

The VOICE

OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 2020

Proclamation of Thanksgiving *Cliff's Notes: By Cliff Ewert*

On October 3, 1863, Abraham Lincoln signed a proclamation designating the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." After reading Lincoln's proclamation a number of times, I found that his words have great meaning in today's world. Just change a few words in this document that was delivered more than 150 years ago, and you may find that Lincoln's message is very relevant in our society today. I pray that you take time to read this proclamation and how it parallels many of the challenges we currently face.

Washington, D.C.

October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore.

Continued page 6

In This Issue:

- ⇒ Cliff's Notes
- ⇒ Meet The Team
- ⇒ Pastor's Letter
- ⇒ Missouri Musings By Bob Yarbrough
- ⇒ Holiday Services
- ⇒ Baptism Announcement
- ⇒ Hanging of the Greens
- ⇒ Live Stream is Here
- ⇒ Student Ministry
- ⇒ 3 Days of Prayer
- ⇒ Opportunities for Prayer
- ⇒ What's on the Shelf
- ⇒ Sunday School
- ⇒ Thank You
- ⇒ Congregational Meeting
- ⇒ Reverse Advent Calendar
- ⇒ Online Giving
- ⇒ Open Arms Mission
- ⇒ Small Business Directory
- ⇒ H.I.S. Ministry
- ⇒ Mitten Tree
- ⇒ Altar Flowers Volunteer
- ⇒ Christmas Program
- ⇒ Support the Church
- ⇒ Holiday Dinner in a Bag
- ⇒ Poinsettia Order Form



NOVEMBER 8TH, 2020
Pick up your reports today!

See Page 11 for details

Live Streaming is here!



Learn how to join us
on Page 6!

**Operation Christmas
Child Event**
Collecting Now
Details on Page 7



Complete Details Inside or

Find Us Online@
www.smlc.info

ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the Dec/Jan edition of *The Voice* is **November 15th.**

Please Email articles to: stmarkcommunications@gmail.com & deb@smlc.info

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020



ST. MARK COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Cliff Ewert
cewert41@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Joni Wasmund

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Tom Gourley

FINANCIAL TREASURER

Brock Millsop

BOARD OF ELDERS

Ken Johnson

Jeff McKenzie

Joni Wasmund

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Laurie Kerns

Dean Miller

Jeff Whitehead

ST. MARK COMMITTEES

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Overseen by Trustee:
Jeff Whitehead

Mary Anderson
Brooke Frusti
Shawn Frank
Donna Bergl

EVANGELISM

Overseen by Elder:
Jeff McKenzie

Debbie Gass
Patrick Krook

FINANCE

Overseen by :
Board of Trustees

Pam Preston Lynn Wetterberg Jill Winling

PARISH EDUCATION

Overseen by Elder:
Ken Johnson

Patty Lindholm Lori McKenzie Jane Milani

SAFETY & SECURITY

Overseen by President:
Cliff Ewert

Al Maciareillo
Mike Mol

Sarah Maciareillo
Judy Dunfrund

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Overseen by Trustee:
Dean Miller

Robin Korom

STEWARDSHIP

Overseen by Trustee:
Laurie Kerns

Pete Bolender
Laurie Kerns
Carl Norlin

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Overseen by Elder:
Joni Wasmund

Charlie Burke
Rebecca Gundlach
Wendy Weidner

PASTOR

Terry Breum | Pastor@smlc.info

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Deb Zuchowski | Deb@smlc.info

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Rhonda Doran | Rhonda@smlc.info

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC COORDINATOR

Brock | Brockzwicke@gmail.com

NURSERY COORDINATOR

Deb Heide | Deborahheide@att.net

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Patrice Sutton | PatriceS@comcast.net

BOOKKEEPER

Barb Griffith | Barb@smlc.info

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Josiah Frusti | Josiah@smlc.info

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Jim Schaufel | James.schaufel@yahoo.com

Next Council Meeting: November 10th at 7:00 pm.
Next Committee Meetings: November 24th at 7:00 pm (virtual meetings).

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

Page 2



From the Desk of Pastor Breum

Dear Friends,

It is thundering and lightening outside as I am writing this. The rain is coming down hard and the temperature is below warm. Yuck! I feel like pulling the sheet over my head and just staying in bed. Yet the Bible says, "Today is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." The Bible also tells us that God's mercies are new every morning. As long as we have breath, God has purpose for us.

