

Come, Grow, Share

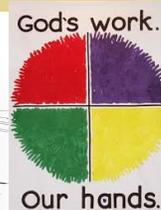
# The Messenger

June 2018

Vol. 21 No 6

3350 North Delany Rd

Waukegan, IL 60087



This banner hangs on the wall adjacent to the youth rooms in the Education Wing. On it you will find hand-prints and/or names of young people from our congregation who as members of **Testify** (our youth Group) have traveled the country over the past 20 years to Youth Events. This banner will travel this month to Houston, Texas along with six students, Laura Swanson and myself for the national ELCA Youth Gathering. As we always have, we will hang this banner over the rails of the NRG Arena for all 30,000 plus attendees to see!



**Testify** would like to thank the congregation for the loving and generous support it has received through the church budget, special offerings, and by means of our Fund Raisers, all of which make this unforgettable faith adventure possible. The dates of the Triennial ELCA Youth Gathering are June 27—July 1st. We look forward to sharing our story with the congregation upon our return. Please keep us in your prayers!

## OUR STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey E. Koth  
*Pastor*

Laura Swanson  
*Youth & Family Ministry*  
224-619-7758

Victoriya Berezhna  
*Organist*  
Eric Aho

*Director of Musical Ensembles*

Jill Shepherd  
*Stephen Ministry*  
847-989-1919

Kathy Anderson  
*Office Manager*

Ken Swanson  
*Facebook Page*  
Erv Uhlman

*Mission Interpreter*  
Cody Ammons  
*Webpage master*

## CONTACTS

**Phone:** 847-623-5135

**Fax:** 847-623-5135 (Call First)

**E-mail:** [stmarkslutheran@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkslutheran@gmail.com)

**Website:** [stmarkslutheran.us](http://stmarkslutheran.us)

**On Facebook:**

"Friends of St. Marks"

"St. Marks Youth & Family"

"St. Marks Lutheran Church"

"St. Marks Yarns of Compassion"

"God's Work. St. Mark's Hands"

"St. Mark's Illustrating Our Faith"

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Come celebrate the gift  
of Jesus Christ.*

*Grow together  
in faith and love.*

*Share the Good News with all.*



06/01 Sally Ammons  
 06/02 Jason Falkinham  
 06/02 Susan Suomu  
 06/04 Elijah Chand  
 06/04 Thomas Wendorf  
 06/06 Eleanore Wienke  
 06/07 Ardell Koch  
 06/11 Ian Trukov  
 06/11 Kellan Trukov  
 06/13 Dave Steckl  
 06/14 Judith Mickelson  
 06/20 Leslie Heredia  
 06/20 Alyssa Sittig  
 06/23 Lisa Smith  
 06/25 Dominic Constantino  
 06/27 Grace Brikha  
 06/27 Earl Laine  
 06/27 Elaina Plinke  
 06/28 Andrew Oye  
 06/29 Sally Katalinch  
 06/30 Emily Chand

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

## COOL FOOD PANTRY—

### FOOD OF THE MONTH:

Vegetables (canned)



# ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Sandy Falkinham—06/07

Dennis & Sally Closs—06/09

Glenn & Helen Collins—06/13

Ian & Jodi Hopkins—06/17

Don & Amy Fontana—06/22

Jim & Cindy Keister—06/25

Dom & Earleen Constantino—06/30

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



The following gift was given In Memory

of:

- **Lt. Col. Craig Harju** from Alice Harju for Memorial Day
- **Audrey Herberger** for Mother's Day from Jack Herberger
- **Amy Rudin** from Lucille Tolonen
- **Dr. Gil Mackey** from Roxanne Hopkins

## Mission of the Month— Lutheran Social Services of Illinois—LSSI

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is a not-for-profit social services agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). It serves people of all faiths and all walks of life, including children, families and adults of all ages.

