# 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

# September, 2025

# September 7 -

Joint Family Picnic Day 10:30am Joint Worship at St. Mark's NO service at St. James Service followed by Lunch & Games

# September 21 -

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

# September 14 –

Building Fund Sunday-both churches

St. James: 9:00am Worship

Sunday School at St. James 9-10

Social Time with Refreshments at STJ

following the Worship Service

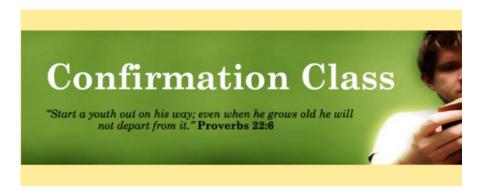
St. Mark's: 10:30 am Worship

# September 28 -

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

**Special note:** Photos are taken on occasion at both churches for use in our church newsletter, on our church Website and on the church Facebook page. If you do not want your photo or those of your child(ren) shared, please contact the church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com or call 920.693.8361

Visit our Church Website: <a href="https://www.stmarksstjamesucc.org">https://www.stmarksstjamesucc.org</a>
Worship Services are recorded weekly and uploaded to our church
YouTube channel: St. Mark's & St. James UCC
Visit & follow our Facebook page: St. Marks & St. James UCC



Confirmation is an important part of our spiritual development. It is a continuation of what we learn from early childhood into young adulthood from our Sunday school classes and Sunday morning worship services as well as our daily discussions and practices as Christians. We will explore our story, God's story and where the two intersect; the Church and our church; the foundations of Christianity, the sacraments of Baptism and Communion, what it means to be a follower of Christ and a member of our church.

Plans are underway for our 2025 Confirmation Classes, open to individuals grade 8 and older. Classes will begin in September. You will notified as to when and the where. Register at: <a href="https://forms.gle/oo4yhZXtUK5sMVqC7">https://forms.gle/oo4yhZXtUK5sMVqC7</a> or call the church office: (920) 693-8361.

# St. James Sunday School is in need of teachers for the upcoming year.



Please consider giving of your talents to spend a short period of time with 3 to 4 delightful second and third graders. Perhaps you could offer one hour per month? Perhaps you could offer 1 or 2 hours a month? Perhaps you could offer 4 hours per month? Classes are at 9:00 each Sunday and completed by 10:00. The lessons are easy. Crafts are included and time also includes a snack break. Sounds like a gift from God doesn't it?

We will begin on Sept. 14th and end on Mother's Day, May 10, 2026 with time off for holidays.

Moms, Dads, Grannies, Grandpas, friends, relatives,....Christians come in all forms. Please consider sharing your faith and connecting with our angels.

Please contact Jamie Henschel or Deb La Duke (gdladuke@tds.net) with questions. Blessings,

St. James Christian Board of Education

# ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING

# August 5, 2025 6:31pm

- The meeting was called to order by President Scott Henschel. Members present were Jamie Henschel

   Vice President, Sheila Hemb Treasurer, Wendy Meyer Secretary, David Lutze, Matt Lutze, and
   Pastor.
- Absent Tanya Boman
- Prayer led by Pastor.
- Motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Matt and seconded by Pastor.
   Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Wendy and seconded by David.
   Motion carried.
- Pastor's report:
  - o 7 kids are signed up for Vacation Bible School.
  - As Ann continues to receive treatment and recover, we are down 1 organ player. There are some Sundays that we will have to find alternate ways of providing music. Pastor is going to check with another person he knows, and we will have to check if there is anyone else available.
- Buildings & Grounds:
  - Blinking light in the sanctuary Scott will replace this week.
  - Gutter Guards the following quotes were received. 2 of the business' commented that the gutters are in poor shape. Plan to bring in front of the congregation in September.
    - EZ Flow Seamless Gutters \$6700. Adding micro mesh to the entire church. 2 main runs would be removed and reinstalled using wedges instead of straps.
    - Altitude \$4075. Gutter RX 5 inch screens. Clean out existing and install guards.
    - Oostburg Seamless Gutters \$10,743. Install 5" seamless gutters on entire church.
       Remove existing gutters and reinstall new. Install 3 & 4 inch downspouts, add gutter cap smooth coat.
  - Do we want to pull/spray the weeds in the parking lot and around church? Wendy and Scott will come next week and spray the parking lot. Wendy will pull weeds in the flower beds.

