

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Publisher
Church Mouse

Issue Number
160

Date
September 2024

Upcoming Events

Sat., Sept. 14th – 9:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

Sun., Sept. 15th – 12:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting

Sat., Sept. 28st - 5:00 p.m. – Movie Night
Please note the change in movie night for the month of September to the 4th Saturday!!!

Mon., Sept. 30th – 5:30 p.m. – Choir rehearsals begin



August Communion Table

Always Pray to Have:

Eyes to see the best in people,
A heart that forgives the worst,
A mind that forgets the bad, and
A soul that never loses faith in God.

Prayers and Concerns for Aug.

Family of Joe Morrison
Family of Karen Brandow
Family of William (Bill) Smith, Jr.

Linda Rumph
Evan Foland
Eric Foland
Jimmy Mattson
Ann Priest
Alan Bessinger
Pastor Dottie Morris
Autumn Roney
Dave Priest

Bible Verse for September:

You are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you.

Isaiah 43:4

Thought for the Day:

The poorest person is not the one without money. It is the one without God.

- Facebook



St. Mark's Church Information

Pastor David Houck
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Servers for September

Sept. 1st

Reader – Marie
Prayer – Ron
Ushers – Lori / Dean
Counter – Carrie

Sept. 8th

Reader – Sharon
Prayer – Cheryl
Ushers – Tom / Dylan
Counter – Deb P.

Sept. 15th

Reader – Ginny
Prayer – Ron
Ushers – Dennis / Diane
Counter – Sharon

Sept. 22nd

Reader – Eric
Prayer – Carolyn
Ushers – Ron / Denise
Counter – Diane

Sept. 29th

Reader – Alyssa
Prayer – Ron
Ushers – Bob / Peggi
Counter – Carrie

September Birthdays:

Dolores Wenzel	Sept. 6
Alyssa Coons	Sept. 10
Darrell Hillicoss	Sept. 10
Pat McCoy	Sept. 13
Tamara Guerrero	Sept. 13
Robin Gordon	Sept. 15
Marie Whittaker	Sept. 19
Allison Coons	Sept. 24
Sharon Amendola	Sept. 28

September Anniversaries:

Michael / Kayla Estro	Sept. 10
Maurice / Karen VanDyke	Sept. 11
Pat / Niles McCoy	Sept. 17
Debbie / Jim Brigadier	Sept. 23

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St. Mark's Income vs Expenses

Below is the financial information for the month of July.

Income	Not available
Expenses	Not Available
Balance	Not Available

Thought for the Day

No-one is ever too old to learn, but many people keep putting it off anyway.

FALL

I feel like I missed summer this year. It wasn't any shorter than any other year, yet here we are in September, the threshold of autumn which is commonly referred to as the season of fall. Fall is not just a season of our year; it also refers to our lives and the history of when it began. I am speaking of "The Great Fall". The fall of man, the fall of Adam, or simply the Fall, the term used in Christianity to describe the transition of the first man and woman from a state of innocent obedience to God to a state of guilty disobedience. Original sin is part of the Doctrine of the Fall, which is the belief that when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they "fell" from perfection and brought evil into a perfect world.

The old English term for this season is autumn which means the season between summer and winter comprising in the northern hemisphere the months of September, October, and November or as reckoned astronomically extending from the September equinox to the December solstice. Autumn has additional meanings of the period of maturity or incipient decline. The Bible speaks of maturity in terms of a Greek word often translated "perfect," but the meaning is "fully formed" or "brought to completion," and that takes time. Maturity is not so much a destination as it is a journey on a road full of twists and turns. Incipient is defined as beginning to come into being or to become apparent. Autumn is the time when the fruit of the field is mature and ready for the harvest. It also means the beginning of the decline of the season of growth when the lush greenery will start to fade away and the leaves will begin to "fall" from the trees. This may be a contributing factor to the use of the label fall instead of autumn.

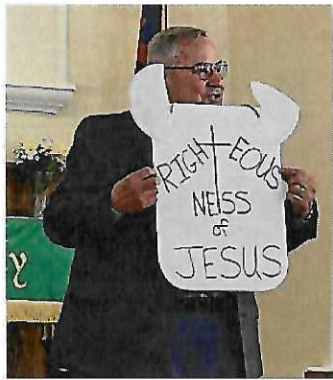
All humanity was affected by the fall which began through one act of disobedience to God and has continued to grow throughout all of the generations and seasons of life here on earth. Humpty Dumpty is a valuable lesson meaning sometimes you break or lose things and, no matter what, or how hard you or anyone else tries, that thing can never be brought back or repaired.. not even "all the king's horses and all the king's men" could bring him back. From the very beginning through the original sin to this current age, it continues to be our willful disobedience to God that causes us to fall. Just like the foliage around us, it is the fall, our sin, that causes us to die spiritually. *Romans 6:23a For the wages of sin is death.* In fall, the growing cycle gives us ripeness and maturity. The harvest is associated with abundance, prosperity and wealth. Humans too experience an "autumn". If spring represents new birth and childhood, and summer symbolizes youth, autumn represents adulthood and maturity. It is through our faith walk with God and with fellow believers that we continue to mature. We will not reach full maturity, which is perfect, fully formed, brought to completion, until God calls us home to be in His presence. This is only achieved by faith in Jesus Christ through whom the gift was given to us: *Romans 6:23b but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Like Humpty Dumpty we too are broken because of a great fall and there is nothing we or anyone else can do to put us back together again. Restoration and salvation only comes from God through the one He made perfect, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.

