

The Country Church Herald

...Proclaiming the Word of God

NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2021

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

Be the 99

Upon completing the Apostles' Creed sermon series, I asked myself, "what's next?" The next two Sundays (Oct. 31st and Nov. 7th) I am looking for God's guidance on what to preach; but, the rest of 2021 Sundays are set for topics or scripture.

Nov. 14th is Mission Fest at St. Mark's.

Nov. 21st is Memorial Sunday.

Nov. 28 – Dec. 5, 12, & 19th are Advent Sundays.

Then Christmas! And into the New Year.

The way Christmas and Christmas Eve falls this year means: We will have two (2) Christmas Eve services at St. Mark's ~ 4:00pm (family-oriented service) and 7:00pm (traditional service). Our Christmas day service will be held at 10:00am at St. James. Because this falls on Friday and Saturday, the Joint Consistory voted to not have a Sunday morning (day after Christmas) service.

As we get into the new year, I am going to share a short series of messages entitled: Be the 99. At the heart of this series is the parable Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:10-14, the Parable of the Lost Sheep. I'll be asking the question, "What does it mean to be the 99?"

I've developed this image for the series and am making it possible for us to have a coffee mug with this image, for \$7 - \$8. I'll be taking orders as we near the New Year.

~Pastor Patrick



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

**COME JOIN US,
GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME!**

November 7th -

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship,
9-10:00 Sunday School

St. James: 10:30am Worship,
9:15-10:15 Sunday School

**JOINT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AT
ST. JAMES AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**November 14th MissionFest at St
Mark's— Worship—10:00am
No Sunday School**

St. James -NO Worship or Sunday
School today (come to St. Mark's)

November 21st—MEMORIAL SUNDAY

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship,
9-10:00 Sunday School

St. James: 10:30am Worship,
9:00 Christmas Program Practice
Sunday School follows to 11:30

**November 24th—7 pm Thanksgiving
Eve Service with Communion at St.
James**

November 28th -

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

St. James: 9:00am Worship
9-10:00 Christmas Program Practice
10-11:00 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 website:*

<https://www.stmstjucc.org/>

ST. MARK'S MISSION FEST



Please join us for a special service for the St. Mark's Mission Fest at 10:00, Sunday, November 14. We will welcome Kendra Kelling, Volunteer and Community Engagement Manager for Habitat for Humanity Lakeside, based in Sheboygan. She will speak on the mission, projects, volunteers, and clients served by Habitat for Humanity. We look forward to her message of service and hope.

Due to the high Covid-19 activity in the county and the lack of food preparation space in which we could be socially distanced, there will unfortunately be NO meal served following the service. We hope we can return to having a meal together in 2022.

ST. MARK'S COOKIE EXCHANGE!

What is better than Christmas cookies?

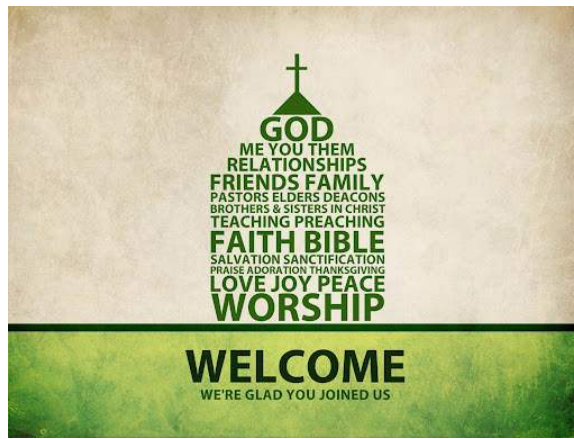
Having several different varieties!

If you would like to participate in a cookie exchange, click on the link below to sign up and tell what kind of cookies you will be making. Package your cookies in groups of 6 in bags, boxes, or plates. Signups are due by Saturday, December 4. I will let you know by Sunday, December 5 how many half-dozens to bring. Have your cookies at St. Mark's by 10:30 am on Sunday, December 12. After the church service, you will have a beautiful assortment of cookies to take home. A maximum of 12 people may participate.



