



Founded on the Word ... Focused on the Cross

Glorify God, Grow in Grace, Go with the Gospel

St. Mark's Lutheran Weekly Newsletter

November 17, 2024

Spend A Moment With God

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory" Colossians 3. *This is who you are by the grace of God; continue feeding your mind and heart on Christ.*

Glorify & Grow: Sunday November 17

8:00* & 10:45 Worship (*live streamed)

9:15 Sunday School (meet in Chapel)

9:30 Bible Discussion for All Ages

Monday Worship Nov 18 at 6:30 pm (Chapel)

This is the last Monday Service of 2024

Thank you everyone for being a Greeter!

Scripture Readings for November 24

Isaiah 51:4-6

Jude 20-25

Mark 13:26-37

From God's Yellow Pages

Spiritual guidance direct from God – let your fingers do the walking through the Bible ...

This Week – Holiness ... 1 Peter 1:13-16

Growing in Grace Opportunities

Sunday Bible Study ... Main Area

We continue to build off the Reformation and End Time themes of the Church Year: The Book of Daniel. Daniel provides a historical account of events from the Babylonian captivity, a period of about 70 years during which a portion of the Jewish nation lived against their will in a pagan culture. The first part of the Book shows how a faithful Jew, Daniel, was a great example

to God's people both then and now. He remained faithful to the God of his fathers even while serving in the royal court of heathen kings.

The second part of Daniel is about the miraculous revelations God gave to Daniel. These were a preview of the world's future and how the future would affect God's chosen people. Though the Book of Daniel is in the Old Testament, it has been compared to the last book of the New Testament, the Revelation of St. John. It is our goal that this Bible Study will help us learn wonderful things about God's hand of control in history and His preservation of His people and the Gospel during difficult times.

Teens in the Upper Gathering Space – Or, more than welcome to join in on the discussion topic of Daniel.

Children (start in the Chapel Room at 9:15) – Everyone is welcome to sing along with them for the first 15 minutes.

Prayer Warriors

"Christians, while on earth abiding, let us never cease to pray... (CW 408). Give us caring hearts, O Lord, to love and seek the lost. Overcome our fears, and grant us courage to share our hope of salvation with those who have no hope. Make us faithful in our daily life so that all we say and do may glorify you.

Church & School Call News ...

Just a reminder about what is meant by the term 'Call.' A Call recognizes the role God has in providing people to serve the church in what is called the 'public ministry' --- that is one acting on behalf of another, in this case, the church.

The Call emphasizes the partnership between the Pastor/Teacher/Staff Minister (Called Workers) and the congregation. The Call is different from a 'hire' process for the Ministry Position looking to be filled. Called Workers do not seek out places to serve; rather the 'Call' comes to them from a Body of Believers (church-school). The Called Worker does not go through interviews for the Position looking to be filled. The congregation trusts the Lord will provide the Called Worker they need for that time in their existence as a congregation; and so, at a Call Meeting when a List of potential names (people) are given to the congregation to call, with prayer and after some discussion, the congregation extends a Call to one of those names on the List. *Jodi Rowe, our Grade 3-4 Teacher, was extended a Call from Risen Savior in Pooler, GA; after prayerful consideration and conversations with people from St. Mark's and from Risen Savior, she has decided to accept the Call to Pooler, GA. Jodi will remain our Teacher through the 2024-25 School Year. We are thankful for her service to our church and school which began in the summer of 2022; we are also thankful for Cameron's involvement at our church and school, helping with events and doing plenty of behind-the-scenes efforts.* The Board of Child Discipleship will be bringing recommendations before the congregation on how we may want to proceed.

Pastor Kolander has received a Call to serve at Victory Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, FL. Over the next couple of weeks, PK will be speaking with members from here and from there to determine what the ministry needs are and where then best to continue serving the Lord and His people. Thank you for your prayers.

