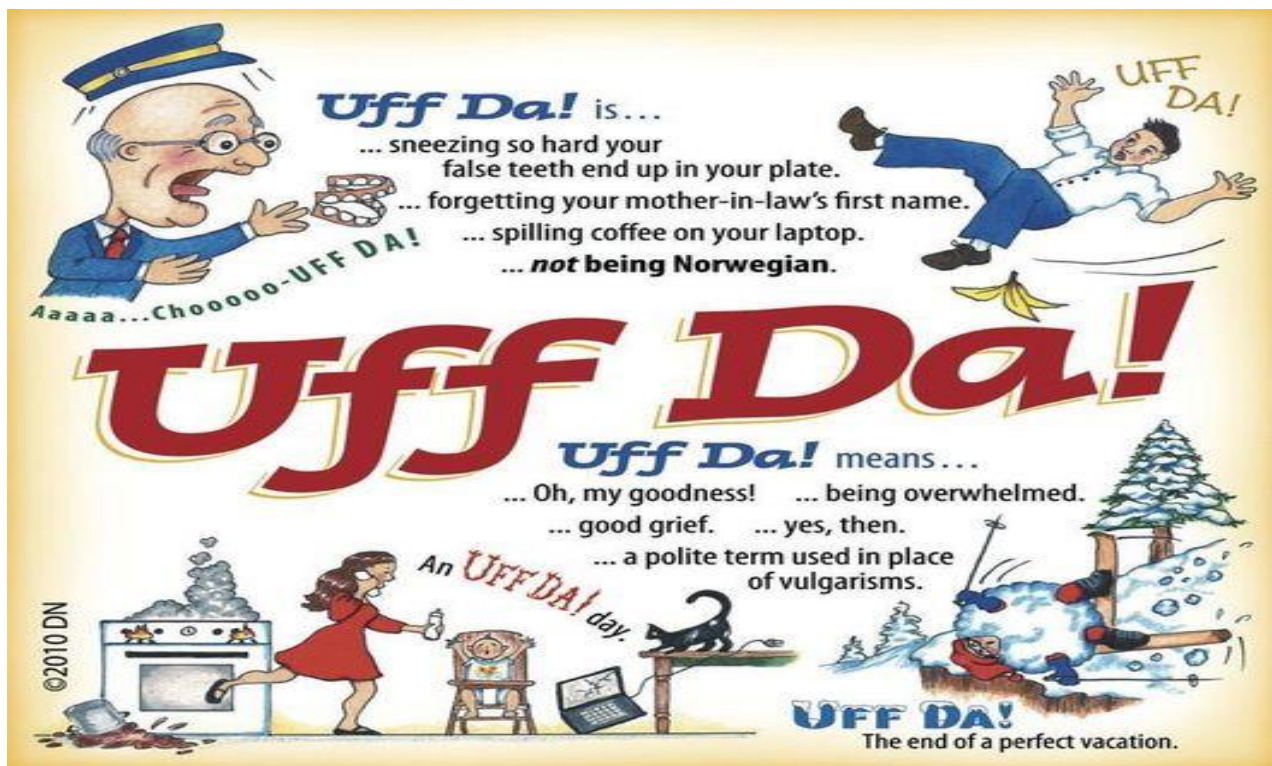
**SAVE THESE DATES: JUNE 1st AND JUNE 2nd**

