



ReMARKS, *August 2023*

Rally Day 2023

Even before I could read, I was singing the liturgy at the top of my lungs. I would make up words if I couldn't figure out what the congregation was singing, and sing with the confidence of an opera singer at Carnegie Hall.

My parents had a lot of influence on my loud church singing-- my father was the organist and my mother led Sunday School music. But you can blame my loud liturgical singing on a man named Mr. Wolf.

“Oh, Katie Beth – I knew you were here the moment I stepped out of my car! That beautiful voice of yours drifts straight down to the parking lot!”



Mr. Wolf was an older gentleman in the congregation. He had been widowed for quite a long time, and spent a lot of time with his church family. Mr. Wolf, in addition to being an usher and serving on the council, took on the special task of mentoring and supporting the children of the congregation.

Every week, Mr. Wolf would find a way to encourage my singing in church-- sometimes with a silly remark, sometimes a glance and a smile. He would ask me about school, and take time to get to know my interests. He would ask me to help him pick up bulletins after worship, and sometimes asked me to help collect the offering. Each year Mr. Wolf would send a birthday card – with a hand-drawn cartoon, a balloon, and crisp dollar bills totaling the age I just turned.

Through simple actions and short conversations, Mr. Wolf helped me (and all the children at All Saints Lutheran Church) feel like they were an important part of the church family. Mr. Wolf helped me be comfortable with my loud singing voice, and encouraged me to keep singing praises to God. His actions made me want to have a similar impact on children, and he was one of the first people who encouraged my call to ministry.

Every time we baptize someone, we, as a congregation and individuals, promise to help and support them in their life in Christ; to help them learn and grow in faith and understanding of God's love for them. This can happen in a lot of ways – through prayer, teaching Sunday School, helping with youth group, or building meaningful relationships.

The Evangelism and Hospitality Team is starting a new initiative called “Youth Mentors” to help encourage these sorts of supportive relationships across generations at St. Mark's. Connecting children and youth with an adult who is committed to getting to know them and making them feel like an important part of God's family in this place will have a life-long effect on their life with Christ. Through simple Sunday morning conversation, birthday cards, or other positive engagement, being a Youth Mentor is an easy way to live our Baptismal life together.

Interested in learning more? Come to Rally Day on September 3 or be on the lookout for more information about how you can be a “Mr. Wolf” to a child at St. Mark's.

Deacon Katie

Rally Day 2023 – Sunday September 3

Journey with Jesus – Faith Traditions from Around the World



Join us for Rally Day on September 3 at 9:45 as we kick off a new year of Faith Formation at St. Mark's! This intergenerational event will be full of activities for people of all ages as we learn how Christians from different parts of the world live out their faith! Information about classes and schedules for the 2023-2024 academic year will also be share; as well as time for fellowship with one another. Regular weekly Faith Formation for adults and children will begin the following week, September 10. See you there!

Faith Formation

Final Gifts – w/ John Herrmann

August 6, 13 @ 9:45am - Final Gifts

Beginning on July 23, John Herrmann will lead a Faith Formation class that will be a sequel to Pastor Matt's very popular class on death and dying. We will focus on the book “Final Gifts” by Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelly. After observing hundreds of dying people, these two hospice nurses noticed that in many cases, dying people often have something to tell us and give to us—“gifts” as they call them. When someone we love is dying, it’s hard to know how to help, and what to do. If we know what to look and listen for, many times a dying person can give us answers as to not only how *their* final days could be made more peaceful, but also how *they* can comfort *us* during this stressful time.

Christian Response to Public Health Issues – w/ Mary Brady

August 20, 27 @ 9:45am

There are many types of public health issues throughout history and the church has responded to these in many ways. Sometimes, they have been controversial. Join us for a two-week session August 20th and 27th to first discuss what constitutes a public health issue and how Christians, including St. Mark's, have responded and are currently responding. In the second week, let's have a safe discussion on whether or not guns, or other topics we identify, could be considered a public health issue and how we, as Christians, could respond if they were. This class is not: a pro/con stance on gun control or another topic. This class is: an open and safe discussion on the Christian response to public health issues, including guns and other identified topics.

