



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

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Volume 59, Issue 6

June, 2020

St. Mark Graduate Profiles



Zachary Jakubowski

Zachary is graduating from Kirk school in Palatine this spring. He will be attending Forestview Life Academy next fall beside his big sister Izzie.

Zach laments the lack of a baseball team, but he keeps working on his swing by batting whiffle balls in his back yard out into the neighbors' yards. He also plays lots of hockey in the basement rink, although he sits in the penalty box almost every game for high sticking.



Allison Brask

This spring Allison Brask graduated from Drake University Summa Cum Laude with a doctorate in pharmacy. Dr. Brask begins a residency at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, MO.



Mallory Brask

That's a wrap! I'm an official graduate from University of Wisconsin-Stout! I received my B.S. in Food Science and Technology accredited by the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). I am proud to say that I graduated with Cum Laude distinction. I am also honored to have been named the 2019-2020 Outstanding Student Researcher for the College of Education, Hospitality, Health and Human Sciences. There are not enough words to describe how incredible the past 4 years have been. A special thanks to my family, friends, and professors for their support and encouragement. I wouldn't trade all the memories and experiences for the world.



If you would like to send notes of congratulations or encouragement to graduates, send cards to their attention to church... for example: St. Mark Lutheran Church, c/o Ms. Ryann Harold, 200 S. Wille St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. If you would like to highlight a graduate, send Deacon David an email with your graduate's information.



Perhaps one of the hardest parts of the COVID 19 Pandemic and the resulting stay at home orders on our

religious lives has been that it has changed the way we practice and live out our Christianity. For many

the clearest time and place that their faith was lived out was on a Sunday morning, when they would gather for worship in the sanctuary and pray and sing and eat as a communal body. For others, it might have been direct acts of service to those most in need be they homebound members, neighbors, people experiencing homelessness or hunger. Now, these ways of living our faith have changed, dramatically. We can still worship, but we do so from our own homes by participating in online worship or reading worship documents received in the mail. We can still serve, but how we do it, and what direct access we have to the people we serve is different. The way we practice our faith has changed because of this pandemic and that is so challenging. I hear that in your voices when we get a chance to talk on the phone. I hear the longing to return to the way it was. I long for that too. I mourn for what was too.

And, at the same time, I see in our current circumstances great opportunity. Now is the time when we can begin to adapt new and different practices of faith, ways we live our religious convictions. We can still participate in worship in a different way. We can, and must, serve, even in different ways. At the same time, we can begin to expand and enlarge our toolbox of ways to practice our faith. We can pick up ancient practices that we may not have had time for in the past or didn't feel the need to engage. This time gives us the opportunity to practice discipleship, Christian life, in new and different ways.

This will be our focus in the month of June, and beyond: CHRISTIAN LIFE. We will hear the stories of the first disciples and the first Christians, and ask of them, how might we learn to practice our Christian faith in our daily lives from your example? We will learn how to go out trusting in God. We will learn how to share our faith. We will expand ways we might care for the little ones among us. We will fill our toolbox with more than just a hammer and a screw driver, but with wrench and tape measure and stud finder... we will fill our Christian life tool box with more than just worship and service but also daily prayer, learning, reflection, sharing the good news, mining our life for where God is showing up and calling us to show up as well.

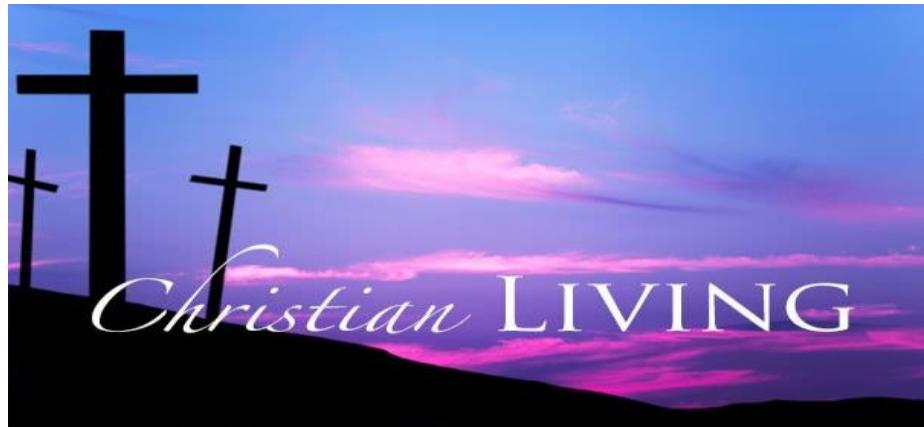
To help us on our way I've included on the pages that follow some information on daily prayer, some ways to reflect on your life and on the words of scripture, as well as some ideas of ways you can care for people in this time.

