



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

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"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

Outdoor Worship and Community BBQ September 17





“Be bold! Be strong! For the Lord thy God is with thee!” So begins a raucous camp song I dearly loved in my camp counselor days. (I’d love to sing it for you if you would like to hear it- just ask!) Based on Joshua 1:9, it reminds us that we can be courageous because God is with us, leading us and guiding us. In the gospels, more than anything else, God tells the people “Do not be afraid!” We are called to be a courageous and bold people. We are strengthened by God to be bold and strong! And yet, we often live out of fear instead of faith, courage and boldness.

Recently a group of nine St. Markers attended a workshop put on by the Metro Chicago Synod called Reproducing Leaders, a conference designed to help leaders learn ways to invest in people and build more and more leaders/disciples in church. The first part of our time together focused on four things that limit growth in congregations: complexity (antidote- simplicity), control (antidote- letting go), complacency (antidote- passion) and concern (antidote- faith). When we discussed what might be holding St. Mark back, we didn’t focus on concern (fear) very much, until it came time to write our goals for what to bring back from our time together. We sat in a group with a permanent marker poised to record these goals, and we were frozen, afraid to write something, anything. The truth came out- we didn’t want to write anything because we were afraid we would fail.

It seems that around this place we aren’t afraid to try new things. You try new things all the time. It was one of the things I was most impressed with during my internship year with you and these past years as well. If a new thing came up, you were willing to try it. The fear we have of failing doesn’t manifest in not trying new things. Instead, it manifests in the list of worries and concerns we speak before we are willing to try something. We want to be good and certain it won’t fail before we try it out. We tend to be afraid of really stepping out and trying things that will only succeed if God intervenes.

The group of us gathered at Reproducing Leaders made our first goal as follows: **Live out of fear instead of faith.** How will we do this? We will begin to create a culture of boldness here in this place, celebrating the things we’ve tried whether they succeed or fail, and what we learned from them. To oversee this work, meet Sharon Blazek, our Chief Boldness Officer! She will ask at each council meeting the bold things we’ve tried in the last month, and we will publish a list in each Crossbeams. If you have something to add, feel free to let Sharon know.

Check out our first Boldness Report (on page 8)! Be Bold! Be Strong! The Lord God is with us!

Pastor Christie





HERE I STAND

Lutheran Foundations

Here I Stand: Lutheran Foundations

As we celebrate the 500th Commemoration of the Reformation, we explore the foundations of our Lutheran Tradition each Sunday.

Sunday, October 1: *Jesus is God's Best Idea Ever*- Salvation by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ;

Sunday, October 8: *Guess Who's Coming to Worship?!*- The Means of Grace and Christian Worship;

Sunday, October 15: *Church is Messy and Holy*- The Church and the Christian Life—Global Church Sunday!;

Sunday, October 22: *Finding God the Last Place You Would Look*- The Theology of the Cross;

Sunday, October 29: *The Bible Is God's Word for You, but It Isn't Your God*- The Word of God, Reformation Sunday— The Giving of and Blessing of Bibles.

Want to dig into these foundations even deeper? Join us at Wednesday Bible Study on Oct. 11 & 18 at 11am.

Reformation Celebration Events!



Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with Bishop Miller and Archbishop Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral in downtown Chicago, **October 31st at 7PM**. A bus and carpool of St. Mark and St. Raymond's members will be organized for transportation. If you would like to help usher at the service let someone know. Contact Deacon Dave for more information or to reserve a space on the bus.



Rick Steves' "Luther and the Reformation" A special Reformation viewing and discussion group will meet on **November 1st and 8th at 11AM**. There will be an overview presentation of key issues in Luther's life and work, and time to discuss the video. This is a good time to find answers to the question, "What's so important about the Reformation anyway?" The session will be offered again at **7:00PM on November 1st and 8th**. Contact Pr. Carl Anderson or Deacon Dave for more information.



Dinner Church and Community Meal Night: Reformation Edition
November 8th with Chaplain Leslie Hunter from Holy Family School
5:40-6:30PM. Leslie will share poems, songs, and stories from his published books as we worship together, eat together and celebrate the power of words and the Word.



