



MARKSMAN

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Communion and children's sermon every Sunday.

8:30 am traditional on-site.
Nursery provided.

11:00 am contemporary
both on-site and online on
our YouTube channel
*StMarksLutheranChurch
WashingtonIllinois.*
Nursery provided.

9:30 am fellowship with
refreshments.

9:45 am Sunday School

Masks are optional.

CONTACT US

Office hours
M-Th 8:30-4:30, F 8:30-3:00

Phone 309.444.4618
office@stmarkswashington.org

Child Care & Preschool
309.444.4686

200 S. Main Street
Washington IL 61571

Facebook:

stmarkswashington

Website:

stmarkswashington.org

Holy Week is upon us.

This week holds the most momentous festivals of the whole Christian year...even bigger than Christmas. Please renew your commitment to Christ through worship as often as possible.
~ Pastor Westphal

Palm Sunday – April 10

+ 8:30 am with traditional music, on-site in the sanctuary

+ 11:00 am with contemporary music, on-site in the sanctuary and online on YouTube

Both services will feature:

- + A procession of our Sunday School children waving palms.
- + "The Passion of Our Lord according to Matthew" narrated with live readings by St. Mark's members.

Maundy Thursday – April 14, 7:00 pm, on-site in the sanctuary and online on YouTube

- + Holy Communion to remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples.
- + Dramatic stripping of the altar at the end to remember the stripping of Christ prior to his crucifixion.

Good Friday – April 15, 7:00 pm, on-site in the sanctuary and online on YouTube

- + Tenebrae service with the extinguishing of seven lighted candles to remember Christ's death on the cross.
- + A community service with participation by other Washington clergy and congregations.
- + The offering will be for WHIP (Washington Helps Its People) food pantry.

Easter – Sunday, April 17

- + 8:00 am – with traditional music, on-site in the sanctuary
 - + 9:30 am – with a blend of traditional and contemporary music, on-site in the sanctuary and online on YouTube
 - + 11:00 am – with contemporary music, on-site in the sanctuary
- ~ Pastor Westphal

*And remember to support our youth by attending the Easter Breakfast,
9 am – 10:45 am in the John Bates FLC!*



WORSHIP

SEEKING COMMUNION DEACONS

The Worship Team is currently recruiting Communion Deacons to help serve the bread and wine or grape juice during Holy Communion at worship. If you are interested, there will be a short training session on April 24 after both services in the Sanctuary. The requirements to be a Communion Deacon include:

- Active member of St. Mark's for one year.
- Have participated in service at St. Mark's such as, usher, Council Member, Sunday School teacher, served on a committee etc.
- Must be 21.

Any questions? Call Diana Lindahl at 309-264-8289.

SHEPHERD SUNDAY, MAY 8

A furry friend will be our special guest again this year on the day we hear Scripture about our Good Shepherd...which also happens to be Mother's Day! Mark your calendar for this special occasion.

STAFFING UPDATE

I'm sad to inform you that Jeff Simmons has resigned from his position at St. Mark's as Audio/Video Director. Two years ago, Jeff was instrumental in developing our abilities to pre-record and then livestream our worship services during the pandemic, and he has trained and developed a strong volunteer group to support our ongoing work to allow people to worship online. His last Sunday in the Director role will be May 22. He plans to have our wall-mounted cameras fully functional by then, and to being an active member of our Praise Band after that. Jeff and I have begun making plans for a smooth transition. Please read his comments below about the anniversary of our online worship, and join me in thanking him for his excellent service in this crucial role during the last two-plus years. He will be missed in that role. ~ Pastor Westphal



Jeff Simmons is getting ready to install the wall-mounted cameras.

HAPPY TWO-YEAR (ONLINE) ANNIVERSARY

March 22 marked the second anniversary of the first online worship service at St. Mark's after the pandemic began. Our Audio/Video Director, Jeff Simmons, shared these thoughts with those of us who have worked with him weekly to produce the recorded and now livestreamed services: "The impact of what we've done over the last few years isn't lost on me. During a time of fear and isolation, we helped people stay connected to St Mark's. We positively impacted a lot of people who needed the services we deliver each week. As I leave this role, I feel grateful and blessed that God chose me to be a part of this

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning Sunday, May 29, on Memorial Day weekend, through Sunday, September 4, the worship schedule will be:

- 8:30 am traditional service on-site

- 10:30 am contemporary service on-site and online. This service will be moved forward half an hour from 11:00 am during the summer when there is no Sunday School.

The time between services will allow the A/V crews to set up for live streaming and also allow the praise band to rehearse and warm-up for the second service. There will still be enough time between services for coffee and donut fellowship!

