

# MARKINGS

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
600 STEVENS DRIVE  
WAUSAU, WI 54401  
(715) 848-5511  
PASTOR BRUCE LAMONT (715 849-2441)  
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Web Address: [www.stmarkslcms.org](http://www.stmarkslcms.org)

Volume 46

December, 2016

Issue 11

## GREETINGS FROM PASTOR BRUCE TRANSFORMED

*"DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND" (Romans 12:2).*

Experience spiritual growth and new friendships by engaging in our 50 days of transformation campaign beginning January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. As the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God in our lives to grow in sanctification and make us more like Jesus, we will be focusing on 7 key areas of our lives that need ongoing transformation: spiritual health, physical health, mental health, emotional health, relational health, financial health, and vocational health.

Please sign up for the "Transformed" workbook that features 50 devotions, goal setting worksheets on the 7 key areas of your life, and weekly Bible Studies that we will be using on Sunday morning or Wednesday night. The workbook is at a discounted rate of \$10 (if anyone has a hardship, please see me and we will make arrangements for you to get one). The sign up for the "Transformed" workbook is in the narthex as well as a sign up sheets for being a leader or participant in small group home Bible studies. There is also a sign up to attend Sunday morning or Wednesday night Bible studies. On Sunday morning High School Youth and Young adults (14-30) are encouraged to attend the opening video presentation in the Fellowship Hall and then have a break out session with Trevor in the Youth Room. I will be leading the discussion after the video in the Fellowship Hall.

This campaign is designed for newcomers and seasoned church veterans alike to drive us toward spiritual maturity and authentic faith community. Each week, video based Studies will be led by Pastor Rick Warren from Saddleback Church, and then discussion will be facilitated taking transformed truths to deeper spiritual and relational levels, forming new friendships through meaningful discussion.

Don't miss out on this opportunity for transformation in the new year! God loves you too much to let you stay the way you are, He wants you to grow and be transformed by His Word and Spirit instead of being conformed to the pattern of this world. You have a choice to make. Do you want to allow God to change you from the inside out, through the truth of His

Word and new thinking, or do you want to stay the way you are? May the Holy Spirit lead you to resolve in the New Year to fully participate in this exciting opportunity to grow brighter and brighter for God's glory!

*Pastor Bruce*

## + THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S + December 4 - 10

<u>SUNDAY</u>	8:00 am	<b>WORSHIP</b>
	9:15 am	Sunday School and Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	<b>WORSHIP</b>
	6:00 pm	The Bridge
<u>MONDAY</u>	8:00 am	Orphan Grain Train Packing
	11:00 am	Staff meeting
<u>TUESDAY</u>	6:30 am	MIA Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Ladies Guild Christmas Party
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	4:15 pm	Advent Supper
	6:00 pm	<b>WORSHIP</b>
	6:45 pm	Midweek School
	6:45 pm	Bible Study
	8:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
<u>THURSDAY</u>	7:00 pm	Celebration Choir
<u>SATURDAY</u>	9:00 am	Children's Christmas Rehearsal
	1:00 pm	Orchestra Rehearsal

**MARKINGS** Sponsors are needed for upcoming issues of the MARKINGS. If you would like to reserve a special date, please contact the church office (715 848-5511). Cost: \$50

## **CONGREGATIONAL FORUM**

On Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:15 - 10:15 am and Wednesday, December 31 at 7:00 pm, we will be having an informational forum on Calling an Associate Pastor. Please plan on joining us and give your input.

## **USHERS NEEDED**

We are in need of volunteers to serve as Ushers, especially for the 10:30 am service. If you are interested in more information or would like to volunteer, please contact the church office (715 848-5511).

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
**600 Stevens Drive**  
**Wausau, WI 54401-2977**

**Electronic Service Requested**

### **MITTEN & HAT TREE**

We invite you to help the Midweek School children help other children have warm hands, heads and hearts this Christmas by bringing mittens, gloves and/or hats to help decorate the mitten tree in the Narthex.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

The Sunday School children will present their Christmas program "" during the 10:30 am service on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. We will have two full practices for all students on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:30 am and Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Parents, please make every effort to have your children attend the rehearsal. Thank you!

