

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

April 2026

April 2nd

Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion,
7pm, at St. James

April 3rd

Good Friday Worship with Communion,
7pm, at St. Mark's

April 5th

Easter Worship with Communion
St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship
St. James: 10:30am Worship
Sunday School 9-10 at St. James

April 12th

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

April 19th

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

April 26th

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

Visit our Church Website: <https://www.stmarksstjamesucc.org>
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
(Invite your family & friends to our Facebook page)

ST. JAMES & ST. MARK'S SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – PASATORAL SALARY

March 1, 2026

Jamie Henschel, President of St. James Consistory, called the meeting to order at 10:55.

Jamie referred to the salary information that had been distributed to the congregants. Jamie shared that Pastor had agreed to have salary frozen last year with the agreement of a 2.7% increase this year. A decision needed to be made as to whether the starting date of the salary increase should take effect as of January 1, 2026 or March 1, 2026.

Dan Kleinhans made a motion to have the salary back dated to January 1, 2026. A motion to second was made by Henry Langenhahn. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Charlie Kolb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Deb La Duke.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Zolltheis

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2026, 6:30

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor. Members present were David Lutze, Cindy Klapperich – Treasurer, Kristin Zolltheis – Secretary, Tanya Boman, Galen La Duke, and Jamie Henschel.
- Absent: Matt Lutze, Vice-President
- Prayer led by Pastor.
- Motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Tanya Boman and seconded by Galen La Duke. Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by David Lutze and seconded by Pastor. Motion carried. It was shared that there was a profit of approximately \$500 from the chili dinner.
- Pastor's Report:
 - *Pastor shared that April 10-11 is the annual conference at Green Lake. He will be attending Friday and Saturday. He added that he shared the leftover desserts from the chili dinner with SCIO, Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization.
- Building and Grounds:
 - *Jamie will follow up with an order of another box of envelopes.
 - *Landscaping will be pursued in the spring.
 - *The condition of the ceiling tiles is being addressed. St. Mark's may be able to advise us, as they had a similar problem.
- Committee Reports:
 - *Vision of Hope: A meeting will take place with representatives from the Wagner Foundation at which time we will share how their donations have been dispersed. Madison Langenhahn and Emma Russart each recently received \$1000 for continuing education.
 - *Stewardship Committee: No update
 - *Christian Board of Education: Costumes for the Christmas play are in need of replacement.
 - *Social Committee: Sheepshead had eight participants. There is no date set for Bunco.

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ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES... continued...

- Old Business:
 - *Mission & Vision statement display was discussed. There have been a few problems displaying it, and David is continuing to pursue a proper placement.
 - *David is following up with Roeck's regarding their providing communion bread.
 - *We will continue with our present website developer, as our contract is in effect for another eight years at no additional cost to us. .
- New Business:
 - *We are in need of a leader for our youth group. Jamie will make an announcement in church. We presently have seven youth involved.
 - *In the future, we plan on having both consistories organize the chili dinner with a joint service at St. James at 10:00.
- Congregation concerns:
 - *There was a suggestion that an updated towel dispenser be placed in the ladies' restroom next to the kitchen. Cindy will look into this.
 - *Yard clean-up will take place April 25th at 8:00 with a rain date of May 2nd.
 - *Kris will ask Karen to include a notice in the newsletter reminding members to remove any wreaths or special items from the cemetery before the yard clean-up, so they will not be discarded.
- Next meeting date: April 7th, 2026 at 6:30
- Motion to adjourn was made by Pastor and seconded by David Lutze. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:14.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Zolltheis, Secretary

Calling All St. James' Members!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US at yard clean-up at 8am on Saturday, April 25th (rain date May 2nd). All St. James' members are reminded to remove any wreaths or special items from the cemetery, so they will not be discarded at the yard clean-up on April 25th.



ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2026

Tyler Bramstedt called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Members present were Tyler Bramstedt, Dr. Rev. Patrick Schultz, Mike Bernhardt, Brenda Miota, Lori Roelse, Jody Binversie and Judy Steinbeck. Wendy Schueler was absent.

Pastor led us in prayer.

