



The Country Church Herald

NEWSLETTER ~ JANUARY, 2023

ON THE WEB www.stmstjucc.org
FIND US ON FACEBOOK & YOU TUBE!



From the Desk of Pastor Patrick:

In the late summer and early fall days of 2022, we gathered together to learn more about Jesus Christ using the new video series *The Chosen* as our backdrop – our back story. The study went so well we will gather again with *The Chosen Season II* as our backdrop. While we use the videos as a source of visual context, we rely on the Bible for our textual foundation. I was very blessed to have about half of our numbers coming from other churches and denominations – thus adding richness and depth to our conversations.

I extend an open invitation to you ~ church members, church attendees, visitors, guests, curious, unsure, seeking understanding of our relationship with Jesus, learned and not so learned... come and join us!

The study is led by Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz.

Held on Mondays (beginning January 9th).

At St. Mark's UCC.

Offered at 10am and 5pm ~ although the evening time might be tweaked a bit to accommodate our group.

Any changes will be announced as promptly as possible.

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

January 1st —

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship

No Sunday School

St. James: 10:30am Worship

No Sunday School

January 8th —

St. James: 9:00am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

January 15th—

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

St. James: 10:30am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

January 22nd —

St. James: 9:00am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

January 29th—

St. James: 9:00am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

9-10:00 Sunday School

Sunday bulletins, & links to prayer requests are posted under the 'Messages' link on our church web-site:

<https://www.stmstjucc.org/>
Weekly recorded church services are available on our church

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING

December 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order on December 8, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Julie Herrmann, Jacob Grunwald, Judy Steinbeck, Louise Jetzer, Glenn Grunwald, Janell Davis, Larry Perronne and Pastor Schultz.

The Secretary's report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Larry and seconded by Jake to approve. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Larry and seconded by Louise to approve. Motion carried.

The Mission/Vision team has gathered to come up with ways of communicating and sharing ideas and working together between both churches. It was suggested to not only focus on our youth but also find ways to involve the seniors of our church with activities such as bingo, having musicians come to perform and having guest speakers.

Pastor will be on vacation December 26th-January 1 and pastor Kim will be filling in while he is gone.

The ceiling tiles will be replaced in the church office in January and the sound system will be updated by Jerry before the children's Christmas program.

The parsonage security light will be adjusted so it does not turn on when cars drive by.

To continue growing our church we discussed options to outreach to the community at schools, police departments, fire departments and other locations to thank them for all they do and provide a small token from St. Mark's church.

The cracks in the drywall will be repaired in the entryway of church.

Otis Elevator Company came and did the inspection of the elevator.

Pastor will remind church members to sign up to be a greeter before church. It would be ideal if there were a greeter in the entryway and if there was someone handing out bulletins by the door entering church.

The joint meeting is October 29, 2023 and a motion was made by Jake and seconded by Julie to have one service for both churches at St. James at 10:00 a.m with the meeting after service. Motion carried.

The Sunday school Christmas program will be held December 18th at 5:00 p.m. The teachers will be recognized with a gift.

Candy bags will be filled by consistory members to give out after the children's program.

Communion will be on Christmas Day at St. Mark's at 10:00 a.m. Set up will be done before the service.

Larry made a motion to approve the OCWM goal increase from \$5,800 to \$6,000. Louise seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 29th at 6:30 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Herrmann
St. Mark's Consistory Secretary

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY

December 5, 2022 6:30

The meeting was called to order by President David Lorfeld. Members present were Tammy Serketich – Vice-President, Wendy Henschel – Treasurer, Deb La Duke – Secretary, Jason Riesterer, Jackie Mueller, and Pastor Patrick Schultz. Also in attendance was Sheila Hemb.

Absent: Jamey Binversie. Prayer led by Pastor.

Motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Tammy and seconded by Jackie. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Deb and seconded by Jason. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Mission/Vision Committee met on Dec. 5. Continued conversation about what we as churches are doing well and what can we do better. Next meeting – Jan. 7; 8-9 at St. Mark's. The Youth group held their dinner for helpers. Plans are underway for a youth retreat this summer.

Building and Grounds:

The snow plowing fee for this year is \$40.00 per time.

Mr. Bubolz is working on the second stain pattern for the railings. The original stain was a mismatch and he feels very confident in the second version.

Sixel and Schwinn have completed maintenance on the parking lot lights.

Committee Reports:

Vision of Hope: Motion to approve the VoH recommendations was made by Deb and seconded by Wendy.

Motion carried. Motion to approve the VoH committee's recommendation to change the wording in their Constitution to "ex-officio" verses "advisor" for the Pastor's title made by Deb and seconded by Jackie. Motion carried.

Stewardship Committee: No meeting

Christian Board of Education: Christmas program will be on December 18th. Pastor will check on portable mics for the children to use. Thank you to the Sprenger family for donating the apples and oranges to the children's candy bags for Christmas.

Service Committee: Mary Ann Vogel has offered to Chair both the Service Committee and the Brat Fry. Thank you Mary Ann.

