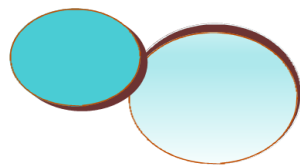


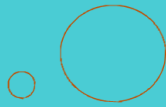


MAKING OUR MARK

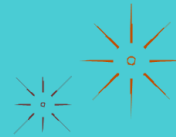
May 2017



Spring Dinner



**THANK
YOU**



Thank you to all people on the front lines and behind the scenes who worked so tirelessly on creating a great Spring Dinner in 2017!

In this Issue:

- Pastor's Easter Message
- Mission Update
- Plant Sale
- Annual Congregational Meeting
- Women's Ecumenical Luncheon
- Sunday Service Assistants
- MOPS for May
- Council Update
- Honoring Students
- Birthdays

**Thank you to the many
people that made the
Holy Week and Easter
Sunday Services so
wonderful!**

**The music was lovely and the
decorations beautiful!**

**St. Mark Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

*A Congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church of America*

Pastor

Walter A. Wietzke

550 West Seventh St.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

E-mail
secretary@saintmark.info

Website www.saintmark.info

**Sunday Worship
9:30 am**

*Holy Communion is celebrated the
1st Sunday of each month*

Fellowship / Education
Hour
after service

Have a question? Concern?
Office: (651) 224-0228

Executive Committee

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| President | Jackie Brueggemann | 651-291-7960 |
| Secretary | Mary Miller | 651-483-0671 |
| Treasurer | Nancy Redlin | 612-270-7127 |
| Cong Liaison | Candy Petersen | 651-249-1981 |

Committee Chairs

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Property | Holly Goldschmitz | 651-283-2804 |
| Evang/Mission | Robin Martinson | 651-483-4429 |
| Worship | Dianne Testa | 651-227-4047 |

Church Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Bonnie Jellinek | Organist |
| Julia Jackson | Bookkeeper |
| Martin Brueggemann | Choir Director |
| Holly Goldschmitz | Secretary |
| Carol Gall & Janet Blair | Custodians |



The story of two disciples walking to the city of Emmaus – actually has Jesus walking with them but they don't know it. They think he's someone else. It isn't until they sit down and open the Bible and talk about all the stories... and then break bread, eat together... that they discover that not only is "the stranger" - Jesus, but that their lives become inspired and transformed.

This Easter Season is the perfect time to open the Bible and talk about the stories together. Would you like to join us on a Wednesday morning with breakfast or at another time over a cup of coffee – or even a beer (that's how Luther did it). Let's create a new study day and time! It is good to intentionally set aside time to eat together and talk about life. Bible Study not only provides food for thought, it reveals fellowship. I so want the opportunity to share in the Bible's inspiration with you – it's transforming! You name the time, even for a short-term (a little is better than nothing) and let's do it. You will be surprised!

**“For where two or three or more gather in My Name,
there am I with them.” Matthew 18:20**

Pastor Walt

Mission Update

\$310.00 was collected in the African Basket and Widows Jar during Jan/ Feb.

Those funds were given to **Sheridan Story** (Food Backpack Program).

All volunteer spots for the remainder of the school year are filled.

Thank You for giving so generously.

Sign up will begin again this fall.

The coins collected in May/June have not been designated yet.

See MOPS for May on page 9 for this months drive.



Gertens Plant Sale

Thanks to everyone who purchased plants and gift cards during our Gertens Plant Sale.

Our profit should be close to \$500.

We will continue to sell plant gift cards all year long. So, if you couldn't decide which plants to buy now, you can still purchase the gift cards.

For every \$25 in plant cards sold, the church earns \$3.75. If you have any questions, see Bonnie Jellinek.



St. Mark Lutheran

Sunday, May 21st

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Women's Ecumenical Luncheon

49 women attended this year's luncheon. Despite hosting, only 4 members from St Mark helped and attended.

Each church gave updates as to current activities.

Sheridan Story gave presentation. All money and food collected was donated to Sheridan Story.

Thanks to those who helped make this a fun and successful event.

Money from women's fund was used to pay for the chicken that was purchased. Thanks to those who donated the door prizes Awaken Church will host next year's luncheon.




The Case for Christ film in theaters

Currently in theaters (you may have read this book by the same name!) This film depicts the struggles of author, columnist and former atheist Lee Strobel in his quest to determine whether or not Christ is real!! You are all highly encouraged to see the film, it is powerful and compelling. Here is just one of the many online reviews regarding the film:

This movie takes a very honest and sincere look at a young man's struggle with what he believes after his wife was saved. It doesn't beat you over the head, nor does it try to paint anyone in a bad light. The quality of the film and the acting were excellent. This was NOT your traditional Christian movie. The movie flowed well and it did not feel like a melodrama. I would highly recommend this movie to everyone.

