

The MARKINGS

From the desk of Pastor Eric Hauan

January 2021
Volume 51, Issue 1

To the Family of St. Mark's,

Covid-19 has the world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors. People saying, "Once Covid-19 is over" is starting to sound eerily similar to "Once I win the lottery." Also, who would have ever thought that we would actually be avoiding other people like the plague?

It's been a crazy year for everyone. I personally cannot wait to have everyone in the flow of the ministry at St. Mark's again. I cannot wait to just simply prepare for in-person events and not meeting on Zoom. I also just want to see everything and everyone operating at full strength again. I miss the people that aren't around! Once this cloud of Covid-19 lifts we all will have to be very intentional about re-creating the habits of being the people of God again.

Overall, last year was still, by the grace of God, a very positive year for St. Mark's. Year over year giving has increased, and we are continually blessed to be a debt free church. Our overall membership has increased quite a bit, and the Spring New Member class looks to continue that trend. Our very talented musicians continue to utilize and fine tune our new sound system and technology. We continue to be blessed by a steady army of volunteers who give of their time and talents to support this ministry. Our staff is capable, hard-working, team oriented, and a pleasure to work with. We adjusted to accommodate as best we could to continue to deliver God's Word and Sacrament and raise disciples from young to old. We are not out of the thick yet, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

For this next year, we must always remember God's word for us, Proverbs 16:9, "The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps." Everyone one of us who is invested in St. Mark's, including myself, has an idea of the way things should go. I make plans too, but with the caveat of humbly being willing to adjust to God's steps, which are always in the right direction. What could our steps be this coming year?

Could we call another Pastor? We are looking into it. If it practically makes sense, the timing is right, and the Lord directs our steps it will happen. Will we go full steam ahead against God's will and the will of the congregation...nope. I can tell you with certainty that our overall congregation is not being fully ministered to in terms of demographics. I have lots

This month's issue of the MARKINGS is sponsored by **Diana Borchardt** who would like to thank all her wonderful church friends for their comforting words to our family upon the death of Art! The support we have received will stay with us!

*Thank
You*

Inside this issue:

Christmas Thanks	2
Birthdays & Anniversaries	3
Helping a Family in Need	4
E- Giving	4
Comfort Quilts	5
Christmas Deco	6
Bridge Street Mission Volunteer	6
Orphan Grain Train needs	6
Letter from Seminary student	7

Cont' on page 5

Christmas Thanks

Donated this year's lovely tree: BURNELL & JEANETTE UTECHT, TIM & LAURI UTECHT

For the outdoor garland and wreaths: CLARICE BOEHM for procuring the wreaths and garland.

Those who cut, put up the Christmas tree, hung the outdoor wreaths and put up the outside garland:

GARY BIELEN, BURNELL UTECHT, JOHN WOLLER, ROGER BLOCK, JEFF KERN, DENNIS WALD, TED BORNOWSKI, KEN BERNDT, DEWAYNE GRAF, BILL DAHLKE, JASON GRULKOWSKI, RICH KLEIN and ERV ZIEGEL.

Those who decorated the church: JOAN CRISMAN, BOB & JULIE WATERMAN, GARY KRAUSE, SUE BERNDT, BOB & KIM CHRISTENSEN, JASON GRULKOWSKI, BARB REYNOLDS, ANDY & MARY HOPPE, JOHN & RITA WOLLER, KAY BLOCK, KRIS SPARKS

Arranging the poinsettia plants: MARGE GOETSCH & JASON GRULKOWSKI

Those who contributed to the decorating fund or purchased a poinsettia plant:

JOYCE BURISH for all of God's gifts

ROGER & DARLENE BURK in memory of Elmer & Elsie Burk and Ben & Ferne Hafeman

JOAN CRISMAN in memory of Bernie Crisman & Shirley Hannemann

PAUL & JACKIE DUERST for all of God's gifts

BOB & JOYCE FRICKENSTEIN for the beauty of God's house

MICKEY GATZ for the beauty of God's house

MARGE GOETSCH in memory of Mike Goetsch

LILA GWIDT, WANDA WOHLERT, GWEN LOIZ & TERRY GWIDT in memory of Wally Gwidt

DIANE KLEINSCHMIDT in memory of DuWayne Kleinschmidt

GINNY KOTTKE for the beauty of His church

RACHEL OLSON in memory of her parents, Ralph and Lucille Kresin and brother/Sister-in-law Ralph Jr. & Marilyn Kresin

