



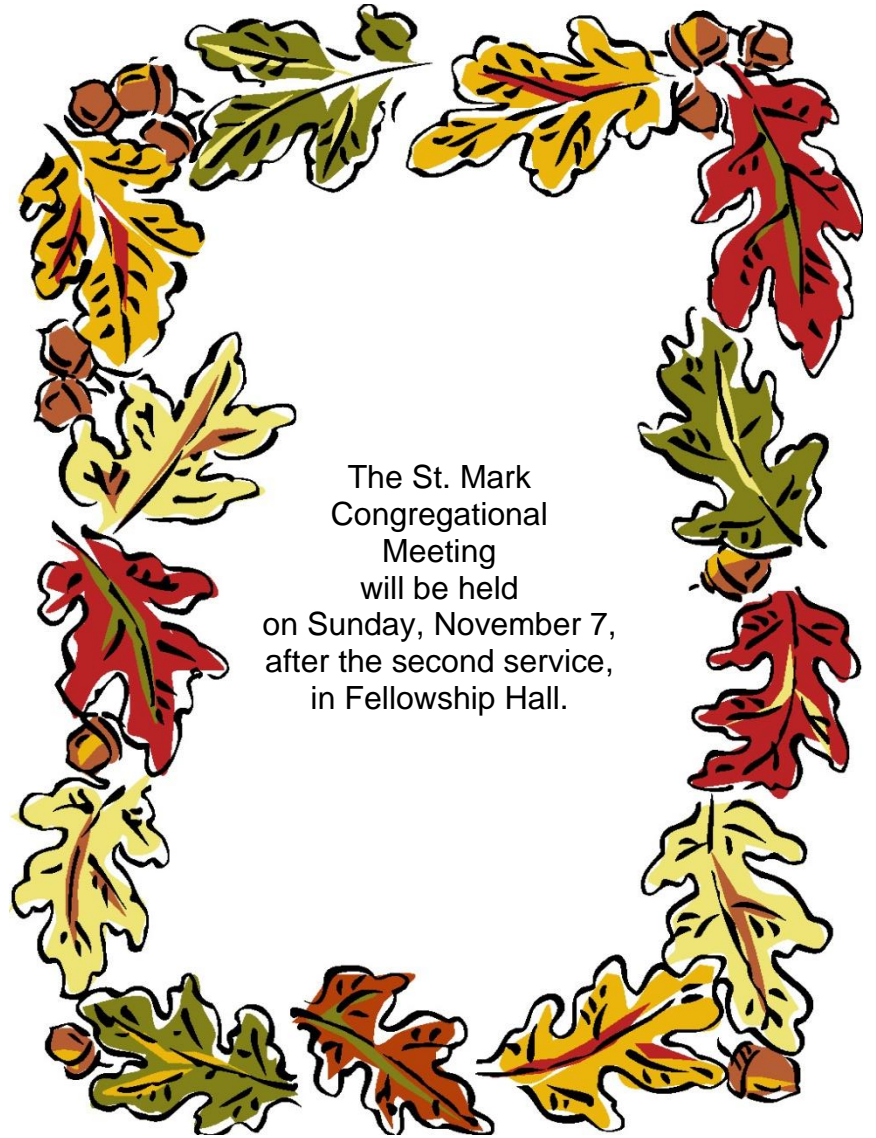
The Light



St. Mark Lutheran Church

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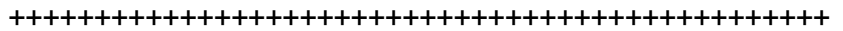
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The St. Mark
 Congregational
 Meeting
 will be held
 on Sunday, November 7,
 after the second service,
 in Fellowship Hall.



Remember to set your clocks **BACK**
ONE HOUR when you go to bed on
 Saturday, November 6.



VISION STATEMENT

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

Unusual Thanks

In 1636, amid the darkness of the Thirty Years' War, a German pastor, Martin Rinckart, is said to have buried over five thousand of his parishioners in one year—an average of fifteen a day. His parish was ravaged by war, death, and economic disaster. In the heart of that darkness, with the cries of fear outside his window, he sat down and wrote this table grace for his children:

Now thank we all our God / With heart and hands and voices / Who wondrous things had done / In whom His world rejoices. / Who, from our mother's arms / Hath led us on our way / With countless gifts of love / And still is ours today.

Here was a man who knew thanksgiving comes from love of God, not from outward circumstances.

