

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Reaching Out With the Unconditional Love of God

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www.stmarksmadison.org

April 2017 NEWSLETTER

Life as a Metaphor

Dear Friends:

Endless gray, cloudy, wet days exemplify the art of grieving. And grieving our losses, washing away the parts of ourselves that get in the way of our relationship with God is the stuff of Lent. This spring time weather is exactly what we are supposed to be going through as we walk up to Easter. Easter is late this year and I had planned to celebrate Easter with sunshine and colorful flowers. On a day like today, one wonders if we will ever get there. And yet, even though I am not enjoying these wet, cloudy days, the bulbs in my yard are getting taller, the grass is getting greener and new life is waiting in the wings.

It is my hope that this is true of our spiritual journeys as well as of our faith community. I feel new life waiting in the wings as we go about the business of being church with our new Ministry Teams. I feel new life in the music of "Sing a New Song Sundays". I feel new life when we celebrate communion with real communion bread made by Lisa. I feel new life coming when we welcome visitors. I feel new life in all of the gifts shared by the members of this community. This is how Lent turns into Easter, how God brings death out of life, by calling forth in each of us talents, skills, and ministries through which we serve others.

Easter is coming but we can't get there without first going through the work of Lent – metaphorically speaking.

Palm Sunday – April 9th 9:30 Worship

Good Friday – April 14th Noon Worship with Trinity UMC

Easter Egg Hunt – April 15th Saturday at 9:30

Easter Sunday – April 16th Breakfast at 8:30, Worship at 9:30

Blessings, Pastor Lori



Pastor Lori Powell

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The Food Pantry



Tony Esser is our Thursday night Food Pantry Coordinator. I am still talking to other possibilities for Tuesday mornings but the addition of Tony may be all we need and is a great asset. Managing a store is exactly the kind of experience needed for a Food Pantry Coordinator!

The Boy Scouts from Trinity United Methodist brought us 85 bags of food this month. We are grateful for the variety they bring!

Financial Giving

March Giving Summary

	Actual Giving	Budgeted Monthly
Members	\$ 3920.00	\$ 2200.00
Friends	\$ 198.00	\$ 350.00
Rent Rec'd	\$ 860.00	\$ 860.00
from 7 th Day		
Rent Rec'd from St. Mark's Community Foods	\$737.50	
Rent Rec'd from MOSES	\$175.00	
Rent Chef Joel	\$75	

**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.

April Birthdays



April 1 Lori Powell
April 10 Karen Pettey
April 17 Mark Weerda
April 25 Maxine Moore

Connect Update and Church Renewal:

March 12th Meeting:

1. IRS has been paid we are hoping this resolves any issue with the IRS.
2. Cannot rent to Poppa's BBQ because he is for profit.
3. Yes to 8:30 Easter pot-luck breakfast. Yes to 9:30 April 15th Easter Egg Hunt!
4. The church has gifts of hospitality. How to live this out with the Friday Meal in more relationship building ways?

We cannot have a mindset of scarcity and a mission of hospitality. Scarcity starts with deficits. Scarcity binds up our brains with fear, despair, negativity and selfishness. Hospitality is expansive and out of God's abundance.



There will be a New Member Sunday in May. Talk to Lori if you are interested in learning more about the mission of St. Mark's and becoming a member.



Keep Checking the Brat Fest Website www.volunteer.bratfest for opportunities. While the good jobs may be gone and many shifts filled, sometimes people cancel and openings appear!

Easter Schedule

Good Friday Service at Noon on Friday, April 14th. Joint Service with Trinity United Methodist Church.

Easter Egg Hunt for the Neighborhood, Saturday, April 15th. 9:30 Rain or shine.

Easter Breakfast 8:30 Sunday, April 16th. This is a pot-luck – chocolate Easter Eggs count as breakfast food.

Easter Worship 9:30 on April 16th. Come and Celebrate New Life



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

Around the Synod

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2017 – “Now What? The Next 500 Years” - Saturday & Sunday April 29 & 30, 2017

Time: 8:30 am Saturday – 12:30 pm on Sunday*