MARJORIE RADDATZ, CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN in memory of David Raddatz

TOM, TRACY & SAM RADENZ in memory of parents Lawrence & Jean Radenz, Jim Krueger

BRUCE & BARB REYNOLDS for God's blessings

VERN SCHADE in memory of loved ones

CHARLES & LOIS SCHULTZ in memory of Lynne Michelle Schultz

ROBERT, MARY & TREVOR SCHULTZ in memory of Robert & Carolyn Schultz and Elaine Artus

DONALD URBAN in memory of his wife Lorraine

BURNELL & JEANETTE UTECHT in memory of Carolyn Schultz and for Kathy Weise

DENNIS & GAYLE WALD for the beauty of God's house

BOB & JULIE WATERMAN in honor of the 93rd birthday of Delores Rusch

LORRAINE WILDE in memory of Bill Wilde

LEON & SUSAN WOLLER in memory of Wally Gwidt

Cleaning and preparing candles for candlelight services: ROGER BLOCK

Changing of the paraments: KAY BLOCK



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Leah Alters
Debbie Doucette</p> <p>2 Ava Downing
Emma Downing
Lois Schultz
Carla Spychalla</p> <p>3 Jim Haworth
Harper Heindel</p> <p>5 Ginny Kottke
Audrey Peterson
Landon Thurs</p> <p>6 Tania Hoff
Barb Lutz
Ryan Werner</p> <p>7 Warren Pope</p> <p>9 Rex Mortensen</p> <p>10 Beth Hoff</p> <p>14 Arvilla Berens
Tim Goffin
Melissa Shewmake</p> <p>15 Caleb Butzlaff
Rev. Gordon Giese</p> <p>16 Chris Grosskreutz
Wes Hoffman
John Woller</p> <p>17 Carson Schemenauer</p> <p>18 Lorraine Wilde</p> <p>19 Jan Feucht
Marlys Hartman</p> <p>21 Kyle Alters
Adam Dykman
Kailey Grosskreutz
Anthony Holzem
Beverly Sturm
Matthew Vande Boom</p> | <p>22 Wendy Knuth
Perry Snoeyenbos
Rita Woller</p> <p>23 Sharon Michalski</p> <p>25 Kurt Haebig
Jacob Novitch
John Sparbel</p> <p>26 Rebecca Kuehl
Mary Schultz</p> <p>28 Bradley Bisgrove
Diane Jehn
John Skoug</p> <p>29 Ben Kopetzky
Tim Loeffler</p> <p>30 Marlene Laffin
Angela Mahar
Jocelyn Mayer
Nicole Thurs
Rod Werner
Avila Zinkowich</p> <p>31 Jenna Borchart
Roxanne Jennejohn
Adilyn Witter</p> |
|---|---|



Tim & Melissa Vergara	1/15/2011
Rob & Debbie Doucette	1/21/1978
Clint & Teri Smith	1/25/2014



The Boy and the Starfish – An Original Story by Loren Easley

One day a man was walking along the beach, when he noticed a boy hurriedly picking up and gently throwing things into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, “Young man, what are you doing?” The boy replied, “Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don’t throw them back, they’ll die.” The man laughed to himself and said, “Don’t you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can’t make any difference!” After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said ...

“I made a difference to that one.”

A Church and a Family – An Original Real Story by Lee Belmas

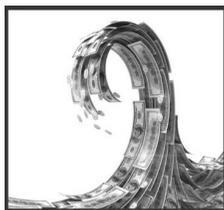


There once was a family in Wausau that was in great need. The church people said, “There are a lot of families in the area that are in need. How can we make a difference with so many families. We can’t possibly make a difference with so many.” Like the little boy said in the Starfish story above (paraphrased), “We can make a difference to this family.”

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, The Men in Action and Youth Ministry are teaming up to work with a family of four in Wausau that is in great financial need. The single mother lost her job since Covid hit and has since become ill following surgery in August. She is unable to work at this time. Her son is 14 and the girls are 13 and 10. Our goal is to raise \$6,000 so that we can send her a monthly check of \$500 to help her with rent, heat and food. It’s a lofty goal, but we’re already at \$3850 through various budget line funds that are earmarked to help people in need. We need to raise an additional \$2150 to reach \$6000. If you would like to help this family get their feet on the ground, please make a donation using the decorated cards on the card table in the Narthex, next to the collection plates. Put your gift in an envelope and place the envelope in a collection plate or bring it to the office. Help us make a difference for this family.

