



The MARKINGS

December 2021
Volume 50, Issue 12

To the Family of St. Mark's,

The Advent season is upon us as we begin to anticipate and remember the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ from long ago. The Advent of anything is the arrival of any notable person, thing, or event. We are a people caught between the First Advent of Christmas and the Second Advent of Christ's Return. Long ago the Light of the World broke into the darkness that we had created. A Light shined in the darkness, but the darkness did not understand it. It is impossible to imagine what the world would be like now had not God our Father intervened for His people through His Son. It is equally impossible to imagine any lasting hope without Christ coming again in glory. We are a people who look backward and forward to the Advent of Jesus!

We circle back to this story again and again every year to remind us of what we can so sinfully and conveniently neglect...while we were still sinners Christ died for the ungodly. We anticipate the story of Jesus to remind us of His selfless love for us all. Jesus did not have to descend from heaven to be born of woman. Jesus did not have to be like us in every way. Jesus did not have to suffer and die for us. But, Jesus chose to be all of these things for us out of a greater love that exists beyond the boundaries of our imagination. All of this starts with the anticipation of Christmas through the season of Advent.

I personally feel like we have been in a season of anticipation throughout Coronavirus, COVID-19, or any other names that we happen to call this mess we are in. Things are definitely better now as we seem to have a much better grasp of what is going on, and our sensibilities are more even keel. As a society we certainly do not seem to be at the point where we have taken a collective sigh of relief. That is part of the anticipation we have been longing for. We anticipate getting out of this mess. We anticipate life going back to what it once was. We anticipate creating old habits and aspects of life that may have taken a back seat to the environment we are in. Most of all we simply anticipate and long for the way things once were.

These things we anticipate made me realize that we are in a similar situation to the Exiles that returned from Babylonian captivity. The Babylonians swept in and drastically changed life for God's people in 586 B.C. COVID-19 swept in and changed way of life for God's people today. The Babylonians burned the temple to the ground. God's people had their culture and traditions deeply affected, and they no longer could experience life the way they wanted to. On top of that, many of the best and brightest were hauled off into captivity for 70 years, and God's people were left scrambling around for remnants of what once was.

Does any of this sound relatable? Sure, our church was not burned to ground and it is offensive to think we have suffered anywhere close to what God allowed His people to back in that time. Nonetheless, we have been exiled from our own lives in many ways throughout this time of COVID-19, and

This month's issue of the MARKINGS is sponsored by **Brad & Lisa Peck** for God's Blessings.

Thank You

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Wednesday Advent Worship

Plan now to prepare for Christmas in the best way possible...by attending our special Midweek Advent services each Wednesday (December 1, 8, 15, 22) from 6:00 - 6:45 pm (no communion).

Holiday Service Schedules

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

1:00 pm Contemporary / Praise Band

3:00 pm Festive, Choir, Brass , Soloist

5:00 pm Festive Holy Communion Service

Christmas Day: 9:00 am Festival Carol Service with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve: No Services

New Year's Day: No Services



Beginning December 1st

**Each evening, read 1 chapter of
The Book of Luke in the Bible.**

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve, you will have

read the whole account of

Jesus's life and wake up on

Christmas Morning knowing

Who and Why we

Celebrate Christmas.

LWML Christmas Coffee / Tea

December 14th at 1:00 pm

Please join us for as we gather in the Fellowship Hall for snacks, Bingo and fun.
LWML Members please bring cookies or bars to share.





BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Jacque Bailey
Allison Bisgrove
Nicole Prahl | 16 | Alexander Holzem
Becky Hummer
Jon Janz
Mateo Kniess
Dave Patefield
Chad Simon
Matt Viegut | 30 | Marlene Czeshinski
Noel Lange
Kay Pope
Gayle Wald |
| 2 | Nathen Mesalk | 17 | Morgan Larson | 31 | Elaine Holbrook |
| 3 | Renee Krautkramer | 18 | Austin Hursh
Jenny Wiedenhoedt | | |
| 4 | Doug Kratt | 19 | Jeff Barton
Paula Hintz
Rich Klein
Ken Parsch | | |
| 5 | Hudson Voigt | 20 | Troy Plautz | | |
| 6 | Jacob Emon
Justice Gutowski | 21 | Matt Nelson | | |
| 7 | Marisol Naranjo | 22 | Chloe Beam
Brad Behrens
Gavin Svacina
Linda Wix | | |
| 8 | Brian Bielen
Ken Borchardt
Gail Martinez
Trevor Peck
Madison Prochnow
Craig Rezin | 23 | Jonathon Gutowski
Irene Lamont | | |
| 9 | Dawn Bohm
Judy Walters | 24 | Lynn Geier
Karen Giese | | |
| 10 | Michelle Haekenkamp | 25 | Erv Ziegel | | |
| 11 | Claire Heindel
Katherine Sparks | 26 | Claire Laduron
Lydia Shewmake | | |
| 12 | Donna Blaubach
Jerry Czeshinski
Delores Rusch | 27 | Lynn Gabriel | | |
| 13 | Mitchell Leopold
Lisa Peck
Wanda Woehlert | 28 | Clint Smith | | |
| 14 | Dale Krueger | 29 | Brian Borchardt
Mia Hensel
Beth Holzem
Clark Schalow | | |
| 15 | Conner Anklam
Carol Haffemann
Cole Kennedy
Mary Ann Martin
Gordon Zinkowich | | | | |



- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Justin & Sasha Frahm | 12/01/2012 |
| Josh & Jennifer Graf | 12/12/2010 |
| Tom & Tracy Radenz | 12/15/1995 |
| Lee & Fran Belmas | 12/21/1974 |
| Travis & Tracie Wills | 12/27/1996 |
| Gary & Barb Langbecker | 12/28/1974 |
| Wayne & Sandy Flanagan | 12/29/1973 |
| David & Janet Harmon | 12/30/1972 |

November Addition:

Ray & Pat Blaubach 11/30/1957

Pillowcase Dress Workshop

We're getting together for one more pillowcase dress workshop before Christmas, Tuesday, **December 7th, 9:00 - 11:30**, in the Fellowship Hall. Hope you can join us. We need help cutting, ironing, pinning, threading elastic, matching pockets, and sewing. All are welcome! We've finished over 40 dresses already and have soooo many more in process!

Any questions call Sandy Flanagan at 715-842-4204. Hope to see you then!



Christmas Caroling

Caroling, caroling now we go on **Sunday, December 12th** leaving the church parking lot at 1:00pm. We will be going to several of our home bound members. Questions can be directed to Dan Page at 715-921-0404. Everyone welcome - all voices and ages too.

Christmas Music Festival - December 19

To honor God and to celebrate the songs of Advent and Christmas we will have ONE SERVICE at 9:00am that will showcase the children of our Sunday School and Youth, the Praise Band, the Celebration Choir, the Mark's Men and the organ and brass. Come and sing as we magnify the Lord reflecting on Mary's Song-at this festive service. Invite your friends and family. PLUS....after the service a delicious Christmas brunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall. All freewill offerings received at the brunch will go towards a local mission. To God be the glory!

SALVATION ARMY "ANGEL TREE"

As we approach the Christmas Season this year there is a great need for assistance in the community. Once again, the Salvation Army will be supplying us with donation tags for needy families. There will be a designated tree set up for this Mission. Before the tree is in place there will be a basket with tags in the Narthex. Please feel free to take as many as you'd like to fulfill the wishes of the individual during this holiday season. Salvation Army will be picking up the items here at St. Marks or you can drop them off at the downtown location. Gifts should not be wrapped.

GIFTS DUE: December 8th

St. Mark's T-Shirts for Sale

Please visit the following to purchase:

<https://shop.fourseasonsmarathon.com/stmarks>

Many colors and sizes available ~ Will be delivered to church.

All orders due by December 6th!

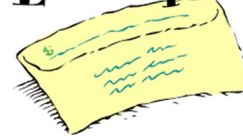
THE MONTH AT A GLANCE 2021	
FINANCIALS	
OCTOBER	
CAME IN	
ENVELOPE/PLATE	\$ 29,170.62
E-GIVING	\$ 11,125.00
BUDGETED MISSIONS	\$ 5,501.00
Other Missions--OUTREACH	\$ 585.00
SPECIAL GIFTS	\$ 3,528.16
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND DONATIONS	\$ 90.04
LOAN	\$ 126.47
CREDIT CARD /CHARLES SCHWAB DONATIONS	\$ -
OTHER (Preschool tuition, room use, etc.)	\$ 2,199.00
TOTAL	\$ 52,325.29

