



The Vineyard Press

JULY 2018
VOL 19, ISSUE 7

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sharing Christ's Abundant Love

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



"Shipwrecked" launches July 16-20

We're gearing up for our best VBS ever! Things kick off on **Monday morning, July 16 at 9:00 a.m.**, but there's lots to do before that. After all, "it takes a village [church!] . . ."

3 things you need to know:

- **REGISTRATION:** While we're close to capacity, there is still room for more. We won't be able to get T-shirts for new registrants at this stage, but we would love to welcome more kids! Please contact Kari Reiseck (kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net) if you are interested in registering.
- **VOLUNTEERS:** We still need a few more volunteers. Check the VBS bulletin board for openings and contact Kari Reiseck ASAP (kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net).
- **SET UP/TEAR DOWN:** Anyone who can help with **set up on Sunday, July 15th** (right after the close of the last service) is VERY welcome. Same goes for our **tear-down on Saturday morning, July 21st. Sign up at the Welcome Center** or contact Kari Reiseck (kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net)

Supplies needed for VBS



Check out the window behind the sanctuary. The "sea creatures" are waiting for you! Each one has the name of an item that VBS needs. Pick an item you'd like to donate or loan. When you bring your item to deposit in the bin, please return the sea creature as well. Thanks!

Ever wonder what happens during VBS? Let's hear from some of our kids and volunteers:

Amy: I was really afraid that first morning. There was so much activity and so many people I didn't know. But I got a really cool T-shirt and then met my crew leader, Ms. Karen, and my crew members. One of them was Tori from Sunday School, so I really did know someone. Ms. Karen made the trips between stations really fun! We hopped on one foot and even crab walked. I am absolutely positive that I'm coming back.

Jack: What I like are all the stations so that you're never bored. My favorites: Games and Snack!

Nancy: The church looked so awesome! It was all decorated, and we got to meet each morning in the big room of the church for songs. I love to sing, and they showed this video for each song so we could learn the hand motions.



Mia: The Bible Story and Imaginations station are the best parts. In Imagination, we did cool experiments. I liked that we got to do things rather than just watch. And the same thing with Bible stories. We actually got to act out parts of the story. For me, it's hard to sit still, and so all the activity made the day really cool.

Grandma Sally: When they first asked me to volunteer, I thought they were out of their minds. What can a 72-year-old do with a bunch of preschool and elementary school children, and how would I ever keep up? Well, they put me in the Bible Story station, and I got to take a story and bring it to life for each crew. If only you could see the children's eyes as they begin to live the story instead of each hearing it! I have to say, it turned out to be one of the best weeks of the year.

Ms. Julie: I've volunteered for the past 10 years at VBS and find it's one of the true highlights of the year. We mark our calendar each year and plan our other summer activities around VBS week. I can't imagine not being part of this. Seeing all these kids and their happy faces, and knowing that we are keeping God alive and active for them, makes the summer whole.

Why don't you join us this year? Though registration online has "officially" closed, there still room! Contact Kari Reiseck (kreiseck@stmarksaurora.net)

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Do you know where Taylorsville is?



On July 21st, 18 HS students and 3 adult leaders will be heading to the Blue Ridge Mountains—specifically, Taylorsville, North Carolina—for our much anticipated HS Summer Mission Trip. Here’s a list of who’s going:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Hope Allen | Declan Creaney | Eva Peterson |
| Caleb Aquino | Madi Hubble | Bradley Rehg |
| Christian Aquino | Hailey Jansen | Payton Runyan |
| Sophie Bartell | Ana Kay | Gio Sally |
| Aidan Berleman | Saira Monson | Nina Sally |
| Tiana Cannivino | Alex Nowak | Zac Uhm |

Adult leaders: Alisa Creaney, Pr. Patrick Fish, and Anna Themanson

Want to fte? Here’s what we’ll be doing:

Sunday, July 8, 12:00-1:00 p.m.: PRE-TRIP PLANNING

We’re gathering for some pre-trip team building, as well as a review of what to pack and what to expect.

Saturday, July 21, 10:00 a.m.: WE’RE OFF!!

We’re piling into our rented 12-passenger vans in the church parking lot and heading for Lexington, Kentucky, where we will be staying overnight at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

Sunday, July 22: ARRIVAL DAY

St. Luke Lutheran Church will be hosting us for the week while we serve the community of Taylorsville, working with KidsClub, painting, landscaping, and repairing houses.

