

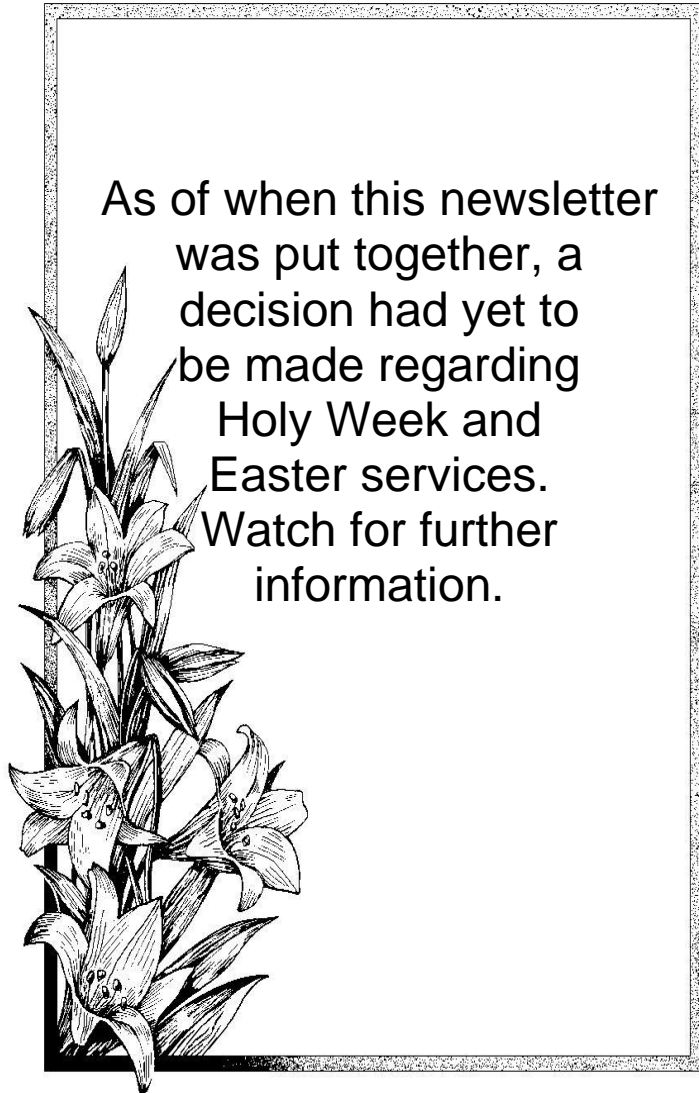
The Light

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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VISION STATEMENT

St. Mark Lutheran Church glorifies God and makes disciples by making caring connections with the people of our community.



Celebrating Sixty Years in Mission

Here is a thought worth pondering: every Christian congregation was once new. It was once just getting started. It was once a 'church plant' or a 'mission church.' Those who were charter members or present near the beginning have vivid memories of all the church's 'firsts,' and often have surprisingly positive remembrances of sacrifices the church needed to make in order to grow. There is an undeniable excitement that accompanies the birth and growth of a new church. God's hand is evident in making things happen, and those who are present to witness it count themselves blessed.

Sixty years ago, St. Mark was precisely this type of congregation. Since then, it has grown and matured with our region. It has experienced times of expansion, stability, and challenge. Through it all, there has been, by God's grace, a sincere drive to remain faithful to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, accompanied by the desire to get the good news of Jesus out to a world that needs it so desperately.

One of the things I love about this congregation is that it still has the atmosphere of a 'mission church.' There is an openness and flexibility among leaders. The congregation has displayed a willingness to try new things for the sake of proclaiming the Gospel. On any given day, there are numerous ways our members are making caring connections with our community—and the world—so that Christ can be shared. Making disciples of Jesus truly matters here, even as we continually gain a deeper understanding of that process. Simply put, I believe that St. Mark remains a 'church in mission.' That is something to celebrate with great joy and deep humility, because it is God who is at work in us, doing His will.

It is an honor to serve you in response to the calling of Christ Jesus.

Pastor Matzke



NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT THE CONGREGATION (AND BEYOND!)

From the Newsletter Editor



Because of the unprecedented changes to our everyday life due to the coronavirus epidemic, *The Light* will basically only be available as an electronic publication for the foreseeable future. Limited copies will be printed and mailed to those members who do NOT have access to a computer, or who report to me that it is difficult to read on a computer screen. If you have any news that you would like to share with your St. Mark family, be sure email me at churchelf@sbcglobal.net by the third Sunday of the month. My thanks to all of you for your understanding of the situation.

