

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

~January 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

Happy New Year!

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.



Please send all committee annual reports to the office email by Friday, January 17th. Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.

Hello St. Marks Faithful,

I can't believe that we are already a quarter of the way to the next century. Seems like just yesterday that we were celebrating Y2K. In the past 25 years there has been much change and the pace of change has only gotten faster. When in San Francisco this past year I saw my first driverless car. I wanted to go for a ride but couldn't get myself to trust it. I also realized that I was out of coffee beans for my espresso maker at 11 o'clock at night and went onto my smart phone and ordered coffee beans that arrived in my garage before 5am the next morning. What did we ever do before all of this technology? I can't even recall a time before cell phone calendar alerts. How did we know to look at our calendar?

One thing that hasn't changed is the heart and character of our God. God always loves, God always forgives, God always calls us into relationship with Him. It is God's steadfastness that is proclaimed by Isaiah, "The grass withers, the flower fades but the world of the Lord endures for ever." It is precisely that enduring love that anchors us and thus gives us the freedom to try new things, dream new dreams and create new and beautiful works of art.

Peace and Joy, Pastor Tim

Cantata – Yulefest

St Mark celebrated the Advent season with a very well done and informative Cantata. Children explained the meaning of many Christian symbols and origins of traditions as our choirs accented the program with appropriate anthems and led the congregation worship in songs.

The day continued in the fellowship hall with a nice gathering of our congregation to enjoy various chilies and breads and continue the mood of anticipating the arrival of Christmas with song by Pastor Tim's combo group; Doug, Emily and Gary.



We express our gratitude for our Sunday School students, their teachers, our choirs and directors. In addition for those preparers of the fellowship hall, chili, bread and desserts. For the musicians leading us in song, and for the donators for casting a lot, over \$70 was raised to support St Mark's various Ministries.

January is about the Baby

The Social Ministry Committee is focused on the collection of Baby paraphernalia to donate to the Project Concern pantry. Babies need food, wipes and diapers and you are welcome to contribute them during the month of January. On Three Kings Sunday (The first Sunday of Epiphany) January 12th we plan to serve a spaghetti dinner after worship in the Fellowship Hall. King cake anyone?

Sunday School Christmas Pageant

Certainly was one not to have missed. Our Sunday school students with guidance of their teachers (Julie and Nick, Laurie and Joel, and Matt), our Sunday school director (Christa) and a talented student coordinator (Kelly) presented a rendering of Luke's Christmas story. With outstandingly well performed songs sung by the kids.

(Photos by Stori Elhey)



PROJECT CONCERN PERSONAL CARE NEED OF THE MONTH

JANUARY IS SHAMPOO
FEBRUARY IS DISH SOAP

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

Did you notice?

Hopefully you didn't. Thanks to a generous donation from Pastor Tim and Sharon Lee the Property Committee was able to relamp the Chancel with equivalent output LED lamps. The 16 relamped fixtures alone reduced the amount of electricity used from 4000 watts to 360 watts with better light output!

St. Mark's Master Quilter Makers



Jan Ozewalla and Janet Pape and their quilting group have donated their creations to the Hope House and to the Veterans Tiny Home residents

Four quilts were auctioned at the Veterans luncheon and Long John Oktoberfest resulting in our ability to purchase fresh food for the Veterans and additional long johns for the Divine Intervention Warming room guests (Total auction donations added up to \$380)

8 quilts are destined for the Veteran Tiny Houses and 7 pillowcases with 4 quilts have been delivered to the Hope House
Thanks and gratitude for their talent and generosity AND to all who donated

3rd Tuesday January 21

During adult Bible study 3rd Tuesday attenders decided to hold a tea party at our January get together. Please if you are inspired to serve a tea party treat contact Susan (414 239 7973) or Laura in person. If you have a favorite tea, please bring bags to share. If you are a purist, bring you own tea pot and steeper. As usual simple games and visiting are the order of the day. It would be great if anyone wants to teach us something new. With the loss of Joan, we are all in charge and making it up as we go. See you in the Gathering Space at one pm.



