

The **VOICE**

OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2020

Listen & Do

Article By **Chris Gjelsten**

Like many of you, spending lots of time in a car dealership or a cell phone provider can take a toll on your patience. You need this PIN. You need that password. You've got to come back tomorrow. You're like, I just want to upgrade my phone. Seriously, how hard does this have to be?

I took my 15-year-old daughter to the cellphone store last night. She's worked all summer long towards her goal of getting the phone she wanted. It will mean a lot more to her if she's got skin in the game instead of mom & dad footing the bill. She would be proud of having worked hard all summer to save up money toward a goal. We were third in line with two agitated customers in front of us. I've had my moments at this very same store, so I had an idea of my upcoming experience. The nice, young, African American 20-something behind the counter seemed overwhelmed. I chimed in, are you flying solo tonight? He replied that he was. I looked at Addison and said we've got to go and come back another day. She pleaded with me as we didn't have any plans that night, so we stuck it out watching every painful moment.

The first man was winding down, saying things under his breath while boasting of his Blue Lives Matter face mask in this young black man's face. The second man, who was there earlier in the day, but needed more documentation was ranting and raving about his terrible experience as he finally stormed out saying something inappropriately racial to this kind young man.

Finally, 90 minutes later, it was our turn. I showed him our bill. He entered our account into the system, but a glitch popped up, a glitch that has haunted this account from day one. I was not recognized as a valid customer. They need my wife to come down, as she set up our very first deal. We've had that changed in their system twice, but it keeps rolling back to my wife's name.

I got hot under the collar and loudly said, Addison, we're outta here. I went back to my car. Addison followed a few minutes after me.

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Annual Meeting 2020
Save the Date: November 8th

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www.smlc.info/events

Complete Details Inside or

Find Us Online@
www.smlc.info

ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the next
The Voice is **Sept 15th**.
Please Email articles to: stmark-communications@gmail.com &
deb@smlc.info



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Next Council Meeting: Sept 8th at 7:00 pm.
Next Committee Meetings: Sept 22nd at 7:00 pm (virtual meetings).

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

September 2020

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From the Desk of Pastor Breum

Dear Friends,

Isaiah 40:28-31(NLT) ²⁸Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. ²⁹He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. ³¹But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

One of my favorite authors recently died, J.I. Packer. He wrote the classic, “Knowing God” published in 1973 and I read portions of his book every year. I honestly believe it is a book every Christian would benefit from reading. Other than reading the Bible, Packer’s book has taught me things about God that I would not know at all had I not spent the last 40 years going through the book. If you read it, some of it will sound familiar to you because I quote from it often. Next to Corrie Ten Boom, J. I. Packer is my favorite author.

Quoting J. I. Packer: *“What is truly significant is not the fact that you know God but that God knows you. You are in His hands (“underneath are the everlasting arms”) and are never out of His mind. All your knowledge of God depends on His sustained initiative in knowing you. He knows you as a friend, one who loves you, and there is no moment when His eye is off of you, or His attention distracted from you, and no moment therefore, when His care falters.”*

“This is wonderful knowledge. Knowing that God’s love is always with you and He watches over you for your good. God knows the worst about you and His love for you never falters. This gives you great incentive to love and worship Him, for He has given His Son to die for you in order to realize His purpose.”

“Once you become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life’s problems fall into place of their own accord. There is no greater knowledge than knowledge of God.”

Our nation is filled with stress, anxiety, worry, anger, hatred, a pandemic, and violence such as we have never seen before. Those of us who know Jesus are being put to the test and these tests have become increasingly difficult. I believe the greatest answer to this period of testing is growing in our knowledge and experience of God. Packer writes, *“Those who know God have great energy for God.”* I have found that God Himself is full of abundant energy and God has a wonderful way of “reenergizing us.” God can take old and weary bones and breathe new life inside of us. Outwardly we are aging but inwardly as we trust in the Lord we find new strength. When Billy Graham ended his public ministry he was 86 years old and spoke to 90,000 people that final week. Ruth Graham, Billy’s wife said, “Every time Billy starts preaching he looks at least 10 years younger.” Billy had to have help walking up to the lectern and then he soared, like an eagle taking off for the sky. It is literally true that knowing God deeply adds a strength to your life that only believers can experience. I am not saying you need to be like Billy Graham. No, there is only one Billy Graham. But knowing God intimately and experiencing the strength of God deeply is something we all can experience.

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MISSOURI MUSINGS

BY BOB YARBROUGH

DIY Religion

DIY works pretty well in some home improvement situations. Many of us have used "do it yourself" methods to repair, replace, or refurbish this or that in our residences since the COVID-19 restrictions began.

