



**SAINT MARK**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# MAKING OUR MARK

July 2019

## Special points of interest:

- Message from Pastor Keller
- Pastoral Call Committee Update
- Calendar
- Parish Board Update
- Vacation Bible School (VBS)
- Makerspace
- Birthdays

a blessed  
& joyful  
**JULY**

## Calling, Not Hiring, A Pastor.

Lutherans believe in paradox. We believe we are sinners and saints simultaneously – sinners in that we rebel against God’s way for us and saints in that we are saved by God’s grace alone. We believe that God is both infinite and intimate: as infinite as the creator of the entire universe and intimate as a baby in Bethlehem. We believe in both/and.

Another paradox is that Lutherans CALL a pastor while we use many of the same tools that companies use in hiring a new employee. The councils and leaders of St. Luke and St. Mark worked hard to write a job description of what this shared ministry hopes to become. The call committees were selected to interview and select a pastoral candidate for the job of being pastor to St. Mark and St. Luke. They will do reference and background checks to see about the integrity and competency of the candidate as would any other public institution. Yet there is something else: the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The call committee has been instructed that the most significant task they have is to seek through prayer and conversation the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Together they want to discover which candidate God wants to serve at St. Luke and St. Mark. Who is God CALLING to serve? This broadens and deepens their work. It is not just finding a candidate that they think has the needed skills and experience (though that remains part of their task). It is about learning to trust that God will guide this process, because God has a plan and love for St. Mark and St. Luke. Without God’s participation in the call process, the new pastor will fail.

About 500 years before Jesus’ birth, the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the people of Israel who had been captured by the Babylonians and sent into exile. These exiles were hoping for a quick release from captivity and return to Jerusalem. Jeremiah said that God had different plans for them, plans that included an extended stay of decades in the foreign capital of Babylon. Yet Jeremiah assured these people that God’s plan will prosper them, *For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13).*

God has a plan for St. Luke and St. Mark and a big part of that plan is learning to trust God in all circumstances. Just as the call committee is praying and seeking God’s wise and compassionate guidance in calling a pastor, so too are we all to pray for God’s guidance in this process. God seeks only the best for St. Mark and St. Luke. Together let us seek God in calling a new pastor. *-Pastor John Keller (Interim)*

<i>July</i>	<i>Usher</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Fellowship</i>
7	open	Jackie Brueggemann	Mary Miller
14	open	Bev Kisch	Martha Mena
21	open	Nancy Redlin	Nancy & Dan
28	open	Eric Michelson	open

### July Birthdays

<u>July 3</u> Alicia Chavez-Mena	<u>July 8</u> Rosemarie Cook	<u>July 22</u> Dale Opsahl
<u>July 4</u> Alvina Brueggemann	<u>July 11</u> Tammy Goetz	<u>July 26</u> Linda Fogel
<u>July 7</u> Don Clark	<u>July 17</u> RuthAnn Hartmann	

#### St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church of America*

#### Interim Pastor

**John Keller**

**(612) 201-6625**

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

(651) 224-0228

[secretary@saintmark.info](mailto:secretary@saintmark.info)

Website [www.saintmark.info](http://www.saintmark.info)

#### Sunday Worship

10:00 am

*Holy Communion is celebrated the  
1st & 3rd Sundays*

Fellowship / Education  
Hour

following service

#### Executive Committee

President	Eric Michelson	651-726-4927
Secretary	Mary Miller	651-483-0671
Treasurer	Nancy Redlin	612-270-7127
Cong Liaison	Candy Petersen	651-249-1981

#### Committee Chairs

Property	Donald Clark	651-357-0370
Worship	Larry Raasch	651-238-3531

#### Church Staff

Bonnie Jellinek	Organist
Julia Jackson	Bookkeeper
Martin Brueggemann	Choir Director
Johnny Hammond	Custodian

## Parish Board Update

The Parish Board met on Monday June 10th at Saint Mark.

- We discussed the next Shared Worship Service, to be held on Sunday June 30th at Saint Luke with a theme of Care for Creation. Communion Service at 9:30 (out of doors); Clean up of the neighborhood at 10:30 and a potluck lunch at 11:20.
- Nancy provided an update from the Call Committee
- We discussed VBS which will be held at Saint Luke on Monday and Tuesday August 12th and 13th. Becca will lead the music, Pastor Keller will lead the lessons and Eric will lead recreation. The theme will also be Care for Creation. A meal will be served and that portion will begin at 5:30 with the end time to be 7:30 PM. We will need volunteers.
- Becca provided a brief update on MakerSpace
- Each council will also engage in a discussion regarding the future of technology in both of our churches as we prepare to welcome a new pastor.
- The Parish Board will meet twice in the month of July and not in the month of August.

