



# ReMARKS, *July 2023*

## Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM)



For those who feed the hungry-

*We give thanks, O Lord;*

For those who give clothing, help keep the lights on, prevent families from becoming homeless-

*We give thanks, O Lord;*

For those who visit the imprisoned and offer hope through Bible studies-

*We give thanks, O Lord;*

For those who welcome the stranger, offering emergency shelter, transitional housing-

*We give thanks, O Lord;*

For those who care for the sick with medical care and needed prescriptions-

*We give thanks, O Lord;*

You know that overwhelmed, resigned feeling—the one you feel when you think about the enormous needs and complex problems out there that don't have easy solutions? That feeling most often flares up in me when I have a sense that the problems of the world are too big for me to impact by myself and I don't know how to make a difference. Fortunately, God usually sends someone to remind me pretty quickly that I don't have to handle everything by myself. God is at work, and so is the Church, the body of Christ in the world.

Our greater Asheville community has some big needs, but we aren't in this alone either. God is at work, and so is the Church, the body of Christ in the world. And one of the ways God is working in this community is through Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM), a coalition of about 300 congregations addressing poverty, hunger, homelessness and access to health care for the under-served in Buncombe County for more than 50 years. St. Mark's has been a part of this coalition from the beginning, and we continue to be deeply engaged through both budgeted support and the work of volunteers. In fact, in 2022 more than 40 St. Mark's members used their time to support ABCCM's work by making sandwiches, providing meals at the women's shelter, doing inventory in the pharmacy, and helping to assess the needs of people in crisis as intake volunteers.

The needs are big, but so is the response. We're talking more than 30,000 people (1 in 11 Buncombe residents) served in 2022; 300 beds of transitional and permanent supportive housing; life-saving medical care that people can't afford to access anywhere else; thousands of visits to inmates at the jail; and the list goes on. So if you want to be part of making a BIG difference for those in need, engaging with ABCCM is a path to do it. Staff at ABCCM regularly help volunteers find the right fit for their interest, availability, and geography, then train and equip them so they can serve confidently. If you'd like to hear more, contact Dan Dudde and the Christian Action Team (CATs) or Pastor Matt, and we can connect you with some of the 40 folks at St. Mark's who can tell you about their work.

Jesus sends us out to proclaim the good news, feed the hungry, and heal the sick, but we don't do any of that alone. God is with us, and together we have an enormous impact on thousands of lives in this community. I'm grateful for the commitment to service I see at St. Mark's all the time, and I'm grateful for our partnership with ABCCM. We are not in this alone, and together we are making a BIG impact in our community. Thank you for all you do.

Pastor Matt

In 2022, the Veterans Services of the Carolinas fielded 26,034 calls for Veterans seeking services



Serving 3 out of 4 families in poverty in Buncombe County

PRAY, SERVE, GIVE

So far in 2023, 904 volunteers have given 10,694.5 hours to help moms with children, single women and Veterans at TrV.



Served 6,762 families, 15,553 individuals with food and clothes

CRISIS MINISTRY

## Faith Formation & Fellowship

### Adult Faith Formation w/ Doug Johnson

*June 2nd & 9th @ 9:45am - Foundations of our Faith*

Ever wonder what Lutherans believe? Join Doug Johnson as he leads a class using the Lutheran Confessions to talk about some of the basic teachings and principles of the Lutheran Church. The class meets in the Library at 9:45 AM.

### Adult Faith Formation w/ John Herrmann

*June 23 @ 9:45am - Final Gifts*

Beginning on July 23, John Herrmann will lead a Faith Formation class that will sequel 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.

Highlights of the book, including many real-life examples, will be examined, so it is not imperative to purchase or read beforehand.

### Children's Faith Formation

*Resuming on July 9th*

Children's faith formation will not be meeting this Sunday as originally published. A one room Sunday school will **resume on Sunday, July 9th** for the duration of the summer. If you have any questions, please reach out to Deacon Katie.



### Children's Faith Formation Teachers NEEDED

Interested in growing faith in our young ones?? We need Children's Faith Formation teachers to begin in the fall. Curriculum is provided! Contact Deacon Katie if you are interested in making an impact!!

### Lutheran Men in Mission

*July 8th @ 8:30am*

Lutheran Men in Mission will be meeting on July 8th beginning at 8:30am. This month's meeting will be located at the IHOP on Tunnel Rd. After the July 8th meeting, LMM will be taking their summer break and resume meeting in September! Contact Bob Mihara for more information.

