

ST. JAMES WEEKLY E-NEWS

October 7, 2020



Announcements

Please be sure to read the Administrative Council minutes included in this edition of the E-News.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Drop pastor Ben a note to let him how much you appreciate all he does.

Pastor Ben,
May you stand today in the firm knowledge of His everlasting love for you, and experience in the depths of your soul the never-ending peace He has purchased for you. May you hear clearly what He speaks to you today, and may His words stir an overcoming faith in your heart. Amen.

THANK YOU To Wendy Lind and LuAnn Van Handel for cleaning and organizing the sanctuary.
To Kay Christenson for taking attendance on Sunday.

To Lois Bodam for ushering.

To Wendy for the donation of pens.

To those who braved the brisk morning of worship last Sunday. :)

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

Worship Announcements

Currently the weather looks good for Sunday worship outside. Should be warmer than last Sunday. ☺ Pastor Ben will communicate through Facebook if there is a change.

Bulletins are now posted on the website homepage on Thursdays.

Please continue to bring a lawn chair and your own face mask. **Dress for the temperatures.** If it rains unexpectedly that morning, we have the option to do drive-in worship and communion in the parking lot. You just need to tune your car radios to FM 88.3

The services are live streamed on our [Facebook](#) page, and posted at [umcsj.org](#). If you would like to make an online contribution to St James, you can do so by clicking on this link, [online giving](#).



pillars

(Formerly Homeless Connections)

SHELTER. SUPPORT. SOLUTIONS.

Help needed to serve a meal this Saturday!

St James helps prepare and serve a meal on the second Saturday of every even numbered month from **4-7 p.m.** for the homeless shelter in downtown Appleton. We are in need of people to volunteer to assist with meal prep, serving and clean-up.

If you can assist, or have questions, **please contact Ed or Sharon Ramsaroop at 920-277-7165.**



CROP WALK will be different this year.

To learn more about the virtual CROP HUNGER WALK, click on this graphic.

Checks can be made payable to **"St James,"** please mark in the memo line, **"CROP WALK."** You may also use the **BLUE MISSION ENVELOPES** for cash donations, please indicate for **"CROP WALK"**

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.)

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 the essential workers.
- Prayers for Marshall Behling and family at the loss of Marshall's father, Lester.
- Continued prayers for Duane Maves.
- Prayers for Helen Ann Linstad, who had a fall, blessing that she did not break anything.
- Continued prayers for Charlie Christenson's sister, Anne, who fell and broke her hip. Pray for healing.
- Continued prayers for our teachers, students, and parents as they find ways to safely hold classes.
- Continued prayers for all affected storms throughout the country, and the fires out west.
- 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. It is the compassionate thing everyone 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 this nation and the world.
- Continued prayers for all those who are going through various health issues.
- 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 all who serve or have served in the military and other civil service areas.
- For the United Methodist Church and its leadership.

Lord, hear our prayers. Amen.

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

Birthdays

10/07 Cory Milbach
10/07 Alex Thomas
10/09 Lee Baehman
10/11 Jeremy King
10/12 Alice Lind



Anniversaries

10/11 Bob & Martina Olson (23)
10/12 Dave & Deb Ebben (30)



St. Joe's Food Pantry

For the most up to date list for St Joe's needs, click on the logo. Some needs have changed.

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.

St Joe's is very thankful and appreciative to St James for all donations. Keep up the good work!!

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

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.

Ad Council Meeting — September 30, 2020

Those in attendance (19): Pastor Ben, Diane & Gary Linstad, Diane & Wayne DeGrand, Mary & Tom Schemm, Charis Bahr, LuAnn Van Handel, Wendy Lind, Janet Clarke, Lois Bodam, Nancy VonDerOsten, Kay & Charlie Christenson, Rose Ann & Chet Luce, Deb & Bill Kraemer

Tom opened the meeting with a prayer at 6pm.

Tom laid out the main purpose of the meeting was to decide if we should move our worship indoors, what that would look like, and what additional protocols we would put into place.

There was much discussion and personal testimony voicing the safety concerns. There was a discussion on the using the basic guideline laid out the spring with some additional modifications.

There was some misunderstanding that there was some outside source telling us we could not have worship indoors. This was clarified; It is our decision to make and that is why we were meeting to discuss the pros and cons of close indoor contact and that if we do have indoor worship there were suggested safely guidelines to follow from the conference and the council of churches. We also discussed that the Bishop suggests congregations do not make changes to whatever form of worship they are currently doing, but that it was up to the individual congregations to decide what is in the best interest their membership.

There was some talk about the possibility of using HEPA filter machines once windows can do longer be opened. These machines cost about \$300 a piece and cover about 400 square feet each. It was estimated that we would likely need four or five. No decision was made in regards on this at this time.

A vote was taken on if we should give members the option to worship inside once it is safe to do so. It unanimously passed with those in attendance, noting that there were those who expressed support for St James, but do not feel safe meeting inside at this time. They did however express that they would continue to watch the live streaming worship.