-- the church elf



- Boise Bouton School in Haiti
- Building Hope in the City
- Joshua Burke, studying at Kent State
- Donna Cartwright, mother of Diana Monaghan
- Dan Chuppa
- Dan Cicchella
- Ardis Danicic
- Carol Deau
- Ruthann Dular
- Dale and Bobi Fellinger
- Joanne Foutty, sister of Ron Cudnik
- George and Margot Fretz, returning from a mission trip to the Far East
- Shirley Gleske
- Grace School in Haiti
- Lynn Gross
- Gerry Grubec
- Don Heuer
- Nancy Johnson
- Betty Judkins
- Jenny Klopff
- Gloria Leagan
- Larry Long, father of Sue Matzke
- Love and Hope Children's Home in El Salvador
- Steve Mercsak
- Ministry in Mission
- Stan and Mary Ann Moczulski
- Diane Molnar
- Barb Nicholson
- Rose Ranke
- Steppin Out Missions
- DJ Stone, grandson of Ed and Lee Stone

- Trinity Lutheran, Ohio City
- Capt. Matt Webb, continuing his residency in neurosurgery
- Dona Weber
- Dorothy Wiegand
- Grace Wright, studying at Ohio State
- Carlene Zollner, Susan Hallum's cousin



We extend our prayers, sympathy and love to: **Larry and Monica McGurer** and their entire family on the death of Larry's brother, **Fred McGurer**, on February 26; the family of **Linda Klinga, Jim Burke's** sister. May all who mourn find peace and comfort in the sure knowledge of the resurrection to life eternal with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



St. Mark Family: Pastor, Sue, and Andy would like to thank our dear St. Mark friends for their love, prayers, and encouragement during Sue's dad's chemotherapy treatments. He finished up his twelfth and final round on March 4. Please also accept our belated but very sincere heartfelt thanks for all of your Christmas cards and gifts.

Thanks to all at St. Mark who so kindly prayed for my recovery from foot/Achilles surgery. We have such a wonderful, loving congregation. I am healing well!

Lynn Gross

Thank you to all the lovely women that helped assemble the Easter baskets. You are such a blessing. However, due to current events Job and Family Service has cancelled the Easter basket distribution. Sara said they are limiting home visits and delivery of food to homes. I talked to a representative from WomenSafe and let her know that we had canceled for this year but that we would love to make Easter baskets for them next year.

If you have an Easter Basket you can keep it for next year or you can take out what you bought, save the non-perishable items for next year and return the basket to me when we resume going to church. Another suggestion would be to contact **Lee Stone**, since she has volunteered to take items to WomenSafe, to see if she is willing to take baskets to them.

I'm so sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused but it couldn't be helped.

Monica McGurer

FYI Email List

If you are not receiving email about what is going on in the church, please contact **Chris Meister** (thecmeister@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the FYI email list. Important announcements go out through email.



Tithes/Offerings

Please remember that just because the building is closed, ministry is still happening, and we need your support! You can donate online (acionlinegiving.com/4549), you can text a donation (text an amount to 440-709-8049), or you can mail in your check (119000 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland, OH 44026).



Facebook Live Videos

Pastor Mark and Vicar Chris are streaming LIVE every day (except Saturday) on Facebook at facebook.com/stmarkchester. The schedule will be sent out via FYI emails. If you do not have Facebook, you can watch the videos after they are done, at www.stmarkchester.com/videos.



GROUP MINISTRIES



LWML Ohio District Convention
June 19-21
Marriot at the University of Dayton

The Lutheran Woman's Missionary League will be holding its biennial convention this summer. Full information and registration materials can be found in the *Ohio district edition – ODE*, either on the table outside Fellowship Hall or online at www.lwmlohio.org. All women of St. Mark are invited to attend.

Council and Elders Meeting

The Council and Elders will be meeting on Thursday, March 26 to determine our next steps during this time of uncertainty. Please keep our leaders in your prayers as they aim to do what is best for everyone here at St. Mark and in the surrounding community.



Communion Is Available

If you would like a time for private communion with Pastor Mark, that is available to you by appointment. Please contact **Pastor Mark** to arrange for that.



What Can We Do for You?

The building may be closed, but our ministry is ongoing! Please contact us and let us know if we can help you out with any needs – physical, emotional, or spiritual.



Youth Group Is Online!

Youth Group is continuing to be held online Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. We had a great turnout this past Wednesday at our virtual gathering. Contact **Vicar Chris** (vicarchris@stmarkchester.org) for more information.

