

Love • Grow  
WORSHIP  
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St. Mark Lutheran Church

# The VOICE

## OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2021

### President's Notes

By Joni Wasmund



As I write this, I'm thrilled with the anticipation of learning who God has in mind for the remaining position on our 2022 Council. The Treasurer role is often challenging to fill because of the time commitment and there is a certain amount of accounting background needed but it's no less of a reward to serve God and our congregation in this role than any other that He calls us to. He doesn't call us to roles He hasn't specifically designed us for but for various reasons, we often tend to question His call when we've never done something before and assume it's not for us or when our lives are busy with the things we fill it with. I've learned that God doesn't call me to something He doesn't equip me for. You may have heard this before: He doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called. Sometimes those things we fill our lives with are also serving Him but He knows it's time to do something else. That may not always be the case but if you *are* prompted even for a few seconds, resist the temptation to think it's your overactive imagination. It could very well be God saying, "it's time to give this up and follow Me" like Jesus told each of His disciples as He called them. They left their livelihoods! I don't believe God would ask that of (m)any of us but He probably sees something in each of our lives that we could take a break from in order to experience Kingdom joy. I love these Bible verses:

- But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33 ESV. (He will provide me the time to do all *He* wants me to do.)
- For the eyes of Yahweh roam throughout the earth to show Himself strong for those whose hearts are completely His. 2 Chronicles 16:9 Holman Christian Standard Bible (Should I follow my own heart or give it to Him to use for infinitely better results?)

*Continued on page 10*

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#### CHURCH EVENTS

[www.smlc.info/events](http://www.smlc.info/events)

Complete Details Inside or

**Find Us Online@**

[www.smlc.info](http://www.smlc.info)

#### ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the October edition of *The Voice* is **October 15th**.

Please Email articles to:

[stmarkcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkcommunications@gmail.com)  
& [deb@smlc.info](mailto:deb@smlc.info)



**Save the Date!**  
**Sunday, November 14, 2021**  
**@9:15AM**

**CHURCH DOCTOR<sup>®</sup>**  
**MINISTRIES**

**Oral Presentation**  
**Sunday, October 10th**  
**1:00 - 4:00PM**  
Following luncheon provided  
by Congregational Life

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

October 2021



## ST. MARK COUNCIL

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[joni1812@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joni1812@sbcglobal.net) | 847-404-9185

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Open Position

### NURSERY COORDINATOR

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### MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

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**Next Council Meeting:** Monday, October 11th @ 6:15 pm.  
**Next Committee Meetings:** Tuesday, October 26th @ 7:00pm

*Serve The Lord With All Your Heart*

October 2021

# From the Desk of Pastor Breum

Viewing and participating in an Ordination service for most is a once in a lifetime experience. When God calls a person into the ministry of Word and Sacrament it is a call that is loud and clear. What a thrilling day it was as we watched Daniel Doran, son of Jerry and Rhonda Doran, ordained for a lifetime of ministry. Was it not great to see Pastor Shields and Lisa, Bob and Bernie Yarbrough, as well as family members and guests? It is a day to celebrate the work of God as so many of you had input into the life of Daniel Doran during his growing up years here at St Mark. In the last two decades, God has raised up 3 full time pastors who grew up in St. Mark, plus we fully supported Matt Shields' entrance into the ministry as he and Jacinda spent several years here at St Mark before entering seminary and full-time ministry. I hope this encourages you that God is doing a work in our midst and that work will only continue. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

To wear masks or not to wear masks? That is the question. I know we have strong convictions on both sides of this issue. Some have dug their heels in and made it the "issue of the day." Please listen to what I am about to say. I see the enemy, Satan, using this to divide Christian friendships and yes, even churches. For whatever reason, the mask issue has brought out of us a stubbornness, an unyielding attitude that crosses a line that ought not be crossed. We are here to serve one another, not to dig in thinking, "I have my rights." As Christians we have the right to serve one another and not demand our own way. The enemy is using the mask issue to harm the church and it ought not be so. Parents, your children's Sunday school hour on Sundays and Confirmation class on Wednesday nights are two of the most important hours of the week. It is where they will hear the most important words and teachings that they hear and receive all week. Their souls need to be fed the Word of God. Jesus commands us to bring the children unto Him. Please do not let the mask issue exclude your child(ren) from hearing the words of eternal life. "Faith comes by hearing, the hearing of the word of Christ." Please continue to send them and do not let the mask issue be something that keeps them away from what and Who they need the most, "Jesus." **Matthew 19:14 (NLT2)** <sup>14</sup> But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children." Your children are precious in the sight of God and deserve to hear about the love of Jesus and eternal life week after week. Unless you are teaching them at home (and yes, I know some do), they will hear the Good News no where else.

