



The MARKINGS

May 2026
Volume 56, Issue 5

Dear Family of St. Mark's family,

The Quiet Moments of Anticipation

Time marches on, day by day, as the moments come and go
We react, we plan, we prepare, and we hope, but we truly never know

At times, when we look into our past, God gives us the gift of hindsight
In His blessings, then we see in sight that our choices led to His right

By grace, one thing that I have never doubted is following God's call for me
To be a shepherd for God's Church wherever that congregation may happen to be

I've packed up my life, my family, and my wife a few times along the way
It wasn't and isn't always an easy thing, yet God always makes things OK

My Lord over time has made me acquainted with waiting upon His lead
From going to Seminary or coming to Wisconsin, He graciously meets our need

And along this journey, I've found myself in moments of quiet anticipation
I've prayed, I've pondered, and I've dreamed a lot through inward contemplation

I'll be frank with you all that this year I've had, more and more of those passing
moments

Another new pastor, a building, and funding are some pretty serious components

Maybe you yourself have been laboring over these same thoughts just like your
own pastor

Having been down this road a time or two, my advice, lay them before your
Master

The past is God's will having been done and the future is His will to unfold
The present is now what is in front of this church and we are called to be bold

God's Church started with His chosen twelve and now reaches around the world
Men, women, and children from all walks of life experienced His Good News
unfurl

Lives were lost and tears were shed at the cost of fulfilling God's Great Command
Go and make disciples, teach, and obey all across the land

Nothing has changed at all in God's great Church, we still have the same simple
plan

Reaching the Lost and Strengthening the Saved by doing the best we can

So, as we consider all that could be and what God has in store for us for above
For our family of God, for our plans, and our future...I trust and abide in His love

Markings Sponsor

David & Darlene Behrens

*In honor of their
55th wedding anniversary
on April 24th.*

*Thank
You*

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Fall 2025 & Winter 2026 Comfort Quilters Recap

Production: 236 – large / 126 – small = 362 Total

Distribution:

- 70 to OGT in October & January
- 12 to North Shore Hospice
- 25 towards St. Mark's baptism
- 6 to "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" Builds Beds – locally
- 5 to The Neighbor's Place
- 8 Patriotic themed to The High Ground for distribution to Veterans in need
- 2 to local benefit fundraisers
- 13 to 2026 Confirmands



Throughout our quilting season, we've sold several quilts. The remaining quilts will be displayed at the annual quilt sale on May 6 and 10.

Working together as a team, we accomplish much.

Many thanks to Thrivent for the generous grants we've used to purchase batting, thread, and fabric.

We will commence tying quilts on September 1. The quilters are a productive and "close-knit" group. Want to join this worthy cause? Contact Joan Crisman at 715-573-9801.

From the Sewing Room

We have been in conversation with Bethanie St. Louis, the director of the VBS in Haiti, and she again reiterated the positive impact the dresses, shorts, and backpacks have had while sharing the story of Jesus with the children there. Please keep them in your prayers, and we will continue sewing **May 5th and 12th**. There are jobs for everyone including cutting, ironing, pinning, sewing, and putting the cord or elastic into the casings. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00-11:30. We would be 'sew' happy to have you join us!

Son-Shine Bible Study

As our study of Matthew continues, we have gained many new understandings and insights into discipleship, the parables of Jesus, and the mysteries of the kingdom of God. The following is our April schedule as we continue to study this very informative book of the Bible:

- May 6: Session 15 – Matthew 21:1-27 The King Occupies His Capital
- May 13: Session 16 – Matthew 21:28-22:46 The King Silences the Opposition
- May 20: Session 17 – Matthew 23 The King Condemns the Rebels
- May 27: Session 18 – Matthew 24 The Return of the King

We meet in the Youth Room on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 2:30. You are welcome to join us.



Celebrate 80 years of God's blessings for this outdoor ministry in Northern Wisconsin, Saturday, June 6th. (info@campluther.com.) See that's new & improved, in the Retreat Center & Jackie Cottage & The Bear Den. Walk familiar trails, play shuffleboard, enjoy water sports of kayaking & paddleboarding. See long-time friends & meet new people. Praise God for His incredible creation.



St. Mark's Lutheran Preschool "News and Highlights"



A VERY BUSY MONTH! April was another fun and busy month for our preschool students and staff. Our themed units included: the weather, all things colors, space, the farm, the grocery store, eating healthy, grandparents and family, the zoo, and pets and vets. This month's Bible stories included: The Road to Emmaus, The Great Commission, and Jesus' Ascension. Two classes took a field trip to the Grand Theater to see a production of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff". Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences were also held to celebrate our students' growth and accomplishments.

