

Love • Grow
WORSHIP
Share • Serve
St. Mark Lutheran Church

The **VOICE**

OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2022

President's Notes

By Joni Wasmund



Happy Fall, y'all,

I love the changing of the seasons and although there's something to be said for the absence of snow after Christmas, I would genuinely miss the timeliness of a new season opening, whether it be the renewal of springtime buds after winter, long lazy days of summer, crisp fall days with leaves changing color or anticipating the fresh chill of new fallen snow.

Being thankful for seasons changing is only the beginning. Let's consider how tremendously blessed we are with those who so graciously support Pastor Breum's time away by serving in his place of leading worship. Some churches have 1 or 2 who can step in and some have no one to step in. We not only have Bob Yarbrough and Steve Greggo to gladly lead us in worship and share their sound Biblical knowledge of theology and encouragement in Pastor's absence, we also this past year have had Ian Griffith, Josiah Frusti, Taylor Houser, Luke Johnson and Nathan Brock. We've also heard the testimonies of confirmation students and other youth. Thank you, all of you, who provide God's message to us. You have repeatedly said you enjoy the privilege; we receive sound Bible based teaching and encouragement and Pastor has needed time away. Win-Win-Win all around. We appreciate all of you so very much!

I'm one of those lovers of eschatology and although my knowledge of end times could barely fill a thimble, God wants us to know about these things and that, in itself, compels me to want to know more. I'm taking the following excerpts from Christianity.com and wondering which letter the Apostle John would write to St. Mark today.

Continued on page 9

In This Issue:

- ⇒ President's Notes
- ⇒ Pastor's Letter
- ⇒ FMSC St. Mark Group
- ⇒ Missouri Musings
- ⇒ Council Highlights
- ⇒ Fin Facts
- ⇒ Prayer Opportunities
- ⇒ Joyful Hearts Singles Group
- ⇒ Save the Date
- ⇒ Call Committee
- ⇒ C3 Youth Group
- ⇒ Safety & Security
- ⇒ PADS
- ⇒ Sunday School
- ⇒ Coat Drive
- ⇒ Ministry Palooza
- ⇒ Christmas Program
- ⇒ Congregational Life
- ⇒ Open Arms
- ⇒ Trunk or Treat
- ⇒ H.I.S. Ministry
- ⇒ What's on the Shelf
- ⇒ Thrivent News
- ⇒ PADS
- ⇒ Support our Church

CHURCH EVENTS

www.smlc.info/events

Complete Details Inside or

Find Us Online@

www.smlc.info

ARTICLE DEADLINE

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



**Save The
Date**

**Ministry Palooza
October 29 & 30**

See Details on Page 10



Save the Date!

Sunday, November 13, 2022

@9:15AM

**Annual Reports and Proposed 2023
Budget are available in the Narthex
beginning October 15th.**

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



ST. MARK COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Joni Wasmund
joni1812@sbcglobal.net | 847-404-9185

VICE PRESIDENT

Debbie Plishka

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Debbie Plishka

FINANCIAL TREASURER

Patrice Sutton

BOARD OF ELDERS

Cheryl Bengston Dean Miller Todd Stickney

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jerry Gass Laurie Kerns Jen Kumpula

ST. MARK COMMITTEES

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Overseen by:
 Jen Kumpula

Donna Bergl
 Tricia Cholewinski
 Shawn Frank

FINANCE

Overseen by:
 Board of Trustees

Pam Preston Lynn Wetterberg Jill Winling

PARISH EDUCATION

Overseen by Elder: Dean Miller

Stephanie Flores Lori McKenzie
 Jane Milani

SAFETY & SECURITY

Overseen by:
 Board Of Trustees

Al Maciareillo Mike Mol Judy Dunfrund
 Deb Zuchowski

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Overseen by Trustee:
 Jerry Gass
 Robin Korom

STEWARDSHIP

Overseen by Trustee:
 Laurie Kerns
 Laurie Kerns
 Carl Norlin

EVANGELISM

Overseen by Elder:
 Todd Stickney
 Chris Holmes
 Patrick Krook
 Jeff McKenzie

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Overseen by Elder:
 Cheryl Bengston
 Charlie Burke
 Rebecca Gundlach
 Wendy Weidner
 Brock Zwicke

PASTOR

Terry Breum | Pastor@smlc.info

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Deb Zuchowski | Deb@smlc.info

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Rhonda Doran | Rhonda@smlc.info

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC & MEDIA COORDINATOR

Brock Zwicke | Brock.smlc@gmail.com

ORGANIST/TRADITIONAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Open Position