God is so gracious and merciful and abounding in steadfast love. I want us to be the same for each other. That is what I am trying to communicate. Kindness goes a long way these days to lift people up and don't we all need that?

God Bless,  
Pastor Breum

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## Cards for Seniors Ministry

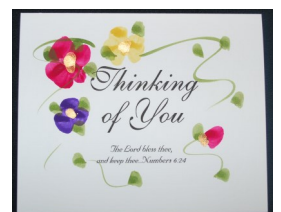
What is this ministry? It is an outreach ministry geared toward encouraging and praying for our area seniors through written greeting cards to keep them feeling more connected and less isolated. Therefore, we have partnered with the Township of Antioch to give our completed greeting cards to them for distribution through their monthly events to the seniors in our community.

We encourage cards such as "thinking of you", and/or hand written notes of encouragement. We ask that you please add at the end: "From your friends at St. Mark" so the recipients know where the cards came from.

So please write out a greeting card or two and drop them into the basket which is located on the table near the church office.

Let's show our area seniors the gift of kindness, care and companionship! Together, we will make a difference in their lives as well as ours by spreading God's love!

Sincerely,  
Deb Heide



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October 2021



# MISSOURI MUSINGS

## BY BOB YARBROUGH

### 9/11 & God's Visitation

We recently marked 20 years since the beautiful late summer day when airliners were hijacked and thousands lost their lives. What lessons can we take from where we are now?

(1) How swiftly time passes! One New York City fireman who survived the day observed, "It feels like 50 years ago, and then it feels like yesterday." Our days on this earth, which often seem to drag on forever, are in the end fleeting. "What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes" (James 4:14).

(2) Our lives are deeply impacted by what we devote ourselves to. One New York Port Authority Police officer was the handler of a yellow lab named Sirius. The dog checked vehicles for explosives in the basement of the South Tower. When the officer felt the ground shake at the impact of the first plane high above, he told Sirius, "Listen, you stay here. I'll come back and get you once we do the rescue." But the building shortly collapsed. The officer escaped, but Sirius, waiting faithfully, was crushed to death.

In the following months the officer tried to comfort himself by saying, "Well, the people were more important than the dog, obviously." But he eventually realized that until he accepted and truly grieved the loss of his faithful dog, he would never be able move past 9/11 in his life. Part of being human is to know deep attachments to things like animals, places, and human enterprises like our work or sports. Scripture acknowledges that we are people who desire "to love life and see good days" (1 Peter 3:10). It gives directions for pursuing these things without shortchanging God.

(3) In times of deep human need, people become freshly aware of God. I remember that in the days after 9/11, there were community worship services at St. Mark and elsewhere. People felt anew that we are "one nation under God." The awful loss of life made people who normally ignore or disparage God turn to him in fear, craving security and hope.

On the day of the disaster, one of the two sole survivors from under the destroyed World Trade Center lay trapped in the smoking debris. He knew he was dying. But in his daze he had a vision or dream--"a person walking toward me, a glowing white robe . . . In the distance is a pond with trees, real tranquil." He was jolted awake. He prayed to God and thanked him for his wife, for his daughter, for his US citizenship, as he had immigrated from Colombia. He determined to fight for his life. Many hours later after night had fallen, he heard voices in the distance: "United States Marine Corps, can anybody hear us?" Miraculously, he was rescued.

Disaster visited our nation on 9/11, but it was also an occasion for "visitation" by God. In the Bible a "visit" from God can be for good:

Genesis 50:24 ESV And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

But it can also be synonymous with destruction:

Isa 10:3 ASV And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far?

Jesus rebuked Jerusalem because it rejected God's visitation in the form of Jesus' presence:

Luke 19:44 ESV And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Let us pray and live for God's favorable visitation, aware that he is present at all times with his people, covering us with his guidance, protection, and favor.

Even in those 9/11 hours.

***Serve The Lord With All Your Heart***

October 2021





# St. Mark Council News

To keep you better informed about Church Council decisions we briefly present the major items from our meeting. Should you desire in-depth information, please go to <https://smlc.info/minutes/> for additional Council and Committee minutes.

The Council listened to those of you who recently shared your thoughts and as a result, for additional mitigation during the uptick in the spread of the Delta variant, every other pew in the sanctuary is available for seating rather than every pew in efforts to enhance social distancing during worship. The far-right sections of the sanctuary main floor and balcony remain reserved for those who are masked and prefer sitting apart from those without masks. (Mask-wearers are not required to sit in this designated section).

