

Come, Grow, Share

# The Messenger

3350 North Delany Rd  
Waukegan, IL 60087



## Pathetic Theology

by Pastor Jeff

This September, the Wednesday evening Bible study will be devoted to the subject of "pathetic theology". No, that doesn't mean "miserably inadequate theology"; but the name derives from the Greek word "pathos" which means, "to suffer, grief, or experience sorrow". "To what extend does God suffer with His people?" It is an important consideration, because if God is unsympathetic to the needs of His people, God is but a distant ideal, out of touch with the everyday lives of His people and One only to be feared. Such a God is not easily loved/served. If this is our view, we will most certainly turn to something/someone else for help in times of need; that would be a *pity!*

I'm grateful to be able to tell you that such is not the case. And the Scriptural evidence for that statement will be the focus of our study this Fall. "For thus says the Lord God, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered...I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries...I will seek the lost and I will bring back the strayed."

The peculiar character of God is that He is an *available agent* who is not only able to *act*, but is available to be *acted upon*.

If you are a person who feels God has forsaken you; if your prayer life is uneventful; if you are tired of being in a relationship that seems one sided, this study is for you.

We will begin on Wednesday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

by Pastor Koth



## OUR STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey E. Koth

*Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Willard Blomquist

*Visitation*

Laura Swanson

*Youth & Family Ministry*

Anne Illi-Love

*Choir Director*

Victoria Berezchna

*Organist*

Jill Shepherd

*Stephen Ministry*

Kathy Anderson

*Office Manager*

## CONTACTS

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**Fax:** 847-623-4016

**E-mail:**

stmarkslutheran@gmail.com

**Website:** stmarkslutheran.us

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Come celebrate the gift  
of Jesus Christ.*

*Grow together in faith  
and love.*

*Share the Good  
News with all.*

**September**



- 09/05 Ryan Hopkins
- 09/05 Sue Meyer
- 09/06 Henna Granvik
- 09/08 Jill Shepherd
- 09/08 Dean Stelter
- 09/09 Ann Roberts
- 09/11 Philip Tentes
- 09/15 Marilyn Bobb
- 09/15 Linda Londo
- 09/15 Julie Suchomel
- 09/18 Zachary Lund
- 09/18 Dana Lundtveit
- 09/18 Logan Wettstein
- 09/19 Susan Truby
- 09/20 Anna Hill
- 09/20 Rhonda Sybrandy
- 09/21 Jeffrey Taylor
- 09/23 Erin Hopkins
- 09/23 Daniel Nicklas
- 09/26 Paavo Pelkonen
- 09/26 Jennifer Reif
- 09/26 Joel Vander Vere
- 09/27 Laura Swanson
- 09/28 Reina Haapanen
- 09/29 Karen Isabelle
- 09/30 Jamie Stacey
- 09/30 Robert Suchomel

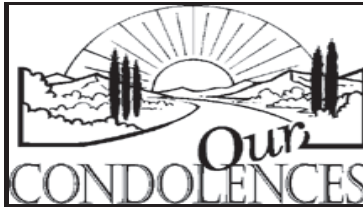
**Memorials**

*We thank the people who have memorialized these friends and loved ones for their generosity.*



**The following gift was given in Loving Memory of:**

- ◆ Arne Lampinen, from his son and daughter-in-law, Rich & Marlene Lampinen.



**Our prayers go out to Earleen Constantino, whose sister Betty Jo died on August 1st.**

**Thank You**

— Our thanks to our St. Mark's Family for all of the phone calls, prayers, and cards on behalf of the loss of our brother, George. Your compassion and concern helps us to bear the passing of a brother who was more than just a brother. God Bless, Jay, Nancy & Kathy Owens.

If your name/s have not appeared in recognition of your birthday, wedding anniversary or a memorial gift, please contact the church office. We want to include all celebrations and memorials. 847-623-5135

**Norma Johnson**

St. Mark's Congregation & Women of St. Marks:

Thank you for the lovely flowers from St. Mark's at Norma's funeral. There were over 200 in attendance to see your flower gift. I hope to see you folks this fall.

