

February 2022

President's Notes

By Joni Wasmund



Here we are, blessed with a new year by the grace of our Lord Who faithfully guides us day by day to be the people He created us to be. It's already February but in the absence of an earlier opportunity, I'm wishing a happy 2022 to you and to your families. May God continue to pour out His abundant provisions and protection to us and may we give Him the glory He so rightly is worthy of, the best of ourselves in His image.

You heard a lot the past 3 months about spiritual gifts because the Bible instructs us as the Church to know what our spiritual gifts are so we can best serve God with them. Serving God is always fulfilling to our souls when we're serving out of love for Him and not just because no one else has stepped up (that's what causes burnout) but serving Him in the capacity He created us for, now THAT'S where the real joy comes. Oftentimes college students declare a major and graduate only to find themselves in an unfulfilling job because they declared that major without really knowing themselves, or perhaps they chose a profession with potentially high income levels or were talked into a major by someone else. Then they're miserable in that profession because it's not who they are. When we know ourselves with the spiritual gifts God created us uniquely to have, we have a passion for serving Him that can't be stopped. He fills us with them supernaturally. The results of my spiritual gift profile actually changed since the last time we took these tests because the Lord has moved me into a different place in my life. Don't assume yours hasn't changed – knowing where God would have you jump in and participate may come as a surprise.

No one should ever feel like they want to be part of the life of the church but they don't know how to get involved. This is one of the key initiatives in our Movement for Improvement because we know there are some who don't know how they can be used by God in our congregation. If you haven't completed your Spiritual Gift Profile yet, we invite you to pick one up from the church office or ask any Council member for one, and find out which gift(s) God has uniquely placed in you. You might think you know because of your ability to accomplish certain things but those things might be talents and not necessarily your supernatural gift. These profiles will be a constant in the life of St Mark as our church family grows.

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CHURCH EVENTS

www.smlc.info/events

Complete Details Inside or

Find Us Online@

www.smlc.info

ARTICLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the February edition of *The Voice* is **February 15th**. Please Email articles to: stmarkcommunications@gmail.com & deb@smlc.info

What is a Church Member?
Read a preview of this
important book on page 3.



*Ash Wednesday
Service
March 2, 2022*

Church Doctor Task
Force Update.
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Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022



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joni1812@sbcglobal.net | 847-404-9185

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Josiah Frusti | Josiah@smlc.info

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Deb Zuchowski | Deb@smlc.info

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Rhonda Doran | Rhonda@smlc.info

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC COORDINATOR

Brock Zwicke | Brock.smlc@gmail.com

ORGANIST/TRADITIONAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Open Position

NURSERY COORDINATOR

Deb Heide | heidedeborah@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Kim Mohr | kimmohr.smlc@gmail.com

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Jim Schaufel | James.schaufel@yahoo.com

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 8th @ 7:00PM
Next Committee Meetings: Tuesday, February 24th @ 8:00PM

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022

From the Desk of Pastor Breum

Honoring the Lindenhurst Police Department February 20, 2022

On Sunday February 20th, between worship services, St. Mark's men's group, H.I.S, will host coffee, cake and cops. Our local police department, headed by St. Mark's member, Chief Tom Jones, has agreed to stop by and visit us during the fellowship hour. Nationwide our police have not been treated all that well. As a church and the community of Lindenhurst we want to take the time to personally thank the officers for the great work they do week in, week out, and all year round. We are so fortunate to have such gifted officers who put their lives at risk every day keeping us safe. They have seen and experienced on the job things you and I will never see and thank the Lord we will not.

Chief Tom Jones and his family have been members of St. Mark for years. The department is always willing to help us out in a moment's notice. One phone call and they are here. Sunday the 20th will be our opportunity to give something back to them. A word of support and encouragement can go a long way. Please participate with us for this event.

God Bless,
Pastor Breum

WHAT IS A CHURCH MEMBER

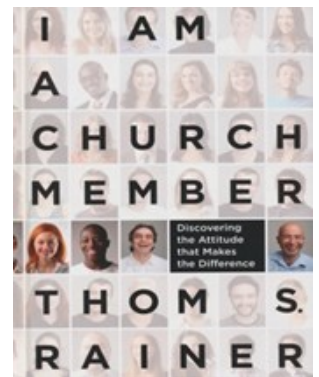
If you haven't yet picked up your copy of WHAT IS A CHURCH MEMBER, please stop by the church office or ask any Council member for a copy (one per family please).

As a little peek for those who haven't read the book yet, each of the next 6 issues of the Voice will highlight what each chapter is about, starting with this issue and Chapter 1: I Will Be a Functioning Church Member.

- Membership means everything we say and do is based on a Biblical foundation of love.

