

---

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Messenger

---

“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

October 2022



## You won't want to miss Joe Boway's visit here on October 16

A couple years ago, St. Mark's donated the funds to construct a Lutheran school at Ziah Town Lutheran Church in the west African country of Liberia. We also later donated the money needed to dig a well at that school. Finally, we also collected money to send Catechisms over for the teachers and students. We worked through a missionary named Joe Boway, who works to build and support Lutheran schools in Liberia through his organization *Liberian Children's Ministry*.

We rejoice in the Lord that construction at the school has been progressing well! And on Sunday, October 16, Joe Boway will be visiting with us to give us an update!

Please join us on this Sunday! Joe and his family will be worshipping with us at our Divine Service. And afterwards, he will be giving a presentation, updating us on the progress at Ziah Town. We look forward to seeing you there!



REFORMATION  
Sunday

## Come, celebrate Reformation Day with us on October 30

On October 30, St. Mark's will observe the Festival of Reformation Day. On this day, we'll remember how God restored the Gospel to His Church in the 16<sup>th</sup> century through the work of Martin Luther and the other Reformers, and how God has preserved this Gospel for us unto the present day. It is a day of celebration, as we rejoice to hear that we are saved by Grace Alone, through Faith Alone, as taught in Scripture Alone.

Our Divine Service that day will be held at the normal time, 9:30 a.m., and will include many of your favorite Reformation hymns. You are invited to wear red in honor of the day.

Also, following the service, we will be holding our annual Fall Harvest Potluck. Please, join us!

## CONTENTS

2. Some Opportunities for Bible Study
3. Pastor's Page
4. St. Mark's is Developing a New *Wednesday Nights in Christ* Program, We are Accepting Nominations for 2023's Open Church Positions, Seeking Volunteers to Help with Fall Clean-Up
5. In our Thoughts and Prayers
6. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Pastor's Page (cont'd.), Church Directory Update, Special Fund Donations, Remember These Folks in Your Prayers, October's Special Decade Birthday
7. Council Meeting Minutes - Summarized
8. For the Latest Church News Visit our Website, Many Thanks to Last Month's Volunteers
9. (insert) Thoughts on Proposal 3, Upcoming Events in November, St. Mark's Ladies' Group is Ready to Ship 40 Quilts to LWR
10. October's 2022 Church Calendar (insert)

### **The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of:**

#### **St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

*The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod*

7979 Commerce Road

West Bloomfield, MI 48324

Phone: (248) 363-0741; Fax: (866) 649-6870

Website: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)

**Pastor: Rev. Aaron Vergin**

E-mail: [pastor@stmarkwb.org](mailto:pastor@stmarkwb.org)

**Editor: Debbie LoCascio**

E-mail: [debbie@stmarkwb.org](mailto:debbie@stmarkwb.org)

#### Sunday

Divine Service at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Study at 10:45 a.m.

Wed. Nights in Christ at 5:15 p.m. (Sep. through May)

#### One Saturday/month

Men's Bible Study/Breakfast 9:00 a.m.

Handicap accessible

# Bible Study



## Some opportunities for Bible study

The Bible contains God's infallible Word. Therefore, it's really important that we take every opportunity to learn what it has to say to us. Below are some ways you can delve more deeply into the Word of the Lord here at St. Mark's.

### Adult Bible Class: The Book of Genesis

In the month of October, we will be continuing our study of the book of Genesis in our Adult Bible Class!

The book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible, and it tells the story of God's salvation from the very beginning. It starts with the creation of the world and the fall into sin, and from there it traces the promise of the Savior from generation to generation, beginning with Adam and culminating with Jacob's twelve children. It includes the account of Noah and the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the Call of Abraham, and Joseph's rise in Egypt. At every place it proclaims the steadfast love of God and His faithfulness in redeeming mankind from the guilt of our sin.

We hope you will join us for this study! This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith!

Adult Bible Class meets on Sundays at 10:45 a.m., after our Divine Service.

### Men's Bible Study Will Meet on October 1

Attention Men of St. Mark's! Our next Men's Bible Study will be held on Saturday, October 1. We will gather from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. in St. Mark's fellowship hall. Breakfast will be provided, and we will continue our study of the book of Revelation.

We hope to see you there! This is a great opportunity to be formed together as men of God in the image of Christ!

