

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Publisher
Church Mouse

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Date
July 2022

Upcoming Events

Sat., July 9th – 6:30 p.m. – Movie Night
"I Believe"

Sun., July 17th – 12:00 p.m. – Church Council
Meeting

Fri., July 22nd – 5:30 p.m. – 4th Friday

Sat., July 23rd – 9:00 a.m. - Arts & Crafts Day /
Pie Sale - MCS High School lawn

Sun., July 24th – 11:00 a.m. – Ecumenical
Worship Service – MCS High School lawn

Fri., July 29th – 8:00 p.m. – Ice Cream Social /
Band Concert

Future Events

Please watch for additional information in
future newsletters about these upcoming
events:

Aug. 13th – Movie Night

Sept. 11th – Mortgage Burning
Celebration

Thought for the Day:

Christ chose to be broken so that
we could be made whole.

Prayer Chain Requests In June

Family of Lewis Youmans

Family of Tony Yung

Family of Bob Haskin

Family of Trudy Shaul

Jackson Bywater

Sharon & Ronald (Cha) Becker

Lori Wyatt

Doug Chichester

Virgil Cater

Joe & Patty Wainwright

Barbara St. George

Abigail

Lisa Benninger & her 4 Children



St. Mark's Church Information

Pastor David Houck

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With Open Arms

The Bible tells us that God knows each of us and knows us completely through and through. It is written that the Lord is with us always, everywhere we are whether in a crowd or all alone, in the light or in the dark, we are not alone for He will never leave us nor forsake us. We can run but we cannot hide. We can dodge to the left or to the right, but the Lord is still there in the straight and narrow, waiting for us at the gate to the sheepfold. It is written: *Psalms 139:1-6 You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.³ You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.*

If the Lord in His prevenient Grace is pursuing us throughout our lives, how are we responding? The Bible tells us: *1 John 4:7-12 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*

I want us to consider the lyrics to a song written in 1981 by Stephen Ray Perry and Jonathan Cain which is titled "Open Arms". Open arms is defined as an eager or warm welcome expressing acceptance and a desire to embrace. I want us to consider singing it to our Lord worshipfully and prayerfully as our personal response to God's mercy, grace, and the love that God has each of us. No matter where we have been, where we are or what lies ahead, let us visualize reaching out and reaching up with open arms to embrace our Lord and Savior.

Lying beside you, here in the dark, feeling your heartbeat with mine
Softly you whisper, you're so sincere, how could our love be so blind?
We sailed on together, we drifted apart, and here you are, by my side.

So now I come to you, with open arms, nothing to hide, believe what I say
So here I am, with open arms
Hoping you'll see, what your love means to me, open arms.

Living without you, living alone, this empty house seems so cold
Wanting to hold you, wanting you near, how much I want to bring you home
But now that you've come back, turned night into day, I need you to stay.

So now I come to you, with open arms, nothing to hide, believe what I say
So here I am, with open arms
Hoping you'll see, what your love means to me, open arms.

Heavenly Father, here I am. I come to you with open arms and with nothing to hide, for I know You have searched me and You know me. Lord Jesus believe what I say, here I am with open arms hoping you'll see what your love means to me. Come to me Lord. Come to my open arms. Amen

In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave and Melody

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Important Council Meeting Updates

Rising Fuel Costs

This year the rising cost of fuel is a topic on most everyone's mind. There is a constant concern about how we can afford to fill the tanks on our vehicles and how we can afford to heat our homes and businesses.

Likewise, Council is concerned with how we are going to financially be able to heat our facility this winter. In an effort to be proactive, they would like to place money in a specific fund to help cover these costs and is asking for your help.

If you are able, please use the "Mortgage" envelopes for your contributions. If writing a check or donating cash, please make a notation it is for the fuel fund. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Upcoming Council Meetings

July 17th
August 21st
September 18th
October 16th
November 20th
December 18th

These are open meetings so all are welcome to attend.

New Security Measures

Once again the news has heightened our awareness of how much the world is touching our lives in negative ways. Safety and protection for all is a major concern so for security reasons, Council decided that every Sunday at 10:25 a.m. the back and side doors will be locked leaving only the front door open. So, if you are late arriving at our worship services, please remember to use the front entrance to gain access to our sanctuary.

