



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Corner 2

Thank You & 3
Youth Gathering

4th of July 4
Parade &
Stewardship

StoryCorps 5
Booth at St. Mark

Thoughts from 6
the Loft, Craft
Connection,
Summer BBQ, &
More

Women of the 7
ELCA

The Usher 8
By Scott
Petersen

Bible Study, 9
Nibblers,
Backpack
Ministry, & More

Resettlement 10
SummerFest

Calendar of 11
Events

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The King's Players
St. Mark Community Youth Theatre



Ministry in Daily Life

“Holy as a day is spent, Holy is the dish and drain
The soap and sink, and the cup and plate...
And the hands that shook my hands today...
Holy is the familiar room, and quiet moments in the afternoon,
And folding sheets like folding hands, to pray as only laundry can.”

These are some of the lyrics from the song *Holy as a Day Is Spent* by one of my favorite musical artists Carrie Newcomer. (Listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOhzesOazDQ>) Her words remind me of the holiness of our daily lives. So often we tend to think of ministry as something only overtly church related, as the ways we serve at PADS or on the altar guild, or in the choir or by reading at church. We think God values these things more somehow than doing the dishes, folding the laundry, or shaking a hand. But our faith tradition tells us something different.

Martin Luther, in his writings on vocation (our life’s callings), reminded the people that there is a priesthood of all believers, that all of us as Christians are called to live our ministry in our daily lives whether we are priest or king, mother or father. Luther even goes so far as to name changing diapers as a good and holy vocation. Now these days I’ve been changing many a diaper, and wiping a certain mouth from spit up, and feeding and bathing and caretaking. It has been helpful in the midst of those tasks to remember that they too are holy and important.

It has also been helpful for me to remember Luther’s teaching that we are called to different things in each station we have in life: in our home life, our work life, our church life and our civic life. When I was pregnant, I worried about how difficult it would be to come back to work after the baby was born. I grew up in a home with a stay at home mom and I worried that I would wish I could do that even as I knew that my work here at St. Mark was important to me and fulfilling. I greatly respect moms and dads who make the choice to stay at home and raise their children day in and day out. It is a noble calling. But for me, when I came back to work, I realized that it was in the coupling of being a mom and a pastor (and a wife and a friend and a resident of Mount Prospect, etc) that I was able to live fully who I am created to be by God. In other words, coming back to work in ministry at St. Mark has been a great gift! Each and every day, in every task, be it preaching a sermon or reading a bedtime story, feeding Thomas or offering communion, comforting a too tired baby or comforting a mourning family, I am living out who I am called to be in Christ. Holy are each moment and each task as my day is spent.

So it is for you too. In May, the stewardship team introduced the Stewardship in Daily Life report, a place for us to reflect on our daily living and to note when we are blessed to have an opportunity to do God’s work in all aspects of our life. During worships in the coming month we will take this Daily Life component as our focus. Through the sermon, the prayers, the blessings, etc, we will seek to consider where and how God is calling us each day in our daily lives and celebrate the holy moments as each day is spent.

In Christ,
Pastor Christie



Dear members of St. Mark,
Thank you for the flowers that were delivered for my
birthday—they are just beautiful. It made my day special. It
was nice of you to think of me.

Sincerely,
Marge Madland

Thanks for all the mailings & especially the devotionals.
Thanks to Cynthia for bringing communion. Thanks to those
who brought the flowers. You are all wonderful.

Jan Schulz

Calling all 8th grade through High School youth!



June 27—July 1,
2018
in Houston, TX
At NRG Stadium,
NRG Arena, &
NRG Center

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Early Bird Registration begins in September so talk to Deacon Dave or Jill Galyon now to find out more about this once in a lifetime experience!

4th of July Parade—St. Mark/St. Raymond Shopping Cart Brigade



Stewardship of Daily Life Report

As you reflect on interactions you have had in your daily lives, note when you were blessed to have an opportunity to bring God's work of being generous with your friends, your money/things, or time/skills, or even faith. Share an example of how you feel God used you to make the world a better place, or where you had an opportunity to bring compassion/desire, or where you were helped by another who makes you. This also is your "offering" to God.

Name:

Or to share?

Remember to share your “stewardship of daily life” stories on the blue pew card. We hope these reflections help you realize that your “offering” to God is not limited to sharing your financial gifts (important as they are!) but equally important is to recognize that all of our daily interactions show our response to God’s providence. By sharing these stories, you help others think of their daily lives, and how living in awareness of God’s partnership and love for us transforms daily living from “ho-hum” to “Wow, I didn’t think of how my behavior can be a blessing to others.” We’re revising the card to allow more space for writing, so keep on sharing!