### Read Through the Bible in 2022

The Apostle Paul, referring to the Scriptures, once said, "Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4).

Therefore, so that we might learn the Scriptures better and might abound in hope in Christ, St. Mark's Board of Elders is leading a Bible reading program, in which we will be going through the entire Bible in a year. Reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary, and weekly readings will be printed in the bulletin. The readings in October will begin at Malachi 1. Please consider participating! You can pick up any time!

---

# Pastor's Page

---

## Faithfully Facing Challenging Times: Abide in the Mission of Christ

My friends, as I wrote in last month's pastor's page, St. Mark's is currently facing some significant financial challenges. While I spent a good deal of time last month considering how we should handle this faithfully as a congregation in accordance with God's Word, this month I would like to continue with an additional encouragement: Even in the face of such a challenge, *abide in the mission of Christ!*

Yeah, as a congregation, we have a purpose. We don't exist merely for our own sake. The One True God has intentionally gathered us here—in this specific time at this specific place—that He might work through us. Indeed, He has already prepared our good works. As Paul says, "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10). This is true when the waters of life are smooth and the winds are calm. And this is also true when the storms rage and the seas rise. In fact, God works best among us in times of hardship and pain. For as He says, "My power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

But what is God's purpose for us as a congregation? It is to proclaim Christ crucified among our neighbors, that others might believe in Him and be saved. In short, we are a local outpost of the worldwide mission of Jesus, who comes "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10).

This is prophesied beautifully at one place in the book of Micah. Here, the prophet is speaking of the Messianic Age which would come in Christ, and he says this: "It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem" (Micah 4:1-2). In other words, God will work to gather the nations into His Church by sending forth His Word from the Church. Our mission as a Christian congregation is join this work at our particular time and place.

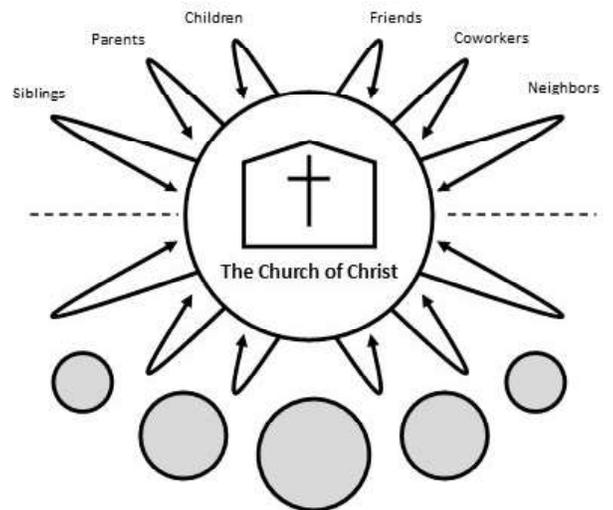
But how might we do this in practice? In the column to the right, you will find an illustration that helps lay this out for a Christian congregation.

(Continued next column)

### The Mission of Christ at a Local Congregation

*"Many nations shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem" (Micah 4:2).*

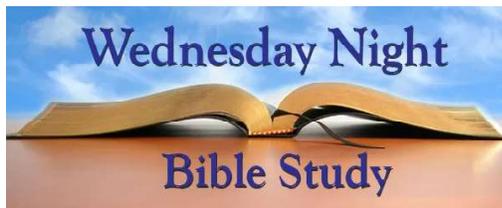
**Individual Christians draw the nations to Christ, as they serve & proclaim in their daily vocations.**



**Individual Christians draw the nations to Christ, as they serve & proclaim at congregational events and activities.**

As you can see, this mission of God happens first as individual Christians draw the nations to Christ, as they serve and proclaim in their daily vocations. In this way, God sends them out to those to whom God has already connected them in their daily lives: to their children, their parents, their siblings, their friends, their coworkers, their neighbors, etc. Among them, individual Christians begin by serving in the name of Christ. Meanwhile, they also seek out opportunities to proclaim Jesus, as they build trusting relationships. As God opens doors, individual Christians offer the comfort of Jesus. They share His message of hope. And, yes, they even invite to church. This is where the mission of Christ first takes place: individual Christians serving and proclaiming in their daily vocations. Through this work, God gathers the nations into the Church through faith.