### **GUILD CHRISTMAS DINNER**

*St. Mark's Ladies Guild is hosting their annual Advent and Christmas Celebration on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and would like to invite the members of the congregation to join them. See the enclosed News & Notes for more info.*

### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP/ADVENT 2**

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the light of Christ's coming. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Please join us this Sunday as Pastor Ken shares the message: "**The God Of Hope**"

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

The Gospel: St. Matthew 3:1-12

### **CHRISTMAS HYMN & ORCHESTRA SUNDAY**

*Please join us for our special Christmas Hymn and Orchestra Services on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 and 10:30 am. We will be singing many of your favorite Christmas Hymns accompanied by a 12-15 person orchestra.*

*The message will take a look at these hymns, investigating who this baby is that they all refer to. By my estimate ten billion babies have been born throughout the course of earth's history. You might ask, what makes this one so special? What significance does his birth have for me? Can my life change by knowing who He is? Please come and see.*

*-Bruce Clark, Celebration Choir Director*

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### **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

The Preschool classes prepared for Thanksgiving by learning about the first Thanksgiving, making turkeys and worshipping together. Each child brought fruit and shared a "friendship fruit bowl" with popcorn for snack.

Pastor Bruce had a special Thanksgiving Chapel for all of our preschool children and their families with Trevor leading the singing.

We hope that your Thanksgiving was a time of thankfulness to God for His abundant Blessings!

The children are preparing for our Christmas program - "Happy Birthday, Jesus" and learning about the true meaning of Christmas - the Birth of Jesus - our Lord and Savior.

### **WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP**

*Christ  
Is Coming!*

Plan now to prepare for Christmas in the best way possible...by attending our special Midweek Advent services each Wednesday (December 7, 14), 6:00 - 6:45 pm (no communion). Pastor Bruce will be sharing the message.

## **TRANSFORMED**

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## **NEW MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED!**

This Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be receiving new members at both the 8:00 and 10:30 am worship services. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 am to welcome them with an orientation to follow.

## **ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOK**

*“Christmas Memories” is the title of the Advent devotion available from Lutheran Hour Ministries only online at [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent). Thinking back on Christmases past is a fun way to reflect on the good old days. But, of course, our hearts aren’t merry for these things alone. Christmas is the believer’s celebration of the arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

## **MIDWEEK ADVENT SUPPERS**

It’s that time of the year again when we gather to enjoy our annual Advent Suppers each Wednesday, 4:15 to 5:45 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall prior to our Midweek Advent services. We hope you’ll join us for some good food and fellowship. The menus are as follows:

12/11	Hot Ham Sandwiches
12/18	Chili and Soup

## **WAUSAU BARBERSHOPPERS**

You are invited to join the Wausau Barbershoppers The River Valley Harmonizers and Guests as they present their annual Christmas Concert. It will be held at First English Lutheran Church, 402 N Third Avenue, Wausau on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The concert is open to the public and no tickets are required. For more info, please call 715 675-3019.

## **SEASONAL CHOIR**

Our St. Mark’s Seasonal Choir will rehearse on Wednesday, December 7<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 pm. We will be singing at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Advent service. Do you love to sing but can’t commit to an every-week rehearsal? Then this might be just the choir for you. Open to all – families, youth in Midweek, singles and anyone who enjoys singing and can carry a tune! If you have questions, please call Ella at 715 574-4091.

