

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Church Mouse

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Date
December 2022

Upcoming Events

Sun., Dec. 11th – 6:30 p.m. – Christmas
Caroling inside the Reformed Church

Wed., Dec. 14th – 5:00 p.m. – Net Dinner
at OLV Catholic Church

Sun., Dec. 18th – 12:00 p.m. – Church Council
Meeting

**Sat., Dec. 24th – 7:00 p.m. – Christmas
Eve Service at St. Mark's**

**Sun., Dec. 25th – 10:30 a.m. Worship
Service**

Wed., Dec. 28th – 5:00 p.m. – Net Dinner
at St. Mark's.

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2023 Future Events

(Mark your calendars 😊)

Movie Night - Saturday, January 14th –
6:00 p.m. – Sight 'n Sound's production of
"Noah" will be shown.

Annual Congregational Meeting –
Sunday, January 29 – immediately
following worship service we will have a pot
luck luncheon after which we will have our
annual meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: All committee reports
are due to the church office on or before
December 30th.

Prayer Chain Requests In Nov.

Family of Jim Cornell

Pat McCoy
Kathy Kauffmann
Darlene Bell
Gloria Jahnke
Baby Tommy
Martin Wenzl
Jim Cornwell
Sarah Vanetten
Holly Pierce
Lorraine Robinson
Albert Jaycox

Thought for the Day:

Today is a clean blackboard with
all the mistakes of yesterday
erased away.



St. Mark's Church Information

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We Can Have It All

In my office there is a sign that reads "We may not have it all together, but together we have it all". It makes me think of the times when life seems in disarray or on overload with so much to accomplish or complete. It can make one feel, like the saying of old, that we are "running around like a chicken with its head cut off". (If you've never butchered a chicken, that one may be hard to understand.) Anyway, then you come upon someone who is so organized, so calm under stress, so unfrazzled when things go awry, that we wonder is that what "having it all together" looks like?

We, as the fallen, imperfect people that we are, cannot claim that we have it all together every minute of every day. There is one who does though. The sinless, faultless, blameless one who is God... God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit... one God and yet a trinity of perfection. When we seek to be together with the One who is perfect, then we begin to change, to discover what is truly important in life, to be more Christ-like so that together we can have it all.

Walking with the Lord is uniting ourselves with Him so that we may learn His ways and mirror them in our lives. We are told in Romans 8:31-32 - *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?* God loves us dearly and wants us to have an abundant life: Jeremiah 29:11 - *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.* God's promises are fulfilled when we walk together with Him. Deuteronomy 5:33 - *You shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.*

I leave you with these quotes to reflect upon and understand that "having it all" depends upon with whom we walk together:

James 4:8 - *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.*

Micah 6:8 - *He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.*

"The more you walk with God, the harder it is to scrape your knee."

"Those who walk with God always reach their destination." — Henry Ford

If you are like me and wish that we could have it all together, remember that together with the Lord we can have it all.

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.

May God richly bless you, my friends, with all that He desires for our lives.

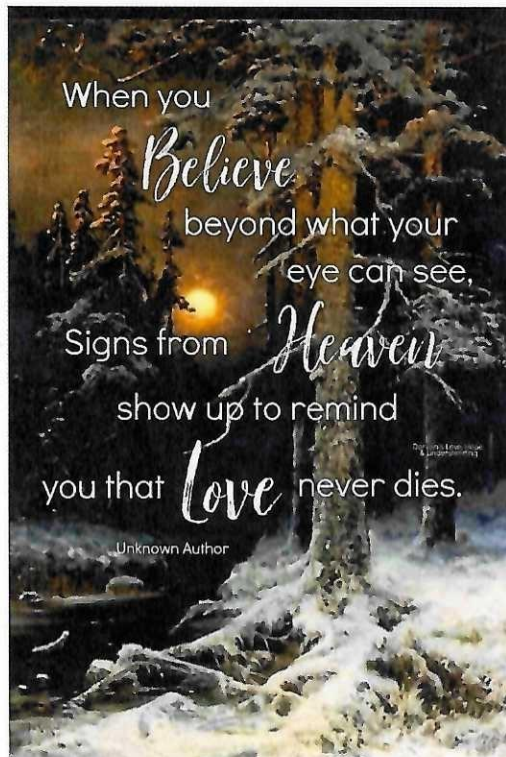
In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave and Melody

St. Mark's Lutheran Church



Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas is a time of the year when our sanctuary is especially beautiful with decorations of candles, greens and poinsettias. If you wish to purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, please see Georgia VanDyke. We are requesting a donation of \$10 to cover the cost. Thank you!

