



St. Mark Lutheran Church

# CrossBeams

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

Volume 56, Issue 8

August, 2017

## Inside this issue:

Pastor's Corner 2

Thank You &  
Youth Gathering 3

4th of July  
Parade &  
Stewardship 4

StoryCorps  
Booth at St. Mark 5

Thoughts from  
the Loft, Craft  
Connection,  
Summer BBQ, &  
More 6

Women of the  
ELCA 7

The Usher  
By Scott  
Petersen 8

Bible Study,  
Nibblers,  
Backpack  
Ministry, & More 9

Resettlement  
SummerFest 10

Calendar of  
Events 11



# The King's Players

St. Mark Community Youth Theatre



### Ministry in Daily Life

“Holy as a day is spent, Holy is the dish and drain  
The soap and sink, and the cup and plate...  
And the hands that shook my hands today...  
Holy is the familiar room, and quiet moments in the afternoon,  
And folding sheets like folding hands, to pray as only laundry can.”

These are some of the lyrics from the song *Holy as a Day Is Spent* by one of my favorite musical artists Carrie Newcomer. (Listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOhzesOazDQ>) Her words remind me of the holiness of our daily lives. So often we tend to think of ministry as something only overtly church related, as the ways we serve at PADS or on the altar guild, or in the choir or by reading at church. We think God values these things more somehow than doing the dishes, folding the laundry, or shaking a hand. But our faith tradition tells us something different.

Martin Luther, in his writings on vocation (our life's callings), reminded the people that there is a priesthood of all believers, that all of us as Christians are called to live our ministry in our daily lives whether we are priest or king, mother or father. Luther even goes so far as to name changing diapers as a good and holy vocation. Now these days I've been changing many a diaper, and wiping a certain mouth from spit up, and feeding and bathing and caretaking. It has been helpful in the midst of those tasks to remember that they too are holy and important.

It has also been helpful for me to remember Luther's teaching that we are called to different things in each station we have in life: in our home life, our work life, our church life and our civic life. When I was pregnant, I worried about how difficult it would be to come back to work after the baby was born. I grew up in a home with a stay at home mom and I worried that I would wish I could do that even as I knew that my work here at St. Mark was important to me and fulfilling. I greatly respect moms and dads who make the choice to stay at home and raise their children day in and day out. It is a noble calling. But for me, when I came back to work, I realized that it was in the coupling of being a mom and a pastor (and a wife and a friend and a resident of Mount Prospect, etc) that I was able to live fully who I am created to be by God. In other words, coming back to work in ministry at St. Mark has been a great gift! Each and every day, in every task, be it preaching a sermon or reading a bedtime story, feeding Thomas or offering communion, comforting a too tired baby or comforting a mourning family, I am living out who I am called to be in Christ. Holy are each moment and each task as my day is spent.

So it is for you too. In May, the stewardship team introduced the Stewardship in Daily Life report, a place for us to reflect on our daily living and to note when we are blessed to have an opportunity to do God's work in all aspects of our life. During worships in the coming month we will take this Daily Life component as our focus. Through the sermon, the prayers, the blessings, etc, we will seek to consider where and how God is calling us each day in our daily lives and celebrate the holy moments as each day is spent.

In Christ,  
Pastor Christie



Dear members of St. Mark,  
Thank you for the flowers that were delivered for my birthday—they are just beautiful. It made my day special. It was nice of you to think of me.

Sincerely,  
Marge Madland

Thanks for all the mailings & especially the devotionals. Thanks to Cynthia for bringing communion. Thanks to those who brought the flowers. You are all wonderful.

Jan Schulz

## Calling all 8th grade through High School youth!



**June 27—July 1,  
2018**

**in Houston, TX**  
At NRG Stadium,  
NRG Arena, &  
NRG Center

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Early Bird Registration begins in September so talk to Deacon Dave or Jill Galyon now to find out more about this once in a lifetime experience!

