

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

January 2016 NEWSLETTER

The New Year:

As I look towards 2016 I wonder whether we will make any progress as a nation in how we disagree with each other. Will we find a way to work towards positive solutions to our challenges? I wonder about the health of the church universal as well as the community here at St. Mark's. My anxiety is easily tempered by the words of a Quaker pastor and author, Rufus Jones as shared by Rev. Bryan Sirchio when he was here in December.

I pin all my hopes on quiet processes and small circles in which vital and truly transforming events take place.

When we come together and pray every Sunday morning; when two or three are gathered in Christ's name throughout the week; we claim our little part of the world for good. We witness to God's love. We stand vigil to the light in a dark time. We are not hopeless to the events around us but are changing the world through quiet processes and small circles. This gives me tremendous hope.

As a congregation we are trying new ministry initiatives. The volunteers in the Food Pantry yesterday were planning next summer's garden even as we shoveled the snow away from the sidewalks. God is with us and therefore there is hope for 2016. Happy New Year to all of you!

Two exciting upcoming dates:

Jan. 3rd "Sermon in a Song" Sunday with acoustical musicians Chris Anderson and Jim O'Connor.

Jan. 9th 7:00 PM The Magical Mystical Epiphany Musical "Old Befana" as a benefit for the Food Ministries.

Blessings,
Pastor Lori



Pastor Lori Powell

Inside this Issue

- ✦ Pastor's Letter
- ✦ Food Pantry
- ✦ Financial Giving
- ✦ Regular events.
- ✦ Birthdays
- ✦ Benefit for the Food Ministries, "Old Befana"
- ✦ **Sermon in a Song Jan. 3rd**
- ✦ Annual Meeting
- ✦ Activities Around the Synod



St. Mark's Food Ministries



The Food Pantry and the Friday Meal are very blessed to be supported by several other congregations. For the Food Pantry, this is an important part of our "authorization" to be a food pantry by the Community Action Coalition of South Central Wisconsin. In order to receive government commodities monthly, as we do from CAC, we have to have matching pounds in food donations. Our partner congregations help us do that. The congregations include; All Saints Lutheran Church, St. Matthews New Life Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, and Midvale Lutheran Church. Other groups conduct food drive on an annual basis.

On Dec. 18th Kindergarten students from Woodland Montessori School brought two wagons full of food.

Financial Giving

December Giving Summary

	Actual Giving	Budgeted Monthly
Members	\$3065.00	\$ 2200.00
Friends	\$2158.00	\$ 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 the Synod	\$150	
Rent from Chef Joel	\$50	
In honor of Betty Smith's Birthday	\$650	

**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.

January Birthdays



Jan. 6th Isaac Powell Miller
Jan. 21st Alex Andino
Jan. 24th Mason JonasKrueger
Jan. 24th Joyce Snell



Saturday, January 9th 7:00 PM Benefit for the Food Ministries:

“Old Befana” is a delightful musical legend about the Epiphany story as told by local musician Ken Lonquist. Ken is joined by a cast of musicians and actors who tell the story of a grumpy old woman who gains a new perspective on life when she searches for the Christ child. It is a great show for people of all ages.

We ask that you bring either a non-perishable food item or make a donation to the Food Ministries of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church for entrance into the show.

A flyer is attached to this newsletter that you are encouraged to share.



Annual Meeting, January 31st After Worship

We are incredibly blessed as a congregation with the financial resources to reach out in a way that offers hope to our local community. How we want to do this will be a part of the discussion in addition to taking care of some of the nuts and bolts of church work. We will have a brunch after worship, upstairs in our coffee fellowship space. It is an important time to be the church.

Around the Synod



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Synod Assembly 2016 – Our Theme Will Be: “One Story: Always Re-Forming!”
Dates: Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1 at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells
It’s Not Too Early to Start Thinking About Who You Will Send To Synod Assembly 2016 to Represent Your Congregation!

To Support the Food Ministries of St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Old Befana

*A Magical Epiphany Musical
With Ken Lonquist & Friends*

Saturday, January 9th

7:00 PM

Bring a non-perishable food
item or make a donation to St.
Mark's Food Pantry

St. Mark's Lutheran Church www.stmarksmadison.org

605 Spruce St., Madison (608)256-0906

Enjoy cookies and hot chocolate after the show!