DISBURSED	
COMPENSATION	\$ 23,462.89
BENEFIT INSURANCE	\$ 6,573.95
PROPERTIES	\$ 2,295.29
MISSIONS	\$ 10,686.33
SPECIAL GIFTS - OUT	\$ 5,081.34
OTHER (Office Supplies, Pastoral Subs, Etc.)	\$ 2,295.37
TOTAL	\$ 50,395.17

DIFFERENCE	\$ 1,930.12
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11/2/21 SLR

Offering Envelopes



2022 Offering Envelopes

The envelopes have arrived and will be set out for pick up in about three (3) weeks. Those who are signed up for electronic giving will **not** be receiving envelopes. However, we will provide specialty envelopes (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Lent, Advent, etc.) **if you request them.**

Please call the office and talk to Sharon or Jean if you would like these envelopes.

Continued from front page

like God's people in Babylon we anticipate a return from this exile. That return was not easy for God's people then, and it will not be easy for us today.

God's people had to sacrifice back then. They had to journey back to Jerusalem after Cyrus of Persia conquered Babylon and released the captives. God's people had to reacquaint themselves with customs and habits that they had lost. They had to rebuild the temple and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem that had been destroyed. God's people had to come together in a collective effort to reestablish what once was. It was a joint effort lead by Sheshbazzar, Ezra, Nehemiah, and many others who remain unnamed. Every person had to realize that they played a crucial role in the collective effort of God's people in order to succeed.

This type of effort will be no different for us upon returning from exile. Right now, it feels like we have been allowed to return. It feels like our church is being built up again into what it once was. But, I know we still have A LOT of scattered exiles across the countryside that need to return. It will not be easy. It requires sacrifice and the changing of habits. It requires effort and joining in the effort to rebuild what once was. It takes EVERYONE and any person who calls themselves a Child of God ought to consider how and when they should begin to process. It was necessary for God's people as much then as it is today!

Blessings,

Pastor Eric

Welcome New Members

We are growing! Please see all our new members since March 2020. We have received the following people through baptisms, transfers and reaffirmations.

Barton, Pam
 Berens, Brian & Michelle, Sawyer, Westin & Claire
 Blaubach, Raymond & Patricia
 Bollman, Brad & Julie
 Borchardt, Brian & Sandy
 Calmes, Duane
 Clark, Grace
 Cohen, Judith
 Condo, Judith
 Dailey, Jenny & Claire
 Downing, Diane
 Downing, Kip & Ashley, Ava, Emma, Maya
 Frahm, Justin & Sasha, Hadley, Sawyer, Harlow
 Frank, Gus
 Fuchs, Fred & Pat
 Habeck, Verna
 Hafeman, Char
 Heindel, Harper & Emmett
 Hensel, Tom & Jessica, Thomas, Jr., Elisabeth, Mia
 Herring, Steve & Janet
 Hickman, Katie, Ayden & Lucas
 Hursch, Austin & Rachel, Charlie, Adam
 Jacobson, Jim
 Jennejohn, Henry, Roxanne
 Klein, Abigail & Raphael
 Klein, Jack & Marsha
 Kufahl, Darwin, Debbie, Deric
 Kurth, Alex & Megan, Ruby
 Lemons, Ken & Klockziem, Elaine
 Mabry, Iyla
 Matyas, John & Katie, Nolan, Emmett & Dominic
 Mayer, Jocelyn
 Mielke, Jason & Rebecca
 Ninnemann, Asher
 Patefield, Dave & Barb
 Plautz, Luke
 Radenz, Tracy

Radloff, Doreen
 Redeker, Perry & Ruth
 Saltzmann, Kate
 Schira, James & Jackie
 Schmidt, Brenda
 Schultz, Rev. Gary & Nan
 Sorensen, Sid & Leslie
 Stahl, Eugene
 Steinberg, Marissa
 Voigt, Milia
 Wick, Richard & Sharon
 Young, Judy

New Member Reception

This congregation has been blessed with many new faces. Being that we will be doing a church directory next year, this is the best way to meet them and introduce yourself. We want to recognize all our new members on Sunday, **December 12th** at a reception between the services. Let's extend a warm welcome to our new members by joining together for food and fellowship.



P.E.W. Sisters Bible Study

December 2: we will finish up chapter 8 in Coffee with the Savior.

December 16: Pew Sisters will humbly gather at the home of Kate Saltzmann 2451 Sunbeam Court Kronenwetter from 5 – 6 pm. We will spend a short time together in fellowship to reflect on the Advent of our Savior sipping warm cider. We will also launch our winter donation collection for the Wausau Warming Center located at 540 S 3rd Ave Wausau. The Center provides a hot meal along with a clean, warm, and safe environment for up to 25 adult men and women.

