

St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

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October, 2023



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NEWS FLASH!!! The Council met and approved the Reverend Eric Schaefer as the interim pastor at St. Mark, beginning October 10. Due to prior commitments, his first Sunday with us will be October 22. Pastor Eric is married and has a 13 year old son and 11 year old daughter. We are very excited to get to know Pr. Eric and his family. We are so grateful to have had Pastors Carl Anderson, Jim Frank and Les Weber and Deacon Pat Gerber preach and preside at our Sunday worship services. They will continue their rotation until Pastor Schaefer begins on Oct. 22. They have

been invaluable through this period of transition!

A piece of not so good news is that our budget deficit continues to grow. The good news is the rate at which it is growing has shown signs of slowing. Administrator Nancy Hundley and Treasurer Marilyn Gosell have begun to put together the first draft of the 2024 budget. The Council gave three guidelines as this budget is developed: I) include increases for staff since their salaries have been stagnant for the past three years, 2) show a reduced deficit, and 3) include only repair and replacement property expenditures projected as necessary in 2024. Though items I and 2 may seem contradictory, we trust both salary increases and a reduced deficit can be possible. The timeline is for the Council to receive a budget proposal at its October meeting and for the congregation to vote in November or early December. Stay tuned for the date of the Congregational Budget Meeting. It is important for all to be part of St. Mark's financial decisions.

Some property updates:

- 1) The stairs to the Wille Street south entrance to the narthex have been repaired.
- 2) A few windows in the parsonage have been replaced.
- 3) Paul Post is generously painting the interior of the parsonage.
- 4) We await final bids from blacktop contractors to repair damaged areas, fill cracks, reseal, and stripe the parking lot.
- 5) There have been some face-lifts to the Center thanks to a group who have given tons of time to clean up, organize, and dispose of unneeded items.

We encourage all to put October 21 on your calendar for the **St. Mark 77 Years of Ministry in the Community Celebration**, highlighting 77 years of ministry, 65 years of the Preschool Enrichment, and 35 years as a PADS site. Let's all celebrate together!

We pray God's rich blessings upon our congregation as we move forward together in ministry to **The Future in Hope.**

The St. Mark Council

Nancy Snell-President and Stewardship representative, Eve Smith-Vice President and Inreach/ Congregational Care, Barb Bloomquist-Secretary and Youth & Family, Marilyn Gosell-Treasurer, Andy Goodrich-Marketing & Communication and PADS representative, Dolores Uddenberg-Worship & Music, Paul Post-Property, Kim Perlich-Fellowship & Women's Ministry, Dianne Quast-Adult Education, Mike Haase-Foundation Volume 62, Issue 10 Page 3

B(o I d e r) U

October Lunch and Learn October 12, 2023 11:30-1:00

This month's topic is making your home safe and accessible. Northwest Housing Partnership (NWHP) will be presenting simple changes you can make in your home to increase your safety and help you maintain your independence. They will also be presenting on resources available to residents in the northwest suburbs to assist with making home modifications and/or repairs.

NWHP was established in 1990 with the goal of creating and implementing programs to promote economically diverse housing. They have numerous handyman and housing rehabilitation programs, as well as offering numerous workshops and consultations for homebuyers and renters who are 55 years of age or older.

We encourage everyone to join us on October 12 for this informative lunch and learn. Please feel free to invite friends or family who are interested in learning more about home modifications and handyman services provided by NWHP.

Please RSVP to the church office at 847-253-0631 or stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org by October 9. Suggested donation is \$10 to cover the cost of lunch.

Exercise Group

The Rush University Occupational Therapy students are continuing to lead exercises focused on balance and core strengthening through November 2. Join us on Thursdays from 10-11 am. Tell your friends – all are welcome!

The plan is to then have Meghan Crisp return to lead a 5-week Qi Gong group starting November 9.

Movies

Movies are continuing on the 4th Thursday of the month at 1:00. The movie for October is: Arsenic and Old Lace starring Cary Grant, Peter Lorre, and Raymond Massey Page 4 October CrossBeams







OCTOBER 12, 2023 11:30AM -1:00PM



MAKE YOUR HOME SAFE & ACCESSIBLE



Northwest Housing Partnership will present changes you can make in your home to increase safety and independence as you age.



R8VP to St. Mark at 847-253-0631 or stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org



Suggested donation: \$10 to cover cost of lunch.



