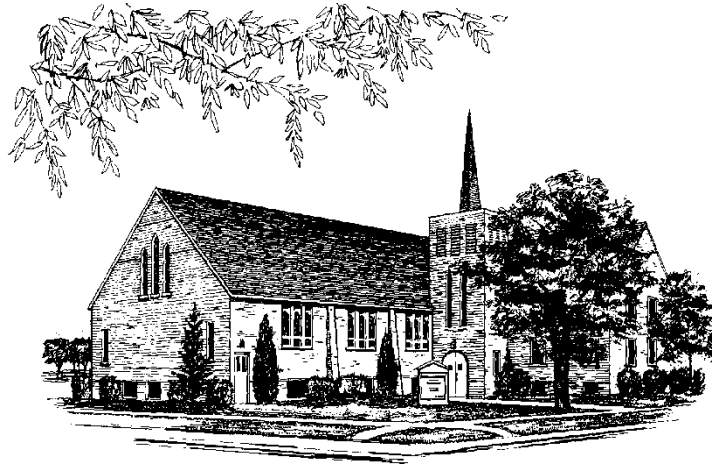


St. James Newsletter

June 2021



ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

PO Box 369

Barnesville, Minnesota

Church Phone # 354-7198

churchoffice.stjames@gmail.com

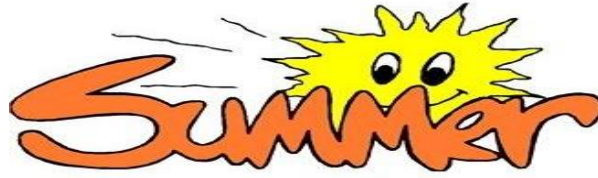
www.stjamesuccmn.org

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday



June 2021 Newsletter



Hello to all and welcome Summer! We have changed our guidelines for our worship services following the recommendations of the CDC and our governor. We will continue to update when changes are needed or necessary, but for now, **PLEASE JOIN US AT WORSHIP SERVICE!** We have missed you all and look forward to seeing you! We no longer require masks in the sanctuary if you have been vaccinated, please refer to the letter included for the rest of the updates. If you can not join us in person, don't forget to worship with us LIVE at <http://rcl.ink/5an> or later at <http://rcl.ink/LPT>

A few dates to keep in mind coming up!

JUNE 21ST - "PEOPLE'S BREAKFAST" AT THE MAINLINE IN DOWNER, MN AT 8:00 A.M.

JUNE 27TH – WORSHIP AT 9:45 A.M., COFFEE HOUR AT 10:45 A.M.

JUNE 28TH - "PEOPLE'S BREAKFAST" AT THE MAINLINE IN DOWNER, MN AT 8:00 A.M. - **ALSO JOIN US FOR "ST JAMES UCC FAMILY & FRIENDS NIGHT AT THE REDHAWKS GAME 7:02 PM (TICKETS IN OFFICE)**

JULY 4TH- WORSHIP AT 9:45 A.M. WITH HOLY COMMUNION, COFFEE HOUR 10:45 A.M, **HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

JULY 5TH -"PEOPLE'S BREAKFAST" AT THE MAINLINE IN DOWNER, MN AT 8:00 A.M.

JULY 11TH WORSHIP AT 9:45 A.M., COFFEE HOUR AT 10:45 A.M.

JULY 12TH -"PEOPLE'S BREAKFAST" AT THE MAINLINE IN DOWNER, MN AT 8:00 A.M.

JULY 15TH – 18TH – ST. JAMES PIZZA BOOTH AT THE CLAY COUNTY FAIR, BARNESVILLE. HELP WORK A SHIFT OR HELP SUPPORT!



JULY BIRTHDAYS

1—Robert Mark
1—Mark Keller
1—Sharon Hovland
2—Carolyn Gabel
3—Stacy Grosz
4—David Strom
4—Lori Ernst
5—Marsha Hough
6—Sharon Braton
7—Joshua Ullrich
9—Keith Carr
10—Jean Carver
11—Erma Egge
11—Jerry Barrera
12—Cindy Kunz
13—Natasha Ullrich
13—Betty Picard
15—Dana Ernst
15—Kelli Frosli
15—Kyla Schroeder

16—Donna Ernst
17—Shelby Berg
18—Karissa Braton
19—Carla Rick
19—Philip Grosz
19—Lucas Grosz
21—Walker Erdmann
22—Jered Affield
23—Susan Davis
24-- Diane Peterson
24—Jordana Jerger
24—Ellen Oie
25—RaNelle Bang
26—Robin Askegard
26—DeLoyce Anderson
26—Thomas Anderson
27—Jacob Lilequist
28—Mici Braton
29—Cathy Wheelright
29—Deb Leversen
30—Jim Schenck
31—Judy Neubauer

If there are any birthday dates omitted or wrong, please let the office know.

Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a program in our church being implemented under the auspices of the Board of Trustees. The following paragraph is part of what will accompany the shawl: *Praying with a prayer shawl is intended to be a reminder of God's ever-present love, which is always a part of you. Wear it in times of private prayer whenever you feel the need to feel closer, to be wrapped in God's loving care. Wrap the shawl around your shoulders, or drape it over your lap, or put it over you when resting- whatever makes you feel comfortable.* If you know of someone that is in need, please contact Beryl Janssen, Irene Schenck, Eleanor Siggerud or the office.

A Message from the Interim Pastor's Office....

I found this piece and I thought it had some neat things to think about. We all remember the story of "Noah's Ark" right? We probably only focused on the animals when we referred to the story but maybe we could have learned some valuable things about life from the story as well. "All I Really Need to Know About Life, I learned from Noah's Ark" is the piece I am sharing with you today.

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Don't forget we're all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead, it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit, when you're 600 years old someone might ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics, just get on with what has to be done.
6. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
7. Two heads are better than one.
8. Build your future on high ground.
9. Speed isn't always an advantage, after all, the snails were on the same ark with the cheetahs.
10. When you are stressed, float awhile.
11. Remember the ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic was built by professionals.
12. Remember that the woodpeckers inside are a larger threat than the storm outside.

--Interim Pastor Jim--





SPECIAL PRAYER IS NEEDED



Judy Siggerud	Cody Ellingson
Kaiser Schonert	Shirley Aberle
Ashley Seykora	Jerad Egge
Dorothy Seefeldt	Matt Holland
Angie Harrison Marquardt	Leigha Ness
Kyle Anderson	David Egge
Sharon Hovland	Gerry Palmer
Carla Durkee	Janette Schmidt
Christopher Cox	Harold Schenck
Ken Kolding Sr.	Krista Detloff
Judy Malone	Gwen Tumberg
Kristin Grommesh	Heidi Ackerson
Kristine Crabtree	

(If you know of someone you would like on the prayer list, would you please get permission from them or their family as some people are very private)

SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

Barrera, Murphy---USAF

Barfield, Beau---USN

Garza, Mario---US

Owen Jerald – US Army



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

1—Sharon & Dennis Braton

6—Carolyn & Bill Gabel

11—Chuck & Tammy Anderson

11—Scott & Cathy Buisman

21—Karen & LeRoy Johnson

24—Ron & Debbie Jerger

24—Keith & Rosie Carr

25—Kathy & Bill Braton

28—Robert & Donna Ernst

If there are any anniversary dates omitted or wrong, please let the office know.



St. James UCC wishes to congratulate Taylor Anderson as she graduated with her Masters of Arts in Occupational Therapy from St. Catherine's University in St. Paul, MN this spring. Best of Luck to you!



Please keep the families of Leland Egge and Patricia "Patty" Davis in your thoughts and prayers as Leland and Patty went to their heavenly home this past week.



We are approaching summer and we know that some of your schedules change so **DON'T FORGET to get signed up for online offering through our SecureGive! This helps to keep the funds coming in to keep St. James going if your schedules don't allow you to make it to worship as often.**



Automated Giving



St. James has implemented the options for online and mobile giving with a credit or debit card! **Give it a try!** Here is how:

Online: Visit the St. James website at <https://www.stjamesuccmn.org> and click on the "give" button in the upper right-hand corner.

Mobile: Visit the app store and search for **SecureGive Vision**, and install it. The first time signing up, the church must be chosen. Search for St. James United Church of Christ, as there are several St. James churches around country. Once the church is selected, the donation information will appear. **Give it a try!**

Services can be viewed at: Link to the church's YouTube channel to view. Use this link to see all the past videos: <http://rcl.ink/LPT> or link to the live stream: <http://rcl.ink/5an>

Visit Us on Facebook, St James UCC, for updates and photos on what we have been up to and also for upcoming dates and events!

Diaconate Board Update June, 2021

We did not have a meeting in June. The next meeting is scheduled for August, 2021.

June 13, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of St. James UCC,

This letter is written to share with you, our church's new guidelines regarding church gatherings and the usage of our church premises, that will go into effect immediately.

