

St. Mark & St. Luke

Newsletter

THE MESSENGER



²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:24

Dear Friends in Christ,

The closing devotion in the devotion booklet for this year's Lenten/Easter midweek series, "Thy Will Be Done," makes this statement: "After the darkness of Good Friday, Jesus rose to life that is full of light and life and hope. The tomb was defeated. New life reigned. That new life is also ours. . . . Yet in spite of the Easter Good news, we learn that life continues to be filled with tombs . . . with endings . . . and darkness . . . and covering stones. Of course, we are Easter People. But we do not deny the reality of tombs or the reality of the tears or pain."

How true this is. Easter gives us hope for eternity, but it doesn't take away temporal suffering and pain. Even after Jesus resurrection the pain and suffering of sin continues in this life. . . . but with the hope of relief in the life to come.

So the devotion goes on to say; "Listen with the ears of faith. Do you hear it? Surely the sound is there, as the resurrection message itself. The stone is still rolling. Hear it? We believe that every ending is a new beginning, every tomb is subject to being ripped open, every human dilemma, every ending created by human sin or frailty or human foolishness can be torn open to the light and become the very place of a new beginning, a new life. That's the life of resurrection brought for us by Jesus Christ. Death and Satan can no longer hold us. We are free to shout the good news from the housetops. Christ is risen indeed."

What a wonderful message for us as we celebrate Easter

In Christ,

Pastor Smiles

WORSHIP

The month of April begins the celebration of Easter. For Easter Day, along with the six Sundays following Easter day are all considered Sundays of Easter and so the celebration of Easter is really a "week" of Sundays. The liturgy and the lessons during these Sundays will recount those events that took place between Jesus' resurrection, his Ascension into Heaven and the day of Pentecost when the Promised Holy Spirit was sent to the early church.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

Mar 29 11:15 am Order of Service- Special Order
Holy Communion is offered in the pews.
Elder Merlin Becker

Mar 29 7:30 PM Order of Service- Special Order
Holy Communion is offered at the Altar Level
Elder Ryan Poppy **Elder Assistant Ken Jorgenson**
Ushers M/M Robert Janke **Greeters Patti Marcy / Charlotte Thomack**
Acolyte Maleah Pirk

Good Friday

Mar 30 2:00 pm Order of Service- Special Order
Elder Merlin Becker
Ushers M/M Arden Lightfuss **Greeters Barb Quinn / Alice Prill**
Acolyte -- None

Mar 30 7:30 pm Order of Service- Special Order
Elder Mel Hansen **Elder Assistant Dan Riske**
Ushers M/M Jerry Timm **Greeters Marissa & Brittany Detert**
Acolyte Emma Riske, Rudy Drozd

Easter Sunday

Apr 1 6:00 am "Son" Rise- Order of Service- Special Order
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Wayne Wendt **Elder Assistant Keith Timm**
Ushers Reese & Cade Poppy **Greeters M/M Jerrod Werth**
Acolyte Mikenna Wegener

Apr 1 10:15 am Order of Service- Special Order
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Steve Handrich **Elder Assistant Don Hanson**
Ushers M/M Rod Beyer **Greeters Chloe & Grace Johnson**
Acolyte Angelina DePaoli

Mon Apr 2 No Worship

Second Sunday of Easter

Apr 8 10:15 am Order of Service- - Creative Worship (Printed Out)
Elder Ryan Poppy Elder Assistant Dan Riske
Ushers M/M Larry Detert Greeters M/M Francis Windmier
Acolyte Ethan Krueger

Apr 9 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Creative Worship (Printed Out)
Elder Merliln Becker Elder Assistant Paul Timm
Ushers Sharon Olsen / Sheri Krueger Greeters M/M Dale Pethke
Acolyte Karson Timm

Third Sunday of Easter

Apr 15 10:15 am Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 3 (Pg 184)
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Wayne Wendt Elder Assistant Ken Jorgenson
Ushers Derrick & Kyle Evers Greeters Donna Krueger / Dave Behnke
Acolyte Trevor Evers

Apr 16 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 3 (Pg 184)
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Mel Hansen Elder Assistant Shannon Hansen
Ushers M/M Gary Bonikowske Greeters M/M Jay Henschel
Acolyte Savanna Hansen

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Apr 22 10:15 am Order of Service- - Prayer and Preaching (Pg 260)
Elder Steve Handrich Elder Assistant Keith Timm
Ushers M/M Randy Greunke Greeters Sharon Riske/ Shelly Luedke
Acolyte Brent Pynenberg

Apr 23 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Prayer and Preaching (Pg 260)
Elder Merlin Becker Elder Assistant Todd Olsen
Ushers M/M Doug Draeger Greeters Brystal & Carlene Beyer
Acolyte Ella Buchholz

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Apr 29 10:15 am Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 3 (Pg 184)
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Ryan Poppy Elder Assistant Don Hanson
Ushers M/M Cody Detert Greeters M/M Michael Timm
Acolyte Tyler Laredo

Apr 30 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 3 (Pg 184)
Holy Communion is offered at the Floor Level
Elder Mel Hansen Elder Assistant Brad Johnson
Ushers M/M Rod Beyer Greeters M/M Aaron Schulke
Acolyte Caleb Wickman

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6 10:15 am Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 4 (Pg 203)
Holy Communion is offered at the Altar Level
Elder Steve Handrich Elder Assistant Dan Riske
Ushers M/M John Drath Greeters Macy & Riley Krenke
Acolyte Lauren Wegener

May 7 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 4 (Pg 203)
Holy Communion is offered at the Altar Level
Elder Merlin Becker Elder Assistant Shannon Hansen
Ushers M/M Arden Lightfuss Greeters M/M Jerrod Werth
Acolyte Evy Drozd

St. Luke's Elder Schedule

March 29 Elder Les Wilson Team
March 30 Elder David Bork Team
April 1 Elder Tom Feucht Team
April 8 Elder Les Wilson Team
April 15 Elder David Bork Team
April 22 Elder Tom Feucht Team
April 29 Elder David Bork Team
May 6 Elder Les Wilson Team

Have You Moved?
If you or someone you know has moved or will be moving, and the address or telephone number has changed, **PLEASE** inform the church office. The newsletter is not forwarded when we have a wrong address. It is returned to us and we have to pay extra postage.

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, ask someone to take your place. And **PLEASE** call the office (920)596-3241 to let the Church Secretary know when you exchanged with someone else.
Thank You!

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

FINANCES God Bless all who are able to give! We made a deposit of \$6,833.44 on March 19th. Of that, \$5,377.00 was for current. Our end of month expenses are still large due to the fuel bill (Good news- there is only one left due at the end of April!). With that said, we are still struggling, as you can see by the number below. As of February, when looking at the actual budget, we are still behind by \$14,000. By God's grace, we will get through.

Checkbook Balance (as of 3/20/18): \$8,933.28

Monies to Designate (memorials/fundraisers): \$3,776 (this has been moved to a separate holding account)

Upcoming Expenses/Payroll & Benefits: \$9,861.89 (includes 1320.66 for fuel)

Missions Collected: \$1324.76

Youth Collected: \$7

Endowment Fund Collected: \$686.44 from the Ladies Aid

Project Fund Collected: \$0

Ending balance: -\$2,964.81

Savings Account Balance (3/20/18): \$9,332.12 (includes endowment interest of \$7,785.62 yet to be designated)

GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Youth and Family Ministries

SMYL / LYF . . . Will meet at 7:30 on **April 11th**. There will be songs, games, and food.

SPECIAL MEETING DAY APRIL 4 -- At 7:30 we'll have a meeting to address Confirmation Camp, Confirmation Day activities, Old Car Show and NYG updates.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING -- MINNEAPOLIS 2019!!!

FACEBOOK GROUPS . . . If you want to keep up to date on youth activities join the St. Mark SMYL / LYM group and/or St. Mark Symco – NYG group. These groups are closed to the general public, but youth, parents and other family member can join and get all the latest news.

ST. MARK YOUTH

Rally Day

APRIL 25 @ 7:15 PM

HAVE YOU HEARD? ST. MARK HAS A NEW YOUTH BOARD!

You are invited to come and meet the new Youth Board - Shawn Buchholz, Nikki Voss, Michelle Poppy and Stephanie Riske. We have a lot of new ideas and are excited to hear yours as well.

Please join us at 7:15 pm (*15 min. before catechism releases*) on Wednesday, April 25. The catechism students will already be there, and we would love to have the parents there too.

As members of St. Mark, kids grades 6th-12th are already members of our Youth Group - we would love to have all attend.

– Shawn Buchholz, Youth Director

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

QUARTERLY VOTERS' ASSEMBLY: The Quarterly Voters' Assembly will meet at 7:30 pm on **Monday, April 9th**. There will be discussion related to the parsonage roof at this meeting. Your attendance and input is welcomed and appreciated!

