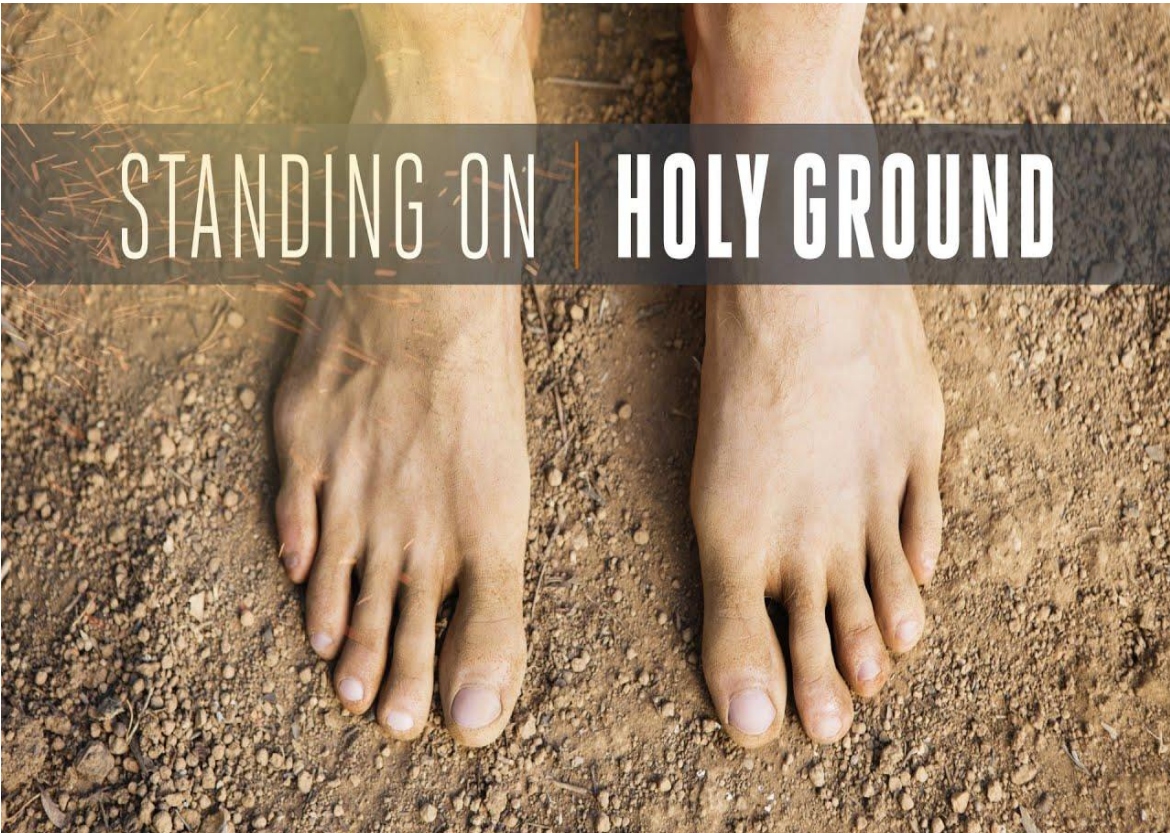




STANDING ON | HOLY GROUND

**Sunday, June 14, 2026,
St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Marcus Ellair, Organist

Scott Siekman, Reader

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

Call to Worship:

This place for us is Holy Ground.

The place where we sing songs of praise to the Lord,

We gather and share the stories of faith

that inspire us to respond to Christ's love.

God called us here,

in whispering winds and in burning flames,

and with his presence

removes the barriers we have placed around us.

God meets us in our vulnerability, in our humanity.

Let us worship the Lord.

Prayer:

O Holiest and Precious God, throughout time you have called us to you. To accomplish wondrous things. Abraham, Ruth, Esther, David, Paul... have been called into servitude for you and your works. You have not called us to perfection, but to responsibility. Fear and uncertainty have not been disqualifiers. You have not called us to be extraordinary, but to be available. Fill us today with assurance that you are preparing us for the task ahead. Fill us with courage to accept your call in good faith. Help us to die to ourselves that we may live for Christ alone, so you are enabled to work through us for your greater praise and glory. We ask this in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn:

St. James: (#281)

St. Mark's: (#654)

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Holy Ground (2 times)*

Affirmation of Faith: (Apostles' 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.

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 3:1-10 ESV

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

Message

Standing On Holy Ground

Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ Hymn:

God of Grace and God of Glory

St. James: (#287)

St. Mark's: (#569)

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*

Offering:

St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through our church website: <https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

Offertory Music

Doxology: (*Sung as the offering is brought to the altar*)

St. James: #551) (St. Mark's: #34)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye, heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Gracious God, we come before you with thankful hearts, offering not just our gifts but our lives in service to you. May these offerings be used to further your kingdom and bring hope to those in need. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn of Sending:

St. James: (#467)

I Love to Tell the Story

St. Mark's: (#557)

Pass It On

Benediction:

Go out into the world to join God in the work of love, of peace, of justice. Take in the breath of life. Take off your shoes. Know that you are ever in the presence of the Holy and Living God. And may the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you as you go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are and all that you will be.