Audio Visual: No meeting. Discussion began on updating the old system for the new year. Many components do not work well together.

Old Business:

Committee member nominees were reviewed for the Annual Meeting. **One Consistory member still needed. Please consider serving your church for this important committee.**

The new stoves will be installed in January. Calls are out for a metal fabricator to construct a food-grade backsplash behind them.

Motion made by Jackie and seconded by Tammy to pay for small balance on basement decorations from the General Fund. Motion carried.

October 29, 2023 is the Sunday for a Joint Congregational meeting to discuss and vote on the Pastoral Proposed Contract. This is the fifth Sunday of the month. It has been suggested to hold only one service that Sunday at 10:00. St. James Consistory supported this idea. St. Mark's will be meeting soon to discuss.

Tammy and Deb will meet on Dec. 17th to make 15 candy bags for the children to be handed out after their Program on the 18th.

New Business:

Motion made by Deb and seconded by Tammy to provide Christmas gifts to paid employees, Sunday School teachers, and Barb Reimer for getting the mail. Motion carried. Wendy will give them cash again.

Review of Annual Report for 2023 items – Committees, budget, Sunday school info, membership list, etc. A more thorough evaluation will occur at the January meeting. Motion to approve the proposed budget made by Tammy and seconded by Deb. Motion carried. It will be presented at the Annual Meeting for the Congregation's action.

David and Jackie will be meeting with Korean Methodist Congregation for the quarterly meeting.

Poinsettias used for the Christmas Eve services – We are asking members to leave them for both services so the Sohn's will not need to rearrange what is left.

Motion to approve the purchase of a laptop computer for the new Treasurer, not to exceed \$750.00 made by Tammy and seconded by Jackie. Motion carried.

Congregation concerns:

Several members have suggested/asked for the children's messages to be shorter and age appropriate. Pastor will take into advisement and proceed as he feels necessary.

Next meeting date: January 2, 2023 – 6:30

Motion to adjourn made by Deb and seconded by Wendy. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb La Duke – St. James Consistory Secretary



St. James

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St. Mark's





To the St. Marks Congregation and Consistory ,

We all want to truly thank you for the beautiful card and gift of money we received after the Children's Program on Sunday evening!

As many of you know, a lot of time and effort goes into the Christmas Program and please know we felt all the love and prayers while prepping these amazing kids in our church!

Bravo to the hard work and dedication to the kids (and parents) we have in our church, they did a fantastic job!!

One other huge shout out, to Anna Marie Bramstedt!! Our fearless leader, we can't thank you enough for the years of dedication to the Sunday School kids and your commitment to the Children's Program! This will be Anna Marie's last year serving as a Sunday School teacher and Christmas Program director, she has dedicated over 15 years of teaching our Sunday School kids and we are eternally grateful to you!! Prayers and blessing to you!!

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season!

With love and blessings,

Your Sunday School staff



The **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH** won't meet on the first Sunday of January as pastor and family will be returning from vacation. We will leave for our retreat on January 6 at 5:00 from the St. Mark's parking lot.

We'll have a regular meeting at St. James on January 22nd at 5:30. It is possible that we will have a sledding trip to Vollrath before then but we will have to see what the weather holds for us. At our meeting on the 22nd we will discuss when we might head to Sunburst this year for some snowtubing.

Join us for the retreat, or our meeting on January 22nd!

Questions? Please email Brenda Schultz at schultzbrenda@gmail.com

Graduations:

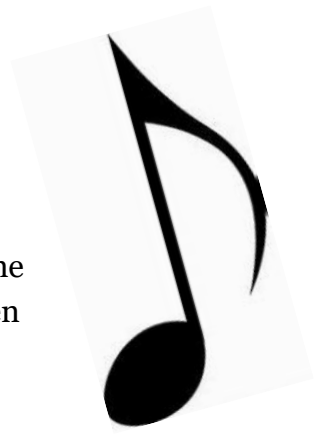
Congratulations to Amanda Henschel! Amanda graduated December 14th from Cardinal Stritch University with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Amanda has accepted a job offer at Children's Wisconsin Hospital in the Hematology-Oncology-Transplant Unit .

Congratulations to Abby Herrmann! Abby graduated December 17th from Concordia University with her Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy.

CHOIR!

St. James Choir practice will start again on January 18th and 25th. Time: 6:30.

St. Mark's Choir will be on recess throughout the month of January. Kathy will contact everyone as to when practices will resume.



