

The Country Church Herald

...Proclaiming the Word of God

ST. JAMES UCC
13312 Pioneer Road
Newton, WI 53063
920.693.8100



ST. MARK'S UCC
W1307 Orchard Road
Cleveland, WI 53015
920.693.8361

PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

FEBRUARY, 2024

February 4th —

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship
Sunday School 9-10 at both churches
St. James: 10:30am Worship Service

February 11th —

St. James: 9:00 Worship
Sunday School 9-10 at both churches
St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

February 18th —

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship
Sunday School 9-10 at both churches
St. James: 10:30 Worship

February 25th —

St. James: 9:00 Worship
Sunday School 9-10 at both churches
St. Mark's: 10:30 Worship



Sunday bulletins & links to prayer requests are posted under the 'Messages' link on our church website: <https://www.stmstjucc.org/>

Worship Services are recorded weekly and uploaded to our church
YouTube channel: St. Mark's & St. James UCC



Greetings and blessings church family and friends,

With the new year and new members to many of our ministry teams the meetings schedule has changed somewhat. In order to accomodate Consistory I will need to change my schedule. As such, I will now have sabbath and day off on the Mondays and Fridays of each week. I will normally be in the office, available, responding to calls and emails as soon as possible on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays unless special circumstances arise.

Pastor Patrick



I can't thank you all enough for your contributions to help make the Care Kits for the Homeless happen. Your generosity is a blessing to those in need. We have: socks from Wigwam, body wipes, lip balm, wash clothes, deodorant, hand warmers, snacks, feminine hygiene, hand sanitizer, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dove body wash, bottled water, and fingernail/toenail clippers. Thank you so very much. I hope to have these bagged up by next weekend and delivered. (I'll let you know next week where they've gone) If you know of an organization that works with the homeless and want me to call them, please let me know! ~Pastor Patrick



2023 Wisconsin Conference UCC Year in Review

By Rev. Franz Rigert, UCC Conference Minister

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all ... while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.” Titus 2: 11-13

I greet you in the joyful spirit of Epiphany. The words of Titus remind us that between the grace of God that came to Bethlehem in the birth of Jesus and the full manifestation of God’s glory on Earth, we in the United Church of Christ are called to bear witness to the love of Christ every day.

The love of Christ is faithful in every generation. Four years after COVID-19 radically changed our lives, congregations still are adjusting to new realities. Many have faced significant declines and are enduring the anxiety that accompanies concerns about sustainability. Yet most have embraced new technologies, and nearly all congregations can point to bright spots of ministry that have unleashed new energy. COVID affected the wider church as well. In early 2023, we made the painful decision to sell the Trost Center in DeForest and shift the Conference offices to Daycholah Center on Green Lake, enabling a closer partnership with United Church Camps Inc. and providing UCCI with a financial boost.

The love of Christ is courageous in the face of challenges. Our associate conference ministers – the Revs. Jane Anderson, Rachel Bauman and Michael Jones – continue to guide congregations through the search process at a time when the candidate pool is small, and the number of part-time pastorates is increasing. We consider every creative pastoral option and use the leadership and ministry skills courses of the Damascus Project to train future pastoral leaders. The Rev. Dr. Stephanie Perdew, director of the Damascus Project, secured a \$500,000 Lilly Endowment grant that – over the next five years – will widen our pool of learners through expanded course offerings at very reasonable costs. The Damascus Project is the shared educational ministry of the Minnesota and Wisconsin conferences.

The love of Christ demands justice for the oppressed. The justice working groups and Supportive Ministries Team continue to provide resources for local congregations and a collective voice supporting the poor and marginalized. The Damascus Project introduced an implicit bias course, part of our emphasis on anti-racism training. One of our newer working groups – Older Adult Ministries – has produced significant resources for local churches that seek to cultivate deeper connections with seniors. The Creation Care Team, the Immigration Justice Work Group and the Alliance for Justice, which focuses on honoring indigenous peoples, are empowering local congregations with resources to advance these vital ministries.

2023 Wisconsin Conference UCC Year in Review, By Rev. Franz Rigert, UCC Conference Minister, continued...

The love of Christ brings generosity to the world. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the 210 UCC congregations of the Wisconsin Conference remain remarkably generous. Your support through Our Church's Wider Mission provides three-quarters of the Conference budget and all sorts of resourcing, training and programs, and an incredible global mission outreach. We are deeply grateful to all those who have made commitments to the Leadership Forward Campaign. Already, Leadership Forward has received pledges totaling \$1 million. In addition, the Wisconsin Foundation UCC now holds investments of roughly \$17 million on behalf of several congregations and the Conference. The Foundation provides an ideal opportunity for your congregation to achieve excellent financial returns through socially responsible investments.