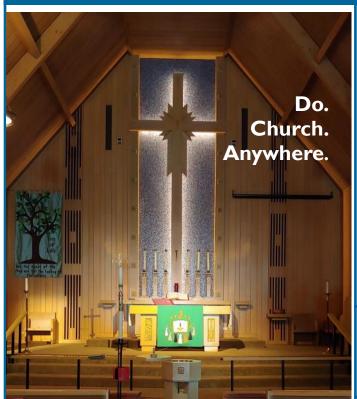
ST. MARK CENTER 205 S. WILLE ST MT. PROSPECT





THIS EVENT IS PART OF B(OLDER)

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Sunday, October 29 Wear Red!

loved one? Are you looking for mutual support in the midst of that? Join our Caregiver Support Group meeting

Tuesday, October 3 and November 7 at noon in the Great Room. Bring your



Worship with us in person Sundays at 10am

Or Worship online with us on Facebook Live at 10am

https://www.facebook.com/ StMarkLutheranIL/

then posted later to our YouTube Channel https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube.

We look forward to worshipping with you.

SOCIAL

Social Justice
Group Meeting
on October 8
at 3-4:15pm

Caregiver

Support Group
Are you doing the important and

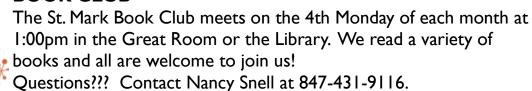
challenging work of

providing care for a

The Social Justice

Group will meet on Sunday, October 8, from 3 to 4:15 p.m. in the Great Room. We will take up the threefold program of education, moral deliberation and advocacy. All are welcome. If you have questions, please direct them to Les Weber, l-jweber@sbcglobal.net.

BOOK CLUB



2023 Book Selections

October 23 - An Elephant in My Kitchen by Francoise Malby-Anthony

November 27 - Anxious People by Fredrick Backman December - No discussion Page 6 October CrossBeams

Women ELCA ***

2023 Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Convention

"The Holy Spirit in Our Lives"

October 14, 2023, 8:30am - 2:30pm

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

4300 N. Winchester Ave.

Chicago, IL 60613

Register by October 12

https://mcselca.org/ministries/synodical-womens-organization/





Women's Bible Study

"The Armor Of God" Led by Deacon Patricia Gerber Monday October 23, 2023 7:00 pm













Come and join us for a 1-hour exercise group focused on balance and core strengthening

Thursdays 9/28 - 11/1 10:00 am at the Center

Led by Rush University Occupational Therapy Students

EXERCISE GROUP

Thoughts from the Loft

On October 29 we will celebrate Reformation Sunday. Many of us are familiar with Martin Luther's "A Mighty Fortress". Perhaps a little less familiar is the final hymn for the 29th, "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" (ELW #517). The text of this hymn is by Luther. It speaks of



relying on God through our earthly struggles and of the confidence that gives us. The tune for this hymn some attribute to Luther. It finds its basis loosely in a Gregorian chant. This is certainly one of my favorite Reformation hymns, and I hope it inspires you in our Reformation celebration to find steadfastness and constancy in the word and life of Christ. Our Reformation songs will reflect that and hopefully give you fervor in your singing. To God be the glory!

Peace in Christ, Tim



Senior Lunch Bunch

(or anyone else who would like to join us)

Thursday, October 19 at 1pm Club Casa Cafe

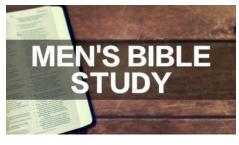
353 N. River Rd., Des Plaines

\$20 per person to include choice of entree, coffee, tea or soda and dessert (Cash bar available)

Menu Choices: Grilled Chicken Cobb Salad
Beer Brat on Pretzel Roll with sauerkraut, onion & mustard
Bacon wrapped meatloaf with mashed potatoes
Chicken Parmesan with penne pasta

RSVP to Marilyn by October 14 with Menu choice and payment (cash or check made out to St. Mark Lutheran Church)

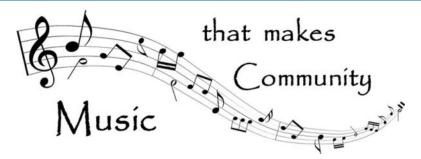
847-508-5512 or gosell94@astound.net



Men's Bible Study

The men's bible study/discussion group will meet next on **Monday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m.** in the library. We will continue reading and discussing the book by Michael Guillen *Believing is Seeing*. This is a highly acclaimed and very readable book that addresses the faith vs. science tension. The book is widely available and there is a Kindle version.

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Music that Makes Community Fall Retreat November 18-19, 2023

On November 18-19, Paul Vasile, the Executive Director of Music that Makes Community will be here at St. Mark to lead a Music that Makes Community Retreat. This retreat will focus on communal song-sharing designed to deepen spiritual connection, shared leadership, with the potential of transformation within our world.

