

The Geraniums are planted! Thank you for all who purchased geraniums to help beautify the grounds. The geraniums will need to be *deadheaded and watered* over the next few months. In a typical week, you only need to water a couple times (depending upon the heat and rain). *There is a sign up sheet on the Dreamboard if you can help or simply text/call Jana Ringwald to volunteer (419-203-4433).* Be sure to take time to enter or exit from the front as the flowers grow, enjoying God's beauty! Genesis 1:11-13. Thank you!

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

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 you will continue to join us for services and we are so glad you came to St. Mark's. We hope to see you again next Sunday.

Prayer Chain Update: If anyone has a prayer request, please submit ALL requests to Meisa Coplin, Office Administrator—St. Mark's at 419-238-6336 or by email at meisacoplin@gmail.com. We will be adding a link on our church website (www.stmarkslutheranvw.com) to add a name to the prayer chain requests. If you would like to be on the telephone prayer chain team, contact Meisa to add your name.

Attention Volunteers: The 3rd Thursday Community Luncheon could use a hand to help with clean up. We have servers and delivery people but are lacking in the clean-up department. If you can help, please call the church office 419-238-6336 or email Meisa Coplin at meisacoplin@gmail.com. Thank you, Kate Lindsey, Meal Coordinator

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer Request e-mail: stmprayer@embarqmail.com

Church Website: www.stmarkslutheranvw.com

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30 AM Combined Service

MAY 31, 2026

Prelude "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

Welcome and Announcements

Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness (page 94-96)

Hymn "God, Whose Almighty Word" # 673

Kyrie and Hymn of Praise (page 98-100)

Prayer of the Day

Noah's Park Children's Church

Genesis 1:1—2:4 and Psalm 8 (pgs. 2 & 3)

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 and Matthew 28:16-20 (pgs. 4 & 5)

Message

Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!" # 413

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

Musical Meditation "People Need the Lord"

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

Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Blessing & Dismissal (pages 114-115)

Hymn "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity" # 412

Doxology Sung by the Congregation HYMN #884

Postlude "Jubilant Gigue"

Get to Know Us on:



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.**

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Genesis 1:1—2:4a

### The Beginning

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. <sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. <sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. <sup>14</sup> And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the

(continued on page 3)

## Baby Bottle Campaign for Langdyn House of PLC!

This campaign runs from Mother's Day, May 10<sup>th</sup> through Father's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>. The bottles are then returned on Father's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup> with your collected change or check. Place your bottle in the collection box provided at the church. Thank you.



## Volunteer Opportunity: VSB Helpers!:

Calling all willing hands and hearts! We're looking for helpers for **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** during the week of **June 8th–12th**, from **9:00 AM to 12:00 PM** each day. Please contact Abby Stechschulte at [abby@stechfamily.com](mailto:abby@stechfamily.com) to help.

**The Sisters and Sips Morning Edition:** The next meeting for anyone wanting to join this bible discussion group is **Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the church.** All are welcome!

**LISTENING POST UPDATE:** The forms and envelopes are in the literature rack by the Gathering Place. Once filled out, enclose it in an envelope and put it the top right mailbox slot by the office.

**BELL TOWER UPDATE (May 2026):** Verdin is working with their suppliers for the steel needed for our Bell Tower Project. Their current supplier is experiencing delays. Verdin anticipates a completion of the chime equipment and installation by end of September/early October right now.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The Noah's Park TinCaps outing will be on **June 19<sup>th</sup>** this year. There are **14** tickets still available. Sign up for the congregation members is done **TODAY**. Sign up if you want to go. Congregation sign-up sheet is on the dreamboard.

**Summer Worship Hours go through September 6<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Service times are 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM.**

**CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026**

**ERIC OVERHOLT, MEMBER SPEAKER**

9:30 a.m. *Worship Service*

9:40 a.m. Noah’s Park

**WEDNESDAY**

10:00 a.m. *Biggby Bible Group*

6:30 p.m. *Brothers & Brews*

**THURSDAY**

6:00 p.m. *Cornhole*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026—DEACON HELENA MORRIS,  
GUEST SPEAKER**

8:00 a.m. *Worship Service*

10:00 a.m. *Worship Service*

10:10 a.m. Noah’s Park

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS**

are given to the Glory of God by Mr. & Mrs. Ron Blake  
in honor of those who have gone before.