### 4th of July Parade—St. Mark/St. Raymond Shopping Cart Brigade



#### Stewardship of Daily Life Report

As you reflect on interactions you have had in your daily living, note when you were blessed to have an opportunity for doing God's work: by being generous with your time, hands, your money, things, or gifts/skills, or simply in faith. Share an example of how you felt God used you to make the world a better place, or where you had an opportunity to brighten someone's day, or where you were helped by another who welcomed you. This also is your "offering" to God.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DS to share? \_\_\_\_\_

Remember to share your "stewardship of daily life" stories on the blue pew card. We hope these reflections help you realize that your "offering" to God is not limited to sharing your financial gifts (important as they are!) but equally important is to recognize that all of our daily interactions show our response to God's providence. By sharing these stories, you help others think of their daily lives, and how living in awareness of God's partnership and love for us transforms daily living from "ho-hum" to "Wow, I didn't think of how my behavior can be a blessing to others." We're revising the card to allow more space for writing, so keep on sharing!

Also, a reminder that you can still contribute a special offering to the synod's ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Simply designate that on your check or on the envelope. Thanks!

*Pr. Carl Anderson for the Stewardship Team*

## StoryCorps Booth at St. Mark

By Deacon Dave

As we talk about ministry in daily life during the month of August and beyond I'm quite excited to hear people's stories. It's a great thing to hear someone's stories and to be able to listen to parts of their lives that tell you so much about them. Listening is one of the great gifts of ministry that I prize above many others. It is one of the true gifts of love that we can give one another. We take it for granted, but have someone ignore you for five minutes, and it becomes quite apparent how important a gift of listening is.

As we talk about ministry in daily life as a way to think about our daily stewardship of God's gifts as we live out our vocations, we are invited to reflect on our lives, how we spend our time, and how we choose to use what God has given us. With several historical commemorations coming up, the 500<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the Reformation in the next year and St. Mark's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary coming in a few years, we can add some interesting historical backgrounds to the way we think about ministry in our daily life. God's grace and love runs quietly through the fabric of all our lives and histories. As we reflect on large commemorations and small, the Holy Spirit helps us see the intersections of grace and love and inspires us to weave those threads into a story of God's work in our lives. As a way to highlight and capture our stories of God's grace and love, I'm working with Erin Schultz, and Peter Velic to set up a StoryCorps booth at St. Mark.

A StoryCorps booth is a place for people to share stories and conversation that can be recorded and archived. StoryCorps is an NPR radio show that began in 2003. StoryCorps invites two participants to have a 45-60 minute conversation about their lives. Over time, StoryCorps has found that the simple act of sharing stories and honoring people's lives "builds connections between people and creates a more just and compassionate world." Beginning in late summer or early fall we will set up a mobile recording studio in the St. Mark library. Two people at a time will be invited to talk through a list of questions and topics they want to cover in their StoryCorps conversation. They will schedule a time in the StoryCorps Booth where their conversation will be moderated by our sound engineer. Recordings will be made for participants and potentially added to the St. Mark Archive and the Library of Congress.

It is our hope that we will highlight and preserve what God is doing in concert with members of the community, but that we will also create deeper relationships between people as they listen and share stories and begin to see the world in a new way. You can listen to other's StoryCorps stories or begin to look at the possible topics and questions for your own conversation at [www.storycorps.org](http://www.storycorps.org). Watch the bulletin and Facebook for more information about scheduling your conversation.



## Thoughts from the Loft

Did you know that on an organ the big pipes make the low sounds and the small pipes make the high sounds? In addition, there are four types of organ sounds: the principals (classic organ sound), strings, flutes, and reeds. When you combine these sounds together by use of overtones (many combinations of pitches), what results is an instrument that is almost like a real person! It even breathes! It is my favorite instrument and a blessing to play each week!

Blessings,  
Tim



**Friday, August 18**  
**7 pm in the Great Room**  
 Bring your own craft to work on!

## SUMMER BARBEQUES ARE BACK!!

**Sunday, August 13 on the Center Lawn**  
 (or inside, in case of rain or heat)

The Fellowship committee is again hosting lunch once-a-month through the summer following 10 am worship. Join us on August 13th. A free will offering will be collected to help cover the expenses. Come by for food, fun and fellowship!

Final BBQ date: September 10



Holy Family Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch is set for Friday, August 25. This is a great opportunity to get to know the teachers and staff of the school. The location is Greek Isle again as this has worked out so well for everyone. The cost is \$21.00 per person. If you would like to join us, please contact the Ernsts or the Elders. We have transportation available for an additional 4 people on a first come/first serve basis. After that, we will need additional drivers.