NURSERY COORDINATOR

Deb Heide | heidedeborah@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER

Barb Griffith | Barb@smlc.info

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Kim Mohr | kimmohr.smlc@gmail.com

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Jim Schaufel | James.schaufel@yahoo.com

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th @ 7:00PM
Next Committee Meetings: Tuesday, October 25th @ 7:00PM

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

From the Desk of Pastor Breum

Dear Friends,

Do you have a lifetime favorite Bible verse? If so, I would like to know what it is. Verses our lives are lived by tells me an awful lot about a person and what is important to him or her. Please either write down on a piece of paper your name and reference or send me an email. Don't worry, I will not say in church, I will not use your name for this is quite personal in nature.

On my phone I receive a verse of the day seven days a week. More often than not the verse of the day speaks in such a way that I think, "This is exactly what I needed to hear. How do they know what verse to pick?"

Here is an example. **Proverbs 24:26 (NLT2)** *"An honest answer is like a kiss of friendship."* A paraphrase puts it like this. **Proverbs 24:26 (MSG)** *"An honest answer is like a warm hug."* My take on this verse. All of us, yes, all of us have rough edges that are not pretty. Actually, they are ugly. We have our personal ways of coping with life, coping with people, protecting ourselves, and more. The sad thing is some of these ways hurt people, turn people off, is highly offensive, and we do not have a clue, we do not know how insensitive we are. I have often heard the phrase, "It is not what you say it is how you say it" and "think before you speak." Someone can speak a word of truth to me and I readily accept it, rounding off a rough edge. Another person can say the very same thing and all I want to do is to tell that person to be quiet and get lost. The difference is actually how it is said. One person means to help. The other person is just mean.

This is where close Christian friendships are so helpful and needed. Speaking the truth in love we can point out the friend's rough edge(s) and help that person grow in the Lord Jesus Christ. Just letting a friend get away with the rough edges is deciding to withhold love. The Bible says, **Proverbs 27:6 (NLT2)** *"Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy."*

All of us have room for improvement in our lives, we all do. Letting a friend continually hurt people, make poor choices, allowing their rough edges to scrape people is choosing to withhold Christian love. By speaking the truth in love, addressing the rough edges, you just may be helping their children, their grandchildren, their coworkers from a bunch of needless pain and agony. Pointing out a blind spot may hurt the person for a moment but produce something good for a lifetime.

This is what goes on in my mind when one verse is read. It speaks volumes. The Holy Spirit personalizes God's word. A verse for the day may just be what God ordered for you personally. Thank you to those who have spoken truth to me with love.

God Bless,
Pastor Breum



On Saturday, August 27th, 18 St. Mark'ians helped pack, with smiles on their faces, severely needed meals for Sudan. Keep your eyes and ears open for the next packing event so you can help put FMSC out of business!!

If you ever have questions about FMSC or need help signing up on your own, please call or write Mike Mol at 847-276-8739 or MEMOL2Elks@gmail.com



We want to thank all of you for your thousands of prayers and hundreds of cards supporting Bonny and our family during the past year of health issues. You will never know how we felt all the love and prayers! God bless you all! - Sharlene Hendrickson & Family

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



MISSOURI MUSINGS

BY BOB YARBROUGH

Hidden Miracles

As a seminary professor I get asked to write articles for various projects. A current international study focuses on "the miraculous in the New Testament." I was asked to write on the miraculous, or special divine action, in the letters of John. You will find those letters (1 John, 2 John, and 3 John) just before Jude and Revelation at the end of the Bible.

At first you might think: wait, there are no miracles in those letters! There are no stories of a prophet, Jesus, or an apostle walking on water, casting out demons, feeding multitudes with just a few loaves and fishes, or raising the dead.

But then you might think again. Because actually the apostle John refers to a number of matters that can only be explained by God's special action, or what we rightly call the miraculous.

For example, John writes, "And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (1 John 5:14). How can God in heaven hear your prayer, and act on it, when there are 8 billion people on this planet? But he can and does.

Hearing is the key to fellowship with the Father and Son. John writes: "Let what you *heard* from the beginning abide in you. If what you *heard* from the beginning abides in you, then you will abide in the Son and in the Father" (2:24). A major expression of this fellowship, love, grows out of hearing: "For this is the message you have *heard* from the beginning, that we should love one another" (3:11). As John explains to the congregation he addresses in 2 John, "And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment just as you have *heard* it from the beginning—you must walk in it" (2 John 6).