**ASSISTING MINISTERS THIS WEEK**

Greeters .....Phil McClure

Lector .....Marcia Weldy

Acolyte .....Emmalynn Conley

**OPENINGS:** The following paid and unpaid positions provide a way for our members to serve St. Mark’s. Please prayerfully consider serving!

- **Substitute Office Administrator**—See Dream Board for details.
- **Treasurer**—See Dream Board for details.
- **Catechism (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**—Teachers can work alone or in teams. Classes begin mid-September on Wednesday evenings. Please contact Personnel co-leads Nikki Baer or Marilyn Morgan.
- **Run the Announcements** on Sanctuary Monitors for the 8:00 service—contact Marilyn Morgan for more details.

day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. <sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. <sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” <sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” <sup>29</sup> Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. <sup>2</sup> By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

**Adam and Eve**

<sup>4</sup> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created,

## Psalm 8

R: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory in the heavens.

**C: Through the praise of children and infants  
you have established a stronghold  
against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and the avenger.**

R: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

**C: what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?**

R: You have made them a little lower than the angels  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

**C: You made them rulers over the works of your hands;  
you put everything under their feet:**

R: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

**C: the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea,  
all that swim the paths of the seas.**

R: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

## Final Greetings

<sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup> All God's people here send their greetings.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation (10:30 service)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Good news of Matthew's Gospel.

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

## Matthew 28:16-20

## The Great Commission

<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

P: Word of God. Word of life.

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

*Eric Overholt* has been a member of St Mark's for 58 years. He has taught Adult Sunday School for 22 years and has served on Church Council and various committees. He is a physical therapist assistant working for the past 28 years at Midwest Rehab. Eric has been married to Karen for 30 years this September and has 3 kids and 7 grandkids. He loves hiking in the mountains, reading, woodworking and spending time with his family.

**Our sympathy to Brooke Straley and family on  
the recent death of Brooke's grandmother,  
Mary E. Bowen on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.**



## IT'S VBS TIME!!

Join us for a journey to *Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23*. Every stop along our path will teach us about the Good Shepherd and how he cares for his sheep.

**DATES: June 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

**TIMES: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

We will discover important truths such as “*I can be a child of God*”, “*I need the Lord to lead me on the right path*”, “*I can turn to the Lord for comfort*” and much more.

Join us for musical gatherings, games, crafts, science and lots more. Don't forget the snacks and the new characters every day!

**Day 1: Mia (My-a) the Connemara Sheep**



**Day 2: Guide the Border Collie**

**Day 3: Shadow the Raven**

**Day 4: Pesky the Woolly Aphid**



**Day 5: Shirley the Highland Cow**

**Ages are from PreK through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**

Register on St. Mark's Lutheran website at:

[www.stmarkslutheranvw.com](http://www.stmarkslutheranvw.com)

Call church office 419-238-6336 for any questions or call Abby at 567-712-5991 or Logan at 419-749-3009.

## GIVING REPORT THROUGH APRIL 2026

|                          | <u>2025</u>       | <u>2026</u>       | <u>DIFFERENCE</u>  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Current Expense          | \$ 108,371        | \$ 88,591         | \$ (19,780)        |
| Mission Support          | \$ 17,646         | \$ 19,318         | \$ 1,672           |
| Property Improvement     | \$ 11,165         | \$ 12,024         | \$ 859             |
| Bell Tower Fund          | \$ 2,330          | \$ 5,591          | \$ 3,261           |
| Special/Designated Gifts | \$ 1,929          | \$ 2,406          | \$ 477             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>\$ 141,441</b> | <b>\$ 127,930</b> | <b>\$ (13,511)</b> |

**Investment Funds Used for Current Expense in 2026: \$ 0**

*“For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen.*

*Revelation 3:17-18a*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**