Friday, July 27: HOMEWARD BOUND

It’ll probably be hard to leave, but we head home on Friday. On the way back, we’ll again be staying in Lexington at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

Saturday, July 28: FUN DETOUR

We’re getting up early and heading to JamesBond Escape Room in Louisville, Kentucky. Following that fun activity, we will head home and be back in Aurora by late evening.

Thank you for your support thus far. Please keep all those attending this mission trip in your prayers. Pray for their safety and that they may grow deeper in their relationship with one another and with Christ.



Summer giving

Because giving patterns are typically lower during the summer months, we especially encourage you to continue your commitment to stewardship throughout the summer. Soon you’ll be able to make gifts to St. Mark’s online, using a credit card! Watch for announcements about our new website launch!

Open to the future!



During our visioning process, we affirmed that we wanted to be open to the future. And for the foreseeable future, that includes being very visible online. Our world is connected on the web. Our news. Our entertainment. Our phones. Our messages. Our pictures. Our ideas. In fact, it's almost gotten so that, if you don't have a digital presence, you don't exist.

Think about it: When someone is looking for a church, do they call ahead? Do they drive over for a service? Most likely, they go online to check out the church, get a feel for it, find out when the services are, see if they think this church might be a good fit for them.

So what we present about St. Mark's online matters! Our words and images reflect who we are. And we want people to know that we're welcoming, that we embody love, that we put caring into action.

Which leads us to a new look and feel for our website to reflect that. Same address, **StMarksAurora.net** — whole new experience.

Are you ready to move forward? We will be launching the new site on the weekend of **August 4-5**. After services, members of Council will have laptops available to demo the new features. We hope you'll enjoy the new look and take advantage of what the new site has to offer. We're just getting started!

Here are just a few things you'll be able to do:

1

Watch a demo



Council members will have laptops in the narthex so you can see a demonstration.

2

Give online



You'll be able to make pledge payments and give special gifts with a credit card.

3

Register online



You'll be able to register and pay for things like FDL with a credit card.

A few samples of our new look

There is a place for you

No matter your age, background, or circumstance.
No matter where you are or where you've been.
This is a safe place to explore your faith.



KIDS



TEENS



ADULTS

Our worship is open to all

Worship is at the core of everything we do.
Come to experience hope, healing, and wholeness.
Leave renewed, ready to live for something greater.



CONTEMPORARY SERVICES



TRADITIONAL SERVICES



CHORAL MUSIC & HANDBELL CHOIR

We put caring into action

By being God's hands, feet, and voice in the world.
By making a difference in the issues facing our neighbors.
By protecting the dignity of all people.



HOUSING



EDUCATION



FOOD



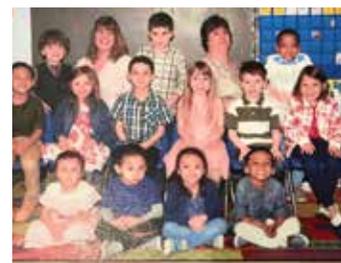
Pride Parade report

On Sunday, June 17, 45 saints from our congregation walked in Aurora's first-ever Pride Parade. What a Spirit-led experience it was! It was a day filled with energy, hope, and love! St. Mark's was 1 of 11 faith communities represented as allies for our LGBTQ siblings. While the heat was brutal, once the parade started, one couldn't help but be swept up in the enthusiasm of the thousands of Aurorans who lined the streets that day.

Thank you to those who walked. Thank you to those who stood and cheered from the streets. Thank you to those who prayed for us from your homes. It truly was an incredible moment for our Aurora community. It was also an incredible moment for St. Mark's.

Deb Arcilla said it best: "I am proud to be an Auroran, and I am proud to be a St. Markan."

We are excited to see the momentum and how this day takes shape in Aurora. We are equally excited to see how we, at St. Mark's, can build on this parade and live even deeper into being an affirming congregation who actively lives out the belief that all are created in the image of God!



CDC graduation

St. Mark's Child Development Center would like to congratulate the Pre-K-K graduating classes of 2018. This year we had 23 children who graduated from our program. We had an amazing turnout for our graduation ceremony. Over 100 family members and friends came out to show their support. Pastor Patrick opened with a prayer, and the children performed a few songs. We presented a slideshow highlighting special activities the children participated in throughout the year. Congratulations to all!