## **CONSECRATION CELEBRATION**

*We thank all who participated in Consecration Sunday and pledged support to the ministry at St. Mark’s. In these uncertain economical times you can truly see the Holy Spirit at work, strengthening our faith. The Stewardship Ministry would like to thank CJ’s Catering for a delicious meal, Ron Schram for setting up the Fellowship Hall, a big thank you to all who helped in any way. It made the whole day much easier.*

*–Stewardship Ministry*

*[Editor’s Note: We sincerely thank members of the Stewardship Ministry: Tom & Linda Jagodinski and Dave & Sue Baacke for organizing and planning the Celebration as well as set-up and clean-up.]*

## **CONSECRATION SUNDAY**

*What a great turn-out of 185 members attending our Consecration Celebration lunch. It is still not too late to make a financial commitment in support of the mission and ministry at St. Mark’s for 2017. Pledge cards are available on the table in the Narthex.*

## **LYRIC CHOIR**

The Wausau Lyric Choir will perform “A Wondrous Mystery: Christmas Across The Centuries” at First Presbyterian Church, 406 Grant Street, Wausau on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.

There will be no charge for the concert but a free-will donation will be accepted. Due to seating limitations, no-charge tickets will be required. Tickets are available thru choir members, at the PAF, or at the door.

## **FACEBOOK**

“Like” us on Facebook to get updates on what is happening at St. Mark’s. To like St. Mark’s Facebook page, search St. Mark’s Lutheran Church – LCMS to find the right page. Our profile picture is the 3 angels in the front of the sanctuary.

## **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Wausau area residents who would be alone on Christmas Day are invited to share in the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Community Christmas Dinner at noon on December 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul’s United Church of Christ, 426 Washington St. The dinner, sponsored by area churches and community volunteers, is served free of charge. Pre-ordered take-home food is available. Call Dawn between December 1<sup>st</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> at 715-551-4166.

## **SERVANT TRIP TO OUZINKIE, ALASKA**

*In July of 2017, the Novitch Family and the Mayer Family will be traveling to Ouzinkie, Alaska for a service project with the missionaries and the people of the village. We will be leading Vacation Bible School and Science Camp for the children, helping with the construction of a new building, providing veterinary services, and sharing our love of Jesus with these new Alaskan friends. We will be hosting the last Advent Supper of the season on December 14th. Please come and join us for a meal of soup and chili. The money that is donated at this advent supper is going to be used to purchase technology equipment (computers, laptops, tablets, etc.) for use at the mission house in Ouzinkie, Alaska. Thank you for your prayers of support for this ministry and consideration of financial support for the mission-aries work in this Alaskan village.*



**CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24**

2:00 pm, 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm  
Beautiful Candlelight Services  
with Holy Communion at 6:00 pm only

**CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25**

10:00 am  
A Festival Carol Service with Holy Communion

**OPEN DOOR OF MARATHON COUNTY**

The **OPEN DOOR** of Marathon County is the project the M.I.A. (Men In Action) will be supporting at the **Advent Supper on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**. The **OPEN DOOR** is an organization to provide charitable and educational services to meet the immediate needs of individuals who are incarcerated and/or who have been released from jail or prison. They provide a clothes closet, life skills and job readiness classes, a safe and friendly environment, computer lab training and assistance, resource information, referrals and more. They are located at 319 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite #2. More information can be found at <http://opendoormarathoncounty.com/>. This project is supported by Thrivent Team dollars.

**MEN IN ACTION**

The Men in Action once again continued their Halloween giveaways at the Diamonds Edge and Diamonds View residential apartment complex just a little north of St. Marks. Around 30 pumpkins were distributed, along with candy treats and school supplies. In addition, 30 special children's quilts made by our ladies quilting group, were given to each child! Thank you ladies for helping with this project. One additional "treat" for this year was a gift of a Bible story book for each family. We were able to share the blessings of knowing Jesus and other Bible heroes in a way that families could take home and read together. We were also able to tell them a little about St. Marks, invite them to worship, and explained that we have a food pantry. We sure saw a lot of smiling faces!

Note from the quilters. We were glad to be able to help. When your children or grandchildren out grow their princess, or dinosaur sheets, etc., please consider donating those gently used sheets to the quilters, we will repurpose them, and turn them into quilts to warm others.

