

Pentecost in the Park

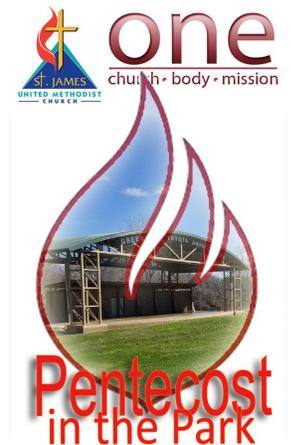
Well, maybe not "in the park" this year!

UPDATE - UPDATE - UPDATE

Due to the inclement weather forecast for this weekend, we are moving our ONE church Pentecost Celebration indoors. So, we will meet for worship as ONE church at 10:30 am this Sunday, May 20th, in the largest room we can get our hands on - the Christian Life Ministries Center. It will be a great gathering with music by our Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, and the ConneXion Praise Team. We will celebrate Confirmation with our youth, and share Communion together. It will be Pentecost in the Park (just not in the park).

Things you need to know:

- Come early to get a good seat! Service will start promptly at 10:30 am. We are working to set up some overflow rooms, but we hope we can all be together.
- Food service will be as advertised. Box lunches will be distributed in the Commons area following the service, and the Smashed Waffle food truck will be parked under the overhang outside the CLMC. Feel free to move the chairs in the CLMC, gather round tables in the Fellowship Hall, or hang out in any classroom as we enjoy our indoor picnic! You can still purchase a box lunch below through Wednesday!
- The Smashed Waffles have been donated by a very generous church member! They are cooking 400 free waffles just for us! First come, first served.
- Attire is still casual! Wear your picnic clothes. We do encourage everyone to wear "fire" colors to celebrate Pentecost (red, orange, or yellow).
- You don't have to bring your own chair. We'll have as many chairs set up as we can safely put in the CLMC.



Retirement Celebration for Ed Mann

You are invited to join the Sound District in celebration for the Assistant to the District Superintendent, Ed Mann, on his retirement! Many of you know Ed as a long-time member and leader at St. James. Help us celebrate the work he has done for the Sound District of the North Carolina Conference.



[RSVP Here](#)

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

You may have noticed the name, Sam Stephenson, on the St. James Prayer List for the past 3+ years. Sam is our grandson and has been in treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at UNC Hospital since his diagnosis at 18 months old. He is now 4 and we are thankful to report he has successfully completed his treatment. Our St. James family has lifted up Sam and his family in prayer during this time. Although words cannot adequately express our thanks to everyone who has thought about and prayed for Sam, we are thankful beyond words to all of you. God is so good!

Love in Christ,
Steve & Laura Stephenson

St. James STOP Event

The Congregational Care Ministries is sponsoring the St. James STOP Event, educational program on opioids. This event by Pitt County Coalition on Substance Abuse will focus on what law enforcement is seeing, harm reduction strategies, and personal stories of loss as well as hope. Come be a part of the solution and help STOP the Opioid Problem.



[For More Information Click Here](#)

Prayer Request

Patti Frank, Robert Ramey, Carol Wigent, Jane Bell, Francis Smith, Sharons Loy's friend



New Members

The minister's and congregation would like to welcome the following new members:

Diane Wade

Michelle Messer and her son, Wallace who was baptized on 5/13/18

Larry Bone, Jr

UMW Girls for Days Workshops

The United Methodist Women are pleased to announce that the first 30 bags made for Days for Girls will be distributed in Haiti by Lora Joyner in April! Many thanks to all the volunteers who are making this ministry possible. There are sewing and non sewing opportunities. There is fabric that needs to be washed, dried and ironed (no fabric softener) and returned in the UMW closet. For sewers there are bags ready to be sew and the supplies to make shields also located in the UMW Closet. Thank you sewers.



UMW Workshops

[For More Information Click Here](#)

Needed Items for the St. James Food Pantry

SOUP (canned)

BEANS (canned or dry)

FRUIT (canned)

Please bring your donations soon!

Farewell To Desda

Dear St. James family,

There is never anything "good" about a good-bye. I was only able to spend a mere five months at St. James UMC and yet I grew to LOVE the people here in that short time. Truly there are some memorable moments that I will be taking with me. There are so many wonderful things going on inside the walls of this church and your outreach to the community is unmatched. I wish for each of you happiness and peace in your life's journey. My husband's calling is also ministry. We thought the Lord was leading us to NC from VA with my position here. But in late March, he was offered a position that he simply couldn't pass up - starting July 31 he will be the Director of Missions at First UMC of Lakeland Florida and the UMC Florida Conference contact for Disaster Relief. Our youngest daughter and I will be moving with him as she has 2 more years of high school. We will need your prayers as this will be a huge move leaving behind our two older children in Virginia where they are both employed. It was one thing to move 3 hours away from them, now it's going to be 3+ states away!

Please do stay in touch - look me up on Facebook if you have not done so already. I would love to follow what is going on in your life, rejoice with you in good times, and pray for you in times of need. If you are not a "facebooker" my personal email is desdamonaw@gmail.com I would love to hear from you anytime! Of course I expect you to let me know if you travel south and land anywhere near central Florida.