It may not be such a great approach, though, when it comes to religion. Theologians often speak of the Christian faith as a "revealed" religion. As Pastor Breum emphasized when he preached through 2 Peter, when God gave the Scriptures, it was not "produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21 ESV).

That's not DIY! While human distinctives are present in the ancient biblical writings--people used the languages and images of their eras--God the Holy Spirit is the primary author. Thus, we call it HOLY Scripture, "holy" here meaning set apart, unparalleled, unique.

Researchers named Melinda Lundquist Denton and Richard Flory recently wrote a book called *Back-Pocket God: Religion and Spirituality in the Lives of Emerging Adults*. Such studies generalize; there are plenty of young adults (especially in the church!) whose views are in line with what Scripture teaches.

But most people in the US don't go to church, and many who do don't (want to) learn and follow God's directions for his people as the Bible sets them forth. Here are seven default convictions of young adults in the US today according to Denton and Flory:

1. Karma is real. 2. Everybody goes to heaven. 3. Just do good. (Don't be a jerk.) 4. It's all good. (Everybody can think whatever they want as long as nobody hurts anyone.) 5. Religion is easy. 6. Morals are self-evident. (We don't need or want a moral guide from outside ourselves.) 7. No regrets.

A takeaway from this is: a religion is demanded that does "not require a person to confess or repent of sins or otherwise change their choices or behavior." (Quote is from the April 8, 2020 *Christian Century*, p. 33.)

From Scripture we learn that God has another viewpoint on this. Yes, in this life people in the US can think and live however they want. But God rebukes people for supposing their notions are on par with God's: "You thought that I was just like you," he chides (Psalm 50:21 NASB).

Big, sad mistake.

God has shown us who he is and what he desires for us from his word and from his Son. Jesus relates the Father's will and words to his own appearance and teaching. He tells Philip:

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works (John 14:9-10 ESV).

Even Jesus did not practice DIY religion! He modeled a reliance of God his Father, not his own authority.

What a model for us! We don't cobble together beliefs and rules as we prefer them to be. We stand in the heritage of a Christian community and its historic confessions and practices based on Scripture and God as he reveals himself there.

St. Mark Lutheran Church emphasizes Scripture reading in worship, Bible study and studies on Sunday and through the week, and catechism based on Scripture for junior highers to give them a foundation for their lives ahead.

Together we are learning what it means that "it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13). We are not constructing our own custom faith system but discovering the gift of life, grace, and truth that Jesus revealed and continues to confirm in those who follow him.

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St. Mark Council News

To keep you better informed about Church Council decisions we briefly present the major items from our August 11, 2020 meetings.

Should you desire in-depth information, please go to www.smlc.info/minutes for additional Council and Committee minutes.

The Council received a special presentation on a new website for St. Mark, which is a major upgrade to our current site.

The Council welcomed Patrick Krook to the Evangelism Committee. Patty Lindholm and Brooke Frusti were also welcomed as our new Sunday School Coordinators.

A motion was approved for the Memorial Committee to purchase library books, inserts for the altar vases, and to replace the white pulpit and lectern paraments to match the new altar parament.

A list of items for the 2020/2021 Memorial donations was also approved.

A discussion was held to revise the Bylaws to update various policies and procedures, which will be done through weekly meetings.

A motion was approved to add Zoom to the Preferred Vendors List.

The next Council meeting is on September 8, 2020, 7:00 pm, prayerfully in the church library.

SAVE THE DATE:

November 8, 2020

Following First Service



We love how God knows the future of St. Mark, where He's going to take us as a congregation and how His hand will move us forward. If He's nudging you to follow His lead by serving on Council or if you know of someone who has expressed an interest, please let an Elder know by September 15th. The following positions will be filled for the coming year(s):

President- 1 year term (maximum 3 successive terms)

Secretary – 1 year term (max 3 successive terms)

Treasurer – 1 year term (max 3 successive terms)

Elder – 2 positions, (1) 2 year term, (1) 3 year term

Trustee – 1 position, 3 year term

Candidates will be elected during the annual meeting in November and terms will begin in January 2021.

Serving in Christ,

The Elder Board

Ken Johnson

Jeff McKenzie

Joni Wasmund

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She said that after I left, the young man started tearing up. My daughter stayed behind to console him, to reassure him he did all he could. This poor kid was handcuffed with massive limitations so basically every customer is potentially problematic.

They don't give these salespeople the tools or training they need to handle most any situation. This poor kid takes a beating all day long. Addison returned to my car and started sharing this with me as I was driving off. I stopped right there in the middle of the parking lot feeling like I was part of the problem, not the solution. I ran up to the dark locked store. I knocked on the door and peered in to see this young man sitting on a bench with his head in his hands.