What's Happening in Youth & Family Ministry?

By: Jill Galyon

for the upcoming Youth Gathering in Houston, as well as other Youth trips in the future. **Our next tasting will be Sunday, October 15** 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!! Future tastings on November 19 and December 10.

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



Corn Maze & Cookout—Sunday, October 9 at 4 pm

(Middle School & High School Youth)

Join us on our adventure to Richardson Farms in Spring Grove, IL. Enjoy the Corn Maze, hot dogs over a campfire, s'mores, and more. This year's maze is *108 Years in the Making For a Cub's World Championship*. RSVP to Mrs. G. by Thursday, October 5.

ULTIMATE LOCK-IN—Friday, November 10 to Saturday, November 11

(Middle School & High School youth)

Come for the FUN! At Enchanted Castle in Lombard, IL. We will meet at church at 8 pm and make our way to Lombard. At 9 pm, the evening will open with Trey Pearson, speaker/music performer (formerly lead singer for the band Everyday Sunday). For the rest of the night, all the fun of Enchanted Castle will be available—food (pizza & pop), laser tag, go-carts, rides, games & more. The event ends at 5 am and everyone will be delivered home. Cost=\$35. Friends are welcome. Contact Deacon Dave or Mrs. G. to sign-up.



Men's Corned Beef Dinner Saturday, October 14, 2017 At the St. Mark Center

6:00 pm Doors open

7:00 pm Dinner is served

Tickets = \$35 per person
Available now on Sundays
in the narthex

Harrington's will provide the dinner.

People First: Reproducing Leaders

By Deacon Dave

St. Markers recently participated in a Metro-Chicago Synod conference entitled Reproducing Leaders at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Park Ridge. One of the focal points for the conference was a reminder that one of the most important parts of ministry is people. You might be saying, "Well, yeah." The insight is not particularly profound, but its applications and subtle implications have great weight. Often in ministry we get focused on having the newest, most polished, perfect, most creative, innovative, theologically profound, relevant, beautiful everything. Whether it be Bible studies, men's groups, sermon series, music, buildings, lighting, or carpet patterns, we shift our focus away from people and onto something from that category to expend our energy and ministry. The Reproducing Leaders approach doesn't exhort us to even forget about all those things, but simply reminds us that programs, buildings, staff, and even worship are primarily in service of our more main focus: people. Because we are a church, our people focus has to do with connecting those people to the love of God and walking the path of discipleship together. The insight has been preached many times from the pulpit at St. Mark in my memory. Maybe it was the proximity to Rally Day and the return of our Program Year that made this people-focus so profound. Who knows, but the Spirit is up to something. As the year progresses you will hear many more examples of leaders, ministries, and programs finding a new focus on people, but there are two that the Spirit has been cultivating in Youth and Family ministry; two great chances for us to be together.



Leadership Development Project: In the Kitchen with Deacon Dave

This summer I had two Shine students, high schoolers, propose Leadership Development Projects that involved "making stuff in the kitchen after school with Mr. Webb." For an hour and a half on Monday and Tuesday we try out recipes, bake bread, brainstorm meals we might make to feed people, take care of the community garden, and spend time talking and catching up. So far we have made sparkling

apple cider, hot sauce, salsa, bread, French toast, and pickles. Our work will eventually find more direction and definition, but these two high schoolers reminded me of the importance of people over programs. It's always a small miracle on Tuesday afternoon to look back on our week and see which culinary and theological paths we have gone down for the week. If you want to join us please let me know. Our projects are always unfolding.

Dinner Church—Community Meal

Every Wednesday Wow and FaithWalk students gather to learn and have fun, but they also engage in things that look a lot like worship. Members of the congregation are always welcome. As a way to expand our Wednesday worshiping and learning community we are going to share a meal together once a month and all the Wednesdays during Lent. You can join us for worship at 5:40 in the transept, led by Wow students, followed by dinner from 6:00-6:30 made by Wow and Shine students. There will be guest speakers, short games, music, and stories. It will be a chance to meet new people who are younger or older or who come from different neighborhoods, but who all share a great love of God.