On Sunday, September 11, the 8:30 and 11:00 am service schedule will resume.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU FROM DIANE IN UKRAINE

Hear a short video thank you from Diane, Pastor Westphal's sister in Ukraine, posted on the St. Mark's YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSZYsYRcybo&t=3s>.

St. Mark's members have given \$3,426.00 so far to Lutheran Disaster Response for humanitarian relief for Ukrainians forced to flee their homes.

LIBRARY

Our library has great uplifting and inspirational books. Learn something new or lose yourself in a fictional Christian novel.

We also have books to read to your children at bedtime. Encourage you teens to pick out a book to enjoy.

And don't forget our awesome thought provoking and family friendly movies!

If you have any questions or requests, just let me know. I love to talk about our books.

~ Linda Fitzgerald

CARING

Before you buy any medical equipment, call the office and 309-444-4618 and let us know what medical equipment you are needing.

We have many different things that you may borrow instead of buying.

Wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, bedside commodes, bath/shower chairs, canes, bedrails, bath tub rails.

There is never a charge for these items all we ask is that when you are finished with them you bring them back.

We are Blessed to have this program and encourage our members, Friends and community to use them as needed.

We also have limited items that we can give until gone:

Men's Incontinence pull ups and pads

Women's Incontinence pull ups and pads

Bed protector pads.



~ Mary Hills, Parish Nurse

parishnurse@stmarkswashington.org

ST. MARK'S IN THE NEWS

St. Mark's made the channel 25 news with a story about lending medical equipment to those in need, featuring our own parish nurse Mary Hills!

You can see the story for yourself at

<https://www.week.com/2022/03/25/local-organizations-provide-free-medical-equipment-those-need/>



Three staff members, Rob, Mary and Karie, are reorganizing the medical equipment lending storage room!

CHILDREN & FAMILY

Dear Friends in Christ,
I have served on staff as your Director of Children and Family Ministries for the past (almost) eight years. As many of you already know, I have made the decision to resign from my position as Director of Children and Family Ministries, effective May 1, 2022. I have given much thought, consideration, and prayer to this decision, and feel it is best for myself and my family that I step away at this time. My husband, Curt, and I plan to remain as active members of St. Mark's. You are our church family, and we love you very much. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and love over the past eight years. It has been my joy and my privilege to serve the children, families, and members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

NOAH'S ARK CARTS

Beginning April 3, the toys and other items available on the Noah's Ark carts may be returned directly to the labeled shelf from where the item was borrowed. "Return" baskets will no longer be available, and items will no longer be sanitized after every use. Disposable sanitizing wipes will be available on a shelf of the Noah's Ark Cart for your use if you would like to wipe down toys and other items before your child plays with them in the pew.

THANK YOU!

St. Mark's is blessed to have a highly dedicated team of Sunday School teachers and youth leaders. We truly appreciate their commitment and heart for serving our children and youth. Join us in thanking them publicly during worship on April 24, and please extend a personal thank you to them for their service to our church.

Sunday School

Sandy Jackson	Cindy Shuckford
Kathy Jefford	Kelly Albrecht
Kelli McGlaughlin	Tim Ho
Joni Nightingale	Susan Osborn
Bethany Harms	Erin Moore
Maureen Radtke	Gwen Ziegler
Casey Ho	Dustin Ziegler
Nicole Swenson	Samantha Reatherford
Abby Swanson	

Confirmation Leaders

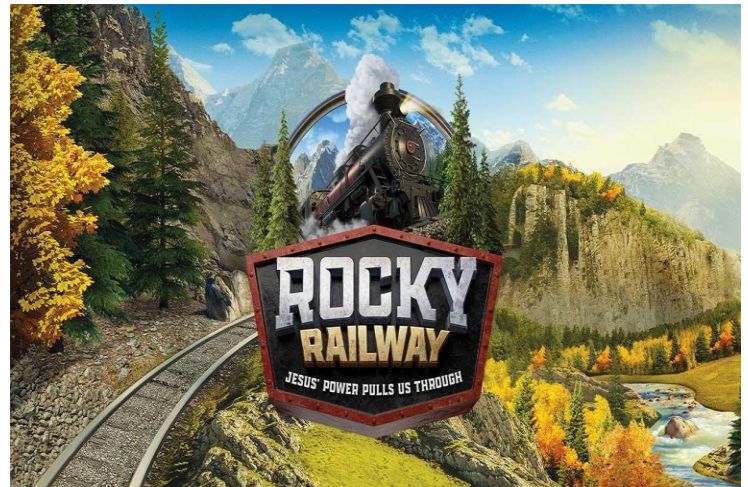
Joe Adams	Beth Peters
Mike Griffith	Gwen Ziegler
Abby Swanson	