Also, a reminder that you can still contribute a special offering to the synod’s ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Simply designate that on your check or on the envelope. Thanks!

Pr. Carl Anderson for the Stewardship Team

StoryCorps Booth at St. Mark

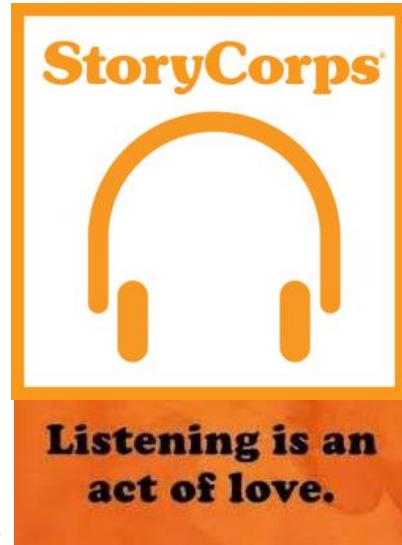
By Deacon Dave

As we talk about ministry in daily life during the month of August and beyond I'm quite excited to hear people's stories. It's a great thing to hear someone's stories and to be able to listen to parts of their lives that tell you so much about them. Listening is one of the great gifts of ministry that I prize above many others. It is one of the true gifts of love that we can give one another. We take it for granted, but have someone ignore you for five minutes, and it becomes quite apparent how important a gift of listening is.

As we talk about ministry in daily life as a way to think about our daily stewardship of God's gifts as we live out our vocations, we are invited to reflect on our lives, how we spend our time, and how we choose to use what God has given us. With several historical commemorations coming up, the 500th commemoration of the Reformation in the next year and St. Mark's 75th anniversary coming in a few years, we can add some interesting historical backgrounds to the way we think about ministry in our daily life. God's grace and love runs quietly through the fabric of all our lives and histories. As we reflect on large commemorations and small, the Holy Spirit helps us see the intersections of grace and love and inspires us to weave those threads into a story of God's work in our lives. As a way to highlight and capture our stories of God's grace and love, I'm working with Erin Schultz, and Peter Velic to set up a StoryCorps booth at St. Mark.

A StoryCorps booth is a place for people to share stories and conversation that can be recorded and archived. StoryCorps is an NPR radio show that began in 2003. StoryCorps invites two participants to have a 45-60 minute conversation about their lives. Over time, StoryCorps has found that the simple act of sharing stories and honoring people's lives "builds connections between people and creates a more just and compassionate world." Beginning in late summer or early fall we will set up a mobile recording studio in the St. Mark library. Two people at a time will be invited to talk through a list of questions and topics they want to cover in their StoryCorps conversation. They will schedule a time in the StoryCorps Booth where their conversation will be moderated by our sound engineer. Recordings will be made for participants and potentially added to the St. Mark Archive and the Library of Congress.

It is our hope that we will highlight and preserve what God is doing in concert with members of the community, but that we will also create deeper relationships between people as they listen and share stories and begin to see the world in a new way. You can listen to other's StoryCorps stories or begin to look at the possible topics and questions for your own conversation at www.storycorps.org. Watch the bulletin and Facebook for more information about scheduling your conversation.



Thoughts from the Loft

Did you know that on an organ the big pipes make the low sounds and the small pipes make the high sounds? In addition, there are four types of organ sounds: the principals (classic organ sound), strings, flutes, and reeds. When you combine these sounds together by use of overtones (many combinations of pitches), what results is an instrument that is almost like a real person! It even breathes! It is my favorite instrument and a blessing to play each week!

Blessings,
Tim



Craft Connection

"Come, all of you who are gifted craftsmen, construct everything that the Lord has commanded." Exodus 35:10 (NLT)

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another..." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

**Friday, August 18
7 pm in the Great Room**
Bring your own craft to work on!

SUMMER BARBEQUES ARE BACK!! Sunday, August 13 on the Center Lawn

(or inside, in case of rain or heat)

The Fellowship committee is again hosting lunch once-a-month through the summer following 10 am worship. Join us on August 13th. A free will offering will be collected to help cover the expenses. Come by for food, fun and fellowship!

