



MARKSMAN

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 am Worship Service
both on-site and online on
our YouTube channel
StMarksLutheranChurch
WashingtonIllinois.

Nursery provided.

10:30 am Fellowship Hour
with coffee and donuts.

CONTACT US

Office hours
M-F 8:30 am -3:00 pm

Phone 309.444.4618
office@stmarkswashington.org

Childcare & Preschool
309.444.4686

200 S. Main Street
Washington IL 61571

Facebook:
stmarkswashington
Website:
stmarkswashington.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

For devotions at council, members have been reading and discussing "Canoeing the Mountains." A bestselling book about church leadership in uncertain times. Times such as now for the Church.

The author tells of the epic two-year journey of Meriweather Lewis and William Clark in 1804 to chart the best route to the Pacific Ocean after the Louisiana Purchase. The problem? The Rocky Mountains that were not only uncharted, but unknown to the new country of the United States (all 17 eastern states of them).



Lewis and Clark had been traveling mostly by canoe, but you can't canoe up a mountain. So, they traded their canoes and erroneous maps for horses and Indian guides to venture over the Rockies. But that was not an easy decision because change is always difficult. We humans tend to rely on past successes and solutions. Even when facing completely new challenges.

We, the Church, are sitting at the base of a 3,000-mile stretch of uncharted, dangerous mountains. Our canoe (what we have been travelling in for almost 150 years) isn't going to get us up and over the mountains to where God is calling us. We must adapt. Experiment. Trust. Be willing to fail. Learn. Pray. Try again.

In other words, we must be willing to change at St. Mark's because change, or more aptly transformation, is a given when traveling off the map (what we know, what has worked) into uncharted territory. Transformation is difficult. But then the life God has called us to as a congregation is not an easy one, but a meaningful one; one that God is for us and with us. We just must be willing to trade our canoes for horses and trust even more in the providence of God when in uncharted territory.

~ Pastor Scott

WHAT'S NEW

ST. MARK'S ELECTRONIC SIGN

Approximately two years ago, the Memorial Team began exploring the possibility of a programmable, digital, full-color electronic sign panel under the current lighted sign on the east side of the church. The purpose of the sign would be to display information regarding church services, special church events, programs, and purposeful messaging. In addition, St. Mark's pre-school and daycare would be able to use it for some of its messaging, such as openings available, etc.

In the City of Washington, South Main Street is the second most traveled street with over six thousand cars a day. This guarantees the sign would receive much visibility from the public.

The Memorial team submitted a motion at the July 10 council meeting to approve up to but not exceed \$25K from a dedicated estate cash gift along with some dedicated Memorial accounts to purchase a sign from Martin Signs located in Metamora. The City of Washington, at its city zoning meeting on August 2, approved the two necessary variances required to install an electronic sign. The church then applied for a sign permit from the city.

The Memorial Team is excited to see the completion of this project. Look for the installation of the sign sometime this fall.



COOKBOOK

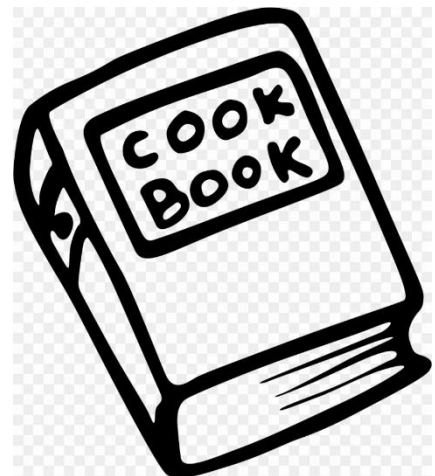
The Women of the Church are excited to be a part of St. Mark's upcoming 150 year anniversary celebration (in 2025) by creating a commemorative cookbook titled **St. Mark's Lutheran Church Recipes and Reminiscences**.

This cookbook will be exclusive to St. Mark's by featuring recipes from past members, current recipes from our congregation, and written reminiscences from members on food and fellowship past and present.

