



Sunday, October 12, 2025
St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Randy Sohn, Organist at St. James
Marcus Ellair, Pianist at St. Mark's
Scott Siekman, Reader at St. Mark's

Our Mission is to help others deepen their relationship with God, become faithful followers of Christ, and to share the message of Christ's love with others.

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. James: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.
Happy are we whose sins are cast away.

Blessed are those who turn to the Lord in all ways.
Shout for joy! Sing out! Sing aloud!
Women, men, everyone: Rejoice! Be glad!
Rejoice in the Lord!

Rejoice in the Lord! For this is the day he has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Opening Prayer:

O Holy One, Great Teacher, Healer, Counsel and Joy, give us humble and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have given us and do what you have called us to do. You teach us and guide us in the ways we should go. We rejoice in your unfailing love. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn:

St. James (#33-binder)
St. Mark's (#443)

Trust and Obey

Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried:

He descended into hell: The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead:

I believe in the Holy Spirit: The One Holy Universal Christian Church: the communion of saints: The forgiveness of sins: The resurrection of the body: And the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Young at Heart:



Prayer of Confession:

Most holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, that we lack any righteousness of our own, that we kneel before you, unworthy of your love. We have often failed to be your people, by our own fault, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven. We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. And we have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us, O Lord as we confess to you.

This morning we lift the complexity and harmony of life to your heart and trust that you hear and hold us as we pray in shared silence:

A Moment of Silence:

Words of Assurance:

God so loved this world and this people that he sent Christ to reconcile the world to himself. The good news this day is that God pardons those who truly repent and transforms those who trust in God for salvation with sincere hearts. In the name of Jesus, who is the Christ, we who have drawn near to God in sincere confession are reconciled, accepted, and loved. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn:

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

St. James (#191)

St. Mark's (#461)

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 2:5-15 ESV

When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Message:

Gifts Both Given and Received: Free Will or the Freedom of Choice
Dr. Patrick Schultz

People's Prayer

Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Offertory Music:

St. James: *Pisgah*
St. Mark's: *Rain Down*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Bountiful God, you are the source of all good things. When famine threatened the world, you blessed Joseph with dreams to preserve life and save people far and wide. When hunger threatens our world, you bless us with dreams to preserve life and prevent disaster. When our dreams are your dreams, Gracious God, the world is truly blessed. Accept these gifts, as a pledge to work and live your dream that all may live together in unity. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn:

I Love To Tell the Story

St. James (#467)

St. Mark's (#560)

Benediction:

Come out from the back of the line. Come out from the edge of the crowd.
Come out from the corner of the room. Embrace others and be embraced—that the least, the last, and the lost may come out of the shadows and live in the light.
Embrace the Word, embrace the world and be embraced. Go now to love and serve our Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all that you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude:

St. James: *Voluntary in F*

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: www.stmarksstjamesucc.org

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com



Our Church Celebrations!

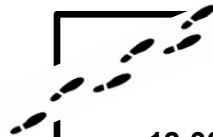
HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

October 12th – Kathy Jurk
14th – Brian Hemb, Sandy Perronne, Wendy Schueler
15th – Denise Heling

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

October 12th – Jon & Julie Herrmann
James & Michelle Luckow
Andy & Hannah Roelse
13th – Jim & Karen Becker
14th – Rieck & Sandra Beiersdorf
16th – Keri LaDuke-Rafeld & Jason Rafeld
Zachary & Sadie Koenig
17th – Ben & Cheyenne Behnke

TODAY:



CROP WALK

Registration 12:00pm,
12:30 Walk at St. Peters UCC, Kiel

ST. JAMES ADOPT-A-HWY

ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE – Wednesday, October 15th at 6:30pm

BUNCO – at St. James Thursday, Oct. 16th, 6pm (see graphic next page)

**NEXT SUNDAY IS ST. JAMES MISSION FEST. SEE BLUE POSTER IN BULLETIN.
ONLY ONE SERVICE AT ST. JAMES. NO SUNDAY SCHOOL. HAM DINNER
FOLLOWS WORSHIP**

JOINT CONSISTORY MEETING – Monday, Oct. 20th, 6pm at St. James

ST. MARK'S FOOD DRIVE for North High School



We're collecting:

- * Granola/Breakfast Bars
- * Mac & Cheese (microwave)
- * Pasta/Pasta Sauce

***We are also in need of
Male & Female Deodorant***

Collection boxes will be in the church entry way Oct. 5 - 26.

THANK YOU for your support!



St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:
Join us for **BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,
Oct. 16th, 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**

St. James UCC

13312 Pioneer Rd, Newton WI 53063

Ham Dinner

Dine-In & Carry out

Sunday, October 19, 2025

11:00am – 12:30 pm

Please join us in worship at 10:00 am.

Featuring:

We Believe Foundation

Dinner will include: Ham, German Potato Salad, Corn, Applesauce, Coleslaw, Dinner Rolls, Pumpkin or Apple Pie.

Cost: \$15.00 per meal

Thank you for supporting "Our Church's Wider Mission".

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

St. Mark's UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

Joint service on Oct. 19th at St. James to celebrate their Mission Fest!

United Church Men & Women Scholarship Banquet

6:30 pm, Thursday, October 30, 2025
Ebenezer United Church of Christ
3215 Saemann Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081

Tickets can be purchased from
Scott Henschel or Lori Roelse. Cost is \$20.

Please join in this opportunity to support those who are
studying for ministry and leadership in the United
Church of Christ.

Feel free to reach out to Lori with questions. Phone
920-946-3540 or email lroelse@gmail.com.



What is one question you've always
wanted to ask the pastor?

Be a part of a sermon series the pastor is writing submitting
your question. All questions will be considered for
a sermon topic to be preached
Write your answer on the back of the Welcome Card