

## This Week at St. Mark's

### SUNDAY, JUNE 28

9:00a WORSHIP  
10:30a WORSHIP  
10:30a Volkening Baptisms  
10:30a Volkening Luncheon  
3:00p Touring Choir Rehearsal

### MONDAY, JUNE 29

7:00p Health Ministry Board Meeting

### TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Touring Choir Leaves  
10:00a Adult Study - Book of Faith  
1:00p Staff Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9:30a Bread Wrappers  
1:00p Office Volunteers

### THURSDAY, JULY 2

5:00p Adult Fellowship - Naperville Municipal Band

### FRIDAY, JULY 3

OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30p Al-Anon

### SATURDAY, JULY 4

Coffee Sales  
5:00p WORSHIP  
6:00p 4th of July Pie After Service

### SUNDAY, JULY 5

Coffee Sales  
Doughnut & Coffee Connection  
9:00a WORSHIP  
10:30a WORSHIP

### 4th of July Service at St. Mark's



Please join us for our **5pm Saturday service**, which happens to fall on the 4th of July this year. **We will be enjoying pie after the service.**

The City of Aurora's 4th of July Concert & Fireworks will be held on **Friday, July 3rd at the River Edge Park** in downtown Aurora. Gates open at 3pm, followed by the American Legion Band from 5:30-6:30pm, the Fox Valley Orchestra from 7-9 pm, and the Aurora City Fireworks at 9:30 pm. Please go to: [riveredgeaurora.com](http://riveredgeaurora.com) for more information.

### Farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Brian and Mandy Wise - Sunday, July 12th

Join us for festive worship the weekend of **July 11th and 12th** as we give thanks to God for the ministry of Pastor Brian Wise. There will be a Farewell and Godspeed liturgy at 10:30am on **July 12th followed by a reception.**

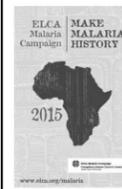


## Proclaiming Christ's Abundant Love



- ELCA Malaria Campaign
- July Outreach Collection

### ELCA Malaria Campaign—Mother's Day & Father's Day Dedications



Thank you to the congregation for supporting the ELCA Malaria Campaign. The congregation raised **\$1,864.84**, and the VBS children raised **\$236.30**, during the week of "Camp Discovery." Some donations are still being collected, so check the Courier next week for a final total. **Our commitment will help nudge the ELCA closer to the goal of 15 million by the end of the year.**

### July Outreach Collection

St. Mark's is putting together a **Home Starter Kits for a families who are moving out of Hased House and into their own home.** These gifts will help these families make a successful transition into their new lives. If you would like to help, **please see our list of items needed at our table in the Narthex.** Many items are very inexpensive. The collection bin for the donated items will be next to the table in the Narthex.



- St. Mark's Exterior Paint
- Hospitality Team Help Needed
- Adult Fellowship - July
- Adult Fellowship - August

### St. Mark's Exterior Painting Project



At the beginning of July, a CertaPro Painters of Elmhurst will begin the project of prepping and painting the entire exterior of St. Mark's. Once the start date has been set we will post it and any additional information that becomes available. So please keep checking back for updates and news.

### Hospitality Team Help Needed

Seeking interested individuals, couples, or families that would like to serve on our Hospitality Team at the **10:30am service on the 4th Sunday of the month.** Training will be provided. Please contact Joanne Compton, Steve Compton, or Melvin Smith.



### Adult Fellowship Outing - Naperville Municipal Band Concert



The Adult Fellowship group will be going to the Naperville Municipal Band's Summer Concert Series at Central Park on **Thursday, July 2nd at 7:30pm.** The theme of the night is: "Salute to America" - 1812 Overture, complete with cannons and church bells. We will meet at **St. Mark's at 5:00pm to carpool.** Bring what you would like to eat and drink as well as lawn chairs. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center. For further information contact Phyllis Jessick at: (630) 466-0525.

### Adult Fellowship Outing - White Pines

We will be going to a **luncheon theater performance of "S Wonderful"**, a musical tribute to the Gershwin's at **White Pines on August 27th.** This will feature such songs as "Someone to Watch Over Me", "Embraceable You", and "Swonderful". This tune-filled revue will transport you back to a happier time when the lyrics could be understood and the music didn't leave you holding your ears. Featuring Frank Roberts and his talented ensemble. We have made reservations for 21 at **\$29 per person for the revue and a bountiful buffet luncheon preceding it.** Please sign up at the Welcome Center. The deadline for payment to Priscilla Offhaus is **July 12th.** For further information contact Priscilla at: (630) 553-0543.



