

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Date
February 2019

Upcoming Events

**Feb. 3 – 10:30 a.m. - Four
Chaplains Service**

**Feb. 3 – 10:30 a.m. - "Souper"
Bowl Sunday**

**Feb. 4 – 6:00 p.m. - Handbell
Rehearsals**

**Feb. 9 – 9:00 a.m. – Men's
Breakfast**

**Feb. 11 – 7:00 p.m. - Council
Meeting**

Feb. 27th – 5:00 p.m. – Net Dinner

Prayer Ministry

You are invited to participate in a 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.

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up in prayer:

Sharon Becker
Skip Becker
Family of Augie Kauffmann
Family of Wilma Jones
Family of Bob Muenier, Sr.
Ed Johnson
Gloria Falcone
Jim Marquit
Domenic Fileccia
Baby Cooper Seletsky

Council Members:

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

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.

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Happy Days !!!!!

Birthdays: February

Feb. 1 – Bob Meunier
Feb. 3 – Harry Amendola
Feb. 3 – Delores Harrison
Feb. 6 – Logan Bartholomew
Feb. 23 – Bill Morton
Feb. 24 – Kaleb Minton

Anniversaries: February

Feb. 14 – Ed & Sandi Johnson
Feb. 16 – Ron & Edna Lower



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

Men's Prayer breakfast - second Saturday of each month

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY!!!**

**Love,
Jesus**

Sharing our Faith

I am very blessed in many ways. Some blessings are spending time with others when I can sit and listen as they share their perspectives, their concerns and their personal stories and stories they have heard and want to share with me. At a men's prayer breakfast this past month, I was blessed to hear one such story.

In days gone by when commuting was done mostly by train, they made frequent stops as the villages and hamlets that were close to each other, at least by today's standards they were. As a train stopped to load and off load passengers and cargo, children were allowed to enter the passenger cars to sell their goods for every member of the family helped in supporting the needs of the family. The goods sold were generally fruit as a snack for the travelers. At one stop, a young boy entered the train car with a basket full of apples. He slowly moved from seat row to seat row offering his apples to the commuters. As he approached the end of the train car where he had to exit not one apple was purchased. A man in the last seat observed the boy's attempts and the boy's disappointment as no one was interested in what he had to offer them. The man stood up blocking the boy's exit and began this interaction with the young salesman speaking so everyone in the train car could hear. "Well young man, that is a fine looking basket of apples you have there". The man took one from the basket and holding it up and turning it around to examine, he continued. "Why yes, a fine basket of apples. They are firm and have a bright color to them. I see no imperfections in these apples at all. Just what a busy person needs to fulfill their day". The man raised the apple to his mouth and took a bite. As juice ran down from the corners of his mouth, he continued, "Mmmm, they are so delicious and juicy. What wonderful flavor they have". The young man left the train car that day with an empty basket for everyone there summoned him back to obtain his goods that were so highly spoken of by the man in the last seat.

The Bible tells us in *Psalms 34:8 (NKJV)* 'Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!' As we commute, as we commune with others, we have the opportunity to share the most rewarding and nourishing of all the goods on the earth. We have the good news of Salvation and the ability to share it free of charge with others. How do we feel about this Good News that we have received and been entrusted with to share with others? Do we offer it to others at all? If we do, is it in a halfhearted and spiritless manner? What if we lived more like the man in the last seat? What if our excitement, our enthusiasm, our faith got others attention and interest up? What if it aroused their hunger to 'taste and see that the Lord is good'?

Let us continue to share the Love of God through the missions and services that we are blessed to offer. Let us reinvigorate how we serve up the most nourishing and satisfying goods that we have, the Good News of the Gospel, and our faith in it.

Your faith, your excitement, your enthusiasm is truly a blessing to me as I pray mine is to you. Let us not keep it to ourselves while we are in a world that is hungering for Good News.

In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave

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Servers for Feb.

February 3:

Candle Lighter - Dylan
Ushers - Sharon / Tom
Reader - Georgia
Greeter - Janet
Prayer - Ron
Counter - Diane

February 10:

Candle Lighter - Lisa
Ushers - Chris / Beth
Reader - Lori
Greeter - Ginny
Prayer - Beth
Counter - Carrie

February 17:

Candle Lighter - Dylan
Ushers - Lori / Dean
Reader - Deb P.
Greeter - Deb P.
Prayer - Carolyn
Counter - Deb P.

February 24:

Candle Lighter - Lisa
Ushers - Diane / Dennis
Reader - Bonnie
Greeter - Harry
Prayer - Ginny
Counter - Diane



The Middleburgh Reformed Church will be hosting a "Game Night" on Friday, February 8th, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for anyone young and old(er). LOL

Please spread the word to your family and friends to see if they would like to join in all the fun! If there are any questions, please feel free to text or call Allison Coons at 518-231-4762.

B.Y.O.G. (BRING YOUR OWN GAME) or two... and a SIMPLE SNACK to share. We will supply drinks, warmth and a place to enjoy some fun and laughter in the midst of winter. If you do not have a game, that is alright because we always have more than enough games to go around.