

# God's Work. Our Hands



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



Dear beloved St. Mark's,

The farewell events last weekend were heartrendingly beautiful, meaningful, and memorable. I will treasure the festive worship, lovely and tasty receptions, and your kind words.

The memory books are magnificent—so inclusive and creative. Ed is touched and pleased that many of the photos are his. I will love these forever!

And the generous gift from the congregation was a huge surprise. I plan to use your gift toward a trip. Over all the years I have learned from the best how important it is to get out there and see the world!

I am deeply grateful for all of our years together, for mutuality in mission and ministry. I will miss you all. I am sure that St. Mark's vibrant vision and enthusiastic energy for sharing Abundant Love will continue through you.

May the Spirit continue to stir you for God's work in the world. You remain in my heart always.

With grace and gratitude,  
Pastor Patricia Geiseman

Copies of Pr. Pat's farewell sermon are available at the Welcome Center and on our website.

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

27 South Edgelawn Drive  
Aurora, Illinois 60506

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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## Staff Contact Information

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### Council Members

Don Friend (President), Austin Bredow (Outreach), Charlie Brummet (Treasurer), Chad Gooch (Technology), Michelle Leedham (Congregational Care), Pamela Miller (Youth & Family Ministry), Ginny Pavesich (Stewardship), Carol Reiseck (Stewardship), Pastor Patrick Fish, Interim Pastor Paul Olson

## Prayers

**5:00 p.m.** Jim and Ruth Benson, Dan Downing, Carole Leppert, Leslie Jordan, Kathy Pippig, Barb Veeder

**9:00 a.m.** Jim and Nicole Anderson, Carolene Bell, Howard Burns, Kim Christensen, Lloyd Feltz, Ken Fulks, Charlie Graves, Sara Gross, Georgia Holderfield, Beverly Jacobsen, Gerry Lanigan, Minerva Perez and family, Runge family, Ron Speechley, Sophia Zizzo

**10:30 a.m.** Angel Althoff, Allan Broer, Connor Burke, Dennis Johnson, Marion Mente, Greg Williamson, Alex Winterer

**Continuing Care:** Johanna Brinkman, Richard Brinkman, Laurie Dunn, Tad Dyer, Jim Hutton, Joanne Jackman, Tom Jones, John Lange, Mason McNamara, Terry Minor, Grant Oestrich, Wendy Overstreet, Joe Rangel, Fran Robinson, Sharon Ross, Bessie Sclavos, Lois Swan, Lorand Szekely

We pray for comfort and peace for Verland Brown and family, who mourn the death of Verland's wife, Velda Brown.



June 8-9, 2019

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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



## Father's Day offering for irrigation canals

Looking for a meaningful way to honor your father this Father's Day? Consider giving to ELCA Good Gifts in his name. The project we are supporting this Father's Day is **Irrigation**

**Canals.** When there is not enough rain, drought can ruin crops and cause an entire community to face hunger. An irrigation canal, piped directly to remote fields, along with training and maintenance, helps ensure there is enough to eat, even during the most challenging seasons. **Look for the special envelopes at the Outreach Table.** Make checks payable to **St. Mark's** and add **irrigation canals** in the memo line. Drop your envelopes in the Welcome Center box. Any amount is welcome!

If you would like to make your gift in honor of, or in memory of, someone who has been a father or like-a-father to you, please fill out the sign-up sheet.

**Sunday, June 9th** is the last date to contribute if you would like your name and the person's name whom you are honoring to be listed in the Father's Day bulletin.



## Devotional partners needed

This July, 24 St. Mark's high school students will be participating in the mission trip to Denver, and we want them to know that St. Mark's is behind them. We are looking for **6 MORE PEOPLE** to

be paired with a student as a devotional partner. As a partner, you would write a short inspirational note or devotion for 1 student for each of the 8 days they are gone and add, at your discretion, a small gift for each day. Your devotionals would need to be turned in by July 2nd, and they will be distributed during the trip. This support is very meaningful for our high school students, and also a great opportunity for you to connect with St. Mark's youth. **Sign up at the Welcome Center by June 23** if you would like to participate. Heather Rehg will contact you.