HS Praise Team

Those who gathered for the 10:30 service on Sunday, June 17th were treated to the debut of our High School Praise Team. During the months of July and August, Toby Nickels will be joining the group on drums. If you are interested in singing contemporary Christian music, contact Kristin Young (kyoung@stmarksaurora.net).



2019 tour to France

June 30-July 10, 2019

Next July, you *could* be in France with the St. Mark's Festival Choir! You can travel as non-singer, but you are also invited to join the Festival Choir to sing in three special concerts: at L'eglise de la Madeleine in Paris, at Eglise Saint Maclou in Rouen, and at the American Cemetery in Normandy, commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Contact Kristin Young (kyoung@stmarksaurora.net)



Coffee Project sales

Sundays, July 1 and 15

Check out the Equal Exchange products offered by our Coffee Project team. The beans come from small farmer co-ops, and the chocolates are made with only the purest ingredients grown with care by small farmers.



Remember those in need

Reminder from the Outreach Team:

During the summer months, please remember people who are in need. Keep gathering up items you no longer need or can't use and give them purpose again by donating them to Wayside

Cross Ministries (WCM), HESED House, or Salvation Army. Your donations are appreciated! Please check their respective websites for details, drop-off locations, and specific requests or exclusions.

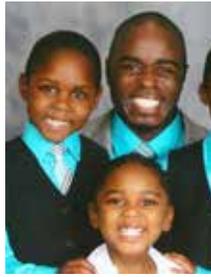
PADS, Saturday, July 14

“We pray for the end of suffering, and then we get to work being the answer to those prayers. In an era defined by cynicism, we need places where reckless hope and unconditional compassion are celebrated. We need communities where people can practice the foolish art of world-saving.”

—Ryan J. Dowd, Hesed House Executive Director

In these days when we see so many people suffering, St. Mark’s work at Hesed House is more important than ever. We have made a commitment to prepare and serve dinner 6 times a year at PADS (Hesed House’s overnight shelter program). Yes, it’s summer. Yes, it takes a few hours. But, yes, we will be there because we are people with hope and compassion. Will you join us on July 14th? We need a crew of 8 adults to make this work well.

Here’s a little inspiration. Check out this story that appeared in the Hesed House newsletter Winter 2017.



Single Dad Regains Family’s Independence

Two days before the Haynes family was supposed to move out of Hesed House, Patrick—a single father—had a seizure. He was taken to the hospital where they discovered a brain tumor. After being rushed into emergency surgery, Patrick spent a full month in the hospital recovering. Two months after returning to Hesed House, though, Patrick was able to get back to work, allowing his family to move out of Hesed House.

When asked about the first night in their new home, Patrick enthusiastically described their first meal: “We pigged out!” Patrick and his children, twin sons Isaiah and Jeremiah along with daughter, Mariah, had a feast of pizza, chicken wings and pop to celebrate their newly gained independence. The feeling of being able to feed his children in their own home was great. The peaceful relaxation he experienced the following morning, thinking to himself, “We are home,” was even better.

Patrick credits his faith, his persistence, and the donors and volunteers of Hesed House for his family’s success. “Thank you for giving me the opportunity to get back on my feet again and regain independence for my family.”

Hesed Highlights Volume 29, Issue 8

Please sign up at the Welcome Center to volunteer for our July 14th dinner date.

The Neighbor Project

The Neighbor Project, Saturday, July 28

As of May 15, Emmanuel House has merged with Joseph Corporation in an exciting merger for our Aurora community. The joint organization is now known as **The Neighbor Project**. To see a video on this important merger, visit **NeighborProject.us**. This merger does NOT change our mission or involvement with our family partner (Florent and Carin) at 218 Oak Ave.

Similar to last summer, we are scheduled for a **Neighbor Project Workday on Saturday, July 28** to perform volunteer services for our family partner. The workday projects include replacing back cellar doors, repairing the back stairs, yard clean-up, and painting. Following our service, we will have a BBQ lunch to develop a deeper relationship with Florent and Carin (our family partner). **Contact Austin Bredow (a_bredow@yahoo.com)** if you are interested in joining us on July 28.

Also, **mark your calendars for Saturday, September 8**, which will be our next volunteer opportunity for The Neighbor Project. More information will be forthcoming on this date and how it ties in to God’s Work, Our Hands Day at St. Mark’s.



