

The **VOICE**

OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2024



By Cliff Ewert



God Bless our Confirmands

Our confirmation students have learned that Jesus teaches, “Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine you are the branches.” (John 15:5)

On behalf of the Church Council and our congregation, we welcome Khloe Coughenour, Dylan Kirschbaum, and Nevin Miller as the newest members of St. Mark.

We thank your parents, grandparents, colleagues, your Sunday School teachers, and Confirmation teachers for helping to prepare you to affirm your baptism in the Rite of Confirmation.

According to Martin Luther’s Small Catechism, Confirmation is the rite by which a baptized person renews their baptismal vow, publicly confesses their faith, and is received into communicant membership of the congregation.

Confirmation reminds all of us that our Christian life begins with the sacrament, being steadfast in faith, becoming fruitful in every good work, and in the end baptism, in which we’re washed with water, marked with the cross of Christ, and filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit in a public celebration. In other words, as we grow in life, confirmation is not an *end*, but a *beginning* of growing in grace, receiving the crown of life.

May God continue to watch over and guide our confirmands.

God Bless,

Cliff Ewert, President

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CHURCH EVENTS

www.smlc.info/events

Complete Details Inside or

Find Us Online@

www.smlc.info

ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the **June/July** edition of *The Voice* is **May 15th**. Please Email articles to:

stmarkcommunications@gmail.com.



Confirmation Sunday
 May 5th at 10:30am
 Service

Vacation Bible School

June 17th - 21st
 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Registration opens on May 1st!



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

May 2024



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cewart41@aol.com

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VOICE ARTICLES, SLIDES, WEBSITE & FACEBOOK REQUESTS

Put type of request in title | StMarkCommunications@gmail.com

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, May 14th @ 7:00PM

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, 28th @ 7:00PM

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MISSOURI MUSINGS

BY BOB YARBROUGH

Reasons for Hope

When I was a kid in school, they made us learn poems. This one stuck with me, by Robert Browning (1812–1889):

The year's at the spring
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn:
God's in His heaven—
All's right with the world!



It's spring! Lawns are turning green even in Chicagoland! Have you heard an ice cream truck yet? If not, you soon will—driving you nuts with the same song on loudspeakers over and over again.

But let's stay positive. Spring is a welcome time because it does away with winter's cold and dark. Days are longer and warmer. Maybe the Sox or Cubs are winning. Even if not: spring is a season of hope.

We need hope! Scripture says, "So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:13). Yes, love is greatest, but hope is right up there near the top. Hope is one of greatest gifts of faith in Christ.

We need hope because we see so much misery and conflict and ugliness in the world around us. I know two people with vertigo right now and one dying of cancer—and she's only 30 years old. A friend's marriage is breaking up. On the political scene this is an election year—and there's not much pretty about the presidential choices that are emerging. It's hard to keep up with the wars underway in Ukraine, Israel, and elsewhere.

As if that were not enough, many of us face personal challenges that tempt us to lose hope.

Holy Scripture testifies to a hope that lifts Christ's followers out of despair and defeatism. Just in the Psalms we find over two dozen mentions of hope. They teach us valuable lessons. For example:

1. Ps 119:49 "Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me **hope**." God gives hope to us through his word, the Bible.
2. Ps 119:114 "You are my hiding place and my shield; I **hope** in your word." God's word gives us refuge and protection.
3. Ps 147:11 "The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who **hope** in his steadfast love." God's "steadfast love" is shown to us in Jesus Christ. God delights in us because we have placed our hope in him. That enables us to find delight in God.

In the poem above, Browning writes, "God's in his heaven/all's right with the world." Well, God is in his heaven, right enough, but a lot in this world is a mess. All is not right!

Yet offsetting sin and darkness is that fact that in Christ God "loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good **hope** through grace" (2 Thess. 2:16).