There may be some of us who are having a pretty hard time giving thanks in 2021. If that's true for you, you're not alone. After hearing your story, most people would probably agree that you don't have much reason for gratitude this November. Then there are people like Martin Rinckart, who find reasons to thank God in the middle of unimaginable horrors. If you're wondering if you could ever be like that, please pay careful attention to the following words written by the apostle Paul to the Philippians:

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Are there things in your life that make you anxious? Lift them up to God in prayer and give thanks. That's Paul's message. Give thanks *before* you lift up your concerns. Give thanks *while* you lift up your concerns. Give thanks *after* you lift up your concerns. And then what?

Then "the peace that transcends all understanding will guard your heart and minds in Christ Jesus." The peace that goes beyond understanding is not the absence of trouble, but a presence in our need. It doesn't solve every problem; rather, it guards our hearts and minds in Christ, enabling us to look beyond circumstances to our Savior, and to trust that He has secured our eternal well-being already.

Pastor Matzke



NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT THE CONGREGATION (AND BEYOND!)

From the Newsletter Editor



Even as we come, ever so slowly, out from under the COVID pandemic, we continue to hear about the importance of staying connected with friends and family. Here at St. Mark, we have emails (thank you to **Kim Ryan and Chris Meister** for getting FYIs and prayer requests out in a timely manner), live streaming of services and other gatherings (thanks to all who organize these), and postings on Facebook (thanks to **Debbie Turk** who handles our electronic messaging).

And we have this newsletter. It has been a lighter version of *The Light* over the past 16 months, but I hope it has still been valuable for gathering news into one place where all of our members can see what is happening at St. Mark. Thanks to all who submit articles; this would be nothing but blank pages without your contributions. And thanks to **Kelvin Bauermann** for taking the copy I send to him and the monthly calendar supplied by Kim and turning them into one document that can be sent out electronically each month.

-- the church elf



- Boise Bouton School in Haiti
- Building Hope in the City
- Joshua Burke, studying at Bowling Green
- Donna Cartwright, mother of Diana Monaghan
- Dan Cicchella
- Jeff Croucher, son of Ron and Pat Croucher
- Ardis Danicic
- Carol Deau
- Ruthann Dular
- Dale and Bobi Fellingner
- Grace School in Haiti
- Gerry Grubec
- Matt Huston, son of Rick and Cathy Huston
- Nancy Johnson
- Betty Judkins
- Matt Keehl (son of Frank and Diane Keehl)
- Gloria Leagan
- Lois Locher
- Larry Long (father of Sue Matzke)
- Love and Hope Children's Home in El Salvador
- Susan Matzke (mother of Pr. Matzke)
- Ministry in Mission
- Stan Moczulski
- Diane Molnar
- Bonnie Moore

- Eliza Ream, granddaughter of Nancy Seabrook
- Beth Reksten
- Steppin Out Missions
- Ed Tornberg
- Trinity Lutheran, Ohio City
- Capt. Matt Webb, continuing his residency in neurosurgery
- Grace Wright, studying at Edinboro College
- WomenSafe



We send our prayers to **Tracy Deets** and her family on the death of her father, **Rich Johnston**. May all who mourn receive God's comfort and peace.



We rejoice with the entire **Pavilonis** family on the birth of baby **Hazel** on September 30. May God continue to bless them all.



The dust has settled on the 2021 Rummage Sale. It was a success because of you! Many thanks to all of you who supported the effort. Whether you donated items, worked at the weekly shed parties, helped haul items into the church for the sale, helped to organize the halls, fed the workers, bought items at the sale, put up or took down tables and other furnishings, prayed for our success, or anything else, we thank you! All money raised will be used for missions, to make improvements to our church building, or to help others in the community.

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Marti Gildersleeve wishes to express her sincere thanks and praise for all the thoughts and prayers during the recent months. She is very grateful and feels very blessed to have received them.



Ways to Support St. Mark

There are many ways to financially support the ministry of St. Mark. You can donate online (acionlinegiving.com/4549), text a donation (text the amount to 440-709-8049), mail your check to the church office (11900 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland 44026), or drop your donation into the offering plates that can be found at the doors to the sanctuary.

Do you shop at GFS (Gordon's Food Service)? If so, you can support St. Mark by doing what you are already doing! When you are checking out at GFS, please let them know that you are supporting St. Mark Lutheran in Chesterland and we will get credit for your shopping trip, which will save us money on our next trip there.

You can also support St. Mark by shopping at Amazon, Just go to smile.amazon.com and choose Saint Mark Lutheran Church (Chesterland, OH) and then shop – it's that simple!

And you can support our preschool by placing an Avon order with Beth Christopherson (contact information is in the church directory), who will donate 10% of the price of your order to the preschool.



Trinity Food Pantry Non-Perishable Items

The Thanksgiving holiday is at the end of month and there may be a shortage of food in some families' pantries. Let's help them out by donating canned vegetables, canned fruits, soups, stews, pastas, and mac 'n' cheese.



