

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

October 2016 NEWSLETTER

Mustard Seed Faith

The first Sunday in October we will be reading the story of Jesus telling the believers about a mustard seed and how a tiny seed grows into something big. The church in the first century was like the mustard seed. Jesus began with a few followers and Christianity – the movement was born. Some scholars believe that without the Apostle Paul or without Constantine making Christianity a state religion, the movement would have died. I tend to believe the Jesus movement would have carried without Constantine and surely the Apostle Paul was a part of the movement.

Here in 2016 we are in a position to take the long view. The popularity of the Jesus movement has ebbed and flowed but will never die. Individual congregations are a part of the ebbing and flowing. No single congregation was intended to last forever. Other formations of the church will pick up the baton and carry the spirit. That said, we are having a hope filled fall. We have a team of five ready to attend the Synod's Renewing event on Saturday, October 1st. The book study, *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege and a Bridge for the Future* has been rescheduled for October 16th. We will have a non-traditional worship service on October 16th celebrating the Blessing of the Pets. We have all sorts of fall rentals going on.

We have faith of a mustard seed and trust God is doing great things.

Blessings,
Pastor Lori



Pastor Lori Powell

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St. Mark's Food Ministries



The Food Pantry is very grateful for Sue Rosa for planting and taking care of the food pantry garden. It has been a great growing season.

Substitute volunteers are also needed. If anyone would like to volunteer on an occasional basis, let me know.

| Financial Giving | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| September Giving Summary | | |
| | Actual Giving | Budgeted Monthly |
| Members | \$ 2630.00 | \$ 2200.00 |
| Friends | \$ 704.00 | \$ 350.00 |
| Rent from 7 th Day Adv | \$ 860.00 | \$ 860.00 |
| Rent Rec'd from St. Mark's Community Foods \$737.50 | | |
| Rent Rec'd from MOSES \$175.00 | | |
| Rent for kitchen \$25 | | |
| Memorial Gifts on behalf of Mel Gabriel \$775 | | |
| Thank you to members and friends who give generously to the ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. | | |

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.



October Birthdays

October 10 Cedarose Keeley

October 25 Kathy Moore

Strategic Planning for 2016 – Latest Updates

The people of St. Mark's are grateful to those who worked on the paperwork for the Connect Program. Keefe Keeley held the pen but Karen Grinder, Dave Hart, Debbie Thorp, Lynn Miller, Tony and Mina Esser, Jay all contributed important thoughts and ideas. Thank You! We are ready for October 1st.



Thank You for the Baby Care Kits! God's Work our Hands Sunday

For the 3rd year in a row we are grateful to Debbie Thorp and Betty Smith for getting this project started. Chris Scoville added her energy and enthusiasm. 44 Baby Care Kits were assembled. David and Dawn Lines will take them to the railroad car on October 1st

October 16th

9:30 Blessing of the Animals – Non-Traditional Service

Bring pets or photos of pets to be blessed.

11:00 Book Study with lunch *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege and a Bridge to the Future*

Activities from the South Central Synod

Worship With Us! The Synod Staff Invites You To Worship with Holy Communion Every Thursday at 12:00 noon. Each week, we gather with others from our synod for Word and Meal. The gospel is shared and different pastors in our synod serve as the preacher each week. Please join us for this mid-week time for worship that will leave you restored and renewed! Bring your brown bag lunch as we enjoy fellowship at 12:30. We are located at: 6401 Odana Road, Suite 20, Madison

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2017 – Saturday, April 29 & Sunday, April 30, 2017

Madison Marriott West – PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

Recurring positive feedback about our assemblies is clear and positive...attending assemblies helps our leaders feel more connected to the larger church and God's kingdom. This is an important way to walk together, so save the dates on your calendars today! Remember these dates so you don't schedule your baccalaureate or wedding or anything that requires a pastor. All pastors in a call are expected to attend Synod Assemblies and should be thinking of lay leaders who would benefit from having a bigger church view by attending assembly and being a voice in our shared work. Plan ahead!