Thoughts from the Loft

Johann Sebastian Bach wrote some pieces that have special titles. His "St. Anne" Prelude and Fugue is so named because the Fugue subject sounds like the hymn tune St. Anne, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past". A piece entitled "The Wedge" has a musical phrase that actually looks like a wedge! Bach even wrote a Coffee Cantata that is all about drinking coffee. The man could have a lot of fun sometimes! It is a joy to play his music!



Peace,
Tim



ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild is in need of more hands to do God's work. Are you interested in setting the table for our weekly eucharist meal, or cleaning up after worship? We'd love your help in making this possible each week. Contact Sue Supergan at 847.749.1136. No previous experience necessary- we will train you!



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, October 20
7 pm in the Great Room
Bring your own craft to work on!**

**Save the Date for
"Christmas Card Buffet"
Card Stamping led by Jeanne Kueter
Friday, November 17**



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

Marge Brix



**Senior Lunch Bunch
Thurs., Oct. 19
1:00 pm
at
Hacienda El Sombrero
1100 S. Elmhurst Rd., Mt. Prospect
(New Owners & Newly Remodeled)
**RSVP to Marilyn at 847-508-5512
by Oct. 16 if you plan to attend.****

Women of the ELCA

Sunday, October 1 12:00 pm

Bunco for Breast Cancer
Center

Saturday, October 14 9:00 am

Metro Chicago Synod Women's Gathering
Bethel Lutheran Church, Chicago

Wed. & Tues. Oct. 18 & 24 9:00 am

LWR Quilting
2nd floor education wing



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, October 18th
Tuesday, October 24th



A **great big THANK YOU** to all who participated in our 2017 Lutheran World Relief kit project!! Whether you donated supplies or funds, or helped assemble or pack up the kits on Rally Day—your hands did God's work as we were able to put together **125 school kits and 125 personal care kits!!** Your efforts will be personally appreciated by **250 lives** around the world! Thank you!



BOLDNESS REPORT

Be bold! Be strong! God is with us!

- Outdoor Worship and BBQ- inviting and welcoming people from the neighborhood
- Cleaning the Center
- Tim's Organ Recital
- New Nursery Flooring
- Reproducing Leaders Conference
- Deacon David's Food Project with High Schoolers
- Shine the Light Together Interfaith Prayer Vigil
- Community Dinner with WOW and Faithwalk



St Mark Preschool is starting their Fall Fundraiser. Catalogs will be available at the Evergreen St. entrance at the Welcome Desk. Choose from frozen cookie dough, pizzas, garlic bread, soups, gourmet pretzels, cheesecakes, gift bags & wrapping paper, delicious chocolates, mixes, kitchen gadgets, and more! Orders, with payment, are due by Monday, October 16.



Join the
Spirit of Life Chorus
 for their
Fall 2017 Concert
We Need a Little Christmas



Sunday, October 22
4:30 pm
at St. Mark



GIVING FLIGHT TO HOPES AND DREAMS

PURPLE TIE BALL

Please join us in commemorating Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Saturday, October 14 at the Purple Tie Ball.

Always an evening of celebration, this year's event will feature dining and dancing, incredible auction items, and a special performance by Laura Bretan, international singing sensation (seen on America's Got Talent). To purchase tickets, please go to wingsprogram.com/upcoming-event/purple-tie-ball/



PET BLESSING

Sunday, October 8
 Following 10 am
 worship

Backpack Ministry

It's a new school year for our neighborhood children and once again St. Mark has started up the Backpack Ministry. With food and cash donations from our congregation and the Mt. Prospect Lions Club, we have been able to send a backpack of healthy food home from school over the weekends for 10 Mt. Prospect children for the last 8 years!

Your donations now will help us keep the pantry stocked for the school year. Here is the list of food needed and there is a collection basket by the shopping cart in the Narthex and another basket at the Evergreen St. Entrance. Thank you for your support of this important ministry!