One of God's purposes for us is prayer. So, would you please pray with me. Dear Heavenly Father, thank you that you are God. There is no one higher than you. You are over everything. We confess to you that we are sinners and we have sinned against you in thought word and deed. Please forgive us our sins and cleanse our lives completely by the blood of the Lamb shed on the cross.

Lord, thank you for your grace that has saved us for all eternity. Help us all to enjoy rich and deep fellowship with you every day. Father, so many of us sense our nation is in utter turmoil. We are very much a divided people and the love of many has grown cold. Lord Jesus you are our only hope. You are all powerful. Please help us as your people all across the nation to daily humble ourselves before you. Help us all to seek you first. Thank you Dear Lord that you are doing a work, a good work, all around us and in us. May you reveal to us how you wish to involve us in that good work. Nothing is happening today that surprises you.

We yield to you entirely the elections to come, both local and national. We pray for your will to be done perfectly. May our newly elected officials know that one day they will have to answer to you for all they say and do. Lord, we are asking for a new era of godliness in government. Please place the fear of God inside each of them. May they quit serving themselves and live every day to serve you. You are a great God. As we read your word we see how you often send calamity so people will wake up, repent, and turn to you. Lord, we are tired of this downhill spiral. In the name of Jesus please turn this nation around so a time of healing, refreshment, and blessing will come. We yield our lives entirely unto you. May our minds be set on Thee. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Thank you for praying!

God Bless,

Pastor Terry Breum



MISSOURI MUSINGS

BY BOB YARBROUGH

Why Be Grateful in These Grim Times?

I keep hearing bad things about the year 2020. People want it to be over with. They want to forget about the pandemic, non-stop riots in American cities, the political turn in professional sports, skyrocketing murder rates in American cities, and social turmoil. They want their jobs and their kids' schools to get back to normal.

But what if 2021 is even worse? What if it turns out that the death and disorder we associate with other parts of the world is taking root and spreading in our own country?

As Christians living in the United States, we worship the God who “delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:13–14).

We inhabit two kingdoms: (1) the USA and (2) God's kingdom. Which is more important?

We know the right answer: God's kingdom. But everything around us screams, “Be fearful and agitated and angry and apprehensive about the here and now!”

The here and now is important. We live by the hour. We have daily responsibilities. We react to the things we see and the news we hear.

But it is important to remember our redemption (see Bible verses above). We have trusted in Christ. Our sins have been forgiven. “The domain of darkness” we see creeping and seeping in around us is affecting the sinking ship of a world that stands under God's everlasting judgment.

Christians confess that God has “transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.” We live in everlasting hope. We know that “heaven and earth will pass away, but [Christ's] words will not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

We have stability when things around are shaken. As it is written, “Therefore *let us be grateful* for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken” (Hebrews 12:28, emphasis added).

That's why we're grateful, whatever the turmoil being ginned up in the current news cycle. We are citizens not only of a nation that will, like all human entities, eventually crumble and be no more. We are also citizens of “a kingdom that cannot be shaken.”

Jesus gave this advice when he looked down through the annals of time and foresaw days of chaos and gloom prior to his return—a time like our own: “Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:38).

Here in Missouri, following autumn's chill breezes and waning daylight, the forests burst forth in their glorious fall colors. I'm looking at them right now: oranges and yellows, reds and purples, browns and still greens, and everything in between.

In the household of God the church, the pillar and buttress of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15), the chill winds and sometimes darkness of current events bring forth hope in the hearts of Christ's followers. For our welfare, short term and long, rests in Christ, not in the ups and downs of these unpredictable times. Jesus Christ's glories are incomparable, inexhaustible, unstopplable, and incalculable.

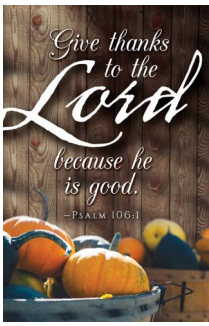
Can I get an amen?

Losses we see and feel these days may be real and wrenching. We are human. They affect us. Nevertheless: in Christ we can be grateful. His kingdom - and ours by God's kind invitation - cannot be shaken.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

Page 4



Join Us! Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 25th
7:00 PM

Advent Services

Wednesday, December 2nd,
9th & 16th
7:00 PM

All Services will be both **IN PERSON** and **LIVE STREAMED!**

Please register if you would like to attend in person. Live streaming Youtube link can be found at www.SMLC info under the Media tab.