We are still celebrating Easter, and Pentecost lies just ahead (May 19). Let the signs of spring point us toward the hope we share: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living **hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

And what is not "right with the world," God is putting right. So: "Let us hold fast the confession of our **hope** without wavering, for he who promised is faithful" (Heb. 10:23).

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St. Mark Council News

To keep you better informed about Church Council decisions, please go to <https://smlc.info/minutes/> for Council and Committee minutes.

April was a quiet month for the Council as the only major business was the approval of the confirmands for 2024 as we welcome Khloe Coughenour, Dylan Kirschbaum, and Nevin Miller as the newest members of St. Mark.



from the



On April 12th – 14th, St. Mark hosted 11 members of the University of Iowa's [Alpha Phi Omega](#), a coeducational service fraternity, in our Ed Center. The 11 Hawkeyes arrived late Friday night and on Saturday morning, left bright and early for a trip downtown and helped a church with its homeless outreach program, did a little sightseeing, and finished their day by packing food at FMSC in Libertyville. As they left Sunday for their trip back to school their leader, a nice young lady named Kelsey, gave me a note that read:

*Mike and friends of St. Mark Lutheran,
Thank you for your hospitality this past weekend. Alpha Phi Omega had an amazing time in the local area and in the city serving others. We could not have completed this weekend without your support, and we will be eternally grateful.
Thank you and God bless,
[APO Omicron University of Iowa](#)*

On Going Opportunities for Prayer at St. Mark

- **St. Mark Church Corporate Prayer, *Appealing to the Holy Spirit 24/7.*** See April Prayer article in this *Voice* for more details.
- **St. Mark Prayer Chain**, a wonderful group of fellow Christians, praying for all prayer requests and praising God for His listening to our petitions, thanksgivings and praises for His responses. Email requests and praises to smlcprayers@gmail.com. Please share with the Prayer Chain; how God has responded to your prayer request. Check with Connie Saunders, if you want to join.
- **ZOOM Weekly Prayer Meeting** - Come, pray and be blessed. Beginning Tuesdays, until further notice from 7:30 to 8:00 pm. we will be meeting on Zoom praying over the previous week of Prayer Chain requests, St. Mark Church and each other. Contact Person: Pam Burke 244-430-6226 and Barb Ewert for Zoom link. 847-514-5487.
- The Worship and Music Committee will be posting the **2024 Three Days of Prayer Brochure for St. Mark Church, 2024 Prayer Guide, Youth Prayer Guide and a Children's Prayer Guide** on the St. Mark website under Prayer. Copies are also available at the Prayer Table in the Narthex. We prayerfully request you include these various petitions as part of your devotions for our church families, Intention Interim Pastor Steve, staff, church council and committees during this coming church year.

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Greetings from the Call Committee

We are pleased to announce the members of the Call Committee for a new Senior Pastor. Members include Shawn Frank, Kevin Graul, Kevin Korom, Patty Lindholm, Karisa McGill, Pam Preston, and Tom Sanderson.

The Ministry Board of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) recognizes the authority and responsibility of congregations of LCMC to call their own pastors. Previously, the process was for candidates being presented for a call, now it is up to each church to navigate the call process on their own.

Under the guidance of Intentional Interim Pastor Steve, we have begun meeting weekly, learning the call process and refining what was previously started. We have been viewing training videos from the LCMC website and are studying the LCMC Call Packet.

Topics being worked on (or already accomplished) include identifying all possible avenues for communicating with potential candidates, updating the pastoral job description, coordinating with Church Council and the Transition Team, and compiling a congregational profile with details about our church, ministry practices, structure, and our future.

