

The Country Church Herald

...Proclaiming the Word of God

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2020

ON THE WEB www.stmstjucc.org FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

As we begin our 2020 year together, I want to share some of the 2019 ministry highlights with you, because for many, I only see you on Sundays, special events or visitations. And, as you know, ministry is a 7-day a week, round the clock happening! And it does not happen without a great leadership team. Thank you: Al and Jim, Linda, Lori, Judy, Michelle, Colleen, Susan, Tom and Clarence, Bruce, Audrey, Dave and Tara!

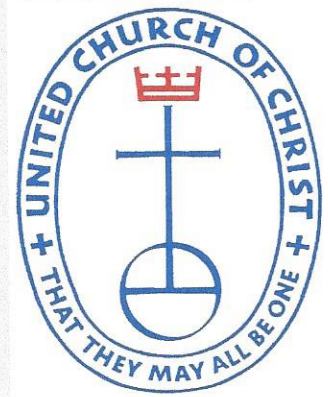


This first year of ministry has been a time of getting reacquainted with the community I grew up in (Sheboygan County – Plymouth). This is not a complete ministry list – just a snap shot at some of the ministerial happenings in and through our churches.

2019 Confirmed: Reina Scharl
Owen Schnelle
Camryn Spindler
Raymond Henschel

2020 Being Confirmed: Emily Binversie
Elliot Gumm
Ben Summers
Brett Ladwig
Austin Riesterer
Jack Heckmann

Introducing Confirmation Mentors:
Charlie and Ruth Ann Kolb
Richard and Sarah Lutze
Deb and Galen LaDuke
Betty and Kevin Kellner
Jon and Julie Herrmann
Pastor



ST. JAMES UCC
1332 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

GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Jan. 5th St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship
St. James: 10:30am Worship
*No Sunday School today at either church.

Jan. 12th St. James: 9:00am Worship
10-11:00 Sunday School
St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship
9-10:00 Sunday School

Jan. 19th St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship
9-10:00 Sunday School
St. James: 10:30am Worship—
*Congregation Annual Meeting following the Worship Service.
9:15-10:15 Sunday School

Jan. 26th St. James: 9:00am Worship
10-11:00 Sunday School
St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship—
*Congregation Annual Meeting following the Worship Service.
9-10:00 Sunday School

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Knowing my community is a big part of effective pastoring and ministry. I have been visiting community organizations and introducing myself to: The Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization; Linda Bosman, Dir. Of Ulrich Center and Donor Relations at Lakeland University; Ride Along with Sheboygan Sheriff's officer; attended both our annual meeting in the Dells and our General Synod in Milwaukee.

I (along with Kari Langenhan and Sandy Perronne) met with Jessica Lambrecht, Asst. VP of Cooperative Ed. and Career Readiness at Lakeland University, for discussion about their intern programs. I spent one week in Chicago teaching in a doctoral preaching program. I was invited by Tim Saeger to lead/teach a class for high school sophomores at Camp Enterprise: young leaders selected by school guidance counselors and teachers throughout Sheboygan County.

From June to September, I led a weekly study group on the Gospel of John with 12-16 church members participating and from October to current, I am leading another group in the Gospel of Luke + the Thirteen Apostles with 15-20 church members participating.

This summer we held our first (with more to come!) annual Cycle Blessing event at St. Mark's.

I had 67 home and hospital visitations; 4 baptisms; 1 wedding (6-7 more are scheduled or being scheduled); 9 funerals that I officiated (1 with Pastor Ernie) and 3 more from the community that I attended.

The average amount of time for worship preparation is 15-20 hours with additional time for special services – baptisms, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter... Per the emphasis from the Call Team and the Call Agreement, I strive to maintain two days per week for rest and rejuvenation – I am fairly successful with this.