During the Sunday School hour, entry to the Ed Center requires masks due to the ineligibility of children under the age of 12 to be vaccinated and the unavailability of live-streaming for Sunday School. All Sunday School classes are housed in the Ed Center (approximately 70 children at this time).

The proposed 2022 budget was approved for the Annual Meeting to be held November 14. Thank you to the Finance Committee, Lynn Wetterberg, Pam Preston and Jill Winling and Treasurer Jim O'Neal, for the many hours they invested with the committees and staff to finalize a plan.

The 2021 Confirmation Class names were presented and approved for Confirmation on Reformation Sunday, October 31. May God richly bless our young people on this very special day.

*Is God tapping you to use the talents He's blessed you with for a 1 year term as Council Treasurer? Listen to Him – He knows you better than you know you!*

## CHURCH DOCTOR<sup>®</sup> MINISTRIES

Yes, we began the process nearly 3 months ago but things that are worth waiting for take time. And it's time!! Our ChurchDoctors, Kent Hunter and Tracee Swank will be with us on:

**Sunday, October 10th  
1:00 - 4:00PM**

They will share what we can do to become the church God intends His Church to be.

Come for the potluck after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service and spend the day with us!



## Attention Voting Members!

Please plan to attend the **Annual Congregational Meeting**

**November 14th**

The meeting will begin at 9:15am.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- elect officers
- approve annual budget
- approve annual reports

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October 2021

# C/3 STUDENT MINISTRY OCTOBER 2021



## **Serving Opportunity!**

**October 24th 1:00-3:00 PM**

### **Trunk or Treat**

Volunteers needed to decorate their trunks in festive Halloween themes! Join us in passing out sweet treats for the community.

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## **Monthly Event**

**October 17th 12:30-2:30 PM**

### **Escape Room**

Can you escape in time? Come and help us solve the clues, riddles and puzzles! Cost \$10



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## **Youth Group Nights**

**October 3rd and 10th**

**6:00-8:00 PM**

**Follow us on**



**St\_MarkYouth**

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# *Prayer Changes People and Things*

Did you ever think about or wonder how God interacts with our prayers? A.W. Tozer in his book, Prayer, Communing with God in Everything – Collected Insights, provides the following thoughts. First, he reminds us man is of more value than anything else. God created man in His own image and He created things to serve man. His primary concern is with intelligent, moral beings, not with lifeless matter. But each of us has a material body and have to live our days in an environment of matter, time and space. Things are important to us. Our earthly life is entwined with

matter and laws that control matter. Today, we find ourselves in ever changing circumstances beyond our control that threaten our spiritual wellbeing and physical welfare.

“At such times it is altogether proper that ‘we’ should pray to God to alter those circumstances and ‘change things’ to afford a more favorable climate for the growth of the Spirit. A thousand promises are recorded in Scriptures to encourage ‘us’ to ask and seek and knock to that end so that unfavorable things might be changed or removed altogether.”<sup>1</sup> History of Israel and the church abundantly reflect that God does hear and answer prayer.

Tozer points out in all of our praying, that we keep in mind God will not alter His eternal purpose at the word of man. One does not pray in order to persuade God to change His mind. We cannot pray for God to suspend His will for us or for whom we pray. God will always be himself.

God’s love desires the best for each of us and he longs to give us the best at any cost. Think upon water from the rock, the parting of the sea, quieting the wind, an angel opening a prison door and more. All these things and a thousand others He has done and will do in answer to prayers, but only because it had been His will to do it from the beginning. No one persuades Him.

The apostle Paul commands under the power of the Holy Spirit to “pray without ceasing”(1 Thess.5:17 ) and to ‘devote yourselves to prayer “ (Col. 4:2). As we pray in the spirit *over time* we will begin to see people and things from a heavenly perspective. Thus habitually praying in the Spirit will change us, the people in our sphere of influence, and things (for He made things to serve man.”) “What the praying man does is to bring His will into line with the will of God so God can do what He has all along been willing to do. Thus prayer changes the man and enables God to change things in answer to man’s prayer.”<sup>2</sup>

## **Opportunities for Prayer**

The Worship and Music Committee has posted the *2021 Three Days of Prayer Brochure* on the [St. Mark website](#) under *Prayer*. . **Continue to pray for the wisdom and discernment of the Church Council, the Church Doctors, and the congregation as they seek Your will and guidance for St. Mark’s fulfilling the Great Commission in your world.**

## **Weekly Prayer Meeting - pray and be blessed at home. Wednesday evenings 7:00pm via Zoom**

Contact Person: Pam Burke 224-430-6226

Linda Brissey: [chaseco@aol.com](mailto:chaseco@aol.com)

One can pray silently, out loud or in concert. We pray in unity of the Holy Spirit from the St. Mark’s Lutheran Church weekly prayer chain list, the *2021 Three Days of Prayer* brochure and lift concerns for our community, state, nation and worldwide.

