October 2026

Volume 25
Issue 9

God's Work;
Our Hands.

The Voice of St. James

Thoughts from our Pastor

Sundays, Worship with us at
10 am
Live & via Zoom.
Link to web page below.

Wednesday Devotions
7pm
Share the welcome.
Invite a friend.

"What a wonderful time," you think as you push your chair back from the table. You and a number of friends have just finished a festive feast. It has been a pleasant time, with good food, good drink, and good conversation. You have enjoyed catching up on each other's lives: rejoicing in the good news; sharing your compassion on the bad news. No one is rushing to leave; no one is hurrying to get things done. This is your time to be there for each other.

Most of us can relate to wanting to spend time with family and friends in a

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leisurely manner. Yet, I would dare say that there have been times for each of us where we have felt rushed and barely had time to say hi.

Perhaps there have been times when we are thinking about the things we need to get done, that it makes it hard to really enjoy the time together with friends.

How about those times we come to dine and converse with God, our heavenly Parent, as well as with our siblings in Christ? Do we take time to hear the Good News that is to be shared? Do we take time to share with each other in our sorrows? Do we take time to savor the feast that has been prepared for us? Do we allow ourselves the leisure of enjoying each other's company?

Each Sunday morning God invites us to come and dine. God invites us to spend time together. God invites us to hear the wondrous news of God's gracious love. God invites us to share our burdens, so that we may be relieved of their weight. God invites us to come and eat, and be filled and nourished. We are invited to take our leisure and enjoy our time with each other, to enjoy our time with God. Each of us has been given our own personal invitation. No RSVP is needed. Just show up and know God is glad to have you there. So are we.

5th - Suzanne Tichy

8th - Charles Librizzi

9th - John Houck

10th - Ali Richer

13th - Albert Kase

26th - Ron Warriner

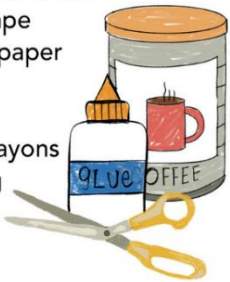
30th - Tammy Rodio

Give Thanks with Music

Music is one way to give thanks to God. Make these simple instruments to accompany your singing!

What you need:

- 3 small coffee cans with lids
- 1/2 cup dry pinto beans
- 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- Heavy-duty tape
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons for decorating



What you do:

1. Put the beans in one can, the popcorn in another, and the rice in the third.
2. Secure the lids and tape around the rims.
3. Cover the cans with construction paper and glue it in place.
4. Decorate the cans with markers or crayons.
5. Shake the cans to hear the different sounds, then use them to make joyful music for the Lord!

October Worship Volunteers

Volunteer Spotlight

Betty Pollock

For six years, Betty has been faithfully preparing our communion table and cleaning up afterwards. She serves with consistency and care. When we transitioned from wafers to baked communion bread, Betty immediately stepped in as one of our bread makers, helping shape a more meaningful experience for our congregation.

We are deeply grateful for her continued dedication and the steady support she has shown. Betty's service is truly a blessing.

Communion Assistants

4th - Judy May & Mario Triboletti
11th - Rose Jones & Debbie Caglianone
18th - Colleen Kase & Jim Valenti
25th - Fred Tichy & Mark Sottile

Lay Readers

4th - Judy May
11th - Dolores Fiori
18th - Ed Volpa
25th - Fred Tichy

Giving Thanks for the Hands That Guide Us

Pastor Appreciation Day, October 11th

Honoring Pastor Pamela Werner

We give thanks for Pastor Pamela Werner, whose kindness, steady dedication, and deep love for others shape the heart of our church. Pastor Pam leads with compassion, listens with patience, and shows up with a willingness to help no matter the need. Her friendship, her devotion to ministry, and her gentle strength have blessed our congregation in countless ways. We are truly fortunate to walk this journey of faith with her. On this Pastor Appreciation Day, we celebrate her calling, her service, and the grace she shares so freely. May she feel the love, gratitude, and support of all who are blessed to call her pastor.

TRUNK OR TREAT
FOLSOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Friday, October 9th 6:30 pm - 8 pm

St. James will be entering a trunk for our third year. This time with a Wizard of Oz theme. Come check us out and have a great time! Tickets are $6 a person and must be purchased ahead of time online. Dj & Dancing, treating, and more! If you need help, please reach out to Amanda.

