

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reaching Out with the Unconditional Love of God!

Worship Sundays at 9:30 am

605 Spruce St, Madison, WI 53715



From Our President Lisa Manion

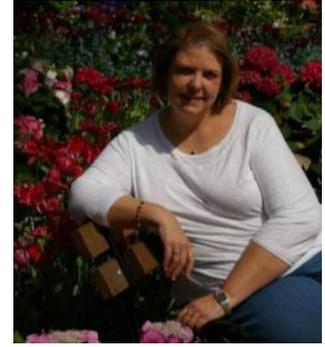
Pastor Lori did a good job of keeping everyone updated with monthly newsletters. Because we have so much going on, I thought it would be a good idea to keep that up. Here are some of the things that we are working on.

There are several routine tasks that will need our immediate attention such as cleaning and mowing the lawn. Until we can figure what we can/cannot afford to hire people to handle, we can cover many tasks if we all pitch in with some volunteer time. If you can take a turn or help out occasionally, that would be great.

We'll have sign up sheets. My intent is that these will be only for a short term and that people won't be assigned a task to handle permanently or long term.

First, we need to call an All Congregation Meeting so we can elect a treasurer. I'd like to have a quick meeting after service on August 12. If you are interested in being treasurer, please consider this. You don't have to have knowledge of any type of software. Just some basic accounting skills are needed.

We have contracted with Rev. Christa Fisher to conduct services for the month of August. Rev. Fisher is very excited about preaching to us. She is very interested in the Bay Creek neighborhood and St. Mark's. Please provide feedback on her so we can consider whether to contract with her beyond August or look elsewhere.



If you need emergency pastoral care, please contact Chris Anderson at 608-516-4886. Please leave a message if there is no answer including your name, phone number and your emergency. You can also email her at chrisanderson1804@gmail.com

We need to work on setting up a plan for Mission Investment Fund. They are looking for an increase to our monthly payment to pay off our delinquent interest amount. I plan to meet with MIF as soon as we can develop a plan and come to agreement with them on the future. We could be back to paying on our principal within four years or sooner.

There are still some things I'm not sure about and we're going to have to figure our way through this. If you see something not being done as expected, please reach out to me. My email is lcmanion.lm@gmail.com. It's very likely I just don't realize it needs to be done!

St. Mark's is a great church and I'm excited about it's future.

Lisa Manion
Congregational President

Congregational Meeting August 12, 10:30 am Following Worship

Please plan to attend this important meeting to elect a new Treasurer. This position does not require knowledge of any type of software. Some basic accounting skills is all that is needed. Please contact Lisa Manion at lcmanion.lm@gmail.com; call or text 608-354-8767.



Introducing Rev. Christa Fisher

Hello Good People of St Marks,

It is my delight and privilege to be invited to lead worship and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with you in the coming weeks. This Sunday, August 5, will be my first opportunity to step into the sanctuary of St Marks in a formal position. I am hoping in the coming weeks my presence begins to feel normal and we begin to develop genuine relationships. To help facilitate this, please indulge me, as I tell you a bit about myself.

My name is Christa Fisher. I am a Lutheran pastor and single mother of two teenaged-children. I live in Monona with my son Jacob, 16, and my daughter Imani, 13. I have been a member of Lake Edge Lutheran Church where I also served for a period of time as their Youth Pastor. When I arrived at Lake Edge five years ago they had no middle- or high-school youth programming. Since I had children I took it upon myself to build this program. By the time I left my position as Youth Pastor our middle-school confirmation program was a community of 20 friends who were becoming engaged, critical and faithful thinkers and citizens.

While serving as the Youth Pastor at Lake Edge, I was also serving as the Chaplain of the Dane County Jail. You can learn more about my experience in this position and my reasons for leaving the Jail through this article posted by the Madison Area Jail Ministry: <http://myemail.constantcontact.com/Changes-In-the-Madison-Area-Jail-Ministry.html?soid=1118893647847&aid=RzK4FYrhofc>

It was my extreme privilege and honor and joy to serve as the Chaplain of the Jail. Not only was I entrusted with growing the scope, depth, and quality of



the ministry within and outside of the jail, I was also entrusted with and invited into people's lives, asked to hold their pain, help them dream, and assure them that God was not finished with them.

Prior to serving at the Dane County Jail, I worked for ELCA World Hunger, where I educated and advocated for systemic social and political change related to food insecurity. And, prior to my service with World Hunger I worked for the WI Dept. of Agriculture, where I came to understand the intimate relationship between land management, capitalism and food insecurity. My Seminary Master's Thesis was entitled "The Big Business of Poverty & Food Insecurity."

While serving in the Jail I also spent much time with Madison's homeless community. (I have been referred to by some as the Wandering Holy Woman.) I am excited about and very impressed by the Food Ministries offered at St Marks. And am now wondering how my passion for food justice and my relationships with those who suffer from food insecurity might enhance the already excellent Food Ministries you are offering.

