

Come, Grow, Share

November 2018

Vol. 21 No. 11

3350 North Delany Rd

Waukegan, IL 60087

The Messenger



WHY

2018 is the year of Stewardship here at St. Mark's. For me what comes to mind for is "why?" There have been a lot of whys asked this year. When people ask themselves "why," aren't they really trying to find "understanding and relevance?" Therefore, all these "why" questions can be answered by one simple word, "purpose."

We have all heard the questions; "Why do we need more stewardship?" "Why, what else is going to change?" "Why should I give more money?" "Why, do they really need that much?" "Why did he really have to go?"

The first of these questions can be answered by an excerpt of Acts 13:36 "Now when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors ..."

We now know why he was sent here. St. Mark's has been transformed into a multi-ethnic parish, with capacity to properly nurture, house and educate Christian theology and worship. David was done here.

As for us, we need to look forward to what will be. This forward looking "purpose" will answer the other questions. The best place to start is Jeremiah 32:19, which says, "Great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve."

Unmistakably, "purpose" contains deeds, or simply put doing something. Isn't that what Stewardship is all about. Isn't that what we're all about, here at St. Mark's. Drawing from the Holy Spirit, the spirit of Stewardship, the spirit of St. Mark's, I call upon you, "Go do good deeds."

Don Fontana

OUR STAFF

Rev. Dennis Kelly

Interim Pastor

Laura Swanson

Youth & Family Ministry

224-619-7758

Victoriya Berezna

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

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E-mail: stmarkslutheran@gmail.com

Website: 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.

Council Members

Al Dudleston—Chair

Paul Durand—Vice Chair

Marcio Diaz

Don Fontana

Sara Griffin

Kirsten Koch

Kristen Trukova

Wayne Voss

Team Leaders

Altar Guild

- Nancy Inskeep

Choir

- Eric Aho

Drama Music & Worship

- Erv Uhlman

Hospitality

- Lucille Tolonen

Investment

- Don Fontana

Property & Grounds

- Wayne Voss

Social Justice

- Laura Raykiewicz

Stephen Ministries

- Jill Shepherd

Technology

- Bob Ostman

Women of St. Marks

- Bridgette Otterbacher

Yarns of Compassion

- Helen Ostman

Youth & Family

- Laura Swanson



- 11/03 Gail Plinke
 11/03 Mae Smith
 11/06 Georgia Benson
 11/09 Kiley Barnes
 11/09 Jensea Chromy
 11/10 Cindy Kasper
 11/10 Kurt Schild, III
 11/12 Marcio Diaz
 11/14 Rudolph Ahonen
 11/15 Ken Swanson
 11/16 Saula Chromy
 11/16 Rebecca Falkinham
 11/17 Alex Barrett
 11/22 Timothy Ammons
 11/22 Dennis Closs
 11/22 Aiden Perez-Stevenson
 11/23 Robert Ostman
 11/24 Bennett Kalisik
 11/25 Sandy Morrison
 11/27 Diane Hernandez
 11/27 Rowan Naus
 11/28 Patricia Sparesus
 11/28 Rich Yocius
 11/29 Lochlan Puccini

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



The following gifts were given in In Memory of:

- **James Keister** from Lucille Tolonen
- **Cindy Keister** from Jim Chontos
- **The Herbert & Eva Macknick Family**
- **James & Cynthia Keister** from Paavo & Helena Pelkonen, Laura & Mike Raykiewicz, Mae Smith, Helen Binning, Bob & Helen Ostman, Bridgette Otterbacher, Kurt & Kathy Schild, Carol Bonnes, Jane Asperheim, Sara Griffin, Bill Klass, Jill Shepherd,
- **Billy Gregory** from Carol Bonnes
- **Shirley Koth** from Kurt & Kathy Schild

ANNIVERSARIES

Paavo & Helena Pelkonen 11/04

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

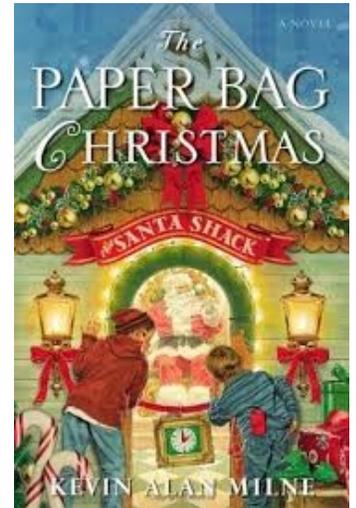
Mission of the Month— PADS - Providing Advocacy, Dignity, and Shelter - to the homeless of Lake County.

