



St. Mark Lutheran Church

CrossBeams

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

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Corner 2

Worship 3

Lent 2021:
The Way of Love 4

Faith Journeys 5

Holy Week &
Thoughts from
the Loft 6

75th Anniversary
& WELCA 7

Black History/Anti-
-Racism check-in,
Time Change &
Village Volunteers 8

Book Club,
Thank You &
More 9

Preschool 10

Calendar of
Events 11

Volume 60, Issue 3

March, 2021

Mardi Gras Potluck & Palm Burning on Zoom



Ash Wednesday: Remember you are dust...



Pastor's Corner



Do you have a rhythm to your days? How do you pattern them? What is the first thing you do when you wake up? The last thing you do before you go to sleep? What time do you eat breakfast? Lunch? Dinner? What about your week? How is Monday different from Friday, Saturday different from Sunday? How do the things you do and when you do them speak to what you think is important, to what you value, to what gives you joy, meaning and purpose?

Part of the journey we are on this Lenten Season (and the rest of this year and beyond!) with *The Way of Love* is to develop our own Rule of Life. But what is a rule of life? *The Way of Love* resources say this: "A Rule of Life is an intentional commitment to a set of practices that provide guidance, rhythm and inspiration for living a beautiful, meaningful and holy life." A Rule of Life is a commitment to pattern our lives on the seven practices of *The Way of Love*: Turn-Learn-Pray-Bless-Worship-Rest-Go. "As we place these practices at the heart of our daily lives and join with companions who share the commitment, we grow more and more in the unselfish, hope-filled Way of Love that Jesus embodied in the world." A Rule of Life isn't a set of rules to follow, but a pattern, a way of living that keeps us on the path we hope to travel, that is descriptive of how we intend to live, and prescriptive for how to return to that intention when we need to return. (See <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love/about-rules-of-life/> for more information.)

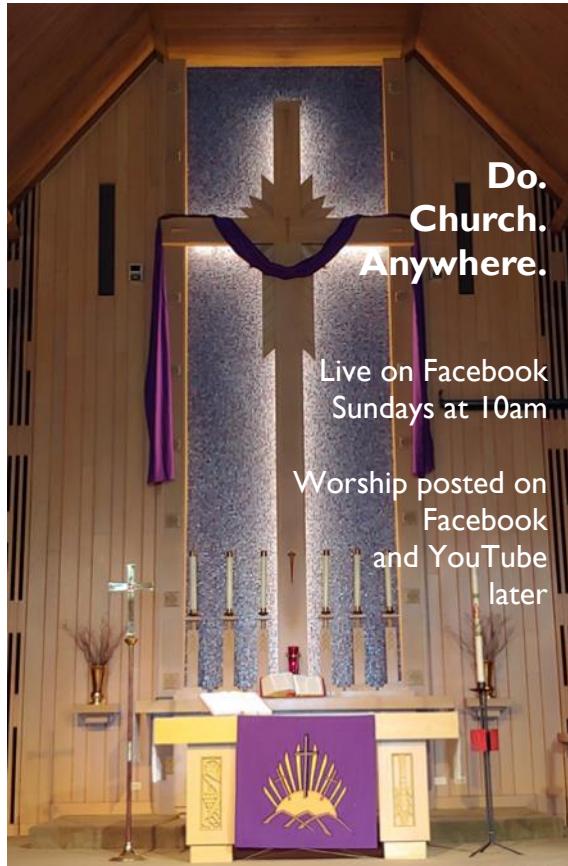
Rules of Life are not a new practice in the life of Christendom. The Rule of St. Benedict was a book of precepts written in 516 CE by Benedict of Nursia. It was a pattern of life for the religious people living in community under his leadership. Benedictines today still live under this Rule. They organize their life together, their sleeping, eating, praying, and working, on the principles laid out in the Rule.

