

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Traditional Worship
9:15 AM Contemporary Worship
9:15 AM Adult Bible Study
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
(Communion is on the 1st & 3rd Sundays)

WEDNESDAY EVENING MAY 3rd & 10th SCHEDULE

There is something for EVERYONE on Wednesday nights at St. James!

5:15—Join us for a great supper!
6:15—Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders
ONE for 4th-6th graders
WOW for pre-school-3rd Graders
6:15—High School Youth Group
6:15—Adult Bible Study
6:00—Worship Band
7:00—Choir

OUTDOOR WORSHIP begins Memorial Day Weekend, May 28. You are welcome to bring your lawn chairs or use one of the chairs provided as we worship under the trees. Outdoor worship is at 8 and 9:15. Our indoor chapel service will move to 10:30 for the summer.

St. James Journal

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
"WE PROCLAIM AND PRACTICE
CHRIST'S LOVE"

MAY 2017

From Erik...

As many of you know, my father-in-law passed away a few weeks ago. Ron Mortensen was 79 years old and had been battling cancer for a little over four years.

He was an amazing man. All Ron was ever concerned about was how he could serve God through serving others. He was constantly looking for ways to help anyone and everyone in both large and small ways. It was always clear when Ron was serving. The recycling bins were emptied and taken to the recycling center? Ron must have been here! The lawn was mowed while we were at work and school? Ron must have come over! One of the kids needs to be picked up from practice? Let's call Grandpa!

And he loved every minute of it!

I had never been in the presence of someone when they took their last breath, but I was with our family by his bedside as he left this earth to be with God in Heaven. Those last few hours were incredibly spiritual and contained stories filled with memories along with lots of laughter and tears.

There's been quite a bit of death in our St. James family of late, too. In the past six weeks or so, roughly since the beginning of Lent, five people with strong ties to St. James have died.

Some of the deaths were a blessing in that suffering was ended, while others were quite sudden, unexpected, and shocking. Either way, several families have gathered, many tears have been shed, and a lot of sadness has been felt.

But there are other things that have also resulted from these recent deaths: the gospel has been preached, hope has been spread, and Heaven has gained some amazing saints.

In the opening phrase of John 14:2, Jesus tells his disciples, "In my Father's house are many rooms." Then later in the verse, "I am going there to prepare a place for you."

Jesus is making it clear not only to his disciples, but also to each one of us, that Heaven has many permanent dwelling places and Jesus is there preparing them for us. We know that nothing can separate us from

God's love for us, and that means we get to spend life eternally with Him.

That reminder for families suffering the loss of a loved one is especially important. One day, they will be reunited in Heaven! The gospel doesn't get any more real than when death has occurred, and Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection means that death has been conquered forever and we have eternal life to look forward to, no matter what is in our past. That's the message of Easter!

Getting back to Ron, many of you have extended to me and my family your condolences face-to-face, while others have sent your well wishes through text messages, Facebook responses, or sympathy cards. All of your kind words have meant a great deal to me and to all of us. Thank you!

And while we miss seeing Ron every day, we know that Jesus prepared a place for him and that he indeed is in the Father's house.

Happy Easter!

THE JUNE JOURNAL deadline is by May 19 by 12:00 PM.

THE JUNE JOURNAL will be assembled on May 26th at 9:00 AM.

Please call the church office if you are able to help.

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



DUE TO INCREASED PRIVACY REGULATIONS at the hospital, it is very important that you call the Church office when you or someone you love is hospitalized so we can make sure you receive a visit. You can leave a message on the machine or call Pastor Jeni at home or on her cell phone. Thank you!

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to:

- The family of Donna Schultz
- The family of Chuck Harris
- The family of Kayrl Plagge
- The family of Joanne Boone
- The family of former St. James member, Donna Wiltse

- Pastor David and Louise Anderson and family at the death of Pastor Anderson's mother, Angie Anderson.
- Erik and Sue Hoefler and family at the death of Sue's father, Ron Mortensen.
- The family of Donna DeCathelineau
- Sue & Lou Cira at the death of Sue's brother, Keith Cannon

When there is a death of a family member, please call the church office so that we may make a note of it in an upcoming Journal. Also please call the church office if a name has been inadvertently omitted.

THANK YOU to everyone for the lovely cards, phone calls & gifts & making my 90th birthday so special. Also thanks to St. James for the beautiful cake at the Lent supper.
~Vivian Lavonne Leach

THANK YOU for all the words of sympathy and cards following the death of my brother, Don Hudson. A special thank you to all who contributed to the wonderful meal and paper products that were brought to our house on the day of the funeral. All your support and friendship is very much appreciated.

~Ann & Merv Sletten

ST. JAMES CO-ED SOFTBALL SIGN UP is going on now! All players 14 years old & up are invited to play in the Church Co-ed softball league. We have a leisure Omega team and competitive Alpha team. All players must register signup at church between services. Great fellowship, competition, and fun! Games are played on Friday evenings.

God's Work Our Hands – Spring Cleaning Day; It's time to tackle the spring spruce up in and around the church. There will be numerous projects available for you to choose from on Sunday, May 7th. Lunch will be provided. Stay tuned for more information. Still need to purchase a shirt? Contact Sue

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with our Holy Week worship and other

St. James News

events! We are so grateful for our musicians, choir, ushers, greeters, readers, Maundy Thursday disciples, communion preparers, breakfast preparers and servers, those who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt, and ALL of our many volunteers. What a beautiful, full Holy Week it was! Check out our St. James Facebook page for lots of pictures from the weekend.