Cereal Bowl Challenge, Saturday & Sunday, July 29-30

Once again, it is time to restock the shelves at the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry. On the weekend of July 28-29, we’ll be holding our annual Cereal Bowl Challenge to raise money for the Pantry. Last year’s Cereal Bowl Challenge winner, Cheerios, is up against Multi-Grain Cheerios and Honey Nut Cheerios this year to determine the new “Champ.”

It’s time to pick your favorite cereal. Follow each service during the weekend, volunteers will be in the narthex with empty boxes of each of the three cereals. Simply place your monetary donation in the box representing the cereal you like best. Each dollar represents one vote. Once the votes are counted, we’ll announce the winner the next weekend. See if our two-time winner retains the title as St. Mark’s “Favorite Cereal”!

The best part is that, for each dollar donated, the Pantry can purchase \$7 worth of food! A \$5 donation becomes \$35 worth of food; \$10 become \$70 of purchasing power; and \$20 becomes \$140 of food on the shelves of the Pantry. Talk about purchase power. Our donations can have a big impact!

Metro Chicago Synod Assembly

The 2018 Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly took place on June 8-9, 2018, at the Tinley Park Convention Center, with 425 delegates in attendance. Representing St. Mark's were Pastor Pat, Pastor Patrick, congregational voting members David and Emma Albers, and Jyotsana Mohan.

The two days were filled with presentations and discussion about racism and diversity, presentations about partner ministries, mission moments, plenary sessions, workshops, devotions, worship, and, of course, the business of budgets, and electing voting members to represent the Metropolitan Chicago Synod (MCS) at the national Churchwide Assembly in August 2019.

The Synod Assembly also adopted several important resolutions, which are proposals requesting action sent to the Church Council of ELCA, and memorials, which address broad policy issues for consideration by the Churchwide Assembly:

- MEM. 01-18 National Poor People's Campaign
- MEM. 02-18 Gun Policy
- MEM. 03-18 Palestinian Children
- RES. 01-18 Illinois Poor People's Campaign
- RES. 02-18 Gun Policy

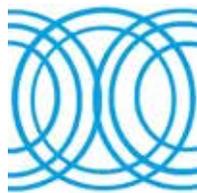
If you're interested in reading the full texts of these memorials and resolutions, as well as Bishop Wayne Miller's address, go to mcsELCA.org/assembly/

One special note of importance is that St. Mark's was recognized for being one of the top nine contributors in the Metro Chicago Synod to the ELCA World Hunger Challenge. We received a Certification of Appreciation for our donation of \$13,034! Many thanks to all the generous people of St. Mark's!



"I believe that the congregations that will thrive best in the New Era will be congregations . . . that are continually generating new communities and cultures within themselves and beyond themselves."—Bishop Wayne Miller

Opportunities ahead . . .



New women's circle

Wednesday, July 11, 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in exploring the possibility of being in a women's circle, you are invited to meet with a core group of women who are initiating the formation of a new circle. We're gathering to discuss what circles do, how they interact with the whole church, and what a new circle might look like. Many women have already expressed an interest. Come, join us! **Sign up at the Welcome Center.**



Young Adults & Young Families

Starting this summer, we are putting plans together to renew Young Adult Ministry at St. Mark's. Over the last few months, our staff has been intentionally meeting with young adults in an effort to listen and discern together what Young Adult Ministry could look like here at St. Mark's. There have been lots of ideas, but the vision is the same: to create a space where young adults and young families can have relevant, meaningful conversation and also have an opportunity to build authentic, real relationships.

We've heard you, and we want to implement this vision for our Young Adults and Young Families. Rather than wait to find the perfect program to offer or put a name on this ministry, we are setting up various gathering times this summer for young adults in hopes that we can grow organically. If you are a young adult or a young family looking for connection and community, contact Pr. Patrick (pfish@stmarksaurora.net), and he can provide more details on this Young Adult Ministry.