Jumalan Rauhaa  
(God's Peace)  
Pastor Mel Johnson



- 09/01 Thomas & Gail Plinke
- 09/03 Kurt & Kathy Schild, III
- 09/10 Arnold & Anita Aho
- 09/10 Julio & Leslie Heredia
- 09/10 Loren & Erin Lundtveit
- 09/13 David & Pamela Fendick
- 09/15 Loren & Margaret Congdon
- 09/17 David & Susan Baehr
- 09/17 Todd & Melissa Wittry
- 09/18 Michael & Elizabeth Spengler
- 09/18 Dr. Herman & Janice Thorstenson
- 09/18 Ted & Anita Wells
- 09/21 Dave & Jean Norkus
- 09/25 Timothy & Nicole Harris
- 09/30 Jon & Jane Oye



## Mission of the Month - Bethel New Life

Bethel New Life is:

- \* Are rooted in faith; God calls to be about the work of enabling the fullness of life for all, and a healthy, sustainable community
- \* Are faith-based, focusing on their West Side Chicago community. They work towards making this place a model of what can happen when people work together for the common good. They are a local organization with a national perspective.
- \* Are community directed. Most of their board members are rooted in the community; Bethel functions through major participation of residents on Boards and committees and block clubs, participating churches, staff.
- \* Use an "asset based" approach, building on the strengths and capacities of the people and the place, starting with what they have, with what people know and want. They turn liabilities (like brownfields) into opportunities for "smart growth" in an urban community context.
- \* Are holistic, understanding the connections between a decent place to live and a living wage job for healthy families, and child care, quality education, transportation and access to health care for sustainability.
- \* Seek justice for all people, advocating and impacting systems so that there might be fairness, opportunity and a future regardless of color, economic status or nationality.
- \* Work in partnership with churches, corporations, government, and other groups towards a healthier, sustainable community.

Since 1979, Bethel has earned a national reputation for cutting edge initiatives and pioneering approaches that build on the people, physical assets, and faith base of the community.

Bethel strives to turn problems into possibilities through community efforts that arise out of commitment to self help and self determination with community based, value-centered, solution oriented initiatives.

## Our Mission

Realize God's vision of a restored society by empowering individuals, strengthening families, and building neighborhoods through community-driven, solution-oriented, and value-centered approaches.

## Our Vision

If you put an end to oppression, to every gesture of contempt, and to every evil word; if you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon. And I will always guide you and satisfy you with good things. I will keep you strong and well. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water, like a spring of water that never goes dry. Your people will rebuild what has long been in ruins, building again on the old foundations. You will be known as the people who rebuilt the walls, who restored the ruined houses.

### Isaiah 58:9-12

*If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.*

**Please help Bethel New Life continue its mission by giving to this mission of the month.**

## Sortavala Congregation

Dear Friends in Christ:

We gratefully acknowledge your gift to the Suomi Conference, ELCA. Your support of Ingrian Church mission programs is appreciated very much. Thank you for your generous contribution. May God richly bless your congregation as you share your gifts with the world.

**Suomi Conference of the ELCA**

## Stephen Ministry

HELPING SERVE OUR  
MILITARY FAMILIES  
H.E.R.O.E.S. Care:  
“Fighting the War on the  
Home Front”



*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will  
fulfill the law of Christ.*

*Galatians 6:2*

“An element of war we don't often see on newscasts is the battle military families face when left alone after fathers and mothers are deployed overseas.”

After 9/11, Operation Homefront was founded, and came to military families' aid with emergency financial assistance and help with everyday challenges. Upon their return home, traumatized and wounded soldiers are cared for as well. A non-profit organization, Operation Homefront has coordinated more than 4,500 volunteers and provided assistance to 100,000 families in need.

Operation Homefront provides a multitude of services which you can view on their website <http://www.operationhomefront.net/wehelp.aspx>. Very crucial are the professional mental health resources offered to prevent help problems from escalating to crisis situations.

What does have to do with Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministries Program Director and retired military chaplain, Rev. David Papp traveled to the Pentagon in 2009 with key staff and board members of Operation Homefront to make a presentation for the “H.E.R.O.E.S. Care” program. Their presentation was well-received by the military leaders and was accepted as a new program in Operation Homefront. Standing for **H**omefront **E**nabling **R**elationships, **O**pportunities, and **E**mpowerment it provides support *directly* into military families' homes.

The H.E.R.O.E.S. Care program was launched in Missouri and Southwest Illinois, and is already coming to our area and will eventually go nationwide. Stephen Ministers can receive training at H.E.R.O.E.S. Care Workshops, becoming *Hometown Support Volunteers*. Once trained these Stephen Ministers will function as communicators and facilitators of care; learning military family members' needs so that Operation Homefront can provide the necessary help.