My family and I have been extremely blessed by our churches. You have welcomed us – and indeed embraced us. The joint leadership has done an excellent job in helping me to acclimate and learn “the UCC” way of doing things. I am privileged to be your pastor and to serve in this community. I look forward to seeing how God will use us in 2020!

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

JOINT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING **Sunday Dec.1st, 2019**

The Joint Congregational meeting held at St. James was to discuss Pastor Schultz's salary and benefits package. Meeting was called to order after late service by Clarence Belitz; Vice President of St. James. Copies were handed out for the congregation to see Pastor's current salary and benefits. Clarence explained that for the 2020 year Pastor Schultz only requested that we raised his budget for continued education by \$500. Sue Kracht; St. James Treasurer also took the time to explain why the health insurance was going up, this matter is controlled by the UCC. Motion was made by Lori Roelse that we except and vote on the 2020 salary package for Pastor Schultz, Michelle Mauk second it. After the congregation voted ballots were counted and everyone had voted “yes”. Motion was made by Richard Lutze to accept the 2020 Pastor's Salary and Benefits package, Deb LaDuke second it. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Linda Lutzke

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING

Our most sincere sympathy goes to the family of Edward W. Heckmann on his passing. He will be deeply missed in both our church and the community. Ed's funeral was held December 14th at St. James.



With
Deepest
Sympathy...

Edward W. Heckmann, 88, of Spring Valley, passed away peacefully Monday morning, December 9, 2019 at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born July 10, 1931 in Spring Valley, son of the late Cranston and Elsie (Lorfeld) Heckmann. Edward attended Spring Valley Grade School and was a 1949 graduate of Central High School. Following high school, he served in the US Army.

On September 24, 1955 he was united in marriage to Gladys Schuler at St. Paul's UCC, Town of Russell. She preceded him on death on April 17, 2002.

Edward worked along side his brother, Warren, as co-owners of CF Heckmann Company. He was in charge of the milk hauling side of the business for 55 years before retiring. Edward was a member of St. James UCC where he was part of the choir and consistory. He was a member of the Meeme Card Club, Dart Ball at Our Shepard, Hammond Organ Club, Manitowoc, and was a Cub Scout Master. In his younger years, he downhill skied and whitewater canoe raced. Edward collected antique cars and model railroad trains. He was the President of Spring Valley Syrup Works. Edward enjoyed listening to polka music and attending Friday morning Spring Valley Coffee Club. He was a huge fan of the Kiel Raiders, and the Packers. Christmas was a special time of the year for Ed, as was spending time with his family.

December 12th, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Alan Wippermann at 6:00pm. Pastor Schultz led us in prayer. Members present were Alan Wippermann, President; Sue Kracht, Treasurer; Linda Lutzke; Secretary, Michelle Mauk, Colleen Lauersdorf and Pastor Schultz. The Secretary's report was discussed. Michelle made a motion to approve the minutes. Sue second it. Motion carried. Sue presented the Treasurer's report. Michelle made a motion to approve the report. Colleen second it. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds

Al did monthly elevator inspection. Consistory put the Christmas tree's up and thank you to the Sohn's for decorating and making our Church look so beautiful for the holidays. Copy machine in church will need some maintenance, consistory started list of things to do starting in the spring.

Old Business

Suggestion box was empty. Vision of Hope met Dec.2nd. Sue made a motion to approve Vision of Hope's applications for funding request, Michelle 2nd it. Motion approved. Stewardship and Board of Christian Ed TBD. All committee's must get any information needed in 2019 Annual Report by the very beginning of January. This year we donated to 3 Christmas Families in Manitowoc County, gifts will be picked up on the 15th. Consistory still in search for new members to replace 3 people currently on consistory.

New Business

Please keep in our prayers for continuous healing for Dawn Marcoe, Ed Heckmann Family, Robin Henschel and Rita Quast. Consistory discussed holiday services with Christmas Day service at St. James at 10am with communion. Pastor brought to our attention he will be taking a few days off in the beginning of the new year. Consistory started working on Annual Report for 2019, all articles are due in beginning of January. Next meeting will be January 2nd at 6pm. Colleen made a motion to adjourn and Sue second it. Motion carried.