God works through his Word, and his Word comes to us by hearing. Hearing is special divine action that transforms those who open their ears and hearts based on Christ's death for us.

Another miracle: John also speaks about being "born of God" (1 John 3:9; 5:18), just like Jesus tells Nicodemus in John 3:3: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." That's a miracle! But it happens. God takes our lives that have been messed up by a lot of mistakes and neglect and sin. He forgives us and changes our hearts when we repent and believe in Christ.

Another miracle is saving faith. You can have faith in lots of things, but that doesn't mean they will happen. You can have faith that your car will get 100 miles per gallon, or that the Cubs will be playing October baseball in 2022, or that it won't get cold this winter. Good luck with that.

But John writes, "I write these things to you who *believe* in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life" (5:13). God grants to *believing* in Jesus not only a present life that is transformed but also a future life that is unending in his glorious presence. Through Christ believers conquer even death.

This is why John writes, "Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith" (1 John 5:4).

Generally speaking, believing something just means you have an opinion or hope that something might happen. But through the miracle of faith in Christ, our whole lives and eternal future change.

How about the miracle of the love of God reaching into our lives and through us into others? How about the miracle of abiding in Christ: "God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God" (1 John 4:15)?

How about God's special divine action in Jesus' resurrection, in divine revelation so that we may know God, in atonement for sin through Jesus' shed blood, and in the incarnation--the Son of God taking on a human body (John 1:14). John's letters point to all of these amazing realities!

I saw a book title recently: *Hidden in Plain Sight*. God's Word "hides" the miraculous left and right. Let's not miss it. The same God--Father, Son, and Spirit--continues his work in the world today.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



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 minutes.

Council Highlights August 2022

Updates were provided by the Co-pastor Call Committee and Columbarium Committee – much good work continues by both and each will inform the congregation as relevant updates are available to share.

Property & Management is coordinating the correction of drainage issues in preparation for the laying of mulch for grounds beautification. Plans also include the installation of gutters along the southwest wall where none currently exist.

Plans are in the works for a Spiritual Gift Workshop and Bible study in late fall. (Interested in helping with this? Contact Debbie Plishka.)

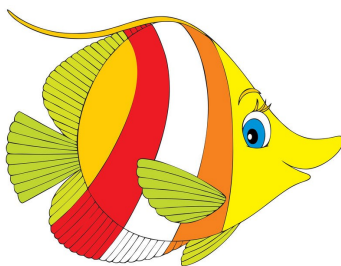
A position description for a PT maintenance role will be prepared for fulfillment Jan 2023. (Interested parties can contact Deb Zuchowski.)

Motion carried to approve items requested by the Memorial Committee on behalf of committees for inclusion on 2023 Memorial Wish List.

Motion carried to amend the current “vetting” process for benevolence recipients; new recipients will be vetted annually for 3 years and after 3 years, the vetting schedule will reduce to once each 3 years pending ongoing satisfactory financial records.

One Bylaw revision was approved for presentation to the congregation during the upcoming Annual Meeting.

The 2023 Council nomination process will remain open through the first week of October, after which time names and biographies of candidates will be provided to the congregation on October 16, 4 weeks prior to the Annual Meeting on November 13. To date, a candidate has been identified and has accepted nomination for each position (Trustee pending).



Fin Facts

Your Abundance Determines Your Possibilities

The Annual Meeting is approaching quickly. The Proposed 2023 Budget will be available in the Narthex for your review prior to the meeting. The Budget reflects what we expect in giving as well as expenses. In the past 10 years God has provided all that St. Mark has needed financially. In fact, He has provided abundantly. St. Mark currently has approximately \$195,000 in unrestricted funds (checking and savings) as well as \$60,000 in a Contingency Fund. Kent Hunter, from Church Doctor Ministries and author of *Discover Your Windows*, questions, “What if Jesus were to come back and visit a church that had a surplus of funds in their account? What if

outreach ministries were suffering because the leaders felt it would be wiser to place money in ‘reserve’ funds? What would he say?” The Finance Committee fully supports Council’s decision to look toward, and plan for, the future using the **abundance** God has already provided for His use.

	<u>2022 Budgeted</u> Unrestricted Offerings	<u>2022 Actual</u> Unrestricted Offerings	<u>Over/Under</u>
Month of August	\$ 56,100	\$ 44,961	(\$ 11,139)
January - August	\$ 478,650	\$ 413,225	(\$ 65,424)

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

Opportunities for Prayer are **Flourishing** at St. Mark Church, our House of Prayer

"You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." Mark 22: 37-38

Do we? To be honest, it is an everyday struggle. So what is a Christian to do? A.W. Tozer in his book, Prayer, Communing with God in Everything, writes a Christian needs to realize one must renew the mind 24/7 to conform to the image of God and "practice living to the glory of God, actually and determinedly" ¹ in all we do.