SIMPLY GIVING: As summer approaches, we

know that there will be weeks you may miss worship because of vacations and other activities. To continue to regularly support our mission and ministry, you can sign up to have your weekly offerings automatically deducted from your bank account through our "Simply Giving" Program. Go to our website or contact the church office to enroll. You can also mail contributions to the church any time. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Youth and Family News

MIGHTY FORTRESS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held Sunday, July 16th through Wednesday, July 19th in the evenings. Please contact Alyse Hesley at 641-860-0951 or alysehesley@live.com if you would be willing to help this year.

MUFFINS WITH MOM—A Special Mother’s Day Celebration! HEY KIDS! Invite your MOMS, GRANDMAS, AUNTS, AND GOOD FRIENDS you want to honor to our Muffins With Mom event on Mother’s Day, May 14. We will gather in the gym immediately following the 9:15 service for muffins and a special craft. All are welcome!



CONGREGATION CELEBRATION! The WHOLE congregation is invited to come to a St. James Bowling Party on Sunday, May 21 from 11-12:30 at Mystic Lanes as we wrap up a school year and KICK OFF summer! Bowling is free for everyone! There is food available for purchase if you would like to eat there. Please make plans to join us for this fun day!!



GRADUATE RECOGNITION DAY: Join us on Sunday, May 21 as we celebrate our High School

Seniors at the 9:15 service. Graduates: Be sure to bring a Senior Picture to the office by May 15 or e-mail a picture to pastorjeni@mchsi.com. **Everyone is invited to a reception for our graduates following the service in the Fire-side Room.**

MAY 10 is the last night of the year for WOW, ONE, and Confirmation. Confirmation youth, be sure to get your bonus points in before that night!

Dear Church Family,
The mission trip youth thank you for your generous support and donations for the Easter breakfast this year. We are so glad so many of you attended and enjoyed the great fellowship time and yummy food! Also, we thank Smithfield Foods for donating the ham and Thrivent for donating a gift card for supplies. We look forward to doing it again next year!

Your Mission Trip Youth

Board, Circle News, & Prayer Shawl News

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS: Blood pressure checks will take place on Sunday, May 7. This will be in the Board Room across from Amy’s office.

~Growth & Life Board

LOVE CIRCLE will meet on Monday, May 15, at 7pm.

SENIOR SAINTS will meet on May 18th at 5:00.

KOINONIA will meet May 28th at 6:00 PM.

DO DAYS QUILTING meets every Tuesday at 9:00a.m.

HOPE CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, May 16th at 9:30 AM in the Friendship Room.

PRAYER SHAWL will pray over finished shawls on Sunday, May 21st at 9:00 in the board room. Remember, anyone wanting to join in this wonderful ministry at St. James, we have 16 totes of yarn to choose from. Don’t buy it! Stop in on the 21st to find out more info!



CARE TEAM: We finished up another year of sending Care Packages to our college kids away from home. We sent 58 packages this year and we know we have a large class graduating so next year will be even more. Thanks to all who donated with items or money for postage and for our Thrivent cards. I am so thankful for all of the help packing those boxes and to Paige Hanson for helping with shipping at Hy-Vee. We just want all of those young adults to know St. James hasn’t forgotten them.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND PORTALS OF PRAYER for April through June are available at the church on the tables in the Narthex.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS
May 3 2017
Meals served 5:15 to 6:15 PM

May 3
 Party Sub, Pot O'Luck Surprises

MEAL DONATION:
\$5 PER PERSON

All meals include lettuce salad, dessert, and beverages.
Come one. Come all. This is our last supper until September.
Have a great summer!



THANKS TO ALL of you who attend the Wednesday evening meals! It is a great time of laughter, fellowship and good food for all of us to share! With that in mind, the last meal will be served May 3 for this session. I look forward to seeing all of you again in September.

Have a great summer!
 Sherri

Easter breakfast:

Thank you to the mission trip kids and parents that participated in the awesome Easter breakfast we served this year. We doubled the attendance and donations as compared to last year! Thanks for your hard work!!

Sherri

Reader Schedule

	8:00 AM	9:15 AM	11:00 AM
May 7	Jeanette Priebe	Alyse Hesley	Gene Larson
May 14	Corrine Bolz	Bob Follmuth	Carmen Madson
May 21	George Arduser	Cindy Dahl	Pastor Jeni
May 28	Linda Schmidt	Carol Edwards	Erik Hoefler

SCRIPTURE READERS

If you are unable to read on the scheduled Sunday please call the church office.

St. James Contact Information

ST. JAMES STAFF
Pastor Jeni Bohls
 pastorjeni@mchsi.com

Student Pastor Erik Hoefler
 ehoefercomet@gmail.com

Administrative Coordinator
Amy Halverson
 stjamesofficemc@gmail.com

Financial Secretary
Mike Fitzgerald
 stjamesfs@gmail.com

Building Supervisor
Bill Trask
 bljjit@msn.com

Worship & Music Coordinator
Bill Grant
 honeyguitar@msn.com

Choir Director
Zack Carlson

Kitchen Coordinator
Sherri Fitzgerald

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