High School Leaders

Mike Griffith	Elaine Lucas
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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 25-28



Interested in being a part of the planning team? We're looking for enthusiastic people to help plan decorations and fun activities! Contact: Nancy Vogel (nvogel@stmarkswashington.org)
Gwen Ziegler (zieglergwenm@gmail.com)

~ Nancy Vogel, Director of Children and Family Ministries, nvogel@stmarkswashington.org

APPRECIATION SUNDAY

May 15, 9:45-10:45 am, John Bates-FLC

Come and say thank you

To Nancy Vogel as she completes her work on staff at St. Mark's

To Pastor Hanson as he continues his service as Visitation Pastor and celebrates his 87th birthday in May. (Note: Pastor Hanson has been on short-term contracts at St. Mark's for over 13 years. The Executive Team recently offered him a regular position without term to signify our gratitude and support for his work.)

~ Pastor Westphal

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Detroit Mission Trip

During the week of June 12-17, St. Mark's High School Youth will be going to Detroit, Michigan to work with Cass Community Social Services. We'll be working in several safe places around the city as well as doing some projects right at the CCSS complex. The cost for this trip is going to be around \$200/student.

Join us for an informational meeting on April 10 after the 11:00 service in the John Bates FLC!

Interested? please contact Jeremy at jlafary@stmarkswashington.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------|--|
| April 10 | Mini Golfing at ROC Ice Cream and Mini Golf in East Peoria – 5:00 pm |
| April 24 | Paintball Outing at Area 52 in Mackinaw – 2:00pm |
| May 8 | Parking Lot Cookout/End of the year party (7 th and 8 th Grade are encouraged to attend) |

During the Summer months, we are going to be meeting once every month so that we can stay connected. Be on the lookout for what our activities are going to be in the coming weeks.

CONFIRMATION YOUTH

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 6 | The Lord's Prayer (Pizza Night!) |
| April 13 | No Class (Holy Week) |
| April 20 | Trivia Night! |
| April 27 | End of year project presentations (8 th Graders, please be at the church at 6:30 so that we can practice for Sunday) |
| May 1 | Confirmation Sunday (11:00 am Service) |

JEREMY'S OFFICE HOURS AT THE BLEND

Every week at 3:15, Jeremy will be at The Blend for an hour. Come and enjoy some free coffee/beverages and good conversation! No agenda, no talking points, just fun!



High School students enjoy talking and laughing with our Jeremy, our Youth Director during his Office Hours at the Blend!



Brave High School students performing different activities during 'Fear Factor' at Sunday night's youth event on Sunday, March 27.

SPECIAL DATES

BIRTHDAYS

4/16 Ken Holford
4/18 Dorothy Boatright

ANNIVERSARIES

4/20/1963 Ken and Mary Jo Holford

COUNCIL

Council Retreat

Highlights from the February 12 Annual Council Retreat

Council held their annual retreat in the John Bates FLC on February 12. The main purpose was to welcome and orient the new council members as well as to provide a refresher on council procedures for all.

Council also approved the renewal of Pastor Westphal's call for the period of March 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022, and approved the appointment of Ian Radtke to the Call Committee, replacing Case Pudik.

~Roger French, Recorder

The next Council meeting is May 17

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WHIP COLLECTIONS

The April collection for WHIP is **cereal**. In May, we will be collecting **peanut butter**.

St. Mark's donated 170 cans of soup, 12 cans of tuna and 5 miscellaneous items for the month of February. WHIP served 197 families in February and registered 6 new families. Thank you for your continued support which helps WHIP to serve our friends and neighbors in need. God Bless your generosity!

CHANGE FOR CHARITY

We have an update to share with the congregation. Children will begin collecting for Change for Charity again at both services. The recipient on March 27th is St. Mark's Cares ministry, a benevolence at St. Mark's to help congregation members in need. The recipient on April 24th is the Heller Center for Kids with Cancer, whose programs provide patients and families with critical, non-medical tools that best support them through and beyond their cancer treatments.

KITCHEN CLEANING

We will be cleaning the kitchen in the John Bates FLC on **Monday, April 25th at 9 a.m.** Any help you can offer is appreciated.

