



An inviting safe community for all

St James Weekly — week of April 25, 2021

St James Episcopal Church
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The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector
920-860-5152 (cell phone)
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dianemarie.murray@gmail.com
Please contact Amma Diane with
any pastoral care or other needs.

Weekly Schedule

UPDATED! Bible Study—Sundays at 8:45AM

We're reading and discussing the book of 1 Corinthians. Use any bible translation(s) you like; no other book/guide needed. We read through and discuss one chapter each week, with the following questions in mind: 1) What stands out to you in the passage we are studying?; 2) What do you have a question about or want to know more about?; 3) What can you apply from the passage to your daily faith journey?; and 4) If you were to talk to a friend about this passage what would you talk about?

4/25 chapter 9; 5/2 chapter 10; 5/9 chapter 11

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 580 876 932 #
When prompted for Participant ID, press #
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]
By computer or other device: go.mysjec.com/biblestudy

UPDATED! Worship—Sundays at 10AM

Participate LIVE or view at any time after:
go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube

4/25: 4th Sunday of Easter—Creation Care *

5/2: 5th Sunday of Easter—Mental Health Awareness

5/9: 6th Sunday of Easter—Mothers/Mother Figures *

5/16: 7th Sunday of Easter—Companion Diocese

*indicates preaching by the Rev Dcn Jerry Molitor

Mid-Week Worship—Wednesdays at 4PM

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 670 567 006 #
When prompted for Participant ID, press #
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]
By computer or other device: go.mysjec.com/wednesday

Morning Prayer—Fridays at 7:00AM

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 831 5230 0483 #
When prompted for Participant ID, press #
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]
By computer or other device: go.mysjec.com/friday

Would you like DVDs of our Worship services?

We will soon begin producing DVDs of our Sunday and Holy Day Worship services. If you would like to receive DVDs so that you can watch services that way, please leave a message for Amma Diane (920-860-5152) and we'll gladly add you to the list. If you need a DVD player, let Amma Diane know that, as well, and we can provide one of those for you.

St James Book Group 4/28 at 7PM

The book being read and discussed by the St. James book group in April is a novel by Sue Monk Kidd titled *The Book of Longings*. This book was recommended for the book group to read by Liz Foster. You are welcome to join in the conversation even if you have not been able to read the book.

A bit about the book from Amazon. "Grounded in meticulous research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity, The Book of Longings is an inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her. It is a triumph of storytelling both timely and timeless, from a masterful writer."

Book Group meets the 4th Wednesday of the month from 7 - 8pm, except in November and December we meet one week earlier. April's meeting will be a virtual via ZOOM on April 28. You can call or join via the internet following the link provided. If you have technical difficulties Amma Diane Murray (920-860-5152) will try to help you.

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 873 5481 2492 #
When prompted for Participant ID, press #
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]
By computer or other device: go.mysjec.com/bookgroup

NEW! Photos needed for Worship slide shows: Mothers/Mother Figures & Pentecost/Holy Spirit

We need your photo contributions for slide shows in our May 9 & May 23 Worship services:

- ◆ Please send photos for our May 9 service of your grandmothers, mothers, daughters, spouses, or yourself... other relatives, friends, and people from our church... or anybody else who has been like a mother, spiritual or otherwise, in the lives of you or your loved ones. We'll also reuse photos from last year unless we hear otherwise from you. **Send photos by May 5.**
- ◆ Please send photos for our May 23 service of flames, fire, doves, clouds, wind, red items, & other symbols or imagery for the Holy Spirit/Pentecost. **Send photos by May 19.**

Send in as many photos as you like. As with photo requests for our previous Worship services, we do not include names or other identifying information for privacy. Please send your photos to Tony Karl (email them to info@mysjec.com, text them to him, or drop them off at his house and he can scan them for you). Thanks!

Vestry Notes

- ◆ **NEW!** An in-person option for Sunday 10AM Worship will resume starting May 16. The Annual Meeting of the congregation, including elections, will take place on June 27. See the attached letter (previously mailed to homes) for more details,
- ◆ **NEW!** As of March 31, our year-to-date income is \$16,489, on a YTD budget of \$21,633 (a shortage of \$5,144). Year-to-date expenses as of March 31 are \$26,455 on a YTD budget of \$26,251 (an overage of \$204). We currently have a year-to-date deficit of \$9,966, which is more than our budgeted YTD deficit of \$4,618. Thank you to all our members and friends for your generosity and faithful stewardship!
- ◆ The Diocese of Fond du Lac will hold Summer Camp with a hybrid of in-person and at-home for those age 4 through 12th grade. If you or a child you know are interested in attending, visit diofdl.org/camp.html or talk to Amma Diane if you have any questions. Financial assistance is available.
- ◆ **SAVE THE DATE:** The Rev'd Deacon Jerry Molitor has been working with our congregation since September 2020. Jerry is a transitional deacon on the path to ordination as a priest in the Diocese of Fond du Lac. God willing and the people consenting, Jerry will be ordained July 10 at our Cathedral Church of St Paul in Fond du Lac. Additional details will be shared when they become available.