We wish to thank the Transition Team for their great work in this process. We also wish to thank those who attended the Mission and Vision Extravaganza. We ask that the congregation please pray for and with us with the following prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before you with humble hearts seeking wisdom for St Mark's future pastor. Grant the call committee discernment, endurance, and insight on your plan. Help us, as one body of Christ, to work together and according to Your will. Guide the heart of this chosen person to know without a doubt St. Mark is their new church home. We thank you

A FEW UPDATES ABOUT FMSC

FIRST - Our next packing date is Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:15. Here is the link to use to sign up: [FMSC Sign Up](#). You will be packing a different type of meal called MannaPack Mix. This meal still has the vitamins, vegetables, and soy but does not include rice. FMSC's partners have worked with the local people getting our food and they are able to grow their own rice, corn, sorghum, or millet for the fourth ingredient. It is a win-win on both ends of the process, FMSC can send the food cheaper since it is so much lighter minus the rice and the local people get paid for growing their own products.



SECOND – St. Mark, as an organization, has been officially packing food with FMSC once a month since August of 2022. We have missed a couple of months here and there for a variety of reasons, but we have packed 14 times as a St. Mark group. Our little group of St. Mark'ians, along with the other people we share a table with, have made a BIG difference. Our table alone has packed 285 boxes, provided 66,960 meals, and have fed 184 children a daily meal for an entire year!! Putting our numbers together, along with all the other tables packing food with us, we have contributed to packing over 420,000 meals and feeding almost 1200 kids a meal a day for a year. (If you want more specific details, I have posted our numbers on the door near the kitchen.)

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME

THIRD - Since mid-August of '23, St. Mark has provided Bibles for people volunteering at FMSC to take home for free. **FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY- EIGHT (438!!!)** have been taken since we started this program! Thank you so much St. Mark for your generous donations!

AND ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!!

For more information about FMSC or if you are having problems signing up, please contact Mike Mol.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) DIVING INTO GOD'S WORD!

Join us for an amazing undersea adventure where kids will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

When: Monday, June 17th – Friday, June 21st
Time: 9:00am - Noon
Who: Preschoolers (3-years old; potty-independent) through 6th graders (for the 23-24 school year)
Cost: \$20/child (family maximum of \$50.00)



REGISTRATION OPENED MAY 1st
GO TO THE SMLC WEBSITE FOR THE REGISTRATION LINK

If you have any questions about VBS or would like to volunteer to be part of our VBS crew, please **contact Beth Miller at stmarkvbsfun@gmail.com**.

What did you do this past St. Patrick's Day???



Well three of St. Mark's high schoolers made 10 people's day a little brighter by gifting them \$100 each. Out of St. Mark's generosity and benevolence, the youth were given \$1000 to give away. The students made cards to "hold" the money, which also included this message:

For out of an abundance of Love, God sent Jesus into this world and into our lives. God's generosity has motivated our giving. To be sure, we do not know anything about your needs and in no way believe this gift solves any of your problems.

JESUS LOVES YOU
and so do the people of St. Mark Lutheran Church.

St. Mark is located in Lindenhurst at 1822 E. Grand Avenue, our phone number is (847) 356-8140, and our website is www.smlc.info.



Many smiles were seen, and a few hugs were received that day so if you see any of these people, ask them how they spent their St. Patrick's Day!!

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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Knowing the Importance of Prayer in God's Eternal Work... Appealing to the Holy Spirit 24/7

"I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. ³ You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. John 15:1-4

A few weeks ago St. Mark Church joined to eat, enjoy the spirit of fellowship, and strive for the next several hours to wrestle with phrases and words (word smithing) to birth a new mission and vision statement. First, the mission, the purpose of our congregation, and second the vision, a description of how St. Mark Church can accomplish our mission statement based on the results of the cottage meetings.

Meditating on John 15: 1-2 - it was fun, but mid-way into late afternoon - pruning was painful! First, Intentional Interim Pastor Steve led and encouraged us; his efforts culminating with a basic mission draft-emerging with beach balls flying into selected baskets accompanied by various noise makers and cheers. Over the next hour and a half, the vision draft s-l-o-w-l-y emerged on the black board enduring frequent erasing of phrases and words, sharing, reviewing for patterns, and tweaking again. "Are we done now???"

