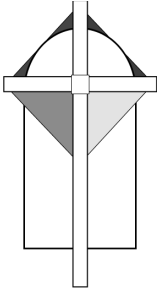




HAPPY
*thanks
giving*

*Simple and
Easy*



ST MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. MARK'S MESSENGER

November 2023

Valley, Nebraska

www.StMarksValleyNE.com

402.359.2315

from the Pastor...



Pastor Barbara and Bob are on a much-needed vacation. Pastor will be back in the office on November 6, 2023. Please keep them in your prayers for safe travel and good health.

from the PMA...

DON'T CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD

These days, it has been a common occurrence that we are asked to change our computer passwords. Unfortunately for me, it is because I forgot the old password and need help to access the data I am looking for. How frustrating! The original passwords that I chose for many of my sites were the same. Something that defined who I was or what I could easily access in my memory. Names, dates, events.

Now there is an ever-increasing threat of someone stealing my information by guessing these very comfortable passwords. Again, frustrating. I don't want to change who I am and what is important to me for the purpose of stifling another. Random numbers, letters and symbols are not who I am or want to be.

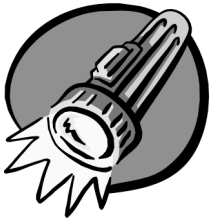
Aside from my computer experiences, I realize that I have certain activities that serve as 'passwords' to my faith. Recently I had some dental work done. In order to calm myself I utilized the memory of a song that our 100 Voices sings to comfort me during the drills and thrills. We often use a familiar prayer, a portion of scripture, an image or music as a means to access our faith. These

are 'passwords' that I will never change. Having a comfortable access to God is something that I feel cannot be computer generated. I gladly share access to God through using these faith passwords. May you utilize and share your faith passwords with others.

Karen

A PRAYER FOR ST MARK'S COUNCIL

God of plenty, we thank you for those who have led this year.
Bless them. Amen.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

This is a synopsis of the Council meeting held
on October 10^h, 2023.

- As of October 10, 2023 only 24 Time and Talent Sheets and 23 Commitment Cards have been turned in. **Please fill yours out and place it in the offering plate or drop it in the church office!**
- The final proof of the Pictorial Directory has been submitted and the company has told us that they will get that to the printer. Have patience, the directories will be here hopefully soon.
- The Valley Days Pancake Feed brought in \$1519.08. After paying the bills of \$276.49 and sending the VFW \$300, the final balance, to be split between COPE electrical work and School and Community Support, is \$945.59.
- The Fall Clean Up Date for inside and outside will be Saturday, October 14th beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- Everlevel will be doing concrete repair to the various sidewalks that have either sunken or raised and are a trip hazard.

- New signage will be created for the top of the sign outside which will include our address. The cost will be \$300
- St. Mark's 70th Anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday, November 19th, with a potluck meal for the congregation following Sunday church service.

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

September Budget = \$24,045

September Expenses = \$19,088

September Giving = \$19,815

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL REPORT

January – September Budget = \$216,406

January – September Expenses = \$211,322

January – September Giving = \$189,449

End of year 2022 Balance in Savings = \$\$64,404

End of September 2022 Balance in Savings = \$24,616

End of September 2022 Balance in Checking = \$4,209

End of September 2022 Worship Enhancement Total = \$17,801



With the beginning of Advent on December 3rd, we will be “decking the halls” the previous Sunday, November 26th following the worship service. Join us for the fun preparation! We will be decorating the narthex (entry), the sanctuary (worship space) and probably anything that doesn't move! Decorations will be brought in from storage. Please join us for ladder climbing, bulb testing, garland stringing, wreath hanging, fellowship and refreshments!

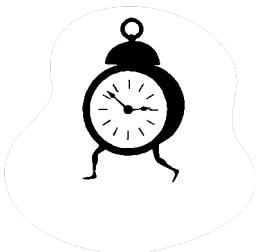
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5th, 2023



Roses were provided by Joy/Peace Circle in loving memory of God's Saints: Gunther Bengston, Eileen Bills, Robert "Pete" Brummels, Dennis Dau, Nancy Glidden, Joyce Lewis, Carl Seieroe, Harvey Soll, and Danny Stewart who went home to be with Christ this year. Please pray for their families and friends.

A **Votive Candle** was lit in honor of this child baptized this past year: Zoe Joy Dreessen, daughter of Kyle and Vanessa Dreessen, and grandparents of Harlan and Teri Dreessen. . Please pray for this Saint and her family.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Remember to fall back on
November 5th!



If DC West Public Schools cancel due to winter weather, St Mark's will be closed.

For Sunday morning closures, please check our website, Facebook, TV or radio.



