

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

~September 2026 Newsletter~

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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PASTOR TIM'S OFFICE HOURS
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AND
THURSDAY MORNING AND
AFTERNOONS
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN
THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

WELCOMING

WORSHIPPING

SERVING

Sunday School
classes begin at
9:15am for all ages.

ENOUGH WITH RELAX AND FLOAT DOWN STREAM
HOT DOG!
IT'S RALLY DAY!

LWR SCHOOL KITS RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 13th

The kits will be collected and donated to Lutheran World Relief for distribution to children in the US and around the world. Please pick up a list of items needed for each kit in our Gathering Space and donate what you are able to by September 13th. A hot dog lunch will be served after worship



3rd Tuesday, also known as
Sept. 15th

You scream; I scream; let's all scream for ice cream at 1:00 pm in the Gathering Space. We will play simple card games so we can still chat and share our wisdom as we take a pause from our usual day.

ST MARK'S COUNCIL CAR SHOW
September 19th at So. Milwaukee Walmart



PROJECT CONCERN PERSONAL CARE
NEED OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER IS TOOTHBRUSHES AND
TOOTHPASTE

OCTOBER IS

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

ANNUAL ST MARK'S WALK TO THE WELL IS SEPTEMBER 27th
Get your walking shoes ready and join our group or sponsor our group with a donation.

Funds raised are designated for Project Concern



St Mark T shirts are still available from Susan Ploetz

2026 Church Council

- Emily Buckner
- Virginia Grossman
- Beth Kelly
- Sharon Lee
- Lori Liebenstein
- Dave Odden
- Jan Orzewalla
- Sharon Paprocki (Vice President)
- Terra Scott (Secretary)
- Lance Uttke (President)
- Lou Ann Uttke
- Christa Wittenberg
- Laura Zsebe

Next Council Meeting:
September 16th at 7:00 pm

Getting Ready for the big 60

Hello St. Marks faithful,

Recently my wife and I had an extended conversation about life, getting older, work, social security, retirement and that kind of big life stuff. It actually surprised me that I am talking about such things for myself. I sometimes hear friends my age say, "I can't wait to retire." It makes me think I should spend some time thinking about it at least. After doing some soul searching and several conversations with my wife and close friends, I have concluded this at least. I feel pretty good about my life. I love my work. I have a great, fun, growing relationship with my wife. The financial struggles of living pay check to pay check (most of my life) are in the rear-view mirror and my health is pretty good. Life is good... but, is that enough. I have never been one to set my sites of being rich or having it all. Ok, I realize that I am in a place of great privilege just have my head above water long enough to have the time to ponder this. For this I am truly grateful. The question remains, what am I to do with the time I have, to make the most of what I have been given. How do I use my gifts to serve God in this time and place. I don't fully have the answer yet.

One thing I have been kicking around for a few years is to write a resource for "Lectio Divina" as well as for Pastors preaching on the Narrative Lectionary. It would be similar in scope to the book we used two years ago, *We Make the Road By Walking* by Brian MacLaren. I have decided to go ahead and start writing on this to make it available a week at a time by Rally Sunday. You can sign up to receive it via email or text each week.

We will begin "Lectio Divina" the Wednesday after Rally Sunday, September 16th at 4pm. We will also be starting a new evening class at 5:30-6:30pm on Thursdays (come and stay for Choir.) I hope to see you all then.

Pastor Tim



TASTE OF OKTOBERFEST OCTOBER 11th

Watch for that "winning" 6 pack of Oktoberfest style beer you can donate for the sampling. The donation sheet is now available, choose a brewery and take the reminder tag of your choice. WE WILL ALSO HAVE VARIOUS ROOT BEERS TO SAMPLE

There will be a sign up for the Bavarian style menu items you can donate, and volunteers to serve at the fest. All funds collected at the event are designated for the Divine Intervention Warming Room. YOU CAN ALSO PICK UP A COUPLE INVITATION CARDS (IN OUR GATHERING SPACE) TO INVITE A FRIEND OR TWO TO THE FEST

FROM SEED TO FEEDING PEOPLE



See the St Mark's Community Garden grow and produce! The Garden harvest has yielded more than 146 pounds of produce for the Project Concern food pantry.

