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New website

Our webpage is up and running. Check it out. The address is www.stmarkslutheran.middleburgh.com

Prayer Ministry

You are invited to participate in a new prayer ministry. We meet on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in St. Mark's sanctuary. If you are unable to attend and have a prayer request you would like lifted, please contact the church office or feel free to place your written request in the prayer box located in narthex.

Council has adopted a new policy for anyone that wishes to use the fellowship hall for an event. Going forward 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.

Wishing all of you a very blessed Christmas!

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up in prayer:

Prayers for our new pastor Flo Kathy Rivenburg's family Ed Veley's family Ernie Jerry

Upcoming Events

Dec 9 - Miracle on Main Street

Dec 10 - Men's breakfast 9:00

Dec 12 - Council Meeting 7:00

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve service 7:00

Dec 25 - Happy Birthday Jesus!

Jan 29 - Annual congregational meeting

Speakers for our upcoming

December services:

Dec 4 - Pastor Dave Houck

Dec 11 - Pastor Ray Lighthall

Dec 18 - Pastor Dave Houck

Dec 24 - Celebration of Christmas

Dec 25 - no worship service

Happy Days !!!!! Birthdays: December

Dec 1 - Terry Minton

Dec 5 - Edna Lower

Dec 11 - Deb Palmatier

Dec 12- Erin Becker

Dec 13 - Niles McCoy

Dec 15 - Gene Wyckoff

Dec 16 - Freya Karsch

Dec 18 - Ellen Langenbahn

Dec 20 - Cody Whittaker

Dec 21 - Melissa Cater

Dec 25 - Marilyn Hanley

Dec 31 - Todd Bartholomew

Anniversaries: December

Dec 1 - Mary and Jerry Bowman

Dec 17 - Pat and Ralph Becker

Dec 19 - Kathy and Augie Kauffman

Dec 28 - Bonnie and Bill Morton

Dec 31 - Sharon and Harry Amendola

Mark your calendar -January 29, 2017 will be our congregational meeting following the worship service. Please bring a dish to pass. 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

Adult Sunday School - Sundays from 9:15 - 10 AM

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

After School Program - every day from 3 - 5:30 PM following school schedule

Men's Prayer breakfast - second Saturday of each month

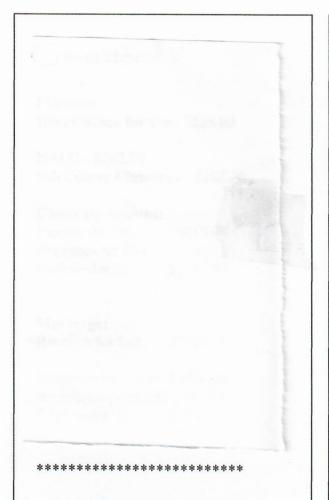
Creative Women's Ministry - Fourth Friday of the month at 7 PM

Our mitten tree is in the sanctuary. We are asking for donations of mittens and socks this year.

Celebration of Christ's Birth at St. Mark's Lutheran Church



December 24, 2016 7:00 p.m.



Food Pantry Needs

Servers for Dec

December 4:

Acolyte - Dylan

Ushers - Harry/Sharon

Reader - Deb P.

Greeter - Ginny

Prayer - Bonnie

Counter - Debbie

December 11:

Acolyte - TBD

Ushers - Maurice/Ginny

Reader - Lori

Greeter - Deb P.

Prayer - Chris

Counter - Diane

December 18:

Acolyte - Dylan

Ushers - Chris/Gene

Reader - Ted

Greeter - Maurice

Prayer - Ted

Counter - Carrie

December 24 - Christmas Eve:

Acolyte - TBD

Ushers - Dean/Lori

Reader - TBD

Greeter - Pat

Prayer - Gene

Counter - Deb

December 25 - no worship service

Two Traveling Angels:

Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead the angels were given a small space in the cold basement.

As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it.

When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, Things aren't always what they seem.

The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife.

After sharing what little food they had the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest.

When the sun came up the next morning the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears.

Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income lay dead in the field.

The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel how could you let this happen?

The first man had everything, yet you helped him, she accused.

The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die...

Things aren't always what they seem, the older angel replied.

When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall.

Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it.

Then last night as we slept in the farmers bed, the angel of death came for his wife and I gave him the cow instead.

Things aren't always what they seem.

Sometimes that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way they should. If you have faith, you just need to trust that every outcome is always to your advantage. You just might not know it until sometime later.

Ongoing bottle and can drive. Please leave **clean** bottles and cans by the garage door. Proceeds will be used for the mortgage.