## • Committee Reports:

- Vision of Hope: Meeting end of the month.
- Stewardship Committee: Next meeting in September
- Christian Board of Education: Starting to work on registration and Sunday School teachers.
- Social Committee: Sheila will discuss it with Tammy.

#### Old Business:

- Mission & Vision Statement Displays David presented the information received about the lettering that would be added to the upper wall before you enter the sanctuary.
  - \$82.40 & \$100.00 to install. A motion was made by Jamie and seconded by Pastor to move forward.
- Church Insurance The original proposal received was that we could save \$300 \$500. To move forward, we would have to provide a complete inventory of all removable items (tables, chairs, silverware, etc) and an inventory of all fixed items (pews, etc) and even after that, we wouldn't be guaranteed to see the reduction. The final cost will be decided after the underwriting is completed. She was also not very clear about what we would be losing by reducing coverage. It was decided that if we reduce coverage and would have to replace just

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE....

# ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING

# Continued...

- the removable items, we will quickly exceed what we would be saving. It was decided to keep the coverage as is.
- Kitchen Clean up Do we want to display the old kitchen items in the entry, so people look at them? Was it announced in church? We moved the items to the entrance and after 2 weeks, they would be donated.
- Outdoor Church Service review There was a great turnout, great food, great music, and great weather. Approximately 65 – 70 people attended. Special thanks to Daniel and Katie Kleinhans on providing the great venue. It will be discussed at the next Joint Consistory Meeting if we want to book again for next year.

#### New Business

- Pick a date for Adopt-A-Highway October 12 after church
- Mission Fest October 19
  - Ideas for speakers for Mission Fest Need to look at past ideas and ask for further suggestions.
  - Are we going to have a sit-down dinner? Yes, it was decided we will go back to a sit-down dinner and continue with take-outs. We will ask the Confirmation students to help.
  - Get estimates on ham, potato salad, and cole slaw. Wendy will proceed with getting quotes.
- Highlight a member every month A suggestion was received if we would want to highlight a member of the church in the newsletter and alternate every other month with St. Marks. The final layout and questions are being finalized. The Consistory agreed it sounded like a good idea.
- Pastor is on vacation from August 18 September 1. August 24 will be a presentation by the Mission Team and August 31 will be covered by Julie M.
- Congregation concerns: none
- Next meeting date: September 2, 2025
- Motion to adjourn made by Matt and seconded by Jamie. Motion carried.
   Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy Meyer, Secretary

# \$ Financial News \$

Sunday September 14th is Building Fund Sunday at both churches. St James is in need of some gutter guards and possibly new gutters which have been determined to be in poor condition. The three quotes received are listed in the August consistory meeting minutes. A vote will take place on this in September. Your support is greatly appreciated and needed.

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Hemb, St James Treasurer

# ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY

# August 7

Ben Grunwald called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Members present were Ben Grunwald, Jody Binverise, Pastor Patrick Schultz, Judy Steinbeck, Linda Schroeder, Lori Roelse and Brenda Miota. Tyler Bramstedt was absent.

Pastor Schultz led us in prayer.

## Financial Report:

- Judy Steinbeck noted the July income and expenses
- She reviewed several other accounts
- The General Fund is lacking due to more member donations towards the Building Fund; Judy will continue to post newsletter and mail requests asking members to funnel their donations to the General Fund now that the major building projects are close to completion
- \*\* In addition, the Consistory voted to approve the addition of Patty Taylor to have signing rights along with Mark Jurk and Lori Roelse for transactions associated with the Goeke Youth Fund managed by Riverstone Wealth Partners.