Other Rules of Life exist for other religious communities. For example, the Brothers of Taizé (www.taize.fr) live under the rule written by Brother Roger, the founder of that community, in the winter of 1952-53. He sought in the rule to share with the young men who had committed themselves to that community "the essential that makes the common life possible." The religious community of Iona (<https://iona.org.uk/movement/the-rule/>) live their lives patterned on these four things:

- Daily prayer, worship with others and regular engagement with the Bible and other material which nourishes us
- Working for justice and peace, wholeness and reconciliation in our localities, society and the whole creation
- Supporting one another in prayer and by meeting, communicating, and accounting with one another for the use of our gifts, money and time, our use of the earth's resources and our keeping of all aspects of the Rule.
- Sharing in the corporate life and organization of the Community

The Way of Love invites us to do the work to create our own Rule of Life. How will you pattern your days to live the faith that is at the heart of life? How will you live out the grace and love God showers upon you? For each of us it may look different, but the building blocks are the same: Turn-Learn-Pray-Bless-Worship-Rest-Go. What ways of practicing each of these give your life joy, meaning, and purpose? As we explore and find our answers to this question, we develop our Rule of Life. I can't wait to see, hear, watch, and live that way of life with each of you.

Peace,
Pastor Christie



Worship online with us.
Visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL/> as well as our YouTube Channel <https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube>.

Returning to the Sanctuary for Worship

We will be returning to in person in the sanctuary worship at St. Mark Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 7, 2021. Each Sunday will have 44 seats available for reservation at 10am. You can reserve your seat at:

<https://stmarkmpworship321.eventbrite.com> or by calling the church office at 847.253.0631. An online option will still be provided every Sunday via our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL) and YouTube Channel (<https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube>). Safety protocols will be followed, masks required, and worship will be adapted to ensure your safety. We look forward to worshipping with you.



Holy Communion

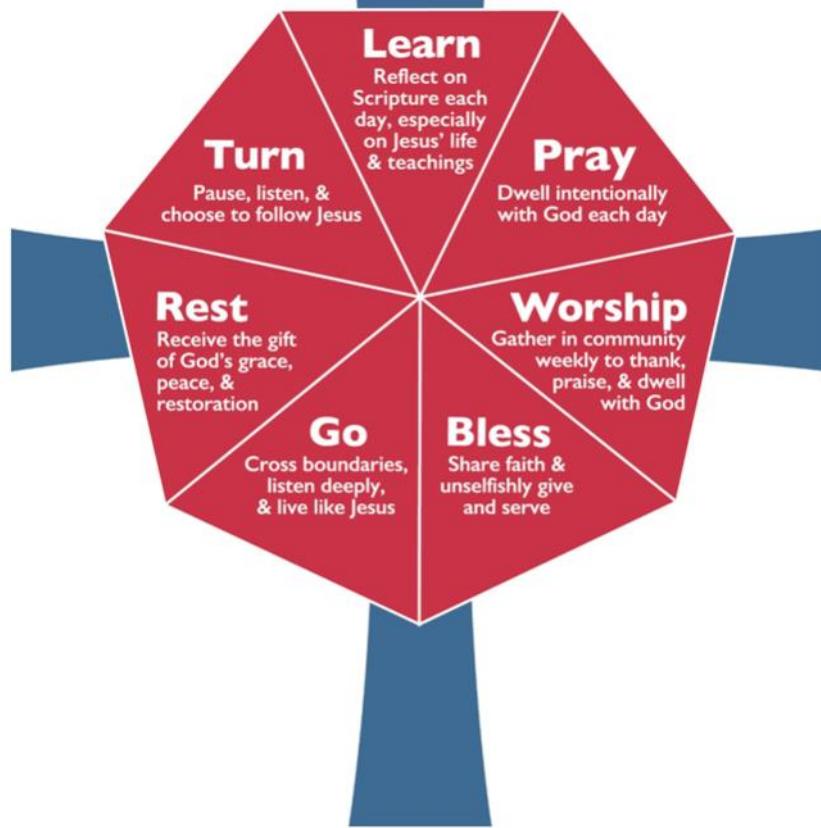
Holy Communion is celebrated each week at worship. Individual Communion cups, for your use at home, with wine or juice and bread, are available for pickup or local delivery. Gluten free options are also available. Please contact the Church Office by email at stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org or by phone at 847-253-0631 to order yours.



