



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

RE:MARK'S

JULY 2019

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES—BUILDING CHANGES

Staff Offices are Moving!

Wanted to give you all an update on the construction plans as it pertains to where the staff will be going. As you all know, our space is being completely redone and we cannot stay there while they work around us. So...we are moving to the Choir Room. That's right. The whole team will be all together in one space! Pastor Linda, Scottie, Katie, and David. Per usual, Eileen will be on the move and Pastor Trexler's office will be in the sound room, right in the commons.



What does that mean to you?

Beginning Wednesday, July 10th – we will be settling in to our new spaces. When you enter in the church, you will need to come to the Choir Room to find us.

The other big change is that staff will not have access to the camera and “door opener”. Beginning on the 10th, when you ring the bell, we will need to walk from the choir room to let you in. Please be patient with us. It is a bit of a trek.

We will have notices on the doors as well reminding you of these changes.

We know change can be difficult but we are all so excited of what is to come! Hopefully you all are as well.

If there are any questions about this, please contact the church office. At 828.253.0043.

Library Update:

The church library will be closing for the duration of the renovation. Please consider checking out books to lighten our shelves. Be sure to check out anything you may wish to read in the next year.



Last day of opportunity will be **Sunday, July 14th**—Join us at our “Closing House” (as opposed to “Open House”) for cookies, lemonade and to check out a book!

Nursery Update:

The nursery's downstairs will be closing as of **Sunday, July 14th**. This will be the last Sunday that the children will be in the downstairs nursery.

The nursery will be moving to the choir room for the remainder of construction.



ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

God's Work—Our Hands— HUGE Benefit Rummage Sale— July 20th



On Saturday, July 21st from 9am—2pm, the Annual Rummage Sale is back! All money raised will be donated to One Youth at A Time and Living Waters Lutheran Church

Have items you would like to donate? Please contact Becky Sachsenmaier to arrange drop-off or pick up—text her at ph# 828.333.1539.

Volunteers will be needed through out the month of July but especially during the week leading up to the 20th and on the 20th. Can you volunteer? Contact Becky.

There is something for everyone! Sign up at the Thrivent Bulletin Board for ways to help.

VBS 2019 God's Good Creation—July 7-11 5:30- 8:30pm; Dinner provided



God's Good Creation VBS celebrates the gifts that God has created—the world and all that is in it – including you! Children will learn about the world around them, near and far, and how working together with all creation, we can look forward to the future God has promised.

God's Good Creation VBS is a program of ELCA's World Hunger. We will collect offering to support this ministry, as well as learn how the ELCA is working to fight hunger around the world.

Please Register for VBS!

Registering your child and their friends for VBS helps us to prepare and have enough supplies for all who come to learn about Jesus with us. Visit www.stmarkslutheran.net to register or see "Sign Up Central".

July Adult Faith Formation Class

Maximizing God's Gifts This class will talk about all that God has provided for us in our lives - our world, our bodies, our time and talents, and our financial gifts. How can we take care of and use all that we have to God's glory? This class will meet all summer in the Commons.



HOW WE CAN BE THERE FOR OUR MEMBERS

As many of you may (or may not) know, Karin Doss will be having surgery on July 12 to have her leg amputated.



This brave decision did not come lightly to her or her family, but is a result of 20 years of failed surgeries on her left knee. She is in good hands with a surgeon from the Walter Reed Hospital and Karin is confident her constant pain is soon to be a thing of the past. What she does not know is how long she will be in a rehab facility following the surgery, so she doesn't know what you can do to help following the surgery. Meals are always a good, Lutheran response for those in recovery, but it would be nice to minimize the traffic in and out of her house, so we are suggesting a gift card to Grubhub (delivery service of food from many local restaurants). This is a great way to provide hot meals to Burton, Cord, Trey, and Karin while also giving them some privacy.

Prayers and cards should also be sent!! Thank you, St. Mark's, for always stepping up for your family in times of need. Visit the Grubhub website for gift cards. (www.grubhub.com)

HOW ST. MARK'S IS INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY... GET INVOLVED

Steadfast House July collection ~ The July collection for the women & children living at the Steadfast House is Toilet Paper. There is always a need for this basic necessity, so let's try to collect as much as we can! God's Work Our Hands!



