

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
10:30AM-12:30PM
AND WHEN NEEDED.

~February 2025 Newsletter~

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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PASTOR TIM'S OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY & THURSDAY
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN
THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

WELCOMING

WORSHIPPING

SERVING

Five Simple ways to show God's LOVE to others this month!

With Acts of Kindness

Hold a door for someone.
 Say HELLO to a stranger.
 Wave to a neighbor.

Praying for others

People who are sick.
 Those who are hungry.
 Someone you know.

By Listening

Phone a friend to see
 how they are.
 Hear the whole story
 before reacting.

Be Encouraging

Support others to
 reach their goals.
 Celebrate their
 achievements.

With Generosity

Share your time.
 Share your knowledge.
 Share your talents.

Just a reminder you are welcome to join any of the committees at St. Mark's. Get involved and help St. Mark's grow and give back.

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Worship & Music | Social Ministry |
| Personnel | Stewardship |
| Property | Youth & Education |
| Finance | Mutual Ministry |
| Social Media Team | Home Visitation |



St. Mark's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2nd after worship with a potluck lunch. In case of inclement weather the alternative date is Sunday, February 9th.



Hello St. Marks Faithful,
Lectio Divino - What is it?

Most Tuesdays here at church a group of us gathers to do something we call Lectio Divino. It is a spiritual practice that goes back more than a thousand years. The words are latin and mean "Divine Reading." What we basically do here at church is begin by sharing our highs and lows with each other. This is for the purpose of connecting us to each other in Christian community. We then read the main scripture for the upcoming Sunday worship. We then talk about any observations we picked up listening to the text. Then we listen to a five minute chapter of a book entitled, "We Make the Road by Walking" that corresponds to the scripture we read. Then we use the questions from the Author to take us deeper into the text. We then have time for prayer and people offer names of people who need prayer and then we pray together as a group. Lastly we eat treats that are often brought by Amy Fritz. People often tell me that what they love about Lectio is how relational it is and how you don't have to know much about the Bible to participate. Everyone is welcome and we hope you will give it a try.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Tim

3rd Tuesday group wants to be Your Valentine on February 18th.

Join us in the Gathering Space at 1:00 PM for simple games and sharing memories of those Valentine Days of the past.



Feb. 9 Rally Round

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME SOUP?!?!?

Join us in Fellowship Hall after service. Tentative menu: broccoli cheese, carrot, chicken noodle, lentil...Bread and crackers.



If you have a soup you want to share, feel free to bring it. Just tell Joe for set up plan.

No planned dessert but donations always welcome. Terms of service: for each bowl of soup you plan to eat, bring one can of soup for Project Concern.

If you underestimate your appetite or forget your soup, please bring cash to donate.

This can and cash collection continues until FAT Sunday but the kitchen is only open the 9th. IF YOU WANT TO EXCHANGE A CAN OF SOUP FOR A HOT, HOMEMADE BOWL, THIS OFFER IS ONLY VALID ON THE 9TH.



Chamber Music Concert at St Mark



Eastwinds Chamber Ensemble performed three Pieces of chamber music Sunday afternoon On Sunday January 26th.

April 6th the group will be joined by the St. Mark Brass Ensemble for another performance at 3 PM. Just a reminder that the church is available for various events outside of planned church events. We have hosted birthday celebrations, book clubs, organization meetings. Facility use forms are available from the office.

The Divine Intervention Warming Room is in the middle of its season. If you're interested in helping to serve a meal ask Jill Hyatt or Joe Zsebe for the meal schedule to serve. If you would like to know what serving the guests at the Warming Room is like ask the Clifton family, they served a meal on January 24th. Or ask Jill or Joe about it.

DeChristmasing the sanctuary was accomplished on January 26th. Thanks to the group who stayed after worship to put the decorations and the outdoor Crèche away.



Thank you to those that donated to the Candlemas collection to benefit families with babies at Project Concern.



PROJECT CONCERN PERSONAL CARE NEED OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY IS DISH SOAP

MARCH IS DEODORANT

THERE IS A BOX IN THE NARTHEX LABELED FOR PROJECT CONCERN FOR YOUR DONATIONS.