The Board of Trustees, having reviewed the most recent state and federal guidelines regarding Covid-19, has chosen to revise certain safety policies that have been in place since the beginning of the pandemic, last year. This is done, of course, with the understanding that we will continue to watch the "numbers" and new updates from the CDC and state health officials. We appreciate your patience and prayers in dealing with such matters.

Although we may not be doing things as they may have been done in the past, let us celebrate that we are finding new ways of meeting as a church in service to the community, through Christ Jesus.

According to the most recent CDC update, "fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance." This was further reinforced by Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz who quickly followed suit, announcing a lifting of the statewide mask mandate, while retaining the CDC recommendation that only fully vaccinated people stop wearing masks. Please see the updated information with this letter regarding the new guidelines for St. James UCC.

Thank you for all that you do to help build up our church and to advance the kingdom of God. God bless.

St. James Board of Trustees,

Moderator, Kristal Rick

NEW GUIDELINES AT ST JAMES U.C.C.

- **Necessary precautions**- Members and friends are encouraged to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety and good health of themselves, their families and all peoples at church events- including getting vaccinated.
- **If you are feeling sick**, or have serious health concerns, you are encouraged to refrain from coming to church at the present time. Nonetheless, as fellow members of the body of Christ, the church desires to do everything in its power, to attend to your spiritual needs- including home visitations and the serving of communion; as well as providing opportunities of watching our worship services online. Please call the Church Office to share whatever needs or concerns you might have.

The pastor and/or the diaconate when making a visit to those homebound, will wear a facemask; unless indicated to do otherwise by those visited.

- **Temperature checks** have been discontinued prior to the worship service on Sunday mornings by the diaconate.
- **Masks and hygiene**- Individuals who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear masks in any setting. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to continue wearing a facemask over the nose and mouth, and maintain physical distance. Everyone is encouraged to use hand sanitizer that is made available at church in order to promote good hygiene.
- **In-person meetings**- All in-person meetings at the church, for both internal and external groups may resume upon receiving scheduling clearance, via the church office
- **Fellowship Hour**- We have resumed our time of fellowship following worship service in the fellowship hall.

Refreshments and packaged snacks will be served to minimize the handling of food.

While fellowshiping with one another, people are encouraged to maintain social distance.

- **All outside entranceways**- All outside entranceways leading to the sanctuary, will be opened prior to the beginning of the worship service.
- **Online services**- Our worship service will continue to be streamed/broadcasted via Facebook and YouTube on Sundays, and will also be made available for viewers at other times.
- **In-Person worship services**- Prior to worship services- bulletins, prepackaged communion elements and a offering plate (to receive your gifts) will be made available at the entranceways of the sanctuary.

You are welcome to sit wherever you like, but are still encouraged to maintain a safe distance from others. During the worship service, when engage in “passing of the peace,” we encourage the practice of not shaking hands. However, smiles are not only welcomed, they are encouraged! Also, hymnals have been returned to the pews for your use. We will continue to project, on AV screens at the front of the sanctuary, all parts of the liturgy- including the words of each hymn sung. All barriers that kept individuals from sitting in certain pews have been removed. Anyone who feels a need to wear a mask for whatever reason, is encouraged to do so.

- **Church Offering** -Church offerings can continue to be sent via mail, online or in-person (If you are unsure as to how best to do such, please contact the church office).

- A. **Church outings-** Members and friends of the church are encouraged to resume all activities that might foster fellowship and community- guilds, bible studies, social events, etc. Nonetheless, excessively large groupings should be avoided.
- B. **Children-** At all church gatherings and events involving children under the age of 16, the practice of maintaining good safety and health practices amongst them will be paramount.

Thank you for reading our St. James New Updated Guidelines as of June 13, 2021. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the church office or any member on the Board of Trustees.

St. James UCC Office & Contact Information

Office phone: 354-7198

Email address: churchoffice.stjames@gmail.com

Interim Pastor Jim's Mobile Phone: 701-895-4030

Interim Pastor Jim's Email: jrjswilson@gmail.com



A special "Thanks" to all who helped put out some of the new pew cushions and especially to the person/people who generously donated money so we can all have a "comfy seat" on Sundays! More cushions to come...

RE Board Meeting
June 6, 2021
11:00 a.m.

Present: Cathy Olson, Denise Frederick, Deb Leverson, Dianne Cihak, Pastor Jim Wilson

Absent: Jenna Crabtree, Rita Nosal

Treasurer report: Balance \$7424.66

Old Business:

- A. **Confirmation:** Gowns will be purchased and ordered to keep at church. Stoles will be ordered also. Confirmation date has been set for October 10.