Looking to the Future w/ Pastor Matt

September 10 @ 9:45am

Mark your calendars and join us as we imagine what God might have in store for St. Mark’s as close out our 100th year! Join Pastor Matt in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 10 at 9:45 as we dream together.

Children’s Faith Formation Teachers needed!

Help support the growing faith of the children at St. Mark’s by serving as a Sunday School teacher this academic year! You will be provided curriculum, guidance, and a co-teacher to share in the fun! Contact Deacon Katie for more information.

Table for All – Dinner Fellowship Opportunity

New Dinner fellowship opportunity!

As an addition to our fellowship ministry here at St. Mark's, we invite you to participate in a way for individuals or couples to share meals with your fellow parishioners.

Table for All provides an opportunity for you to meet and get to know more people at St. Mark's. Over the course of the year, you'll have the opportunity to gather with 3 different groups at people's homes to break bread and share in conversation. It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family better, and build stronger relationships (all while enjoying some yummy food!).



How it works:

- Sign up on “Sign-up Central” bulletin board at the bottom of the main staircase, or email Garry and Gina Linton at missginabee@verizon.net
- You'll get assigned into dinner groups that will meet three times during the year: Once during September – November, January – February, and March – May.
- Each dinner will have a mix of 6-10 people to build fellowship and community
- The host will provide a main dish and other participants will be assigned another items to bring
- Each group will decide the date/time/location (if not at the host's home) for the meal
- Dietary considerations can be discussed as a group when planning the meal

For more information or to sign up, contact

Gina and Garry Linton @
missginabee@verizon.net

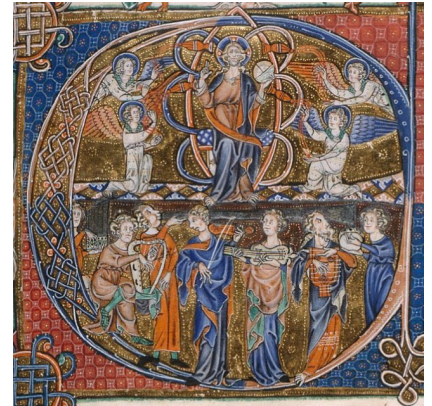
or

Deacon Katie @
deaconkatie@stmarkslutheran.net

From the Desk of the Cantor

Psalms for Psinging

Can you name the church's first hymnal? It wasn't SBH (the Red Book) or CSB (the "old" Black Book). It wasn't Luther's 1524 "Achtliederbuch" (literally, "Eight-songbook"), or any of the Mediaeval *Antiphonaries* (collections of chants for worship). The first and still most excellent hymnal was the Book of Psalms! These remarkable texts were intended for singing, not for spoken recitation. There are hints as to the original way of performing them: by which groups of singers, at what time, and to which tune (eg, "The Doe of the Morning" in Psalm 22). Much of this information is lost to us, though there have been valiant scholarly efforts at reconstruction (an article for another day, perhaps).



We sing a psalm every Sunday (a cranky liturgist might add, "As God and Luther intended!") There are a wide variety of ways to sing them, but the most common method we use is "pointing." Our current hymnal explains this well: "Each psalm verse is divided into two parts; the second half of the verse is indented. Each part has a point (|) within it. This point indicates when the singer moves from the reciting note and continues with the rest of the melody." (ELW p. 335) The words are sung with natural accents, as they would be if spoken.

Let's look at an example. When you open your bulletin, you'll see Psalm 23 printed thus:

¹The Lord | is my shepherd;
I | shall not want.
²He makes me lie down | in green pastures.
He leads me be- | side still waters.

In musical notation, it would be rendered like this:

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me be - side still waters.