Congregation: Please consider donating the following items: feet/hand warmers, gently used/new adult unisex winter socks, and applesauce cups. Place your donation in the basket in the narthex.

We will start the new year 2022 on January 6 and 20. We will begin New Year with a new study:

Ruth, {More Than a Love Story} It's our story. On the surface, the Book of Ruth tells of tragedy and a new start. But dig a little deeper, and it can teach us how to be more faithful, how to stand firm in our principles, how to trust. When we look closer still, we see the amazing intricacy and literary prowess of God's Word, and its connections make us stop and say, "Wow!"

God, whether or not we see Him explicitly at work, is very active in the lives of Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz. Their story is a wonderful picture of how He watches over every little detail so that His grace may come to fruition and fully abound. Their history is just one link in a long chain of carefully orchestrated individual lives brought together for God to carry out His gracious plan for the redemption of the earth and all mankind.

Here is a verse-by-verse, in-depth study of the Book of Ruth, giving context to the story and explanation of its significance. Included are explanations of key terms and concepts, explanations of pertinent Hebrew words, and Bible study questions and answers. Ruth is about the culmination of God's ever-faithful loving kindness in Jesus. It's about Jesus. It's about Us!

Son-Shine Bible Study

While preparing to celebrate the birth of our Savior, our Son-Shine Bible study group will continue the study-Advent of the Savior. The following is an overview:

December 1st – Waiting and Hoping: Zachariah and the Angel

December 8th – Nothing is Impossible: Mary and the Angel

December 15th - Divine Interruption: Joseph and the Angel

January 5th – Season of Wonder: Jesus' Birth

January 12th – In Search of the King: The Magi Meet Jesus

The series includes scripture references, group discussion questions, and space for personal reflection in the individual study guides. We'll continue to meet in the classrooms, 1:00 – 2:00, on the Wednesdays listed above. We hope you can join us for this study of preparation!

The MARKINGS

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

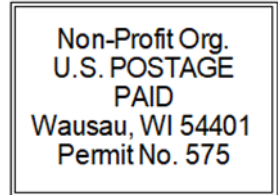
Electronic Service Requested



Find us on Facebook!



We are on the Web!
<http://stmarkswausau.org/>



January MARKINGS Deadline

The deadline to submit articles and announcements for the January edition of the MARKINGS will be **December 27th at noon**. Thank you!

Flower Chart

The 2022 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please sign up to reserve your special day.

OFFICIAL ACTS— November 2021

Received

Jim Jacobson

Deaths / Removed

Adalyne Osterbrink (passed 11/21/21)

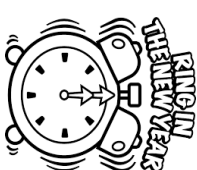
Markings Sponsors

Sponsors are needed for the upcoming issues of the Markings. If you would like to reserve a special date, please contact the church office at 715-848-5511. Cost is \$50.00



The office will closed on Christmas Eve and reopen on December 27th.

DECEMBER 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	December Bible Study Themes: 12/5 – LHM – “The Real St. Nick” One-Session Bible study 12/12 – New Member Sunday and reception in-between 12/19 – One Service & Brunch to follow 12/26 – One Service at 9:00 and NO Bible study						
5 Traditional 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sun School / Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 The Bridge	6 8:00 OGT 11:30 Noon Optimists 1:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class	7 6:00 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Pillowcase Dresses 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class	8 Traditional 1:00 Son-Shine Bible Study 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class 4:15 Advent Supper 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	9 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class 6:00 Celebration Choir	10 Office Closed @ Noon 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class 6:00 99 Questions practice for Confirmands Pastor's Family Day	11	
12 Contemporary New Member Sunday 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 New Member Reception 10:30 Worship 1:00 Christmas Caroling 6:00 The Bridge	13 8:00 OGT 11:30 Noon Optimists 1:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class	14 6:00 MIA Bible Study 1:00 LWML Christmas Party 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class	15 Contemporary 10:45 Preschool Christmas Program 1:00 Son-Shine Bible Study 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class 4:15 Advent Supper 6:00 Worship 6:45 Midweek	16 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class 5:00 P.E.W. Sisters (meet @ Kate's house) 6:00 Celebration Choir 6:45 Marks Men	17 3:30 Drivers Ed. Class Pastor's Family Day	18	
19 Blended 9:00 Christmas Music Festival Worship 10:15 Christmas Brunch 6:00 The Bridge	20 8:00 OGT 11:30 Noon Optimists 1:00 Staff Meeting	21 6:00 MIA Bible Study	22 NO Worship NO Midweek	23	24 Christmas Eve 1 pm Contemporary 3 pm Festival 5 pm Festival / Comm Office Closed	25 Christmas Day 1 Worship at 9 am	
26 Traditional Hymn Sing 9 am Service Pastor Eric Vacation	27 Markings Deadline	28 6:00 MIA Bible Study	29 NO Worship NO Midweek	30 Office Closed @ Noon	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed		