## Blessing Bag items needed

The VBS children are going to be making Blessing Bags for homeless people. To do this, they need at least 100 of each of these items. How can you help? Here's what's needed:

- travel-size hand sanitizer
- socks
- toothbrushes
- hand warmers
- travel-size toothpaste
- Band-Aids
- meal bars/protein bars
- lip balm
- small cracker packages
- water bottles
- rain poncho (Dollar Store)

Drop your items in the Blessing Bag boxes on the VBS table in the narthex. Thanks in advance for helping our kids be able to show God's love!

## "Together we can do something wonderful." (Mother Teresa)

Wonderful, indeed. This past weekend, the farewell celebrations for Pr. Pat were wonderful, meaningful experiences. People of St. Mark's came out in droves, not only to attend Pr. Pat's farewell services, but also to attend to all the behind-the-scenes details that made the weekend run so smoothly and successfully.

Though there's not room to list all the people who helped out, at the top of the list is our Events Coordinator, **Debbie Friend**, and all those who helped her prepare, set up, serve, and clean up after the lovely food events. And **Council**, with Don Friend at the helm, who coordinated the Sunday liturgy and farewell gift.

And the music! Who can say enough about the glorious choir, brass, organ, and handbell music that wrapped our services in celebration and blessings—from the triumphal opening hymn, "O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come," to the loving benediction, "God be with you till we meet again." Thank you to all the musicians, and especially our directors **Kristin Young** and **Sue Hilderbrand**.

Of course, the list of thanks goes on ... thank you to the staff who kept things moving behind the scenes, to Al Lettow and Lee Lawrence who set up for multiple events, to Amy Mabrey who took care of children, to all who contributed time and energy to the photobook gifts, and to all who helped in multiple unseen ways.

This past weekend was a gift of love we will remember for a long time to come.



## This Week at St. Mark's

### SATURDAY, June 8

#### METRO CHICAGO SYNOD ASSEMBLY

2:00p Sutterlin piano recital  
5:00p **Worship and Farewell & Godspeed for David and Nancy Clark**

### SUNDAY, June 9

#### DAY OF PENTECOST

9:00a **Worship & BeFriender commissioning**  
**Coffee Fellowship hosted by Council**  
**Blood pressure screenings**

Shuttle service to Pride Parade after 9:00 service

10:30a **Worship**  
Car pooling to Pride Parade after 10:30 service

12:00p **Aurora Pride Parade**

3:00p Travel Choir rehearsal

### MONDAY, June 10

9:30a **Faith Circle**

6:30p Sanctuary Art & Banners Team

6:30p Fox Valley Festival Chorus rehearsal

7:00p **Yoga class**

### TUESDAY, June 11

10:00a **Adult Study**

1:00p Staff meeting

6:00p ELA class

6:30p **Council meeting**

6:30p **BeFriender training**

### WEDNESDAY, June 12

9:00a The Bread Wrappers

1:00p Office volunteers

3:30p SACC Music

5:00p RIC meeting

5:30p Endowment Team meeting

6:00p **Adult Study**

### THURSDAY, June 13

6:00p ELA class

### FRIDAY, June 14

6:00p **21&Over—Blues on the Fox**

6:30p Al -Anon

### SATURDAY, June 15

1:00p Level 12 Achievement Exam

5:00p **Worship**

**Coffee Project sales**

### SUNDAY, June 16

#### FATHER'S DAY

9:00a **Worship and Sweeney & Homann Baptisms**

**Coffee Project sales**

10:30a **Worship**

3:00p Travel Choir rehearsal

# Discipleship



## Aurora Pride Parade

**Sunday, June 9, 12:00 noon**  
**walk ... attend ... pray**

People from St. Mark's will be walking in the Pride Parade to proclaim that God loves ALL. Whether you're walking in the parade, attending it, or praying for the participants, we all pray that this is a positive, uplifting, and safe event for our community.

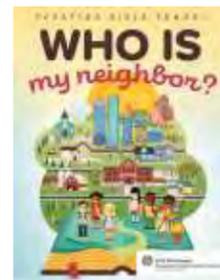
**T-shirts:** If you've pre-ordered a "Love Is Love" T-shirt, you can pick it up (and pay the \$15 cost) on Saturday night or Sunday morning. **Transportation:** If you'd like to avoid the parking hassles, Al Lettow will be driving the CDC van after the 9:00 service to shuttle people to the parade staging area. After the 10:30 a.m. service, there will be carpooling.



