

# MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for June 16, 2024

## THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday 6/17: 2:30 PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor

Tuesday, 6/18: 5:30PM Food Pantry meeting

### Today's Adult Forum: *Sabbatical Reflections – One Year Later*

Today, **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.

### Youth Gathering In-Kind Collection for World Hunger

The world produces more than enough food to feed every person, yet the number of people who are hungry has grown since 2019. More than 2 billion people around the world aren't sure where their next meal will come from, and for as many as 828 million people, that next meal won't come at all.

But there is another story unfolding around us: **the story of God at work through you in ELCA World Hunger** (<https://elca.org/worldhunger>) around the world. It's a story that has been unfolding for the last 50 years through our church as we worked together to create sustainable, lasting change. It's a story of **new homes** being built, of **new fields** being planted with crops. It's a story of **wells** bubbling with clean water and of **small businesses** bursting with opportunity, a story of **caring for the environment** and of **healthy communities** thriving. **We all have a role to play!**

At the 2024 Youth Gathering (<https://www.elca.church/gathering>), join ELCA World Hunger and be part of the generation taking action to usher in a world without hunger, and futures filled with hope.

We are accepting cash and check donations; look for the world **shadow box** in the back of church!

### Care Facility Sing-a-Longs

We are seeking joyful voices to visit local care facilities on **Sunday, June 23 from about 1:15 to 3:15pm** to sing a few religious, patriotic and just plain fun songs!

After the fellowship hour, the group will go to lunch together then to a few locations. Performance times and locations will be announced next week.

### Congratulations Graduates!

Our sincerest best wishes and prayers for God's blessings upon our recent graduates:

**Corbin Monfre** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Mascoutah Junior High School

**Jaxson Robinson** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Smithton Elementary School

**Anna Robison** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Central Jr. High School

**Braden Valerius** – Bachelor's in Education for Secondary Social Studies, Southeast Missouri State

## Cookie Baker Wanted for Neighborhood Watch Meeting!

St. George's and St. Mark are attempting to re-energize the Hexenbukel Neighborhood Watch program. We've had a good start, and meetings will be ongoing until the organization can be self-sustaining.



As an extra-nice touch, we would like to offer a **dozen or two homemade cookies** to be served at the meeting on **Wednesday, June 26**. If you are willing and able to bake a couple dozen cookies for the event, please let Greg Martens know. We ask that the prospective baker bring them to our service on Sunday, June 23 and leave them with the Coffee Hour team. Thank you in advance!

## Please Speak Softly Before Services

In consideration of our friends at St. George's, as well as our own members who wish to sit in quiet prayer before service begins, **please speak in soft, low tones while in the narthex/welcome area while waiting to enter for our service**. Voices tend to echo loudly and can be disruptive to those already in the church. Thank you!

## Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program

We at St. Mark are excited to continue our partnership with Westview Baptist Church to provide free lunches for low-income children this summer!



Our commitment to this year's project is 9 weeks due to no lunch delivery on Thursday, July 4.

Sherri Foppe serves as the project coordinator again, but a co-chair is welcome!

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>

**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 19 & 26; July 10, 17, 24 & 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 20 & 27; July 11, 18, & 25; Aug 1 & 8**

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



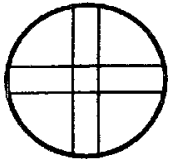
## Second Sunday Food Collection

**Sunday, July 14** is our **monthly focus on food pantry donations**, and for July we ask folks to bring **canned fruit and canned meats or soups with meat** (i.e., stew, chicken & dumplings, etc.); please place them in the big basket as you come into church.

## St. Mark Offerings for 6/9:

Operating Fund: **\$5,091.11** (online giving received by 6/7); Al Boxdorfer Memorials: \$40

Food Pantry: \$101



# ***SAINT MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***

The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor  
105 East "D" Street + Belleville, Illinois 62220-1205 + (618) 233-9809

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June 13, 2024

Dear Members of St. Mark & St. George's:

We are excited to share with the congregations of St. George's and St. Mark that we are now able to put down the deposit to secure a place in the queue to get the chapel organ console rebuilt by the Buzard Pipe Organ Builders beginning in the summer of 2025. Through the generous donations of many individuals, the tips from the Ladies Tea last spring, proceeds from the pie sale, the ornaments made by Diane Earhart and her garage sale, and the pledges of parishioners, we have the full amount to get the console rebuilt.

However, we're not quite done. We need to raise around \$10,000 for a contingency fund to pay for lodging, mileage and other possible expenses connected with the project.

The organ was installed in 1938 and is now 86 years old. When this work is completed, we hope it will last another 86 years! It will be used to play for weddings, funerals, services on days when both sanctuaries are being used, practicing, and for rehearsals before services.

If you still would like to donate towards this project, we hope to raise the additional funds by the end of June. If we have extra money after the project is completed, we will put it in a fund which will pay for the tuning of the chapel organ each year.

For anyone desiring to support the repair of the Chapel organ, please contact Henry Evans, St. George's Administrative Assistant.

The Organ Renovation Committee offers thanksgiving to all who have supported this campaign.

Soon, organ music will be filling the chapel once more.

The Organ Renovation Committee,

*Fr. Mark Ohlemeier, Pr, Brian Robison,  
Evelyn and Charles Duncan,  
Ken Gottschall, Dawn Jung, Brian Maves,  
Nancy S. Ypma, and Bill Zimmermann*