### Mission Statement

Responding to the Gospel, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois brings healing, justice and wholeness to people and communities.

### A New Vision at LSSI

As a result of its recent visioning process, LSSI has developed a roadmap that reflects its expanded vision of serving people in need.

### Agency Overview

Founded in 1867, Lutheran Social Services is based in Des Plaines, Illinois, and provides:

- Behavioral Health Services (counseling, substance abuse, mental health and developmental disabilities)
- Children's Community Services (adoption, foster care, pregnancy counseling, Intact Family Services, residential services and Head Start)
- Nursing and Community Services (long-term care and rehabilitation, home care services, adult day services, respite services for caregivers and retirement communities)
- Prisoner and Family Ministry (support for children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers, re-entry programs, on-site prison programs, Building Homes: Rebuilding Lives and justice education)
- Senior Housing Services (affordable housing for low-income seniors and people with disabilities)

Visit [www.lssi.org](http://www.lssi.org) for more information.



## TABLES OF TREASURES CHARITY EVENT

Hosted by: Women of St. Mark's  
Saturday, June 30, 2018  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

At

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
Fellowship Hall  
3350 N. Delany Road, Waukegan IL  
60087

Got treasure?

- ♦ a gift you received and never used
- ♦ home décor or baskets
- ♦ collectibles just collecting dust
- ♦ new or slightly used items
- ♦ antiques
- ♦ other neat articles you find during a home search

Then sponsor a treasure table and donate proceeds to St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

- ♦ price your items
- ♦ manage your table or partial table

Join us:

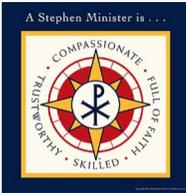
- ♦ For fellowship
- ♦ to enjoy homemade treats that will be available to purchase
- ♦ to view someone else's treasure that could become your new treasure

Got Questions?

Contact Ida Dudleston (847)721-4392) or  
Ann Roberts (847) 830-0633

Leave a message if there is no answer.  
They'll call back.

Treasures To Find



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

### *'The Kindness Cure' Growing Kindness and Compassion to Others*

*As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.*

*Colossians 3:12*

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about."

Different things can get in the way of kindness; past hurts, fears, judging other people, the fear of being close to or intimate with another. We may think being "nice" is being kind. True kindness is when your heart is aligned to action, not just saying nice things to others.

"Kindness is truly love in action" --Andy Gonzalez, who works with inner-city youth, asserts the whole of humanity is deserving of hearing the words "I love you." He states the goal is to infect people with love. Sound familiar? We are to love our neighbor!

From The Kindness Cure I learned the following. Being grateful makes us kinder people. Theologian and mystic Meister Eckhart said, "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'thank you,' it will be enough." We need to recognize and appreciate the good around us. Being grateful blocks out our negative feelings, such as envy, regret, and resentment. Kindness goes hand-in-hand with gratitude. Nature, God's creation, can help connect us with our environment and one another. German forester Peter Wohlleben tells us that nature can be a great teacher if we pay attention to it. He wrote the Hidden Life of Trees. In his book Wohlleben observed that trees, like humans, develop friendships and communicate in caring ways. "A tree can only

be as strong as the forest that surrounds it," he writes. Some trees are so intertwined at the roots that they can die together. Loner trees suffer in isolation. Trees use scents and electrical signals to warn other trees of potential attack. In nature, there is a communal life consisting of all living things that expresses connection and inspires *reverence*.

Dr. Cousineau states the simplest way to expand kindness is to tune in to pleasant sensations on purpose by

being in nature. Scientists continually find that expansive experiences in nature evoke positive emotions—such as awe, beauty, and



wonder. Being in nature can decrease negative thoughts, improve attention, inspire creativity, and spur kindness. Nature restores us and opens us up to a deeper sense of connection. It can make our hearts sing!

We can strengthen our kindness instinct by opening our hearts to the grace and beautiful world God has given us, sharing this joy and love with others.

