

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
200 South Wille Street  
Mount Prospect, Illinois  
60056-3121

May 2017

God's  
work.  
Our  
hands.



### 2017-18 Church Council

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### St. Mark Lutheran Church

847/253-0631

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Email: [stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org](mailto:stmarkmp@stmarkmp.org)

Web: [stmarkmp.org](http://stmarkmp.org)

#### Staff

Pastor	Rev. Christie Webb	<a href="mailto:cwebb@stmarkmp.org">cwebb@stmarkmp.org</a>
Music Director	Timothy Spelbring	<a href="mailto:tspelbring@stmarkmp.org">tspelbring@stmarkmp.org</a>
Parish Administrator	Nancy Hundley	<a href="mailto:nhundley@stmarkmp.org">nhundley@stmarkmp.org</a>
Office Administrator	Jill Galyon	<a href="mailto:jgalyon@stmarkmp.org">jgalyon@stmarkmp.org</a>
Youth & Family Ministry	Deacon David Webb	<a href="mailto:dwebb@stmarkmp.org">dwebb@stmarkmp.org</a>

#### Sunday Worship

Chapel Service: 8 am      Worship Service: 10 am

#### Wednesday Youth Christian Education (Sept. – May)

WOW (3 yrs through 5<sup>th</sup> grade)      FaithWalk (Confirmation 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
4:30-6:00 pm      6:30-8:00 pm

#### Wednesday Adult Christian Education

Bible Study 11:00 am

#### Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm      Friday 8:30 am – 12 pm noon

### St. Mark Preschool & Enrichment Center

847/873-1110

Web: [stmarkpreschoolcares.org](http://stmarkpreschoolcares.org)

Preschool Director      Barb Zediker      [bzediker@stmarkmp.org](mailto:bzediker@stmarkmp.org)

**The mission statement of the people of St. Mark:  
To nourish God's people in Body, Mind and Spirit.**



St. Mark Lutheran Church

# CrossBeams

A publication of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Mount Prospect, Illinois

Volume 56, Issue 5

May, 2017

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# Welcome Thomas James Webb



**Born: April 25, 2017 9:42 AM**  
**6 lbs., 5 oz. 20 inches**  
**Parents: Pastor Christie & Deacon David Webb**



**When things don't go as planned**

I had it all planned out. Deacon David and I would be at home, contractions would start, we would calmly time them, call the doctor at the right moment, have time to pack up last minute items, drive to the hospital, and then proceed with a normal birthing process. This would happen of course on baby's due date, after I had finished all my to-dos and had time to rest up after Holy Week and Easter. It would all be great.

But instead, nothing went as planned. I ended up having to call the doctor when my blood pressure numbers were too high on a Sunday evening one and a half weeks before baby was due. She said, come in to the hospital, get checked out, bring your stuff, just in case. We packed up stuff quickly, nervous, and well of course a bit scared. We headed to the hospital, nothing done, everything left untidy, forgetting everything. They decided to induce me, which changed the whole picture, the whole plan. Thomas James was born 38 hours later, 9 days before his due date, with nothing going quite as planned, especially not the completion of our to-do list... and this Crossbeams article I was to have done on Sunday evening. :) Nothing went as planned, but it turned out even better than I expected, in that we were surprised with new life and get to enjoy Thomas 9 days before expected.

I got to thinking about Jesus' life in the midst of it all, particularly the ending, about how this was not what they had planned. At least not what the disciple had planned. (Jesus seemed to know the plan and tried to tell the disciples about it many times, but clearly they didn't want to hear it.) They didn't expect that their teacher, their Messiah would die on the cross, that they would deny him, that they would end up scared and fearful after his death. Things were not going as planned, had not gone as they planned.

But then it turned out better than they expected. New life sprang up in the midst of the unplanned, the unexpected. The tomb was empty. Jesus was alive, resurrected, the power of death had been destroyed. This is the joy of Easter, the joy of our faith, the greatest gift.

This is how it seems to work with God. Things do not go as we plan, and yet God shows up with new life in the midst of it all, bringing gifts that are often better than we ever expected. Even in the midst of the hardest things, God is at work to show up, bring new life. In this season of Easter, let's look for that new life, to recognize and celebrate God in the unexpected.