# Centennial Celebration Announcements

## July

- 13 - Choir Rehearsal -6:30pm
- 15 - Choir Rehearsal - 11am
- 15 - Celebration and Banquet
- 16 - Anniversary Worship

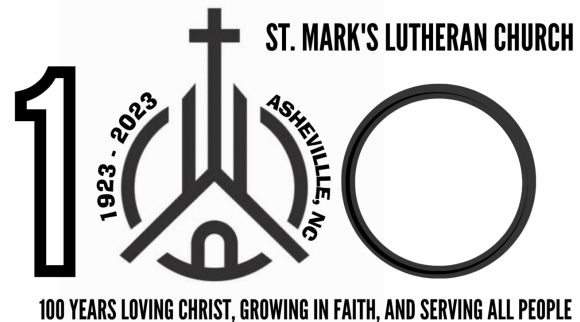
## August

- 5 - Trivia Night
- 19 - Josh Goforth Concert

## Anniversary Festival Choir

Come make a joyful noise as part of the choir for our anniversary service! Rehearsals are Thursday, July 13 at 6:30pm and Saturday, July 15 at 11am. Please let Cantor David know if you plan to attend. All are welcome!

## Anniversary Celebration Banquet & Worship Service



## 100th Anniversary Banquet

*July 15th @ 5pm*

The final numbers have been turned into Pack's Tavern! If you forgot to RSVP please call the church office to see if we still have available seats. Enjoy putting together your finest Roaring '20s outfit for this celebration!

## ONE Worship Service

*July 16th @ 10am*

We will have **ONE** worship service on July 16 at 10am. The service will include a brass quintet, choir, and guest preacher as we praise and give thanks to God for 100 years of ministry in Asheville.

## 100th Celebration Pot Luck

*July 16th after Worship*

Join us for a special time of fellowship after our 10am service on July 16th! Please bring a lunch dish, fruit, or baked good to share for this potluck lunch. There is no need to sign up if you are able to attend BUT if you are available to be a kitchen helper either before or after the lunch, please let the church office know or sign up on the bulletin board.

# Stewardship

## Financial Report

Below you will find May'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

<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$41,530	\$207,650

#### Gifts received

<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$42,271	\$263,617

#### Expenditures

<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$42,148	\$211,383

#### Surplus/(Deficit)

<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$123	\$52,234

### Financial Report

#### Building Fund

*\*subject to change from treasurer's report\**

#### Income budgeted

<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$4,207	\$16,828

#### Gifts received against Pledges

Will report in August Newsletter

#### Loan Payments

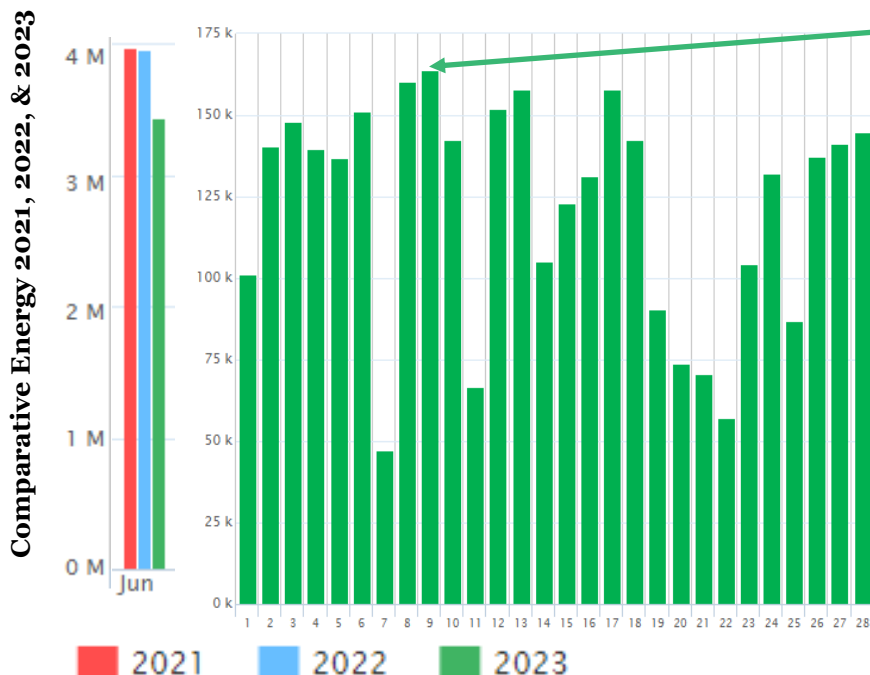
<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>
\$5,351	\$26,755

#### Surplus/(Deficit)

May YTD  
Will report in August Newsletter

## Caring for God's Creation

### June Solar Report (as of 6.28.23)



June 9 was the top producing day this month @164.056kWh

#### Environmental Benefits

From Install date of 7/2020

#### Environmental Benefits



CO2 Emission Saved  
**184,479.14 lb**



Equivalent Trees Planted  
**1,393.91**

## With Gratitude

St. Mark's continues to make an impact both in and outside of our church walls  
Thank you for continuing to love thy neighbor.