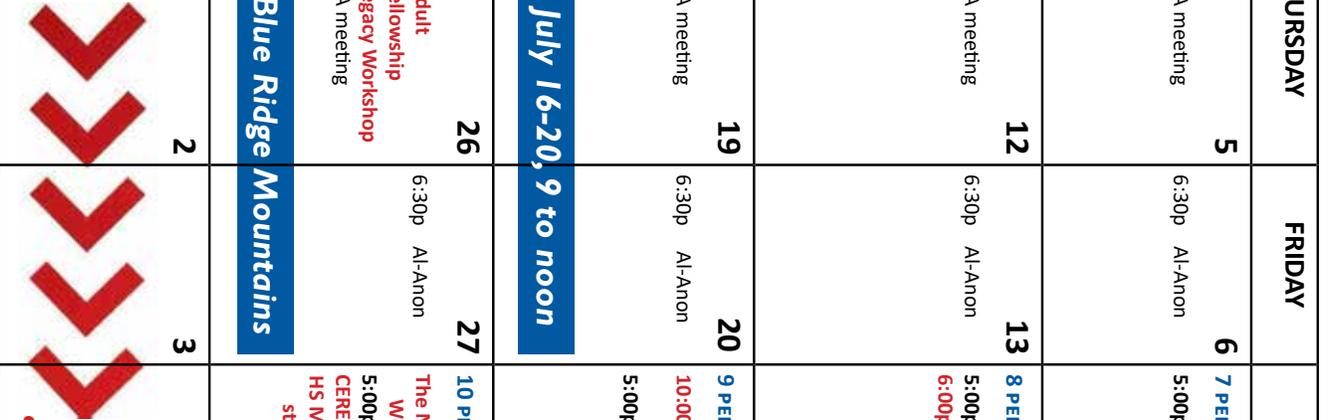
Adult Fellowship Legacy workshop & lunch **Thursday, July 26, 10:00 a.m.**

Representatives from Thrivent Financial will present a workshop on "YOUR LEGACY: Family, Church, Charity" at St.

Mark's on Thursday, July 26 at 10:00 in Sanctuary Hall. Learn how you can develop a strategy to help you leave a legacy for the people and causes you care about. We'll also have information about St. Mark's Endowment and funeral planning programs. After the presentation, we'll head over to Mother's Restaurant for lunch provided by Thrivent. **Sign up at the Welcome Center** or contact Al Bergh for more information (630-585-8422).

Our next outing is **August 23** at the Elwood House, DeKalb.

St. Mark's Calendar July 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 PENTECOST 1 9:00a WORSHIP Coffee Project sales 10:00a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a WORSHIP 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal	2 9:00a Lydia's Placemakers & Knit Pickers 7:00p Naomi Circle	3 1:00p Staff meeting	 4TH OF JULY OFFICE CLOSED	5 7:00p AA meeting	6 6:30p Al-Anon	7 PENTECOST 7 5:00p WORSHIP
7 PENTECOST 8 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a WORSHIP w/Mission 11:30a Trip Blessing & Sending 11:45a HS Praise Team rehearsal 12:00p Council meeting 12:00p Mission Trip Team Building meeting	9 9:00a Faith Circle	10 1:00p Staff meeting	11 9:00a The Bread Wrappers 1:00p Office volunteers 6:00p Stewardship Team meeting 7:00p New Women's Circle information meeting	12 7:00p AA meeting	13 6:30p Al-Anon	8 PENTECOST 14 5:00p WORSHIP 6:00p PADS dinner
8 PENTECOST 15 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a WORSHIP 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal	16 9:30a Ruth Circle 	17 1:00p Staff meeting	18 9:00a The Bread Wrappers 1:00p Office volunteers	19 7:00p AA meeting	20 6:30p Al-Anon	9 PENTECOST 21 10:00a HS Mission Trip students depart 5:00p WORSHIP
9 PENTECOST 22 9:00a WORSHIP & BAPTISM Coffee Project sales 10:00a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a WORSHIP 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal	23 9:00a Lydia's Placemakers & Knit Pickers 	24 1:00p Staff meeting	25 9:00a The Bread Wrappers 1:00p Office volunteers 6:00p Hope Circle - Ladies Night Out	26 10:00a Adult Fellowship Legacy Workshop 7:00p AA meeting	27 6:30p Al-Anon	10 PENTECOST 28 The Neighbor Project 5:00p WORSHIP CEREAL BOWL CHALLENGE HS Mission Trip students return
10 PENTECOST 29 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Coffee & Fellowship CEREAL BOWL CHALLENGE 10:30a WORSHIP 11:30a HS Praise Team rehearsal	30 9:00a Lydia's Placemakers & Knit Pickers	31 1:00p Staff meeting	HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP - Blue Ridge Mountains			
						
						4 website is coming Sat, Aug 4 & Sun, Aug 5

Memorial trees



Did you know that St. Mark's has a Memorial Tree Program? Over the years, people have donated some of the majestic trees on the St. Mark's property in celebration, in honor, or in memory of a loved one. This beautifies our grounds and offers a meaningful space for all to enjoy.

