

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Date
January 2020

Upcoming Events

**Jan. 8th – 5:00 p.m. – NET Dinner
- Catholic Church**

**Jan 11th – 9:00 a.m. – Men's
Breakfast**

**Jan. 19th – Congregational Mtg.
(Immediately following the
worship service)**

**Jan. 20th – 6:00 p.m. - Council
Meeting**

**Jan. 22nd – 5:00 p.m. – NET
Dinner – St. Mark's Church**

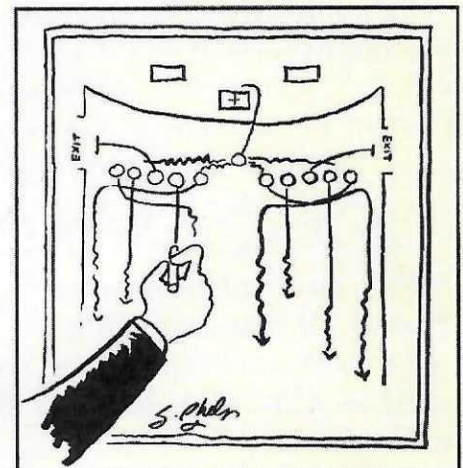
Council Members:

President – Diane France
Vice President – Georgia VanDyke
Secretary - Lori Roney
Treasurer - Debbie Palmatier
Members - Jim Brigadier, Dennis
Foland and Lisa Bartholomew.

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up
in prayer:

Family of Terry Puchala
Family of Irene Fancher
Family of Carol Falcone
Deb Brigadier
Dr. Shannon O'Malley
Russ Ryan
Latrell Alotta
George Hoffmann
Driver of Village Dump Truck
Bill Morton
Lee Lacy
Lori Roney
Kelsey Roney
Vern Gordon



Taking a cue from Bill Belichick, Pastor
Dave diagrams the morning offering for
the ushers.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Happy Days !!!!!

Birthdays: January

Helen Ruland	Jan. 1
Brenda Varella	Jan. 4
Tom Nesbitt	Jan. 5
Ted Langenbahn	Jan. 18
Lisa Bartholomew	Jan. 20
Breanna Palmatier	Jan. 21
Lorrie Gordon	Jan. 21
Anne Hartnell	Jan. 21

Anniversaries: January

Dennis / Carrie Foland	Jan. 2
Chris / Beth Cash	Jan. 8
Tom / Sharon Nesbitt	Jan. 17

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Note: Sunday, Jan. 19th – Annual Congregational Meeting following a potluck luncheon after our worship service.

Committee Leaders: Please submit your annual reports to the church office no later than Sunday, Jan. 12th.

Did you know St. Mark's offers the following opportunities for you and your family to participate?

Phoebes - every Monday from 9-2 PM

Youth Sunday School - Held during the worship service message

Bible Study - Sundays from 9:15 - 10 AM

Council Mtgs. – Third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsals – Every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Ministry - every Thursday night beginning at 5:30 PM

Men's Prayer Breakfast - second Saturday of each month

Council has adopted a policy for anyone that wishes to use the fellowship hall for an event. All requests are to be sent to Lisa Bartholomew. She can be reached at 231-9494. She will handle all the arrangements, scheduling, paperwork and payments. This will allow for a one point person contact rather than having too many people involved.

Vision for the New Year

Here we are... a new year, a new decade, a new opportunity. This is the year 2020. It is more than just a number. When written 20/20 it speaks of having normal vision, being able to see clearly what is considered normal visual acuity as compared to others. A common practice over recent decades has been to compose a mission and/or vision statement, something to help keep people focused on their goals, their purpose, and the path ahead. One thing that is essential for all vision is there must be light. Light to see the path ahead. If you have ever stubbed your toe in the middle of the night, you appreciate being able to see the path, even one that is familiar to you. If you have ever had your vehicle lights go out while driving on a back country road on a cloudy, moonless night, you appreciate the light.