1 Corinthians 13, commonly known as "the love chapter" is often read at weddings but did you know Paul originally wrote it for the church at Corinth to demonstrate how church members are to relate to each other? The principals of just 2 verses, 4 & 5 alone, are sufficient to cause a revival in most churches!

- Each body part of a human being is supposed to function and we who are church members are all supposed to function in the church. Such is the reason we are exhorted to know our gifts and abilities so we can use them best to serve the church for the glory of God. The question to ask in prayer to God is "How can I best serve my church?" Never ask yourself if you *should* be serving your church. We have a lot of people who would love to disciple you in any role you'd like to try out. If it doesn't work out as you thought, you can try something else!



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022



MISSOURI MUSINGS

BY BOB YARBROUGH

Jesus and Human Anger

When do you get mad?

Is it in bad traffic? Is it when you watch CNN news? Or Fox news? Is it when you find long lines at the grocery store checkout? Is it when the internet is running slow? Is it when your children (or grandchildren) are late getting out of bed to get ready for school (or church)? Is it when your parents limit your online time? Is it when the pastor's sermon is too long?

Let's be honest: most of us struggle with controlling our anger. But here's some good news: the Bible offers wisdom that can help us get the upper hand over inner rage.

Let's start with Jesus. His life is an example of staying cool when provoked. For example, he was criticized for healing on the Sabbath. He asked his adversaries: "Are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath?" (John 7:23 NASB). Yes, they were very angry. Jesus did not retaliate with rage but appealed to people to see how their anger pointed to their hard hearts. Which probably increased their ire, proving Jesus' point.

It is stunning that on the cross, while soldiers callously cast lots, "dividing up His garments among themselves," Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

"But that was Jesus," you might reply. "He was the Son of God. We're just sinful humans. 'To err is human.' Anger is just one of those unavoidable ways we err."

Not so fast! Do you *trust* in Christ? Do you have a personal relationship with the living God because of the Lord Jesus who died and rose for you? Is the Spirit of God therefore alive in you, like the Bible teaches?

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you (Romans 8:11 ESV).

Notice the underlined words. What do they mean? They mean that though our bodies are "mortal," subject to sin and death, God "will . . . life to" them, just like he gave life to Jesus' dead body when he raised Christ from the grave.

Let's apply this to our anger. The power of Jesus' resurrection in us is stronger than the power of any sin. There is no excuse, ever, for sin, including the sin of anger. Yes, God can forgive anger. But no, that doesn't make anger OK. "A man of great anger shall bear the penalty" (Prov. 19:19 NASB).

People of anger either don't know the risen Jesus as their Lord, or they prefer rage to righteousness.

"But," someone says, "doesn't everybody get mad? What's so wrong with it?"

This brings us back to Jesus, who said:

"But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever shall say, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell" (Matt. 5:22 NASB).

We understand why rage is all the rage these days--there's a lot that we don't like, that we can't control, and that won't change.

But the resurrected Lord Jesus dwells in our hearts and in our church communion--"the communion of saints," as the creed says. So we embrace the wisdom of the Scripture that says:

He who is slow to anger has great understanding,

But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly (Prov. 14:29).

So let us pray. "Lord, forgive me when anger overruns my faith in you. You are the Judge of others, not me. Shrink my rage and expand my patience, understanding, and joy in fellowship with you. Christ died for my sins and rose!--this is a feast of inner peace far richer than the bile of temper and disgust. Rescue me from my self-important agitation. Help me rest in your control of the troubling world around me. Help me rest in Christ. Amen."

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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St. Mark Council News

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

Council Highlights December 2021 and January 2022

A \$10,000 Veteran's Memorial donation approved during the November Council meeting was presented to Paul Baumunk. The engraved verbiage on the St. Mark plaque will include John 15:13, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.", underneath an engraved cross.

A motion carried to donate \$2,000 to Samaritan's Purse, funded by Council's discretionary fund/benevolence, to help victims of the December tornados in Kentucky.

Action planning began for 25 ChurchDoctor recommendations assigned to Council.

Final preparations for the Spiritual Gifts workshop on January 22nd were confirmed for 40+ participants.

Debbie Plishka was elected Vice President of the Council and Kim Mohr was approved as the St. Mark Financial Secretary. All 2022 committee members and Council liaisons were approved.

The need for full engagement in the oversight of Cub Scout Pack management and the inherent liabilities when St Mark holds a BSA Charter led to significant research, gaining of expertise to ensure full understanding, open discussion and much prayer. Motion to decline Pack 84 reCharter for 2022 carried with 7 in favor and 2 abstentions. Property of the Pack (raised funds, props, e.g.) were released to the Pack by formal documentation. Follow up immediately began with intent to offer use of our facilities with a Building Use Agreement without owning the Charter upon receiving validation of that option from NEIC (BSA Northeast IL Council).



