

*Today we welcome into the family of faith
through the sacrament of Holy Baptism,
Lennon Lucille Lovejoy, daughter of
Caleb & Kylie Lovejoy.*

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.



Listening Post: Mutual Ministry just wants to remind the congregation that the Listening Post is available should any concerns or questions arise in the congregation. We all want our church to be as healthy as possible and communicating that information would be tremendously helpful. There are forms in the rack by the outside door of the Gathering Room or you may see any member of the Mutual Ministry committee (Rachel Rohrs, Dot Burley, Warren Bowery, Jeannine Roediger, Jo Holman, Jana Ringwald).

100th, 125th and 150th Anniversary books, extra photo directories, scrapbooks, pictures and framed pictures are available on a first come first serve basis to take at the table by the Nursery.

ALTAR FLOWERS are available for the following dates in 2025: **Sunday November 23rd and December 7th.** If you are interested in providing flowers, contact Meisa at 419-238-6336.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. William C. Haggis II, Pastor

Prayer Request e-mail: stmprayer@stmarkslutheranvw.com

Church Website: www.stmarkslutheranvw.com

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 31, 2025

Prelude

"Blessed Assurance"

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn

"Gather Us In"

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Prayer of the Day

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (pgs. 227-230-10:00 service)

Noah's Ark Children's Church (10:00 service)

Proverbs 25:6-7 and Psalm 112 (pg. 2 & 3 of bulletin)

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1, 7-14 (pg. 3 & 4 of bulletin)

Message

Hymn

"Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table"

see insert

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

Musical Meditation (8:00 service)

"The Family of God"

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

Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Blessing & Dismissal (pages 114-115)

Hymn

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

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Doxology Sung by the Congregation

HYMN #884

Postlude

"Psalm 20"

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.**

Proverbs 25:6-7

A Proverb of Solomon

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷ for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Psalms 112

Blessings of the Righteous

R: Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

C: **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

R: Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

C: **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

R: It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

C: **For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

R: They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

C: **Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

R: They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

C: **The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

Call Process Update

- **Farewell Committee—Carol Lininger and Rachel Rohrs co-leads.** Farewell Committee met on July 31, 2025. Plans are moving along for the Pastor's Retirement Service and luncheon on January 11, 2026. Congregation and guest invitations with RSVP to go out November 1. Next meeting of the Farewell Committee will be on September 23, 2025 at 4:00 pm in the church gathering room.
- **Transition Committee-Jana Ringwald and Marilyn Morgan co-leads.** The committee met on 8/7. The results of the Congregational Survey was compiled and reviewed. The committee and Council thank all who took the time and prayerful consideration to complete the survey. A summary of results will be shared soon. The Ministry Site Profile (our congregation's resume) has been drafted and undergoing final touches. A handoff to Council and the Call Committee is being made in August. The next meeting of the Transition Committee is scheduled for 9/11.
- **Call Committee—Cary Roehm and Kathy Taylor co-leads.** This committee will meet once the Transition Committee has completed the Ministry Site Profile.

Employment Available: Do you have a heart for leading teens closer to Christ? Our High School Youth Group are seeking a passionate and energetic adult leaders for the 2025-2026 church calendar year. Applications/job descriptions are on the information table in the Gathering Place.

Awesome Attitudes Update: St. Mark's Personnel Committee would like to welcome Paula Johnson as the new leader of Awesome Attitudes. Cristal Nihiser, current leader of Little Awesome Attitudes will continue in her position. Lulu Ross and AJ Wiseman will serve as aides. Their duties will begin after Rally Day when Wednesday Night Youth resumes.

Wednesday Night Youth Meal Coordinator: Jackie Evans has agreed to replace Teresa Glossett as our new meal coordinator.