Jody Binversie made a motion to accept the report. Lori seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Jody Binversie passed out copies of the July minutes. There were two corrections under the Financial Report (changing "firm" to "fund"). Linda Schroeder made a motion to accept the report. Brenda Miota seconded. Motion carried.

#### Pastor's Report:

- There was an update on organist Ann's medical condition. She will be unable to play for our upcoming service. Marcus Ellair will provide music instead on August 10, 2025. Music at future services is yet to be determined.
- Vacation Bible School has 16 children enrolled from several area churches. It will be held August 12 -14, 2025.

#### Projects:

- Bell tower tuck pointing is on hold as Larry Perronne is finishing up the siding project
- Questions of where the topsoil is actually needed garden fill or front lawn low spot; tabled
- Clean out and painting of garage interior/service window Jody Binversie volunteered to head up the project

#### Old Business:

- Just Say Yes: Chapter 4 discussion People have personal gifts/skills to share; encourage these people to come forward to share and cultivate their ideas; we must make our needs known they don't need to be a church based, but open to community need; a quote to think about, "Churches exist, not for the insiders but for the outsiders. The moment a church begins to operate entirely for the benefit of those who already belong, it loses its missional focus and begins to die" (Robert Schnase, pg 61).
- Member/Family of the Month newsletter articles Lori Roelse shared a handout of possible guiding questions
- Website Concerns Karen Mansker requested via email a few changes which were made; there are still issues that need to be addressed (the old website redirect) and have been ignored; we will ask Karen to follow up one more time and then Pastor and Ben will call them directly
- Family Picnic Next meeting is set for August 20, 2025; so far 23 people responded (6 children); there have been several donations; additional advertisements are still to come
- DSPS Permit (boiler and elevator) Tabled
- Mission Statement Display Kati Grunwald put together a few mock-up designs which Ben will share via email; we will need to find someone to do the work once a design is chosen
- Extra Keurig and table near entrance Pastor will look into purchasing a second machine
- Fire Inspection Comments Jerry Jetzer replaced the battery in the smoke detector

# ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY

# ...continued

 Mission Fest - Recent speaker suggestions include "We Believe, Inc" and Sheboygan County Homeless; we will gather and discuss more ideas at the September meeting

Pastor will be on vacation from August 18 until September 2, 2025.

I, Brenda Miota, asked on behalf of Janell Davis if the Consistory would again support the collection of food for North High School's food bank. All were in favor.

The next meeting is set for September 11, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Lori made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Jody seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Miota

# Welcome!

St. Mark's welcomed Tammie Green into their congregation on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.

We are blessed to have you as part of our church family!





# **UNITED CHURCH MEN & WOMEN 2025**

September 2025

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ!

We are writing on behalf of the United Church Men and Women (UCMW).

First and foremost, we want to express our sincere appreciation to all the churches and individuals who have provided and are providing financial support to the UCMW Scholarship Fund. Your support is a testament to your commitment to providing financial support to those who are studying for parish ministry, chaplaincy ministry, and leadership positions in the United Church of Christ. Your financial support also makes it possible for UCMW to award pastoral care grants to active clergy serving in our local congregations, as well as those serving as chaplains.

Thanks to the faithful generosity of the UCC churches in our region, and visionary financial gifts given by many individuals who support the UCMW Scholarship Fund, three scholarships were presented at last year's event.

Traditionally, United Church Men and Women has held an annual in-person Scholarship Presentation Event (Banquet). On October 30th, commencing at 6:30 p.m., there will be an in-person banquet at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, located at 3215 Saemann Avenue, Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081. The keynote speaker for this event will be Julie Kinney, founder of Sonshine Stitchers.. Music will be provided by Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy. You can purchase a ticket for the event from Scott Henschel or Lori Roelse. Tickets are \$20.