Mortgage Burning Service

The Mortgage Burning Service has been rescheduled to Sunday, September 11th.

Council Members

President – Marie Whittaker
Vice president – Georgia VanDyke
Secretary – Lori Roney
Treasurer – Deb Palmatier
Members at Large –
 Lisa Bartholomew
 Debbie Roberts
 Diane France

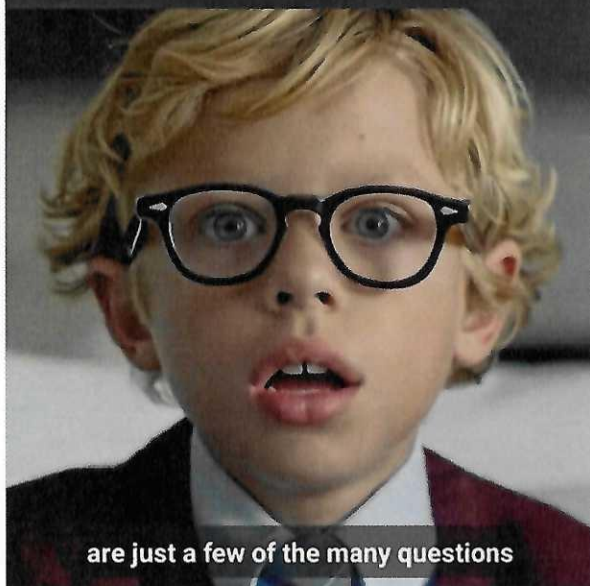
St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Movie Night

I BELIEVE on DVD

Description

The pure and innocent faith of a small child becomes Breaking News when his prayers bring big miracles to his community.



are just a few of the many questions

Bring your family as well as your favorite movie snack and join us on Saturday, July 9th, at 6:30 p.m. to watch "I Believe".

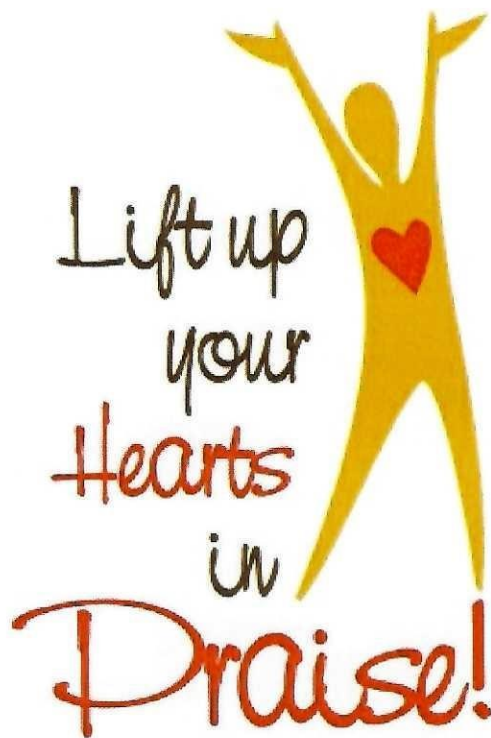


CALLING ALL BAKERS

Saturday, July 23, 2022, Middleburgh is hosting its annual Arts and Crafts day. It is also when our Phoebe's will hold their annual pie sale. Please contact Sharon Nesbitt at 518-827-4644 if you are willing to make a pie(s) or make a monetary donation. We will also need help on the 23rd to set up our table as well as sell the pies at the MCS lawn. Since this is their only fundraiser for the year, your donations and help are greatly appreciated.

(Please leave your pie(s) at the church by 9:00 a.m. on the 23rd.)





ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Guest Speaker: Gary Riggi
with music led by Kim and Reggie Harris

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022

AT 11:00 A.M.