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.” 1 John 5:14-15

Contact Barb Ewert, [b1182ray@aol.com](mailto:b1182ray@aol.com).

Tozer, A.W., Prayer, Communing with God in Everything – Collected Insights, compiled by W. L. Seaver, Moody Publisher, Chicago, 2016, pp. 101-102.

# Do You Know?

So how did you do on last month's 6 questions put out there by your Safety & Security Committee? Do you think you batted better than 500? Or did you not bat well enough to get out of the minor leagues? Here are the answers. Be an honest grader!!

- How many emergency exits are there in the sanctuary?

There are 5 emergency exits out of the sanctuary. As you sit looking at the altar, three of the exits are "behind" you and they lead out into the narthex and then out the north or south exit doors or through the old library. And two are in "front" of you, one near the organ and one near where the Christmas tree is placed during the Holidays.

- Where are the AEDs located in the Church Building and the Ed Center?

The AED in the church is on the wall opposite our church administrator Debbie's office and the one in the Ed Center is in the upstairs' main room to the right of the elevator door.

- How do you open the emergency exit window in the basement of the Ed Center?

(You may want to read the next question and answer first and then come back to this one!). It has two small "latches" at the top of its frame that need to be rotated before you can pull the window back and out. Once you have the window out of the way you can use the ladder in the window well to exit up and out of the building.

- There actually *IS* an emergency exit window in the basement of the Ed Center?

For those of you who don't get down to the basement of the Ed Center often (or have never been downstairs) – yes there is an emergency exit window in the classroom nearest the bathrooms. There is a sign in the ceiling labeling which room the emergency exit window is in. In case you don't know, it is the "Pre-K and Kindergarten" room. The window is directly in front of you as you enter the room.

- Besides helping to put out a fire, what is another good use of a fire extinguisher?

Sort of a trick question here but if you have ever been to an ALICE Training you might know what we were looking for here. (As a committee we would love to have you all see an ALICE presentation at church and we will be in discussion with your Church Council about this soon.)



Continued on Page 9



## Our Lives Have Changed and So Has Our Giving

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee which includes Laurie Kerns, Pete Bolender, and me, Carl Norlin. Thank you so much for signing up for online giving. *During the period of January 2020-June 2021, our members have increased the use of online giving by 80% with new users increasing 56%.* For those who have not had a chance to join online giving, please see the instructions below which outline where and how to begin. Let us continue to increase our participation in online giving. So, sign-up today!

Here's how you can continue your support to St. Mark:

- Go to the St. Mark website at [www.smlc.info](http://www.smlc.info).
- Go to [Giving](#) at the top of the page.
- Tithes & Offerings appear.
- You have three (3) options.
  - Click Here for – to be redirected to a secure website for online donations by credit card, debit card, or checking account information.
  - Click Here for – to download and print a form that can be returned to our office (to the attention of "Financial Secretary- Patrice Sutton") to be set up for automatic recurring withdrawals.
  - Click Here for – to be redirected to the GivePlus+ website which explains everything associated with the smartphone app. GivePlus+. Using this app, you can use your smartphone to make a one-time or recurring donation to St. Mark.

Thank you and stay safe and healthy.

God's blessings – The Stewardship Committee (Laurie Kerns, Carl Norlin and Pete Bolender)

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## 2nd & 3rd Grade Bible Sunday

Sunday, October 31, 2021 both 2nd and 3rd graders will be receiving their Bibles during the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service. During the Sunday school hour, students and families will meet in the back Sunday school room (in the main church building) for pastries, coffee, milk, and juice. Students will have a chance to explore their Bible and adults will have a chance to share their favorite verses. Questions? Contact Melissa Strand or Brooke Frusti at [stmarksunschool@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksunschool@gmail.com)

### Trunk or Treat Save the Date!



Trunk or Treat is back! Join us Sunday, October 24 1-3pm for a safe, family friendly Trick or Treating event. Congregational Life is looking for volunteers who would like to decorate their trunks and hand out candy. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Brooke Frusti at [brooke.frusti@gmail.com](mailto:brooke.frusti@gmail.com)

### Operation Christmas Child Packing Party!

Join us Sunday, November 14, 2021 12-2pm for our shoebox packing party! We will be packing shoeboxes full of various items that will be sent to children in other countries who, without these boxes, might not get anything for Christmas.

Donation collection will begin Monday, September 27. For information on what can be donated check

out <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/> or the table in the Narthex.



