

---

# ST. MARK'S MESSENGER

## VOLUME 22 ISSUE 6 • JUNE 2018

---

### Name that Disease

At the end of April and the beginning of May I was not feeling well at all and was struggling for over a week with a wide variety of odd symptoms including utter exhaustion. Things did not seem to be getting better and the symptoms indicated a wide possibility of issues, so I finally gave in and went to my doctor. He ordered a smorgasbord of blood work, somewhere between 15-25 tests total, ranging from Mono to Lyme Disease to Thyroid issues and more. I received the results online on a Thursday evening and reviewed them. I was thankful there was no Lyme disease as I do not have time for that nonsense. There were two tests that came back odd, one a vitamin issue that is something almost everyone who lives in the midwest struggles with and that we fully anticipated (I do miss the sun of Colorado!). The other was something I had not heard of so I did some research on Mayo Clinic's website. This was both helpful and not helpful at the same time. It was a common virus almost everyone carries but causes few symptom issues. It had a range of issues it could cause from my symptoms to the C word. Needless to say I was quite happy the next morning when my Doctors office called and said I had nothing to worry about and with a couple weeks and some vitamins, I would be fine. He believes that the symptoms emerged due to the extraordinary stress of the last three months of doing 4 funerals for people under 33 years old and suggested I stop that as if that is how it works.

Health is important, not just to people, but to churches and organizations as well. Consultant Patrick Lencioni states, "Organizational health trumps everything." As your lead Pastor, I am not interested in being the biggest, richest, hippest or best church in DeKalb County, but I am determined with every fiber of my being and with every minute of my work to do all I can to ensure that we, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, are the healthiest church we can be. What are the diseases that plague the church of Jesus Christ in North America today?

#### The Flu

If you have ever had the flu, you know it is not fun. When the flu hits, everything else stops. You feel utter helplessness as you have no control over your body. Unresolved conflict as well as conflict handled in an unbiblical way is the flu of the church. The good news is that most often it is preventable by its own flu shot, Matthew 18. Jesus gives us specific instructions on how to deal with conflict and in dealing with it in the way that Jesus has instructed, we are able to avoid the additional suffering that comes with this flu virus of the church. For the sake of our church, we have a conflict covenant that is more important to us than the church constitution or any policy or procedure we might have.

#### Heart Disease

Heart Disease is not always noticeable and seems innocent enough but can be deadly. The heart disease of the church is drama. Drama is common, seems innocent enough and on the surface seems entirely innocent. Drama is exhausting, especially in the church. Satan loves drama, because it is incredibly distracting and deeply discouraging to those in leadership and those who have to waste their time dealing with it instead of doing the important work of the ministry. I have a preteen daughter; that is more than enough drama for me (*keep in mind, I am not a medical expert, I am not that kind of doctor...*).

#### Cancer

Gossip is the cancer of the church. This is especially said because gossip is extremely common and incredibly preventable. It breaks my heart to see gossip ruin churches. Jesus knew this was going to be a risk and that is why he offered the teaching in Matthew 18, not just for conflict resolution, but also for gossip prevention. The Apostle Paul speaks out strongly against gossip as well as he saw first hand the destruction, pain and havoc it created for churches. Gossip is a toxin and is not something I ever want to permit and something that I have confronted on more than one occasion.

Church health will always trump any worship style, preaching charisma and budget that could ever come into existence. In order to be healthy as a church, we must avoid illness as much as possible.

~Pastor Marcus

## Dates

### June Birthdays

2 — Wilma Brumbaugh  
4 — Morgann Leslie  
12 — Mark McCollough  
15 — Mason Reese  
16 — Ken Heyse

### June Birthdays

18 — Rosemary Gallagher  
20 — Jerry McClain  
21 — Don Myers  
22 — Marisa Robinett  
28 — Ella McClellan

### June Anniversaries

4 — Jerry & Joyce Springer  
19 — Jim & Linda Vandemark  
21 — Pastor Marcus & Jessica  
25 — Jim & Ann Friend  
26 — Justin & Alison Aldrich

## Prayer Requests

**Grief:** Ryan Greathouse, Paul Lutz

### **Church Members**

John Crager, Nila Muzzillo, Sue Burdick, Regina Smith, The Kaduk Family, Ruby Tuttle, Sue Brown, Joyce Springer, and Kathleen Lutz, our missionary in Kenya

