

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for December 8, 2024

This Week at St. Mark:

Monday, Dec. 9:	9:30AM	Health & Wellness meeting – conference room
Wednesday, Dec. 11:	6:00PM	Advent Soup Supper
	7:00PM	Holden Evening Prayer
Thursday, Dec. 12:	6:15PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00PM	Voice Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, Dec. 14:	9:00AM	Hanging of greenery, trees & wreaths

Annual Meeting

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to last Sunday's annual meeting, and special thanks for those who have agreed to serve in various elected positions.

President:	Keith Kniepkamp	Vice-President:	Mike Murakami
Evangelism/Social Min.:	Sherri Foppe	Financial Secretary:	Kathy Evans Nancy Guenther

Synod Assembly Voting Members:

Adult Male:	Greg Martens	Adult Female:	Danielle Tributout
-------------	---------------------	---------------	---------------------------

“Angel Tree” Project with Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS)

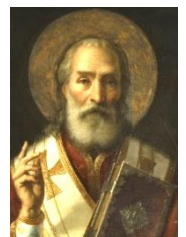


TODAY, Sunday, December 8 is the **last day to return the Angel Tree gifts** purchased for needy families and children. We will be delivering all the gifts to LCFS tomorrow/Monday.

Please contact Sherri Foppe 618-791-6148 cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann Martens 618-530-8679 if you have any questions. Monetary gifts will be accepted for those who prefer not to shop, and may be given to Ann or Sherri. Donations for gifts may also be made electronically at https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-14EWR?access=tile_direct.

Today's Adult Forum – St. Nicholas, Part 1

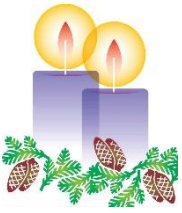
Next Sunday's Adult Forum will feature the first half of the video documentary, *St. Nicholas – The Real Story*, led by Dr. Mark Wilson, one of the lecturers at the Bible and Archaeology Fest that Pastor Brian attended.



Christmas Caroling Today!

TODAY, Sunday, December 8, you're invited to join a group of us to sing Christmas carols to the residents of two local long-term care facilities, including some of our own church members. We will meet at **12:30PM** at **Colonnade Senior Living** in O'Fallon for our first stop. **All ages are welcome!**





Advent Evening Prayer & Soup Suppers continue this **Wednesday, December 11**. Plan to come enjoy a hot meal of soup and salad at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall before joining us in the church for Holden Evening Prayer.

Get a group together and host one of the soup suppers! A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

Ladies Lunch Bunch This Week!

The LLB will meet at **Joe's Pizza and Pasta** (4628 N Illinois St, Fairview Heights) **THIS Wednesday, December 13 at 12 noon**. Please let Sherri Foppe (618 791-6148) know if you are planning to go!

Proclaim Christ's birth with flowers!

Anyone wishing to donate should watch for a special envelope in the pews, fill out the front portion and return it, with a check/cash, to the offering plate or the office by 12/18 with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. *Online donations may be made through VANCO at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-ZMGQ>. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin.



Advent Lessons & Carols

Please join us **Sunday, December 15 at 5:00PM** for our annual service of Advent Lessons & Carols with St. George's. This traditional service is a wonderful way to celebrate the season, with beautiful hymns and scripture passages that guide and focus us in our time of preparation for Christmas and the Lord's return. The service is especially appropriate for inviting friends and family, particularly those who might be searching for "something more" this holiday. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

Yoga at St. Mark!



Interested in **Yoga**? Whether you are a beginner or experienced, come to a **Meet and Greet** on **Thursday, December 19 at 6:15PM** in the **Parish Hall** to **meet the instructor** and **ask any questions** concerning the practice of yoga, the class itself and items you may need. **Formal classes will be held for 45 minutes on Thursday evenings at 6:15PM beginning on January 2, 2025** in the Parish Hall. A **donation of \$5.00** is asked for each session. Please **bring your own mat and water bottle** for classes.

Practicing yoga can help with body flexibility, strength, mobility, and balance. It also requires you to shift into a more relaxed state, which can help decrease stress, increase focus, and promote a stronger connection with yourself. You can't ask for a more pose-ative experience!

St. Mark Offerings for 12/1:

General Fund: \$2,249.11;

Food Pantry: \$1000;

Angel Tree: \$242.40;

