



MARK TIMES

December 16, 2018 + The 3rd Sunday of Advent



There's a chill in the air!

The Evangelism/Social Ministry committee is collecting children's **gloves, hats, and socks** for those less fortunate this winter. The collection ends **TODAY**. Put your donation in the **blue tub** in the **Welcome Area**.

Blue Christmas Service

We will hold our **Blue Christmas** service **THIS Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00PM** in the church. This is a special worship service **for anyone who finds it difficult to rejoice this Christmas**. All will have the opportunity to listen, pray, sing, and be comforted by God in our community. **Healing prayer with laying on of hands** will be offered as part of the service.



Volunteers Needed!

Randi would appreciate a couple of volunteers to help with the folding and stapling of bulletins for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The bulletins will be printed on **Monday, December 24**, and it shouldn't take more than an hour. If you would like to help, please call or email Randi in the church office.



Volunteers Needed!



Church Decorating day will be Saturday, **December 22**, at 9:00AM. Lighten your busy schedule by including an hour of work at church on Saturday. Many are needed to help prepare both the church and the chapel for Christmas. Let it be a part of your anticipation during this Advent season. *-Kathy R.*

Food Pantry Volunteers needed for **Wednesday and Thursday, December 26 and 27**. Please contact Keith Kniepkamp (618-407-2289) or Henry Evans in St. George's office if you're able to spend some time helping at the Pantry.



Christmas Services

Monday, December 24: 7:00PM

Tuesday, December 25: 9:00AM

Gift Cards are Back!

Check with **Jan D., Evelyn D. or Melanie R.** after church for gift cards available for purchase

through the TURTLES youth group. The TURTLES get a % of each order!



From Your Health & Wellness team...

In the recent needs assessment two questions were asked, and here are your answers!

“What are June’s credentials?” June Benedick, RN, is a licensed registered nurse in the state of Illinois. She completes renewal of her nursing license every two years, including continuing education requirements, through the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. She has completed a one week workshop specifically covering parish nursing through the Deaconess Foundation, and has a total of 41 years of nursing experience.

An additional inquiry was made about purchasing an AED machine. St. Mark has an AED machine available in the narthex. It is located on the wall above the usher’s table, near the quiet busy bags. The AED machine was purchased with funds donated in memory of Jenell Neunaber, RN. June will be scheduling another CPR training (including AED training) during the first quarter of the new year.

Adult Forum: Were Mary & Joseph Married or Engaged at Jesus’ Birth?

If you’ve ever paused for a moment to consider this question raised by the Christmas story, or if you just want insight into how scholars investigate these kinds of details in the Bible, this class is for you! Join Pastor for the last Adult Forum class of the year today!



Quiet Please! We’ve noticed some **increased conversation** in the sanctuary during the **Prelude** before service. While conversation is an important part of nourishing community, the Prelude is a time for reflection to quiet our hearts in preparation for worship. Please kindly try to bring your conversations to a close when you hear the Prelude music beginning.

Offerings

December 9, 2018

Sunday worship attendance:	107
General Fund Donations:	\$3,927
Designated Fund Donations:	\$514.50
Thrivent Choice Donations:	\$342.00

Month to Date

December Offerings:	\$9,703.50
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>\$3,180.55</u>
Difference:	\$6,522.95

Next Sunday’s Worship Leaders

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Assisting Minister: Danielle T.

Acolyte: Ash R.

Crucifer: Sherri F.

Chalice Bearer: Tom P. & Mike M.

Lector: Charlie D. **Ushers:** Frank D. & Roland J.

Basket Holders: Jaxson R. & Ash R.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 (Psalm)


Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

Weekly Health Tip! Practice **fire safety** during the holidays. Don't let candles burning while unsupervised. Keep burning candles out of the reach of kids and pets. Use caution while burning in a wood fireplace.

Monthly Charitable Donation December's Evangelism/Social Ministry charity designation is for the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan & the Holy Land**. You may add to this donation by writing a check to St. Mark with "ELCJHL" in the memo line.

Food Pantry Needs canned fruit, bar soap, dish detergent, and laundry detergent! If you're able to donate any, please bring it to the Welcome Area or to the office. Thank you!



 **Christmas Flower** donation envelopes are in the hymnal racks. **Donate any amount & take the flowers with you after worship.** Thanks for making our church especially beautiful for the Nativity of Our Lord.

Chocolate & Coffee!

Need and easy Christmas gift? Don't forget that we have **fair trade coffee & chocolate** for sale in the parish hall. These products are not only delicious but **good for workers & the lands they farm.**



Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to St. Mark, **even when you're out of town.** Please contact the church office to learn how you can participate!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, 12/17	2:00PM	Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Wednesday	7:00PM	Blue Christmas—Church
Thursday	7:00PM	Bells rehearsal
	8:00PM	Choir rehearsal
Saturday	9:00AM	Church Decorating
Sunday, 12/23	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee & fellowship
	10:30AM	Sunday School
	10:30AM	No Adult Forum

WE PRAY FOR THE ILL AND CONFINED

St. Mark Parishioners

Ken Augustine
Kathryn Bjornstad
Gary Dozier
Mike Foppe

Lila Frerichs
Geri Jolley
Bruce Martens

Bob McConnell
Don Muller
Sue Patrick
Tim Richards

George Shafer
Richard Shroat
Ed Townsend
Bea Whiteside

Family and Friends

Lavone Alvarez (friend of the Hinkles)
Judy Betz (friend of Mary Skifton)
Marilyn Billings (aunt of the Martens' family)
Joe Bohnenstiehl (nephew of Amanda Kilzer)
Christine (Private prayer request)
Hudson Combs (family of Robinsons)
Johnell Cook (stepmother of Carolyn Simard)
Cheryl Ellison (mother of Julie Valerius)
Katrina Fenner (friend of Art Engelage)
Joni Giordano (friend of Barb Wurdinger)
Asia Graham (friend of the Kilzers)
Margy Groennert (aunt of the Martens')
Stephanie Groennert (cousin of the Martens' family)
Arlene Hunt (friend of the Robisons)
Imogene Kuykendell
(friend of Lucy Montgomery)
Pat Likness (mother of Jan Dressel)

Allen & Mary Jane Martens (uncle/aunt of the Martens' family)
John Martfeld (friend of Ruth Carnaghi)
Dorothy May (mother of Jan Richards)
Pr. **Ron** Neustadt (friend of St. Mark)
Jim Outland (family of Anita Robinson)
Tim & Missy Partelow & family (brother of Tom)
Jeff Pence (brother of Pam Clark)
Darnell Rideout (stepfather of Mike Cardoza)
Eileen Robertson (niece of the Shafers)
Darrell Robinson (husband of Anita Robinson)
Dave Schaaf (former parishioner)
Stefanie Schroeder (friend of St. Mark)
Jo Smith (friend of the Moellers)
Kris Whitley (sister to Kim O. & Kathy R)
Cody Willard (friend of the Duncans)
David Wilkey (son of June Isselhardt)
Linda Wisley (sister of John Downing)
Jane (friend of Julie Valerius)

THANKSGIVINGS AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for those who celebrate their birthday this week:

Sarah Ott (12/16), **Keith Kniepkamp** (12/17), **Kara Monfre** (12/21),
and **Ash Robinson** (12/22)

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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