

What to know this week...

Project Agape deadline is TODAY! Don't forget to turn in your Project Agape boxes to St. James by Sunday, August 13! Remember to enclose \$5 in cash or check (payable to St. James) in each box to cover the shipping cost; we will send one check from the church with the boxes. If you have any questions, contact Ed or Kay Smallwood at edandkay.smallwood@gmail.com.

***Coffee & Conversation this Wednesday:** Our widows' group has will dine together at The Red Bowl (6360 Plantation Center Drive, off Capital Blvd.) on Wednesday, August 16 at 11:30am. Hope you like Asian food! Ladies, feel free to invite any widows you know, and contact Peggy Biggers (biggers11@aol.com, 919-872-1800 or 919-632-1212) if you plan to attend.

***Hawaiian Luau Church Picnic on Saturday, August 19, 1-4PM.** Come on, St. James: don't you want to enjoy some food, fun and fellowship with your church family? **Today's the deadline to sign up for the church picnic!** We can't prepare enough food if we don't know that you're coming! Sign up **NOW** on the clipboard in the church lobby. Remember that each family attending should bring a side (or two!) to share! The Social Committee will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, and fixings, and the UMM will provide ice cream for dessert. If you have any questions, please contact Keith Walkowiak at ktwalkowiak@gmail.com.

***Promotion Sunday is August 20:** New Kindergartners and 6th graders will promote into their new Discipleship classes, and 3rd graders will receive a new Bible. If you have a 3rd grader or a child/youth that has never received a Bible, please contact the office with the child's name and what service you will attend next Sunday, and we'll have a Bible ready for them! We'll also have a Blessing of the Backpacks in each worship service. Children, youth and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks, lunchboxes, or briefcases so that they may be prayed over and sent out with blessings for a wonderful school year.

Children's Discipleship Training August 20: If you are a K-5 Discipleship teacher, or willing to join a teaching team, the Children's Ministry Council will have a Teacher Planning and Lunch meeting in Carson Hall following the Sanctuary Worship service on Sunday, August 20. Please come join us for fellowship and a look at the Fall curriculum.

The 2023 Stan Whitt Classic Golf Tournament scheduled for August 26, 2023 has been rescheduled for October 7. This spring, our host course Zebulon Country Club reseeded their greens. Due to the weather, the greens will not be available for play by August 26, so we have worked with the course to reschedule for October 7. We apologize for this change. If you have any questions, please contact Milburn Holbrook (919-554-1419, 919-247-5233 or mhholbr2@ncsu.edu).

Kids Club: *There is no Kids Club in August. We will have our **Kids Club Kickoff on Sunday, September 10 at 4:00PM** in Carson Hall. Bailey will lead the youth and kids in a Family Feud Night: Adult Volunteers vs. Kids/Youth. If you are currently volunteering, or have considered volunteering with either Kids Club or Youth, we invite you to come join us for some fun and to learn more about what is planned for the Kids Club and Youth programs for 2023-24!*

Adult ASP Trip: *We have dates set for a Fall ASP mission trip for those 18+. We'll be heading to Jonesville, VA Thursday, October 26-Sunday, October 29. Expected cost is \$100 per person. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Pastor Dan (dan@stjamesraleigh.org) by August 31!*

Stephen Ministry Note: *Our Stephen Ministry will begin a training in October. Stephen Ministers are lay persons who have been trained and commissioned to provide Christian care for others. The care and friendship of a Stephen Minister can be a source of strength, guidance and comfort to persons going through difficult times. If you are interested in this ministry and feel called to serve as a Stephen Minister, please contact Pat Fasone (919-630-5909) for more information.*

Plan Ahead! *As students return to school and our programs and events gear up for the fall, please remember to plan ahead and submit Ministry Planning Sheets for any new meetings or events. We are working to get a Google calendar linked from our church software added to our church webpage for planning purposes, but if you don't submit a Planning Sheet, your event won't make it onto the church calendar. Planning Sheets are available in the office or under the Members tab on the church website, or you can contact Martha (office@stjamesraleigh.org; 919-876-5796) for help.*