We ask that you prayerfully consider sending a financial contribution for this year's scholarships, to the UCMW Treasurer, Doug Charles, 833 E. Washington Street, Appleton, Wisconsin 54911. Checks should be made out to United Church Men & Women and sent by October 6 th . All contributions go entirely to scholarships. If you have already sent a contribution for the 2025 scholarships, we express our sincere appreciation for your faithful support.

# Sincerely,

St. John's United Church of Christ and the United Church Men and Women Leadership Team Rev. Nathan Athorp, Rev. Diane Cayemberg, Doug Charles, Darryl Gumm, Scott Henschel, Rev. William Kesting, Barb Post, and Lori Roelse





This is a new feature in our newsletter to help us learn more about our fellow church members. We recognize each other to say "Good Morning", but let's get to know each other even better. We will alternate between St. Mark's members and St. James members.

# This month, let's get to know **Charlie and Joanie Mohr**.

Charlie and Joanie have been members of St. Mark's for four years. While now retired, Charlie worked for several years as a freight hauler around the United States. Joanie worked 28 years for the Sheboygan Area School District, with 26 of those years being in the Urban Middle School library. She also spent time working at Trilling Hardware and United Savings and Loan.

Charlie enjoys watching sports and going to breakfast with the "church guys". Driving and seeing new places also top his list of interests. Joanie was a bowler for many years. She is a skilled woodworker and painter. She crochets and has made many, many Christmas stockings. Reading and babysitting for their five grandchildren round out her interests. She and her daughters and grandchildren share a special bond, ending each visit with a kiss and an "I love you".

One of Charlie and Joanie's reasons for choosing St. Mark's was that they knew Mark and Kathy Jurk. Also, St. Mark's is close to their home in Cleveland. Charlie's father was the pastor at Zion UCC in Sheboygan for many years. Charlie said that when he walked into St. Mark's for the first time, it felt like a smaller version of Zion and brought back good memories.

What are their hopes for our church's future? They both wish for the continuation of our church and younger people to join us.



# **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SMJ YOUTH VOLLEYBALL**

# TEAM WHO WERE 2025 SEASON AND TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS!



















St. James Adult Choir will begin rehearsals for

2025-2026

on Wednesday. September 10th

at 6:30p.m.

New members are always welcome!

Questions?? Contact Cindy Sohn

(920 - 565 - 4121)

May you never forget what is worth remembering, or remember what is best forgotten.

~St. James Stewardship Team

# **WALKERS NEEDED!**

for the RURAL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP CROP WALK

DATE: Oct.12, 2025

PLACE: St. Peters U.C.C. Kiel, Wisc. REGISTRATION TIME; 12:00p.m.

WALK TIME: 12:30p.m.

Food will be supplied after the walk,
Watch for further details in the weeks ahead.
~Rural Church Fellowship

Doris Sprenger St. James Coordinator



St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:
Join us for BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,
Sept. 11th, 6:00 pm at St. James.
A \$5 participation fee is optional
Please join us and RSVP to
Jackie Mueller or Tammy Serketich or
email tserketich@yahoo.com



# Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization Bulletin Bites

# SEPTEMBER, 2025

- 1. We're just past the halfway point for our incredible summer market season, and what a summer it's been! Here's a quick rundown of what's happening and what's next:
  - Record-Breaking Crowds! We're thrilled to announce that SCIO had our largest attendance days in the last two weeks, both for vendors and customers! Your enthusiasm makes our market truly special. Thank you for showing up for local!
  - **Wednesday Welcome Back:** Get ready to welcome back Spring Dale Farms' organic produce every Wednesday! Be sure to stop by their booth tomorrow for fresh, certified organic goodies.
  - Nourishing Our Seniors: Our team visited the Plymouth Night Market recently to sign up more
    participants for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP). We currently have 42 vouchers
    still available to give out! If you or a senior you know could benefit, visit the SCIO info booth at the
    market.
  - **Doubling Your Impact with EBT:** We're so proud of the impact our EBT and Double Your Bucks program is making. So far this summer season, we've had 361 EBT transactions, resulting in \$5,488.00 in EBT tokens spent and an additional \$3,328.00 through the Double Your Bucks matching! This means more fresh, healthy food for Sheboygan families and more support for our local farmers.

