



RE:MARK'S, *August 2021*

Your generosity at work!

Remember the days before Covid? If I think hard I can. Well before Covid, and before I (Pastor Matt) ever got here, this congregation decided to welcome members, ministry partners, and visitors by investing in our historic building. You wanted this to be a space used for the ministry of God's kingdom and for the glory of God for decades to come. And you didn't just hope for this, you stepped up and made it happen with the Rooted in Faith campaign! In 2020 offices were added, two sets of restrooms were renovated, HVAC was installed in the Christian Education wing, and two classrooms were created to house a child development center. These investments are already bearing fruit!



After many (many) months of preparations, the final logistical challenges and installations are happening to allow our partner, the nonprofit Christine W. Avery Learning Center, to provide high quality early childhood education for 20 children and their families in St. Mark's building. With many thanks to our faithful team led by Jenny Simmons, we anticipate children in the building by mid-September. Praise be to God!

Early this year I got a call from the folks at Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC). In coordination with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, LSC wanted to support refugees admitted by the federal government and arriving in this country with little more than suitcases. They were looking at Asheville as a candidate, but to do this, LSC would need a base of operations in the area from which a few staff members could work. Rent doesn't come cheap in this area, and to make matters more difficult, government guidelines mandate that the office would need to be accessible by public transportation. Well the Spirit just may have been blowing around here, because as it happens we had a pair of rooms with new HVAC units that were only getting light use each week, AND we're right off the bus line! The details are not finalized (and won't be until Sept/Oct when the federal government officially weighs in), but our investment in our building, made possible by your generosity, may mean that we can support LSC this fall as they provide care for "the least of these" arriving to begin a new life.

And of course our facilities allow us to continue to host two large Narcotics Anonymous groups each week. Praise God for our faithful partners in this ministry of change and support for those battling addiction!

Our building is doing what it ought to be doing. It's a space to gather for worship, but it's also more. It's a place where we serve those in need, following the example of Jesus. Thank you for the ways you equip St. Mark's for this ministry. You do it with your volunteer hours; you do it with your building fund gifts; you do it with your support of our budget. Thank you for making this ministry happen!

Pastor Matt

St. Mark's Faith Formation and Fellowship

LandMARKS -

August 1st from 9:45am-10:45am

New to St. Mark's? Want to get to know the people here? Interested in getting involved with what God is doing in this place? LandMARKS is a monthly meeting with Pastor Matt and/or Deacon Katie that helps visitors and new members learn about the ministries of St. Mark's, get to know the staff and members, and ask questions about our community. Join us the first Sunday of every month in the Adult Classroom (near the bottom of the main staircase).

Men's Luncheon

August 12th @ 11:30am

Location TBD

Join the Men's group the second Thursday of each month. Stay tuned for the meeting location in August. All vaccinated men are welcome to come, have lunch, and share Christian fellowship at a different local restaurant each month. If there are any questions please contact Bob Sachsenmaier at 828-333-0878, or bobsachsen@gmail.com.

Lutheran Men in Mission

August 21st from 8am-9:30am

The LMM group will be gathering monthly, in person at Happy Hill from 8am-9:30am. They are inviting any and all who would like to join! Please contact Chuck Kopp if interested or in need of more information. Chuck's number is 828-595-7606.

Calling ALL Bridge Players

Group 1: August 20th @ 12:30pm (3rd Friday of each month)

Group 2: Evening Rotation @ Members Home (1st Friday of each month)

You are invited to join one of St. Mark's bridge groups. What a fun way to get to know one another better during a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon or evening of cards and fellowship. One group plays at the church on the third Friday of each month at 12:30pm. A second group plays in the evening at various members' homes, and though billed as a "couples" group, welcomes any two people who like to play bridge. Regulars and substitutes needed. Call Eileen at 828-216-8319 to see how you can participate. Lessons available.

Organ Recital

Thursday, August 5th @ 7PM

Makena James will present a recital at St. Mark's on Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 pm. The program theme is children and children at heart, and will include the Little Fugue by J.S. Bach, Fanfare Rondeau by Mouret, and Debussy's Children's Corner Suite (piano). This event is free and open to the public; an offering will be received to benefit area charities.