Linda Lutzke, Secretary

Our hearts are heavy & filled with prayers for our church family who have experienced the grief of losing an immediate family member:

- ♦ *Delmar Sommer, whose sister, Margene Meyer, died on December 12th.*
- ♦ *Tom Kleinhans and Dan Kleinhans, whose father & grandfather, Wilfred Kleinhans, died on December 13th.*
- ♦ *Betty Sixel, whose son, Jeff Sixel, died on December 18th. We also extend our sympathy to his siblings, Gary (Vicki) Sixel, Christine (James) Hayon, Keith Sixel and Lee (Nancy) Sixel.*



With deepest
Sympathy

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING

December 5, 2019

Following the Christmas decoration of the sanctuary, the meeting was called to order by President Jim Taylor at 6:25 pm. Members present: Pastor Patrick, Jim Taylor, Tara Vandoske, Bruce Mansker, Dave Call, Judy Steinbeck, and Lori Roelse. Pastor led us in prayer.

The Secretary's report was reviewed and approved. It was voted to make a contribution to Love INC for the message shared at Mission Fest. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to redeem expendable dividends from the Goeke Youth Fund. Discussion was started on updating the membership list. The Financial Secretary's report was reviewed and approved.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Parking lot: ice needs to be monitored and taken care of.
- Elevator: Otis Co. was recently here and said all was good.
- Lawn care: Cole Herrmann will no longer be able to take care of the lawn. If interested in the job, see a consistory member.

Old Business:

- Christmas Gifts for families are due on December 15. Gifts should be wrapped.
- Mission Fest: The speaker and dinner went well. Thanks to all of the people who worked that day.
- New postal procedures are coming from the US Post Office. Those new processes are very expensive. In order to save money, newsletters will be available via email, at church, or by mail (for shut-ins who are unable to get to church).
- Memorial Sunday was well-received.

New Business:

- Pastor continues his home and community visits.
- Candy bags will be packed on Saturday, December 21 at 10:00 am.
- Pastor will be on vacation Dec. 30 to Jan. 6. Dan Borchert will our supply pastor for Jan. 5.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30. The next Consistory meeting will be held Thursday, January 9 at 5:00 with taking down Christmas decorations, followed by the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Roelse, Consistory Secretary

JANUARY HOSPITALITY TEAM SCHEDULE*

January 5th—Deanne S.
January 12th—Tara V.
January 19th—Mike & Michelle S.
January 26th—Jerry & Louise J.

*For publication purposes, please let Karen know if you make changes.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Kay Bitter on the passing of her husband, Fritz. We keep him in our hearts. Fritz's funeral was held Dec. 20th at Zimmer Westview.



Frederick "Fritz" N. Bitter, age 72, of Cleveland passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 16, 2019, at home with his shadow, Gracie, by his side.

He was born in Sheboygan on March 19, 1947, to the late Milton and LaVerne (Hasche) Bitter. He attended local schools and graduated from Howards Grove High School in 1965. Fritz proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1966 until 1968 in Germany. He was a past member of the Cleveland Snowhawks, Kettle Moraine Corvette Club, and 4-H Herman Cheerios. Fritz was also a member of St. Mark's UCC in Cleveland. He was a John Deere Mechanic at the Cleveland Co-Op until 1994. He held various jobs until his retirement. On September 21, 2002, Fritz married the love of his life Kay Oehldrich at St. Mark's United Church of Christ.