BAPTIZED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD

OCTOBER 18th, 2020 AT ST. MARK

Taylor Houser

Son of Margaret Mallahan
and Charles Houser



May the guiding presence of God be with this
Young man as he grows
in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

ANNUAL MEETING

Attention Voting Members!

Please plan to attend the
Annual Congregational Meeting

November 8th

The meeting will begin at 9:15am.
The purpose of the meeting is to:

- approve By-Law changes
- elect officers
- approve annual budget
- approve annual reports

See page 11 for further details.



**Monday, November 30th
6:00PM**

The holiday season is upon us and that means it is getting very close to time to decorate the church!! I want to remind everyone that many hands make less work! As you know, this is a different year, so we have not had our typical opportunities for signups to help. Confirmation students can still earn a ministry opportunity point by stopping by to help decorate and we certainly need some adults along to help us climb the ladders to set up the tree, etc. As a reminder, we will need to wear masks and social distance for safety. If you are able to assist in readying the church for the holidays, please email Gae M. at gmichal48@gmail.com.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

Page 5

Proclamation of Thanksgiving? ... continued from Page 1

Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battlefield; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

May God bless you, your family, and friends as we move forward into the Thanksgiving and Christmas season.
Cliff Ewert.



YOUR GUIDE TO LIVE STREAMING

THREE EASY WAYS TO WATCH 10:30 AM EACH SUNDAY



YOUTUBE.COM

St. Mark has a YouTube Channel! Type in the search bar **SMLC Digital**. Here you will find all of our past Worship Services, Devotions and more!

You can also click the **subscribe** button in the right corner of the channel to get notified when we post or go live!



FACEBOOK.COM

Do you have Facebook? Then make sure to follow our Church's Page! **St. Mark Lutheran Church Lindenhurst.**

Along with YouTube, we go live on Facebook as well. Make sure to **Like** the page to get notified when we go live!



SMLC.INFO

On our website and looking for a link to the worship services and devotions?

Click on the **"Media"** tab and scroll down below Pastors picture. You will see a small YouTube button on the right side that will send you directly to SMLC Digital.

NOVEMBER STUDENT MINISTRY

BY JOSIAH FRUSTI

"THINGS ABOVE"

Each of the past ten months has been filled with its own challenges, and November will be no exception. In fact, it may end up as one of the hardest months this year; not just for our personal lives but our faith as well.

God is well aware of the situations we face, and calls us to seek him and His Word. Colossians 3 is a foundation of our Student Ministry and our faith. As new conflicts and troubles arise this month, pray for God to shift your focus from earthly things to things above. We, who know of Christ's promises fulfilled, know peace beyond our present times. Let us seek those promises and share them with those around us.

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." Colossians 3:1-2



NOV SCHEDULE

Nov. 1st - C/3 Youth Night 6-8p

Nov. 8th - C/3 Youth Night 6-8p

Nov. 15th - O.C.C. Packing Party

Nov. 22nd - C/3 Youth Night 6-8p

Nov 29th - **Thanksgiving Break**

SUPPORT YOUR YOUTH!

Our Senior High Student ministry **C/3** now has t-shirts and Hoodies available for purchase!

All proceeds go directly to the student ministry! Contact Josiah for details and pricing.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

2020 has been a year of shared disappointment, cancellations and plans on hold.

Thankfully, God has kept our doors open and we have a great opportunity to serve through Operation Christmas Child.

Nov. 15th 12-4PM we will be packing shoe boxes full of gifts and supplies for kids in need all around the world.

Space will be limited, so grab your spot to help pack by going to our website: smlc.info



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

Page 7

St. Mark's Three Days of Prayer January 12 - 14, 2021

Matthew 21:13 “It is written, He said to them, 'My house will be called a house of prayer.'”

St. Mark Church will be participating in our sixth LCMC Three Days of Prayer from Tuesday, January 12 through Thursday, January 14, 2021. We are asking for your earnest prayers that Our Lord guide each of our hearts and minds to prepare and participate in this extraordinary time for St. Mark and the Lutheran Church as we celebrate the 503rd year of the Reformation. Our prayers are to make these three days a special occasion to: 1) glorify and honor Our Lord; 2) petition God for a spiritual revival of our church body; and, 3) request that the Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to His direction for our church for the life of the world as Christian persecution grows.



"God is calling out a remnant of believers throughout the world who understand the role of prayer in their daily lives. These people have learned that prayer is not a five-minute exercise in the morning devotion time, but it is a vital strategic tool to discern and know God's will and purpose in their everyday lives. You see, they have learned that their daily occupations are their ministries to God and others for the life of this world.

