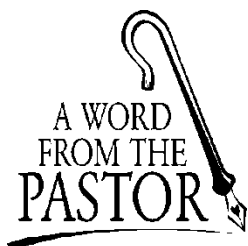


St. Mark & St. Luke Newsletter

THE MESSENGER



Dear Friends in Christ,

Some time back, the evening news told of a man who had spent a year hitchhiking from coast to coast.

The young man, who was trying to "discover the real America," came away from the experience with a number of stories which he hoped to put into a book. In the interview, he spoke of seeing communities which were cold and those which went out of their way for a stranger. His thoughts seemed to center on the kind, the caring, and the compassionate aspect of America's citizens.

Although he had planned on getting rides as he made his way from the West Coast to the East, there were times when transportation was scarce and he had to walk. "Those were the lonely times," the young man reflected. Still, the part of the interview that was the most notable was when he was asked "What was the most difficult thing you had to endure?"

His reply surprised the interviewer.

Most people thought he would say his greatest problem had come in the thin air of the mountains or the hot sun of the deserts. Those items were never mentioned. He did recall how, during a three-day period, when nobody had given him a lift, he had felt some degree of loneliness but that wasn't the biggest difficulty he had endured.

"The biggest pain I endured," the young man said, "was caused by the small stones in my shoes. Given a chance those small things could become painful discouraging big things."

What a thought for all of us as we go through life.

Our faith in Jesus can help us through both the big things we experience in life . . . but we can also let our faith in Jesus get us through the "little things" as well.

*In Christ,
Pastor Smiles*

WORSHIP

This May is consumed with the celebration of Easter. There are seven weeks of Easter (a week of Easters). In the midst of these Sunday we will also remember our mothers on Mother's Day (Even though Mother's Day is not reflected on the church calendar, the Bible definitely honors the role mothers play in God's creation.), and we will want to honor our graduates, which we traditionally do on Memorial Day weekend. Also take note that we will be making the transition into summer schedule with the shift from Monday night worship to Wednesday night services.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Reach out May 4 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

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 13 10:15 am Order of Service- - Creative Worship (Printed Out)

Elder Wayne Wendt **Elder Assistant Keith Timm**
Ushers Ben & Sam Olsen **Greeters Barb Quinn / Alice Prill**
Acolyte Samantha Laredo

May 14 6:30 pm Order of Service- - Creative Worship (Printed Out)

Elder Steve Handrich **Elder Assistant Brad Johnson**
Ushers Dawson & Dylan Werth **Greeters M/M Bill Dallman**
Acolyte Christiana Suehs

Reach out May 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
A luncheon will follow.

Day of Pentecost

May 20 10:15 am Order of Service- - Special Order- Confirmation
Holy Communion is offered at the Altar level.

Elder Ryan Poppy **Elder Assistant Ken Jorgenson**
Ushers M/M Randy Greunke **Greeters M/M Jeremiah Claussen**
Acolyte Lexi Hedtke

May 21 NO Service

Holy Trinity

May	23	7:30 pm Order of Service- - Prayer and Preaching (Pg 260) - Outdoor Elder Mel Hansen Ushers M/M Jerry Timm	Elder Assistant Paul Timm
May	27	10:15 am Order of Service- - Prayer and Preaching (Pg 260) Elder Ryan Poppy Ushers M/M Gary Schoen Acolyte Madeline Much	Elder Assistant Don Hanson Greeters Mary Bauer / Kathy Duniho

Second Sunday after Pentecost

May	30	7:30 pm Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 1 (Pg 151)- Outdoor Holy Communion is offered Elder Merlin Becker Ushers M/M Dave Niven	Elder Assistant Todd Olsen
Jun	3	10:15 am Order of Service- - Divine Service Setting 1 (Pg 151) Holy Communion is offered at the Altar level. Elder Wayne Wendt Ushers M/M Ken Bernard Acolyte Jack O'Brien	Elder Assistant Keith Timm Greeters AudreyPartika / Charlotte Thomack

St. Luke's Elder Schedule

May 6	Elder Les Wilson Team
May 13	Elder Tom Feucht Team
May 20	Elder David Bork Team
May 27	Elder Les Wilson Team
June 3	Elder Tom Feucht Team

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

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.

ST LUKE'S RUMMAGE, CRAFT & BAKE SALE

St. Luke will hold their RCB Sale on the first Saturday in May. This year it will be held on Saturday, May 5th from 8:00am till 3:00pm at JR's in Big Falls. Lunch will be available for purchase. By a raffle ticket for a smoker / grill, fishing equipment, a homemade quilt and other great prizes. Come and see if you can find a treasure or a great deal, or just come for the wonderful homemade treats! Hope to see you there! There are quite a few members for St. Mark's church that enjoy the worship opportunity that St. Luke offers; this is a great way to support their ministry. St. Mark Members are also welcome to come and help out!

