

2025 St. Mark's 127 Garage Sale! During these cold winter days, if you are cleaning out or re-organizing your closets, storage areas or garage, remember the St. Mark's 127 Garage Sale is coming up in August. Please consider setting aside your "good" but no longer needed items (*sorry, NOT accepting clothes*) for donation to our garage sale. Sunday bulletins will have information on when to bring your items to the church. Garage Sale proceeds go to "Kids Against Hunger" rice kits. Joan, Karan & Sue

Spring Flower Time: This year we are offering: Lilies 6" pot--\$11 Hyacinths 7" pot--\$9.00 Tulips 6" pot--\$9 Daffodils 6" dwarf or 7" standard-\$9 (yellow). *Envelopes are in the gathering place, elevator & cloak room. Order deadline March 9th. This is the last Sunday to Order!!*



All OH & IN Summer Camp information is on the literature table in the



Gathering Place. All registrations must be done by parents online. **Do not** make the payment online. Bring your information to the church office (user ID & Password) so I can make the online payment from the church. Questions, call the office at 419-238-6336. Thank you, Meisa

Who wants to play Cards again? The high school youth will be hosting another fun afternoon of card playing and Euchre tournament on Sunday, March 16 beginning at **1:00 PM** in the Gathering Area. Snacks and drinks will be provided! We hope you can make it!

Attention New Visitors to St. Mark's: Located in the pews are blue Welcome Cards for our new guests. Please fill out this card and leave it on the pew when you leave the sanctuary. Greeters will be around to collect them after the service. This information is only to keep you informed of activities at St. Mark's and does not leave the office. We hope to see you again next Sunday!

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer Request e-mail: stmprayer@stmarkslutheranvw.com

Church Website: www.stmarkslutheranvw.com

Rev. William C. Haggis, II, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 9, 2025

Prelude "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit (10:30 service)

Hymn "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" # 774

Kyrie and Prayer of the Day (page 98-99; 10:30 service)

Handbell Choir "The Angel's Song"

Noah's Park Children's Church (10:30 service)

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (pg. 2 & 3 of bulletin)

Romans 10:8b-13 and Mark 12:28-31 (pg. 3 & 4 of bulletin)

Message

Hymn "When We Are Tested" see insert

Musical Meditation (8:00 service) "A Perfect Heart"

Apostles' Creed, Intercessory Prayers, The Peace (pages 105-106)

Offering: offering plate, website, text 419-273-9947

Offertory (10:30 service) Adult Choir

Holy Communion (pages 107-109; 8:00 service)

Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Blessing & Dismissal (pages 114-115)

Hymn "Lead Me, Guide Me" # 768

Doxology Sung by the Congregation HYMN # 884

Postlude "Postlude (for Full Organ)"

Call Process Information and Signup Table-West Hallway

Prayer of Illumination

R: Before reading from the Bible,
we seek the illumination of the Holy Spirit that
we become receptive to the life-giving Word
which comes to us through both
the reading and proclamation of Scripture.

C: **Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power
of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy
what you say to us today. Amen.**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Firstfruits and Tithes

¹ When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, ² take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name ³ and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. ⁵ Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. ⁶ But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. ⁷ Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our ancestors, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. ⁸ So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. ⁹ He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; ¹⁰ and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. ¹¹ Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

Scholarship Applications: Due date for St. Mark's Scholarship Application is May 1st of 2025. Applications are available in the gathering area.

Card Ministry: If you know of someone that is sick, in the hospital, has lost a loved one, or just to let them know they are thought of, please let me know so a card may be sent to them. They do not have to attend our church. You may contact me by phone or text at 419-771-0795 or email ahickerson55@gmail.com. Alicia Hickerson

The Outreach Committee will be seeking input from the congregation regarding potential recipients of Outreach Funds for hunger programs locally, nationally and globally. This will take place in the near future so please begin thinking of suggestions you can make to the committee. If you have questions about possible ideas, please talk to Council Representative Karen Etgen or contact the church office. For national and global ideas, some suggested websites are (but not limited to): www.elca.org/hunger, www.elca.org/disaster, www.elca.org/globalmission, www.lwr.org, & www.elca.org

THE RELATIONSHIP PRINCIPLES OF JESUS

is the focus of our 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday services in Lent in which you can invite a friend. Jesus was the Master of relationships. Together we will explore the relationship principles he taught and lived that will equip you on the path of God's intention for all your relationships.

March 9. Principle 1. Place the Highest Value on Relationships.

March 16. Principle 2. Love as Jesus Loves You.

March 23. Principle 3. Communicate from the Heart.

March 30. Principle 4. As You Judge, You Will Be Judged.

April 6. Principle 5. The Greatest Are the Servants.

April 13. Principle 6. Treat Others as You Want Them to Treat You.

Reminders: *Bulletin deadline is Wednesday by 1:00 p.m. AND the deadline for April newsletter is **March 20th**.*

THE ALTAR FLOWERS
are given to the Glory of God by
Jaren & Elizabeth Runyon & family.