B. **Pizza Booth at the Clay County Fair July 15- July 18:** Schedules are posted for shift workers needed. Please consider volunteering and signing up! A list of items needed is also posted. Donations and working at the booth are greatly appreciated!!

C. Red Hawk s game: St. James Family FUN night! Some tickets have been purchased at the price of \$9.50 a ticket. Call the office for more information. First come first served on tickets. **Game is Monday June 28 at 7 PM! All ages welcome!! Join us in the FUN and Fellowship while we cheer on the Redhawks!**

D. No meeting in July

Next meeting to be held Sunday August 1, 2021 at 11:00

Deb Leverson, Secretary



Check Out St. James Happenings 🧐



Look at the BEAUTIFUL quilt made by the Rugs & Quilts Ladies that was donated by them and the Women's Guild for an auction item at Heidi Ackerson's Benefit. We are so luck to have such talent in our church!



A special "Thank You" to Marlys Holt for her time and talents in making our sets of dishtowels that are sold by the Women's Guild. Many hours of beautiful work shared with us at St. James!



Thank you to all who helped serve and clean up at the benefit for Heidi Ackerson on June 19th. Your time and help was much appreciated!!

Board of Trustees Minutes June 2021

The St. James UCC Board of Trustees met at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 7, 2021. Pastor Jim Wilson led the board in an opening prayer.

Call to Order: The Trustee Board meeting was called to order by Moderator, Kristal Rick, at 7:01 p.m. Chuck volunteered to lead the meeting, so Kristal could fill in as Secretary and take notes.

Members present: Chuck Anderson, Robert Hovland, Jim Martodam, Ione Hammer, Wanda Odness, Bob Holland, Ryan Erdmann, Kristal Rick, Greg Odness and Dean Ernst.

Members Absent: None

Adoption of Agenda: Motion by Dean to approve the agenda, second by Robert. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Motion by Dean to accept the Secretary's report and second by Wanda. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Tammy was present to go over her reports with the board. We are tracking on budget to-date with expenses at 41%. Inflows for the month of May were at \$9823 and Expenses were at \$8383. The money for the pew fund had been replenished from the general fund as agreed last month. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Kristal, seconded by Bob. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported on several items. He reminded the board as well as members to participate in the MN Conference Assembly, being held via Zoom this year. He suggested getting aprons for those working the church booth at the fair and Potato Days and selling t-shirts, so everyone matches and is supporting St. James. Motion by Jim, seconded by Robert for Pastor to go ahead with this project. Motion carried. He will ask some of the church groups, for help with the original funding, but sales of the t-shirts will replenish most of the funds. He is beginning the process of looking at job descriptions and will review the last updated copies with the Staff-Parish. Motion by Robert to approve the Pastor's report, seconded by Kristal. Motion carried.

Board of Trustee Minutes Continued....

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Committee Reports

- a. **Staff Parish** – No report.
 - b. **Diaconate** – No report.
 - c. **RE Board** – Report provided and is included in the newsletter.
 - d. **Buildings & Grounds**
 - i. **Camera & Code entry** – Greg & Wanda have tested one and have the approval to purchase when ready to install. It will help the office have visibility of those entering the church and will allow for easy entry via code or remotely if members need to enter the church when it is locked.
 - ii. **Handicap Pew Project** – The board agreed that if handicap seating is needed, they will make reasonable accommodations in the back section of the church and the front pew are always open as well, rather than cutting some exiting pews near the front. And can revisit the topic as needed.
 - iii. **Circuit breaker in kitchen** – The electrician called has been too busy so Greg will try to contact another. And will have him convert the old 220 behind the Bunn coffeemaker and refrigerator in the kitchen to a 110 and add the additional outlet needed for AV upstairs while he is here doing work.
 - e. **Finance Committee** – No report.
 - f. **Search Committee** – Our conference contact is busy with the UCC annual meeting in the coming weeks but will be present via Zoom for a meeting in July. In the meantime, Jim is planning a meeting with the committee to update them and explain the process and share info he has received so far.
- B. COVID Follow-up** – Pastor Jim had drafted new guidelines for St. James in dealing with change now with COVID as members have gotten vaccinated and things are opening up and getting back to a new normal. The board liked and approved the very comprehensive draft and agreed it should be sent out to the congregation.
- C. Elevator Contract/Update** – Ryan and Tammy informed the board by sharing an email communication from the head office of ThyssenKrupp in Texas that St James will be receiving one free year of Elevator Service, as we had a case because they had not held up their end of the contract.
- D. Operating Loan Renewal** – The bank had updated the revolving operating loan paperwork to reflect the changes in the maturity of the CD used as collateral. Tammy and