If you would like to bring extras for Pastor to take along on his home visits, that would be welcomed as well. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FADA72AA6F58-christmas>

Please let Lori Roelse know if you have any questions, 920-946-3540.
Merry Christmas! And Happy Baking!



Sunday, October 21st, 2021
 We are excited to introduce our New Members to you!

ST. JAMES: Brian & Sheila Hemb

ST. MARK'S: Charles & Joanie Mohr



ST. JAMES CHOIR

St. James choir practice is on Tuesdays, Nov. 2nd, 16th, 23rd, and 30th starting at 6:30pm.



Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
 break forth into joyous song and sing praises.



ST. MARK'S CHOIR

St. Mark's choir practice will be held on Wednesdays, Nov. 3rd, 10th, and 17th beginning at 7:00pm.

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



PLEASE NOTE THAT A PRIVACY SECTION HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE FORM. Effective Jan. 1, 2021, old forms without a completed "privacy choice" section will not be accepted.

The next Vision of Hope Committee meeting is at St. James on Monday, December 6th, at 6:30pm.

STUDENTS: Use the "Application for Funding" form for tuition help (currently \$1,000) each year.

AND THEY LIVED
Happily Ever After



Alex Perronne and Paige Frendahl were married on July 24, 2021 in the mountains of Lake Tahoe, California.

They renewed their vows and celebrated with family and friends during a reception on October 16 in Beloit, Wisconsin.

Alex and Paige live in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On October 16, 2021, Keri La Duke and Jason Rafeld were married by Pastor Schultz. They held an "Old School" wedding in Spring Valley at the home/property of Galen and Deb La Duke.

Keri and Jason live in Seymour, WI.



St. James and St. Mark's Joint Consistory Meeting St. James UCC Fellowship Hall

Oct. 18, 2021 6:00

Members present: Pastor Patrick Schultz, David Lorfeld, Clarence Belitz, Judy Steinbeck, Wendy Henschel, Tammy Serketich, Deb La Duke, Louise Jetzer, Dave Call, Julie Hermann, Jacob Grunewald, Glenn Grunewald, Lori Roelse, and Jason Riesterer. Pastor led the group in prayer.

Our meeting began with discussion of current and future Covid protocols. It was decided to continue with current practices. T.V.s will be set up in the basements for additional seating. We continue to monitor the local activity and changes will be made if necessary. Sunday Schools can plan a Christmas program.

St. Mark's Financial Secretary job remains the same as does the compensation.

Motion to raise the St. James/St. Mark's secretary wages to \$14.00 per hour was made by Dave Call and seconded by David Lorfeld. Motion carried. Changes will begin January 2022.

It was decided to pay the substitute Secretary \$12.00 per hour.

Salaries for the organists will remain unchanged. Upon review of the new organist Ann Rodewald, it was noted that she is not only professional but also a talented musician.

Assessment of ministry - This committee is to talk about ways to evaluate not only Pastor's performance but also ministry of the congregation such as non-pastoral staff, lay leadership, and the membership. A meeting occurred on September 30 to begin discussion. The next meeting is in November. Dave Call and Glenn Grunewald resigned from the committee. Two new members from St. Mark's will be needed.

Brenda Schultz provided a synopsis on the newly formed high school youth gatherings. She is acting as its coordinator for both churches currently. It was recommended we talk with Kari Langenhahn who is still involved with the Youth Fellowship. Discussion continues as to whether the two groups combine and then if so, a breakdown of responsibilities/job descriptions would need to be established. A Youth Director position was posted in previous years as paid.

It was decided to discontinue advertising in the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

Motion made by David Lorfeld and seconded by Lori Roelse to set up separate savings and checking accounts for Vacation Bible School. Motion carried.

The 2022 Calendar was set. A motion was made at the February 21, 2021 Joint Consistory meeting to offer a 4:00 Christmas Eve service in addition to the 7:00. Both will be at St. Mark's. Christmas Day will be at St. James. A motion was made by Dave Call to eliminate the December 26, 2021 Sunday service. Tammy Serketich seconded. Motion carried. Notice to go into the newsletter.