May the seasons of the year remind us of the seasons in our lives as well. Unlike the astronomical seasons we do not have to wait to plant, to nurture, and to prepare for the harvest. We do need to make sure that where we plant is prepared and ready to receive. This preparation is achieved by applying the lessons taught to us by Jesus as he traveled about and discipled to everyone he encountered. As He called those long ago, he is calling us today as well. *Luke 10:2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."* What season are we in? Let us become the best laborers we can be, for the Lord of the harvest is counting on us. Amen.

During “A Time for the Child in All of Us” on August 25th, Pastor Dave’s message reminded us of the importance of being protected against the forces of evil by putting on and wearing the armor of God.



Belt of Truth



Breastplate of Righteousness



Gospel of Peace

The Whole Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the [a]wiles of the devil.... ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—



Helmet of Salvation



Shield of Faith
Sword of the Spirit



Full Armor of God

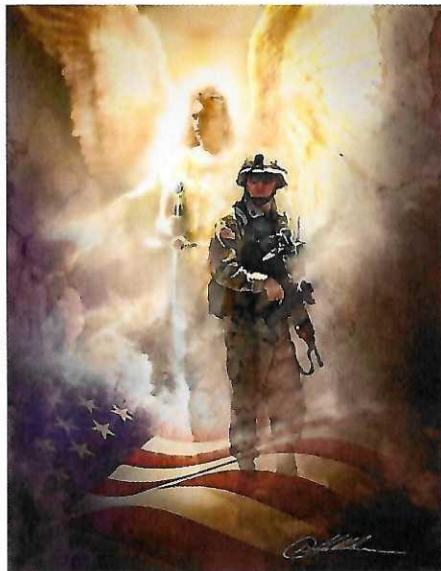
The devil saw me with my head down and thought he'd won until I said **AMEN**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

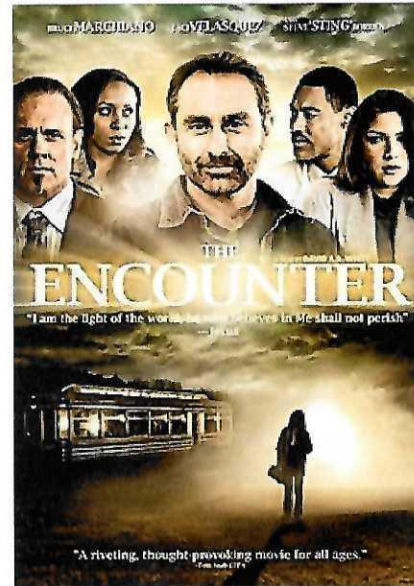
If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

- 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Please keep our country, our country's leaders and our armed forces in your prayers. Pray that our country stands on the Word of God and for unity in Christ.



Movie Night



Saturday, August 17th, St. Mark's hosted its monthly movie night with the feature show --- "The Encounter".

This movie was very thought provoking as we witnessed the battle between Jesus and Satan for the souls of five different people. It portrayed the depth of Jesus' love and how He continually seeks us, trying to save us from a life of condemnation if we will only listen to Him, believe in Him and follow Him.

Due to scheduling conflicts for Pastor Dave, our next movie night is **Saturday, September 28th, at 5:30 p.m.** when we will once again view a Christian movie.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Operation Christmas Child Update



Message from Ruth, our OCC leader:

Thank you for all you are doing. We have reached the goal of these items: crayons, spiral notebooks, pencils, and erasers

We are still in need of:

*WOW gifts
Combs and brushes
Toothbrushes*

Work days to get supplies ready will be announced soon.



2024 / 2025 Choir

If you have a joyful heart and would like to sing for the Lord, please consider joining our choir. We rehearse on Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with the first rehearsal being held on September 30th.

To all the Women at St. Mark's

The Aspire team is hosting a one-night women's event of worship, learning, fellowship and laughter and has sent an invitation to the women of St. Mark's to join them. It is being held at Open Arms Church in Rotterdam at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 2nd. The cost of advance tickets is:

General admission - \$30
VIP / Reserved - \$40

If we have a group of 10 or more women interested in going, the cost is:

General admission - \$25
VIP / Reserved - \$35

If you are interested in attending, please sign-up at the church office no later than Sunday, September 29th.

Aspire
1 night - 3 hours Just for Women
An evening full of laughter, learning, stories & music

Author & Bible Teacher
MELISSA SPOELSTRA

**SATURDAY
NOV. 2, 2024
OPEN ARMS
CHURCH**
2714 CURRY RD.
ROTTERDAM, NY 12303

6:00PM SHOW
5:30PM PANEL TIME
5:00PM DOORS OPEN

Come early and join us for a 15 minute panel time with all 3 ladies based on Romans 12:2 called "Transformed"

Music by
MIA KOEHNE

ADVANCE TICKETS
General Admission - \$25
VIP Reserved - \$35
Group Sales (10+ tickets) - \$199
Group Sales call 480-612-1100

Purchase tickets at **480-612-1100** or online at **ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com**

Compassion Extreme Faith Productions

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

4th Friday

This year our 4th Friday fundraiser for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox was a success. People were very generous when making a donation to purchase our hot dogs, chips (Cheryl's favorite 😊), cookies and water. We were blessed to meet our goal of \$400 to cover the cost of shipping. Thank you to all who helped us in this endeavor, especially to "Chef" Bob who knows how to grill a tasty hot dog!



Our team at the August 23rd 4th Friday



Quilting Phoebe Outreach Project

If you are looking for a Monday morning with a cup of coffee and good conversation and laughter, then St. Mark's is the place to be. As soon as you open the door, you can hear all kinds of sounds emanating from the second floor from sewing machines humming, people talking and the smell of coffee brewing.



Designing and layout of quilts



Sewing quilt pieces



Ironing quilt fabrics



Knotting quilts



Knotting quilts



Finished Quilt

If you have a heart for the Lord and desire to serve Him in our outreach project, please come to the Phoebe room on any Monday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. All are welcome to join us.