| SUN | MON | TUE |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| <p>April 30</p> <p>Spring Dinner</p> <p>11am– 2pm</p> | 1 | <p>2</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> |
| <p>7 Communion</p> <p>9:30am Service</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship</p> <p>12:00pm J.T. Service</p> | <p>8</p> <p>7-8:30pm Square Dance</p> | <p>9</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> |
| <p>14 Mother's Day</p> <p>9:30am Service</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship</p> <p>12:00pm J.T. Service</p> | <p>15</p> <p>7-8:30pm Square Dance</p> | <p>16</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> |
| <p>21 Annual Meeting</p> <p>9:30am Service</p> <p>10:30am Meeting / Plant Sale Pickup</p> <p>11am-1pm</p> <p>12:00pm J.T. Service</p> | <p>22</p> <p>7-8:30pm Square Dance</p> <p>3:00pm– 7:00pm Loaves & Fishes</p> | <p>23</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> |
| <p>28</p> <p>9:30am Service</p> <p>11am Dinner Begins</p> <p>12:00pm J.T. Service</p> | <p>29</p> <p>7-8:30pm Square Dance</p> | <p>30</p> <p>6:00pm AA</p> |

| WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---------------------------------|-----|--|
| 3 8:30am Bible Study | 4 | 5 | 6 1st 10:00am Altar Guild 12-6pm Durant Shower |
| 10 8:30am Bible Study 7pm Executive Meeting | 11 | 12 | 13 6:30-10pm Square Dance |
| 17 8:30am Bible Study | 18 6:30-10pm Square Dance | 19 | 20 Plant Sale Pickup 10am-2pm |
| 24 8:30am Bible Study | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 31 8:30am Bible Study | June 1 | 2 | 3 10:00am Altar Guild |

| May | Usher | Reader | Fellowship |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 7 | Nate & Carrie Arnold | Carrie Arnold |  |
| 14 | Jerry Smith Shirley Such | Jerry Smith | |
| 21 | Fran Hillier Ramona Nelson | Fran Hillier | |
| 28 | Joyce Crozier Bill Kansas | Joyce Crozier | |

ST. MARK FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR TO DATE CHANGE ON OVERALL FINANCES SINCE 12/31/16
 bal of \$37,959 = decrease of \$4,775 (current mo bal - end of Dec mo balance -

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES

| Checking Accounts | January | February | March |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| General | \$19,717 | \$18,967 | \$17,634 |
| Capital Campaign | \$3,626 | \$3,313 | \$3,977 |
| Funeral | \$1,476 | \$1,476 | \$1,476 |
| Memorial | \$14,695 | \$14,596 | \$14,597 |
| Total | \$39,514 | \$38,352 | \$37,684 |

INVESTMENT & SAVINGS ACCOUNT WITHDRAWALS

| | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Thrivent Investment Withdrawals YTD \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| CC Savings Withdrawal | | | |
| Transfers to Investment | | | |

MOPS for MAY

Yes that's right Mops ~ like the ones you wash floors with. After a recent tour to Naomi Residence (located in downtown St. Paul) I discovered one of the items they are often in need of is MOPS. Who would of thought?...the women are responsible for keeping their own rooms clean and MOPS are not an item that homeless people usually have nor something people think of donating. So to help them out we are having **MOPS for MAY.**

Bring in a NEW Floor Mop during the month of May.

For those not familiar with Naomi Family Residence it is under the umbrella of Union Gospel Mission, who provides many services for people in need.

Naomi Family Residence offers shelter for women and children escaping abuse, battling addiction, and struggling with homelessness and poverty.

The women's shelter not only provides a safe place to sleep, but it's also a full program designed to build family stability by helping to meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of women and children in crisis.

Through personal care and individualized case management, life goals are set, Christian growth occurs and a plan for self-sufficiency is set in motion. The program equip women and infuse them with confidence to move forward and — with **God's help** — learn to provide for themselves and their children.



Council Update

The current church council met on April 25th to put the final touches on the structure and makeup of the new council and to make arrangements for our Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday May 21st, following Worship.

The topics to be discussed will include: Financial topics, Shared Ministry preliminary work with Saint Luke and time for Questions and Answers.

It is our intent to be future focused at this meeting and we highly encourage all to attend. This date also coincides with our Spring Plant Sale Pick up!!

A subcommittee of the council have begun to meet with representatives from Saint Luke along with a Synod representative. We are in **very** early stages of getting to know one another and sharing our hopes and dreams!! More details on these talks will be shared at the annual meeting.

Earlier this year our Christian Education Director, Ann Blumer-LaMotte resigned from her position, we decided to hold off on replacing her at that time. Since January an enthusiastic group of volunteers have been arranging for Sunday School, along with the assistance of Pastor Walt. At our April Council meeting we agreed to hire a Christian Education Director, on a trial basis, to assist with leading these volunteers regarding both Sunday School and Summer Vacation Bible School. We have offered this position to one of our faithful volunteers and members, Carrie Arnold. Effective May 1st, 2017, Carrie will take on this role on a trial basis. Ideas and suggestions may be directed to Carrie.

As always, PLEASE feel free to ask me any questions you have with regard to our current work together.

Jackie Brueggemann

Honoring Students

On Tuesday April 18th, the 26th Annual Ordway Honors Concert was held at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts. This concert features the “most talented” band members, orchestra members, artists and singers” from all of the Saint Paul Public High Schools.

Two of our young members were featured in this annual celebration of talent. Elsa Schroeder represented Central High School in the mass choir and one of Will Brueggemann’s pieces was performed by this group.

When Will was a Senior at Central High School he and a friend wrote a piece of music in collaboration with one another. The choral arrangement of *Reunion* was performed. This original Hmong Poem was written by Chue Thew Yang and set to music and arranged by Will. The entire concert will be available for viewing on Saint Paul Cable Channel 16 at 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on May 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 12.



Happy May Birthdays

Week of May 1-6

- Tim O’Brien
- Karen Larson
- Cassie Marhoun

Week of May 14-20

- Cletus Togba
- Jackie Brueggemann
- Zane Marhoun
- Siri Schroeder

Week of May 21– 27

- Don Carlson
- Chris Bolden

Week of May 28– 31

- Lucia Togba
- Mia Marhoun
- Frank Testa
- Fran Hillier
- Charles Stephens

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LUTHERAN CHURCH
In the City for Good