# Women of the ELCA

## August 6 through September 3

LWR kit supply collection  
Narthex

## Wed. & Tues. August 16 & 22 9:30 am

LWR Quilting  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor education wing

## Sunday, September 10

"God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday

## Sunday, September 24

Thankoffering Sunday

## Sunday, October 1

Bunco for Breast Cancer  
Center

1:00 pm



### Quilting Resumes!

Join the ladies who work on those beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. This month they will meet on: **Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**



### WELCA Triennial Gathering

Over **3000** women from across the country came together in July for the 10<sup>th</sup> triennial churchwide women's gathering, "**All Anew**" at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minnesota. Check out **wel-catg.org** to see more about it. Mark your calendar, and start saving now, for the

**11<sup>th</sup> triennial gathering  
in Phoenix, AZ  
on July 16-19, 2020**

**SAVE THE DATE -  
Sunday, October 1  
Bunco for Breast Cancer  
fundraiser  
DON'T MISS IT!!**

## ST. MARK WOMEN OF THE ELCA LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SERVICE PROGRAM

As in the past, the Women of St. Mark are asking for the help of our entire congregation in the collection of items needed to prepare SCHOOL KITS AND HEALTH KITS for Lutheran World Relief. As stores seem to be placing school supplies on sale earlier each year, we are providing this list of items that will be needed so you can take advantage of sale prices this summer. **PLEASE NOTE: WE CAN ONLY USE THE EXACT ITEMS THAT ARE REQUESTED BY LWR.** All items must be in by September 3.



**This year the congregation is invited to assist in assembling the kits at the annual "God's Work, Our Hands" day of service on September 10.**

**ALL DONATIONS CAN BE PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BOXES LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.**

### HEALTH KIT ITEMS

Bath Towels (dark color recommended)  
Bath size bars of soap  
Hair combs with wide teeth  
Tooth Brushes  
Nail clippers with file attached

### SCHOOL KIT ITEMS

70 sheet spiral notebooks of ruled paper  
Blunt scissors  
12 inch ruler with centimeters on the other edge  
Pencil sharpeners  
Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons  
Unsharpened Pencils #2  
Ballpoint pens (no gel ink)  
Pink Erasers

**We are able to purchase some of these items in bulk at a more reasonable cost. If you prefer to contribute funds toward the purchase of these items, please place your gift in a pew envelope marked for WELCA Kits.**

I attended St. Mark beginning about 65 years ago. My mother - LaVerne Petersen - is still alive and living in Luther Village. This is a little vignette of St. Mark from my blog - <http://www.renaissancehombre.com> ..... Mr. Henry "Hank" Wendt was the head of ushers and he was constantly serving the parish with his time - as an usher (and head usher). The new 8:00 a.m. service was too early for most guys (ushers were always men. . . .) so he approached the Youth Director (Pastor Wylie?) about getting some high school boys. Dave Skibbe, Randy Gross, Wayne Hansen, Chuck Holmberg and I - were tapped to help. And the rest is history! I remember with clarity that the carnations were kept in the little closet to the right of the entrance (as you walk in).

Thank you for the memory!  
Scott Petersen

## The Ushers

When I was growing up, I attended St. Mark Lutheran Church in Mt. Prospect, IL. It was a big church offering three services on Sunday morning: 8:00; 9:30; and 11:00. The 8:00 a.m. service was relatively new. And as you might imagine, it was sometimes a challenge to staff the early service with ushers.

The head of the ushering program – Mr. Wendt – often had to attend all three services – filling in as needed. Finally, perhaps in some desperation, he approached the head of the church’s youth program – and asked if there were some high school boys who could “*help out*” with the early service. The answer? “*Sure.*” So Chuck, Wayne, Randy, Dave and I – were tapped to usher the 8:00 a.m. service – *every Sunday.*

On the first Sunday, the five of us showed up early. Suits. Ties. We each donned a white carnation and got an ushering lesson from Mr. Wendt. He guided us through the service offering a running commentary (“*smile*” “*greet people by name if you can*” “*when collecting the offering, walk backwards – never turn your back on the altar*”). After a few weeks of this, the five of us had the protocol down pat. And a few weeks later, Mr. Wendt said “*keep up the good work, boys*” and he never showed up again. . . . .