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	READERS	POWERPOINT	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS/CANDLE LIGHTERS	USHERS
December 1, 2021 <i>(Advent Service #1)</i>	6 p.m. <i>Contemp.</i>	James Jacobson	Rev. Eric	Derek Simon	No Communion <i>Candle Lighters: Ushers</i>	Group #9
December 5, 2021	8:00 a.m.	Kris Sparks Katherine Sparks	Linda Jagodinski	Michael Deedon	Tom & Linda Jagodinski <i>Candle Lighters: The Writer Family</i>	Group #5
<i>(Traditional)</i> Wafers: Ken Berndt	10:30 a.m.	Judith Cohen	Rich Klein	Tyler Woller	Rita Woller, Rich Klein <i>Candle Lighters: The Wanish Family</i>	Group #6
December 8, 2021 <i>(Advent Service #2)</i>	6 p.m. <i>Traditional</i>	James Jacobson	Rev. Eric	Derek Simon	No Communion <i>Candle Lighters: Ushers</i>	Group #9
December 12, 2021	8:00 a.m.	Dave & Barb Patefield	Joan Crisman	Nick Schoch	Joan Crisman, Sharon Michalski <i>Candle Lighters: The Houan Family</i>	Group #5
Wafers: Ken Berndt <i>(Contemporary)</i>	10:30 a.m.	Ken Lemons Elaine Klockziem	Steve Herring	Tyler Woller	Rita Woller, Janet Herring <i>Candle Lighters: Shewmake Family</i>	Group #6
December 15, 2021 <i>(Advent Service #3)</i>	6 p.m. <i>Contemp.</i>	James Jacobson	Rev. Eric	Nick Schoch	No Communion <i>Candle Lighters: Ushers</i>	Group #9
December 19, 2021	9:00 a.m.	YOUTH - TBD	YOUTH - TBD	Nick Schoch	No Communion <i>Candle Lighters: Youth TBD</i>	Group #
Wafers: Ken Berndt	<i>(Blended)</i>					5 & 6
December 22, 2021	6 p.m.				NO SERVICES	
December 24, 2021 <i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	1 p.m. <i>(Contemp.)</i>	Gail Martinez	Rev. Eric	Nick Schoch	No Communion	Group #5
	3 p.m. <i>(Festival)</i>	TBD if needed	Rev. Eric	Derek Simon	No communion	Group #6
Wafers: Ken Berndt	5 p.m. <i>(Festival)</i>	Dick & Donna Schroeder	Rev. Eric	Michael Deedon	Rachel Olson, Dick Schroeder	Group #9
December 25, 2021 <i>(Christmas Day)</i>	9 a.m.	Dennis & Gayle Wald	Rev. Eric	Michael Deedon	Rita Woller, Dennis Wald <i>Wafers: John Woller</i>	Group #
December 26, 2021 <i>(Hymn Sing)</i>	9 a.m.	Dave & Barb Patefield	Rev. Eric	Kory Page	No Communion	Group #
December 29, 2021					NO SERVICES	5 & 6
December 31, 2021					NO SERVICES	

NEW YEARS DAY--January 1st, 2022 NO SERVICES

ALTAR GUILD FOR December 2021: Mary Schultz, Gwen Loiz, Sue Berndt

USHERS:

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

Group 6---Rich Klein-Lead, Chris Grosskreutz, Herb Ninnemann, Volunteers

Group 9---Scott Werner-Lead, Henry Jennejohn & Volunteers

****Please note: If anyone has conflicts that arise, please call in to the office so we can get coverage.**

MANY THANKS FOR ALL WHO SERVED THROUGH THE MONTH OF DECEMBER