



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Messenger



THE PEOPLE OF ST. MARKS ARE INVITED TO PEACE LUTHERAN, AS THEY WILL BE HOSTING ASH WEDNESDAY (MARCH 5), AND LENT MID

WEEK SERVICES. They will also be having a meal before service at 6:00 pm, usually with a suggested donation of \$4.00, to cover the cost of the food and setting up. There will be a sign-up sheet at Peace if anyone is interested or let the office know if any might be interested. Service will be at 7:00 p.m.



COUNCIL MEMBERS START THE PROCESS: THE SEARCH...

Select Council members start to visit other congregations by attending their services. More information will be presented to the congregation as soon as it is available. So please keep them in your prayers .

New Kid in the Church Pew!

Kathy Wong has completed her classes with Pastor Pies and has decided to join the St. Marks. She will join with Reaffirmation of Faith. What great news! Welcome Kathy !



QUILTING BEE :St. Mark's Missionary League continues to seek donations of sheets and blankets to be used to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you have any gently-used sheets or blankets that you are

no longer using, please consider donating them to this cause! Items can be left next to the Secretary's office and they will be forwarded to the Quilters.

What's Inside...

1. Ash Wednesday and Lent invitation, Council members start the Process, New Kid in the Pew, Quilting Bee,
2. Spring Forward, Christ Lutheran Milford Chili, Toiletry & Hygiene Open Door, We Continue to Collect Stamps & used eyeglasses, Collecting Cans for Jim Boway
3. Thank you , Thought & Prayer List, Special Fund Donations, Anniversaries & Birthdays, For you are dust, and dust you shall return
4. Special Ministry Meeting Minutes
5. Special Ministry Meeting Minutes Cont.
6. LCMS Christian Counselor; St. Matthews needs Part—Time Resource Room Teacher
7. St. Stephen's Guest Speaker Major from Army
8. Calendar

The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of:

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

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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

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March 8th:

Just a Reminder: If you have analog clocks. They have to be set ahead 1 hour before bed on Saturday night.

Christ Lutheran Church in Milford will hold their **annual chili cook-off on Saturday, March 8, 2025 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.** They wish to make their event even better; and want to include YOU! All of the members of our Kensington Circuit are welcome to join and participate as a chili chef or as a chili taster. Chili chefs participants will be limited due to space. This is a fun event for everyone and they are hoping that you'll invite some friends and family too! Sign up is found as you enter and exit the church to the Parking lot.

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 eye-glasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wyc-

(Continued next column)

liffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eye-glasses and distributes them via eye-glass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please leave 1/4" 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.



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Special Fund Donations :

We want to thank those who made special donations:

Liberian School-Joe Boway:

Lynn Thomas





3/13:
Matt & Julie Kosmalski 32 years



3/2: Joanne Wisti
3/3: Mary Ann Lockwood
3/8: Karen Maier
3/15: Elizabeth Lonsberry
3/23: Jim O'Brien
3/27: Aaron, Dillon O'Brien
3/29: Brian Dwyer

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For Our church members:

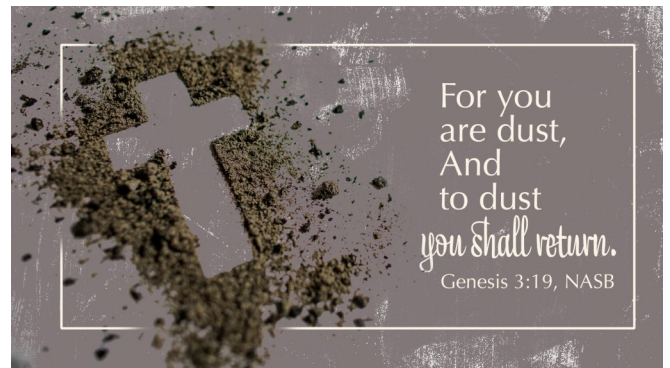
Barbara Jewell , Nancy McInnis
Dorothy Vermeersch

Shut—Ins

Julia Ligon, Art Vermeersch
Carl & Carol Zienert

Family & friends:

Michael, Truman Duggin, Jim Copola,
Lisa, Evelyn Davis, Carl Feiler,
Mickey Smith, Ed Kempisty,
Chip Cryderman, Kristy Fresh,
Peg Metzger, Patricia Chipps;



Church Council Business Meeting Minutes January 21, 2025

Attendees: John Reardon, Larry Whitehead, Kyle Albert, Karen Kaufman, Lori Whitehead, Barbara Jewell, Lilli Harmon on behalf of Nancy McInnis

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

Opening Prayer was spoken by John Reardon

There weren't additions to Agenda

Karen Kaufman made a motion to accept as written. Larry Whitehead seconded. Agenda Approved.