FRONT LAWN OF MCS HIGH SCHOOL

Bring your own lawn chair

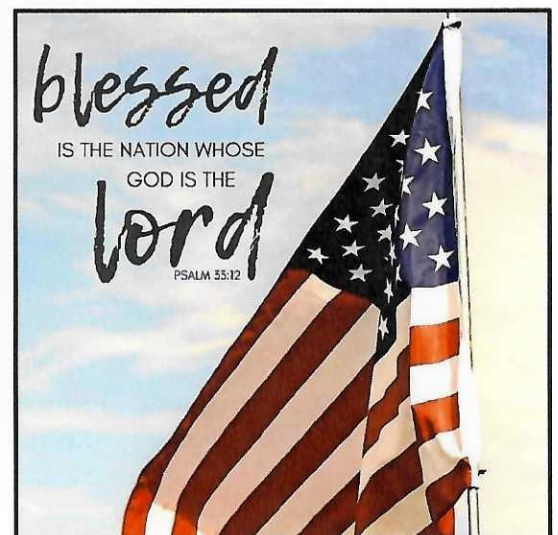
(NO service at St. Mark's)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

*We must pray for peace, peace
that can be won without
compromising the godly
principles that made this land
great.*

- David Jeremiah

*Please pray for our Military
and our Country!*



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Summer Renewal Time

There are times in our lives when we need to pause, reflect, renew and refresh. This summer is one of those times for our Phoebe group so if you stop by the church on Mondays during the months of July and August, there will be no sounds of talking, laughing and sewing machines humming. However, Phoebes will resume on September 12th at 9:30 a.m. Thank you, Phoebes, for all you do in service to our Lord!

St. Mark's Congregation Sees Red

June 5th found those of us worshipping at St. Mark's seeing red... lots of red... worn by members of our congregation in celebration of Pentecost. As you may recall, Pentecost is the day when we celebrate the Holy Spirit descending on the apostles, thus beginning their mission to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.



St. Mark's 200th Anniversary Planning Committee

It is difficult to believe we are already halfway through the year 2022 which shows just how quickly time passes. Our 200th anniversary will be in 2024 and we are still looking for volunteers to help make plans for a wonderful celebration. Help is needed in planning, sharing ideas and organizing our event. Please contact Diane France or Georgia VanDyke if you would like to be a member of this committee.



New Lights in Sanctuary

How much brighter the lights in our sanctuary shine! Since LED light bulbs shine brighter and have longer usage life, we gratefully accepted a donation of them from Middleburgh Hardware. Thank you, Rich and Heather, for your generous gift!

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Joint Worship Service

On Sunday, June 26th, Gobbler's Knob was alive with worship, conversations, laughter and the smell of cooking hamburgers and hot dogs. St. Mark's and Christian Community Church of Faith met to worship together as well as enjoy a delicious picnic. What a wonderful way to praise our Lord with our brothers and sisters in Christ!



Pastor Dave guarding the physical food while he is serving spiritual food



Our Master Chefs



Caught you snacking, Ron 😊

St. Mark's Lutheran Church



MIDDLEBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL CLASS of 2022

St. Mark's was blessed to host the baccalaureate service for our graduating Middleburgh High School seniors. Both Mr. Sloan and Ben April spoke about love of God, love of self and faith. Congratulations MCS graduates!



Music of the Knight
sharing their vocal talents

4th Fridays in Middleburgh

Warm weather brought people to Middleburgh to enjoy an evening of strolling around town on the second 4th Friday of the summer. People who supported us by buying our hot dogs, potato chips and water were very generous, especially when they discovered we were selling them as a fundraiser to repair our steeple. Total received was \$161 in donations to go toward our steeple fund.



Steeple Fund (end of May 2022) -
\$6064.65

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Servers for July

July 3rd:

Reader – Lori
Prayer – Carolyn
Ushers – Dennis / Diane
Counter – Diane

July 10th:

Reader – Marie
Prayer – Ron
Ushers – Denise / Ron
Counter – Carrie

July 17th:

Reader – Sharon N.
Prayer – Cheryl
Ushers – Deb R. / Marie
Counter – Deb P.

July 24th:

NO SERVICE AT THE CHURCH

11:00 - Ecumenical Service -
MCS High School Lawn

July 31st:

Reader – Ginny
Prayer – Carolyn
Ushers – Tom / Dennis F.
Counter – Diane

July Birthdays:

Mia Howland	July 7
Colleen Davidson	July 14
Janet Abrams	July 22

July Anniversaries:

Bill / Holly Pierce	July 14
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