Pretty straightforward, but a few things might be noted (ha). First, these notes have no actual rhythmic value — they simply indicate the pitch on which the words are sung, using natural speech accents. What looks like a big long note in the first measure can have many syllables as in "He makes me lie down," or just one or two as in "The Lord." Second, the moving notes don't necessarily coincide with the important words; in the first half of verse two, either "lie down," or "pastures" are probably the accented words, but "in" receives the highest note. Finally, notice that a single word might be stretched across two notes, as in the end of stanza 2.

If you want to practice this, just do it with any tone and sentences you might choose. For example:

"Are you coming to the concert on | the nineteenth?"
"Yes, and I am bring- | ing my friends!"

1. "Are you coming to the concert on the nine-teenth?" "Yes, and I am bring-ing my friends!"

Songs and Stories from the Mountains

Josh Goforth

August 19, 4:00pm · St. Mark's Lutheran Church
10 North Liberty Street, Asheville · Free and Open to the Public

Come enjoy an afternoon of singing and storytelling! Josh Goforth grew up in Madison County, surrounded by the music and stories of his ancestors. He is a highly accomplished storyteller and old-time, bluegrass, and swing musician playing close to 20 instruments. His fiddling was featured in the movie *Songcatcher*, both onscreen and on the soundtrack, and he was nominated for a Grammy for his 2009 release with David Holt, entitled *Cutting Loose*.



Centennial Celebration Announcements Cont.

A thank you from the Anniversary Banquet Planning Team

How wonderful it was to see all your smiling faces and celebrate 100 years of ministry together! As the evening came to a close and the final break down and clean up started we were chatting with our hosts at Pack's recapping what a wonderful evening it had been. I was offering praise for their staff and the food and how well the evening went when Cassidy (the event coordinator) said "I wish there was a way to give you all a rating! Everyone has been so kind and wonderful! This was one of the nicest groups of people we have ever had!"

This is just another feather in the cap of how St. Mark's is a bright light in our community! Your witness of love and generosity in Christ's name continues to shine! - Natalie

-And they'll know we are Christians by our love!



Crop Walk – September 24th

Sponsors Needed

We are looking for Crop Hunger Walk sponsors to cover the local expenses of the Walk, on September 24. If you own a business, or work for a business that would like to help with this, please contact Dan Dudde. All sponsors will be recognized on the day of the Walk, and have their name printed on the backs of the T-shirts. Sponsorship is \$300.



Asheville CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, Sept. 24th @ 2:00 PM

A family friendly 5 K walk to fight hunger locally and around the world. Starting location: St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Individuals/Teams are encouraged to sign up online. Join Us!

For more information contact Dan: starrdudde@bellsouth.net; 828-683-9064

crophungerwalk.org/ashevillenc

Stewardship

Financial Report

Below you will find June's financial report for both the Operating Fund and the Building Fund. Thank you for your continued contributions.

Financial Report

Operating Fund

subject to change from treasurer's report

Income budgeted

June	YTD
\$41,530	\$249,180

Gifts received

June	YTD
\$29,775	\$293,392

Expenditures

June	YTD
\$44,048	\$255,430

Surplus/(Deficit)

