



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

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October Happenings...



Pet Blessing—October 8



Men's Corned Beef Dinner—October 14



Spirit of Life Concert
October 21



Reformation Celebration
October 31



"In the light of the moon a little egg lay on a leaf." So begins that beautiful story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. From that egg pops a little very hungry caterpillar. The caterpillar eats through 1 apple, 2 pears, 3 plums, 4 strawberries, 5 oranges, chocolate cake, ice cream, a pickle, swiss cheese, salami, a lollipop, cherry pie, sausage, a cupcake, and watermelon and finally a green leaf. What was once a little caterpillar is now BIG. He builds a cocoon, and then, emerges a butterfly. He is transformed from caterpillar to butterfly.



During this season of stewardship **Transformed through Giving**, this beloved story came to mind. The transformation from caterpillar to butterfly is one of the best transformations we find in nature. As I thought about this story, I realized that this transformation requires a lot of resources. The hungry caterpillar needed apples, pears, plums, strawberries, oranges, chocolate cake, ice cream, a pickle, swiss cheese, salami, a lollipop, cherry pie, sausage, a cupcake, and watermelon and a green leaf to enact his transformation! In much the same way, God is at work in the world bringing about transformation, but resources are needed to help that transformation take place. God chooses to work in the world by the means of people and resources. God uses our time and our talents as well as our physical resources of money and possessions to make the world new. When we give our offering, we are giving resources to God to utilize in God's transforming work.

I love to give to St. Mark because I know and can see how those resources are at work transforming the world. We offer a place to sleep and three meals to people who are experiencing homelessness. We give young families a place to grow in their faith and find community. We bring community and support to people in times of need such as illness and loss. I see the power of the good news of the gospel work on people in all different times in their life, transforming them, making them new. We give to organizations so that people have food and resources when they need it, access to education, and can hear the transforming Word of God.

I also watch as people here in this place are transformed through the act of giving of their time and talent and their finances. People who have not considered themselves leaders grow in leadership when they say yes to being on council. Community is formed around the tying of quilts or maintenance projects around the church. Joy is discovered in spending time with our youngest members. New skills are learned when people cook for various activities. Our tight grasp and fearful approach to money transforms when we give some of it back to God in thanksgiving for having it in the first place. God uses our resources not just to transform the world, but to transform us as well.

Thank you. Thank you for being part of the transforming work of St. Mark and for being open to God's transformational power at work in your own lives. Together we are **Transformed through Giving**.

In Christ,
Pastor Christie



Thanks so much for the beautiful altar flowers delivered for my birthday. It made my day so special!

Annette Woods

Thank you all for the prayers, cards and kind words during this difficult time.

Marilyn Wenzel and Family

Thanks for all the lovely flowers, the kind thoughts, the communion delivered by Cynthia and the many mailings. Everything is appreciated.

Jan Schulz



Come celebrate the emphasis of
Ministry in our Daily Lives.

You are cordially invited to join your fellow
St. Mark members for a special
“Thanks for Giving” celebration
immediately following 10:00 am worship
on November 19, 2017.

A light lunch will be provided while we share in stories concerning
being “Transformed through Giving”

All are welcome!

transformed
through giving



**What's
Happening in
Youth & Family Ministry?**

By: Jill Galyon

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. **Our next tasting will be Sunday, November 19** but you can continue to check out products online and place your orders there. Simply go to: tastefulsimple.com/web/mciske, shop, then choose St Mark (St M) as the host at check out. SIMPLE!! Future tasting on December 10.



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

On November 19th at 6 pm, we will gather at the Center to eat pizza and pack care packages for our college students as they prepare for finals and the end of the semester. College students LOVE to receive these packages and our FaithWalk and SHINE! Kids LOVE to put them together and write notes of encouragement to them.

So if you have a college student in your household or a grandchild that is a college student and would like them to receive a Care Package for finals, please email the church office (stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org) with the student's name and mailing address no later than noon on Friday, November 17. (You do not need to attend the packing for your student to receive a package, however, you are welcome to come and help pack.)

Everyone can get involved as we are collecting items to be included in these packages. If you would like, please bring items and place them in the "Items for College Students" box in the Narthex on Sunday mornings through November 19th. Here is a list of suggested items:

- *Tea bags; individual coffee, cider & hot chocolate bags; crystal light packages
- *Individual microwave popcorn bags
- *Candy bars, suckers or individually wrapped candy
- *Snack size crackers, chips, pretzels & cookies
- *Gum and mints
- *Individual soup or macaroni & cheese packets
- *Wrapped items like Pop Tarts, Rice Krispie Treats, granola bars, etc.

