

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

~June 2025 Newsletter~

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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PASTOR TIM'S OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY 11:00AM-5:00PM
WEDNESDAY 10:00AM-12:00PM
THURSDAY BY APPOINTMENT
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN THE
WEEKLY BULLETIN

WELCOMING

WORSHIPPING

SERVING

ST MARK'S COMMUNITY GARDEN PLANTING TIME

Last March our Sunday School student started seeds
And now they are almost all planted
Would you like to help?
Talk to Jim Zsebe



And the seedlings all fit

2025 Church Council

- LuAnn Barber
- Matt Fritz
- Virginia Grossman
- Beth Kelly
- Sharon Lee
- Lori Liebenstein
- Dave Odden
- Jan Orzewalla
- Sharon Paprocki
- Lance Uttke (President)
- Lou Ann Uttke (Vice President)
- Laura Zsebe (Secretary)

Next Council Meeting:
June 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Request from the office

If you have updated your email, moved or finally got rid of your old landline and only have a cell phone, please update your information with the church office.

Sunday July 13th we will have a guest speaker from Tippecanoe to talk about the warming room as well as share one of their success stories. Please come to hear how we can help.

Want to be happy and healthy? Eat More Chips and Dip

Hello St. Marks faithful, for our council retreat last week we watched a YouTube video by a guy who leads a study at Harvard University. The Study had been ongoing for 75 years. They followed and got data from over 700 people about their health, happiness, success and longevity as well as many other things. It is the most extensive study of what makes people happy and healthy ever undertaken. The guy is the 4th curator of the study. What they found is amazing. It is not eating more chips and dip (sorry I wanted more people to actually read this,) that made people live long and happy lives but quality relationships. They learned that holding a grudge or isolating yourself not only makes you unhappy but unhealthy. The men (it was only men for the first 65 years,) in this study who traded work friends with play friends in retirement did much better. Diet and exercise, smoking or drinking had less of an effect than relationships. I guess you could make a case for Chip and dip if you eat it with good friends like at a party of dinner in someone's home.

To this end, the church council have been brainstorming some ways for our church to be more connected. The first step might just be, learning people's names. We are thinking about name tag Sunday once a month where we give everyone a name tag and during the passing of the peace we all will use each other's names. You will be called by name at communion and at coffee hour all in an attempt to make us more connected.

Peace and Joy, Pastor Tim

PROJECT CONCERN
PERSONAL CARE
NEED OF THE
MONTH

JUNE IS SHAMPOO
JULY IS DISH SOAP

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

Thank you to
everyone who helped
in any way with
Easter
Breakfast. Without
your help we would
not be able to
continue with this
tradition...until next
year.



Please join St. Mark's Lutheran
Church for the Twelfth Musical
Benefit Concert for Project
Concern

June 8, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

Featuring Music by:

St. Mark's Cathedral Choir

St. Mark's Handbell Choir

St. Mark's Brass

Silver Music Flute Ensemble

Eastwinds

AND solo and small ensemble performances

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

3515 E. Van Norman Ave. Cudahy, WI

Free will offering and nonperishable food items will be accepted
at the door.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY WITH YOUR SPECIAL LENTEN GIFT

Your donations will be used for welcome gifts for new HFH
homeowners. Your generosity totaled \$1,148. Enough to purchase new
homeowner gifts for 3 new Habitat for Humanity homeowners.



Hunger Rumble 5k run/walk community
event to support Project Concern, June
21. Packet pick-up at 8:00 am, race start
time 9:00. Register

at projectconcerncudahy.org or

<https://5kevents.raceentry.com/hunger-rumble/race-nformation>.

Volunteers needed!



3rd Tuesday

is on the calendar
for June 17th at
1:00 PM in the
Gathering Space.

ACT BOLDLY and
come for new
challenges

**PLANNED
BOLDLY.** We will
still have simple
games available
and chatter.

PLEASE REMEMBER LWR THIS SUMMER

Ballots returned suggested quilts, cash, fabric kits and
baby care kits. Since there was no overwhelming
choice, Social Ministry requests you follow your heart
and choose your project. Sunday School parents,
collecting LWR kit items is a summer tradition so please
consider as a family or friend / neighbor activity.
Instructions and banks will be on the kiosk table.