*Continued from page 8*

The answer we were looking for was, in case of an intruder in the church or Ed Center, you could use it to distract the intruder by setting it off, throwing it at him/her, or (as a very last resort) using it as a weapon by hitting the intruder with it.

- Where are the fire extinguishers in the Fellowship Hall? In the Sanctuary? The Narthex?

The Fellowship Hall: As you walk into the Fellowship Hall - as if you were leaving service and, on your way, to get a cup of coffee and a doughnut - there is a fire extinguisher to your immediate right in the corner. (We will talk about the kitchen area and fire safety in next month's VOICE.)

The Sanctuary: There are two fire extinguishers on the main floor – one each near the exit doors in the “front” of the sanctuary. There are two more near the top of the stairs on each side of the balcony and one more in the classroom that has access to the furnace/AC room.

The Narthex: There is one fire extinguisher near the exit doors on the north end, outside Pastor's office.

So .... 5 out of 6? 2 out of 6? Umm, I was never a good test taker? Whatever you scored, we as a committee hope you are now more aware of safety items in and around our church's facilities. Please be on the lookout for next month's questions and more updates from your Safety and Security Committee. If you have a question for us or a concern you would like to talk about with us, please do. You can find our names on the “Meet the Team” page of The Voice. Stay healthy and stay safe!!

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

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## ***Caring Casserole***

*Thank you, Caring Casserole, for providing such a wonderful meal for my family while I was going through chemotherapy! The meal was delicious and it was so nice to know that my family was being taken care of during such a difficult time. We truly appreciate your kindness!*

*Sincerely,*

*Julie Moreland*



## **President's Message** *Continued from page 1*

I'm thrilled to see two of our originally open positions filled by highly gifted members who have accepted their calls to serve as Elder and Trustee. I can't help but get excited about an upcoming year with another exceptional Council as God has put in place over these past years. It truly is a privilege to serve with these 8 other people because they're all there fulfilling a commitment that they want to fulfill. No one is there out of obligation or drudgery and that's what makes a Council effective in accomplishing what God wants for St. Mark. It can never be what we want for St. Mark, but only what God wants.

I'll continue on this line of thought with my excitement about our journey with ChurchDoctor. Kent Hunter founded ChurchDoctor Ministries some 40 years ago. Kent and Tracee Swank, the current leader of ChurchDoctor, will be returning to St. Mark on Sunday, October 10th to share the results of the surveys you participated in. Their recommendations for us will be based on both the survey results and the on-site interviews that many of you participated in. **Please, please be sure to attend the Oral Presentation that day, Sunday, October 10, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.** Our Congregational Life Committee will have tables and chairs set up in the Fellowship Hall for a pot-luck luncheon before the presentation that will directly follow the 10:30 worship service that day so please plan to worship, dine among the best fellowship ever and then hear the powerful recommendations for our future path. Will some be God-sized? Absolutely.

As I write that, I ask that you be in prayer for the coming 2 weeks, asking the Lord for open minds that leave any pre-conceived notions on Grand Avenue. As you drive into the parking lot, free up your mind of any topic you're hoping to hear recommendations about. You may not hear anything to attain a particular outcome that you're expecting because this isn't about one particular thing. It's about all of us as people *being* the church. It's easy to say the people are the church and not the building but when it comes down to who our unchurched neighbors see us as, they don't usually say St. Mark is all those amazing people who are an integral part of this community; they pretty much say St. Mark is that building at 1822 Grand Avenue.

The entire ChurchDoctor staff has been praying for our congregation consistently since they received our signed proposal last June. You have to know that their experience with thousands of surveys submitted by over a thousand churches over the years has given them a whole lot of wisdom but more importantly, they don't rely on that wisdom alone because every church is different. *The wisdom they consistently pray for and are guided by is for us, for God's plan for us.*

**CHURCHDOCTOR<sup>®</sup>  
MINISTRIES**

**Sunday, October 10th  
1:00 - 4:00 PM**

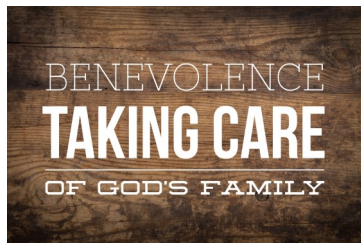
Lord, please open my mind to what You have for us to do as Your church to serve You as You always intended, to make disciples for Your Kingdom. Please help us put aside our expectations so we have open minds to hear, process what we hear as You would have us process, and let You work through us. *Your will be done.* Amen.