On Saturday, November 18, participants are invited to join in morning prayer through gathering in song and spirit. In the afternoon, participants can choose to continue learning more about song-sharing or participate in other spiritual/meditative or service activities.

On Sunday, participants are welcome to join us for 10:00 am worship at St. Mark, where we will put what we learned on Saturday into action through worship followed by fellowship and reflection. At 3:00 pm that day there will be a Community Sing that is open to all, even if they did not attend the retreat.

Our retreat leader is Paul Vasile, a church musician, consultant composer, and teacher who finds his greatest joy in teaching and community-centered ministry. He is currently the Executive Director for Music that Makes Community. If you would like to learn more about Paul and Music that Makes Community, please visit their website: https://www.musicthatmakescommunity.org/

The cost for the retreat will be \$25. This will include all the retreat sessions, a light breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Scholarship support is available, and we do not want the cost to prevent anyone's participation. Note: The cost of this retreat is being supported by a grant St. Mark received from the Chicago Metro Synod of the ELCA.

You do not have to be an accomplished singer to attend, you just need to have an appreciation for music and desire to develop your spiritual connection and the community around you.

Registration will start the week of October 15. Stay tuned to the weekly eBlasts and Sunday bulletins for more information on how to register.

We hope you all can join us for this fun, spirit-filled retreat!

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Join the Celebration! Get your ticket TODAY!

NOTE: Last day to purchase tickets for the Celebration Event is Sunday OCTOBER 15

ST. MARK CELEBRATION EVENT

WE HAVE A LOT TO CELEBRATE!

77 YEARS OF WORSHIP AND SERVICE 65 YEARS OF PRE-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT 35 YEARS HOSTING THE PADS PROGRAM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 2023

JOIN US AT THE ST. MARK CENTER

205 S. WILLE STREET

MOUNT PROSPECT, IL 60056

5:00 ~ DOORS OPEN, MUSIC BY TIM SPELBRING, BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE, CHECK OUT THE SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE ITEMS.

6:00 ~ CATERED BUFFET DINNER FROM TOSCANA ITALIAN-AMERICAN RESTAURANT, MUSIC BY SIDEMEN QUARTET.

7:00 ~ DESSERT AND PROGRAM.

8:00 ~ MUSIC BY SIDEMEN LITTLE BIG BAND.

10:00 ~ SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE WINNERS ANNOUNCED.

\$50.00 PER PERSON.

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ON SUNDAYS IN THE NARTHEX THROUGH 10-15-23 OR WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

CALL 847-255-8963 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE TICKETS BY MAIL.

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ELECTRONICALLY VIA PAYPAL OR ZELLE USING STMARKMP@STMARKMP.ORG AND NOTING CELEBRATION EVENT IN THE MEMO.

Volunteers Needed for the Celebration Event

Set-up on Friday, October 20th, Clean-up on Sunday, October 22 If you are available to assist, PLEASE contact Kim Perlich at # 847 867 3932 Page 10 October CrossBeams



PADS UPDATE

St Mark will be reopening as a PADS shelter site beginning Monday October 2. This will mark 35 years of St Mark and our church and community partners

providing this support to our homeless neighbors. This is an important part of our mission to show love and compassion to others.

We are currently reaching out to our past volunteers to seek their help for the coming season. If you have not volunteered in the past but are interested in helping this year, please contact Mike Mokate – 847-846-6576 or mike.mokate56@gmail.com.

We are especially in need of help for these areas:

Second shift (10:45pm Monday – 3:00am

Tuesday) – working with a partner, you welcome any guests who are arriving late in the evening, help guests with any support that they need during the night and make the bag lunches which are distributed to the guests in the morning.

Third shift (2:45am – 7:00 Tuesday) – working with a partner, you awaken the guests at the times they have requested, prepare and serve a simple breakfast and assist in closing the site by 7:00am.

On the 4th Monday of each month, members of St Mark work together to provide the evening meal. Each donor will be asked to prepare a recipe to contribute to the dinner meal or donate milk, juice, dessert, or other items needed for the meal. Members of other churches and community groups provide the dinner meal for the other weeks of each month.

If you can assist our efforts in one of these ways, your help would be greatly appreciated.



Backpack Ministry

With food and monetary donations from our congregation and the Mount Prospect Lions Club, St. Mark is supplying a backpack of healthy food to Mount

Prospect school children every week. These are children who were identified by their school as at risk for hunger at home.

