



Founded on the Word ... Focused on the Cross

Glorify God, Grow in Grace, Go with the Gospel

St. Mark's Lutheran Weekly Newsletter

January 21, 2024

Ponder This For A Moment

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock" Matthew 7. *God's recipe for living this life ... it does not have to get complicated.*

Glorify & Grow: Sunday Mornings

8:00* & 10:45 Worship (*live streamed)

9:15 Sunday School (meet in Chapel)

9:30 Bible Discussion for Teens / All Ages

Monday Worship, Jan 22 at 6:30 PM

Note: Monday Evening Worship will be on pause during the Season of Lent which begins the week of February 11th, starting up again on April 8th through the week before Thanksgiving.

Scripture Readings for January 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Hebrews 3:1-6

Mark 1:21-28

The Journey Through Lent

Special **mid-week Services will begin** on Wednesday, **February 14**. Our journey to the cross with Jesus begins on Ash Wednesday and continues on five more Wednesdays. Each week the Worship Service will begin at 6:30 pm. Lenten Suppers begin at 5:30 pm each week.

Lenten Focus: The Greatest Love Story.

From God's Yellow Pages

Spiritual guidance direct from God – let your fingers do the walking through the Bible ...
This Week – Bitter-Critical ... 1 Corinthians 13

Growing in Grace Bible Studies

We are currently discussing a section of the Apostle Paul's Prison Letters, in particular the Bible Books of Colossians and Philippians ... Exploring both the Justification and the Sanctification aspects within these Books.

For our young ones - Sunday School starts out in our Chapel at 9:15 with the singing of a variety of songs (all ages invited to join in on the singing).

On February 4th we will be having a Call Meeting at 9:30 am. The Call is for a Teacher to serve our Jr Kindergarten & Kindergarten Room as our current Teacher, Hannah Ripley, will be leaving at the end of this School Year to serve at Trinity Lutheran in Aberdeen, SD.

On February 11th we will be having our *Annual Meeting* at 9:15 am; this will also be our *Celebration of Ministry Sunday*. A Report on what each Board has been doing and is working on will be available following the Meeting as each Board will have a designated area on Campus for you to speak with the Board Members about the ministry being done. Other Areas of Ministry (ex: LWMS, Women's Studies, etc) will also have designated areas to share their information with us. Our current Boards:

Elders (Worship & Fellowship),

Child Discipleship (Youth Education),

Outreach (Connecting with the Community and Encouraging Community Connections),

Stewardship (Income Resources & Property Management).

Prayer Warriors

Lord Jesus, teach me to love others as you have loved me. Help me be more patient and alert to the needs of others, and always ready to serve them with the gifts you have given me. Lord God, hear me as I speak to you about those near and dear: For all who travel: keep them safe. For all who are sick: heal them and make them strong.

Church / Community Connect Event(s)

SMYBL (St Mark's Youth Basketball League) is currently taking place on Saturday mornings, last Session is February 10. We have over 100 participants ranging from Kindergarten through 2nd Grade).

Save the Date ... **Chili Cook-off** (and Hot Dogs) ... Sunday, January 28 after the Late Service. The Chili Cook-off is a social event with an opportunity to showcase your favorite chili recipe. Bring your homemade traditional chili or give it a twist for interest, it's your choice! There will be plenty of space for the kids to play and we'll all vote for chili category winners. Contact Ryan or Kaisa Miller if you would like more information. *A Sign Up Sheet is located in the Lobby.*

Change for Life ... During the months of January and February we will have available 'baby bottles' which can be filled with your loose change. This is a way to assist expected mothers who do not have a support network, however they can find it through our WELS 'New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers' outreach center located near Milwaukee, WI. New Beginnings is part of our WELS Christian Life Resource Ministry, which offers assistance to people from conception to end of earthly life. You learn more about New Beginnings at www.homeformothers.com. *Thank you for taking the Bottles, we had 20 available and 20 have been picked up.*

Ministry Financial Plan Update

Offerings received since July 1, 2023: \$353,121
Goal for July 2023–June 2024: \$600,000
NwP received fiscal year: \$70,282
(NwP Goal for year: \$144,000)

Thank Offering Statements Available

If you would like to receive a copy of your 2023 Thank Offerings Statement, please contact Linda at the church office.

Dates/Events to keep in mind at St. Mark's ...

Jan 28, Noon Chili Cook-off Event
Feb 1, Digging Deeper, 6:30 pm
Feb 3, Victory Service: A Detmer, 11:00 am
Feb 4, Teacher Call Meeting, 9:30 am
Feb 9, Book Club, 6:00 pm
Feb 11, St. Mark's Celebration of Ministry
Feb 14, 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service

Changes related to your contact information ... please let our Office know so we can update our Records. Thank you.

Something Else To Think About

In October of 1965 our current ministry site was purchased for \$35,000 with a loan from the WELS Church Extension Fund.

Is the following statement true or false:
We own the same amount of acres today
as we did in 1965.

A Grace-filled New Year to You!



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