The love of Christ builds beloved community. In our wider Conference life, we are asking this question: "How can we better connect, resource and support each other, as local churches, pastors and lay leaders?" The question has prompted us to rethink church governance structures and to imagine new forms of collaboration. Meanwhile, the staff continues to cultivate care and connection with one another and to build relationships throughout the Conference. At the beginning of 2023 we welcomed ACM Michael Jones and just recently introduced our newest staff member, Carla Myers, who succeeds Susan Taylor as office coordinator. Though Sue is mostly retired, we're happy that she has agreed to work a few hours a week to coordinate the search-and-call process.

Submitted with a grateful heart in the love of Christ,



The Rev. Franz Rigert
Conference Minister



**WISCONSIN
CONFERENCE**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY

St. James Consistory Meeting

January 8, 2024 6:30 pm

- The meeting was called to order by President Jackie Mueller. Members present were Jason Riesterer – Vice-President, Sheila Hemb – Treasurer, Tammy Serketich – Secretary, Jamey Binversie, Wendy Meyer, Scott Henschel
- Absent: Pastor Schultz
- Prayer led by Jackie
- Motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Jamey and seconded by Scott.
Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Wendy and seconded by Jason.
Motion carried.
- Pastor's Report:
 - Mission/Vision Committee Survey Results -Jason shared a summary of the survey results. Clarence will present at the annual meeting.
 - Communication regarding Pastor time off – A summary report of days off/vacation etc will be presented by Louise Jetzer for the annual meeting.
- Building and Grounds: -Jackie will obtain three bids for repaving the parking lot. Jason will call a roofing company to review the steeple for leaking.
- Committee Reports:
 - Vision of Hope: We discussed at our previous meeting the change recommended by the VOH to Article XI. Motion made to accept the change by Tammy and seconded by Jason. Motion carried. Will be submitted as part of the annual report for congregational approval.
 - Stewardship Committee: Met to go over final contributions. Mary Ann Vogel and Richard Lutze's terms are up; however, both agreed to a second term. Thank you!
 - Christian Board of Education: Jamey will check with committee regarding candidates. Jackie will contact a few parents.
 - Service Committee: - Nothing new
 - Audio Visual: -New microphones were installed for the Christmas program. There is a problem with one that Jason will check.
- Old Business:
 - Safe Sanctuary helper -Second person needed for St. James meeting. Youth are not allowed in the Sanctuary or Narthex.
- New Business:
 - Youth Group expense request – A request to reimburse \$50 fee for the Daycholah Center was submitted as well as possible funding from the Youth Group account of the full fee if scholarships were not obtained. Motion made by Tammy, seconded by Jamey. Motion carried. Suggestion from consistory that Youth share a summary of their retreat with the church congregation and Sunday School.

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY, con't

St. James Consistory Meeting, January 8th—continued...

New Business, con't

Review Budget -Budget was reviewed. Motion to accept proposed budget made by Tammy, seconded by Jason. Motion carried. Tammy to contact TDS to remove fax line as we are being charged approximately \$80 per month.

Annual Report -Items for the annual report were reviewed and discussed.

New Consistory Nominees: Tanya Bosman and Jamie Henschel – THANK YOU!

- Congregation concerns: No concerns were brought to our attention. Special thank you to Jackie for coordinating our Christmas Eve Service.
- Our meetings will change from the 1st Monday of each month to the 1st Tuesday of each month. Thank you, Pastor Schultz for accommodating this change. Next meeting date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Joint consistory meeting Monday, February 5, 2024.
- Motion to adjourn made by Tammy and seconded by Jason. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Serketich, Secretary

St. James Consistory Meeting, January 21, 2024

- The meeting was called to order by President Jackie Mueller at 12:10 pm. Members present were Jason Riesterer – Vice-President, Sheila Hemb – Treasurer, Tammy Serketich – Secretary, Wendy Meyer and Scott Henschel.
- Absent: Jamey Binversie
- Jackie called the meeting to order to reorganize the Consistory. Tammy nominated Jackie as President. Motion made by Tammy, Seconded by Sheila. Motion carried. Tammy nominated Jason as Vice President. Motion made by Tammy, Seconded by Sheila. Motion carried. Jason nominated Wendy as Secretary. Motion made by Jackie, seconded by Jason. Motion carried.
- Motion to adjourn made by Tammy and seconded by Scott. Motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Serketich, Secretary

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY

St. James United Church of Christ 2023 Annual Meeting January 21, 2024

The Annual Meeting of the St. James Cemetery Association preceded this meeting at 11:20 am. Special thanks to William Langenhahn, Sr. for over 40 years of service!