Fritz was a collector of decanters. He loved going to car shows such as Iola Car Show and Jefferson Swap Meet. His one true love was his 1957 Corvette which was just restored and brought home in September. Fritz was an amazing baker who shared his sugary treats with all his friends and family. He will be deeply missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

ST JAMES CELEBRATIONS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Karen Krause
- 7 Jim Becker
- 13 Ethan Spindler
- 17 Andrew Nye
Lucas Spindler
- 20 Dawn Marcoe
- 21 Scott Henschel
Williem Langenhahn
- 24 Henry Langenhahn
Jr.
- 25 Gavin Marcoe
- 27 Maureen Athorp
- 29 Allyson Wasmer

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

None



HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR THE HOMELESS

St. Mark's will be collecting hygiene products for Sheboygan County Homeless.

There will be a collection box beginning Feb. 16 through March 8th.

Let's share Christ's Love by easing the lives of those in need!

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF A BABY!



Maverick Leo Beck
Born: 11/27/2019
in Sheboygan, WI
To Sara Faith Wippermann
& Nicholas Raymond Beck

Baptism will be on February 23rd
at St. James.

ST MARK'S CELEBRATIONS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

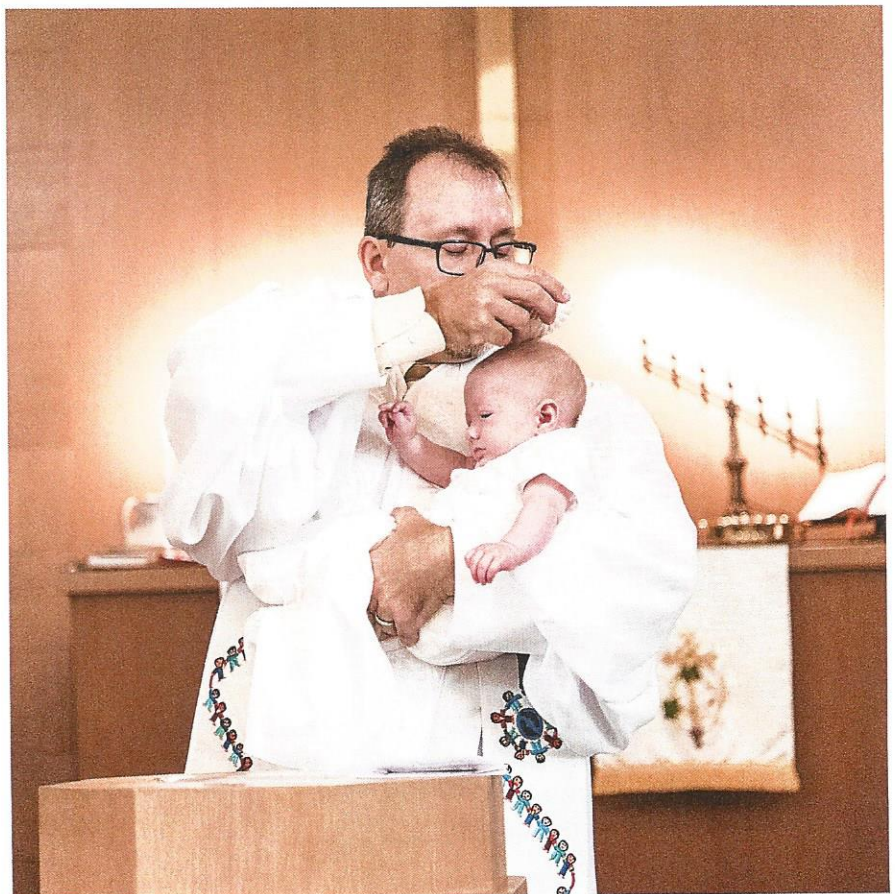
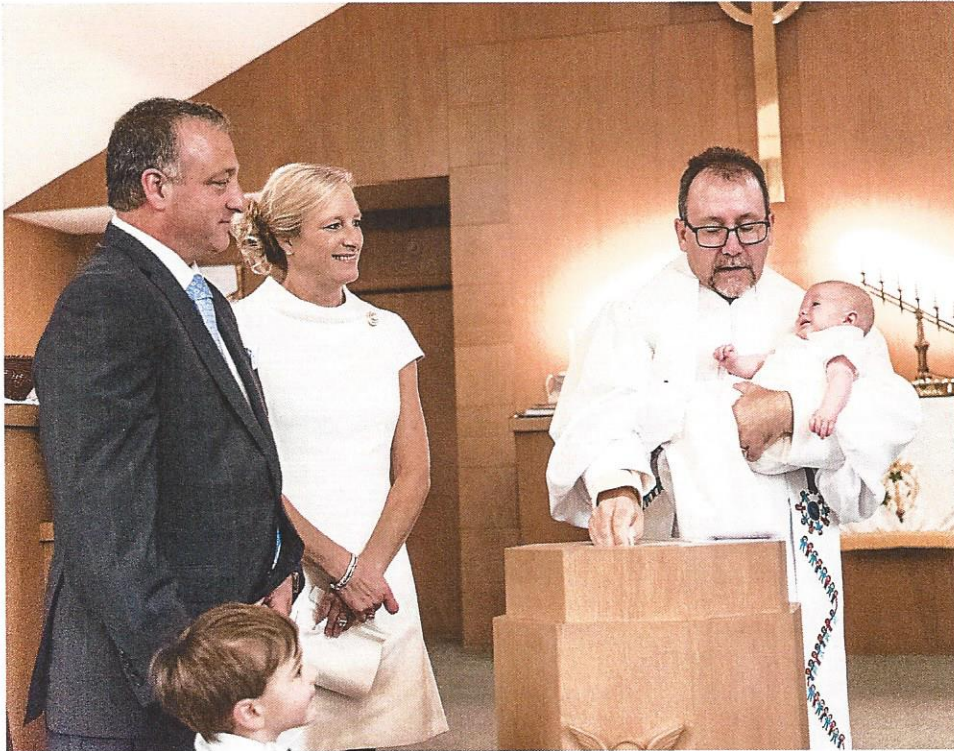
- 5 Terri Grunwald
- 7 Corey Vandoske
- 9 Scott Siekman
- 11 Azalea Heling
- 12 Margene Reyer
- 14 Brenda Miota
Tim Schueler
- 16 Andy Schnelle
Warren Vandoske
- 18 Hailey Hermann
Dorothy Schnell
- 20 Eugene Maeuser
- 23 Ray Brickner
Jason Bramstedt
- 29 Nancy Sixel