### **Friends of St. Mark's**

Diana Geeting (Sandy Muckenfuss' son-in-law's sister) ... Carole Toebe ... Jane Hines (Dave Hines mom) ... Ron Vancamp (friend of Vicki Bergdall) ... Dean Pheffercorn (husband of Carol Reese's friend) ... Nik McKean (Nicki McKean's son) ... Bill Zabel (friend of John & Jane Foell) ... Roger Easterday (Ruby Tuttle's son) ... Tina Muzzillo (Nila Muzzillo's daughter-in-law) ... Eva Young (neighbor of Barry & Bonnie Trenary) ... Susie Dilley (friend of Cindy Warstler) ... Randy Young (member of our community) ... Mike Buchs (son of friend of Nila Muzzillo) ... Gerry Nagel (Konieczki family) ... Steve Dwyer, Bun Mettert, Katlyn Kucharik (friends of Mary Heyse) ... Gladys Girado (Barry Trenary's cousin) ... Betty Deininger (Diann Hines friend's mother) ... Bob Dannenburg (friend of the Foell's) ... Nancy Pearl (Mandy Kintz's mother) ... Leonard Hines (Mary Heyse's brother-in-law) ... Diana Raney (Cindy Warstler's sister) ... Mungumio Vine (Kristen Konieczki's sponsored child) ... Judith Berry (Sue Brown's sister) ... Bob Friend (cousin of Marge Norris & Marilyn Myers) ... Rosie Reade (friend of Marilyn Myers)

### **Shut-ins and Homebound Members**

Alden Swenson, Joanne Ruger, Marilyn Imus, Dolores Souder, Richard Bowerman, Eleanor Thomas, Betty Saunders, Sandy Muckenfuss, Ella McClellan, Maxine Mason, Jean Yoder

*\*Prayer Requests will be kept on this list for two months, unless otherwise requested. If you would like to add a new request or update us on the status of a person currently on the list, please contact Kathy*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **June Quarterly Prayer**

The theme for our June quarterly prayer (June 18) is to pray for our community, Auburn and DeKalb County. If weather and health permit, consider walking around some of our towns and pray for our community. Perhaps stop at some or all of our schools in the county and pray over the schools. Stop at the hospital and walk around and pray. Pray over our businesses, courthouse and non-profits. Walk the track inside or outside the YMCA and pray for our partnerships. Pray that you and we as a church can be the light of Jesus to this community and that all churches in Auburn would reach the least, the last and the lost with the Gospel of Jesus.

---

## **Community Cookout**

On Wednesday, June 20th, we will have our Annual Community Cookout from 5-7:30pm! We think it is a great opportunity for our church to spend time with our neighbors! Look for sign ups in Kraus Korner for donations and the opportunity to volunteer.

---

## **Poverty Initiative**

St. Mark's has joined a local initiative to address generational poverty in DeKalb County. This will launch with a seminar on July 11, 11 am—2 pm at DeKalb High School. You can learn more about the event from the link to the initiative website on our website. We hope St. Mark's is represented well and can provide scholarships to those in need. St. Mark's is one of the first partners of this initiative, and we are excited to help bring transformation to our community in this way.

We are a local initiative led by representatives in government, faith-based organizations, businesses, and non-government organizations. Initially this began with the Town of Waterloo, New Hope Christian Center, and Learning Link, an education initiative of Community Foundation DeKalb County, but has grown to include many other voices. Our goal is to end poverty...but it's

going to take ALL of us, working together, to make that a reality! We are taking a cross-sector, county-wide approach to educate and network leaders about poverty issues in DeKalb County. But, we won't stop there! Through collaboration and innovation, we plan to create new approaches so that each of our organizations can effectively target to end the cycle of poverty.

---

## **VBS: St. Mark's is going to the beach!**

Vacation Bible School will be here before you know it, July 15-18. As we have done the last few years, VBS will be from Sunday night until Wednesday night. If you would like to help lead a group of students, help with crafts, or help with food. Please speak with Pastor Dan! Look for a sign up sheet for food donations in Kraus Korner!

---

## **Grandparents & Caregivers Support Group**

Every 4th Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-7:30pm at the Heimach Center (1800 E 7th St., Auburn) there will be a support group for custodial grandparents and grandparents who often care for their grandchildren. If you would like to come and need childcare, please contact Amanda and Rita at 260-357-3333.

---

## **Pastor Marcus' Book Available**

Pastor Marcus recently published his second book, *The False Gospel of Guilt and Shame*. You can order it in print or kindle on Amazon or you can order one from the church office for \$10.

---

## **Kenya Mission Team**

Please continue to pray for our Kenya Mission Team as we prepare for our mission trip June 4-14. The Mission Team Members are: Pastor Marcus Carlson, Jessica Carlson, Scott Lutz, Dave Hines, Diann Hines, Alex Kaduk, Peter Jungk, Peggy Badenhop and Sue Brown.

---

### **Israel Trip**

The October 2018 Israel trip is being postponed due to date conflicts with the tour guide. The trip will be rescheduled for some time in 2020 or 2021.

---

### **Coffee/Hospitality & Sunday School**

The Worship Assistant Schedule is located in Kraus Korner. We need more volunteers for Coffee/Hospitality and Sunday School.