Pastor presented his proposal for a compensation package. A motion to give him a 3% raise was made by Wendy Henschel and seconded by Dave Call. Motion carried. Motion to deny another week of vacation was made by Tammy Serketich and seconded by Dave Call. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Dave Call and seconded by David Lorfeld. Motion carried.

Next meeting: February 7, 2022 at St. Mark's

Respectfully submitted by Deb La Duke,
St. James Consistory Secretary

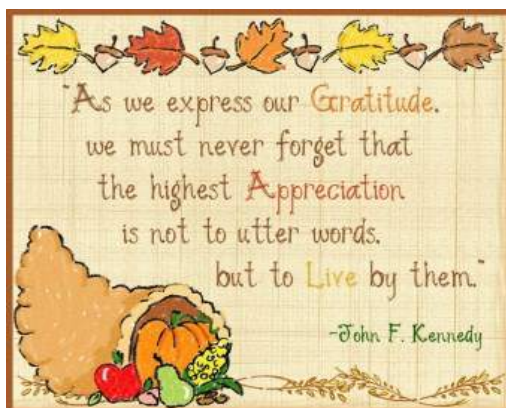


ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING

October 7, 2021 6:30

- The meeting was called to order by President Clarence Belitz. Members present were David Lorfeld – Vice-President, Wendy Henschel – Treasurer, Deb La Duke – Secretary, Jason Riesterer, Tammy Serketich, Jamey Binversie, and Pastor Patrick Schultz who led the group in prayer.
- Motion to approve the Secretary’s Report made by Tammy & seconded by Wendy. Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report made by Deb and seconded by David. Motion carried. Consistory also reviewed a year to year comparative on the budget.
- The group discussed Chapter 5 of Just say Yes. Pastor is in need of one more mentor for a Confirmation student.
- Building and Grounds:
The bushes have been trimmed by Brian and Wendy Henschel. Thank you! The green vinyl floors have been cleaned by Badger Care. An estimate has been submitted for wood railings leading to the alter. The Wayne Vogel family would like to support this project as a memorial. The stained glass repair project is finished and the water leak from the steeple seems to have stopped.
- Committee Reports:
Vision of Hope – Motion to approve the recommendations of the committee for scholarship requests made by Deb and seconded by David. Motion carried. Motion to approve additional requests recommended by the Vision of Hope made by Tammy and seconded by Jason. Motion carried. Next mtg. Dec. 6 – 6:30.
Stewardship Committee – Wendy presented their findings and are waiting for responses from the mailing sent to members.
Christian Board of Education – Children will be doing a coat drive and plans have begun for a Christmas program.
Service Committee has been asked to provide refreshments for New Members Sunday on October 24.
- Old Business:
Mission Fest will be carry-out only from the shed this year. The Sprenger family will help to organize and hand out dinners. Thank you!
- New Business:
Communion services in the binder will be changed to those used by Pastor Schultz.
Joint Consistory will meet Oct. 18th at St. James. Leftover pie from the Mission Fest to be served.
Ushering sign-up list will include all members again.
Memorial Sunday will be November 11, 2021.
Special Joint meeting of the Congregations on November 7 to discuss Pastor’s salary and benefits @ St. James.
- Next Meeting Date – November 1, 6:30
- Motion to adjourn made by Tammy and seconded by Wendy. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Deb La Duke – St. James Consistory Secretary



ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING

October 7, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by president, Lori Roelse. Members present: Dave Call, Julie Herrmann, Glenn Grunwald, Jacob Grunwald, Louise Jetzer, and Judy Steinbeck.

The Secretary's report was reviewed and accepted by Glenn and seconded by Dave.

The Financial Secretary's report was reviewed and accepted by Glenn and seconded by Jacob.

The snow removal contract through T&L Services was agreed upon and the contract will be signed.

The following projects continue to be worked on: The shower door in the parsonage, the exterior door on the second floor of the parsonage, the outlet in the parsonage master bathroom, the laundry cabinet in the parsonage and the fellowship hall wall.

The Mission Fest speaker is Kendra Kelling, volunteer and community engagement manager for Habitat for Humanity.

