



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

A publication of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Mount Prospect, Illinois

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God's Bold and Wild Plans

"Noah: Build a boat, fill it with your family and two of every kind of animal and I will save you from this flood that is on its way." And Noah built a boat.

"Abraham and Sarah: leave what you know, travel to a different land, and you will have a child, even though you are in your 90s, and I will make you parents of a family as numerous as the stars in the sky." And Abraham and Sarah left all that they knew and gave birth to a son in their old age.

"Moses: go to Pharaoh and tell him 'Let My People Go,' then lead them through the Red Sea out of slavery into freedom." And Moses went and led the Israelites into freedom.

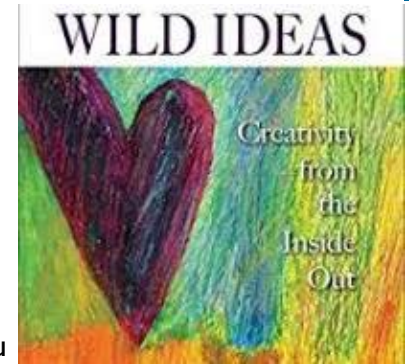
"Israelites: look at this bronze serpent lifted up, and you will be healed." And the Israelites looked and they were healed.

As we've been remembering the covenant God made with God's people throughout the ages, I've been struck by two things: God's plans are wild and unpredictable and people have to boldly step into the unknown to follow those plans. God does some crazy things and people say yes to some wild adventures. One of my favorite bible verses comes from Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you, plans for a future and a hope." God has a dream for us for a future and a hope, and it often looks unlike anything we have ever thought of or could imagine on our own. But God plants a vision in our hearts and they grow into the unexpected. We are challenged to take the bold moves of faith to meet God in the unexpected.

These past months we've been working to be bolder, and to celebrate the bold things we are doing here through the ministry of St. Mark. At the Annual Meeting we celebrated these bold moves among others: the audacity to provide hospitality to so many people each week at PADS, the welcoming and community building coming out of community dinners, the learning and connections we are making in Worship Field Trips with other faiths, the way we see our everyday life as ministry with the Ministry in Daily Life Reports (blue cards). There are undoubtedly other bold moves we've been making as well.

At Council in February we took a longer view and asked what crazy wild things God has invited us to do in the past and we've said yes. Some of our answers were PADS, building the Center, roller skating as spiritual formation, building the Addition. And then we got to the fun part: **What wild crazy plans has God written on your heart for things we might do?** A question and answer session with a Living Apostle, utilizing the now vacant space to the east of our parking lot for something, opening a bakery, building a pizza oven, having a pay as you are able restaurant, putting kids in charge of things, having a kids space in the little balcony behind the transept. These were some of our answers. **What are the wild and crazy plans God has written on your heart for this congregation?** I invite you to share them on the "Wild Dreams Written on our Hearts" sheet on the Bulletin Board by the Great Room. I don't know what wild thing God might do with these ideas, but I know that God is in the dreaming.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Christie





Thank you so much for the lovely flowers I received. What a nice surprise on a cloudy and cold winter day!

Carole Hauslein



**Hear again the
powerful stories of
God's redeeming work**

♥ Moses ♥

♥ The Israelites ♥

Wednesdays in Lent

March 7, 14, & 21

Morning: 11am Worship,
11:30am Soup Lunch,
Noon Bible Study

Evening: 6pm Soup Supper,
7pm Worship &
Prayer Stations*

*Faithwalk class time will continue
following worship until 8pm

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday **March 25**
Worship **8 & 10 am**

Maundy Thursday **March 29**
Worship **7 pm**

Good Friday **March 30**
Worship **7 pm**

Easter Vigil **March 31**
Easter Egg Hunt **6 pm**
Worship **7 pm**
S'mores **to follow**

Easter Sunday **April 1**
Worship **8 & 10 am**
Easter breakfast begins at 8:30 am





What's Happening in Youth & Family Ministry?

