

SAINT MARK'S EPISTLE

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor's Ponderings

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Respected theologian Henri Nouwen, a
Catholic priest and psychologist once observed,

"Patience is a hard discipline."

For our folks at St. Mark's, I know sometimes we wonder, "When will we be back worshipping in our own building?" and "When will things get back to normal?" The holidays are approaching and there are so many traditions and family get-togethers that have always been celebrated with our church family in our building.

These thoughts don't take away from the comfort and joy we have found worshipping with our sister congregation, St. Peter's. But it is human to long for assurance in the familiar. Nouwen went on,

"It is not just waiting until something happens over which we have no control: the arrival of the bus, the end of the rain, the return of a friend, the resolution of a conflict. Patience is not a waiting passivity until someone else does something. Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest, to be completely present to the moment, to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later and somewhere else. Let's be patient and trust that the treasure we look for is hidden in the ground on which we stand."

God has shown us time and again throughout this journey, he has our backs. He prepared a place for us with St. Pete's. The church was covered by sufficient insurance. The community has surrounded us with support and we have leadership that has been committed to making sure everything is done right.

We don't know if we will be in the building by our hoped for date, there are too many variables at the moment, but considering all God has done and is doing to restore St. Mark's building, I hope you can see that we have been gifted the present. We haven't had a greater opportunity to influence the direction of the ministry of St. Mark's or our call than we did at the beginning or we do right now.

We will almost certainly be back at St. Mark's by the end of the year and if everything goes perfectly, by Thanksgiving. Perfectly, being the key word. We ask your continued patience, because only God knows the timetable for certain. In the meantime, St. Mark's is alive and well in us. We are still the same church today as we will be on some date in the future. *Amen? Amen!* **Pr. Karen**

“Portrait of a Biblical Giver” Part 1

Thank you for taking the time to read my articles and hopefully finding something in them that will help you grow in your stewardship faith walk. A walk that will bring you closer to God. This month's discussion covers more information than can be disseminated in just one article so I'll be breaking it down into 2 Parts over two newsletter articles.

In this article we are going to cover generosity but also other characteristics of a biblical giver. There are six: INTENTIONAL, REGULAR, GENEROUS, FIRST, PROPORTIONAL, and CHEERFUL. We will cover the first three in this article.

INTENTIONAL: Being intentional in one's giving means to develop a plan for your giving and following through. Our experience with our former church that we were members of, encouraged us to sign a pledge card to indicated what we planned to contribute on a weekly basis for that year. We began small at first but over the years increased our giving intending to someday Tithe. Sounds scary but by growing incrementally as our income increased we found joy and a growing faith in our Lord. We found that we also had a growing responsibility to the wellbeing of our congregation. Pledge cards are not encouraged at St. Marks but we should always be intentional in our giving through the year. Paul writes: 2nd Corinthians 9:6-7, “One who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully.”

REGULAR: A regular pattern of giving is closely related to intentionality. Perhaps you've developed a plan to give at some level and now it's important to follow your plan. Paul writes in 1st Corinthians 16:2 “On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn so that collections need not be taken when I come.” Paul's prescribed regular pattern for giving is, each week.

GENEROUS: Paul writes in 2nd Corinthians 9:8. “And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” God's incredible generosity is the basis for any call for generous giving on the part of God's people. We can't out give God. As Christians, one of our key faith statements must be that we will always have enough, because God provides us with all we need. God has blessed us so generously, we can, and must, give generously to others, especially those in need.

In His Service on behalf of the Stewardship committee.
Gene Kai

Thank You!

Thank you Saint Mark's
Church for the gift that I will
use while in college.
Jacob Bruns

PLEASE NOTE

We will be updating methods of communicating to reach more
people effectively. As we plan for the future, we want to do our
best to help you feel you can access information and worship
opportunities in a medium you use. Stay tuned!

WORDS OF THANKS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Greeting cards are offered by St. Peter's Church. There are boxes of SYMPATHY, GET WELL, BIRTHDAY, and THINKING OF YOU cards for \$5.00 per box. Make checks out to "St. Mark's Lutheran Church". If there are any questions, contact Janice Smith at (402) 385-2361.



Sunday School Kids:

Our Christmas program practices have begun. Our program will be on December 11th during the church service.



The Worship and Music Committee will meet on Wednesday November 2nd at 5pm.
Council Meeting on Wednesday November 9th @ 7pm

St Peter's is hosting a Fall Harvest Potato Bake dinner on Sunday November 13th, immediately following the 10:30 am church service. Enjoy all the toppings for your baked potato and finish with ice cream and dessert! Free will donation accepted.