Please pray for this family as we do what we can to help them out. If you have any questions regarding this plea for help, please talk with Lee Belmas. Thank you and God’s richest blessings in the new year!

E-GIVING IS CATCHING ON...



Catch the wave of e-giving. It is simple and takes the worry out of remembering to write checks or filling envelopes. Old habits are hard to break but if this would help free up time on your “to do” list, it may be worth the change. Our electronic transfer of funds from you to the church is as simple as filling out a confidential form. Please contact Sharon Rezin at 715-848-5511 to have a form sent to you or visit St. Marks website [St. Mark's Lutheran Church - Wausau, WI \(stmarkswausau.org\)](http://St.Mark's Lutheran Church - Wausau, WI (stmarkswausau.org)). to print the form and send it in to St. Marks—Attn.

Sharon Rezin to begin e-giving.

Continued from front page

of ideas that simply cannot be utilized with one pastor. Who could this new pastor be if we end up calling? Only the Lord knows. I am very excited for that possibility!

Could we start up some new ministries this New Year? I have plans for a Men's Ministry called Band of Brothers. We need some Small Group ministries and capable leaders for all ages and demographics especially the Young Adults. There are lots of possibilities for what can be created, and this coming summer could be a great opportunity for that to happen.

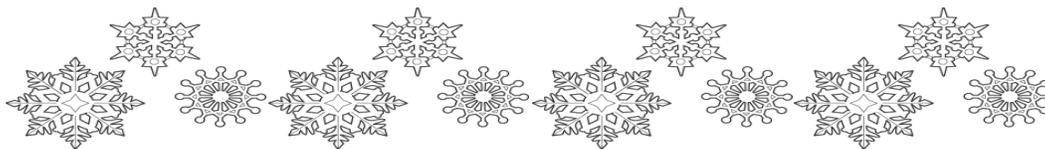
There has been some transition/changes in worship/music before and after I arrived. Some changes were apparent and some a surprise, but it seems as if we have really settled into a consistent stride. We are blessed with very talented musicians across the board. Our aim will be to continue to meet everyone's expectations as best we can while maintaining reverence and our core tenants of Lutheran identity.

Traditional and Contemporary worship will alternate Sundays with Wednesdays remaining Contemporary. When Holiday or Festival services arrive we will have them be lead Traditionally, being that we expect certain timeless hymns and traditions to capture the meaning. That being said, you will see more Traditional services this coming year, as we honor God equally in the many ways to worship Him.

To wrap things up I am personally excited to see what happens when everyone feels comfortable in life again. Call me an optimist, but I think we are going to hit the ground running once this cloud of Covid-19 lifts. We have been backfilling membership, frontloading planning, and utilizing our time and talents well during this unique time. I pray that it will pay off for our Lord's Kingdom when we can resume normal life again. God's blessings to all of our members, volunteers, supporters, neighbors, and partners. From the youngest to oldest in this congregation of God's people, thank you! Remember this New Year, *"We have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. And the lives we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God, who loves us and gave Himself for us."* This is Good News and a Good Life!

Yours in Christ,

-Pastor Eric-



Comfort Quilt Time

Come, gather with us as we will be assembling our comfort quilts with stitching, knotting and friendly fellowship starting again on **January 5th from 9:00 am—11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to have you join us!





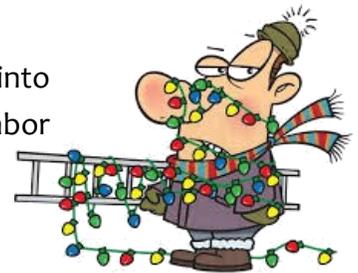
Bridge Street Mission is looking for volunteers to assist with prepping noon lunches. The hours are usually from 9:00 to 2:00. For more information or to volunteer please call Bonnie Galloway at 715-581-7771.

Orphan Grain Train †

Orphan Grain Train is in desperate need of women's sanitary products. Women have no means or access to get these items which many times keeps girls from being able to attend school. There is a box in the narthex where these items can be placed. Thank you.