Yoga Is Back!

We all know that we should be going to the gym four times a week. That's not going to happen! However, we can start with some gentle stretches and do good for our body while playing solitaire on an iPad! Our instructor, Sue, is very flexible with her program. Have no fear, chair yoga is here! Join us at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings at St. Mark. Cost is \$5.00. If you have any questions, contact **Marilyn Meyerholt** (contact information in the church directory).

St. Mark has been blessed again with new members. On Sunday, October 10, eight new members were officially recognized at our two services.

Molly Francis, Kendra Rockow, and son George Rockow were taken in by the Rite of Confirmation during our second service. They joined five other members in affirming that they wished to be part of our St. Mark family.

The five other members transferred in from other Lutheran congregations. They were **Phil and Debbie Wollaeger** (from Trinity Lutheran in Willoughby), **Sylvia Fleming** (from Trinity Lutheran in Willoughby), and **Bart and Donna Pendley** (from Bethlehem Lutheran in Parma). All eight attended our Life with God classes before joining.

Between services, the eight new members heard briefly from seven of our key leaders in the church and enjoyed refreshments in the Matthew Room, thanks to the kindness of **Sue Brill**.

May God grant that they will be a blessing to us and that we will be a blessing to them. Their picture is up in the hallway on one of our main bulletin boards. Get to know them!



Financial Secretary Position Open

St. Mark is in need of somebody to fill the Financial Secretary position. Training on the existing financial tracking and reporting system already in place will be provided. This position is separate from the Treasurer, but the position is critical to the work of the Treasurer and to St. Mark and its membership. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Howard Mabel or Chris Powell.



Card Donations Accepted Again

If you have cards starting to arrive again this year, we'll gladly take them off your hands! Any greeting card, calendar, gift wrap, or other items you can't use will be gratefully accepted by the library for resale in our church. Please drop them off in the library, on the table near the door.

GROUP HAPPENINGS



We have received a quote to replace the HVAC system in the office area, including an air purifier. Two windows in Pastor's office need to be replaced due to rot.



St. Mark Preschool is buzzing with activity this month. The seasonal changes are coming to life and the handiwork of God is everywhere.

9 preschoolers are in attendance. **Mr. Burke** and **Mrs. Walkuski** are helping the children learn the love of Jesus in stories, songs, and curriculum. Wednesdays are a favorite with **Pastor Mark** and children's chapel. Fall activities and crafts are incorporated into the Halloween party on October 27. Please continue to keep the preschool in prayer daily.



Try out "A Longer Look at the Lessons" with Pastor Mark in Fellowship Hall. It begins at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday with a warm-up by Vicar Chris. Coffee is always available.

Tuesday Bible Study continues in Romans at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A new lesson is posted each week on St. Mark's Facebook and YouTube pages at the same time, in case you miss a week. It's also a great series to recommend to a friend!

A New Bible Study on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. is "Lutheranism 101," based on the CP book of the same name. It will explore and/or refresh the basics of Lutheran theology (what we believe, teach and confess) and looks into the history and heritage of the Lutheran church. This study seeks to connect what Lutherans believe and what Lutherans do.



Northeast Zone
Ohio District

LWML Future Events

Zone Prayer Service: Grace, Thompson (8091 Plank Road), Saturday, February 26, 2022 (Snow date, March 5)

Zone Spring Rally: Zion, Painesville (508 Mentor Avenue), date TBD

Zone Fall Retreat: Perry Outdoor Y, date TBD

2022 LWML Ohio District Convention: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio, Friday evening, June 17 and Saturday, June 18

Control: To exercise direction influence, power, and authority over conditions.

Humans like to be in control, having the power to choose exactly what is going to happen and when. Unfortunately, life isn't like that – we only think we're in control. So when something happens and we realize we're not in control, we feel lost, overwhelmed, angry, even terrified. Stephen Ministers are trained to help when things are out of control. They provide support and encouragement while helping a person put faith and trust in God.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry, or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, contact **Ron Croucher**, **Sue Matzke** or **Pastor Matzke**. Please do not report a friend's need without first asking his or her permission to do so.

When I said, 'my foot is slipping', your love, O Lord, supports me." Psalm 94:18

Women's League News

Christmas Boutique

Now that the rummage sale is over, we are getting ready for the annual Christmas Boutique. The gently used and regiftable areas are accepting all types of Christmas and gift items that you can no longer use. We also accept items for any holiday to sell. Please drop off your donation in the library by November 7. If you have any questions, contact **Lori Cudnik**.

Also, jewelry is needed for the Christmas Boutique. We could use Christmas and New Year jewelry (pins, earrings, bracelets, necklaces, etc.). Put any donations in the box marked "Ellen" in the Small Dining Room.

