



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Messenger



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The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of:

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

7979 Commerce Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48324

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Sunday Worship

Divine Service at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
followed by

Adult Bible Study at 10:45 a.m.

Handicap Accessible

At the June 1st voters meeting the congregation of St Mark's voted unanimously to join with the congregation of Christ Lutheran in Milford. A joint committee has been formed to ensure the success of the joining of the two congregations. The members from St Mark's are John Reardon, Darryl Swainson, and Karen Kaufman. Members from Christ Lutheran are Pastor Johnson, Ken Lindberg, Scott Beam, and Jeff Kleckner. Stay tuned for further updates.

There will NOT be a Divine Service or Bible Study provided at St. Mark's on July 6th.

Due to the scheduling conflicts of our pulpit pastors, none are available to preach on this day. Therefore, We are unable to have service on this day. Instead, Please plan on attending a combined worship service at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at 9:30 AM. (Please see letter on Page 2).

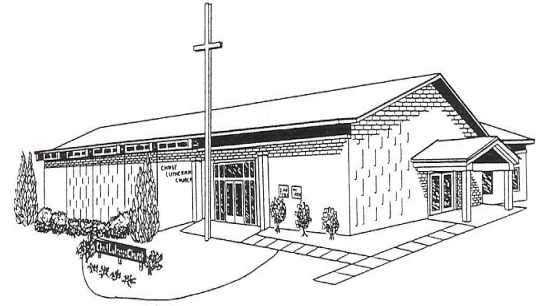
LWML Mites for Missions Any mites received by St. Mark's are remitted to our Zone which then go to the LWML Michigan District. Our mites are used to fund the very important grants given out by LWML. Mites can be placed in a green envelope, marked mites, and put in the collection plate.

The June 2026 Michigan District Rally will be held in Lansing and our Multi Lakes Zone, as one of the hosts, needs volunteers to help. Please call Leslie Oehring if you would like further information.

QUILTING BEE: Our quilters changing they day they will meet to Wednesday mornings at 10 am. Even if you don't sew, there are other ways to help such as ironing and tying!

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
620 General Motors Rd.
Milford, MI 48381
Office: (248) 684-0895
School: (248) 684-6773



Dear Members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

*Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are overjoyed to extend a warm invitation to you to join us **for a combined worship service at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at 9:30 AM.** This special gathering will be a beautiful opportunity to worship together, share in fellowship, and celebrate the unity we have in Christ.*

*We are excited to come together as one body to lift our voices in praise, hear God's Word, and strengthen the bonds of our shared faith. The service will be held in our sanctuary, and we look forward to welcoming you with open hearts. **Following the service, we invite you to stay for a time of fellowship with light refreshments, allowing us to connect and grow in community.***

If you have any questions or need further details, please contact the church office at (248) 684-0895 or email us at office@christlutheranmilford.org.

May God bless you, and we look forward to seeing you on July 6!

In Christ's love,

Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnson – Pastor, Christ Lutheran Church



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

7979 Commerce Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan 48324

Telephone: (248) 363-0741 Email: info@stmarkwb.org; Website: www.stmarkwb.org

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Closing Service

Dear Beloved of the Lord,

*St. Mark's Lutheran Church will hold its **final worship service on: Sunday, August 31, 2025, At 2:00 PM.***

This closing service will mark the end of this chapter of our congregation's journey as we gather one last time to give thanks for the countless blessings, memories, and ministries shared within these sacred walls.

*Our **new chapter begins on September 7 the , 2025 as part of Christ Lutheran Church, Milford, Michigan.***

The Reverend President David Davis will preside over this special service as we reflect on our legacy and look forward to God's continued goodness and faithfulness. All are warmly invited to join us—members, former members, friends, and neighbors—to worship together and celebrate the impact St. Mark's has had on our lives and community.

Please come and share in this meaningful moment of closure and fellowship.

In Christ's love,

The St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council

**TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS
FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH
CENTER**

We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please leave ¼” of the paper around the stamp.