Plans are being considered for quilting
opportunities so read those weekly
invitations to worship for announcements.
When you complete a kit with your child,
please bring it on Rally Day, Sept. 7. Adult
projects should be brought no later than
Sept. 28 as we take them to Racine in Oct.

ST MARK'S GLOBAL REFUGEE ONE DAY RUMMAGE SALE



Mission Accomplished....thank you, faithful Saint Mark members. When the Social Ministry Committee learned of the Property Committee's attempt to declutter and remove unused items, we recognized an opportunity to fulfill our world mission without another ask for cash. The benefits included over five hundred dollars for our refugee mission. Thank you for following our instructions as unsold items did not need to be discarded but could be donated. Doug Stewart chose the good, quality items for Project Concern. His words: "Are the owners of this stuff willing to give it away for free?" Puppies benefited from unsold throws and small items were tucked away for Hope House and the Warming Room. Unexpected benefits were the memories of Saint Mark shared by shoppers, the family and friends who came to support the workers, a shopper who inquired about renting the space and the impact on the woman buying sunflower décor who was gifted with sunflower seeds. The team: Ginny Grossman, Jill Hyatt, Sue Kettula, Randy Kohl, Sharon Kuharske. Lori Liebenstein, Adel Ortloff, Jan Orzewall, Susan Ploetz, Joe and Laura Zsebe. Their benefit: a renewed sense of community as we shared pricing, displaying, promoting, giggles, troubles and joys. What's next: buy a ticket for the quilt on display in the narthex. The drawing will be held when the donor value is reached. Come to the church picnic and relax.



Picnic! Sunday, June 21st. The picnic will take place at Vretnar Park in St. Francis. The Chicago Folk Service will be held at 11:00 am with lunch being served at noon. Brats, burgers, water and lemonade will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Dust off your horseshoe skills and play a game of horseshoes. Food will be served at Noon.



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT – ST. MARK'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH AS OF APRIL 30, 2025

2025 Financial Plan Approved at Annual Congregational Meeting \$151,289	Operating deficit as of March 31, 2025	\$ (18,874)
Monthly Giving Needed to Achieve Plan \$12,607	Gifts received	14,417
2025 Anticipated Receipts \$137,750	The missions supported by these gifts:	
Monthly Giving Needed to Match Receipts \$11,479	10% Benevolence (Synod, LSS, Interfaith, Divine Intervention, Habitat for Humanity, Tricklebee Café, Project Concern, Outreach for Hope, Camp)	1,442
	Current expenses	10,582
	Total investment in missions	12,024
	Operating deficit as of April 30, 2025	\$ (16,481)
	Operating deficit offset by accumulated funds for the following:	
	Designated benevolence for Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 9,875
	Designated benevolence for Local Missions	13,618
	Designated for Special Appeals*	4,168
	Total funds designated	27,661
	Net operating cash flow available to fund expenses	\$ 11,180
	Building/Memorial Fund gifts received	\$ 268
	Designated Benevolence/Special Appeal* gifts received	\$ 345

*Special Appeals include at various times - Walk to the Well, Divine Intervention (Warming Room), Sunday School, Habitat for Humanity, Veterans Outreach, Community Garden, Kitchen Remodel, etc.

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS – A NEW APPROACH

Thanks for our volunteers who have offered their time and talents to help with some of the tasks needed to be accomplished at St Mark

There is still time for you to join in one of the task teams

We are grateful for Sue Kettula, Sharon Lee, Phil Shaw, Lance Uttke, Jim Zsebe, Jan Owewalla, Lori Liebenstien, Jill Hyatt, Susan Ploetz, Christa Lundh, and Penny Scherf for their offerings

Thank you!
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church
April 16, 2025
Church Council Meeting Minutes
St. Mark's Mission Statement

Living Christ's call to "love one another" St. Mark's is committed to **welcoming** all people into the warmth of God's loving presence through **worshipping** God, and **serving** all.

