

# SAINT MARK'S EPISTLE

## St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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JANUARY 2026

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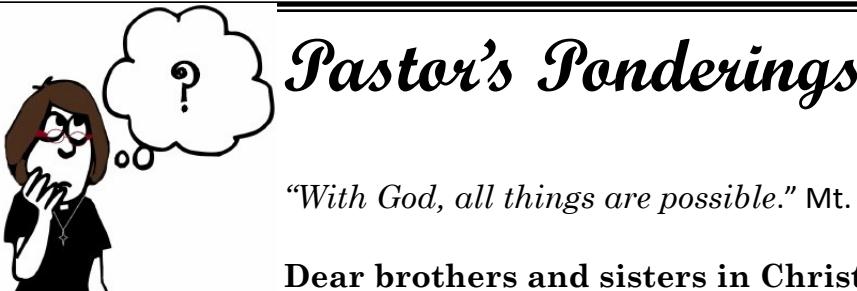
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*"With God, all things are possible." Mt. 19:26*

**Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,**

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, many of us feel the weight of uncertainty. The world around us seems loud with predictions, anxieties, and opinions. Headlines shift, circumstances change, and it can feel as though forces beyond our control are shaping our future.

But Jesus speaks a better word.

In Matthew 19:26, He reminds us, *"With God, all things are possible."* Not some things. Not only the easy things. **All things.** This is not wishful thinking or spiritual optimism — it is the bedrock truth of the Kingdom of God.

The world does not have the final say. Fear does not have the final say. Circumstances do not have the final say. God does. And the God who holds the future is the same God who has carried us this far.

As we enter this new year, we do so not as isolated individuals trying to survive whatever comes next, but as a people united in Christ. When we follow Him together — when we pray together, serve together, and trust together — we discover that challenges become opportunities, obstacles become testimonies, and uncertainty becomes the very place where God's power is revealed.

This year will bring its share of trials, but it will also bring moments of grace we could never have imagined. It will bring open doors, renewed callings, and fresh ways for our church to shine the light of Christ in our community. Not because we are strong, but because **He is faithful.**

So let's step into the coming year with courage. Let's expect God to move in ways that surprise us. Let us commit ourselves to Christ and to one another, trusting that the One who makes all things possible will make this year fruitful for His glory.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He fill your heart with hope. And may His power be made perfect in our weakness, today and always. Blessed New Year everybody. In Christ's love and strength, **Pr. Karen**



**ANNUAL MEETING**

St. Mark's Annual meeting will be held on Sunday **January 11th @ 11:00am** following church.  
 \*\*\*\*\* Please submit your reports and yearly statements to the office, as soon as possible , so they can be audited and printed.



**Thank you to Rhonda Heise for preparing the delicious soups, and for everyone who helped with the dinner, quilt auction and bazaar. With your support \$ 1170.00 was raised to support our quilting projects and \$598.00 for our Sunday School.**

**GENERAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$ 25,925.05
Income	\$ 17,633.74
Expenses	\$ 19,175.94
Balance 11/30/25	\$ 24,382.85

**The St. Mark's Quilting Group would like to say thank you to all of you for supporting us by contributing to the quilt raffle and silent auction. We use these monies to purchase fabric, batting and backing for the 105 Lutheran World Relief quilts we contributed and for 8 donated to Community Cares of Pender. Each quilt costs app. \$20.00 to create with wholesale fabrics, batting and donated or purchased sheets for the backing. Again, we sincerely thank you for your support of this mission!**

*With extend our heartfelt thanks to the family of Phyllis Thomsen for their donation of the nativity stable, and to Keith and Jane Thomsen for donating the beautiful nativity set to St. Mark's. And thank you Chris and Grant Lander for helping to transport and set it up. This nativity reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas and will be a blessing for many seasons to come.*

Our St. Mark's family offer our deepest condolences to the loved ones of Karen Dahlman and Judy Chaney whose services were at St. Mark's in December.

**JANUARY ACOLYTES AND READERS**

**Jan 4— Devaney Hansen**  
**Jan 11— Weston Wallin**  
**Jan 18— Dyllon Fillipi**  
**Jan 25th— St. Peter's**

**HS TECH STUDENT**

**Jan 4— Kaddo Schrunk**  
**Jan 11— Addi Johnson**  
**Jan 18— Farris Swinton**

January 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00 am—St. Mark's Worship	Pastor's Day Off	Epiphany Clergy Text Study	5pm St. Peter's Council			
Facebook Service						
11 Baptism of our Lord	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 am Sunday School	Pastor's Day Off	Clergy Text Study	Quitting 10:30 am Prairie Breeze Service			
10:00 AM—St. Mark's Worship w/ Choir			2:30 Confirmation			
11:00 am ANNUAL MEETING						
Facebook Service						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 am Sunday School	Pastor's Day Off	Clergy Text Study	2:30 Confirmation			
10:00 am—St. Mark's Worship	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE					
11:00 am—Worship & Music Meeting						
Facebook Service						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 am Sunday School (@ St Mark's)	Pastor's Day Off	Clergy Text Study	Quitting 2:30 Confirmation			
St. Peter's annual meeting and pancake breakfast						
10:00 am—St. Peter's Worship						

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

**Forwarding Service Requested**

To this believer in God's love:



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 1: **Matt & Jamie Torczon**  
Jan 4: Doug Johnson  
**Lee & Jane Tonjes**  
Jan 5: Mercede Roberts  
Jan 6: Kerrie Renter  
Jan 7: Alan Doht  
Todd VonSeggern  
Jan 9: Marty Prokop  
Bennett Lamplot

Jan 12: Travis Dunn  
Rodney Zvacek  
Jan 13 Karen Hamm  
Carla Urbanec  
Jan 15: **Bob & Nancy Beckman**  
Jan 17: Matthew Dolezal  
Jan 19: **Harlan & Judy Gathje**  
Jan 21: Christy Glissman

Jan 23: Lorraine Lander  
**William & Lisa Reppert**  
Jan 24: Mandy Johnson  
Jan 25: Lincoln Johnson  
Jan 27: Mikki Schellpeper  
Jan 29: Sarah Sebade  
Jan 30: Gene Kai  
Jan 31: Michelle Hallstrom