Volunteers Needed: Steadfast Meal ~ July 19

We are in need of volunteers to go to the Steadfast House on Friday, July 19, from 5:30-6:30pm to serve supper to the women and children. Please see sign-up central or contact Debbie Layne if you have questions.



Habitat Interfaith House:

Habitat Interfaith House Build volunteers needed between July 9 and September 14. Contact Henry Ulrichs if interested. Ph# 910.62.4854

MINISTRY TEAM SHARES

How Do I Evangelize?

Did you attend Vicar Matt's intern project, Why Lutheran in WNC? I am so glad that I did because it's given me a new way to have civil conversations with folks I may not agree with by using a simple question, "Why do you believe that?" The conversations having to do with prejudices against entire groups of people have become more prevalent lately. When I ask, "Why do you believe that?", there are many times when Bible scriptures are used to defend these beliefs. The beginning of my response is usually this:



If you read through the Bible and your main take-away is that God hates ANYONE, you might should have another looksee. *We may walk on this earth being judgmental and mean to those different from us, but as a Lutheran, I truly believe that God is with us on this earth as only God can be, full of love, forgiveness, and grace.*

Grace is definitely not a concept in all faiths, so it opens a door to a deeper heart-to-heart for me to attempt to explain it, and for me to also learn about someone else's faith. Like I said, this is only the start of the conversation, but it's a way for me to evangelize comfortably face to face, and it leads to civility online without a faceless argument.

How do YOU evangelize?

Can you name the 5 Core Values of St. Mark's?

I'll remind you of one of them ~ Nurturing Faith Formation. Recognizing that spiritual growth is a life-long process, we encourage all people to worship, learn, and grow in faith by spending time with God's Word and practicing their faith at home, church, and in the world. "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." Proverbs 22:6



St. Mark's is blessed to have so many loving members to teach the children of our congregation the Word of God. When asked why she enjoys serving as a Faith Formation teacher, Gail McWithey responded, "It's what made me, me. As a child, I remember singing the books of the Bible and the lessons we were taught. I want that for my kids. I want the kids I am teaching to always remember what they learned in my class about God's love. As they grow up, these are the things that will CLICK for them in the hard times, and that is so important."

Has God gifted you with the ability to teach God's Word?

NEWS AND UPDATES

FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 2019



Operating Fund	May	YTD
Income budgeted	\$41,740	\$208,702
Gifts received	\$32,229	\$221,507
Expenditures	\$40,978	\$200,732
Difference	\$ (8,748)	\$20,774

Building Fund	May	YTD
Gifts received	\$ 1,015	\$5,212
Amount needed	\$ 2,201	\$11,005
Difference	\$(1,186)*	\$(5,793)*
Loan balance 5/30/19	\$274,295	

*\$38,226 on reserve

Rooted in Faith:

Balance of funds as of 5/30/19: \$266,809
Bill paid in 2019 as of 5/30/19: \$18,237

Online Photo Directory

Have you been to the Online Photo Directory website lately? We have another photo search for you ~ can you find who this beautiful young gal is? Go to <https://stmarkslutheran.ctrn.co/directory/index.php> to sign in to the photo directory, (your user name is your first and last name (no spaces), and your password is 1234 or shalom), and then let the search begin! Ask anyone on the Evangelism Team for assistance.



JULY SCRIPTURE

Sunday Scripture Lessons:

July 7th: Isaiah 66:10-14, Psalm 66:1-9, Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20



July 14th: Deuteronomy 30:9-14, Psalm 25:1-10, Colossians 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37

July 21st: Genesis 18:1-10a, Psalm 15, Colossians 1:15-28, Luke 10:38-42

July 28th: Genesis 18:20-32, Psalm 138, Colossians

THANK YOU ST. MARK'S

*Dear St. Mark's people,
My Grandma is so overwhelmed with gratitude that she is at a loss for words, so I am writing to say "God bless you" and "We thank you."*



Thank you to the quilters, the yarn angels and all the others of you who poured out a "shower" of love so that I am able to get a new shower chair - one that fits how big I have grown. Here is a picture of my new chair.