PICTORAL DIRECTORY -- There is still time to schedule a photography session. Picture dates are April 12 -14 and April 17 – 18. Sign up online through a link on the church website (stmarksymco.org) or on the signup sheets in the narthex. We will also need “Hosts” to check people in for their appointments. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

PANCAKE SUPPER: St Mark will be holding our annual pancake supper on **Sunday, April 15th**, from 4-7pm. Serving Potato & buttermilk pancakes, real maple syrup, sausage, applesauce, cheese, desserts and beverages. Cost is Adults - \$7.00, Children (6-12) - \$4.00, Children (under 6) - Free. See flyer on page 11.

SAVE THE DATE! GOD'S RAINBOW GARDEN! You don't want to miss it! This year, the Sarah Circle will hold its first ever “Tea”! It will be held on **Saturday, May 5th**. This year's theme is "God's Rainbow Garden". A delicious Tea set will be awaiting you at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$10; **advanced ticket sales only**. Tickets are available from any Sarah Circle Member. They will be sold after the church services starting April 8th thru the 23rd. You can also purchase them through the church office during the secretary's normal hours, or from Mary Riesenbergh at 920-596-3290. There is a flyer at the back of the newsletter.

SUMMER WORSHIP -- On May 23 our Monday Night services will shift over to Wednesday nights (outside when weather permits) at 7:30pm. Over the summer months the MMT (Council) and Board of Elders will evaluate the Monday Night services.

PARSONAGE ROOF Can you hear the drip-drop of water in a bucket during a rain storm? Neither can Pastor or his family...for now. The parsonage roof is in desperate need of replacement this year. The Mission and Ministry Team (MMT)- formerly called the Church Council, has been working on this concern. They are ready to contract a roofer to complete this project. The cost will be around \$13,000. We have around \$4,000 saved in the project fund. We'll have to borrow the rest... unless we can raise the remaining amount by June of this year. If you can spare a little extra, please designate it to the project fund.



How Can You Touch Lives Today, Tomorrow and Forever?

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”
(Jeremiah 29:11).

St. Mark Endowment Fund

The St. Mark Endowment Fund was established in the year 2001 with a donation made by the Sturm Family. The original amount was \$150,000. There was always hopes of adding contributions to our fund to help it grow, but the hopes just didn't quite become a reality. Even without many contributions and taking a portion of the interest for various projects each year, the fund has since grown to be over \$160,000.

Annually, our church is required to take out the interest from our fund in the form of a check. Over the past few years, we have received the interest and it has been over \$7,000. We have done many different things with this interest. We have done projects such as the church roof, updating the kitchen, and replacing the church windows just to name a few. The money was originally set up to be used for special projects or ministries and not for general expenses (if we could help it).

We've since formed a committee to help promote and rejuvenate our fund.

What is an Endowment Fund? **An endowment fund is a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding.** Endowment assets are invested. Each year, a portion of the value of the fund is paid out to support the fund's purpose, and any earnings more than this distribution are used to build the fund's market value.

How can I give to the fund?

Designate your offering by noting “Endowment Fund” on either your offering envelope or a pew envelope. The contributions that come in help to raise the invested amount, thus creating more interest to be earned at the end of the year.

You may also consider the Endowment Fund as a part of your estate planning.

The St. Mark Endowment Fund continues giving into the future and allows a thoughtful steward to leave just a contribution or even a gift in their estate to support beloved ministries.

S'more about Camp Luther...



GIVE TO CAMP LUTHER - You play a vital role in the ministry of Camp Luther through your contributions. Your gifts make it possible for Camp Luther to enhance and expand programming, maintain care for wonderful facilities and property and reach out in love to those who couldn't afford to attend camp on their own. Thank you for your generous support of this important ministry that touches and transforms thousands of lives each year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Visit www.campluther.com/donate today.

Faith, Family, Friendship

GIVE, VOLUNTEER, BECOME EMPLOYED: These are 3 different ways you can support Camp Luther.
Give- As mentioned above.

Volunteer- Volunteers are vital to the ministry of Camp Luther. Since the beginning in 1946, volunteers have been at the forefront of improvements to the camp property and facilities. You literally see the work of volunteers in every direction you look.

How you can Serve:

- Sign up for a **Workbee Weekend!**
- Contact Camp Luther about our **Summer RV Volunteer program.**
- Contact Camp Luther about volunteering in the spring, winter, or fall. There is always much to do around camp. If you find joy in serving and don't mind doing whatever is on the list, we have a job for you! We especially need skilled carpenters and painters.
- Serve as a **Summer Medic.**
- High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors can apply to be a **Junior Counselor!**

Employment-

If you have any questions about the positions found on the pages below please call 715-546-3647. You can visit www.campluther.com for more info.