(See Pastor's Page, Page 6)



## St. Mark's is developing a new *Wednesday Nights in Christ* program

St. Mark's Board of Family & Youth, conferring with Pastor Vergin, has been meeting lately to discuss the lack of children attending our Sunday School program, and brainstorming for ways we can get more children to attend Bible-based classes and events here at St. Mark's. In making phone calls to church member parents who have elementary-aged school children, it was suggested that we go back to having a Wednesday evening youth Christian education class, as that might be easier for kids to attend than a class after church on Sundays. The board discussed this further and has decided to work toward creating and implementing a Wednesday evening program called *Wednesday Nights in Christ*.

The program would start at 5:15 p.m. with the serving of a very simple meal for youth and any parents who'd like to join us for the meal (30 minutes), then move on to a Bible lesson for the kids for 30 minutes, and then finish up with some games, crafts, or a once-a-month special guest speaker (for the last 30 minutes).

The guest speakers would teach the kids "life skills" like sewing, gardening, cooking, animal caretaking, how to deal with peer pressure and bullying at school, etc. At the same time, Pastor would teach a Bible study from 5:45 - 6:45 for any parents who stick around, as well as anyone else who'd like to attend. The evening would end by 6:45 p.m. The board has also decided that our Trunk-or-Treat and Easter Egg Hunt & Fun programs will be wrapped into the *Wednesday Nights in Christ* program too.

The first Wednesday class will start on October 26 at 5:15 p.m., and our Trunk-or-Treat event will take place that night, as well. We won't offer games in the fellowship hall for Trunk-or-Treat as in years past, but we will still have the decorated trunks in our parking lot where the kids can trunk-or-treat.

In order to get this program off the ground, we will be needing volunteers to help as teachers, teachers' assistants and meal coordinators. Five simple meal ideas have already been suggested and these can be rotated, if desired. Watch for a sign-up sheet to appear in October for anyone who'd like to help.

Pastor has also discovered that there might be grant money available through Thrivent, and also from our Michigan District, to help cover the costs of this program! These options will be fully researched by the Board of Family and Youth in hopes that the costs to start and continue the program might be fully covered by grants.

Please pray for the *Wednesday Nights in Christ* program as our Board of Family & Youth works with Pastor to get it up and running. Pray that the Lord will send us youth to attend and volunteers to teach and serve them.

## NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN



## We are accepting nominations for 2023's open church positions

Would you like to serve at St. Mark's in an official capacity? Do you know of anyone whom you think would be well-suited to serve?

We are now accepting nominations for our elected positions. This year, we are accepting nominations for the following Officers:

- Congregational Treasurer
- Congregational Financial Secretary
- Human Resources Director
- Public Relations Director

Additionally, we're accepting nominations for all six congregational Boards:

- Human Care
- Gospel Outreach
- Parish Fellowship & Support
- Assimilation & Stewardship
- Family & Youth
- Properties

Each elected term is for three years. Responsibilities for each Board/Position can be found in our Bylaws. Please call the church office with any questions.

Nomination forms will soon be placed on the back table in the sanctuary. You can nominate yourself, or someone else! Please consider serving the Lord in this special way! May He bless our congregation in the year ahead!

## Seeking volunteers to help with Fall Clean-Up



It's that time again! St. Mark's needs to get prepared for the colder temperatures and so we are seeking volunteers to

stay after church next Sunday, October 2, to help with our Fall Clean-Up event. The sanctuary window screens will need to be replaced with storm windows, and other Fall chores will need to be done too. A list of chores will be posted on the table in the lobby. Lunch will be served to participants around noon or so.

