



MARK TIMES

July 1, 2018 + Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



From Your Pastor...

While there have been informal conversations among us for several months now, I feel it's time to give you an "official" update on the situation with our sister ELCA congregation across town, Peace Lutheran Church.



A few months ago, Peace's leadership voted to sell their building and property near Memorial Hospital, and dissolve the congregation when the sale was final. Naturally, this was not a decision made quickly, lightly, or without considerable grief. A number of factors led them to this decision, not least of which was dwindling attendance – something that affects most congregations across denominational lines today. The leadership believed Peace would not recover from the decline, and made the painful decision that the congregation was no longer sustainable in the long run.

Peace sold their building and property last month. At that time, the closing process was expected to take 2–3 months.

The transition team has recommended that Peace members come to St. Mark. This means that when the closing is finalized and the congregation is dissolved, any members of Peace who have not already transferred elsewhere will be automatically transferred to St. Mark.

Both our Church Council and St. George's Vestry are aware of the situation.

This will be one of the most significant events in our history. The look of our church will change with the addition of new faces in worship, service and leadership. We will need to take particular care to make the newcomers feel welcome in a new place, even as they grieve the loss of their former church home. In a sense it is a new beginning for both Peace and St. Mark. We pray for discernment as we engage further this process, and strength and comfort for our friends from Peace.

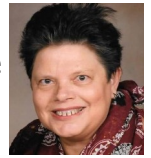
Pastor Brian

Welcome Rev. John Allen!

After a long absence, we welcome back as our guest preacher and presider the Rev. John Allen, a friend of Pastor Brian's from Eden Seminary. Rev. Allen is ordained in the United Church of Christ and serves as a chaplain at SLU Hospital.

In Case of Pastoral Emergency...

Pastor Brian is at the Youth Gathering through **Monday, July 2**. Parish nurse June Benedick (618-977-4389) is on call in case of pastoral emergency. She will have the number of a pastor in case the situation calls for additional intervention.



"Star Trek" Group goes to 1st Friday!

In place of our August meeting, our St. Mark Trekkers will travel over to the St. Louis Science Center **NEXT Friday** evening, **July 6**, for the monthly "First Friday" event, which in July will focus on Star Trek!

Please RSVP to Pastor Brian so we can arrange carpooling for those who want to do so.

More info at <https://www.slsc.org/first-fridays/>

SHINE Worship on Saturday

Join us **NEXT Saturday, July 7** at **6:00PM** for less-formal worship with contemporary Christian music in the **chapel**.



FROGS Pool Party Next Sunday

The FROGs (Families Relying on God) will host a pool party **NEXT Sunday, July 8** from **noon-4:00PM** at the **Monfre's home (2465 Falcon Lane)**. Meat & drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish/dessert to share. RSVP to Melanie!



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday	2:00PM	Fiber Arts @Westfield
Wednesday		Independence Day - office closed
Friday	6:00PM	First Friday at the Science Center- <i>Star Trek</i>
Saturday	6:00PM	SHINE worship
Sunday, 7/8	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee & fellowship
	12:00PM	FROGs pool party & BBQ - Monfre's

Offerings for June 24, 2018

Sunday worship attendance: **68**
General Fund Donations **\$3,667**

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
June MTD	\$12,286	\$26,649.41	-\$14,363.41
YTD	\$85,951.44	\$104,110.30	-\$18,158.86

We have recently changed the way we report the financial information. If you have questions, please see Greg Martens.

Children's Chapel

Continuing through the summer, children ages 10 years old & younger are invited to their own liturgy in the chapel immediately following the Gospel reading. They will participate in songs, prayers, a children's Creed and a simple lesson from the day's Scripture readings. They will rejoin the adults during the Sharing of Peace.



Parents are welcome to attend too!

Upcoming Children's Chapel Leaders:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 7/1: Kara M. | 8/5: |
| 7/8: Melanie R. | 8/12: Youth service |
| 7/15: Kim O. | 8/19: Melanie R. or ?? |
| 7/22: Frank D. | 8/26: Melanie R. or ?? |
| 7/29: Kim O. | 9/2: Melanie R. or ?? |

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, July 8, 2018

LESSONS:

- Ezekiel 2:1-5
- Psalm 123
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- Mark 6:1-13

WORSHIP SERVERS

- Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison
- Assisting Minister:** Greg M.
- Acolyte:** Renee S.
- Crucifer:** Rex R.
- Chalice Bearer:** Braden V.
- Lector:** Jim M.
- Ushers:** Rex R. & Jim M.

Men's Clothing Drive

From now through the end of July, we will be collecting men's suits, blazers, dress shirts & pants, and ties for LSSI's "Returning Citizen" program. Hang your donations on the rack just inside the church door, or place non-hanging items in the tote below the rack.



It's almost "Back-to-School" Time!

Starting July 15, we will be collecting supplies for Franklin students. Any school supplies are appreciated. Look for collection boxes and supply lists in the Welcome Area.



Food Pantry Spotlight for July is

Toilet Paper! Drop donations in the church Welcome Area or the office during the day.



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!



Save the Date—Church Picnic

We will hold our annual church picnic on **Sunday, August 12 from 12-4pm** at Schranz Memorial Park in Swansea (date changed related to pavilion availability).

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