OR anything that will fit in a medium flat rate box from the Post Office (13 5/8" x 11 7/8" x 3 3/8")

**Please NO liquid—no juice boxes, fruit cups, or pudding!
These items have exploded in the past during mailing.**



Community Meal—Dinner Church

By Deacon Dave

We have been talking about church on Sunday mornings. In September, we reflected on “Gathering”, the first part of our worship service. We had worship outside, which always makes you think about worship differently without the usual church scenery. As we have prepared for Reformation 500 we have reflected on the Word of God, the Sacraments, and the Body of Christ, which are the pillars of Sunday worship.

On Wednesday afternoons we have been giving worship and church a completely different shape. Instead of using the traditional liturgical shape that we use on Sundays: Gathering, Word, Offering, Meal, and Sending, we have been starting with a different focus. On Wednesdays we begin with the children who are gathered for Wow and shape our worship around them. We gather and process into the transept, sing and learn songs, collect a monetary and spiritual offering (students share their favorite part of Wow and say thank you to God), and then we end with a snack. Parents process in with us or show up midway through the service when their train arrives.

A new component to this year’s Wow worship is that we have dinner once a month for families who participate in Wednesday activities and for anyone who wants to come. We haven’t even been asking people to RSVP. So far, dinner has been much more than just dinner. For our first two dinners we have done devotions, practiced prayers, had meaningful conversations with friends, given offerings, learned about PADs, and had a lot of fun. Beyond all of those things, I sense that the meals have a further sacramental function. We don’t start with the words: “In the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took the bread...” but we start with the words: “On Sundays we celebrate a very special meal called ‘The Last Supper,’ if it was the LAST supper, then Jesus and his friends had many more meals together and if Jesus thought meals were so important that he gave his friends his most important teaching at one, then there must be something churchy and important about meals. Tonight I hope you meet a new friend, feel closer to an old friend, have a great time, rest, and/or eat a delicious meal.”

As we continue gathering, those are the very same things we will continue cultivating as we celebrate this worship and communion in a different shape. On November 8th we will be joined by Chaplain Leslie Hunter from Holy Family Church and School as we reflect on the power of words and hear Leslie’s stories and poetry. Throughout December we will meet on Sunday afternoons instead of Wednesdays when we will prepare for Christmas by making Advent Wreaths, Christmas cookies, and gingerbread houses. January we will have dinner on Wednesday, January 24th before Mardi Gras Pot-luck the next week and 5 Wednesdays of Lenten Suppers which will give shape to our community meals. Our last two spring dinner churches will be on April 11th and May 9th. Stay tuned to hear who will be joining us for dinner and the fun we are going to have!



Thoughts from the Loft

How does one express thanksgiving through music? By playing or singing loudly? It amazes me that organs can sound as quiet as a whisper and as loud as a trumpet blast! We think, sometimes, that by singing with great fervor we are giving back to the Lord who gave us that gift. However, giving thanks through our music can start with the most timid singer in the pew, or the most heartfelt compliment to any musician sharing their talents in church. So, just remember, even if you don't think of yourself as the best hymn singer, you may be the most devout. Let's all sing a song of Thanksgiving this month!

In peace,
Tim



Senior Lunch Bunch (or anyone who would like to join us)



Thurs., Nov. 16
1:00 pm
in
Fellowship Hall

Turkey and dessert will be provided. Bring a dish to share. Offering will go to the Mt. Prospect Food Pantry

**RSVP to Marilyn at 847-508-5512
by Monday, November 13.**



“Christmas Card Buffet” Friday, November 17 7 pm in the Great Room

Jeanne Kueter will again be showing us how to stamp Christmas Cards.
Cost = \$2 per card with a maximum of 5 cards per person.

RSVP to the church office by Monday, November 13 with your name & number of cards you would like to make.
(stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org)

Come join the fun!

(recommended for 6th grade through adult)



Women of the ELCA

Wed. & Tues. Nov. 15 & 28 9:00 am

LWR Quilting
2nd floor education wing

Saturday, December 2 9:00 am

Trim the Church
Sanctuary, Narthex, Great Room

Saturday, December 9 TBA

Holiday Trip to Woodstock



Quilting

Join the women who work all through the year to make those beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They meet upstairs in the Education Wing. This month they will meet on:



Wednesday, November 15th

**Tuesday, November 28th
at 9:00 am**



Trim the Church



Many hands make light work! Consider coming to help decorate our church for the Advent/Christmas season on Saturday morning at 9:00 am on December 2.