*Just come and join
the fellowship!*



THANKSGIVING SERVICE



**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE, WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 23rd @ 7:00PM
COFFEE AND TREATS WILL BE SERVED
FOLLOWING THE CHURCH SERVICE.
Place will be announced**

Treasurer's Report for the Month of Sept. 2022

GENERAL FUND

Balance on hand 08/30/2022	\$	171,810.61
Income	\$	11,111.70
Total	\$	182,922.31
Expenses	\$	(13,334.76)
Balance on hand 9/30/2022	\$	169,587.55

TOTAL BALANCE OF GENERAL \$169,587.55



St. Mark's Soup Dinner – December 11th, 2021

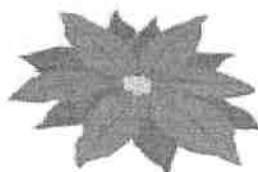
Our soup dinner will be held on Sunday, December 11th. Chicken noodle, chili and vegetable beef will be served along with desserts. Details of time and place will be announced and will also be on December's calendar.

Please be prepared to sign up for the soup ingredients when we have the list available.

Thank you, St. Mark's Church Council

POINSETTIAS

Would you like to share a poinsettia with the church for the Christmas Holidays? This year you may order through church by December 5th. **The price is \$16.00, make your check payable to St. Mark's.** Fill out the enclosed order form and bring it and a check to church or bring it to the office or mail if you would like. The orders will be given to Puckett's and they will deliver them with your name attached. You may still bring your own if you desire. Poinsettias may be picked up following the Christmas Eve service or any day following. Order forms will also be available at church.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS (red only)

I would like to order _____ plants at \$16.00 each

In Memory of _____

or In Honor of _____

From (your name) _____

Phone _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (check _____ cash _____)

Checks payable to "St. Mark's Lutheran Church"
Orders & Payment due by Dec. 5th

ROLL OF SAINTS

We remember and give thanks to God for the lives of those members of our St. Mark's family who have passed on between All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2021 until today:

Leroy Evans, Patty Simonsen, Dorothy Urbanec, Merlyn Smith, L.G. Norman, Marcus Brown, Sheila Larson, Adam Oberg, Ted VonSeggern, Esther Thomsen, Fawn Smith and Ida Pilger.

ROLL OF BAPTISMS

We celebrate these St. Mark's Baptisms between All Saint's Sunday, November 1, 2021 until today:

Ellie Doht, Wilson Lund, McKenzie Lund, Brynlee Gathje, Jack Robertson, Brittany Tott, Claire Gutzmann, Amy Janke & Madeline Kaser.



During the month of November our church has been asked to collect the following items for the food pantry:

Laundry Detergent

Men's Deodorant

Toothbrushes

Women's Deodorant

Toothpaste



*Congratulations to
Our 3rd graders receiving their Bibles*

Devaney Hansen

Ramsey Hansen

Colby Dregalla

Not pictured:

Jack Robertson

Weston Miller

Cameron Buderus

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
302 S. Norris Avenue
P.O. Box 580
Pender, NE 68047

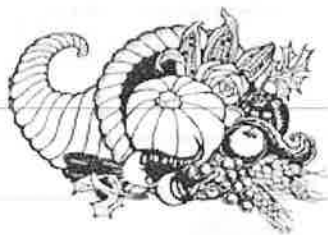
US POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT # 12

PENDER NE 68047

Forwarding Service Requested

To this believer in God's love:



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Nov. 1 ~ Shawn Doht
Sheri Fillipi
Rylee Lehmkuhl

Nov. 2 ~ Boyd Hightree
Trista Hansen
Candice Jewell

Nov. 3 ~ Agnes Habrock
Marcelene Tonjes

Nov. 4 ~
Tony & Mackenzie Smith

Nov. 6 ~ Austin Heineman
Derwin Roberts

Nov. 7 ~ Paige Swanson
Chase O'Mara

Nov. 8 ~ Nancy Johnson
Doug & Susi Schrieber

Nov. 9 ~ Phyllis Thomsen

Nov. 10 ~ Harold Janke
William Reppert

Nov. 11 ~ Gene Case
Lorna Wingett

Nov. 12 ~ Reece Heineman

Nov. 13 ~ Jennifer Tyrrell
Amanda VonSeggern

Nov. 14 ~ Scott Ostrand

Nov. 15 ~ Roy Kai
Breanna Schmeckpeper

Nov. 17 ~ Justice Sorenson

Nov. 18 ~ David Johnson
Carolyn VonSeggern

Nov. 19 ~ Susi Schrieber
Joanne VonSeggern

Nov. 20 Rink Hansen

Nov. 21 ~ *Steve & Mary Meyer*
Paul & Diane Randall



Nov. 22 ~ Don Heineman
Bailey Leonard
Paul Randall

Nov. 23 ~ Alyssa Geisert

Nov. 24 ~ Norma Hightree

Robert & Susan Urbanec

Nov. 25 ~ Quinn Gutzmann

Grant Lander
Ramsey Hansen

Steve & Jeanne Hansen

Nov. 26 ~ Skyler Prokop
Brett Tyrrell

Nov. 27 ~ Trevor Janke

Nov. 28 ~ Kim Urbanec
Matt Dregalla

Nov. 29 ~ Kooper Schrunk
Trevin Baier

Nov. 30 ~ Joslynn Jewell
Hoss & Jennifer Hammond