Collecting Bottles/Cans for Ziah

Town School If you would like to donate your returnable cans and bottles, the Board of Human Care is accepting them weekly! Just bring your bag to church and an usher will let you know where you can put them. A member of the Human Care Board will collect them and make the return. All money will then go into the fund for the Ziah Town Liberian Lutheran School to be used for catechisms and/or school supplies. You may also make donations at any time by either putting your check/cash in a green envelope and writing “Joe Boway” on the front (checks made payable to St. Mark’s), or visiting the St. Mark’s website, clicking the online giving button and selecting the fund titled Joe Boway/Liberian School.

(Continued next column)



For Our church members:

Barbara Jewell , Nancy McInnis
Dorothy Vermeersch

Shut—Ins

Julia Ligon, Art Vermeersch
Carl & Carol Zienert,
John & Joan Freeman

Family & friends:

Michael, Truman Duggin, Jim Copola,
Lisa, Evelyn Davis, Feiler Family,
Mickey Smith, Ed Kempisty,
Chip Cryderman, Kristy Fresh,
Patricia Chipps, Laura, Pam, Glenn,
Mary, Ray

Transferred Out

In June:

Trent Johnson and Family to
St. Paul’s Ann Arbor, MI

The LoCascio Family to
St. John’s Au Gres, MI

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Anniversaries:

None

Birthdays:

7/3: Nancy Hewson; Rod Oehring

7/08: Marge Hein

7/11: Christian Lockwood

7/21: Carl Zienert

7/22: Nancy McInnis

7/23: Gail Fitzgerald

7/26: Austin Krus

(See Page 4)

LUTHERAN SPECIAL EDUCATION MINISTRIES

is looking for a part-time resource room teacher position at Our Savior Lutheran School in Hartland, MI to start this fall. Applicants must hold a current Michigan Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more information or wishing to submit a resume are asked to contact Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org.

MOST MINISTRIES IS LOOKING FOR A PART- TIME COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST.

This person will work collaboratively to design and deliver messages effectively to convey MOST Ministries to external audiences through social media, newsletters, website and written communications. Visit our website at mostministries.org to see the full job description. Submit resume and cover letter to Kelly Bone at kbone@mostministries.org.

Church Council
Ministry Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2025

Attendees: John Reardon, Larry Whitehead, Darryl Swainson, Karen Kaufman, Lori Whitehead,

Lillian Harmon sitting in on behalf of Nancy McInnis

Call to Order at 7: 05 p.m. by John Reardon

Opening Prayer by John Reardon

There were no additions to Agenda therefore a Motion to Approve by Lori Whitehead; Seconded by Larry Whitehead. Approved by all.

Previous Minutes were presented on behalf of Nancy McInnis by Lori Whitehead. Lori Motioned to Accept minutes as written; Karen Kaufman seconded. Motion carried and approved by all.

Treasurer's Report provided by Kyle Albert
Was reviewed.

Email was sent to Council regarding the Dues to the Synod for approval to pay. Was not sure if we were supposed to as we are planning to merge and did not want to double dip payment. It was considered and agreed that we will pay the dues as it isn't double paying due to fact that all the churches already have received their dues for payment prior to merging. Larry motioned to Pay the Bill; Karen Kaufman Seconded. Motioned passed.

Financial Secretary's Report submitted by Lori Whitehead
Was reviewed. A motion was made to accept. It was seconded. Was approved.

Parish Report & June's Church Calendar was provided and Was Reviewed and approved by all.

Larry Whitehead, Vice President didn't have anything to report

Board Reports

Assimilation & Stewardship – No report

Elders

Darryl Swainson

Lynn Thomas is Transferring her membership to Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, Texas
Currently we have 4 Pastor's preaching however, Pastor Pies is also helping out 2 other congregations and may have to step aside in August. Pastor Arendell is going on a Mission trip and will not be able to preach in July.

Lori Whitehead from Properties Reported that:

Door handle to emergency exit door near front of the building fell apart and has now been fixed
Police were called to St. Marks to ask homeless person sleeping in van to leave premises.
Lawn mower blade was replaced because old blade dull and damaged. Now in working order.
Snow plow Blade has been removed and stored in Garage.
Received Boiler Certificate in Mail from the State. Now in compliance for both Elevator and Boiler.
Screens need to be installed into the windows. Awaiting a good day to install them.
Two Lights have been replaced on the lampposts but still are not working....

