

# 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

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## May 2026

### May 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### **Building Fund Sunday**

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship

St. James: 10:30am Worship

Sunday School 9-10 at St. James

\*\*Sheepshead, 1pm at St. James\*\*

### May 10<sup>th</sup>

#### **Mother's Day**

St. James: 9:00 Worship Service

Sunday School 9-10 at St. James

*Last Day of Sunday School Until Fall*

*Social after Worship at St James*

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

### May 17<sup>th</sup>

St. Mark's: 9:00am Worship

St. James: 10:30am Worship

### May 24<sup>th</sup>

#### **Pentecost with Communion**

St. James: 9:00 Worship Service

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship

### May 31<sup>st</sup>

St. James: 9:00 Worship Service

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 CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2026

- The meeting was called to order at 6:33 by President Jamie Henschel. Members present were Cindy Klapperich – Treasurer, Kris Zolltheis – Secretary, Tanya Boman, David Lutze, Galen La Duke, and Pastor Patrick.
- Absent: Matt Lutze
- Prayer led by Jamie.
- Motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Cindy, seconded by Tanya.  
Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Tanya, seconded by Jamie.  
Motion carried.
- Pastor's Report: Pastor will be attending the annual conference at Green Lake Friday and Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Building and Grounds:
  - Envelopes – Cindy will order these.
  - Landscaping – T & L Services will be contacted for their services.
  - Ceiling Tiles – There is a leak possibly due to hail damage. Luecke Roofing and Scott's Home Improvement will be contacted for their advice.
  - Yard Clean-up – This is scheduled April 25 from 8:00 to 12:00 with May 5<sup>th</sup> as a rain date.
- Committee Reports:
  - Vision of Hope: Meeting with Wagner Foundation will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the dispersement of their donations over the last three years.
  - Stewardship Committee: They will meet April 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - Christian Board of Education: Jamie will order new costumes for the Christmas play. Curriculum materials for Sunday School have been reordered for next year. Expected enrollment for next year is 10 students to attend on a regular basis with another possible 6-8. Kris will purchase the gifts for the five confirmands
  - Social Committee: Sheepshead will be held on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Bunco night will take place on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00.
- Old Business:
  - Mission & Vision statement display – David is taking care of this possibly through Towsleys of Manitowoc or 4Imprint.
  - Communion bread from Roeck's can be obtained by calling two days in advance or messaging them on Facebook.
  - New Youth Leader – Jamie will share our need of a new leader with the congregation.
  - Towel Dispenser – Cindy is taking care of this purchase.

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

- New Business
  - Fallen bricks on the south side of the building need to be addressed.
  - Jamie will take care of the repair of a broken pew.
  - Galen met with the Fire Inspector and will purchase two new lights. Jamie will ask Dave Mueller's assistance with inspecting the fire extinguishers. We will also need to pursue mapping the building.
  - Galen is taking care of the sign for St. James on Pioneer Road that fell over.
  - A gift will be purchased for the Sohn's for all their work in beautifying our church.
  - Adopt-a-highway will take place on Saturday, May 2 at 9:00.
- Congregation concerns:
  - We discussed the by-laws concerning the process of hiring church employees.
- Next meeting date: May 5, 2026.
- Motion to adjourn made by Tanya seconded by Galen. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kristin Zolltheis, Secretary

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*Our sincere sympathy and prayers go out to St. James members Myron and Kathleen Hickman on the death of their son-in-law Chad Wasmer who died at the age of 48 on Monday, March 30, 2026, at Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice, Sheboygan Falls.*

*Chad is survived by his wife Colene and six sons.*

*A celebration of life will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>.*



Last day of St. James Sunday School will be Mother's Day, May 10, 2026. Children will spend time with Mom in church on her special day and present a small token of love.

Thank you to Jamie Henschel, Tammy Serketich, Amber Lutze, Deb La Duke, Jamey Binversie, and Ashley Grotegut for being teachers each week. Your time and faith are very much appreciated!

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**LET'S GET SOCIAL!**

**ST. JAMES:**

**May 10, 2026**

**Mother's Day**

**Social following Worship Service**

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## **ST. MARK'S APRIL CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT MONTH**

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### **ST. MARK'S FINANCIAL NEWS**



I am happy to report that, due to some very generous contributions, our Building Fund is now in a positive situation. Thank you to all who contributed. But, please don't stop now. May 3 is designated as Building Fund Sunday. All loose offerings from that day will be put into the building fund. We need to build up this account for future expenses.

We are in a good position at this time on all accounts. We appreciate your continued support.

Judy Steinbeck, Financial Secretary for St Mark's UCC.

# CONFIRMATION 2026!



St. Mark's, April 12<sup>th</sup>

Brooklyn Vandoske,

Peter Grunwald

St. James, April 19<sup>th</sup>

London Kuester,

Lexis Kuester

Wyatt Henschel,

Carson Russart,

Landin Wakefield



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



This month, our Member Spotlight shines on **Gerty Free**.