The first step is to ask yourself, "Am I trying to do the impossible - living in two worlds - the secular (the world and the flesh) and the sacred at the same time?" As a new being in Christ, one cannot continue to walk in shoes of the old Adam. C.S. Lewis provides an insightful description of this battle between the natural self and the new self in Christ. See Mere Christianity, Book 4, Chapter 8 "*Is Christianity Hard or Easy?*" Click on this link to view an awesome graphic rendering of the written words. About 16 minutes. <https://youtu.be/lzJJ23MmOGU>

It is one thing to see this truth, but it is not enough. Tozer writes, "If we would escape from the toils of the sacred - secular dilemma, the truth must run in our blood." ² "...success in this struggle ...is possible only by the exercise of an aggressive faith. ...offer all our acts (24/7) to God and believe He accepts them. Then hold firmly to that position.... Keep reminding God in times of private prayer that we mean every act for His glory; then supplement those times by a thousand thought prayers as we go about the job of living in a secular culture.

In short, Tozer points to four steps to success in this sacred-secular dilemma: 1) aggressive faith in God, 2) surrender of all our acts to Him, 3) private prayer and 4) thousands of thought-prayers. ³ Thus, our new self with the help of the Holy Spirit is enabled to lift up every choice and act up into a living kingdom and turn the whole life into a sacrament. ² Let us practice the fine art of making every work a priestly ministration." ³

Thanks be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which thou hast given us; for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, may we know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly; for thine own sake. Richard of Chichester (1197- 1253) emphases added. *Godspell* Musical song, *Day by Day* is based on this prayer. <https://youtu.be/ekoHxB4idmg> about 3 minutes.

Ongoing Opportunities for Prayer

- *First Friday Sing and Pray* Canceled for October. See you Friday, November 4th.
- *St. Mark Prayer Chain*, a wonderful group of fellow Christians, praying for all prayer requests and praising God for His listening to our petitions, thanksgivings and praises for His responses. Email requests and praises to smlcprayers@gmail.com. Please share with the Prayer Chain how God has responded to your prayer requests.
- **INPERSON Weekly Prayer Meeting** - Come, pray and be blessed. Wednesday, SE corner of Fellowship Hall from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. We pray over the previous week of Prayer Chain requests, St. Mark Church and each other. Contact Person: Pam Burke 244-430-6226.
- The Worship and Music Committee has posted the *2022 Three Days of Prayer Brochure* on the St. Mark website under **Prayer**. We prayerfully request you include these various petitions as part of your devotions for our church families, Pastor, staff, church council and committees and for the Church Doctor training and program during this church year. Click on this link <https://www.smlc.info/mt-content/uploads/2021/12/three-days-of-prayer-brochure-2022-updated-8.5-x-14.pdf>

¹Tozer p. 27.

²*Ibid.*, p.27

³*Ibid.*, p.36.

Tozer reminds us Jesus' never once performed a non-sacred act. Jesus' life was filled with power and prayer. "Hopefully, we desire the same, but to get there we need to realize and practice every day that there is no non-sacred act. Our chores, getting exercise, writing a report and hundreds of other secular acts should not rob us of intimate fellowship and prayer with God, but enrich it.



Joyful Hearts Singles Group

Calling all single men & women! If you are widowed, divorced, or just never “took the plunge”, join us for weekly and monthly events that support Christian friendship and socializing. We have had several fun dinners together, outings to the movies, farmers markets, etc. If you are interested in joining this group please let us know (you can pick and choose what you want to participate in). This is a great way to make new friendships!

For more information contact Nancy O'Connor
neoconnor@comcast.net or
 Patty Lindholm lindholm_patricia@yahoo.com



Save the Date!
Sunday, November 13, 2022
@9:15AM
Annual Reports and Proposed 2023
Budget are available in the Narthex
beginning October 15th.

FIRST FRIDAY SING AND PRAY!

First Friday Sing & Pray is cancelled for the month of October. The next session resumes on November 4th from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Continue to “Devote yourselves to prayer” Colossians 4:2



Greetings!

The Call Committee would like to provide an update for the search of our future Co-Pastor. As you may or may not know, we are a committee of 7 that started this process back in April of calling a Co-Pastor to work alongside Pastor Breum to help with the needs of our church.