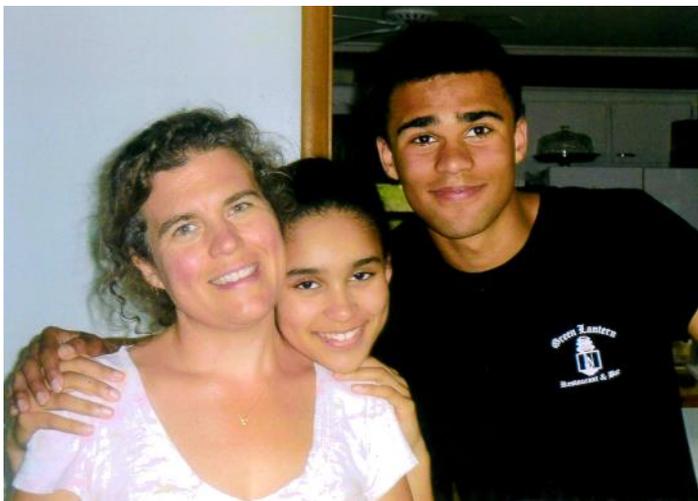
To that point, I am hopeful that my time at St Marks, not matter the length, will allow me to share, in a meaningful way, my many passions with you: writing, preaching, a commitment to the Gospel which means a commitment to Justice, and the privilege of knowing and loving others.

Please introduce yourself to me following worship. Ask me the questions you need answered and tell me what it is you need me to know about you and this community of faithful people. I am eager to meet you!

Thank you again for the invitation and opportunity to join you on this journey.

With Peace, Power, and Joy,

Rev Christa Fisher



Pastor Christa with her children Imani, 13 and Jacob, 16.

Thanks for Your Support of the Wagon Drive!



We had a nice box full of school supplies from St. Mark's to add to the Wagon Drive collection!

Your donations help make it possible for families in the area to have the supplies their children need for school without having to choose between these and

other needs their family has. Thank you for your generous donations!

The Wagon Drive is a non-profit program supported by the Center for Community Stewardship.

Preparing for Worship

August 5, 2018

Psalm 51:1-12

or Psalm 78:23-29

Frist Reading: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

or Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-16

Gospel: John 6:24-35

August 12, 2018

Psalm 130

or Psalm 34:1-8

First Reading: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

or 1 Kings 19:4-8

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

August 19, 2018

Psalm 111

or Psalm 34:9-14

First Reading: 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

or Proverbs 9:1-6

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

Gospel: John 6:51-58

August 26, 2018

Psalm 84

or Psalm 34:15-22

First Reading: 1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43

or Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

Gospel: John 6:56-69

Help Needed: St. Mark's Food Ministry

Food Pantry & Friday Meal Volunteers

One of the most unique things about St. Mark's Lutheran Church is our Food Ministry. Our Food Pantry and Friday Meal serve many people in our community.

As we embark on a new chapter in the life of St. Mark's, we need to find ways to offer our time and talent to keep our Food Pantry and Friday Meal running smoothly.



Our Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to noon, and on Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. We have an immediate need for Food Pantry volunteers on Tuesday mornings. No experience or special skills required!

Our Friday Meal volunteers are needed from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm to help setup the food serving line, serve food and clean up afterward. No cooking skills required! This is a great opportunity for both individuals and groups! Consider assembling a group of friends, relatives, co-workers, classmates, etc. to volunteer for a Friday Meal.



Can you volunteer some time to the Food Pantry or Friday Meal? Please sign up on SignUpGenius at <https://bit.ly/2O1QsCN> or email Chris at StMarksFeeds@gmail.com.

Would You Like to be More Involved? Is God Calling You to the Position of Food Ministry Coordinator?

We are in need of someone to help coordinate our Food Ministries by working with organizations that support us with supplies and funding, and by coordination of volunteers. Please consider this opportunity as you consider how you can help us continue to offer Food Ministry support in our community. Please contact Chris at StMarksFeeds@gmail.com.

Bishop Installation

Saturday, August 18; 2:00 pm



You are invited to attend the installation of the newly elected Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, Rev. Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld on August 18, 2:00 pm at First Lutheran Church, 612 N Randall Ave, Janesville, WI 53545.

Pride Parade: Sunday, August 19



ReconcilingWorks-Madison and the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin invite you to the Out Reach Pride Parade on Sunday, August 19, 11:30 on State Street (500 & 600 blocks). At noon, the parade will march up State Street and around the Capitol Square. A rally will take place at the top of State Street after the parade. We will have a booth on the Square with information about our synod and the Reconciling in Christ congregations in the area.

Join us to celebrate diversity and to show our warm welcome and full inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community in our churches.

For information, contact Nathan Houstin at houstin@yahoo.fr. Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ReconcilingWorksMadison/

"Bridging Borders: Geography, Culture, Race"

Presented by the South-Central Synod, WI
Racial Equity Ministry Team

August 12, 2018, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

New Life Church, 7564 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison

Pastor Mary Pharmer lived in El Paso, on the Texas/Mexico border for the first 3 months of this year. She volunteered in a house of hospitality for immigrants coming across the border from Mexico and Central America. Eager to share stories of this time, she has prepared a visual presentation to share at the Racial Equity gathering. Free will offering.



You will find videos of previous presentations on the synod website scsw-elca.org/ministries-and-partners/racial-equity/

What Matters . . .

News from Your Synod & Ministry Partners

Stay connected to events and stories of faith in action in our synod! To sign up for synod news, email Synod Communicator & Event Manager, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at vickih@scsw-elca.org to be added to "What Matters." Thank you for your partnership!

Baptisms at St. Mark's

Child of God, You are Sealed by the Holy Spirit and Marked with the Cross of Christ Forever!



*Baptism of Rhea Rose, Daughter of
Alisa Toninato & Andrew McManigal
May 20, 2018*



*Baptism of Mae Charlotte, Daughter of
Jaclyn & Mark Bender
July 15, 2018*