Making Connections --- Opportunities
Prime Timers on the move ... Last Sunday's Lunch and Entertainment was a great restart to what had always been an active group until you know what happened a few years ago. Going

forward, there are multiple Connect Events (not just for the Prime Timers) taking place on Campus including the River City Chorale Concert, Community Quilters, our own Live Nativity, and more to close out 2024. Then in January of 2025 we have our annual Member Brunch in-between Sunday Services on the 12th, followed by another Prime Timers Event toward the end of the month (White Elephant Christmas Gift Exchange). Thank you also to our Prime Timers for taking the first Advent Supper on December 4.

River City Chorale Concert ... The River City Chorale will be at St. Mark's on December 6 at 7:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased by going to RiverCityChorale.org (go to the link "Tickets") or at the door the day of the Concert.

Live Nativity ... December 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Need Volunteers, and we would like 'you' to adopt an animal for the various Stations which talk about our Savior's birth and purpose on earth. See the Whiteboard in the Lobby for ways to support this great opportunity to connect with our community as we look to share CHRISTmas with them. *Take an Invite and pass it on to a neighbor or friend or stranger...*

Directory Picture Updates ... From November 4 - 17, we will be taking pictures of any members who would like a new or updated picture for the directory. Pictures will be taken by the east-side stairs. ***If you are interested in having your picture taken, sign up using the sign-up sheet in the back of the church.*** Half-hour time slots are available during days and some evenings. If you have any questions, please call the office, or talk to Erin Donoho or Cheryl Skultety.

LWMS Corner – Missions & You ...
Still time to order 2025 Prayer Calendars --- the deadline has been extended to December 1. Check out the beautiful informative calendars on the LWMS shelf in the Lobby. Sign on the sheet provided if you would like one for yourself

and more as gifts. The calendars are \$12.00 each plus postage. You can pay 'Clara Jackson' when they arrive.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church of Williamsburg, IA has sent us a list of items to purchase for personal and congregational use. Items to order are (1.) Lutheran Christmas seals, Right to Life Seals and Blue Generic Seals. Each sheet contains 32 seals. Price per sheet is \$.37.

(2.) Packages of hymn cards and cross word puzzle books: Hymn cards, 12, are \$3.50 per package. Crossword puzzle books, 12, range from \$2.75 to \$6.05.

Complete information on items, costs, and ordering is on the LWMS shelf.

Ministry Financial Plan Update

Offerings received since July 1, 2024: \$231,524
Goal for July 2024–December 2024: \$287,500

Don't Forget About Scrip

With Christmas shopping on the minds of many, and if you are looking for gift cards to share, consider buying the cards through our Scrip program. At no added cost or deduction from the card value, our St. Mark's Tuition Assistance Fund benefits from such purchases of Scrip. For a list of Vendors included in the Scrip program, contact Erin or Stacie in our office. On the 2nd Sunday of the month we have Scrip 'gift' cards available in our Lobby.

Veteran's Day Ammo Can Campaign ... \$491.00 was given out of appreciation. Thank you for your generosity in support of this ministry and mission.

Dates/Events to keep in mind at St. Mark's ...

Nov 27 (Wed) – Thanksgiving Worship, 6:30 pm
Dec 4 – Advent midweek Supper, 5:30 pm (MPC)
Dec 4 – 1st midweek Advent Service, 6:30 pm
Dec 6 – River City Chorale Concert, 7:30 pm
Dec 7 – Live Nativity, 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Dec 15 – 10:45 am School Christmas Service
Jan 12 – All Member Brunch (welcome our new Members)
Jan 24-26 – Women's Retreat

A Friendly Planning Reminder ... The California International Marathon is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 8. Please plan your drive to Worship Services that day accordingly, in particular for those south of Oak Ave and east of Fair Oaks Blvd. Typically Greenback closes at 6:55 and Madison at 7:15.

Something To Think About

"A legacy is more than what you leave behind when you die; it is also what you give as you live."



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