June	YTD
\$(14,273)	\$37,961

Financial Report

Building Fund

subject to change from treasurer's report

Income budgeted

June	YTD
\$4,207	\$21,035

Gifts received against Pledges

June	YTD
\$1,765	\$27,398

Loan Payments

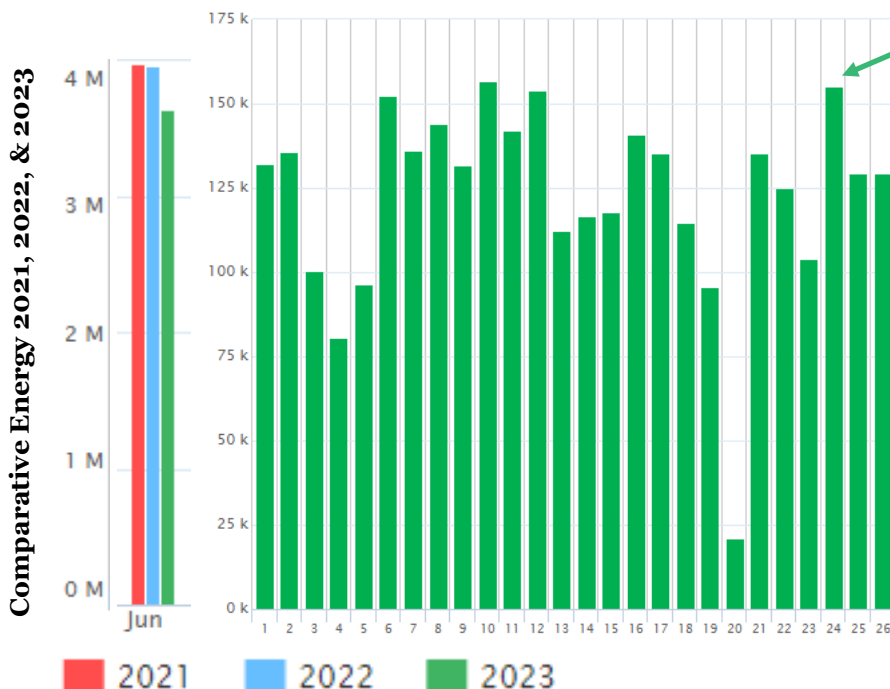
June	YTD
\$5,351	\$31,607

Surplus/(Deficit)

June	YTD
\$(3,586)	\$(4,209)

Caring for God's Creation

July Solar Report (as of 7.26.23)



July 24 was the top producing day this month @155.222kWh

Environmental Benefits From Install date of 7/2020

Environmental Benefits



CO2 Emission Saved
189,772.05 lb



Equivalent Trees Planted
1,433.9

Sunday Calendar

August 6 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

8:30am.....Worship

9:45am.....Faith Formation

9:45am.....LandMARKS

11:00am.....Worship

August 13 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13

Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

8:30am.....Worship

9:45am.....Faith Formation

11:00am.....Worship

August 20 - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 56:, 6-8; Psalm 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:[10-20]21-28

