



MARK TIMES

September 3, 2017 + Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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

From your Pastor...

When President Trump was asked by a reporter if he had a message for the residents of Texas as historic Hurricane Harvey was barreling down upon them, he replied, “**good luck!**” As people living in Illinois, we might not feel we can do much better for folks so far away than to also simply wish them “good luck,” and pray for their safety. But as **Lutheran Christians, we know we can do better than “good luck,” and we *must* do better** than that.

As if the images of property destruction, nursing home residents sitting calmly in water up to their waists, or dogs left to their own devices weren't enough, many of us have family and friends in the affected areas. While it may be that we will be called upon to send blankets, clothes or other items, aid agencies reiterate that **what they need most is money**. They have the resources and connections to procure what they need; what they often lack is money to purchase it.

Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the top relief agencies in the country, and 100% of donations designated for hurricane relief will be used for that purpose. **Refer to the handout in your bulletin** or visit <http://community.elca.org/ushurricanerelief> to donate online or see how to donate via mail/phone.

Pastor Brian

Kids Against Hunger is Back!

NEXT Saturday, September 9 from 1:00–3:00PM we will host another **Kids Against Hunger** food packing event (you may recall when we hosted in January 2014). We **need workers** (16 or more) to measure, weigh, label & package meals that will be sent to children in Honduras. We're aiming to fill 23 boxes in 2 hours – with 16+ folks, we can do it!

A wonderful time was had by all the last time we hosted this event—come be part of it! See Cheryl Newsome if you have questions!

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

NEXT 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**, see our **new curriculum**, have a bite to eat, and **stay to cut out & assemble parts** for our “Sole Hope” shoe cutting party, sponsored by Thrivent.



To help with the shoe project, we are **collecting coins** that will be sent to Uganda to help pay tailors and cobblers to craft the shoes to be given to children who often get chiggers, sores, and infections in their feet. Sole Hope asks for **\$10** to be sent for **each pair** of shoes cut out. The change will be collected next Sunday, and other donations can be made.

We can use more **denim jeans** for the shoes and **thin plastic** (i.e., clean milk, detergent & 2-liter soda bottles) for the **heels** of each pair.

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

Calling All Kids to Rally Day!

We want all our kids for a small procession during worship next Sunday, and don't forget breakfast downstairs afterwards. Hope to see everyone there!

Choirs, Choirs, Choirs

Yes, it's that time of year to join choirs. The Adult Choir (vocal) will sing **Sunday, September 3** rehearsing at 8:25 a.m. The Bell choir will start rehearsals Thursday, September 7 at 7 p.m. followed by Adult Choir at 8:00 p.m. *New singers are always welcome!*

Regular Office Hours Resume

Randi's office hours return to her regular schedule beginning on Tuesday, September 5: Mondays: 10AM–2PM; Tuesdays: 8AM–12PM; Wednesdays: 12:15–4:15PM; Thursdays: 7:30–11:30AM; and Fridays: 12:15–4:15PM.

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ A Community CENTER ~ A CENTERED Community

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday		<i>Labor Day – office closed</i>
Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	8:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
Friday		<i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>
Saturday	1-3PM	"Kids Against Hunger" food packing event
Sunday, 9/10	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Rally Day & "God's Work. Our Hands." Day of service
	2:00PM	Star Trek group outing

Offerings for August 27, 2017

Sunday worship attendance:	66
General Fund Donations	\$2,968
General Fund–Darrell W. Mem.	\$50
Food Pantry–Darrell W. Memorial	\$50
Coffee Fund	\$20

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
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
8/27–9/2	\$3,018	\$8,776.04	-\$5,758.04
YTD	\$106,238.20	\$113,308.47	-\$7,070.27

Sunday School Campout

Everyone is invited to the Monfre's on **Friday, October 6 at 5pm**, for a Sunday School campout! We plan to have a fire pit, where you can **roast hotdogs and make s'mores**. We plan to sing, tell "Holy Ghost" stories, play flashlight tag, and enjoy other activities! Everyone who wants to stay the night, please bring either a tent or camper, bring food for your family, flashlights, sleeping bags and pillows! Please **RSVP by September 30**, so we can plan for space. Hope to see you all there!



Sunday, September 10, 2017

LOOKING AHEAD

READINGS:
 Ezekiel 33:7-11
 Psalm 119:33-40
 Romans 13:8-14
 Matthew 18:15-20

WORSHIP SERVERS

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Assisting Minister: Brian Moeller
Acolyte: Renee Southers
Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp
Chalice Bearer: Barb Wurdinger
Lector: Jim Montgomery
Ushers: Jim Montgomery & Rex Rothgangel

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!

Food Pantry Needs...

The food pantry spotlight item for September is **spaghetti sauce**. We get a lot of donations of pasta, so let's add something to spice it up! You can bring donated items to the church Welcome Area on Sundays or the office during the day. Thank you!



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.



ELCA Youth Gathering parent planning meeting on Friday, September 22 at 6:00PM in the conference room!

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