I have a special interest in these programs because I grew up in the military—my father was career Air Force, and my former husband career Navy. I can easily relate to the hardships and loneliness encountered when a military member is separated from his or her family.

I plan to attend these workshops this October in Lincolnshire. There are many ways to help with both Operation Homefront and with the H.E.R.O.E.S. Care program. Go online or I can get you the information on how to contact these agencies.

We recognize our St. Mark's families who have loved ones in the armed forces. I will get a list together with addresses so that we can let these brave men and women know how much we appreciate them. We also thank all veterans for their service.

In Christ's love,  
Jill Shepherd  
Stephen Leader



<sup>1</sup>Rhoades, Frayne, Sheila, “Fighting the War on the Home Front,” *West News Magazine*, 12/16/2009, <http://heroescare.org/news/>



## New Member Orientation

Orientation for membership will take place on  
**Saturday, October 8th**  
**9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

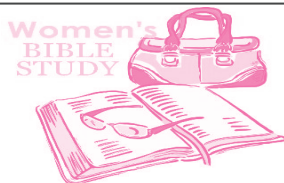
This orientation will be led by Pastor Koth and is designed to help prospective members understand the basic teachings of the Christian faith, the Lutheran Church, the congregation of St. Mark's and the expectations of membership here.

If you have interest in becoming a member of our church, please call the church office or pre-register by email [stmarkslutheran@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkslutheran@gmail.com)

## WSM Bible Study

The WSM monthly Bible study which meets on the second Friday of the month from September through May will begin on September 9th. The sessions meet in the home of Ida Dudleston at 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The theme verse for the year is, *"Take heart, get up, {Jesus} is calling you."* **Mark 10:49b** This year the topic will be based on the Gospel of Mark. The emphasis will be on what it means to follow Jesus Christ today. The study is found in the Lutheran Woman Today\* magazine. A subscription to the magazine is helpful but not necessary. All women are invited to attend. Contact Ida at 847-336-5096 if you have any questions.

\*Note the Lutheran Woman Today has had a name change. It is now called "Gather for faith and action". To subscribe go to [gathermagazine.org](http://gathermagazine.org) or call 800-328-4648.



## Youth & Family Ministry Update

Sunday, September 11th is "Stepping Stones Sunday!" We invite everyone to the church picnic to celebrate the past year at St. Mark's and to kick-off the Sunday School Year!! Preschoolers through Fifth grade will receive new SPARK Bibles to help ignite their enthusiasm for God's word as they step into the next level of their Christian Education. There will be good food, games & activities for all. Please bring a dish to share.

Sunday School begins the next Sunday, September 18th and is offered for children 4 years of age through 5th grade at 10:15 a.m. We will meet downstairs in the fellowship hall. We hope to see all of the children there! It's gonna be a great year!!!!

We are looking for volunteers to help staff our Nursery & to assist with some of the Sunday School activities. Please contact Laura Swanson (224-619-7758) if you are interested. Child Care will be offered for children 6 weeks to 4 years of age during the 9 a.m. service downstairs in the Nursery.

**Thank you!**

Laura Swanson

Youth & Family Ministry



Teachers Needed  
for Sunday School



"Sunday school I like. Monday through Friday school I could do without."

## Confirmation 2012

An organizational meeting for all parents of children 6–8 grades will take place on  
**Monday,**  
**September 26th,**  
**@ 7 p.m.**



**Confirmation  
 Orientation  
 MEETING**

We will be discussing the curriculum, goals and expectations of the confirmation program. Please note that we have added an additional year of confirmation instruction. All 6th graders are now eligible for confirmation instruction with Pastor Koth.

## C.O.O.L.

### Food of the Month: Dried Beans

#### Shopping List:

- Rice
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Soup
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Tomato Sauce
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Beverages
- Peanut Butter
- Pork and Beans
- Canned Meats
- Tuna
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Diapers
- Baby Food
- Formula
- Toiletries
- Paper Goods



# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## Notice

A Congregational meeting of  
 St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 23rd  
 at  
 11:00 a.m.

There will be only one worship service at  
 10:00 a.m.  
 Mark your calendars now!

## VBS—Thank You!

We raised \$190.00 through our "VBSer" campaign and would like to thank all who donated!!



## St. Mark's Travelers Club

Next Meeting—September 8th at Noon.