President Jackie Mueller called the meeting to order at 11:24 am. Pastor Patrick Schultz led the congregation in prayer and recognized in loving memory; Audrey Bohne, Rev. Glenn Coleman, Kathleen Henschel and Ronald Henschel.

President Jackie Mueller asked Tammy Serketich, Secretary to read the minutes of the January 15, 2023 annual meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as printed was made by Bill Heckmann and seconded by Clarence Belitz. Motion Carried.

Pastor highlighted achievements from his report over the past year. Special mention of You Tube reports, new subscribers. Services more accessible to viewing audience. Polar Plunge raised \$2,250.00. Packages will be put together for homeless of Sheboygan and Manitowoc. Special thanks to Dr. Kurt Kellner, DDS and Wigwam for their donations.

Sheila Hemb, Treasurer, presented the 2023 Report. As of December 31, 2022, our beginning balance was \$14,930.13. Total income for 2023 was \$118,691.48 with total expenses of \$121,154.88, leaving a balance of \$12,466.73. Motion to accept the Treasurers report was made by William Langenhahn, Sr. and seconded by Geraldine Scheffler. Motion carried. Sheila presented the proposed budget for 2024, noting a potential large expense for repaving the parking lot. Motion to accept the budget made by Deb LaDuke, seconded by Cindy Klapperich. Motion carried.

Mary Ann Vogel spoke for the Stewardship committee. She thanked everyone for their continued support, urging members to use the designated giving envelopes and complete the Welcome cards each week. We received financial support from 115 Members. Encouraged members to reach out to non-active members to join us at church, donate their time and talents and use the giving envelopes.

Linda Lorfeld represented the Vision of Hope Committee. The total assets as of December 31, 2023 were \$287,576.47. Special thanks to Joanne Fessler for her term as secretary and meticulous record keeping. President Jackie Mueller explained an amendment to Article XI of the constitution removing "each member shall keep these minutes complete to be delivered to his/her successor" as we feel two copies is sufficient, one copy in the St. James office filing cabinet and one copy for the recording Secretary. This amendment was approved by the Vision of Hope Committee and the Consistory. Motion made to accept amendment to Article XI made by William Langenhahn, Sr., seconded by Doris Sprenger. Motion Carried.

Clarence Belitz presented an update from the Mission Vision Team. Members are Clarence Belitz, Deb LaDuke, Sandy Perronne, Bruce Mansker and Jason Riesterer. Two of the three surveys were sent to members and results were part of the annual report. Surveys used to identify as a church our strengths and weaknesses.

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY

St. James United Church of Christ 2023 Annual Meeting, con't, page 2

Clarence Belitz presented an update from the Mission Vision Team. Members are Clarence Belitz, Deb LaDuke, Sandy Perronne, Bruce Mansker and Jason Riesterer. Two of the three surveys were sent to members and results were part of the annual report. Surveys used to identify as a church our strengths and weaknesses.

President Jackie Mueller, shared the list of memorials and completed projects for 2023. Future projects to include, but not limited to, repaving the parking lot, and trimming trees on the North side of the church.

Doris Sprenger presented highlights of the CROP walk. St. James raised \$3,472.00 and had five walkers. Thank you to our church members for their support! An invitation to join our Rural Church Fellowship was extended to St. Peter UCC in Kiel and was accepted. Doris will continue to represent both the CROP walk and Rural Church Fellowship.

President Jackie Mueller provided an update on The Korean Methodist Congregation. They have approximately nine members in attendance and are VERY GRATEFUL for the use of our church.

President Jackie Mueller presented a summary of the United Church Men and Women Scholarship banquet. Special thanks to Randy and Cindy Sohn, our choir and special music by Dan and Katie Kleinhans. Thank you also to Mary Ann Vogel and others for helping in the kitchen and working with the caterer and Scott and Raymond Henschel. If anyone is interested in being a delegate, contact Jackie or Pastor.

There were nominations for the Christian Board of Education. Nominations from the floor for Deb LaDuke, who accepted the nominations. Nominations closed. Motion made by Clarence Belitz to accept Deb, seconded by Jamey Binversie. Motion Carried. Thank you, Jamie Henschel for your service to the Board of Education.