Friends, this is a difficult time. We have lost many of the ways we marked our faith in the past. And the truth is it will be awhile before we gather back together for worship in person. We will wait until the wisdom of the whole suggests we can gather in groups of 50 or less. There may be some creative ways we might engage when we are able to gather with 10 people, but communal in person worship won't begin until the next stage. And, when we do gather together, research and guidelines suggest that it will be different, at least for a time. We will sit far apart. We won't speak words of worship together. We won't sing together. We will wear masks. We won't pass the plate or the peace in the same way, we won't share communion as we used to. The outward ways we practiced our religion in the past



have changed, and will continue to change. Go ahead. Mourn that with me. But also, look for the opportunity, ask God to help you see the possibilities, the new ways, the long neglected ways that we can continue to practice our faith. God is with us, guiding us, leading us, growing us.

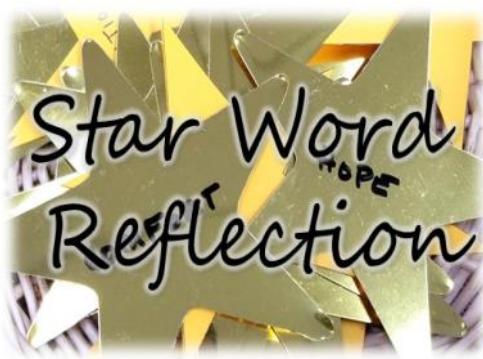
Peace in Christ,
Pastor Christie



Thoughts from the Loft

At this time of Pentecost, as we welcome the coming of the Holy Spirit into our lives, let us be reminded of the power of the Holy Spirit in music. I am a firm believer that the Holy Spirit plays a role in music making, or even music appreciation. Any inspiration we find in music, whether it be a hymn or a choir piece, is grounded in the Holy Spirit's guidance. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit together help us create music that gives glory to God. It is my prayer that you are humming your favorite hymn these days, thankful for the music of the Church. May the Holy Spirit help us each day to sing praises to the Lord!

Peace,
Tim



★ Now that we're halfway through, revisit the initial thoughts, impressions, and prayers you first had with your star word. How have they changed? How have you grown? *

*In January we received star words as part of our Epiphany Celebration. Each month a new prompt will be included in the newsletter.

Need a star word? Have a reflection you want to share? Contact Pastor Christie.

Daily Prayer

For centuries Christians have practiced daily prayer, morning, evening and night. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America invites us in this time to take up that ancient pattern of life, uniting in prayer even as we are unable to gather for in person worship. As we practice these prayers, simplified forms found below and more detailed prayers found here <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/2044/>, consider that there are others in the St. Mark community, as well as the larger Metro Chicago Synod, Country and World, who join their prayers to yours. Even in our physical distance, we are united in prayer.



Morning Prayer

Opening

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Praise to the blest and holy Trinity, one God, who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.

Readings

Check out the Daily Lectionary. The reading of scripture may be followed by silence for reflection. The reflection may conclude with these or similar words: "Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son."

Prayers

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. Amen.



Evening Prayer

Opening

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome. Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, and the day is almost over. Let your light scatter the darkness and illumine your church.

Readings

Psalm 121, 141 or check out the Daily Lectionary. The reading of scripture may be followed by silence for reflection. The reflection may conclude with these or similar words. "Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." The song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55) may be sung or said.

Prayers

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.



Night Prayer

Opening

Almighty God grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against you this day. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, in whom we are forgiven. We rest now in the peace of Christ and rise in the morning to serve.