Blessings to you all and thank you for letting me serve alongside you here at St. James!

Until we meet again,

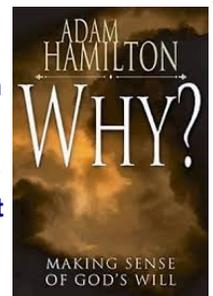
Desda White - Director of Congregational Engagement

Bridge Builder's Spring Group Study

The Bridge Builder's Small Group invites you to join in our Spring Study/Discussion on Adam Hamilton's book "Why? Making Sense of God's Will".

When bad things happen, we want to know why. Why did it happen? Why did it happen to me? And perhaps the hardest question of all, if there really is a God who loves me, why did God let this happen?

[For more information](#)

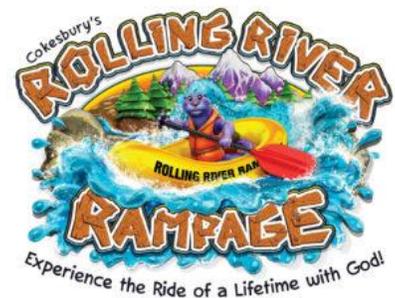


VBS 2018 - Rolling River Rampage

The Bridge Builder's Small Group invites you to join in our Spring Study/Discussion on Adam Hamilton's book "Why? Making Sense of God's Will".

Are your kids ready for an action-packed VBS adventure! This year we will setting out on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God! It's Rolling River Rampage!

Along the river, we discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that they can trust God to be with us through anything. Relevant music, exciting science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories will help us know that God is always with us as we ride the rapids of amazing grace!



July 8 - 12, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Register your child today!

<https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/stjconnect>

BE *the* BRIDGE

Be the Bridge Information Meeting

Join the United Methodist Women in preparing shoe boxes for Project AGAPE. This is a joint mission project with our North Carolina Conference and the Western NC Conference. Filled shoe boxes are distributed to the children of Armenia. The United Methodist Church is the only religious affiliation allowed to distribute items in Armenia.

- Are you heartbroken by the racial divide in your country, your city, your church, or your family?
- Do you want to experience greater diversity, richness, and depth in your relationships?
- Can you no longer tolerate the injustice, apathy, and fear you see around you?
- Would you like the church to be a distinct and trans-formative voice in the conversation on racial healing?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please join us for an information session on how you can get involved in being a Bridge Builder toward racial unity.

[Read More](#)

South Doors to be locked on Sundays

As part of an effort to keep us all safe and secure on Sunday mornings, the Board of Trustees would like to keep the doors facing 8th street locked at all times. They will still function as an exit, but would be locked for entry beginning June 1st. If you are one who parks on 8th street and enters the building through any of the south facing doors, we encourage you to use the parking lot and change your point of entry.

If you need to deliver items using the south entry, please contact Alan Gill at the church (252-752-6154 or Alan@stjconnect.org) to arrange for access.

DivorceCare Session beginning May 15th

DivorceCare is a 13 week, Christian based support program for those going through separation and divorce using video, workbook readings, discussion and limited homework.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



Congregations For Children (C4C)

The school year is winding down, but there are still opportunities to be involved with our partners at Wahl Coates Elementary. They are in need of EOG Proctors on May 30th & 31st for most subjects, 5th grade Science is June 1st. Tests begin at 8:00 AM. Group Training will be Monday May 21st at 2:45 PM. If you can't make the training, you will need to contact Tabitha May (assistant principal at Wahl Coates) for individual training.

We are still needing volunteers to assist with the End of Year Luncheon on June 8th. If you can help set up, serve, and/or clean up, please contact Lora Joyner at lora.joyner@suddenlink.net We also need gift cards for door prizes for the staff.

There will be a garden at Wahl Coates next year! Anyone who loves to garden would be a great asset to volunteer at the school. Contact Lora for more details.



Anyone have extra coolers?? There is a need for gently used or new coolers at Wahl Coates.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and service!

Upcoming Worship Services and Messages at St. James

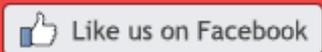
[Learn More](#)



Ulster Project seeking Host Families



The Ulster Project of Greenville is looking for a few good teens, ages 14-16, to host a teen from Londonderry/Derry Northern Ireland this summer from June 28-July 28. Teens will participate in peacemaking activities, service projects, cultural experiences and more. Please contact Kellie Williams, 252-327-8990, for more information. You can also visit the website at: greenvilleulster@weebly.com



Senior Breakfast

We will honor our Graduating High School Seniors and their families with a Senior Breakfast on Sunday, June 3 @ 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall.

[Read More](#)



Our Record of Faithfulness

Week of 05/13/2018
\$39,300

2018 Operating Budget

Currently Received \$633,624 37%

Weekly Goal
\$32,591

Year-to-Date Contributions
\$633,624

Year-to-Date Goal
\$706,128

Year-to-Date Actual Expenses
\$552,840

2018 Goal
\$1,694,707

Building Disciples Loan

Current Balance: \$2,819,057

Week of 05/13/18
\$1,032

Weekly Goal
\$4,500