

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

June 2015 NEWSLETTER

Change is All Around Us

When Tony was younger he had a favorite Youtube song called, "The Weather is Always Changing". The tune was catchy and we adapted this song to include not just the weather but anytime circumstances were changing around us. Our family thought it was soothing and daring all at the same time. It is probably the best response to the change that is around us. Something to soothe oneself as one prepares for the unknown.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church knows about change. We have experienced much change in the last few years, welcoming new people and remembering how things used to be. We will experience change again this month when Kirk, Shari, Alyssa and Dylan return to North Carolina for the next leg on their adventure of life. We will offer them blessings and wish them well having enjoyed their participation this past year. At the same time we remain here committed to our responsibilities at 605 Spruce St.

When all is said and done, the ministry of St. Mark's never changes. We gather on Sunday to celebrate our relationship with God. We come together on other days of the week to feed the hungry with food and companionship. It is good to have this ministry and to be guided by God who loves us. It is fun to add new projects but we remain steadfast in our ministry.

In the last two years I have learned not to fret so much about how many people are in worship. Don't get me wrong, I love it when new friends and visitors join us. I love the idea of being in ministry with them but I have learned to trust in the ministry God has called us to. God seems to want us in this place, doing ministry. As the Season of Pentecost (and summer) begin, we will focus on the stories in the Bible of the new church and how they responded to their calling. It is a great time of year!

**Blessings,
Pastor Lori**



Pastor Lori Powell

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St. Mark's Food Pantry



Farm Produce is Back! We are so incredibly grateful to have volunteer Barb Zimmerman from St. Matthews New Life Lutheran Church picking up produce for some of the various Farmer's Markets. We have had fresh spinach, lettuce, onions, radishes, turnips, and mint. Guests to the food pantry are choosing healthier options which makes those of us filling the food pantry grateful. Boxed Macaroni and cheese is lasting a long time as people choose less salty options.

If you have a great bean recipe, please let me know. Our meats for June are limited to tuna, ham and canned salmon but we have lots of canned beans. Recipes are a great way to help folks try new things.

Financial Giving

May Giving Summary

	Actual Giving	Budgeted Monthly
Members	\$2170,00	\$ 2200.00
Friends	\$ 455,00	\$ 350.00
Rent Rec'd from FCBC	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00
Rent Rec'd from St. Mark's Community Foods	\$737.50	
Rent Rec'd from MOSES	\$175.00	
Rent Rec'd from Forward! March	\$50	
Rent Rec'd from Raging Grannies	\$50	
Brat Fest Fundraiser (more to come)	\$32	
New Ministry Opportunity	\$2500	

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

St. Mark's Calendar

Every Tuesday
Every Thursday
Every Friday

Food Pantry 10 a.m. – 12 Noon
Food Pantry 5:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.
Friday Free Meal 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m.



June Birthdays

June 4	Debbie Thorp
June 6	Jim Benz
June 14	Lily Mae Fowler
June 14	Lois Reuter



Brat Fest Thank You!

Thank you to all who worked Brat Fest including Pam and Gary Gates our neighbors from across the street. Kathy Moore, Lynn Miller, Lori Powell, Isaac and Tony filled in shifts. As always, Gary worked every day and all day and has given St. Mark's the credit. Last year we purchased our first play structure with the money given to us. How can we grow our ministry this year?

Council Corner

The Peace of The Lord Be With You,

Isn't this year flying by? It's already June and school will soon be out. If you've attended church this spring you may have noticed that our attendance has been up slightly. Looks like the little Lutheran church on the corners of Spruce and Hickory Streets is still going strong. Last Saturday we again opened our doors to the Susan B. Komen runners and walkers needing a restroom break. It rained the entire time but that didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirit. This year we put signs up in the building so people could find the restrooms easier. Thank you to everyone who helped with the purchase of extra toilet paper!

This summer we plan to finish the playground. We will add a climbing dome and tire swing to the existing playhouse. We'll also be adding more mulch. I'm sure we could use more hands to help put the playground structures together. Let Pastor Lori know if you would be available to help. The playground is intended to be a safe play area for kids in the neighborhood. From the reports we gotten it is already being well used. This is another way we can show the community our ministry reaches beyond the walls of St. Mark's. We also have two benches to put outside in the side garden. As we enjoy the warmer weather please be safe if you plan to travel. Take care and enjoy!

Yours in Christ,

Lynn Miller