May God's grace abundantly fill our hearts and may we always show our love for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ,

Joni Wasmund  
Council President

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

October 2021



## Monthly Benevolence Highlights

### How St. Mark Missions Giving Touches the World

Bob Yarbrough

Thanks to St. Mark's (and God's) benevolence, Pastor Bill Shields and I were, over many years, able to help churches in Sudan provide (1) theological training and (2) hunger and medical relief for Christians who were impoverished and discriminated against by the Muslim majority.

We also provided sight to the blind! We carried corneas from the Illinois Eye Bank in Styrofoam coolers. A doctor from Wheaton would meet us there and performed dozens of cornea transplants. He also trained Sudanese doctors to perform the procedure.

We were able to help sponsor the conference expenses of Christian workers who by themselves could not afford to travel for a day or more, take part in a five or six day seminar, and then travel home.

More recently God opened doors for Pastor Bill and me to teach in Cape Town and Johannesburg, South Africa. We have visited there ten times. In just a few weeks, Pastor Bill and I will attend a conference there virtually. We will each give three or four talks. We hope to be there in person next year, once COVID concerns are less acute.

There is not enough space to detail here how the lives of thousands are being touched by the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God through the faithful giving of St. Mark. But perhaps these lines give a general idea.



**Service: 2:00pm  
October 31, 2021**

***On September 14th, the Council approved the following students for Confirmation at St. Mark on Reformation Sunday, October 31, 2021.***

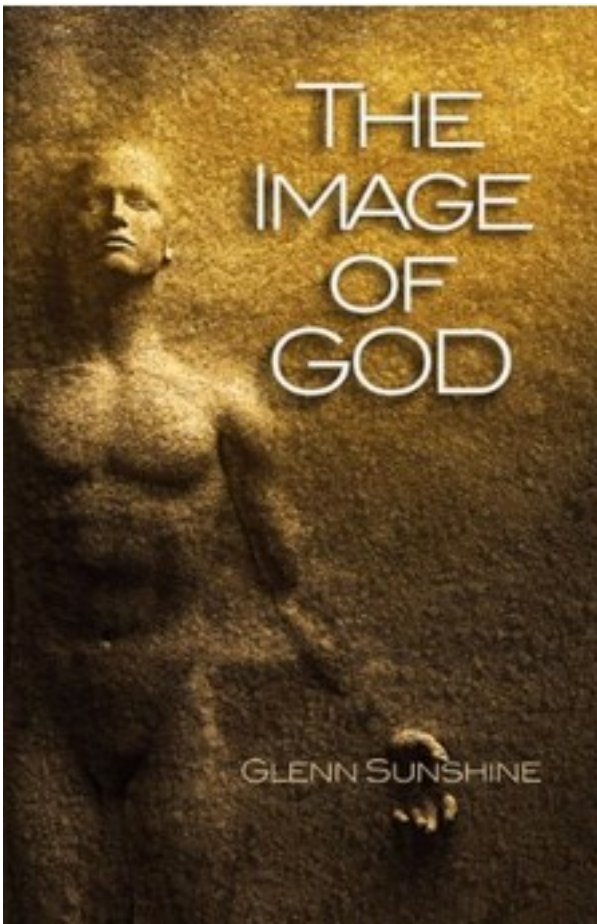
† Ayla Catherine Appelt  
† Megan Erin Deacetis  
† Avina Rose Doty  
† Alexander Patrick Filip  
† Sophia Eva Marie Frank  
† Olivia Hope Miller  
† Adam Robert Paxton

† Tyler Charles Rapin  
† Jacob Thomas Sanderson  
† Evan Michael Schmidt  
† Kaylie Ryan Schneider  
† Reilly James Shea  
† Matthew Cole Smith

***Serve The Lord With All Your Heart***

October 2021





## Update to Growing in Christ Studies

This fall we had planned to read Dr. Glenn Sunshine and Timothy D. Padgett, *The Image Restored, the Imago Dei and Creation, 2021*<sup>1</sup> and discussing what it means to be human. Due to the heavy demand, this newer edition will not be available until mid-October. So we are reading the 2013 edition, *The Image of God*. Dr. Sunshine looks at fourteen aspects of the image of God, what it has meant in history, and its implications for today.

The 2013 edition of the *Image of God* is available from Amazon either in paperback, \$9.99 or a Kindle format for \$4.99.

Each chapter relates to a particular facet of the image of God and therefore stands alone. So, if you want to either drop in or join us now, let me know and I can send you our Zoom link. Hope you can join us for an insightful discussion and prayer on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm.

If you either have questions or want to join the discussion, please contact Barb Ewert, [b1182ray@aol.com](mailto:b1182ray@aol.com).

