

God's Work, Our Hands



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



It's time to register!

- **Sunday School** starts **Sunday, Sept 9th**
- **FDL** starts **Wednesday, Sept 12th**

Two ways to register:

- 1) **ONLINE** (w/credit card for FDL): You can register for FDL and Sunday School online at our website, **StMarksAurora.net**. Go to the **CONNECT** tab and click on **KIDS**. The FDL listing is at the top; scroll down to the Sunday School listing.
- 1) **PRINTED FORMS** (w/check for FDL): If you would prefer to register via paper and check, registration forms are available at the Welcome Center. You can return the form/check to the church office or Kari Reiseck.

Kari and the staff thank you for registering NOW. Knowing how many are coming helps us be better prepared.



Come grow with us

Enrollment open for CDC

St. Mark's Child Development Center (CDC) is now enrolling children ages 6 weeks to 12 years.

Child Care and **Before and After-School programs** are located at 1995 W. Downer Place. The school-age program offers bus service to Hall, McCleery, and Freeman. They also

offer extended care on days off and during the summer.

Preschool and **Prekindergarten programs**, located in the Education wing of St. Mark's, offer full-day programs.

CDC is open Monday-Friday from 6:30am-6:00pm. Please contact CDC at 630-897-6063 for more information or to schedule a tour.



Adult Study

"Dialogues On: The Refugee Crisis"

Week 2: Tuesday, August 14, 10:00 a.m.

The 6-week Adult Study, "Dialogues On: The Refugee Crisis," continues with Part 2: "A People Without a Place: The global migration crisis." Each week includes well-researched study material, a video, small group sharing, and large group discussion. You are welcome to come by on Tuesday even if you missed the first week. Join us for education and good conversation. Participant books are \$10 each.

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.

Staff Contact Information

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Patricia Geiseman Ext. 101 pgeiseman@stmarksaurora.net
Pastor Patrick Fish Ext. 102 pfish@stmarksaurora.net

Ministry Staff

Kristin Young Ext. 103 kyoung@stmarksaurora.net
Director of Worship & the Arts
Sue Hilderbrand Ext. 108 shilderbrand@stmarksaurora.net
Director of Bell Choirs
Kari Reiseck Ext. 104 kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net
Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Support Staff

Deb Arcilla Ext. 100 darcilla@stmarksaurora.net
Office Manager
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Gregg Kobliska & Al Lettow Ext. 106 facilitymgr@stmarksaurora.net
Facility Managers
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Nursery Coordinator
Marcia Broucek Ext. 107 news@stmarksaurora.net
Communications Coordinator

Financial Secretary

Jim Erickson 630-235-6510 giving@stmarksaurora.net

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. Gretchen Ketelhut, Alexandria Downing, Lloyd Feltz, Joe Jaras, Mary Kenner, Carol Lippert, Kathy Pippig, Charlotte Regis, Brenda Szekely, Julia Taylor

9:00 a.m. Howard Burns, Gavin Duffy, Jim Frank, John Harazin, Margaret Hutton, Sara Johansen, David Jung, Gus Kiesling, Carol Lobash, Debbie Manson, Kay McKeen, Bruce Nicholson, Lois Swan, Linda Weigand, Rob Williams

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

Continuing Care: Jim Anderson, Bill Beattie, Johanna Brinkman, Richard Brinkman, 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 rejoice with Rick and Carol Reiseck in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.



August 11-12, 2018

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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

God who is the source of love,
our teacher in love,
love itself,
transform each one of us
that we might together be
a healthy body living that love.

FINANCIAL *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

What are your financial goals? To be debt free? To save more? To be able to give more generously? Would you like to be in control of your money, instead of feeling overwhelmed or powerless?

Perhaps you've heard about Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* or know someone who has taken the 9-week course. For many, this 9-week course is, literally, life-saving.

Twenty-five years ago, Dave battled his way out of bankruptcy and debt. Out of his experience, he developed the foundation of his commonsense advice on money. His 9-week course covers:

- Budget, save, and pay off debt
- Get on the same page with your spouse
- Identify which types of insurance you need
- Plan and save for major expenses
- Invest for your future
- Give generously

St. Mark's is offering the 9-week Financial Peace University course on Tuesdays this Fall at 7:00 p.m.

Sept 18 through Nov 13

Led by Ken and Susan Koepke

The group-discounted rate is \$109 for the family, and the fee includes:

- Member workbook that follows each of 9 video lessons
- *Dave Ramsey's Complete Guide to Money*
- 12-month digital subscription to "EveryDollar Plus" budgeting
- *The Legacy Journey*, a 6-lesson course on building wealth, planning for your future, and setting up future generations for success
- 12-month online coaching assistance for 1 year

To register (and get the discounted rate), go to FPU.com/1069238 (Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center to post at work or school!)

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

SUNDAY, August 12

9:00a Worship

Coffee & Fellowship hosted by
Sunday School & FDL

Blood pressure screenings

10:30a Worship

11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal

11:45a Council meeting

MONDAY, August 13

9:30a Faith Circle

6:00p Sanctuary Art & Banners

TUESDAY, August 14

10:00a Adult Study

1:00p Staff meeting

WEDNESDAY, August 15

9:00a The Bread Wrappers

1:00p Office volunteers

THURSDAY, August 16

7:00p AA meeting

FRIDAY, August 17

6:30p Al-Anon

SATURDAY, August 18

5:00p Worship

SUNDAY, August 19

9:00a Worship

Coffee & Fellowship hosted by
FDL Kitchen Crew

Coffee Project sales

10:30a Worship

11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal



- ▶ **FDL starts**
Wednesday, September 12
- ▶ **"Christmas in September"**
Lydia's Piecemakers Fall Luncheon
Saturday, September 22
- ▶ **"Radical Hospitality"**
Saturday, October 27
Metro-Chicago Synodical Women's
Organization 2018 Convention, held at
St. Mark's. Registrations need to be
mailed in. Pick up forms at the Welcome



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

Discipleship



Get your BBQ tickets!