It has special straps so I won't fall out. It tips back so we can rinse out the shampoo without getting soap in my eyes. It is taller than my old one so Grandma doesn't have to wash me and try to lift me out while on her knees. And best of all, no bolts stick out to hurt me when I get wedged in the seat!

To all of you who helped me get my new chair, thank you a million, million times. And to everyone in this church family who have prayed for me since I was born and you learned that I might never walk - thank you too, and I love you.

Love, Erick



- 1 Carl Hughes
- 3 Stephanie Baer
Lucie Hartmann
Noah Schreck
- 4 Max Hartmann
- 6 Pat Patton
- 8 Josh Kersey, Marcus & Theodore Ransdell
- 9 Mae Reilly Mueller
Mary Schreck
Jeff Weems
- 10 Katherine Laveck
- 12 Bobbie Epley
Ari Stone
- 14 Laurian Richards
- 15 Shelby Montgomery
- 21 Alicia Richard
- 23 Anne Mock
- 24 Gloria Sainio
- 26 Bill Badger
Eric Van Tassel
- 27 Theresa Reboulet
Carl Schreck
- 29 Samantha Fridd
Jill Hutson
Lori Kemper
Connie Koiner
Steve Linton
Grant Millin
- 31 Sadie Davis
Max Schmidt



- 4 Bob & Judy Taylor
- 8 Rob & Ann Marie Miller
- 29 Dick & Sharon Ross
- 31 Bob & Patricia Kaufman

COUNCIL CORNER

Greetings from SMLC Church Council! With the busy Easter season now behind us, we have been focusing our efforts primarily on building renovations and our continued call for a new pastor. Below are highlights from our June 10th Council meeting. Please feel free to review the minutes from that meeting for details.



A motion was presented from the Building Team to select Carolina Cornerstone Construction, Inc. for our renovation project after evaluation of three excellent potential builders. This was unanimously approved by Council. A letter of intent with Carolina Cornerstone Construction was drafted, signed and delivered.

Progress is being made on the solar panel project which is a collaboration of the Building Team, John Yurko and Sundance Power Systems. This project is being funded by a generous donation from an anonymous benefactor.

The Call Committee provided an update that they have interviewed five of six candidates. After the final online interview, they hope to narrow the field to two or three potential candidates who would then receive invitations for on-site interviews.

Pastor Trexler continues the slow recovery after a successful surgery. Karla and Jonathan are also recovering from aches and pains after a hit-and-run car collision. We continue to keep the entire Trexler family in our thoughts and prayers.

Deacon Katie attended the Synod Assembly in Greensboro. An update to the Synod constitution was approved which will change the assembly meetings to every other year. The alternate years will now include educational events at Lenoir-Rhyne, with the first occurring in 2020.

Vacation Bible School will be held July 7-11 and will be titled "God's Good Creation". This year, it will benefit ELCA's World Hunger program. Church Council will again be assisting with "Mexican Monday".

The chain link fence on the northwest part of the property along the grape vines is due for replacement due to age and rust. Bids for the project are being pursued at this time.

The rummage sale to be held on July 20th will benefit One Youth at a Time and Living Waters Church in Cherokee.

The Unity Service with WNC Baptist Fellowship was a success with 174 in attendance. Many thanks to those who attended and provided wonderful food and fellowship! Some areas of improvement have already been identified which include tents/shades for sun cover, a potential increase in preparation for choirs and congregations, as well as more publicity for the event.

The Stewardship Team will present a series of seven or eight Faith Formation classes starting this summer. The youth group is teaming up with WNC Baptist Fellowship for a trip to Carowinds on June 15th. A camping trip and baseball game are also being planned for this summer.

Cord Doss and Toby Schuetze were confirmed on June 9th. The Council would like to extend congratulations to these two young men upon reaching this milestone in their faith journey.

