



# The Light

St. Mark Lutheran Church



## In This Issue

From Pastor Matzke	2
News and Notes	
In Our Prayers	3
Sympathy	3
Graduates	3
Confirmands	3
Baptism	4
New Members	3
Other Notes	4
Group Ministries	
Elders	5
Council	5
Treasurer	
Financial Secretary	
Preschool	
Education	
LWML	5
Stephen Ministry	6
Celebrations	7
Calendar of Events	8

# May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Psalm 29:11, NRSV



+++++

## VISION STATEMENT

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



## “In A Relationship”

Trinity Sunday asks us to reflect on the character of God, who has revealed Himself as three persons with one divine essence. These type of categories are an attempt to classify the unclassifiable, and can sometimes leave us a bit cold. However, something ‘clicked’ when I heard the Trinity described as a relationship.

The very idea of “having a relationship” has its origin in God. The God of the Bible has, from the very beginning, lived in relationship with Himself. Way back in Genesis chapter one, God can be overheard talking to himself, saying “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” Who could he be talking to, except those parts of himself that we have come to know as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? That very idea is expressed in a most beautiful and moving way in Proverbs chapter eight. There, Jesus, the wisdom and Word of God, is portrayed as a master workman alongside his Father, crafting the world with creative power. Their work is joyful, but a careful reading of verses thirty and thirty-one reveals that the act of creation is not the only happiness described; it says, and this is from Jesus’ perspective: “I was his daily delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of men.” Does that not “wow” you just a little? As the Father is raising the skies and filling the oceans, his delight is in His Son. You can almost envision His hand on His Son’s shoulder as they share this indescribable experience.

Father, Son, and Spirit have lived in relationship with one another from eternity. The act of creation is a decision God made to live in relationship with other beings beside Himself—namely, human beings. He wanted—and still wants—to live in relationship with people so that his delight and rejoicing will be multiplied! What a thought! When you live in relationship with God, He rejoices! You are fulfilling His purpose for creation.

*Pastor Mark Matzke*



## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT THE CONGREGATION (AND BEYOND!)

From the Newsletter Editor



Thanks to everyone who contributed information for this issue of the newsletter. I couldn't do it without you! Please remember that the deadline is the third Sunday of the month. Short, concise articles from all contributors are always greatly appreciated.

Thank you all for your consideration and help.

-- 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
- Tamela Cook
- Jeff Croucher (son of Ron & Pat Croucher)
- Pat Croucher
- Lori Cudnik
- Ardis Danicic
- Dawn Dean
- Carol Deau
- Ruthann Dular
- Dale and Bobi Fellingner
- Grace School in Haiti
- Jennifer Hanson
- Nancy Johnson
- Betty Judkins
- Lois Locher
- Love and Hope Children's Home
- Susan Matzke (mother of Pr. Mark)
- Ministry in Mission
- Stan Moczulski
- Diane Molnar
- Beth Reksten
- Steppin Out Missions
- Trinity Lutheran, Ohio City
- Frank Webb (father of Chris Webb)
- Capt. Matt Webb, continuing his residency in neurosurgery
- Grace Wright, studying at Edinboro College
- WomenSafe



We send our love and prayers to the family of **Donna Zimmerman**, who passed away on May 4. Donna was a member of the most recent Life with God class, and would have formally joined the congregation on May 15. We ask God's peace and comfort for the family, and for all who mourn.



We congratulate the following high school and college graduates in our St. Mark family:

- **Lindsay Craig** graduated from Chardon High School and is heading to Lakeland Community College
- **Dakota Deets** graduated from West Geauga High School and is heading to Kent State
- **Jack Dvorak** graduated from Chardon High School and is heading to Ohio State
- **Jessica Ryan**; graduated from Concordia University Ann Arbor with a major in psychology, minor in graphic design

We pray God's blessings on their plans and their futures.

If there are any graduates not listed above, please contact the church office.



On April 24 and May 1, **Morgan Paula Atwara, Lely Faith Percassi, and Lucas Robert Zelznick** made confirmation of their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We pray God's blessings on them as they continue their faith walk.



**Henry David Tanney**, son of **Ethan and Abby Tanney**, was baptized into the family of Christ and of St. Mark on May 22. May God continue to bless this young family!



The following were officially welcomed into the St. Mark family on May 15: Dellamarie Burke, Daniel Hubley and Christine Sobek, Rich and Carol Johnson, Eric Leslie and Elijah, Joyce Peltz-Allin, Ethan and Abby Tanney, and Josephine Wantz.



### Eli's Comin'

“What happens when a young man with an 18<sup>th</sup> century upbringing, steps into the 20<sup>th</sup> century world?” And as a baseball player? Come hear our own **Mark Zimmerman**, local author, radio host, lifelong baseball fan, and friend of the West Geauga community talk about his first book, *Eli – the Phenom’s Story* be at Geauga West Library on Thursday, June 16 at 7:00 p.m. You will certainly be energized by Mark’s storytelling and will be cheering for Eli as his story is told. Registration is required for this event; contact Geauga West Library for full details.