10am.....100th Anniversary Worship

12pm.....Potluck

August 27 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138

Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

8:30am.....Worship

9:45am.....Faith Formation

11:00am.....Worship

Birthdays

August 1 - Jean Castle,

August 2 - Samantha Kirby
Sierra Chick

August 3 - Nate Mueller

August 4 - Nadia Miller

August 6 - Rex Nance

John Herrmann

August 7 - Mason Frisella

August 8 - Laura Van Tassel,
Al Seale

August 10- Spencer Stone

August 12- Naomi Otterness,
Bryan Short

August 14 - Debbie Layne

August 17 - Ryan Hutson,

Sara Niedenthal

August 19 - Bonnie Richards

August 20 - Amy Edwards

August 21 - Trudy Streilein

August 22 - Doug Aanonsen

August 23 - Claire Lewis

August 25 - Bianca Edwards

August 26 - Matthew Roe

August 27 - Grace Schmidt

August 28 - Ed Malkin,

Christian Wikoff

August 31 - Erin Bonawitz,

Aaron Neighbors

Anniversaries

August 3 - Norm & Patricia Bumby

August 5 - Jim & Trudy Streilein

August 6 - Eric & Kristina Lewis

August 7 - Bill & Anne Sites

August 9 - Drew & Sara Yoos

August 14 - Norm & Bonnie Richards,
Bill & Alice Silver

August 22 - Randy & Kari Warren

8:30AM Worship Assistant Calendar

8:30 AM	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Usher 1	Usher 2	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant	Live Steam Operator
August 6	Vic Allwein	Mary Anne Allwein	Tom Stewart	Brenda Stewart	Ken Clark	Eleanor Schreck	Amy Zellers	Carl Schreck	Mary Anne Allwein	George Hahn
August 13	Henry Ulrichs	Barbara Ulrichs	Ken Lane	Deborah Lane	Sharon Herrmann	Amy Zellers	Mary Brady	Barbara Ulrichs	Diane Hughes	Chris Miller
August 20	Dan Dudde	Mary Dudde	Walter Hitch	Ken Clark	Debbie Layne	Liza Volk	Katie Rivers	Bonnie Wheeler	Linda Kinsinger	Debbie Layne
August 27	Amy Zellers	Linda Kinsinger	Mike Bradley	Amy Zellers	Amy Zellers	Lila Niedenthal	Carolyn Bradley	Linda Kinsinger	Anne Sites	Brant Niedenthal
8:30 AM	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Usher 1	Usher 2	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant	Live Steam Operator
September 3	Dan Dudde	Mary Dudde	Ken Lane	Deborah Lane	Ken Clark	Julia Volk	Amy Zellers	Dan Dudde	Diane Hughes	George Hahn
September 10	Henry Ulrichs	Barbara Ulrichs	Mike Bradley	Carolyn Bradley	Sharon Herrmann	Claire Niedenthal	Mary Brady	Anne Sites	Linda Kinsinger	Brant Niedenthal
September 17	Lutheridge Sunday									
September 24	JD Slater	Catalina Slater	Walter Hitch	Ken Clark	Amy Zellers	Isa Slater	Carolyn Bradley	Diane Hughes	Anne Sites	Chris Miller

11AM Worship Assistant Calendar

11:00 AM	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Usher 1	Usher 2	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Crucifer	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant
August 6	Tom Biltz	Beth Biltz	Deanna Jordan	Bob Mihara	Bonnie Richards	Katie Rivers	-	Natalie Haynes	James Aydelotte	Eileen Cram
August 13	Eric Van Tassel	Bob Mihara	Jason Jones	Josh Kersey	Susan Van Tassel	Eileen Cram	Christian Wikoff	Bonnie Richards	Anne Blackwell	Susan Van Tassel
August 20	Bob Mihara	Deanna Jordan	Dave Schuetze	Ali Schuetze	Bonnie Morris	Cindy Lauster	-	Randy Warren	Eileen Cram	Bonnie Morris
August 27	Bob Mihara	Deanna Jordan	Anne Blackwell	Cindy Lauster	Donna Turnabaugh	Katie Rivers	Erick Smith	Dave Epley	Bonnie Richards	Donna Turnabaugh
11:00 AM	Greeter 1	Greeter 2	Usher 1	Usher 2	Altar Guild	Acolyte	Crucifer	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant
September 3	Deanna Jordan	Bob Mihara	Scott Baumann	Anne Blackwell	Paula Lindsay	Bonnie Richards	-	Natalie Haynes	Beth Korb	Vickie Hauser
September 10	Eric Van Tassel	Susan Van Tassel	Jason Jones	Josh Kersey	Bonnie Morris	Eileen Cram	-	Bonnie Richards	Susan Denne	Bonnie Morris
September 17	Lutheridge Sunday									
September 24	Bob Mihara	Cindy Lauster	Tom Biltz	Beth Biltz	Donna Turnabaugh	Katie Rivers	-	Randy Warren	Eileen Cram	Donna Turnabaugh

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

*10 N. Liberty Street
Asheville, NC 28801*



Staff

Pastor:

Reverend Matthew Smith

Director of Discipleship & Faith Formation:

Deacon Katie Rivers

Cantor:

David Anderson

Parish Administrator:

Danielle Barker

Pastor of Caring Ministries:

Reverend Linda McHenry

Facilities Manager:

Steve Henry

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

Physical and Mailing Address:

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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