Good Gifts

Thank you for participating in the Good Gifts spirit and for suggesting local groups to support. Remember this spirit all year as you contemplate gifting those who ask for no gifts on those special birthdays and anniversaries. Donations to their favorite passion is a caring way to express your joy at sharing their celebrations.



Thank you to all who donated towels and blankets to the humane society! They were extremely appreciated!



Looking for an enjoyable afternoon of fine music? The Eastwinds Chamber Ensemble will present a concert here at St. Marks on Sunday January 26th at 3:00 PM. Admission is free.

You may be asking who is this musical group? The Eastwinds Chamber Ensemble has been in existence since 2002 " as a vehicle to promote music for horn and other instruments, solo and chamber." The artistic director of the ensemble is Mike Keegan, who also plays with the St. Mark's Brass ensemble. St. Mark's Brass and Eastwinds have collaborated to perform many concerts over the years in the spirit of bringing fine works of music of the baroque, classical and modern eras to audiences who may not be as familiar with this artform. The beautiful space of our church sanctuary lends itself well to the presentation of the instrumentation of this music, both acoustically and visually. The concert on January 26th will be a classical woodwind ensemble, and will feature the music of Ludwing van Beethoven, Ruth Gipps and David Moritz Michael. Please consider stopping by to enjoy this beautiful music experience.

Tippecanoe is looking for people to serve meals to the warming room guests. The total time spent, minus your cooking is about 2 hours onsite at Tippecanoe. Generally from 6:00 until 7:30 or so. Guests of the warming room clean up and do the dishes. We serve the guests and then eat with them.

St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church
November 20, 2024 Church Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order-7:06

Members Present- Matt Fritz, Lance Utke, Laura Zesbe, Sharon Lee, Dave Odden, Beth Kelly, Virginia Grossman and Pastor Tim Tahtinen. Members Excused- LuAnn Barber and Sharon Paprocki

Prayer- Pastor Tim

Additions to Agenda- None

Previous meeting minutes- Motion to Accept Lou Ann Uttke Seconded by Virginia Grossman

Pastor's Report- Upcoming Hip Surgery on Dec. 7th Pastor Frank Janzow to fill in on

12/22/24. New Members - Lunch Jan 12th (includes council) New Member Reception Jan

19th. Proposal that we close the church office between Christmas and New years to regular office hours. Pastor to take Reading, writing and prayer retreat in February before lent begins.

Old Business-

Treasure transition update - New finance workroom and equipment up and running with Beth working to get up to speed. All files uploaded, new subscription for Quickbooks.

Bank Account Update - We are continuing the process of updating the official check signers and officers on the church bank account with Chase Bank. Still in process. Very frustrating.

New Business-

Develop Financial Plan - in process for 2025.

Nominating Committee - no committee necessary this year due to the number of returning council members. New council members will still be sought.

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

Committee Report-

Social Ministry Report in council packet. Motion to approve disbursement of proceeds from Long John Octoberfest to Warming Room, \$500 for ongoing expenses with balance to

purchase more long underwear. Motion by Lance Uttke seconded by Sharon Lee

Property Committee - Report included with council packet. Motion to make funds available for new equipment to assist with electronic record keeping in archive room from undesignated memorials not to exceed \$2500. Motion by Pastor Tim, seconded by Lou Ann Uttke

Worship and Music Committee - Report submitted with corrections of Pastor Tim will be present at worship on Dec 15th and Pastor Frank to fill in on Dec 22nd.

Financial Report given by Beth Kelly . Laura Zesbe motion to accept financial report

Motion to accept Committee Reports as amended and Financial report as submitted, seconded Lance Uttke, - motion passed.

Church Communications -

Next Meeting December 13th, Friday 6pm at the Home of Joe and Laura Zesbe.

Audit Committee to be determined.

Adjournment -

Motion by Lou Ann Uttke and seconded by Lance Uttke

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Faithfully submitted- Sharon Lee

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Please be patient with the posting of the financials of the church. Our interim treasurer is still sorting some things out.

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 Zesbe (Secretary)

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