- E. Kristal will sign it at the bank to update it in case of need, but at this time St James will not be using it.
- F. **July Meeting plans** – The board will meet Wednesday, July 7 with the focus to be the Search Committee with our UCC contact and focus on the next steps. The meeting will cover monthly business only as needed, as they do not typically meet in July.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Fair Booth – Pizza Stand** – The committee is asking all members to sign up to work a shift, not just kids or families with kids. They are asking for donations of drinks and other items as well as money to cover the costs of pizza, etc. they will begin making ice for the coolers.
- B. **Potato Days** – Cathy Olson provided a letter to the board saying she was stepping down as chair of the committee due to increase demands from her job, but that she will still help order the food and help in other ways. She provided a detailed list of what she has done for the event but is asking the board to find a new chairperson. The Board discussed not doing the event but also that it provides presence in the community and outreach and is also a good fund raiser. Motion was made by Ione, seconded by Robert to continue with the booth. But it will take help from member and finding a new chairperson. If anyone is interested, please contact a board member or the church office.
- C. **Heidi Ackerson Benefit** – The event will be at the Pitchfork on Saturday, June 19 beginning at 3 pm. Tammy had emailed out a list of volunteers from St. James who will be serving the meal at the event. She asked for a few more volunteers possibly for the later shift. There will be a bake sale and silent auction as well, so if members are willing to provide a basket of items for the auction, please do so by June 17, and try to donate baked good items for that Saturday.
- D. **Other** – Bob made the motion and agreed to purchase a Ring Doorbell for the Church main entry, seconded by Robert. Motion carried. There also needs to be a list of contact names and numbers listed near the door to allow members access.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Jim led the board in a closing Prayer.

Next Meeting Date: Wed. July 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kristal Rick





Announcements & Reminders



Last chance for tickets to “St. James UCC Family and Friends Fun Night” planned for Monday, June 28th!! We have tickets for the Redhawks game right behind home plate with FIREWORKS TO FOLLOW! The tickets are for sale for \$9.50 each. This event is for ALL AGES and ALL ARE WELCOME! If you are interested in joining us for a FUN evening, contact the church office as soon as possible for tickets and/or more information! Join us for some St. James FUN!!



We are in need of volunteers to work at our pizza stand for two hour shifts during the Clay County Fair, July 15th – 18th. Shifts begin Thursday from 4p.m. to 6p.m. and go through Sunday. A sign-up sheet for the different shifts is hanging outside of the office or talk with Denise Frederick about getting signed up! It's a great way to represent St. James at an important community event and to help raise funds for our local church!



We are asking for donations of beverages and/or money to be used to buy beverages for our pizza stand booth at the fair. If you would like to look at the list of beverages we are in need of, please see the list in Fellowship Hall as well as outside of the office. If you bring donations, you may drop them off in the office or at the back of the church. Thank you!



Hey You! St. James Members! We are in NEED of 2 members to help chair the St. James UCC Food Booth at Potato Days this year, August 27th-28th, 2021! We have notes from previous years to follow so please consider helping with this fundraiser for our church while contributing to the success of a community celebration! Contact the church office! Thank you!



A thank you to all who joined Interim Pastor Jim Wilson at our “Gathering of the Guild and Getting To Know You” coffee in Fellowship Hall on June 9th. It was WONDERFUL to hear the chatter of voices gathering again!



Watch for new and fun events we are planning each month for an opportunity to share with family and friends! Exciting things planned ahead with Fellowship and FUN for all ages and ALL are welcome!



Thank you to all who have given donations to the church either by mail, in person, or online this past month. These are much appreciated and help keep St. James going! Whether big or small, time and talents or monetary, it does not go unnoticed here at St. James! Thank you again!



Should you or anyone you know wish to have Holy Communion at your home, please let the church office know at 354-7198 as Pastor Jim would love to make a visit and provide communion.



Please join us on Mondays at 8:00 a.m. at the Mainline in Downer, MN for our "People's Breakfast"! We order off the menu and share in fellowship. All are welcome to join us!



The Rugs & Quilts Ladies are ready to gather again to begin making the wonderful items they are so good at! Everyone is welcome to join at 9:00 a.m. beginning Wednesday, July 30th! They will begin that day by organizing the quilting room and enjoying gathering again and will continue to meet every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Please consider joining them if you can!