January 2026

Volume 25
Issue 1

175 Years & Beyond

WORSHIP
Sundays
10 am
Live & via Zoom
&
Wednesday
7pm

Share the welcome.

Invite a friend.

Use below to connect to Zoom Link

The Voice of St. James

Thoughts from our Pastor

Prayer for the New Year

Holy God as we head into
this New Year,
may we leave behind
all that does not help us,
all that holds us back,
all that turns us away
from you.

May you open our eyes,
hearts and minds
to see what you have
prepared for us.
May you open us up
to your love,
so that we may be
what you have created
us to be.

May we feel your love flowing
in and through us.
Guide us in extending
it to others.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Open our hearts to the needs of others,
and to see all the ways that
we can be a blessing to them.
May you challenge us
to reach beyond our fears
and our selfish desires.

May you grant us the courage
to fight for justice, to advocate for others,
and to challenge the inequities around us.
May you empower us with
voices that speak loudly
in the face of all that does
harm to your people.
May you give us bodies and spirits
willing to stand strong in solidarity
with those who are affected.

Gracious God, lead us into the New Year
with a clear vision of your
Kingdom here on earth.
May we work together as community,
working hand in hand to bring
your loving vision into reality.

Let your love be the foundation
or all that we do.
Amen.

January at St. James always feels like opening a fresh chapter. New stories to write, new memories to make, and plenty of opportunities to grow together as a church family. If you have been thinking about getting more connected this year, here are a few places where your gifts, and your presence can make a big difference:

- **Choir -** Love to sing? Our choir is warm, welcoming, and always happy to add another voice.
- **Community Outreach -** Help us spread kindness in our neighborhood through simple, hands on service projects. More information on the next page!
- **Worship Assistants -** Read, greet, or help during worship. Small roles that make a big difference in creating a welcoming Sunday.
- **Behind the Scenes Magic -** From Family & Friends Nights to special events, we need folks who enjoy setting up, decorating, or just being part of the fun.

This year, let's make St. James not just a place we attend, but a family we build. There's a place for everyone here, and we can't wait to see where you jump in.

Community Outreach

Do you have a creative idea for a community event or a service project that could brighten someone's day? Maybe you'd love to help organize something meaningful, or simply show up and lend a hand when you can.

We'd love for you to join us at our next **Outreach Task Group meeting on January 6, at 6:00 pm.**

It's a welcoming space where we listen, brainstorm, and discover new ways to care for our church community and our neighbors beyond our doors.

Your presence, whether big, small, or somewhere in between, truly makes a difference.

Come be part of the joy of reaching out together. The more hearts and hands, the better.

1st - Ken Panas

11th - Thomas Dunleavy

13th - Victoria Librizzi

13th - Regina Moschik

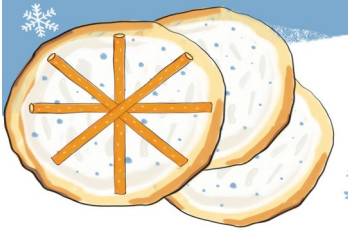
28th - Fred Tichy

9th - Joe & Sally Costa

18th - Hank & Tammy Rodio

27th - Charles & Diane Eby

Snowflake SNACK CAKES



Celebrate the beauty of winter with these fun snowflake-inspired treats!

What you need:

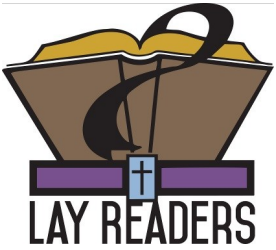
- Graham cracker squares or sugar cookies
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Pretzel sticks (snowflake arms)
- Shredded coconut or white sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows or candy pearls

What you do:

1. Frost each cracker or cookie.
2. Arrange pretzel sticks in a crisscross for the snowflake base.
3. Sprinkle with coconut or sprinkles for snow.
4. Add marshmallows or candy pearls to the ends for detail.

Lesson tie-in:
Remind kids that God made each of us unique—just like no two snowflakes are alike!
(Psalm 139:14, KJV)

January Worship Volunteers



4th - Mario Triboletti
11th - Sally Costa
18th - Michael Hozik
25th - Ed Volpa

4th - Betty Pollock & Rose Jones
11th - Betty Pollock & Rose Jones
18th - Betty Pollock & Rose Jones
25th - NO COMMUNION

4th - Rose Jones & Mario Triboletti
11th - Volunteers Needed
18th - Volunteers Needed
25th - NO COMMUNION

JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AA Groups Tue - 7pm Wed - 7pm (Women only) Fri - 8 pm Sat - 6:30pm Sun - 7:30pm				1 	2	3
4 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	5	6 6pm Outreach	7 7pm Evening Devotions	8	9	10 6pm Game Night
11 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	12	13	14 1pm God's Stitchers Luncheon 7pm Evening Devotions	15	16	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	19 7pm Council	20	21 7pm Evening Devotions	22	23	24
25 9am Sunday School 10am Worship with Michael Hozik	26	27	28 1pm God's Stitchers 7pm Evening Devotions	29	30 5:30pm Dine Out Night	31

We are excited to celebrate with Aly (Caglianone) and Jim Richer as they prepare to welcome their baby. Gather with us after worship on Sunday, January 4th at 11:00am for a Diaper Shower in their honor. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to bless this growing family with encouragement, prayers, and of course, plenty of diapers.