<sup>1</sup>If you still want the new 2021 edition, *The Image Restored, the Imago Dei and Creation*, it is on backorder at Christian Books: Paperback \$8.00.

Glenn Sunshine is a Professor Emeritus of History at Central Connecticut State University and a Senior Faculty Member of the Colson Fellows. An award-winning author, Dr. Sunshine has published books, articles and book chapters on history, theology, and culture, online and on both sides of the Atlantic. He is also part of the *Theology Pugcast*, which brings a Christian theology perspective into our current culture. Found on Facebook, Spotify and Podcast.

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## ***PADS Update***



The upcoming PADS season is once again going to be very different. We do not yet have all the details, but here is what we know. Again most guests will be able to stay in hotels. There are guests who will need shelter at revolving sites. There will only be one site open each night. St. Mark will not be one of the revolving sites. The sites that are open, and the hotels, will need help with volunteers, food and supplies. St. Mark will be helping in these areas as we still want to be a part of this very important outreach. We do not have all the details yet, but as soon as we do we will be letting anyone who would like to help know what is needed. Jill Decker 847-445-7502 will be coordinating volunteers to work at the sites and Laurie Kerns 847-612-1510 will coordinate the food and supplies. More info coming soon.

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October 2021





# Open Arms Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Open Arms pantry by filling the **Yellow Food Barrels**, and through monetary donations!

Your support of this program is much needed and very much appreciated!  
Please keep the donations coming!

October collection items are: Toilet Paper & Adult Tooth Brushes

Please consider donating at:

<https://www.openarmsmission.org/the-difference-you-can-make>



## Prayer Warrior: The Power of Praying Your Way to Victory

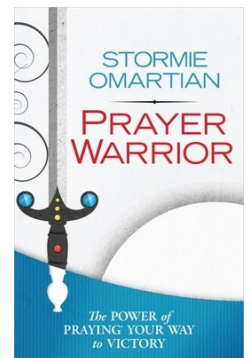
During these days of uncertainty and unrest, prayer is one of our most effective weapons against the forces of evil. Stormie Omartian's book *Prayer Warrior: The Power of Praying Your Way to Victory* gives us a practical guide for praying during difficult times.

No one can sit on the sidelines today when it comes to spiritual matters. A war is going on between good and evil, and every believer is involved. For every Christian who wants a meaningful prayer life that is more than just asking for blessings, bestselling author Stormie Omartian shows how to pray with strength and purpose—prayers resulting in great victory, not only personally but also in advancing God's kingdom and glory.

Readers will find help and encouragement in 12 practical and significant chapters that address;

- knowing your Commander and standing on His side
- being certain of your authority in prayer
- becoming skilled with your spiritual weapons
- following God's orders to resist the enemy
- seeing what's happening from God's perspective

Stormie also provides many powerful prayers on numerous subjects that concern people today. For anyone eager to answer the call of God on his or her life to pray while responding to the desire of his or her heart to see people and situations change, *Prayer Warrior* is a must-read. You can find this book under call number 248.3 OMA.



## Donut Pick Up

If you could leave a few minutes early on a Sunday before the 8:00AM Service or before Sunday School and pick up the donuts at Mariano's in Gurnee we could use the hand. The donuts are prepaid. We just need to have them in church before 9:00AM. They are ready for pickup by 7:00AM. See Gae Michal to volunteer.

THANK YOU!!!



## Coffee Servers Needed

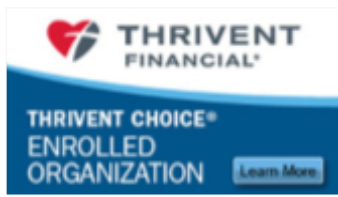
Please consider volunteering once a month to prepare the coffee for fellowship hour after the 8:00AM Service on Sundays. Training is provided.

See Gae Michal with any questions.

BLESS YOU!!!

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

October 2021



## Thriving Minds Want to Know...

### Be Wise with Money



**October 12, 2021 at 12:00PM / October 14, 2021 at 6:00PM**

**Invest In What Matters: Faith, Family, Financial Clarity:** If we are not intentional, we tend to spend money on things that don't build joy or a legacy beyond money. Cory Carlson will share a framework to help you live life to the fullest, and invest in what really matters to you and those you impact. As an entrepreneur, former executive, husband, and father of three, Cory Carlson understands the pressures working parents face. He is passionate about helping business leaders win at home and work. No products will be sold. For additional information, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://Thrivent.com/social).