Richard Lutze and Mary Ann Vogel are the Consistory nominees for a second term to the Stewardship Committee. No nominations from the floor. Motion made by Richard Lutze to close nominations and have the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for himself and Mary Ann Vogel, seconded by William Langenhahn, Sr. Motion carried. Thank you, Richard, and Mary Ann for agreeing to a second term.

Heidi Belitz is the Consistory nominee for the Vision of Hope Committee. No nominations from the floor. Richard Lutze asked to close the nominations and have the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Heidi. Seconded by Bill Heckmann. Motion carried. Thank you, Joanne Fessler for our service to the Vision of Hope Committee.

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ST. JAMES CONSISTORY

St. James United Church of Christ 2023 Annual Meeting, con't, page 3

The Consistory Nominees for the Board are Tanya Bowman and Jamie Henschel. No nominations from the floor. Richard Lutze asked to close the nominations and have the secretary correct the spelling of Tanya's last name and cast a unanimous ballot for Tanya and Jamie. Seconded by William Langenhahn, Sr. Motion carried. Thank you, Jamey Binversie, and Tammy Serketich for your service on the Consistory.

A motion was made by Jamie Henschel to have the 2024 Annual Meeting on January 19, 2024. Seconded by Scott Henschel. Motion carried.

Other business: Dorothy Mueller has two oil lamps, original to the church and Rev. Schmahl's chair, which she would like to donate back to the church.

Motion to adjourn was made by William Langenhahn, Sr., and seconded by Jamie Henschel. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Serketich,
St. James Consistory Secretary.

ST. JAMES ANNUAL MEETING

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Board of Education – Jamie Henschel and New Board Member- Deb LaDuke.

Cemetery Association -Willem Langenhahn Sr., for over 40 years of service and
New Member Jenny Riesterer

Consistory – Jamey Binversie and Tammy Serketich;

New Consistory members – Tanya Bowman and Jamie Henschel

Stewardship – Mary Ann Vogel and Richard Lutze, completing one term and agreeing to a second term.

Vision of Hope – Joanne Fessler, Secretary and New Secretary; Heidi Belitz

We appreciate your commitment to St. James!

Annual Report corrections- Tanya's last name should be BOWMAN, please correct on pg. 7 #22, pg. 28 and pg 52. I apologize Tanya! Pg. 51 should read Chairperson for 2024. Thank you for your understanding!

Sincerely,
Tammy Serketich

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING

St. Mark's Consistory meeting- January 4, 2024

The meeting was called to order on January 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Glenn Grunwald, Judy Steinbeck, Linda Schroeder, Ben Grunwald, Julie Herrmann, Pastor Schultz, Larry Perronne, and Janell Davis. Pastor led us in prayer.

Judy presented the financial report and Linda made a motion to accept the report as presented and Larry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Linda made a motion to accept the Secretary's report as presented and Larry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

We reviewed and discussed the pastoral survey responses from the Mission/Vision team. The team will be meeting again in the next few weeks. A few times it was listed about pastor missing Sundays for vacation. We will be informing the congregation about his upcoming sabbatical and explaining his vacation time that his time off is not always personal. The pastor's obligations for time off that the contract allows will be presented at the annual meeting by Janell.

All projects will be discussed in spring which include the bell tower and trim, resealing the parking lot and a disabled parking spot for van access. Estimates have been received for resealing the parking lot and will be discussed at the annual meeting.

We confirmed the usher and greeter list and will contact those each month that have signed up for ushering/greeting. Consistory members and members of the congregation will fill in as needed.

We reviewed the candidates for the replacement of consistory members.

A reminder was made that we need to keep the secretary's office temperature adjusted so it is not the same temperature throughout the week when no one is there.

Judy stated that Church Mutual insurance has increased \$1,474.00 for 2025.

Pastor will ask Luke Grunwald if he would be interested in uploading church services while Lori Roelse is out of town the month of February.

Glenn updated the duties of the consistory which is to be added to the binder for new and existing consistory members. It was suggested that a calendar be used so that each consistory member can sign up for the Sundays that they will be responsible for following the protocol for before and after church duties.

Thirty two people pledged to pastor to participate in the polar bear plunge on New Year's day with over \$2,000 received to be donated to the homeless!

The items that will be brought up at the annual meeting are the canopy fund, bylaw changes and resealing and painting of the parking lot.