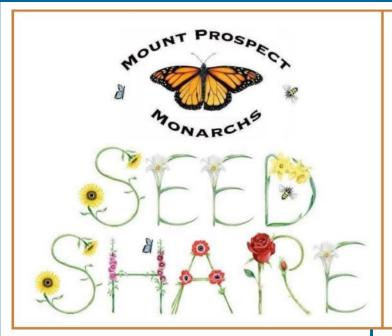
You can support the ministry by making a monetary or food donation. If you would like to help pack the backpacks, please email pamfehling@yahoo.com.

Food List - please check expiration dates before donating

Single Serving Cereal Boxes Oatmeal in Individual Packets Raisins in Small Boxes Peanut Butter Jelly in squeeze bottles Canned Spaghetti/Ravioli Canned Beef Stew Canned Chili Soup in kid friendly flavors Boxed 'helper' Meals Canned Tuna/Tuna Salad kits Vienna Sausages Canned Chicken Macaroni & Cheese Noodle / Rice side dishes Canned Fruit / Fruit Cups Canned Vegetables **Juice Boxes** Pudding Cups Cookies/Crackers/Trail Mix in Individual Packets

*No Glass Containers or Microwavable items

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~ WHEN ~ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023 7:00 PM

~WHERE ~ ST. MARK CENTER 205 S. WILLE STREET MOUNT PROSPECT, IL

PLEASE BRING SEEDS TO SHARE PACKAGED IN LABELED ENVELOPES.

DON'T HAVE SEEDS TO SHARE? NO WORRIES!

JOIN US AND LEAVE WITH SEEDS TO PLANT, NEW
CONNECTIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS AND PLANS
FOR NEXT YEAR. ALL ARE WELCOME!

QUESTIONS?
CALL 847-255-8963 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!



Offering of Letters a Success

Hats off to the twenty-six St. Mark members who signed and addressed seventy-six letters to Senators and Congressmen and -women on behalf of world hunger on Sunday, September 10, and Sunday, September 17.

The letters urged elected officials to maintain or strengthen parts of the U.S. Farm Bill that affect the lives of millions of food insecure people both in the U.S. and around the world. The Farm Bill is to be considered by Congress in October.

In addition to the letters, Sharon Stobe sent a "Letter to the Editor" of the Daily Herald that urged similar concerns as the Offering of Letters. Sharon's letter was published

B(o I d e r) U

JOIN US FOR





OCTOBER 26 - 1:00 PM

ARSENIC & OLD LACE

AT THE CENTER

QUESTIONS - CONTACT: 847-253-0631

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Sundays @ The Center

Family, Faith, Friends, and Community

Sunday, October 22 4:00 pm at The Center

Join us for the fun!

Story: Lazarus

Activities: Spooky walk in the

neighborhood

Service Project: Trick or Treat bags

for PADS

Dinner: Halloween themed foods

All ages welcome



Fair Trade items
will be on sale Sunday, October 22
Coffee, chocolate, olive oil, and more



BUNCO FOR BREAST CANCER Sunday, October 1, 2023 at the St. Mark Center

Doors open at 11:30am Bunco begins at 1pm This event is SOLD OUT.



Quilters (knotters) will meet at 9:00am on these upcoming dates in the Quilting room (second floor of the Education wing):

Wednesday, October 18 & Tuesday, October 24

For more information, please contact Lynn Istwan at 847-253-1715 and leave a message.



Dear St. Mark,

Thank you so much for the beautiful birthday flowers. They almost made getting older worthwhile!

Again, thank you. Milli Cady

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Sunday Adult Education Forums Sundays following worship in the Great Room

Good Neighbor Sunday—Please join us on Sunday, October 8th at 11:00am to meet staff from the Village of Mount Prospect's Human Services Department. The Village's Senior Services Social Worker and Public Health Nurse will discuss resources and services offered to Mount Prospect residents. The Department is committed to the health and well-being of the senior population. The Human Services Department offers a wide variety of services Education that address both Public Health and Social Service needs. These services can be accessed at Village Hall and the Community Connections Center. This is a great

opportunity to learn about resources available that may be of assistance to you or a loved one—now or in the future!"

October 15 - The fall stewardship emphasis is the theme for the Adult Forum.

October 22 - The Adult Forum will lift up the work of Holy Family School and Cheryl Collins, CEO, will update us on the start of a new school year.

October 29 - The monthly "Deeper Look at the Sermon" will feature St. Mark's interim pastor, Pr. Eric Schaefer.

If you have not been attending the Adult Forums, why should you consider doing so? No matter how old we are, Christian education enables us to grow in our faith and, in turn, our faith equips us for Christ's mission in society.