GRANDPARENTS DAYS: We welcomed over 150 grandparents as our special guests during our Grandparents Days on April 22nd and 23rd. We had Chapel, shared some songs and a poem, painted "Jesus Rocks", frosted cookies, played in the Gym Room, showed our guests our classrooms, and visited the Book Fair. Special thanks to Sheri Mayer for making the cut-out cookies for us, to Dorathy Reed and Kris Sparks for helping serve the snack, and to Kiersten Fricke for running the Book Fair.



EC DIRECTORS GATHERING: On Friday, April 24th, Early Childhood Directors from the North Wisconsin District met at St. Mark's. I was happy to give them a tour of our Preschool and to share the strategies and intentional work behind our growth over these last few years.

FAMILY LITERACY EVENT: A fun time was had by all at our "Spring Into Reading" Literacy Event which was held on Saturday, April 25th. The 22 families that attended listened to some great read-aloud stories, participated in book activities with crafts and a scavenger hunt, visited the Marathon County Public Library table, had a healthy snack, and sang a funny ABC song. Special thanks to Mrs. A, Mrs. Kropp, and Mrs. Schrier for sharing their great stories and activities! In all, 72 children and adults attended this event with funds received from the North Wisconsin District Grant that we received.

ENROLLMENT AND STAFFING UPDATE: Our 2-day, 3-day, and 4-day classes are all full with 16 students and waitlists, and our 5-day class has several spots left. Many of our families will be using our Before and After School Childcare options as well.



STAFFING: Due to a few changes with our current staff, we will be hiring two new lead teachers for the 2026-27 school year. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me for specific details.

SUMMER CAMP: Registration is going very well for our upcoming Summer Camps which will take place in June and July. *NOTE: The deadline for the June camps is May 15th. For more information, contact me or check our St. Mark's website.



LAST DAYS OF SCHOOL: May 20th and 21st are our last days of school and Closing Celebrations. Families will join us at 10:45 a.m. for a special program of songs and fingerplays. A light lunch will follow to celebrate our school year! Members of the congregation are invited to join us as well! Please contact me if you will be joining us for lunch.

As always, we thank the congregation for its continued support of our preschool!

Mrs. Cathy Page, Preschool Director
715-848-5511, ext. 5
cpage@stmarkslcms.org

God is Good All the Time!

The Concert Choir, handbells, and Martha Singers of Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota, will perform at **Zion Lutheran Church 709 N Sixth Street**, Wausau on **Tuesday, May 12, at 7:00 PM**. There is no cost for admission; an offering will be received.

Extra Innings - Classic Car and Motorcycle Show

Saturday, May 30, 2026 ~ 10:00am - 4:00pm

Marathon Park, Wausau

Also featuring: A children's petting zoo, face painting, bouncy house, raffles, food, and fun for everyone. This event for adults and children benefit local children, who are cancer patients. ALL monies raised through the raffles and food goes to them and their loved ones to help with their financial situations. (extrainnings-wi.com)



Upcoming Worship Highlights

- **May 3 Confirmation Sunday 10:00am Service** ** note the service time.
- **May 10 Mother's Day Celebration**
 - ⇒ A special service focusing on honoring mothers, grandmother's, mother figures and their sacrifices, strength and nurturing love mirroring how Christ gave everything for us.
- **May 17 New Member Sunday**
- **May 24 Pentecost Sunday**
 - ⇒ Gather together to praise the Lord and celebrate the birth of the church through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
- **May 31 Trinity Sunday**
 - ⇒ Commemorates a reality and doctrine rather than a person or event. The Trinity expresses the heart of our faith.



The Hagar House is hiring! We are looking for an occasional part-time team member who is a faithful follower of Jesus Christ and committed to living a Christ-centered lifestyle. This person would work a minimum of 2 shifts a month - evening, overnight, and weekend shifts are available. If interested, please complete the application on our website thehagarhouse.org, or contact Chris: chris@thehagarhouse.org or 715-298-9994.