February's meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Pastor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Herrmann
Consistory Secretary

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING, CON'T

ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2023 OF ST. MARK'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, JANUARY 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order by president, Glenn Grunwald. Pastor Schultz led us in prayer.

Linda Schroeder made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the 2022 annual meeting as presented. Brenda Miota seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Judy Steinbeck presented 2023 income and expenses. The suggested general fund dues for 2024 will increase to \$1,100 per person. The building fund will remain at \$100 and the OCWM will stay at \$100. Linda Schroeder made a motion to approve the budget as presented and to approve the changes to the suggested giving. Larry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor Schultz presented the pastors report reviewing the new members and the confirmands. Many supply kits were prepared for the homeless from the donations received for pastor Schultz participating in the polar bear plunge. The bible study group continues to meet and half of the group are participants from outside our church family.

Janell Davis reviewed our call agreement and confirmed that the pastor did accept a lower benefit package to increase his vacation to five weeks and will be looking at options for his upcoming sabbatical and will be participating in the mission trip.

New business included needing two delegates for Rural Church Fellowship and a crop walk coordinator. Rural Church Fellowship requires four meetings a year with six churches involved. Members are to talk with Judy Steinbeck if interested.

There were not enough members at the annual meeting to approve changing the bylaws to give the treasurer approval of \$5,000 instead of \$2,500 when writing out a check without a second signature being needed.

Sandy Perronne made a motion to approve dissolving the canopy fund and moving it to another account or refunding the money back to the donors. Brenda Miota seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Todd Grunwald made a motion to approve resealing and painting lines on the parking lot. Jon Herrmann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The repairs to the bell tower and siding of the parsonage are projects that will be discussed throughout the year.

Brenda Schultz presented the Sunday school and youth report stating there are nine children in Sunday school. She reviewed the Christmas program and stated there were no confirmation students this year. The youth group has five consistent members that meet two times a month. They are planning a future retreat, service opportunities and she thanked those who have volunteered to provide food and who are present as a second adult during their meetings.

Bruce Mansker presented updates regarding the Mission/Vision team. They have been meeting monthly since November of 2022 to collectively define the church's position together between St. James and St. Mark's. Surveys were sent out and 30 percent responded at each church. They will look at the data and focus on the strengths and weaknesses of the church. St. Mark's is looking for another individual to be on the team.

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING

ST. MARK'S ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2023 —CONTINUED...

Weather cancellations will be announced by 7:00 a.m. via facebook, email or from a consistory member.

Nominations for consistory members include Tyler Bramstedt and Brenda Miota. There were no other nominations.

Marlene Kaaman suggested an updated contact list be completed that lists email, addresses and phone numbers with approval of church members. The consistory will be discussing at a future meeting. Lori Roelse made a motion to approve updating our list of members and contact information. Sandy Perrone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next annual meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2025.

Todd Grunwald made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Linda Schroeder second the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Herrmann, Consistory Secretary

ST. JAMES CHOIR

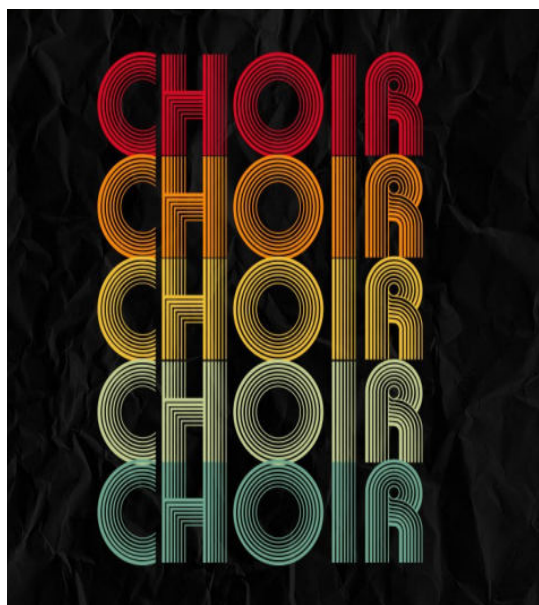
Rehearsal will be held:

Wed., February 7th, 6:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 13th, 6:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 20th, 6:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 27th, 6:30pm



ST. MARK'S CHOIR

Rehearsal will be held:

Wed., February 7th, 7pm

Wed., Feb. 14th after the
Ash Wednesday Service

Thurs., Feb. 22nd, 7:00pm

Wed., Feb. 14th after the
Lenten Worship Service



The Youth Group is looking for plastic ice cream bucket for their annual chili dinner. Boxes will be set up at both churches to drop them off in.