Previous Minutes were inadvertently missed by the Secretary.

Treasurer's Report : Per Kyle Albert; No Report month was not completed

Financial Secretary's Report per Lori Whitehead

Lori states that at the end of 2024 Congregational Contributions were down by \$26,019.

Parish Report & February's Church Calendar Was reviewed. No comment

Vice President's Report from Larry Whitehead: None at the moment.

Board Reports

Assimilation & Stewardship – No report

Elders Darryl Swainson states that on 1/26: There are Installation of Council and Board members for 2025.

Family & Youth Sarah Dwyer was absent No Report

Gospel Outreach John Reardon No Report

Human Care Karen Kaufman: No Report

Parish Fellowship Nancy McInnis was absent No Report

Properties Lori Whitehead

Elevator was inspected by the state inspector on January 6th and failed;

Missing testing documentation – Last document that was in the elevator was from 2022.

Inspection found that there was an oil leak on an elbow fitting and the Light fixture was not to code and needed fixing

Mei Elevator was contacted since there is a contract with them. Mei comes out through out the year to check the elevator to ensure its' safe to be used.

They came out fixed the elbow fitting and did a weight test on January 9. It Passed the testing. Ensuring it was safe to use the next Sunday.

Darryl Swainson and Jim O'Brien coordinated with the light fixture and it has now been completed.

We are now waiting for the paperwork to go back through.

The main entry doors need new weather stripping as the old is not good any longer.

Ring Doorbell not working and cracked the cover. Had to order 2 new batteries and new cover.

LWML Leslie Oehring: Quilting Bee will resume on February 6

Council Minutes for January 2025 Con't.

NEW BUSINESS

Merger

FYI:

Merger Information Update: Per John Reardon: There will be a meeting on 1/22 with Pastors Meckes and Johnson open to any who wish to attend. The Meeting will entail further discussion of what the steps for deciding who to contact and how they will be approached along with how to start the dialogue with them.

John suggested reading Reviewed: Guidelines For Congregations Considering Merging or Dissolution. Momentary pause for review. Members of Council were surprised about acquiring a Lawyer. John also brought up that perhaps we should have St. Mark's appraised so that it is known what the property is worth. This serves as knowledge based information as part of overall discussion with prospective congregation. Thought being that they would have to do the same.

John referred to Distance from St. Mark's as to the probable congregations that are viable candidates. Lori Whitehead asked if we had to stay inside the Kensington Circuit? As there are other LCMS churches that could be just as close... John stated no. Lori Whitehead is putting together a mapping of current congregants' living location in comparison with churches in area, in order to see if St. Mark's would be able to find another congregation relatively close for all.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Karen made the Motion to Adjourn. Lori Whitehead Second the motion. Motion passed.

Adjournment at ___8:00_____ p.m.; Closing: The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by Lilli Harmon on behalf of Nancy McInnis

LCMS Christian Counselor

Richard Tino, is a Intern Christian Counselor Working under the supervision of Laurie Lawlor-Clark LMSW While Richard is offering Lutheran Counseling to those who are interested, Mind Over Matters Therapy is a private practice that welcomes and serves all people without bias or judgment.

Background:

LCMS Christian Counselor Richard Tino served as an ordained LCMS Pastor for 28 years. Throughout his service he gained nearly 3 decades of pastoral counseling experience. Physical disability caused early retirement from his pastoral ministry but now he serves as a fully trained mental-health-trained Christian Counselor. He is currently completing his internship as the final requirement for receiving his State license. In addition to currently completing his master's degree in Mental Health Counseling, Richard has a Master of Divinity and two Master of Sacred Theology degrees, one from each of our seminaries. Richard is fully equipped to provide you with sound Christian counseling grounded by a rock-solid Lutheran foundation, no matter what you are enduring: Grief, depression, suicidal thoughts, poor self-worth, marriage problems, enduring chronic pain or affliction, anxiety, anger, questions about God, questions about why we suffer or why children suffer or why God allows the world to be the way it is. There ARE answers!