- Summer Staff
- Full-time Year-round Positions
- Year-round Part-time Positions
- Seasonal Positions
- Internships

SPRING WORKBEES AT CAMP LUTHER *April 27-29 and May 12, 2018*

Volunteers have always played a major role in keeping Camp Luther clean, beautiful, and in good condition. Today, Camp Luther continues to be blessed by hundreds of individuals who faithfully participate in Workbee Weekends. Individuals or entire families can help get Camp Luther ready for the summer by participating in various work projects. The weekend is FREE and camp provides all meals, as well as time for fellowship and devotions. Projects vary, but there is something for everyone. Visit www.campluther.com and sign up today.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND FAMILY RETREAT: *May 25-28, 2018*

Retreat Center Housing and Meals

\$140 (Adult); \$120 (Age 13-17); \$100 (Age 5-12); Free (Age 0-4); Maximum Cost/Family \$595

Cottage Housing

\$150/night (2 bedroom); \$160/night (3 bedroom) (3-night minimum)

Optional Meal Package \$55 (Adult); \$48 (Age 13-18); \$38 (Age 5-12); Free (Age 0-4)

Families

3 Nights and 7 Meals See www.campluther.com for more info about registration!

Camp Luther Continued...

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT CAMPAIGN: This is a \$5 million, five year, comprehensive campaign supporting the Outdoor Ministry Fund, Every Kid to Camp, and capital improvement projects. As of January 31st, 2018 the Outdoor Ministry fund has just scratched the surface with about 3% raised, Every Kid to Camp has raised 1%. However, the building fund is well on its way with 52% raised so far.

Our church has been asked to be included in this campaign and our pledge is \$500 annually over the next 3 years. We will have fundraisers to raise any extra that we can toward this campaign as well.

The following will be one of the first Camp Luther fundraisers:



Kicking for Camp

St. Mark Lutheran Church, Symco

**MAY 6
2018**

Pie and Ice Cream Social
Immediately after church

Join us to help raise money for Camp Luther! This is part of a comprehensive campaign supporting the Outdoor Ministry Fund, Every Kid to Camp, and capital improvement projects at Camp Luther. Please collect pledges prior to May 6, 2018, either as a "per foot" pledge or a "flat-rate" pledge. We will be having a kicking tournament on May 6, 2018 along with a Pie and Ice Cream Social immediately after church. All final pledges must be turned in on Sunday, May 13, 2018. Prizes will be awarded for most money raised, furthest kick and more!

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT



Thank you for your help in reaching this important funding goals, which enables this ministry to build up and encourage all people in Christ. For more information, contact Tammy Johnson, Camp Luther Champion for St. Mark Lutheran Church in Symco at tamter@wolfnetnet or 715-281-1659.

**St. Mark Lutheran Church
Pancake Supper
SYMCO WI
Sunday April 15, 2018
4 - 7 PM**

SERVING

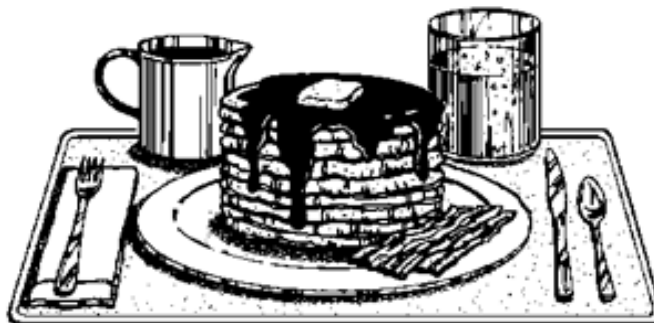
***Potato and buttermilk pancakes
REAL maple syrup
Sausage Applesauce Cheese Dessert
Beverages***

Adults.....\$7.00

Children(6-12).....\$4.00

Children(under 6)...Free

Supplemental Funding by Thrivent



ST. MARK'S SARAH CIRCLE

SPRING TEA

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018 AT 11:00 AM

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

"God's Rainbow Garden"



This will be our first ever tea!

When you arrive, a delicious tea will be set and awaiting YOU! A selection of 4 different teas, coffee, punch, sandwiches, salads, fruit and delectable bars and cookies will be offered for your enjoyment.

Entertainment this year will be the musical talents of Jill Willner on the keyboard as you arrive and while you dine.

Following will be a style show presented by Hello Beautiful Boutique of Manawa.

Proceeds to benefit

Camp Luther's Construction & Renovation Project

A basket raffle (with all proceeds going to Camp Luther) will once again be offered.

TICKETS ARE \$10.00 EACH

ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM SARAH CIRCLE MEMBERS
OR THE CHURCH OFFICE

TICKETS WILL ALSO BE SOLD AFTER THE
SERVICES APRIL 8TH THRU APRIL 23RD