Gerty estimates she has been a member of St. Mark's for over 65 years. She grew up in a church in Newton, but she and her late husband Eddie wanted to be part of a church that had a greater role for women. They already knew Kathryn (Schmahl) Jaehnig and decided to check out St. Mark's. Everyone was so welcoming! The decision to join was an easy one. Kathryn's father was pastor at the time. Just a week after Eddie and Gerty joined, Rev. Schmahl passed away. Despite him being gone, they still knew it was the right decision to join St. Mark's.

Both of Gerty's children, Tammy and Terry, were baptized, raised, and confirmed here.

Gerty and her husband were quite the travelers. They visited Germany four times. They also traveled to China, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, and Jamaica.

When she was asked what her favorite pastimes are or were, she jokingly said, "picking on my husband!" What a card!

Gerty loves her grandson Cody and affectionately calls him "my honey". He has often accompanied Gerty to church and gone to lunch with the ladies' lunch group. He said that each of those gatherings is like a history lesson. I wonder who gets more out of the lunches—the young man or the wise ladies. I'm guessing it's a tie!

## Help Us Sweeten Our Sundays!

Dear St. Mark's Family,

One of the best parts of our Sunday mornings is the time we spend together after the service, catching up over coffee and snacks. To keep our "Hospitality Hour" going, we are looking for volunteers to bring in treats to share! Another option is to give cash, and a snack will be purchased to be shared.

### How it works:

- **What to bring:** Cookies, bars, fruit platters, muffins, or any of your favorite finger foods (homemade or store-bought are both great!).
- **When:** Please bring your treats to the counter in the narthex on your chosen Sunday(s).
- **Note:** To keep everyone safe, please include a small note if your treats contain common allergens like nuts.

Sign up in the entryway for a Sunday that works for you.

Questions? Reach out to Lori Roelse at 920-946-3540 or [laroelse@gmail.com](mailto:laroelse@gmail.com).

Thank you for your generosity and for making our church feel like home!



Please help market our Brat Fry to be held on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> by inviting your family and friends and sharing it on your Facebook page.

There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex for volunteer workers, donations of tortes and charcoal.

Mary Ann Vogel, chairperson,  
920 693 8352 [wvogel3@yahoo.com](mailto:wvogel3@yahoo.com)

# BRAT FRY

## Wednesday May 13, 2026

### 4 - 7 pm



**Brats \* Hamburgers \* Chicken \* Dessert**

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## St James UCC

Spring Valley  
13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton



**Easter at St. James began with a Sunday School Easter egg hunt, which was followed by a special Easter message from Pastor Patrick during the Young at Heart time.**





## Quilter's Club

This year the Quilter's Club of St. Mark's and St. James has continued to come together in faith, fellowship, and fun. Ladies of varied levels of experience bring forth their talents, energy, and ideas to create one-of-a-kind lap quilts for people in need. It has truly been a blessing to learn and grow together in the fellowship of Christ.

Members include Lori Roelse, Cindy Call, Louise Jetzer, Pat Kleinhans, Doris Sprenger, Cindy Klapperich, and Deb La Duke.



## QUILTERS CLUB

We will be meeting Tuesday, May 5. We will then break for the summer and return to our work in the fall.

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



# Tie Blanket Sunday

Tie Blanket Sunday, held on May 19<sup>th</sup> at St. James, resulted in the creation of 12 beautiful fleece blankets which will be donated to We Believe Foundation.

Thank you to everyone in participating in donating fleece and working to create the blankets. Your help is valued





St. James Choir Practice will be held:

Wednesday, May 6, 6:30

Wednesday, May 13, 6:30

Wednesday, May 20, 6:30

These are the last practices until September.

Everyone is invited to join us for a...

# Sheepshead Gathering!

at **ST. JAMES UCC**  
13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton (Spring Valley)

**SUNDAY, May 3rd, 1:00pm!**

# BUNCO



*It's How We Roll!*

**St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:**

**Join us for BUNCO NIGHT**

**Thursday, May 21st**

**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](mailto:tserketich@yahoo.com)**

# Invites from Area Churches

**Community UCC in Elkhart Lake**

**Fish Fry**

**Dine In or Carry Out**

**174 N. East Street**

**Friday, May 8, 2026**

**4:00-7pm**

**We will be serving our famous 3-piece beer battered Cod, German potato salad, bread, tartar sauce, veggie, coleslaw, and a dessert.**

**All for \$17**

**Handicap Accessible**



St. John's UCC Schwarzwald Outreach Team is holding a

Brat Fry



At Piggly Wiggly

Howards Grove

Saturday, May 16, 2026

9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Serving Brats,  
Hamburgers and  
Home Baked Goods

St. James Stewardship Team:

**Retirement is wonderful  
if you have two essentials-  
much to live on and much to live for.**

# Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization

## Bulletin Bites - MAY 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. Think food trucks, your favorite market growers and makers, classes, demonstrations, a cash raffle, and more! We are currently seeking event sponsors - please reach out to [admin@sheboygancountyinterfaith.org](mailto:admin@sheboygancountyinterfaith.org).