#### Upcoming Trips:

Sept. 20–23 — Amish in Ohio

November 14 – 18 -- Miracle of Christmas in Branson.

Contact Judy Shales-Reinier at 847-746-2436 or 847-682-9009 for more trip details and/or reservations.

## Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening will be at St. Mark's on Tuesday, October 11, 2011. Pre-registration is required by calling 1-800-679-5192

Flyers are available on the counter in the Narthex. For more detailed information visit their website at [www.LifeLineScreening.com](http://www.LifeLineScreening.com).



## Thank You!

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$1,125.00 to Heifer International. Through your gift, a struggling family will receive the gift of livestock & training in its care to overcome hunger and poverty. Your support means better nutrition, health care and education, which will help them build a better future.

Thank you once again for being Heifer International's partner for a better world.

Sincerely,  
Pierre U. Ferrari  
Chief Executive Officer

## Come Join Us!

Sunday, September 11th, 2011  
Van Patton Woods Forest Preserve  
Hyws. 173 and 41 in Wadsworth  
Shelter B

Outdoor Worship: 10:30 a.m.



Picnic activities following the service include Games & Fellowship. Please Sign Up and let us know how many and what dish you are bringing to share.

## Thank You!

July 26, 2011

Dear Pastor:

It is with a grateful heart that I am writing to thank you and your congregation, St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Your generosity and faithful partnership with ELCA World Hunger continues to transform a poverty stricken reality into a wellspring of life and strength for many around the world.

Because of your gifts, a marginalized and indigenous people living in the Eastern region of Nepal have begun to experience true liberation and empowerment. In this case, the funding support is by an ELCA World Hunger grant to the Lutheran World Federation.

Pastor, thank you for your congregation's faithful support and partnership with ELCA World Hunger. Thank you for making a life-saving, life-changing difference for the Santhal people in Nepal.

May God continue to bless you in all things.

God's Blessings,  
The Rev. Daniel Rift,  
Director  
ELCA World Hunger



Santhal Women's Group

## *St. Mark's Women*

are invited to the  
4th Annual

### ***Fall Retreat***

***Friday and Saturday  
September 23 and 24, 2011  
at Lutherdale  
in Delavan, Wisconsin***

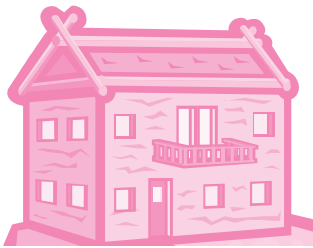
Sign up by contacting  
Nancy Inskip, Bridgette Otterbacher or  
any of the Women of St. Mark's Board Members.

**Registration fee - \$35**

Friday's dinner will be Dutch treat.  
Saturday's breakfast and lunch included  
in fee. Transportation provided.

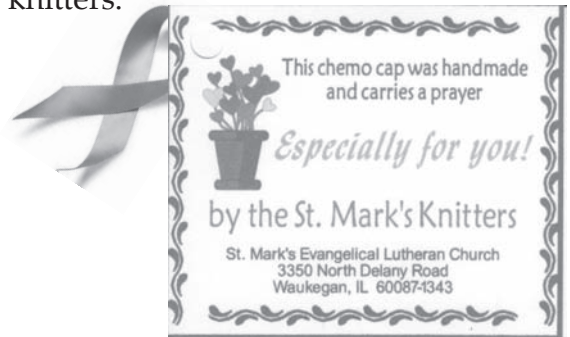
Bring: A bedtime snack to share Friday  
evening Towels and bedding (or  
sleeping bag) And your personal  
items.

*We learn...while having a great time.*



## **Knitting for the Needy**

We never fully know how we touch the lives of others. The knitters received a large collection of yarn recently from a woman who had received a chemo cap. When her mother passed away this spring, she remembered the card attached to the cap identifying St. Mark's & passed on her mother's collection of yarn on to the knitters.



## **Crop Walk 2011**

Impact your community  
and the world.  
Walk with us!



Crop Walk 2011 will be held October 16, 2011. Registration at 12:30 P.M. at St. Anastasia Roman Catholic Church, Waukegan. Step-off is anytime after you have registered. The Walk is 10K. See Ken or Laura Swanson for forms or information.

Crop Walk 2010 Participants



## Audrey Herberger's Birthday Celebration

Eleven people went to Winchester House to help Audrey celebrate her birthday on August 10, 2011. We were all happy to meet their daughter, Jody, who joined us to help celebrate her Mother's birthday.