PADS provides the only emergency, non-restrictive homeless shelters in Lake County by staffing 15 rotating sites fully with volunteers. Nearly 160 persons are helped each evening by receiving 3 meals and a safe place to sleep. Many sites offer showers and donated clothing. In addition, PADS offers many options for transitional housing with special programs for families, veterans, those with mental illness or substance abuse.

St. Mark's has been a partner with PADS for over 20 years.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Rehearsal of "The Paper Bag Christmas" will be held on Saturday, December 15th. The children will be learning the songs during Sunday School the next several weeks.



COOL FOOD PANTRY— FOOD OF THE MONTH:



CROP Walk 2018

Thank you to all who participated and/or gave. We've raised approximately \$1,040.00 so far.

You can still contribute by going to:

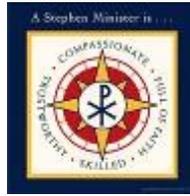
<https://>

www.crophungerwalk.org/waukeganil/



STEPHEN MINISTRY

When the Holidays Aren't so Joyful



And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.

To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:10-11

"During the longest night of the year tradition holds that nature and all her creatures stop and hold their breath to see if the sun will turn back from its wanderings, if the days will lengthen and the earth will once again feel the sun's warmth. On this darkest day of the year, we come with honest yearnings seeking the return of light and hope."

In the Northern hemisphere, December 21 is the longest night, the winter solstice. It marks the shortest day of the year, the official start of winter.



As we soon begin a season of hope and joy, we also begin a season where not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. For some the feelings of grief, loss, depression, and loneliness are magnified.

Roughly a decade ago a special church service was created to offer comfort to those who struggle to find joy in the Advent and Christmas seasons. This service is often called Blue Christmas or Longest Night Service when taking place the evening of December 21, the night of the winter solstice.

The quiet, reflective service varies but many include quiet music ranging from Taize chants and Christmas hymns, Scripture readings, recitation of Psalms and prayers. Often, the prayers are accompanied by the sequential lighting of all the candles of the Advent Wreath.

There are many situations and emotions we may experience that make the holiday seasons difficult.

Many of us have very painful memories, especially of Christmas, in our past. Illness, aging, separation or divorce can darken our Christmas.

Psychologists tell us that Christmas can be a challenge for many; our longings and emotions intensify during the holidays. The gap between what we have and what we wish we had is wider and deeper at holiday time. Having high expectations of joy and fulfillment at the holidays (or any particular time, for that matter) is an invitation to let-down. Often, the stress of planning and preparing and shopping for the holidays can be over-whelming.

It's believed that there is far more suffering during the holidays than we are aware of, though likely much of it is masked.

However, there is hope for comfort and healing when we reach out to one another in these difficult times. We can take the opportunity to be with others, share their feelings, and share their hearts. God calls us to be in relationship with Him and one another.

Last year, St. Mark's first Blue Christmas service was a wonderful setting to find solace and express emotions that often feel out of place during the holidays. We received comfort and strength from one another, and felt God's peace around us.



This year on Friday evening, December 21, we will worship together again on the Longest Night of the year. Please join us for this beautiful service for fellowship and support. This special gathering reminds us that Jesus, the light of the world, is always with us!

Christ's peace and light be with you,
Jill Shepherd - Stephen Leader



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

As is our tradition, St. Mark's will join with other Lutheran and Methodist churches in our area for a combined Thanksgiving Eve worship service. St. Mark's will be hosting this service. If you would like to sing with the combined choir, see Eric Aho. This service will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21st, 2018.

Please come and join in Thanksgiving to our God for all His benefits to us.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship



AROUND THE WORLD — ETHNIC LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019
11:30 AM.
Free Will Donation

A sign up sheet will be posted on the counter in the narthex of the church in December to list your name, number of people attending and Ethnic dish to share.

What is an Ethnic Dish? A special food from your Heritage — maybe your Mother or Grandmother made it for a family gathering or special holiday meal which you remember as very special. Or maybe you have a good "all American" dish to share. We would like to know what you plan to bring and country of origin, so we can have labels ready to identify all dishes.