Northeast Zone Spring Rally
April 18
Faith Lutheran, Mentor

The annual Spring Rally will be held as an email event (something new and different!). More information to follow.

Northeast Zone Fall Retreat
Saturday, September 19



Always a fun event, the Fall Retreat is once again scheduled to be held at the YMCA in Perry. Mark your calendars now, as attendance is limited. More information to follow!

The preschoolers are getting ready for the celebration of Easter. They are learning of our Savior's love and sacrifice for us. In addition, nature is abounding with growth and interesting changes of life cycles.

We are excited to offer the All Around Town books for \$20.00. They have a variety of 2-for-1 coupons at restaurants, theaters, sporting activities and stores in our area. The St. Mark Preschool will get \$10.00 of the purchase of each book. The church office has books available. Thank you for your support and prayers.

-- Diana C. Monaghan

From the Treasurer

Do you have a question for **Erna Mabel**, our church treasurer? Please be sure to email her at treasurer@stmarkchester.org and not at her personal email address. She does not monitor her personal address as often as the church address. Thank you.

Women's League

Celebration of Mothers
Saturday, May 9
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Attention St. Mark Ladies! Ready, set, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 9, 2020. The annual Celebration of Mothers will be held in Fellowship Hall from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., and will be a tea luncheon. Our guest speaker will be a naturalist for the Geauga Park District, giving a presentation on butterflies. Cost of the event is \$15.00 per person.

The ladies are collecting teacups and saucers to be used in future events. We will have a donation box in the mail box area. Thank you in advance for your support and attendance. We look forward to fun, food, and fellowship. More information, or to help with baking, setup and cleanup, contact **Diana Monaghan** (440-286-3661) or **Jamie Nicoletti** (440-391-8269).

Flower Pots Needed

The Plant Sale and "Secret Garden" party are just around the corner. We are Collecting any large plastic pots you may have. They should measure 12"-13" from rim to rim. Even if they might be dirty, we will clean and paint them. Please drop them off by the two barns. For more information contact **Lee Stone** (440-668-7985).



St. Mark @ Jumonville, PA

June 12-14, 2020

Come on a retreat with your church family to Jumonville Camp, a Christian retreat center. Jumonville is located about fifty miles south of Pittsburgh in a beautiful mountaintop setting. Everyone is invited, bring your friends!

Sample Activities

- Golf (Several to choose from)
- Rock climbing wall
- Rafting (white water and lazy)
- Zip Line
- Caverns
- State Park
- Local sight seeing
- Prayer walk



Tentative Agenda

Friday evening

- Welcome
- Conversations at the campfire

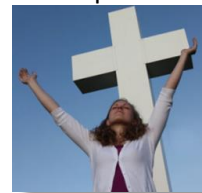


Saturday

- Breakfast
- Large/small group discussions
- Lunch
- Free time (activities)
- Dinner
- Conversations at the campfire

Sunday

- Breakfast
- Worship Service



Costs: \$150/ person (Scholarships available)

Covers lodging, meals, and linens.

*additional fee for some activities

Ready to Register?

Fill out a registration form and return to Vicar Chris' mailbox or the office manager's desk along with your check. Registrations are ongoing now through May 1st.

Questions?

Ask Vicar Chris. Email vicarchris@stmarkchester.org or call/text (440) 264-3825.

Those Serving Us in April and May

Editor's note: The list of "Those Serving Us" is temporarily on hold until services resume. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. – the church elf

CELEBRATIONS



- 1 Delilah Smith
Stanley Cooper
- 3 Tom Holt
Sydney Gembka
- 4 Don Heuer
Christina Schaffert
Lee Stone
- 5 Michael Hardy
Brian Kuchenbecker
Monica McGurer
Donna Pelligrini
Quinn Weber
- 6 Gerry Pretzlaf
- 7 Bonnie Moore
- 8 Marilyn Smith
- 9 Gayle Gifford
Yasmin Nehal
- 10 Kevin Gleske
Sean Peterson
- 13 Andrew Matzke
- 14 Pat Croucher
Cheryl Lee
- 15 Connie Boddy
Barbara Westover
Todd Zeitz
- 16 Allison Deets
- 18 Lauren Molnar
- 19 Gracelyn Douglas
Carolyn Heuer
Ashley Schneider
Kane Stendalen
- 20 Charlie Chuppa
Mike Dugan
Susie Reed
Wendy Zimmerman
- 22 Dustin Paterniti
Grace Wright
- 26 Daniel Brown
Joshua Burke
Jack Turk
- 27 Benjamin Burke
Andrew Schneider
- 28 Ken Gross
- 30 Kelvin Bauermann