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AAGroups **Tue - 7pm** **Wed - 7pm** **(Women only)** **Fri - 8 pm** **Sat - 6:30pm** **Sun - 7:30pm**				1	2 Pastor's Day Off	3
4 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	5	6 7pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7pm Evening Devotions	8	9 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Trunk or Treat Pastor's Day Off	10
11 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	12	13 7pm Choir Rehearsal	14 1pm God's Stitchers 7pm Evening Devotions	15	16 Pastor's Day Off	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Worship - M. Hozik	19	20 7pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7pm Evening Devotions	22	23 Pastor's Day Off 5:30 pm Dine Out Night	24 6 pm Hallo-ween Party at Grasso's
25 9am Sunday School 10am Worship w/ St. James Choir	26 Baptism of Liam Grebel 6:15 OUTREACH 7 PM COUNCIL	27	28 1pm God's Stitchers 7pm Evening Devotions	29	30 Pastor's Day Off	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Don & Beth Grasso's

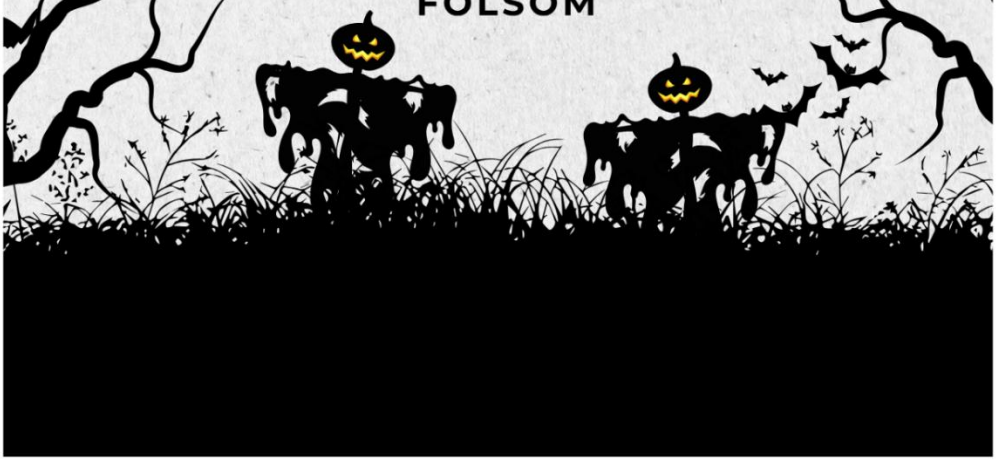
HALLOWEEN PARTY

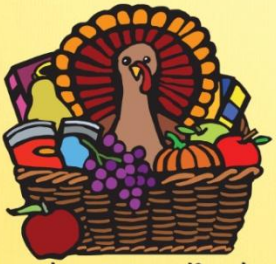
Come join us for a fun Halloween Gathering!
Feel free to bring an appetizer,
side dish, or drink to share.
Costumes are AlWAYS welcome!
Keep it simple, or go all out.
Let's make it a fun night together!

OCTOBER

SATURDAY 24 AT 6 PM

1353 MAYS LANDING RD., FOLSOM





Thanksgiving Baskets

It's that time of year again!

Stop by the donation board in the Narthex and pick up a card for the food item you would like to donate for our Outreach Group's Thanksgiving Baskets.

Please have your donations in by Nov 15th

The following items are needed:

- -Box of Stuffing
- -Box of Instant Potatoes
- -Canned Sweet Potatoes
- -Canned Corn
- -Powdered Drink Mix
- -Jar of Gravy
- -Bisquick
- -Brownie Mix
- -Cranberry Sauce

We are in the process of updating our directory for 2027.

If you'd like to update your photo, you're welcome to send in a picture of yourself and/or your family so we can refresh your listing. If you prefer to have a new photo taken, Pastor will be available after worship on Sundays to help with that. When submitting a picture, please be sure everyone included can comfortably fit within a block-size thumbnail so it displays clearly in our directory. Headshots work best.

You can send photos to stjameslutheran@folsom.comcastbiz.net

What two rivers that we still know today are named in the Creation account in Genesis 2?

A. Nile
B. Yangtze
C. Jordan
D. Tigris
E. Ganges
F. Euphrates

Answer: D & F (See Genesis 2:10-14.)

Council Notes

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor Pam shared several ministry highlights from the past month, including attending multiple nights of Vacation Bible School at the Presbyterian Church and continuing interfaith work as local clergy plan shared Thanksgiving and MLK services. She is also preparing upcoming joint events with Pastor Sutphin, including a Pet Blessing on October 3 and a Transgender Day of Remembrance service in November.

Outreach efforts continue, with deliveries made to the Presbyterian Church and Thrivent funds arranged to support both the Community Picnic and Trunk or Treat. The Stitchers have planned a tea party, Sunday school teachers met for fall planning, and Pastor Pam attended two continuing-education workshops as well as the Synod Council Retreat, reflecting on the question: "What do we hope people will say about us ten years from now?"

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Council Notes

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Council also discussed whether to restart PowerPoint during worship. Pros and cons were considered, including paper use, hymnals, and technical challenges with Zoom. Pastor Pam will continue exploring low-hassle options.