The Cookbook Team is reaching out to all members for recipes and written remembrances. The remembrances should be no longer than 50 words and can include anything regarding food ministry and food fellowship both in and outside of the church. One individual can submit many recipes.

Please submit your contributions no later than December of this year. There are three ways to submit your contributions:

1. Hard copies can be placed in the box labeled "Recipes and Reminiscences" located in the gathering space. Please include your name and a phone number you can be reached at if there is a question regarding your submittal.
2. The church office will take your submissions.
3. Email: recipes@stmarkswashington.org



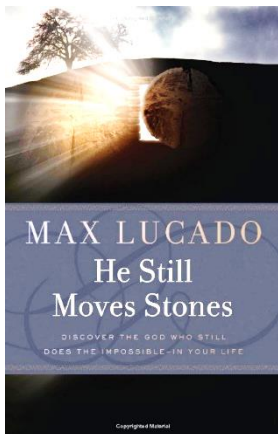
ST. MARK'S HITS THE BIG TIME!

Because of the remarkable beauty of our sanctuary, well-known award winning Christian country artist, Daniel Ball (of the Ball Brothers from Georgia) utilized our church to recently shoot the music video for his upcoming single: "No Stranger in the Pew." When it is released, we will notify the church so you can watch it!



BOOKCLUB

Book Club starts back on Tuesday September 10, 2023! Please join us at 10:00 am as we discover how our Jesus continues to work in our lives. Together we will read Max Lucado's book, He Still Moves Stones. Refreshments will be served.



Questions? Please contact the church office 309-444-4618 or office@stmarkswashington.org

LIBRARY

Greetings!

Crisp cool Autumn weather is just around the corner. It is a perfect time to cozy up and fall onto a good read.

Stop in and visit our church library and check out our selection of great Christian books. We also have audio CD's and DVD movies for all ages.

What would you like to see added to our collection? Let us know what you are interested in.

Send your ideas for how we can improve our library experience to Marlene Meegan at marmeeagan@comcast.net.

Thanks for supporting our church library!



CHILDCARE & PRESCHOOL

We've had a wonderful summer down in childcare! Lower numbers have allowed us to complete some planning projects as well as some organization projects. We are now coming back to full numbers for our classrooms as we begin a new school year. We really appreciate all the work that the property team,



especially Tom Rigg, has done in our area this summer. We are excitedly anticipating our new playground to be installed sometime in September. We are looking forward to the fall season and new beginnings.

~ Ellie Gramm and Amanda Stuart
Childcare and Preschool Co-Directors



NURSES CORNER

GriefShare met on Tuesdays. The classes started on May 3 and ended August 8. Kevin Eack, Lori Reed and I had a successful 13-week session. Twelve people signed up and we were blessed to meet this wonderful group of people. My next meeting for GriefShare will be November 14, 2023. It will be a two-hour session on surviving the holidays. I will send out more information in October and signups will be posted on the GriefShare website. Looking at September and October I have quite a few transports to make happen. Our medical equipment loan program is still very active. If anyone needs a wheelchair, crutches, grabbers, shower chairs, tub chairs, bedside commodes or knee scooters please reach out to me. A

survey as to what you feel we need to keep our congregation growing and staying connected is in the making and hopefully will be sent out to all members in the very near future. I have been receiving a lot of calls from our older folks needing help at home caring for their parent or their spouse. Any Certified Nurse Assistant or Student Nurse looking for some extra work please feel free to email me at parishnurse@stmarkswashington.org and I can pass your information on to the family in need. The details of care and pay would be between you and the family.

I know it was announced in Church that we had one staff member break out in shingles. If you are concerned about shingles please call your Doctor. Here is some information about shingles,

Shingles is a painful, usually itchy rash that develops on one side of the face or body. The rash consists of blisters that typically scab over in 7-10 days and fully clear up within 2-4 weeks.