Memorial trees are planted in three locations:

- Near the main entrance
- West of the education wing
- North of the church along Galena Boulevard

We offer two tree sizes:

- 4-inch diameter tree, \$450
- 2.5-to-3-inch diameter tree, \$300

If you want to pick out the tree, we have some flexibility for that as well. And you are always welcome to be present when the tree is planted.

If you'd like to consider ordering a memorial tree, please pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center.

Memorial pavers



If you step outside the doors of the sanctuary, into St. Mark's beautiful courtyard, take a look around your feet. You'll see that some of the pavers are engraved with people's names.

St. Mark's has a Commemorative Paver Program that invites people to purchase an engraving on a 4" x 8" Uni-Lock Holland Stone paver. This is a special way to celebrate, honor, or remember a loved one. It's also a great way to become a part of St. Mark's history.

The cost for an engraved paver is \$100, and you can have 3 lines, with up to 13 characters per line. (Spaces count as 1 character.) Typically, we wait until we have 5 or 10 requests and process all the orders at one time. You'll have a chance to proof the paver, and from that point, it will be ready to install within the month.

If you'd like to consider ordering an engraved paver, please pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center.



Financial Secretary email change!

Please send all inquiries about pledges, giving, and giving reports to: giving@stmarksaurora.net

Transition of Financial Secretary Role

Next year (May 2019), Su and I will be moving out of the area and retiring in Arizona. In anticipation of that, I have been working with Pastor Pat to find a replacement for my role as Financial Secretary to manage the giving records of the congregation.

Beth Benson Ulrich has graciously agreed to take on the role. We have begun the transition process and expect to complete it sometime this summer. I will continue to support Beth as needed until we leave the area.

If you have any issues or questions related to your giving, electronic giving, or pledges, please use the new giving@stmarksaurora.net email address. Both Beth and I will be monitoring that address during the transition. Once the transition is complete, you should direct your questions or requests to Beth using that same email address. We will provide additional information in a later Vineyard once the transition is complete.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the ministries at St. Mark's in this role the last eight years.—*Jim Erickson*

Stewardship Spotlight

All of us are Stewards of the Story. God's story is written on our hearts and alive in us. Often times we forget that or don't want to claim that truth. At St. Mark's, we want everyone to reclaim that they are a steward of God's story. We are stewards of God's story, and God is at work in all our lives. Fauntie Wilcoxon has done some incredible ministry throughout her life. She, like all of us, is a steward. She, like all of us, has a story that is connected always to God.

My Life Is Part of God's Work

God is the creator of all existence. And God is pleased with his creation. I am a steward responsible for taking care of God's creation. That includes my body, mind, soul, human relationships, and God's creation—every thing, every relationship!

God led me to my husband, Clair, a man with a life plan, intelligence, and thought pattern similar to mine. We chose to live and share the Gospel of God's love, grace, forgiveness, and salvation demonstrated and taught in the Old Testament and the



Fauntie Wilcoxon

life of Jesus Christ. Preparing for mission abroad, Clair was ordained a Methodist minister, and I became an expert labor-and-delivery-room nurse.

With our three children in Costa Rica, we lived, studied Spanish, and ministered one year. Then, in Argentina for five years, Clair established a student center in Tucuman and scouted two northern provinces for church outreach. In Santiago del Estero, Clair pastored its congregation and two out-points.

My role was to support Clair and our family. In Tucuman, I led worship in a suburb. In both cities, I studied music in the conservatories and provided music for worship. In Santiago, I complemented Clair's ministry to women. Later, we shared God's love in Florida, Arizona, and Illinois. In Minnesota, after studying and becoming a Licensed Local Pastor, I pastored two congregations for nearly four years.

How much do I owe God? Everything . . . and nothing. It is all by God's grace, freely given. God loves me. God loves you, dear reader. We are all God's stewards.

—Fauntie Wilcoxon



Thrivent Choice

Eligible Thrivent Financial members can use the Thrivent Choice grant program to direct their "Choice Dollars" to St. Mark's or to another participating nonprofit organization or congregation. Last month, Thrivent deposited \$307 in our account, thanks to Carol and Jens Jensen.

These gifts help St. Mark's in its ministries. Thank you for directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars here!

Monthly budget recap for May 2018

Monthly Information

Monthly Budget Goal		\$ 71,753.33
Monthly Offering Information		
Envelopes – General Fund	\$	60,689.50
CDC Rent/Administration	\$	4,387.50
Miscellaneous	\$	725.00
Other (loose, Sunday School, interest)	\$	296.09
Total General Fund Income	\$	66,098.09
Monthly Surplus (Shortfall)	\$	(5,655.24)

Summary Information as of 5/31/2018

Annual Budget	\$	861,040.00
Percent of Year Completed		42%
Offerings/Commitments received Year to Date	\$	400,355.77*
Actual Expenses Year to Date	\$	324,093.44
Actual Expense Surplus (Shortfall) Year to Date	\$	76,262.33
Budget Surplus (Shortfall) Year to Date	\$	41,589.10

* NOTE: \$27,445 of this income was 2018 pledges prepaid in 2017

Share and Secure Capital Campaign

Giving to Share and Secure to date	\$	447,952.17
Transferred to Outreach	\$	45,887.57
Principal payments to Mortgage	\$	399,429.12

Mortgage Balance as of 5/31/2018

Balance Due on Church (not including CDC)	\$	1,837,596.51
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Council highlights June 2018

- Marcia Broucek, Communications Coordinator, gave a presentation on the new website demo that she and Pastor Patrick Fish have been working on. Council members gave Marcia and Pastor Patrick the green light to go ahead with their website plans and vision. They plan to launch the new website this summer.
- Total income thru May 31 (includes Capital Campaign money) is \$481,768. 41.67% of the year is gone and YTD total expenses stands at 37.6% of the budget.
- Mortgage balances:
 - \$1,977,570 for the rate swap mortgage
 - \$ 392,105 for the second loan
- Council decided to make a decision at the July meeting about how best to be good stewards of the money in our treasury.
- The council voted to appoint Patricia Hestekin to a three-year-term on the St. Mark's Child Development Board. She will be the treasurer for the Child Development Center.
- The council voted to appoint Beth Benson Ulrich as St. Mark's Financial Secretary. Beth is training with Jim Erickson and will be assuming the position later this year.
- The council approved the Triple Play Cookie Youth Fundraiser via email vote.

PASTORAL ACTS

Wedding

May 26 – Royce Golembeck II & Caitlyn Fecht

Baptisms

June 10 - Madison Leigh Matile

June 24 – Quincy Marie Kessen
Everett Paul Flinkow

Council members

Don Friend Council President	630-892-6616 donaldfmd@yahoo.com
Charlie Brummet Treasurer	630-466-7087 cbrummet@aol.com
David Albers Property	219-477-7250 albersdavid089@gmail.com
Austin Bredow Outreach	773-988-1231 a_bredow@yahoo.com
Jeanne Flynn Youth and Family	630-896-6312 flynn64sq@sbcglobal.net
Chad Gooch Technology	630-466-0742 cgooch@cleo.com
Ginny Pavesich Stewardship	630-337-7004 alinenow@reagan.com
Heather Rehg New Members	630-801-4121 rehg@comcast.net
Carol Reiseck Stewardship	630-554-4255 carol.reiseck@cuchicago.edu
Pastor Patrick Fish	630-897-6891, ext. 102 pfish@stmarksaurora.net
Pastor Pat Geiseman	630-897-6891, ext. 101 pgeiseman@stmarksaurora.net

St. Mark's staff

(phone is 630-897-6891, unless indicated otherwise)

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Pastor Patrick Fish Associate Pastor	Ext. 102 pfish@stmarksaurora.net
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Gregg Kobilska (July & August) Facility Manager	Ext 106 facilitymgr@stmarksaurora.net
Jim Erickson Financial Secretary	630-235-6510 giving@stmarksaurora.net
Colette Patterson-Moon Director, Child Development Center	630-897-6063 stmarksdir@att.net
Terese Ruppel Nursery Coordinator	630-466-1036 ter60554@gmail.com

Have information to share? Cutoff time for the weekly *Courier* is **noon each Monday**, and for the monthly *Vineyard*, the **15th of the month**. Email your article to news@stmarksaurora.net, or drop it in Marcia Broucek's mailbox.

Do you get your copy of the *Vineyard* in the mail? Want to receive a digital copy instead? (You'll be helping save printing and postage!) Do you get the weekly email news? If not, let us know. Email news@stmarksaurora.net, and we'll make sure you get what you need.

