

MARK TIMES

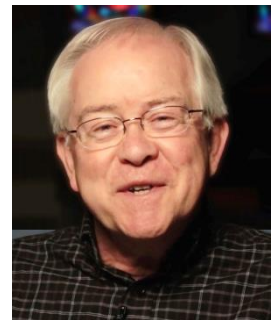
NEWS and NOTES for August 11, 2024

This Week at St. Mark:

Monday, August 12: 9:00AM Health & Wellness team meeting – conference room
Wednesday, Aug. 14: 12:00PM Ladies Lunch Bunch at Eckert's restaurant
Friday, August 16: 5:00PM Guys' Nite – circle driveway

Honoring Pastor Ron Today!

Today in worship we celebrate a most significant event along the faith journey of this congregation and the greater Church in bestowing the honor of *pastor emeritus* upon the **Rev. Ron Neustadt**, former long-time pastor of St. Mark, as we also pay tribute to his **50th ordination anniversary**. We welcome our guests and especially Bishop Greg Busboom of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, who will deliver the sermon and bring greetings from the synod. A cake and punch reception follows in the Parish Hall. Thank you for joining us for this special celebration!



Second Sunday Food Collection

Today, Sunday, August 11 is our **monthly focus on food pantry donations**, and for August we ask folks to bring **soup, canned meats, and pasta sauce**. Please place them in the big basket as you come into church. **The donations will be blessed next Sunday.*

Ladies Lunch Bunch This Week!

All St. Mark ladies are invited to join the Lunch Bunch at **Eckert's** (951 S. Green Mount Road, Belleville) **THIS Wednesday, August 14 at 12:00 noon**. Contact Cindy Collingham at 816-387-3302 if you have questions.

Guys' Nite This Week!

The Guys' Nite event for the men (age 14+) of St. George's and St. Mark (and friends!) will be held in the **circle driveway** area **THIS Friday, August 16 at 5:00PM** (food served at 6PM). Fly solo or bring a friend and enjoy an evening of beverages, brats, games and more! The event is free but a donation of \$20 per person is suggested to help offset the cost; any money remaining after expenses will be donated to the Chapel Organ fund. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex and Parish Hall. If you have any questions, contact Bob Vaughn (618-593-7263) or Greg Guenther (618-910-4597).



Choirs Resume in September

Only one month of summer left, and only one month until Chancel and Bell Choirs resume rehearsals! **Rehearsals begin on Thursday, September 5**. If you can carry a tune, the Chancel choir would love to welcome you.

Mae Newsome's 100th Birthday THANK YOU

Dear St. Mark family-

Thank you so much for your cards and prayers for Mae on her 100th birthday. We had a quiet time at home as things are slower and more precarious as the days go by. Your care, prayers and unwavering support have not gone unnoticed.

Thanks again,

Dick and Cheryl Newsome

Special Prayer Service for a Nation in Turmoil

In the wake of political violence that has rocked the country in recent times, St. George's is answering the call of Episcopal Bishop Brian Burgess for "a time of intentional intercessory prayer in the interest of witnessing to the world how it is that we commend the faith that is in us."

To that end, a service of **Evening Prayer with special prayers for the nation** will be held on **first Mondays from now until Election Day**. The service will also feature a common recitation of the Great Litany, the church's ancient and traditional prayer of intercession, to beseech Almighty God for blessing and protection over the church and the world.

The partisanship and division that has become so commonplace in our political discourse has caused fear, anxiety, and hatred to fester in the land. We are called to confess our faith, to provide healing to a hurting world, and to put all our hope and trust in the Lord. God has blessed this nation with freedom and liberty; it's our charge to use those blessings for the good of all and to God's honor and glory.

Evening Prayer for the Nation will be held at **6:00PM** in the **chapel** on **September 2, October 7, and November 4**. St. Mark members are welcome to join and to invite others to take part in this very important endeavor in witness to our faith.

St. Mark is Now on Instagram!

Help us grow our following! If you already follow us on Facebook, or even if you don't, our Instagram feed is slightly different. Some things are posted to both, but not everything! Our Instagram is more photo-based, so you will see more artistic pics and words of inspiration on top of upcoming events!

Search for STMARKBELLEVILLE on Instagram, or use the QR code to find us!



Coffee Hour Teams

Being on a Coffee Hour team is not just "bringing snacks and making coffee;" it is a **ministry of service and hospitality** to our members and guests that is MUCH appreciated. If you would like to serve on a coffee hour team, or be a captain, or make a change to a different role on a team, please contact Melanie Robison in person or at 314-265-8722 or melanierobison@earthlink.com.

Save the Date!

Youth Gathering worship service and presentation on Sunday, August 25!

Joint Safety Volunteer AED/CPR Recertification Opportunity on Saturday October 19 from 9am-12noon in the Parish Hall. The cost is *\$65 for recertification or \$75 for new certifications*.

St. Mark Offerings for 8/4: Operating Fund: **\$1,479.11** (online giving received by 7/26);

Food Pantry: \$120; School Supply Drive: \$25