Postlude

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC: 13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton

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

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

St. Mark's UCC: W1307 Orchard Rd., Cleveland

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

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

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: <https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

*June 14th - Sheri Kaestner, Amanda Wasmer
15th - David Krause, Finley Uttech
16th - Steve Gabsch, David Gumm, Austin Emre Nye
17th - Kathleen Hickman, Bruce Mansker
18th - Mike Marcheske
20th - David Lorfeld*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK TO:

*June 15th - Lee & Nancy Sixel
19th - Daniel & Katie Kleinhans*



COME AND CHEER ON ST. JAMES/ST. MARK'S YOUTH VOLLEYBALL TEAM TONIGHT WHEN THEY TAKE ON IMMANUEL/BETHEL AT IMMANUEL UCC. THE GAME BEGINS AT 6:30pm.
Next Sunday the game will be held at St. James.

ARTICLES FOR THE JULY NEWSLETTER are due Friday, June 19th.
Email them to Karen at stmstjoffice@gmail.com

ST. MARK'S – The sign-up form for the "Hospitality Hour" is on the table next to the elevator in the entryway. Choose a Sunday to bring treats to share or give a monetary donation and a snack will be purchased to share.



A NEW STUDY GROUP!

A NEW STUDY GROUP!

Pastor Patrick is making plans for a study group in early Fall (or this summer if there is interest). It's an Adult Confirmation curriculum - 7 weeks long. The group will be held in the evening (it should still be light out) with 1.5 - 2.0 hours each night. A date is not nailed down yet, but will be shortly. Whether you can come to some or all of the sessions, you will be welcomed!

Let Pastor or Karen (stmstjoffice@gmail.com or (920) 693-8361) know if you are interested in attending.

AGENDA:

- Session One: God/Jesus/Holy Spirit: Understanding the Trinity
 - Session Two: The Bible: Understanding Our Sacred Text
 - Session Three: Following Jesus: What's this guy all about?
 - Session Four: History of Christianity: Understanding How We Got Here
 - Session Five: United Church of Christ: Who Are We?
 - Session Six: Worship & the Sacraments: Why We Do What We Do
 - Session Seven: Spiritual practices: Finding Ways to Pray & Incorporate Faith into Our Daily Lives
-



We'd like to celebrate all of our St. Mark's & St. James UCC 2026 graduates by featuring them in our church newsletter and are in need of some information:

- Name
- Where are they graduating from? Any special honors? Include degree/certification if other than HS
- What are their next steps (future plans)?
- A picture of the graduate (example, senior picture)

Email to Karen at stmstjoffice@gmail.com by June 19th.



ST. JAMES & ST. MARKS U.C.C.



GENERATIONS *Sunday*

Join St. James U.C.C., St. Mark's U.C.C., and Spring Hope Barn for a Sunday celebrating community, connection, and generations coming together. From grandparents to grandchildren, friends to neighbors, all are welcome to enjoy an afternoon filled with delicious food, great music, and meaningful time together. We look forward to celebrating with everyone!

Live music provided by 2/5's Party Band.

Sunday, July 19, 2026

11:00 AM



Outdoor Service led by
Pastor Patrick Schultz



Noon

Potluck & Social
Bring a dish to pass

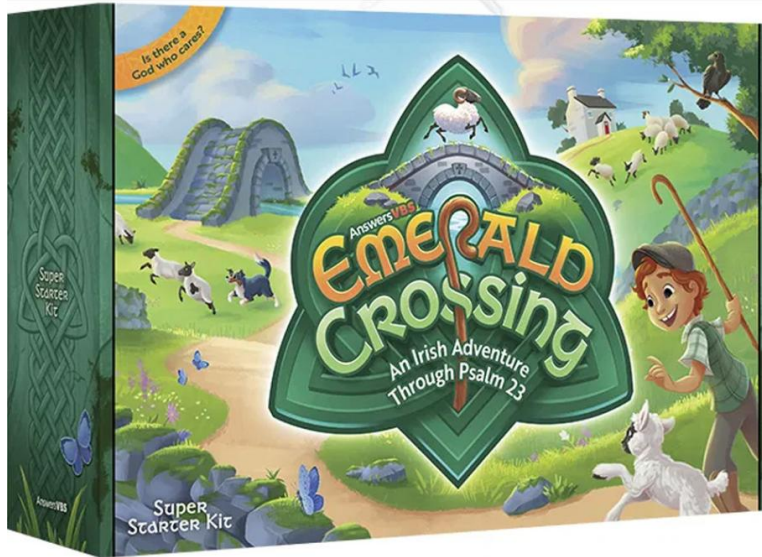


12:30 PM

Music by 2/5's
Party Band

NEED MORE INFO, CHECK OUT WWW.SPRINGHOPEBARN.COM

This summer's Vacation Bible School journey carries us to Ireland in *the Emerald Crossing*.



August 18-19-20 from 9:00am till 12:00pm.

**Open to all children kindergarten – 6th grade fall of 2026,
churched and non-churched.**

**Hosted by St. Mark's, St. James & Bethlehem UCC,
held at St. Mark's UCC,
W1309 Orchard Road, Cleveland WI.**

In a world filled with worry and confusion, our kids need to know there *is* a God who cares for them. At *Emerald Crossing* VBS, we'll journey through Ireland's lush landscapes, exploring the powerful words of Psalm 23. We'll discover the life of the shepherd-king David and will learn how to cross from worry to peace, from fear to faith, and from uncertainty to a firm foundation in God's Word through a relationship with the Good Shepherd.



Sign up for VBS online at:

<https://bit.ly/summer2026VBS>

OR by calling the church office: 920-693-8361

Each child registering before July 31st qualifies for a special door prize drawing!