Yours in Christ,
Brant Niedenthal
SMLC Church Council Vice President

***St. Mark's will be closed on Thursday, July 4th.
Everyone have a Happy and Safe 4th of July!***



JULY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

DATE	ACOLYTES, CRUCIFERS, ETC.	LAY READERS	GREETERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS & ASSISTING MINISTERS	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
7	8:30 A: TBA 11:00 A & C: TBA	8:30 Ray Polasky 11:00 Martha Price	8:30 Debbie Layne 11:00 Chuck Kopp, Melissa King	8:30 AM: Amy Zellers CA: Nancy Doderhoff 11:00 AM: Natalie Haynes CA: Anne Sites	8:30 Wolfe Otto 11:00 David Schmidt, Dave Schuetze	8:30 Ken Clark 11:00 Tracy Schmidt, Cindi Fridd, Ali Schmidt
14	8:30 A: TBA 11:00 A & C: TBA	8:30 Dan Dudde 11:00 Randy Warren	8:30 Dan Dudde, JD Slater 11:00 Bob Taylor, Connie Koiner	8:30 AM: Katie Rivers CA: Diane Hughes 11:00 AM: Katie Rivers CA: Eileen Cram	8:30 Ronnie Shoe 11:00 Anne Blackwell, John Cartwright	8:30 Amy Zellers 11:00 Susan Van Tassel, Karen Puthoff, Stella Pagan
21	8:30 A: TBA 11:00 A & C: TBA	8:30 Philip Otterness 11:00 Grant Millan	8:30 Cathy Totman, Betty Broitzman 11:00 Stella Pagan, Martha Price	8:30 AM: Connie Chaplin CA: Mark Fritch 11:00 AM: Dave Epley CA: Susan Van Tassel	8:30 Ken Clark, Walter Hitch 11:00 Jason Jones, Josh Kersey	8:30 Debbie Layne 11:00 Paula Lindsay, Anne Blackwell
28	8:30 A: TBA 11:00 A & C: TBA	8:30 James Aydelotte 11:00 Blake Crownover	8:30 Vic Allwein, Patti Oppenheim 11:00 Bob Mihara, Diane Lawson	8:30 AM: Tim Owen CA: Mary Anne Allwein 11:00 AM: Anne Blackwell CA: Jackie Harron	8:30 Mark Totman, Pat Patton 11:00 Alice Silver	8:30 Katherine Laveck 11:00 Anne Sites, Jean Castle

JULY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 CAT Team	2 5:30 Finance Team	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED—Happy July 4th! 7 Evangelism Team Mtg	5 9 Library Team	6
7 Pentecost IV 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 5:30 VBS	8 5:30 VBS 6:15 Council	9 9 Quilters 11 Staff Meeting 12 Yarn Angels 5:30 VBS	10 9 Property Team 10 WELCA 5:30 VBS	11 5:30 VBS	12	13
14 Pentecost V 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 9:45 Library “Closing House”	15 St. Mark’s Anniversary	16 9 Quilters 11 Staff Meeting	17 9 Property Team 12 Healing Service	18 5:30 Racial Healing Team	19 6 Shelter Meal	20 8 LMIM @ Happy Hill 9 St. Mark’s Rummage Sale
21 Pentecost VI 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation	22	23 9 Quilters 11 Staff Meeting 4 Racial Healing Team	24 9 Property Team	25	26	27 10 Yarn Angels
28 Pentecost VII 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation	29	30 9 Quilters 11 Staff Meeting	31			

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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Website: www.stmarkslutheran.net

STAFF:

Interim Senior Pastor: William B. Trexler
Director of Discipleship & Faith Formation:
Deacon Katie Rivers
Cantor: David Anderson
Parish Administrator: Scottie Miller
Pastor of Caring Ministries:
The Rev. Linda McHenry
Seminary Intern: Vicar Mat Hoffman
Facilities Manager: Eileen Cram
Custodian: Gage Hampton
Ministry Coordinator: Debbie Layne
Nursery Director: Ginger Dixon

Church Office Hours:
Mon—Thurs 9:00—4:30
Fri 9:00—12:30



OUR MISSION:

Making disciples by loving Christ,
growing in faith, serving all people

OUR VISION:

Transforming lives through God's grace as an
inclusive, intergenerational congregation
through Worship, Outreach,
Learning and Fellowship