Through his own afflictions, and constant study, Richard can help you in unison with your Pastor. He offers online and in-office counseling with flexible hours, days and evenings, both weekdays and Saturdays. Call Richard at:

Mind Over Matters Therapy
202 W. Shiawassee Suite 215
Fenton, MI 48430 810-404-3706 or 810-449-7660

Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for a part-time resource room teacher at St. Matthew Lutheran School- Walled Lake, MI . 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.



Guest Speaker Major Jonathan Turnbull

Hosted by

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

3795 Sashabaw Rd.

Waterford, MI 48329

248-673-6621

office@ststephenwaterford.org

Join us at St. Stephen Lutheran Church on **Sunday, March 30th at 12:00pm**, to listen to Major Jon Turnbull share how our Lord comes to us in the midst of suffering and loss, to guide, comfort, and strengthen our faith in Him.

There will be a luncheon beginning at 11:15am for anyone who would like to join us.

NO COST | FREE-WILL OFFERING

**Please RSVP using this link below
by Thursday, March 20th:**

<https://www.ststephenwaterford.org/guest-speaker-major-jonathan-turnbull>



About the Speaker:

Jonathan Turnbull enlisted in the United States Army soon after graduating from Gaylord High School in 2005. He was deployed once to Afghanistan, twice to Jordan, once to Lebanon, and then in 2018 deployed to Iraq with a follow-on assignment to Syria. Throughout his career, Turnbull and his team were involved in several missions that enhanced the quality of life for those living in war torn areas. They enabled the system to allow around 4,000 girls to return to school after 7 years of prohibition from ISIS. They helped rebuild a local hospital and even renovated a hydroelectric dam in Tishreen, Syria which restored power to about 450,000 people in Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Jordan.

On January 16, 2019, Turnbull and his team were visiting a school to perform a wellness check and ensure that they were not being denied access to their education. As they were leaving, an ISIS suicide bomber ran up to Turnbull and his team, detonating his vest. There were four casualties and three other Americans including Turnbull were seriously wounded. Turnbull suffered a complete nucleation of his right eye and a puncture to his left eye. He spent months in the hospital, had over 20 surgeries, and clocked in countless hours of rehab.




This event led Turnbull to write and publish a book called, "Zero Percent Chance." Turnbull says, "I wrote the book to honor my fallen teammates. I didn't want it to be a book written about how they died, but instead, I wanted their families to know how they lived. Their families have become a part of mine, and I love them all. I only hope they know how much they mean to me."

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
						1
2 Quinquagesima Pastor: Terry Nelson <i>Assistant: Darryl Swainson</i> 9:30 am Divine Service with Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	3	4 Elder's Meeting 7 pm	5 Ash Wednesday <i>Lent Begins today</i>	6 10 am Quilting Bee	7	8 Before Bed 
9 Lent 1 (Invocabit) Pastor: Mark Arendell 9:30 am Divine Service no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	10	11	12	13 10 am Quilting Bee	14	15
16 Lent 2 (Reminiscere) Pastor: Rod Zwonitzer <i>Assistant: Darryl Swainson</i> 9:30 am Divine Service with Communion 10:45 am Special Voter's Mtg.	17 	18 Church Council 7 p.m.	19	20 10 am Quilting Bee	21 	22
23 Lent 3 (Oculi) Pastor: Frank Pies 9:30 am Divine Service no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	24	25	26	27 10 am Quilting Bee	28 DISTRIBUTE NEWSLETTER	29
30 Lent 4 (Laetare) Pastor: Terry Nelson 9:30 am Divine Service no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	31					
<i>Serving Schedules</i>		USHERS:	ALTAR GUILD:	GREETERS:	COUNTERS:	
		02 Tom Kaufman 09 John Reardon 16 Matt Maier 23 Tom Kaufman 30 John Reardon	Cathy & Gail Fitzgerald	02 Gail Fitzgerald 09 Mary Ann Lockwood 16 Jennie/Karen Kaufman 23 Cathy Fitzgerald 30 Gail Fitzgerald	Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead	