

MARK TIMES NEWS & NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2023

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

- Monday 11/27:** 6:00PM Pastoral Care Meeting
7:00PM Council Meeting
- Thursday 11/30:** 6:15PM Bell choir
7:15PM Voice choir
- Saturday 12/2:** 6:00PM SHINE Contemporary Worship - chapel

Food Pantry Updates

Boy Scouts Food Drive

The Scouts delivered over 80 boxes of canned and other goods to fill our shelves. More than 20 members and friends from both congregations volunteered sort, box, transport and sort.

Pumpkin Palooza Thank You!

Such a great variety of goodies were donated for last Sunday's Pumpkin Palooza bake sale! We profited an astounding \$1300 to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**.



Thank you to all the food sorters, boxers, shelf-fillers, treat bakers & shoppers. What a blessing! Together we are doing the Lord's work to serve our community – and having fun in the process!

Choir Notes

The chancel choir is already rehearsing for Advent and Christmas and we'd love to have you singing with us! **We especially need ladies**, and the only requirement is that you can *more or less* carry a tune. A solo voice is not necessary.

Also **we could use two or three more bell players**. If you can read music and would love to play, talk to Carol Kugler – we'll teach you how!



Advent Communion Service & Soup Suppers return **Wednesday, December 6**. 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 an evening service of Holy Communion.

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

Angel Tree Project

We continue our St. Mark and St. George's tradition of participating together in the Angel Tree Project Christmas Drive through Lutheran Child & Family Services to provide Christmas gifts to especially needy families. Monetary donations may be made for those who prefer not to shop. Sheets with the children's names and wishes are on a table in the narthex/Welcome Area. You are not asked to provide everything on the child's wish list - a \$50 limit per child is recommended.

Please take and complete a gift tag from the "Christmas Tree" and gently attach it and the Child's name and Wishes sheet to the UNWRAPPED gift and **return by December 10**. Gift wrapping and/or gift bags may also be donated.

Please contact Sherri Foppe 618 791-6148 cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann Martens 618 530-8679 if you have any questions.

Advent Lessons & Carols

Please join us on **Sunday, December 10** at **5:00PM** for our annual joint service of Advent Lessons & Carols. 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.

SHARE THE WARMTH Project

Inspired by Phillip's Wish in the movie **5000 Blankets**, our collection of **GENTLY USED or new blankets, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. for the homeless in our community will run thru January 31. Check your closets to see how many blankets you have that will help keep our homeless a little warmer this winter!

We have set a goal of 125 blankets. The blankets, et al, will be given out throughout the project period so donation numbers will be provided periodically. A collection can is in the Narthex.

Do you have the talent of knitting and/or crocheting? **FREE** yarn is available to anyone (member or non-member) to make hats, mittens, gloves, scarves for this project. Contact Peggy Anderson 618 791-0992 for your **FREE** yarn.

The movie also reminds us that children can help us see what we don't want to see and inspire us to make a change. Check out <https://www.phillipswish.com/> to learn how his wish continues years later.

The movie is available on to watch on several streaming services, or contact Sherri 618 791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com to borrow her DVD.

Seizure Awareness Class

All **members** of the **Joint Safety Committee** and our respective **Safety Volunteers** are encouraged to attend a **free class** to educate and prepare us for the safe and correct care of a person exhibiting any type of **seizure** activity on **Saturday, December 2, 2023**, from **10:00-11:30am** in the **Parish Hall**.

Please sign up on the sheet on the St. Mark table in the Narthex before **THIS Tuesday, November 28**. For more information, please contact Mark.Bearth@gmail.com or text him at (618) 767-6543.

Christmas Flowers

Proclaim Christ's birth with flowers! Anyone wishing to donate should fill out the front portion of a special envelope in the pews and return it, with a check/cash, to the offering plate or the office by 12/20. *Online donations may be made through VANCO. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Annual Meeting

The 2021 Annual Meeting is **NEXT Sunday, December 3 at 10:45AM** in the chapel. Please plan to join us for this meeting, we will decide the budget for 2024, vote on new church officers, and be given updates from the council and committees.

St. Mark Offerings for 11/19: General Fund: **\$4,569.11** (*incl. online offerings received by 11/24*); Coffee Fund: \$76; Food Pantry: \$5

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

DECEMBER 3, 10:45AM

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS (* denotes incumbent)

Secretary: **Aaron Fuchs**

Treasurer: *Vacant*

Financial Secretary: **Jan Litherland**

Vacant

Pastoral Care (male): **Ken Tegtmeier***

Pastoral Care (female): **Jan Dressel**

Property: **Frank Dressel***

Synod Assembly Voting Members:

Adult Male: *Vacant*

Adult Female: **Danielle Tributout**