Let's come together in celebration, gratitude, and generosity as we shower Aly and Jim with all the love they deserve.

GAME NIGHT

Have Fun With Family & Friends!

FREE

Saturday, January 10th

Starts at 6:00 PM

Join us for a fun night of games with Family and Friends!

Bring a drink and snack to share if you'd like.

Bring your best game face, and let's make some memories together!

Bread Makers

You may have noticed we have gone back to using bread instead of wafers for communion. Thank you to Amanda Dilks for having done this. If you would like to assist in the bread baking we would be glad to have your help. We will share the recipe.

One batch will provide 4 loaves for the month, which can be frozen.

Please talk to Pastor Pam or Amanda if you if you are interested. Thank you.

A Heartfelt Thank You for your Christmas Outreach Support

We want to extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to this year's Christmas Outreach Baskets.

Your kindness and generosity made a wonderful difference in the lives of families right here in our community. Because of your willingness to give, we were able to bless nine families with all the essentials for a meaningful Christmas breakfast and dinner; meals that remind one of God's abundant love and the joy of gathering around the table.

With the added support of Thrivent donations, we were also able to include little extras, that brought smiles, thanks, and reminded each family that they are seen, valued, and surrounded by a church family that cares deeply for them.

Thank you for your generosity in ways that reach far beyond the holiday itself.

ANNUAL MEETING

February 15th following worship **11:00am with Pot Luck**

We encourage everyone to join us as we review the past year's ministry and discuss plans for the coming year.

Please ensure all reports are submitted to the office **no later than** February 4th

Thank you!

This past year at St. James was full of moments worth celebrating. Before we step into all that 2026 will bring, it feels right to look back with gratitude. We welcomed new faces, lifted our voices together with a choir that brought us joy during worship, shared friendship and fellowship during our Dine Out Nights, reached out to our community through meaningful outreach, and shared laughter during our Family & Friends Nights. Behind it all were the volunteers, worship assistants, and quiet helpers who kept everything running. Together, these moments paint a beautiful picture of God at work. As we enter a new year, we carry that gratitude with us and look forward to all God has in store for St. James in 2026.

Bible Quiz

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

A. "baby"; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
B. "child"; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
C. "youth"; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
D. No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wise men's visit.

Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Interfaith Service

Monday,
January 19,
11:00 am
at
Beth Israel
Congregation,
1015 E. Park Ave.
Vineland

A Collection will be received
and used to assist
Con Vivir Wellness Hub in
Hammonton.
sponsored by Allies in Caring,
they offer mental health
and wellness programs..

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is,
'What are you doing for others?" MLK Jr.

Dolores Fiori, Laura Librizzi, Claire Gilmore, Diane Eby, Winnie Ziegler, Hannah Bonchi, Margaret Rea, Jennifer Johnson, Rita Ricca, Gillian Lee Phillips, Betty Haines, Dorcas Schellhas, Bette Jackson, Mario Triboletti, Maggie Rider, Marlene Triggian, Ed Shine, Dan P., Bob & Ellie Frietag, Christina Spahn, Tom Dixon, George Cappucio, Arlene Calletta, Mike Fountas, Nick Pobletti, Bill Link, Sophie Stites, Arlene Deptula, Thomas Rose, Linda Slater, Chip Stewart, Baby Octavia Marie, Lisa D'Ambrosia, Chenza Cerrato, Edythe Aselta, Charlie Patton, Ed Marinelli, RoseAnn Lucca, Mia Arrison, Carol Ann Conner, Will Longtin, Patricia Dudley, Peggy Bucceri, Rita Sarro, Robert DelRoss, John Thame, Bonnie Kelsey, Trisha Burgess, Gaelen Houck, Rosie Ranier, Jen Drucis, Phil Fiori, Paul Morris, Corenne Hickey, Emily Rose Bailey, Pat Cochran, Walter Meinke

and For the NJ SYNOD, Bishop Compton and staff, and ELCA Bishop Curry, and its ministries.

La Campagnola

439 Oakshade Road,
Shamong, NJ 08088

www.la-campagnola.com

www.facebook.com/

January 30th

We will dine
at 5:30 pm

Carpool from Church
at 4:45 pm

Name:_____

Number of Guests:_____

Phone Number/
Email:_____

_____

Do you wish to carpool? ____Yes ____ No

Please RSVP <u>no later than</u> January 25th!

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor Pamela Werner — C 609-335-3083
Laffinggal@comcast.net — O 609-561-4488
Office Administrator - Amanda Dilks — C 609-204-5516
O 609-561-4488
stjameslutheran@folsom.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours - Wednesdays & Thursdays
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
All other times by appointment

CHURCH COUNCIL

Michael Hozik - President
Regina Moschik - Secretary
Patrick Azzara
Jayne Carmen - Vice Pres.
Judy May
Patti Zellers

Worship - Sundays 10 am
Live and Via Zoom
Link on www.stjamesfolsom.org

Our Mission

Welcoming all people to abide in Christ,
to experience God's love, and
to do God's work in the world around us.

St. James Lutheran Church
1341 Mays Landing Rd.
Folsom, NJ 08037

Visit our Website at www.stjamesfolsom.org