In Christ,  
Pastor Christie



2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:00 pm PADS Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	<b>2</b> 11 am Private Event 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm Basketball 6:00 pm Preschool Staff/Advisory Board Mtg	<b>3</b> 9 am Volleyball 4 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 5 pm Basketball 6 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm FaithWalk 8 pm Basketball 9 pm Basketball	<b>4</b> 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	<b>5</b> 11 am Preschool Gym 1 pm Preschool Gym	<b>6</b> 9 am TKP Auditions 6:30 pm Nibblers
<b>7</b> <i>Rachel's Day</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 11 am BBQ & Bake Sale 1 pm TKP Auditions 6 pm TKP Callbacks	<b>8</b> 1 pm Book Club 6 pm Summer Suppers 7 pm Mary Circle 7 pm Foundation	<b>9</b> 12:30 pm Deborah Circle 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm Basketball	<b>10</b> 9 am Volleyball 3 pm Preschool Fundraiser at Cappanari's 4 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW 5 pm Basketball 6 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm FaithWalk 8 pm Basketball 9 pm Basketball	<b>11</b> 11 am Preschool Mother's Day Tea 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	<b>12</b> 11 am Preschool Gym 1 pm Preschool Gym 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Preschool Parent/Child Yoga	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	<b>15</b> 7 pm The King's Players (TKP) Orientation & Rehearsal	<b>16</b> 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm Church Council 7 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 9 am Volleyball 9 am Quilting 4 pm Basketball 4:30 pm WOW Party 5 pm Basketball 6 pm Youth Choir 6:30 pm FaithWalk Affirmation Night/Confirmation Practice 7 pm TKP Rehearsal 8 pm Basketball 9 pm Basketball	<b>18</b> 1 pm Senior Lunch Bunch 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	<b>19</b> 11 am Preschool Gym 1 pm Preschool Gym 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm Craft Connection	<b>20</b> 2 pm Private Event
<b>21</b> <i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 1 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 12:30 pm Bridge Club 7 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>23</b> 9 am Quilting 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 9 am Volleyball 5 pm Basketball 7 pm TKP Rehearsal 7 pm Preschool End of the Year Program 8 pm Basketball	<b>25</b> 8:30 am Holy Family Fun Day 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Vocal Choir	<b>26</b> 11 am Preschool Gym 1 pm Preschool Gym 4:30 pm Basketball	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 1 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>29</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>30</b> 3:30 pm Basketball 4:30 pm Basketball 7 pm TKP Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 9 am Volleyball 5 pm Basketball 7 pm TKP Rehearsal 8 pm Basketball			



# SAINT MARK SCHOOL

## CALLING ALL STUDENTS, PARENTS AND FACULTY!

*This is your chance to raise some extra money for your school - and your chance to be...*



### Capannari's Coolest School

**Date:** Wednesday, May 10th  
**3:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Place:** 10 S. Pine Street,  
Mount Prospect (2 blocks west of Elmhurst Rd & NW Hwy. on Pine St.)

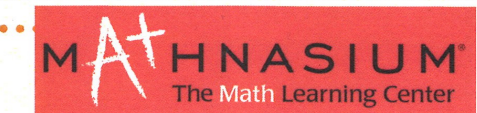
14 area schools have been designated ONE day to raise as much money as they can for their school. 10% of all sales for your day goes back to your school. After the 8 weeks are complete, the three schools that have raised the most money will split 10% of the TOTAL SALES FOR ALL THE DAYS COMBINED! LAST YEAR'S WINNER WON over \$2,000! The Grand Prize Winning School not only receives a big check but even better, they are crowned ...

### "CAP'S COOLEST SCHOOL IN 2017"

Contact Us at  
847-392-2277  
Capannaris.com



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**COOLEST SCHOOL**



Thank you for the amazing love you poured out on our family at the baby shower. There aren't words to express how deeply your joy, delight, and generosity touched me. As I sat in the aftermath of bringing all those gifts and cards and words into the nursery to sort through and write thank you notes (in the works, yet another thing on that to-do list that did not go as planned), the pure gift of your love washed over me and I was overwhelmed with it. We are so excited to raise Thomas (he has a name now!) in the St. Mark community. Thank you!

Pastor Christie & Deacon David

To our church family and friends, we would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You.

The outpouring of love and sympathy after Len's passing has been touching. So many people were able to take time out of their schedules on Friday or Saturday to honor Len. Also appreciated has been the friendship, greetings, thoughts and prayers for Len during these last many, many years. Greetings of Peace, pats on the shoulder and brief handshakes while coming down the side aisle after communion never went unnoticed nor unappreciated by us or Len as evidenced by the smile these gestures brought to his face.



