

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for June 15, 2025

Monday, June 16: 6:00PM Pastoral Care committee meeting – Conference Room
Tuesday, June 17: 5:30PM Food Pantry meeting – conference room
Thursday, June 19: Office closed for Juneteenth holiday
Friday, 6/20-Friday, 6/27: Pastor on vacation

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian will be on vacation from this Friday, June 20 through the following Friday, June 27.

In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Synodically Authorized Minister Danielle Tribout at 618-531-2790.

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program

We're partnering again 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 Martens, 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



Summer Sack Lunch Mini Traveling VBS


The Evangelism/Social Ministry and Christian Education teams are launching a **new mini traveling VBS** during Summer Sack Lunch deliveries!

We'll visit 4 distribution sites with a 20-minute program featuring **Bible heroes David and Queen Esther**, including a story/skit, craft or game, and possibly music.

Volunteers Needed! Each site needs **4–5 helpers** (more on **June 19 & July 10** at Hough Park, which serves 40–50 children). No experience needed—just a heart to serve!

Program Dates & Times:

- **June 19** (10:50 AM–1:15 PM) – *David & Goliath*, led by Sherri Foppe
- **June 26** (11:20 AM–12:30 PM) – *David & Goliath*
- **July 10** (10:50 AM–1:15 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).

St. Mark Offerings (6/8): Gen. Fund: **\$2,866**; Dwight Ness Memorials: \$410; Lois Gentsch Memorials: \$73.66;

Our Brother's Keepers Tour – June 25

Members, family and friends are invited to tour **Our Brother's Keepers of Southern IL** at 614 N. 7th Street in East St. Louis on **Wednesday, June 25**. We will meet in the St. Mark parking lot then carpool to the facility for our 60-minute to 90-minute visit. We will tour the facility, meet the staff and potentially meet a few clients.



Those planning to attend are asked to **sign up to ensure enough transportation** and no one is left behind! **Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex (Canterbury Room) and in the Parish Hall.**

In the last year we learned so much about the difficult process of former inmates struggle to rejoin communities as productive citizens. Want to know more? Visit their website <https://obkministry.org/> and join us on June 25.

From the Parish Nurse...

June is National Safety Month! This is a good time to focus on key safety practices in different areas of your life. Today, the focus is on **Safety in the Home**.

Home safety is all about preventing accidents, injuries, and security threats. Some key areas to focus on:

- **Fire Safety:** Install smoke alarms in every sleeping area and on each floor. Keep fire extinguishers handy, especially in the kitchen. Ensure your family has a designated fire escape route. If you have a second story, you can purchase a residential fire escape ladder. Never smoke in bed or anywhere else you could fall asleep. Smoking is the leading cause of death in the home. Never leave burning candles unattended. Use flameless candles instead. When using a space heater, keep flammable materials 3 feet away. Turn all space heaters off when leaving a room
- **Electrical Safety:** Avoid overloading circuits and unplug unused devices to prevent electrical fires. Do not charge your computer or phones while they are lying on beds or carpets, as it could cause a fire.
- **Fall Prevention:** Keep floors dry, use sturdy step stools, and secure rugs to prevent slipping. Remove throw rugs to prevent trips or falls. Use gates to block stairs so young children cannot access them. Make sure staircases are well-lit, free from clutter, have no loose carpeting, and have handrails, both inside and out.. Request anyone who uses a bicycle or a skateboard to wear an approved helmet.
- **Security Measures:** Lock doors and windows, install security cameras and a home security system, and use motion-sensor lights to deter intruders.
- **Poison Prevention:** Store cleaning supplies and medications out of reach of children. Get family members and pets out of a room before you use pesticides in it. Lock away loose or spare batteries, since they pose poisoning and choking risks.
- **Kitchen Safety:** Be cautious with sharp objects and hot surfaces. Close the dishwasher door when not in use to avoid trips and falls. Secure cabinets and drawers from toddlers or young children. Use the back burners of stoves to heat food, to prevent pots from being accidentally knocked off and falling on someone. Stay with the stove when you are cooking. Cooking mishaps are the number one cause of fire in the home. Always make sure the burners are turned off after cooking.
- **Miscellaneous safety Measures:** Use cordless blinds to prevent strangulation if a child were to get caught in the cord. Cut drawstrings on hoodies, waistbands, and other clothing items for your children. Keep plastic bags away from children to prevent suffocation

Looking Ahead...

Consider joining the group of us traveling to **Mercy (now EverVella) Rehab & Care Center** in Swansea around 1:00PM and **Freeburg Care Center** around 4:00PM on **Sunday, June 29** to **sing** some patriotic songs and other favorite melodies!

In process is a congregational **pool party** at **Westhaven Pool & Racket Club**, tentatively scheduled for **Tuesday, July 29** from **4:00-8:00PM!**

Please note that the **Christian Education classes**, *including Adult Forums and Table Talks*, are on hiatus for the summer and will resume in September.