Special points of interest:

- Christmas Services
- Pastor Faith visits at Christmas
- Children’s Christmas Puppet Show
- Give & Take Sunday
- Mission Funds Distribution
- Calendar
- Thank you’s
- Mitten Tree
- History Tour
- Birthdays

December 2016
A Thank You

Oct 31, 2016

Please share this thank you note with all who welcomed us to service and a lovely meal. I so enjoyed meeting and hearing the Bishop. Your church is so lovely.

I can’t wait to sing with your choir again.

Thank you all for a lovely worship service.

Sue McNeill from St. Luke
Guess who’s coming for “dinner”… the Lord’s Supper, on Christmas Eve to bring us Good News?

Our friend Pastor Faith Lugazia, who was a member with us a few years ago! After she received her Doctorate of Theology from Luther Seminary, she and her husband Joeivan and sons, Alpha and Omega returned to Tanzania. Pastor Faith then was sent to teach in Rwanda. She has the opportunity to visit us on Christmas Eve and she will bring the “Good News” and also a special recorded Christmas message from Pastor Wilson Lugakingira.

Pastor Wilson and his wife Magdalena and children, Tito, Autalinda and Kisha were members with us years ago. When they returned to Tanzania, we established our relationship with the churches in Bukoba and Kabale. These are the churches we have bought cows and goats for, built a classroom, dug water wells, provided a Christmas banquet, Communion Ware, T-Shirts, Vitamins and countless other things. Warren and Myra Larson, Wes and Sharon Johnson, Janet Warwick, Don Clark and Michael Jellinek have visited them and brought greetings back to us.

Advent is the Season to prepare for the “guest” who brings the “Good News”! Of course, Jesus is the Reason for the Season… just think about how we experience His Life through others. Our motto is “In the City for God and Good”… we are also reminded that our impact is not only local – it is global… We are in the World for God and Good!”

Pastor Faith wants us to know the difference we’ve made…

Come, hear the Good News this Christmas!

Pastor Walt
Christmas Eve Services
5:00 pm & 10:00 pm
Christmas Day Service
10:00 am
New Years Day Service
9:30 am

Saint Mark Christmas program is going to be
A PUPPET SHOW this year!

Join us for Sunday School every week before Christmas we will be making puppets and singing Christmas songs!
Give and Take Sunday

Sunday, December 4th
You “give” some money you can “take” some treats; we will have cookies and treats for sale.

All donations received that morning will go to the Lyngblomsten “Spirit of Giving” Program so staff can provide gifts to the residents who might not receive one. And 7th Landing, the facility above Fresh Grounds Coffee Shop assisting homeless and at-risk youth continue their education and learning employment skills.

If you want to join us in making treats we will be making cookies at 10:00 on Saturday, December 3rd. If you don’t have time to bake just bring us some cookie dough and we will bake it up for you.

Our Little Coins go along way

Mission Action Team met recently and the funds from the Widow’s Jar/African Basket will be dispersed as follows.

$200 LSS Rezek House
$200 Women’s Advocates
$200 West 7th Boys Club
$200 St. Joseph’s Coat
$200 African Mission Bukoba, Tanzania

$200 Feed My Starving Children

In addition,

$100 toward Gift Cards for 7th Landing residents
$140 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 27</td>
<td>Nov 28</td>
<td>Nov 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am <strong>Advent Service</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:30am Fellowship&lt;br&gt;12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>10:30am Fellowship</td>
<td>6:00pm AA</td>
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<td>4 Communion</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am <strong>Advent Service</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:30am <strong>Give &amp; Take</strong>&lt;br&gt;12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>6:00pm AA</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am <strong>Advent Service</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:30am Fellowship&lt;br&gt;12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>10:30am Fellowship</td>
<td>6:00pm AA&lt;br&gt;7:00pm Exec Council Meeting at Nancy’s</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am <strong>Children’s Christmas Program</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:30am Fellowship&lt;br&gt;12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>10:30am Fellowship</td>
<td>6:00pm AA</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 <strong>Christmas Day</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:00am Service&lt;br&gt;12:00pm FAL Service</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>3:00pm–7:00pm <strong>Loaves &amp; Fishes</strong></td>
<td>6:00pm AA</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>6:00pm AA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>8:30am Bible Study</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8:30am Bible Study</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>8:30am Bible Study</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Choir</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>8:30am Bible Study</td>
<td>22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
|       | 7:00pm Choir | | | Christmas Eve Services
5pm & 10pm |
| 28    | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
|       | | | | 10:00am Altar Guild
10:30pm FAL Watch Service |
I want to thank my church family for all the prayers, support and sharing of condolence. Bill loved his church!