Thank you!

Kari Langenhahn

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CONSISTORY MEMBERS!



St. James

Jamie Henschel

Tanya Bowman

(Tanya was not available for a picture)



St. Mark's

Brenda Miota

Tyler Bramstedt

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING ON OUR CONSISTORY BOARD,
WE APPRECIATE THE YEARS OF SERVICE YOU GAVE OUR CHURCH:**

St. James—Jamey Binversie and Tamy Serketich

St. Mark's—Glenn Grunwald and Julie Herrmann

St. James Stewardship Team:

Right knowledge, with good common sense, must unite well-being of the family, or life will become like sweet bells jangled out of tune.



Congratulations

Trevor Schueler & Deva Nelson
were married in Oshkosh on
November 11, 2023.



Introducing...

Amber Nicole Peterson
Daughter of Abby & Andrew Peterson
Born January 19, 2024
8lb 7oz and 21.5 inches long





These pictures are from the HS Youth Retreat at Daycholah Center, January 26-28.

MEET UPS:

Feb. 4th, 5:30pm, St. Mark's

Feb. 18th, 5:30pm, St. James

Saturday, Feb. 24th, proposed date
(weather dependent) for trip to Sunburst.

Everyone sign up to help at the chili dinner
See Kari Langenhahn for this :)



TOURNAMENT!

**ST. JAMES UCC
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024
1:00 PM**

**OPEN TO MEN & WOMEN OF
ST. JAMES & ST. MARK'S**



The quilters have decided to meet twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 9:00 to noon in the St. Mark's basement. February's meetings will be on the 6th and the 20th. New members are always welcome!

We will be making quilts and lap robes. Our finished projects will go to Bridgeway in Sheboygan, Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, and Rocky Knoll Health Care Center in Plymouth.

We are seeking a few donations:

cotton fabric

quilt batting

self-healing cutting board

working sewing machines

ironing board

iron

Please contact Lori Roelse with any questions, laroelse@gmail.com or 920-946-3540.



VISION OF HOPE-ST. JAMES

Vision of Hope Committee meeting, Monday, February 26, at 6:30 p.m.

Our subsequent quarterly meetings in 2024 will tentatively be held as follows:

6:30 p.m. Monday, May 20

6:30 p.m. Monday, August 26

6:30 p.m. Monday, November 25

"Application for Funding" forms are available in the narthex, from VISION OF HOPE Committee members, or under "More" on our church website. We welcome specific requests as well as your suggestions for using our semiannual gifts from the Wagner Foundation.

STUDENTS! Use this form for tuition help (currently \$1,000) each year.



Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization

BULLETIN BITES

FEBRUARY, 2024

- ◆ Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive. This is a great opportunity to support our vulnerable neighbors by donating between February 11 - March 3, 2024. Collection bins are placed around the community and among several faith communities. High need items include diapers, cleaning products, feminine hygiene items, deodorant, laundry supplies, paper products, and garbage bags. Your donations will support 10 agencies in Sheboygan County that work with homeless individuals and families. Thank you for your generous support.
- ◆ Save the date! We are planning a fabulous celebration to recognize the community impact of our long-standing programs. Join us on Saturday, May 18th for the 2nd Annual "There's No Place Like Home" gala to learn about the history of the farmers market, Bridgeway & Beyond transitional living program, and Family Pathways.
- ◆ The Winter Farmers Market continues on the first and third Saturdays from 9am-12pm at the First Congregational Church UCC, 310 Bluff Avenue. The winter market offers fresh produce, meat, eggs, bread, bakery, honey, syrup, preserves, microgreens, coffee beans...plus, prepared food! We are delighted to see many new vendors this winter season. See you there!
- ◆ SCIO is still looking for a couple of new members to join our Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping to shape the future of SCIO, let's talk! The full Board meets every month on the 4th Tuesday in the evening, and there are occasional committee meetings and events sprinkled in throughout the year. Areas of expertise that would be helpful include law/legal/risk management background, marketing/social media, or human resources. Please send an email to lisa@sheboygancountyinterfaith.org for more information.

In an effort to better support the needs of our community, SCIO continues to partner with agencies and programs. The Sheboygan County Warming Center has been operating at capacity, especially during these frigidly cold nights. We are passing this message along in the event that our wonderful faith community can help a partner program.