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

God Bless all who are able to give! We made a deposit of \$2,797.00 on April 17th. Of that, \$1,982.00 was for current. We are behind, but the expenses below are covering most of April. There is also one more money count at the end of the month to help move us forward for Mid-May expenses.

Please keep in mind now that even as warmer, nicer weather and summer arrive (since it seems it will be then before all the snow melts!) our church still has expenses to cover in order to bring you our worship services.

Checkbook Balance (as of 4/18/18): \$6,682.08

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

Upcoming Expenses/Payroll & Benefits: \$9,644.07

Missions Collected: \$1,261.66 (so far)

Youth Collected: \$17 YTD

Endowment Fund Collected: \$0

Project Fund Collected: \$850 (so far)

Ending balance: - \$5,215.65

Savings Account Balance (4/18/18): \$9,332.12 (includes endowment interest of \$7,785.62 yet to be designated)

THANK YOU! Merlin & Georgie Becker gave a donation to the project fund in honor of Merlin's 80th Birthday. Happy Belated Birthday Merlin!

GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Youth and Family Ministries

SMYL / LYF . . . SMYL / LYF will be on May 9th. This will be our last meeting until September!

CONFIRMATION CLASS PIZZA PARTY On May 16th, there will be a pizza party for the Confirmation class and their families. It will be in the fellowship hall around 7:30 PM. A big thank you to Thrivent for this project!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING -- MINNEAPOLIS 2019 Nothing new to report

OLD CAR SHOW WORKERS . . . We need our youth and their families who are planning to work the Iola Old Car Show to be signed up by May 6.



MT. OLYMPUS JUNE 19. We are tentatively planning to go to Mt. Olympus for our annual summer youth outing. Those youth group members who sold enough pizza and cookie dough last fall go for free. For others the cost will be \$13.50. Each person may bring one friend. If you want to bring more than one friend, check with Pastor. If there is room on the bus, we'll open up this event to families and other individuals. There is a signup sheet and permission slips in the narthex. We leave at 7:30am and return around 6pm. This year there will be a minimum of 20 youth and friends signed up by June 11 or the trip will be cancelled.

GRADUATE BLESSING On May 27th the church would like to recognize and bless this year's High School graduates at our 10:15 service. Graduates will sit together and are encouraged to wear their cap and gown.



The Sarah Circle

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**. There is a flyer at the back of the newsletter.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THANK YOU! Many thanks to Kent Casey who plows out the church parking lot and parsonage drive way. He got the task done quite promptly after snow storm / blizzard Evelyn. Also, many thanks to John Riesenbergh, Gary Schoen, and Jerry Timm for their assistance as well!

SUMMER WORSHIP --On **May 23rd** our Monday Night services will shift over to Wednesday nights (outside when weather permits) at 7:30pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Save the Date! This year's Vacation Bible School will be held August 6-10th.

IOLA OLD CAR SHOW WORKERS It's time to sign up to work for either work days or work nights. **Monday, June 27th and Wednesday, July 6th**, or to help serve chicken on **July 8th and 9th**. Food will be served on work days from 12:00 to 1:00 PM and 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Call 715-445-3197 or 715-942-6265, Pat or Bob Janke, or Don Hanson. The 2016 schedule needs to be handed in to the Iola Old Car Show office **by May 6th**. Thank you!

TABLES AND CHAIRS This is the time of year people are often looking for tables and chairs for their rummage sales, confirmation and/or graduation parties, and other family events. We only have a few tables and chairs to borrow. Arrangements must be made through the church office. There may be limits as to how many can be borrowed out during certain dates.

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.



ECONO FOODS RECEIPTS Our most recent check was for \$130.72. **Keep turning in your Econofoods receipts, please!** The youth receive money back from each receipt that gets turned in. You can put them in the slot in the triangle bulletin board in the narthex.

SCRIP CARD PROGRAM Don't forget about our scrip program too!! This has been a huge help to our church. Purchase gift cards where you would normally shop (Shopko, Kwik Trip, Fleet Farm, Walmart, etc.) and give the church some money back from your purchase! Many, many stores to choose from! Either stop in the office to purchase or there are order forms by the lock box; just place your order and money inside and we'll get your order to you. Contact the church office if you are interested in purchasing any (even sale items) of the scrip cards.