Readings

Psalm 4, 33, 34, 91, 130, 134, 136. The reading may be followed by silence for reflection. The reflection may conclude with these words: "Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace."

Prayers

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Now in peace I will lie down and sleep; you alone, O God, make me secure. Amen.

June Weekly Lectionary

Below you will find readings for each day of June, given to us by the church to surround and deepen our experience of the Sunday readings. M-W connects to the readings from the previous Sunday, Th-Sa connects us to the upcoming Sunday readings. Check out the practice of Lectio Divina on the coming page for a different way to engage these readings, or use them in your daily prayer as found on the previous page. May these texts empower you to open up your Bibles and dig into God's word.

Sunday, May 31 Day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23

Monday, June 1 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Joel 2:18-29 Romans 8:18-24

Tuesday, June 2 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29 Romans 8:26-27

Wednesday, June 3 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Numbers 11:24-30 John 7:37-39

Thursday, June 4 Psalm 8 Job 38:1-11 2 Timothy 1:8-12a

Friday, June 5 Psalm 8 Job 38:12-21 2 Timothy 1:12b-14

Saturday, June 6 Psalm 8 Job 38:22-38 John 14:15-17

Sunday, June 7 The Holy Trinity Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20

Monday, June 8 Psalm 29 Job 38:39—39:12 1 Corinthians 12:1-3

Tuesday, June 9 Psalm 29 Job 39:13-25 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

Wednesday, June 10 Psalm 29, Job 39:26—40:5, John 14:25-26

Thursday, June 11 Psalm 100, Exodus 4:18-23, Hebrews 3:1-6

Friday, June 12 Psalm 100, Exodus 4:27-31, Acts 7:35-43

Saturday, June 13 Psalm 100, Exodus 6:28—7:13, Mark 7:1-13

Sunday June 14 (Lectionary 11) Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

Monday, June 15 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Joshua 1:1-11 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Tuesday, June 16 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 1 Samuel 3:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5

Wednesday, June 17 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Proverbs 4:10-27 Luke 6:12-19

Thursday, June 18 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 18:12-17 Hebrews 2:5-9

Friday, June 19 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 18:18-23 Acts 5:17-26

Saturday, June 20 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Jeremiah 20:1-6 Luke 11:53—12:3

Sunday, June 21 (Lectionary 12) Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Monday, June 22 Psalm 6 Micah 7:1-7 Revelation 2:1-7

Tuesday, June 23 Psalm 6 Jeremiah 26:1-12 Revelation 2:8-11

Wednesday, June 24 Psalm 6 Jeremiah 38:1-13 Matthew 10:5-23

Thursday, June 25 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Jeremiah 25:1-7 Galatians 5:2-6

Friday, June 26 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Jeremiah 25:8-142 Galatians 5:7-12

Saturday, June 27 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Jeremiah 28:1-4 Luke 17:1-4

Sunday, June 28 (Lectionary 13) Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

Monday, June 29 Psalm 119:161-168 1 Kings 21:1-16 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Tuesday, June 30 Psalm 119:161-168 1 Kings 21:17-29 1 John 4:1-6



Even more ways to practice our faith!

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina, meaning Divine Reading, is a way to meditatively read the Scriptures, savoring them as you might savor a fine piece of chocolate.

Step 1: Simply read the text and take it in.
 Step 2: Read the text again and pay attention for a word or a phrase that shimmers or shines for you, that draws your attention. Spend some time in prayer repeating that word or phrase to yourself.
 Step 3: Read the text again and consider: How does this text touch my life? What images, feelings, sights, sounds, smells, tastes, touches does it bring to mind? Spend some time in prayer considering the ways this text touches your life.
 Step 4: Read the text again and consider: What does this text invite me to do or to be? Spend some time in prayer considering the invitation of this text for you.
 Step 5: Let all of this reflection lead you into meditative listening prayer with God. Spend a some time in the quiet with God.

Amen.

