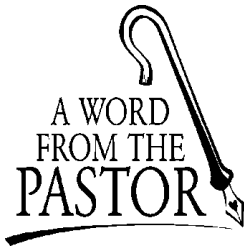


St. Mark & St. Luke

Newsletter

THE MESSENGER



Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:29-30

Dear Friends in Christ,

A few years ago I came across an online devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries. It told of an account that happened some years ago, when a famous New York Fifth Avenue jewelry store had a promotional presentation.

With great pomp and considerable advertising, they unveiled the display of a flawless 70-carat diamond. For this trivial bauble, the company had paid a record \$1,050,000. For days the curious waited in line so they could get a short glimpse of the diamond.

- * A short, bald man peered condescendingly at the gigantic jewel protected in the theft-proof glass case. He leaned over and whispered to his wife, "I can see a flaw in that diamond, but let's keep it a secret between us. I wouldn't want to say anything to the company."
- * A chic and stylish lady concluded, "You know, it really isn't that beautiful."
- * "It's too large," said one woman in rhinestone-studded glasses.
- * "I think it's vulgar," commented a third.

At the end of two weeks, the guard who was protecting the jewel said, "These last two weeks I've heard a lot of trash talk. I'm amazed these folks spent their time waiting to see something so pitiful."

"Trash talk" like this happens when a person sees something good and then finds flaws to put it down.

While I sometimes hear trash talk about the church as a whole and about Jesus in particular in the world around us . . . I don't hear any trash talk about our congregations here at St. Mark and St. Luke.

That doesn't mean that we don't have our flaws. But rather than "trash talking" about those flaws, I hear members of all ages talking about working together to overcome those flaws and meet the challenges we face head on. I hear members of all ages looking for the best our congregations has to offer.

I find that encouraging. Both St. Luke and St. Mark have their flaws. They are made up of imperfect and sinful people and lead by a sinful and imperfect pastor, but together we are working to serve perfect God and proclaim a perfect Gospel message. As a result we can accomplish great things in spite of our flaws.

*In Christ,
Pastor Smiles*

WORSHIP

August is kind of a quiet month on the church liturgical calendar. We have no festivals during this month. We do however have a number of wonderful themes and readings that reflect on the life of Christ and especially in regard to his mission to bring the hope of salvation to all people. Our outdoor service continue through August as the weather permits and the sanctuary is air condition for all inside services.

We have a need for Sunday Ushers!! If you would be interested in switching from a Weds/Saturday, would like to be added to the usher list, or are unsure what your current preference is- please call the Church office. Your participation & cooperation is appreciated!!

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 13)

Aug 2	7:30 pm Order of Service- Outdoor w/ Guitar- Come To His Table (printed out)
	Holy Communion is offered
Elder Mel Hansen	Elder Assistant Shannon Hansen
Ushers M/M Dave Niven	

Reach out

Aug 3 A bi- monthly Communion Service for those who have difficulty coming to the front of church for the Lord's Supper or wish to avoid large crowds, but want to attend worship.

Aug 6	10:15 am Order of Service- Divine Service Setting 4 (Pg 203)
	Holy Communion is offered at the altar level
Elder Arnold Heideman	Elder Assistant Don Hanson
Ushers Brad & Casey Johnson	Greeters Erica & Katlyn Laredo
Acolyte Samantha Laredo	

The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 14)

Aug 9	7:30 pm Order of Service- Outdoor w/ Guitar- Creative Worship (printed out)
Elder Merlin Becker	Elder Assistant Jeremy Olsen
Ushers M/M Jerry Timm	

Aug 13	10:15 am Order of Service- Creative Worship (Printed Out)
Elder Wayne Wendt	Elder Assistant Keith Timm
Ushers Todd Olsen II / Dan Teuscher	Greeters Haley Civic / Claire Kreklow
Acolyte Emma Riske	

The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 15)

Aug 16 7:30 pm Order of Service- – Outdoor w/ Guitar- Divine Service Setting 4 (printed out)
Holy Communion is offered
Elder Ryan Poppy **Elder Assistant Paul Timm**
Ushers Donna Krueger / Dave Behnke

Reach out

Aug 17 A bi- monthly Communion Service for those who have difficulty coming to the front of church for the Lord's Supper or wish to avoid large crowds, but want to attend worship.

