Founded on the Word ... Focused on the Cross

Glorify God, Grow in Grace, Go with the Gospel

St. Mark's Lutheran Weekly Newsletter

November 29, 2026

Ponder This For A Moment

"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. [2] Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. [3] For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. [4] In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. [5] The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land" Psalm 95:1-5.

Glorify & Grow: Sunday Mornings

8:00 & 10:45 Worship (*live streamed)*
9:15 Sunday School (meet in Chapel)
9:30 Adult Bible study & Teen Bible study

Advent by Candlelight

Please join us for Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, November 29, at 6:00 p.m. This event is for ladies of all ages. This year's program is titled Christmas Begins with Christ. There will be a fellowship from 6:00 - 6:30. You are welcome to bring a finger-food snack or dessert (no forks), but please don't feel obligated to bring anything. Come and remember the real reason for the season.

Midweek Advent Services

During the season of Advent (leading up to Christmas), we will have three special worship opportunities on Wednesday evenings: December 2, 9, and 16. The first, on Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m., will take place in the gym with a meal, Scripture readings, a devotion, prayer, and fellowship, culminating in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. This opportunity is a follow-up to our study of the Lord's Supper in May and a desire to reflect both the fellowship expressed in the Sacrament with one another and our connection to Jesus and his forgiveness. The meal will be a potluck, and you are welcome to bring a dish to share.

The following two Advent services will be the same format as last year, taking place in the church at 6:30, with a meal prior in the gym. Please plan to join us for these unique opportunities for worship, spiritual growth, and fellowship!

Midweek Advent Services - Meal Signup

If you would like to provide a side dish or dessert for any of the three Advent meals, please sign up on the form in the lobby. Thank you!

Family Christmas & Live Nativity - Dec. 5

On Saturday, December 5, at 5:00 p.m., St. Mark's is hosting a family Christmas event with a live nativity. Please join us for this special intro to the Christmas season, focusing on the reason for our joy at Christmas found in a Savior born for us. This event is also a great one to invite friends and neighbors to! Grab some postcards in the lobby and share as many as you'd like.

Help Decorate the 2026 Narthex Christmas Tree! 🎄

For the last couple of years we have asked members to share their favorite Christmas ornament on the narthex Christmas tree. Each year we designate a theme for the tree. The first year's theme was nativities, and the second year's was angels. The theme for 2026 is Christmas Trees!

Beginning the Sunday after Thanksgiving, you can bring your favorite Christmas Tree ornament to share with your church family. Hang your ornament on the tree and enjoy seeing it

throughout the Christmas season. When Christmas is over, simply take your ornament home again. Every ornament tells a story and helps make our tree unique.
Have a blessed holiday!

Did you know? Ministry support from an IRA
If you're 70.5 or older, you can make qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from your IRA to your church without counting the distributions as income for federal income tax purposes. If you are 73 or older, you are required to take a minimum distribution (RMD) before December 31, 2026. This too can be transferred to your church without counting the distribution as income. Learn more at www.wels.net/qcd or by calling your local WELS Christian giving counselor Ralph LePore at 702-587-3874 or emailing at ralph.lepore@wels.net.

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Dates/Events to keep in mind at St. Mark's
November 29 @ 2 p.m. - Open Gym
November 29 @ 6 p.m. - Advent by Candlelight
December 2 @ 6:30 p.m. - Advent Supper & Service (in gym)
December 2 @ 7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice
December 5 @ 5 p.m. - St. Mark's Family Christmas & Live Nativity
December 9 @ 5:30 p.m. - Advent Supper (in gym)
December 9 @ 6:30 p.m. - Advent Service
December 9 @ 7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice

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