---

### **Food Pantry Donations**

For 2018 we will be accepting any non perishable items. Occasionally, we will ask for donations for special needs or specific organizations we are supporting. Please see the board each month in Kraus Korner for more information.

---

### **Sunday Morning Parking**

Many of you park at Wells Fargo on Sunday morning. Recently, ownership of that property changed hands as Wells Fargo prepares to merge into their location on 7th Street. Pastor Marcus met with the new owners and they have granted continued permission for people to park at Wells Fargo on Sunday mornings for church. Additionally, they have extended permission to park in the lot on the corner of 7th and VanBuren next to Wells Fargo as well as the Beacon Lot. This applies to Sunday morning only. Please feel free to utilize these spaces, but please be respectful of these properties as well. We always encourage members who are physically able to consider parking outside our main two lots on Sunday to leave them open for new people, visitors, and those who have a physical need to park closer.

---

### **Celebrate Recovery**

St. Mark's has partnered with Celebrate Recovery--a place for people walking through hurts, hang-ups, and habits--at the Cupbearer Cafe. There is a community meal at 5:30 p.m. every Thursday with the Celebrate Recovery large group meeting at 6:30 p.m. If you would like more information about CR or are interested in attending, please see a pastor.

---

### **Calling all reading leaders: Who Broke My Church? & Other Books**

In September, a new book released that some from St. Mark's were honored to read earlier drafts of. This book, *Who Broke My Church* is by Kent Hunter (Jon's dad) and Tracee Swank. It is a fantastic book that will be helpful to many churches, their pastors, staff, leaders and congregation members. We have a grant that will allow us to purchase this book for anyone at St. Mark's who is interested in reading it. You can get your copy from the church office. As a part of the same grant, we have been given some other books that the council, staff, pastors and others in our church are reading and studying over the next year both as a part of the Engaging Young Adult Initiative and our efforts to achieve our mission and goals in the strategic plan. See Pastor Marcus if you would like to see some of the free books available.

---

### **Sunday Sermon Series**

This summer we will journey through the book of Romans. If you have to miss a Sunday, you can always watch or listen online to the sermon or request a DVD of the service from the church office.

---

### **Upcoming Sunday Morning Sermon Series**

We encourage you to read the passage for each week the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday before worship and the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after worship as a way to further prepare for, reflect on, and listen to God as we look to the Bible together.

#### **Romans**

6/3 - Chapter 3 [Romans 3:19-26]  
6/10 - Chapter 4 [Romans 4:13-24]  
6/17 - Chapter 5 [Romans 5:1-11]  
6/24 - Chapter 6 [Romans 6:1-14]  
7/1 - Chapter 7 [Romans 7:14-25]

---

### **Carlson Summer of Missions**

Please be praying for Pastor Marcus and Jessica Carlson as they head to India in July to train pastors from all over India and Bangladesh!

---

## **Weekly Bible Studies**

### Pastor's Bible Study

Pastor's Bible Study continues every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Bring your Bible and join us!

### Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible study group meets twice a month after the 9:30 worship service/coffee time at 11:00 - 12:00 in the Council Room, located downstairs off of Schuette Hall.

We are starting a new Bible study called, "In the Luther Household", A Bible study on the Lutheran Understanding of Marriage and Family. Included in this study are excerpts from Luther's personal writings to family and friends as they faced good and bad that come from everyday living.

Please join us on June 3 and 17. I think this will be a good study and hope many will consider joining in!!

---

## **Opportunities to Serve**

### *Prayer Team:*

We are looking for additional members to join our prayer team. Prayer team members are scheduled to staff our prayer stations during communion. Training is provided. Please let Pastor Marcus or the church office know if you are interested.

### *Nursery:*

We are looking for individuals to serve for one of the Sunday morning services once a month. Please contact Pastor Dan if interested.

### *Tech Team:*

We are hoping to add to our tech team, those who run the slides and sound for Sunday morning services. Training provided! It would mean serving for at least one of the services once a month. Please contact any Pastoral Team member if interested.

### *Preschool Volunteers:*

As our preschool grows we are looking for some preschool volunteers to spend time with our children in the classroom. Ideally, volunteers would come for 2 hours one day a week each week in the 9:30-3:30 time frame. Retirees, working adults, parents, grandparents are all welcome. Please contact Linda or the church office if you are willing to help.

---

## **LCMC National Gathering**

Pastor Marcus, Pastor Dan and Diann Hines attended the LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) National Gathering in October. It was a wonderful and meaningful event for all. This year's gathering, October 7-11, 2018 will be in Des Moines and we will be using some grant funds to help others attend this gathering as we will be able to drive out for the event. All expenses other than some meals will be covered by the grant. If you have questions or interest, please see Pastor Marcus or Pastor Dan.

---

## **2018 Strategic Plan**

2018 is the second year in our five year strategic plan. We have mapped out the ideas, goals and items that are a part of our 2018 plan for the year and will share them as we go in the newsletter. If you want to see a copy of the plan for this year, please contact Pastor Marcus.

