

ST. JAMES WEEKLY E-NEWS

"Putting Christ first in all that we do."

The week of Dec. 28 to Jan 3

Sunday January 1st Worship with Communion

8:45 am at St. James

Guest preaching: Pastor Lynn Kollath

Announcements

Please see the **calendar of events** listed in the newsletter. This calendar is updated weekly.

Please see page four, for the '**Calendar of Giving.**'

If you purchased soup in a jar at the Holiday Fair, we would like to reuse the jars. When you are done with the soup, please return your clean **jars** to the church kitchen. Thanks so much.

First UMC, Appleton is offering a **Taize` service** at 6pm in the chapel, every 1st Tuesday of the month. The service is filled with music, the presence of God, songs of hearts, prayers, and candle lights. There will be no sermon. Take time to center yourselves in this transforming worship service!

Thank you for handing in your 2023 **pledge card**. If you have not done so, there is still time. You can either drop it off at the church, or mail in to: LuAnn Van Handel, c/o St. James UMC, 100 W. Capitol Dr. Appleton, WI 54911.

Birthdays this Week

12/29	Preston Price	12/30	Bonnie Behling
1/03	Dorothy Paul	1/03	Michelle Price

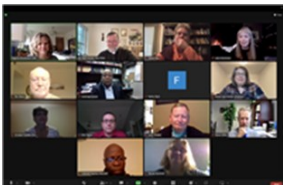
Zoom with the District Superintendent

North East DS Park Hunter offers an open Zoom devotion and Q&A time for laity in the district on second Mondays at 6:30pm. Because of the cabinet meeting, the next one will be January 16, 2023.



The Zoom link is...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5027449756>



Every January, many Christians resolve to read the entire Bible in one year. That's a worthy goal, but God doesn't require us to read a certain number of verses or chapters per day. Instead, he tells us to simply be in his Word - and thus be with him - so he can grow our faith, light our path and assure us of his love and forgiveness. God's Word is a precious gift, but we need to "unwrap" it! "Read the Bible as a affectionate letter. If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it. If a prayer is recorded, appropriate it and launch it as a feathered arrow. If the truth is revealed ... ask that its brilliance may ever illuminate your life."

How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his "new teaching - with authority" (Mark 1:27). When we "unwrap" the gift, we too experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough. So we trust that God, who "[makes] all things new", walks with us in this new year - and always.

Reminding all parents that we now have two **nursery attendants** on staff every Sunday during worship.

Community Activities and Outreach Links

[The Thompson Center](#) (Retiree activities)

[St. Joseph's Food Pantry](#) (List of pantry needs)

[COTS](#) (Transitional shelter)

[Emmanuel UMC](#) (Wednesday night meals)

[Holy Spirit, Darboy](#) (Free Sunday Supper dates)

[Pillars](#) (Housing assistance)

[Esther](#) (Interfaith social-justice organization)

[Leaven](#) (Resources & financial aide)

[NAMI](#) (Nat. Alliance on Mental Illness, Fox Valley)

[Fox Cities Salvation Army](#) (meal assist & pantry)

[Community Clothes Closet](#) (clothing)

Reminder: If you know anyone who is in need of a hot meal and some fellowship, **Emmanuel UMC** serves a hot meal for dine-in or carry-out.

Every Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30p.m.

The meal is free, but they do welcome a free-will offering.

New Year Prayer:

Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should as each new day I tread. Give me gentle wisdom that I might help a friend, give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend. The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things. Each new day filled with joy and the happiness it brings.
Amen.

Joys, Prayers & Concerns...

- For all the prayers of your heart, shared with God on your personal journey each day and may we give thanks for all answered prayers.
- Continued prayers for Bonnie Budreau's sister, Donna. She seems to be making some improvement and they are looking at rehab facilities.
- Continued prayers for healing for Cathy Johnson who recently had knee replacement surgery.
- Continued prayers for Margaret Morris and her family, that treatment for her health condition is a great success and that God gives them peace as they make decisions.
- Continued prayers for Shirley Galster as she heals.
- **Ongoing intercessory prayer...**
- Prayers for Pastor Ben, because we should always include our pastor in prayer.
- Joys for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week.
- Continued prayers for our church family, and special prayers for our shut-ins.
- Continued prayers for the people of Ukraine.
- Continued prayers for the victims of the American epidemic of senseless gun violence.
- Prayers for all who serve or have served in the military and other civil service areas.

Lord, hear our prayers. Amen.

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

You can now submit your prayer requests at any time by using this link,
[prayer request](#)

This link goes directly to Pastor Ben.

This Sunday's Laity Team

Usher Nancy Von Der Osten
Reader Cal Christenson
Communion Servers.. Tom & Mary Schemm
Communion Prep..... Deb Ebben
Counters..... Tom Schemm & Gary Linstad
Sound Bill Kraemer
Music.....Praise Team



Thanks to Tom Graf and Bill Kraemer for taking care of the snow removal the past week.

Thank you to everyone who donated flowers to beautify our altar for Christmas Eve. We had 15 donations.

Thank you to Wendy Lind for arranging the altar for Christmas Eve worship.

Thank you to all the un-named, who share of their time and talents for the ministries of St. James.