Dear Pastor Breum, St. Mark Lutheran Church & Council,

Thank you for hosting my ordination service. It will be a moment that Jamie and I will cherish for many years to come as

we follow God's call to ministry in our lives. I appreciate the gift of using the fellowship hall for a meal following the service. It was a blessing to see everyone who was able to attend! And the stole is wonderful! I'll be happy to wear it on the appropriate church holidays. Please remember us in your prayers as we thank God for you.

Every Blessing in the Lord,

Pastor Dan & Jamie Doran



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022



St. Mark's January Three Days of Prayer and Follow up during 2022

We praise God and thank our Father for providing the **Lutheran Church for Missions in Christ** with the spiritual vision for 2022 *The Three Days of Prayer*.

We thank all the members who prayed for St. Mark Church, our children, youth, fellow members, communities, volunteer organizations, elected local, state and national officials, in addition to those listed in our brochure.

For the rest of 2022 please utilize our St. Mark Church 2022 Prayer Guides and 2022 Brochure for prayers for our Pastor, Council, committees, Sunday School, youth, families and volunteers. They are posted on our website at smlc.info.

We pray that each member will:

- Glorify our Lord by:
 - making God the number one priority and seeking His will daily, listening to His voice and obeying His guidance in service to others;
 - growing in the faith through worship, Bible study, and prayer; and,
 - developing a personal relationship by seeking to *know* Christ, not just to *know about* Him.
- Petition the Holy Spirit to:
 - make us aware of our sins and confess them daily;
 - protect us from all evil and the world's distractions and distortions of the Truth;
 - help us seek God's call upon our lives and trust him to help perform our life mission;
 - sustain and grow St. Mark Lutheran Church as a "house of prayer" through all adult's, youth's, children's and seekers' participation in the discipline of prayer;
 - minister to Pastor, staff, leadership, committees and Council;
 - minister to the St. Mark Prayer Chain members and Wednesday evening prayer meetings at 7:00pm currently on Zoom. (New participants always welcome to both prayer ministries.); and,
 - pour out His Spirit on us and bring revival to us, our neighbors, our state and our nation.

These petitions we ask of you Lord, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE COMING OF CHRIST AND MY FUTURE WITH HIM

Your kingdom come, Your will be done. (Matthew 6:10) You have said, "I am coming quickly."

Amen, Come, Lord Jesus. (Revelation 22:20) I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to me. (Romans 8:18) ¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

¹⁷ For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Student Ministry

February 2022

FOR REAL

2022 Family Mission Trip

Last Summer we focused on Loving our Neighbors in how we serve and in how we express the love of Christ. This Summer we dive deeper into that love as we seek to -

LOVE AUTHENTICALLY.

It is easy to say we love someone, but words not followed up by action bear no weight. The same goes for our faith the Bible says, faith without action is dead.

This July you have the opportunity to express that you love your neighbor, authentically. We go to serve the people of Alamosa, CO not because it's a fun trip, not because our friends or family are going, but because of the authentic love Christ shows us every day.

This is our response to who Jesus is and what he has done for us. Let your love be as real as the nails that held Jesus to the cross.

"This love gives us meaning and calls us into a life of service." - YouthWorks 2022

Trip Dates: July 23rd-30th
Cost: \$150 per person
Contact: josiah@smlc.info



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Feb. 6th

Ice Skating 2:00-4:00 PM



Feb. 13th

"Love Your Neighbor" Service Night
6:00-8:00 PM



Feb. 20th

Youth Group 6:00-8:00 PM



Feb. 25th-27th

Quake Weekend





Welcome to February Pull Your Sofa Off the Wall Month



We could have picked Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month, Humpback Whale Awareness Month, or National Laugh-Friendly Month but we thought this was the best! Now that we have your attention, the Church Doctor Task Force - Pam Burke, Jerry Gass, Kristi Knull, Mike Mol, and Pam Preston, would like to inform you about where we are.

During the month of December we met with our church president, 11 different committees, and 29 people, to distribute the Church Doctor recommendations. After these meetings, we asked these people to plan out - kind of like a recipe - what they thought should be done to meet the recommendation. During January, we hope and pray these committees and/or individuals thought, prayed, talked about and planned their response to the Church Doctor's recommendations. On January 21st, the committee met with Tracee Swank, leader of Church Doctor's Ministries, to get her expert advice and help on where we are in the process. On the 22nd, members of the congregation met with her to learn about how to use their spiritual gifts to help St. Mark grow into the church God wants us to be.