Pastor is working on planning a mission trip to Knoxville, TN and there were 5 students present at the second meeting of the high school group.

Pastor suggested a reception of food and beverages for the installation of new members on October 24th. It was agreed to have cupcakes, water and coffee available after church.

The joint consistory meeting itinerary was reviewed so we can prepare for the items to be discussed at our meeting on 10/18/21 at 6:00 p.m. at St James.

We discussed some options of wearing masks to the holiday services due to more people being in attendance. We will continue to discuss it at future meetings.

Pastor would like to have the congregation continue to walk up front when we serve communion.

Lori will write up an invitation for Mission Fest.

We will continue to pursue what we are willing to do to attract new members and the importance of young families.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Dave made a motion to adjourn and Jacob seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Herrmann, Consistory Secretary



Calling all High School Youth...

The high school youth will meet at St. Mark's on November 7th for their bimonthly gathering to include a meal, games, and discussion. We'll talk about Operation Christmas Child and the possibility of a mission trip this summer!

We will meet again on November 21 (time to be decided soon!) at St. Mark's for our "shoebox packing party" that will prepare the gifts for Operation Christmas Child for shipping.

Contact Brenda Schultz with questions: schultzbrenda@gmail.com



St. James Sunday School News

The new Sunday School format is working out well and is enjoyed by our students. We are in the process of planning our Christmas program for December 19th, late service. Practice will begin November 21st, starting at 9am. Sunday School will take place during late church service, after children sermon. November 28th, Sunday School will take place during early church service, after children sermon. Christmas program practice will take place from 10am to 11am.

No Sunday School November 14th, due to St. Marks Mission Fest.

December 26th, 2021 and January 2nd, 2022 is Sunday School's winter break.

Returning after winter break, beginning on January 9th, Sunday School's starting time will be 9am to 10am at all times. If church service should start at 9am, we will begin Sunday School after the "Young at Heart" message.

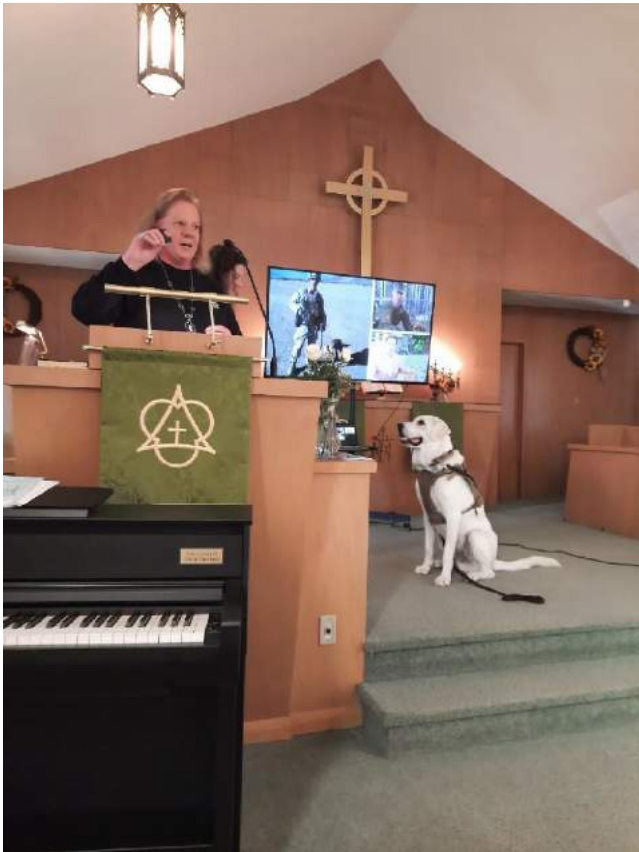
Outreach received a gift of \$300.00 from Vision of Hope. Thank you Vision of Hope for your generosity. Sunday School transferred \$200.00 dollars from operating account into the Outreach account. Coats for kids have been contributed to and Christmas family will be next.

Christine Gumm is heading up our fundraising of Seroogy's candy. Thank you Christine!