---

## **New Quarterly Prayer Initiative**

As we continue to grow in our prayer life as individuals and as a church, we will be emphasizing quarterly prayer days throughout the year. For each of these 4 days during the year, congregation members will be encouraged to take a day with an extra focus on prayer. Ideas, prompts and themes will be shared through the newsletter, bulletin and the all church email. Our quarterly days of prayer for 2018 will be June 18, September 10 and December 3.

---

## **Funding Our Future**

The Funding Our Future initiative has completed, however we have made this fund permanent. Donations above and beyond general given can be given and this fund is used for new ministry initiatives and implementation of our strategic plan for things not covered in the budget. Much like the building fund that is used for special building expenses not covered in the budget, funding our future is used for special ministry expenses not covered in our budget.

---

## Personal Ministry

A core belief of our Lutheran Theology is the Priesthood of all Believers, that we are all ministers. That means regardless of your age, your Bible knowledge, your gifts and abilities you are a ministry. It means that you are all ministers. Over the last 5 years one of our hopes has been to help you find your personal ministry at St. Mark's and outside St. Mark's. The third and final piece of that puzzle is to help you find the people God is calling you to minister to. It may be specific people, it may be a type of person or a people group. Often, it is simply the names in your contacts, in your circle of influence that do not have a faith, have a faith that has gone dry, do not have a church or do not know Jesus. Who are the people that God is calling you to minister to?

---

## Alpha News

Do you have questions about faith, life or God? Do you have any friends, family or work colleagues who have questions? A couple of years ago I was really nervous inviting my friends to Alpha. I thought they would think I was weird and that they wouldn't be interested. But I took a chance and asked. When I asked them to Alpha our friend Tabatha replied, "We were just taking about getting more serious about our faith." All seven friends Esther and I invited came and loved Alpha! It took our friendships to a whole new level as we grew closer to Jesus together.

God goes before us and prepares people's hearts. All we have to do is ask! If they say yes, it could make an eternal difference. If they say no, they might just need more time to process. The important thing to remember is that they are never rejecting you. Who is in your social network to invite? Who could you pray for? Our next Alpha starts **September 10<sup>th</sup>** at the YMCA. Postcard invitations are now available in the Kraus Korner. I have found it helpful to write a personal message on the back of the post card to add a personal touch to the invitation. Let yourself be surprised by God this Fall!

---

## Immersion Experiences (*Update*)

As you are already probably aware, we have had several church members participate in an

immersion learning experience in the past couple years, some traveling to England and others to Hot Springs, Arkansas. Those who have participated in these trips have urged us to continue to offer these opportunities to interested others. Many of those members who have been on one of the trips have given money to a special fund to pay it forward. We also received a grant to help match those funds, allowing for more people to participate. While not all expenses will be covered, a significant portion of them will be. We currently plan on attending the Hot Springs, Arkansas immersion experience October 4-7, 2018 and the England immersion January 24-February 1, 2019. If you are interested in participating in one or both of these experiences or have questions, please contact Pastor Marcus.

---



There is no Loft during the summer.

---

## Lawn Mowing

The schedule for the lawn mowing season is up in Kraus Korner. Please sign-up for a time that works for you.

---

## Lutheran Summer Camping

If you are interested your students or children attending one of our Lutheran Camps, there is information in Kraus Korner. Please remember that our church will cover half of the registration. If you are interested, please talk with Dan.

---

## Save the Date

June 4-14 - Kenya Mission Trip  
June 20 - Community Cookout  
July 15-18 - Vacation Bible School  
August 9 & 10 - Willow Creek Leadership Summit  
August 19 - Church Picnic

---

## Kingdom Communities

I have found that the most deep and meaningful friendships in my spiritual journey have been with those I have been on mission with. Some of you will experience this in Kenya. In the movie "Lord of the Rings", I am reminded of the deep friendship and love in that Frodo and Sam experience as they are a mission together to destroy the ring. They overcome battles and experience a deep level of trust and support for one another as they are focused on their mission. In the Bible, David and Jonathan have a spiritual friendship like this.

A Kingdom community is a group of people who grow to be deep spiritual friends. They come together in a common mission to bring good and love of Jesus to their neighborhood around them. This is where deep discipleship happens and where life to the full thrives. We are launching our first Kingdom community this fall. Would you like to know more or to get involved? For questions about Kingdom communities and Alpha email [jon@stmarksauburn.org](mailto:jon@stmarksauburn.org)

---

## Thank You

Dear St. Mark's Lutheran Church,  
Chi Eta Chapter of Sigma Beta Sorority is sending you a big thank you for letting us hold our meetings in your basement. We appreciate your generosity. We have members out of town who aren't able to have meetings in their homes and this greatly helps us. Again thank you.  
Sharon Farmer, Recording Secretary

---

## Family News

Jean Yoder has moved to the Cedars.  
Her new address: % The Cedars, Rm 102,  
14409 Sunrise Court, Leo, IN 46765  
Her new phone number is 260-570-8838

---

## NALC Update: Authenticity

[Article written by Mark Chavez, General Secretary of the NALC]

Researchers studying the younger generations (post-millennials and younger) report that those generations seek authenticity. They are quick to sniff out people who are not genuine, and have

a keen eye for spotting hypocrisy. They look for congruity between a person's beliefs and behavior. They want relationships that have depth and honesty.

