

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
10:30-12:30
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
AS NEEDED

~February 2026 Newsletter~

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 3515 E. Van Norman Ave.
 Cudahy, WI 53110
 Phone: 414-744-5624
 Email: office@stmarks-elca-cudahy.org
 Website: <http://www.stmarks-elca-cudahy.org>

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



Join us Sunday, February 1st after our worship service for St. Mark's Annual Congregational meeting. The alternate date will be February 8th if needed. We will enjoy a potluck lunch before the meeting.



February is here and so is Super Bowl and Souper Bowl. Continue the tradition of bringing soup for Project Concern during the month. Because the date is shared with Fat Sunday we are not providing a soup meal but reverting to the old favorite rivalry pitting the North side pew sitters against the South side pew sitters [Note alpha order neutrality] Go teams.



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:
February 18th at 7:00 pm

PROJECT CONCERN
 PERSONAL CARE NEED OF
 THE MONTH
FEBRUARY IS
DEODORANT
MARCH IS
TOOTHBRUSHES AND
TOOTHPASTE
 THERE IS A BOX IN THE
 NARTHEX LABELED FOR
 PROJECT CONCERN FOR YOUR
 DONATIONS.

YES, YOU CAN DO THAT TOO WORKSHOPS
 Sharon Lee will be conducting bread making workshop on February 28th 9 Am to 1 Pm in the St Mark Kitchen
AND
 On March 28th Jan Orzewalla will conduct a quilting bee workshop
AND
 Now, how can I fix that workshop TBA
 Watch for the details

Pastor will be out of the office from Monday 2/2 – Friday 2/6. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time please reach out to him on his cell.

Dear Friends,

To state the obvious, it is really cold out. As I write this it is -5 degrees and while I am in a warm house with a hot cup of coffee, stepping outside my house I nearly froze to death in the 30 or so seconds it took to retrieve an Amazon delivery from the driveway. It got me to thinking about how isolating this cold weather can be. Now, if you are one who has to get up and brave the cold to go to work or school, it might not seem so. For those who just plan on hunkering down and waiting it out, what can we do to shake the cabin fever and connect with real human beings. I suggest you take out your phone and instead of scrolling through social media, take a few minutes to scroll through your contact list and pick out a few people who might need to hear your voice with a cheerful word. There is so much negativity in our world right now, how about just calling to say hi and hope you are well. You could even invite them to church for our Mardi Gras worship and dinner coming up February 15th. We are planning a special worship service that is visitor friendly (pastor will preach a good, short, sermon) and our choir and brass band will be featured. Cold weather passes but the warmth of friendship is here to stay.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Tim

3rd Tuesday equals Feb.17th and Sam (Samantha) Scaffidi. She will be home on furlough and volunteered to share her experiences with us. To recap: after seven years as a steward on the Lake Express, she now has the same position on the National Geographic ship Venture. In place of Muskegon her ports now range from Ketchikan to La Paz. See you in the Gathering Space at 1:00 pm.



WARMING ROOM OPPURTUNITIES

St Mark has volunteered to serve dinners to the guests at the Devine Intervention Warming Room February 16th (Lunde Gras) following Fat Sunday

If you are able to serve on any of these dates let a member of the Social Ministry committee know

If you check the bulletin board we have information of how to sign up for other dates that are available for your service.



VETERANS DELIVERY Mission Accomplished

January 20th, Joe and Laura delivered the quilts and food you donated to the Veteran Tiny Home Village Pantry. All the food in the pantry is available to veterans at no cost, Michael Rembalski, Director of Program Services gratefully accepted the donations you made during last November's St Mark Veteran Outreach.

He offered special thanks for the quilts as they have many new residents at the village.

SNOW SHOVEL ENTHUSIASTS!

Very few select late winter weeks are still available for your chance to clear any snow from the church sidewalks Thank you for all of you volunteers

CANDELMAS COLLECTION



With Gratitude we thank those who have donated the food for the Three Kings Candlemas Spaghetti dinner on January 11th Jan Orzewalla, Laura Zsebe, Phil and Roslyn Shaw, Sharon Lee, Jill Hyatt, Christa Wittenberg, Andrea Wawrzyn, Sue Kettula, Amy Fritz, Arletta Ahonen, Emily Buckner, Janet Pape, and Susan Ploetz

And in addition for those who helped with all the work setting up and cleaning up after

Tim Uttke, Jim and Lori Liebenstein and Lu Ann Barber

Our 40 plus, well fed, members that attended contributed over \$200 to kick off the collection to purchase supplies for babies donated to Project Concern on behalf of St Mark

The food that was left was just enough feed the guests of the Devine Intervention Warming Room the following Monday evening served by Andrea Wawrzyn, Sue Kettula, Sharon Kharske, Tina and Kalea Gaffney

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE EPHIPANY SEASON IS FEBRUARY 15th

