



# St. Mark's Lutheran Church Messenger



**DECORATING THE CHURCH**  
If any are available the Saturday, November 30th at 10 am, we are decorating St. Marks for Advent and Christmas! Your help is appreciated!

**SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING** – On Sunday, December 1, following the Divine Service, we will be holding our Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting in the basement Fellowship Hall. The agenda will include board reports, board/officer elections, and discussion/approval of a budget for 2025. All church members are encouraged to attend! Please mark this important date on your calendars now and plan to attend, if possible.

**Advent & Christmas Services:** Due to vacancy, St. Mark's will not be able to offer Mid-week Advent Services. However, our sister congregation are.

**December 04** at Faith Lutheran Church, 3501 E. Highland Road, Highland Twp.

**December 11** at Christ Lutheran Church, 620 General Motors Road, Milford

**December 18** at Peace Lutheran Church, 7390 Elizabeth Lake Road, Waterford

All above services start at 7 pm

**St. Marks:** Dec. 24th at 5 pm Carols & Candlelight  
Dec 25 at 10 am  
Divine Service with Holy Communion

## What's Inside...

1. Decorate the Church, Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting, Worship Opportunities,
2. Open Door Adopt—A-Family For Christmas, Quilting Bee, Flower Fund, Toiletry & Hygiene Open Door, We Continue to Collect Stamps & used eyeglasses, Collecting Cans for Jim Boway
3. Thought & Prayer List, Special Fund Donations, Anniversaries & Birthdays, Transfers
4. Upcoming Opportunities
5. Church Council Meeting Minutes
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7. Calendar

## The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of:

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
*The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod*

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**Sunday Worship**  
Divine Service at 9:30 a.m. followed by  
Adult Bible Study at 10:45 a.m.  
Handicap Accessible

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**OPEN DOOR: ADOPT A FAMILY.**

St. Mark's has adopted 5 Children. We are accepting donations to pay for one item for each of the children at Christmas. It was decided to purchase something they would like that normally they would not be able to afford and would enjoy. But would not be so expensive that it was not attainable.

Thank you to those who donated and purchased the gifts to make the Children's Christmas brighter

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**\*FLOWER FUND:** The Flower fund is just about depleted. We need your help to replenish it. Any amount would be appreciated. Please help keep our Altar beautiful on Sundays, not only during advent, but during the upcoming year. Please place your donations in envelope labeled flower fund. Thank you

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**QUILTING BEE ON THURSDAYS:**

Anyone who would like to learn how to quilt, (or even if you already know how to quilt) are welcome to join our

Quilting Bee group that meets each Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the upstairs senior youth room. The quilters work pretty much year 'round to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and then LWR distributes the quilts to needy individuals worldwide. Many hands make for light work, so if you'd like to help, just show up on any Thursday!

**Please note: The Quilting Bees are going into hibernation (taking a break)! They will be off for December and January and will be bizzy once again Beginning February 6.**

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**OILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER**

◆ We continue to receive hygiene &

*(Continued next column)*

toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

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**WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT** used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please leave 1/4" of the paper around the stamp.

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**Collecting Bottles/Cans for Ziah Town School**

If you would like to donate your returnable cans and bottles, the Board of Human Care is accepting them weekly! Just bring your bag to church and an usher will let you know where you can put them. A member of the Human Care Board will collect them and make the return. All money will then go into the fund for the Ziah Town Liberian Lutheran School to be used for catechisms and/or school supplies. You may also make donations at any time by either putting your check/cash in a green envelope and writing "Joe Boway" on the front (checks made payable to St. Mark's), or visiting the St. Mark's website, clicking the online giving button and selecting the fund titled Joe Boway/Liberian School.

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IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

**For Our church members:**

Barbara Jewell  
Nancy McInnis  
Cathy Fitzgerald

**Shut—Ins**

*Julia Ligon*  
*Art Vermeersch*  
*Carl & Carol Zienert*

**Family & friends:**

Michael, Truman Duggin, Jim Copola,  
Lisa, Evelyn Davis, Carl Feiler,  
Mickey Smith, Ed Kempisty,  
Chip Cryderman, Kristy Fresh,  
Peg Metzger, Patricia Chipps



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS  
& ANNIVERSARIES**

*Anniversaries*

28: Dean & Sherry Hyrkas —60 Yrs  
31: Brian & Sarah Dwyer — 14 Yrs.