- 1 Lisa Feigle
Gerry Grubac
Jessica Ryan
- 2 Karen Tritt
- 3 Diane Keehl
Chris Powell
- 4 Pr. Ken Welsh
- 5 Gerhard Hickey
- 6 Elisabeth Peterson
- 7 Irene Gramc
- 9 Lori Clark
Tracy Deets
Jolee Hanson
- 10 Jonathan Gembka
Sydney Gembka
Larry McGurer
- 11 Brady Brown
- 13 Ryan Dvorak
Sophia Schaffert
- 14 Adam Douglas
Justin Meagher
- 15 Catherine Hyde
James Meagher
- 16 Stephanie Hyde
- 18 Jenifer Brenkus
- 19 Rodger Dunn
Bonnie Moore
Susie Reed
- 20 Charlie Chuppa
Caroline Hill
- 21 Ed Tornberg
- 22 Mark Ryan
- 24 Dan Chuppa
Jack Dvorak
Michael Repas, Jr.
- 27 Kathryn Hardy
Tom Holt
- 28 Mark Rychel
- 29 Chris Ryan
- 30 Cori Marsalis
Lori Marsalis
Tom Marsalis
Susan Matzke



*(years of marriage this month: 392
total year-to-date: 745 years)*

- Joseph and Gretchen Sutter
April 4, 1981
- Pete and Debi Bucci
April 6, 2004
- David and Cindy White
April 7, 1982
- Matt and Rachel Webb
April 7, 2018
- George and Margot Fretz
April 11, 1970 (50 years)
- Randy and Catherine Hyde
April 19, 1984
- Robert and Gerry Pretzlaf
April 24, 1971
- Jeff and Toni Atchley
April 24, 1993
- Jackie and Mark Rychel
April 26, 1974
- David and Lori Clark
April 26, 1997
- Mari Jane and Joe Pavilonis
April 27, 1979
- Dustin and Cortney Paterniti
April 27, 2019
- Holly and Mort Myers
April 28, 1996

St. Mark Church

Apr 2020 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8:15am - Traditional 9:30am - Debt Reduction 9:45am - Education Hour 9:45am - Gathering Service 11am - Contemporary 11am - Life with God Class	30 9am - Preschool	31 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study	1 9am - Preschool 11:30am - Lenten Service 6pm - Choir 6pm - Confirmation Class 6pm - Pre-Confirmation 6pm - Youth Group 7:30pm - Lenten Service	2 7pm - Praise Team	3 9:30am - Bulletin Folding 9:30am - Palm Crosses	4 9am - Men's Breakfast
5 8:15am - Traditional 9:45am - Education Hour 9:45am - Gathering Service 11am - Contemporary 11am - Life with God Class 11am - Women's League	6 9am - Preschool 7:30pm - Elder Meeting	7 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Stephen Ministry	8 6pm - Pre-Confirmation 6pm - Youth Group 7pm - Choir 8pm - Tenor-Bass Choir	9 Maundy Thursday 11:30am - Maundy 7:30pm - Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday 12pm - Good Friday Service 7:30pm - Good Friday	11 10am - Yoga
12 Easter Sunday 7am - Traditional Service 9am - Contemporary 11am - Traditional Service	13 Easter Monday Office Closed 7pm - Council Meeting	14 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	15 9am - Preschool 11am - Bada Bing 6pm - Pre-Confirmation 6pm - Youth Group 7pm - Choir 8pm - Tenor-Bass Choir	16 7pm - Praise Team	17	18 9:30am - LWML Spring 10am - Yoga 2pm - Trinity Lutheran
19 8:15am - Traditional 9:45am - Education Hour 9:45am - Gathering Service 11am - Contemporary 11am - Life with God Class 5pm - Newsletter Due	20 9am - Preschool	21 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	22 9am - Preschool 6pm - Confirmation Class 6pm - Youth Group 7pm - Choir	23 7pm - Stephen Ministry	24	25 10am - Yoga 2pm - Private Event
26 8am - Debt Reduction 8:15am - Traditional 9:45am - Education Hour 9:45am - Gathering Service 11am - Contemporary 11am - Life with God Class	27 9am - Preschool 6pm - Stewardship Board 7pm - Education Board	28 9am - Preschool 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	29 9am - Preschool 11am - Feed the Flock 6pm - Confirmation Class 6pm - Pre-Confirmation 6pm - Youth Group 7pm - Choir 8pm - Tenor-Bass Choir	30 6:30pm - Book Club 7pm - Praise Team	1	2 9am - Men's Breakfast