---



IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*



---

**MORE URGENT PRAYER'S:**

**Carolyn Achimov**—is having health issues.  
**Joan Freeman**—needs prayers for health issues.  
**John Freeman**—needs prayers for health issues.  
**Chris Gerard**—is recovering at home from Covid.  
**Helga Gonzalez**—is having some medical issues and is in rehab to get stronger.  
**Barbara Jewell**—is having a lot of back pain and other issues.  
**Taylor Lockwood**—needs extra prayers.  
**Nancy McInnis**—is recovering from chemotherapy.  
**Rod Oehring**—has medical issues.  
**Cindy Parks**—is receiving chemotherapy for liver cancer.  
**Charlie Powell**—is recovering from an appendectomy.  
**Marlene Steck**—has memory & health issues; Hospice has been called in.  
**Art Vermeersch**—is having health issues.  
**Larry Whitehead**—is recovering from foot surgery.  
**Carl & Carol Zienert**—are having medical issues.  
Carolyn Achimov's cousin's great-granddaughter, **Kennedy Shallal**—has Leukemia; is undergoing treatments.  
Joe Boway's wife, **Glendora**—is receiving therapy for her shoulder following surgery.  
Friend of St. Mark's, **Allen Geer**—is recovering from shoulder surgery.  
Nancy Geer's friend, **Kate Kever**—prayers for decreased pain & healing.  
Barbara Jewell's niece's son, **Tim Bridges**—is recovering from back surgery.  
Barbara Jewell's niece-in-law, **Peg Fieler**—keeps falling.  
Barbara Jewell's sister-in-law's sister, **Carol**—is undergoing radiation.  
Glenn Jewell's insurance agent, **Vicky**—is receiving chemotherapy.  
Jennie Kaufman's nephew, **Jeff Balhoff**—is receiving cancer treatment.  
Olivia Krog's mother, **Julie Shrivnen**—is being treated for cancer.  
Debbie LoCascio's father, **Bob Tippett, Sr.**—Dementia is getting much worse.  
Debbie LoCascio's friend, **Judy Miller**—keeps falling; was hospitalized, but is now in rehab.  
The LoCascio's friend, **Steve Cronk**—is receiving radiation for cancer.  
The LoCascio's friend, **Rhea Thomas**—is receiving chemotherapy.  
The LoCascio's sister-in-law's mom, **Dotti Raczkowski**—suffers from Dementia; fell, broke her hip; is recovering from hip surgery.  
Cindy Parks' friend, **Linda**—is battling breast cancer  
Cindy Park's mom, **Rose Mielke**—is having health issues.  
Stephanie Reynolds' mom, **Pam Williams**—has health issues.  
Stephanie Reynolds' son, **Emmett Reynolds**—has Autism.

*(continued next column)*

Carolynn Taylor's grandson's wife, **Stephanie Payton**—is battling breast cancer.  
Lynn Thomas' good friend, **Kristy Fresh**—has been diagnosed with a rare cancer.  
Marilyn Turner's friend, **Tony**—needs extra prayers.  
Mandy Vergin's sister, **Bethany Goers**—has been diagnosed with breast cancer; is undergoing aggressive chemotherapy.  
Rob Wheeler's dad, **Rick Wheeler**—is recovering from a brain bleed.  
The Whitehead's friend, **Tim Ramey**—recovering from shoulder surgery.  
The Whitehead's 2-year-old granddaughter, **Evelyn**—continues to have breathing issues following Covid.  
Larry Whitehead's cousin, **Leonard Pittaway**—is battling bladder cancer.

**ONGOING PRAYERS:**

Joan Freeman's brother, Ernie Sampson—has medical issues.  
Friend of St. Mark's, Thisvi Steiger—has health issues  
Friend of St. Mark's, Erika Williams—needs prayers for guidance.  
Barbara Jewell's sister-in-law, Phyllis Tharp—has lung cancer  
Barbara Jewell's neighbor's grandson—confined to home  
Barbara Jewell's neighbor, Ed Perez—having health issues  
Barbara Jewell's friend, Pam Perez—is having medical issues  
Barbara Jewell's friend's brother, Johnny—diagnosed with cancer  
Kay Joslin—is receiving therapy for her hip  
Julie Kosmalski—her cancer is in remission  
Debbie LoCascio's cousin, Cheryl Tippett—is battling cancer  
Debbie LoCascio's friend, Betty Ebejer—is struggling with COPD  
Debbie LoCascio's brother, Bob Tippett, Jr.—has a lesion on his liver; will be undergoing more tests  
Debbie LoCascio's brother-in-law, Alex Esse—spots found on his lungs; will be undergoing tests  
The LoCascio's neighbor, Laura Jones—is battling cancer  
Mary Ann Lockwood's cousin's kids—Abigail and Amelia List—having health issues.  
Cindy Parks' sister, Jeane Schaefer—has back issues.  
The Salo's daughter-in-law, Joni—is recovering from a stroke; receiving therapy  
Jean Swainson's friend's son, Connor Donahue—is in an intensive inpatient rehab center recovering from being hit by a car  
Mandy Vergin's father, Bruce Ketcher—health issues have gotten worse.  
Dorothy Vermeersch's cousin, Gloria Maire—has several medical issues  
Lynne Welty—is having health issues  
Larry Whitehead's daughter, Tracy Whitehead—prayers for wisdom and guidance



