



This has been a strange year for weather. We have already had several days of near 80 degree weather. We have had days that included a little winter and summer all in a day of spring. This weather has been teasing us for over a month. In spite of it all, I cannot believe how excited I am about the possibility of spring. I cannot wait to spend more time in the yard and in the garden. The gardens seem to be alive already. It is like they could not wait for any longer for the time to arise. I love watching the gardens come alive. Taking care of the garden has become a great lesson in life on so many levels. One of those lessons is that I am still learning to balance the hard work of gardening with remembering to take time to enjoy the garden. I find it an interesting metaphor for life. We sometimes get so busy doing life that we forget to enjoy life. However, that being said, I am actually thinking about a couple new garden ideas including weaving the Stations of the Cross through my existing spiritual gardens. We will see how the plan unfolds.

I love the sight, sound and smell of spring, full sensory overload. The garden in early spring serves as a wonderful reminder of all the miracles of life. Just like in our own lives, there is a lot of amazing stuff going on, but because it often happens just under the surface, sometimes we forget to notice it. There exists an amazing opportunity for transition, both in our yards and in our lives. Often where and when we least expect it.

So this Easter season I hope you continue to look for the miracles wherever and whenever they may appear, regardless of how big or how small they may be. Remember, this is truly a season of hope and resurrection. As I work in the garden and experience the joy of new life, my hope is that each of us has the opportunity to experience new life spiritually as well.

With all of challenges that life brings, both in the world and in some of our own homes, it is occasionally hard to remember that God is with us always and at work in our lives. I think that is one of the true miracles of Easter and spring. We are reminded with every winter there comes a season of rebirth and new hope. Sometimes it just takes a while for us to notice it.

So look around, take a deep breath or two, and know that God is at work in your life right now. Even if you cannot see or feel it yet, God is preparing you for a personal Easter moment.

Remember that whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are held in God's unconditional love, boundless mercy, and unending grace and there is a place for you here in at St James.

Take care and be well, Peace  
Ken



Prayers for ....

Ellen Grimnes, Joe Tocco and family, David, Joe and Carmela, Doris Suess, Karen Marie, Mary, Barbara, Anne Enders, Leo Solomon, Tom and Sandy A & family, Carlene Kaniski, Erin, Sue, Kenny Murphy, Scott, Erin and Charlie, Jeremy, Brian, Carol, Rachel, Matt, Ken, Mimi, Dan, Kathy, George



If anyone in our congregation will be celebrating a 50th wedding anniversary this year, please let Lynn Robertson, Stella Czenkus or Bev Kulman know so we can plan to help you celebrate with a coffee hour in your honor.

### **Graduates**

If you are graduating this year please let Don Robertson or Kim LaDuke know. We would like to recognize your achievements during worship in June.



### **K.I.D.S. in Distress**

Please don't forget Kids in Distress is an ongoing project at St. James. A tote box is in the basement for your gently used clothing (especially children's jeans). Thank you for your support.



### **Food Pantry**

The St. A's food pantry is in need of the following items:

Hamburger Helper, Jello, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Cake Mix and Frosting.

Please remember the food pantry while you are shopping. The items can be left in the box in the vestibule. They will be delivered when the box is full so please help fill it.

# **CURRENT ✓ NEEDS**



## **Communion Elders**

### **May**

Becky Pittman- Preparing  
Becky Pittman- Serving  
Doris Doss- Serving



## **Ushers & Greeters**

### **May**

May 3 – Dan & Ron  
May 10 – Open  
May 17 – Don & Betty  
May 24- Ron & Roberta  
May 31 -Open

## **Liturgist May**

May 3 – Open  
May 10 – Gordie Kulman  
May 17 – Teri Wagner  
May 24 – Open  
May 31 - Open

## **Altar Care May**

Bev Kulman

## **Scripture Readings for May**

### **Sunday, May 3**

\*Acts 8:26-40  
\*Ps 22:25-31  
\*1 John 4:7-21  
\*John 15:1-8

### **Abiding Love**

### **Sunday, May 10**

\*Acts 10:44-48  
\*Ps 98  
\*1 John 5:1-6  
\*John 15:9-17

### **Friend's Together**

### **Sunday, May 17**

\*Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
\*Ps 1  
\*1 John 5:9-13  
\*John 17:6-19

### **Guided in Prayer**

### **Sunday, May 24**

\*Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14  
\*Ps 104:24-34, 35b  
\*Rom 8;22-27 or Acts 2:1-21  
\*John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### **Spirit for All**

### **Sunday, May 31**

\*Isa 6:1-8  
\*Ps 29  
\*Rom 8:12-17  
\*John 3:1-17

### **Mysterious Encounter**