What we are asking you to do now (if you haven't done so already):

- Pray for the people who received the recommendations to give them strength, wisdom, and peace knowing they are doing God's work;
- Read the book "I Am A Church Member";
- Take the spiritual gifts test and turn in your card ASAP;
- Get a copy of, and look at, the recommendations to see if any of them jump out at you as something you could help with and, if so, contact one of the task force teammates, (you can either download the recommendations [here](#) or get a hard copy of the recommendations from Joni Wasmund or Deb Zuchowski); and,
- Pray so you would be open for that phone call, text, email, or tap on the shoulder asking you to help with the future of St. Mark.

We would like to leave you with two things. First, from Pastor Breum's 6th point in his Christmas Eve sermon - "God has put us on this earth to serve Him". And second, a reading from John 12:26 - "Whoever serves me must follow; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me."

Thank you for your time, please continue to pray for this church and its future, and have a happy, safe, and healthy celebration of Chocolate Month!



It is with heartfelt sincerity that I thank the many members of St. Mark who prayed for me and sent me inspirational cards during my recent illness. Your prayers were answered as I'm now home recovering before another surgery. I look forward to returning to St. Mark to personally thank you for your kindness. May God continue to bless you!

Cliff Ewert



The date and time for the Confirmation of the 2021-2022 Confirmands has been changed to Sunday, April 24th at the 10:30 service. Please pray for our confirmands as they dedicate their lives to Christ!



Soup suppers are back! Join us at 5:30pm for dinner before the 7pm services on Wednesday, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6th. If you would like to bring soup or dessert a sign up sheet will be available soon in the Narthex.



To my St. Mark Family: thank you so much for your prayers, cards, and encouragement when m mom passed away in December. Your prayers, loving words and hugs gave my family and me so much comfort at a time when we needed it. You all have been our angels during a difficult time. Thank you!
Connie Saunders



On December 19, 2021, St. Mark welcomed its newest members to the Congregation. We give our warmest welcome to:

Nathan & Kristena Brock and their daughter Zoey

Paul & Stephanie Flores and their daughters Mia, Desiree and Jayla

Alexandra Wetterberg & Jerome Shim

Kurt & Candice Ulbricht



St. Mark is looking for musicians. Rockers, youth, traditional, beginner, and so on. All musicians are welcome! No experience is required. We have an amazing community of teachers who are happy to help you!

Interested? Email our Contemporary Worship Coordinator, Brock Zwicke at Brock.smlc@gmail.com.



Thank you for the wonderful donations to the Mitten Tree this year. We were able to collect 21 scarfs, 46 pairs of mittens/gloves, 11 sets, 80 hats, 5 headbands and 1 afghan. They were all donated to One Hope United in Lake Villa. Your generosity will not be forgotten by them.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022

President's Message *Continued from page 1*

The Spiritual Gifts workshop that took place on Saturday, January 22nd was excellent! It was recorded and we have the PowerPoint presentation so we'll be able to offer another workshop in the future for those who couldn't attend. We had 40 of our church family in attendance and it was a most wonderful way to spend a cold Saturday in January. Thank you, Lord, for Your guiding hand on your church.

We constantly pray for your continued support and commitment to our Movement for Improvement journey. Our ChurchDoctor partners are fully committed to guiding us through the coming years as we continue to develop ideas and plans to ensure St. Mark's viability. This issue of the Voice includes a profile (**see pages 15-19**) that shares the beliefs and processes of the ministry that were the reason behind our choice of [ChurchDoctor](#) to guide our future steps. The whole reason we started this process last summer was so the community will continue to have this loving, caring, Holy Spirit filled place that we've all called our church home for worshipping together as the Body of Christ for decades after we're all home with the Lord. We know the world around us is going to get darker before Christ returns and we need to leave St. Mark as the life preserver for those who will remain faithful.

On another note, if you haven't had a chance to pick up a copy of I AM A CHURCH MEMBER, please ask Deb Z or a Council member for a copy. The content is easy reading but don't miss the powerful insights. Just like reading the Bible, reading one chapter at a time and really thinking about the content is usually more impactful than reading too much at once. This month's Voice includes a sneak peek (page 3) at Chapter 1 for those who haven't had the opportunity to read the book yet and over the next 5 months, we'll continue to peek at chapters 2-6.

May God continue to watch over us, provide for us, guide us, lead us and fill our hearts and souls and minds with abundant love for Him and for each other.

Joni Wasmund
Council President

thrivent
Connecting faith and finances for good.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®
Thrivent Financial members that have Choice Dollars® have until Wednesday, March 31 to direct them

Direct your
Thrivent Choice
Dollars
Today!



Thriving Minds Want to Know...

Be Wise With Money

Year End Reminders for Thrivent Members

You have until March 31st to direct your 2021 **Thrivent Choice Dollars®**. To learn more about these programs visit: <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/>, reach out to Jerry.Doran@Thrivent.com, or text 224-252-8265.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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Open Arms Food Pantry Neighbors Helping Neighbors

St. Mark has been supporting OAM for several years (both monetarily and with volunteers) – For each \$1 donated, OAM can buy approximately 8 pounds of food from the Northern Illinois food bank (Donations can be made on the website: [openarmsmission.org](https://www.openarmsmission.org) or if you wish you can help fill our “yellow barrels” in the narthex with non-perishable food). The February request is for **shampoo/dish soap/**

hot chocolate.