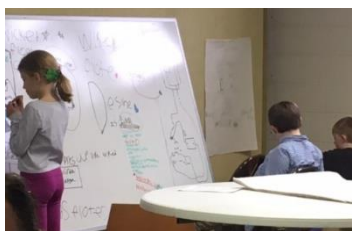
So, let's get together and celebrate **FAT SUNDAY** on February 15th, before the season of Lent begins on the following Wednesday. **Kristi Sebald**, Volunteer Services & Events Manager for Milwaukee Habitat will be in attendance to answer your questions along with a new HFH homeowner. Our St Mark Brass Band has plenty of festive music to perform and of course we are planning New Orleans food for you to sample, yes ain't nothing but a party for you to enjoy



We Thank Thrivent for providing funds to help make this event a success

LENTEN SPECIAL GIFTS HFH envelopes are available for you to make a special gift during the Lenten Season. Perhaps a dollar a day added to the envelope for the forty days of Lent? Then at Easter add it with your offering envelope during the offertory.

Your gift will be added to St Mark's Habitat For Humanity Building on Faith gift. Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity is planning to build 40 new homes this year!!



FLOAT BUILD AND DECORATE

Hey we need some of our young people and folks able to help and join in on **FEBRUARY 8th** After worship. To construct and decorate floats for the **Fat Sunday Second Line Parade**

And yes as is tradition there will be pizza and floats . Think about your ideas, plan and build. Say, what about that self driving house float idea 2.0?



A Witness to Service

-a conversation with Sue Kettula by Laura Zsebe

"Sue you recently participated in a meal service at the Warming Room and I've heard you speak so positively about it."

"What about that experience made such an impression on you?"

"The idea that I was so Blessed"

"That we as a church shared what we had, and the people were so appreciative."

"Was it hard to do?"

"No, it was easy something everyone should experience."

"Is it awkward to eat with the guests?"

"Not at all. My conversation started with How about them Packers? Lots of opinions."

"What did you take home with you?"

"The knowledge that these people are us. I got to hear their humanity. That they were us with different circumstances."

Now I truly feel my Blessing, the ones I used to take for granted, a warm house, a hot shower, a trip to the grocery store. Sitting down in a comfy chair in a warm house on a cold night."

See People though the eyes and heart of Jesus.

Save the dates:

Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5th. We will be looking for volunteers to help set up on Saturday, April 4th for a few hours and on Sunday morning to help cook and serve. If interested please see Jill Hyatt.

Project Concern Bowling FundRaiser on Sat. April 25th.

St. Mark's Church Picnic on Sunday, June 14th.

St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church
December 12, 2025
Church Council Minutes
St. Mark's Mission Statement

Living in 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 **servicing** all.

Members Attending: President Lance Uttke, Lu Ann Barber, Virginia Grossmann, Beth Kelly, Lori Liebenstein, Jan Orwalla, Sharon Paprocki, Lou Ann Uttke, Laura Zsebe

Members Excused: Matt Fritz, Sharon Lee, Dave Odden, Pastor Tim

Call to Order: President Uttke called the meeting to order at 6:50

Devotions: Lance led devotions with a prayer.

Addition to/Approval of Agenda: Under new business add #3 Gift Cards Motion to approve as amended made by Lu Ann Barber with a second by Lori Liebenstein. Motion carried.

Approval of previous minutes: Motion to approve November minutes made by Lu Ann Barber with a second by Lori Liebenstein. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: There was no report.

Mission Priorities: Council Mission we collected \$240.00 .

Old Business:

1. **Activate Nomination Committee 2nd year term:** Sharon Paprocki is willing to return for a 2nd 3 year term.
2. **Pastor's letter:** We made the changes and I sent the revised letter to Pastor Tim to review and we have not heard from him as today. I will check with Pastor Tim to see what the status is.
3. Just a reminder the Annual Meeting will be on February 1st with an alternate date of February 8th.
4. A reminder a Special Meeting with committee members and anyone who has questions on finances will be on January 18, 2026.

New Business:

1. **Activate Nomination Committee 2nd year term:** Sharon Paprocki is willing to return for a 2nd 3 year term.
2. **Annual Reports from Committees:** Just a reminder to start working on the reports from the committees for the annual report.
3. **Appoint Audit Committee:** Lou Ann Uttke & Lori Liebenstein will serve on this committee. Lou Ann will ask Jill Hyatt if she would be willing to serve on it as well. We will meet at church with Beth Kelly on January 17 around 10:00 am.
4. **Gift Cards:** In the past we gave a \$50 gift card to Robin, Emily, Gary, Julie and Maria as a way to thank them for their service. Pastor Tim & Sharon took care of this last year, we need to ask Pastor how he wants to handle this.

General Items:

1. **Committee Report:** No written reports. I mentioned that Education did not meet. There were no recommendations from any of the committees.
2. **Finance:** Nothing is new. We still have a deficit. Beth read to us what she put in the newsletter. Lance mentioned a plan called Impact Giving and explained how it works. We will discuss more in detail.
3. **Communication:** We got a letter from Tippicanoe thanking us for the sleeping mats for the warming room. We did a special gift of \$500 and our benevolence gift for a total of \$1,400.00
4. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Lori Liebenston with a second by Lu Ann Barber. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Ann Uttke, Volunteer Recording Secretary