The best description is that of a junior high band practicing for its first performance - drummers drumming their part, while the other band members wait to toot their various horns. All together again - discord. Finally, after each band section toots and blows, the conductor brings the band together to play once again a recognizable "Amazing Grace." "Alleluia!!!"

This was an answer to our morning prayer for the mission and vision statements to be the fruit of this meeting. For PRAYER to emerge at the top of the list of the vision statement along with worship, we praise God! Noting in John 15, neither man, woman nor a church will be fruitful without Jesus.

Early Sunday morning of the *Extravaganza*, the following prayer was shared on the St. Mark prayer chain. For our Mission and vision extravaganza:

Please pray for St. Mark Church to seek and listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance as we work out together a mission and vision statement. We ask the statements will reflect what God loves, so to bear fruit, and glorify the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Help us to act in agreement with one another knowing this pleases God's heart and moves Him. So we also pray for harmony, wisdom discernment and grace towards one another in these next steps. We ask all of this in the all-powerful name of Jesus. Amen and Amen John 15

Saint Mark Church Prayer Team

Pam Burke, Kathy Shelley, and Barb Ewert

Please continue to review the April prayer article for how to pray for St. Mark during this transition into the next phase, the search for and calling our future pastor. For any comments or questions check with Barb Ewert.



**Every Month - 2nd Saturday /
7:00am Breakfast /
8:00am Training / 9:30am Adjourn**

Join in person or via zoom on the 2nd Saturday of the month (Men age 15+). Become part of something good and GET PLUGGED IN. We always have room for one more man. Send your contact information to Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com or text Jerry Doran at 847-271-8632.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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Greetings From The Congregational Life Committee

Student Volunteers Needed for Mother's Day & Father's Day Services

We are looking for Confirmation students to help hand out some goodies for all three services for Mother's Day and Father's Day. If your student needs some service hours this is an easy way for them to help us out and earn an hour or two. We'll need two or three student volunteers for each service on May 11th and May 12th for Mother's Day and also June 15th and 16th for Father's Day. Please contact Donna Bergl at 847-612-4565 if your student is available to help out.

Operation Christmas Child - Christmas in July

Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. **For many, it is their first gift ever!** Delivered by our local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

Last year our Christmas in July program worked so well that we have decided to do it again this year. Rather than wait until the busy Christmas season, we are going to start collecting items for OCC in July. Please start gathering items that will fit in a shoebox to be ready for our July collection. We will also create an updated Amazon Wish List and share the link in next month's newsletter.



Reach out to the CLC for more information: Shawn Frank ♦ Tricia Cholewinski ♦ Donna Bergl



For those of you who don't know, St. Mark has sponsored two children through Compassion International for several years. We currently sponsor Ruma, a 15 year old girl from Bangladesh, and Wesley, a 19 year old young man from Brazil.

Along with this sponsorship, a few of us have been in contact with Ruma and Wesley through the years. We are now looking for people to be the new "Pen Pals" for these two. St. Mark will continue to be the financial sponsor, but we are looking for people to be the new writing correspondents. According to Compassion's website, your "job" of being a "Pen Pal" is:

You can write to the child you sponsor either through physical letters or online through our website or app. To begin, we encourage you to send the child you sponsor a personal or family photograph and a short letter of introduction. Our local staff will translate your letter and deliver it to the child you support. Sponsored children often keep their sponsors' photos and letters in their homes as treasured possessions. You may write to the child you sponsor as often as you like. When you write, your sponsored child will benefit from knowing that someone across the world really cares. Your words of encouragement will help them see that they matter and give them hope for the future.

If you or your family are interested in writing to one of these two, please contact Mike Mol. If you just have questions about Compassion International OR would like to sponsor a child of your own, please see their website at [Compassion International](https://www.compassion.org).

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Join in America's National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 2nd as well as the rest of 2024

The mission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force is:

"Centered on the Lord Jesus Christ, the National Day of Prayer Task Force exists to mobilize unified public and personal prayer for America."