When things get back to “normal” we will provide volunteers on the 3rd Wednesday evening of each month from 4:00 to 6:30 pm.

If you have any questions or wish to inquire about volunteer opportunities please contact Ron Placko @ 847.404.3304 or email rdplacko@comcast.net.

Please consider donating at:

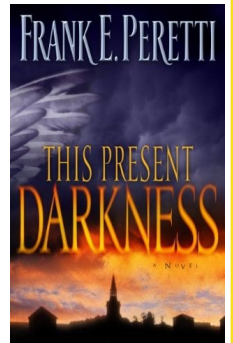
<https://www.openarmsmission.org/the-difference-you-can-make>

Thank you again for your generous support!



This Present Darkness

This month's book selection is a novel by author Frank Peretti. It is a thriller that penetrates to the very heart of a vast struggle that threatens to tear our society apart. Successful news anchorman John Barrett is caught in a suspenseful moral and spiritual battle over the importance of Truth. Using all the elements of edge-of-your-seat fiction, master storyteller Frank Peretti weaves a prophetic tale of our times. You can find this book under call number FIC PER.



SMLC Business Directory



Please Text/Call Jerry Doran at 847-271-8632 if you would like a copy of our SMLC Business Directory or if you would like to be included. We are hoping to have a variety of businesses listed (i.e., Babysitters, Leaf-Rakers, House-Watchers, Electricians, Snow blowers, Dog-Walkers, Window Cleaners, House Cleaners, Plumbers, Cake Makers, Iron Workers, Vacuum-Operators, CPAs, Cooks, Carpenters, Financial Advisors, etc.).



Winter may be here, but we are planning ahead for our very important Summer outreach program, Vacation Bible School, running June 20-24, 2022. We are in need of a Co-Director and a Registrar. These chances to serve are very important and help to benefit many children in our community. Please **prayerfully** consider these opportunities and contact Beth Miller stmarkvbsfun@gmail.com, Lori McKenzie lorimckenzie119@gmail.com or Jane Milani Lvmom76@att.net.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

February 2022

Support St. Mark AND Local Businesses



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 for full menu.

Valid the **Second Tuesday** of every Month

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

DATES: Second Tuesdays
2/8/22, 3/8/22, 4/12/22



Wendy's

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
2/17/22, 3/17/22, 4/21/22

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.



We Always Have Room for One More Man

(Ages 15+)

Every 2nd Saturday of the Month.

Next Meeting: February 12th / 7am Food & Fellowship, 8am Training, 9:30am Adjourn

"It's time to win the battle of your mind. Are you ready?" We are using author and pastor Louie Giglio's book **Don't Give the Enemy A Seat at Your Table**. Order your copy or pick up a complimentary copy at our next meeting. **Join Any Time You Can.**



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. Updates are also provided in email.



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

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Hello from your Safety and Security Committee!!

First - since winter weather in January hit us with snow on one weekend and ice on another, we would like to remind all of you AGAIN to be extra careful in the parking lots and on the sidewalks.



St. Mark does have a service for getting rid of the snow but, as we all know, shoveled parking lots and sidewalks can still be pretty slippery. Please take care when getting in and out of your car – that first step out of, or last step into, your car may get you a bit off balance. Also if you see somebody a little unsteady on their feet, please lend them some help and your elbow to lean on!!



Second – unfortunately Covid-19 is still with us, and we ask all of you to protect yourself as best you see fit. Please be mindful and respectful of people's choices, keep social distancing as best you can, cover your nose and mouth or mask when coughing or sneezing, and continue to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer. And since we do stream both Sunday morning services on-line, if you feel sick or have any Covid-19 symptoms, please stay home and take care of yourself.

As always, if you would like to bring something to our committee's attention, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us – Judy Dunfrund, Al Maciareillo, Mike Mol, or (our newest member) Deb Zuchowski. We hope 2022 has been good to you so far and pray that it will continue to get better!

Do you like ice cream? Do you enjoy laughter? Can you read? Is Administration one of your Spiritual Gifts?



If you answered YES to all of these questions you are qualified! The Finance Committee, otherwise known to Council as the FUNance Committee, is looking for teammates. It is very easy as the only requirement/responsibility is that you attend our committee meetings once a month and our Audit once a year. No accounting or bookkeeping experience is needed, just a heart willing to serve. We will teach you the rest!