- Dominican Literacy
- Exercise Classes
- Recliner Needed
- Nursing the Spirit
- CDC Cook Position
- Blood Drive

### Dominican Literacy Center Volunteers Needed

Tutors are needed at the Dominican Literacy Center in Aurora which provides a literacy program for immigrant/low income women. **Female volunteers (with high school diploma)** are trained to help individual students to read, write, and speak English. **Tutoring sessions are 90 minutes, once a week, from September to May at 260 Vermont St., Aurora (behind St. Therese Church).** Tutors do not need to speak Spanish or have teaching experience. All volunteers must complete 4 training sessions at the Center. **The next training is August 18, 20, 25, and 27 from 6-8:30pm.** The Center is not handicap accessible. To volunteer, email Alison Brzezinski at: [Alison@dominicanliteracycenter.org](mailto:Alison@dominicanliteracycenter.org). For more information, visit: [www.dominicanliteracycenter.org](http://www.dominicanliteracycenter.org) or call: (630) 898-4636.

### Let's Get Moving - Exercise Classes

Exercise with personal trainer Vicki Lettow. Vicki will show us how to use our body weight as a tool to build our core and increase balance. Modifications will be made according to physical abilities. Classes will be on **Mondays and Fridays for three weeks from August 3rd to the 21st, from 11:00am to Noon.** It will be **\$30 for the three week session.** We need a **minimum of six participants** for the classes to be held. **Please sign up at the Welcome Center.**

### Recliner Needed

If you have a **recliner chair that you can donate**, please contact the church office. **In good condition and any shade of brown would be preferable.** Thank you in advance for your help.





Submissions for the **weekly Courier** are due each **Monday by noon** for that weekend's publication. Submissions for the **July Vineyard** are due by **noon on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**. **Submissions will be added in the order in which they are received. Early submissions are always welcomed!**

Please email articles for the Vineyard and Courier to Nicole Ferrier at: [nferrier@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:nferrier@stmarksaurora.net) or place handwritten articles in her mailbox. If you have any questions please email or call Nicole at: **(630) 897-6891 ext. 27**.

**Please send all 2015 photos** from any St. Mark's ministry or event to: [smyearinreview@gmail.com](mailto:smyearinreview@gmail.com).

### Nursing the Spirit: Save a Life, Donate Blood



The process for whole blood donation **usually takes about one hour**. The process includes registration, a brief medical screening, blood collection, and refreshments. Whole blood donations are about 1 pint which is roughly equal to 1 pound. **You may donate whole blood every 56 days**. Donating blood is 100 percent safe, you cannot get HIV or any other

infectious diseases from donating blood. Fourteen tests are performed on every unit of donated blood, eleven of these are for infectious diseases.

All blood donations are processed and available for use between 24 and 48 hours. Whole blood is processed into components (red cells, platelets, plasma). **After processing, the red cells can be stored for 42 days. Plasma can be frozen and stored for up to 12 months. Platelets (from whole blood or by apheresis) expire after five days.**

For more information about donating blood contact Heartland Blood Center, Aurora at (630) 892-7056 or visit [www.heartlandbc.org](http://www.heartlandbc.org)

### CDC Cook Position

The St. Mark's Child Development Center is **looking for a cook to prepare food for the children's breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack. This is a full time position with hours from 7am-4pm.** The job requires knowledge of food preparation, although all meats are precooked. The CDC feeds approximately 90 children daily. Basic sanitation knowledge is a plus, and some lifting is required.

**Applicants must possess a high school diploma and be willing to be fingerprinted.** Candidate should be organized, dependable, and have the ability to multi-task. For more information, please call (630) 897-6063.

### Blood Drive

There will be a special blood drive in support of firefighter, Patrick Watson, at **St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, from 3 - 7pm in Sanctuary Hall.** Be sure to drink plenty of fluids before and after donating. For further information about donating blood, please call Heartland Blood Center at (630) 892-7056.



**BE A HERO...  
SAVE 3 LIVES!**

**JUST 1 PINT MAY  
SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!**

### Check us out online!



Head to [www.stmarksaurora.net](http://www.stmarksaurora.net) to find online versions of both the Courier and Vineyard, and "Like" St. Mark's on Facebook to get the latest updates about our events and programming!



*Proclaiming Christ's Abundant Love*

### St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Aurora, Illinois 60506

Phone: (630) 897-6891

Fax: (630) 897-4842

Web: [www.stmarksaurora.net](http://www.stmarksaurora.net)

### For More Information...

Call the St. Mark's office or email if you have questions about the following areas of ministry. You may also visit our web site for more information about St. Mark's.