Historical Summary

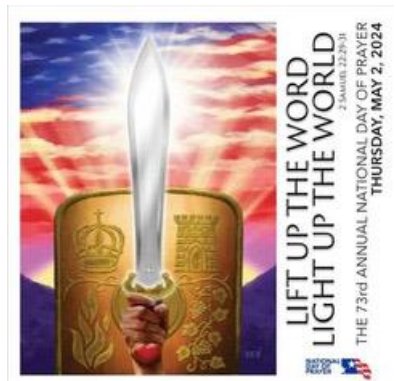
- **1775** – The first Continental Congress calls for a National Day of Prayer and Fasting.
- **1863** – Abraham Lincoln calls for a National Day of Prayer.
- **1952** – Harry S. Truman declares a National Day of Prayer and signs into law an annual observance there of – United States Congress passed Joint Resolution 382 on April 17, 1952/ President Truman signs Public Law 82-324 (Public Law 82-324; 66 Stat. 64—April 17, 1952).
- **1988** – Ronald Reagan signs into law the designation of the first Thursday in May as the annual observance for the National Day of Prayer – President Reagan signs Public Law 100-307 January 25, 1988, in the Second Session of the One Hundredth Congress (Public Law 100-307—May 5, 1988).
- **1998** – Pub. L. 105-225, August 12, 1998, 112 Stat. 1258: The President shall issue each year a proclamation designating the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Prayer on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals. This law was signed by President Clinton.

Stop by at the St. Mark Prayer Table for a *Pray for America Prayer Guide*.

Pray for our elections: So why pray for the elections? There are a number of compelling reasons:

- The Bible commands us to pray for those who are in leadership (I Timothy 2:1-4). This includes those who are vying to become leaders.
- Godly leaders can help slow the erosion of religious liberties in our land. This can provide an increased window of opportunity for the Church to pray and evangelize.
- According to Scripture, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). The selection of leaders who understand and lead according to God's righteous standards can bring great blessing to a nation.
- Scripture also says in Proverbs 11:14, "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisors make victory sure." The determination of who leads our nation will also determine who advises that leader and how we are guided.

Click below for a non-partisan Prayer Guide for the election: file:///Volumes/SeagateStorage/Storage/St.Mark/Voice/Voice%202024/ELECTION_PRAYER_GUIDE.pdf



BAPTIZED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD

April 14th at St. Mark

Easton Ryder Maurer

Son of Lindsey and
Zach Maurer

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



**Rummage Sale
2024
Save the Date!
August 1st, 2nd &
3rd**

The 2024 Rummage Sale is only 3 months away. Don't wait until the last minute to start cleaning out and packing up all your no longer needed great treasures. Collection starts early July. Set up starts the second week in July and everyone is welcome to help. You will have fun and make new friends. Bonus ... you get early shopping privileges. So mark your calendars and join us. Questions call Laurie Kerns 847-612-1510

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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Easter Breakfast

Just a short update on the Breakfast...

We served about 90 folks!! Council informed me that we didn't need to take the receipts paid out of the free will offering!! So we are able to send a check to OPEN ARMS MISSION for \$303!!! How generous our diners are!!!

I also want to make this my retirement notice! My health is making it very difficult to do all that is necessary to put this together. Besides, I am the youngest one of my team!! If anybody wants to take it over, I am more than willing to assist...I have notes, pictures, receipts, recipes going back to 2018.

If you might be interested, please contact me. If no one steps forward...that's the end of another one of our traditions. The "church ladies" are a dying breed...

Blessings!!
Gae Michal

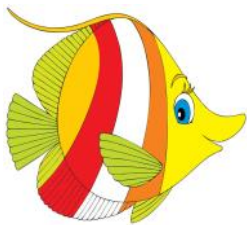
Denise and I say hello to all the congregation at Saint Mark! This past month was a very busy month for all the teachers and students at our Education Center. Christ has risen indeed!