**2. SCIO Needs** Spring always brings such wonderful change and growth. In fact we have a few babies in our future! We could use some newborn and size 1 diapers. Also with Mothers Day around the corner, we could use some nice lotions and body washes so we can pamper our Bridgeway moms. Spring is still marked with some seasonal colds and we could use some spray Lysol and all paper products (toilet paper, paper towel, facial tissue, napkins). Thank you all for your support!

**3. Farmers Market News:** We are charging into the 2026 summer season with significant momentum and exciting news for our local food system. We are thrilled to announce that after productive discussions with the Sheboygan Common Council, we have secured our contract for Fountain Park with plans already in motion to negotiate a long-term, five-year agreement. This future vision includes expanding the market's footprint to 8th Street and potentially utilizing the historic bandshell, further cementing the market as the heart of downtown Sheboygan. Beyond the park, we are exploring the development of a community garden at Moose Park and have recently identified seven Hmong farmers to support with resources and connections for the upcoming growing season. This spirit of collaboration is at an all-time high; we are currently working with the Chamber of Commerce on new community activation strategies and met with local mutual aid organizations to ensure our fresh produce reaches those who need it most. With 75 vendors already signed up for the season, the 2026 Summer Farmers Market is shaping up to be our most vibrant and inclusive season yet.

**4. Bridgeway Mission Moment:** Thank you for everything you do to not just help my family but all the other mom's you help. You make a difference and the world is a better place with you. I hope your day is magical and blessed!

**5. Winter Market Recap:** Our community impact continues to hit record highs, as evidenced by the recently concluded Winter Farmers Market, which welcomed 3,484 visitors and distributed over 754 EBT tokens and 490 "Double Your Bucks" vouchers - increasing access to nutritious food among our neighbors.

# ST. JAMES USHERS

## MAY

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

## JUNE

\*Clarence & Heidi Belitz  
 Scott Henschel  
 Mark & Kathy Stolzmann  
 Allen & Eunice Stolzmann  
 Val Jean Marcoe  
 Colton Marcoe  
 Gavin Marcoe  
 Raymond Henschel



## 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.

**Applications are due May 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**The next committee is May 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:20pm**

# ST. MARK'S USHERS & GREETERS

## MAY

Brenda Miota  
 Brianna Miota

## JUNE

Linda Schroeder  
 Mark Jurk  
 Kathy Jurk

## READERS

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sandy Perronne  
 May 10<sup>th</sup> - Scott Siekman  
 May 17<sup>th</sup> - Lori Roelse  
 May 24<sup>th</sup> - Jacob Grunwald  
 May 31<sup>st</sup> - 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: schultzp@stjames.org

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE

<u>St. James</u>		<u>St. Mark's</u>
48	March 25 – Lenten Wed.	*
59	March 29 – Palm Sun.	46
30	April 2 – Maundy Thurs.	*
*	April 3 – Good Friday	48
82	April 5 – Easter	73
48	April 12 – STM Confirm.	84
116	April 19 – STJ Confirm.	35

April 26 will be reported next month.

# St. James May Celebrations!

## BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Timothy Heckmann  
Brian Henschel
- 4 William Heckmann
- 7 David Lutze
- 13 Katie Belitz
- 16 Andrew Peterson, Jr.
- 19 Jean Henschel  
Carson Spindler
- 20 Hudson Binversie
- 22 Daniel Kleinhans
- 28 Jared Luebke
- 29 Carson Russart
- 30 Kelly Luebke Handrow

## ANNIVERSARY

- 9 Jamey & Amanda  
Binversie
- 14 Tim & Amanda Russart
- 20 Brian & Sheila Hemb
- 21 Randall & Karen Krause



Please report any

corrections or additions on the  
birthday and anniversary lists  
to Karen in the church office:

[stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)

OR call 920-693-8361

so that the information will be  
correct on future publications.



Please let Karen, 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](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com) or call  
the church office 920.693.8361.

# St. Mark's May Celebrations!

## BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Luke Grunwald  
Layla Schultz
- 8 JoAnn Grant  
Henley Hermann
- 14 Alice Broehm
- 20 Noreen Flook
- 21 Owen Schnelle
- 22 Samuel DeBlaey
- 25 Roxi Bernhardt
- 26 Stacy Hermann
- 27 Steven Schultz
- 28 Wendy Schnelle

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Steven & Mary Jo Gabsch
- 16 Warren & Karen  
Vandoske
- 18 Pat & Noreen Flook
- 31 Mark & Kathy Jurk

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](mailto: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!)