OUR ANNUAL EVENT TO BENEFIT MILWAUKEE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
 The Social Ministry Committee will be looking for your help to provide the New Orleansais Food as well seeking young float builders, decorating and clean up volunteers
 Please plan to attend and pick up a Special Lenten Gift envelope



CONFIRMATION OF THE DELIVERY
 The food and quilts for the Veteran Tiny Home along with your generous cash donation has been completed.
 Thanks to all who participated and Served



Great turnout for the Three Kings Sunday Spaghetti Dinner
 For the collection of items needed by babies
 For Project Concern

Thanks for our food preparers, servers, and cleanup crew:
 Jill, Laura, Sharon Lee, Amy, Matt, Susan, Jim Z, Phil, Roslyn, Jim H and Joe
 Congratulations to Larry for finding the baby in the King Cake

The tradition of Candlemas stems from the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, 40 days after His birth. (See Luke 2:22) The day, February 2, also is the exact center of winter, half way to the Spring Equinox (aside from observing whether or not a rodent sees his shadow).

We ARE THANKFUL FOR THE BABY ITEMS YOU DONATED FOR PROJECT CONCERN

St. Mark Archivist, Susan is preparing to begin The process of digitizing our church's nearly 100 Year history. This includes church council minutes, newsletters, weekly bulletins, musical activities, history of the women's groups, and other historical documents. The scanning equipment was generously donated. The scanning of the documents will be the first step in improving the storage needs of St. Mark's.



Members Present

Lance Utke, Laura Zesbe, LuAnn Barber, Sharon Lee, Dave Odden, Beth Kelly, Virginia Grossman and Pastor Tim Tahtinen

Members Excused - Matt Fritz

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 PM

Prayer - Pastor Tim

No Additions to Agenda

No previous minutes to approve

Pastor's Report

Upcoming Hip Surgery on Dec. 16th Pastor Frank Janzow to till in on 12/22/24

King of Glory invited to attend St. Mark's Children's Yule Tide dinner and worship

New Members - Lunch Jan 12th (includes council) New Member Reception Jan 19th.

Pastor to take Reading, writing and prayer retreat in February 19th before lent begins.

Old Business

no old business

New Business

Pastor Tim requested that his the Housing portion of his salary would be set at 45,000 for 2025. Beth proposed and Lance Seconded, motion passed.

Treasure transition - Beth Kelly and Julie Daddario are now signers at Chase Bank and Nick Daddario is no longer a signer.

During the December transition period physical checks will be cut until which time the electronic Zelle is figured out and reimplemented.

Date for Congregational Meeting - After Worship Feb 2nd followed by potluck with alternate date, Feb 9th 2025 in case of inclement weather.

Committee Reports

Social Ministry Report in council packet

Property Committee - Report included with council packet and is has been deturmined that Masonry work on bell tower can wait until spring. Make sure door locks when leaving.

Financial Report given by Beth Kelly, operating deficit up to 20k in november. August deficit was 18k with benevolence. This was in part due to special purchase from property and memorials which have not yet been appropriated. The significant items purchase were, new finance work station, quick books, and french drain tile project. Council authorized memorial funds to be dispersed to general fund to balance cash flow.

Motion - We will redirect funds to pay for finance work station and french drain from undesignated memorials by Pastor Tim Tahinen, seconded by LuAnn Barber.

Motion passed

Discussion followed about making a plan to reduce deficit through matching funds campaign in 2025.

Church Communications

Next Meeting January 15th at St. Marks

Adjournment 7:46pm

Motion by LouAnn Barber and seconded by Sharon Paprocki Unanimously Passed

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Faithfully submitted- Sharon Lee

Save the date...

March 15th, 2025 is

Project Concerns

bowling fundraiser.

See Doug Stewart for more details.



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

2024 Financial Plan as set at Annual Congregational Meeting

Monthly giving needed to fulfill the missions of the people of St. Mark's (operating expenses, stewardship, education, benevolence, etc.

\$11,389

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

2024 Church Council

- LuAnn Barber
- Matt Fritz (President)
- Virginia Grossman
- Sharon Lee
- Dave Odden
- Sharon Paprocki
- Lance Uttke
- Lou Ann Uttke (Vice President)
- Laura Zsebe (Secretary)

Next Council Meeting: Jan 15th at 7:00 p.m.