



St. James Journal

Our Mission Statement:
"We Proclaim and Practice Christ's Love"

October, 2020
www.stjamesmc.org

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 AM Indoor Worship
10:00 AM Online Worship

Online Sunday School is held
any time Sunday mornings
beginning at 8 AM.

WAYS TO GIVE:

Thank you, Thank you for your continued support of our ministry and mission through these difficult months!

Weekly offerings can be brought to the outdoor service and placed in the box on the usher's table. They can also be mailed to the Church office. Or you can sign up to give online. Simply go to our website stjamesmc.org and sign up for online giving. Offerings can be recurring or one-time donations.

Contact the office for questions on how to sign up!

Office Hours:

Tuesday through Friday 9-12.
Pastors available other times
by appointment.

WELCA FALL FESTIVAL ONLINE AUCTION

will be held October 19-25. Check out page 3 for more information! And join the St. James WELCA Facebook page today!!

Update on our Worship Plans for fall

Dear Congregation,

Our return to worship committee has met and voted to resume indoor worship on Sunday, October 18 at 9 AM.

For now, we will only have ONE indoor, traditional service. We will continue to broadcast online services at 10 AM. The online services will continue to be a blend of worship styles.

To ensure the safety of our congregation, we will require masks or face shields for all in attendance. We will also adhere to physical distancing guidelines. Our pews are marked to ensure distancing.

Due to those guidelines, we will only be able to hold 75 people, including pastors and worship assistants, in the Sanctuary at this time. Therefore, we are asking you to register for services. Registration can be done by calling the Church office or e-mailing Jill at stjamesofficemc@gmail.com. Please call to register by **FRIDAY AT 10 AM**. We encourage you to call or email early in the week.

If we find we have more who want to attend than we can hold, we will consider adding additional services. We also strongly encourage you to worship online if you aren't able to attend in person.

More guidelines for worship can be found on the back page of the Journal.

We look forward to welcoming you indoors for worship again. Our number one priority will be your safety. Please know that these decisions can change at any time. Registration will ensure that we can contact you if there are any changes in worship for the week. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we prayerfully navigate these decisions!

Return to Church Phase Committee,

Shawn Janssen
Kim Ostrander
Pastor Jeni
Jere Merrill

Leonard Johnson
Cheryl West
Pastor Sid

Gary LaFrenz
Nick West
Jennifer Hansen

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St. James Care Team

Here at St. James Lutheran Church, we have a Care Team Ministry. One component of this Team is sending boxes of goodies to college students and military personnel away from home. This is a year of unknowns with this Covid Pandemic. We aren't sure what the year will look like. We pray for a wonderful school year and are able to still ship our boxes. We need help with this ministry.

Back in the Spring of 2014, Bob and I had a relative from UNI stay with us for a semester while she completed her student teaching here in Mason City. For Valentine's Day, she received a box of goodies from her home church with a note saying they were thinking of and praying for her. I realized, "Wow! We need to do that at St. James!"

During our first year, we sent out seven boxes three times and last year we increased that number to 18! We also tried something new at Christmas time: Sending a gift card instead of goodies. We've heard great feedback on all of our mailing from recipients. We need your help: Donations of goodies or money to buy the "stuff" and for postage would be greatly appreciated. We spend over \$150.00 for postage each time we ship boxes. We have been lucky to get Thrivent cards to help with the postage, but that's not a guarantee each year. We want these young adults away from home to know that St. James hasn't forgotten them. Prayerfully consider helping with the Care Team Ministry during this current school year.

Thank you and God Bless! For more information, contact: Kathy Follmuth at [641.425.9676](tel:641.425.9676), Gloria Hesley at [641.420.2967](tel:641.420.2967), or Jill in the Church office at: [641.423.4702](tel:641.423.4702) or stjamesofficemc@gmail.com.

If you would like to have your son, daughter, or grandchild who is away from home at college, or is serving in the military, to be a part of this Ministry, we need their address. Also, each year we ask for a \$10.00 donation from the recipients' families to help defray the shipping costs. Thank you!

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL



Join us each week for our Online Sunday School!

Openings are posted on our YouTube Channel, website, and Facebook page each Sunday morning by 8 AM. Kits with more activities can be downloaded from our website or picked up at church.

All ages are enjoying the stories and songs as we learn about some of our favorite Old Testament Bible stories! Join in the fun each week!

St. James Halloween Parade!