If you would like more information, please contact Pam Preston nicowoof@att.net, Jill Winling sgtwinling@aol.com, or Lynn Wetterberg attachlynn@aol.com.

We truly do have fun and would love to have one or two more to join in the frivolity!



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 Jewel/Osco in Round Lake Beach, we could use the hand. The donuts are prepaid. We just need to have them at church before 9:00AM. They are ready for pickup by 7:00AM. See Gae Michal to volunteer.

THANK YOU!!!

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CHURCH DOCTOR[®] MINISTRIES

**Your ministry partner to:
make disciples,
& resource leaders,
equip Christians**

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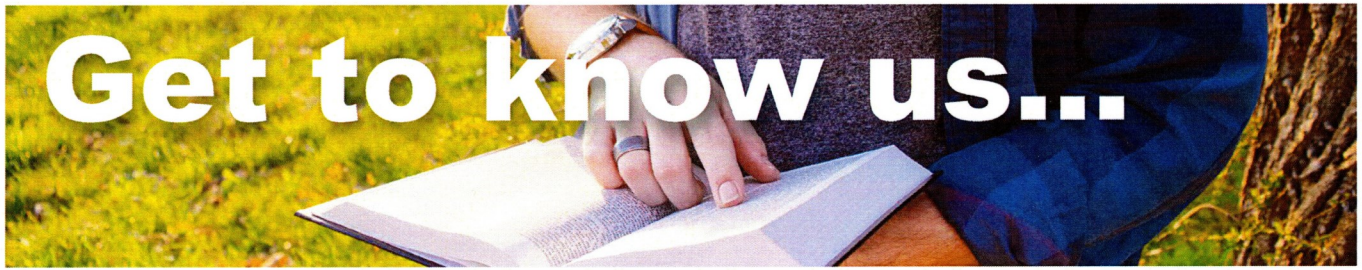


As a nonprofit Christian ministry, we offer proven strategies to help Christians, pastors, and ministry leaders become more effective at their mission: the Great Commission.

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Values

- God deserves our very best.
- Precision is of the essence.
- Servanthood is our posture.
- Treating the causative issue, not the symptom, is the best stewardship of time.
- We guard the stewardship of time, money, and human resources with accountability to God, recognizing faithfulness in small things permits faithfulness in large things.
- Out of respect for other workers and best stewardship (even for those who follow us), we go beyond “doing the work” toward “building the ministry” — by developing systems, procedures, and repeated patterns of productivity.
- Our work ethic is based on a strong commitment to be most productive for God’s work of world evangelization.
- We remain flexible to the changing needs of our client churches and Christians, yet focused on our purpose (I Cor. 9:22).
- We remain open to change and innovation.
- We conduct ourselves in a manner above reproach.
- We will deal with conflict and communicate with each other according to the direction of Matthew 18.

Beliefs

- There are already enough Christians in the world to win the world.
- Christians and churches need to be educated, motivated, and encouraged to fulfill the Great Commission.
- The primary purpose of the church is to fulfill the Great Commission.
- God wants the lost to be found and brought into the church.
- Lost people matter to God.
- Grace-centered mission requires indigenous, culture-sensitive strategies and methods.
- People are saved by grace alone.
- Only Jesus Christ builds the church.
- God uses people to reach people with the Gospel, which is the power of salvation.
- The growth of the church includes growing up, together, out, and more.
- God gives each person different spiritual gifts to be used for the building up of the body.
- Great people, ministries, and churches do very few things very well.
- Our goal is to be used by God to contribute to a move of God, beginning with renewal in the churches and leading to revival in the world.

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Frequently Asked Questions

“The Church Doctor Experience”

Q: Is Church Doctor a ministry or a business?

A: When Church Doctor Ministries partners to serve you or your church, the relationship reflects the love and honor we have for the Body of Christ. It is an expression of our passion for the Great Commission. Our servant role to you demonstrates our conviction that every local church—and your church—is the hope of the world. The culture of Church Doctor Ministries is a calling to ministry for every person on our team and on our Board of Directors. Our team prays and operates a national network of prayer partners. We pray for God’s will for every church we serve.

The name “Church Doctor” describes our personal approach to the uniqueness and complexity of every church as a living organism – just as a medical doctor approaches the human body with respect and integrity, including sensitivity to the uniqueness of each Body of Christ, every congregation.

Q: We’ve tried many programs with almost no long-lasting results. How is this different?

A: Our commitment is not a quick fix of programmatic symptoms but a comprehensive thoroughness treating causative issues behind the issues. We know of no ministry as thorough and exhaustive toward multiplying hope through a healthy church. We at Church Doctor Ministries approach your church from the perspective of John 5:19, “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.” This is where Jesus provided His disciples with His approach to ministry. Essentially, this motivates us to avoid the “quick fix” and to approach your church sensitively: to see where God is blessing and build on that, to join God where He is moving. Our work with the Christian movement on six continents for four decades provides a deep well of experience as “God watchers.” This experience intersects with the unique personality of your church.