Backpack Ministry Needs:

Single Serve Cereal Boxes
 Oatmeal in Individual Packets
 Cereal Bars
 Raisins in small boxes
 Granola Bars
 Individual Jell-O cups
 Peanut Butter/Jelly
 Canned Spaghetti/Ravioli
 Canned Beef Stew/Chili
 Boxes of 'Helper' Meals
 Canned Tuna
 Vienna Sausages
 Chicken pouches
 Macaroni and Cheese
 Canned Soup
 Canned Fruit
 Fruit Cups
 Canned Vegetables
 Juice Boxes
 Shelf Ready Milk
 Pudding Cups
 Cookies in Individual Packets

No Glass Jars
or
Microwavable
items



You are invited to Holy Family Ministries' annual dinner and auction, *Reach for the Stars*. The benefit will take place on Saturday, November 11th at 6:00 p.m. at Stonegate Conference and Banquet Center (2401 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates). Through the generosity of friends like you, we raise funds to support more than 500 children who excel academically, grow spiritually, expand their life experiences and become effective leaders

through Holy Family's four programs. Enjoy the fellowship of new and long-time friends, along with good food, live and silent auctions, and a chance to meet Holy Family students. It's a party-with-a-purpose – and sure to be an inspirational evening! Tickets will be held at the door. **Tickets to attend are \$125 and additional sponsorship levels are available. Please RSVP by November 1st, 2017. For more information, please contact Caitlin Duerinck at cduerinck@hfm.org**



TRANSFORMED THROUGH GIVING

This year St. Mark's ongoing stewardship education has emphasized Ministry in Our Daily Lives. The new blue cards in the pews help us reflect on how God has been working in our lives through the week. During Sunday worship services, we have heard stories of how people have been touched by God's work. We recently experienced the annual day to observe ELCA "God's Work Our Hands," a day set aside for ELCA congregations to use their talents to help others. All this leads us to our upcoming stewardship emphasis for the year: Transformed through Giving.

During October and into November, we will have a special emphasis in our worship gatherings on how generosity with our time, abilities, and money can help transform others, ourselves, and our society. You will hear personal stories of how service to others makes a difference. If you have a story to share, please indicate that on the blue card so it can be shared with others. Generosity is contagious; help spread the faith!

Pr. Carl Anderson for the Stewardship Team



2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 12 pm Bunco for Breast Cancer	2 6:30 pm PADS	3 11 am Private Event 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Ecumenical Committee Mtg	4 9 am Volleyball 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	5 Parking Lot is Scheduled to be sealed 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	6 6 pm Basketball	7 8 am Basketball 6:30 pm Nibblers
8 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 11:15 am Pet Blessing 4 pm Corn Maze	9 1:00 pm Book Club 6:30 pm PADS 7 pm Mary Circle	10 12:30 pm Deborah Circle 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Worship Committee	11 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 Youth Choir 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	12 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	13	14 6 pm Men's Corned Beef Dinner
15 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	16 6:30 pm PADS	17 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Church Council	18 9 am Volleyball 9 am Quilting 11 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 5:40 pm WOW Worship 6 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	19 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	20 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Craft Connection	21 8 am Basketball
22 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 4:30 pm Spirit of Life Concert	23 12:30 pm Bridge Club 6:30 pm PADS	24 9 am Quilting 3:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	25 9 am Volleyball 11 am Bible Study 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 5:40 pm WOW Worship 6 pm Youth Choir 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm FaithWalk	26 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm FaithWalk 6 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	27 4:30 pm Basketball 5 pm Wedding Rehearsal	28 8 am Basketball 3 pm Wedding
29 Reformation Sunday 8 am Worship 10 am Worship Bible Bash	30 6:30 pm PADS	31 Reformation Celebration				

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

October 2017

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

Web: 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

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am – 12 pm noon

St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center

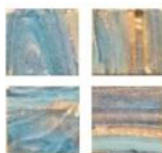
847/873-1110

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