Aug 20 10:15 am Order of Service- Divine Service Setting 4 (Pg 203)
Holy Communion is offered at the floor level
Elder Steve Handrich **Elder Assistant Dan Hedtke**
Ushers M/M Randy Greunke **Greeters M/M John Drath**
Acolyte Angelina DePaoli

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 16)

Aug 23 7:30 pm Order of Service- – Outdoor w/ Guitar- Prayer and Preaching (printed out)
Elder Mel Hansen **Elder Assistant Dan Riske**
Ushers M/M Todd Olsen

Aug 27 10:15 am Order of Service- Prayer and Preaching (Pg 260)
Elder Wayne Wendt **Elder Assistant Ken Jorgenson**
Ushers Derrick & Kyle Evers **Greeters MaKenna Brown / Karina Wickman**
Acolyte Ella Buchholz

The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 17)

Aug 30 7:30 pm Order of Service- – Outdoor w/ Guitar- Come To His Table (printed out)
Holy Communion is offered
Elder Merlin Becker **Elder Assistant Shannon Hansen**
Ushers M/M Arden Lightfuss

Sept 3 10:15 am Order of Service- Divine Service Setting 1 (Pg 151)
Holy Communion is offered at the Altar Level.
Elder Arnold Heideman **Elder Assistant Don Hanson**
Ushers M/M Boots Riske **Greeters Audrey Partika / Charlotte Thomack**
Acolyte Rudy Drozd

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, ask someone to take your place. PLEASE call the office (920)596-3241 to let the Church Secretary know when you exchanged with someone else. If you now use a cell phone as a primary phone number, please consider updating the church office. This is helpful contact information when someone needs to switch dates.

Thank You!

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.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

FINANCES God Bless all who are able to give! We made a deposit of \$6,291.25 on July 10th. Of that, \$5,530 was for current expenses. We are pulling our way through summer! Please note that our church insurance will be renewing and installments will begin again during the month of August; this will add some extra expense ahead. We will plan accordingly for this.

Checkbook Balance (as of 7/12/17): \$8,887.95

Monies to Designate (memorials/fundraisers): \$1,214.00

Upcoming Expenses/Payroll & Benefits: \$3,058.89

Missions Collected: \$541.25

Project Fund Collected: \$220.00

Ending balance: \$3,853.81

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

VBS Will take place August 7th-11th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Please let us know you're coming if you haven't already done so! Call the church office at 920-596-3241.



ROOT BEER FLOAT NIGHT On **Wednesday, August 9th**, the Evangelism Committee will be serving root beer floats after the church service. This will be the same week as VBS.

NEED SUNDAY USHERS! If you would be interested in switching from a Weds/Saturday, would like to be added to the usher list, or are unsure what your current preference is- please call the Church office. Your participation & cooperation is appreciated!!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to ALL who worked the Old Car Show. It was a pleasure to work with all of you. Your help is much appreciated. See you all next year!

Bob & Pat Janke
Don Hanson

BIG FALLS CORN ROAST

St. Luke has been providing games for kids at the Big Falls Corn Roast for years. The kids really enjoy these games and look forward to them every year. It also serves as great fund raiser for the congregation. However the small size of St. Luke membership makes it challenging to get enough people to man all the game booths. The last couple of years the NYG youth have helped out and received a portion of the proceeds for the upcoming gathering. They will be asked to help out again this year. St. Luke would welcome any other help they can get from St. Mark members of any age. If you would be interested in helping out at Big Falls Corn Roast on September 3rd, contact Pastor Smiles.

CONFIRMATION CAMP On August 13-15th, the eighth grade confirmation class will be at Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI for their annul confirmation camp.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Rally Day for Sunday School will be on Sunday, **Sept. 10th.**

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION - Confirmation Orientation will be at 6:30 on Sept.6th

CONSTITUTION - An updated constitution and By-Laws was adopted at the July Voters' Assembly. Some of the things that changed include a reduced number of the members of the council, changing the name of the "Council" to "Mission and Ministry Team (MMT)" and shorter terms for elected officials. The new constitution and by-laws go into effect in 2018.

