

God's Work, Our Hands



"I am the vine, you are the branches." John 15:5

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
27 South Edgelawn Drive
Aurora, Illinois 60506



Phone: 630-897-6891
www.stmarksaurora.net
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



September 15-16, 2018

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sharing Christ's Abundant Love
with Each Other and the World



"Compassion on Tap": LSSI fundraiser

Two Brothers Roundhouse
Tuesday, Sept 18, 7-9 p.m.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is holding a "Compassion on Tap" evening at the Two Brothers Roundhouse (205 N Broadway, Aurora). The focus is on LSSI's efforts to help people in our community who are living with mental illness. \$35 admission includes a generous variety of Two Brothers artisan beer and food. All proceeds from the evening will benefit LSSI's newly launched Mobile Crisis Team program.

Tickets: liss.org **More information:** Tryg.jensen@lssi.org, 847-645-4586



McCleery Fall Festival

Saturday, Sept 22, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 22nd, people from St. Mark's will be joining parents, students, teachers, and staff at McCleery Elementary School (1101 Illinois Ave, Aurora) for their annual Fall Festival. This Festival is meant to kick-off the school year and help the community build stronger relationships with the school. That day, we will help by volunteering to run games, face painting and serving snacks. If you're interested in participating, contact Sarah Anderson (sallenanderson1980@gmail.com).



Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry

Monday, Sept 24, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

We are looking for people willing to give an hour of their time once a month to help give back and make a difference in our community. Aurora Interfaith needs volunteers on the **fourth Monday of every month** from 3:00-4:15 p.m. to help stock shelves. We, at St. Mark's, believe we can help. Our first volunteer date is Monday, September 24. If you are interested, contact Pr. Patrick (pfish@stmarksaurora.net).



Habitat for Humanity FaithBuild

Saturday, Sept 29, 8:00-4:00 p.m.

We are looking for volunteers from St. Mark's to help build a home through Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity. This year, St. Mark's is a partner congregation for the 2018 FaithBuild home on 1553 Solfisburg in Aurora. This home is built and funded entirely by local congregations. September 29 is St. Mark's FaithBuild day. If you are interested in helping, contact Pr. Patrick (pfish@stmarksaurora.net). The dedication of this FaithBuild home has been set for **Saturday, December 1**.

Staff Contact Information

Pastoral Staff

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Pastor Patrick Fish Ext. 102 pfish@stmarksaurora.net

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Financial Secretary

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St. Mark's Child Development Center

Colette Patterson-Moon 630-897-6063 stmarksdir@att.net
Director

Council Members

Don Friend (President), David Albers (Property), Austin Bredow (Outreach), Charlie Brummet (Treasurer), Jeanne Flynn (Youth and Family), Chad Gooch (Technology), Ginny Pavesich (Stewardship), Heather Rehg (New Members), Carol Reiseck (Stewardship), Pastor Patrick Fish, Pastor Patricia Geiseman

Prayers

5:00 p.m. Brett Deiter, Alexandria Downing, Mary Kenner, Carol Lippert, Emery Norman, Kathy Pippig, Charlotte Regis, Brenda Szekely, Julia Taylor, Lynida Tomlin

9:00 a.m. Roy Bell, Jr., Howard Burns, Merry Carey, John Harazin, Georgia Holderfield, Margaret Hutton, Sara Johansen, David Jung, Gus Kiesling, Gerry Lanigan, Carol Lobash, Debbie Manson, Kay McKeen, Bruce Nicholson, Rachel Pavesich, Lois Swan, Linda Weigand, Mike Wilbert, Rob Williams

10:30 a.m. Victoria Halsted, Dennis Johnson, Bev Loeschke, David Lippold, Terry Mueller, Helen Rachford, Sylvia Rzeminski, Greg Williamson

Continuing Care: Johanna Brinkman, Richard Brinkman, Katie DeSotell, Laurie Dunn, Tad Dyer, Joanne Jackman, Tom Jones, John Lange, Bruce Lindgren, Mason McNamara, Terry Minor, Terry Mueller, Lauren Muscat, Grant Oestrich, Wendy Overstreet, Joe Rangel, Fran Robinson, Sharon Ross, Bessie Sclavos, Lorand Szekely

We pray for comfort and peace for Josh Welge and all who mourn the death of his friend Aaron Nelson.



Season of Creation, Week 2: Humanity

The theme for week 2 of Season of Creation is "Humanity."
"God created humanity in God's own image..." (Gen 1:27a)

Look for the people around the globe on the narthex wall!