St. Mark's Faith Formation and Fellowship

For Questions regarding Faith Formation or Discipleship, Contact Deacon Katie

Service of Healing with Communion

Third Wednesday of each Month, August 18th @ 12pm

On the third Wednesday of each month, St. Mark's holds a Service of Healing with Communion and anointing. Please join us for this service of prayer. After the service, there will be a shared pot-luck meal with the property team. Please bring something to share and join us for a time of fellowship beginning at 12:30pm. This service is also streamed on our Facebook page for those unable to attend.



Rally Day

August 29th

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am on August 29th as we kick off a new year of Faith Formation at St. Mark's! This event is for ALL ages, as we enjoy some much needed fun, faith, and fellowship together!

Children's Sunday School Teacher Needed

Do you enjoy working with children or youth? Want to help little Lutherans know the love of God? We are in need of additional Sunday School teachers for this academic year. Contact Deacon Katie for more information.

Young Adult Ministry

*August 1st, 15th, and 29th beginning at 4pm
Creekside Taphouse (8 Beverly Rd)*

Join other young adults at St. Mark's for fellowship at 4pm at Creekside Taphouse. Friends and children welcome! Contact Deacon Katie for more information.

Adult Faith Formation:

The American Jesus

Sundays from 9:45am-10:45am

What does it mean to be a good Christian? What does it mean to be a good American? Are they opposed? Can you be both? Join Doug Johnson in the Library Sundays at 9:45am as discuss these questions and more as he leads a class based on his new book "The American Jesus?" Copies of the book are available. This class began on July 18th but feel free to join at anytime.

News & Updates

Council Corner

Greetings from the St. Mark's Congregation Council!

Here are some highlights from our July 2021 Zoom meeting:

- A new adult Faith Formation class started July 18 led by Doug Johnson.
- Progress continues on getting our facility ready to open the Christine W. Avery Learning Center at St. Marks. It looks like a September opening.
- New hires Danielle and Steve are doing a great job.
- Pastor Matt met with *Lutheran Services Carolinas* for a walk through of the building. There is no commitment from us yet, but everyone is excited for the possibility of their Immigration services using our building for office space.

Thanks for giving us the opportunity to serve.

Amy Zellers, Council President

Upcoming Baptisms



Charlotte Claire Hunkele will be baptized on August 1st. She was born on March 12th, 2021 in Fredericksburg, VA. Her parents, Samantha and Nicholas Hunkele will be supported by Charlotte's Godparents, Josh Baker, Stacy Baker, and Alexa Colvin.

David Roe will be baptized on August 29th at the 11am Service. His parents, Erin Boawitz and Matt Roe, will be celebrating this occasion as well as Erin's grandfather, Pastor David Burke, who will be presiding over the baptism.

Synod Summer Bible Reading Plan

The synod has enjoyed reading books of the Bible together during Engage the Bible's Summer Reading Plan. During Summer, 2021, they are reading "3 Preachy Prophets: Amos Joel, & Hosea." This study began on Sunday, July 4.

You can [watch the synod's homepage](#) or follow the synod's Facebook page for each day's reading.



This study has now been published in a [PDF format](#). If you would like to access this document for your own reading or to reference while you are studying with others in our synod, [you can find it here](#).

There are three other ways to engage with "3 Preachy Prophets:"

1. Subscribe to the email list and each day's reading will come to your inbox. Visit the synod's homepage and scroll down to find a **purple Sign Up form**. Complete the form, check "3 Preachy Prophets," and click "Submit." (If you are already subscribed to other e-newsletters, this will just update your profile.)
2. **Watch the synod's homepage**. Each day's reading will post here: <https://www.nclutheran.org/>
3. **Follow our synod's Facebook page**. Each day's reading will also be posted.

We hope you will join Lutherans across the synod and beyond for a journey this summer with those 3 Preachy Prophets!

WELCA



1. WELCA will meet at Theresa Yoder's home, 117 Fox Chase Road West, Wednesday, August 11th at 11:00 for a Luncheon/meeting.

This will be a celebration of the past and a vision of the St. Mark's WELCA group for the future. Members are asked to bring: Sandwiches, side-dish, or a dessert to share. Drinks will be provided.