In this new decade, this year of 2020, how will we improve our vision? The Bible tells us in *Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.* In order to see clearly the path ahead, one must have light so their vision is not impaired. In John's Gospel we are told: *^{1:1} In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Look again at the words of the Irish hymn "Be Thou My Vision":

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Putting Jesus first in our lives really isn't that hard; we just have to ask. Use these words by Robert Cull: *Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.*

May 2020 bring you renewed hope, joy, peace, and faith. Begin each day by looking up for God to show you the way.



The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

In God We Trust/ Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave

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Servers for Jan.

January 5th:

Ushers – Maurice / Ginny
Reader – Marie
Greeter – Janet
Prayer – Deb B.
Counter – Carrie

January 12th:

Ushers – Deb R. / Marie
Reader – Jim
Greeter – Deb P.
Prayer – Jim
Counter – Deb P.

January 19th:

Ushers – Denise / Ron
Reader – Sharon N.
Greeter – Gloria
Prayer – Ron
Counter – Diane

January 26th:

Ushers – Ted / Ellen
Reader – Ted
Greeter – Barbara
Prayer – Ted
Counter – Carrie

The Squirrel Story

In a small American town - a band of squirrels had become quite a problem!

The Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded that the squirrels were predestined to be there, and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will.

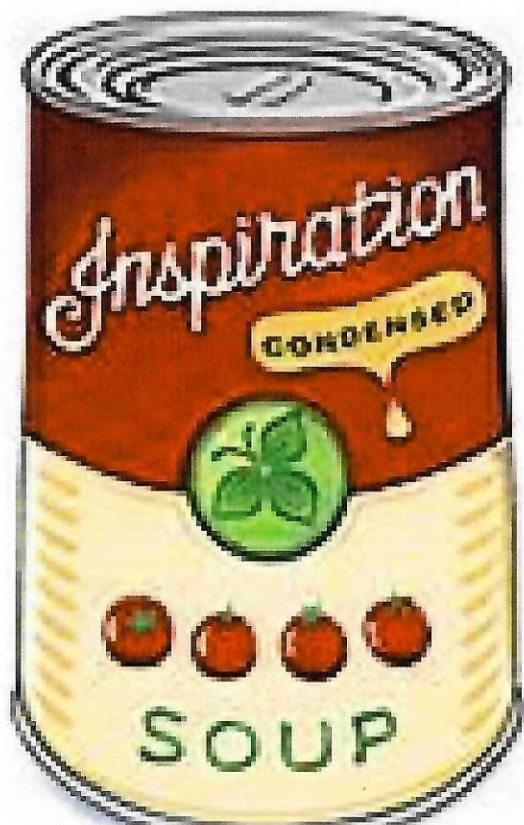
At the Baptist church the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistery. The deacons met and decided to put a water-slide on the baptistery and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim, so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. So, they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist church. Two weeks later the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water-slide.

The Episcopalians tried a much more unique path by setting out pans of whiskey around their church in an effort to kill the squirrels with alcohol poisoning. They sadly learned how much damage a band of drunk squirrels can do.

But the Catholic church came up with a more very creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

And not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.

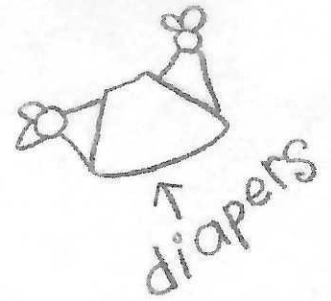


“Souper” Bowl Sunday for

St. Mark’s Food Pantry

February 2, 2020

**It will be “souper” nice of you to
help us fill our “souper” bowl can!**



DOLLARS FOR DIAPERS

Many women's shelters house children. Used clothes and toys are big donation items. BUT diapers and wipes are in great need. Would you consider just donating \$1.00 so we are able to buy diapers and wipes at a discounted rate. We will take care of the delivery. All you need to do is help us raise some money.

Please give your donation to Barbara Elder. She will make sure it gets to the people buying the diapers & wipes. My family thanks you for helping us help

"ONE CHILD AT A TIME".