Please email the **office** or call at 920-734-5371, if you know of someone who does something special at the church. Thank you.

Shoveling Assistance Needed



Winter is here and with it comes a great winter exercise opportunity! We are seeking people to do snow removal of our church sidewalk and the enter and exit aprons on Capitol Drive. Instructions on the operation of the church snow blower will be given. Please contact Bill Kraemer at, bil-lebob57@gmail.com, or anyone on trustees for more information. Thank you for your assistance.

Website: UMCSJ.ORG

Email: office@umcsj.org

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REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

9 A.M. - 2 P.M., MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

"Like" us on [Facebook](#)

You will find video of Sunday worship and much more. If you "follow" us you will get automatic notifications to your phone or computer, whenever something new is posted.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			28 No Bible Study	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church 
1 Communion Sunday 8:00 a.m. Praise Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Fellowship 10:15 a.m. GOCC Worship 2:00 p.m. Calvary's Cross (until 7pm)	2 4-11 p.m. Video Game club	3 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice	4 No Bible Study	5 Office Closed	6 4-8 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church	7 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church
8 Sunday School 8:00 a.m. Praise Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Fellowship 10:15 a.m. GOCC Worship 2:00 p.m. Calvary's Cross (until 7pm)	9 Delivery of a COTS meal. 4-11 p.m. Video Game club	10 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice	11 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Black Bear 2:00 p.m. Bible Study	12 Office Closed	13 Office Closed 4-8 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church	14 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church
15 8:00 a.m. Praise Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Fellowship 10:15 a.m. GOCC Worship 2:00 p.m. Calvary's Cross (until 7pm)	16 4-11 p.m. Video Game club	17 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice	18 2:00 p.m. Bible Study	19 Office Closed	20 Office Closed 4-8 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church	21 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church
22 8:00 a.m. Praise Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Fellowship 10:15 a.m. GOCC Worship 2:00 p.m. Calvary's Cross (until 7pm)	23 4-11 p.m. Video Game club 5:30 pm Ladies Nite Out	24 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice	25 2:00 p.m. Bible Study	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed 4-8 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church	28 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church
29 8:00 a.m. Praise Practice 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Fellowship 10:15 a.m. GOCC Worship 2:00 p.m. Calvary's Cross (until 7pm)	30 4-11 p.m. Video Game club 6:00 pm Acnt. Leadership Board	31 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice	1 2:00 p.m. Bible Study	2 Office Closed	3 Office Closed 4-8 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church	4 1-7 p.m. Calvary's Cross Church


"Calendar of Giving"



Most every year we participate in CROP Walk, but this year, for lack of volunteers, Crop walk will not be available. Your Accountable Leadership Board has decided instead to do a "Calendar of Giving." We began November 21st, and will continue through mid-January. On the calendar below is a suggested non-perishable food item for each day of the week. During advent we will bring in our collections and place them beneath the tree. Once the tree is down, we will find another way to prominently display our weekly collection of food donations.

This collected food will then be donated to area food pantries, including the much used and growing needs for food in the Emmanuel UMC neighborhood pantry. If shopping for food is not your thing, we will gladly collect money to donate to Church World Service, which is where CROP Walk collections were distributed. Mark your financial donation as "Giving Calendar"

We hope everyone will participate in whatever way you are able. Some suggested bargain places to shop are... Dollar General, Dollar Tree, & Aldi's, as well as your favorite store's weekly sale ads. Happy hunting!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Food Drive Begins tomorrow	November 21 Graham Crackers	November 22 Cereal	November 23 Instant Potatoes	November 24 Peanut butter	November 25 Canned soup	November 26 Romen noodles
November 27 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Canned Tuna	November 28 Cereal	November 29 Pasta	November 30 Canned Chicken	December 1 Canned veggies	December 2 Tuna helper	December 3 Applesauce
December 4 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Soda Crackers	December 5 Canned Soup	December 6 Romen	December 7 Instant Potatoes	December 8 Rice	December 9 Peanut butter	December 10 Jam or Jelly
Thank you everyone! The first offerings have been delivered. This will continue for 5 more weeks. See the "Well Done" section on page one for details.						
December 11 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Pasta Sauce	December 12 Romen noodles	December 13 Canned soup	December 14 Macaroni and Cheese	December 15 Applesauce	December 16 Canned veggies	December 17 Canned Tuna
December 18 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Pasta	December 19 Canned Tuna	December 20 Tuna helper	December 21 Canned veggies	December 22 Canned Fruit	December 23 Cereal	December 24 Canned Baked beans <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i>
December 25 Jam or Jelly	December 26 Peanut butter	December 27 Pasta Sauce i care	December 28 Cereal	December 29 Canned Chicken	December 30 Canned fruit	December 31 Macaroni and Cheese
January 1 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Canned Tuna	January 2 Graham Crackers	January 3 Cereal	January 4 Canned soup	January 5 Peanut butter	January 6 Instant Potatoes	January 7 Romen noodles
January 8 <i>Place your items under the sanctuary tree</i> Rice	January 9 Canned Chicken	January 10 Canned Soup	January 11 Macaroni and Cheese	January 12 Applesauce 	January 13 Peanut butter	January 14 Pasta Sauce