Help taking down Christmas Decorations

We need YOUR help on **Tuesday, January 5th at 2:00 pm** to remove and put into storage all the Christmas decorations at church. "Many hands make the labor light and go much faster."



Dear St. Mark's Family--

As 2020 draws to a close, our family would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the good people at St. Mark's. During this difficult year, you have checked in on us, prayed for us, and uplifted us in so many ways. Thank you also for remembering us this Christmas season with your cards, kind words, and gifts. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for all of the love you have shown us. We look forward to partnering in ministry with you in 2021.

In Christ,

Pastor Eric, Jill, Julia, Cal, and Hazel Huan

Thank you



For Your Kindness

Letter from our Seminary Student

Brian Nowak and Family
6 Founders way Unit C
Clayton, MO 63105

Hello Saint Mark Lutheran Church,

As I write this letter, another Thanksgiving holiday has come to an end. While this year was quite different, due to Covid-19, I hope everyone at Saint Mark Lutheran Church is healthy and doing well. As we enter into a busy time of year, with Christmas right around the corner, I pray that everyone slows down and takes time to enjoy all of the blessings that they have been given. I pray that you also take time to remember the reason for the season. And I pray, if it is God's will, that He would bring an end to this Covid-19 Pandemic.

Here is an update on what is going on. Since my last letter, we have seen an increase in restrictions as the result of the increasing COVID-19 numbers. As a result, as we enter into the last 3 weeks of the Fall 2020 Semester, we will be transitioning to all on-line classes. While this is a disappointment for many here, we understand that it is for the safety and health of our community. We have also been notified that our short Winterim Semester will also transition to on-line classes as well. I hope that these early precautions will allow us, as 4th year students, to be able to return to in-person classes for the Spring 2021 semester. Because this will be the final semester of our time here at the Seminary for many of the 4th year students.

I ask that you continue to pray, not only for my family and myself, but for all of those who will be receiving calls this year. Our time here at the Seminary is quickly coming to an end. In less than that 5 months, Dr. Nielsen will be announcing where many of us will be placed for our first placement as LCMS Pastors. It is an exciting, anxious, stressful, and hectic time for all of us. As a reminder, Call Day is April 28, 2021. I'm sure they will broadcast the service over the internet. Stay tuned for further details as this day approaches. I ask that you continue to pray that we will be able to attend this year's Call Service in person. I also ask that you keep my family in your prayers of the next couple of months as we begin to pack and make the transition to a new place to call home.

Two of my children (Taylor 17 and Matthew 14) are now attending high school in-person. They have split the school attendance in half. Half attend in the morning and the other half (which includes my children) attend in the afternoon. I can tell that they enjoy the in-person schooling over the on-line schooling.

My wife (Heather) is still teaching preschool at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in St. Charles, Mo. They continue to attend school in-person. Immanuel Lutheran Church and School is also where my youngest daughter, Lilly 12 attends. She loves being in-person and being able to see and converse with her friends on a daily basis.

As always, I would like to thank you for your continued support. My family and I are extremely grateful for the cards, financial gifts, and prayers that we have been receiving from you. Our address is listed in the upper righthand corner of this letter. Please feel free to use it to communicate with us. We enjoy receiving cards and letters of encouragement from people. We always enjoy being able to communicate with others. Thank you all again for your support and encouragement. May God Bless you all this Advent and Christmas season and always.

God's Blessings,

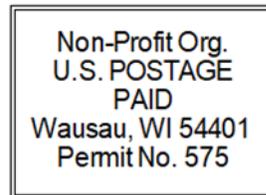


Brian, Heather, Taylor, Matthew, and Lilly Nowak

The MARKINGS

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
600 Stevens Drive
Wausau, WI 54401-2977
715-848-5511

Electronic Service Requested



Find us on Facebook!



We are on the Web!

<http://stmarkswausau.org/>

February MARKINGS Deadline

The deadline to submit articles and announcements for the February edition of the MARKINGS will be **January 26th at noon**. Thank you!

MARKINGS Sponsors

Sponsors are needed for upcoming issues of the MARKINGS. We currently have sponsors for **February and April**. If you would like to reserve a special month, please contact the church office at 715-848-5511. The cost is \$50.00.