Any questions may be directed to Sandy Beiersdorf at 920-693-8000 or sandrabeiersdorf@gmail.com

Sunday School is Cool





ST JAMES MISSION FEST ~ 2021

This year's Mission Fest was carry-out only. We had a beautiful day, a great turn out, and a wonderful speaker. This year we sold out at 127 meals!

We want to thank our speakers this year, Pam and Vern Wittkopp, Carlie Hopp, and Oliver from Dogs2DogTags. What a great cause! Thank you to everyone that donated pies and supported this important mission and a SPECIAL THANKS to the Sprenger family for taking care of ALL the carry outs in the shed! What a great team – Dale & Doris Sprenger, Sherry & Ruby Jump, Christine, Everit & Elliot Gumm, Dean and Parker Sprenger.

Thank you for supporting Our Church's Greater Mission!

St. James Consistory

Sheboygan County Interfaith

Organization



Bulletin Bites

November 2021

- ◆ Bridgeway could use the following items: new pillows, cookie sheets, paper products, grocery gift cards, can opener, 3 vinyl tablecloths, and craft supplies.
- ◆ Last day of the Summer Market is Saturday, October 30th! Winter Market will begin promptly the first weekend in November. The market will be held the first and third Saturdays of the month, from 9am-12pm, at the First Congregational Church UCC, 310 Bluff Avenue, Sheboygan. The market will be indoors this year and masks are strongly encouraged!
- ◆ Bridgeway & Beyond Update: Bridgeway has been active. The families have enjoyed outings to the bowling alley and pumpkin patch recently. We also hosted a weekly African drumming circle in September/October. We are grateful for the financial support of many local foundations and corporate partners to make these social and cultural events possible. In many cases, these are new experiences for our families and a wonderful way to create new memories. In addition to the families in our residential program, we continue to meet with homeless women to provide assistance with food, hygiene items, bus passes, and community referrals through our outreach efforts.
- ◆ GIVING TUESDAY: Please mark November 30th on your calendar. We will be hosting a curbside event this year and look forward to offering some exciting opportunities, including a Bingo game for in-kind donations, a match donation, and a Board of Director fundraiser that promises to deliver messy mischief! This is our final push for end-of-year donations - please help us to grow our mission to *transform lives, one family at a time*. More information can be found at www.sheboygancountyinterfaith.org/giving-tuesday



As the high school youth collect items to fill the shoeboxes we will ship for Operation Christmas Child, we as adult church members can help out by being on the lookout for items within these categories that we might happen to see on sale:

Personal Care Items, School Supplies, Clothing and Accessories, Crafts and Activities, and Toys.

Do you like to do woodworking? You can make a bunch of wooden spinning tops that we can include.

Do you like to sew? You can make several simple sundresses for 5-9 year old girls.

Do you know someone who works at Wigwam? Perhaps they can donate a bunch of children's socks.

There are collection bins at each church for Operation Christmas Child.

Each shoebox requires a \$9.00 shipping fee, so if you'd like to donate toward that, we will accept, of course!

Please see this website for more specific ideas: www.samaritanspurse.org and videos showing what receiving a shoebox might mean for a child in another country.

If you have any questions, Brenda Schultz at schultzbrenda@gmail.com. Thank you!

St. Marks Assisted Listening System

A couple of weeks ago, the Assisted Listening System was installed at St. Mark's Church. This will assist those who are having hearing difficulties. This device can be easily used by you. Mike and Janice Marcheske will be available before the service to assist you. After the service, they will clean each ear bud. Hopefully these new devices will make our church service, more enjoyable for you.

Mike and Janice Marcheske



ST. JAMES USHERS

NOVEMBER

*Alan Wippermann
Amy Christianson
Alyssa Grotegut
Ashley Grotegut
Kim Grotegut
Christopher Grotegut
Vernon & Jean Henschel
Steve Henschel

DECEMBER & CHRISTMAS

* Jim & Michelle Luckow
Henry & Bonnie Langenhahn, Sr.
Allison Luckow
Dawson Luckow
Ashley Lutzke
Ethen Lutzke
Linda Lutzke
Linda Lorfeld
Abigail Wasmer
Amanda Wasmer

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.