"Martin Luther saw prayer as crucial to human life, a life created by the relationship to God. In this relationship God starts a conversation, communicating God's words of law and promise. Prayer is a part of the human response to God's speaking, a response itself shaped by the words of command and promise. Luther thought that God's promise to hear prayer defines both the nature of God and the nature of the human relationship to God, as well as the human approach to life. Luther's comments and instructions on prayer permeated his work. Luther sought to build an evangelical prayer practice that reflected the key insights of his theology: just as God redeems the unworthy human, so God promises to hear and respond to the one praying, despite his or her unworthiness. Humans respond to God's actions in law and promise when they pray regularly, forthrightly, honestly, and frequently."¹

Today, look to God first. Put prayer on the front lines, instead of making it an afterthought. You will begin to see renewed power in your daily life and life becoming more simple, focused as well as joyful.

Please mark your calendars to set aside a time to join your St. Mark family in at least one of our LCMC Three Days of Prayer; Tuesday, January 12th, Wednesday, January 13th and Thursday, January 14th. Due to the pandemic likely extending into the new year, we will be providing virtual Zoom evening prayer meetings. There will be opportunities for individual, family and group prayers. Prayer guides will be available, if desired. Watch weekly bulletins for updates and signup information for daily prayer times in mid- December.

Our prayer is for each St. Mark member, youth and child to listen for, and answer, Christ's call to prayer. Please contact Barb Ewert (b1182ray@aol.com) for questions and/or suggestions.

¹ Mary Jane Haemig Subject: Christianity, The Reformation Online Publication Date: Mar 2017
DOI:10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.013.358

<http://religion.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.001.0001/acrefore-9780199340378-e-358#acrefore-9780199340378-e-358-div1-16>

No Prayer of adoration will ever soar higher than a simple cry: “I love You,

Opportunities for Prayer

Living in God’s Presence

Practicing Daily Solitude. Set aside 10 minutes time to get alone and intentionally embrace the precious present. Use these minutes for ADORATION: Offering a brief word of praise to God for one or more of his attributes (e.g. love and compassion, grace, mercy, holiness, goodness, unchanging character) or works. THANKSGIVING: Thanking God for the good things and blessings in your life.

A Hard Thanksgiving

Paul talks in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 about giving thanks – not some, not in most, but in *all* circumstances. When we get good news or something exciting happens to us, thanking God comes easily. But there is also a “hard thanksgiving.” This is what we do in circumstances that, in our limited view, seem difficult or less than desirable. Think about your current life. Do you need to offer God a hard thanksgiving for something? If so, do it now and several more times over time. Ask God to help you see that circumstance as a temporary part of living on this earth. Ask God to use this situation to help you lean on him more, draw closer to him, and welcome His presence into more of your life. (Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 and 1 Peter 5:10 for further reflection on your circumstances in the light of eternity).



More 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. Pray for our members who appear in our Church Directory on the same page as you.

Early Christians stand apart from the culture and suffer social stigmas and physical persecution at times. Peter challenges them to remain faithful to Jesus who also suffered for not conforming. (*Voice* side note).

Although you haven’t seen Jesus, you *still* love Him. Although you don’t yet see Him, you do believe in Him and celebrate with a joy that is glorious and beyond words. 1 Peter 1:8

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

* Boa, Ken and Abel, Jenny, *A Guide to Practicing God’s Presence, Companion Guide to Life in the Presence of God.* Trinity House Publishers, Inc. 2018, p.43 and p.155.

**GARY
CHAPMAN**
Best-selling Author of *The Five Love Languages*



Now You're
SPEAKING
My Language
HONEST COMMUNICATION and DEEPER INTIMACY
for a STRONGER MARRIAGE

What's on the Shelf?

Now You're Speaking My Language

By: Gary Chapman

If we are honest, we all have to admit that communication can be a big problem in a marriage. How does God expect Christian couples to communicate in a way that honors both husband and wife, and most important, God Himself? *Now You're Speaking My Language* from multimillion selling author Gary Chapman (*The Five Love Languages*) encourages husbands and wives to offer steadfast loyalty, forgiveness, empathy, and commitment to resolving conflict, thus encouraging each other in spiritual growth. With great clarity, Dr. Chapman shows how communication and intimacy are key points in developing a successful marriage by focusing on these principles: Lasting answers to marital growth are found in the Bible; Your relationship with God enhances your marriage relationship; Communication is the main way two become one in a marriage; and Biblical oneness involves sex, but also intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and social oneness. You can find this book under call number 646.7 CHA.