Please note: We will not be serving the regular coffee hour on this Sunday as everyone is invited to attend the "Around the World Luncheon".

Ministry of Hospitality Team
Lucille Tolonen, Team Leader

COOL FOOD PANTRY 10th Annual

Chili Supper

Thursday, November 8th, 2018

3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.



MENU

Chili, French Bread, crackers

Coffee or lemonade, dessert

\$10.00 per person (2nd bowl of chili—\$2.00)

Carry-out meals available

*For additional help for COOL,
we encourage you to bring . . .*

*CANNED GOODS and
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS*

**Cash or checks (Made out to COOL)
will be appreciated.**

(Tickets are for sale from members of the
Ministry of Hospitality)

2019 Pasty Sale

Mark your calendars now for the upcoming WSM sponsored Pasty Work Schedule and Sale. The dates are January 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th. Specific information will be included in the December Messenger. We once again look forward to the great fellowship and service of all our members and friends who participate in this important fund raiser.



Women of St. Mark's

PULLA BREAD & BAKE SALE

Sunday, November 4th, 2018

The proceeds from this year's Bake Sale will be divided between...**COOL and PADS**

So, please help us make this sale bigger than ever. You will not only have the opportunity to buy some great baked goods, you will also, be helping others.

Bakers are needed...

to fill our *table* with delicious bread, cookies, cakes, pies or your own specialty for sale. Please wrap your donated baked goods but **do not** mark the price on them. Bring them to church before the church service.



Christmas Eve Worship Mark your calendars for Monday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Worship services at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.



Blue Christmas /Longest Night Worship



**Blue Christmas/Longest Night - Friday,
December 21st at 7:00 p.m.**

We will be having another Blue Christmas service this year.

We intentionally chose a day apart from Sunday worship to hold the Blue Christmas service. This will help to create a safe and comfortable space for those seeking healing and room to share their grief with others. Pastor Kelly is acquainted with the Blue Christmas Service and we look forward to using his experience to help plan the service.

The Chicago Men's A Capella Group

Members of CMAC, the University of Chicago Glee Club, performed at St. Mark's, 10-21-18.



Kroll's Pumpkin Farm - The Youth & Family Ministry Team and several families from St. Mark's enjoyed a visit on Sunday, October 14th.



Poinsettia Orders

Order forms for Poinsettia plants to adorn the altar on Christmas Eve. will be available in the Narthex and in the Fellowship Hall in early November. Orders must be received in the church office no later than Tuesday, December 4th All plants will be red this year and can be ordered in 6" pot , 7" pot or 8" pot (Prices will be listed on the order forms). Please return your order forms to the box marked "poinsettia orders" which is located on the counter in the Narthex.



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!!! The final Sunday of each month is "Spare Change Sunday!!!" please bring your spare change in and deposit it in our bucket outside the Sanctuary.

T H A N K Y O U

Yarns of Compassion

I want to thank you for the prayer shawls for Kris and I. The warmth of your hearts and hands are embodied in each stitch and will be a source of great comfort to both of us.

Keep up this wonderful ministry. May God Bless you all.

Pastor Jeff & Kris



Dear Members of St. Marks

The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago is grateful to the members of St. Marks for your 9/11/2018 support of \$174.00 for the Annual Fund. LSTC appreciates the on-going partnerships with synods that enable us to prepare the next generation of leaders to bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thanks to you, LSTC can maintain our commitment to the many communities that we touch through our ministry. In our long-term strategic planning for the seminary, we are emphasizing the importance of our efforts as a community to form leaders to form community.

LSTC strives to best prepare our students to meet challenges and opportunities as they are called into the world to lead and serve. Your partnership provides necessary sustenance and inspiration to do God's work.

Jessica P. Houston

Assistant Vice President for Development Programs

Dear Friends

It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge your generous donation to the COOL Ministries in the amount of \$382.00 for September 2018. We are blessed by your kindness and would like to thank all who made this donation possible.

Your continuing support helps COOL to carry out our mission of service to those less fortunate. Your support affirms our efforts and your willingness to answer our call for help is truly a blessing to this ministry. Your donation will be multiplied through the efforts of a devoted staff and caring volunteers. COOL is committed to identifying and adapting to the ever-changing needs of our community, and our staff works very hard to continue providing the highest level of services to those who come to us seeking assistance.