A lot of prep- work and details have been worked through since then, and we are proud to announce that the position is officially posted on the LCMC website along with several other websites. By the time you read this update, it will have been posted for some time and we will hopefully be receiving some applications. This is definitely not a process to be rushed through. We are told that on average, the process *could* take around 9 months. We would greatly appreciate your prayers through this process of finding the person that God already has picked for our church. If you have 5 minutes (2 minutes...30 seconds...) right now, please pray with us and for us.

Dear Lord,

We are praying for your guidance, discernment, and wisdom as we go through this process of calling a co-pastor to St. Mark. We know You already have the person picked and we trust You to bring this person to us in Your perfect timing. We thank You for the growth and learning that You continue to bring through this process to all those involved. We thank You for everything woven together for Your good and perfect plan for our church. Your church! In Jesus' name, Amen



“So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together for good, for we are his lovers who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose.” Romans 8:28 TPT

God bless you and we thank you for your prayers!

St. Mark Call Committee:

Shawn Frank, Debbie Gass, Kevin Korom, Sara Lunkenheimer, Karissa McGill, Tom Sanderson, Brock Zwicke

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

C/3



Youth Group

First, we hope and pray that you've had a great start to your school year and that any extra-curricular activity you are involved in is going even better!

Second, we hope you had a chance to come and laugh A LOT with **COMEDYSPORTZ[®] MILWAUKEE** last month.

Third, hopefully by now you have all heard that things are going to be a *little bit* different this year for high school Sunday School and Youth Group:

There is NO Sunday morning Sunday School.

Sunday School & Youth Group are being combined.

On Sunday mornings you are now free to

- help in other Sunday School classes,
- lead (or co-lead) the K-2nd grade classes in singing songs,
- join one of the Worship Bands,
- start up your own Worship Band,
- become more involved with the "behind-the-scenes" work of the Contemporary Service,
- revive the puppet and/or drama group we used to have at St. Mark,
- direct (or group-direct) the Christmas program,
- join a Bible study,
- be on the Welcome Team, or WHAT ELSE CAN YOU THINK OF?

Patrick Krook and Mike Mol are the co-leaders of this "style", and we'd love to hear what you want out of this year's new – and hopefully – improved youth group and Sunday School. We still plan to meet from 6:30 to 8:30 Sunday nights in the Ed Center but how often - every week, every other week – is up for debate. Please keep your eyes and ears open for news and updates. If you have any questions right now, please feel free to ask Patrick at pat@revmusclecars.com or Mike at MEMOL2Elks@gmail.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Part 2

- Did you know St. Mark has a First Response Team?
- Did you know that Sunday School had a fire *AND* tornado drill?
- Did you know that you all did so well on last year's fire drill during church that we will probably have another one this year?
- Did you know St. Mark and the Ed Center have security cameras?

To cut to the chase, to not leave you in suspense until next month's VOICE, and to not put words in your mouth because – of course – you knew all these answers already

Yes – St. Mark does have a First Response Team. It consists of members from both Sunday services who have, through ongoing continuing education with CPR and first aid training, stepped up to help in case of any kind of need. If you would like to be on this team, especially anyone that regularly attends the Saturday night service, please contact a Safety and Security Committee member listed on page 12.

Yes – Your Sunday School kids did an awesome job this past Spring on both drills!!! The Safety and Security Committee also meets with Sunday School teachers annually to direct them on what to do in case of an emergency.

Yes – We probably will have another drill this Fall, coordinated with the Lake Villa Fire Department. We again will probably tell you when the drill will occur but just a couple of reminders from last year's drill that we need to work on. One, once we exit the building, we will need to be standing/gathering farther away from the building to allow emergency vehicles access to the building. And two, related to allowing vehicles access to the building, we should not get into our cars and try to leave. This could hinder emergency vehicles just getting into our parking lot. We know it is only a drill, but we do want to be ready if, and pray to God it doesn't happen, a real emergency should occur during church.

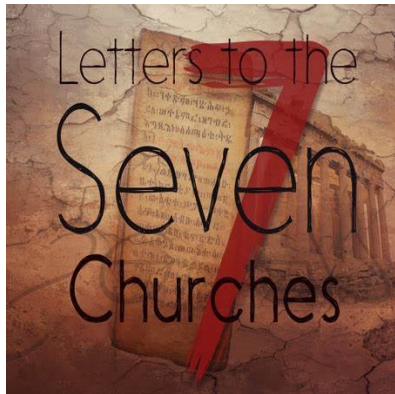
Continued on Page 12

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

President's Message *Continued from page 1*

The Book of Revelation addresses seven letters to seven churches in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey) ([Revelation 2-3](#)). Each letter, as proclaimed by Jesus and recorded by John the Apostle, declares the triumphs and failings of the recipient churches and warns each congregation to repent. The advice in these letters is prophetic, forewarning present-day Christian communities of the snares that can lure us away from our faith.