THANK YOU!
St. Mark Lutheran Church
raised:
\$285 and 105 food items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

SUPER BOWL OF CARING
souperbowl.org

February 4, 2018

Clara B. Cooper
Clara Cooper
President and CEO
Souper Bowl of Caring



On Saturday, February 10th, Deacon Dave and Mrs. G. set out with 8 middle school & high school youth to Wilmot Mountain for the annual Ski Trip, stopping at Denny's along the way to fuel up. A good time was had by all!

HEY KIDS....Don't miss the Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday, March 31 at 6 pm before the Easter Vigil!!



Tastefully Simple Fundraiser

Thank you to all who have been supporting our youth through this fundraiser.



The next tasting is **Sunday, March 4**, which will showcase the new spring line of products. All purchases get you entered in a raffle for more Tastefully Simple products!! So ... Come by and sample some tasty goodies. Also, check out the products online and place your orders there. Simply go to: tastefullysimple.com/web/mciske, shop, then choose St Mark (St M) as the host at check out. SIMPLE!! (This is an on-going fundraiser throughout the year.) Money raised helps support Youth trips and activities. In 2017, we raised \$1140.90, exceeding our goal of \$1000! We have set a loftier goal for 2018—\$1500! Can you help us reach it?



Calling All High School Youth!

Come learn about Hunger!
Participate in the
30-hour Famine
March 9-10

Sign-up with Mr. Webb or Mrs. G.
By Wednesday, March 7

Children and Church

By Deacon Dave

Children and church are the two places where I live out my call from God. Most of my work at St. Mark involves the way those two things overlap.

This Lent is shaping up to be a time of year when we find children and church intersecting and

overlapping in many ways. Throughout the church, prayer

stations and activity centers have been set up to help young people, and the people that drive them around, engage with what happens at church. Young people have such a natural curiosity with what happens at church they are always quite eager to understand what adults are up to, but because church is almost wholly shaped around the way adults engage with the world, we are always looking for new ways to invite children into the words, motions, stories, music, and rituals of what's happening at church.



Thankfully, the ways we pray are often times very close to the way children engage with the world, so much of the prayer stations and activity centers that are set up around the church will serve as excellent prayer stations for the Lenten services and our collective Lenten pilgrimage as we prepare for Jesus' Passion.

A Quiet Place: Prayer Chapel

By Deacon Dave



Be still and know
that I am God. Psalm 46:10

During Lent, the room next to the sacristy will be a temporary prayer chapel. In those four walls you will be invited to practice quiet for as long and however you would like. We ask that no matter how you practice that you leave the door ajar, blow out the candles when you leave, and if you forget that it is a silent space and find yourself talking or engaged in making noise that you simply return to quiet. There will be a sign on the door to let you know if the room is being used.

Quiet, peaceful places can be very hard to find! We also find ourselves increasingly out of practice spending time in quiet, peaceful places. During Lent the prayer chapel will give you a chance to experience quiet as a way of spending time with God. Researchers talk about real quiet as presence instead of an absence of sound. Quiet and silence are not an absence of sound. Trying to find spaces without any sound is physically impossible and in a suburban setting a practical impossibility. An absence of sound misses the mark on our intention, as well. Shutting out all sound would not bring you any closer to God or give you a better ability to hear, but going to quiet places where there is a minimum of noise and sound gives you a chance to be present in a place where there are few distractions and more of a chance to feel or intuit the presence of God. Come see what a little bit of quiet can do for you and your Lenten Journey.

Thoughts from the Loft

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" is one of my favorite Lenten hymns. The last phrase of the first verse speaks of "pouring contempt on all my pride". Finding pride in what one does as a musician can be difficult at times. Maybe even during Lent it is not

bad to subdue that pride. Even if you're singing in the pew, you can subtly suggest that your pride remain on hold until the day we greet our risen Savior! In the meantime, may we tell the story of salvation with our humble acts of musical devotion, prayer, and thanksgiving.