"While you can't save the world with kindness, you can begin with who you know and what pulls on your heartstrings. After all, kindness radiates in ways you may never see." Dr. Tara Cousineau, The Kindness Cure.

God's Peace be with you,  
Jill Shepherd  
Stephen Leader



## Congratulations Graduate



Evan Lundtveit graduated from River Trail Middle School on May 24th as a member of the National Junior Honor Society. He will attend Warren Township High School in the Fall.

### Blessing for the Graduates

May you be blessed with courage for your journey,  
that fear may never keep you from exploring new paths.

May you be blessed with hope,  
that you may never give up on yourself or others.

May you be blessed with goodness,  
that in you strangers may find a generous friend.  
- *Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.* (1 Timothy 4:12)

May you be blessed with laughter,  
that you may never take yourself too seriously.

May you be blessed with curiosity,  
that you may always desire to seek out the mystery of faith.

May you be blessed with gratitude,  
that you may see all of life as a gift.

May you be blessed with remembrance of one another and your time together here  
For there is forever a thread woven through your spirit connecting you with us

May you be blessed in knowing that you are loved,  
and that we who love you are full of joy  
as we celebrate your life in our midst  
and your dreams to come.

- *And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.* (Colossians 1:10)



St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
July 23rd–27th  
6pm–8:30pm  
Contact Laura Swanson for details

### Youth & Family Car Wash

Come and have your car washed during worship on Sunday, June 17th. The proceeds will help defray the cost of ground transportation and food at the 2018

ELCA Youth Gathering.



Looking for High Schoolers and/or adults to attend the Nursery during summer worship. Sign up sheet is on the Nursery Room Door.

## Spare Change Sundays

Do you have spare change weighing down your pockets or purse? How about your couch cushions or the seat of your car? The St. Mark's Youth is looking for your loose change!!! We have declared the final Sunday of each month as "Spare Change Sunday!!" please bring your spare change in and deposit it in our bucket outside the Sanctuary. We will be using that spare change to help defray the cost of the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering. THANKS!!



Our Summer Worship Schedule begins on Wednesday June 6th with the addition of Worship on Wednesdays (W.O.W.). Please note that this service is offered **in addition to** our regular Sunday Worship, not to replace it. Sunday morning worship will continue at its usual 9:45 a.m. time.

A few things you should know about the W.O.W. worship:

- ◆ It is outdoors! This service takes place in the "cove" adjacent to the south entrance of the Youth Wing. If you like to sit in the grass, fine. If not, please bring with your favorite lawn chair, a blanket, or whatever else satisfies your seating needs.
- ◆ If the weather is too cold or rainy, the service will simply be moved in doors to the sanctuary. The weather affects only **where** the service will be.

## Right In Our Own Back Yard

Teaching Youth Honor, Duty, and Commitment to Helping Others  
Boy Scouts of America Troop 655  
at St. Mark's Church



This year, 2018, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the Scouting Program for boys in the Waukegan area. We are so very proud to host Troop 655 at St. Mark's where the scouts learn self-confidence and an appreciation for service to others that will influence and guide them in their adult lives.

On April 28, 2018 Troop 655 held a court of honor for Collin Maglio, at St. Mark's. He received the highest honor a Scout can receive; the rank of Eagle Scout. Collin went far beyond the 21 merit badges required to become an Eagle Scout; he completed 75 merit badges! His Eagle project was creating 23 trail signs at Illinois Beach State Park that displayed mileage markers and connections to other area trails for hikers. The Flag was flown at the U.S. Capitol on February 17<sup>th</sup> this year in Collin's honor, by the request of Senator Dick Durban. Congratulations, Collin!



We thank Troop 655 –the scouts, the leaders, and the families who work so very hard to make the program a success. We also thank the Boy Scouts for the many services they provide for our church.