THE WAY OF LOVE

Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

Lent 2021



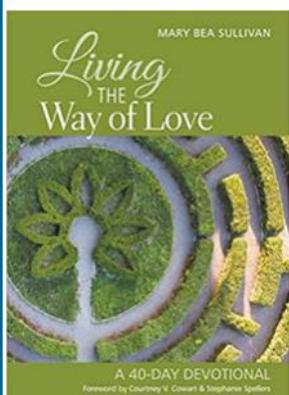
This Lent we practice the Way of Love, the way of following Jesus, the way of living a Jesus Centered Life. We return to the ancient pathways and Rules of Life that followers of Jesus have observed for centuries. We hope to not only worship Jesus but to grow more like him and bear his redeeming love in the world. Join us as we take on one of seven practices each week.

Week 1 (Feb 21): Turn
 Week 2 (Feb 28): Pray
 Week 3 (Mar 7): Learn
 Week 4 (Mar 14): Bless
 Week 5 (Mar 21): Rest
 Week 6 (Mar 28): Worship
 Week 7 (Easter Apr 4): Go

Sunday Worships: Available Online at <https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube>

Midweek Lenten Gatherings: Wednesdays at 7pm over Zoom

<https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpmidweeklent> or www.zoom.com Meeting ID: 823 7807 6750



The Way of Love keeps going!

Join us in reading *Living the Way of Love*, a daily devotional over the 40 Days from Easter to the Ascension (Sunday, April 4-Thursday, May 14). We are alive together with Christ—let our lives shout the good news as we practice The Way of Love. Interested in purchasing a copy? Contact the church office. Suggested donation of \$5. Kindle version available on Amazon.com.

Faith Journeys: The Mandalorian, The Trinity (God's Way of Being), and the Community of the Beloved Disciple...

By: Deacon David Webb

You know I love a good mash-up. Recently I decided it's because of my love of mix-tapes. You know that phenomenon from a couple decades ago where you'd record songs from the radio onto a blank cassette tape and give it to friends? Maybe a love interest... Later on when computers, downloadable music, and CDs became the thing, we put our mixes on CDs.



The kids these days make playlists on whatever streaming service they use. Well actually, kids are probably doing things I don't even know about because if I know about it, it's probably not that cool.

Anyway, like I was saying, I love a great mash-up, mix-tape, strange combination of ideas, images, and ways of understanding something. During Lent, the Faithwalk students, Jill, Henriette, and I are working on a really cool one. This mix will involve Disney's "Mandalorian" (the Star Wars offshoot about a baby Yoda like creature and an orphan bounty hunter), a Trinitarian understanding of community, and Raymond Brown's famous reading of the Gospel of John: "The Community of the Beloved Disciple."



The Trinity

Andrei Rublev's icon "Abraham's Visitors" is one of my favorite depictions of God. It depicts God's interconnectedness, communal nature, and the way God invites each of us into that open space where we can be in relationship. We cannot talk about God without first talking about communion.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_\(Andrei_Rublev\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(Andrei_Rublev))

The Community of the Beloved Disciple

The Gospel of John is unique in the way it tells the story of Jesus' life and ministry. One of the unique parts of it is the way there is a little community embedded around Jesus. The Disciple Jesus loves, Lazarus, Mary, Martha, and others form this community where they are living out Jesus' teachings. Raymond Brown's classic analysis of the gospel draws out the themes of community and how faith is made manifest within our relationships with God and each other.



https://kellylatimoreicons.com/about/img_2737/



The Mandalorian

Disney's latest extension of the Star Wars story is about an orphan who is adopted into a cult-like guild of bounty hunters called Mandalorians. The Mandalorian forms an unlikely relationship with a child, the little yoda-like creature, and the series explores what it means for the two characters to be connected to each other. An icon by @scadarts on Instagram.

Invitation

As we explore how these images and themes and ideas connect and give each other greater meaning we look forward to sharing our findings with you. Students will use this study to write their faith statements for confirmation this year and we will host Bible studies on these themes throughout the coming year. If you can't wait and want to join us early, email me and you can help us put together this mix-tape of spirituality and faith.