ENDOWMENT FUND – An Endowment Fund Committee has been established. In June they reviewed our current policy and investments with the LCMS Foundation. There are some changes that can be made to improve our return and better manage the account. More information is coming.



A Video Study- In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation we will be offering a video study produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries. If there is enough interest the half hour study will be offered on Sundays following our morning service starting on September 17. It will also be held Tuesdays at 10:00am starting September 19. Below is a description of the five session program

In A Man Named Martin - Part 1: The Man viewers encounter a 15th-century religious reformer from Germany who broke ranks with the Catholic Church. This Bible study is the first of a three-part series devoted to Martin Luther -- a monk whose Spirit-inspired grasp of God's justification of sinners through faith in the Savior was the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation.

In this five-session Bible study, Luther's life and times are examined through the lens of history, religion and theology. Expanding on commentary from Rev. Gregory Seltz, Speaker for The Lutheran Hour, numerous scholars add their expertise and perspective to render an illuminating portrait of the life of this extraordinary human being.

The influence and impact of Luther's life is the stuff of serious study. As a forlorn sinner feeling lost and desperate before a stern and exacting Judge, Luther desponded of all hope for eternity. But as one who came to cling to the Spirit-delivered truths of justification by faith and the liberty believers experience by God's grace, he rebounded to become a triumphant ambassador for the Gospel.

The details of Luther's life -- his childhood with his parents Hans and Margaret, his university pursuits, his decision to become a monk, his protestation of Catholic practices, his voluminous and erudite scholastic output, his life in hiding, and his roles as husband and father -- are all considered in this study. A Man Named Martin is a fresh and explorative look at an individual who, down through the centuries, has increased in importance and vitality to the Christian church.

To this day, Luther's staunch faith and the extent of his outreach, remain a standard for Christ-centered living to believers in the 21st-century.

GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Youth and Family Ministries

Thank You Youth and Parents who helped at the Iola Car Show. . We had a great group serving the Chicken Dinner for the Iola Lions Club.



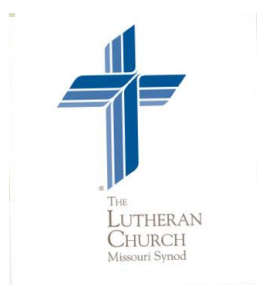
National Youth Gathering. . . The theme has been chosen, more detailed information will be coming. We'll have a parent and participation meeting on September 6th following the Confirmation Orientation meeting (about 7:30). At this meeting we will look at costs, upcoming fundraising events, and other important topics.

DISTRICT & SYNOD NEWS



Adult Gathering The annual NWD Adult Gathering will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us at Mount Olive Lutheran, Weston. Our presenter will be Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D, President of Concordia University, Wisconsin. More information to follow later this summer.

Hearts for Jesus: You can still help students in Baton Rouge The North Wisconsin District has raised more than \$6,000 for Baton Rouge Lutheran School! If you still have a gift for the Hearts for Jesus fund, please send your donations to the district office with HFJ on the memo line. Thanks for supporting this important ministry during a difficult time.



Klaus, Meyer returning to ‘The Lutheran Hour’ Nov. 5

Beginning Nov. 5, the weekly broadcast of “[The Lutheran Hour](#)” will feature the Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Klaus and the Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer, former speakers for the radio program from 2002 to 2010, and from 1989 to 2001, respectively. “The Lutheran Hour” is sponsored by [Lutheran Hour Ministries](#), part of the International Lutheran Laymen’s League, an LCMS auxiliary.

The regular appearances of Klaus and Meyer are part of a transition plan being implemented following current Speaker Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz’s recent acceptance of a call to serve as the first executive director of the LCMS Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C. (Read a related Reporter story, “[Seltz to direct Synod’s new Washington office](#).”)

Seltz’s last “Lutheran Hour” broadcast will be recorded in Wittenberg, Germany, and will air Sunday, Oct. 29.

“In a year where we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Lutheran Hour Ministries [LHM], we are extremely pleased to honor the legacy of ‘The Lutheran Hour’ program by announcing that these two popular speakers have agreed to assist us while we search for the next individual who will share the Good News of Jesus Christ over the airwaves,” said LHM President and CEO Kurt Buchholz.

