

YOUTH

SUNDAY COOL

There's never been a better time to jump in and check out Sunday Cool. We've got games, highs and lows, donut holes, icebreakers, devotionals, and more! Look for Calvin Moore and Rachel Peterson to participate.

When: Sundays at 9:45 am

Who: Grades 6 – 12

Where: the Narthex

SAVE THE DATE! GAME DAY IN THE YOUTH ROOM

We will be meeting in the youth room for some high-spirited party games, and a round of Wizard Party. There will be lunch and other snacks. If you are interested in the youth group or already a regular, this event will be a great opportunity to break the ice.

When: Today, January 11, from 12 noon to 2 pm

Who: Grades 6-12

Where: Youth Room at the Church

MISSION STATEMENT

To share the gospel through worship and service.
To be an inclusive community
for justice and peace among diverse peoples.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

316 E 24th Ave | Spokane WA 99203 | 509.747.6677
office@stmarks-spokane.org | www.stmarks-spokane.org

prayers

Merrily Ripley
Marla Jo Dittrich
Jon Merrell
Lori Cornell
Debbie Hansen
Keith Beck
Don Schelling
Dotty Thomas
Alice Nelson
Dan Tutt
Neil Kinkel
Martha Harvie
Kurt Rudy, brother of Scott Rudy
Allison Rasor, daughter of Rachel Devlin
Kim McDaniel, cousin of Tammy Zimmer
Val Adkins, sister of Yvonne Davis & Liz McGaughy
Chris Huck, brother of Donna Huck
Anna Matthews
Robert Mayer
Carla Brewer
Steve Warner
Suzie
John
Brad
Michael
Sophia

Rick
Sarah
Rachel, Ezra, and Xavier
Jack
John
Lisa

Baptized today at the 10:45 am service is **Emerson Love Bjerkestrand**, daughter of Hailey & Eric Bjerkestrand. Sponsors are Mark & Heidi Bjerkestrand and Paula & Tyler Cates.

Prayers for the family of **James Bennett** at the time of his death.



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 11, 2026

Worship Participants

Preaching Pastor Gretchen Olson
Presiding Edwin Weber
Acolytes
10:45 Leo Bassett
Quinn Bowman

Greeters
8:30 Judy Cannata, Mary Ann Frandsen
10:45 the Bassett family and Joni Cartwright

Ushers
8:30 Thomas Evenson and Amber Swim
10:45 Kate and Gia Campanella, Debby Bell

Lectors
5:30 Gerry Wigren
8:30 Ira Gardner
10:45 Brian Stanfill

Creed and Prayers
8:30 Mike Connelly
10:45 Jane Summers

Altar Guild
8:30 Carol Nelson
10:45 Laren Sunde

Bread Baker Kirstin Liesch
Communion Set-up Elaine Orness, Cathy Thornton
Sound/Livestream, 10:45 Charlie Wagner
Rick Young

Service Coordinator
5:30 & Altar Guild Darleen Fitzgerald
8:30 Becky Keene
10:45 Dave Troyke
Director of Music/Instrumental Carol Miyamoto
Director of Music/Choral Ann Benson

MUSIC

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Jared Hall | Trumpet |
| Craig Landron | Saxophone |
| Matt Peterson | Trombone |
| Caylee Olson | Bass |
| Brendon Cesaratto | Drums |

TODAY

Welcome - Whether you are a regular visitor, longtime member, or worshiping with us at St. Mark’s for the first time, we’re grateful you are with us today. **Please fill out an attendance card from the pew and place it in the offering plate.** Listing everyone in your household helps us keep our membership records current and strengthens our pastoral care. All are welcome at the Lord’s Table for Holy Communion. More information is available at stmarks-spokane.org.

If you are sitting in one of the side pews, **please leave the hymnals in the upright position.** This helps extend the life of these books by saving the binding. Thank you.

Nursery – The nursery is open from 8:15 am – 12:00 noon, go up the stairs and follow the signs. We welcome infants to kindergarten aged children.

Godly Play Sunday School starts at 9:40 am in the Parish House. This is for youth, ages 3 - 6th grade. Giving us an extra 5 minutes will allow the youth more time to enjoy the variety of crafts and activities during class. Thanks for helping your child get here by 9:40 am.

Sunday Forum – Join us in the Conference Room at 9:45 am to watch “The History of the Origins of the ELCA.” This shows the broader history of American Lutheran mergers, through the Seminex split and into the votes and decisions that finally led to the 1987 constituting convention. We’ll take some time to reflect on what unity made possible and what faithful Lutheran witness might look like in our own time.

Alleluia Choir practice starts at 10:45 am in the Choir Loft. Find it by going in the Fellowship Hall and going up the stairs. We’ve extended that age range for this group, welcoming 1st through and including 8th graders. Youth are welcome to join any time.

THIS WEEK

Monday Yoga - Please join us for a Vinyasa flow class from 4:30 - 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday – Congregation Council meeting is at 7:00 pm.

Women’s AA meets Tuesdays from 8:00 - 9:00 am in the Parish House.

Scripture and Coffee - We meet in the Conference Room on **Tuesdays at 10:30 am** and explore Bible passages. The readings are **Isaiah 49:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9,** and the **Gospel is John 1:29-42.**

Sunrise Saints and Sinners – We’ll meet Wednesday, January 14, at 7:00 am, at The Chalet Restaurant, 2918 S. Grand Blvd. In this group you'll have lots of laughs, interesting discussions about a variety of topics, plus a good breakfast. All men are welcome saints and sinners!

Wonderful Wednesday is back - Join us for this community night for all ages.

- **6:00 – 7:00 pm - Potluck meal, the whole congregation is invited.**
- 6:30 – 8:00 pm - All-ages youth games with Calvin and Rachel.
- **7:00 - 8:00 pm - Confirmation classes for grades 8 and 9, or time to connect with others.**

Choir practice – Choir practice is on Thursdays at 7:15 pm in the sanctuary.

COMING UP

Sunday Forum next week, January 18 – We’re excited to welcome **Mikah Meyer to share Canyon Chorus, his documentary that follows a river rafting journey through**

Utah’s Desolation Canyon. With scenes of friendship, adventure, and reflection on identity, the film celebrates authentic living and joyful companionship of a group of gay men and explores opening the outdoors to all. Mikah will talk about inclusion in outdoor spaces and the way faith and vocation intersect in God’s vast creation. Please join us at 9:45 am in the Conference Room to watch this film.

St. Mark’s Semi-annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 25, at 12:00 noon. We will vote on the 2025 budget. Copies of the budget will be available in the church office.

GIVING

| December 2025 Giving | 2025 Operating Budget | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Giving | Expenses | Budgeted Expenses | Net YTD |
| \$ 102,495 | \$ 869,363 | \$ 853,760 | \$ 875,514 | \$ 15,603 |

Wow! These numbers certainly express how committed our congregation is to all the programming we offer here. The average giving in a month is close to \$73,000, which makes the \$102, 495 giving amount even more significant.

We are so grateful to everyone that was able to give an extra gift – every amount matters! We are seeing a steady increase in attendance numbers and want to be able to offer more varied opportunities as needs arise. Your generous giving will help allow for that.

At the start of this new year, we are asking members,
*“What are your hopes and dreams for
St. Mark’s in the coming years?”*

Please fill out the form and leave it in the basket by the sanctuary doors. Thank you!