Final BBQ date: September 10



Holy Family Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch is set for Friday, August 25. This is a great opportunity to get to know the teachers and staff of the school. The location is Greek Isle again as this has worked out so well for everyone. The cost is \$21.00 per person. If you would like to join us, please contact the Ernsts or the Elders. We have transportation available for an additional 4 people on a first come/first serve basis. After that, we will need additional drivers.



August 6 through September 3

LWR kit supply collection
Narthex

Wed. & Tues. August 16 & 22 9:30 am

LWR Quilting
2nd floor education wing

Sunday, September 10

"God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday

Sunday, September 24

Thankoffering Sunday

Sunday, October 1

Bunco for Breast Cancer
Center

1:00 pm

Quilting Resumes!

Join the ladies who work on those beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. This month they will meet on: **Wednesday, August 16th**

Tuesday, August 22nd



WELCA Triennial Gathering

Over **3000** women from across the country came together in July for the 10th triennial churchwide women's gathering, "**All Anew**" at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minnesota. Check out **welcatg.org** to see more about it. Mark your calendar, and start saving now, for the

**11th triennial gathering
in Phoenix, AZ
on July 16-19, 2020**

SAVE THE DATE -
Sunday, October 1
Bunco for Breast Cancer
fundraiser
DON'T MISS IT!!

ST. MARK WOMEN OF THE ELCA LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SERVICE PROGRAM

As in the past, the Women of St. Mark are asking for the help of our entire congregation in the collection of items needed to prepare SCHOOL KITS AND HEALTH KITS for Lutheran World Relief. As stores seem to be placing school supplies on sale earlier each year, we are providing this list of items that will be needed so you can take advantage of sale prices this summer. **PLEASE NOTE: WE CAN ONLY USE THE EXACT ITEMS THAT ARE REQUESTED BY LWR.** All items must be in by September 3.



This year the congregation is invited to assist in assembling the kits at the annual "God's Work, Our Hands" day of service on September 10.

ALL DONATIONS CAN BE PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BOXES LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

HEALTH KIT ITEMS

Bath Towels (dark color recommended)
Bath size bars of soap
Hair combs with wide teeth
Tooth Brushes
Nail clippers with file attached

SCHOOL KIT ITEMS

70 sheet spiral notebooks of ruled paper
Blunt scissors
12 inch ruler with centimeters on the other edge
Pencil sharpeners
Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons
Unsharpened Pencils #2
Ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
Pink Erasers

We are able to purchase some of these items in bulk at a more reasonable cost. If you prefer to contribute funds toward the purchase of these items, please place your gift in a pew envelope marked for WELCA Kits.

I attended St. Mark beginning about 65 years ago. My mother - LaVerne Petersen - is still alive and living in Luther Village. This is a little vignette of St. Mark from my blog - <http://www.renaissancehombre.com> Mr. Henry "Hank" Wendt was the head of ushers and he was constantly serving the parish with his time - as an usher (and head usher). The new 8:00 a.m. service was too early for most guys (ushers were always men. . . .) so he approached the Youth Director (Pastor Wylie?) about getting some high school boys. Dave Skibbe, Randy Gross, Wayne Hansen, Chuck Holmberg and I - were tapped to help. And the rest is history! I remember with clarity that the carnations were kept in the little closet to the right of the entrance (as you walk in).

Thank you for the memory!

Scott Petersen

The Ushers

When I was growing up, I attended St. Mark Lutheran Church in Mt. Prospect, IL. It was a big church offering three services on Sunday morning: 8:00; 9:30; and 11:00. The 8:00 a.m. service was relatively new. And as you might imagine, it was sometimes a challenge to staff the early service with ushers.

The head of the ushering program – Mr. Wendt – often had to attend all three services – filling in as needed. Finally, perhaps in some desperation, he approached the head of the church's youth program — and asked if there were some high school boys who could “*help out*” with the early service. The answer? “*Sure.*” So Chuck, Wayne, Randy, Dave and I — were tapped to usher the 8:00 a.m. service — *every Sunday*.

On the first Sunday, the five of us showed up early. Suits. Ties. We each donned a white carnation and got an ushering lesson from Mr. Wendt. He guided us through the service offering a running commentary (“*smile*” “*greet people by name if you can*” “*when collecting the offering, walk backwards – never turn your back on the altar*”). After a few weeks of this, the five of us had the protocol down pat. And a few weeks later, Mr. Wendt said “*keep up the good work, boys*” and he never showed up again. . . .