**CONGREGATIONAL
ANNUAL MEETING
UPDATE**

Sunday

October 15, 2023

Following 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

The 2024 Financial Plan was unanimously approved. The 3 Council members elected are Lori Dyas, Bert Harrifeld, Micky Nielsen. Pastor Barbara and Bob Oshlo, Kirsten Kurtz and Karen King were selected to be delegates (voting members) to the 2024 Annual Nebraska Synod Assembly. Sharon Renshaw and Sharon Wilson will serve on the Nominating Committee for 2024. If anyone else would like to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2024, please let Pastor or Jan know.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kari	John & Lorrie Denker	Rick Hansen
Gwen Rittgarn	Steve Whitley	Baby Hayes
Janet Pennington	Mary Enloe	Gregg
Kelsey & Stefan	Ruth	Jean Krahmer
Charlotte	Maxine Nash	Eryn Hamke
Cindy	Lawrence Bonacci	Julie Dunn
Lois Schaefer	Harlan Dreessen	Care Center Staff
Caregivers Among Us	Care Center Residents	All Those Grieving

ALL OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Chet Ryan	Donna Fintel
Joan Kahlandt	MaryLou Finn
Dee Christiansen	Annie Hurt
Millie Richards	Donna Hovendick

For all military serving at home and around the world. We include prayers for their families as they hold things together in their absence.



Happy Thanksgiving

THANK YOU

"Well done, good and faithful servants".

The Soup Pie Supper committee would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to coordinators, volunteers, donors and dinner guests for jobs well done. Your willingness to give of your time, talents, and participation in the scrumptious 2023

Soup and Pie supper and Fall Raffle, has strengthened the mission and ministry of this church. Please accept thanks and appreciation from the Women of St. Mark's. Each of you is a blessing to this congregation.



8-22-23 Soup/Pie Supper	\$1343.00
Donation	150.00
Raffle	<u>1164.00</u>
Event Total	\$2657.00

The Circle Board

2023 Fall Raffle Winners

<i>Raffle Prize</i>	<i>Winner</i>
<i>1st Prize 72"x90" Cotton Daisies Quilt Made by Sharon Renshaw</i>	<i>Sandy Gunderson - Valley</i>
<i>El Bee's 2-\$25 Gift Cards</i>	<i>Jan Allen - Valley</i>
<i>Farmer Brown's 2-\$25 Gift Cards</i>	<i>Susan Allen - Fremont</i>
<i>Pulled BBQ 2-\$25 Gift Cards</i>	<i>Jan Allen - Valley</i>
<i>Simply Delicious 2-\$25 Gift Certificates</i>	<i>Jeff Allen - Valley</i>
<i>Tavern 180 Gift \$100 Certificate</i>	<i>Becky Sheets - Tekamah</i>
<i>Tighe It With a Bow Fall Centerpiece</i>	<i>Bonnie Clark - Omaha</i>
<i>Tighe It With a Bow Fall Centerpiece</i>	<i>Betty Arnold - Elkhorn</i>





Help! We are searching for a confirmation class picture for 2010, and 2013-2022. If your child was in one of these classes, could you make a copy for us to display with the names of the students? Thank you!

SCRIPTURES FOR SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER, 2023

November 5

All Saints Sunday

First Reading	Revelation 7:9-17
Responsive Reading	Psalms 334:1-10, 22
Second Reading	1 John 3:1-3
Gospel Reading	Matthew 5:1-12

November 12

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading	Amos 5:18-24
Responsive Reading	Psalms 70
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Responsive Reading	Psalms 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:14-30

November 26

Christ the King

First Reading	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Responsive Reading	Psalms 95:1-7a
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:31-46

NOVEMBER NEWS FOR WOMEN OF ST. MARK'S

FAITH CIRCLE NEWS

FAITH CIRCLE will meet on Nov. 7 at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the study of our book and meeting. Pat Stiefel is our study leader and Sandy Gunnerson will bring refreshments. You are welcome to join us.

QUILTING: The Ties That Bind Quilters will meet only once in November on Nov. 13 to quilt. December will be a "Break" month with no sessions planned at this time.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE NEWS

We met on Oct. 2nd with 7 members in attendance. Barb Kahlandt led our Study from "Gather" and Teri Dreessen served as Hostess.

The items for LWR Personal Care Kits were sorted and Kits assembled and are ready to be boxed for sending to LWR. We were short on a few items that will be purchased so that all kits can be completed.

A big thank you to all that helped make our Soup & Pie Supper a successful event, all seemed to enjoy the food & fellowship.