Vacation Bible School

Due to the impending building expansion project scheduled to begin this summer, we will **not** be hosting a VBS program at St. Mark's, as the construction plans would eliminate many of our teaching spaces. We look forward to VBS in **summer 2027!**

The Gathering-Children’s Imaginarium

Join us on May 19th for a hands-on tour of the Children’s Imaginarium in downtown Wausau. The Children’s Imaginarium is a place for children to learn, parents to engage and families to connect. A place for everyone. **We will meet at church at 12:30 pm** and carpool over to the children’s museum. Our tour will begin at 1 pm. There will be an opportunity to make a free will donation to help support the Imaginarium.

Following our tour, we will head to Washington Square for refreshments and fellowship.

Picnic at the Pavilion
Wausau Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, May 3, 2026 ~ 4:00- 6:00PM
Rothschild Pavilion

Join us for our annual spring concert and fundraiser at the Rothschild Pavilion!

Free, family-friendly concert with music from both ensembles, food trucks, raffle prizes and more!

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church
600 Stevens Drive
2026 Patchwork quilt sale
Small \$35 / Twin \$45
May 6th: 5:00-6:00 pm
and after 6:00pm service
May 10th: 9:15-10:15 am



Living River Quartet – In Concert

Save the Date



Friday, May 29, 2026
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
 Holiday Inn & Suites at
 Cedar Creek,
 1000 Imperial Dr., Rothschild

Join us for an evening of refreshing contemporary praise, country, oldies, and more! This concert is not just for those who grieve but for everyone who lives with compassion and Hope. We wish to share the power of love and music with all of you. Hosted by Wings-a Grief Education Ministry, a 501c3 non-profit, charitable organization. Free will donations to support Wings programs and events.



For more information, call Nan Zastrow 715.845.4159

Sponsors: Aspirus Health, Inc, Brainard Funeral Homes, Helke Funeral Home, Peterson Kraemer Funeral Homes, Ascend Funeral Home

2026 Confirmands

- ◇ **Westin Berens (Psalm 23:1)** "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."
- ◇ **Kendra Blasky (John 8:12)** "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
- ◇ **Abby Clawson (Exodus 15:2)** "The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him."
- ◇ **Olivia Ebert (Psalm 147:3)** "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."
- ◇ **Cal Hauan (Deuteronomy 3:22)** "You shall not fear them, for it is the LORD your God who fights for you."
- ◇ **Jordan Henrichs (Proverbs 3:5-6)** "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
- ◇ **Alexander Holzem (Psalm 27:1)** "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"
- ◇ **Aiden Kromholz (Revelation 2:10)** "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."
- ◇ **Marisol Naranjo (John 14:27)** "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."
- ◇ **Elizabeth Pulham (Joshua 1:9)** "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."
- ◇ **Olivia Schmidt (Matthew 28:20)** "Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
- ◇ **Isabelle Swanson (Romans 8:18)** "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."
- ◇ **Jaslynn Thurs (Deuteronomy 31:8-9)** "It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed. Then Moses wrote this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel."

ST. MARK'S FAMILY FUN DAY!

Saturday, May 16 from 9am - 12pm

An event for young families of St. Mark's Church and Preschool

Programming is geared toward families with kids 5th grade and under, but ALL are welcome to attend!

Activities include:

- Crafts
- Minnow Races
- Scavenger Hunts
- Life-sized Candyland
- and of course...LUNCH

We hope to see you there!
Please RSVP by emailing Blaine at
bwelch@stmarkslcms.org, call the office
at 715-848-5511, or scan this code.



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/>

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June MARKINGS Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the June MARKINGS will be **May 24th at 10am**. Thank you!

[News from PEW Sisters](#)

Date change for the month of May.

Join us as we begin a study of Esther on **Tuesdays, May 12 and May 26, from 5:00–6:00 p.m.**

Esther was an orphaned Jewish girl, living in exile with her cousin Mordecai. "As we study her journey, you and I will see how the character of Esther imitates the character of Christ."

[CHOSEN A Study of Esther](#), Donna Snow. CPH.org

OFFICIAL ACTS— April 2026

Deaths

Bill Hussong (passed 4/13/226)

Frank Walters (passed 4/5/2026)

Dick Wick (passed 4/1/2026)

I would like to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, messages, hugs, food, and rides since I suffered a stroke on March 6th. Your care and concern are deeply appreciated.