I appreciate the real caring of you, especially my friends, who also know this experience of grief. Thank you for continuing this journey with me, with God's help and care.

Jan Bloom

From Jan Bloom

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I want to say thank you to everyone who has been helping me, saying prayers and sending cards and well-wishes. I appreciate everything that you've done for me.

Marge Sayers

From Marge Sayers

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Usher</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Fellowship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fran Hillier</td>
<td>Fran Hillier</td>
<td>Give &amp; Take Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ramona Nelson</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Joyce Crozier</td>
<td>Joyce Crozier</td>
<td>Joyce Crozier Bill Kansas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bill Kansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bev Kisch</td>
<td>Bev Kisch</td>
<td>Sundays Schoolers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gwen Alden</td>
<td>Children's Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Volunteers Needed</td>
<td>Volunteers Needed</td>
<td>Have a Blessed Christmas!</td>
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</table>

159 Operation Christmas
Child shoeboxes were blessed and sent on their way by members of St. Mark!
ST. MARK FINANCIAL SUMMARY
YEAR TO DATE CHANGE ON OVERALL FINANCES SINCE 1/1 = DECREASE OF $30,578

### CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Checking Accounts</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$15,296</td>
<td>$22,173</td>
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<td>$16,241</td>
<td>$13,753</td>
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<td>Capital Campaign</td>
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<td>$2,003</td>
<td>$1,147</td>
<td>$1,405</td>
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<td>Fire Fund</td>
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<td>$11,781</td>
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<td>$11,856</td>
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<td>Funeral</td>
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<td>$1,793</td>
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<td>Memorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$62,505</td>
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<td>$41,513</td>
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<td>$40,120</td>
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### INVESTMENT & SAVINGS ACCOUNT WITHDRAWALS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Thrivent Investment Withdrawals YTD</th>
<th>$1,500</th>
<th>$1,500</th>
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<tr>
<td>CC Savings Withdrawal $1,000</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers to Investment $10,710</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,710</td>
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Hat & Mitten Tree

Through out the winter season, many children and families are in need of warm outer wear. If you have new or like new hats, mittens and scarves to donate, we have people who are in need of them. Items can be placed on the mitten tree during the offering time of worship.

Mezuzah’s make great gifts

A wonderful Christmas Gift: The Saint Mark Mezuzah, which when placed on our door frame, reminds us that “our home is a Blessing to us as we enter... and when we leave... we are to be a Blessing unto others.”

This little piece of copper from replacing our old Spire and Cross is especially meaningful, because it represents the Gift of Faith from our church. You can even help make it! Suggested donation: $10 for 1, 3 for $25

West Seventh History Tour

Led by, Gary Brueggemann, a Minnesota Historian, who brings the history of our neighborhood to life! Gary says "Come, and learn of the hidden history of Saint Paul's Oldest Living neighborhood- a place where seven generations of eclectic people made their mark on land that evolved from wilderness to urban density"

Please sign up now to attend the "Sinners and Saints History Tour" on Saturday, December 3 at 10am (2 hours). 40 spaces available.

See Pastor Walt for sign up.

Tickets are $5.00 each
**Happy December Birthdays**

**Week of Dec 1–10**  
Joyce Crozier  
Lori Geib  
Doris Gobley  
Pat Hosley  
Bev Kisch

**Week of Dec 11–17**  
Isabella Mlenar  
Nicholas Arnold  
Divine Togba

**Week of Dec 18–24**  
Dane Breimhorst

**Week of Dec 25–31**  
Zoe Breimhorst  
Bob Maiden  
Kendra Stevens

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**Boutique Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Boutique even better than last year!

Our total sales increased by $928 over last year.

Thanks to John and Rose for managing and setting up Bob's Attic and to all who donated items and helped set it up.

Special thanks to Kenny for all his hours preparing the food for the Cafe and to everyone who helped in the kitchen and the Cafe.

Our baked goods were very popular again. Thanks to everyone who donated bakery items. We increased our bakery sales by $200.

And, thanks to all who donated items for the raffle. Last, but not least, thanks to everyone who helped set up and to the clean up crew who had everything back in order in one hour.

After our expenses are paid, we should profit around $4,000.

The money raised from the Boutique is deposited in the Capital Campaign Fund and is used to pay for capital improvements which are necessary but not included in our budget.

The Boutique Committee