Shingles is NOT contagious. You cannot get shingles from someone else. But you can catch chickenpox from someone with shingles if you have direct contact with fluid from their shingles rash. The risk of spreading the virus is low if the shingle rash is kept covered. If you have the rash on the face/head area and it cannot be covered then you should stay home until the areas are scabbed over. I hope this information helps you understand a little bit about shingles. I can't stress enough that if you have any concerns about shingles. please reach out to your Doctor.

~ Mary Hills
Parish Nurse



CHILDREN & FAMILY

ST. MARK'S VBS 2023

Thank you to everyone that attended and for helping make our Rocky Railway VBS a success! We had 50 children attend at least 2 days of VBS and 37 children attend all 4 days. Get ready for next year!



Cross Trainers are invited to participate as junior guides for the younger kids.

Volunteers are needed, parents, grandparents, and any adults to help with Children's Church for the 25 minutes we are in the club house. Children/volunteers will return to worship service during communion.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church in our new club house will begin on September 17, 2023 – with a special unveiling on Rally Day, September 10, 2023!

All kids in kindergarten to 6th grade will have their very own creative, active worship service during church's 9:30 a.m. service. Kids will leave right after the Children's Message every Sunday with Ms. Shannon for biblical arts & crafts, story time, snacks, games, and more.

RALLY DAY

St. Mark's will celebrate the start of Sunday School with Rally Day on **Sunday, September 10th, 2023!** All Sunday School students ages 3-years-old through 6th grade and their parents are invited to this celebration! Refreshments, treats, & games will be provided after worship service in the FLC.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School enrollment is now open for the **Fall 2023 and Spring 2024** school year. Please sign up using the QR code below.

I am looking for volunteers, parents, grandparents, and any adults to help with Sunday School this year! I am looking for at least two teachers willing to help teach the 3rd & 4th grade Sunday School class. You will be on a rotating schedule and help teach Sunday School two times per month. All curriculum is provided.

Volunteers are needed.



CROSS TRAINERS

Cross Trainers is back for another great season! 5th & 6th graders are invited to join me on Wednesday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. for Cross Trainers.

Our first Cross Trainers meeting is on **September 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.** This is an informational meeting for the 2023-2024 school year. This is to also schedule parent volunteers. I am asking all parents/guardians to please attend!



TRUNK OR TREAT

Trunk or Treat is right around the corner! Happy Halloween! We will have many trunks filled with candy. The fun doesn't stop there - we will have a craft table, game table, & hot chocolate station free for the community!

Sunday, October 29th from 3:00-5:00 p.m.



Questions or want to volunteer? Please contact Shannon Boynton, Director of Children and Family Ministry or call (309)-444-4618. or childrens.director@stmarkswashington.org

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

St. Mark's Students and Families:

It is hard to believe that we are already one week into a brand-new school year! I am excited to start the new school year after an incredible summer: from fun-filled activities to engaging mission and learning opportunities, the summer was filled with unforgettable moments. As we step into the new school year, we here at St. Mark's are eager to continue this momentum and provide our students with a place to grow their faith, learn more about Jesus, and connect with each other on a deeper level. I am confident that this year will be a year to remember.

To help with this, St. Mark's is thrilled to announce the formation of a Youth Leadership Council, which will play a vital role in guiding the direction of our youth group this school year. The council is made up of students who have shown



exceptional leadership skills and a passion for making a positive impact in their community and our church. With their guidance, we are excited to continue our tradition of creating engaging and meaningful experiences for our youth.

Our inaugural youth council is made up of the following youth: Joy Bacon, Noel Bacon, Cade Hahn, Bethany Marshall, Erika Schierer, and Sam Schweizer.

