

ST. JAMES WEEKLY E-NEWS

August 19, 2020

Worship Announcements

Worship is at **8:45 am. outside**, on the **east side** of the building. You have the option of going through the building and exit at the back of the sanctuary.

Once again, **please bring a lawn chair and your own face mask**. There is shade from the trees, but a hat might be needed.

We need a few people that are once again willing to help usher, assisting those who need help and handing out bulletins. Please contact the office if you are willing.

If the weather is inclement, or you are unable to attend in person, the service will be posted on Sunday, on both our [Facebook](#) page, and at [umcsi.org](#). The hope is to eventually live stream the service real-time to have the best of both options.

Also, if you would like to make an online contribution to St James, you can do so by clicking on this link, [online giving](#).

Other Announcements

Free garden rocks to anyone in who wants them. All you need to do is pick them up and haul them away. They are in a pile in the cross garden.



To Bill Kraemer for replacing the burned out bulbs in the hallway, office, and narthex.

To Rick Bahr for doing the footwork to research information for the a new riding mower.

To all who share of their time and talents being the hands and feet of Christ for the ministries at St. James and beyond.

Henderson Settlement

This year's mission trip to Frakes, Kentucky is currently scheduled for **October 11-17, 2020**

Although the brat fry has been cancelled, you can still donate to the mission trip.

Be sure to mark your donation, "Henderson."

You Asked, We Hear You...

Some were inquiring about certain elements of worship that they've been missing. As you know, Pastor Ben serves two churches. Also, during this time of covid19, it is recommended that services be a bit shorter. For these reasons, here are the answers...

1. **Doxology.** With the current outdoor service format, we will not be adding that element at this time. Once we come inside, we will revisit this.
2. **Mission minutes and stewardship moments.** We will try to accommodate this on weeks when Pastor Ben does not do a parking lot service at Emmanuel. Please ask ahead of time, so we can plan for it.
3. **Announcements in worship.** If you have something that needs addressing on Sunday morning, please tell pastor Ben before worship begins and he will be happy to mention it before the benediction. You may also send an email to him before Sunday morning.

Pastor Ben is grateful for your feedback. "Our worship together will be ever changing during this season of being in ministry together during COVID-19."

Like us on [Facebook](#)

Now more important than ever.

<https://www.facebook.com/umcsj/>
There you will find video of Sunday worship.

Pastor Ben's Contact Information

Pastor Ben's office hours are flexible, so please call or email for an appointment at 734-5371, wisconsinpastorben@gmail.com

If you are in immediate need of pastoral care, please call Pastor Ben directly @ 920-252-9822

(Please note: Deb's office hours are 9 a.m.–1 p.m., M–Th. Phone messages left on the office voicemail after 1 p.m. on Thursday are not answered until after 9 a.m. on Monday.

Thank you.

DID YOU KNOW?

For your convenience, all **blue and underlined words** (such as the word 'office') are active hyperlinks to websites and email addresses. Just click on the blue underlined "links" to go to the referenced site. This works with either a cell phone, a tablet/iPad, or a computer.

Joys, Prayers & Concerns...

You can now submit your prayer requests at any time by using this link, [prayer request](#). The link goes directly to Pastor Ben.

- For all the prayers shared with God on your personal journey each day.
- Prayers for our teachers and children as discussions continue about how to restart school amid the increase in covid-19 cases.
- Prayers for Helen Ann as she goes through a procedure to have fluid removed from around her lungs.
- Prayers for effected by the Iowa storms last week.
- Joy for Julian Morris who turned 10 this week.
- Joy, Lois Bodam lifts up prayers for having a wonderful son.
- Prayers for Cathy Johnson's son-in-law, Dennis Schmitz, who is the hospital with sepsis.
- Continued prayers for Marshal Behling's father, Lester, who is preparing to go home to God.
- Continued prayers for Al Pellet's son, Dale.
- Continued prayers for a smart, safe and humble understanding of the new normal. May we all be aware that wearing a mask in public is to protect the vulnerable around us. If we all do it, we can help keep the spread down in our community. It is the compassionate thing to do.
- Continued prayers for all in our church family.

Ongoing intercessory prayer ...

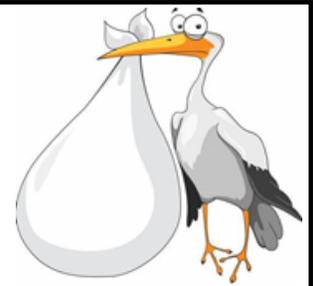
- Joys for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. May you find a special way to celebrate.
- Continued prayers for the leaders of this nation and the world, that the safety and unity of all people comes before anything else. We are to love our neighbor, even if we don't share the same beliefs or heritage.
- Prayers for national unity, for things that are both seen and unseen. May there be positive change and true awareness.
- For those in the 'sandwich' generation and the challenges it can pose. Especially now.
- For the United Methodist Church and its leader-

Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12

We're Expecting!

It's official! We are excited to announce that we are expecting a new arrival! Yes, we are expecting an endearing, dependable riding lawn mower. We will find out the date of arrival very soon. We do not yet now what color we will use for the reveal of our new arrival. This too will soon be shared when the trustees know more.