Our next meeting will be on Nov. 6th at 6:30 Teri Dreessen will lead our Study and Barb Kahlandt will serve as Hostess. Please join us if you can.

JOY/PEACE CIRCLE NEWS



CREATED BY VELOCITYMARTAL.COM

From Laughing with Lutherans

The funeral service computer template at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Van Wert, Ohio, includes the name of the deceased at appropriate places in the liturgy and prayers. A funeral for a woman named Edna followed a funeral for a woman named Mary. The secretary used the search-and-replace function to substitute "Edna" for "Mary;" But to the pastor's chagrin, when the congregation was invited to confess the Apostles' Creed, he saw the worship folder read, "Born of the Virgin Edna."

Mike Sherer
Finlay, OH

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON HOSTED BY ST. JOHN. CATHOLIC CHURCH



*307 East Meigs
Valley
November 16th
11:00-1:00*



**VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE
ANNUAL PANCAKE FEED!**

Sunday, November 5th

7:00 a.m. – Noon

**210 S. Church Street
Valley**

**Free Will Donations will be
accepted**

- Silent Auction (All auction proceeds go toward the VFD Foundation for the new building)
- Valley Police K9 Sonic
- Douglas County Sheriff's
- Lifenet Helicopter
- Nebraska State Patrol Demonstration
- Tough-A-Truck and Meet Firefighters
- Kids Activities
- Fun for the Whole Family



The Ties That Bind Quilting group has been very busy this year and has made 37 quilts to send to LWR! Thanks to all you who have helped by typing, cutting, sewing, pinning, and making quilt tops at home for us to finish at church, and to those of you who have helped

provide materials for our use. With many hands we are blessed to be a blessing. GOD'S WORK--OUR HANDS!

Our quilt ministry was revived a few years ago and we are alive and well! Thanks for your prayers and many efforts in making this successful again!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DRIVE ***A Small Gift Makes a Big Difference***

Joy Peace Circle members extend an invitation to everyone

to participate in this outreach by gifting and praying.

Age Category for Boys and Girls: 10 to 14 the primary focus, however, gifts for ages 2 thru 9 accepted.

Collection Dates: October 1, thru November 5.

Gift ideas for boy and girls: school supplies, clothing items (bigger is always better than smaller when choosing a size), grooming and hygiene items, bar soap, washcloth, sewing kit and 1/2 yard of fabric, flashlight (with extra batteries), folding umbrella, sun glasses, plastic magnifier (not everyone has access to eye care or glasses), card games, Legos, solar calculator, doll, ball, small stuffed animals, puzzles, jump rope, yoyo, Etch a Sketch, Slinky, socks, tote, flip-flops. Plastic shoeboxes instead of cardboard shoeboxes used when packing; plastic shoeboxes are gifts that keep on giving as children use them for carrying precious water. Christmas wrapping tissue paper also welcome.

Please pick up a compete Shoebox Gift Suggestions list by the collection center in the Narthex.

DO NOT INCLUDE candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Join us in sharing the Word of the Gospel by purchasing and placing gift items at the collection center located in the

Narthex. Monetary gifts welcome, Joy Peace Circle members are happy to do the shopping.

A message from Franklin Graham, "Each shoebox gift becomes a tangible expression of God's love sharing the true meaning of Christmas."

Birthdays in November



It has been requested to have personal birthdates put in the newsletter. If we are going to do this we need you to be sure that we have your birth date.

Please let the church office know your date if you have not already done so.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING"

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Jerry Caffey | 16 – Judy Munger |
| 1 – Nathan MacDonald | 16 – Carol Bills |
| 3 – Dean Harrifeld | 16 – Hanna Johnson |
| 3 – Benjamin Kahlandt | 17 – V.J. Goff |
| 3 – Taylor Arp | 17 – Aaron Ueckert |
| 4 – Erica Lau | 18 – Blake Cherny |
| 6 – Keith Ramsey | 19 – Wayne Kahlandt |
| 6 – Amanda Camenzind | 20 – Raymond Sheibal |
| 7 – Jeff Hayden | 20 – Jill Herrington |
| 8 – Ryan King | 21 – Bonnie Thompson |
| 9 – Cindy Hayden | 21 – Becky Lopeman |
| 9 – Renee Bonacci | 22 – Malinda Jepsen |
| 11 – Bob Eggen | 22 – Cassidy Arp |
| 11 – Sara Peacock | 22 – Billie Gotch |
| 13 – Claire Floody | 23 – Robert Jepsen |
| 14 – Nealie Josoff | 24 – Sydnee Hamsa |
| 14 – Ty Eggen | 25 – Emily Flynn |
| 15 – Connie Stewart | 25 – Jeremy Mayer |