The lesson in the letter to *Ephesus* teaches that truth and love must go hand-in-hand. A church that upholds doctrinal purity at the expense of showing love is just as flawed as a church that upholds congregational harmony at the expense of truthful teachings. Instead, Jesus reveals that a church fashioned in His image must teach God's Truth in love.

Like the church of *Smyrna*, Christians are persecuted worldwide in obvious and insidious ways. This letter warns all Christians that although we may suffer greatly, the length of [tribulation](#) will be short compared to the promise of eternal life.

Like the Christians in *Pergamum*, it's easy to normalize the non-Christian behavior of those around us and allow that behavior to dilute our values ([1 Corinthians 15:33](#)).

But the Bible urges us to "not conform to the pattern of this world" but be transformed by the renewal of our mind in accordance with God's Word ([Romans 12:2](#)).

Just as some in the church of *Thyatira* were led astray by a false prophet, Christians today fall prey to cult leaders, occult practices, and other false teachings. To share in Christ's victory, we are to avoid these "so-called deep secrets" of Satan ([Revelation 2:24](#)) and hold firm to Christ's teachings.

Today, Christians can fall into the trap that ensnared the church in *Sardis* if we merely go through the motions of practicing our faith without really feeding our spirit. We can avoid becoming "the living dead" by engaging in our faith through Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

The message to *Philadelphia* shows us the blessings that come when we maintain our faith despite life's tribulations. In fact, those who persevere despite weaknesses will stand strong as pillars in Heaven.

Like the church of *Laodicea*, it's easy to become complacent in our faith during times of abundance. Christ warns us in this revelation that he will "spit out" lukewarm disciples. Instead, Jesus urges us to keep seeking the Lord's face even after His hand has bestowed riches in our lives.

My prayer is that we will continue to seek God's face in all we do, that our faith and knowledge will continue to grow through Bible studies and prayer, that we will spend real time with Jesus to know Him, not just know *about* Him. I believe we are growing spiritually as a congregation and I pray this continues so others see "this little light of ours that we're gonna let shine" all over Lindenhurst and the surrounding communities – they are our mission field.

Blessings to you.

Joni Wasmund
Council President

PADS **PADS Homeless Shelter Ministry**

PADS needs volunteers for the 2022-23 season! It takes 16 people every Friday night to staff the St. Mark PADS Site. This ministry is on Friday nights to Saturday morning. Volunteers of all ages are needed, but especially adults over 18 are.

Please go to the St. Mark website at www.smlc.info under the Ministry Partners tab to volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Decker at padsatstmark@gmail.com or 847-445-7502, or Laurie Kerns 847-612-1510.

The direct link to the Sign-up Genius site is:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AAA728ABFB6-friday>

Thanks to all that have volunteered in the past!!!! YOU can be part of PADS future. Volunteer!

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



Coordinator Urgently Needed

- Sadly, our two Sunday School Coordinators moved out of state.
- One person has graciously accepted this important position **BUT WE ARE LOOKING FOR ONE MORE COORDINATOR to complete the team.** If you are feeling a tap on your shoulder when reading this, perhaps you are being called to serve? Grandparents make great Sunday School Coordinators, too!
- Our past Co-Coordinators left a complete binder with helpful guidelines, calendar, curricula and ideas. Parish Ed is also always there to help.

Sunday School Has Started

September welcomed all of our children and adults back to Sunday School. Rally Day was a HUGE success! A special thanks to Stephanie Flores, our SS Coordinator, for a wonderful celebration - despite the VERY rainy day. And many thanks to the all teachers, parents, grandparents, and volunteers who helped out.

2nd Grade Bible Sunday

Sunday, October 30, 2022 St. Mark 2nd graders will be receiving their Bibles during the worship service.

2nd grade parents - watch for more specific info.

"Hope

Filled

Holidays"



is a FMSC MobilePack event being held in Arlington Heights on December 1 - 3. Their goal is to pack over 575,000 meals and **YOU** can be a part of this!!!

