



MARK TIMES

January 14, 2018 + Second Sunday after Epiphany



From Your Pastor...

Wherever two or more people gather, some sharing of germs is inevitable. When we gather in Jesus' name to celebrate the liturgy, our first concern is sharing our **gratitude**, our **faith** and our **belief** in Christ among us.



However, with the cold and flu season underway – and given the particular virulence of the flu this year – each of us has the responsibility of taking precautions to prevent the spread of illness. We need to wash our hands frequently, take care where we cough and sneeze, and scrutinize our habits and procedures where the spread of infection seems most possible.

Here are some things to keep in mind. While stricter guidelines are a possibility in the future, perhaps at this time, a greater risk to us may be allowing fear to dominate our worship, rather than faith.

SHOULD YOU COME TO CHURCH? If you suspect you have the flu or are suffering from a serious cold, please stay at home and do not risk spreading infection to others.

THE SIGN OF PEACE: Please don't be offended if someone chooses not to shake hands with you during the Sign of Peace. An appropriate gesture for those who are concerned about spreading the flu virus might be to strive for eye contact rather than physical contact. You could clasp your hands together and bow gently to those around you, and with a smile say "Peace be with you," or flash the "peace sign."

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: If you are feeling sick, **PLEASE** refrain from receiving the wine from the cup/chalice. The small cups of wine are a perfectly acceptable alternative.

Pastor Brian

Adult Forum: Steve Clement

Bring your pharmaceutical questions and settle in for today's Adult Forum featuring Stephen Clement, Pharm.D. He opened Copper Bend Pharmacy in 1984 and comes very highly recommended. Welcome Dr. Clement!



Jr. & Sr. TURTLES Laser Tag on Friday



Youth in **grades 6–12** are invited to an evening of Laser Tag at The Edge in Belleville **THIS Friday, January 19**. Meet at the **EDGE** at **6:30pm** and bring **\$20** for laser tag; pizza will be paid for through the youth group. Please RSVP to Melanie.

Thank You!

Dear St. Mark, Thank you for your kind and generous Christmas gift. You are such a great congregation. I feel blessed to be in ministry with you. I'd also like to extend my thanks to the Valerius family, Bells and Choir for the wonderful music they shared Christmas Eve and Christmas Day! *-Jill T.*

Trivia Night 2018!

Lutheran Campus Ministry in St. Louis hosts its annual TRIVIA



NIGHT on **Saturday, February 3, 2018**. We need you for our biggest fundraiser of the year! The cost is \$20/person with teams of eight. Register in advance at www.lcmstl.org/trivia or by calling (314)863-8140. The doors open at 5:45pm and play begins at 6:30pm. (Bethel Lutheran Church, 7001 Forsyth Blvd). *Can't make it to trivia, but still want to help out? Contact us about donating prizes or using a Thrivent Action Grant for our event!*

Coffee Hour Hosts!

If you're able to help host our coffee/fellowship hour on an occasional Sunday morning, please sign up in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday		Office Closed MLK Jr. Day
Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir rehearsal
	8:00PM	Choir rehearsal
Friday	6:30PM	Jr/Sr TURTLES Laser Tag @ the Edge
Sunday, 1/21	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy <i>with Installation of Council members</i>
	10:20AM	Coffee & Fellowship
	10:30AM	Adult Forum: Mike Stidham, Beacon Ministries
	10:30AM	Sunday School

Offerings for January 7, 2018

Sunday worship attendance:	50
Shine worship attendance:	13
General Fund Donations	\$2,345
Coffee Fund	\$40.25
Anita Shafer Memorial	\$145
Al Patrick Memorial	\$25

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
1/1-1/6	N/A	\$517.52	N/A
1/7-1/13	\$2,345	\$809.78	\$1,535.22
YTD	\$2,345	\$1,327.30	\$1,017.70

2017 End of Year Giving Statements are ready. Check the box in the welcome area if you did not receive yours by email. 44 statements were emailed out this week. If you would like to receive future statements by email, please contact Randi in the church office.

Cards & Calendars! We are gathering greeting cards and calendars, either new or used, to take to our friend in St. Charles who will create books and other crafts for children here and abroad. Please place your items in the box near the St. Mark table any Sunday through January 28th. Thanks for your donations!

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Sunday, January 21, 2018

**LOOKING
AHEAD**

LESSONS:
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Cor 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

WORSHIP SERVERS

Co-President: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Assisting Minister: Greg Martens
Acolyte: Grace Moeller
Crucifer: TBD
Chalice Bearer: Tom Partelow
Lector: Cheryl Newsome
Ushers: Frank Dressel & Jason Martens

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, by phone to LST at 314-918-2556 or by email to registrar@lststl.org.

We would like to thank everyone for your kind words and sympathy during this time. We would also like to express our appreciation to all of those that provided food at the funeral luncheon. We are blessed to have you all as our church family.
-the Anita Shafer Family

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