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV)

~ Carol Leopold

MAY 2026

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Cable Channel 980 Worship Times: Tuesday: 11:00 am Wednesday: 6:00 pm Thursday: 7:00 am		NOTE: The church calendar changes frequently. For the most current version, please reference the calendar on the website (www.stmarkswausau.org) under the About Us tab.						
3 8:00 Worship 10:00 Worship (note time) (Confirmation)	4 8:00 OCT 11:30 Noon Optimists	5 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Sewing	6 9:00 set out quilts for sale 1:00 Son Shine Bible Study 5:00 Quilt Sale 6:00 Worship	7 9:00 Genesis II Bible study 5:30 New Member class	8 Pastor & Blaine's Family Day	9 6:00 pm HS Youth Lock In		
10 8:00 Worship 9:15 Bible Study 9:15 Quilt Sale 10:30 Worship	11 8:00 OCT 11:30 Noon Optimists 7:00 Band of Brothers	12 6:30 MIA Bible Study 8:00 Trustees 9:00 Sewing 5:00 PEW Sisters	13 Jean Vacation 1:00 Son Shine Bible Study 6:00 Worship	14 9:00 Genesis II Bible study 5:30 New Member class	15 Pastor & Blaine's Family Day	16 9:00-12:00 Family Fun Day		
<i>Happy Mother's Day</i>								
17 New Member Sunday 8:00 Worship 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	18 8:00 OCT 11:30 Noon Optimists 5:30 Governance Mtg	19 6:30 MIA Bible Study 9:00 Retired Teachers 12:30 The Gathering	20 1:00 Son Shine Bible Study 6:00 Worship 10:45 Closing Celebration & Last Day of Preschool ~3-day & 5-day Classes No regular class in AM	21 Markings Deadline 9:00 Genesis II Bible study 10:45 Closing Celebration & Last Day of Preschool ~2-day & 4-day Classes No regular class in AM	22 Jean Vacation OFFICE CLOSED Blaine's Family Day	23		
24 8:00 Worship 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	25 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	26 6:30 MIA Bible Study 5:00 PEW Sisters	27 1:00 Son Shine Bible Study 6:00 Worship	28 9:00 Genesis II Bible study	29 Pastor & Blaine's Family Day	30 Baby shower in FH		
31 8:00 Worship 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship								

May 2026 - Volunteer Calendar

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	READER	MULTIMEDIA	COMMUNION	Common Cup	USHERS
May 3	8 am	Pam Fromm	Pastor	Nick Schoch	No Communion	No Communion	Group 1
Confirmation	**10:00 am**	Fricke Family	Pastor	Michael Deedon	No Communion	No Communion	Group 2
May 6	6:00 pm	Henry Jennejohn	Pastor	Zach Sargent	No Communion	No Communion	Group 9
May 10	8 am	Jill Tranetzke	Bunnell Urecht	Nick Schoch	Sue Berndt, Janet Herring	Michael Deedon	Group 1
Mother's Day	10:30 am	Katie & Joel Barboza	Brittany Ninnemann	Michael Deedon	Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Warren Jacobi	Group 2
May 13	6 pm	Henry Jennejohn	Pastor	Zach Sargent	Scott Werner	NA	Group 9
May 17	8 am	Ted & Mary Johnson	Kathy Sparks	Jacob Emon	Amy Smet, Kathy Sparks	Brad Peck	Group 1
	10:30 am	Fricke Family	Brittany Ninnemann	Michael Deedon	Rita Woller, Rick Klein	Tom Mueller	Group 2
May 20	6 pm	Henry Jennejohn	Pastor	Nick Schoch	Scott Werner	NA	Group 9
May 24	8 am	Kurt & Carla Haebig	Pastor	Derek Emon	Sue Berndt, Carrie Emon	Michael Tatman	Group 1
Pentecost	10:30 am	Caitlin Chlar	Pastor	Michael Deedon	Rita Woller, Rachel Olson	Lee Belmas	Group 2
May 27	6 pm	Henry Jennejohn	Pastor	Kyle & Brandon Uttech	Scott Werner	NA	Group 9
May 31	8:00 am	Welch Family	Joan Crisman	Jacob Emon	Kim & Bob Christensen	Dan Barton	Group 1
	10:30am	Katie & Joel Barboza	Rachel Olson	Michael Deedon	Rachel Olson,	Brian Borchardt	Group 2
					Wafers: Pastor, Rick Klein		

ALTAR GUILD: Joy Schilling, Lisa Peck

USHERS:

Group 1 - Ken Berndt - Lead, Kevin Schroeder, Todd Hass, Michael Deedon

Group 2 - Tyler Woller - Lead, Roger Block, Brad Peck, Jim Wilkerson

Group 9 - Henry Jennejohn - Lead, Scott Werner, Mike Henrichs