Members Attending: President Lance Uttke, Lu Ann Barber, Matt Fritz, Virginia Grossman, Beth Kelly, Lori Liebenstein, Jan Orzwalla, Sharon Paprocki, Lou Ann Uttke, Pastor Tim

Excused: Sharon Lee, Dave Odden, Laura Zsebe

Congregational Guest: Joe Zsebe

Call to Order: President Uttke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Prayer: Pastor Tim began the meeting with a prayer.

Addition to/Approval of Agenda: Agenda reviewed by council. Motion to approve agenda made by LA Uttke with second S Paprocki; motion carried.

Approval of previous minutes: Reviewed meeting minutes from 3/19/2025. Motion by M. Fritz to approve meeting minutes with second by S. Paprocki; motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Tim reports a busy upcoming Holy Week. At least 4 children will receive their First Communion. Pastor will also be on vacation from after worship on 4/27. Doug Stewart will lead worship on 5/4/25. He is also currently writing his book for his Doctoral Dissertation; this is going well.

Mission Priorities: On pause until after Council Retreat.

Old Business:

1. **Car Show Update-Aug. 16 (location?):** Discussion limited as D. Odden not in attendance. Flyers are ready to be distributed. J. Orzwalla offered to make a quilt to have raffled at the Car Show; council agreeable. Pastor Tim suggested the Car Show be held at St. Mark's. A request could be made to the city to temporarily block off Van Norman from the eastern alley west to Kingan Ave. After the car show, St. Mark's could host a block party. This would be a way for the neighbors to get to know us and vice versa. Church would provide grills, individuals to bring own meat to cook. Later in year (autumn?) St. Mark's could offer weekly classes for learning, utilizing the talents of our congregation. Neighbors would be notified of the Car Show and post block party. Church would need to apply to the City of Cudahy at least 45 days prior to event. D Odden will be updated.

Joe Zsebe addressed council. Joe highlighted Social Ministry written report, including recommendation to council. Discussion included the need for the Executive Committee to complete forms for City of Cudahy, obtaining a card reader, possible need for an individual to have Safe Serve certification. Motion by Pastor Tim to approve Social Ministry securing the beverage sale permit for the library event July 22nd (rain date July 26) with second by S. Paprocki, motion carried.

2. **Meeting to decide executive committee by-laws:** Tabled at this time as would require a change in constitution.
3. **Council Timeline Update:** This is a general timeline of the items council is in part responsible for. Last update was 2012. Written timeline given to council members, will discuss in future.
4. **Appointed Benevolence Groups:** Discussed possible changes in benevolence, this was updated by council in 2024. Will revisit in October prior to Financial Plan.
5. **Council Retreat-May 31 9 am Pastors (Mission Priorities & Project):** Council Project is a mission that we will financially support. Mission Priorities are items that council would like to work on (with congregation) and accomplish at St. Marks.
6. **Insurance Change Progress:** B. Kelly will be meeting with an individual from Lightwell Insurance Advisors to take pictures and walk the property to give us an insurance quote. All State declined to give the church a quote. She will possibly speak with West Bend Mutual and Brotherhood Mutual; she will also speak with our current carrier Church Mutual.
7. **Benevolence Ideas:** Considerations.

New Business:

1. **Summer Meeting Plans:** In the past, council has sometimes elected to skip a summer meeting when there are no pressing concerns. At this time, we will plan on monthly meetings in order to continue plans of Car Show, etc.

General Items:

1. **Committee Reports:** Written report from Social Ministry reviewed. Worship & Music did not meet prior to council.
2. **Finance:** B. Kelly reviewed written report with council. Treasurer's Report shows Congregational Gifts monthly comparison has dipped slightly in 2025, may be due to Easter in April this year. Deficit has increased slightly. Pastor Tim shared that this fall a multi-year Stewardship Campaign will hopefully address this.
3. **Communication:** Synod Assembly will be 5/30 and 5/31. Members are encouraged to attend if able. service is indoors then the hymnals will be used.
4. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by S. Paprocki with second by LA Uttke; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Lu Ann Barber, Volunteer Recording Secretary