**Wednesday Bible Study  
will resume on  
Wednesday, August 9  
at 11:00 am in the Great Room**



**Enjoy food? Come and  
join the Nibblers as  
they experience places  
to eat around the  
community each month.**

August Nibblers will meet at Javier's,  
8 W. Miner St., Arlington Hts. on  
**Saturday, August 5** at 6:30 pm.  
Please RSVP to Kim Perlich at  
847-253-4073 no later than Wednesday,  
August 2 so the restaurant knows the final  
count. All adults (18+) are welcome to join  
in the fun and fellowship and of course,  
enjoy the FOOD!

**Coffee Cans needed  
for Altar Flower  
Delivery**

Please bring in your large Coffee  
Cans (2 lbs, 7 oz). With the larger  
vases on the altar, we need larger cans. You can  
leave them in the sacristy, at the welcome desk or  
on the pew outside of the sanctuary.



**Tastefully Simple Fundraiser**

Thank you to all who continue to support the Youth through this fundraiser. We plan to continue this fundraising effort into 2018 to help with expenses for the upcoming Youth Gathering in Houston, as well as other Youth trips in the future. We are taking the month of July off from tasting but you can continue to check out products online and place your orders there. Simply go to: [tastefullysimple.com/web/mciske](http://tastefullysimple.com/web/mciske), shop, then choose St Mark (St M) as the host at check out. SIMPLE!!



**Backpack Ministry**

It won't be long before the children will be heading back to school and St. Mark starts up our Backpack Food Ministry again. Your donations now will help us stock the pantry for the start of the school year. The needed food list can be found in the narthex or on the St. Mark website. Cash donations are appreciated as well. Thanks for your support!

**Extra  
Vegetables in  
your Garden?**

Please feel free to donate any extra vegetables from your garden that you can't eat. We will preserve items for PADs next fall. Contact Deacon Dave with questions or to drop off items.



# Resettlement SummerFest

8/19/17 11am-3pm

Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary  
606 W Golf Rd  
Mount Prospect

Food: Grilled Chicken, Sides, and Desserts (Please sign up to bring a side or dessert)

Fun: Bounce House, Face Painting, Relay Races, and more

Fellowship: Get to know our partners in our Mount Prospect Resettlement Team: Grace Lutheran, Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary, St. Mark Lutheran, and the Turkish American Society of Chicago



Family: We are inviting Mahmoud, Wafaa, Dalal, Malak, and Hala (the family from Syria that we co-sponsored.) We are hopeful that they will attend so that you'll have a chance to meet them.

RefugeeOne: Check out the information table and watch a short video on RefugeeOne's work



[#resettlementsummerfest](https://www.instagram.com/resettlementsummerfest)

Contact Deacon Dave to sign-up  
to bring a side or dessert



# 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 11 am Private Event 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>2</b> 9 am Volleyball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>3</b> 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm Nibblers
<b>6</b> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	<b>7</b> 7 pm Youth & Family	<b>8</b> 11 am Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>9</b> 9 am Volleyball 12 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>10</b> 11 am Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship 11:15 am Summer BBQ	<b>14</b> 1:00 pm Book Club 6:30 pm Summer Suppers	<b>15</b> 6 pm Basketball 7 pm Church Council	<b>16</b> 9 am Volleyball 9 am Quilting 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>17</b> 4:30 pm Basketball 5:30 pm Basketball	<b>18</b> 7 pm Craft Connection	<b>19</b> 11 am ReSettlement SummerFest
<b>20</b> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9 am Quilting 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	<b>23</b> 9 am Volleyball 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	<b>24</b> 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8 am Worship 10 am Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball 6 pm Preschool Orientation	<b>30</b> 9 am Volleyball 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball	<b>31</b> 4:30 pm Basketball 6 pm Basketball		

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

**August 2017**

God's  
work.  
Our  
hands.



**2017-18 Church  
Council**

Carol Floros, President  
Mike LoRusso, VP  
Sharon Blazek, Secretary  
Jeanne Kueter, Treasurer

Barb Bloomquist  
Paul Brask  
Gina Dahlgren  
Tom Ernst  
Bob Fehling  
Kathie Hetland  
Jan Scott  
Peter Velic

**St. Mark Lutheran Church**

847/253-0631

Fax: 847/253-5387

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.**