## The Neighbor Project workday & BBQ

**Saturday, June 22**  
**9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

The Neighbor Project event on June 22nd will be providing house maintenance or yard beautification at one of The Neighbor Project properties (location TBD). The work will wrap up with a BBQ lunch with the family we are helping and their neighbors. All are welcome! You do not need to be handy; there will be plenty of activities to choose from. And you do not need to stay for the entire time. Even an hour is appreciated! **Sign up at the Welcome Center.**



## "Who Is My Neighbor?"

**Monday-Friday, July 22-26**

**Register your kids today!** This year's theme is "Love God, Love Your Neighbor," and we'll be using an ELCA curriculum which teaches kids that neighbors live not only next door but also across the world.

We need to order T-shirts and supplies ahead, so your early registration will help a lot.

**Register online at [StMarksAurora.net/VBS](http://StMarksAurora.net/VBS)**

**We still need a few more volunteers.** Here are the positions we are looking to fill:

- Preschool snack assistants
- Grade-school story time assistant
- Grade-school crew leaders
- Photographer
- Soundboard leader

**Sign up to volunteer at [StMarksAurora.net/VBS](http://StMarksAurora.net/VBS)**

# Announcements



## Summer yoga classes

**Mondays through July 8**  
**7:00–8:00 p.m.**

This summer, as part of our Congregational Support Ministries, we are offering yoga classes on Monday evenings. All are welcome! Annie Craig is the instructor, and the cost is \$6 per session. Please bring cash or checks (payable to Annie Craig) to your first class, plus a mat. If you're undecided, you can try out the first class for free. Also, an option for chair yoga is included for those who have trouble getting down on the floor. **Sign up at the Welcome Center.**



## Adult Fellowship: Volo Auto Museum

**Thursday, June 27, 8:30 a.m.**

The June Adult Fellowship outing is to the Volo Auto Museum. The group is meeting at the church at 8:30 a.m. for ride sharing and departing at 9:00. **If at least 15 people sign up and pay by June 12th**, discounted tickets will be \$12. If you'd like to go along, **sign up at the Welcome Center** and remit funds (by cash or check) to Charlie Brummet.\* Lunch will be at Fratello's Hot Dogs. (The menu is similar to Portillo's.)

\* In case there are fewer than 15 people, your \$12 will be refunded. Unfortunately refunds will not be possible once the group tickets are purchased.



## Adult Fellowship: "Best of Broadway"

**Early sign-up for Wed, August 21**  
**Lunch & matinée, Starved Rock Lodge**

The Adult Fellowship group is heading to Starved Rock in August for lunch and a matinee performance by vocalists Phil & Amy, singing Broadway hits from *The Music Man*, *Showboat*, *My Fair Lady*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and many more. The cost is \$36 (includes buffet lunch and show). **Sign up early at the Welcome Center. Space is limited to 25; payment is due July 21st.**



## Coffee Project sales

**Saturday-Sunday, June 15-16**

If you missed stocking up on Equal Exchange coffee the first weekend of June (postponed because of the farewell events), plan to pick up your coffee and chocolates the weekend of June 15-16. The Coffee Project team will also have their monthly

"20th Anniversary Drawing" on Sunday. Remember: Any purchase makes you eligible for the monthly drawing.



# Welcome

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!



## Reflections for Pentecost

- How is the Spirit still being poured out and alive in your life? In the life of St. Mark's?
- How does the Pentecost story point us and the church outward?
- How does Pentecost cause us to see difference and diversity differently?



## Looking ahead . . . World Refugee Day

Each June 20th, the world comes together to honor World Refugee Day. The United Nations General Assembly launched the holiday in 2000 to show that the world supports and stands with refugees.

St. Mark's echoes that support, and we want to renew our commitment to refugees with two special events.

On **Sunday, June 23rd**, **Rev. Keith Draper from World Relief DuPage/Aurora** will give the sermon during our 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship services.

On **Sunday, June 30th**, we are offering a **special catered brunch at 11:30 a.m. and panel discussion from 12 to 1 p.m.** The brunch will feature Congolese food catered by Urban Tables (Chicago) and will be served by refugees. The panel will also include refugees who will share their stories. The cost for brunch is \$15. We are glad to support Urban Tables, which provides training and jobs for refugees, as well as a way to share their native cultural recipes. **Sign up at the Welcome Center and pick up an envelope.**

**We are glad to welcome back Chandler Claps as one of our drummers this summer at the Sunday 10:30 service.**



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America