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

September 10 – Paintball at Urban Warfare in Bloomington, IL (1:00pm-4:00pm) 8th-12th grade

September 13 – Confirmation Orientation (7:00pm-8:00pm)

September 17 – Jr. High and High School Sunday Starts (10:45am)

September 20 – First Night of Confirmation (6:30pm-8:00pm)

September 24 – High School Youth Group (5:30pm-7:30pm)

September 27 – Confirmation (6:30pm-8:00pm)

October 4 – Confirmation (6:30pm-8:00pm)

October 8 – High School Lock-in (6:00pm-8:00am)

October 11 – Confirmation (6:30pm-8:00pm)

October 18 – Confirmation (6:30pm-8:00pm)

October 20-21 – Confirmation Retreat at Camp Good News

October 22 – Youth Mission Opportunity (Jr. High and High School)– Leaf Raking (1:00pm-4:00pm)

October 29 – Helping with Trunk or Treat (3:00pm-5:00pm)

Questions? Please contact me at 309-409-8325 or jlafary@stmarkswashington.org

~ Pastor Jeremy Lafary
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries



Start of Summer



Youth Works Mission Trip



Leadership Lab

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WHIP COLLECTIONS (*unexpired items only*)

September – canned fruit & applesauce

October – cereal

308 families were served in June and St. Mark's collected 90 items. In July, 121 items were collected and 319 families were served. Thank you to all who donate food to WHIP each month!

CHANGE FOR CHARITY (*4th Sunday of the month*)

Our congregation supported the Dream Center Peoria Food Truck in June, raising \$284.65.

The July Change for Charity recipient was Peoria Rescue Mission, and \$212.86 was raised.

The collection for September is Lutheran World Relief Quilts. Money collected helps St. Mark's quilting group, Piece and Comfort, buy supplies and pay to ship the quilts worldwide. The October collection is for Walk for the Mind. Their mission is to raise awareness of brain tumors and their impact on patients, family and caregivers.

KITCHEN CLEANING ON OCTOBER 9TH

The bi-annual cleaning of the kitchen will be Monday, October 9th starting at 9 a.m. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated.

PIECE AND COMFORT QUILTERS GROUP

The annual Blessing of the Quilts will be Sunday, October 29th. The quilts are then packaged and distributed worldwide through Lutheran World Relief.

Piece and Comfort Quilters group can always use donations of fabrics to make the quilts and clean, gently used 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. Peace and Comfort Quilters Group meets at Church on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Room LL-29, and you are welcome anytime. No sewing experience is necessary.

BECKWITH HALL COLLECTION CENTER

A reminder that we collect various items in the Beckwith Hall Collection Center:

- *Left side cabinet:* quilting supplies
- *Box in the middle:* food donations for WHIP
- *Right side cabinet:* toiletries of all sizes, cancelled stamps, eyeglasses and prescription medicine bottles

~ Linda Wetzel and Pam Ripley

SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH

2023 Financial Report

YTD Ending June 30, 2023

General Fund

Total income:	\$402,490.15
Expenses:	<u>\$364,926.69</u>
Net Income	\$37,563.46

YTD Ending July 31, 2023

General Fund

Total income:	\$452,566.31
Expenses:	<u>\$429,150.52</u>
Net Income	\$23,415.79

SPECIAL DATES

BIRTHDAY'S 80 PLUS YEARS

SEPTEMBER

Buck Strode	09/03
Don Hofford	09/09
Dean Zobrist	09/10
Tom Rigg	09/11
Kaye Beschorner	09/11
Dale Claus	09/12
Charlie Thomas	09/13
Jeanette Burroughs	09/13
Edith Wenger	09/16

Sue Madden	09/17
Marvine Engel	09/21
Mindy Hampton	09/24
Arlene Johnson	09/25
Ann O'Connell	09/25
Bert Klings	09/25
Daniel Meyer	09/27
Ginny Hierman	09/29
Diana Burroughs	09/30

OCTOBER

Joyce Gegel	08/10
Bill Shelander II	08/14
Cheryl Shelander	08/16
Rosella Merkel	08/18
Frederick Joos Jr.	08/25
Beverly Mauschbaugh	08/25
Marge Shaw	08/29
Arlene Crumrine	08/30

