



MARK TIMES

April 15, 2018 + The Third Sunday of Easter



From Your Treasurer...

A proposal was recently presented at a Church Council meeting to better explain the financial position of our congregation. I've chosen to do this on a quarterly basis, and as this is shortly after the end of the first quarter, I want to let everyone know our present status.

First, we operate under a budget that is approved at the Annual Meeting each year. The budget is a **guide** to show us what kind of expenditures we can expect over the next year. **The budget is not a hard and fast document but is designed to show us what to expect in the form of costs to operate the congregation.** It helps us define costs such as salaries for staff, taxes, insurance, office expenses, utilities, and property maintenance, to name just a few. The total of the budget is an amount that gives an idea of how much money we need to receive in offerings to positively operate this congregation. Having said that, it must be noted that not all items in the budget are spent to their fullest.

The majority of funds received are **General Funds**, meaning they are intended for the general

operation of St. Mark. We also receive **designated or restricted funds**; these are given to us for a specific purpose, and not for general operation of the congregation. Those designated funds are disbursed in a reasonable amount of time to those for which they were intended by the giver.

Therefore, the amounts you see in the *Mark Times* on Sunday mornings reflect only the General Fund amounts given in that weekly period. Expenses are likewise reflected for that weekly period. These amounts do not reflect the status against the budget but are in fact **actual**, this shows where we stand at this time. The YTD line shows how we are doing in real time as of this date. **We do have and are using reserve funds to meet immediate needs, but we should be aware that they will be exhausted in the future if we fail to meet our needs now.**

The answer to what we face is to ask what we each can do to help. The next step is to put our faith in Christ to give us the answer to our congregation's future. I look forward to answering any questions you have for me.

Blessings and Peace, *Greg Martens*

Shell Out for the TURTLES

Starting **TODAY, April 15**, grab an envelope with a \$ amount on it and "shell-out" a few bucks to help the three youth going to the Gathering get to Houston this summer!

FROGs Celebrate Moms

FROG families are invited to celebrate Mom on **Sunday, April 29** at **11:45AM**. Eat a light lunch, make a craft, play a game, & enjoy a devotion – all to show our love to mom. Please **RSVP** to Melanie by **Wednesday, April 25**.



Blood Pressure Checks

Our Faith Community Nurse, **June Benedick**, will do blood pressure checks during the coffee hour next Sunday, **April 22**. June is also in the **church office** from **9:00AM to 11:45AM** on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.



Small Detergents for the Food Pantry

Our April spotlight items for the food pantry are **SMALL bottles of laundry detergent (10oz. bottles are preferred, as they are easy for our patrons to carry)**. Drop them in the church Welcome Area or in the office during the day.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday		Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir
	8:00PM	Voice Choir
Friday		<i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>
Sunday, 4/22	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee & fellowship
		Adult Forum: <i>Lutheran Social Services of Illinois</i>
	10:30AM	Sunday School
	11:30AM	First Communion class—conf. room

Offerings for April 8, 2018

Sunday worship attendance:	63
Shine worship attendance:	14
General Fund Donations	\$2,568.25
Coffee Fund	\$65
Food Pantry	\$20
Fiber Arts	\$250

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
4/1-4/7	\$3,585	\$75.00	\$3,510
4/8-4/14	\$2,568.25	\$871.62	\$1,696.63
YTD	\$42,892.44	\$44,850.95	-\$1,958.51

Mark Your Calendars

The **Postal Workers Food Drive** will be **Saturday, May 12, 2018**. This is a large donation which supplies our pantry shelves. We'll need: pickup trucks, drivers, runners, sorters, and boxers—all types and ages of helping hands **from 1PM until we're done**. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Call Keith Kniepkamp or Ann Martens for info.



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

Sunday, April 22, 2018

LESSONS:

Acts 4:5-12
 Psalm 23
 1 John 3:16-24
 John 10:11-18

LOOKING AHEAD

WORSHIP SERVERS

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

Upcoming Sunday Events

Sunday, April 15: *The Lost Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles*, by Pastor Brian
 Sunday, April 22: **Lutheran Social Services of Illinois**
 Sunday, April 29: Service day
 Sunday, May 6: First Communion reception

This Club is the TOPS!



If you need some support and accountability, along with nutritional guidance and encouragement, consider joining TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly). TOPS meets at Trinity United Church of Christ (47 N Douglas, Belleville) on Monday nights. Weigh-in begins at 5:30p and the meeting begins at 6:30p. Come visit for free and see what it's all about!

Coffee Hour Hosts!

If you can help host our coffee/fellowship hour on an occasional Sunday morning, please sign up in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand!



Adult Forum

The Lost Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles? Who lost it? Who found it? Is it legit? Come explore this "lost" document with Pr. Brian today after worship!

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