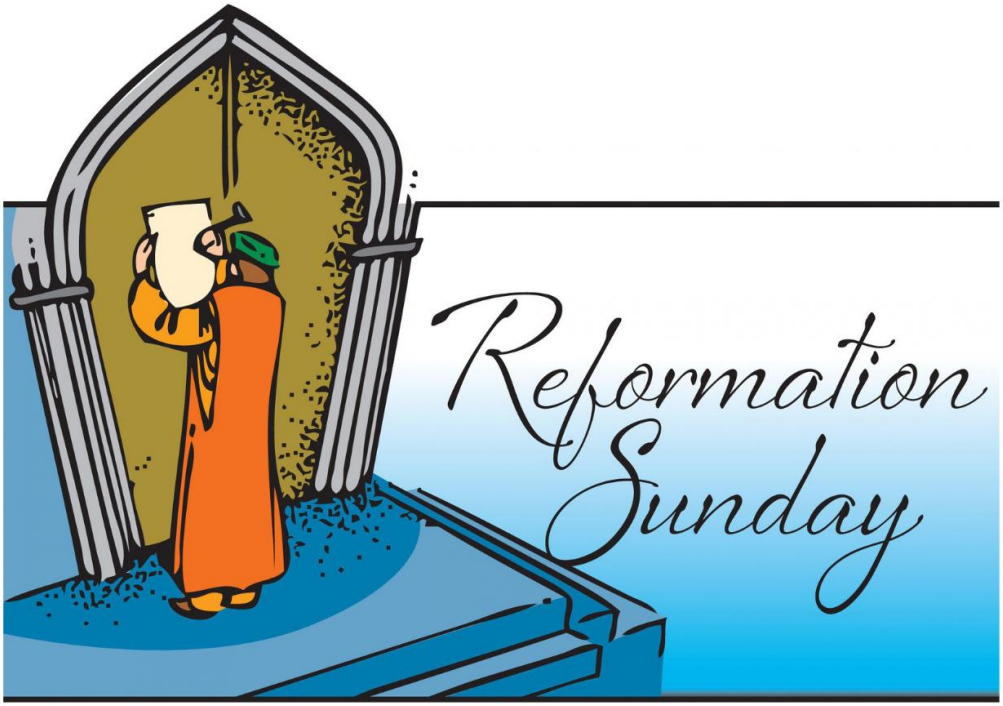
Upcoming events include:

- Sept. 26 – Dine Out (5:30 PM)
- Oct. 3 – Pet Blessing (11 AM, Presbyterian Church)
- Oct. 9 – Trunk or Treat (6:30 PM)
- Oct. 24 – Halloween Party (6 PM)
- Oct. 25 – Baptism of Liam Grebel (10 AM)

From the President's Report, Council discussed Mario's resignation and agreed to wait until January to fill the position, beginning a new three-year term.

Looking ahead...

- November 1
  - All Saint's Worship Service
- December
  - Christmas Outreach Collection
  - Christmas Cookie Collection
  - Blue Christmas Service
  - Wednseday Advent Devotions
  - Christmas Eve Services
- December 6
  - Church/Tree Decorating
    - Refreshments provided
- December 20
  - Children's Christmas Presentation



All Saint's Day

A service of rememberence & light

Sunday, November 1 - 10:00 am

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."
— Matthew 5:4

We Remember

Those who passed from our congregation this year

Jennifer Johnson

Winnie Ziegler

Margaret Rea

Bette Jackson

All are invited to join us as we light candles in memory of those we have loved and lost this past year.

Together, we hold their light.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please Pray for: Dolores Fiori, Laura Librizzi, Claire Gilmore, Diane Eby, Hannah Bonchi, Rita Ricca, Betty Haines, Gillian Lee Phillips, Dorcas Schellhas, Maggie Rider, Ed Shine, Marlene Triggian, Bob & Ellie Frietag, Christina Spahn, George Cappucio, Dan P., Arlene Calletta, Mike Fountas, Tom Dixon, Nick Pobletti, Bill Link, Sophie Stites, Arlene Deptula, Thomas Rose, Linda Slater, Chip Stewart, Octavia Marie, Charlie Patton, Lisa D'Ambrosia, Chenza Cerrato, John Thame, Ed Marinelli, RoseAnn Lucca, Mia Arrison, Carol Ann Conner, Will Longtin, Peggy Bucceri, Robert DelRoss, Gaelen Houck, Rosie Ranier, Paul Morris Walter Meinke, Alex McKee, Tennile Limbaugh, Justin Stewart, Sean Bennett, Yuri Zaitsev, Joseph Brigandi Jr., Jack Reitz, Ed Volpa, Althea Seidel, Michael Hozik, Linda Esposito, Nancy Bertino, Gary Quattrochi, LJ Peterson, George, Elizabeth Chamberlain, Pastor Chuck Romanowski,

-

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

LAKE HOUSE RESTAURANT

Join us for a delightful evening of good food, fellowship, and fun!

Name: _____

Number of Guests: _____

Phone Number/Email: _____

_____

_____

Please RSVP by October 18th

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

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Jayne Carmen - President
Colleen Kase - Secretary
Bryan Stites
Judy May - Vice Pres.
Patti Zellers
Mario Triboletti

Worship - Sundays 10 am
Live and Via Zoom
Linkonwww.stjamesfolsom.org

Our Mission

Welcoming allpeople 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