All women of St. Mark's are invited, please RSVP to Alice Silver (828)776-4375

2. The NC WELCA is planning a one day gathering to be held at St. Marks, Mooresville on September 18, 2021 for voting members only. During this meeting we will be holding elections for 2020- 2021 and for 2021-2022. This will include all Officers and Board Members. For more information please check the WELCA bulletin board by the Sunday School room or reach out to Alice Silver.

Christian Action Team

Still Helping Others

Even with the pandemic raging, St. Marks is finding ways to help others with your generosity.

Our May Noisy Bucket collection enabled us to send a check for \$1280 to Lutheridge/NovusWay, to help with their summer programs. Nothing like a good camp experience!



We also sent \$1025 to ELCA Disaster Relief, to help a hospital in India purchase much needed equipment in their fight against COVID.

Thank you for your generous contributions!

Christian Action Team (CAT)

Crop Hunger Walk is Back—WE WALK!

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Asheville / Buncombe
CROP Hunger Walk

September 26, 2021

Asheville, NC

The walk will be on **Sunday September 26**, and as of now, will be "live" in person.

The goal of the CROP Hunger Walk is not only to raise awareness about the widespread hunger in our community and our world, but also to raise a lot of money to help organizations feed people who are in need.

Email the page to everyone you know, share on social media if that's your thing, make your own individual page, and much more. Debbie Layne can help you make this happen. Give her a call!

If you do not wish to use your computer to register for the walk, or make a donation, there will be sponsorship envelopes available as we get closer to the walk date. Checks are good too!

Sign up at www.crophungerwalk.org/ashevillenc, check out St Mark's page, and SPREAD THE WORD!

For additional information or questions contact Dan Dudde.

Childcare Center Update



Child Care Center Compared to Olympic Sport

In keeping with the use of sports trivia in our congregational updates on the Christine W. Avery Learning Center at St. Mark's, we have now decided this venture is a bit like an Olympic sporting event. And it's timely, right? The 2020 Olympics, delayed for a year due to the coronavirus pandemic, have officially started. Even the delay is spot on - we've experienced quite a few delays of our own with construction, permits and more!

The child care center project is a sport that demands...endurance. It's much like a triathlon that follows a three component sequence (open water swim, cycling, run) combined to create one major event.

Our team has finished the open water swim and cycling sequences and has moved into the running component that includes creating the playground area on the property along N. Liberty St. complete with fencing, some landscaping, and natural play areas. Last week, Pastor Matt (team leader extraordinaire) secured all permits to complete this final leg.

We've added All Star Fencing and Rosewood Landscaping to the team to run with us. These two companies have both indicated this is a race for which they're prepared.

Rosewood has trained hard and started working on the play area on July 12th. Most of the trees will be incorporated into the play area (Kousa Dogwood, Southern Magnolia and Serrated Zelkova) with only an American Holly requiring removal due to having particularly pointy leaves and being on a list of potentially poisonous plants. Other shrubbery will be removed and some relocated.

All Star Fencing is onboard but has indicated the aluminum fencing for the perimeter of the playground area may take 6-8 weeks to arrive after ordering. There is a possibility their pace may increase, but time trials have led us to believe it's not likely. However, once the fencing arrives, All Star will begin installing within a couple of days, and can complete the installation within 4-5 days. For now, we're planning for a fence installation in late August.

Childcare Center Update

Lastly, we add the natural, outdoor settings to the playspace (reading nook, dramatic play/deck area, seating, raised garden bed, etc.). Besides providing excellent outdoor learning opportunities for our youngest athletes, these settings help the child care center achieve optimum star ratings for quality care. With an increased rating, voucher funding increases which helps achieve a sustainable budget for the program.

We function as one team - training and working together. Not only is St Mark's providing funding primarily from our Rooted In Faith Campaign, but Christine W. Avery Learning Center has obtained significant funding for the project as well!

This collaborative work will get us to the finish line. We may not set a world record, but medals will be awarded with an opening coming soon.

All in good time,

Childcare Development Center Working Team of the Long Range Planning Committee

One Youth at a Time

During the Lutheridge Service, many individuals contributed to *One Youth at a Time*. We are happy to report that St. Mark's was able to donate \$965 to continue the work that this organization does for our community! A little more came in after we received this very thoughtful thank you letter. Thank you for your faithful giving.