*Birthdays*

20: Juanita Reardon

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**Special Fund Donations**

***We want to thank those who made special do-  
nations***

***Liberian School-Joe Boway:***

Lynn Thomas

***Sanctuary Remodeling:***

Nancy McInnis



**Upcoming Opportunities**

*Greetings, fellow Lutheran choral music aficionado!*

*My name is Bob Alexander. I've been the Director of Worship and Choral director for **Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Bloomfield Hills** for many decades now. For the past two years, our congregation has presented, as one of our Advent evenings, a colorful program we call "**An Evening of Carols and Stories**". This year the event will take place on **December 11th at 7:00pm**. This year, we are reaching out you, one of our sister Lutheran congregations in the area in the hopes that you might be interested in joining the choir we assemble for this one-night event. The evening features a number of heartwarming Christmas reminiscences (usually pre-recorded and projected on our large LED screens), a small, but stunning, Christmas organ medley by Mr. Lance Luce, our organist (and, as it happens, the primary organist for The Detroit Red Wings), a selection of familiar carols sung by the congregation, a brief Christmas homily by our pastor, and, as you can imagine, three choral songs presented by a Christmas choir assembled just for the evening's performance. The choir is drawn from congregation members as well as friends, family and community members who simply love to sing.*

*If any of your members who may be interested in joining in on this charming evening. We will be rehearsing the three pieces of choral music on most Wednesday evenings beginning **November 6th at 7pm**, affording us plenty of opportunities to learn the parts. **As is our practice, we will have SATB rehearsal tracks available in CD format or online as MP3s for choir members to access.** We will, naturally, issue **sheet music (and have printed PDF music available on line) for choir members to use and reference.** We will also be open to making music and accompaniment tracks of the songs we will perform available to your congregation in the event you would like to use the music for your own Christmas season performances. Choir members for "An Evening of Carols and Stories" **do not need to be especially proficient** – we have found the skills needed follow the enthusiasm of the vocalists. We also **encourage participation by members of all ages from teens to seniors.***

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**The Lutheran Choralaires  
Annual Christmas Concert**

*Director—Terry Herald; Has two performance opportunities:*

**St. John Lutheran Church**

*1011 W. University Dr. Rochester*

**Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Historic Trinity Lutheran Church**

*1345 Gratiot Ave Detroit, Michigan*

**Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Suggested Donation: \$10. Adult, \$5 kids**

**Church Council  
Business Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 2024**

**Attendees:** John Reardon, Darryl Swainson, Karen Kaufman, Lillian Harmon  
Not everyone could attend the meeting so there was a round table discussion to tackle some upcoming issues that will need to be addressed.

**Call to Order:** 7:04 pm

**Agenda Additions**

Letter from the LCMS District regarding the Circuit Pastor Nominations which is due in December of 2024. A submission of a recommended candidate will be made by the deadline.

**Previous Minutes** Reviewed on own  
**Treasurer's Report** Reviewed on own  
**Financial Secretary's Report** N/A  
**Calendar/Parish Report** Reviewed on own.  
**Vice President's Report** None

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Assimilation & Stewardship** -Vacant

**Elders & Call Committee** per Darryl

Church Services starting November 1<sup>st</sup>: We will start early into Divine Setting 3. Alternating 1&3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays having communion and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays without. Although Communion will be offered during Major festival days such as Easter and Christmas day.

Thanksgiving Eve – due to lack of attendance in the past, service will not be conducted this year

Advent – Pastor Moyer there will be a rotating schedule to be distributed soon as to where services will be conducted

Christmas Eve/Day- There will be a Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service.

Christmas Day service will have Communion.