Attention St. Mark Families!

We are planning to move forward with a **Sunday School Christmas Program** and Barb Griffith has volunteered to be the coordinator. We will be following appropriate safety guidelines as we think outside the box and creatively share the story of the birth of Jesus. Please consider supporting this project by volunteering to participate. (Confirmation students can earn a ministry opportunity point!) Please contact Barb at barb@smc.info or 847-356-8140. Remember, we are now livestreaming our services so this project also has the capability of reaching people at home.

Pop Top Tabs

40.6 POUNDS!!

WOW!

That is how much was turned in on October 21st!

THANK YOU to all who faithfully continue to contribute pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House charities. The pop tabs are recycled and the profits are then turned over to the charity.

Please keep donating! Look for the container in the church kitchen next to the refrigerator.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Wendy Rohlwing



We would like to thank our St. Mark Family for your thoughts of sympathy and condolences, kind words of encouragement, cards, prayers, and most of all love you have shown us after the passing of my brother, Danny. The overwhelming feeling of God's presence in our lives through these acts of kindness during this difficult time has been a blessing to us. We are humbled and awed by the outpouring of love. May you all be blessed as you are a blessing to others.

Deb and Roger Zuchowski

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

Page 10



**November 8th
At 9:15 AM**

Quorum Needed

Please plan to attend,
if able.

St. Mark Lutheran Church will conduct our Annual Meeting of the Congregation at 9:15 AM on Sunday, November 8th. With COVID-19 still a factor, it is my prayer that our members, who can attend, join us for this meeting so that we can have a minimum of 40 members, a quorum, and continue church business into the new year.

We have prepared four documents for the congregational meeting, which are available in the narthex or can be obtained from Deb Zuchowski (deb@smlc.info) by email or USPS mail.

- Amendments to the Bylaws
- Annual Report
- 2021 Budget
- Nominations for Church Council



**Available for pick up
in Narthex.**

The first three items are straight forward; however, I would like to explain the rationale behind the fourth item, the suggested changes to the bylaws. While some are relatively small, three changes need an explanation.

1. Currently the president's only responsibilities are to conduct the congregational and Council meetings. It has long been assumed that the president had "presidential" authority, but that has been not stated in the bylaws. The revision now states the president will now serve as "the chief administrative officer of the church."
2. The bylaws also state that, "Elections to the Church Council shall be conducted by a secret ballot," Since many of our elections have only one candidate, the following wording has been added to streamline and shorten one-candidate elections: "When there is only one candidate for an office, a vote of acclamation may be held."



3. The current bylaws state that the Annual Meeting of the Congregation shall be held on the second Sunday of November. There is no allowance for emergencies such as the pandemic, a disaster, weather, etc. To provide flexibility for this meeting, the following wording has been added, "In the case of an emergency, the Church Council may change the date of the meeting with a 10-day advance notice being sent to the membership."

'Reverse advent calendar' food bank campaign



**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE
CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK.**

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

December 1 - box of cereal
December 2 - peanut butter
December 3 - stuffing mix
December 4 - boxed potatoes
December 5 - macaroni and cheese
December 6 - canned fruit
December 7 - canned tomatoes
December 8 - canned tuna
December 9 - dessert mix
December 10 - jar of applesauce
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
December 12 - cranberry sauce

December 13 - canned beans
December 14 - box of crackers
December 15 - package of rice
December 16 - package of oatmeal
December 17 - package of pasta
December 18 - spaghetti sauce
December 19 - chicken noodle soup
December 20 - tomato soup
December 21 - can corn
December 22 - can mixed vegetables
December 23 - can carrots
December 24 - can green beans

It Should Not Take a Pandemic to.....

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee which includes Laurie Kerns, Peter Bolender, and me Carl Norlin. I have served on Stewardship for nearly 20 years. During that time, the committee has struggled with how to encourage our members to use online giving. Well the good news is our members have increased the use of online giving by many-fold; the bad news is the Pandemic drove that unintentional improvement.