He opened the door and he was visibly upset. I told him I was completely wrong and that I was so incredibly sorry. He really broke down in front of me and I was crushed as a human for barking out earlier. He shared a few minutes later to me and my daughter who eventually followed me in, that he was most grateful for that. Twelve hours later, I still feel awful. I sat in the car in tears with my daughter. I am disappointed in myself but promise to learn from this very emotional moment. I'm 58 years old. I've attended church most of my life. I've learned from some of the best pastors on the planet, to include our amazing pastor. I can honestly tell you that I learned more about Christianity from my daughter last night in two minutes by how compassionate she was and how she cared so much to recognize another child of God who was feeling beat up. If you have a child you bring to church, it is my prayer that you learn from them and really listen to what they're saying; you will be pleasantly surprised.

We all may know our scriptures. We all may have a Jesus fish (Ichthus). We may listen to KLOVE all day, but until we start applying what we learn we're no better than the two agitated, make that three agitated cell phone customers.

James 1:22-23 New Living Testament "And remember, it is a message to obey, not just to listen to. If you don't obey, you are only fooling yourself. For if you just listen and don't obey, it is like looking at your face in the mirror but doing nothing to improve your appearance."
Mark 12:31 New Living Testament "Love your neighbor as yourself"

In Jesus,
Chris Gjelsten

From the Desk of Pastor Breum ... continued from Page 3

"Those who know God have great thoughts of God." Friends, the greatest battles in our lives take place in our minds. It is our thought life where our biggest wars take place. This is why memorizing Scripture can be helpful to our emotional health. God's truth about Himself sets us free from the lies of this world. In Packer's book the chapter on the love of God is so wonderful that you will want to read it several times. God's love becomes more abundantly clear to you and you will discover ways you have already experienced the love of God but were unaware. Your knowledge of God will often determine your quality of life.

"Those who know God show great boldness for God." We have been pushing and challenging the people of St. Mark to be more vocal about their faith in the community and to build relationships with coworkers, fellow students, and neighbors that would give you the open door to invite them to worship with us. I truly believe the more we know about God and the deeper our relationship with God we naturally, organically become more vocal about God. It is part of the maturation process of being a Christian.

"Those who know God have great contentment in God." I hold that we as Christians are being put through the mill, are being tested to see how strong we are in the faith. This testing is preparing us for more to come. The good news is because of the peace of God within, we can find ourselves feeling a contentment in God such as never before. God is our safe place, our resting place, our Person from whom we draw a contentment that comes from out of this world, the very Throne Room of God.

God says, "You are loved with an everlasting love and underneath are the everlasting arms."

Pastor Terry Breum

St. Mark

Student and Family

SEPTEMBER 2020

JOSIAH FRUSTI, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COORDINATOR

EMAIL: JOSIAH@SMLC.INFO

Student Ministry Calendar

12th: C/3 Fall Kick-Off 6:00-8:00 PM

19th: C/3 Youth Night 6:00-8:00 PM

26th: Richardson Farm Trip 12:00-3:00 PM

Social Media

- Instagram: [st_markyouth](#)
- Facebook: [St.Mark Student Ministry](#)
- Snapchat: [st_markyouth](#)



A New Look

Within our world we have experienced many changes to our daily lives. Changes that are here to stay for the foreseeable future. For our St. Mark Student Ministry we also wanted to make a change, but one focused on our faith. **Colossians 3:1-17** speaks to how we as Christians are called to live our lives in response to what Christ has done for us. It also speaks to how we are all brought together because of Christ's actions. Our student ministry focuses on these cornerstones along with applicable teaching and an attitude that everyone belongs!

C/3 is the new name of our Senior High Student ministry! Along with **"Merge"** (our Middle school group), we will focus on the fact that we are all bound together by Christ's love and forgiveness. At our Fall Kick-off we will delve deeper into the meaning of C/3 and also show off our new *Youth Group Apparel*.

- Josiah Frusti



STUDENT MINISTRY

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Colossians 3:14

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Ministry Corner



2020/2021 Season Update

St. Mark has been part of the PADS program welcoming homeless guests into our church on Friday nights for over 25 years. This season like everything else this year will be different. The PADS guests will not be housed at different churches each night. Since April they have been put up in hotels and will continue to be in hotels through April 2021. This is safer for the guests and the volunteers. This means we will not need volunteers or food at St. Mark on Fridays this year. If you are interested in helping you can go to their website <https://www.padslakecounty.org>

or call 847-689-4357.