## October Birthdays

- 3 Owen Reynolds
- 6 Sherry Hyrkas
- 7 Michael Lockwood (Jr.)
- 10 Andrea Benson, Lori Whitehead
- 12 Julia Ligon, Danielle White-Davis
- 14 Julie Kosmalski
- 16 Gracyn Velu
- 17 Olivia Benson
- 22 Darryl Swainson
- 23 Carol Zienert
- 24 Barb Allen, Mandy Vergin
- 28 Kyle Albert
- 30 Stephanie Reynolds

## Special Fund Donations

We thank those listed below who made special donations in **August**:

### Joe Boway/Liberian Lutheran School:

Lynn Thomas

**Remodeling - Sanctuary:** Nancy McInnis

**VBS:** Christina Dura, Lucia White

## October's special decade birthday

This month, we wish a happy Special Decade Birthday to our church member, Carol Zienert whose birthday is on October 23.

As always, we can't tell you which decade, but we know all of you will join us in praying that our Lord will continue to bless Carol on her birthday and always.



## October Anniversaries

- 5 Carl & Carol Zienert 59th
- 9 Jim & Marlene Steck 51st
- 13 Brad & Stephanie Reynolds 10th



### Recieved by Adult Confirmation:

*Kyle & Paula Albert*

5080 Arrowhead

West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Paula's Cell: (248) 219-8005

Kyle's Cell: (248) 7392116



## Please remember these folks in your prayers

Those shown below have lost a loved one this past month. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

✠ The Grafe family as Lucy Grafe, St. Mark's founding pastor's wife, fell asleep in the Lord on 9/11.

✠ The Zazula family as Mary Ann Lockwood's uncle, Nick Zazula, passed away earlier this year.

## Pastor's Page

(Continued from Page 3)

Secondly, the mission of God also takes place as individual Christians draw the nations to Christ, as they serve and proclaim at congregational events and activities. Different congregations will do different things. Some may have many events, some may have just a few. But no matter what a congregation does, these events and activities are all still meant to serve a place in God's mission. It is an additional opportunity for the individual Christians to serve and proclaim, this time alongside others from the congregation.

And why do we do this? We do this because Christ loves this world and we do to. Together, we want the lost to be found. We want the prodigal sons to return. We want our neighbors to share in the same eternal salvation that we have, being rescued from the condemnation of our sins through faith in the blood of Jesus.

And as we do this, we do it with confidence and good cheer. For God has forgiven us and daily empowers us. Indeed, this is His mission that He is doing, and for which He is ultimately responsible. We simply get to be the means by which He does it, in spite of our sinfulness and through all our weakness. And the results are sure: He will save all His elect. Not one will be missing. Indeed, we are simply unworthy instruments being used by the Almighty God. Notice that our role in this work is not even mentioned by Micah. It's all God. We're simply along for the ride.

So even as we face challenges as a congregation, don't be discouraged and don't be distracted. We have a mission to do. And God will see it through. So for us? Let's abide in it.



# Council Notes

## Council Meeting Minutes - Summarized August 16, 2022

**Attendees:** Pastor Vergin, Tom LoCascio, Karen Kaufman, Trent Johnson, Debbie Sidelinker, Ellen Rentola, Darryl Swainson, and Nancy McInnis

Call to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tom LoCascio

Opening Prayer and Devotion by Pastor – 2 Samuel 22:26-34.

Vice President’s Report per Trent Johnson – had the young adults at his house on August 6. There were eight adults and five children. No date selected for September yet due to travel.

Pastor’s Report per Pastor Vergin –

- o Mission Planning Workshop is now September 24 at 9:00 a.m.
- o Will be attending Circuit Visitor Conference September 18-20
- o We need to designate Lay Representative for Circuit Forum. Council selected Darryl Swainson as our Lay Representative.
- o Nominate Layperson from Circuit for 2023 Synod Convention. Council selected Guy York from Faith Highland as the delegate.
- o Winkel at St. Mark’s on Tuesday, September 13. We’ll need to provide breakfast for 12.
- o Will someone organize the old confirmation photos into books? Karen volunteered.
- o Requesting Funds for Pastor and Mandy to attend All Pastors Conference. Motion was made and passed to use up to \$700 from our Thrivent Fund.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

**Elders** per Darryl Swainson – we continue to assist Pastor. We invited the ushers to potentially be a fill in Elder. Long term inactive – Gail Arnold has been reinstated into membership.

