

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Reaching Out With the Unconditional Love of God

605 Spruce St. – Madison, WI 53715 – 608.256.8463

[www.stmarksmadison.org](http://www.stmarksmadison.org)

January 2014 NEWSLETTER

A friend of mine from seminary lives in Nagaland, which is in northern India. He posted on Facebook his New Year's resolutions. Here they are:

1. Sing until my heart has no more songs to sing.
2. Paint until I can no longer see the beauty around me.
3. Give until I have nothing left to give but me.
4. Forgive the way I was forgiven.
5. Do not forget the first four resolutions.

He is a pretty creative and a good guy. I have no doubt he will live into each of his resolutions. However, I'm not making any resolutions. It's not that I fear failing them, it is more that I have already committed to a work, a ministry upon which I remain focused. It is impossible to spend time here at St. Mark's and not be focused, ever listening, ever mindful of the tasks that God is calling us to. I will admit when I first started that I was not aware of how many tasks there were or how interconnected they all are. Discovering this is energizing and brings clarity.

We begin the Season of Epiphany with the Gospel of John who not only reminds us that the light shines in the darkness but of how connected we all are. In fact, the light of Christ reveals to us our need to be in community as a part of living in the light. Part of the radical message of Jesus is the need to come together in worship, work and love. It is very difficult to grow spiritually as a Christian if one does not go to church and live out their faith with other people. It is just one of the ways God made us - to be in relationship.

I'm not going to suggest New Year's resolutions for the community of St. Mark's but I am going to remind each of you of how important you are to the community and the ministry God has given us. We have been given an amazing opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ. Whether you make a New Year's resolution or not, keep our work together ever present in your thoughts and prayers as we continue following God's invitation to us. It's going to be a great year. I can feel it already.

Blessings,  
Pastor Lori



Pastor Lori Powell

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# St. Mark's Food Pantry

Tuesday 10 a.m. - Noon & Thursday 5:45-7:45 p.m.



January food pantry needs are: Canned Tuna, Spaghettios, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, cereal bars, & peanut butter. Thank you for your donations, together, we can feed our neighborhoods...one family at a time.

Happy  
Birthday To  
You....

Jan 6  
Isaac Powell

Jan 24  
Mason  
JonasKrueger

## *Weekly Prayer Focus*

### **January 2014**

1/05	Marilyn Whithers
1/12	John & Donna Wrend
1/19	Don & Dorothy Annen
1/26	Jean Buchanan



## **Financial Giving**

### **Previous Month's Giving Summary**

	Actual Giving	Budgeted Monthly
Members	\$3,090.00	\$8,500.00
Friends	\$2,276.25	\$ 850.00
Rent Rec'd	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00
Rent Rec'd from St. Mark's Community Foods	\$737.50	

**Thank you to members and friends who help  
St. Mark's serve in Christ's name.**

## St. Mark's Community Calendar

**Every Tuesday**  
Except on Holidays

**Food Pantry 10 a.m. – 12 Noon**

**Every Thursday**  
Except on Holidays

**Food Pantry 5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.**

**Every Friday**  
Except on Holidays

**Friday Free Meal 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m.**

**Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, January 26, 2014 following worship,  
Join us for a brunch in the fellowship hall after.**



*Gifts given in memory of:  
Norman and Marij Pettey  
Janet Milauskas*



Thank you to the many people who sent Christmas cards and well wishes to St. Mark's. We love being remembered! May we feel God's blessings throughout the 2014 year.

**Annual Meeting** Our Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 26th following worship. Please join us for brunch in the fellowship hall. We will look at what 2013 meant for us. We will also talk about our hopes and dreams for 2014.

## Council Corner

Your  
Council  
Officers

Lynn  
Miller  
President

Jim Mayer  
Vice-  
President

~

Members

Kate  
Krueger  
316-1734

Jim Mayer  
257-1136

Lynn  
Miller  
224-0615

Tom  
Taves  
798-3205

Debbie  
Thorp  
255-2289

The Peace of The Lord Be With You,

Happy 2014! Wow, have you ever noticed that the older you get the faster the years go by? I've long since given up on making New Year's resolutions. Just getting from one year to the next is pretty much all I can handle. To be sure, 2013 was an interesting year for St. Mark's. There were many changes and there will be more changes in 2014. 2013 began with lots of questions. Perhaps the most uncertain question was what will happen to St. Mark's? Will we be able to make it through the year or will we have to close our doors? I suspect many people were convinced that the latter would happen. But God willing, here we are in 2014 still open and working to serve our congregation and the community on the south side of Madison.

Thanks in large part to Pastor Lori's leadership and your support, 2014 finds us on stronger financial footing. We have paid our outstanding debts and are keeping up with current bills. We have seen more staffing changes, saying good-bye to Pam Bradford, our long-time Director of Liturgy and Sarah Gilmore, Director of the Food Pantry and Manuel Torres, our custodian. These changes however, have given us an opportunity to refocus our efforts allowing St. Mark's to begin redeveloping in ways which will be more cost effective and will help us stream line our administration. The synod has elected Mary Froiland as our new Bishop. Bishop Froiland has promised to work with St. Mark's and provide support from the synod. Our thanks to her for leadership and commitment!

On January 26<sup>th</sup> we will hold our annual meeting after church where we can discuss how we will face 2014. I encourage you to attend with your questions and suggestions on how St. Mark's can continue to grow and serve. The redevelopment process is not easy and requires both time and effort. If we all work together I believe 2014 will see St. Mark's will become a stronger worship community and partner to South Madison.

Yours in Christ,

Lynn Miller

# January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:30 AM St. Mark's Service</li> <li>■ 10:30 AM FCCC Service</li> </ul>	30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Food Pantry</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM FCCC Bible Study</li> </ul>	1	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5:45 PM Food Pantry</li> </ul>	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Meals For Madison</li> </ul>	4
5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:30 AM St. Mark's Service</li> <li>■ 10:30 AM FCCC Service</li> </ul>	6	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Food Pantry</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM FCCC Bible Study</li> </ul>	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 8:30 AM School Snack Program</li> </ul>	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5:45 PM Food Pantry</li> </ul>	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Meals For Madison</li> </ul>	11
12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:30 AM St. Mark's Service</li> <li>■ 10:30 AM FCCC Service</li> </ul>	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Food Pantry</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM FCCC Bible Study</li> </ul>	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 8:30 AM School Snack Program</li> </ul>	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5:45 PM Food Pantry</li> </ul>	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Meals For Madison</li> </ul>	18
19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:30 AM St. Mark's Service</li> <li>■ 10:30 AM FCCC Service</li> </ul>	20	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Food Pantry</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM FCCC Bible Study</li> </ul>	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 8:30 AM School Snack Program</li> </ul>	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5:45 PM Food Pantry</li> </ul>	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Meals For Madison</li> </ul>	25
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:30 AM St. Mark's Service</li> <li>■ 10:45 AM St. Mark's Annual Meeting</li> <li>■ 11:00 AM FCCC Service</li> </ul>	27	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Food Pantry</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM FCCC Bible Study</li> </ul>	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 8:30 AM School Snack Program</li> </ul>	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 5:45 PM Food Pantry</li> </ul>	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Meals For Madison</li> </ul>	1