They are always looking for non perishable food items, hygiene supplies, gift cards to Walmart or McD's and of course monetary donations. Please check before you bring items to make sure what is needed at that time. Please keep the PADS program in your prayers as they navigate this new normal. They are still looking for a permanent site where everyone can be housed at one place. If you know of any large empty spaces that would allow them to use their spacepreferably with showers let the PADS office know.

Good Samaritan

During difficult economic times, we sometimes find ourselves in unexpected situations. The best planning in the world doesn't always prevent financial emergencies. Certainly no one expected COVID-19 to throw our budgets into orbit. Mortgage or rent payments and utility bills all have to be paid, yet when jobs are lost or temporarily furloughed, how does one decide whether to pay that bill or pay for their much needed prescription drugs that prevent health complications?

The Good Samaritan Fund is a source of funds available to assist members of St. Mark Lutheran Church and non-members as emergency needs arise. The knowledge and details of requests from those in need are known only to the 3-person Good Samaritan Committee, the Pastor and the Church Administrator, and are handled with confidentiality and discretion.

St. Mark is here to help and it only takes one phone call to any of the 5 individuals listed below. The only limitation is that needs are fulfilled in the form of a check or multiple checks payable to the vendor. That may be a mortgage company, a landlord, a pharmacy, a doctor, a hospital and so on. In other words, checks cannot be payable to the recipient. In order to ensure confidentiality within the 5 designated individuals, the recipient's name does not appear on the check. The memo line only includes the account number that is listed on the invoice being paid.

Member families of St. Mark are able to receive up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 per year, based on a calendar year, and family is defined as parents and children of immediate household. Non-member families may receive up to a maximum of \$500.00 per year.

Please, if you find yourself in a financial quandary, contact one of us and let your church help you through this tough time. That's what we're here for, to encourage each other in the name of Jesus.

Pastor Breum
Pete Bolender
Jeff McKenzie
Joni Wasmund
Deb Zuchowski



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Seeking God Through Prayer in Challenging Times

Flash Prayers

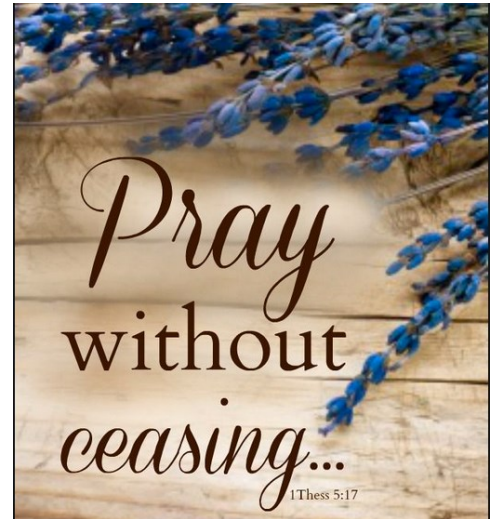
You can get in the habit of recognizing God's presence all day long by sending up short "flash prayers" at various points in the day. These are brief acknowledgements of God's presence that can be offered anytime, anywhere. Pick a situation when you'll offer up a flash prayer, and then choose a prayer (or write your own).

Situations:

Upon waking
While sitting down for a meal/eating
Before making a phone call (at work or home)
While sitting in traffic at a red light
While waiting in line
When you hear a siren
Being engulfed in an unexpected and dangerous situation
When lying in bed about to fall asleep
Other _____

Flash Prayer Examples:

May I love and serve you and others today.
I thank you in all things.
I love you, Lord
By your grace, Lord
Where would I be without You, Lord?
Unite my heart to fear Your name.
Other _____



See, Hear and Listen Why We Pray

As our nation faces divisive times, this historical story and witness to the power of prayer needs to be revisited.

A true, but incomprehensible story of reconciliation rooted in the founding of America through the Civil War up to today's turbulent times centered around two men, their family history and prayer. Watch as a family; About 40 minutes. Interviewer is Eric Metaxes, one of my favorite authors, and host of "Socrates in the City." <https://youtu.be/Jp8O0kajWsQ>

Opportunities for Prayer

The Worship and Music Committee has posted the *2020 Three Days of Prayer Brochure* on the St. Mark website under **Resources**. We prayerfully request you include these various petitions as part of your devotions for our church families, Pastor, staff, church council and committees and for the life of the world during this church year. Also check with Deb, at our church office, for online prayer time with Pastor Breum. Pray for our members who appear in our Church Directory on the same page as you.

1 Boa, Kenneth and Abel, Jenny, *A Guide to Practicing God's Presence*, Trinity House Publishing, Inc., Atlanta, Ga 2018.