If we may, a specific thanks to George Elder for the years of being the 'Sunday Valet' so Gloria could accompany Len into church.

Thank you also to the ladies of the church for the wonderful post-service luncheon and to all who reached out to find out how they could contribute to the meal.

Again, thank you to everyone for all your prayers, thoughts, calls and cards of condolence during this time.

Sincerely,  
Gloria Bazan  
Gene, Pam and Matthew Bazan  
Susan, Bill and Greg Frech



#### Maternity leave reminders:

- Pastor Christie will be on leave for 8 weeks, returning at the end of June.
- Worship will be covered by Pastors Carl Anderson and Vivian Becker and some guest preachers from Holy Family Ministries and Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.
- Pastor Carl is on call for pastoral care emergencies. Call the office to access his number.
- Council President Carol Floros, the executive committee and office staff can assist you with questions.
- Sharon Blazek is organizing food for the Webbs.
- The Webbs request their privacy as they get used to being parents. Baby Webb will make his first live appearance when Pastor Christie returns, though you will see many picture updates throughout her leave.

# More pictures of Thomas



## Craft Connection

"Come, all of you who are gifted craftsmen, construct everything that the Lord has commanded." Exodus 35:10 (NLT)  
"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another..." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

**FRIDAY, MAY 19  
7:00 PM  
In the Great Room**

Carol Floros will be leading us in making fleece blankets for Project Linus and Ronald McDonald House. Fleece will be provided. Free Will offering collected to cover the cost of material. The blankets will be donated to these charities. Refreshments provided. Come, join the fun while serving others.

(Recommended for 6th grade through adult.)

Friends of Lutheran World Relief  
40th Anniversary Spring Luncheon



2017 FALL GATHERING  
Saturday and Sunday  
October 7 & 8, 2017

Quilts and Kits are gathered, sorted, boxed and labeled at a local congregation. Please bring the boxes to the receiving centers on October 7 or 8. Watch the mail in early September for a large postcard listing the four drop-off locations in the Chicago/Land area. Information is also available at [www.lwr.org/friends](http://www.lwr.org/friends).

Properly packed and labeled boxes of quilts and kits may also be taken year-round to the Church of the Brethren warehouse, 1451 Dundee Ave (Route 25), Elgin IL. Please call for specific hours -- 847-742-5100.

YOUR LABOR OF LOVE...DISTRIBUTED IN 2016

346,170 Quilts  
402,728 Kits  
16 Countries



Friday, April 28, 2017  
Avalon Banquets  
1905 East Higgins Road  
Elk Grove Village, IL

The quilters attended the Friends of LWR Spring Luncheon on April 28th

### St. Lazarus' Pop-Update Bakery

By: Deacon Dave



After the flour cleared and the last loaf of bread was picked up we found ourselves full again with joy and excitement as you all generously supported another fundraiser and participated in ministry experiment. During the week after Easter we baked 60lbs of flour into 40 loaves of bread, 10 pizzas, and 6 dozen biscuits! We received \$200 in equipment and supplies donations and raised \$300! Equally important was the community that was created as so many people enjoyed bread together, shared bread with family and friends, and found nourishment in good friends and food. A huge thank you to everyone who ordered bread and everyone who helped staff the bakery, especially Sarah and Courtney Bradbury, Carol Floros, Krista Floros, Lindsay Hodges, and Beth Freeman.

Stay tuned for further updates from the St. Lazarus Bakery. We have some exciting news for future dates in May and a possible Pizza Party like you've never seen before.

## HOLY FAMILY Fun Day

Fun Day for Holy Family School's 4th and 5th graders will be on **Thursday, May 25** this year. This is our 17th year hosting this event. Volunteers (about 20) are needed to help with the day. Let either Cynthia Pershing or George Elder know if you can come and help, even if it's only for part of the time.



**MEAL SIGN-UP**

Sharon Blazek is organizing meals for the Webbs while they are enjoying the adjustment to parenthood. She will be in the narthex on May 7th and 14th following

worship services to sign-up anyone interested in helping. Diet restrictions and directions for delivery will be provided at sign-up.



### What is Rachel's Day?

In 1994, one woman from Bethel Lutheran Church on the west side of Chicago did something bold: she spoke up against the violence the children in her community and congregation were facing. She and her congregation began by clearing a vacant lot and turning it into a garden – Rachel's Garden. It became a place where folks could come to mourn children killed by gun violence in the past year. They also planted white crosses and flowers in remembrance of these young ones.