The Financial Report was given by Judy. She commented that she paid the property insurance which hit the Building Fund pretty hard. She also passed out a report from Louise Jetzer updating us on the recent St. James and St. Mark's Youth Chili Dinner. All chili was sold by 11:30 a.m. and the event brought in \$515.10. There was discussion of holding another joint service next year on Chili Dinner Sunday. Lori made a motion to accept the report. Jody seconded. Motion carried.

- Thank you to everyone who purchased chili and helped make the day a success.

The Secretary's Report was previously reviewed online. Lori made a motion to accept the report. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

In Pastor's Report, Patrick offered several important dates upcoming:

- Easter service - April 5, 2026
- Confirmation at St. Mark's - April 12, 2026
- Confirmation at St. James - April 19, 2026
- Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting - April 10 - 11, 2026; Pastor will be in attendance.

Projects - Lori restated that Larry Perronne had acquired one estimate for work on the bell tower and louvers. He plans to seek out more. Tabled.

Old Business:

- DSPS Permitting (boiler and elevator) - both permits are up-to-date.
 - Thank you, Karen Mansker, for your work on this matter.
- Mission Statement Display - Jody reached out to the company, but they never returned her call; she will attempt to contact them again; tabled.
- Website on the St. Mark's sign - tabled.
- Social Media - Karen is doing a phenomenal job with the Facebook page.
- Website - American Web Developers will continue to host our website under contract for the next 8 years; respond "no" to any extra expenses; Karen will update and make changes to the site with David Lutze's assistance.

New Business:

- Jerry Jetzer's custodial/maintenance services and pay - Jody made a motion to increase Jerry's pay by an additional \$25 per month. Pastor seconded. Motion carried.
- Mission Trip Fund - since there will not be a mission trip this next summer, we discussed ways to utilize the money in the fund to help out locally; Mike volunteered to visit Sheboygan's Warming Center to ask how we can assist them; it was suggested we donate some money to another local church traveling this summer.
- Reverend Keith Weiland - Judy updated us on everything for which Keith was compensated, but inquired on an additional gift; a suggestion was made to give him a Visa Gift Card for \$400 - \$200 per church; Tyler will reach out and discuss with Jamie Henschel, St. James Consistory President.

There was much discussion regarding the youth in our churches. There are two confirmands at St. Mark's and five at St. James this year. While we have had an active youth group in the recent past, the group has aged-out and no longer meets. Could a new group be formed with a new leader? Could that new leader be paid a wage to do the job? While the new leader could certainly be a member, he or she could also be sought outside of the congregation. If so, a list of job duties would need to be compiled and background checks would need to be submitted. Tyler will reach out to Jamie Henschel to set a special joint meeting in the near future for further discussion.

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES...continued..

- If you have interest in leading the youth of our churches, please reach out to Pastor. We'd love to have you!!

Palm Sunday - Judy will purchase palm leaves for both churches.

Communion - we will hold Communion on Good Friday, April 3, 2026 and Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026. Jody will bake the bread. Judy will purchase more wafers. Tyler, Mike and Brenda are available to serve.

The next Consistory meeting is set for April 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Lori made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Pastor seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L Miota

TIE BLANKET SUNDAY TO SUPPORT WE BELIEVE FOUNDATION!



St James hosted Jim & Julie Kirschner of the We Believe Foundation for St James Mission Fest. They are dedicated to providing aid and comfort to families dealing with pediatric cancer. Their foundation started after their son was diagnosed and lost his life to Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at the age of 15. One of the ways that Jim & Julie give back is by providing tie blankets to the children in the hospital. This provides extra warmth as they go through treatment.

**Please join us on Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 pm
in the St James basement to make tie blankets!**



Please bring with you the following:

- 2 pieces of fleece material (1 solid color and 1 printed). Size 1 ½ or 2 square yards.
- A sharp scissors.

If you are unable to join us and you'd like to donate material, please leave it in the St. James church basement.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DAVID AND MEGAN LUTZE FAMILY



How many jobs can a young couple have? Quite a few if you are talking about the Lutze family. First and foremost, they are parents to Landin, Daphne, and August. They both hold full-time jobs outside the home – Megan at Vollrath Company in Sheboygan and David as a fifth-grade teacher at Kiel Middle School. Added to the responsibilities are Captain David's Charter Fishing business (Playin' Hooky) and now a member of the St. James Consistory. Busy, busy, busy!!

