

Mark Times

News & Notes for July 26, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, July 27:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care committee meeting – conf. room
	7:00PM	Church Council meeting - CR
Thursday, July 30:		Traveling VBS (11:30A & 12:00P) – <i>see below</i>
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>
Saturday, August 1:	12P-5P	Congregation Pool Party & Picnic – <i>Westhaven Pool & Racket Club</i>
	6:00PM	SHINE worship - <i>chapel</i>

TRAVELING VBS with Super Hero Daniel

Help the Evangelism/Social Ministry and Christian Education committees share God's Love during this year's Summer Sack Lunch program! A **20-minute traveling VBS program** takes place at locations already established as Summer Sack Lunch distribution stops. The program includes a bible story or skit, a craft or game and possibly music.



Volunteers are needed! 2026 is the second year for this new concept, so the number of participants is hard to determine - therefore **we would like at least four volunteers to assist at each location** (the Henry Raab stop has a high number of children receiving lunches (30)).

A volunteer sign-up is in the Parish Hall along with the Driver/Co-Pilot & Lunch Packers sign-up sheets.

DANIEL in the Lions' Den, led by Jan Richards:

THURS Jul 30 11:30am to 11:50am Swansea Trailer Park on Anna Street

THURS Jul 30 12:00pm to 12:20pm Henry Raab School Parking Lot

Pool Party and Picnic NEXT Saturday!!!

You're invited to our second St. Mark pool party and picnic, hosted by **Westhaven Pool & Racket Club** (1513 S. Illinois St.) **NEXT Saturday, August 1** from **12 noon-5:00PM!**



Food and drinks will be **available to purchase on-site** (no outside food and drink allowed).

The **pool** will be ready to help us tackle the early August heat. **Pickleball** courts will be available as well. **If you plan on swimming, admission is \$10**; if you're not swimming, **admission is FREE!** *This event will again take the place of our annual August/September church picnic, so **bring your table games** and reignite those rivalries! ***A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall.***

St. Mark Offerings for 7/19: General Fund: **\$2,313.11**; Food Pantry: \$5

GUYS NITE 2026 - Aug 21 - SAVE THE DATE!

An evening where guys from St. Mark and St. George's meet for brats, beer, games, and fellowship – it *must* be the fourth-annual **Guys Nite!** We will again have both outdoor and indoor options! More details to be announced later, but mark your calendars now for **Friday, August 21** in the early evening, and start thinking of a neighbor or friend to bring along!



Synod Day on August 29 – Register Now!



All members are encouraged to attend a day of worship, learning, fellowship, and relationship-building for all generations in each of the six conferences of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. This is a follow-up to the Synod Assembly, but you do not have to have attended the assembly to be part of this event.

The date for our **West-Central Conference's** Synod Day is **Saturday, August 29** from **10:00AM to 3:00PM** at **Our Lord's Lutheran Church** in **Maryville**.

Each Synod Day's program includes: Cross-generational worship; Activities for children and families; Shared meal; State of the synod video; Q&A with synod staff; Four "Spirit Lab" workshop options (choose two) led by the synod staff; & "Mission moments" from each conference.

The cost is **\$10 per adult** (18 and over), \$5 for youth (3-17), and free for children under 3, capped at a total of \$25 per family. Registration is open now at **CSIS-ELCA.org/synoddays26** or by using the QR code. ***Registration closes August 10**



School Supply Collection for Franklin School Students & Staff



Our annual collection of school supplies to support Franklin Elementary **begins this week and continues through August 9**. A box and can are in the narthex.

Items needed: **plastic 3-prong folders - all colors; 24-count crayons; standard 10-count markers; earphones/ear buds** for computer use; **dry erase markers** – all colors; **highlighters** - all colors; **facial tissues; baby wipes; 1-gallon slider-style zip-lock bags; small glue sticks; sharpies; watercolor paint sets** (palette of 8 with brush); **3-ring binders 1" to 2"**.

Those who prefer not to shop may give monetary donations to Sherri Foppe or Ann Martens or electronically via <http://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-16FTT>

NOT needed: backpacks, spiral notebooks; loose-leaf paper; rulers; white glue; ballpoint pens; pencils.

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program through August 7

Donations: Individually-packaged chips, pretzels, nut-free cookies, and juice pouches. Drop off at church or contact **Sherri Foppe** for other arrangements.

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

+ **Volunteers Needed for Packing** on **Wednesdays, 5–5:45PM** @Westview Baptist, and **Delivery** on Thursdays, 10:35AM–1:00PM

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall, or contact **Sherri** (618)791-6148 | cookinsherri2@gmail.com or **Ann** (618)235-7762 | ga72mart@charter.net