Young people who are seeking a Christian church in which they can worship and be disciples are especially looking for authenticity. I hope I am wrong, but I think young people will not find it in a number of churches. By churches, I mean not churches in general, but churches that claim to be orthodox and biblically grounded. I include our NALC and LCMC congregations.

We confess Jesus is *"the way, and the truth, and the life"* (John 14:6), and our relationship with Him is primary. Would a young person visiting our congregations find congruity between our confession and our behavior? Average worship attendance decreases and relatively few people in our churches abide in God's Word.

On the hot button issues of marriage and sexuality, young people would quickly find the absence of authenticity. We confess that marriage is the lifelong relationship of one man and one woman, but what does our behavior confess? People in our churches live together in sexual relationships outside of marriage, and it's common knowledge. It's not just young adults. A growing number of widowed or divorced seniors live together outside of marriage, and it's not a secret.

We speak against non-heterosexual sexual relationships and same-sex marriage, but do we notice the log in our eye? By far the greatest number of people disregarding God's will for marriage and sexuality are heterosexuals. We need to hear anew our Lord's words to us: *"How can you say to your brother; 'Brother; let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye"* (Luke 6:42). *"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell you?"* (Luke 6:46).

Ever wonder what happens when you give a memorial donation to St. Mark's in the honor of someone who has passed away? Below is the policy on how we handle memorials at St. Mark's. Next month we will share information on how we handle estate gifts, when someone leaves a gift to St. Mark's as a part of their final wishes.

## **Memorial Fund Policy**

**Purpose:** The Memorial Fund exists in order that individuals or organizations may make contributions to St. Mark's in honor of people who have died.

### Policy & Procedures:

#### Receipt & Tracking

- Funds received by St. Mark's as memorials in honor of a person who has died are considered designated funds and are treated differently than other gifts given to St. Mark's.
- When a memorial gift is received, it will be deposited into the Memorial Fund account in accordance with church deposit and accounting procedures. This fund is designated and is not part of the general church-operating budget. The fund carries over from year to year.
- The church office will send notice to the family of the deceased as well as the individual or organization who gave the memorial as an acknowledging receipt of the gift.
- The church office will track the total amount of Memorial gifts received for each person who has been honored through a memorial gift to St. Mark's.

#### Use of Memorial Funds

- The Senior Pastor will consult with the family of the deceased regarding the best use of the memorial funds received in that person's honor.
- Once a decision has been made regarding the use of memorial funds given in honor of the deceased, the funds will be transferred or used as decided according to the accounting practices of the church.
  - If the total amount of memorials received for an individual is less than \$1,000, no additional approval is needed.
  - If the total amount of memorials received for an individual is greater than \$1,000, but less than \$5,000, the proposed use of the funds will need to be approved by the Executive Council.
  - If the total amount of memorials received for an individual exceeds \$5,000, the proposed use of the funds will need to be approved by the Council.
- Once this process is completed, a letter of appreciation will be sent to the family of the person whom the memorial funds were given in honor of.
- A note of acknowledgement and appreciation will be included in the church newsletter and other forms of church communication as deemed appropriate.
- As a general rule, plaques, etchings, name plates etc. will not be placed on items within the church except in very rare cases as deemed necessary by the Senior Pastor and Council. While we are thankful for gifts received in honor of those who have passed away, we recognize that all gifts come from God and the honor and glory should primarily be directed to God.



# St. Mark's Financial Update

*Each month we will provide a budget snapshot and then at least once a quarter we will provide an overall picture of the finances of St. Mark's. Due to timing of bank statements, reconciliation and council meeting schedules, we will always be presenting information from the end of the month occurring two months before the date of the newsletter.*

## Budget Snapshot

*General Fund/Budget  
Through April 30, 2018*

|            | Income      | Expense     | Net         |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Budget     | \$89,691.67 | \$89,691.67 | \$0         |
| Actual     | \$86,988.80 | \$88,826.37 | \$-1,837.57 |
| Difference | \$-2,702.87 | \$865.30    | _____       |