*Dear Friends of St. Mark's,  
Your generosity to support the needs  
of our students is greatly appreciated.  
Your financial support contributed  
to an amazing graduation ceremony  
for the seniors of Community High!  
We are blessed through your  
ongoing generosity!  
With appreciation!  
Jim*



## With Gratitude Cont.

To our Dear Friends at St. Mark's,

The past twelve months were full of new and unanticipated challenges for Warren and me. I am grateful for the many kindnesses extended to us by the gracious and generous people of St. Mark's - cards, visits, kind words, prayers. The quilters welcomed Warren with open arms when I no longer felt comfortable leaving him home alone on Tuesday mornings. Judy McKay shared her wisdom and support along the way, having experienced a similar path with Henry. The challenges accelerated dramatically when Warren was hospitalized in December, and then went to Aston Park for physical therapy and rehab. He ultimately remained in that excellent facility in skilled nursing for three months.

I especially appreciated Pastor Matt's presence and comfort on the morning of his unexpected death in March. I am grateful for the guidance and support of Pastor, Danielle, Cantor David and Deacon Katie in preparing and carrying out his memorial service on June 6. I have felt completely wrapped in the love of God throughout these months thanks to the wonderful people of St. Mark's.

Thank you to all who came to the memorial service, and all who provided food, set up and generously worked in the kitchen during the reception following the memorial service. Family and friends from around the country appreciated your gracious hospitality.

When Warren and I did our end of life planning "Five Wishes" documents in 2014, I wrote out the plans for my memorial service in great detail. Warren wrote nothing, and never stated any particular wishes. So. . . he got MY funeral, and I got to experience it while living. It was a beautiful service full of meaning and links to our story with special music from the memorial services of each of our parents. Thank you to all who supported my family and me as we worshiped God and remembered the life of my good and kind husband.

Bonnie Wheeler

With Gratitude Cont.

May 25, 2023

Rev. Matt Smith -

Just a quick note to let you know how much my niece, Whitney Wiggins, and I enjoyed participating in the worship service at St. Mark's on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. As you know, the congregation is welcoming and friendly. You made it plain that Jesus wants us to be one. (Also, Isaiah 55:8). Like most adults, we enjoyed the Children's Sermon.

May God continue to bless you, your family and your ministry.

Sincerely, your sister in Christ,  
Dr. Addie Butler



## Sunday Calendar

### July 2 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

*Scripture Readings:*

Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18  
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

8:30am.....Worship  
9:45am.....Faith Formation  
9:45am.....LandMARKS  
11:00am.....Worship

### July 9 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost

*Scripture Readings:*

Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14  
Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

8:30am.....Worship  
9:45am.....Faith Formation  
11:00am.....Worship

### July 16 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost

*Scripture Readings:*

Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:1-13  
1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

10am.....100th Anniversary Worship  
12pm.....Potluck

### July 23 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost

*Scripture Readings:*

Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30 36-43

8:30am.....Worship  
9:45am.....Faith Formation  
11:00am.....Worship

### July 30 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

*Scripture Readings:*

1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

8:30am.....Worship  
9:45am.....Faith Formation  
11:00am.....Worship

## Birthdays

July 1 Carl Hughes  
July 3 Lucie Hartmann  
Noah Schreck  
Stephanie Baer  
July 4 Max Hartmann  
Deanna Jordan  
July 6 Pat Patton III  
July 8 Joshua Kersey  
Ransdell Marcus  
July 9 Mae Mueller  
Mary Schreck  
July 10 Tom Pagan  
Katherine Laveck  
Ken Lane  
July 12 Bobbie Epley  
Ari Stone  
July 15 Shelby Montgomery  
Annette Pal  
July 16 Marcus Smith  
July 17 Bryan Noel  
July 18 Kelly Davis  
July 21 Nathan Crownover  
Alicia Richard  
Kendra Miller  
July 23 Anne Mock  
Annalise Roe  
July 24 Gloria Sainio  
Emilee Hendrix  
July 26 Bill Badger  
Eric Van Tassel  
July 27 Carl Schreck  
Theresa Reboulet  
Gaston Miller  
July 29 Samantha Hunkele  
Steve Linton  
Jill Hutson  
Lori Kemper  
July 31 Maximilian Schmidt  
Sadie David

**St. Mark's will be Celebrating its  
100th Birthday on July 15th!**

## Anniversaries

July 4	Robert and Judith Taylor	July 18	Christopher P. and Taylor Lindsay
July 7	Ken and Deborah Lane	July 21	Kevin and Michele Kopp
July 8	Rob and Ann Marie Miller	July 31	Robert and Patricia Kaufmann

# 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:***

10 N. Liberty Street, Asheville, NC 28801

### ***Phone:***

828-253-0043

### ***E-mail:***

[admin@stmarkslutheran.net](mailto:admin@stmarkslutheran.net)

### ***Website:***

[www.stmarkslutheran.net](http://www.stmarkslutheran.net)

### ***Office Hours:***

*Monday—Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm*

*Friday 8:30am-12:30pm*