

# SAINT MARK'S EPISTLE

## St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pender, NE 68047

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Church Office: 402-385-3340

Pastor Karen McNeill-Utech

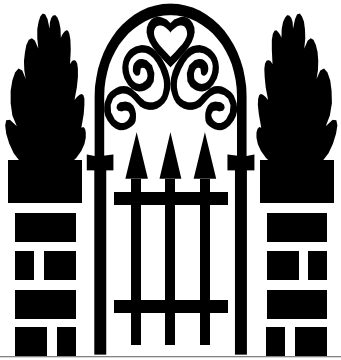
Cell Phone: (402) 385-8825

Council President : Jaima Geisert

Church Secretary: Jane Tonjes

Cell Phone: (402) 922-3946

June & July 2025



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ST. MARK'S  
WORSHIP  
SERVICES  
ARE AIRED ON  
Facebook and  
CHANNEL 98  
@ 12:00 PM

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## Pastor's Ponderings

*No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your*

*good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

Matthew 5:15-16.

### Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we travel through the weeks of Easter and beyond, we travel with the risen Christ, the light in our darkness, the true light that came into the world.

This verse speaks to the heart of discipleship. Walking in the light of Jesus necessarily means we reflect his light to all we encounter on his way. A story goes— "A little boy once heard his Sunday School teacher say Jesus was the light of the world. He took her remark quite literally. After class, the boy said to his teacher, "If Jesus really is the light of the world, I wish He'd come hang out in my alley. It's awfully dark where I live."

Truth is, no matter how nice our neighborhoods are, it can be "awful dark" in all of them. Being disciples, students and followers, we are called on to reflect the light we have received in our baptisms, the meal, the Word, beyond the walls of the building and even within them.

The motto of the ELCA is "Gods' work, our hands." The work of Christ is meant to illumine the dark places of the world, not meant to stay under a bushel—or even in a building.

As we enter the summer months filled with activities and vacations, don't let the flame die back. Come to church here or wherever to bask for a little while in his light so that your light continues to shine while you are away. There is an awful lot of darkness out there even in broad daylight.

Your sister in Christ, *Pastor Karen*

### June Service Changes

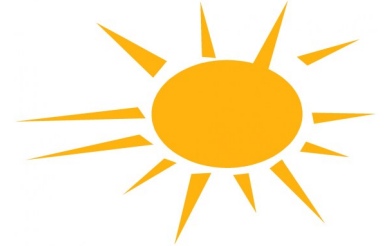
**June 22nd**—The service will be at St. Peter's.

**June 29th** - The community worship service to be held at the Community Center as part of the Alumni Weekend Festivities.

### **Treasures Report for April 2024**

#### GENERAL FUND

Balance on hand 4/1/25	\$	51,912.08
Income	\$	21,893.04
Expenses	\$	-16,149.49
<b>Balance on hand 04/30/225</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>57,655.63</b>



**THANK YOU** to Derwin Roberts for leading our worship service on May 18th!! We appreciate you filling in for Pastor while she was on vacation.

Thank you to the volunteers who keep our cemetery mowed and looking nice.

Reminder— any decorations that are in the path of mowing or weeding, need to be removed by June 9th.

### **Congratulations Graduates!**

We were delighted to celebrate the graduation of these four members of the church with coffee and donuts before the service on Sunday, May 4th :

Alexis Ferris    Anastin Geisert    Trent Hansen    Logan Harral

Thank you to all the who helped with preparation for this special day.

*May God's blessings go with you!*



We welcome Nelly Dee Moeller into the St. Peter's congregation, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on June 1st. Her parents are Ryan and Mandy Moeller.

God's Blessings to the Moeller family!

The quilters are in need of cotton sheets for the backing for our quilting projects. If you are spring cleaning your linen closets and have some to share, please bring them to church or contact Connie Schnier (712-253-9331) or Nancy Suhr (402-922-0592). All sized are needed, fitted and flat sheets. We greatly appreciate our church members for supporting this project.

Best Regards—  
St. Marks and St. Peter's Quilters



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!** Please consider serving on St. Mark's altar committee. Duties include setting up for communion, changing banners and filling the oil candles. Minimal time is required for 3—4 Sundays a month. You would always be working with another volunteer or myself and we are very flexible. I would try to accommodate any month that would work best for you. Please contact me if you would be willing to help out or if you have any questions .

Nancy Suhr, Altar Committee Chairperson

402-922-0592



**ATTENTION ALL MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS**

*If you would like to provide special music for a summer service, please contact Jane Tonjes or Nancy Beckman.*

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



June 1 **Matt and Connie Felber**

June 2: Andy Duffy  
Scott Smith

***Scott and Carol Evans***

***Andy and Candice Welsh***

June 4: Verdel Habrock  
Mark Lander

June 6: Tianna Hansen  
**Blake and Carissa Hansen**

June 7: Melissa Hansen  
**Roger and Deb Leonard**

June 9: Isabelle Felber

June 10: Lois Lueders  
Kylie Knutsen  
Zoey Lehmkuhl

June 11: Charlene Dunn

June 14: Steve Hansen  
Chris Lander

June 15: Laurel Felber

June 17: Bob Beckman  
Kobe Frey

June 18: Pete Bolln

June 19: Mike Beutler  
Courtney Frey

June 20: Jamie Johnson  
Deklan Fillipi

**Kirk and Peggy Nelson**

June 21 **Adam and Brandy Rutar**

June 22:  
Harlan Gathje  
Grayson Rutar

June 23: Bonnie Prokop

June 24: Jill Smith

June 25: Madalyn Meyer

June 26: Leighton, Loudyn,  
and Brody Case

June 27: Jeff Meyer  
Corbin Lamplot

June 28: Tom Ballard  
Cindy Wills

June 29: Mike Hallstrom  
Brent Leonard

June 30: Scott Evans

# JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

July 1 Tatum Hegge  
 July 3 Lydia Felber  
 Cory Meyer  
 July 4 Donna Smith  
 Devaney Hansen  
 July 8 Jill Anderson  
 Christine Dregalla

**Larry and Janice Smith**

July 9

**Scott and Tara Pfeiffer**

July 10

Eric Beckman  
 Gail Brondum  
 Sydney Heineman  
 Dyllon Lamprecht

**Greg and Robin Christiansen**

**Bruce and Kay Meierdierks**

**Phil and Sara Sorensen**

July 11 Matt Bruns  
**Verdel and Aggie Habrock**  
 July 12 Brook Schmeckpeper  
**Todd & Joanne VonSeggern**  
 July 13 Claire Felber  
 July 15 Dawn Kubik

**Tony and Paula Nelson**

July 17 Michael Lander  
 July 18 Kamryn Anderson  
 Riley Prokop  
 July 19 Joslyn Elrod  
July 2 Eleanor Webster  
July 2 Tinsley Sorensen  
July 24 Matt Heineman

**Larry and Barb Wingett**

July 26 Melissa Roeber  
 Larry Smith  
 July 27 Gayle Dahlman  
 July 28 Michelle Evans  
 Grant Geisert  
 Connor Heise  
 Mike Tyrrell

**Doug and Terri Johnson**

July 30 Kolin Schrunck

**Scott and Jaime Ostrand**

July 31 Colin Zvacek

**David and Nancy Johnson**