See the next page with information on how you can help.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Supporting the Sheboygan County Warming Center: How You Can Make a Difference

The Sheboygan County Warming Center is dedicated to providing a secure, warm, and nurturing environment for the unhoused population in our community. We value and rely on the support from local faith communities and kind-hearted individuals to extend our services, especially during the winter season.

Find out more about the Sheboygan County Warming Center at:
<https://scwarmingcenter.com/>

Donations: We gratefully accept monetary donations and specific clothing items like sweatpants, sweatshirts, t-shirts, socks, underwear, and snow boots. Donations of clothing items can be conveniently dropped off at St. John's UCC located on 13th and Lincoln. Given our space constraints, this location serves as a central collection point, well-known within the unhoused community for its free clothing availability. As my mother-in-law is the Pastor there, I can readily transport items to the Warming Center as needed.

- **Volunteer Time:** Our center thrives on the commitment of our volunteers. We invite individuals and groups to offer their time, contributing to daily operations or special events, fostering a supportive and caring environment for our guests.
- **Meal Provision:** Contributions of prepared meals or ingredients are fundamental in offering nutritious meals to our guests, ensuring they receive the sustenance they need.
- **Getting Involved:** For those interested in supporting the Sheboygan County Warming Center, please feel free to reach out or sign up via the following:

Email: sheb.co.wc@gmail.com, sheboyganwarmingcenter@gmail.com,
or teoninkovic@gmail.com

Sign-Up: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/scwcvolunteers#/,](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/scwcvolunteers#/)
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/scwcmeals#/>

Your contribution and the collective efforts of our faith communities play a crucial role in enriching the lives of those we serve. Thank you for recognizing the importance of our work and for your proactive engagement. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information or coordination.

Warm regards,

Teo Ninković
Operations Manager
Sheboygan County Warming Center

ST. JAMES USHERS

FEBRUARY

* Richard & Sarah Lutze
Jamey Binversie
Sadie Koenig
Cole Binversie
Joe & Cindy Klapperich
David Lutze
Matthew Lutze

MARCH & LENT

*Tim & Amanda Russart
Emma Russart
Williem Langenhahn
Austin Riesterer
Chelsea Langenhahn
Henry & Bonnie Langenhahn, Sr
Briana Riesterer
Madisan Langenhahn
Henry & Kari Langenhahn, Jr.
Jason & Jenny Riesterer

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

<u>St. James</u>		<u>St. Mark's</u>
35	Jan. 7	51
39	Jan. 14	42
57	Jan. 21	40
55	Jan. 28	50

ST. MARK'S USHERS

FEBRUARY

Linda Schroeder
Jon Herrmann
Julie Herrmann
(one more person needed)

Mid-Week Lenten

Steve Gabsch
(three more people needed)

MARCH

Bill Roelse
Margene Reyer
(two more people needed)

READERS

Feb. 4 — Rebecca Miota
Feb. 11— Scott Siekman
Feb. 18— Sandy Perronne
Feb. 25— Jacob Grunwald

HOSPITALITY

Feb. 4 — available
Feb. 11 — available
Feb. 19 — Margene Reyer
Feb. 25 — available



Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent)

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

ST JAMES FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Mary Ann Vogel
- 6 Jeff Meyer
- 9 Kari Langenhahn
- 10 Elliot Gumm
Briana Riesterer
- 12 Amanda Russart
- 17 Everit Gumm
- 19 Wyatt Koenig
- 22 Tom Nye
- 24 Shelia Hemb
- 25 Myron Hickman+
Jason Riesterer
- 26 Rieck Beiersdorf
- 27 Karie Ladwig
- 28 Poppy Binversie
- 29 Eunice Stolzmann

ANNIVERSARIES

- 26 Bill & Laurie Heckmann



If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-2858 or leave a message on the church's answering machine at: 920-693-8361.

Pastor Patrick has designated Mondays & Fridays as his day of Sabbath and his day out of the office. During those two days each week, you may contact him in case of an emergency only at 608-352-9544.

Confidentiality laws make it difficult for pastors to obtain information about anyone in the hospital. If you or a loved one will be in the hospital, please call the church office 920-693-8361 or contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-

Please report any corrections or additions on the birthday and anniversary lists to Karen in the church office:

stmstjoffice@gmail.com

Or call

920-693-8361

ST MARK'S FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kathryn Jaehrig
- 4 Mark Jurk
- 5 Judy Steinbeck
- 8 Trevor Schueler
- 9 Hillary Hermann
Ron Vandoske
- 10 Jon Herrmann
Sue Vandoske
- 16 Cole Herrmann
- 21 Linda Schroeder
Reid Vandoske
- 22 Scott Dexter
Peter Grunwald
- 25 Bill Roelse
- 26 Amy Summers
- 29 Walter Taylor

ANNIVERSARIES

NONE



EVENTS TO SUPPORT IN OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY...