Q: What is your ultimate goal? Why do you do this?

A: Our relationship with your congregation includes follow-up and follow-through, as we guide you to write action plans. Our support by phone and e-mail is available at no further cost because our objective, like yours (and God’s), is results. This maximizes the stewardship of our partnership to increase the effectiveness of your church. We believe God’s Kingdom work deserves no less. Our objective is Jesus’ objective: that His followers, connected to Jesus the vine, will produce eternal fruit by joining the Lord of the Harvest in the most important movement in the world. We pray for healthy churches that thrive.

Our approach to your church is designed as a process. God uses this as a catalyst for encouragement. It energizes your church members in every area of congregational life. Measurable results in several categories of spiritual health and vitality are evident within months of helping your church.

The long-term friendships and ongoing relationships we have developed are a gratifying and joyful blessing we receive by working with churches like yours. The growth of God’s Kingdom, through a more effective church: This is the extraordinary honor and blessing we share with those we serve. Many churches use our services more than once. We believe, more than anything else, God’s hand is upon our ministry.

***Call the
Church Doctors:
1.800.626.8515***

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Church Doctor Ministries Statement of Costing

Q: What is the approach of Church Doctor Ministries?

A: Church Doctor is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 ministry (the same as a church). We are grateful for many regular support partners (most all of them from churches we have served) who, above their tithe and offering to their church, help support this ministry. This keeps the cost—for services—at a price below actual cost. Many churches have appreciated our work and voluntarily added CDM as part of their mission or benevolence budget. Grateful for the help, they chose to “pay it forward,” to help the future churches we serve and provide for our work in financially challenging regions of the world.

Q: How do you determine the costs?

A: Consultations/assessments and travel expenses are charged on an at-cost basis. When we can share travel expenses with another church in the same region, the savings are entirely passed on to the client churches.

Q: What makes Church Doctor Ministries unique?

A: The consultation/assessment process of Church Doctor Ministries is the most thorough available. It is based on almost 40 years of helping churches, which makes it the most experienced process. Our analytical tools and approach are based on biblical values and shaped by Great Commission principles.

Q: What does the consultation/assessment process include?

A: The consultation/assessment process includes several phases:

- 1) **Diagnostic Phase:** General anonymous surveys are given to everyone in church, review of all aspects of the church (finance, website, local demographics, structure, bulletin, newsletter, brochures), staff analysis, (senior) pastor vision survey, information gathered about the recent and past history of the church, survey among key influencers and leaders. A second survey is given to everyone in worship to identify potential critical mass of those God has prepared with spiritual breakthrough potential: a snapshot of church health. One of the breakthrough elements of a Church Doctor assessment is the use of several surveys that determine the percentage of those with “holy discontent,” also called “spiritual restlessness.” These areas provide a reading about the readiness of your church for spiritual renewal and potential to join the *SEND Movement*.
- 2) **On-Site Phase:** The on-site visit by the Church Doctor includes interviews, an anonymous questionnaire for each interviewee, a complete facility tour, a “windshield tour” of the community with a Realtor, training of hosts and hostesses for the interview process, introduction/exit interviews with the (senior) pastor, interviews with the program staff, interviews with leaders and participants of adjacent ministries such as preschool, day care, elementary school, soup kitchen, etc., interviews with those who request an interview (as scheduling time allows), opportunity for anyone in the congregation to write a signed letter (with return contact information) to the consultant with a promised response, in writing, and meetings with major boards or committees.
- 3) A meeting will be held with key leadership during the on-site visit. It will be a report of key recommendations, long-term direction, vision, and future opportunities for the church.

Q: What kind of report do we receive?

A: A written report will be developed by the Church Doctor. It will include analytical insights (graphically displayed), consultant assessment, diagnosis, and analysis, as well as recommendations. The written report includes a summary of recommendations by topic,

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a sample Action Plan template, census data, and a comprehensive crosstab report of independent variables. The Church Doctor also writes personal and confidential letters to all individuals who would benefit from directives that are not appropriate for the public report.

Q: Is there a follow-up visit to the church?

A: The Church Doctor returns for an Oral Report to the congregation, which includes visual graphics and a Q & A session. If it is well-publicized, this serves as a catalytic event that raises excitement and hope, as well as increased involvement and financial giving.

Q: Will the Church Doctor help us toward the next step?

A: If your church qualifies, and you wish to explore the *SEND Movement*, your Church Doctor will return and meet with those with “holy discontent” and staff to focus on areas of church health. This prepares you to consider this spiritual formation journey for your church. The consultant will provide a report of results from the “holy discontent”/“spiritual restlessness” survey taken by everyone in church and the additional survey taken by staff, as well as one taken by the (senior) pastor. This is called a Breakthrough Readiness event, focused on spiritual health and vitality at a deeper level. This optional event will provide next step directives to help your church grow in spiritual health and vitality.