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. MARK'S GREETERS

NOVEMBER

Jerry Jetzer*
Louise Jetzer
Marlene Kammann
Jane Vandoske

DECEMBER

Mike Scharl*
Michelle Scharl
Larry Heling
Denise Heling

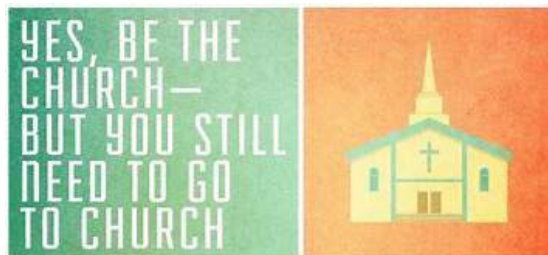
CANDLE LIGHTERS

NOVEMBER

7 Annabelle Uttech, Sierra Bramstedt
14 Colten Scharl, Wyatt Scharl
21 Colten Sommer, Zander Miota
28 Brianne & Reid Vandoske

DECEMBER

5 Julia Uttech, Bryce Schnelle
12 Wyatt Scharl, Colten Scharl
19 Brianne Vandoske, Reid Vandoske
26 Hillary Hermann, Haley Hermann



As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you to be active in it; and you need the church to be active in your life.

Adapted from Michael Carl

(...nor can you partake of the blessed Sacraments)

ST JAMES NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kim Grotegut
Jamie Henschel
- 3 Rick Wippermann
- 5 Hank Reimer
- 6 Amanda Henschel
- 10 Richard Lutze
- 16 Ashley Grotegut
- 18 Caroline Heckmann
- 21 Cheyenne Spindler
- 22 Allison Luckow
Jonathan Meyer
- 23 Wendy Meyer
Keri LaDuke-Rafeld
- 24 Vernon Henschel
- 26 Amy Christianson
- 27 Maverick Beck
- 28 Rev. Patrick Schultz
- 29 Barb Reimer
- 30 Donna Wippermann

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Warren & Sheila LaDuke
- 7 Dave & Jackie Mueller
- 14 Eric & Natalie Lodes
- 21 Keith & Michelle Mauk
- 25 Henry & Bonnie
Langenhahn

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.

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

*Please report any corrections or additions on the birthday and anniversary lists to Karen in the church office:
stmstjoffice@gmail.com*

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

St. James		St. Mark's
43	October 3	61
48	October 10	63
69	October 17	no services
38	October 24	48

ST MARK'S NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tyler Athorp
- 2 Benjamin Summers
- 3 Brynn Bergeman
Nathan Roelse
- 4 Michelle Scharl
- 7 Brian Karstaedt
- 11 Lori Roelse
- 13 William Dexter
- 14 Sierra Bramstedt
Angel DeBlaey
Pat Flook
- 21 Isabella Dexter
- 22 Reina Scharl
- 24 Alexander Perronne
- 26 Marlene Kammann
- 28 Tiffany Schnelle
Rev. Patrick Schultz
- 30 Logan Strysick

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 James & Bonnie Schuette

An Invitation from our Neighbors..

November 1, 2021

Hello, Fellow Farmers!

The harvest season is rapidly coming to a close, and I pray that your crops have been growing abundantly and your animals providing plentifully.

With the busyness of fall, it's hard to imagine already thinking of spring. But please, mark your calendars now. Save the date for Thursday, April 7th, 2022, to come celebrate Rural Life Days Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle in Newton.

This is an opportunity to celebrate with other Wisconsin farmers from throughout the Green Bay Diocese. There will be an opportunity to have your animals, equipment, and seeds and soils blessed should you choose to bring any. Bishop Ricken is scheduled to say mass.

Mass is planned at 10:00, blessings to follow immediately. Lunch at noon along with a presentation by Corey Geiger, Managing Editor of *Hoard's Dairyman*, and a native of Reedsville. More details to come early in 2022. Watch your local church bulletins!

Anyone wishing to assist with preparations and the day's celebration is welcome. Please call Dale at 920-860-7700, or Zach at 920-901-2438. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Dale & Zach Birenbaum