Please contact Barb Ewert for more information. B1182ray@aol.com

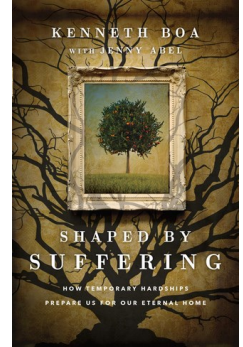
Growing in Christ

Fall 2020

This fall we are reading Dr. Ken Boa's, *Shaped by Suffering* and discussing the issue of suffering and viewing personal videos dealing with suffering by the authors and other Christians. The main purpose of the book is to show how God uses suffering to prepare us for eternity – for life forever in our heavenly Father's house. It is not intended to help you cope in the midst of suffering. Neither is it a theodicy, the writer discussing the age-old dilemma of how a good God can allow evil and suffering (also known as "the problem of pain"). If you want more insight into this book please view the two separate videos from the authors, Ken Boa and Jenny Abel in the links below.

Dr. Ken Boa about 2 minutes
<https://youtu.be/365H35Dvmis>

Jenny Abel about 5 minutes
<https://youtu.be/CTOaKNnEn8>



The book is available at Amazon: Paperback \$14.67; Kindle \$9.99 and Audible Audiobook, unabridged \$12.24. We will be utilizing Zoom as a regular format. The first meeting will be some time the middle of September. Hope you can join us for an insightful discussion and prayer.

Dr. Kenneth Boa is president of Reflections Ministries, Omnibus Media Ministries, and Trinity House Publishers. Ken holds a B.S. from Case Institute of Technology, a Th.M. from Dallas Theological Seminary, a Ph.D. from New York University, and a D.Phil. from the University of Oxford in England. He is author or editor of over 70 books, including "Conformed to His Image," "Faith Has Its Reasons," "Rewriting Your Broken Story," "Life in the Presence of God," and "Shaped by Suffering." Ken and his wife live in Atlanta, Georgia.

If you have questions, please contact Barb Ewert, b1182ray@aol.com. Text/call 847-514-5487.



What's on
the Shelf?

Bumping into God Again: **35 More Stories of Finding Grace in Unexpected Places**

By: Dominic Grassi

This month's book selection comes at a time when we so badly need to see God in the people and everything else around us. *Bumping into God Again: 35 More Stories of Finding Grace in Unexpected Places* by Dominic Grassi is a book that can help us to recognize and focus our eyes on God's activity and His love that surrounds us every day. The book contains thirty-five stories that provide opportunities to find meaning in and celebrate our shared human experience. These gentle stories, from best-selling author Dominic Grassi, remind us that unexpected grace can be found in countless simple yet marvelous ways. You can find this book under call number 242 GRA.



**2020-21
Update:**

As we approach the beginning of confirmation 2020, know that the confirmation committee has been working diligently to create a fun and safe year for every student. An email outlining requirements for the 9th grade class was sent out earlier this month, but if you need it resent, please let one of us know. Details and procedures for registration night will be sent out soon, as will those for the 9th grade confirmation ceremony. Details for the 2020-21 confirmation year will be discussed at the orientation. We are looking forward to seeing each of you, whether it is in-person or online, very soon!

Events & Dates to Remember:

Orientation and Registration Night (In the Sanctuary):
9/2/20 at 6:15 pm (1st and 2nd year students ONLY).

First Night of Class (Offered in-person and online):
9/9/20 9th grade: 7:00-8:00 pm
7th & 8th grade: 5:45-6:45 pm

9th-Graders' Statement of Faith Papers Due:
10/14/20

9th-Graders' Confirmation Ceremony:
10/25/20 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Please email the St. Mark Confirmation Committee with **any** questions. Smlc.confirmationcom.lindenhurst@gmail.com



Hello Sunday School families!

Plans are progressing for the upcoming 2020/2021 Sunday School year. It has been decided that Sunday School will be held virtually, at least to start off, and is scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 27th.

Registration and lessons are in the works so please stay tuned as more information will be provided as it becomes available.

If anyone has any questions, please contact the Sunday School Coordinators, Brooke Frusti or Patty Lindholm, at stmarksunschool@gmail.com.

**Parish Ed would like to welcome our two new
~ Sunday School Coordinators!**

*Patty Lindholm (Patty is also the 3rd member of Parish Ed)

*Brooke Frusti

Thank you SO much for stepping up!!

Despite the fact we are starting Sunday School virtually, we still need 5 additional teachers. We would like to have our teachers in place so when we are ready to return to in-person Sunday School....we are ready!

Please prayerfully consider one of these positions.

We have various age levels available. Interested? Questions?

Please contact: Patty Lindholm or Brooke Frusti at

stmarksunschool@gmail.com.