## Financial Picture

*Through April 30, 2018*

### Assets

*Total of all Accounts* \$719,123.57

### Restricted/Designated Accounts

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Building Fund   | \$7,596.93          |
| Memorial Fund   | \$13,795.11         |
| Youth Group   | \$8,242.33          |
| Funding Our Future (\$17,000 earmarked)                             | \$22,961.99         |
| Preschool   | \$66,963.66         |
| Grants  | \$50,616.19         |
| Endowment Fund (investment held at Lutheran Foundation)             | \$236,129.64        |
| Funding Our Future Reserve (investment held at Lutheran Foundation) | \$257,896.67        |
| Other Restricted Designated Accounts                                | \$29,151.72         |
| <i>Total Restricted/Designated Accounts</i>                         | <i>\$697,954.24</i> |

General Fund (Budget & Undesignated Savings) \$18,839.77

### Other

Bills to be Paid/Accounts Payable \$2,329.56

**Total** **\$0**

*Questions? Contact a Finance Team Member, Council Member or Pastor Marcus.*

## **Montessori Moment**

What a great Sunday morning at St. Mark's! Our Montessori class gave a great performance in-between services. Thank you to everyone who came to the breakfast before the program! We truly appreciate your support! We would like to thank the team of workers that helped with the breakfast. We couldn't have pull it off without the teamwork that went on Sunday morning. We are blessed to be part of a loving supportive church family!



### **Events**

---

We have 1 more spot open for the 2018-2019 school year. If you know anyone looking for a Montessori School feel free to send them our information.

### **Help Needed**

---

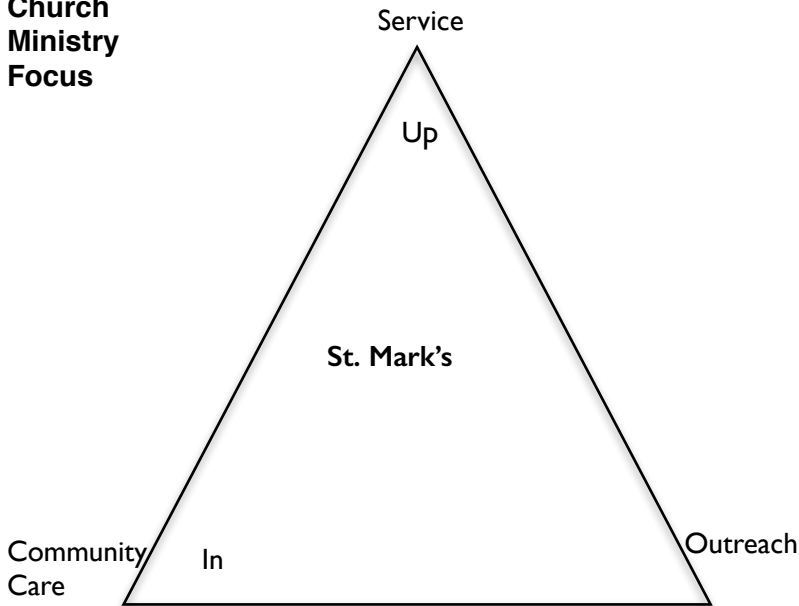
We are currently looking for a part-time special needs assistant for the new school year that begins in August. The position is for about 20 hours per week. If you know of anyone that might be interested please have them send their resume to [linda@stmarksauburn.org](mailto:linda@stmarksauburn.org)

## St. Mark's Culture & DNA

### *Our DNA:*

While we are all unique and have our own unique DNA, we also as a church have a shared and unique DNA. We utilize the shape of a triangle to explain much of our ministry, vision and structure. This is rooted in the first triangle that represents the three dimensions or focuses of Jesus' life and ministry. Jesus lived his intentional life on earth through three relationships: up, in and out.

### Church Ministry Focus



**Church Ministry Focus:** The Triangle helps us to understand the focus of the ministry of our church based on how Jesus lived his life, up-in-out with the Father, the disciples and the world. As a church, we have many areas of focus in our ministry to one another and the world. First, our ministry focuses *in* on community care, caring for those who call St. Mark's home. Secondly it involves an a journey *up* to *service* as we serve God by serving others outside of our church walls. Finally our ministry has a focus on *outreach*, reaching *out* to those who do not have a church home and those who do not know Jesus.

---

### *Our Vocabulary:*

Most churches (along with other organizations) do not realize that the language and the vocabulary of the organization have great significance to the organization. One of the cornerstones of any culture is language or vocabulary. This month our vocabulary words are *culture and culture question*.

**Culture:** Central to our function is a shared culture around our values, mission, vision and vocabulary.

**Culture Question:** 'What is God doing?' This is the key question of our culture that we will use as a part of almost all of our life together.

---

### *Prayer of the Month:*

God, surprise me.  
God, surprise us.  
God, surprise our church.  
Amen

---

### *Culture Question of the Month:*

This is the 500th anniversary of the reformation? What kind of reformation does the Church of Jesus Christ today need? What part can you plan in this reformation?