**Human Care:** Open Door is holding a Free Fraud Alert Life Skills Course on October 17th

The Father's Hands Food Pantry and Clothing Closet

**Parish Fellowship**

Game Night was held on October 11<sup>th</sup> had about 11 or 12 people show up and played euchre and some played some board games. 1 person came in off the street after seeing the sign by the street. Called a couple of friends but they couldn't attend. Inquiry was made as to whether another game night should occur. General consensus was yes.

**Properties**

F-150 Tires are now on the truck.

Fall Clean-up October 13<sup>th</sup>

**Church Council  
Business Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 2024 Continued**

**LWML**

Shipped 45 Quilts;

Multi-Lakes Zone LWML Fall Rally on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 1 pm. This will be held at: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lake Orion

**OLD BUSINESS**

Computers:

At the Mission Planning Meeting, the Council approved a budget for 2 computers with an allocated budget of \$4,000. Having difficulty with Dell. Getting the run around? It was decided we were not going to go to Dell directly. We went with Best Buy and purchased locally with the help of Karen Kaufman, we were able to secure a new computer for Kyle. Lilli's computer will be purchased shortly after we figure out how to get a credit line big enough to obtain one as checks are no longer preferable and Credit Cards are.

Basement Leakage: Sidewalk Sloping? Downspout rework? Grade (of dirt) toward the building instead of away? Will review. There hasn't had a lot of rain since. Hard to determine at this point.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Reformation Dinner will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup>. It was discussed that this will also be the last week the LoCascios' will be here as they move on. John will say some words of thanks for all they have done for the congregation over the years.

Budget was reviewed some more discussion as to the final numbers for next year.

Decision by all was made that Postage category should just be put under administrative instead of multiple departments as most is done either by the Elders or by Administration

Special Voter's Meeting- Council is in planning stages at the moment for an agenda.

Nominations- none, as of yet, were submitted

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:35 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 19 at 7pm**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lillian Harmon on behalf of Nancy McInnis



**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**



**2024**

For live, up-to-date versions of ANY St. Mark's calendar, visit our website at: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1 1st Sun. in Advent</b> Pastor: Rod Zwonitzer Assistant: Trent Johnson 9:30 am Divine Service w/ Communion 10:45 am Congregational Mtg.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
		Elder's Mtg., 7 pm	Advent Service 7pm at: Faith Lutheran 3501 E. Highland Rd. Highland Twp.			
<b>8 2nd Sun. in Advent</b> Pastor: Frank Pies 9:30 am Divine Service no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
			Advent Service 7 pm at: Christ Lutheran 620 General Motors Rd. Milford		NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	
<b>15 3rd Sun. in Advent</b> Pastor: Terry Nelson Assistant: Darryl Swainson 9:30 am Divine Service w/ Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21 1st Day Winter</b>
			DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES Advent Service 7 pm at: Peace Lutheran 7390 Elizabeth Lk Rd., Waterford		DISTRIBUTE NEWSLTR.	
<b>22 4th Sun. in Advent</b> Pastor: Mark Arendell 9:30 am Divine Service no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	<b>23</b>	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b>	<b>25 Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
		Pastor: Rod Zwonitzer 5:00 pm Service of Carols and Candlelight OFFICE CLOSED OBSERV.	Pastor: Frank Pies Assistant: Darryl Swainson 10 am Divine Service w/Communion OFFICE CLOSED OBSERV.			
<b>29 1st Sun. aft. Christmas</b> Pastor: Terry Nelson 9:30 am Divine Service/ no Communion 10:45 am Adult Bible Class	<b>30</b>	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>	<b>Serving Schedules</b>			
<i>Merry Christmas!</i>	<b>USHERS:</b>		<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	<b>GREETERS:</b>	<b>COUNTERS:</b>	
	01 Tom Kaufman 08 Trent Johnson 15 John Reardon 22 Matt. Maier 24 Tom Kaufman/Darryl 25 John Reardon 29 Matt. Maier		Jennie & Karen Kaufman	01 Kelly Lekas 08 Jennie & Karen Kaufman 15 Mary Ann Lockwood 22 Gail Fitzgerald 24 Jennie & Karen Kaufman 25 Mary Ann Lockwood 29 Gail Fitzgerald	Volunteers	