Valuable
Oppportunity for
Leaders
Understanding
Nurturing
Teachers (5)
Enlist for
Eternal
Rewards

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September 2020

Have you viewed St Mark's new website? The website address and all our email addresses have stayed the same. Go here to take a look: www.smlc.info. Deb Zuchowski recognized that St Mark was facing a significant increase in the annual cost of hosting our website. Deb assembled a small team to explore available church-oriented website hosts. The team consisting of Mel Ellingsen, Josiah Frusti, Jared Hertzke, Jesse Hertzke and Deb Zuchowski started on June 1st to program the new site. The goal was to create a website that would attract new members to St Mark. The old moving banner pages are gone. Everything we need to know about what's going on at St Mark can now be found on the EVENTS page. And, if you find an 'OOPS', please let us know here.

FLORAL ARRANGER NEEDED

Joy Gajda has retired....so sad to see her go!!! Thank you for your incredible service!!! However, that leaves a big hole in our ranks!!
If you can put flowers in a vase, you are qualified!! None of us has had formal training, just a love to quietly serve!! Training will be given. All it takes is a commitment to arrange blooms on the 4th weekend of each month!! Some of us work in teams, either together or alternating months....but it is fun!! Please consider joining our Altar Guild Team!! Any questions, or interested, please contact me!! Blessings!!
Gae Michal gmichal48@gmail.com 847-356-1241



Greetings from the Stewardship Committee

The World is changing as we watch. Every day we hear about the latest results of the Covid19. There is no assurance on when we will go back to the lives we had before. St. Mark is blessed to have so many wonderful resources - Pastor, Council, Staff and Volunteers. All who are working to provide stability in these uncertain times.

Here's what you can do to continue your support of St. Mark:

Go to the St. Mark website at www.smlc.info.

Go to **Give** at the top of the page.

Tithes & Offerings appear.

You have three (3) options.

Click Here for – to be redirected to a secure website for **onetime** online donations by credit card, debit card, or checking account information.

Click Here for – to download and print a form that can be returned to our office (to the attention of "Financial Secretary- Patrice Sutton") to be set up for automatic **recurring** withdrawals, if desired.

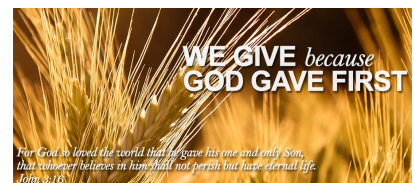
Click Here for – to be redirected to the GivePlus+ website which explains everything associated with the smartphone **application GivePlus+**. Using this app, you can use your smartphone to make either a onetime or reoccurring donation to St. Mark.

For those with limited internet access, you can mail in your tithes and offerings to the church office at the address below.

St. Mark will continue for as long as it takes to weather this earthly storm. We need your financial support as always. This is a great way to continue your support until we gather again at the foot of the cross at 1822 E. Grand Ave. Lindenhurst, IL. 60046.

God's blessings and stay healthy by watching Pastor Breum's daily Devotionals and weekend mini-Sermon on YouTube.

The Stewardship Committee,
Laurie Kerns, Carl Norlin and Pete Bolender



St Mark Rummage Sale 2020

WOW.....We knew when we received the go ahead to have this year's rummage sale it would be different and a little difficult, but I don't think any of us knew exactly what we were getting ourselves into. This wonderful virus put obstacles in our way, but it also gave us new opportunities. We had less help this year as many of our rummage family stayed home because of the virus, but we also had more time because the church was closed to all activities because of the virus.

So, on July 6th we began clearing out and setting up both buildings. For the next 5 weeks we worked almost every day, except Sundays, to turn all the wonderful donated treasures into one of our best sales ever. The wonderful unstoppable Mary Anderson and crew took charge of the Ed Center and made it look better than any department store. My crew took on the main building and put every thrift store in the area to shame. Usually we only have 3 weeks to set up the Ed Center and only 4 days to set up the main building. The extra time was awesome especially since we were able to stop around 5 or 6 each day instead of our usual 9 o'clock or later. The extra time also helped with clean up since we didn't have to finish everything Saturday after the sale.

We were a little worried about the actual sale days, but everything worked out great. Everyone was required to wear a mask. No children were allowed.....This actually was kinda nice. We were only allowed 50 shoppers in each building at a time. Since we usually have over 100 people lined up at each building when we open at 9:00, we decided to let people come in as soon as they arrived. The first 3 shoppers came in at 7:30; yes, people line up that early. So, by the time 9:00 came we had many shoppers done and on their way. Everyone seemed to understand the new rules and were very nice. They all were just very glad we had the sale. We also had early shopping days for St. Mark members this year which helped with sale day crowds and also helped give us more room on the sale floor. This might be something we do every year.