ANNIVERSARIES 50 PLUS YEARS

SEPTEMBER

Paul & Shirley Gerken	09/01/1957	65
David & Anna Rogers	09/02/1972	50
Gary & Kay Uftring	09/03/1966	56
Bill & Sharon Porterfield	09/04/1965	57
Fred & Shirla Joos, Jr.	09/06/1959	63
Duane & Margie Ary	09/12/1968	54
Lyle & Marge Shaw	09/29/1957	65

OCTOBER

Bruce & Judy Custer	10/16/1971	51
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THANK YOU

St. Mark's Childcare and Preschool would like to thank Tom Rigg, Glen Calvert, Nick Ripley, Greg Kremer, Cody Winkler, Joey Metzloff, and Ev Freeburg from the Property Team. They worked many hours to remove the current playground equipment to make way for our new playground equipment. We really appreciate all their time and effort!

~All the staff and kiddos in the childcare center

Dear St. Mark's,

In 1992, St. Mark's sent the first group of youth to Leadership Lab. I was one of those girls who went. That experience changed my life forever. I ended up doing youth ministry as a career for 16 years and continue in a volunteer capacity still. I have been on staff at Lab for 25 years and my daughter Cadence was able to come for the first time this year. Thank you for the scholarship that made it possible for her to attend. We moved to Florida last year and made the long drive to go to Lab. You have blessed my family. Thank you for helping me give this experience to her!

Thank you,

~Kinberly (Wright) Wolfe

-daughter of Les and Penny Wright

Dear St. Mark's,

Thank you for allowing me to go to Leadership Lab. I Had an excellent time and I made a lot of friends. I even got to meet people from St. Mark's!

~Cadence Wolfe

To all the people of St. Mark's,

We feel very blessed to be a part of the community of St. Mark's. It is because of you we were able to attend the Youth Works Mission Trip and Leadership Lab. These experiences enriched our lives by showing us that not all people are as fortunate as us, teaching us that our faith in Jesus Christ needs to come first in our lives and witnessing adults who really do live their faith by leading

programs for us. We want to thank everyone who supported our trips financially and everyone who prayed for us all. We love being St. Mark's future leaders!

~From the youth that went on the Youth Works Mission Trip, July 5 – July 8

*Joy Bacon
Erika Schierer
Sam Schweizer
Nora Westphalen
Bobby Radtke
Hailey Shuckford
Elise Moore*

AND

~From the youth that went to Leadership Lab, July 17 – July 22

*Joy Bacon
Erika Schierer
Bethany Marshall
Cade Hahn
Brady Hahn*

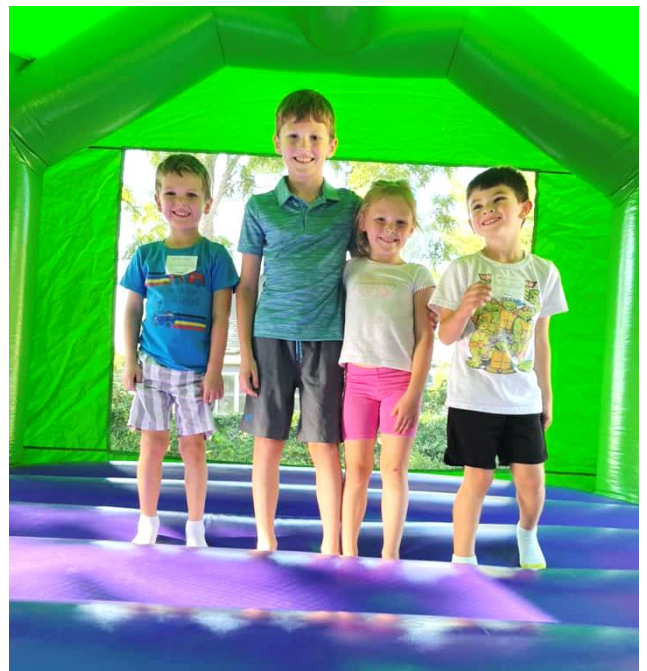


Youth sharing their mission experiences

Thank you to everyone who came out to the End of Summer Extravaganza. It was a great time with amazing weather. Thank you to the following who made the event happen:

Margaret and Loren Swanson, Mike and Pam Griffith, Glen and Cindy Calvert, Pastor Scott, and the praise band.