Peace,
Tim



Senior Lunch Bunch

(or anyone who would like to join us)

Thursday, March 15

1:00 pm

Club Casa Café

(353 N River Rd, Des Plaines)

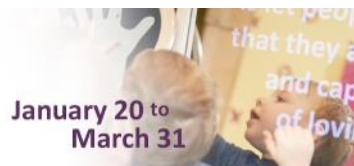
Come and enjoy Thursday Rib Special

Includes salad, 1/2 slab ribs, baked potato, cole slaw and beverage
(coffee, tea, soda) Cash Bar available
\$17.00 per person

Reservation and payment to Marilyn Gosell by Monday, March 12.

Make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church

Questions? Call Marilyn at 847-508-5512



XOXO: A Worship Field Trip?

Between now and March 31st we will organize groups to go see and discuss XOXO an exhibit of Love and Forgiveness at the Arlington Heights Public Library. Contact Deacon David if you are interested in going with a group, carpooling, or discussing the experience if you go on your own.

dwebb@stmarkmp.org If you would like to learn more about the exhibit you can visit this webpage
<http://www.ahml.info/xoxo>



Wed. & Tues. March 21 & 27 **9:00 am**
 Quilting
 2nd floor, Education wing

Friday, April 13 **7:00 pm**
 Ladies Night Out at the Movies
 Great Room



Quilters

The quilters are back to their regular schedule in February. Join them on **Wednesday, March 21, and/or Tuesday, March 27**. They meet at 9 am on the second floor of the education wing.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!



Ladies Night Out at the Movies
Friday, April 13
7 pm in the Great Room



Friday, March 16
7pm in the Great Room

A Smorgasbord of Crafts

1. Join us as Jeanne Kueter shows us how to stamp Easter Cards. Cost=\$2 per card with a maximum of 5 cards per person. RSVP to the church office by Monday, March 12 with your name and the number of cards you would like to make. (stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org)
2. Come & fold origami doves for the Make A Wish Foundation. 1000 doves indicate a wish has been granted. These will be used at a Benefit in June.
3. Come & cut fabric squares that will be used by the St. Mark quilters for the LVR quilts. OR
4. Bring your own personal craft to work on!

Come and join the FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

(Recommended for 6th grade through adult)



Time to
Spring Ahead

**Daylight Savings
Time Begins
March 11**

Remember to set your
clocks ahead one hour
before you go to bed on
the 10th

Join us at Holy Family School
as we celebrate Read Across
America Day on Monday,
March 5th. Interested?
Contact Pastor Christie by
Sunday, March 4.



Stations of the Cross & Fish Fry Friday, March 16

Fish Fry at 5 pm
Stations of the Cross at 7 pm

Join us at St. Raymond for Stations of the Cross and
Fish Fry. The Stations of the Cross are a rich way to
journey through Lent and Jesus' final hours. Hungry?

Join us for the Fish Fry beforehand or celebrate
St. Patrick's Day with Harrington's corned beef &
cabbage. The dinner costs \$12 for adults, \$11 for
seniors, \$7 for children. Choose between Fried Cod,
or Shrimp, Corned Beef & Cabbage, or Cheese Pizza;
along with choice of 2 sides: mac n' cheese, French
fries, cole slaw or applesauce. All dinners include salad,
rolls, dessert, coffee, tea, or lemonade. Cash Bar
available. Meet in the Community Room.

Women's Golf League

The Women's Golf League will begin play May 3 at Arlington
Lakes Golf Course.

Interested? There is a spot for you! We are a friendly
non-competitive group who enjoy golf and each other.
The League plays Thursday mornings May through August.

Contact:

Janet Adams (847-830-5678)

Nancy Snell (847-431-9116), or
the Church office (847-253-0631)



In February, we celebrated the baptism of Stephen Nicholas Halley. We rejoice with his parents, Nicholas and Stephanie and big brothers Manning and Henry.



Help Needed for PADS

Two positions will becoming available in the 2018-19 PADS year at the St. Mark site:

Site Director and
Volunteer Coordinator.

We are looking to fill these positions now so that training can be done this year. If interested in learning more, contact Pastor Christie, Paul Brask or Andy Goodrich.