More resources on Lectio Divina:

<https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/lectio-divina>

Acts of Service in this Time

- Support our PADS Feeding Ministry as we continue to ensure that the PADS guests who are now housed in hotels are fed breakfast lunch and dinner.
- Support the Mount Prospect Food Pantry and Emergency Assistance program. See details here: <https://www.mountprospect.org/departments/human-services/online-donations>
- Join into our St. Mark calling ministry. Contact Judy Fell for a small group of people to call every couple of weeks.
- Be an internet connector— call a member who doesn't have internet and have them listen to online worship with you over the phone. Contact Pastor Christie to connect with a buddy.
- Support Diane Quast's mask ministry. Perhaps you have fabric or elastic or other means of helping.
- Care for our graduates. Send a card to the church with their name on the envelope or send them directly to the graduate. Contact Deacon David for more information.
- Join the Prayer Chain and pray for St. Mark members and friends in need of special prayer. Contact Carole Hauslein to sign up.
- What other ways do you know of? Let us know in the church office to be included in further publications.

Ignatian Examen



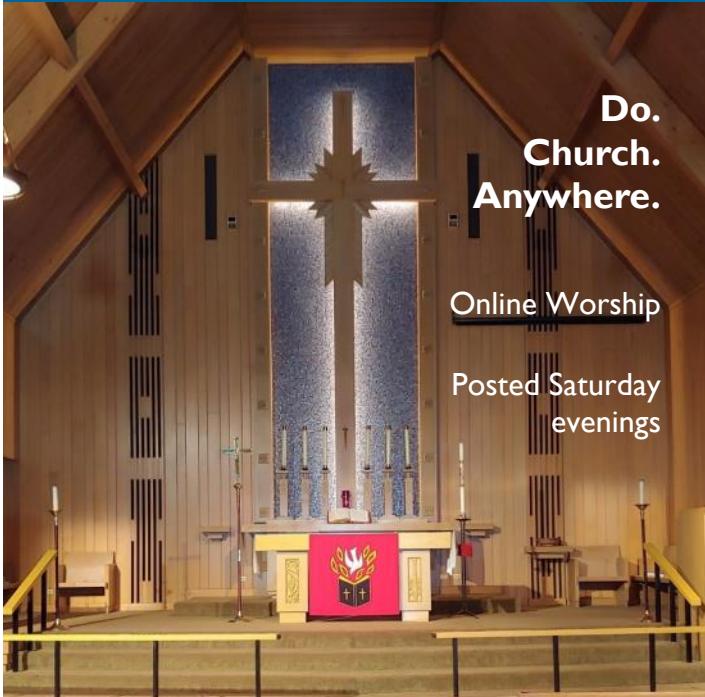
God meets you in your life, in the mundane, in the profound, in the big moments, in the little moments. We but have to pay attention. In this practice you mine your life for God's presence, opening your eyes and ears and mind to recognize it where we might have missed it before.

Step 1: Get comfortable, perhaps close your eyes, take a deep breath.
 Step 2: Review your last day or week. Let the images of it wind through your mind like movie tape, or a movie montage.
 Step 3: Consider: Where did I meet God, feel God's presence? Where did God show up in my life? Let the images come to you.
 Step 4: Consider: Where might I have missed God? Where do I need God's presence a little bit more? Let the images come to you.
 Step 5: Spend some quiet time in prayer.

Resources on the Ignatian Examen:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/>



Worship online with us. Visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL/> as well as our YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7y01lbwvkQPTMwRALoFVHQ?app=desktop>.

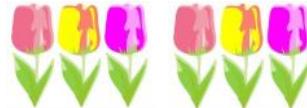


Join us for dessert and conversation over Zoom on Wednesdays at 7pm. You provide the dessert and we will provide the questions for conversation. We hope you will try out this fun way to connect with our community in this time of physical social distancing. To access the conversation, see the weekly ENews for the links and Call in information. Join the conversation!



CALENDAR

All events postponed until further notice.



We really miss seeing everyone at church, at women's events and around town!

Ladies' Night Out at the Movies

and
Rachel's Day
will be rescheduled when it is determined that we can come together again.

Churchwide WELCA has designated "Tuesdays at 12" as a time for us to "gather" in prayer for our families, friends, communities, country, and our world. All are invited to participate no matter where you are at 12 noon on Tuesdays.

Our Metro Chicago Synod WELCA 2020 Convention

is scheduled for September 26. "Women: Finding Our Voices" will be a virtual retreat using a Zoom format. Details to come.