“I will pour out my Spirit on all people.”  
Joel 2:28, NIV



**Graphic Designer Needed:** The Board of Outreach needs a graphic artist to help update and create online and printed brochures to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Do you (or a student, friend, relative, etc.) know Adobe InDesign? This is strictly a project-by-project basis, not an ongoing position. If you or someone you know can help, please call/text/email **Mark Rychel**.

**The Tech Booth Needs You.** Have you ever used a computer? We know you have! We need you to help out in the tech booth with both the screens in the sanctuary and the livestreaming. Both positions are super easy and we will teach you. Come see **Leah Spisak or Kim Ryan** for more information.



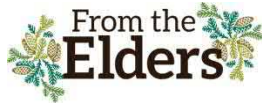
Please remember the Trinity Food Pantry when you shop at the grocery store. Needed items are canned soups, stews or pastas, canned tuna, canned beans, canned fruits and vegetables, boxed macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly. We are also accepting monetary donations to help the pantry purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Make your check out to St. Mark and put “Trinity Food Pantry” in the memo.



### Need Assistance?

Da Crew helps at church but can now help you at home! If you have issues with small tasks that you find difficult, then Da Crew can come and assist! What types of tasks?! Well, things like changing fire alarm batteries, light bulbs, or other small items. Da Crew can help you get the item that fell behind furniture or add salt to your water softener. If you have such a need, please contact your elder or **Bill Tritt**.

## GROUP MINISTRIES



### Duties of an Elder (part 2)

- Give account to God for the church: Hebrews 13:17 – “Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give and account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.”
- Live exemplary lives: Hebrews 13:7 – “remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”
- Rightly use the authority God has given them: Acts 20:28 – “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit had made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.”
- Teach the bible correctly: Ephesians 4:11; 1 Timothy 3:2 – “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,” “Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,”
- Preach: 1 Timothy 5:17 – “The elders who direct the affairs of the church are well worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.”



**A Notice from the Treasurer:** If you need to be reimbursed for purchases made for the church, please make sure that Erna has the receipt and your banking information. Reimbursements are all directly deposited now. Contact **Erna Mabel** if you have any questions.

**A Notice from the Financial Secretary:** Text to Give: You’ve seen it listed in the Sunday bulletin, but have you ever used it? It is very simple: text an amount to 440-709-8049 to submit a one-time

contribution to St. Mark directly from your bank account or credit card (if your cell phone number is already registered with your online giving account). If you are not set up with online giving, you can text that number and you’ll receive a text back with instructions on how to set-up the text to give option. If you have any questions about this, contact our Financial Secretary, **Della Burke**.



The St. Mark Preschool is celebrating the graduation of 5 students this year. What a blessing from God! Continue to lift up the preschool staff and enrollment as we are preparing for a new school year and opportunity to proclaim the love of Jesus. We are blessed with this mission of God's love and salvation to a needy world. .



Save the date for VBS – July 25-29 (9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.). It is going to be Monumental! In order to make it truly monumental, we need you. Planning is underway, and many volunteers are needed. If you would like more information and/or think you would like to help us out, please contact one of our co-directors, **Annie Ryan and Tracy Deets**.



LWML Ohio District Convention is the weekend of June 17-18 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon, OH. Registration closes on June 1; forms and more information can be found in the Spring issue of the *ODE* (Ohio District newsletter), which is on the Women’s League table outside Fellowship Hall. **THIS IS AN OVERNIGHT EVENT**, which should make it affordable time-wise as well as money-wise. Also, the opening worship on at 7:30 p.m. on June 17 is open to the public – no registration is necessary to attend this joyous service.

Looking ahead, June 22-25, 2023 will be the LWML 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in Milwaukee, WI. It is St. Mark’s turn to represent the NE Zone as part of the Ohio District delegation to the convention. Expenses for our delegate will be paid by the Ohio District. Start planning now to take part in this event, where you will hear from past mission grant recipients, meet **LCMS President Harrison**,

vote on mission grants for the next 2 years, and SHOP at the LWML and Concordia Publishing exhibits.



Northeast Zone  
Ohio District

### Northeast Zone Fall Retreat Saturday, September 24



Always a fun event, the Fall Retreat this year will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Madison. The cost of \$25.00 includes the retreat program, breakfast snacks and a light lunch. More information and the registration forms will be available soon.

Plans are also started for the 2023 Prayer Service, probably at Trinity Lutheran, Willoughby and 2023 Spring Rally, probably at Bethel Lutheran, Willowick. Keep watching of more information as we get closer to the dates.

### Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. We try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others – and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you are sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers, men and women, who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. It's confidential too! Stephen Ministers can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To find out more about Stephen Ministry, or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, contact **Ron Croucher, Sue Matzke, Pastor Matzke or Pastor Ryan**. Please do not report a friend's need without first asking his or her permission to do so. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

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



## CELEBRATIONS



- 1 Steve Mercsak
- 2 Abby Fairbanks
- 4 Marti Jacobson
- 6 Carter Rychel
- 7 Sandra Gembka
- 8 Bradley Churchia  
Clayton Heuer  
Daniel Springer
- 9 Karen Miller
- 11 Kyle Brown  
Edie Fetheroff
- 12 Klevi Rybak
- 14 Ron Croucher  
Elaine Erne  
Courtney Feigle
- 15 LaDonna Frantz  
Karen Stone-Dailey
- 16 Ray Gleske  
Joseph Holt  
Hailey Schaffert
- 17 Mark Hedrick
- 18 Brigitte Keil
- 19 Lindsay Craig  
Linda Csepi  
Dawn Dean  
Scott Larrick  
Tina Ondrejka
- 22 Bruce Robinson
- 23 Sue Robinson  
Jackie Rychel
- 25 Frances Atwara  
Jonathan Gembka  
Judy Stein
- 26 Gabriela Bauermann
- 27 Lely Percassi
- 29 Charles Nicoletti  
Christy Rybak  
Paul Vesbach  
Marilyn Vig
- 30 Brenden Kuchenbecker  
Dianne Rudyk



- 1 Gerry Pretzlaf
- 2 Lauren Molnar
- 3 Elizabeth Schneider
- 5 Gabriella Atwara  
Pat Croucher
- 9 Melanie Orosz  
Cooper Stanley
- 10 Natalie Sutter
- 12 Melanie Palivec
- 13 Edie Fetheroff
- 14 Lely Percassi
- 18 Charlotte Carducci
- 19 Ruthann Dular
- 20 Patrick Burke
- 22 Jennifer Kattler  
Kim Ryan
- 25 Joshua Burke  
Linda Hickey
- 26 Gracelyn Douglas  
Isla Douglas
- 27 Kayla Brown  
Courtney Feigle  
Grace Wright
- 28 Morgan Atwara
- 29 Robert Pretzlaf  
Marilyn Vig
- 30 Jennifer Civitarese



- Bruce and Rose Rancke  
June 2, 2008
- Paul and Ashley Scarlett  
June 2, 2019
- Nathan & Kristina Rosenbaum  
June 6, 2015
- Robert and Sarah Doll  
June 8, 2013
- Donald and Judy Stein  
June 10, 1967 (55 years)
- Roger and Christina Schaffert  
June 10, 2006
- Patrick and Della Burke  
June 10, 2017
- Ted and Winnie Holt  
June 13, 1958 (64 years)
- Jack and Marilyn Smith  
June 13, 1959 (63 years)
- Howard and Pat Hanna  
June 15, 1963 (59 years)
- Todd and Jodi Chambers  
June 15, 1985
- Michael and Kathryn Hardy  
June 16, 1967 (55 years)
- Dale and Roberta Fellingner  
June 18, 1966 (56 years)
- Darell and Susie Reed  
June 19, 2004
- Rudolph and Peggy Kump  
June 20, 1981
- Ethan and Abby Fairbanks  
June 22, 2019
- Mike Dailey and Karen Stone-Dailey  
June 24, 2000
- Ron and Lori Cudnik  
June 25, 1984
- Kirk and Marti Jacobson  
June 27, 2003
- Rev. Mark and Susan Matzke  
June 27, 1998
- Allan and LaDonna Frantz  
June 29, 1968 (54 years)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8am - Traditional Worship 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Blended 11:20am - Announcements	30 9:30am - Devotions online	31 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	1 9:30am - Children's Chapel	2 9:30am - Devotions online	3 7:30pm - @ the Cross	4 10:30am - Yoga
5 8am - Traditional Worship 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Blended 11:20am - Announcements 11:30am - Women's	6 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Elders' Meeting	7 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	8 9:30am - Children's Chapel	9 9:30am - Devotions online	10 7:30pm - @ the Cross	11
12 8am - Traditional Worship 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Blended 11:20am - Announcements 11:30am - Council Meeting 4pm - Musical Series	13 9:30am - Devotions online	14 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	15 9:30am - Children's Chapel	16 9:30am - Devotions online 2pm - Red Cross Blood	17 7:30pm - @ the Cross	18 10:30am - Yoga 2pm - Trinity Lutheran
19 8am - Traditional Worship 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Contemporary 11:20am - Announcements 5pm - Newsletter Due	20 9:30am - Devotions online	21 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	22	23	24 7:30pm - @ the Cross	25 10:30am - Yoga
26 8am - Traditional Worship 9:20am - Education Hour 10:15am - Contemporary 11:20am - Announcements	27 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Education Board	28 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	29 9:30am - Children's Chapel 11am - Free Lunch	30 9:30am - Devotions online	1 7:30pm - @ the Cross	2 10:30am - Yoga