So why is online giving beneficial:

- First off you do not have to fill out those envelopes and carry them or mail them to church.
- There is a cost savings when the church does not have to print and mail those envelopes.
- There will be no more offering checks to write.
- Regular and consistent giving helps our church with budgeting. It evens out the annual giving, especially if you are on vacation or are a "Snow-Bird." Your offering always comes even when you are gone. You can even schedule special offerings long before the date.
- Online giving has all the giving categories including, but not limited to, Debt Retirement, Flowers, Holiday giving and special offerings such as Memorials, to name a few.
- Online giving helps the counting teams (a volunteer committee) with less checks to count and tabulate.
- It assists our Financial Secretary, Patrice, in tabulating giving reports since all information is provided electronically.

To help you, over the last few Voice issues, you will see an article from the Stewardship Committee which outlines where and how to start online giving. Let us continue to increase our participation in online giving. It should not take a Pandemic to sign-up. Sign-up today.

The Stewardship Committee

Laurie Kerns, Pete Bolender and Carl Norlin





Thank You St Mark!

Thank you to all of you who continue to support the Open Arms pantry by filling the **Yellow Food Barrels** and through monetary donations! Your support of this program is much needed and very much appreciated! Please keep the donations coming!

*** With the weather changing, any soups, coffee, tea and sugar would be appreciated for donations to Open Arms!

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

Thank you for your heart for the hungry!



Church Member Small Business Directory

Categories to include; Professional Services, Baby Sitting, House Sitting, Dog Sitting, Raking Leaves, Window Cleaning, Gift Wrapping, Vacuuming, Changing Light Bulbs, Dusting.

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. If you have questions, please contact Jerry Doran.

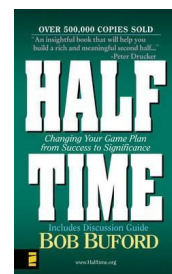


We Always Have Room For One More Man! (age 15+)

Every **2nd** Saturday of the Month.

ZOOM & IN PERSON Meeting:

November 14th at 8:00am



Each month's discussions are independent of one another, so join any time.

We're using *Half Time*, by Bob Buford, to guide our discussion. Feel free to buy the book if that's more convenient, otherwise request one by email. To be added to our mailing list; send your name, email, phone number, and mailing address to Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com or call/text Jerry Doran/ 847-271-8632.

Zoom.com
Meeting ID: **712-154-5277**

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020



Mitten Tree 2020

With the coldest season of the year approaching, the mitten tree will be assembled to serve those in need.

New mittens, gloves, hats and scarves will be collected. (Sets are welcome too.)

Collection will begin after Halloween and continue through Thanksgiving.



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 interest, please contact me!! Blessings!!

Gae Michal
gmichal48@gmail.com

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
11/10/20, 12/8/20, 1/12/21

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
11/19/20, 12/17/20, 1/21/21

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

November 2020

Page 14



St. Mark Holiday Dinner-In-A-Bag



“Holiday Dinner in a Bag” is a ministry which will provide the staples of a holiday dinner for an individual or family that is in need. We will deliver these meals to the recipients on **Sunday, November 22nd**, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If you know of an individual or family who can use the assistance, please complete the form below with family information and place it in the basket on the Welcome Center labeled, **“Holiday in a Bag”**, send to SMLC by mail, or email smlc@smlc.info.

If you are interested in making a food donation, below is the list of items :

Mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, vegetables, fruit, yams, butter and rolls.

There will be a designated area set up in the church for you to drop off these items.

We will also be looking for **volunteers** to assist us with the delivery of these items.

A sign-up sheet will be located next to the basket on the Welcome Center.

Any questions, please contact a Congregational Life Committee member:

Mary Anderson, Shawn Frank, Donna Bergl or Brooke Frusti

Your Name and Phone # _____

Name, address and phone # (if possible) of Recipient Family:

How Many Family Members? _____



Order Your Poinsettia Plants Today!



I/We would like to order ____ (quantity) RED POINSETTIA plant(s) at \$11.00 each for the 2020 Christmas Eve Worship Services.

Please place this completed form in the box in the Narthex. Deadline for Ordering is Monday, December 10th.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR INFORMATION

____ **Name:** _____

____ **Phone:** _____

PLANTS ARE GIVEN: (Please print clearly!)

____ **To the Glory of God**

____ **In Honor of** _____

____ **In Memory of** _____

____ **In Celebration of** _____

PLANT PICK UP:

____ I will pick up the plant(s) after the 11pm Christmas Eve Service. (Plants must be picked up by Saturday, 12/26/20.)

____ I would like the plant(s) taken to someone who is ill or shut-in.

PAYMENT:

I have enclosed my payment of \$ _____

(PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER. Please make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church.)

Thank You!

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

November 2020

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:
November 15, 2020

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart
November 2020