~Abby Swanson



UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH LITURGY 101- Lead by Pr. Hanson. Every wondered why we have different colors on the altar? Or what church season it is? Why do we sing certain songs at certain times? Pastor Hanson will lead us in a basic church class on October 8 and October 15 at 10:30 am. Everyone is invited!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor will be hosting a new member class Sunday mornings, the last half of October (Oct. 15, 22, 29). Classes will be held in the FLC after worship. Of course, we will get to know each other, but also discuss St. Mark's: its history, ministries, opportunities and the Lutheran Church (St. Mark's is part of the ELCA). Please contact the church office or pastor if you are interested soon!

New

MEMBERS
CLASS

find out more about our church!

FALL BONFIRE & WIENER ROAST

Please join us on Sunday, October 8th from 4-7 p.m. for a bonfire and wiener roast at Nick & Pam Ripley's home, 410 South St., Washington. Hot dogs, chili, chips & beverages will be provided. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share. More details will be shared later.



Photos from the last wiener roast in Oct. 2019:



DEAD LINES

MARKSMAN DEADLINES

Have an article or event you would like to share in an upcoming Marksman? The final deadline for 2023 is

October 20 (for November & December MM)

The Marksman is produced bimonthly.

HELP WANTED

St. Mark's Childcare is hiring! Go to [indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com) to view the following positions.

Child Care Teacher or Teacher's Assistant -

Substitute Teacher -

Substitute Cook -

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning on September 1, 2023, St. Mark's will be open from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm

FALL BACK

Daylight Savings time ends on
November 5, 2023

MEETINGS AT CHURCH

Please remember to call the church office to reserve the conference room, or any other part of the church if you are planning a meeting.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

St Mark's welcomes Clover Patch 4-H Club/ Eureka Chapter to St Marks. 4-H will meet in

the FLC during the upcoming school year on the first Thursday of each month beginning on September 7. They welcome interested participants.

To learn more, contact Sheri Roth at 309-360-8314 or email stroth05@gmail.com.



COULD YOU PICTURE YOURSELF IN 4-H? 

WHO CAN JOIN 4-H?
4-H is the place for all Illinois kids and teens ages 8-18 where you belong and are part of the club!

WHAT IS 4-H?
Illinois 4-H is the largest out-of-school youth organization in Illinois, where you "learn by doing" with fun, hands-on activities that teach skills you can use now and in the future!

WHEN DO CLUBS MEET?
Most clubs meet once a month. 4-H members run the meetings, so you'll get practice learning parliamentary procedure, practicing your public-speaking, decision-making, teamwork, and more!

WHERE ARE 4-H CLUBS?
There are 4-H clubs in all 102 counties in Illinois!

WHY 4-H?
In 4-H, you learn about what interests you! Thinking about your future? 4-H also helps build awareness of careers and skills needed to excel in those careers. Areas you could explore include:

• Aerospace	• Exchange Programs	• Interior Design
• Animal Sciences	• Crop Science	• Journalism
• Career Readiness	• Livestock	• Leadership
• Civic Engagement	• Environment	• Photography
• Clothing	• Geology	• Public Speaking
• Communications	• Horses	• Robotics
• Computer Science	• Horticulture	• Sportfishing
• Community Service	• Plants & Soils	• e-Sports
• Creative Writing	• Poultry	• Theater Arts
• Floriculture	• Sportfishing	• Veterinary Science

AND MORE!
JOIN THE CLUB!

Contact your local Extension office at 309-467-3789 or email btroy2@illinois.edu or head to go.illinois.edu/lmw

 **Illinois Extension**
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