**Stillwater Choral Spring Concert**

**\*\*Times and Venues are yet to be decided.**

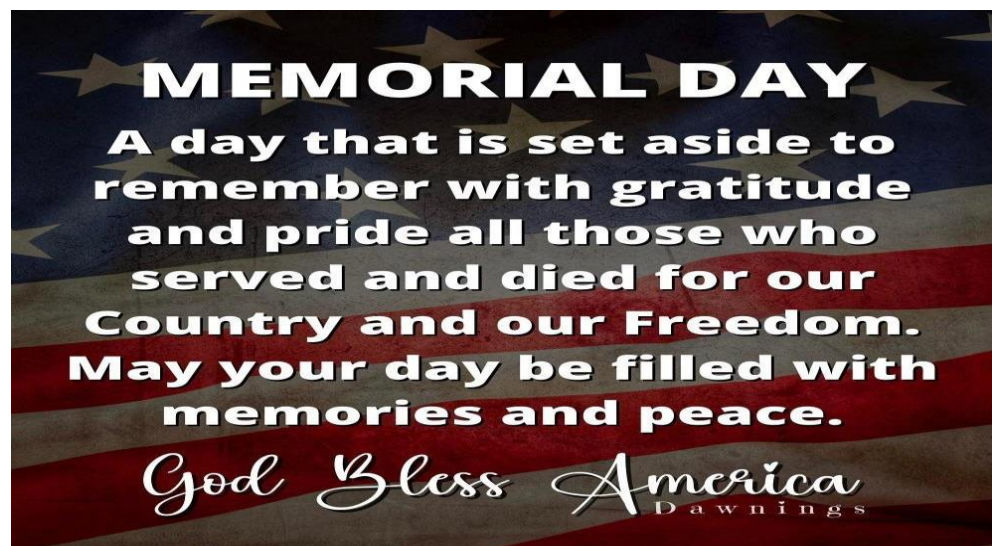
## Future “save” the dates....

- May 17<sup>th</sup> – Norway’s Independence Day – “Syttende Mai”



- May 19<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting immediately after worship

- May 27<sup>th</sup> –





➤ June 15<sup>th</sup> - Special K Ranch Open House – noon



A collage of photos from the Special K Ranch Open House. The top photo shows a woman in a pink top standing in front of a large display of pink and red flowers, with the 'SPECIAL K RANCH' logo in the top left and 'OPEN HOUSE' in large white letters across the bottom. Below this are three smaller photos: a woman in a pink shirt, a man in a white shirt working with plants, and a woman in a hat holding a bouquet of red flowers. A banner at the bottom of these photos reads 'MUSIC • GAMES • FOOD TRUCKS'. To the right of the collage is a green and white text box with the following information:

**PLANTS & PRODUCE SALE**  
**COME TO THE RANCH**  
**JUNE 15, 2024**  
**12:00PM**

**SPECIAL K RANCH**  
34 SPECIAL K LANE  
COLUMBUS, MT 59019  
*Visit [specialkranch.org](http://specialkranch.org) for more information*

**St. John's United "Summer Concert" series starts .....**  
**Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**



A colorful poster for the St. John's United Summer Concert Series. The background features a stylized landscape with green hills and blue mountains. The text is arranged in a central, slightly tilted banner. At the top, the St. John's United logo and name are visible. The main title 'SUMMER CONCERT SERIES' is in large, bold, white and orange letters. Below the title, it says 'THURSDAYS 7PM' and 'OPENERS BEGIN AT 6PM'. The poster lists the following events:

- JUNE 20TH** | WYNDSTONE BILLINGS HEIGHTS | **RONNIE MILSAP TRIBUTE** | Opener: Cory Leone Johnson
- JUNE 27TH** | THE CROSSINGS - LAUREL | **LEGENDS OF THE PIONEERS TRIBUTE** | Opener: Joe Sullivan
- JULY 11TH** | SJU CAMPUS - BILLINGS | **BEATLES TRIBUTE** | Opener: Elise Dye
- JULY 18TH** | SJU CAMPUS - BILLINGS | **BEACH BOYS TRIBUTE** | Opener: John Adams
- JULY 25TH** | SJU CAMPUS - BILLINGS | **ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE** | Opener: Gavin Russell
- AUGUST 1ST** | SJU CAMPUS - BILLINGS | **PAPER FLOWERS "REMEMBERING FLEETWOOD MAC"** | Opener: John Floridis • 5:30 pm

At the bottom, the title sponsor is listed as Black Hills Federal Credit Union and ase. Other sponsors include ase Impact and JL Langlas. A message says 'Thank you for making this concert possible.' At the very bottom, it states 'Free Admission', 'Food Trucks Available', and 'Coolers Welcome'.