**October 19, 2021 at 1:00PM**

**Savvy Tax Strategies with Mike Fuehrmeyer, Financial Consultant with Thrivent:** Want to understand how taxes might affect your retirement? This webinar provides a fundamental overview of the topic, including: 1. The critical tax question you must answer before retirement. 2. The Social Security "tax trap", and ways to avoid it. 3. Mistakes to avoid when it comes to your investment portfolio, health care, and estate. *No products will be sold. For additional information, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://Thrivent.com/social).*



**October 27, 2021 at 12:00PM and 7:00PM**

**Economic Update** What shapes your fiscal strategy? See how the latest economic data can help you make wise money decisions. Attend the Economic Update online webinar to learn how stocks, bonds and interest rates performed over the past three months, and get Thrivent's perspective on the economy, the recently enacted SECURE Act and how they could affect your financial strategy. *No products will be sold. For additional information, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://Thrivent.com/social).*



## We Always Have Room for One More Man

(Ages 15+)

Every **2nd** Saturday of the Month.

**Next Meeting:** October 11th / 7am Donuts & Coffee, 8am Training, 9:30am Adjourn

"It's time to win the battle of your mind. Are you ready?"

We kick off a new study this month using author and pastor Louie Giglio's book ***Don't Give the Enemy A Seat at Your Table***. Get added to the HIS Ministry email list to stay connected to this ministry to men by texting/calling Jerry Doran at 847-271-8632 or send contact information to [Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com](mailto:Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com). Updates are also provided in email.



Order your copy in advance or pick up a complimentary copy at our next meeting.

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

October 2021

# Compassion International

## Volunteers Needed



St. Mark supports two children through Compassion International - Wesley (boy age 17) in Brazil and Ruma (girl age 13) in Bangladesh. We need two persons or groups committed to do the letter writing (every 4 to 8 weeks) and to pray (daily) for the child. St. Mark pays the monthly fee; (You) the sponsor does the letter writing and praying. There is no age requirement for letter writing!

Compassion International gives us a chance to change the future of children very far away. Jesus is the core of the ministry. The children and their family learn health care, hygiene, as well as other learning opportunities - most important they learn to develop a relationship with Christ.

Kathy Shelly and I have been the sponsors for these two children and we are retiring. If you are interested, or want more information, please contact Lynn J. at [rcjlmj@comcast.net](mailto:rcjlmj@comcast.net).



**THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH!**

**Now Serving Breakfast!**

**DRIVE THRU** Anytime that day! Be sure to bring your coupon! (paper or electronic)

**Show your support for  
St. Mark Lutheran Church**

Stop into Wendy's® Lindenhurst anytime on the Third Thursday of each month and **30%** of qualifying sales will be donated to **St. Mark Lutheran Church**

**DATE: Every Third Thursday**  
10/21/21, 11/18/21, 12/16/21

**TIME: All Day (Breakfast until Close)**

**LOCATION: 370 S US Highway 45, Lindenhurst**

**Present this flyer when ordering.!**

Paper flyer or electronic image of flyer (on a phone/tablet) is required when order is placed. Only valid on date at location specified above. Wendy's gift cards and other retail purchases are excluded from the event. Drive-thru, carry-out (place inside the dining room at the counter) and dine-in orders when and where available qualify. Owned and operated by **HAMRA** Enterprises, a Wendy's franchisee [www.hamrafundraising.com](http://www.hamrafundraising.com).



**Second Tuesday Each Month**

**CARRY OUT Available!** Be sure to bring your coupon!

Present this certificate at the time of payment and **15%** of your order, excluding tax and tip, will be donated to **St. Mark Lutheran Church**.  
*Certificate must be presented at time of payment.* Not to be used with any other coupons or discounts.

Share with your friends and family.

**LINDENHURST LOCATION ONLY**

224-444-8657

Visit [www.antiochpizzashop.com](http://www.antiochpizzashop.com) for full menu.

Valid the **Second Tuesday** of every Month

**Antioch Pizza ■ 224-444-8657**  
1856 E. Grand Ave., Lindenhurst

**DATES: Second Tuesdays**  
10/12/21, 11/9/21, 12/14/21

**Serve The Lord With All Your Heart**

October 2021

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Stephen Ministry

## THE VOICE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
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🖱 [www.smlc.info](http://www.smlc.info)  
✉ [smlc@smlc.info](mailto:smlc@smlc.info)

Service Times  
Saturday | 5:30PM  
*Traditional*  
Sunday | 8:00AM  
*Traditional*  
Sunday | 10:30AM  
*Contemporary*

★ TO RECEIVE  
THE VOICE ONLINE,  
EMAIL [DEB@SMLC.INFO](mailto:DEB@SMLC.INFO)

**NEXT VOICE DEADLINE:**  
**October 15, 2021**

***Serve The Lord With All Your Heart***  
October 2021