LWML Leslie Oehring

Each year our LWML Zone collects dues from member congregations. This money is necessary to allow to send representation from our zone to the conventions. Prices are soaring and in order to meet the rising cost of registration and lodging for the co-chair and any Young Woman Representatives, they voted and passed an increase in the dues. Been informed already aware. The dues have also been paid.

We continue to collect used eye glasses for the MOST ministry and used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministry.

Our quilters continue to meet on Thursday mornings. We encourage anyone interested in joining us to call Leslie Oehring for details on how you may be able to help. Even if you don't sew, there are other ways to help such as ironing and tying!

OLD BUSINESS

Merger: Resulted findings by Ad Hoc Committee...

The following Congregations will be considered by the congregation:

Christ Lutheran, Milford will be on the ballot June 1st Voter meeting.

Peace Lutheran, Waterford will be on the ballot June 1st Voter's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

June Voter's Meeting Agenda to be redone as the agenda was incorrect format. Secretary thought traditional meeting was to be tabled to discuss merger. Due to lack of activity it was felt everything could be covered anyway.

Pastor Meckes planning to attend the Voter's Meeting on June 1.

Target date to meet with the Congregational Candidate of Choice open ended until after June 1st. Need to discuss findings with Pastor Meckes. As both Candidate Congregations already stated that they would welcome the merger. Just a matter of getting information as to the next steps. Not sure if it warrants a secondary meeting between Pastor Meckes and Council.

Motion was made present to the Voter's at the upcoming meeting to present the options to choose which congregation they prefer to merge with. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion was made to request unlimited authority to the council to act on the congregations' behalf, to facilitate all that is required to obtain a merger. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Acknowledging the passing of a family member. Secretary failed to use correct format for correlating family with the name with the deceased person. Upsetting said person. Secretary rectifying the mistake by placing a correction in the bulletin and apologized in an email to the family.

Will there be a Special Council Meeting held after Voter's Meeting? Date in June?

No Special Council Meeting is scheduled at this time. The regular council meeting is not mandated in the same month as the Voter's meeting. However, due to situation of merger it may be required. Therefore:

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 17th -- 7 pm

Motion made by Lori Whitehead to adjourn the meeting. Karen Kaufman Seconded.

Adjournment at ____ 8:08 _____ p.m.; Closing: The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Lillian Harmon, Church Secretary on behalf of Nancy McInnis, Recording Secretary

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Divine Service 9:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Class 10:45 a.m.



2025

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Address: Christ Lutheran Church 620 General Motors Road, Milford, Michigan 48381		1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
			10 am Quilting Bee		Office Is Closed	
6 3rd Sun. Aft. Trinity	7	8	9	10	11	12
No Service at St. Marks Joint Worship at Christ, Milford 9:30 am			10 am Quilting Bee			
13 4th Sun. Aft. Trinity	14	15	16	17	18	19
Pastor: Terry Nelson <i>Assistant: Darryl Swainson</i> 9:30 am Divine Service With Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class		Church Council 7 p.m.	10 am Quilting Bee		NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	
20 5th Sun. Aft Trinity	21	22	23	24	25	26
Pastor: Rod Zwonitzer 9:30 am Divine Service without Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class			10 am Quilting Bee		DISTRIBUTE NEWSLETTER	
27 6th Sun. Aft. Trinity	28	29	30	31		
Pastor: Frank Pies 9:30 am Divine Service without Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class Membership Transfers Deadline to office			10 am Quilting Bee			
<i>Serving Schedules</i>		USHERS:	ALTAR GUILD:	GREETERS:	COUNTERS:	
		06 Joint Service - Christ 13 Matt Maier 20 Tom Kaufman 27 John Reardon	TBD	06 No Services 13 Cathy Fitzgerald 20 Gail Fitzgerald 27 Mary Ann Lockwood	Barbara Jewell	