Audrey was blessed with a special prayer from Pastor Blomquist and we all joined in singing "Happy Birthday".

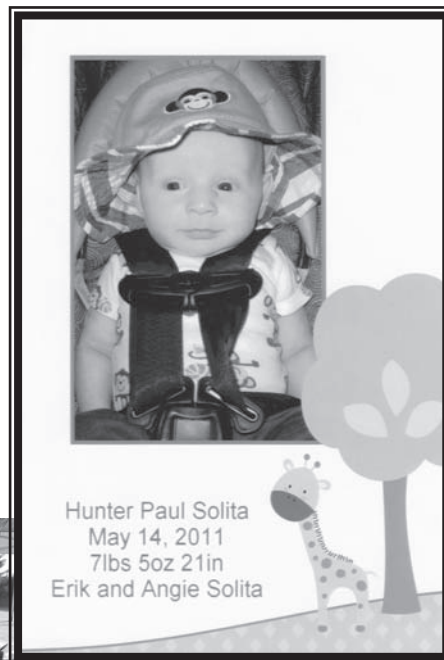
Everyone enjoyed cookies, cream puffs, cheese and crackers, brownies, juice, water, and coffee. Thank you to everyone who brought all the "goodies" to enjoy and thank you to Winchester House for supplying the coffee. This made it a very special day for Audrey.

**Happy Birthday, Audrey.**

Lucille Tolonen, Team Leader Ministry of Hospitality



## CONGRATULATIONS



## Cub Scouts Camp- Out

Cub Scout Pack 678 had a camp-out at St. Mark's on July 30th.

A great time was had by all:



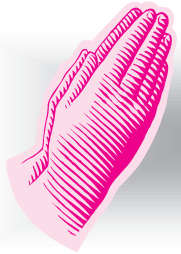
# SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Prayer Team 9 am
4 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	5 Labor Day Church Office Closed	6 Reflections in the Spirit 7 pm	7 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm A.A. 7 pm	8 Travelers—Noon Boy Scouts 7 pm	9 WMS Bible Study At Ida Dudleston's 10 am & 5:30 pm	10 Men's Prayer Break- fast at Avalon 8 am
11 9 am Worship CHURCH PICNIC 10:30 am See Page 7 for details.	12 WMS 7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 6:30 p.m.	13 Reflections in the Season—Noon Church Council 7 pm	14 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm A.A. 7 pm	15 Boy Scouts 7pm Gurnee Meadows Worship 1 pm	16	17 Reif Wedding
18 9 am Worship Sunday School Starts 10:30 am Worship	19 Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Knitting for Needy 7pm	20 Technology Team 7 pm	21 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm A.A. 7 pm	22 Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	23	24
25 9 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	26 Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Confirmation Orien- tation Meeting 7 pm	27	28 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Bible Study 7 pm A.A. 7 pm	29 Choir 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	30	



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*Worship  
Sunday  
9:00 am  
10:30 am*

## Serving Us This Month

### Lectors

<b>Sundays 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
9/4 Ida Dudleston	Genie Durand
9/11 Jill Shepherd	Grace Brikha
9/18 Linda Dietz	Ken Swanson
9/25 Al Dudleston	Derek Londo

### Offering Counters

9/4 Don Fontana  
9/11 Jensea Chromy & Erin Lundtveit  
9/18 Erv Uhlman & Laura Swanson  
9/25 Wayne Voss & Al Dudleston

### Assisting Minister

Julie Suchomel (1 & 3rd Sundays)

### Deacon

Jill Shepherd (2 & 4 Sundays)

### Altar Guild

Jim & Cindy Keister, Kathie Brady, Ginny Kukla

### Ushers

Erv Uhlman

### Communion Assistant Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

Derek Londo

### Acolyte

<b>Sundays 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
9/4 Nick Fontana	Evelyn Fontana
9/11 Zachary Ammons	Monique Brikha
9/18 Giovanni Diaz	Annika Swanson
9/25 Danyel Sparesus	Abigail Oye

### Projectionists

<b>Sundays 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
9/4 Daniel Nichlas	Anna Koth
9/11 Cody Ammons	PICNIC
9/18 Elaina Plinke	Ryan Hopkins
9/25 Kathryn Kottka	Matthew Oye

THE MESSENGER  
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stamp

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