Mary and I have so many people to thank. Without using names so we don't leave anyone out, we are so thankful for.....Council for giving us permission to have the sale; our wonderful guy crew for clearing out the building, putting up and taking down all the racks and tables and for picking up donations and then making many, many, trips to take all the leftover donations to Goodwill since Goodwill is not doing pickups of leftovers this year. Thanks to all our workers who put in a gazillion hours unpacking, pricing, and displaying our treasures and then packing them back up after the sale. Thanks to those who brought us food to keep us going and helped us not live on McD's. Thanks to all our cashiers who put up with all the shoppers and did it with a smile. Thanks to our door monitors for keeping track of how many people were in the building. Thanks to our staff who let in everyone dropping off donations, made many signs for us and advertised the sale all over Facebook. Thanks to our counters who came in daily to deposit the money so we didn't have to stop and do it. Thanks to those new to the sale this year, we hope you enjoyed it and will be back next year. Thanks to the road crew for not working in front of the church on the sale days. Thanks to those who prayed for us, called to say how sorry they couldn't help this year and even donated money since they couldn't donate their time. Thanks to our families who go above and beyond to help because even though they're not crazy about rummage, they are crazy about us. Most of all, thanks to God for a safe fun sale and giving all of us the patience and stamina to make it through. Today is the Friday after the sale and the guys just took the last load of donations to Goodwill. We have a couple more hours of cleanup to do and then it will be time to rest until next year.

Even though we had less donations, less shoppers and less help this year, we still made over \$15,000. God is good.

One last thing for me. This year was very sad because this was the first time Sue DeYoung was not here. Sue and I co-chaired the sale together for over 25 years. In all that time we only had one disagreement. We came to be the best of friends. I think we knew what the other was thinking before they did. I am so happy for her to be enjoying retirement and traveling all over the country, but she is missed.

Again, thanks to all who helped in any way. We love and appreciate you all.

Mary Anderson and Laurie Kerns



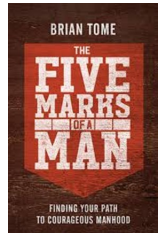
Church Member Small Business Directory

- To be added to the upcoming directory, please send your contact information and a few words about your business to Doran.Jerry@gmail.com.
- Listings should not be considered endorsements or recommendations by St Mark Lutheran Church. Church members should do their own due diligence in determining if appropriate for their situation.
- It is always acceptable to request personal references.--

Jerry Doran Cell 847-271-8632



We Always Have Room For One More Man! (age 15+)
Every 4th Saturday of the Month.
Sept 26th Virtual Meeting 8:00am



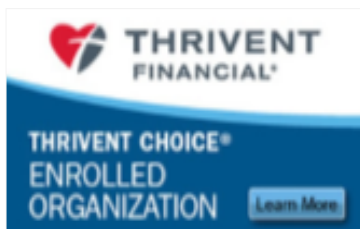
We are currently using The Five Marks of a Man, by Brian Tome, to guide our discussion. Each month's discussions are independent of one another, so join any time. (Feel free to purchase book or request one via email)

If you would like to be added to our mailing list; send your name, phone number, email, and mailing address to Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com or call Jerry Doran / 847-271-8632.

Please join our virtual ZOOM Meeting!

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>,

then enter meeting ID: 712-154-5277



Thanks St Mark Thrivent Members
For Living Generously!

Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity
Virtual/Zoom Meeting: September 8th / Tuesday, 6pm-7pm

Giving is important to many of us. It's vital to the causes we care about. It's personal. And it's possible for all of us—with thoughtful preparation. In other words, you don't need to be rich, old or dead to make a memorable impact. The purpose of this workshop is to offer ideas, and options that align with your values, so that you can give in ways that make sense for you. We'll also touch upon how having a strategy in place can help make giving planned and easy. RSVP by emailing Jerry.Doran@Thrivent.com

Go to www.zoom.com or <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting Number: 712 154 5277



Open Arms is able to purchase food from the Northern IL Food Bank at a very cost effective price, so every dollar goes a long way; **\$1.00 purchases 8 pounds of food**. If you are able to give, please consider going to the website (link below) and click the donate button to give. The pantry accepts donations Tues-Thurs from 9a-11a. They will accept monetary donations during this time as well. *Thank you for your heart for the hungry.* Each month St. Mark donations help provide meals, including frozen meat and fresh milk for local households that include Seniors and children.

Please consider a donation at <https://www.openarmsmission.org/the-difference-you-can-make>.



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

September 2020

Worship At St. Mark – A Safe Place WE MISS YOU!!!!