**Family & Youth** per Tom LoCascio (Mandy Vergin not in attendance) – Meeting soon to plan Sunday School that will resume on Sunday, September 11.

**Gospel Outreach** per Tom LoCascio (Charlie Powell not in attendance) – Movie night will be Friday, August 19 starting at dusk.

**Human Care** per Karen Kaufman – We are serving dinner at St. Paul’s on Wednesday, September 21. We are able to serve dinner inside, so will need volunteers. Sign up board will be in the entryway on Sunday. We have 100 catechism books

ordered to send to Joe Boway. Pastor is scheduling another visit with him.

**LWML** per Pastor - The LWML Fall Rally will be Saturday, September 17 at St. Matthew’s.

**Parish Fellowship** per Ellen Rentola – Getting ready for movie night. We have popcorn and chips. We will also take care of the breakfast for Winkel.

**Properties** per Jim O’Brien – has not heard back from the parking lot folks. We need to get the cracks resealed before winter. The snow plow truck did not perform well last year, so Jim asked Tom Kaufman to take a look at it. There are a few items that need to be replaced at a cost of about \$150-\$180 for parts.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

A member approached Tom LoCascio after service recently stating she has an old corvette that she would like to donate to St. mark’s so we can sell it and keep the proceeds. Tom to research how best to do this.

**Treasurer’s Report** per Trent Johnson – The May checking account was \$112,000, June was \$108,500 and now is \$107,000. As you can see from Debbie Sidelinker’s report, we are forecasting \$131,000 in donations for the year which would be \$23,000 less than our budgeted expenses. Our actual expenses to date are \$2000 under budget.

**Financial Secretary’s Report** per Debbie Sidelinker – Pastor asked about the over/(short) amount. The (\$13,520.11) net balance is the current shortage, not the projected. (Again, the fact that we’ve had 9 core church members go to be with Jesus in the past two years has had an impact on our offerings.)

Trent Johnson added that since we are trying to save money, we’re going to show most reports on the projector screen going forward.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 20 at 7 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

*(Continued next column)*

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church



7979 Commerce Road  
West Bloomfield, MI 48324

Phone: (248) 363-0741

Fax: (866) 649-6870

Email: [info@stmarkwb.org](mailto:info@stmarkwb.org)

Website: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)

*Address Service Requested*

### For the latest church news, visit our website

What types of information can you find  
on St. Mark's website  
([www.stmarwb.org](http://www.stmarwb.org))?



- Monthly church calendars
- Sunday bulletins
- Weekly announcements
- Monthly newsletters
- About St. Mark's
- Event Registration Forms
- Those on Duty (scheduled to help out at church)

...and more! Check it out for all of your worship/church  
needs!

**THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH**

### Many thanks to last month's volunteers

As always, we were blessed with a slew of volunteers this  
past month who went about serving others as beloved people  
in Christ. And we are very thankful for their help!

Thanks so much to Ellen Rentola and Nancy McInnis  
who provided breakfast food and drinks for the Pastor's  
Winkel here on September 13.

We also thank those who donated food and drink, and  
helped prepare and serve dinner, for St. Paul's Community  
Lutheran Church on September 21 including: Paula Albert,  
Barb Allen, Linda David, Cathy Fitzgerald, Nancy Geer, Sherry  
Hyrkas, Tom LoCascio, Nancy McInnis, Jennie Kaufman,  
Karen Kaufman, Leslie Oehring, Ellen Rentola, Lynn Thomas,  
Cindy Turner & Pastor Vergin. A delicious meal of homemade  
mostaccioli, salad, veggies, chips, garlic bread and desserts  
was served to the people of Pontiac and the food must have  
been good because there weren't many leftovers!



## Thoughts on Proposal 3

During this year's midterm elections, a proposal will be appearing on the ballot called *Proposal 3*. This proposal was written by supporters of abortion as a result of the overturning

of *Roe vs. Wade*, and it seeks to amend the state constitution to include a right to abortion.