**THANK YOU**

We sincerely thank **LAVERNE & KAYE SCHADE** for their generous gift to the Reach Up, Reach Out and Repair Capital Fund Drive given in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings they have received in their 50 years of marriage.

**NOTE FROM MISSIONARY REV. DUANE MEISSNER**

*Dear Christian Friends in Wausau,*

*Greetings in Christ from sunny Belize! I pray you are doing well, and living blessed lives of service in our Lord's Kingdom. Thank you all SO very much for your generous support of what we're doing here in Belize. I'm very excited to see what all God has in store in a mission that is moving forward nicely in His grace. God willing we'll have our first confirmands and the opening of the first Lutheran congregation (or two!) in 2018. We couldn't do it without partnerships in the Gospel like yours. To God be the glory!*

Your Missionary to Belize,  
Rev. Duane Meissner  
LCMS Missionary to Belize  
[www.ChristInBelize.com](http://www.ChristInBelize.com)

**CAROL BARTON ADDRESS**

Carol Barton is now in hospice care. Her address is: Our House, 220 W Campus Drive, Wausau WI 54401 for anyone wishing to send her a card. Your loving concern is appreciated.

**MARKINGS IN JANUARY**

*The next issue of the Markings will go out on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note the following calendar items for that first week in January:*

- January 1 WORSHIP at 10:00 am
- January 2 No meetings
- January 3 Fellowship Ministry at 9:30 am  
Education Ministry Potluck at 5:30 pm
- January 4 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP at 6:00 pm  
Midweek School at 6:45 pm  
Bible Study at 6:45 pm
- January 5 Celebration Choir at 7:00 pm  
Mark's Men at 8:15 pm
- January 6 Food Pantry at 1:00 pm
- January 7 No meeting
- January 8 Kick-off of 50 Days of Transformation  
WORSHIP at 8:00 and 10:30 am  
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study at 9:15 am

**PRAYER CHAIN**

We are in the process of reactivating the St. Mark's prayer chain. If you are interested and have a heart to pray for others, please complete the following information and return it to the church office. More information will follow.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle your preferred method of contact.

**THANK YOU**

*"We would like to thank Pastor Bruce and the members of the congregation for their prayers and concern while Vern was ill. It was greatly appreciated."*

*– Vern & Kaye Schade*



# Wisconsin Valley

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## LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

1-Mark your calendars now! WI Valley Lutheran High School band, choral and praise team concert will be held Thursday, December 8th beginning at 7:00pm on The Valley campus located at 601 Maple Ridge Road in Mosinee. We are blessed each year to celebrate our Savior's birth with music!

2-Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School is currently accepting applications for the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year, which will begin Tuesday, January 3rd as well as applications for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have questions about how to transfer with overlapping semester dates at your student's current school, would like more information about The Valley, would like to set up a time for your student to shadow for a day, or need a current application packet please call Mr. Beringer or Ms Wehrs in the school office at 715-693-2693.

3-On November 7, 2016, six students were inducted into the WI Valley Lutheran High School Chapter of the National Honor Society. Inductees included: Garrett Anklam, Wausau; Wyatt Anklam, Wausau; Jennifer McGarigle, Wausau; Clay Schult, Merrill, Mary Seehafer, Wausau and Austin Pagel (not pictured). The ceremony took place in front of a crowd of parents, friends, and family members at Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School in Mosinee. Those selected for this prestigious honor took part in the ceremonial lighting of candles of scholarship, character, service, and leadership. The ceremony brings the total number of students inducted from the school, established in 2004, to forty-one.

4-Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School is looking for a volunteer to snow blow and clean our sidewalks this winter. If you are able and interested, please contact Dave Beringer at 715-693-2693.