When free time opens up, David likes to hunt, fish, and hike. Megan's special interest is baking with Daphne and Landin enjoys Bey Blades and baseball.

David attended Sunday School and was confirmed at St. James. When Daphne was born, they were looking to have her baptized. They began attending regularly and stated, "Pastor Patrick sealed the deal."

The baptisms of both Daphne and August rest as some of their favorite memories and they love how welcoming the congregation has been.

The future? When the children are school-age, David would like to volunteer more for youth events like there were when he was in Sunday School.



If you are you a person who just loves to play games...board games, dice games, card games...
this group is perfect for you!

BREAKING BOARD(games)!

...will meet in the basement of St. Mark's UCC

(W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland)

9:30-11:30am

Wednesday, April 8

Wednesday, April 22

Everyone is invited and welcome to join us--tell your neighbors & friends!

There's no charge, no reservations, just come and have fun!

There will be games available and you are also invited to bring your own games to share.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!



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



QUILTERS CLUB

Please join us on

Tuesdays

April 14

April 28

9:00 - noon

at St. Mark's UCC

*You don't need any special skills, just a love
for serving and sharing warmth with others.*



Everyone is invited to join us for a...

Sheephead Gathering!

at ST. JAMES UCC,

SUNDAY, April 12th, 1:00pm!

Microphones really aren't used...
but you are invited to sing
as if they are when you

Join the St. James Choir!

Rehearsals on Wednesdays
starting at 6:30pm:


April 8
April 15
April 29

*Just come,
no reservation
needed!*



SAVE THE DATE!

St. James UCC
BRAT FRY



BRATS * HAMBURGERS * CHICKEN * DESSERTS

Wednesday **13312 Pioneer Rd**
May 13, 2026 **Newton, WI**

**ST. JAMES STEWARDSHIP
TEAM:**

Spring Cleaning
You wash all the windows
and scrub all the floors
you polish up the handles
on the front and back doors.
You've aches in your fingers
and pains in your toes.
The place is tidied up now
So next day it snows!

ST. JAMES STEWARDSHIP MEETING,
Wednesday, April 8th, 5:30pm

ST. JAMES BRAT FRY PLANNING MEETING,
Thursday, April 9th, 6:00pm

SMOKED
PORK CHOP
DINNER

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Drive-thru

3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

\$15.00



Saron UCC

W3830 Cty Rd J
Sheboygan Falls

Reservations are required by April 1st

Call

Joan – (920) 946-4652

Judy – (920) 980-0748

Invites from Area Churches

MINI SPRING RETREAT

Join us for a Morning of Wellness & Spirituality



Featuring Dr. Cary Knier Johannes, author, psychologist & UCC Lay Speaker.

Cary loves to blend her passions of wellness and spirituality through mini-retreats and individual spiritual coaching sessions. Retreat will include parts of her book *The Missing Peace*, guided meditation, tips on journaling, and other ways to center our hearts and minds

SATURDAY

APRIL
25

9 AM TO NOON

BETHLEHEM UCC

11608 LAX CHAPEL RD, KIEL, WI

Registration: \$10 per person

Includes a copy of Dr. Johannes' Book *The Missing Peace*

RSVP recommended - walk-ins accepted

Call: 920-894-3332 "leave a message if no answer"

Email: BethUCCKIEL@outlook.com

Snacks / Fruits & Beverages Provided

This workshop is being offered as a community service by Bethlehem UCC. There will be No intention to promote the church or any specific religious understanding.



Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization

Bulletin Bites - APRIL 2026



1. Save the Date! We are looking forward to celebrating another successful family event, Gather in the Gardens. Mark your calendars for July 12th at Restoration Orchards. The bake sale last year was a tremendous feature, so we will lean into this incredible faith community again for donations of your tastiest treats! More information to come...

2. SCIO Needs We are moving into spring, and hopefully the last blizzard of this season is behind us! So with spring cleaning in mind, we could use your help with some floor cleaner, garbage bags and we can always use paper products, this month we are in urgent need of paper towels!