In 1996, the Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Organization brought a memorial to the Third Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA to broaden awareness of the violence children face and actions to address it. The convention passed that memorial encouraging congregations to recognize the first Sunday in May each year as Rachel's Day, based on Jeremiah 31:15-17 wherein Rachel grieves for her children.

While the original focus was the loss of inner city children to gangs, gun violence, and other contributors such as drugs, abuse, neglect, poor education, health and hunger – time has shown this crisis to be alive and well in most communities across our nation. And we could now add to that list cyber bullying and suicide.

Through Rachel's Day, ELCA women boldly stand for children, encouraging awareness of, advocacy for, and action on the issues they face. St. Mark women have come to recognize the day by holding a fundraiser, with proceeds benefitting charities that work with children and their families. This year our proceeds will again benefit Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) Intact Family Recovery Program.

We invite you to come out to our barbeque after the 10 am service on May 7, or select something from the bake sale for dessert or as a treat to take home. If you'd rather just make a donation, that would be appreciated as well. Just mark your blue WELCA envelope or a pew envelope "Rachel's Day".

Thank you for your continued support.

### Save the Date: Confirmation, May 21<sup>st</sup>

By: Deacon Dave

We have much to celebrate this May as our Faithwalk students finish their three year confirmation study.

Zack Permanian, A.J. Powers, Jeremy Mayer, Jake Baltes, Eddie Wilson, and Aden Gianfrancesco will affirm their faith in God, the promises their parents made in baptism, and commit to a new ministry in our midst this spring. The boys bring a tremendous energy and sense of humor to the community at St. Mark. We look forward to watching the unique gifts from God, each one possesses, develop into its fullness as they enter high school and discern where God is calling them into further education and careers. It will be a great day of celebration Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. I look forward to standing with you as we surround the confirmands with our love and support.



### VBS is coming! June 12-16 9:30 am-Noon

**Digging for Treasure**– Join us for Vacation Bible School: June 12th-16th from 9:30 am-12pm for students aged 3 years old to 10 years old. Volunteers 11 yrs and up are welcome as well! We have a great week in front of us digging into God's word in games, snacks, and lots more fun! Registration forms are available in the narthex or by contacting Deacon Dave. Also, let Deacon Dave know if you can help! Sign-up by May 30 to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration Fee!

### No Greater Love

By Deacon David Webb

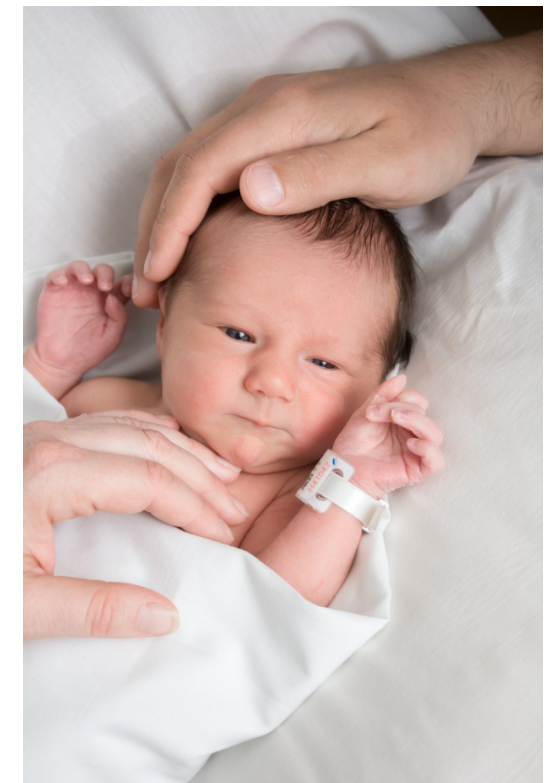
<sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13

Happy Easter Friends! Oh what an Easter it has been! Pr. Christie and I talked all through Lent about how St. Mark carried a note of joyful expectation. In the midst of loss, of prayer, and a deep concern for others there was an underlying note of joy that popped up no matter what was happening at St. Mark. Easter seemed to inaugurate a new kind of joy. The weather reminded us spring was here and opening day promised another summer's worth of fun at the baseball field. A World Series ring even made an appearance at St. Mark! Here I was walking around thinking I had maxed out on joy and love for the year. How could it get any better? I watched a sunrise over Lake Michigan. I went to a birthday party for a 4 year old who should not have lived through last year, but because she was granted refugee status and welcomed here, she is thriving and receiving medical care for a lifelong chronic condition. I was able to celebrate Easter with the children of St. Mark and encounter the surprise and joy all over again as the little ones proclaimed Jesus' love for all the world to me.