Q: How do we know we are moving in the right direction?

A: The Church Doctor receives your Action Plans approximately 90 days after the Oral Report, reads them thoroughly, and responds, in writing, to each Action Plan requiring comments.

Q: What help can we expect in the future?

A: Your Church Doctor will initiate a follow-up phone call with the (senior) pastor, by appointment, at six months and again at 12 months following the Oral Report.

Q: What if we are implementing some recommendations five years from now?

A: Your Church Doctor is available by e-mail or phone, at no further cost, for as long as your church is executing Action Plans generated from the consultation/assessment.

Q: How can we be assured of the fiscal integrity of Church Doctor Ministries?

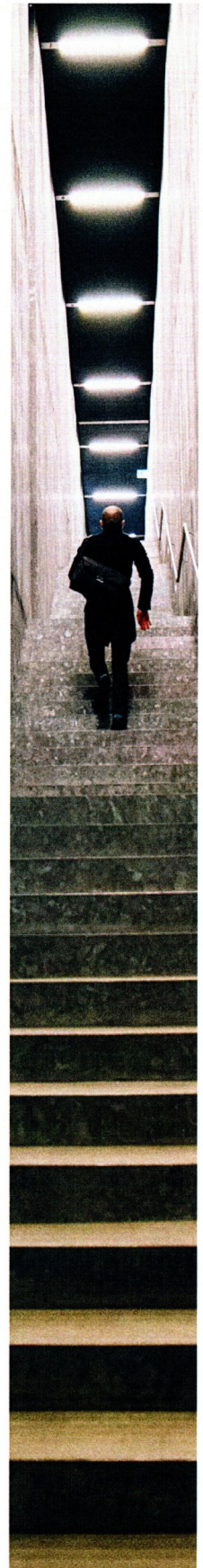
A: Church Doctor Ministries is a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.

Q: What if our leaders want to interview and ask questions of the consultant?

A: You have the opportunity to interview your consultant by phone before you commit to the consultation process.

Q: This sounds very thorough, and very expensive. What do we say to those in our church who may object that it costs too much?

A: First, you should consider: does your church deserve the very best? Second, don't forget: every consultation is subsidized by donations to Church Doctor Ministries. This is a built-in grant system. Third, many churches have, at one time or another, had to replace a roof or carpet, or build an addition. The issue you should consider is this: “Is spiritual health and increased effectiveness to make disciples as valuable, even more valuable than facilities?”



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How to Resource Your Diagnostic Consultation Experience

Q: How is the cost determined?

A: The Diagnostic Consultation is provided at below a not-for-profit at-cost basis. Many churches and individuals voluntarily donate to Church Doctor Ministries. These donors have benefited from this ministry and want to encourage others through their support. Their donations literally subsidize the next church that receives help.

Q: Why do some in our church think this is a discretionary expenditure?

A: Human nature often leads us to go to the doctor only when we feel the pain. Most churches have experienced the need for emergency expenditures: the roof leaks, the furnace fails, the carpet is worn out. When it comes to spending the same amount (or much less) to strengthen the health, vitality, and effectiveness of the church, some Christians ironically consider this to be less important. In truth, it is the church's greatest investment. It focuses directly on the church's ability to provide the mission Christ gave us.

Q: How do we fund this opportunity for our church to become more healthy and effective?

A: The best way to fund this is to gather those who want the church to be more productive. (You can help them identify themselves with our free online assessment tools.) Ask them if they will pledge, over the next six to 10 months to give, each month, above and beyond their usual support to the church. Identify this group as those who want to maximize God's work in and through your church. This approach builds ownership and receptivity for the recommendations your church will receive. It increases the likelihood of implementation and positive results.

Q: What about those who have been financially blessed? Can they contribute?

A: Many churches have some who have been financially blessed *and* have a heart for the church to be more effective in making disciples, experience greater harmony, and/or overcome some hurdles. They can become a part of support by making a one-time, sizable gift – or pledge – to make up what the others might not provide.

Q: What other benefits occur with the development of a group who funds the consultation?

A: When a group of people in the church are willing to invest in this process, it may signal God is working in your church for meaningful change, improvement, and growth. Their investment in this makes it personal. This elevates their Great Commission awareness as well. It provides hope and encouragement and helps many to move from a focus on the past or the present to a focus on the future.

Q: Are there long-lasting effects of this approach to financing?

A: Absolutely! After the period of "extra giving," many realize that God has supplied all their needs, as He promises. With new enthusiasm for the church's future, they continue their support of the church at the new increased level.

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