We're reminded that God created humans as part of the overall plan. We are intrinsically woven within creation, and we are called to care for all aspects of it.

We encourage you to use the 30-day devotional booklet, "Stewardship of Creation." It's a wonderful and practical tool for living out our call to care for creation. If you don't have a copy yet, pick one up at the Welcome Center or view/download it on our website:

StMarksAurora.net/Resources/Creation-Care



Annual Quilt Luncheon: "Christmas in September"

Saturday, September 22, 11:45 a.m.

Tickets available Sat-Sun, Sept 15-16

The Christmas theme of Lydia's Piecemakers' Fall luncheon celebrates the giving that is a year-round tradition at St. Mark's. This year, over 100 quilts were completed, 50 baby care kits were made for Lutheran World Relief to send around the world, and over 200 hats, scarves, and mittens were made or collected for the children of Aurora. The money raised at the luncheon helps defray the cost of the materials and shipping. Reservations may be made by sending a check for \$15.00 per person to Peggy Shields, 1548 Waterford Rd, North Aurora, IL 60542 or by purchasing tickets in the narthex. Christmas quilt raffle tickets are \$1, or 6 for \$5.

Blessing of the quilts and baby kits will take place during services the weekend of Sept 22-23.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

SUNDAY, Sept 16

9:00a Worship
 9:00a Sunday School
 Blood pressure screening
 Coffee Project sales
 10:30a Worship & receiving new members,
 Dave and Kathy Bloom
 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal
 11:45a Council meeting

MONDAY, Sept 17

9:30a Ruth Circle
 5:30p new Women's Circle
 6:00p Sanctuary Art & Banners meeting
 7:00p Fox Valley Chorus rehearsal
 7:30p 21&Over

TUESDAY, Sept 18

10:00a Adult Study
 1:00p Staff meeting
 7:00p Financial Peace University
 7:00p Glory Ringers rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, Sept 19

9:00a The Bread Wrappers
 9:30a CDC Pre-K music
 1:00p Office volunteers
 3:30p SACC music
 5:00p Roaring Ringers
 5:30p FDL
 5:30p Joyous Praise Bells
 6:00p Confirmation classes
 7:30p Executive Team meeting
 7:30p Stewardship Team meeting

THURSDAY, Sept 20

7:00p Lion's Voice Choir rehearsal

FRIDAY, Sept 21

CDC Picture Day
 10:00a Adult Fellowship—
 Aurora Police Station
 3:00p Quilt luncheon set up
 6:30p Al-Anon

SATURDAY, Sept 22

11:00a McCleery Fall Festival
 11:45a Quilt luncheon
 5:00p Worship

SUNDAY, Sept 23

9:00a Worship
 9:00a Sunday School
 10:30a Worship
 11:30a Outreach Leaders meeting
 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal



Discipleship



Last chance to sign up for Financial Peace University (FPU)

**Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.
 Sept 18 - Nov 13
 Led by Susan & Ken Koepke**

A word from a former FPU participant: "When my husband and I took the Financial Peace class, I was dreading it. I feared he was going to start controlling my checkbook and start holding me accountable for every penny I spent. But Financial Peace ended up guiding us in making different choices. It's a tool we'll carry through life."—Debbie Friend

Still considering? Undecided? Watch a class preview:
StMarksAurora.net/news/financial-peace

Try out the first class for free: Call the church office (630-897-6891) so we can have materials for you.

Register today! The cost is \$109 per family. Register at FPU.com/1069238 (Scholarships are available. Contact the church office. If you register after 9/12, your shipped FPU materials won't arrive in time for the first class. Don't worry; we'll have supplies to get you started.)



**NEW Adult Study:
 The Road Back to You**

**Tuesdays, Sept 25-Oct 23, 10:00 a.m.
 Sundays, Sept 30-Oct 28, 11:30 a.m.**

"The more you grow in self-knowledge, the more you'll become aware of your need for God's grace. [And] you'll have more compassion for yourself and other people."—The Road Back to You

The next Adult Study is a 5-week study of the Enneagram, based on the book *The Road Back to You*. The Enneagram is a spiritual formation tool that can help us discover our basic personality type, but it doesn't stop with a label. It steers us toward understanding the underlying motivations that influence how we think and feel. AND it offers insight into how our personality type engages in relationships.

Sign up at the Welcome Center for either the Tuesday or Sunday class. The book set is \$25. Scholarships are available.