ONE YOUTH AT A TIME

P.O. Box 446
Asheville, NC 28802

July 15th 2021

Greeting,
Dear pastor Smith and the St. Mark's
Lutheran Church. Thank you for the
gift of \$865.87 given to ONE YOUTH AT A TIME
for our programs for children & youth.
St. Mark's and WNC Baptist Fellowship
are great in God's service. We
had a great time Sunday, we were
blessed!

again Thank you.
ONE YOUTH AT A TIME INC.
Rev Robbie J. Williams
Director
Rev LeRay CEO

Financial Update

Financial Report

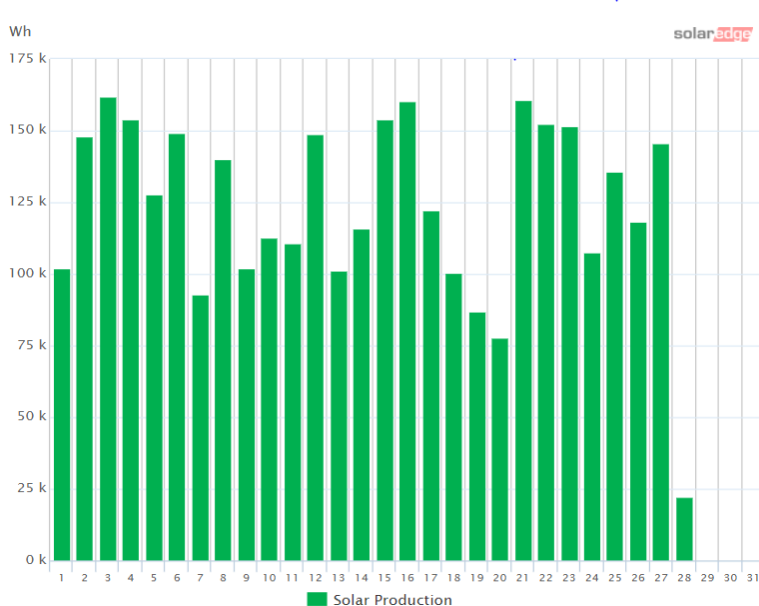
Below you will find June's financial report for both the Operation Fund and the Building Fund.

In an effort to save the \$.55 postage per envelope, please pick up your contribution statement no later than August 15th, if you haven't already. After this date, the letters will be mailed to the address the parish office has on file.

Financial Report <i>Operation Fund</i>		Financial Report <i>Building Fund</i>	
<i>Income budgeted</i>		<i>Income budgeted</i>	
<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$38,913	\$233,478	\$4,667	\$28,002
<i>Gifts received</i>		<i>Gifts received</i>	
<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$30,235	\$280,754	\$2,663	\$21,814
<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Loan Payments</i>	
<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$39,603	\$222,087	\$5,351	\$32,106
<i>Surplus/(Deficit)</i>		<i>Surplus/(Deficit)</i>	
<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$(9,368)	\$58,667	\$(2,688)	\$(10,292)

Energy News

July Energy Report



July 3rd was the top producer this month @161.823 kWh

Environmental Benefits
From Install date of July 2020

Environmental Benefits ?

CO2 Emission Saved

68,561.4 lb

Equivalent Trees Planted

518.04

Birthdays

- 1– Jean Castle
- 2– Samantha Kirby, Sierra Chick
- 3– Nate Mueller
- 4– Nadia Miller
- 6– Rex Nance
- 7– Mason Frisella
- 8– Laura Van Tassel, Al Seale
- 10– Spencer Stone
- 12– Naomi Otterness, Bryan Short
- 14– Debbie Layne
- 17– Ryan Hutson, Sara Niedenthal
- 19– Bonnie Richards
- 20– Amy Edwards
- 21– Trudy Streilein
- 22– Doug Aanonsen
- 23– Claire Lewis
- 25– Bianca Edwards
- 26– Matthew Roe
- 27– Grace Schmidt
- 28– Ed Malkin
- 31– Erin Roe, Aaron Neighbors

Anniversaries

- 3– Norman and Patricia
- 5– Jim and Trudy Streilein, Edward and Vickie Hauser
- 6– Eric and Kristina Lewis
- 11– Christopher and Mary Brown
- 14– William and Alice Silver,
Norman and Bonnie Richards
- 22– Randal and Kari Warren
- 24– Ken and Barbara Clark

Scriptures in August

August 1st

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

August 8th

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25-5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 15th

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 22nd

Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

August 29th

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Worship Assistant Schedule

The Worship Assistant Schedule for August has been published. If you have a conflict, please first try to find your own replacement and then communicate this change with the church office. This way we will be prepared for worship on Sunday mornings. If you are unable to find a substitute, please contact Danielle and she will be happy to help you!