ASSISTING MINISTERS THIS WEEK

Greeters (8:00) Bob Evans
Lector (8:00) Rachel Rohrs
Comm. Servers (8:00) Weston Thompson & _____
Greeters (10:30) Roger Overholt
Lector (10:30) Jacob Mohr
Acolyte (10:30) Caleb Mohr
Coffee Hour Grubaugh

High School Youth Dominican Republic Mission

Trip Update: To date, we have 24 participants committed to going on the June 14-21, 2025 mission trip to the Dominican Republic. This is exciting news for our high school youth, families, and chaperones.

“Why Christian? For Those on the Edge of Faith”

is the focus of our Midweek Lent services. All services, in which you can invite a friend, are noon & 7:30 p.m.

March 12. *Saved from What?-For What?* Meet @ the Gathering Place.

March 19. *But How?* @ the Gathering Place.

March 26. *What’s the Difference?* @ the Gathering Place.

April 2. *Why Church?* @ the Gathering Place.

April 9. *Is There Any Hope?* @ the Gathering Place.



Mark your Calendars! The March Fry Pie sales will be Sunday, March 16 after each service.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

The Lord Is Our Refuge

R: Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

C: **I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”**

R: If you say, “The LORD is my refuge,” and you make the Most High your dwelling,

C: **no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent.**

R: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

C: **they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.**

R: You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

C: **“Because he loves me,” says the LORD, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.**

R: He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

C: **With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.”**

Romans 10:8b-13

Jesus Is Lord

^{8b}“The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹ As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (10:30 service)

Return to the Lord, you God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.



P: The Good news of Mark’s Gospel.

C: **Glory To you O Lord!**



Mark 12:28-31 The Greatest Commandment

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” ²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

P: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**



*Our sympathy and God’s comfort to
John Freund, family and friends upon the
Tuesday, March 4th passing of
Marlene Freund.*

*Our sympathy and God’s comfort to Ron
Blake, family & friends upon the passing of
his brother, John L. Blake on
Friday, February 28, 2025.*

CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025—DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service
- 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gathering Place
- 9:00 a.m. Call Process Signup Table**
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal
- NO** Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:40 a.m. Noah’s Park
- 11:30 a.m. Call Process Signup Table**
- 2:00 p.m. Visitation at Alspach for Marlene Freund until 6 PM**

MONDAY

- 10:00 a.m. Visitation for Marlene Freund in the Gathering Place**
- 11:00 a.m. Marlene Freund funeral here**

TUESDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers
- 10:00 a.m. A.J.’s at Tom Rhoades’ home**
- 3:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice**

WEDNESDAY

- 12:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Service in Gathering Place**
- 6:00 p.m. Supper
- 6:30 p.m. **The Anchor**
- 6:30 p.m. Catechism
- 6:30 p.m. Kid Min
- 7:30 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Service in Gathering Place**

SATURDAY

- 10:00 a.m. Gathering Place in use until 3 PM**

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025—FRIED PIE SALES TODAY

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Service with LPE**
- 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gathering Place
- 9:00 a.m. Call Process Signup Table**
- 9:00 a.m. Youth Fried Pie Sales**
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- NO** Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service
- 10:40 a.m. Noah’s Park
- 11:30 a.m. Call Process Signup Table**
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Fried Pie Sales**
- 1:00 p.m. Euchre/Card Games in Gathering Place**

Would You Like To Be Involved In The Call Process for Our Next Pastor?

Then Serve On A Phase 1, Phase 2, and/or Phase 3 Team!

Phase 1: The Ending Well Phase - Social and Operational goals

Do you enjoy planning parties? We could use your skills for our Farewell Committee planning Pastor Will's retirement celebration as well as transition events.

Committees related to 1A: Service, Kitchen, AIM

Maybe you have experience with operations of organizations – you could help with an exit interview, and prepare our staff for Pastor's absence.

Committees related to 1B: Personnel, Mutual Ministry, Property

Phase 2: The Discovery and Transition Phase - establish the Transition Committee and develop our Church MSP (Ministry Site Profile) through research and data gathering

If you like to dig into long range planning based on the inner workings of our church – heritage, leadership, mission, connections, future plans – we could use you on the Transition Team.

Committees related to 2A: Worship and Music, Learning, Youth, Service, Piecemakers, Parish Health

Those of you who are business minded can help analyze staff interactions and responsibilities, and lend financial data crunching to plan for the future.

Committees related to 2B: Finance, Support, Scholarships and Memorials, Outreach

Phase 3: The Search and Call Phase - establish a Call Committee and finalize Church MSP, which will attract candidates to be interviewed.

Are you detail oriented and enjoy presenting information in a factual and attractive way? You could help on the Call Committee.

Members will complete the Church MSP (Ministry Site Profile) and interview potential candidates.

Committees related to 3: Those with Council experience and those interacting with the Pastor regularly.

Please Note: to serve on a Phase 1, Phase 2, and/or Phase 3 Team you do *not* have to be currently serving on one of the above-mentioned related committees such as Personnel, Property, Youth, Service, etc.

Please contact a member of Church Council to inform them of your desire to serve on a Phase 1, 2, and/or 3 Team. Church Council members are Wes Thompson (President), Denny Wagonrod (Vice-president), Jana Ringwald (Secretary), Karen Etgen, Carol Lininger, Jim Sowers, Ben Krugh, Christine Krugh, Tom Rhoades and Monica Campbell.

On the Sundays of March 9 & 16, after each service, an information and sign-up table will be located by the church nursery. Members of Church Council will be available to answer your questions.