



MARK TIMES

August 27, 2017 + Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



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

From your Pastor...

A couple of Sundays ago, we heard the story of the feeding of the 5,000 and Jesus' admonition to the disciples regarding the crowd, "You give them something to eat."



There are many ways that we respond to this command to help the hungry, including through our food pantry.

Another way is to **advocate to the government on behalf of those who are in need**. On August 1, I met with **Congressman Mike Bost** at his office in O'Fallon along with our former pastor Ron Neustadt, his wife Debbie, and a couple of other folks, with guidance from **Bread for the World**. Below is part of Pastor Ron's letter to the editor about the experience, from the August 18 *Belleville News-Democrat*.

"...We had requested the meeting to thank [Congressman Bost] for his support last year of the Global Food Security Act and to express our hope that he would protect programs for poor and hungry people, both here and abroad.

"The current House budget proposal would drastically cut programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, and refundable tax credits. These programs provide basic assistance to individuals and families working to get back on their feet. Likewise, the WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) nutrition program helps keep hunger at bay for millions of children living at risk of hunger. The proposed cuts and structural changes that shift the cost of domestic safety-net programs to states threaten the ability of these programs to help everyone who is eligible. Congressman Bost did not commit to protecting these vital programs, but we thank him for meeting with us..."

Thank you for all that you do to help our most vulnerable neighbors in need. We can only do so much on our own, but together with others we can make a bigger difference. Please consider different ways God might be calling you to "give them something to eat."

Pastor Brian

Church Basement Ladies

TODAY at 2:00PM is our date for *Church Basement Ladies* at the Playhouse at Westport Plaza. We will **carpool from church at 12:30PM**, or feel free to meet us at Westport.



SHINE Worship on Saturday

Join us **NEXT Saturday, September 2 at 6:00PM** for less-formal worship with contemporary Christian music in the **chapel**.



Food Pantry Needs...

The food pantry continues to need your donations of canned meats, as well as canned fruit, and rice/pasta side dishes (i.e., stroganoff, Suddenly Salads). You can bring donated items to the church Welcome Area on Sundays or the office during the day. Thank you!



The Discovery of King Tut at SLSC

We will be putting together a group to visit this exhibit at the St. Louis Science Center. Watch for more information soon!



Sack Lunches for Franklin School

The Evangelism/Social Ministry committee is looking for volunteers to **make sandwiches and pack lunch bags** for **12 needy Franklin School students** to cover **long holiday weekends**. All of the food and materials will be ready and waiting in the church kitchen. There is a **sign-up sheet** on the counter in the **Parish Hall** by the coffee stand for the first six holiday weekends starting Labor Day through Christmas. Stay tuned to the *Mark Times* for requests for food donations and other ways to contribute. Thank you!



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday	6:00PM	Pastoral Care
	7:00PM	Council Meeting
Friday		<i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>
Saturday	6:00PM	SHINE worship - chapel
Sunday, 9/3	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee & Fellowship

Offerings for August 20, 2017

Sunday worship attendance:	65
General Fund Donations	\$2,890
Food Pantry	\$5
D. Wurdinger Memorial Gen. Fund	\$440
D. Wurdinger Mem. Food Pantry	\$940

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
7/30-8/5	\$2,031	\$8,468.86	-\$6,437.86
8/6-8/12	\$2,646	\$559.78	\$2,086.22
8/13-8/19	\$3,574	\$4,553.49	-\$979.49
8/20-8/26	\$3,330	\$1,102.69	\$2,227.31
YTD	\$103,220.20	\$104,532.43	-\$1,312.23

Church Picnic

Plan to be at our church picnic on Sunday, September 17 from Noon-4PM at Schranz Memorial Park (360 Honeysuckle Lane) in Swansea.



“God’s Work. Our Caps”!

The ELCA national day of service (“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday) is **September 10**. Many of us have the yellow shirts; now they are offering caps with the same logo. They cost \$26 each, but drop to \$24.50 if we order 13 or more. Please sign up for one or more on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or the Welcome Area.



LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, September 3, 2017

READINGS:

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

WORSHIP SERVERS

President: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Preacher: Mr. Brian Moeller
Assisting Minister: Greg Martens
Acolyte: Braden Valerius
Crucifer: Frank Dressel
Chalice Bearer: Corbin Moeller
Lector: Andrea Moeller
Ushers: Rick Crosby & Cody Buck

Rally Day/“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Day

On Sunday, September 10, our Sunday School staff and Evangelism/Social Ministry committee will host a light breakfast after our 9AM worship. Come greet our teachers & helpers, have a bite to eat, and stay to cut out and assemble parts for our “Sole Hope” shoe cutting party, sponsored by Thrivent.



To help with the shoe project, we are being asked to collect coins in a sock or shoe that will be sent to Uganda to help pay tailors and cobblers to craft the shoes to be given to children who typically have chiggers, sores, and infections in their feet. Sole Hope asks for \$10 to be sent for each pair of shoes cut out. Socks will be collected on that day and other donations can be made.

We denim jeans for the shoes and thin plastic for the heels of each pair. Please collect clean plastic milk, laundry detergent, dish liquid, and 2-liter soda bottles (with paper labels removed). There is a box in the Welcome Area for collection.

We are looking forward to this BIG day and hope to see you there!

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