By the time you read this, we will have been back to in-person worship for 10 weeks. We are still missing many of our friends that have not yet returned. We want you to know we have taken many precautions for making in-person worship safe for all. Masks are required, we are sitting every third pew, we have individual communion elements, and one way in and one way out to minimize movement in the same space, to name a few.

We realize some of you have conditions that require you to continue to stay home and that's what's best for you. We pray you are enjoying our recorded services each weekend. We continue to pray for your journey and a hedge of protection for you during this difficult time. For those of you who are able to return and as many are settling into a routine for fall, please come join us. Remember to sign up on line at www.smlc.info to reserve your seat at the service of your choice.

You Can Support St. Mark While Supporting Local Businesses



Second Tuesday Each Month

CARRY OUT Available!

Be sure to bring your coupon!

Present this certificate at the time of payment to have 15% of your order, excluding tax and tip, donated to **St. Mark Lutheran Church**. Certificate must be present at time of payment. Not to be used with any other coupons or discounts. Share with your friends and family.

LINDENHURST LOCATION ONLY
#224-444-8657

Visit www.antiochpizzashop.com for full menu.

Valid on the **Second Tuesday of every Month**

Antioch Pizza ■ 224-444-8657
■ 1856 E. Grand Ave. ■ Lindenhurst

DATE: Second Tuesdays
9/8/20, 10/13/20, 11/10/20, 12/8/20

THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH!

Now Serving Breakfast!

DRIVE THRU Anytime that day!

Be sure to bring your coupon!
(paper or electronic)



Wendy's

Show your support for **St. Mark Lutheran Church**

Stop into **Wendy's® Lindenhurst** anytime on **Third Thursday** of each month and 30% of qualifying sales as a result of your participation will be donated to **St. Mark Lutheran Church**

DATE: Third Thursdays

9/17/20, 10/15/20, 11/19/20, 12/17/20

TIME: All Day (Breakfast until Close)

LOCATION: 370 S US Highway 45, Lindenhurst

Present this flyer when ordering. Paper flyer or electronic image of flyer (on a phone/tablet) is required when order is placed. Only valid on date at location specified above. Wendy's gift cards and other retail purchases are excluded from the event. Drive-thru, carry-out (place inside the dining room at the counter) and dine-in orders when and where available qualify. Owned and operated by **HAMRA Enterprises**, a Wendy's franchisee www.hamrafundraising.com

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

September 2020



College & Military Care Packages

If you or someone you know has a student(s) in college or serving in the military please send their name and address to either brooke.frusti@gmail.com or smlc@smlc.info. Throughout the school year, care packages or cards will be sent to these students. Please note that if you have filled out this information in the past, we need you to send us the information again. If you have any questions please contact Brooke Frusti at brooke.frusti@gmail.com Thanks!



Monday September 7, 2020
The St. Mark office will be closed in
Observance of Labor Day

Mask and Safety Reminders

It has been so nice to see you and your smiling eyes! This is an unusual time, and spending time in service amongst our St. Mark Family is such a blessing. Thank you for worshipping with us!

Thank you also for your efforts in following the guidelines that are in place in order for us to have this wonderful opportunity to gather. I.e: Enter/Exit pattern, Hand Sanitizing, Check in, and of course Mask Wearing. We appreciate all that you do as we work together to stay safe during this unusual time.

As we remain diligent in our efforts, please be sure to wear your masks as designed, with nose, mouth, and chin covered, and without gaps.

One other opportunity to help, is when exiting please clear the sidewalk area before stopping in order to allow all those remaining to continue exiting safely. If you are enjoying Fellowship, kindly gather on an open lawn or parking area, so that the exit path is clear.

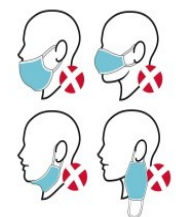
Thank you for your steadfast efforts, and diligence as we continue meeting together. What a wonderful feeling it is to be back! We cannot wait to see you again!



CORRECT



INCORRECT



ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
1822 EAST GRAND AVENUE
LINDENHURST IL 60046

*Address Service Requested
Return Postage Guaranteed*



The **VOICE**
OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH



Stephen Ministry

THE VOICE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

☎ (847) 356-8140
🖱 www.smlc.info
✉ smlc@smlc.info

Service Times
Saturday | 5:30PM
Traditional
Sunday | 8:00AM
Traditional
Sunday | 10:30AM
Contemporary

★ TO RECEIVE
THE VOICE ONLINE,
EMAIL DEB@SMLC.INFO

NEXT VOICE DEADLINE:
Sept 15, 2020

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart
September 2020