OFFICIAL ACTS— December 2020

RECEIVED

Brenda Schmidt (transfer from Bethlehem in Edgar)
Eugene Stahel (transfer from St. John's in Hamburg)
Dave & Barb Patefield (transfer from St. Andrews)
Sid & Leslie Sorenson (transfer from St. Andrews)

DEATHS

Karen Klay (passed 11/29/20)
Marge Goetsch (passed 12/9/20)



2021 Flower Chart is now posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Stop by and sign up for your special day.

JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Cable Channel 980 Worship Times: Tuesday: 11:00 am Wednesday: 6:00 pm Thursday: 7:00 am					1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2
3 CONTEMPORARY 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge	4 8:00 OGT 9:30 Staff Meeting 11:30 Noon Optimists	5 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Quilting	6 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	7 6:30 Autism Society	8 Pastor's Family Day	9 
10 TRADITIONAL 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge	11 8:00 OGT 9:30 Staff Meeting 11:30 Noon Optimists 5:30 Governance Team	12 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 3:00 Trustees	13 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	14	15 Pastor's Family Day	16
17 CONTEMPORARY 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge	18 8:00 OGT 9:30 Staff Meeting 11:30 Noon Optimists	19 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Quilting	20 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	21	22 Pastor Out of Town	23 Pastor Out of Town
24 TRADITIONAL P. Ray Connor 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge	25 8:00 OGT 9:30 Staff Meeting 11:30 Noon Optimists	26 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Quilting 1:00 LWML Ex Board	27 P. Ray Connor 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	28	29 Pastor's Family Day	30
31 TRADITIONAL 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge		Markings Deadline 				

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	READERS	POWERPOINT	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHERS
NO SERVICES TODAY						
<u>January 1st, 2021</u> <i>(Friday)</i>						
<u>January 3rd, 2021</u> <i>Wofers: Ken Bernick</i> <i>Contemporary</i> <i>Wofers: John Woller</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	TBD as requested TBD as requested	Burnell Utrecht Rachel Olson	Jason Grulkowski Nick Schoch Derek Simon	Burnell Utrecht, Dennis Wald Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Group 5 Group 6
<u>January 6th, 2021</u> <i>(Wednesday)</i>	6 p.m.	TBD as requested	None Needed	Covered	Scott Werner	Scott Werner
<u>January 10th, 2021</u> <i>Wofers: Ken Bernick</i> <i>Traditional</i> <i>Wofers: John Woller</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	TBD as requested TBD as requested	Ella Holmes Terri Kankelfitz	Jason Grulkowski Tyler Woller	Ginny Kottke, Ella Holmes Rita Woller, Terri Kankelfitz	Group 5 Group 6
<u>January 13th, 2021</u> <i>(Wednesday)</i>	6 p.m.	TBD as requested	None Needed	Covered	Scott Werner	Scott Werner
<u>January 17th, 2021</u> <i>Wofers: Ken Bernick</i> <i>Contemporary</i> <i>Wofers: John Woller</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	TBD as requested TBD as requested	Carol Calmes Brian Borchardt	Jason Grulkowski Nick Schoch Michael Deedon	Dennis Wald, Sarah Hill Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Group 5 Group 6
<u>January 20th, 2021</u> <i>(Wednesday)</i>	6 p.m.	TBD as requested	None Needed	Covered	Matt/Tammi Vlegut	M/T Vlegut
<u>January 24th, 2021</u> <i>Wofers: Ken Bernick</i> <i>Traditional</i> <i>Wofers: John Woller</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	TBD as requested TBD as requested	Joan Crisman Rev. Eric	Jason Grulkowski Derek Simon	Joan Crisman, Ruth Tritten Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Group 5 Group 6
<u>January 27th, 2021</u> <i>(Wednesday)</i>	6 p.m.	TBD as requested	None Needed	Covered	Scott Werner	Scott Werner
<u>January 31st, 2021</u> <i>Wofers: Ken Bernick</i> <i>Traditional</i> <i>Wofers: John Woller</i>	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	TBD as requested TBD as requested	Rev. Eric Rev. Eric	Jason Grulkowski Michael Deedon	Dennis Wald, Tom Radenz Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Group 5 Group 6

ALTAR GUILD FOR January 2021: TBD--Rachel Olson 10:30

USHERS:

Group #5 – Warren Jacobi-Lead, Sharon Jacobi, Bruce Thurs, Jae Loiz, Ray Melander

Group #6– Rich Klein-Leader, Chris Grosskreutz, Herb Ninnemann

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVED IN JANUARY