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Rummage Sale 2022

Times, they are a'changin', and we must, too! Plans for the next This 'n' That Sale are on the drawing board! We plan to make improvements in most of our operating procedures. Would you care to help? Here's your chance to add your input to the formation of this "new" ministry.

CELEBRATIONS

NOVEMBER Birthdays

- 1 Eric Stendalen
- 2 Paityn Brenkus
Alvin Large
- 3 Ryan Dvorak
Grace Large
- 5 Gabriella Atwara
Marie Bartels
- 6 Jeff Atchley
- 8 Pastor Matzke
- 9 Bill Dvorak
- 11 Erma Mabel
- 12 Carol Kiminecz
- 14 Eloise Cavalier
- 15 Erik Hanson
Linda Hickey
Don Lombardy
- 16 Beth Brown
- 17 Kathy Dvorak
- 18 Chad Murawski
- 19 Howard Hanna
Bethany Hyde
Thomas Meyer
Alec Wright
- 20 Janet Vesbach
- 23 Hildred Tornberg
- 24 Patti Lombardy
Leah Spisak
Jessie Wilson
- 25 Pete Bucci
Colm Dugan
Mark Percassi
Byron Whitney
- 26 David Carney
Bonnie Coleman
- 27 Erika Ruedin
- 28 Zola Douglas
Leonard Lowe
Marsha Olsen
Alexandra Roth
- 30 Carly Gessel
Mike Lee
Jennifer Schneider

NOVEMBER Baptisms

- 1 Beth Reksten
- 4 Dick Christopherson
- 8 Kaitlyn Larrick
- 9 Julie Wallenhorst
- 10 Nancy Powell
Brad Coppock
Anna Zimmerman
Erika Ruedin
Kirsten Zimmerman
- 11 Alec Lawlor
- 12 Gerald Dixon
- 13 Madilyn Atchley
- 14 Gayle Tomko
- 15 Griffin Reksten
- 16 Carol Deau
- 20 Kimberly Palivec
- 21 Michael Repas
- 24 Kim Craig
- 25 Cody Paterniti
- 26 Pastor Matzke
- 27 Eric Stendalen
- 29 Klevi Rybak

NOVEMBER Anniversaries

- Pastor Ken and Gay Welsh
November 6, 1976
- Mark and Shawn Ziccarelli
November 9, 1985
- Daniel and Jennifer Civitarese
November 16, 2019
- Charles and Jamie Nicoletti
November 20, 1982
- Michael and Julia Stanley
November 21, 2015
- David and Robin Carney
November 26, 1986
- Ron and Pat Croucher
November 26, 1960 (61 years)
- Ray and Ellen Gilbert
November 26, 1966 (55years)
- Myron and Linda Bliss
November 27, 1965 (56years)
- John and Sue Robinson
November 28, 1964 (57 years)
- Rick and Cathy Huston
November 29, 1980
- Chris and Debbie Turk
November 29, 1996

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 8am - Traditional Worship 9am - Life with God class 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Contemporary 11:30am - Handbell 7pm - Youth Group	1 9:30am - Devotions online	2 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Elders' Meeting	3 9:30am - Children's Chapel 6pm - Confirmation Class	4 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	5 7:30pm - @ the Cross	6 10:30am - Yoga
7 8am - Traditional Worship 9am - Life with God class 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Blended 11:30am - Congregation 7pm - Youth Group	8	9 9:30am - Prayer Group	10 6pm - Confirmation Class	11 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	12 7pm - Christmas Boutique 7:30pm - @ the Cross	13 9am - Christmas Boutique
14 8am - Traditional Worship 9am - Life with God class 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Contemporary 11:30am - Council Meeting 7pm - Youth Group	15 9:30am - Devotions online	16 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study	17 9:30am - Children's Chapel 11am - Free Lunch 6pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - Thanksgiving	18 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	19 7:30pm - @ the Cross	20 10:30am - Yoga
21 8am - Traditional Worship 9am - Life with God class 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Blended 4pm - Musical Series 5pm - Newsletter Due 7pm - Youth Group	22 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Education Board	23 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study	24 9:30am - Children's Chapel 7:30pm - Thanksgiving	25 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day 9:30am - Devotions online	26 7:30pm - @ the Cross	27 10:30am - Yoga
28 8am - Traditional Worship 9am - Life with God class 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Contemporary 7pm - Youth Group	29 9:30am - Devotions online	30 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study	1 9:30am - Children's Chapel 11:30am - Advent Midweek 6pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - Advent Midweek	2 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	3 7:30pm - @ the Cross	4 10:30am - Yoga