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Bonnie Taylor. Bonnie passed on

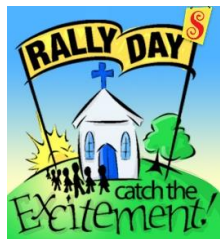
*Thursday, August 21, 2025. May God's
peace and comfort be with you.*

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UPCOMING EVENTS



WALK FOR LIFE: Did you know that as a Pregnancy Medical Clinic (PMC), the PLC Health Clinic attracts more women who are at risk for abortion? It is crucial that the needs of mothers facing unplanned pregnancy are met by a PMC and not by abortion providers. There were 18,488 reported abortions in Ohio in 2022; 153 of those coming from counties that PLC serves. Help the PLC Health Clinic reach out with a message of help and hope to at-risk women. Please support and join us for this year's Walk for Life on Sunday, September 14th at 2:00 at Franklin Park.



RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH!!

Please mark your calendars to join the 9:30am - Joint Worship Service, kicking off the 2025-2026 Sunday School Season! Lunch begins immediately following the service in the Fellowship Hall. Following lunch is an afternoon of fun and fellowship with corn-hole, bingo, and kids' games! Meat, beverages, and table service provided. Please bring a hot or cold side-dish or dessert for lunch. The west parking lot along Jefferson St. will be closed to parking for Rally Day. The south parking lot along Washington St. will be open for parking.



On Saturday, September 20th we will be assembling Rice Kits in the Fellowship Hall. The truck comes in at 8 AM. We need volunteers to help unload boxes and set up tables. After a prayer, we will begin the assembly of the meals at approximately 9 AM. If you could prayerfully give of your time out of your busy schedules to come and help us, it would be greatly appreciated. We will be done by 12 noon. Remember MANY HANDS make

less work for everyone, come join the fun and help support such a worthy mission. Sign-up sheets are on the Dreamboard, by the Sanctuary.
Sincerely, Joan Holland

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Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Service Well-Pleasing to God

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (10:00 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 in Luke's gospel.

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

Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

Humility and Hospitality

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more

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distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

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**Rally Day Cornhole Tournament—Sign-up Sheet on the Dream Board:** On Rally Day September 14<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Corn-Hole Tournament. If you would like to play, please sign-up on the corn-hole tournament sign-up sheet on the dream board located beside the west door of the sanctuary. You may enter as a team of two, or you may sign-up individually to play and you will be matched with another player for your team. The tournament is totally, a for fun event. Whether you have never played and want to learn, or are a regular player, teams will be matched accordingly.

*Our sympathy is extended to the family  
and friends of Arline (Rogers) Wegesin.*

*Arline passed on Sunday, August 24, 2025.  
May God's peace and comfort be with you.*

Arline's arrangements are as follows here at St. Mark's: Service is on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Visitation is at 3:00 p.m. with a Memorial Service at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Rev. Haggis officiating.

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## CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025—LABOR DAY WEEKEND

8:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:10 a.m. Noah's Park

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>—LABOR DAY—OFFICE CLOSED**  
**LAST DAY OF VAN WERT COUNTY FAIR**

### WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. Brewed Expressions Bible Group Meeting

6:30 p.m. Brothers & Brews

### THURSDAY

6:00 p.m. Choir Kick-off Party in the Gathering Place

6:00 p.m. Cornhole

7:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting in Meeting Room

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025—LAST SUNDAY SUMMER HRS.

8:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:15 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service

10:10 a.m. Noah's Park

3:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use until 7:00 p.m.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS  
are given to the Glory of God.

## ASSISTING MINISTERS THIS WEEK

|          |               |                    |
|----------|---------------|--------------------|
| Greeters | (8:00) .....  | Larry Miller       |
| Lector   | (8:00) .....  | Jana Ringwald      |
| Greeters | (10:00) ..... | Gregory Pancake    |
| Lector   | (10:00) ..... | Marilyn Morgan     |
| Acolyte  | (10:00) ..... | Maci Bash-Stauffer |

Reminders: **Bulletin deadline** is Wednesday by 1:00 p.m.

AND **The deadline** for October newsletter is **September 10<sup>th</sup>**  
due to Meisa's vacation of September 15<sup>th</sup>—26<sup>th</sup>.

**UPDATE on “Kids Against Hunger” Garage Sale**

**Total:** From the garage sale, donations and after sale sales, this year's total for “Kids Against Hunger” Rice Kits is **\$6,468.00.**  
Thank you again to everyone who helped make this a great success. Sue, Karan & Joan