

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for June 2, 2024

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday 6/3: 2:30 PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Wednesday, 6/5: 10:30AM Joint Use Meeting—Conference Room

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

All St. Mark ladies are invited to join the new "Lunch Bunch" at Papa Vito's (318 E. Washington, Belleville, IL) on **Wednesday, June 12** from **11:30A-1:00P**. Reservations are not necessary. Contact **June Benedick** with questions at 618-977-4389.

Youth Gathering Cooling Cloth Collection – LAST SUNDAY

THANKS to everyone who has donated cloths or money to go towards their purchase. **This Sunday, June 2**, will be the **last Sunday to contribute to the effort** before we switch to the next Gathering goal for the rest of June. As a reminder, our region, Region 5, is tasked with bringing **cooling towels** to contribute to the creation of 3,000 disaster relief kits filled with the eight most-requested items to help residents as they wait for the power grid to be restored after a storm or other natural disaster. These specially designed microfiber towels hold water without being heavy or bulky. We accept donations of the towels themselves, or financial donations towards the purchase of such towels. Please talk to Melanie or Melaina and Anna if you have questions!



Adult Forum 6/9: *The Order of St. Luke the Physician*

Next Sunday, June 9, we welcome St. George's members from the Order of St. Luke to present about this ministry of healing and support during the education hour.

Adult Forum 6/16: *Sabbatical Reflections – One Year Later*

On **Sunday, June 16** during the education hour, Pastor Brian will look back on his sabbatical last summer and offer reflections on the experience and its effect going forward, accompanied by photos from the journey.

Seminex Hymn Festival on June 14

On **Friday, June 14 at 7:00PM** at **Lutheran Church of the Atonement in Florissant** (1285 N. New Florissant Rd., Florissant, MO), the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago will hold a **hymn festival** celebrating the **50th anniversary** of the formation of **Christ Seminary-Seminex** (aka "Seminary-in-Exile"). This will be in the tradition of the hymn festivals that occurred across the country during the existence of Seminex. The congregation of St. Mark formed as a direct result of the issues that led to the formation of Seminex, and many current and former members lived through that challenging time. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this commemoration! RSVP is requested – register at <https://lstc.edu/registration/st-louis-hymn-fest>

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program is Back!

The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee is excited to continue our partnership with Westview Baptist Church to provide free lunches for low-income children this summer!



The project begins THIS WEEK and continues for 10 weeks. *Our commitment this year is 9 weeks due to no lunch delivery on Thursday, July 4.*

Hough Park is again be a distribution stop which allows Franklin School students to receive free lunches! Last year 40-45 lunches were given out at this stop each day!

Sherri Foppe serves as the project coordinator again this year. A co-coordinator would be helpful if anyone would like to volunteer.

We are collecting individual size bags of Cheez-its, potato chips, nacho chips, individually wrapped store-bought cookies (*no nuts or peanut butter please!*), and fruit juice pouches (i.e. Capri Sun), for the lunches. No peanut butter please! Donations may be brought to church on Sundays or contact Sherri to drop off at her house or arrange pick up.

Monetary donations are always welcome for those who would rather not shop. Monetary donations can be made to Sherri Foppe or Ann Martens or electronically to

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-14EWR>

We will continue to be food safety conscious:

1. Everyone handling unwrapped food items while packaging lunches must wear gloves.
2. Drivers and co-pilots in a vehicle may wear a mask if preferred. Contact Sherri if you have any questions.
3. These guidelines may be adjusted by the coordinators based on community health.

Minimum of 4 volunteers are needed to help pack **150-200 lunches at Westview Baptist** on the following **Wednesday evenings** from **5:00-5:45PM**:

June 5, 12, 19 and 26; July 10, 17, 24 and 31; Aug 7

One volunteer driver and one co-pilot are needed to help **deliver the lunches** from 10:35AM to approximately 12:45PM on the following Thursdays:

June 6, 13, 20 and 27; July 11, 18, and 25; Aug 1 and 8

Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Sherri Foppe (618-791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com) or Ann Martens 618-235-7762 or ga72mart@charter.net

Chapel Organ Update

Thanks to donations, pledges, and fundraising efforts, the full amount to get the Chapel organ console rebuilt has been met. We still need to raise around \$10,000 for a contingency fund to pay for lodging, mileage and other possible expenses connected with the project.

If you still would like to donate towards this project, we hope to raise the additional funds by the end of June. If funds are left after the project is completed, it will be put in a fund to pay for the tuning of the chapel organ each year. Watch for a letter from the Organ Renovation Committee with more details on what is needed to complete the project.

St. Mark Offerings for 5/26:

Operating Fund: **\$1,340.55** (online giving received by 5/24); D. Muller Landscaping Fund: \$101; Fiber Arts: \$101; Grounds Maintenance: \$101; Youth Group Cooling Towels: \$100