In place of Trunk or Treat this year, we will be hosting a *Halloween Parade!*

We encourage you to bring DECORATED cars to the Church Parking Lot on Halloween evening, October 31, from 5:30-6:30. We will invite kids to walk through the parking lot to enjoy the decorated cars. At the end of the parade, they will receive a bag of Halloween treats!

How can you participate:

***Register by October 28** for a spot by e-mailing Pastor Jeni at pastorjeni@mchsi.com or texting at 641-583-5901. Please indicate how many cars you are bringing and we will reserve spots for you. We would like to have at least 15 cars to ensure a fun parade! (If we don't have enough participation, the event will be cancelled.)

*Make sure your car is decorated and ready by 5:15 PM

*Donate candy or other Halloween treats for goodie bags by **October 28**

*Bring your kids/grandkids/friends for our Halloween parade. Please adhere to good social distancing!

In case of rain, the event will not be held.

St. James News

THANK YOU:

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathy and to Pastor Sid for the communion services and visits to Ray at the IOOF.

The family of Ray Groth

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GOD'S BLESSINGS TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED!

Ava Lea Pommrehn was baptized on August 30. She is the daughter of Adam and Jennifer Pommrehn. Her sponsors are Jaycee Knutson and Brook Pommrehn.

Gavin Samuel Brekken was baptized on September 20. He is the son of Jacob and McKenzie Brekken. His Baptismal Sponsors are Jordan & Joran Colby and Tyler Olson.

Charles Daniel Freiberg was baptized on September 25. He is the son of Matt Freiberg and Lily Grant. His baptismal sponsor is Grant Bohls.

May God bless you and keep you now and always!

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OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY:

- To the family of Ray Groth
- To the family of Roger Marsh
- To the family of Gordon Seehawer
- To the family of Virginia Theilen
- To the family of Marci Abrams

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DRIVE THRU HOLY COMMUNION:

Join us Sunday, October 18 and 25 from 2-3 PM for drive-thru communion. Please remember to wear masks and stay in your cars.

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BUILDING USE:

Rooms are available for meetings and other events on a limited basis. There is a COVID capacity limit posted on the doors of each room to ensure proper distancing is maintained during meetings. Please adhere to these guidelines. It is extremely important you contact Jill with the meeting date and time as cleaning will be needed following all events.

THE WELCA Fall Festival is going online this year.



This year's Fall Festival will be a Facebook Online Auction to be held October 19, 2020 - October 25, 2020. We have beautiful baskets, quilts, and other items available!

Join the St. James WELCA Facebook Group and/or follow the St. James Facebook page for auction information and more details. And join the fun October 19-25!

Please contact one of us if you have any questions! And watch for more details about our exciting online event. Thank you!

Leslie Johnson 641-210-9003
Christine Foth 641-420-0202

ST. JAMES OFFICE HOURS

are Tuesday-Friday from 9 AM-12.
Please call if you need to schedule other times to come in the building.
Thank you!

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

redress5309@gmail.com

Worship & Music Coordinator

Bill Grant

honeyguitar@msn.com

Kitchen Coordinator

Sherri Fitzgerald

sherrifitzgerald1965@gmail.com

Choir Director

Ashley McLaughlin

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www.stjamesmc.org

[www.facebook.com/@St James](https://www.facebook.com/@StJames)

**As you join us for worship,
please keep the following guidelines
in mind as we work together
to stay safe:**

- Our expectation is that persons attending must not be experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 as outlined by the CDC.
- All must use proper social distancing practices (6 feet)
- If you have young children, be sure that they remain with the family (arm's length).
- To ensure appropriate distancing coming in and out of the church, please enter through the main door and exit through the door in the Fireside room. For handicap access, please seek out an usher if assistance is needed.
- All in attendance are asked to wear a mask. We will have a small supply for those who may forget. This is to protect you and those who also attend.
- Offering box will be placed in a central location.
- No coffee/donuts provided.
- The service will be displayed on the screens instead of bulletins.
- The red pads will not be distributed.
- The pews in the sanctuary will be roped off to allow for proper distancing.
- Cushions have been removed from the pews.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available to ensure proper hand hygiene at designated stations.
- No singing will be allowed. There will be recorded or special music during the service.
- Ushers will be needed to take count and record names of those in attendance.
- The bathrooms inside the main door will be available.
- Drive through communion will still be available at times separate from the worship service. We are trying to determine how we can make communion work during the indoor service.
- There will still be an online service for those who are not comfortable worshipping in public. This will be available at 10:00 AM.

**INDOOR WORSHIP: 9 AM
ONLINE WORSHIP: 10 AM**