Scrip upcoming order dates 5/9 & 6/13

Scrip can still be purchased while we are apart by calling Tammy McVeigh to place your order and mailing a check to St James. Your scrip will be delivered to you when it comes. Scrip is a way for you to purchase store gift cards for your own use or to give as gifts. The card user gets full value for the amount and St James receives a percent (varies with retailer). The money St James receives goes into our Outreach Fund. Contact Amma Diane or Tammy if you need an order form.

Thanks for your support!

We appreciate your continued financial support while we are being the church in this different way. Checks can be mailed to or dropped off at the church. You can also set up payments through your bank (most offer this for free) or donate online at mysjec.com/donate. We know that these are difficult times for some, and we understand if you are unable to support the church financially. Please contact Amma Diane if you need help connecting to assistance or resources. **Our special offering for the month of April goes to the Rector's discretionary fund—please label gifts accordingly.**

UPDATED! Prayers for the Week

Healing, Comfort & Strength: Brenden, Steve & Marybeth, Virginia, Carol, Elizabeth, Vanessa, Terry, Debbie, Bonnie, Don & Beth, Faith, Susie, Marty & Nancy, Peggy, Joe Mike, Chip, Jim, Bill, Steven, Billy, Len & Margaret, Ray, Mollie, Liese, Walter, Chris, Mary, Vicki, Randy & Cindy, Charlie, Shelley, Silas, Mary, Sandy, Cathy, Don, Mike, Laurie, Amanda.

Guidance & Discernment: Tim, Guy & Mary, Kurt, Ronald, Alison, Frankie, Brian & Lisa, Ginny & Karen, Annie & Tom, Lishane, Mary, Kevin, Cherity, Sara, Ethan, Scott, Bonnie's family, Tammy & Kevin.

Serving in the Military: Jordan, Daniel, Ian, Logan, Keaton, Ashlee, Adam.

Additional Prayers we offer include: For Peace in our world... for the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and missionary families. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Ambrose, Antigo and St Francis Mission, Masvingo. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Nippon Sei Ko Kai. For the Dioceses of Eau Claire, Milwaukee, and Northern Michigan. For people living with mental illness. For Painting Pathways Clubhouse. Hope House families. The men of The Haven. We pray for those working in government in our cities, state, country, and the world. We pray for our neighborhood. For the people around the world affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Pray for an end to racism and social injustice in our country and around the world. Pray for people around the world dealing with severe weather and related damage, injury, and deaths.

We offer thanks for: Diane our Rector, Tammy and Chris, our Wardens, our Vestry and other ministry leaders, staff and every person in this congregation. Transitional Deacon Jerry Molitor and his wife Linda. Bishop Matthew Gunter and his wife Leslie and family. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his wife, Sharon. Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. For our companion Diocese of Masvingo in Zimbabwe and their Bishop, The Rt Rev Godfrey and his wife Albertina.

We Pray for the Departed: Tom & Audrey, Audrey & Clayton, Pat, Myrna, Cindy, Joe, Paul, Clarence, Deena, Scott.

UPDATED! Milestones

We pray for those celebrating milestones:

Birthdays: 4/5 Jim Gordon; 4/6 Shelley Richardson; 4/16 Kay Elliott; 4/16 Michael Reckelberg; 4/22 Donna Franz; 4/23 Eleanor Agnew; 4/29 Joan Estes; 5/4 Mayra Short; 5/7 Noah Short; 5/7 Owen Short; 5/15 Shirley Ouradnik; 5/20 Doris Hansen; 5/23 Pat Hanson.

Anniversaries: 5/6 Leonard & Margaret Coombs; 5/9 Mary Jean & Todd Reckelberg; 5/26 Marian & Nick Doszkewycz.

If you would like your prayer requests to be included on our list, or to add a milestone, please contact Amma Diane Murray by phone (920-860-5152) or email (dianemarie.murray@gmail.com).

The following letter was mailed to households on April 6.



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The Rev. Diane M. Murray, *Rector*
dianemarie.murray@gmail.com
mobile: 920.860.5152

Vestry (Church Council): Nick Doszkewycz, Chris Eggert-Rosenthal (*Junior Warden*),
Mary Green, Richard Hall, Tony Karl (*Clerk*), Kim Kaufmann,
Tammy McVeigh (*Senior Warden*), & Peggy Turnbull (*Treasurer*).