In April, right after the celebration of our risen father. All our Sunday school teachers and students painted donated bird houses. Denise and I would like to thank Fred Natschke. For donating his time in making the bird houses and his donation of paint and other materials needed. Students enjoyed painting while discussing what happened after the crucifixion of Jesus. Later on in the month of April our third through fifth graders along with our middle school students were working closely together. They combined classes, collaborated, and worked closely together with hands-on activities for our Simply Loved curriculum. In late April, all teachers and students participated in a live fire drill. Our middle school teachers taught an outstanding lesson to our third through fifth graders!

In May, teachers will be working with students on one more service project. Denise and I would like to thank our safety committee for the work they did in scheduling the live fire drill. We would also like to thank the Lake Villa Fire Department for educating our teachers and students in the event that we have a fire!

Other important dates for Sunday school included: teacher appreciation day April 28, service project and confirmation class on May 5, Feed My Starving children June 6, and the last day of Sunday school May 19.



Fin Facts

Donations For March

Giving in March was \$ 4,022 under budget. Through the first quarter of 2024, giving was \$18,471 under budget and \$10,000 under total unrestricted donations for the first quarter of 2024. Cash in the bank increased by \$1,061. At the end of March there was \$370,731 in cash and savings, as well as \$60,000 in the Contingency Fund. Restricted Funds increased by \$11,246 for a total of \$415,260, \$64,385 of which is the Columbarium Fund.

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>
	<u>Unrestricted Offerings</u>	<u>Unrestricted Offerings</u>	
Month of March 2024	\$ 55,670	\$ 51,648	(\$ 4,022)
January - March 2024	\$ 167,045	\$ 148,574	(\$ 18,471)

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

May 2024

Noah's Nursery News



I am happy to report that things are still busy in the Nursery! We are in full swing with our new Parents' Morning Out (PMO) program! You may be asking what is this program? In January 2024, the Evangelism Ministry Team started this community outreach program as a means to reach and minister to young families in the greater Lake Villa / Lindenhurst area.

Children ages 0-5, can be dropped off here for 3 hours, every 4th Friday of the month from 9 am - 12 pm, as a way to provide a FREE break for parents/grandparents etc. Our next PMO is scheduled for May 24th, so Please tell a friend about this amazing program! Registration is required and can be found at <https://smlc.info/events/>.

Looking for Free activities for the kids to do this summer? Beginning in June, and through the summer months, we will extend the age of our PMO program from 0- 12 year olds! What a great way to stay connected with friends from church!

The nursery is also supporting the "Date Night VERTICAL Marriage, a Small-Group Study. Discover the one secret that will change your marriage!" The dates are the 2nd Friday of every month, February-June, the location is in the St. Mark Fellowship Hall, time 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, and the cost is Free! (Pot luck meal 6:00-7:00.) See Jeff McKenzie with any questions. The nursery will be open during these events and will be staffed from 5:45 pm - 8:00 pm; when children are in attendance.

Lastly, an update on Amya Appelt! Amya is living and studying in Carlow, Ireland through a CLC initiative. Amya and her friend Hannah are exploring sites in different cities with viewing some highlights of Killarney National Park, Muckross House, Torc Waterfall, and Ross Castle along the Ring of Kerry, to name a few! They remain busy on their quest to explore all that they can while they are still in Ireland! I look forward to Amya and Hannah's return back to the US in Mid May, and seeing her back at church and in the Nursery!

As you can see, we are busy in the nursery with upcoming PMO events, Date Nights and watching the whereabouts of Amya and Hannah!