BAKE SALE AT LUTHERAN HILLSIDE VILLAGE

Do you like to bake? We're seeking donations of homemade cookies, bars, candies, small breads, fudge and other sweet treats. Please bring them to the main entrance/front desk of LHV, 6901 N. Galena Road, Peoria before 11 a.m. on Thurs, May 5th. We ask that items be delivered in containers that you don't need back. LWGP is hosting the bake sale at Lutheran Hillside Village on Friday, May 6 from 8-11 a.m. Stop by to shop! Proceeds benefit the benevolent fund for those residents who have outlived their resources.

LWGP MEETING HOSTED BY ST. MARK'S

St. Mark's is hosting the Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria General Membership meeting on **Friday, May 13th** from 9-11 a.m. in the John Bates-FLC. Our guest speaker is Karen Henrikson from Walnut, IL. Karen will share her testimony in a cake talk entitled "You Are His Masterpiece." A continental breakfast will be served along with coffee and a piece of her delicious cake! Please RSVP to Lisa Mack at (309) 360-2669 by May 5th so that we can plan accordingly. We hope to see you there! Ladies of all ages are welcome.

PIECE AND COMFORT QUILTERS GROUP

Quilters group is in need of donations of fabrics to make the quilts and clean, gently used full, queen and king



sized sheets for the backing. If you can help with donations, please contact Linda Keys at 309-472-2483 or drop off in the Beckwith Hall donation center in the cabinets to the left of the counter area. Piece and Comfort quilters group meets at Church on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Room LL-29, and you are welcome to join in!

~ Linda Wetzel and Pam Ripley

SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH

2022 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD Ending February 28

General Fund

Total Income: \$203,893.74 (includes \$95,000 in pre-paid pledges)
Expenses: \$112,043.10
Net Income: \$91,850.64

Special Appeal

Pledged: \$95,467.00
Received to date: \$43,715.99

Special Appeal funds received will be used first for the Childcare Renovation project. (The Childcare has contributed an additional \$46,800 for this.) After this project is done, Special Appeal funds will be used to begin remodeling the Burton Street House.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR APRIL

We give sacrificially. “Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.” Luke 21:1-4 (ESV)

Multiple Ways to Give

Thank you for your support of St. Mark's.

Weekly Offering Checks can be brought to the collection boxes in the sanctuary or mailed to St. Mark's, 200 S. Main Street, Washington, IL

61571. You can set up an online automatic gift from your bank as well.

Website - Give through the link.

Mobile App - Download the free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play, and search for St. Mark's by zip code. Follow the instructions to donate.



Text - Send a text to 833-948-2192, enter the amount you would like to give, and follow the instructions.

PLANNED GIVING

A PLANNED GIVING WORKSHOP: PLANTING SEEDS OF GENEROSITY

What is planned giving? How might it make a difference for you and for St. Mark's?

You are invited to attend a short forum on planned giving on Sunday, April 24, 9:45-10:45 am in the conference room by the church offices, sponsored by St. Mark's Stewardship Team and Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Committee. Tim Urness, Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation for Illinois, will describe the free services that are available to help you establish a planned gift. Tim assists Lutherans in reaching their charitable goals and congregations in benefiting from planned gifts to their Mission Endowment Funds (MEF).

Tim has a BA from Southern Illinois University, and a MS from Northern Illinois University. He was until recently a Registered Representative (stockbroker), Registered Investment Adviser Representative (adviser), and Licensed Insurance Producer, with annuity and long-term care qualifications. His experience includes employment with Bank Financial, Fixed Income Capital Partners, and AXA Advisors.

Tim has been a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Charles, Illinois for over thirty years. He is an usher, is active in the Men's Bible Study, and volunteers for Hesus House in Aurora. He is married with three children



Please contact him with any questions about planned gifts.

Tim Urness, 331-444-3120,
800-638-3522 tim.urness@elca.org

STAFFING UPDATE

WELCOME OUR NEWEST EMPLOYEE!

Please join me in saying thank you to Pastor Hanson for his service as Visitation Pastor. You may not be aware of this, but Pastor Hanson has been on short-term contracts at St. Mark's for over 13 years. The Executive Team (Derek Schryer, Gwen Ziegler, Dale Claus, Diana Lindahl and me), recently offered him a regular position without term to signify our gratitude and support for his work. We will hold a thank you celebration for him between services on Sunday, May 15 (along with Nancy's) in the John Bates FLC – and this will also be an early celebration of his 87th birthday on May 24! ~ Pastor Westphal



The next Marksman is the Pentecost Marksman. If you would like to contribute information for it or an article please submit your entry before May 16, 2022.

Anyone interested in preparing the Pentecost Marksman for mailing on May 31, 2022 may contact the church office at 309-444-4618 or email Cindy at office@stmarkswashington.org

Thank you!!