

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for August 23, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, August 24:	7:00PM	Council Meeting – Conference Room
Thursday, August 27:	6:00PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
Saturday, August 29:	10:00AM	Synod Day at Our Lord's, Maryville

Choirs Resume Thursday, September 10

Choirs resume rehearsals **Thursday, September 10**. Voice Choir meets at 4:15PM and Bell Choir meets at 6:00PM. One new bell ringer is needed, please join the fun. If you can carry a tune at all (you don't need to sing solo or even read music), the chancel choir would love to welcome you! Interested? Call Carol Kugler at 618-581-3079.

Coffee Hour Teams

Being on a Coffee Hour team is not just “bringing snacks and making coffee;” it is a **ministry of service and hospitality** to our members and guests that is MUCH appreciated. If you would like to serve on a coffee hour team, or be a captain, or make a change to a different role on a team, please contact Melanie in person or at 314-265-8722 or melanierobison@earthlink.net.

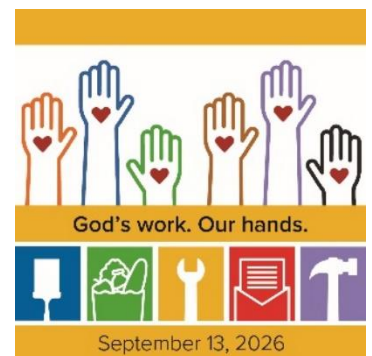


Bicycle Donations

Have a gently-used bicycle you've thought of discarding? Our Brothers' Keepers would love to have it! Bring your bicycle to church on September 13 or notify Sherri Foppe, Pastor Brian, or the office if you'd like someone to come pick it up for you!

“God's Work. Our Hands.” Day

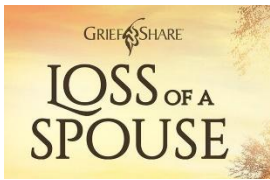
The ELCA's national day of service is coming up on **Sunday, September 13**. We are working to plan activities for various ages and abilities, both in the Parish Hall and out in the community – including at Our Brother's Keepers. Watch this space next Sunday for more information.



St. Mark Offerings for 8/16:

General Fund: **\$2,805.32**; Coffee Fund: \$35; Thrivent Choice: \$1,414;

GriefShare: *Loss of a Spouse* Event on September 19



People who are widowed haven't just lost a **loved one**; they've lost an *entire lifestyle*. This one-day, two-hour session GriefShare session hopes to offer support, clarity, and peace during this unsettling time.

You will meet people who understand what you are going through in a safe space to talk, be encouraged, and connect. This 2-hour seminar includes a short video featuring expert Christian counselors, authors, and pastors, followed by small-group discussion.

Join St. Mark's special session, led by Nurse Becky, on **Saturday, September 19** from **1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at <https://find.griefshare.org/events/294594>

NOTE: Even if you attended this session in April, please consider attending again; grief and loss affect us differently with the passage of time, and you may benefit from another session in ways that you don't anticipate.



Second Sunday Food Collection

In addition to being "God's Work. Our Hands." day, **Sunday, September 13** is our **monthly focus on food pantry donations**, and we're asking folks to bring **Dollar Tree-sized dish detergent and laundry detergent, and jellies**. Please place them in the big basket as you come into church.

Church Picnic September 20

After the weather put a damper on our pool party but still wanting to have an outdoor church event, we have pivoted back to a **church picnic**, which will be on **Sunday, September 20** from **noon to 3pm** at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea. Format will be as in years past: bring food enough for you and your family, and a game to share!

Healing Service Next Sunday

We will offer **healing prayer with laying on of hands** **NEXT Sunday, August 30** during worship. All who feel the need for healing in any aspect of life are welcome and encouraged to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit through this ancient ministry.



*Your pastor did not gamble when he was in Vegas ☺