Holy Week 2021

Palm Sunday, March 28- 10am- In person & Online Worship– Want your palms but not attending in person? They will be available in front of the church on Saturday, March 27 Reserve your seat for Palm Sunday worship at <https://stmarkmp321.eventbrite.com> or by calling the church office at 847-253-0631.

Maundy Thursday, April 1– 7pm– In person & Online Worship Holy Communion <https://stmarkmpworshipmt.eventbrite.com>

Good Friday, April 2– 7pm– In person & Online Worship <https://stmarkmpworshipgf.eventbrite.com>

Easter– Choose from these four options!

- Prerecorded online worship with virtual choirs and special music, available Saturday, April 3– 5pm
- Sanctuary Worship, Saturday, April 3– 5pm <https://stmarkmpworshipeastersat.eventbrite.com>
- Sanctuary Worship, Sunday, April 4– 10am <https://stmarkmpworshipeastersun.eventbrite.com>
- Worship in the Garden, Sunday, April 4– 11:30 am with Easter Parade to follow– join us in your joy filled Easter decorated cars as we bring the joy of the resurrection to the streets of Mount Prospect

Reserve your seat for in person Holy Week worship by the links above or by calling the church office at 847-253-0631.

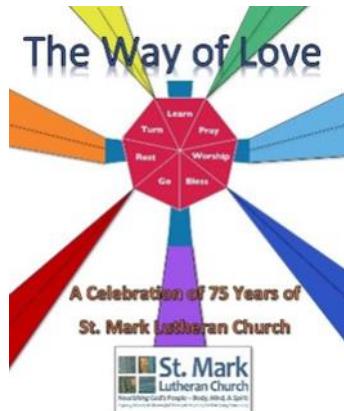
Online Worship available LIVE on Facebook (www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL) or on our YouTube channel following worship (<https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube>)

Thoughts from the Loft

One thing that strikes me about many Lenten hymns is they can be rather cheerful. Some do reflect the solemnity of the season, but many give us that ray of sunlight that is a joyful reflection of God's love. This is true of both the texts and tunes of Lenten hymns. Perhaps my favorite Lenten hymn that ends with a promise is "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross". May the refrain of this hymn be our prayer as we journey to Holy Week: "In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever; till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river".

Peace,
Tim





The Way of Love A Celebration of 75 Years of St. Mark

The 75th Anniversary Committee continues to plan for our celebration this summer and fall. We are hoping to contact as many former members as possible to invite them to join in our celebration. If you have contact information for past members, please email the information to stmark75thanniversary@gmail.com or call in the information to the church office.

One thing the committee is hoping to do is create a living history of St. Mark. Kristin D'Ambrosia and Carol Floros are spearheading this project. You are invited to share what St. Mark has meant to you or if you have a memory of St. Mark you would like to share, please submit to stmark75thanniversary@gmail.com. If possible, please submit a picture of yourself or your family as well. We are also looking for people interested in being part of a video interview, email us or let the church office know. We are excited to hear your stories and bring the history of St. Mark to life.

The committee is also working on ways to celebrate our history and ministries over the summer and will share those details in later Crossbeams. Remember to mark your calendar for September 12, when we will have our big anniversary celebration.



32nd Annual Lutheran/Catholic Women's Morning of Dialogue and Prayer "Women Together in Service" Saturday, April 17

The hope is to be able to meet in person. But logistics are still being worked out, so watch for details to become available.

Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Organization Website

A member of the SWO board built a website last fall for use for their 2020 virtual convention. The information was kept there for those who were not able to participate at the time. Check it out at www.metrochicagoswo.org.

Save the Date
The 2021 SWO convention will be held in some form on Saturday, October 2, under the theme *"Believing in the Promises of God"*. Mark your calendars and watch for more info as the date approaches.

"Tuesdays at 12"
Continues
All are invited to join ELCA women across the country in a time for prayer for our families, friends, communities, country, and our world.

Anyone can participate no matter where you are at 12 noon on Tuesdays.