Please pick up your book Sept 15-16 or Sept 22-23 so you can read the first 2 chapters before the first class.

Adult Study on Refugees

Last class, Tuesday, Sept 18, 10:00 a.m.

We are extending our Adult Study on the Refugee Crisis one more week so we can discuss where we go from here and brainstorm actionable, practical ways we can respond to the refugee crisis.

Announcements

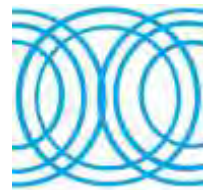


Welcome new members
Dave & Kathy Bloom

Kathy was born and raised in Aurora and has lived here her entire life. She worked as a mechanical designer and new product project leader for Honeywell for 33 years and retired to spend more time with grandkids and to help aging parents. She loves to sew and make quilts, and is an avid fan of British murder mysteries.

Dave is a Chicago native and served in the US Army Reserves during the Vietnam War. He has a BS degree in psychology from Northwestern and an MBA from Roosevelt, and worked as a corporate buyer for 40 years for major companies. After taking early retirement, he's discovered the joy of cooking. He also enjoys walking, reading, and doing Tai Chi. Dave was raised in a Jewish home, but was baptized in a Lutheran church at age 25.

Together they have 4 children and 10 grandchildren, who are the joys of their lives. Please give them a warm St. Mark's welcome!



New Women's Circle

Monday, Sept 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

If you're interested in being a part of the newly formed Women's Circle, we'd love to have you join us on Monday the 17th. We're meeting in the St. Mark's Room, and it's

"BYOF" (bring your own food/snack/drink). We plan to meet from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the third Monday of the month, and we're starting with a 3-session study called "Act Boldly for Health." Contact Marcia Broucek (news@stmarksaurora.net).



21&Over

Monday, Sept 17, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

If you're between 21 and 40, and are interested in engaging in meaningful conversation, you are invited to join the next gathering at the home of Kari and Greg Reisick this Monday.



Adult Fellowship "Scam Awareness"

**FRIDAY (note day & date change!)
 September 21, 10:00 a.m.**

We're meeting at the **Aurora Police Station** at 10:00 a.m. (1200 E Indian Trail Rd, Aurora—look for the Community Room). There will be a presentation on Scam Awareness, followed by a tour. Lunch will be at Harner's Restaurant (10 W State St, North Aurora). Contact Al Bergh 630-585-8422 for information. Sign up at the Welcome Center.



We've been waiting for you!

Our mission at St. Mark's Lutheran Church is to share Christ's abundant love with each other and the world. We are called to reach out to persons of all ages and life situations with Christ's own hospitality and acceptance, to invite you to be our companion on the spiritual journey as we discover together the ways that Christ is offering hope, healing, and a renewed sense of meaning for our lives. If you are not a member, we would love to talk with you about our ministry. We invite you to talk to one of our pastors or stop at the Welcome Center near the church entrance. May your worship experience here at St. Mark's draw you closer to Christ and his abundant love!

This week's worship focus



Our Season of Creation series this month is a time to pause and reflect upon God, our Creator, and all that God has created. Throughout September, we stand in awe at all God's handiwork and reclaim our call to be stewards of God's creation. While we, as people, do have an important role to play in caring for the Earth, we recognize that we are not separate from the multiple of beautiful things God created.

This weekend's focus is on humanity, which seems a bit at odds with our series on creation. But our focus is not on putting humanity *above* and *over* the rest of creation. Instead, we remember our small part in the wideness that is God's creation. We remember that humanity is not independent from creation. Instead, we are always and forever interconnected with all of God's ongoing creation.

While society may emphasize that humanity is the center of the universe, we pause and ponder the validity of such claims. As we reflect the creation story in Genesis 1, we recognize that God created man and woman not as God's final achievement. God didn't create us to dominate over everything else. God created us to have dominion and dwell within God's world. In other words, we have a place here in this world. And we have a purpose to play in this place. We are to mirror God to the world and to care as God cares.

Humanity isn't separate from creation. We are intricately interwoven within creation and called to care for all things—big and small—God has created. We do so not because we are the center of the universe or set apart as special, but because we reflect the character of our Creator.

REFLECTION:

- In what ways do you feel interconnected with God's creation? What ways do you feel distant?
- What does it mean to have dominion over the Earth vs. domination over the Earth?
- How have you lived your life—as a ruler or compassionate servant?