We then discussed doing making some educational videos to post on the website with some of the protocols such entering in the main doors and exiting out the west wing of the building and using proper seating distancing. Bill and pastor Ben will work on this. Also using pre-recorded music from the praise team for a while. Marking off the pews using every 3rd pew and some sort of division of the usable pews. Bibles, hymnals and other things will be removed from the pews for now, having less surface contact. Words to songs will continue to printed in the bulletin as this is also posted on the website each week for who do not attend in person. It was suggested that each person be given a Clorox wipe to clean their space upon entering. 6 containers of these were donated by a friend of Lois Bodam. No ushers, each person can grab a bulletin upon entry into the sanctuary. We talked about taking temps of those entering the building, but decided this creates more person to person contact so we will not do that. It was decided that sub-committee would get together on the Tuesday, October 6th at 10 am to work out additional safely measures. This sub-committee is Tom & Mary Schemm, Pastor Ben, Kay & Charlie Christenson, Chris Bahr and Deb & Bill Kraemer.

Deb will contact GCC and let know of our plans to move worship indoors and how that could affect them with our new protocols, and to find out if their congregation is meeting in person or just streaming their worship.

When we do return of indoor worship, live streaming and online viewing will still be offered.

No reports were given at the meeting, however, Tom let us know that he began working on the Stewardship drive for the fall with a possible theme of 'Hope & Healing.'

Charge conference this year will be via zoom with the district superintendent on Tuesday, December 8th at 6pm with Emmanuel.

Tom closed the meeting with a prayer at 7pm.

Addendum, sub-committee minutes.

We have heard from many of you since our Wednesday meeting, and due to the current rapid increase of covid 19 cases in our area, the sub-committee has decided we **will not hold indoor worship** at this time. We will continue to prepare for indoor worship, so that when it deemed safe we are ready.

Wendy & LuAnn have begun the preparation by roping off the pews, removing books, pencils & envelopes from the pews.

In addition,

Masks will be required of all in attendance.

Pre-recorded music of our praise team will be used.

6 ft. seating distance will be required.

Enter and exit doors will be clearly marked for both the building and the sanctuary.

Asking people to not attend if they are not feeling well.

2020's ('UN'-FAIR) HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

As the Covid 19 numbers are increasing, like most events for 2020, the St James Holiday Fair & Craft Sale is not to be, so we have come up with an 'un'-Fair. (as in, not a fair) No cookies, vendors or crafts. (O my!) Instead we have put our head's together to come up with an '**un'-Fair Holiday Fundraiser.**' This will involve three parts. An attempt will be made to explain below...

Part One... Soups!

We thought, what is always popular in winter? Soup of course!

So we have gathered some of the best soup makers at St James and we will be selling 3 different soups in 2 different quantities. You may pre-order your soup request beginning October 1st. Feel free to share this with your friends too, perhaps they would also like some delicious soup on a cold day. Soups are to be picked up on Saturday, December 5th between the hours of 9 and noon. The other information you need is listed on the order form below. Feel free to duplicate as needed.

(Contact the church office if need more forms.)

Soup Pre-Order Slips by Quart or Pint

Quarts are \$10, Pints are \$5 (deadline to pre-order is Mon., Nov. 30th)
(orders can be paid for upon pick-up between 9am and noon on Sat., Dec. 5th)

Your Name _____

Circle type of soup: **Chili (with noodles / without noodles)**

Number of jars ___ quart(s) OR ___ pint(s)

Cheesy potato w/ham and veggies

Number of jars ___ quart(s) OR ___ pint(s)

Chicken Booyah

Number of jars ___ quart(s) OR ___ pint(s)



Part Two... Salvation Army.

Each year the mission committee chooses Salvation Army to raise funds for, as the 4th quarter local mission. Also, a few years back we began implementing Salvation Army ringers to greet our Holiday Fair shoppers. We will combine these efforts this year. Once again Ken's Sports will do a donation match up to \$100 for the Salvation Army. So the first \$100 for the Salvation Army will be doubled, thanks to Ken's Sports. Although the bells won't be ringing this year, the spirit of bells will be present. 🎅 🦌 🧝 🎁



Part Three... 'un'-Fair Fundraising.

This one is a tricky one to explain. Remember when there used to be church salad luncheon fundraisers? After a while some churches thought members might be willing to just give a donation instead using their funds to buy ingredients, labor over making all those salads and breads, and then turning around and buying that which they made. That is the idea here. Since we will not be making and donating all those wonderful cookies, buns, and crafts, we thought you may want to donate the \$ you would have spent making, buying, and time selling them to the 'un'-Fair Fundraiser.

To help with the Salvation Army and fair donations, there will be an envelope in the your quarterly giving statements that will be addressed to St James. You may use this envelope to make your donations to the 'un'-Fair fundraiser and/ or the Salvation Army. Just mark in your memo line how much you want to go for each. Instructions will be enclosed with your statements.

Although you are invited to ask friends to purchase jars of soup, there will be no outside advertising for this fundraising event. Contact Wendy Lind @ 920-810-3449 with questions.