#### Pastoral Staff

Pastor Patricia Geiseman Ext. 15 [pgeiseman@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:pgeiseman@stmarksaurora.net)  
Pastor Brian Wise Ext. 13 [bwise@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:bwise@stmarksaurora.net)

#### Ministry Staff

Kristin Young Ext. 16 [kyoung@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:kyoung@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Director of Worship & the Arts*  
Sue Hilderbrand Ext. 24 [shilderbrand@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:shilderbrand@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Bell Choir Director*  
Kari Reiseck Ext. 22 [kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Director of Children's Ministries*

#### Support Staff

Deb Arcilla Ext. 10 [darcilla@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:darcilla@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Office Manager*  
John Themanson Ext. 19 [jthemanson@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:jthemanson@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Finance Administrator*  
Ed Malert Ext. 12 [emalert@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:emalert@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Facility Manager*  
Nicole Ferrier Ext. 27 [nferrier@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:nferrier@stmarksaurora.net)  
*Director of Communications*  
Terese Ruppel 630-466-1036 [ter60554@gmail.com](mailto:ter60554@gmail.com)  
*Nursery Coordinator*

#### Faith Community Nurse

Jean Clementz Ext. 23 [jean.clementz@presencehealth.org](mailto:jean.clementz@presencehealth.org)

#### Financial Secretary

Jim Erickson 630-897-0291 [jerickson@stmarksaurora.net](mailto:jerickson@stmarksaurora.net)

#### St. Mark's Child Development Center

Merrilee Parkhurst 630-897-6063 [stmarksdir@att.net](mailto:stmarksdir@att.net)  
*Director*

#### Council Members

Rebecca Mueller (President), Preston Runyan (Treasurer), Roger Shields (Property), Jeanne Flynn (Care & Nurture), Melvin Smith (Worship), Julie Simpson (Stewardship), Nicole Ferrier (Welcoming), Don Friend (Worship), Lindsay Meyer (Small Groups)

#### Prayers

**5:00 p.m.** Tad Dyer, Beth Edwards, Gary Francis, Rita Gannon, Ryan Johnson, Mary Kenner, Christopher Knight, Sharon Ross

**9:00 a.m.** Karen Bausch, Bill Beattie, Barb Brown, Charlie Brummet, Craig Cooper, Homer Easley, Kirk Harding, Kim Hollis, Ryan Jackman, Ben Martin, Julie Michaels, Sadie Miller, Grant Oestreich, Blake Rottick

**10:30 a.m.** Brooke Bess, Jennifer Franke, Rebecca Perez, the family of Matthew Skowronski

**Continuing Care** Chuck Best, Wes Ehler, Jim Kalish, Pastor Paul Landahl, John Lange, Bruce Lindgren, Mary Lou Malmborg, Charlie Walters

**Paul's Ministry** We give thanks to God for the staff, congregation, and ministries at Trinity Lutheran Church in Des Plaines, IL and Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chicago, IL.

We pray for comfort and peace for Bill & Stacey Jarret who mourn the death of three year old Isaac Holt.

We pray for comfort and peace for Brett & Linda Deiter and family who mourn the death of Brett's cousin, Tom Leick.

We rejoice with Jennifer Geihm and George McDillon who were united in marriage this weekend.



### St. Mark's Lutheran Church

*Proclaiming Christ's Abundant Love*

I am the vine, you are the branches. (John 15:5)



June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Welcome!

We've been waiting for you! Our mission at St. Mark's Lutheran Church is to proclaim Christ's Abundant Love. We are called to reach out to persons of all ages and life situations with Christ's own hospitality and acceptance, to invite you to be our companion on the spiritual journey as we discover together the ways that Christ is offering hope, healing, and a renewed sense of meaning for our lives.

If you are not a member, we would love to talk to you about our ministry. We invite you to talk to one of our pastors or stop at the Welcome Center near the church entrance.

May your worship experience here at St. Mark's draw you closer to Christ and His Abundant Love!



### Today's WORSHIP FOCUS

This week's readings arise out of needs for healing and ministry in the midst of community.

When David mourns the deaths of Saul and Jonathan, it is more than just a personal lament, as it is to "be taught to the people of Judah." The cry, for when saving does not come, belongs to the whole community.

When we suffer, faith can move us to reach out and make contact with a loving God. Faith also give confidence that God will meet our touch, hear our cries, move towards us with healing and restoration, and bring us comfort.

### Next Week's WORSHIP FOCUS

Trusting in the power and love of God, who desires us to experience justice, wholeness, and peace, often does not translate into the miraculous transformation of the world around us. Instead, our efforts can be met with rejection, suffering, and failure. Yet God is continuing to work through our weaknesses and human limitations. Our call is to continue to follow God's pattern and continue to work towards a more loving and peaceful world.

In what areas are you suffering from discouragement and how is God asking you to respond?