3. Farmers Market News:

- **Growing Strong:** We have already received **54 vendor applications** for the 2026 season!
- **Market Success:** Our March 7th Winter Market was a hit, welcoming over **300 visitors** to First Congregational UCC Church.
- **New Look:** We are in the process of upgrading our market presence with a **custom-branded EZ-UP tent top**.
- **Community Partnerships:** Exciting collaborations are in the works with **Sheboygan Cycling, Nourish Farms, and Visit Sheboygan** for upcoming summer events.
- **Leadership:** SCIO's own Debbie has joined the **WINI Steering Committee**, ensuring the farmers market has a voice in regional health initiatives.

4. Family Pathways: We have welcomed three new families in March. As the Client Advocate, I am especially grateful for the continued donations that we receive. The wide range of age-appropriate games, toys, crafts, and books that can be enjoyed by the visiting children during visits is very much appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

ST. JAMES USHERS

APRIL & EASTER

- * Dale & Doris Sprenger
- David & Christine Gumm
- Corra Gumm
- Elliott Gumm
- Everit Gumm
- Dean Sprenger
- Parker Sprenger
- Kevin & Sherry Jump
- Ruby Jump
- Aric Jump

MAY

- * David Lorfeld
- Alan Wippermann
- Rick & Donna Wippermann
- Tim & Noel Wippermann
- Cindi Wippermann
- Sara Wippermann
- Lindsay Wippermann
- Tom Urness
- Linda Lorfeld



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. The next committee is May 26th.

ST. MARK'S USHERS & GREETERS

APRIL Needed

MAY
Brenda Miota
Brianna Miota

READERS

- April 5th - Sandy Perronne
- April 12th - Scott Siekman
- April 19th - Lori Roelse
- April 26th - Jacob Grunwald

****Let Pastor or Karen know if you're interested in reading.**



If you or a family member are in need of 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

<u>St. James</u>		<u>St. Mark's</u>
77	March 1 -Joint Service	*
*	March 4 -Lenten Wed.	35
54	March 8	45
47	March 11-Lenten Wed.	*
*	March 15- Cancelled, Snowstorm	*
*	March 18-Lenten Wed.	38
55	March 22	51

Attendance for March 25th & 29th will be reported next month.

St. James April Celebrations!

BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Karen Becker
Dale Sprenger
- 11 Bonnie Langenhahn
- 12 Michael Stolzmann
- 13 LaVern Wippermann
- 14 Alivia Maxey
- 15 Lee Schmitz
- 16 Dorothy Mueller
- 17 Brenda Schultz
- 19 Julianne Luebke
Terri Schmitz
- 23 Mark Stolzmann
- 24 Sarah Lutze

ANNIVERSARY

- 2 Rev. Patrick & Brenda
Schultz
- 6 Jason & Jenny Riesterer
- 9 David & Christine Gumm
- 14 Dean & Emily Sprenger
- 22 Allen & Sandra
Kracht-Jones



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 Karen, 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, email the
church office:
stmstjoffice@gmail.com or call the
church office 920.693.8361.

St. Mark's April Celebrations!

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carol Weiland
- 2 Glenn Grunwald
- 3 Dale Dirks
Chris Schnelle
- 12 Johnathan Grunwald
- 16 Jerry Jetzer
- 17 Ann Adams
Brenda Schultz
- 18 Kathy Kaestner
- 22 Ann Grunwald
- 23 Karen Mansker
- 24 Erick Heling
- 28 Abby Herrmann
- 30 Ryan Binversie

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Rev. Patrick & Brenda
Schultz
- 23 Bruce & Karen Mansker
- 28 Jack & Wendy Schnelle
- 30 Thad & Crissy Athorp

We need YOU to help our
Facebook page grow!

Here's how you can help (it's amazing how the views are up when you do these simple things):

1. Take photos of church events and send to Karen at stmstjoffice@gmail.com Include a brief paragraph that tells what the event was. Posts with photos get LOTS more views!
2. Follow our page: St Marks & St James UCC
3. Like the posts
4. Share the posts to your social media
5. Invite others to visit our page (there's a 'button' you can use to do it!)

