

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for September 27, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

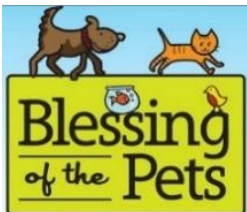
Monday, September 28:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care
	7:00PM	Council Meeting
Thursday, October 1:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>
Sunday, October 4*:	4:00PM*	SHINE Worship – <i>Chapel</i>
		<i>*Special day and time!</i>

Church Picnic TODAY

Pack a lunch and join us **TODAY, September 27** from **noon to 3pm** at the first pavilion at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea for this year's **church picnic**! Water and ice cream will be provided. Friendly competition in cornhole, Bottle Bash, Cribbage, and more **guaranteed**!



Blessing of the Animals NEXT SUNDAY!



We join our partners from St. George's and our animal friends to celebrate the feast of St. Francis with a special SHINE service and a **Blessing of the Animals**!

Our service is at **4:00PM NEXT Sunday, October 4** in the **church courtyard**. Please **bring your own chair** if possible.

Part of our service is dedicated to **remembering our beloved pets who have died**. You are invited to **bring a photo of your departed pet** (framed, if possible) to place on a remembrance table.

Chili Cook-Off Help Wanted!

'Tis the season! Belleville's annual Chili Cook-Off will be **Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10**. The production and sale of St. George's chili benefits both congregations, and volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Tentative plans are to make and sell at least 200 gallons of White Chili this year.



Preparation begins next week! **Chicken cooking** is scheduled **9:00AM-3:00PM** on **Wednesdays September 30 and October 7**. Each cooking day needs two three-hour shifts of two people to accomplish the grinding, cooking and bagging of the cooked chicken.

The signup sheet for helping with the Chicken Cooking is in the Parish Hall on the wall opposite the stairs.

SHARE THE WARMTH October 4 thru 25, 2026

Continuing to be inspired by “Phillip’s Wish” in the movie **5000 Blankets** and the needs of our food pantry clients, a collection of gently worn **coats, thermal underwear, sweatshirts, t-shirts, undershirts, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. will be collected for the homeless in our area. Warming blankets, handwarmers and new underwear for men and women are also greatly appreciated. Donations may be distributed to various organizations throughout the project period with donation numbers provided at the end of the collection. A collection container will be in the Narthex/Canterbury Room next Sunday. Please feel free to contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 with any questions.

St. Mark 50th Anniversary celebration!

St. Mark Lutheran Church turns 50 years old in December, and the anniversary committee has been hard at work planning events! A year of celebration kicks off on **Saturday, December 5 at 10:30AM** with a commemorative **worship service** in the place where it all started: the **Belleville Philharmonic Hall**. A luncheon in our Parish Hall immediately follows.



Then starting in January, we will alternate celebrating a “decade” of St. Mark (with photos, memorabilia, and special guests) one month, and an anniversary activity the following month. Activities will include a church retreat, trivia night, organ concert, picnic/BBQ, bells/choirs concert, and culminating in a float in the 2027 Belleville Santa Parade!

The anniversary committee meets each month in the Parish Hall, and anyone may sit in on the meetings. OR, if you missed the original call for committee members, it's not too late! **We're glad to have more committee members** to help make our celebration as grand as it can be. All are welcome!

If You Missed Out on the In-Person Pampered Chef event...

There are other ways to order and still generate funds for the Food Pantry!

- 1. Order 24/7 via Pampered Chef's TABLE platform** through September 28. This fundraiser link (<https://table.pamperedchef.com/party/3811308ynm>) includes recipes, product information and other goodies! *NOTE: If you have not previously accessed Pampered Chef's TABLE platform, you will be asked for your phone number and email address. Pampered Chef does NOT sell or share customer information!*
- 2. Shop from the link** then contact Sherri at 618 791-6148 voice/text or cookinsherri2@gmail.com to place your order. Be sure to tell her your order is for the St. George/St. Mark Food Pantry Fundraiser!
- 3. Grab a catalog** from the small table in the Parish Hall to take home. Sherri will be in the Parish Hall this Sunday after St. Mark's 9:00am service and after St. George's 10:30am service if you prefer to place your order in person.

Coming Soon!

Saturday, October 24, 6:00PM: **Reformation Potluck and Hymn Singing**

Friday, October 30, 5:00-8:00PM: **Downtown Belleville Trick or Treat**

Sunday, November 15: **Pumpkin Palooza**

Saturday, November 21: **Boy Scout Food Drive**

Saturday, December 5, 10:30AM **St. Mark 50th Anniversary worship service at the Belleville Philharmonic Hall – luncheon to follow in the Parish Hall**

St. Mark Offerings for 9/20: General Fund: **\$1,934.11**; Food Pantry: \$5; Coffee Fund: \$44