Servers for worship

June 30 & July 1	Saturday, 5:00pm	Sunday, 9:00am	Sunday, 10:30am
Acolytes	Clodagh Creaney, Darragh Creaney	Cara Davenport	Isabelle Jones
Adult Worship Assistants	Bob Johnson	Sheryl Campen	
A/V Desk	Nancy Clark	Scott Thompson	Matt Greising
Altar Care	Virgil Ostreng	Team A	Team A
Bread Baker	Emma Albers	Emma Albers	Emma Albers
Hospitality Team	K. Walz, S. & L. Tomlin, V. Ostreng	Team A - Mark Perry	Team A - Deb Steinheimer
Reader	Kathy Walz	Team A	Team A
Welcome Center Hosts	TBA	Team A	Team A
July 7 & 8			
Acolytes	Katie Ulrich	TBA	TBA
Adult Worship Assistants	Bob Johnson	Anna Themanson	-
A/V Desk	Kasey Minard	Fred Krueger	Fred Krueger
Altar Care	Al Lettow	Team B	Team B
Bread Baker	Jens Jensen	Jens Jensen	Jens Jensen
Hospitality Team	Al Lettow, Jim & Clare Toynton	Team B—Bruce Wood	Team B - Youth Group
Reader	Kathy Walz	Team B	Team B
Welcome Center Hosts	TBA	Team B	Team B
July 14 & 15			
Acolytes	TBA	Aiden Hobson, Makenzy Hobson	Isabele Jones
Adult Worship Assistants	Bob Johnson	Greg Jackman	-
A/V Desk	Kathy Walz	Dan Hawks	Melvin Smith
Altar Care	Don Bryant	Team C	Team C
Bread Baker	Pam Krasinski	Pam Krasinski	Pam Krasinski
Hospitality Team	Jens J., Don B., Kasey M.	Team C - John & Terry Thorsen	Team C - Mike Flynn
Reader	Sheila Johnson	Team C	Team C
Welcome Center Hosts	TBA	Team C	Team C
July 21 & 22			
Acolytes	TBA	Shaelin Dunn	Elena Gooch, Gabe Gooch
Adult Worship Assistants	Bob Johnson	Jill Fox	-
A/V Desk	Nancy Clark	TBA	Mark Hipp
Altar Care	Erik Egeland	Team D	Team D
Bread Baker	Emma Albers	Emma Albers	Emma Albers
Hospitality Team	Shell & Lynida Tomlin, Steve Kuhn	Team D - John & Terry Thorsen	Team D
Reader	Erik Egeland	Team D	Team D
Welcome Center Hosts	TBA	Team D	Team D
July 28 & 29			
Team A switched with Youth @10:30			
Acolytes	TBA	Shaelin Dunn	TBA
Adult Worship Assistants	Bob Johnson	Don Friend	-
A/V Desk	Sheila Johnson	Jill Fox	Mark Hipp
Altar Care	Virgil Ostreng	Team B	Team A
Bread Baker	Pam Krasinski	Pam Krasinski	Pam Krasinski
Hospitality Team	V. Ostreng, M. Hicks, K. Walz	Team B - Bruce Wood	Team A—Deb Steinheimer
Reader	Miriam Hicks	Team A	Team A
Welcome Center Hosts	TBA	Team A	Team A



St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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**Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America**
 God's work. Our hands.



- Tuesday, Aug 7: New Adult Study starts
- Friday, Aug 10: CDC musical, "100% Chance of Rain"
- Tuesday, Aug 21: Glory Ringers rehearsals start
- Thursday, Aug 23: Lion's Voice Choir rehearsals start
- Thursday, Aug 23: Adult Fellowship, Elwood House
- Wednesday, Aug 29: BBQ Fundraiser
- Saturday, Sept 8: "God's Work, Our Hands" Day
 The Neighbor Project
 PADS dinner
- Sunday, Sept 9: Rally Day
- Wednesday, Sept 12: FDL starts
- Saturday, Sept 22: Habitat for Humanity Faith Build
- Saturday, Sept 22: Quilt luncheon
- COMING IN SEPTEMBER:
 Financial Peace University (dates TBA)



"Radical Hospitality"

Saturday, October 27, 2018

This Fall St. Mark's has the privilege of hosting the Metro-Chicago Synodical Women's Organization 2018 Convention.

This one-day event features keynote speaker Jose Garza, who is the Executive Director of the Workers Defense Project in Texas. Breakout sessions will focus on ELCA's AMMPARO program (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) and RefugeeOne's program to resettle refugees.

SAVE THE DATE! St. Mark's women are invited to attend this important event.