April 5, 2021

Dear siblings in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Easter season is here, Spring is slowly unfolding, and vaccines are now available to everybody 16 and older in Wisconsin! We are encouraged to hear that many of you are now fully or partially vaccinated. COVID rates are decreasing, vaccination rates are increasing, Amma Diane has been vaccinated, and the weather is getting warmer. We're finalizing details to resume in-person activities for those who are ready to do so. Being aware that some of us are at different stages of vaccination and that some are not able to get vaccinated for the time being, we are using guidelines that err on the side of safer options:

We will resume an in-person Worship option Sundays at 10AM starting Sunday, May 16.

- Please wear a mask. Masks will be required when in the building.
- If you have any symptoms of illness, please remain home.
- Please follow signs and directions of ushers and other leaders when entering and exiting. All should enter from State Street (the 8th Street and kitchen doors will remain locked.)
- We ask that you maintain 6+ foot distance from those you don't live with.
- Please don't gather anywhere inside the building with people outside your household.
- We will have doors and windows open for air exchange—dress as you need to for comfort.
- Specific pews will be blocked to help households sit safely distanced.
- Initially, the lower level of the building will be blocked off during Sunday Worship.
- Initially, the handicap-accessible restroom outside the sanctuary will be the only restroom available.
- Communion (bread only) will be provided for those who would like it. Like the spiritual communion we have been participating in for the past year, this is sacramentally appropriate any time receiving bread and/or wine is not a possibility for any reason. (The bread and wine are the outward and visible signs of the inward and spiritual grace in the communion sacrament.)
- Singing remains a less safe activity. For now, our in-person Worship option will not include music. If positive trends continue, we hope to resume music and even singing sometime in the Fall.
- We ask that you refrain from touching, hugging, shaking hands, etc. and instead greet each other and share your love through verbal or other contact-less expressions.

We will continue to offer an online Worship option Sundays at 10AM on Facebook and YouTube.

- These will maintain the look and feel of the online services we have been offering during the pandemic.
- These videos will continue to include music and singing, as well as all the words/lyrics on-screen.
- If you need a DVD of any of our services, please contact Amma Diane.

We will not resume Sunday Fellowship time in the building until further notice.

- The lower level will remain closed off on Sundays.
- We encourage you to continue to seek fellowship with each other in ways that are safe for all involved.

Sunday Bible Study will remain on Zoom (internet & phone) until further notice.

- We'll bump the time slightly earlier (8:30-9:30AM) so participants who want to can get to church by 10AM.
- At some point we'll switch to hybrid, adding an in-person option and continuing to offer via Zoom.

Our weekly services Wednesdays at 4PM & Fridays at 7AM will continue to be via Zoom/phone.

- At some point we'll switch to hybrid, adding an in-person option and continuing to offer via Zoom.

Other church groups may choose to begin gathering in-person starting in June.

- Participants of Book Group, Women's/Men's Fellowship Groups, Crafting Group, etc. should discuss among themselves when they are comfortable to resume an in-person meeting option and let Amma Diane know.
- Groups may gather in the lower level of the building or other locations.
- Please wear a mask. Masks will be required when in the building.
- Those groups that resume meeting in person should continue to offer the option to connect via Zoom for those who aren't yet ready to return to in-person activities.
- Each group should let Amma Diane know their plans so we can include the correct information in our communication.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled following Worship on Sunday, June 27.

- The meeting will take place in the Sanctuary with the same guidelines as in-person Worship.
- There will not be food/snacks, so we will try to keep the meeting brief.
- We will elect Wardens/Vestry (church council), Diocesan Convention delegates/alternates, and church Endowment Trustees. Information and nomination forms will be available in church starting May 16. Advance nominations should be returned by June 13 (nominations are permitted from the floor.)
- 2020 Annual Reports were delivered to homes in February. If you need a copy, contact Amma Diane.

For all the above, we are not requiring or checking to see if people are vaccinated.

- Like wearing masks and maintaining physical distance over the past year, getting vaccinated can be a major way we show love for our neighbors. We highly encourage everybody who can do so get vaccinated as soon as possible. This helps prevent further community spread and mutations that create stronger viruses. We realize that for various reasons, some are unable/unwilling to get vaccinated—the rest of us being vaccinated helps protect them.
- Vaccines are available now for anybody age 16 or over, and there is no charge. Contact your regular health provider, the Manitowoc County Health Department, or most local pharmacies to arrange for your vaccination. If you need help, please contact Amma Diane.

This is our plan, God willing. As conditions improve, we'll continue to resume as much normalcy as possible. We'll also keep the best of what we've learned and implemented the past 13 months to strengthen our ministry/mission.

We miss you. We love you. We hold you in prayer. We look forward to seeing you soon!
The Vestry of St James, Manitowoc