We're dedicated to making a difference in the lives of community members, and your participation at the market helps us live our mission every single week.

2. As we move into the end of summer, we say goodbye to beach picnics and hello to lunchrooms! We would appreciate

Shelf stable lunch snacks
Size 6 diapers
Table napkins

Paper

Towel

- 3. **Bridgeway Camping Recap:** 32 participants, 80 hot dogs, 14 hours in the pond, 15 hours of campfire goodness s'more, pudgy pies, charades, and glow sticks, and COUNTLESS fireflies. We are BLESSED!
- 4. **Family Pathways** continues to serve 9 families a week. With the ability to serve 14 families every week, the goal of hiring staff and filling the open 5 time slots is drawing nearer to fruition.

We continue to implement the new initiative started in the beginning of 2025. Celebrating the birthdays of our visiting children allows us to utilize the number of new toys, games, and crafts that have been generously donated for our programs. We will continue to select age-appropriate items to help create special memories for our visiting families. Thanks as always for your continued support!

A visiting parent that recently transitioned from Family Pathways sent the following message "I just wanted to extend my sincere thank you and appreciation for you and your team. I know there were a lot of moving parts and stress, so thank you guys for your efforts!"



SEE LORI ROELSE OR SCOTT HENSCHEL FOR TICKETS

# WISCONSIN GOSPELLERS OCTOBER 11th-12th WORKSHOP AND CONCERT



WORKSHOP, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 3pm - 5pm

CONCERT/WORSHIP EXPERIENCE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 10 AM (Before worship rehearsal 9:00am)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL - UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 310 Bluff Avenue, Sheboygan

Register for this event by contacting David Wernecke, davidmusic1213@yahoo.com, by October 1, 2025. Workshop participants are invited to sing with the Gospellers at the Sunday Concert Worship experience.

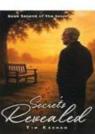


# Book Signing Event Meet the Author - Tim Keenan

- Date: Sunday, October 26th, 2025 from 2:00 PM 4:00 PM
- Location: St John's United Church of Christ, W3401 Orchard Road, Elkhart Lake, (rural Ada)
- Book Sales: There will be limited hard copies available for purchase on the day of the event. We encourage you to order a book in advance for \$25. The deadline for ordering a book is Sunday, September 21st. You are also welcome to bring your own copy of Tim's book to get signed.
- All donations and proceeds go to Samaritan's Hands / Sheboygan.
- · Book Signing: Get your favorite book signed and personalized by Tim Keenan.
- Enjoy refreshments and snacks in the narthex (back of church).
- Our event space is wheelchair accessible. If you need assistance, please see contact info below.





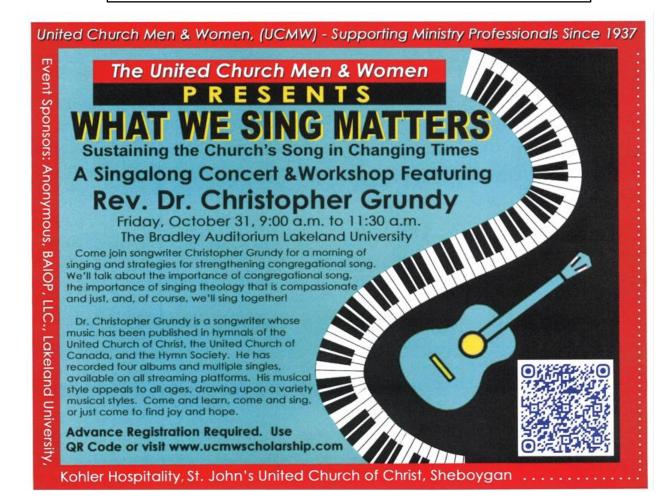


Tim Keenan - local author from Howards Grove WI Among the best Christian Novelists

