



Founded on the Word ... Focused on the Cross

Glorify God, Grow in Grace, Go with the Gospel

St. Mark's Lutheran Weekly Newsletter

April 26th, 2026

Ponder This For A Moment

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope” Romans 15:4.

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

Growing in Grace Opportunities

April 29 - School Chapel Service @ 8:20 a.m.

April 30 - JOL Bible Study @ 9:30 a.m.

April 30 - NO Starting Point this week!

Congregation &

School Meeting April 26 at Noon

This is a follow-on to the Congregation+School Community Town Hall Meeting held in January and will take place in the sanctuary. Our leadership team wants to communicate current projections for our ministry as our Ministry Financial Plan (budget) deadline approaches this June. We'll share the current situation, and what we know (and don't know) about the future. We will invite the school families who are not currently part of our church congregation to attend. Please join us!

LWMS Thank you!

Thank you to ALL the wonderful helping hands that made the Spring Rally run smoothly: Stuffing folders, Food shopping, Dessert bakers, Table decorating, Kitchen food prep and serving, clean-up, music, sound and recording, photographer, office assistance, custodial, and

Pastor Wetzel for preparing Opening and Closing devotionals. Thank you, too, to all who attended to hear Pastor Nitz's mission presentation and message.

I so very much appreciate all the work that was done by so many to make our hosting the Rally successful. Ellie

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society International Convention

The International 2026 LWMS Convention will be held June 25-28, in Madison, WI. See the bulletin board for information about registration.

Men's Fellowship

Men of St. Mark's, come and join us on the 2nd Monday of each month for fellowship and time in the Word. We meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the library. Mark your calendars for this opportunity for spiritual growth! Contact Paul Baker with questions or to RSVP: 916.595.2628; pudgie42@gmail.com.

Starting Point Class

The next round of Starting Point classes began Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m., and you can still join. Starting Point is an introductory course to St. Mark's and the message of Jesus and the Bible. In a simple, easy-to-follow format, we lay out the foundation of the Christian faith to help you connect to God, purpose, and community. This 10-week course is a great refresher for our members and an easy, no-pressure class to invite a friend to. Find out more and register at: stmarkslutheran.com/new/bible-information-class/ or contact Pastor Wetzel

(kwetzel@stmarkslutheran.com). Please note there is **NO class on April 30.**

Hal Tritch Services Information

Reminder that Hal Tritch's burial is on April 27 at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon ([5810 Midway Rd., Dixon, CA 95620](https://www.google.com/maps/place/5810+Midway+Rd.,+Dixon,+CA+95620)), at 1:15 p.m.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is coming up May 4-8! Our faculty will be treated to a quiet lunch on Friday, May 8th. If you would like to drop off donations, please do so through the office. Another great way to show appreciation is giving RaiseRight gift cards of \$10 or \$25. A percentage of each card (anywhere between 1 and 10%, occasionally more) goes to support our school. We have several cards on hand; please contact Erin Donoho (edonoho@stmarkslutheran.com) or call or stop by the office for more information. Let's show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate their service to our congregation and school.

SPRING CLEANING

Have you done your Spring cleaning yet? I grew up when spring cleaning was an annual event. This household task was taken very seriously. Every spring serious business was visibly underway with the dust billowing from shaking rugs, bedding, curtains, and dust cloths. Windows were opened, allowing the fresh spring air to infiltrate every corner. Floors were cleaned, waxed, and polished. The oven and refrigerator were cleaned and sanitized. The windows cleaned until they sparkled. With great pride and joy, this laborious ritual was finished and family life resumed.

I have to admit, I'm not as faithful or fastidious as my dear ancestors in keeping my home in such pristine condition. But the idea of spring cleaning does remind me of how the Lord so

faithfully needs to cleanse, purify, scrub, and polish me with His holy forgiveness. The stench of my sins needs to be purged. He opens the window of His Word to me to refresh my dusty and musty life. Only through a cleaning can He provide His immaculate, faultless, spotless, untainted sacrifice on the cross to create a pure heart within me.

Remembering my Baptism, I am assured that I am God's forgiven child. He comes to me in His Word and at His table to keep me cleansed and polished so I am ready to serve Him and those around me.

Ellie Ennis

Adapted from Su Hanson, Prince of Peace, Martinez, GA

School Review Flyers

Help us promote our school! Parents, alumni, and all church members, please consider leaving a review on [Niche.com](https://www.niche.com) or [GreatSchools.org](https://www.GreatSchools.org). This helps us boost our school's visibility online. You can leave a review by scanning the QR codes below. And, current parents and up to 4-year Alumni parents all get entered into a \$1,000.00 sweepstakes if you give reviews on [Niche.com](https://www.niche.com)!

Niche:



GreatSchools:



Faith & Family Fun Night is Back with the River Cats – August 7 Save the Date!

If you are interested in going to a River Cats game with anyone from our congregation, we will be gathering names now so we can reserve good seats sooner rather than later. Tickets average \$25 each and we need to keep track of everyone that wants to go now so we don't miss anyone before it's too late. Please email the

office at churchadm@stmarkslutheran.com if you are interested and want to reserve tickets. We need to know by no later than June to get good seats per our River Cats representative.

These are fun and a great way to gather together with our church family.

Ministry Financial Plan Update

Offerings received since July 1, 2025: \$543,703

Minimum need for July 2025-June 2026:

\$575,120

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

April 26 - Congregation & School Meeting @ 12:00 p.m. (in church)

April 26 - Open Gym (Basketball) @ 2 p.m.

April 27 - Hal Tritch Burial (Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon) @ 1:15 p.m.

May 3 - Confirmation @ 2nd service

May 4-8 - Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week



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