

St. James Journal

DECEMBER 2018

DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEUDLE

December 2 and 9:

8 AM Traditional
9:15 AM Bible Study
9:30 AM
Contemporary
10:30 AM Christmas
Program Practice
11 AM Traditional

December 16:

8 AM Traditional
Worship (Chapel)
9:30 AM Christmas
Program
*Brunch following
program*

December 23:

9 AM Cantata

CHRISTMAS EVE:

Worship at 3 PM,
5 PM, & 10 PM

December 30:

9 AM Service of
Lesson and Carols

COURAGE FOR CHRISTMAS

Advent is a season for preparation—a time to keep awake to what is going on the world while we stay busy getting ready for all that is to come. We anticipate the joys of Christmas, but we have so much to do before we are ready. It can take courage to stay on task, courage to say no to distractions, and courage to keep hopeful in a world where things do not always go the way we plan.

Our sermons this Advent season will explore the courage of the characters in the Christmas story. Inspired by clips from the animated movie “The Star”, we will get to know Mary, Joseph, the wise men, Elizabeth, and other characters as they display hope, trust, belief, fear, and following.

We pray that the example of these characters and their stories will help you to live a more courageous, hope-filled life in this holiday season and beyond. The full schedule is as follows:

November 25: Zechariah and Elizabeth, with the Courage to Hope.

December 2: Mary, with the Courage to Trust

December 9: Joseph, with the Courage to Believe

December 16: Herod, with Courage Lost (8 AM service only)
Christmas Program (9:30 AM service)

December 23: The Wise Men, with the Courage to Follow
(One service at 9AM with Cantata)

December 24: Jesus, with the Courage to Follow the Light
(3 PM, 5 PM, 10 PM)

May you find joy and peace in the middle of this busy time, and may you always keep in mind the reason we celebrate. Christ has come into the world to set us free, so that we can live with courage and hope.

~Pastor Sid and Pastor Jeni

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Periodically, members of our congregation are in need of financial help. We would like to be able to provide gift cards for groceries or gas or other funds when those needs arise. If you would like to contribute to that fund, you can donate money or bring Hy-Vee or Wal-Mart cards to the church office or give them to Pastor Jeni. Thank you!

St. James News

CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND PORTALS OF PRAYER for October thru December are available on the table in the Narthex.

2018 FLOWER MINISTRY

sign up sheets are now available in the Narthex. Flowers are \$21.

THE JANUARY JOURNAL deadline is December 20 by 12:00 PM.

THE JANUARY JOURNAL will be assembled on December 28th at 10:00 AM. Please call the church office if you are able to help.

BULLETIN ARTICLES are due on Wednesday by 9:00 AM every week.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING ST. JAMES?

Please talk to Pastor Jeni if you would like to join our congregation or have questions about joining our congregation. A new member meeting will be held soon.

You can talk to her today, or call or e-mail her any time. Thank you!

WEEKLY E-MAIL UPDATES

Would you like to receive a Weekly Update by e-mail with announcements and events?

We are in the process of updating our Weekly Update list. Please call or e-mail the Church office if you would like to be added to the list!

JAVA AND JESUS

We meet each Tuesday at 8:08 am. Join us any week!

OUR WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY PRESENT OVER PERFECT

Book Study will wrap up on December 1 at 2 PM at Cabin Coffee. Be on the look out for an announcement about our next book study in the new year!

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:

We are updating our visitation lists. If you or anyone you know is homebound and would like communion brought to you at home, please contact Pastor Sid or the Church office.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGES:

PLEASE NOTE the worship changes on the calendar and front page of the newsletter for December. There is no 11 AM service on the 16th, and only ONE SERVICE on the 23rd and 30th at 9 AM.

DOOR PAINTING

The interior doors of the church are in the process of being repainted. We will be painting 39 doors and we would like you to sponsor a door. The doors are being refinished and painted to a lighter color. Please consider sponsoring a door in the amount of \$50.00 per door. Thanks in advance for your support!!

~The Stewardship Board

 Seasons Greetings

WELCA & ST. JAMES NEWS

ALTAR GUILD is looking for additional members to help with communion set-up, etc. Shirley, Jeanette, Donna and Kathy are willing to team up so we share the duties and make work easier and the schedule lighter. Let the church office know if you are interested. Bonus: No meetings!

THE LOVE CIRCLE will not meet in December.

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

We will meet again in January, so
keep stitching!



CARE TEAM CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS

Christmas gifts cards will be in the mail soon, keep on the lookout! Hopefully, we'll see you during the holiday season!

FALL FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS!

WELCA would like to thank everyone involved with the Fall Festival. Whether you donated time and talent making something, donated items for the silent auction and live auction, helped work at the Festival, attended and joined in on the fun, or helped in any way, we truly appreciate the support. We would also like to thank Alyse Hesley for being in charge of the Fall Festival. Working and supporting each other is what brings our church family and community together.