Stay active and God bless,

Deb Heide

St. Mark's Joyful Hearts - Singles Group

Joyful Hearts is a group for St Mark single people who get together for friendship and fellowship. The commonality and shared experience of being single is what brings us together. We believe that Christian friendships make our lives more fulfilling. Joyful Hearts is not a group that actively seeks dating relationships. We have been getting together once a month at one of our local restaurants for food, conversation and fellowship. Additionally, throughout the month we have gone to the movies, farmers markets, local concerts, etc. If you are interested in joining this group please let us know (you can pick and choose what you want to participate in). This is a great way to get to know other members of the church!

Contact Patty or Nancy Lindholm_Patricia@yahoo.com or NEOConnor@comcast.net



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

May 2024



Attention College Students!

Now Accepting Applications for Scholarships that are found on St. Mark's [website](#) under the Student's page.

There are scholarships for becoming a pastor or any area of ministry.

- ◇ Seminarian Ministry Scholarship
- ◇ Christian Ministry Scholarship

Deadline for Applications is July 1, 2024.



Early Communion Class

Wishing God's grace and blessings to our Early Communion Class that made their first communion last month: Brandon Andrews, Brooke Andrews, Emily Andrews, Sophie Coughenour, Courtney Floren, Lindsay Floren, Mia Flores, Samantha Kerns, Joseph Kirschbaum, Emily Moreland and Danielle Wetterberg. May the love of Jesus fill their hearts and guide them throughout their lives.



A Quick Question

Does anyone have a way (or any connections on how) to get new logs for around our fire pit. I am looking for logs that are between 5 and 6 feet long and about a foot in diameter. If you can help with this, please contact Mike Mol at your earliest convenience. Thank You!!!!

Open Arms Food Pantry



OAM continues to support more than 200 families every week !

Thank you for all your continued support filling the "yellow barrels"!! It is truly heartwarming to see our St. Mark family continue to support our neighbors in these unique times.

The items requested for May are Cereal / Pasta / Pasta Sauce. Any nonperishable food is always appreciated.

If you have any questions about OAM please contact Ron Placko at rdplacko@comcast.net

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

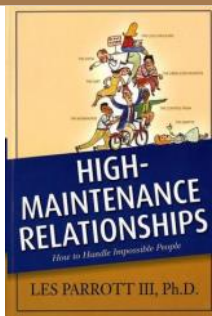
May 2024

Lay Reader List for May and June



If you are unable to read on a specific Sunday, please switch with someone on the list **and notify the office**. The readings for both Saturdays and Sundays will be out the week before you read.

Saturday, May 4th	5:30 PM	Johnna Morten	Saturday, June 1st	5:30 PM	Johnna Morten
Sunday, May 5th	8:00 AM	Cliff Ewert	Sunday, June 2nd	9:00 AM	Carl Norlin
	10:30 AM	Deb Zuchowski	Saturday, June 8th	5:30 PM	II Pastor Steve
Saturday, May 11th	5:30 PM	II Pastor Steve	Sunday, June 9th	9:00 AM	Jim O'Neal
Sunday, May 12th	8:00 AM	Carl Norlin	Saturday, June 15th	5:30 PM	Lynn Johnson
	10:30 AM	Bill Blecke	Sunday, June 16th	9:00 AM	Jim Schranz
Saturday, May 18th	5:30 PM	Lynn Johnson	Saturday, June 22nd	5:30 PM	Kathy Kurth
Sunday, May 19th	8:00 AM	Bonnie Millsop	Sunday, June 23rd	9:00 AM	Cliff Ewert
	10:30 AM	Jerry Gass	Saturday, June 29th	5:30 PM	II Pastor Steve
Saturday, May 25th	5:30 PM	Kathy Kurth	Sunday, June 30th	9:00 AM	Lynn Wetterberg
Sunday, May 26th	8:00 AM	Betty Oesterle			
	10:30 AM	Gary Olson			



High-Maintenance Relationships: How to Handle Impossible People

This month's book selection, *High-Maintenance Relationships: How to Handle Impossible People* by Les Parrott III, PhD was written to help us build better relationships. If you've ever been annoyed by *anyone*, you'll find lots of practical strategies for making the best of every situation. How do I handle a friend who saps my energy? When do I love without limit? We've all asked these questions. And too often our responses are either to back out of relationships or to give up on impossible people. Dr. Les Parrott shows us other options, including setting boundaries, giving the gift of grace, and leaving room for God. You can find this book under call number 302.20 PAR.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

May 2024

Support St. Mark & Local Businesses



Second Tuesday Each Month

CARRY OUT, PICK UP or DELIVERY!
Be sure to bring your coupon and mention it at time of payment!