October Nibblers celebrate Oktoberfest Saturday October 28, 2023 6:30 pm at Schnell's Brauhaus 45 W. Slade St. Palatine, IL Please RSVP to Kim Perlich at #847 867-3932 **Limited Seating**

THANK YOU... THANK YOU...THANK YOU Over the past 5 months we have enjoyed the Fellowship Barbecues at the Center. Laughter, conversation and great food too. We appreciate all the individuals that assisted with set up & clean up, the side salads, & yummy desserts too.

Gloria Bazan Sherry Grobe Gene Bazan Kathie Hetland Sharon Blazek Sue McIlvoy Barb Bloomquist Kim Perlich Judy Fell Ian Serafini

Carol Floros Dee Roundtree Uccio III Galyon Delores Uddenberg

The Blessing of Pets

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi's feast day on October
4th, we will have a Pet Blessing on October 7th at 12 PM
NOON on the front steps of St Raymond Church. Pets
from St. Raymond Catholic Church,
St. Mark Lutheran Church and the community
are invited to receive an "Ecumenical Pet Blessing"

- When driving, please park your car in the St. Raymond "barking" lot.
- Gather in front of the entire church entrance at Lincoln and Elmhurst Ave.
- Deacon Dave will present blessings to all creatures.
- Holy Water blessing will be available as you depart.
 Please be aware of all creatures around when moving around.



ALL PETS ARE WELCOME!

...and so are their humans.

SATURDAY at NOON October 7, 2023

This lasts about 15 minutes.



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted on YouTube 1pm Bunco for Breast Cancer	4:30pm FaithWalk (off-site) 5pm PADS	9am Preschool Gym 12pm Caregiver Support 6:30pm Fragias BB	4 6:30pm Fragias BB	5 10am Exercise Group 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Vocal Choir	9am Preschool Gym	8am Layman BB 12pm Pet Blessing at St. Raymond
19th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted on YouTube 11am Adult Education: Good Neighbor Sunday 3pm Social Justice	5pm PADS	9am Preschool Gym 6:30pm Fragias BB 7pm Worship & Music	11	12 10am Exercise Group 11:30am Lunch & Learn 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Vocal Choir	9am Preschool Gym	14 8am Layman BB
20th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted on YouTube 11am Adult Education	4:30pm FaithWalk (off-site) 5pm PADS	9am Preschool Gym 6:30pm Church Council 6:30pm Fragias BB	9am Quilting	19 10am Exercise Group 1pm Sr Lunch Bunch (off-site) 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Vocal Choir	9am Preschool Gym 2pm Celebration Event Set-up begins	21 Spm CELEBRATION EVENT
22 21st Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted on YouTube 11am Adult Education Fair Trade Items on Sale 4pm Sundays at the Center	1pm Book Club 4:30pm FaithWalk (off-site) 5pm PADS 7pm Women's Bible Study 7pm Men's Bible Study	9am Preschool Gym 9am Quilting 6:30pm Fragias BB	25	26 10am Exercise Group 1pm B(older) U Afternoon at the Movies 6pm Blazek/Panno Wedding Rehearsal 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Vocal Choir	9am Preschool Gym	28 8am Layman BB 2pm Blazek/Panno Wedding 6:30pm Nibblers Oktoberfest (off-site)
Reformation Sunday Installation of Pr. Eric Schaefer 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted on YouTube 11am Adult Education	4:30pm FaithWalk (off-site) 5pm PADS	9am Preschool Gym				

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

60056-3121

October 2023



2023-24 Church Council

Nancy Snell, President Eve Smith, VP Marilyn Gosell, Treasurer Barb Bloomquist, Secretary

Andy Goodrich Mike Haase Kim Perlich Paul Post Dianne Quast Kai Saito Dolores Uddenberg

St. Mark Lutheran Church

847/253-0631

Fax: 847/253-5387

Email: stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org

Website: stmarkmp.org

Staff

Music Director Parish Administrator Office Administrator Timothy Spelbring Nancy Hundley Jill Galyon

tspelbring@stmarkmp.org nhundley@stmarkmp.org jgalyon@stmarkmp.org

Sunday Worship: 10am In person and on Facebook Live then posted later to YouTube

Online: Check our Facebook page or our YouTube Channel Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranlL/ YouTube Channel: https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube.

Youth Christian Education - Programming under Construction

Adult Christian Education

Sundays following Worship

Church Office Hours

M-Th 8:30am-4:30pm, F 8:30am-12noon Call ahead to be sure someone will be available to greet you.

St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center

847/873-1110

Website: stmarkpreschoolcares.org

Preschool Director Allison Finnegan afinnegan@stmarkpreschoolmp.org