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Kevin & Betty Kellner
- 14 Gary & Sheri Kaestner

Introducing Austin Emre Nye ~ Baptized September 29, 2019!

Austin is the son of Tom & Nancy Nye and sibling of Addison & Andrew Nye.
He was baptized at St. James.



ST. JAMES

JANUARY USHERS

Chairpersons:

* Vernon & Jean Henschel

Kim Grotegut
Alan Wippermann
Amy Christianson
Ashley Grotegut
Alyssa Grotegut
Geraldine Scheffler
Brittany Stolzmann
Eric Stolzmann

FEBRUARY USHERS

They will be published in
the Annual Report



Annual Reports Due in the Office:

St. James—Mon, Jan. 6
St. Mark's—Mon., Jan. 13

Best is to email:

**Karen-
churchsec@gmail.com**

**(In fact, Karen would LOVE to
receive the reports at your earliest
opportunity)**



REMINDER:

*Pastor Patrick has designated
Tuesdays & Fridays as his weekly
days off/out of the office. During
those two days each week, you
may contact him in case of an
emergency only at 608-352-9544.*

*Your Church Consistory Members
would be your contact in any
nonemergency situation.*



Pastor Patrick will be on vacation
Monday, December 30th through
Monday, January 6th. If you or
your family member are in need
of pastoral care during that time,
please contact your church
consistory president....

