



April 21, 2024

St. Mark's/St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist

Lori Roelse, Reader

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's:

St. James:

Jesus Is My Hope

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

Call to Worship:

Lord, open our hearts this morning to hear your words of compassion.

Lord, help us to truly listen to you.

Lord, open our spirits this morning to strengthen our faith.

Lord, help us to work for you.

Lord, make us ready to serve.

Lord, make us ready to witness to your healing love.

Prayer:

Almighty and Gracious Lord, may we seek to know you more deeply, strive to lean into your teachings, and always try to live out your call upon our lives. Grant us the power, strength, guidance, and courage to do so. In the name of your precious Son, we pray. *Amen.*

Hymn:

St. Mark's (#373)

St. James (#63)

*Change My Heart, O God
Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

**St. James: The Sacrament of Baptism
Baptism of Macie Kathleen Fitzgerald****Affirmation of Faith: (Apostles' Creed)****I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:****And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;****The third day he rose again from the dead;****He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead:****I believe in the Holy Spirit; the One Holy Universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.****Young At Heart:****Hymn:**

St. Mark's (#405)

St. James (#65)

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
This Is My Father's World*

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 7:24-30 ESV

And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

Message:*Back to the Bible: Historically Accurate*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Offering:

Offering, tithes and gifts can be made before or after worship in the offering baskets/plates at the welcome area of the church. St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through the website (stmstjucc.org).

Offertory Music:

St. Mark's:

Teach Us, O Lord

St. James:

There Is a Fountain

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (1 John 3)

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy name, we pray. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending:

St. Mark's (#428)

When Peace Like a River (It is Well With My Soul)

St. James (#476)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Benediction:

To the God who has given you rest and peace, to the God who has given you a place in your life to worship, to the God who has given you confidence to ask questions and seek answers, to the God who has blessed you to be a blessing to others we give thanks and praise now and always. Go now to love and serve the Lord...

Postlude:

St. Mark's:

Sing Praise to God

St. James:

Song of Triumph

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

~Sunday School meets 9-10am at both churches~

St. Mark's UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.



**4-Week Sermon Series:
April 21, 28, May 5th, 12th**

- **Week 1: The Bible is Historically Accurate**
- **Week 2: The Bible is Prophetically Accurate**
- **Week 3: The Bible is Scientifically Accurate**
- **Week 4: You Can Build Your Life On It**

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matt 7:24

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:
St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com

Staying Close, Staying Connected

Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

April 22nd – Ann Grunwald

23rd – Karen Mansker, Mark Stolzmann

24th – Erick Heling, Sarah Lutze

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

April 22nd – Dick & Karen Binversie

Allen & Sandra Kracht-Jones

23rd – Bruce & Karen Mansker

HS YOUTH GROUP meets at St. Mark's at 5:30pm **TODAY**

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE TOMORROW, MONDAY, APRIL 22ND.

Email them to Karen at stmstjoffice@gmail.com

ST. MARK'S CHOIR REHEARSAL –Wednesday, April 24th, 7pm

Collection boxes, along with “Wish Lists” for Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota are located at each church. Donations will be accepted through the end of June. You may also give a cash donation.



Re-Member

If you have any questions, contact St. Mark's members, Pat & Noreen Flook.

IT'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Planning Time!



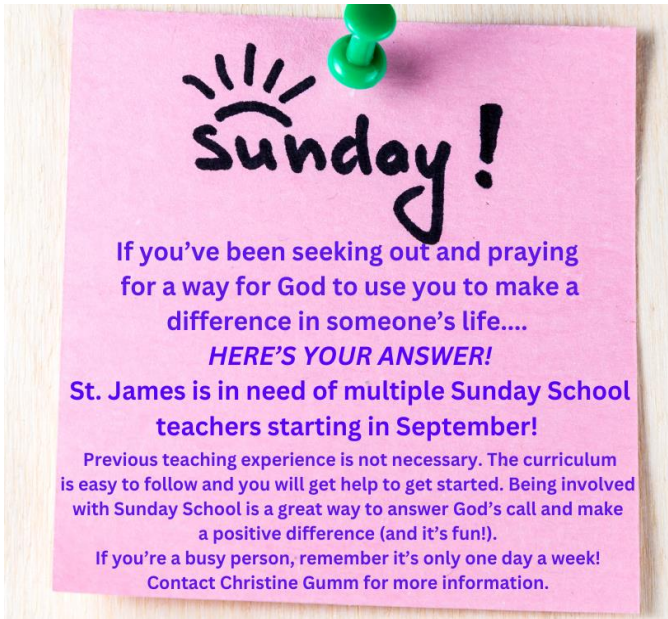
Summer is just around the corner--
 and the time has come to start
 planning VBS!
 Would your children attend?
 Would you be interested in helping
 with the planning and/or sessions?
 Contact Pastor Patrick!

COME JOIN US FOR:



at ST. JAMES UCC, 1:00pm
 SUNDAY, MAY 5th, 2024

OPEN TO MEN & WOMEN OF ST. JAMES & ST. MARK'S
Feel free to bring a friend!



Sunday!

If you've been seeking out and praying
 for a way for God to use you to make a
 difference in someone's life....
HERE'S YOUR ANSWER!

**St. James is in need of multiple Sunday School
 teachers starting in September!**

Previous teaching experience is not necessary. The curriculum
 is easy to follow and you will get help to get started. Being involved
 with Sunday School is a great way to answer God's call and make
 a positive difference (and it's fun!).

If you're a busy person, remember it's only one day a week!
 Contact Christine Gumm for more information.

St. James U.C.C.

Brat Fry

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

4 - 7 PM

13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton
 Spring Valley



- *brats
- *hamburgers
- *chicken
- *dessert

**Carry Outs
 Only!**

GPS

Grow – deeper in our faith and relationship with God.

Pray – pray daily for family, neighbors, and others.

Study – read the Bible, pray over what we read, ask questions.

The Bible is not typically considered a historical document. It lacks key components that would classify it as an accurate, objective historical record. Rather, this book reveals theological truths about human nature, good and evil, faith, God's mercy and justice... It is the story of God and God's creation. Nevertheless, the Bible should not be discounted or discredited because it doesn't seek to establish historical accuracies rather it does accurately identify people, places and events relevant to the grand narrative of God and God's people.

For example, some considered King David legendary or mythical in character, until 1994, when archaeologists discovered an ancient stone slab in northern Galilee inscribed with references to King David and the "House of David."

The Hittites are mentioned approximately 40 times in the OT, but there was no evidence of their civilization. Then, in 1906, a German archaeologist discovered the capital city of the ancient Hittite empire, the entire Hittite library, and 10,000 clay tablets documenting Hittite history.

Excavations at Nuzi (1925-41), Mari (discovered in 1933), and Alalakh (1937-39; 1946-49) provide background information befitting the patriarchal period stories found in Genesis.

The codified Laws of Hammurabi (ca. 1700 B.C.), the Lipit-Ishtar code (ca. 1860 B.C.), the Laws of Eshnunna (ca. 1950 B.C.), and the even earlier Ur-Nammu code refuted the claims that Moses could not have written the Mosaic Law.

Prayer: Lord, let our minds be open to new learnings while remaining steadfast in our hearts to your glory. *Amen.*

NOTES

WELCOME!

To the parents of young children:

Relax! *God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.*

- ❖ *Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.*
- ❖ *Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastors, musicians and leaders.*
- ❖ *Sing the songs, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behaviors by mimicking you.*
- ❖ *If you have to leave the Worship Center with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."*