"Hope Filled Holidays" will be at the Arlington Countryside Christian Church, which is located at 916 East Hintz Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004 (about 35 minutes south of St. Mark). The volunteer slots will run from Thursday, December 1, through Saturday, December 3. Public registration opens Friday, October 21, at 8 am, and here is the link to sign up for this event after this date: ([Registration Link for "Hope Filled Holidays" Mobile Pack](#))

If you have any questions about this MobilePack, packing at our site in Libertyville, and/or FMSC in general, please contact Mike Mol at 847-276-8739 or MEMOL2Elks@gmail.com.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Soon it will be getting very cold, and there are many children in this area who need our help to stay warm. Please prayerfully consider helping by donating a child's winter coat – boys and girls size 12 months to adult medium. We will be collecting **new** coats only from October 1 until Thanksgiving. Once purchased, the coat can be dropped in the coat collection box located in the narthex. The coats will then be distributed through local schools and organizations.

If you have questions, please contact Sharon Tatro at 847-269-1723. Thank you for your help.



Save The Date Ministry Palooza October 29 & 30

We are excited to invite everyone to join us Saturday, October 29th after the 5:30PM service or Sunday, October 30th between services to attend our 2022 Ministry Palooza. Bring a friend and explore all the activities and opportunities St. Mark has to offer.

We will also be welcoming in New Members that morning so introduce yourself and say, "Hi."

Christmas Program....

We all know how time creeps up on us. It's already time to find a team to plan our Christmas program. A Christmas program is endearing to all. We get to enjoy the event of Jesus' birth through a special program. It brings us joy to see our youth come together to celebrate Jesus' birth. If you are interested or want to help lead our youth, please email stmarksunschool@gmail.com. We are hoping to have several people work together to make this happen.



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



Greetings From The Congregational Life Committee

Heading into a busy, yet blessed season

As our committee met to review and plan for our upcoming events, we all realized that we are heading into the busiest time of the year for our committee. We have several fun and meaningful events coming up and we invite you all to join us.

Halloween Trunk or Treat

St. Mark **Trunk or Treat** will be on Sunday, October 23rd from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. We're looking for church members to decorate their vehicles with a family-friendly Halloween theme and pass out treats. Let us know if you can join us by signing up on the poster or online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084BA4A92CA5FE3-stmark>. This event is open to the public so please invite your friends and family to bring the kids to trick or treat. We had really great participation from our members and community last year and hope to see this event grow this year.

Holiday Dinner in a Bag

Please submit names and contact information for those that could use help in providing a Thanksgiving dinner for their family. You can turn in the information to Deb in the church office. We'll be posting a list of items that are needed. We will also need volunteers to help pack up the items and deliver to locations in the surrounding communities. Watch for the sign up board that will be posted in the church hallway soon. ***Have a Thrivent card that you would like to donate so we can buy fresh produce, milk and other items?*** That would be so helpful and appreciated! Donation deadline is November 16th but. The packing and delivery date is Sunday, November 20th.

Operation Christmas Child

St. Mark will be packing boxes for needy children around the world again this year. Watch for the donation bins in the entry way of the church coming soon. See the list of suggested items to donate here to the right (a more complete list will be posted at the church). Please remove tags and as much packaging as possible before placing your donations in the bins. For example, if you're donating pencils, remove all of the outer packaging so the pencils are loose. Only one pencil will go in a shoebox. If you're donating a Barbie doll, remove the doll from the box. The countries where these items are going do not have space for trash. Feel free to reach out to CLC if you have any questions. Remember, items should be small enough to fit in a shoebox with several other items. Donation deadline is November 1st.

Operation Christmas Child

Donation Suggestions:

- Combs
- Hairbrushes
- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Non-liquid lip balm
- Compact mirrors
- Nail clipper and file
- Stick deodorant
- Bar soap
- Adhesive bandages
- Pencils
- Colored pencils
- Pencil cases
- Crayons
- Markers
- Pens
- Coloring pads
- Coloring books
- Picture book
- Notebooks
- Glue sticks
- Small adhesive tape
- Watercolor paint sets
- Toy cars
- Yo-yos
- Small dolls
- Small Frisbees
- Small kites
- Etch A Sketch
- Hacky sacks
- Jump ropes
- Playing cards



Open Arms Food Pantry Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Did you know? That OAM continues to support more than 200 families every week! **Thank you** for all your continued support in filling the "yellow barrels"!! It's truly heart warming to see our Congregation continuing to reach out to help our neighbors in these unique times.

The items requested for September are **Toilet Paper and Adult Tooth Brushes**. Any nonperishable food is gladly accepted.

If you have any questions about OAM please contact Ron Placko at rdplacko@comcast.net.

St. Mark Invites You To TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 23rd
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
(vehicle decorating starts at noon)
COME IN COSTUME

Public welcome, invite your friends!