St. James:

Al Wippermann at 920-946-7848

St. Mark's:

Jim Taylor at 920-627-0581

I am looking for a sturdy folding
TV tray to use in the church
office. If anyone has an extra one
they'd be willing to
part with, please let
me know.



Thank you!
Karen Mansker

ST. MARK'S

JANUARY USHERS

Chairperson:

Bruce Mansker*

Karen Mansker
Brenda Miota
Janell Davis

JANUARY CANDLE LIGHTERS

- 5- Mason Scharl &
Bryce Schnelle
- 12 - Alexa Dexter &
Ben Summers
- 19- Owen Bramstedt &
Sierra Bramstedt
- 26- Brianne Vandoske &
Reid Vandoske

FEBRUARY USHERS

Chairperson:

Mike Summers

Amy Summers
Ben Summers
Mike Scharl

FEBRUARY CANDLE LIGHTERS

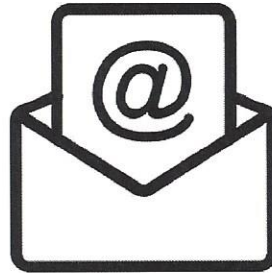
- 3 - Luke Grunwald, &
Grace Schultz
- 10 - Brianna Miota &
Rebecca Miota
- 17- Brianne Vandoske &
Reid Vandoske
- 24 - Colten Sommer &
Ben Summers

REMINDER!

This is the last “Bulk-Mailing” church newsletter you will be receiving!

During the Joint Consistory Meeting on November 5th, it was unanimously passed as a cost-saving measure, to electronically distribute the monthly church newsletters beginning with the February 2020 newsletter (which is completed at the end of January).

What this means is that you will be receiving your monthly church newsletter via email instead of mailed printed copies. The newsletter will also be available Online at our church Website: www.stmstjucc.org and there will be some printed copies available at church for those individuals who do not have email or access to the Internet.



Our churches will be saving a substantial amount of money by making the change (cost of postage, paper, ink...), in addition lessening the environmental impact. You will also have the ability to forward on the church newsletter, plus it looks SO attractive in color!

Please make sure that you return the “Information Request Form” that was sent to you. If you aren’t sure if we have your updated email address, please contact Karen Mansker, church secretary.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Enjoy some time with family and also some time of rest!

We will take the following Wednesdays off:

December 25th, January 1st, January 8th

I will look for each confirmand on Sunday mornings



~Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz



BOTH ST. JAMES & ST. MARK’S HAVE VACATION

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL) ON DECEMBER 29TH

AND JANUARY 5TH.

Classes will resume on Sunday, January 12th :)

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

November 24, 2019

St. James = 78

St. Mark's = 67

November 27, 2019

Thanksgiving

St. James = 50

December 1, 2019

St. James = 65

St. Mark's = 49

December 8, 2019

St. James = 67

St. Mark's = 71

December 15, 2019

St. James = 76

St. Mark's = 51

December 22, 2019

St. James (Sunday
School Program)= 125

St. Mark's Worship =70

4:00 Sunday School
Christmas Program=108

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church to join faith and action. With over 5,000 churches and nearly one million members across the U.S., the UCC serves God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world. The UCC is a church of firsts, a church of extravagant welcome, and a church where "...they may all be one"

(John 17:21).

United Church of Christ:
<https://www.ucc.org>

St. James UCC/St. Mark's UCC:
www.stmstjucc.org

ST. MARK'S CEMETARY FUND

We welcome your donations for maintenance of our cemetery. Simply put any amount you wish to give in an envelope marked "Cemetery" and drop it in the collection plate.

PASTORAL CARE

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.

CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS

There have been some changes to the confidentiality laws. These changes 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 920-693-2858.

**ST. JAMES/ST. MARK'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
W1307 Orchard Road
Cleveland, WI 53015
JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. Postage
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CLEVELAND, WI
53015

Please email karenchurchsec@gmail.com or let a consistory member know of any address, phone number, and/or e-mail changes.