We have made it this far, so don't slack off now on hand washing, mask wearing, and social distancing!



KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!

Ordinary Time, the Green and Growing Season, and The New Creation Season

Deacon David Webb

The season after Pentecost goes by different names. “The Season after Pentecost,” “Ordinary Time” (not as in “Boring Time” but as in “Counted” Time, as in there aren’t a lot of festivals to help us name the season so we just mark the time with numbers), “The Green and Growing Season” (which is used in Godly Play because of a play off the paramount color of green and the thematic idea that this is when we reread parts of the Bible and Jesus’ life that help us grow in relationship with God and with others), and this year I’m calling the season, “The New Creation Season.”



I got the idea from 2 Corinthians 5:17: “So if anyone is in Christ there is a new creation.” (my phrasing). So if you’ve been following the story Jesus tells to the disciples, the Holy Spirit is coming but he’s got to go first. In Luke 24: 49 he tells them that the Holy Spirit will come and it will be like being “clothed with power from on high.” Jesus goes on to say that once they’ve been clothed then they’ll know they are to tell their stories about Jesus all over the world, baptize, and celebrate the eucharist. The connection is that before Paul starts talking about The New Creation he starts by talking about “being clothed.” In 2 Corinthians 5: 1-5, Paul compares being a part of “The New Creation” like being “clothed” with a heavenly dwelling or “being in God’s presence.”

So here we are celebrating all these things at once: the coming of the Holy Spirit, being clothed, and growing into “The New Creation.” Thankfully we celebrate and mark time in a cyclical way every year so we can grow into this season anew every year. We pass from one mystery to the next in a new season in God’s time. It looks like last year or ten years ago and simultaneously it is a completely new and foreign experience. What is the same is that we journey together in Christ’s presence.

So in this time after Pentecost, in this “Season of the New Creation” we are reflecting on how we are a new community together because of Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and sending of the Spirit. What better backdrop to our current life this year as we talk about “reopening,” “regathering,” “returning,” in all its different phases. In this season God continues to offer us stories that help us be in communion with God and with each other. God offers us ideas for how to be the Body of Christ and to grow into “The New Creation.” God shows us how this new thing keeps the best of our tradition and prunes away all that is broken, misused, and harmful for others. God helps us let go of our sinfulness, fear, hatred, bigotry, sexism, and racism and live into becoming a loving, just, and Spirit-inspired community. God helps us move forward knowing that our loved ones travel with us in the Communion of Saints. God helps us transfigure our grief and deeply love our children and the next generations to come. In this coming season God makes a way in “The New Creation,” where it appears there is no way forward. So whatever comes next my friends we know we travel in love, together with God.

Children’s Time during worship will deepen this conversation and reflection, but there are some other readings, texts, and books that can add to our conversation if you find yourself wanting to celebrate “The Season of the New Creation.” Here they are:

The Book of Acts

The Apostles’ Creed

Deeper than Words by Brother David Stendahl-Rast

“Tattoos on the Heart” Fr. Gregory Boyle

Thoughts on Stewardship

The St. Mark stewardship team has not been able to have in person meetings during this pandemic but we hope you have been able to stay connected through the online virtual worship (YouTube and Facebook) and that you continue to support the ministry of St. Mark with your monetary gifts. We also encourage you to recognize the gifts of mutual support of others with phone calls, intercessory prayer, and sharing acts of kindness when you can. I would encourage you to keep a simple journal or log of any heartwarming encounters you've had with people during this time of social distance and limited interactions. Sharing the love of Christ with those we encounter is also our stewardship during this time. Many have experienced that they are more sensitive to kind interactions during this time of limited contact, and in this way the deprivations of this time can be a blessing.

When we are able to resume in-person worship and share Holy Communion again, we hope to have the new "blue card" that provides a simple way of sharing your experiences of spiritual blessings with other Christians. Keep some notes if you can and we'll share them when we see each other in person. The new blue card will have more space for writing and some simple questions to stimulate your thinking of how God was active in your life and how that makes a difference in your spiritual well-being.