Decorate your vehicle and join us to hand out candy. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084BA4A92CA5FE3-stmark>
Contact Donna Bergl at d.bergl@yahoo.com with any questions.



October 18th / Saturday / 7am Breakfast /
8am Training / 9:30am Adjourn

"And the Heavens Declare! Coach Dean Miller will be leading our Training this month.

Join in person or via zoom on the 2nd Saturday of the month (Men age 15+). Become part of something good. We always have room for one more man. Send your contact information to Ministry2EveryMan@gmail.com or Text 847-271-8632, to Get plugged In.



Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022



Divorce Proof Your Marriage

This month's selection is for married couples. Too many couples have given up on their marriages.

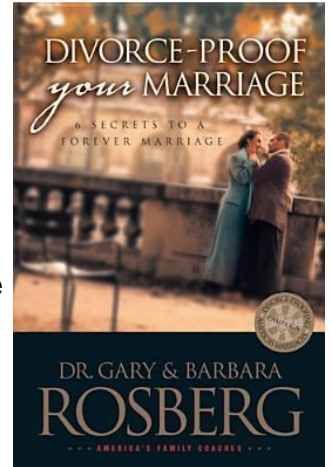
Disappointment sets in. Distance develops. Life isn't satisfying anymore. A husband and wife don't legally divorce—but they are emotionally divorced. *Divorce*

Proof Your Marriage by Dr. Gary and Barbara Rosberg

offers help to these struggling couples. This cornerstone book of the Divorce-Proofing America's Marriages campaign outlines the threats to marriage and the key building blocks to counter those threats and divorce-proof any marriage.

The Rosbergs define the six facets of love—forgiving love, serving love, persevering love, guarding love, celebrating love, and renewing love.

You can find this book under call number 306.81 ROS.



Thriving Minds Want to Know... Be Wise with Money

Supporting those who serve

Are you looking for a way to say “thanks” to those who serve you, your family and your community? Here are four actions you can take to get started.

Run Errands

Service workers often have hectic schedules that leave little time for tackling personal errands. Offer to take on some chores for them, such as walking the dog, doing yard work or picking up groceries.

Provide Meals to Teachers

Service workers often have hectic schedules that leave little time for tackling personal errands. Offer to take on some chores for them, such as walking the dog, doing yard work or picking up groceries.

Make Care Packages

Service workers often have hectic schedules that leave little time for tackling personal errands. Offer to take on some chores for them, such as walking the dog, doing yard work or picking up groceries.

Send Supportive Cards

Service workers often have hectic schedules that leave little time for tackling personal errands. Offer to take on some chores for them, such as walking the dog, doing yard work or picking up groceries.

P.S. - Use a Thrivent Action team and add \$250 to your budget. Thrivent Members have at least one Action Team to use per year. See your Thrivent Representative or our Action Team Coordinator, Sam Kveton / sam.kveton@gmail.com for more details.

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

Support St. Mark & Local Businesses



Second Tuesday Each Month

CARRY OUT, PICK UP or DELIVERY!
Be sure to bring your coupon and mention it at time of payment!

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

12:00 - 9:00 PM

Visit www.antiochpizzashop.com for full menu.

Valid the **Second Tuesday** of each Month

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

DATES: Second Tuesdays
10/11/22, 11/8/22, 12/13/22



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
10/20/22, 11/17/22, 12/15/22

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.

Divine Signs is Lake County's premier yard message creation company, dedicated to spreading joy and love in an extraordinary way!

We are excited to announce that we will **contribute 10% of our proceeds to St. Mark Lutheran Church** in Lindenhurst, IL. Simply mention St. Mark Lutheran Church, it is that easy! Tell your family and friends and let's get your next congratulatory event in the schedule!

This promotion is offered for everyone. Contact us directly or visit our sites to learn more about us...



Kevin and Tracy Graul

Phone or text: (224) 223-2786

Facebook.com/DivineSigns3.16

[Instagram@Divinesigns3.16](https://www.instagram.com/Divinesigns3.16)

DivineSigns.godaddysites.com

(Please be patient, our website is under construction.)

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart

October 2022

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
1822 EAST GRAND AVENUE
LINDENHURST IL 60046

*Address Service Requested
Return Postage Guaranteed*



The **VOICE**
OF ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH



Stephen Ministry

THE VOICE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

☎ (847) 356-8140
🖱 www.smlc.info
✉ 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

NOVEMBER VOICE DEADLINE:
October 15, 2022

Serve The Lord With All Your Heart
October 2022