

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Reaching Out With the Unconditional Love of God

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August 2015 NEWSLETTER

Getting Ready for Fall

Throughout the summer the Scriptures have invited us to think about getting away and spending some quiet time with God. Jesus needed to do this and so do we if we are to have clarity and energy for our ministry. There are still some weeks left of summer so I encourage you, if you haven't done so already, to find some quiet time in the summer to enjoy the beauty of creation and some quiet time with God. We have just returned from camping in western Minnesota and the memory of the moon shining over Lake Shetek brings me peace every time I think of it.

This fall Lynn is planning on facilitating a six week class looking at the core beliefs around Christianity. We will welcome people who do not typically attend St. Mark's in this class and look forward to dialogue concerning what is really important about faith.

With the playground completed we are planning an ice cream social welcoming the neighborhood to use the playground and welcoming them to St. Mark's.

We need to distribute information sheets about St. Mark's to local agencies that work with people with disabilities so they will know we are a welcoming place for EVERYONE.

Any ideas you have about extending hospitality please share at our All Church Meeting on August 16th immediately following church. One of the comments I appreciated from Rev. Erik Jelinek, the Director of Evangelical Mission for the Synod said was that now St. Mark's has stabilized, let's not get complacent but keep the energy coming. He's right!

Blessings,
Pastor Lori



Pastor Lori Powell

Inside this Issue

- ✦ Pastor's Letter
- ✦ Food Pantry
- ✦ Financial Giving
- ✦ Regular events.
- ✦ Birthdays
- ✦ Lutheran World Baby Care Kits
- ✦ Guest Preacher, Keefe Keeley, Aug. 9th
- ✦ All Church Meeting
- ✦ God's Work, Our Hands, Sept. 13th



St. Mark's Food Pantry



At a time when the lectionary has us spending six weeks thinking about the feeding of the five thousand and wondering about Jesus as the bread of life, the food pantry continues enroll new families. Economically life gets better for some but not for all. We remain thankful this month for the produce donated each Thursday from the Middleton Farmer's Market. We have had plenty of zucchini, kohlrabi, cabbage and beets to share.

We are also grateful for the food collection of the Wagon Drive. Food drives always bring in much needed variety. Thanks to the Bay Creek Neighborhood kids!

Financial Giving

July Giving Summary

	Actual Giving	Budgeted Monthly
Members	\$1675.00	\$ 2200.00
Friends	\$ 176.00	\$ 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	
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.



August Birthdays

August 9 Lynn Miller
August 20 Nancy Peterson

Lutheran World Baby Care Kits

On Sept. 13th, during fellowship time we will put together the layette kits as our project for God's Work, Our Hands. We have done this the last two years last year assembling about 40 kits. Each kit needs, 2 t-shirts, 2 gowns or sleepers without feet, 2 receiving blankets, 4 cloth diapers, 1 sweater with baby cap or jacket with hood, 2 bath bars of gentle soap, 2 diaper pins and 2 pairs of socks. Gently used, clean items can be used instead of new – **think garage sales!** Betty Smith is happy to answer any questions you may have concerning donations.



Guest Preacher, Keefe Keeley August 9th

Keefe has spent his life in the ELCA, has worked at ELCA summer camps and has much to share regarding faith. Keefe will be preaching on August 9th. During fellowship time we will be celebrating Lynn Miller's birthday with ice cream and cake.

All Church Meeting – August 16th

This is an important meeting to finalize plans for the fall and continue to think about how St. Mark's can extend hospitality, welcoming others in. This meeting will be during the fellowship time after worship.



God's Work, Our Hands, Sunday September 13, 2015

This is a dedicated day of service for the ELCA – "one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. St. Mark's project will be putting the layette kits together.

**Yes, it is also the first Packer game of the season against the Bears. We will be done before noon for those who may need to rush home. 😊
Thank you for your dedication!**