There are still a few positions available (marked TBD). If you are willing to volunteer please let Danielle know and she will update the serving schedule.

Date	August 1st	August 8th	August 15th	August 22nd	August 29th
Greeters	8:30am (1) Dan Dudde (2) Mary Dudde 11am (1) Connie Koiner (2) TBD	8:30am (1) Evelyn Reinhold (2) J.D Slater 11am (1) TBD (2) Bob Mihara	8:30am (1) Henry Ulrichs (2) Barbara Ulrichs 11am (1) Bob Epley (2) TBD	8:30am (1) Vic Allwein (2) Ken Lane 11am (1) TBD (2) Bob Mihara	8:30am (1) Deborah Lane (2) Susan Denne 11am (1) Tom Stewart (2) Brenda Stewart
Usher	8:30am (1) Tom Stewart (2) Mike Bradley 11am (1) Scott Baumann (2) Anne Blackwell	8:30am (1) Ronnie Shoe (2) TBD 11am (1) Bonnie Richards (2) TBD	8:30am (1) Tom Stewart (2) Brenda Stewart 11am (1) Scott Baumann (2) Alice Silver	8:30am (1) Deborah Lane (2) Ronnie Shoe 11am (1) Jason Jones (2) Josh Kersey	8:30am (1) Ken Clark (2) Walter Hitch 11am (1) Scott Baumann (2) Anne Blackwell
Altar Guild	8:30am Ken Clark 11am Paula Lindsay	8:30am Amy Zellers 11am Anne Blackwell	8:30am Debbie Layne & Gerri Hill 11am Bonnie Morris/ TBD	8:30am Amy Zellers 11am Donna Turnbaugh	8:30am Amy Zellers 11am Bonnie Richards
Crucifer	11am Eileen Cram & Erick Smith	11am Anne Blackwell	11am Eileen Cram & Erick Smith	11am TBD	11am TBD
Acolyte	8:30am Isa Slater 11am Bonnie Richards	8:30am Claire Niedenthal 11am Katie Rivers	8:30am Lisa Volk 11am Anne Blackwell	8:30am Julia Volk 11am TBD	8:30am Lila Neidenthal 11am TBD
Assisting Minister	8:30am Connie Chaplin 11am Gloria Sainio	8:30am TBD 11am Katie Rivers	8:30am Amy Zellers 11am TBD	8:30am Diane Hughes 11am Dave Epley	8:30am Katie Rivers 11am Katie Rivers
Lay Readers	8:30am Barbara Ulrichs 11am Steve Doane	8:30am Diane Hughes 11am TBD	8:30am Linda Kinsinger 11am Al Seale	8:30am Connie Chaplin 11am TBD	8:30am Bonnie Wheeler 11am Donna Turnbaugh
Communion Assistant	8:30am Linda Kinsinger 11am Bonnie Richards	8:30am Anne Sites 11am Anne Blackwell	8:30am Diane Hughes 11am Eileen Cram	8:30am Mary Anne Allwein 11am Natalie Haynes	8:30am Linda Kinsinger 11am Vickie Hauser
Live Stream	11am Bob Mihara	11am Trey Doss	11am Natalie Haynes	11am Cord Doss	11am Gloria Sainio

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

*10 N. Liberty Street
Asheville, NC 28801*



Staff

Our Vision:

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

Our Mission:

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

Contact Information

Pastor:

Reverend Matthew Smith

Director of Discipleship & Faith Formation:

Deacon Katie Rivers

Cantor:

David Anderson

Parish Administrator:

Danielle James

Pastor of Caring Ministries:

Reverend Linda McHenry

Facilities Manager:

Steve Henry

Physical and Mailing Address:

10 N. Liberty Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Phone:

828-253-0043

E-mail:

admin@stmarkslutheran.net

Website:

www.stmarkslutheran.net

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm

Friday 8:30am-12:30pm