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

Share with your friends and family.

LINDENHURST LOCATION ONLY

12:00 - 9:00 PM

Visit www.antiochpizzashop.com for full menu.

Valid the **Second Tuesday** of each Month

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

DATES: Second Tuesdays
5/14/24, 6/11/24, 7/9/24



Wendy's

THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH!

Now Serving Breakfast!

DRIVE THRU Anytime that day! Be sure to bring your coupon! (paper or electronic)

Show your support for St. Mark Lutheran Church

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

DATE: Every Third Thursday
5/16/24, 6/20/24, 7/18/24

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.

Divine Signs is Lake County's premier yard message creation company, dedicated to spreading joy and love in an extraordinary way!

We are excited to announce that we will **contribute 10% of our proceeds to St. Mark Lutheran Church** in Lindenhurst, IL. Simply mention St. Mark Lutheran Church, it is that easy! Tell your family and friends and let's get your next congratulatory event in the schedule!

This promotion is offered for everyone. Contact us directly or visit our sites to learn more about us...



Kevin and Tracy Graul

Phone or text: (224) 223-2786

[Facebook.com/DivineSigns3.16](https://www.facebook.com/DivineSigns3.16)

[Instagram@Divinesigns3.16](https://www.instagram.com/Divinesigns3.16)

DivineSigns.godaddysites.com

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

May 2024



May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00PM Confirmation	2 9:00AM Quilters 6:00PM Stephen Min. 7:00PM Arise Practice 7:00PM Adult Bible Study	3	4 9:00AM FMSC 5:30PM Worship
5 8:00AM Worship 9-10:30 Fellowship 9:20AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship with Confirmation	6 6:30PM Divorce Care	7 8:30AM Men's Group 10:00AM Bible Study Ed. Center 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:00PM Council Mtg. Antioch Pizza Tuesday	8	9 9:00AM Quilters 7:00PM Arise Practice 7:00PM Adult Bible Study	10 6:00PM Date Night	11 5:30PM Worship
12 8:00AM Worship 9-10:30 Fellowship 9:20AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Transition Forum Luncheon 6:30PM Youth Group	13 6:30PM Divorce Care	14 8:30AM Men's Group 10:00AM Bible Study Ed. Center 6:00PM Choir Practice	15	16 9:00AM Quilters 7:00PM Arise Practice 7:00PM Adult Bible Study Wendy's Thursday	17	18 5:30PM Worship
19 Pentecost 8:00AM Worship 9-10:30 Fellowship 9:20AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship	20 6:30PM Divorce Care	21 8:30AM Men's Group 10:00AM Bible Study Ed. Center 6:00PM Choir Practice 7:00PM Ministry Team Meetings 8:00PM Joint Team Meeting	22	23 7:00PM Arise Practice 7:00PM Adult Bible Study	24 9:00AM Parent's Morning Out	25 5:30PM Worship
26 8:00AM Worship 9-10:30 Fellowship 9:20AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 6:30PM Youth Group	27 6:30PM Divorce Care	28 8:30AM Men's Group 10:00AM Bible Study Ed. Center 6:00PM Choir Practice	29	30	31	

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart
May 2024

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

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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
10:30AM
Contemporary

TO RECEIVE
★ THE VOICE ONLINE,
EMAIL Stevie@smlc.info

**JUNE/JULY
VOICE DEADLINE:
May 15, 2024**

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart
May 2024