



MARK TIMES

October 15, 2017 + Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Celebrating 40 Years in God's Grace + Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future

From your Bishop...

With you, I have been stunned again by the news of a deadly shooting attack, this time in Las Vegas.

In the aftermath of the school shooting in Sandy Hook in 2013, the ELCA Conference of Bishops adopted a Pastoral Letter for the church. An excerpt from that letter is below:

Every faithful caregiver who sits with victims of violence knows what we know: as God's church, we are called to reduce violence and should, in most cases, restrain ourselves from using violence.

In the Large Catechism Luther says, *"We must not kill, either by hand, heart, or word, by signs or gestures, or by aiding and abetting."* Violence begins in the human heart. Words can harm or heal. To focus only on guns is to miss the depth of our vocation. Yet, guns and access are keys to the challenges we face. We recognize that we serve in different contexts and have different perspectives regarding what can and should be done. But as we live out our common vocations, knowing that the work will take many forms, we are committed to the work of reducing and restraining violence. This shared work is a sign of unity in Christ.

We invite you to join us in this work:

+ **The work of lament:** creating safe space for naming, praying, grieving, caring for one another, & sharing the hope in God's promise of faithfulness

+ **The work of moral formation and discernment** – listening to scripture, repenting, modeling conflict resolution in daily life, addressing bullying, conducting respectful conversations, and discerning constructive strategies to reduce violence

+ **The work of advocacy** – acting to address the causes and effects of violence, knowing that we are not saved by this work, we undertake it trusting in Christ Jesus, who laid down his life for the world and who calls us to be peacemakers, to pursue justice, and to protect the vulnerable.

In this, as in all things, Christ is with us.



Trivia Night on October 21!

St. Mark hosts a "This is Most Certainly Trivia Night" **NEXT Saturday, October 21** at **6:00PM** in the Parish Hall as part of our local Reformation celebrations. Tickets are **\$15 each**. Proceeds will benefit Lutheran Disaster Response. Email stmarktrivianight@gmail.com or call the office to make reservations by **Tuesday, October 17!**



Registration & Deposits Due TODAY

Jr/Sr TURTLES: **Carlinville** event (pink paper) & **\$75**

Sr TURTLES: **Gathering** (yellow paper) & **\$50**

Make checks payable to **St. Mark Youth** and give to **Melanie NO LATER than TODAY**. If you lost your registration forms, let Melanie know ASAP!

FMSC Lock-in for Jr./Sr. TURTLES

Vitamins! Veggies! Soy! Rice! If you like to shout these words while packing food, then join us on **Friday, October 20**. We are leaving at 6:00PM from Pastor's house (please eat dinner beforehand). Bring money to donate. If you like staying up all night, then come to the **lock-in** at Christ Lutheran (Webster Groves) afterwards. It only costs \$10! **Let Melanie know by Wednesday, October 18 if you can make it.**



From Fiber Arts...

Tomorrow, Monday, October 16, we will meet at Westfield Senior Living Center from 2-4PM for anyone who wants to join us. **NEXT Sunday, October 22** will be your opportunity to find a unique gift for someone special (even if that is you!). Fiber Arts will have a few items available for sale during the coffee hour for those who are interested. Prices are all whatever you want to donate. Hope to see you downstairs next week!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday	2:00PM	Fiber Arts @ Westfield Place
Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	8:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	6:00PM	FMSC Lock-In
Saturday	6:00PM	<i>This is Most Certainly Trivia Night – Parish Hall</i>
Sunday, 10/22	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee Hour
	10:30AM	Sunday School
	10:30AM	Adult Forum: <i>We Must Plant the Church, Part 4: Working Together: Lutherans Uniting</i>

Offerings for October 8, 2017

Sunday worship attendance:	53
General Fund Donations	\$2,699
Fiber Arts	\$100
Car Alissa Michael Memorial	\$70

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
10/1-10/7	\$2,044	\$112.95	\$1,931.05
10/8-10/14	\$2,699	\$4,229.02	-\$1,530.02
YTD	\$122,956.20	\$129,140.10	-\$6,183.90

Thank You!

St. George’s would like to thank St. Mark for the generous gift of a new fair linen for the altar in the chapel. It is lovely and we are very grateful. It was given in thanksgiving for the many blessings and many years that both churches have shared the altar. We are truly blessed with this wonderful relationship and shared ministry. Sincerely, Maryann Fernandez, *AG Directress*



Thanks to everyone from St. George’s & St. Mark who helped make this year’s Chili Cook-Off another successful event. We raised \$7,456 to support the Franklin Neighborhood Community Association! Amen!

105 East “D” Street, Belleville, IL 62220
 Office: 618.233.9809 Fax: 618.233.4090
 Pastor Brian’s cell phone: 314.363.6784

Sunday, October 22, 2017

LOOKING AHEAD

READINGS:

Isaiah 45:1-7
 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]
 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
 Matthew 22:15-22

WORSHIP SERVERS

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Assisting Minister: Greg Guenther
Acolyte: Jackie Lynch
Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp
Chalice Bearer: Mike Murakami
Lector: Don Muller
Ushers: Jim Jolley & Roland Jacquot

Pumpkin-Palooza!

The St. Mark/St. George’s Food Pantry has a large patch of **unclaimed canned pumpkin**. The Pantry would like folks to **take a few cans, bake something delicious with it, and return the item(s) to church for a BAKE SALE on Sunday, November 12.** Proceeds will benefit the Pantry. Your imagination is the limit! Cans are available in the Welcome Area.



All Saints Sunday

Our All Saints worship service will take place **Sunday, November 5** at 9:00AM.



Names of deceased loved ones may be entered into our Book of Remembrance, on the St. Mark table in the Welcome Area. You are welcome and encouraged to write names of any deceased loved ones you wish to remember.

All written names will be included in the worship folder, but **only the names of those who have died over the past year** will be read during the service, with a single toll of a bell after each name. Please mark a **star** or an **asterisk** next to the names to indicate a loved one who has died in the last year.

Remember **2 special services** on Reformation Sunday (Oct. 29) in addition to our regular 9AM service: **4PM at Faith-O’Fallon (Metro-East ELCA); 7PM at St. Louis Cathedral Basilica (joint Lutheran/Catholic)**

Email: office@stmarkbelleville.org
 pastor@stmarkbelleville.org
 Website: stmarkbelleville.org