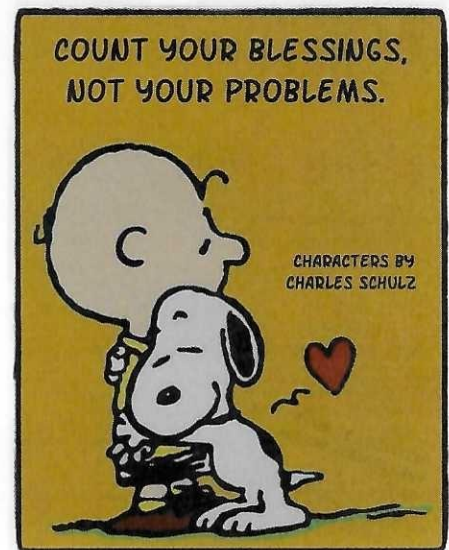


Community Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 11, 2022 at
Middleburgh Reformed Church
6:30 p.m. (in the sanctuary)



All are welcome. Come join in the fun.
Refreshments will be served.



St. Mark's Lutheran Church



Christmas Card “Postal Crate”

Getting Christmas cards from people whom we know and love is exciting. Once again, St. Mark's is delivering Christmas greetings through Christmas cards in their very own "Postal Crate".

If you wish to extend a Christmas greeting to your brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Mark's, please consider placing their card in our "postal crate" located in the back of the sanctuary and please remember to pick-up your own cards. If your name is missing and you would like to have a postal folder, please contact either Cheryl or Carolyn, who will be happy to include one for you.



Toys for “Christmas for Kids”

The Joshua Project is sponsoring an outreach program called "Christmas for Kids". They are hoping to provide for the usual fun where parents select toys, pajamas, wrapping paper, stocking stuffers, etc. for their children. Needed are unwrapped new toys (any age from infant - 12 years old) and/or warm winter pajamas for any age. When you are shopping for family and friends, please remember the children in our communities whose Christmas you are making possible through your gifts. There is a table located in the front of the church where we will be collecting them until **December 11th**. Thank you for your generosity.



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Servers for December

Dec. 4th:

Reader – Lori
Prayer – Carolyn
Ushers – Deb R. / Marie
Counter – Deb P.

Dec. 11th:

Reader – Bonnie
Prayer – Georgia
Ushers – Dennis / Carrie
Counter – Sharon N.

Dec. 18th:

Reader – Marie
Prayer – Ron
Ushers – Bob / Peggi
Counter – Diane

Dec. 24th:

Ushers – TBD
Counter – TBD

Dec. 25th:

Reader – TBD
Prayer – Cheryl
Ushers – TBD
Counter – Carrie

December Birthdays:

Terry Minton	Dec. 1
Bessie Korth	Dec. 2
Jim Nattress	Dec. 3
Edna Lower	Dec. 5
Debbie Palmatier	Dec. 11
Niles McCoy	Dec. 13
Gregory Davidson	Dec. 15
Holly Pierce	Dec. 16
Ellen Langenbahn	Dec. 18
Todd Bartholomew	Dec. 31

December Anniversaries:

Pat / Skip Becker	Dec. 17
Bonnie / Bill Morton	Dec. 28

St. Mark's Income vs Expenses

Here is the summary of income and expenses for the month of **October 2022:**

Income	\$5262.00
Expenses	3749.73
Balance	\$1512.27
Fuel Fund	\$1655.00

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

St. Mark's Welcomes New Member Ruth Palmer

Sunday, November 13th, was a very special day for St. Mark's because we welcomed Ruth Palmer as our newest member. Ruth has been worshipping with us for some time and has embraced St. Mark's activities by leading our Operation Christmas Child outreach program and as a member of our choir. We are blessed to have her become part of the St. Mark's family.

Welcome, Ruth!!!