5-Check out The WI Valley Lutheran High School winter sports schedules on their website at [www.wvlhs.org](http://www.wvlhs.org). **Go to the top tool bar and click on Athletics Calendar, then click on the r-school calendar to see both the boys' and girls' basketball schedules. If you would like to receive notifications of any changes, click on "notify me" just to the left of the main calendar grid and fill in your information to get up to date notifications of changes made to the schedules throughout the season. Come out and support YOUR WI VALLEY WOLVES!!!**

6-These WI Valley student-athletes were named all-conference by the coaches of the 2016 Mid-State Soccer Conference: senior Grant Faulkner-Honorable Mention, senior Tekoya Cosby-1st Team, junior Coleton Schubring-2nd Team, junior Connor Schubring-1st Team (also nominated for the All-State Soccer Team), junior Rhein Zuelsdorff-1st Team (also nominated for the All-State Soccer Team), and junior Austin Pagel-2nd Team.

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### PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

**We are getting close to submitting the final roster for the new Pictorial Directory. Please contact the church office with any address corrections or phone number changes, as soon as possible.**

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	READERS	POWERPOINT	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHERS
<u>December 4, 2016</u>	8:00 a.m.	Jerry & Kathy Bellin	Joan Crisman	Curt Dahlke	John & Rita Woller Joan Crisman, Jill Simon	Group 5
	10:30 a.m.	Rod, Janet & Ryan Werner	Jerry Ray	Tyler Woller	Jerry Ray, Rachel Olson Shawn & Jenny Wiedenhoef	Group 6
<u>December 7, 2016</u> <i>(Advent Service)</i>	6 p.m.	Gary & Kathy Biele n	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 9
<u>December 11, 2016</u> <i>(Orchestral Services)</i>	8:00 a.m.	DeWayne & Rose Graf	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 5
	10:30 a.m.	Dave & Marlys Hartman	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 6
<u>December 14, 2016</u> <i>(Advent Service)</i>	6 p.m.	Lorraine Wilde Roy Passow	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 9
<u>December 18, 2016</u> <i>(Children's Service)</i>	8:00 a.m.	Jean & Kim Rhyner	Ella Holmes	None Needed	Ella Holmes, Ginny Kottke Bob & Julie Waterman	Group 5
	10:30 a.m.	Michael & Heidi Deedon	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 6
<u>December 21, 2016</u> <i>(Advent Service)</i>	6 p.m.	Ken & Alice Siewert	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 9
<u>December 24, 2016</u> <i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	2 p.m.	Mike & Lois Wichlacz	None Needed	None Needed	None Needed	Group 5
	4 p.m.	Burnell & Jeanette Utecht	Lee Belmas	None Needed	None Needed	Group 6
	6 p.m.	Volunteer	Terri Kankelfitz	None Needed	Martin & Shirley Hannemann Volunteers	Group 9
<u>December 25, 2016</u> <i>(Christmas Day)</i>	10 a.m.	Jim & Carol Leopold	John Woller	None Needed	John & Rita Woller Carol Leopold (Tray), Ron Schram	Groups 5 & 6
<u>December 31, 2016</u>	6 p.m.	Donna Schroeder	Dick Schroeder	None Needed	Dick & Donna Schroeder (Only 2 needed)	Group 9
<u>January 1, 2017</u> <i>(New Year's Day)</i>	10 a.m.	Sharon Jagler	Volunteer	Curt Dahlke	Ron and Ryan Schram (Only 2 needed)	Groups 7 & 8

ALTAR GUILD FOR December 2016: Barb Pagel, Sonya Schulz, Ruth Ziegel, Jill Simon, Jenny Wiedenhoef

USHERS: Group 5--Warren Jacobi--Lead, Sharon Jacobi, Bruce Thurs, Jae Loiz  
Group 6--Jim Haworth--Lead, Dave Hartman, Art Borchardt, Herb Ninnemann  
Group 9--Dick Schroeder--Lead, Bob Frickenstein, Joyce Frickenstein, Mel Sann

**MANY THANKS FOR ALL WHO SERVED THROUGH THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**