## Worship Assistant Schedule June 3, 2018 to July 8, 2018

|                               | June 3                            | June 10                            | June 17                            | June 24                             | July 1                            | July 8                            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Preaching</b>              | Pastor Marcus                     | Jon Hunter                         | Pastor Dan                         | Pastor Marcus                       | Pastor Marcus                     | Brian Moeller                     |
| <b>Assisting Minister (T)</b> | Mason R.                          | Pastor Dan                         | John F.                            | Rod K.                              | Jane F.                           | Pastor Marcus                     |
| <b>Children Time (T)</b>      | Pastor Dan                        | Pastor Dan                         | Pastor Marcus                      | Jon H.                              | Pastor Marcus                     | Rod K.                            |
| <b>Acolyte (T)</b>            | Camden K.                         | Ava A.                             | Alex L.                            | Abby C.                             | Alex L.                           | Ava A.                            |
| <b>Lector (T)</b>             | Mary H.                           | Barry Trenary                      | Jane F.                            | Marilyn M.                          | Suzanne L.                        | Alison A.                         |
| <b>Communion Asst. (T)</b>    | Peggy B. & Janice T.              | Rod K. & Diann H.                  | Glenn M. & Vicki B.                | Barry Trenary & Rex                 | Peggy B. & Vicki B.               | Glenn M. & Janice T.              |
| <b>Ushers (T)</b>             | Jerry S., Rex B., Tony K., Art B. | Jerry S., Rex B., Stan B., Russ H. | Jerry S., Rex B., Kathy G., Len M. | Jerry S., Vicki B., Dave & Jayne M. | Jerry S., Rex B., Art B., Stan B. | Jerry S., Rex B., Russ H., Len M. |
| <b>Greeters (T)</b>           | Jim & Ann F.                      | Rod & Barb K.                      | Gary H. & Vicki M.                 | Cindy W. & John C.                  | Stan & Judy B.                    | Jim & Ann F.                      |
| <b>Nursery (T)</b>            |                                   | Linda Wolf & Kaitlyn               | Carol R.                           | Jim & Ann F.                        | Alison A & Linda Wolf             | Jessica & Kaitlyn                 |
| <b>Sunday School (T)</b>      | Cindy R.                          |                                    |                                    |                                     | N/A                               |                                   |
| <b>Tech (T)</b>               | Jeff & Jarrett R.                 | Justin A. & Connie M.              | Barry & Micah                      | Barry T. & Micah                    | Barry & Connie                    | Justin A. & Micah C.              |
| <b>Prayer Team (T)</b>        | Cindy R. & Jessica C.             | Brian M. & Mary H.                 | Mary H. & Sue B.                   | Marge N. & P. Dan                   | P. Dan & Jon H.                   | Mary H. & Sue B.                  |
| <b>Altar</b>                  |                                   |                                    |                                    |                                     |                                   |                                   |
| <b>Coffee/Hospitality</b>     | Tina M.                           |                                    |                                    |                                     | N/A                               |                                   |
| <b>Emcee (M)</b>              | Jon H.                            | Pastor Dan                         | Jon H.                             | Jon H.                              | Pastor Dan                        | Nicki McKean                      |
| <b>Communion (M)</b>          | Jon H.                            | Marilyn M.                         | Jeff R.                            | Jon H.                              | Pastor Dan                        | Pastor Marcus                     |
| <b>Prayer Team (M)</b>        | Pastor Dan                        | Jayne M.                           | Cindy R.                           | Jessica C.                          | Jessica C.                        | Jayne M.                          |
| <b>Greeters/Usher (M)</b>     | Linda Wolff                       | Tina M.                            | Jeff & Cindy R.                    | Jessica C.                          | Jessica C.                        | Tina M.                           |
| <b>Nursery (M)</b>            | Heidi M.                          | Linda Wolf                         | Ashlyn R.                          | Heidi M.                            | Linda Wolf                        | Carol R.                          |
| <b>Tech (M)</b>               | Barry & Micah                     | Marge N.                           | Mason & Jarrett R.                 | P. Dan                              | Marge N.                          | Barry T.                          |
| <b>Other</b>                  | N/A                               | N/A                                | N/A                                | N/A                                 | N/A                               | N/A                               |

