

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for June 29, 2025

Friday, 6/27-7/4:

Randi on vacation

Wednesday, July 2: 10:30AM Joint Use Taskforce meeting – Conference Room

Thursday, July 3: 6:00PM Yoga – Parish Hall

Saturday, July 5: 4:00PM Patriotic Potluck – Parish Hall

6:00PM SHINE worship (Colonial Liturgy) - Chapel

Care Facility Sing-Alongs Today!

Join us TODAY as we travel to **Mercy** (now EverVella) **Rehab & Care Center** (Swansea) at **1:00PM** and **Freeburg Care Center** at **4:00PM** to **sing** some patriotic songs and other favorite melodies. We'll get a bite to eat and/or stop for ice cream in between!

Randi on Vacation

Administrative Assistant Randi Cardoza is on vacation through July 4. Please contact Pastor Brian for any office needs during this time.

Patriotic Potluck Next Saturday!



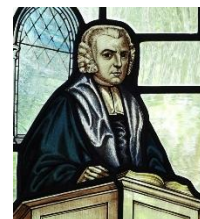
Please join us for some great food and fun fellowship **NEXT Saturday, July 5 from 4:00 to 6:00pm** in the **Parish Hall**. Fried Chicken, condiments and paper products provided!

Get ready for some **“Lutheran Family Feud”** as part of the festivities!

Sign-up sheets to assist with sides, desserts, and planning are in the Canterbury Room (Narthex) and Parish Hall.

The “Colonial Liturgy” SHINEs on Saturday!

After the Potluck, stick around for a **very patriotic SHINE service** in the **chapel** at **6:00PM** featuring the return of “a colonial liturgy in English.” Pastor Brian will lead this unique service that is based on Lutheran liturgies from the 1700’s, complete with “thees and thous” and period dress!



Summer Sack Lunch Mini Traveling VBS – Part 2 Coming Soon!


The Evangelism/Social Ministry and Christian Education teams are ready for part 2 of our **mini traveling VBS** during the Summer Sack Lunch deliveries!

Both distribution sites include a 20-minute program featuring **Bible heroine Queen Esther**, with a story/skit, craft or game, and possibly music.

Volunteers Needed! Each site needs **4–5 helpers** (more on **July 10** at Hough Park, which serves 40–50 children). No experience needed—just a heart to serve!

Remaining Program Dates & Times:

- **July 10** (10:50 AM–12:15 PM) – *Queen Esther*, led by Jan Richards
- **July 17** (11:20 AM–12:30 PM) – *Queen Esther*

 Sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall (with the Driver/Co-Pilot and Lunch Packers sheets).

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program

We're partnering with Westview Baptist to provide **free lunches for low-income kids!**

Donations: Individually packaged Cheez-Its, chips, pretzels, nut-free cookies, and juice pouches (e.g., Capri Sun).

Drop off at church or contact **Sherri Foppe** for other arrangements.

+ **Monetary gifts welcome:** Give to Sherri, Ann M., or online: secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-15AC7

+ **Food Safety:** Gloves required for packing; masks optional for delivery.

+ **Volunteers Needed for...**

Packing: Wednesdays, 5–5:45 PM @ Westview Baptist

Delivery: Thursdays, 10:35 AM–1 PM

Dates: June 4–Aug 7 (weekly)

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall!

Info: Sherri (618)791-6148 | cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann (618)235-7762 | ga72mart@charter.net



From the Parish Nurse...

June is National Safety Month! Today, the focus is on **Personal Safety**.

Personal safety is all about being aware of your surroundings and taking precautions to protect yourself. Situational awareness is the ability to pay attention to what is happening around you.

Key tips:

- **Stay alert:** Always be aware of the people and environment around you, especially in unfamiliar or isolated areas.
- **Minimize the time you spend looking at your phone:** Looking down at your mobile or tablet device distracts you from being able to see what's happening around you.
- **Keep an eye out for abnormal behaviors and events:** You're looking for things that don't fit in with the environment. If a person is loud and obnoxious in a relatively quiet place, or someone is abnormally quiet in a loud environment -pay attention. If a car has been circling the parking lot, but not taking any of the available spots, consider why that might be the case.
- **Trust your instincts:** If something feels off, don't ignore it—take action to remove yourself from the situation.
- **Secure your belongings:** Keep valuables out of sight and be mindful of pickpockets in crowded places.
- **Plan ahead:** Let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return, especially if traveling alone.
- **Use well-lit areas:** Avoid dark alleys or secluded spots when walking at night.
- **Keep emergency contacts handy:** Have important numbers saved in your phone and know the nearest safe locations.
- **Be cautious online:** Protect your personal information and avoid sharing sensitive details with strangers.

Looking Ahead...

In process is a congregational **pool party** at **Westhaven Pool & Racket Club** on **Tuesday, July 29** from **4-8PM!**

Mark your calendars for the third annual **"Guys Nite"** on **Friday, August 22**. Volunteers for planning, set-up, clean-up would be great. Keep an eye on the *Mark Times* for updates!

The Joint Safety Committee is sponsoring a class on **Saturday September 20** from 9am-1pm.

Chestnut Health Systems will present information on *Mental Health, Substance Abuse/Narcan and Suicide Awareness/Prevention*. A sign-up will be available later in the summer.

St. Mark Offerings (6/22): Gen. Fund: **\$2,786.35**; Food Pantry: \$515.90; Lois Gentsch Memorials: \$25; Fiber Arts: \$101; D. Muller Landscaping: \$101; Grounds/Property Maintenance: \$101