Thank you for your partnership in our ministry and helping COOL to Feed the Hungry and House the Homeless.

Warmest Regards,
Mindy Lindholm
Executive Director

Dear St. Marks Evangelical Lutheran Church

Thank you for your gift of \$211 to ELCA World Hunger. Acts 6 tells the story of the birth and expansion of the church at Pentecost: When the disciples were increasing in number, they selected from amongst themselves people full of the Spirit and of wisdom and appointed them to feed people who were hungry. They had them stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. With your generosity to ELCA World Hunger, you stand full of Spirit and of wisdom in the church's 2,000-year tradition of caring for neighbors in need. Thank you for your strong commitment to this signature ministry of the church.

Until all are fed,
The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger & Disaster Appeal

WSM Fall Bible Study

This month will be the third session of the fall theme of repentance. In September we pondered how repentance shapes our relationship with God and in October how it shapes our relationship with others. This month will conclude the series by exploring our relationship as the church to the world. The word repentance often refers to an invitation that brings people into the church. But what happens when the church turns outward to the world?

We will be meeting on Friday, November 9, at 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the home of Ida Dudleston (336-5096).

If you have any questions do not hesitate to call Ida.



Women's Bible Study

The New Paschal Candle was donated **In Honor of Bill & Marty Gregory** from Nancy Inskeep.



Honduras New Baby Project

From those who have so much...

To those who have so little.

Women of St. Mark's latest mission is a plea for **slightly used** baby clothes in **sizes 0 to 6 months** (please **no new** baby clothes) for babies born in Honduras..

Many mothers in Honduras are unable to provide clothes to bring their new born babies home from the hospital in. Stop now and think how you would feel if you had to bring your new born baby home naked. That's right...*naked*. These mothers need our help and help from others like us.



Keep in mind the weather in Honduras is *hot continuously* throughout the year...so please look for clothes that are **light-weight** in sizes 0 to 6 months.

Please bring the donation of baby clothes to St. Mark's and put them into a donation box that is marked:

Honduras New Baby Project.

Women of St. Mark's Board thanks you for your support in this project *and the women of Honduras will be grateful.*



November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 9:45am Pulla Bread & Bake Sale	5 Cub Scouts 6:30pm WSM Meeting 7pm	6 ELECTIONS Confirmation 7pm Reflections in the Spirit 7pm	7	8 Chili Supper 3:30 pm to 7 pm 	9 WSM Bible Study—10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. At Ida Dudleston's	10 3 Prayer Team 9 am Pulla Baking
11 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 9:45am Y&F Chili Dog Fundraiser	12 Cub Scouts 6:30pm	13 Reflections in the Season Noon Council 7pm	14	15 Boy Scouts 7pm Choir 7pm	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 9:45am	19 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Yarns of Compas- sion 7pm	20 NO CONFIRMA- TION	21 Worship 7pm 	22 Happy Thanksgiving 	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:30am Worship 9:45am Testify 6pm	26 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Illustrating Our Faith 7pm	27 Confirmation 7pm	28	29 Boy Scouts 7pm Choir 7pm	30	



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

- 11/04 Emily Waight
- 11/11 Genie Durand
- 11/18 Grace Brikha
- 11/25 Jill Shepherd

Assisting Minister

Paul Durand (1st and 3rd Sundays)

Communion Assistant

Genie Durand (2nd and 4th Sundays)

Altar Guild

Joy Gauthier & Keith Huebner

Ushers

Dave & Jean Norkus

Acolyte s Sundays

- 11/04 Dominic & Kiera Stelter
- 11/11 Dominic Stelter & Isabeau Puccini
- 11/18 Dominic & Kiera Stelter
- 11/25 Kiera Stelter & Isabeau Puccini

Projectionists Sundays

- 11/04 Annika Swanson
- 11/11 Evan Lundtveit
- 11/18 Dana Lundtveit
- 11/25 Emily Waight

Sound Technicians

- 11/04 Evelyn Fontana
- 11/11 Danyel Sparesus
- 11/18 David Sparesus
- 11/25 Andrew Oye

Thanksgiving Eve Worship—Nov. 21st

Acolyte **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Projectionist Annika Swanson
Sound Tech Evelyn Fontana

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



RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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