ANNUAL MEETINGS:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

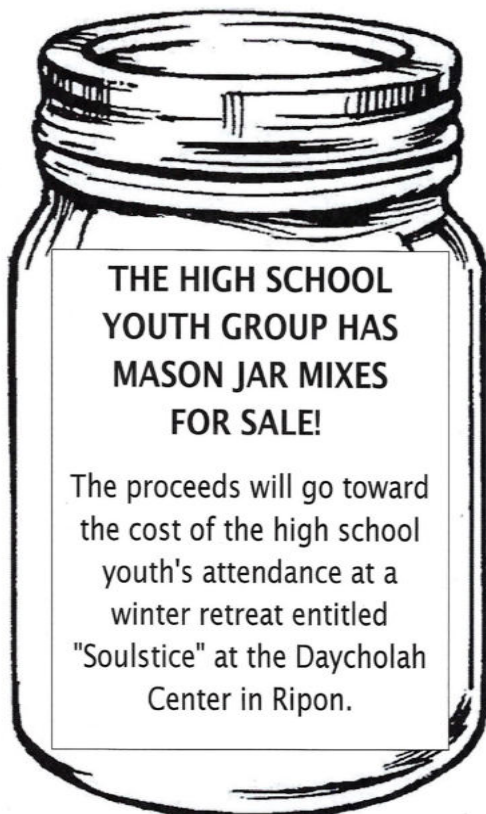
ST. JAMES ANNUAL MEETING—Sun., Jan. 15th after shortened Worship Service

ST. MARK'S ANNUAL MEETING—Sun., Jan. 22nd after shortened Worship Service

Items to publish in the printed reports are due soon—

ST. JAMES REPORTS DUE JAN. 2nd, ST. MARK'S DUE JAN. 9th.

Email to Karen at: stmstjoffice@gmail.com








VISION OF HOPE

"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, January 2022

-  **THANK YOU!!** The faith community showed up this holiday season **IN A BIG WAY!!** All of our programs benefited from your generous donors, both in-kind and monetary! Our Bridgeway families were extremely grateful for the gifts and thoughtfulness behind each donation and enjoyed making warm memories. We shared your generosity by providing some new board games with our Family Pathways members so they can look forward to new activities during their weekly visits. As an organization that receives less than 5% funding through federal/state channels, we are so **GRATEFUL** for this **AMAZING COMMUNITY!**
-  The Winter Market will continue every first and third Saturday from 9am-12pm, January through April. The Winter Market is located inside First Congregational UCC Church, 310 Bluff Avenue. We will continue to offer EBT and \$15 Double Your Bucks match at every market! Look for new vendors in 2023!
-  Two families are currently living in the Bridgeway House. One family with 3 children, and one family with 2 members. A family of four will be moved into Bridgeway house the first week of January. Please hold the Bridgeway family in your thoughts and prayers as we venture through a season of change with staff and new residents.
-  We have a need for twin and full size blankets for Bridgeway residents, as well as city bus passes.
-  Family Pathways has seen four families move to unsupervised visits in the past month - what a wonderful example of how families can overcome adversity and create brighter futures for their children! If you know of a family that could benefit from supervised visitation services, please have them contact us at familypathways@sheboygancountyinterfaith.org.

Weather Cancellations will be made available on the church voicemail 920.207.8361, the Church's Facebook Page, and via our email messaging.

You can also call a Consistory Member.

Please use your own discretion in deciding whether to go out in inclement weather.



ST. JAMES USHERS

January

*Tanya Wasmer
Abigail Peterson
Amanda Wasmer
Allyson Wasmer
Tammy Serketich
Tom & Nancy Nye
Karie & Jeremy Ladwig
Alivia Maxey
Hannah Schmitz
Kendra Schmitz
Lee & Terri Schmitz

February

The February Ushers will be published in the Annual Report. Each person on the February list will also receive an email to let them know they're on the list.

Bethlehem Chili Supper



11608 Lax Chapel Rd – Kiel

Wednesday Feb 1, 2023

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 1/2 mile on Left

CHURCH

ATTENDANCE

St. James		St. Mark's
52	Dec. 4	62
48	Dec. 11	56
102	Dec. 18	52
—	eve 18	63
54	400 Dec. 24	—
65	7:00 Dec. 24	—
—	Dec. 25	64

St. James Children's Program was held during the Worship Service on the 18th, and St. Mark's at 5pm.

ST. MARK'S GREETERS

January

Janell Davis
Bruce Mansker
Karen Mansker

February

Watch for the email containing a Sign Up Genius link to choose your month to be our church greeter :)

HOSPITALITY

Jan. 1st — Sandy Perronne

Jan. 8th — **

Jan. 15th — Margene Reyer

Jan. 22nd — **

Jan. 29th— Margene Reyer

*If you are interested in providing hospitality on the two Sundays marked **, please contact the church office.*

With
Sympathy



Our heart felt sympathy is extended to Bill and Dorothy Mueller on the passing of Dorothy's sister-in-law, Audrey Bohne, on November 15th.

ST JAMES JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Karen Krause
- 7 Jim Becker
- 17 Andrew Nye
- 21 Scott Henschel
Williem Langenhahn
- 24 Henry Langenhahn, Jr.
- 25 Gavin Marcoe
- 29 Allyson Wasmer

ANNIVERSARIES

none

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 Tuesdays & 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 920-693-2858.

Please report any corrections or additions on the birthday and anniversary lists to Karen in the church office to ensure they are correct in future publications:
stmstjoffice@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

ST MARK'S JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

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
- 23 Ray Brickner
Jason Bramstedt
- 29 Nancy Sixel

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Let January open with the joy in the Lord,
and December close with gladness in Jesus

*St. James Stewardship Team