Please be aware that this proposal would radically limit our state's ability to regulate and restrict abortion. Specifically, according to the text of the proposal, the state legislature would no longer be able to prohibit abortion if deemed necessary at any stage in the pregnancy, *even for the mental health of the mother*. It also would invalidate many other laws already on the books regarding abortion. In effect, this would mean abortion on demand in Michigan up until the point of birth.

The Bible teaches that every human life is precious to God and deserving of our protection, from conception until natural death. This is especially true for the smallest and most vulnerable among us, such as babies in the womb. While we Christians devote ourselves to caring compassionately for women facing unexpected pregnancies, let us also step up in defense of the unborn and vote on this proposal in accordance with God's Word.

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb" (Psalm 139:13).



## Upcoming events in November

Please mark your calendars now for these upcoming November events!

- 5 Elders' Conference at St. Mark's 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- 6 All Saints' Day Divine Service, Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 8 Michigan General Election (read article above on Proposal 3)
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 23 Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Thanksgiving Day (church office closed on Thu. & Fri.)
- 26 Decorate the Church for Christmas
- 27 Advent 1 Divine Service
- 30 Midweek Advent Service at 7 p.m.



## St. Mark's Ladies' Group is ready to ship 40 quilts to LWR

St. Mark's Ladies' Group has worked very hard this year making quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and the quilts are gorgeous! Forty quilts in all will be shipped to LWR in mid-October. These will then be distributed to needy people throughout different areas of the world.

Door offerings that have recently followed the Divine Services have entirely covered the cost of shipping the quilts. Thanks to all who donated!

On Sunday, October 9, Pastor Vergin will be blessing the quilts during the Divine Service before they are shipped overseas. Also on that day, we will be celebrating Lutheran Women's Missionary League Sunday. We hope you will join us for worship on October 9!

St. Mark's Quilting Bee group continues to meet on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you'd like to learn how to quilt, or would like to volunteer some time helping to assemble quilts, just show up on Thursday mornings! No quilting experience is necessary!



Sunday Divine Service 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Adult Bible Class 10:45 a.m.  
 Wednesday Nights in Christ 5:15 p.m. (Sep. - May)  
 Men's Bible Study/Breakfast - One Saturday per mo. 9 a.m.

# October 2022

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

For live, up-to-date versions of ANY St. Mark's calendar, visit our website at:  
[www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> 9am Men's Bible Study
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b> Gail Fitzgerald <b>COUNTERS:</b> Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead						
<b>2 16th Sun. after Trinity</b> Elder on Duty: Darryl Swainson 9:30am Divine Service 10:45am Fall Clean-Up	<b>3</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>4</b>  7pm - Bd. Of Elders Mtg.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10am Quilting Bee  Pastor out of office in p.m.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 17th Sun. after Trinity</b> Elder on Duty: Tom LoCascio 9:30am Divine Service 10:45am Adult Bible Class  <b>BLESSING OF THE QUILTS</b> <b>LWML SUNDAY</b>	<b>10 Columbus Day</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10am Quilting Bee  Pastor out of office in p.m.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 18th Sun. after Trinity</b> Elder on Duty: Darryl Swainson 9:30am Divine Service 10:45am Adult Bible Class  <b>JOE BOWAY'S VISIT</b>	<b>17</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>18</b>  7pm - Council Mtg.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10am Quilting Bee  Pastor out of office in p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>DEADLINE TO SUBMIT</b> <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 19th Sun. after Trinity</b> Elder on Duty: John Sidelinker 9:30am Divine Service 10:45am Adult Bible Class	<b>24</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  5:15pm Wed. Nights in Christ 6:15pm Trunk-or-Treat	<b>27</b> 10am Quilting Bee  Pastor out of office in p.m.	<b>28</b> <b>DISTRIBUTE NEWSLTR.</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30 Reformation Day</b> Elder on Duty: Tom LoCascio 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am Fall Harvest Potluck	<b>31 Halloween</b>  Pastor's Day Off					

GREETERS:	USHERS:	VIDEO TECHS:
2 Ellen Rentola	2 Matt Maier	2 Karen Kaufman
9 Sue I./Judy S.	9 Trent Johnson	9 Debbie Sidelinker
16Carolynn Taylor	16 Tom Kaufman	16 Charlie Powell
23 Jennie/Karen K.	23 John Reardon	23 Karen Kaufman
30 Gail Fitzgerald	30 Matt Maier	30 Debbie Sidelinker