**Wednesday Bible Study
will resume on
Wednesday, August 9
at 11:00 am in the Great Room**



**Enjoy food? Come and
join the Nibblers as
they experience places
to eat around the
community each month.**

August Nibblers will meet at Javier's,
8 W. Miner St., Arlington Hts. on
Saturday, August 5 at 6:30 pm.
Please RSVP to Kim Perlich at
847-253-4073 no later than Wednesday,
August 2 so the restaurant knows the final
count. All adults (18+) are welcome to join
in the fun and fellowship and of course,
enjoy the FOOD!

Coffee Cans needed for Altar Flower Delivery

Please bring in your large Coffee
Cans (2 lbs, 7 oz). With the larger
vases on the altar, we need larger cans. You can
leave them in the sacristy, at the welcome desk or
on the pew outside of the sanctuary.



Tastefully Simple Fundraiser

Thank you to all who continue to support the Youth through this fundraiser. We plan to continue this fundraising effort into 2018 to help with expenses for the upcoming Youth Gathering in Houston, as well as other Youth trips in the future. We are taking the month of July off from tasting but you can continue to check out 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!!



Backpack Ministry

It won't be long before the children will be heading back to school and St. Mark starts up our Backpack Food Ministry again.

Your donations now will help us stock the pantry for the start of the school year. The needed food list can be found in the narthex or on the St. Mark website. Cash donations are appreciated as well. Thanks for your support!

Extra Vegetables in your Garden?

Please feel free to donate any extra vegetables from your garden that you can't eat. We will preserve items for PADs next fall. Contact Deacon Dave with questions or to drop off items.



Resettlement SummerFest

8/19/17 11am-3pm

Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary
606 W Golf Rd
Mount Prospect

Food: Grilled Chicken, Sides, and Desserts (Please sign up to bring a side or dessert)

Fun: Bounce House, Face Painting, Relay Races, and more

Fellowship: Get to know our partners in our Mount Prospect Resettlement Team: Grace Lutheran,

Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary, St. Mark
Lutheran, and the Turkish American Society of Chicago

Family: We are inviting Mahmoud, Wafaa, Dalal, Malak,
and Hala (the family from Syria that we co-sponsored.)
We are hopeful that they will attend so that you'll have
a chance to meet them.

RefugeeOne: Check out the information table and
watch a short video on RefugeeOne's work



#resettlementsummerfest

Contact Deacon Dave to sign-up
to bring a side or dessert



2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		11 am Private Event 5:30 pm Basketball	1	9 am Volleyball 5:30 pm Basketball	2	5:30 pm Basketball
					3	
					4	6:30 pm Nibblers
						5
6 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	7 pm Youth & Family	7 11 am Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	8	9 am Volleyball 12 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	9	10 am Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball
					11	
						12
13 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 11:15 am Summer BBQ	14 1:00 pm Book Club 6:30 pm Summer Suppers	15 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Church Council	16 9 am Volleyball 9 am Quilting 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	17 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	18 7 pm Craft Connection	19 11 am ReSettlement SummerFest
20 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	21	9 am Quilting 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	22 9 am Volleyball 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	23	24 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	25
						26
27 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	28	4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6 pm Preschool Orientation	29 9 am Volleyball 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	30	31 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	

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

August 2017

God's
work.
Our
hands.



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

Pastor
Music Director
Parish Administrator
Office Administrator
Youth & Family Ministry

Rev. Christie Webb	cwebb@stmarkmp.org
Timothy Spelbring	tspelbring@stmarkmp.org
Nancy Hundley	nhundley@stmarkmp.org
Jill Galyon	jgalyon@stmarkmp.org
Deacon David Webb	dwebb@stmarkmp.org

St. Mark Lutheran Church

847/253-0631

Fax: 847/253-5387

Email: stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org

Web: stmarkmp.org

Staff

ector	Rev. Christie Webb	cwebb@stmarkmp.org
nistrator	Timothy Spelbring	tspelbring@stmarkmp.org
nistrator	Nancy Hundley	nhundley@stmarkmp.org
family Ministry	Jill Galyon	jgalyon@stmarkmp.org
	Deacon David Webb	dwebb@stmarkmp.org

Sunday Worship

Wednesday Youth Christian Education (Sept. – May)

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

Wednesday Adult Christian Education

Bible Study 11:00 am

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

The mission statement of the people of St. Mark: To nourish God's people in Body, Mind and Spirit.