Soup Cookoff
Rural Churches Mission
Sunday, February 25, 2024
Laack's Tavern & Ballroom
W4302 CO RD JM, Johnsonville
11:00 - 2:00



Enter your favorite SOUP for tasting!



Come to Taste

Test the Soups!

\$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under

Enjoy a Bake Sale



Enjoy Raffle Baskets

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME

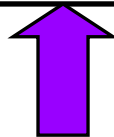
Soup Entry Information

Janice Morse - morse1995@gmail.com - 920-980-1666

Amanda Boedecker, 920-207-9700

Pastor Nicole Herda, pastornicoleherda@gmail.com

**All proceeds benefit ASP a Trip planned for June 2024 for Mission Ministry in Appalachia.
The Appalachia Service Project "ASP" is devoted to helping families of Appalachia.
"Making Homes Warmer, Safer and Drier."**

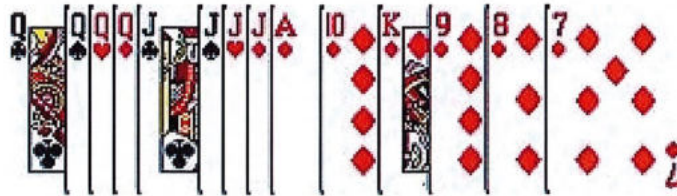


Sierra Bramstedt from St. Mark's will be attending
the Appalachia Mission Trip in June.

UCC RURAL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Presents

SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT



Where: Bethlehem United Church of Christ
11608 Lax Chapel Road
Kiel WI 53042

When: Sunday, February 18, 2024, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Doors open at 12:30

Entrance Fee: Canned goods and/or free will offering

Rules will be explained before the tournament begins. All levels of skill are welcome. Beginner's table(s) will be available for those who don't know how to play. Don't want to play sheepshead but want to participate in the fun? Bring your own board or card game.

Refreshments will be available.

COME ONE...COME ALL!

Child care will be supplied. Games and movies for the kiddos.

CHILI SUPPER

Drive Thru Only



Immanuel UCC

Corner of Co. Rds. FF & M
Town of Herman (Just north of Lakeland University)

WEDNESDAY

January 31st

2024

Serving from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Drive Thru Only

\$10.00

(In case of inclement weather, it will be held on Thursday, February 1st)

Bethlehem Chili Supper



11608 Lax Chapel Rd – Kiel

Wednesday Feb 7, 2024

3:00 pm- 6:30 pm

Drive Thru/Pick Up Only

Ready-to-Heat Chili,
Fresh Bread, Cheese, Crackers, & Homemade Tortes

Meal deal - \$9.00

Gallon of Chili - \$18.00

Directions: 67 N of Kiel - Right on Hwy X go 2 miles -
Left on Lax Chapel – the church is located ½ mile on Left

HOLY TRINITY PARISH

11928 Marken Road, Kiel ~ (Located in School Hill)

23rd ANNUAL PERCH FRY

FRI. FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Dine-In Serving from 3:30-7

Carry-outs from 11:00-1:00 and 3:30-7 ~ Call 920-773-2380

Raffle Tickets, Visit the HT Lounge, Handicapped Accessible



Sponsored by Holy Trinity Parish ~ Co-Sponsored by Catholic Financial Life, Branch 109

If you were suddenly unable to make your own medical decisions, who would make them for you?

Come to a free seminar and learn about the importance of Advance Directives.

Living wills, medical power of attorney, and other medical decisions need to be established **BEFORE** the need arises.

Don't leave your health decisions to the courts!



If you were hospitalized and unable to answer for yourself, would you want a feeding tube, to be intubated? Are there any circumstances you would NOT want to be resuscitated?

Come to learn about these important decisions from professionals of the Froedtert Medical system in Manitowoc. Wisconsin state required forms and paperwork will be available to complete at the seminar.

Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30 pm.

Host: Bethlehem United Church of Christ - 11608 Lax Chapel Rd. – Kiel

Contact the church with questions. 920.894.3332 – BethUCCKiel@outlook.com

Bethlehem United Church of Christ is hosting the seminar as a free service to the community. The seminar has no connection to any denomination or religious tradition.