We've decided to separate the electronic giving pew card from the blue card report on faith encounters in daily living. The new card simply indicates you give electronically. These cards will be plastic coated so they can be recycled back and used repeatedly.

One other "blessing" of the COVID-19 pandemic is that we can be thankful for the convenience and reliability of electronic giving. If you haven't thought of this as a friendly tool, we would encourage you to do so. You can arrange with your bank to make direct payments to St. Mark on a schedule of your choice. Please contact Nancy Hundley in the St. Mark office to explore what will work best for you. We are also developing relationships with financial institutions so you can use your credit or debit card if you prefer that. However you give, we are grateful for your continued support.

Peace,

Pr. Carl Anderson for the Stewardship Team



2020-21 Foundation Members

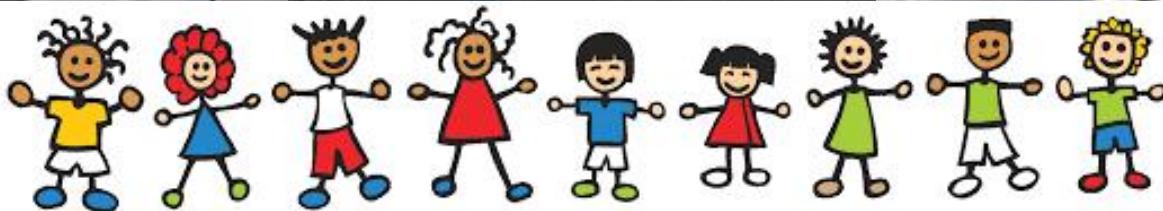
Ken Dahlgren
 Carol Floros
 Elizabeth Furreboe
 Carolyn Krause
 Dick Quast
 Rich Schultz
 Pr. Christie Webb
 Jill Permanian,
 as Church Council Representative

Let us remember our leaders
 in our prayers.



St. Mark Foundation Educational Gifts

Tune in to worship on Sunday, June 14 to celebrate our students receiving Educational Gifts.





2020

All In-Person Worship, Activities and Meeting are canceled until further notice.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 7pm Dessert Church on Zoom	4	5	6
7 <i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i> On Line Worship on Facebook or YouTube	8 7pm Worship & Music on Zoom	9 7pm Dessert Church on Zoom	10	11	12	13
14 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> On Line Worship on Facebook or YouTube Educational Gifts Presented at Worship	15	16	17 7pm Dessert Church on Zoom	18	19	20
21 <i>Father's Day</i> <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i> On Line Worship on Facebook or YouTube	22	23	24 7pm Dessert Church on Zoom	25	26	27
28 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i> On Line Worship on Facebook or YouTube 2pm Church Council on Zoom	29	30				

St. Mark Lutheran Church
200 South Wille Street
Mount Prospect, Illinois
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June 2020

God's
work.
Our
hands.



2020-21 Church Council

Jill Permanian, President
Kevin Lang, Vice President
Dave Okon, Secretary
Doug Trezise, Treasurer

Janet Adams
Bob Allgaier
Judy Fell
Diane Luper
Paul Post
Susan Supergan
Julie Wenzel

Pastor
Music Director
Parish Administrator
Office Administrator
Vicar
Youth & Family Ministry

Rev. Christie Webb
Timothy Spelbring
Nancy Hundley
Jill Galyon
Christina Johnson
Deacon David Webb

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Website: stmarkmp.org

Staff

Sunday Worship

Online: Check our Facebook page or our YouTube Channel
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL/>
YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7y01lbwvkOPTMwRALoFVHQ?app=desktop>

Youth Christian Education (Summer)

Regular Programming on Summer Break. Stay tuned for Summer Activities

Adult Christian Education

Dessert Church on Zoom Wednesday 7 pm Contact the church office to connect.

Church Office Hours

By Appointment only

St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center

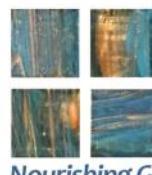
847/873-1110

Web: stmarkpreschoolcares.org

Preschool Director

Barb Zediker

bzediker@stmarkmp.org



Nourishing God's People ~ Body, Mind, & Spirit
Inspiring Worship • Meaningful Ministry • Deepening Faith • Caring Community