Then the doctors told us to come into the hospital and it was time for baby Thomas to be born. From then on my life took on new meaning. I repeatedly tell Christie I had no idea I had only been half living until after Thomas was born. Not because having children gives your life more meaning, but for me it was an invitation to care for someone more than I care about myself. In all the sleeplessness and anxiety of caring for a new born I have been repeatedly struck by how powerful it is to give one's life to something greater and to others. I look at my own parents with new eyes and I see others living faithful to the life God has called them whether they care for children or not and I hear Jesus' words in the farewell discourse that we read on Maundy

Thursday: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (John 15:13)"

My heart is so full to be a part of the Body of Christ in this place with you and see more deeply into the life we share and know that in the midst of it God invites us to something greater, something profoundly, earth shatteringly deeper. Our love and care for one another has not reached its greatest potential. The Risen Christ continually offers us the chance to enter more fully into the mystery of life and give ourselves to something bigger than ourselves. May we hear the Spirit's yes in our heart as we journey together in this coming Easter of New Joy. Amen.



### Thoughts from the Loft

“Thine is the glory, risen, conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry thou o’er death has won!”(ELW #376, vs. 1)

It is a timeless gift that God gives us in the resurrection of his Son, Jesus. I think of organs as timeless! When I was in high school I went on an organ study tour to Holland and Germany. I went on a similar tour while in graduate school. It struck me that so many organs in Europe are hundreds of years old and still in good working order! There are pipes in the organ at St. Mark that are decades old and just fine. What a blessing it is to have wondrous machines of beauty that demonstrate God’s abundant glory. That is especially true during the season of Easter!

Blessings,  
Tim



### Attention Middle School & High School Youth

**Auditions** for The King’s Players 2017 production are here!  
**Saturday, May 6th 9am—Noon**  
**Sunday, May 7th 1-3:30 pm**  
with Callbacks at 6 pm.

For complete audition information, see  
The King’s Players website—  
[www.thekingsplayers.org](http://www.thekingsplayers.org)



### Senior Lunch Bunch

Thursday, May 18, 2017

1:00 pm

The Rack House

222 E. Algonquin, Arlington Heights

**RSVP to Marilyn Gosell by  
Monday, May 15**

Weather permitting, we will be eating outside so  
dress accordingly.



**Friday, May 5 12 noon**

Church Women United  
May Friendship Day  
"Kindling New Fires of Love"  
Elk Grove Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, May 7 11:00 am**

Rachel’s Day Fundraiser  
Barbeque and Bake Sale  
Outside the Center

**Wed. & Tues. May 17 & 23 9:30 am**

Lutheran World Relief quilting  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Education wing

**Thursday thru Sunday, July 13-16**

Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering  
Minneapolis, MN



**Church Women United  
May Friendship Day  
"Kindling New Fires of Love"  
Friday, May 5 – 12 noon**

Potluck salad luncheon  
Elk Grove Presbyterian Church  
600 E. Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove Village  
**NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED**

Just bring your favorite salad – and a friend!  
An offering will be taken  
to benefit CWU in IL and the local unit.  
For more info contact  
Gail Radtke at 847-255-2977

**Rachel’s Day  
Sunday, May 7, -- 11 am  
(see related article)**

Join us outside the Center after worship for our annual fundraiser benefitting children. This year’s BBQ and bake sale proceeds will again go to the **Intact Family Recovery Program at Lutheran Social Services of IL (LSSI).** Stop by for lunch or a sweet treat to take home!

**Monthly Quilting  
No sewing necessary!**

Join the ladies to help make those beautiful Lutheran World Relief quilts you see in church on Thankoffering Sunday. They meet in the quilt room on the second floor of the education wing at 9:30 am  
**Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**



**10<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering  
"All Anew"**

Minneapolis Convention Center  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
July 13-16

Meet fellow W/ELCA sisters from all over the country  
Hear inspiring speakers  
Participate in worship  
Attend workshops  
View films  
Shop the exhibit hall  
Attend special events  
Engage in servant opportunities

Or get involved  
without even going to Minneapolis!  
Check out [welcatg.org](http://welcatg.org)  
for loads of information!  
– and a coloring sheet!