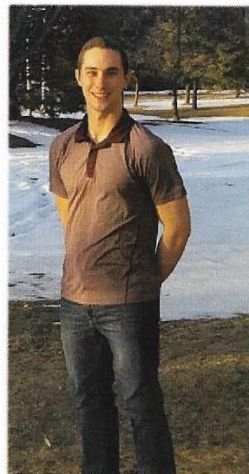
DAN TEUSCHER'S UPCOMING MISSION TRIP:

Dear Family and Friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

It's my pleasure to update you on the recent events going on in my life. I am approaching the end of my second year of college at the University of Wisconsin- Green Bay, working towards a degree in accounting and business analytics. Even among the challenges of upper level classes and chaotic college life, my relationship with Christ has always been my number one focus. Putting daily devotions ahead of studying for exams isn't always easy, but God will provide all that I need when I put Him first. These past two years, I have been involved in a Christian organization called Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ), which is a community passionate for deepening peoples' relationship with Jesus Christ.

Cru has been touching lives with the Gospel since 1951, on over 1,000 campuses around the world. This organization has helped me grow in faith and understand what's truly important when living out our daily lives.

Mark 16:15 has been pressing on my heart lately. It says, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation." There are many people out there who don't know Christ, and as Christians, it is our duty to reach out to them and share the good news God has given. I feel God is calling me to this, and this upcoming summer, **I have been given the opportunity to go on a mission trip in San Diego, California.** I will be going with 100 other college students and adult leaders to grow in faith, get equipped with ministry skills, and to share the Gospel with those who may not yet believe.



This will be a life changing experience for many reasons. I will become more comfortable in sharing my faith, my heart will grow for people in need of the Gospel, and I will grow in my relationship with Christ as I must trust Him in all situations as I will be living in a new environment meeting new people.

Our mission team will be involved in Gospel outreaches on the beach and college campuses around the San Diego area. We're also partnering with local churches to serve Christ, along with participating in small group Bible Studies. My heart's desire for people in need of Christ, deepening my relationship with Him, and wanting God's kingdom to be made widely known is the reason I'm called to this mission. I am beyond excited, yet nervous as I will experience things I've never done before.

As incredible of an opportunity this is, there is a price. In order for this to be made possible, I **need to raise \$3,900 by May 28th**, which covers housing, transportation, mission equipment, and other expenses. This is my first step of faith on this journey as I trust the Lord will provide. I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting me on this life changing journey by giving \$50, \$100, \$200, \$400, or any amount that the Lord leads you to. All gifts are **tax deductible** by making checks payable to Cru and returning the enclosed envelope, or by donating directly online at <https://give.cru.org/0975447>.

Most of all, I would like to ask for your prayers as I begin to embark into this opportunity. I thank you for your consideration in joining me on this mission, as we may be investing in someone's eternity with the Lord. I look forward to share and invest in God's Kingdom at school, at home, and everywhere I go. Please contact me with any questions and comments you may have, as I will also follow up with you shortly.

In Christ,

Daniel Teuscher

313 High St.

Manawa, WI 54949

Email: tdan19@live.com

Phone: (920) 505-0944

<https://give.cru.org/0975447>

KICKING FOR CAMP! Don't forget to have your pledges in and ready for our first Camp Luther fundraiser! If you're donating a pie, please bring it on the morning of May 6

Kicking for Camp



St. Mark Lutheran Church, Symco



MAY 6 2018

Pie and Ice Cream Social
Immediately after church

FILLED
WITH THE
SPIRIT

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!

S'more about Camp Luther...

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.

2017 CAMP LUTHER FACTS & FIGURES:

6,292 guest in 2017 2,492 children participated in summer camp

Over one fourth of the summer staff are preparing for church work careers.

More than 670 campfires were made for devotion and cookouts!

Over \$32,000 Thrivent Choice Dollars were designated to Camp Luther

Faith, Family, Friendship

GOLF CHALLENGE 2018 Join us for the 2018 Camp Luther Golf Challenge June 29 at 9:00 am at [Rhinelander's Northwood Golf Club](#). This is an outstanding event for men, women, couples, and youth, with great prizes, great food, and great fellowship. Our goal is to raise funds for [Every Kid to Camp](#). We look forward to another great event and hope to see you there!

18 Hole Scramble:

Two Golf Divisions:

The Competitive Division

Teams will compete for best score in regular scramble format.

Each individual may purchase up to two mulligans. \$10 each. Non-transferrable.

Prizes awarded to top three teams.

Individual prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt.

1st place team names added to Golf Challenge plaque at camp.

The Hacker Division

Teams will compete in regular scramble format.

Each individual may purchase up to two mulligans. \$10 each. Non-transferable.

Prizes awarded to worst three teams.

Individual prizes for most lost balls, most balls in water, least used tee shot.

Last place team name added to Golf Challenge Plaque at camp.

Indicate your division choice on your registration form.

\$175 Before June 9th. Register at www.campluther.com

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.

Tea "attire" encouraged but NOT required.

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