Operation Christmas Child



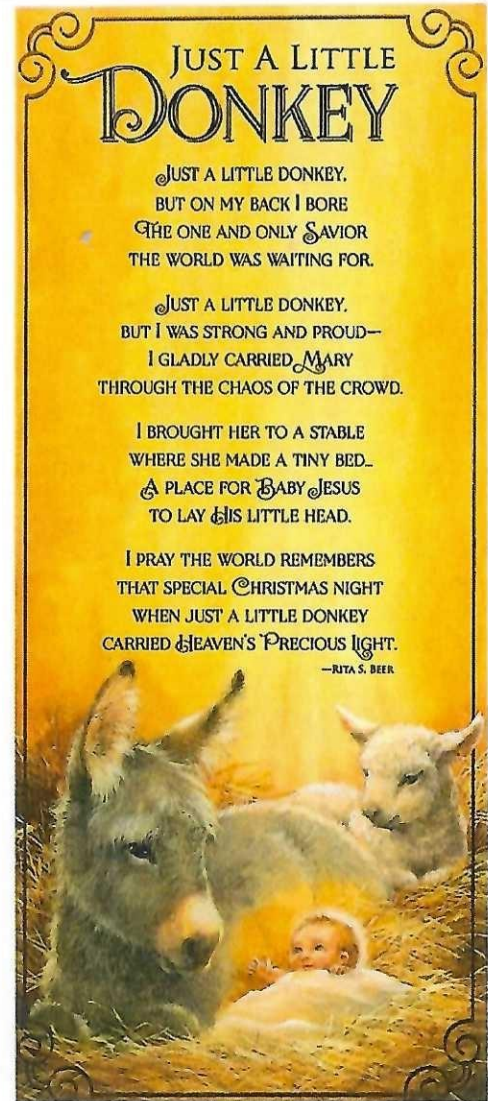
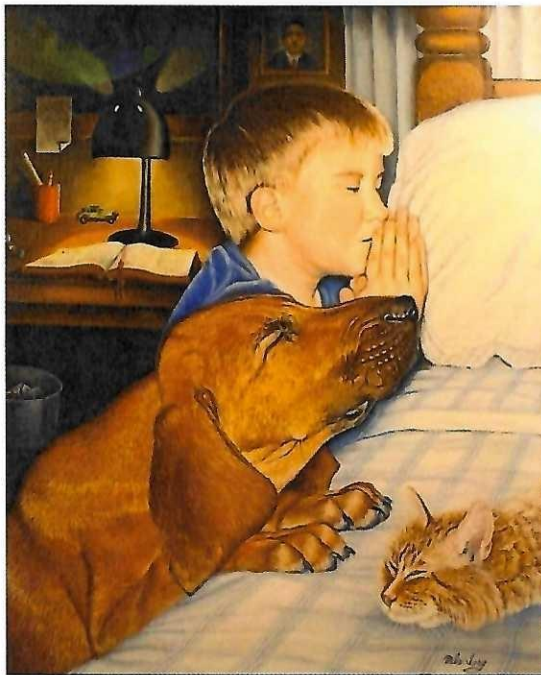
Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Thanks to you and your generosity, 37 shoeboxes were delivered to Operation Christmas Child...this is the most number of boxes ever sent by St. Mark's. Also, a huge thank you to Ruth Palmer for her continued commitment and exuberance to this outreach project. May God bless all who participated. (Can't wait to see what Ruth is going to do next year.



St. Mark's Lutheran Church



*Please keep our Military
and Country in your
prayers!*



Phoebe Quilts

There is nothing as nice as snuggling under the warmth of a quilt on a cool / cold evening. With God's help, our Phoebes have been busy making quilts to do just that...keep people warm. In October, 12 quilts were sent to Camp Swamp Methodist Church in Loris, South Carolina, to be delivered to a nursing home. In November, 8 quilts were sent to Wings As Eagles Ministry for Native American senior citizens. We pray that all those who receive them will be blessed with warmth that comes from knowing they are loved.



God's Blessing

Pastors Lori and Gary, founders of Wings As Eagles Ministry, have been working tirelessly to build the Dream Center on the Pine Ridge Reservation for Native American families. While there have been many roadblocks, God keeps guiding them through. Here is an article from their November newsletter, that we would like to share with you as it witnesses to the power of prayer and God's blessing.

Electricity another miracle? We had to have lights! We saw that all of the electricity was across the road..way up on the hill, a long ways from us. Oh boy, this was going to be expensive to little *missionaries* that are eating canned soup! We proceeded to head to Martin, SD, where the Lacreek Electric was located that encompassed the reservation for electricity. We spoke to the receptionist and told her we were there to see about bringing power over to the land the ministry just purchased. She was a Christian! She said well...lets pray something can be worked out not to cost you all a fortune. Gary and I were strong in faith after the water was given to the ministry; we knew the Lord was in all of this. She called for the supervisor. He came out to meet us in the front office. He said we would have to apply. Poles would have to be placed down to the bottom of the hill then across the road. The cost would be \$8,900.00. The cost of a transformer and junction box was extra. Our *hearts sunk*..we told him all about what we had planned and he still wouldn't budge! Just a discount is all we were asking for. He kept shaking his head no, he couldn't help us. I looked over at the receptionist and she was praying...and looked over at us and winked and kept praying. The supervisor was walking back down the hall to his office. When...all of a sudden he turned right around and with a strange look on his face, like he had no idea what he was doing...he said, ok, ok...we will do it for nothing, are you happy! -- Lori

Thank you to all who purchased Walmart and/or Target gift cards we are sending to Wings As Eagles to be used for the purchase of gifts for Native American children. God bless you!