Thanks to Farmer Doug for regularly harvesting and delivering the food to the pantry, to feed people in our community.



WE appreciate those caring for the Garden by weeding and planting another crop for late season harvest.

Remember this all started last March when our Sunday School students sown some seed.

WE CAN SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE IS PLANNING FOR A FALL CLEAN UP DAY NOVEMBER 7th AND STILL HAS VOLUNTEER JOBS AVAILABLE TO THOSE OF YOU WITH TIME AND TALENT TO SHARE

SUCH AS:

Class room window casing varnish finish, Paint mailbox and front railing, Complete landscape east side, Front entry wood finish, Clean AC cabinets, Straighten front bollard, Nursery Screen repair, Basement rooms and hallway ceiling paint, NW door paint/ lock, SE door security plate, AC Covers secure, Fascia/ soffit Trim, Window Wells (Cleanup), Basement window cleaning, Continue shed work, Window sash restoration, Garden/ landscape work, AND MUCH MUCH MORE

Oktoberfest

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ANNOUNCES OPPURTUNITIES

Please reach out to Joe Zsebe to build a St Mark Team

At the time of printing there is a painting opportunity on October 31st for a team at the "Luther House" on north 23rd St. it is one of the four homes Building on Faith where various churches are the home sponsors.

September 2nd at 10:00AM. MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING

You'll get to meet our new Director of Constructon, Nathan Wachtl. Nathan joined our team in July! Hear more about his background and his vision for our construction production in the future.

- Updates on all FOUR Building on Faith homes and homeowners in 2026

Who do you know?

We are looking for some volunteer help in specific/skilled areas. If you or someone you know are interested, please connect them with me at ksebald@milwaukeehabitat.org.

- Vehicle/fleet maintenance - approximately 1-2 days per month to help with general truck and van maintenance at our warehouse
- Yard/Garden maintenance - approximately 1-2 days per month to help with mowing, weeding, general outdoor property maintenance at our warehouse
- Electrical team - certified electricians or just a general interest in learning about wiring our homes.

Upcoming Interfaith Events

- 9/9/26 The United States of America: An Interfaith Discussion 6:30-8:30PM at Redeemer Church, [1905 W Wisconsin Ave.](#)

St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church

June 17, 2026

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 **serving** all.

Members Attending: President Lance Uttke, Emily Buckner, Virginia Grossmann, Beth Kelly, Lori Liebenstein, Sharon Lee, Dave Odden, Jan Orzewalla, Sharon Paprocki, Terra Scott, Pastor Tim, Lou Ann Uttke, Christa Wittenberg, Laura Zsebe

Members Excused: Christa Wittenberg

Call to Order: President Lance Uttke called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Devotions: Pastor Tim led with a question by asking us what are highs and lows were since we last met and then led us in a prayer.

Addition to/Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve was made by Sharon Paprocki with a second by Terra Scott. Motion carried.

Approval of previous minutes: Motion to approve May minutes was made by Lori Liebenstein with a second by Beth Kelly. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor will be taking a couple days of vacation next week. In the fall he would like to do a campaign similar to the one last fall only this time the focus would be on how you feel about what you do in and around the church. More details to follow.

Mission Priorities: Nothing to add at this time.

Old Business:

1. **Bell Tower Update:** The front is done. The sides are being worked on. The 2nd installment is due this week. The final installment will be due upon completion of the project.
2. **Car Show:** Dave brought a sample flyer for us to look at. The date has been changed to September 19th instead of September 12th and it will be held at the Walmart in South Milwaukee. Walmart will advertise for us on facebook and other media tools. Sharon Lee will be in charge of food with Sharon Paprocki helping her. Lou Ann Uttke will help with registration.

New Business:

1. There is no new business to discuss

General Items:

1. **Committee Report:** There was a written report from Social Ministry. Education Committee did not meet.
2. **Finance:** We will use memorials and building fund to pay for the bell tower for now.
3. **Communication:** We received a thank you letter for our contributions to the Greater Milwaukee Synod.
4. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Lou Ann Uttke with a second by Emily Buckner. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Ann Uttke, Volunteer Recording Secretary