Greetings Friends,

I hope your Black History Month celebration has been rich. Here is information about our upcoming event:

Black History and Anti-Racism Check-In Thursday, March 11th at 7PM on Zoom

Join us for an adult forum to share our on-going learnings on Black history and Anti-Racism. We are hoping everyone can join us on zoom, but if you are unable to make the meeting we hope that you will write Deacon Dave an email (dwebb@stmarkmp.org) with your reflections. After we have had a chance to share our reflections, we'll plan future learning. If you are still in search of Black History Month learning opportunities, please contact Deacon David.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85086151739?pwd=eTBHZIZQSmYxcDlwK0IBVVVJOUxYQT09>

Meeting ID: 850 8615 1739, Passcode: 680456

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85086151739#,,,*680456# US (Chicago)



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

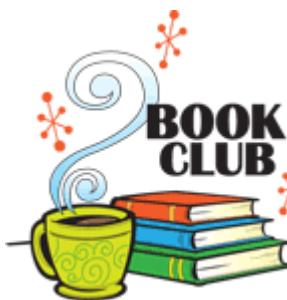
The Village of Mount Prospect's Human Services is in need of volunteers! They are looking to expand their network of people to call upon to meet the needs of seniors and persons with disabilities who call for one time assistance that the village cannot provide. Examples include assistance pulling weeds, moving an item from inside their home to the curb for garbage collection, or taking garbage/recycling out weekly. **Are you willing to help? Contact the Village of Mount Prospect Human Services Department at 847-870-5680.**



**Time to
Spring Ahead**

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 14

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 13th.



The Book Club has put together an updated reading list for 2021. We will add October and November later. It

includes a variety of reading all of which have been read and recommended by at least one member of the group. It is full of interesting selections. The group meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 1:00 in the Great Room, as soon as COVID-19 restrictions permit and the Church Council reopens the building for gatherings.

Currently we are meeting on Zoom. We'd love to have you join us! Contact Nancy Snell at 847-431-9116 if you have any questions or to get the link to connect on Zoom.

St. Mark Book Club
2021 Updated Reading List

MARCH - **Writers and Lovers** by Lily King
 APRIL - **The Night of Miracles** by Elizabeth Berg

MAY - **The Dutch House** by Ann Patchett

JUNE - **A Time for Mercy** by John Grisham

JULY - **The Island of Sea Women** by Lisa See

AUG - **Summer of '69** by Elin Hilderbrand

SEPTEMBER - **The Exiles** by Christina Baker Kline



THANK YOU

Dear St. Mark,
 It was so nice to get such yummy treats in the mail. I went through everything so quickly!
 Thank you so much for thinking of me. :)

Best Regards,
 Monroe Torkelson
 (regarding College Care Package)



March Market Dates: Saturday, March 13 & Saturday, March 27

St. Mark is partnering with the Mt. Prospect Lion's Club to bring a Winter Farmer's Market. The Winter Farmer's Market will take place in the Center on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 9am-12:30pm, November through May.



THRIVENT®

Be Wise With Money™

REMINDER: THRIVENT Choice Dollars® can be directed now through March 31, 2021. If you are a Thrivent member, please consider directing these dollars to St. Mark. Dollars must be directed EACH year. Your choice does NOT automatically roll over from year to year.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center is looking for a Preschool Director. See below for requirements. Please send resume to: stmarkrecruiting@gmail.com

Job Summary

The St. Mark Preschool and Enrichment Center is seeking a director who will continue our well-established reputation as the best developmental preschool and kindergarten enrichment program in the area, serving children between the ages of 3 to 6. We are looking for someone dedicated to enriching the lives of young children with the knowledge, skills and values to be successful learners, promoting our mission to encourage growth of the whole child: physically, intellectually, and socially/emotionally in a Christian environment.