In order to get a mower that will serve us as well as the previous one did, it will cost more than we thought, closer to \$6,500. We are asking for donations for the new mower. We have already had 5 families offer to contribute. If this is something you feel empowered to donate to, please mark your much appreciated donation as "New lawn tractor."

We have been very fortunate at St James that through the years, volunteers have mowed our very challenging terrain, and we have not had to hire a lawn care service. The lawn in its entirety takes around three hours to mow.

Rick Bahr has generously offered to use his personal lawn mower for the remainder of this mowing season. This gives us time to raise the funds needed, and to make the best possible decision.

Thank you for your continued support to the ministries of St James.

We continue to offer Daily Bread Devotionals. The are available for free at the Connection Center table in the narthex.

There are now 5 ways to give to St. James:

1. When you attend an in-person worship service.
2. Mail in your gift or pledge to:
St. James UMC
100 W. Capitol Drive
Appleton, WI 54911
3. Donate on our website by clicking on: umcsi.org
4. Give on your phone through the Give Plus+ App. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus+ Church" to download for FREE. You can also find St. James on the Give Plus+ App on your smartphone or tablet! Search by our zip code (54911) and we are the 2nd church listed!
5. Set up auto withdrawal giving with LuAnn Van Handel.

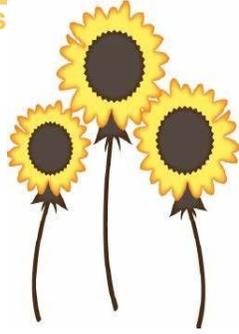


Note: The same company that handles our auto withdrawals, also does the online giving.

AUGUST Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 8/23 Paul Countney
- 8/24 Margaret Morris
- 8/24 Sherry Schreiner
- 8/25 Keaira Cruz



Anniversaries

None this week



St. Joe's Food Pantry

Re-opening to customers this week!
Click on the logo for a link to their current wish list.

We invite you to bring your non-perishable donations to the church and drop them off either on Sunday mornings, or during regular office hours. (M-Th 9am-1pm) They may be left in the usual wooden box in the Narthex near the big bulletin board.

We ask that you consider watching the grocery store ads, and donate as you are able. The needs of the pantry are great.

Help others by donating. St Joe's clients are very appreciative. Thank you.

*"Do all the good you can.
 By all the means you can.
 In all the ways you can.
 In all the places you can.
 At all the times you can.
 To all the people you can.
 As long as ever you can.*

~ John Wesley ~



Let's be honest. Although we are enjoying worshipping on our east lawn, and God has blessed us greatly with dry weather, at some point we will need to consider other options. Although it would be beautiful, worshipping outside in the snow would not be pleasant.

We all miss worshipping together in the sanctuary, but we want to do what is best for all our congregants. When it is safe, we have protocols in place as listed in previous issues of E-News. With the number of covid19 cases going in the wrong direction, it could be a while before we move inside.

Worship Committee met last week to discuss our worship possibilities, as we move forward with consideration of covid19 restrictions.

Options to our outdoor worship were discussed, for when the weather is, or becomes inclement. They are...

1. **'Parking lot' worship.** This is something pastor Ben has had success with at Emmanuel. This involves tuning into a designated radio station. We may want to consider this option for things like communion Sundays.

2. **Online worship.** Currently pastor Ben has been recording our services and posting them to be viewed on our [Facebook](#) page or [website](#). Moving forward to an online possibility, this has two options: a) Recordings with just our worship team and pastor, or b) In conjunction with Emmanuel and their worship team. The challenge is the ability for both churches to retain their unique identity.

3. When deemed safe, in person, indoor worship.

We want to hear from you! Please drop us a note at office@umcsi.org with your ideas and options. Please consider answering the following questions.

1. What should be the lowest temperature to consider when worshipping outside?
2. Do you have ideas for worship not listed above?
3. How open would you be to a parking lot service?
4. Do you watch our service online? Why or why not?
If yes, do you use [Facebook](#) or go to the [website](#)?
5. If you have a Facebook account, have you visited the St James [Facebook](#) page? (If you 'like' us, you will get notifications of updates to the page.)
6. Under what conditions would you be willing to attend worship in the sanctuary?

NOW LIVE Emotional CPR Listener Warmline

If you are feeling alone or afraid or just want to connect with another human being, our Emotional CPR Warmline is now LIVE! We are not clinicians but every day people who want to listen to what you are going through. Please give us a call 920-931-2572. Until we connect, take good care of you.



LEAVEN
 Turning Hardship Into Hope

By clicking on the graphic to learn more about Leaven.

COVID-19's impact on mental health and substance abuse has been well-documented, with suicides and overdoses increasing at alarming rates. Necessary public health actions, such as social distancing, can make people feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety.

I'd like to share some valuable community resources that may be helpful in your professional interactions:

LEAVEN's Emotional CPR (eCPR) 'warmline' is staffed from 8:00am-10:00pm by trained listeners who provide an empathetic ear to anyone in need.