~Jeanette Priebe and Myrna Jensen



MISSION ACTION of WELCA

The **Mitten Tree** is BACK!! Donations of hats, mittens, gloves, socks, underwear, and other winter wear (No Scarfs) for children are welcome. All collected items will go to area elementary schools. Thank you for your generosity!!

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING! **SIGN UP TO SERVE!**

St. James will be reserving slots to ring bells for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign.

There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Sign up your family or a group to help you. Maybe get a group of carolers together! Or your confirmation small group!

Or take some instruments and play some songs. Watch the bulletin for dates and times and sign up at church on Sunday mornings.



ST. JAMES EVENTS



CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Join us on DECEMBER 2 at 4 PM for our Annual Christmas Caroling to homebound members and nursing homes. All are invited to join their voices as we begin this season by singing God's praise in celebration! We will meet back at the Church after caroling for pizza and treats. We hope you will come...and remember "The Best Way to Spread Christmas Cheer is Singing Loud for All to Hear!"

OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK AND 25 CENT STORE will be held on Saturday, December 8 from 9-12. *We would love donations of cookies or items for the store!* If you would like to bring items for the store, bring them to the gym stage by December 5. Cookies need to be brought to the kitchen by December 7. A sign up for cookies and candy will be available at church. Please help by bringing a dozen or two to share.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM! This year join us as we present our CHRISTMAS PAGEANT on Sunday, December 16 at 9:30 AM. This year's program is *produced and directed by Stebens Children's Theater!* Invite others to see this wonderful play! A brunch will follow the program. Sign up for the brunch at church on Sunday mornings or by calling the Church office. If you were not able to join us for auditions, but still would like to be a part of the program, join us for rehearsals! The practice schedule

for the program is as follows:

Rehearsal Schedule

Sunday, December 2 from 10:30-12:00 noon (Costuming – 12:00-1:00 pm)
 Saturday, December 8 from 10-11:30 am
 Sunday, December 9 from 10:30-12:00 noon
 Saturday, December 15 from 10-11:30 am
 Sunday, December 16 from 9:30 (Performance)



UGLY SWEATER PARTY, TRIVIA NIGHT, AND HYMNS!

Join us for friends, food, and fun on December 16 from 4-6 pm at the Mason City Brewing. Wear your smarty pants, your thinking cap, and whatever else you think will help you answer our brain teasers! Feel free to come early for dinner.

In addition to the best trivia game in the room, we'll also be having an ugly Christmas sweater party! Dust off those sweaters! There will be voting and the winner will walk away with bragging rights and a special treat!



COME ONCE AGAIN TO HEAR THE STORY OF CHRIST'S BIRTH!

Join us for Christmas Eve Worship services at 3 PM and 5 PM, with a beautiful candlelight service at 10 PM. This year, invite someone to share this story with you and bring them to worship. Let us fill the Sanctuary with song and praise as we gather to celebrate this Holy Night!

+++++

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS

DECEMBER, 2018

Meals served from 5:15 to 6 PM

December 5

Sherriburgers (mini hamburgers)

Cheesy hashbrowns

Hotdogs

December 12, 2018—January 9, 2019

December 12—Confirmation small group parties

No Meal

Christmas Break until January 9, 2019

Meal Donations:

\$5.00 per person

All meals include dinner salad, dessert, and beverages.

HAVE A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON!

~Sherri

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias are requested to beautify the sanctuary.

Poinsettias may be ordered through the church office for \$15.00 each.

Orders with payment need to be turned in by noon on Friday, December 14.

I would like to provide _____ (quantity) poinsettia(s)

My/Our Name _____

To be place in honor of _____

To be place in memory of _____

Attached is \$ _____ (\$15.00 each)

December Readers

Schedule	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
December 2	Judy Clark	Dave Frenz	Gene Larsen
December 9	Jeanette Priebe	Ann Sletten	Carmen Madson
December 16	Corrine Bolz	Christmas Program	No Service
December 23	9:00 am Cantata	xxxxx	xxxxx
December 24	3:00 pm	5:00 pm	10:00 pm
December 30	9:00am Worship & Carols	xxxxx	xxxxx

December Greeters

2 & 9 Memorials Board
16 & 23 Trustees

St. James Contact Information

ST. JAMES STAFF

Pastor Jeni Bohls
pastorjeni@mchsi.com

Interim Pastor Sid Bohls
sid.bohls@gmail.com

Administrative Coordinator
Jill Nonnweiler
stjamesofficemc@gmail.com

Financial Secretary
Mike Fitzgerald
stjamesfs@gmail.com

Building Supervisor
Jennifer Hansen
reddress@live.com

Worship & Music Coordinator
Bill Grant
honeyguitar@msn.com

Kitchen Coordinator
Sherri Fitzgerald
sherrifitzgerald1965@gmail.com

1148 4th St SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-4702
www.stjamesmc.org
[@St James](http://www.facebook.com/@StJames)