## JUNE 2018

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p><b>27</b><br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion<br/> <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour<br/> <b>11:30 AM</b> 11:30 Gathering (Modern Worship)</p>   | <p><b>28</b><br/>           Church Office Closed Memorial Day<br/>           Pastor Dan's Day Off</p> | <p><b>29</b><br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Modern Service Rehearsal</p>  | <p><b>30</b><br/> <b>8:30 AM</b> Open Prayer &amp; Communion<br/> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Gathering<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastor's Meeting<br/> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice</p>  | <p><b>31</b><br/> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Bible Study<br/> <b>5:30 PM</b> Celebrate Recovery</p>  | <p><b>1</b><br/>           Pastor Marcus' Day Off</p>                                   | <p><b>2</b></p>                                   |
| <p><b>3</b><br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion<br/> <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour<br/> <b>11:00 AM</b> Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study<br/> <b>11:30 AM</b> 11:30 Gathering (Modern Worship)<br/> <b>7:00 PM</b> Kenya Luggage Party</p>                                  | <p><b>4</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/>           Pastor Dan's Day Off</p>                 | <p><b>5</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Modern Service Rehearsal</p>         | <p><b>6</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>8:30 AM</b> Open Prayer &amp; Communion<br/> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Gathering<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastors &amp; Kathy Meeting<br/> <b>12:00 PM</b> Genealogy Group</p>  | <p><b>7</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Bible Study<br/> <b>5:30 PM</b> Celebrate Recovery<br/> <b>6:00 PM</b> Auburn Community Band Practice</p>                          | <p><b>8</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/>           Pastor Marcus' Day Off</p> | <p><b>9</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip</p> |
| <p><b>10</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>8:50 AM</b> Choir Chimers Rehearsal<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion<br/> <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour<br/> <b>11:30 AM</b> 11:30 Gathering (Modern Worship)</p>   | <p><b>11</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/>           Pastor Dan's Day Off</p>                | <p><b>12</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Modern Service Rehearsal</p>        | <p><b>13</b><br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>8:30 AM</b> Open Prayer &amp; Communion<br/> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Gathering<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastor's Meeting</p>   | <p><b>14</b><br/>           Flag Day<br/>           Kenya Mission Trip<br/> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Bible Study<br/> <b>5:30 PM</b> Celebrate Recovery<br/> <b>6:00 PM</b> Auburn Community Band Practice</p> | <p><b>15</b><br/>           Pastor Marcus' Day Off</p>                                  | <p><b>16</b></p>                                  |
| <p><b>17</b><br/>           Father's Day<br/> <b>8:50 AM</b> Choir Chimers Rehearsal<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion<br/> <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour<br/> <b>11:00 AM</b> Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study<br/> <b>11:30 AM</b> 11:30 Gathering (Modern Worship)</p> | <p><b>18</b><br/>           Pastor Dan's Day Off<br/>           Quarterly Prayer Day</p>              | <p><b>19</b><br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Modern Service Rehearsal</p>  | <p><b>20</b><br/> <b>8:00 AM</b> All Staff Meeting<br/> <b>8:30 AM</b> Open Prayer &amp; Communion<br/> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Gathering<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastor's Meeting<br/> <b>12:00 PM</b> Genealogy Group<br/> <b>12:00 PM</b> Senior's Luncheon<br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Community Cookout</p> | <p><b>21</b><br/> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Bible Study<br/> <b>5:30 PM</b> Celebrate Recovery<br/> <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting</p>  | <p><b>22</b><br/>           Pastor Marcus' Day Off</p>                                  | <p><b>23</b></p>                                  |
| <p><b>24</b><br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship Service with Communion<br/> <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour<br/> <b>11:30 AM</b> 11:30 Gathering (Modern Worship)</p>   | <p><b>25</b><br/>           Pastor Dan's Day Off</p>  | <p><b>26</b><br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Finance Team Meeting<br/> <b>5:00 PM</b> Modern Service Rehearsal</p> | <p><b>27</b><br/> <b>8:30 AM</b> Open Prayer &amp; Communion<br/> <b>9:00 AM</b> Prayer Gathering<br/> <b>9:30 AM</b> Pastor's Meeting</p>   | <p><b>28</b><br/> <b>10:00 AM</b> Pastor's Bible Study<br/> <b>5:30 PM</b> Celebrate Recovery</p>  | <p><b>29</b><br/>           Pastor Marcus' Day Off</p>                                  | <p><b>30</b></p>                                  |

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

211 West Ninth Street

Auburn, IN 46706

Web Page: [www.stmarksauburn.org](http://www.stmarksauburn.org)

Pastor Marcus: [pastormarcus@stmarksauburn.org](mailto:pastormarcus@stmarksauburn.org)

Pastor Dan: [pastordan@stmarksauburn.org](mailto:pastordan@stmarksauburn.org)

E-mail: [office@stmarksauburn.org](mailto:office@stmarksauburn.org)

Return Service Requested



# St. Mark's

— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

**Building Relationships  
Transforming Lives**

St. Mark's Messenger is published monthly by St. Mark's Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Marcus J. Carlson    Senior Pastor

Rev. Dan Bellinger                      Family & Outreach Pastor

Jon Hunter                                Young Adult & Evangelism Minister

Laura Deckard                         Director of Music

Kathy Fribley                          Church Secretary

Linda Vandemark                      Preschool Director

**Our Mission: To bring about transformation in individuals, families, our community, and the world through Jesus Christ**