-Pastor Keller, Nancy Redlin, Eric Michelson, Wendy Bjorklund, Jackie Brueggemann, Ruth Carlson, Becca Ruiz, Mary Miller and Laurie Buss

## Call Committee Update

The calling committee is into second interview status. We anticipate this will be completed by end of first week in July. If we are able to move a candidate to third interview status, that candidate would be considered to be our final candidate and would be interviewed by the full committee of 12. If the full committee agrees on the choice, a "Meet and Greet" would be arranged so that the congregations get a chance to meet the pastor in a social setting. After salary and benefits have been determined each congregation would meet individually and vote on the pastor. A 2/3 majority of each congregation is needed to go forward.

As with all important meetings, the voters meeting will be announced for two Sundays preceding the vote. In addition, letters will be mailed to active members inviting them to participate in this important decision.

## **Makerspace**

St. Luke and St. Mark are hosting a Makerspace at St. Luke on the 4th Saturdays of July & August - a space open to the community to come and be creative! June's theme is Fabric Crafts and our Featured Makers will be Micky and Diane Ruiz. Various sewing projects of theirs will be on display plus a short presentation at 11:00 with Q&A to follow. We will also be collectively creating a project for donation!

So come and be creative on your own, learn basic sewing and get some sewing tips from our featured makers, help in our service project or all of the above! The Makerspace is open from 10am-11pm - so you can make your art and get your veggies too!

Info and sign-up sheets are posted at each church - let us know you're interested by signing up or replying on Facebook. We are also looking for donations for the Makerspace - so if you've done your spring cleaning and have creative supplies, empty plastic containers, fabric, paper, flattened cardboard, staplers, beads, twine - feel free to donate to our Makerspace! Ideas for supplies are posted next to the sign-up sheets.

Further questions can be sent to Rebecca Ruiz, [bunkamade@gmail.com](mailto:bunkamade@gmail.com)

## **Vacation Bible School is Coming!**

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held at Saint Luke again this year on Monday and Tuesday August 12th and 13th. Our theme this year will be "Care for Creation". We will start with a light supper at 5:30, followed by a fun two evenings of music, story, crafts and games.

Please plan to bring your kids and grandkids for another fun shared event between Saint Luke and Saint Mark. The end time will be right around 7:30 PM.

We will also need volunteers, so please consider this fun opportunity and get the dates on your calendar!

## **Newsletter Items**

To ensure a timely completion & delivery of our monthly newsletter, please submit any items and articles to [secretary@saintmark.info](mailto:secretary@saintmark.info) by the 20th of the month.

Thank you so much for your help & contributions!

SUN	MON	TUE
	<p>1</p> <p>Square Dancing 7:00-9:00pm</p> <p>Parish Board Mtg</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> <p>7:11pm Men's Group</p>
<p>7</p> <p>10:00a Communion Svc</p> <p>11:00a Fellowship</p> <p>12p The Way Church</p> <p>6p Capital City Church</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Square Dancing 7:00-9:00pm</p> <p>Parish Board Mtg 6:30pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> <p>7:11pm Men's Group</p>
<p>14</p> <p>10:00a Worship Service</p> <p>11:00a Fellowship</p> <p>12p The Way Church</p> <p>6p Capital City Church</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Square Dancing 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> <p>7:11pm Men's Group</p>
<p>21</p> <p>10:00a Communion Svc</p> <p>11:00a Fellowship</p> <p>12p The Way Church</p> <p>6p Capital City Church</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Square Dancing 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> <p>7:11pm Men's Group</p>
<p>28</p> <p>10:00a Worship Service</p> <p>11:00a Fellowship</p> <p>12p The Way Church</p> <p>6p Capital City Church</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Square Dancing 7:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> <p>7:11pm Men's Group</p>

WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>3</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (at St. Luke)</p> <p>7pm AA OMD</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>St. Luke Farmer's Market 8am –1pm</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (at St. Luke)</p> <p>7pm AA OMD</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>St. Luke Farmer's Market 8am –1pm</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (at St. Luke)</p> <p>7pm AA OMD</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>St. Luke Farmer's Market 8am –1pm</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (at St. Luke)</p> <p>7pm AA OMD</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>St. Luke Farmer's Mrkt 8am –1pm Maker's Space 10-1 (@St. L)</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (at St. Luke)</p> <p>7pm AA OMD</p>			

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*In the City for Good*