Parking Warning: Do not park during the week in the lot between the house on the northwest corner of Evergreen and Wille and the shopping center on Prospect Ave. People have been ticketed in recent weeks. This includes evenings.



The Church Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 30 and Easter Monday, April 2



St. Mark Preschool's Annual Pasta Dinner Night

which was held on Friday
February 23, 2018



Good Food, Great Fun!!!



2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	2 4:30 pm Basketball	3 6:30 pm Nibblers
4 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 8:30-1130 am Tastefully Simple Tasting	5 6:30 pm PADS	6 4 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	7 9 am Volleyball 11 am Lenten Worship 11:30 am Soup Lunch 12 pm Bible Study 4:30 pm WOW 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm FaithWalk 7 pm Lenten Worship	8 5 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	9 4:30 pm Basketball	10
11 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	12 1 pm Book Club 6:30 pm PADS 7 pm Mary Circle	13 12:30 pm Deborah Circle 4 pm Basketball 7 pm Worship & Music	14 9 am Volleyball 11 am Lenten Worship 11:30 am Soup Lunch 12 pm Bible Study 4:30 pm WOW 6 pm Basketball 6 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm FaithWalk 7 pm Lenten Worship	15 1 pm Senior Lunch Bunch 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	16 4:30 pm Basketball 5 pm Fish Fry & Stations of the Cross at St. Raymond 7 pm Craft Connection	17
18 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	19 6:30 pm PADS	20 7 pm Church Council	21 9 am Quilting 9 am Volleyball 11 am Lenten Worship 11:30 am Soup Lunch 12 pm Bible Study 4:30 pm WOW 6 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm FaithWalk 7 pm Lenten Worship	22 3:30 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	23	24 8 am COC
25 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	26 12:30 pm Bridge Club 6:30 pm PADS	27 9 am Quilting	28 9 am Volleyball NO Bible Study NO WOW NO FaithWalk	29 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 3:30 pm Basketball 7 pm Worship	30 <i>Good Friday</i> 7 pm Worship	31 9 am Easter Breakfast Set-up 6 pm Easter Egg Hunt 7 pm Easter Vigil Worship

St. Mark Lutheran Church
200 South Wille Street
Mount Prospect, Illinois
60056-3121

March 2018

God's
work.

Our
hands.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
www.elca.org

2017-18 Church Council

Carol Floros, President
Mike LoRusso, VP
Sharon Blazek, Secretary
Jeanne Kueter, Treasurer

Barb Bloomquist
Paul Brask
Gina Dahlgren
Tom Ernst
Bob Fehling
Kathie Hetland
Jan Scott
Peter Velic

St. Mark Lutheran Church

847/253-0631

Fax: 847/253-5387

Email: stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org

Website: stmarkmp.org

Staff

Pastor	Rev. Christie Webb	cwebb@stmarkmp.org
Music Director	Timothy Spelbring	tspelbring@stmarkmp.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Hundley	nhundley@stmarkmp.org
Office Administrator	Jill Galyon	jgalyon@stmarkmp.org
Youth & Family Ministry	Deacon David Webb	dwebb@stmarkmp.org

Sunday Worship

Chapel Service: 8 am

Worship Service: 10 am

Wednesday Youth Christian Education (Sept. – May)

WOW (3 yrs through 5 th grade)	FaithWalk (Confirmation 6-8 th grade)
4:30-6:00 pm	6:30-8:00 pm

Wednesday Adult Christian Education

Bible Study 11:00 am (During Lent at Noon)

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am – 12 pm noon

St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center

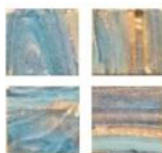
847/873-1110

Web: stmarkpreschoolcares.org

Preschool Director

Barb Zediker

bzediker@stmarkmp.org



St. Mark
Lutheran Church

Nourishing God's People ~ Body, Mind & Spirit

Inspiring Worship • Meaningful Ministry • Deepening Faith • Caring Community