BBQ Music Ministry fundraiser
Wednesday, August 29
4:30-6:30 p.m.

Our annual "5 B's" BBQ is a feast with a purpose: to raise money for the St. Mark's Music Ministry program. Come out and enjoy the scrumptious meal and support the music. Tickets are available from any choir member at weekend services (or from the church office). Meals include coleslaw, baked beans, apple sauce, rolls and butter. You can drive thru and pick up your meals, or dine in and get free dessert, coffee, tea, or lemonade, and lots of fellowship.

2-piece meal: \$13

1-piece meal: \$11

Kid's hot dog meal: \$7

Take a look at our website to see all that the music staff are doing: StMarksAurora.net/Connect/Music

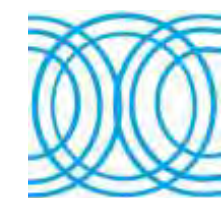


School supplies needed

Each August, our Outreach Team collects school supplies for children in need in the Aurora area. The supplies are distributed through the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry.

The need is always great, and our donations are always received with much gratitude. The children can use notebooks, pencils, paper, scissors, school glue, crayons, colored pencils, markers, etc. Remember those in need when you go shopping for school supplies. Check the 2-for-1 specials. You may want to consider buying a child's backpack and filling it with basic school supplies. Any donation, great or small, is appreciated. Your gifts allow children to have the supplies they need for learning.

Please use the drop-off bin by the front door of the church. Thank you for your generous giving!



New women's circle

Tuesday, August 21, 5:30 p.m.

On August 21st, a core group of women are meeting to continue brainstorming the formation of a new circle. If you are interested in participating, you're very welcome to come join us. (BYO snack or supper, if you wish). Contact Marcia Broucek (news@stmarksaurora.net).

Announcements



Adult Fellowship

Ellwood Mansion (DeKalb)
Thursday, August 23, 9:30 a.m.

Barbed-wire entrepreneur Isaac Ellwood resided in this beautiful mansion in 1879.

We will have a 90-minute tour of the mansion and Ellwood-Neuring (1899) house. We plan to leave St. Mark's at 9:30 a.m. and tour the gardens prior to our guided tour at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be at O'Leary's Pub in DeKalb. *Please sign up at the Welcome Center by August 19.*



Music ensembles
start rehearsals
this month

Glory Ringers (adult handbell choir)

Rehearsals start Tuesday, August 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The Lion's Voice Choir (adult choir)

Rehearsals start Thursday, August 23, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The St. Mark's Music Ministry invites *you* to join in leading the church's song. We're also looking for a worship band drummer or guitarist. Contact Kristin Young (kyoung@stmarksaurora.net) for choir and worship band. Contact Sue Hilderbrand (shilderbrand@stmarksaurora.net) for bell choir information.



God's Work, Our Hands Day

Saturday, September 8

We will be joining ELCA churches from across the globe in a day of service, known as God's Work, Our Hands Day. On September 8th, we will offer numerous different opportunities to give back and serve our community. We hope young and old will participate. We truly want this to be intergenerational and congregation-wide. Service projects will include: helping at The Neighbor Project, serving meals at PADS, repairing homes through Rebuilding Together Aurora. More mission partners are being coordinated. A sign-up will be available soon at the Welcome Center.



Rally Day

Sunday, September 9, 10:00 a.m.

Mark your calendar to join us for our annual Rally Day. **The day starts at 10:00 a.m. for all** and will include worship, the first

Sunday School of season, the much-loved butterfly release, an open house of the newly renovated youth areas, a participatory service project, and food. It will be a great day and a great way to begin the Fall and the Season of Creation.



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

We return to focusing again on the story of King David. Last we heard from David, the prophet Nathan was confronting him, "You are the man," and David repented for abusing his power against Uriah and Bathsheba. God didn't stand for David's

selfish misuse of power and sent Nathan as a messenger to make David's injustice clear. David responded with repentance.

But violence always seems to emerge and find David. It's never far away during his reign as king. This weekend, our story is centered upon the tragic and tense relationship between David and his son, Absalom. Absalom is caught up in a fight for power, trying to undermine and overthrow David from the throne. Even though Absalom wants David removed, David still tries to mend the broken bond with his son. When David sends his soldiers and top military generals out to battle, he instructs them to care for Absalom.

Unfortunately, the men disregard David's directive. They surround Absalom and kill him. News travels back to King David that his son has been killed, and David laments: "Would I have died instead of you!"

This is a story of tragedy and humanity's susceptibility for violence. Yet the overriding message is that, while we constantly wage wars against each other, God is actively working to bring restoration. King David could not restore the broken relationship between him and his son. He could not save Absalom. However, with God, death was not the end for Absalom—nor is it the end for us. Grief and pain were not the final words for David—nor for us. God restores our lives and, because of God, we have hope and life.

REFLECTION:

- What deep hurt and brokenness are you carrying?
- Where do you need restoration?
- How do you grieve and engage in the spiritual practice of lament?
- Where do you see restoration happening?