## Rite of Confirmation

Congratulations to our Confirmands:  
Evan Lundtveit, David Sparesus & Emily  
Waight



### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED CHARITY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, June 20th, 2018

12:00 NOON

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Luncheon catered by: Marvela's

Donation: \$10.00 per person



*All ladies are invited to attend  
this luncheon. See Lucille  
Tolonen for tickets. Advance  
ticket sales are needed to be  
able to order the food.*

# THANK YOU!

Dear Rev. Koth

Joselyne Lagunas Ramirez headed to Bradley University this fall, the first in her family to attend college. She looks forward to returning to W2C as a tutor and will always strive to be a hands-on role model for her younger siblings. According to Joselyne, "W2C has been my invaluable partner, opening doors that I didn't know existed. Most of my friends have not even considered the possibility of a four-year college or university." Your support has helped students like Joselyne get to college and earn a degree.

Achievements in the 2016-17 school year included:

- A total of 29 college graduates
- 45 college students completed another year of studies
- 10 seniors in 2016-17 are attending Bradley University, College of Lake County, Dominican University, Knox College, Lake Forest College, National Louis University, Northern Illinois University, Northwestern University, and Valparaiso University

Waukegan to College is now enrolling additional students to follow in Joselyne's footsteps. We plan to add 40 new students this year!

Thank you for your generous donation of \$259. We're grateful for the ongoing support of the congregation. Together, we are creating brighter futures for students, families and the community by preparing students to enroll in and graduate from college.

Thanks so much for all you and the congregation do for W2C!



Sincerely,  
Elyse Danckers  
Executive Director

To the Women of St. Marks,  
Thank you so much for the very generous donations for the ELCA youth gathering. We really appreciate the fundraising you did to make this trip very special for us. We are excited to go to the youth gathering and this would not be possible without you. This will be an excellent opportunity for us to learn more about God. Once again, thank you so much for your generosity. We really appreciate all that you have done for us!

Thank you!!

Dana, Evan, Evelyn, Nick, Sophia, and Annika



I would like to thank the members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church for the wonderful send-off on May 13 during the coffee hour. I truly appreciate all the work that went into this event, the friendship and caring of the friends I have made here, and the good wishes for my future in Evanston. I would also like to thank Pastor Koth for his inspiring sermons and Bible studies. I truly think this church is unique in its caring Christian family feeling.

My contact information is as follows:

Paula Lauer  
1 Calvin Circle, #B112  
Evanston, IL 60201  
847 613 2252  
847 204 1787  
[rolpau@comcast.net](mailto:rolpau@comcast.net)

Come visit! My view is definitely urban (other buildings), but I do have a patio!

Sincerely,  
Paula Lauer



We have a growing population of friends who gather from around the world at our church site:

## Friends of St. Mark's.

[<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofstmarks/?ref=bookmarks>]

Friends of St. Mark's is a "closed group". That simply means that you must "request" membership to access and contribute to it. The request mechanism is a precaution used to protect our group from those who would use it for purposes for which it is not intended (business solicitations, for example). Please don't let that precautionary requisite keep you from joining! You will be welcomed!

At "Friends of St. Mark's" you will find both information and inspiration. Information regarding upcoming events, death notices, news, and worship schedules. Inspiration as provided by members sharing thoughts and insights and also by providing a video of Sunday Morning sermons.

We hope you will join! We currently have 202 members and hope that will double and triple and eventually go viral! Sign up today!



## St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Come, Grow, Share*

### Our Small Groups

#### *The Women of St. Mark's*

Mrs. Bridgette Otterbacher 847-623-8607

#### *Sunday School*

Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

#### *Testify [Youth Group]*

Last Sunday of the month from 6 p.m.—8 p.m.

#### *Yarns of Compassion*

3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Mrs. Helen Ostman—847-244-6638

#### *Reflections in the Word*

1st, 2nd, & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7:00—8:30 p.m.