#### Contact Information

For questions, to purchase a book, or more details, reach out to:

- Email: joan.bender@yahoo.com or judywagner122928@gmail.com
- Text or call: 920.242.5040 (Joan) or 920.207.0473 (Judy)



# St. James September Celebrations!

## **BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Clarence Belitz
  Alyssa Grotegut
  Brett Spindler
- 6 Waylon BeckJamey BinversieCindy Sohn
- 9 Colton Marcoe Parker Sprenger
- 10 Cole Binversie Tammy Serketich
- 11 Mike Spindler
- 12 Dawson Luckow Douglas Luebke Randy Sohn
- 15 Landin Wakefield
- 16 Waylon Beck
- 17 Katie Kleinhans
- 20 Rachael Krause Sherry Jump
- 22 Ruby Jump
  Austin Riesterer
- 24 Jon Luckow

  Michelle Luckow

  Geraldine Scheffler
- 26 Daniel Sohn
- 27 Sandra Kracht-Jones

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 Tom & Nancy Nye
- 5 Al & Judy Wippermann
- 6 Tim & Noel Wippermann
- 8 Dale & Christine Krause
- 15 Amy & Karl Christianson
- 16 Tom & Cora Kleinhans
- 18 Brian & Wendy Henschel
- 28 Jon & Diane Luckow



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 so that the information will be correct on future publications.



Please let the church secretary know if you have a change in your mailing address, email or phone number.

You may either note the change on the Welcome Card and write a note that it's new info., email the church office at stmstjfice@gmail.com or call the church office 920.693.8361.

# St. Mark's September Celebrations!

## **BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Raleigh Hess
- 5 Thad Athorp
- 6 David Call
- 8 Tammie Green
- 9 Richard Sixel, Jr.
- 11 Barbara Pragalz
- 12 Dianne Kaczmarski Mason Scharl
- 15 Alexa Rae Dexter
- 19 Chase Heling
- 20 Ryan Athorp
  Alyssa Hess
  Abbey Sheldon
- 22 Betty Kellner Payton Scharl
- 24 Claire Clemens
- 26 Richard Binversie
- 27 Eion Heling
- 30 Olivia Bramstedt

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 10 Scott & Tammy Dexter
- 26 Steve & Jenny Schnelle
- 28 Charlie & Joanie Mohr Jay & Dawn Schnelle
- 30 Jason & Anna Marie Bramstedt

# ST. JAMES USHERS

# **SEPTEMBER**

\*Jeff & Wendy Meyer
Marissa Fitzgerald
Jonathan Meyer
Brian & Wendy Henschel
Amanda Henschel
Morgan Henschel
Kris Zolltheis
Scott Zolltheis

# **OCTOBER**

\*Julianne Luebke
Keith & Michelle Mauk
Bradley Mauk
Katelyn Sibley
Doug Luebke
William Luebke
Jared Luebke
Kelly Luebke/Handrow



# ST. JAMES 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.

# ST. MARK'S USHERS & GREETERS

# **SEPTEMBER**

Greeters/Ushers Needed

# **OCTOBER**

Dave Call
Cindy Call
Jay Sommer
Colten Sommer

# **READERS**

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> — Sandy Perronne Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> —Scott Siekman

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> — Lori Roelse

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> — Jacob Grunwald



If you or a family member need pastoral care or are hospitalized, please contact Pastor Patrick by calling the church office, 920-693-8361, or Pastor Patrick's cell phone, 608-352-9544. You may also email Pastor: schultzpw@gmail.com

# **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

St. James		St. Mark's
36	July 27	46
23	Aug. 3	37
34	Aug. 10	49
26	Aug. 17	47

August 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> will be reported next month.