SAVE THE DATE



Holiday Trip to Woodstock Saturday, December 9

Transportation via Metra Train to Woodstock
Shopping and Browsing on your own
12:00pm Lunch together at the Public House
Optional 2:00pm performance of the
Nutcracker Ballet at the
Woodstock Opera House
Reservation Required

More information to come...



THANK YOU... THANK YOU...THANK YOU...
Your participation & support of this event
made it a huge success!
Whether you attended
the event, gave raffle
basket items, donated
money, set up tables & chairs, and/or
provided food & beverage—all are greatly
appreciated! On Sunday, October 1, 2017, a
community of 200 women came together
and raised \$8021.00 for the Breast Cancer
Research Foundation!! AMAZING!!!



The 3 F's: Food, Fellowship and Football!!

The Bears vs. Packers game and Chili Cook-off

Sunday, November 12 at 11:30 am
(Game starts at 12:00 noon)



Got a favorite chili recipe? Just like to eat chili and want to vote for a favorite? Let's see if someone can top last year's winner! Let Jan Scott or Rachel Potter know if you plan to make chili. Fellowship committee will provide toppings. BYOB. Free Will Offering.

Thanksgiving Worship



St. Mark will not be having a Thanksgiving Worship service this year.

Other services in the area:

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights will be holding a Thanksgiving worship on Thursday, November 23 at 10 am

St. Raymond Catholic Church will hold their Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, November 23 at 9 am



WOW kids making crafts...

Save the Date



Budget Meeting

**Budget Meeting
Sunday, December 3
following 10 am worship**



**Preschool Sunday
Sunday, November 12**

hAPPY!
tHANKS
gIVING

**The Church office will be
closed for the Thanksgiving
Holiday as follows :**

**Wednesday, Nov. 22 at Noon
Thursday, Nov. 23
Friday, Nov. 24**



**ICE
CREAM
FOR
EVERYBODY!**

**All St. Markers are invited to the Annual Preschool
Christmas PJ Pageant
Sunday, December 3rd at 6 pm in the Sanctuary**

**Come in your pajamas and join in for an evening of singing,
stories and ICE CREAM!!**

FINDING GOD IN POPULAR MUSIC

Brokenness & Healing

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 12 | 7:00PM
SAINT RAYMOND CHURCH

Join us as we explore how faith and spirituality
can be echoed in the music from many styles
and generations

FEATURING SONGS MADE POPULAR BY
Taylor Swift | Ed Sheeran | Eric Clapton
Simon & Garfunkel | Green Day | Josh Groban
...and many more!

ADMISSION IS **FREE** | FREE WILL DONATION



2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			9 am Volleyball 11 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk 7 pm Martin Luther Forum	1 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	2 6 pm Basketball	3 8 am Basketball 4:30 pm Private Event 6:30 pm Nibblers
5 <i>All Saints Sunday</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	6 6:30 pm PADS	7 11 am Private Event 4 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Worship & Music	8 9 am Volleyball 11 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 5:40 pm WOW Worship 6 pm Community Meal 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk 7 pm Martin Luther Forum	9 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	10 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm Basketball 8 pm Ultimate Lock-in	11 8 am Basketball 12 pm Basketball 6 pm Holy Family Gala
12 <i>Preschool Sunday</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 11:30 am Bears/Packers Game & Chili Cook-off	13 1 pm Book Club 6:30 pm PADS 7 pm Mary Circle	14 12:30 pm Deborah Circle 4 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Ecumenical Committee	15 9 am Volleyball 9 am Quilting 11 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	16 1:00 pm Senior Lunch Bunch 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	17 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm Craft Connection 7 pm Basketball	18 8 am Basketball 12 pm Basketball 5 pm Private Event
19 <i>Commitment Sunday</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 8:30-11:30 am Tastefully Simple Tasting 11:15 am "Thanks for Giving" Celebration Lunch 6 pm College Care Packages	20 6:30 pm PADS	21 4 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	22 9 am Volleyball 12 pm OFFICE CLOSED 6 pm Basketball	23 THANKSGIVING DAY OFFICE CLOSED	24 DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED 8 am Basketball	25 8 am Basketball
26 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 12 pm Private Event	27 12:30 pm Bridge Club 6:30 pm PADS	28 9 am Quilting 4 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6 pm Nominating Committee 7 pm Church Council	29 9 am Volleyball 11 am Bible Study 4 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	30 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir		