#### *Reflections in the Season*

2nd Tuesday of the month 12:00 noon—2:00 p.m. [with lunch]

Mrs. Helen Binning 847-662-7031

#### *Reflections in the Spirit*

First Tuesday of the month 7p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Mrs. Ann Roberts—847-918-1961

#### *Illustrating Our Faith*

4th Mondays of the month at 7p.m.

Mrs. Laura Swanson—224-619-7758

### Spiritual Stepping Stones

*New Members Orientation* As announced

*Confirmation Instruction*

Open to 6th, 7th & 8th grade students. Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.

*First Communion Class*

As Announced

*Weddings* by appointment with the pastor



# [ JUNE 2018 ]

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Prayer Team 9 am
3 Worship 9:45 am	4 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm WSM 7 pm	5	6 Worship on Wednesday 7pm 	7 Choir 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm	8	9
10 Worship 9:45 am Y&F Sloppy Joe Fund- raiser After Worship	11 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm	12 Church Council 7pm	13 W.O.W. 7pm 	14 Choir 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm	15	16
17 Y& F Worship 9:45 am  	18 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Yarns of Compassion 7pm	19	20 Church Women United Lunch NOON W.O.W. 7pm 	21 Choir 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm	22	23 Knop/Gray Wedding
24 Worship 9:45 am Testify 6 pm	25 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Illustrating Our Faith 7pm	26	27 <b>NO W.O.W.</b>	28 Choir 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm	29	30 WSM Table of Treasures 9am to 2pm 
<b>Church Office Closed</b>						
<b>ELCA YOUTH GATHERING June 27th through July 1st</b>						



**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

3350 North Delany Rd.  
Waukegan, IL. 60087

Phone 847-623-5135  
Fax 847-623-5135 (Call First)  
E-mail stmarkslutheran@gmail.com



**Worship  
Sundays  
9:45 a.m.  
Sunday  
School  
9:30 a.m.  
Sept.—May**

**Serving Us This Month**

**Lectors Sundays**

- 06/03 Genie Durand
- 06/10 Grace Brikha
- 06/17 Lucille Tolonen
- 06/24 Sally Katalinich

**Assisting Minister**

Jill Shepherd (1st and 3rd Sundays)

**Communion Assistant**

Erv Uhlman (2nd & 4th Sundays)

**Altar Guild**

Volunteers Needed

**Ushers**

Volunteers Needed

**Acolyte s Sundays**

- 06/03 Emily Waight & Morgan Schroetter
- 06/10 Logan Schroetter & Isabeau Puccini
- 06/17 Dominic Stelter & Kiera Stelter
- 06/24 Dominic Stelter & Madison Falkinham

**Projectionists Sundays**

- 06/03 Sophia Diaz
- 06/10 Dana Lundtveit
- 06/17 Evan Lundtveit
- 06/24 Emily Waight

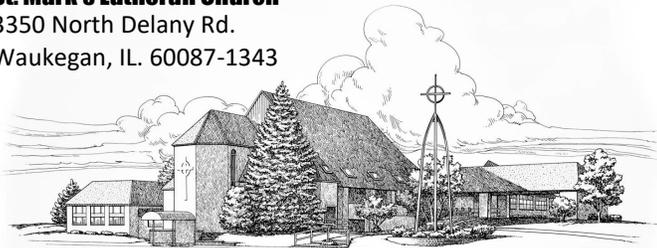
**Sound Technicians**

- 06/03 Andrew Oye
- 06/10 David Sparesus
- 06/17 Evelyn Fontana
- 06/24 Danyel Sparesus

**Worship on Wednesdays**

- 06/06 Dylan Schroetter and Danyel Sparesus
- 06/13 Morgan Schroetter and Ethan Schroetter
- 06/20 Isabeau Puccini and Evelyn Fontana

**THE MESSENGER**  
**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
3350 North Delany Rd.  
Waukegan, IL. 60087-1343



RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

stamp

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