**Happening Today: December 4**

**9:05 Adult Forum** – Christmas music is in all the stores and most people have already put up their trees, but the church is observing Advent. We will discuss the nature and purpose of the Advent season and how it can influence our Christmas celebration.

**St. Nicholas Day** -- It may not be Christmas yet, but St. Nicholas will be in church for a visit at the end of the 10:00 a.m. service today.

**Winter Markt –** What could be better than a classic German Christmas? Today is your last chance to stop by our booth in Shain Park. Please stop by & say hello as you stroll around this fun family event.

**Pageant Rehearsal** We’ll gather in the Breakfast Room after the 10:00 a.m. worship for a bite to eat and then head up to the church to rehearse the pageant.

**G.A.P. (God’s Awesome People) – 1p.m. to 3 p.m.** All youth grades six and up are invited to join us to staff the booth at the Winter Markt. Please dress appropriately for the weather.

**Advent Lessons and Carols at 4:00 p.m.** – A service meant for contemplation, quiet, and stillness, Advent Lessons and Carols reminds us of the importance of waiting and listening. Beautiful music and lessons prepare us for the coming of Christ into the world.

**SANTA’S HELPERS 2016**

Santa’s Helpers families are available for adoption in Centennial Hall after both services today! We have 2 families still available for adoption TODAY.

Gathering-In festivities will take place on Sun., Dec. 11 after the Pageant Brunch. Delivery will be on Monday morning Dec. 12th.

Santa’s Helpers is a longstanding tradition at St. James. We “adopt” a family from one of three Social Service agencies in S.E. Michigan and provide Christmas gifts for them. On Gathering-In Sunday, together with the Boy Scouts, we fill food boxes with a complete Christmas dinner. Volunteer drivers (sign up in Centennial Hall) take the food and gifts to the agencies on Monday, Dec. 12th.

**Happening This Week**

**Holy Eucharist – Wed. at 7:00 a.m.** Join us for this wonderful way to start your day.

**Bible Study – Wed. at Noon in the Breakfast Room.** We look at the lessons for the upcoming Sunday lectionary. Join us as we explore the Bible, ask questions, and learn together. Bring your lunch; coffee & water are provided.

**All Saints Guild – Wed. at Noon in the Lounge.** The Guild will gather to wrap their Santa’s Helpers gifts.

**Set up for Advent Glow – Wed. Noon to 9 p.m. and Thursday until 4 p.m.** Hostesses can set their tables in Centennial Hall. Please have them set by 4 p.m. on Thursday.

**Advent Glow – Thursday at 6:00 p.m.** Our evening begins in the Lounge with light refreshments. The service starts at 6:30 p.m. in the church.

**Knitters – Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.** Want to learn or just have people to spend time with while knitting? Join us in the Lounge.

**Next Sunday: December 11**

**9:05 Adult Forum** – There is NO Adult Forum due to the preparations for the pageant, brunch, and Santa’s Helpers.

**Christmas Pageant and Brunch Information** This year’s Christmas pageant will take place during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 11 followed by the Annual Pageant Brunch. Please invite your friends and family and sign up to join us for the brunch by Wed., Dec. 7th.

Parents of our youth, there are only two more practices to get ready for the pageant. Please mark your calendars.

*Sun., Dec. 4th following the 10:00 a.m. worship service (lunch included)*

*Sat., Dec. 10th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Dress Rehearsal*

**Servers in Sunday Worship Services**

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| **Sunday, December 4, 2016**  8 a.m.  EM Mary Gospel  Lector Carole Woolsey  10 a.m.  EM David Stout  Nancy Schutte  Lector Chuck Furchak  Elaine Linstedt  ***Acolytes*** Michaela, Adeline, Gabriel, and Luke Hennebury  ***Altar Guild***  Barbara Spencer, Alicia Holmes, Martha Elgin, Rena Sutter  ***Ushers: 8 & 10 a.m.***  Rick Cowan & Usher Team | **Sunday, December 11, 2016**  8 a.m.  EM Jon Wickens  Lector Jere Green  10 a.m.  EM Bruce Guenther  Pam Landgraf  Lector Angie Righter  Sue McDonald  ***Acolytes*** Kyle Catchpole, Shane Guenther, Malcolm Machesky  ***Altar Guild***  Marty Bones, Jean Clark, Lauri Christianson, Ann Booth  ***Ushers: 8 & 10 a.m.***  Rick Cowan & Usher Team |
|  |  |

**Intercessions**

**IMMEDIATE PRAYER LIST**: Judy Hoeffler, Logan Moralez, Carol Nicholas, Dick Smith, Pat Smith, The Jensen Family, Bridget Sawmiller, Ron Gable, Cameron, Lauren, Paul, Carolyn, Eric, Quenten Jr., Sachi, Frank Auld, Kyle, Kathleen Schneider.

**SUSTAINING PRAYER LIST**: Henry Moye, Joan Adams, Jeannine, Ted, Vince Cardinale, Phil Werner, Cathy Nelson, Michelle Wells, Richard Wells, Bertha Pastor, Jill, Bob Pullar, Engel Metaj, Trevor Sullivan, Mary, Ray McPartlin, Dot, Dave, Dad, Sarabeth, Steve, Lucy, Truman, Elsie Righter, Merle Goatley, The Turner Family, Marc Roby, Benjamin Ziogas

**PRAYER CYCLE:** Janet & John Grant; Michaleen Huff; Pam & John Grier; Ellen & Benedict VanderKolk; Erica & Jerry Driscoll - Elizabeth, Owen; Angela Guenther - Stephen, Shane

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**: Bret Anstett, Andrew Crowe, Michelle Crowe, Kirk Jackson, Eric Kaltz, Brian Hertenstein, Geoffrey Hertenstein, Katie Koetting, Jeff Schultz, Isabel Ziogas, Theodore Moran

**IN MEMORIAM:** We remember Rosa Matthews, Quenten’s mother, who died this week, may her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**The Light**

**Weekly Announcements**

December 4, 2016

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to St. James. We are glad you are here, and hope you find in us a community that provides healing, proclaims hope, and practices God’s unconditional love.

**To our visitors:** After services, we invite you to join us for refreshments and hospitality downstairs in Centennial Hall. Meet new friends and ask questions. If you want to know more about what we believe and do, we invite you to speak to the clergy, an usher, or a Vestry member. For more formal information, **please fill out a welcome card in the pew and place it in the offering plate.**

**Preparation for Worship**

Please refrain from conversation during the musical prelude; it is a time of prayer and meditation for many.

**Receiving Communion**

The Risen Christ welcomes you to His table to feast in the banquet of the Kingdom of God. We receive the sacrament at the altar rail either standing or kneeling. If you are unable to come to the rail, please notify an usher and communion will be brought to you. You may drink directly from the chalice or dip the bread into the wine*.* ***Gluten-free*** ***wafers are available.*** Please indicate your need to the priest at the altar rail.

**Children and Youth**

Children of all ages are always welcome during worship. Please check out our ‘soft space’ in the back corner of the church. We do have a nursery for newborns – 3yr. olds if you prefer. Children and youth, ages 3 to grade 6, leave the 10am worship at the beginning to gather in the Chapel. They return before Communion. We encourage all members of the body of Christ no matter their age to receive communion. The worship bags at the back of the church contain age appropriate materials for children to use during the liturgy. Please ask an usher if you need assistance finding one.

**Coffee Hour:** Please join us in Centennial Hall following the 8 & 10 a.m. worship for fellowship.

TODAY’S HOSTESS: ***The Eucharistic Ministers***

*To be a coffee hour host, please sign up in Centennial Hall.*