



# MARK TIMES

December 31, 2017 + The First Sunday of Christmas



*From Brother Martin...*

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
Who unto man His Son hath given;  
While angels sing with tender mirth,  
A glad new year to all the earth.

~ *Martin Luther*



*Wishing you all of God's blessings for a wonderfully healthy, happy, & prosperous new year from St. Mark Lutheran Church!*

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make our Christmas services so beautiful and moving – altar guild, musicians, volunteers, worship leaders and assistants, children and Sunday School teachers and helpers. Many lives were touched because of your efforts!



**Thank You, Thank You!**

We wish to thank the St. Mark congregation for their generous Christmas gift for 2017. We all feel so blessed to serve this congregation in the different ways we are called. May this congregation and its members continue to be blessed and thrive in 2018! Thank you and Happy New Year!! ~*Evelyn Duncan, June Benedick, Mike & Randi Cardoza, & Jill Thompson*

**THANK YOU** to all of you who contributed to the financial gift from the congregation and those who gave individual gifts, and **THANK YOU** to those who fed my addiction to cookies and sweets! Melanie and I continue to be deeply touched by your tremendous generosity. – *Pastor Brian*

## Blood Drive

St. George's is hosting a Blood Drive **NEXT Sunday, January 7**, from **9:00AM–1:00PM** in the parish hall. Please donate and give a gift that cannot be bought. If you have any questions, please call Frank Rogers at 277-1406.



## SHINE Worship on Saturday

Join us **NEXT Saturday, January 6** at **6:00PM** for less-formal worship with contemporary Christian music in the chapel.



**PLEASE** come and help us **UNDECORATE THE CHURCH** this Sunday (**January 7**) at **11:30AM!**

## FROGs Bowling on Saturday

Families! Let's warm up with a late morning of bowling **THIS Saturday, January 6**. Meet at 1:00PM at Bel-Air Bowl in south Belleville (200 S. Belt West). The cost of bowling will be covered by the church; bring enough \$\$ for drinks, snacks, and lunch if you wish. Please RSVP to Melanie if you're able to attend!



## Trivia Night 2018!

Shake off the holiday fog at Lutheran Campus Ministry's annual trivia night on **Saturday, February 3** at **6:30PM!** Register at <http://lcmstl.org/trivia/> \$20 per person or \$160/table of 8.



**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir rehearsal
	8:00PM	Choir rehearsal
Friday	6:00PM	Staff/Council party
Saturday	1:00PM	FROGs Bowling
	6:00PM	SHINE worship - chapel
Sunday, 1/7	9:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the Epiphany
	10:20AM	Coffee & Fellowship
	10:30AM	Sunday School
	9AM-1PM	Red Cross Blood Drive

Sunday, January 7, 2018

**LESSONS:**  
 Genesis 1:1-5  
 Psalm 29  
 Acts 19:1-7  
 Mark 1:4-11

**WORSHIP SERVERS**  
**Co-President:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison  
**Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens  
**Acolyte:** Braden Valerius  
**Crucifer:** Frank Dressel  
**Chalice Bearer:** Braden Valerius  
**Lector:** Andrea Moeller  
**Ushers:** Rick Crosby & Nancy Guenther

**Offerings for December 24, 2017**

Sunday worship attendance:	57
Christmas Eve worship attendance	136
Christmas Day worship attendance	31
General Fund Donations	\$3,403
Food Pantry	\$419
Anita Shafer Memorial	\$75

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
12/3-12/9	\$3,379	\$172.48	\$3,506.52
12/10-12/16	\$2,046	\$633.35	\$1,412.65
12/17-12/23	\$5,020	\$11,183.06	-\$6,163.06
12/24-12/30	\$3,403	\$9,445.30	-\$6,042.30
YTD	\$159,903.70	\$179,132.59	-\$19,228.89

**Food Pantry Needs...**

The food pantry spotlight items for December are **soap products**. Bar soap, dish detergent, and laundry detergent are needed. You can bring donated items to the Welcome Area on Sundays or to the church office during the day. Thank you!



**LST at St. Mark**

The next course from the Lutheran School of Theology in St. Louis offered HERE at St. Mark is titled "CHRIST AND CULTURE REVISITED."



In this 4-week class, the Rev. Dr. Warren Crews explores the question, "How does our faith relate to all that is going on in our country and our world?" In 1951 H. Richard Niebuhr published *Christ and Culture*, a classic on the ways Christians have applied their faith to the issues arising in the culture around them. But our culture has changed dramatically since Niebuhr's time when Christianity was firmly established in culture. Crews will present Niebuhr's five models to allow the class to evaluate how well they work today and then he will offer some new approaches.

**DATES:** Tuesdays, January 23 through February 20, with no class February 13. 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.  
**Tuition:** \$59 by January 10, \$64 after  
**Register at** [www.lststl.org/courses](http://www.lststl.org/courses), by phone to LST at 314-918-2556 or by email to [registrar@lststl.org](mailto:registrar@lststl.org).

105 East "D" Street, Belleville, IL 62220  
 Office: 618.233.9809 Fax: 618.233.4090  
 Pastor Brian's cell phone: 314.363.6784

Email: [office@stmarkbelleville.org](mailto:office@stmarkbelleville.org)  
[pastor@stmarkbelleville.org](mailto:pastor@stmarkbelleville.org)  
 Website: [stmarkbelleville.org](http://stmarkbelleville.org)