“Generations of people in our listening audience have been blessed to learn from and be strengthened in the faith by Dr. Klaus and Dr. Meyer. We look forward to their continued role in this important ministry that remains a critical part of LHM’s focus on media outreach.”

Since his retirement from the full-time speaker role in 2010, Klaus has been recording monthly sermons for “The Lutheran Hour” and writing many of LHM’s Daily Devotions.

During his time as speaker, Meyer — president of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, since 2004 — also was host of LHM’s “On Main Street” weekly television program.

“The Lutheran Hour” airs on nearly 1,800 stations throughout North America and reaches more than 1 million listeners each week, according to LHM.

S'more about Camp Luther...

Faith, Family, Friendship



CAMP LUTHER GIFT CERTIFICATES!! Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for your children or grandchildren? Consider a Camp Luther gift certificate. These certificates can be purchased for any amount and may be used for Camp Luther programs and at our canteen. Call Camp Luther at 877-264-CAMP and talk to MaryAnn to order yours today.

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.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

September 22-24th

This weekend is all about relaxing and refueling with God's Word. Leave the pressures of work, home, and life behind and join others for a refreshing and renewing weekend. The schedule is designed to draw you closer to God and to each other through a variety of individual, large group and small group activities. Activities include Bible Study, Devotions, crafts, "Ladies night out," walk/bike/canoe in the beautiful fall weather. Deb Burma will be our devotion leader for the weekend. Register at www.campluther.com.

FALL WORKBEE AT CAMP LUTHER

October 20-22, 2017

Join us in preparing Camp Luther for the fall and winter seasons. Workbee begins on Friday with registration between 7-8 pm, a short welcome, orientation and evening devotion. The work weekend concludes on Sunday after lunch. Participants work all day Saturday and Sunday morning on assigned work projects. Worship is held on Saturday evening. Housing and meals are provided FREE of charge. One-day participants are welcome also. Children (over 5) and youth are placed in adult-led teams for work projects. For more information go to www.campluther.com and look under the "Get Involved" tab.

COLLEGE RECHARGE AT CAMP LUTHER

Coming...October 2017

Relax and recharge at this weekend of Bible study, worship, and fellowship with other Christian college students. Come on your own or organize a trip for your campus ministry. The schedule will be a mix of camp activities, group time, and free time so you can make it the weekend you need. Watch our website at www.campluther.com for more information.

Vacation Bible School

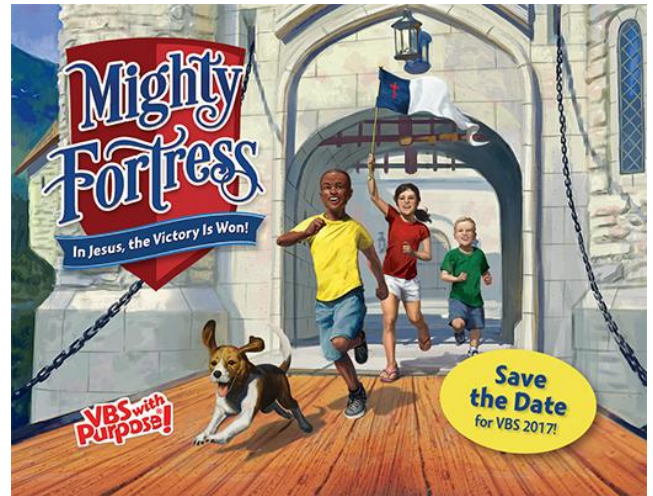
**Location: St Mark's Lutheran Church (Symco)
N7534 Church Street**

VBS will run from: August 7th - 11th

Each day's fun begins at: 6:30 PM

The VBS day ends at: 8:00 PM

**To RSVP please call:
(920)-596-3241
by July 30th, if possible.**



In Jesus, the Victory is Won!!



This will also be root beer float night after our Wednesday Outdoor service courtesy of our Evangelism Committee!!

An offering collection will be taken each evening at VBS.

Both events have assisted funding from Thrivent Action Teams; thank you Thrivent!