Qualifications

Must be Director-qualified per DCFS Requirements/Illinois Director Credentials with following:
 Minimum of an associate degree in child development or early childhood education (including 21 pts./credit hours in early childhood education, or school age content areas and 9 pts./credit hours in administrative content areas)
 100 hours early childhood teaching experience
 300 hours administrative practicum or 1200 hours administrative experience

Skills and Experience

Demonstrates initiative in pursuing and providing professional development opportunities to maintain the progressive educational standards and enrichment programming of the preschool
 Communicates effectively with children, parents, Board Members and state agencies, creating a positive climate that inspires high morale and motivation levels
 Demonstrates managerial responsibility to oversee personnel, as well as maintain the financial health of the Center and the upkeep of the facility
 Prior experience in a comparable position is preferred
 Ability to lift 25-30 lbs, walk, squat/kneel, sit on floor, see, hear and speak with young children

Responsibilities and Duties

Accountable for the day-to-day and overall operations of the Center
 Establish and maintain professional and respectful working relationships with state agencies, landlord, Governing Board, and the Parent Advisory Council
 Follows and enforces all rules and regulations pertaining to the health, safety and care of children
 Able to perform all essential functions of each position in the Center, including teacher, food service manager and day-care assistant
 Implements the necessary financial management skills to balance enrollment numbers with operating costs, submitting a staffing model and financial plan to the Governing Board
 Organize & manage resources, maintaining an adequate inventory of supplies, equipment & materials
 Perform personnel management responsibilities including teacher and aide hiring, classroom assignments, training, observation and performance reviews
 Advertise and promote a positive image for the Center via website, social media, neighborhood and village events related to early childhood education, tours of the facility for prospective parents, and prompt follow up to email and telephone inquiries

Job Type: Full-time Preschool Director

Salary: \$50K/yr.

Job Location: Mount Prospect, Illinois



2021

All In-Person Activities are limited in size or are online until further notice.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 5pm WOW (In Person) 7 pm Midweek Lent Way of Love on Zoom	4 4:30pm FaithWalk (In Person)	5	6
7 <i>3rd Sunday of Lent Way of Love: Learn 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted OnLine on YouTube</i>	8 7pm Worship & Music	9	10 5pm WOW (In Person) 7 pm Midweek Lent Way of Love on Zoom	11 4:30pm FaithWalk (In Person) 7pm Black History & Anti-Racism Check In on Zoom	12	13 9am Winter Farmers Market
14 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins 4th Sunday of Lent Way of Love: Bless 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted OnLine on YouTube</i>	15 7pm Church Council	16	17 5pm WOW (In Person) 7 pm Midweek Lent Way of Love on Zoom	18 4:30pm FaithWalk (In Person)	19	20
21 <i>5th Sunday of Lent Way of Love: Rest 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted OnLine on YouTube</i>	22 1pm Book Club 7pm Foundation	23	24 5pm WOW (In Person) 7 pm Midweek Lent Way of Love on Zoom	25 4:30pm FaithWalk (In Person) 7pm 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting	26	27 9am Winter Farmers Market
28 <i>Palm Sunday Way of Love: Worship 10am Worship in the Sanctuary & Live on Facebook Later posted OnLine on YouTube</i>	29	30	31			

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

March 2021

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

St. Mark Lutheran Church
847/253-0631
Fax: 847/253-5387
Email: stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org
Website: stmarkmp.org

Staff

Pastor	Rev. Christie Webb	cwebb@stmarkmp.org
Music Director	Timothy Spelbring	tspelbring@stmarkmp.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Hundley	nhundley@stmarkmp.org
Office Administrator	Jill Galyon	jgalyon@stmarkmp.org
Vicar	Christina Johnson	cjohnson@stmarkmp.org
Youth & Family Ministry	Deacon David Webb	dwebb@stmarkmp.org

Sunday Worship (See inside this issue for the latest updates)
Online: Check our Facebook page or our YouTube Channel
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarkLutheranIL/>
YouTube Channel: <https://tinyurl.com/stmarkmpyoutube>.

Youth Christian Education
WOW: Wednesdays 5:00-5:30pm
FaithWalk: Thursdays 4:30-5:00pm

Adult Christian Education
MidWeek Lenten Discussion Wednesdays on Zoom. 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

The logo for St. Mark Lutheran Church features a stylized cross composed of four vertical bars of different heights, with a circular emblem in the center. To the right of the logo, the text "St. Mark" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and "Lutheran Church" is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font below it. At the bottom, the tagline "Nourishing God's People ~ Body, Mind, & Spirit" is written in a smaller, italicized font, followed by the church's mission statement: "Inspiring Worship • Meaningful Ministry • Deepening Faith • Caring Community".