

The Lookout

October, 2017

THE YEAR OF "RE"- RE:Inventing

On October 29, 2017, we culminate a year of RE with the 500 year celebration of the beginning of the RE:Formation. I have often joked with other Lutherans that the worst idea of celebrating "The idea that changed the world" (PBS), is going back to Germany where it all began. Nothing against the birthplace of the RE:Formation — I have roots there, but going to Germany really goes against everything the RE:Formation was about. God has been RE:Inventing *throughout* history and *throughout* Scripture.

There is a great story about this RE:Inventing in the book of Acts. Paul and Barnabas are missionaries headed throughout all of Asia Minor. They have met with and established a disciple-making process among new believers. After establishing several new communities of new believers, they begin to discuss the next part of their missional journey, and decide to go back to all the places that they have already been. *After some time Paul said to Barnabas, "Let's go back and visit each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are doing."* (Acts 15:36)

However, the Holy Spirit moves Paul to take Silas and go in one direction and Barnabas to take John Mark and go in another direction. In a way, God did not desire Paul and Barnabas to simply go through what had already been done. Rather, God moved them to take the story of Jesus' death and resurrection even beyond what they themselves had intended. I think that is the gift of the reformation.

The prophet Isaiah articulated God's rhythm of RE:Inventing this way:

"But forget all that —

it is nothing compared to what I am going to do.

For I am about to do something new.

See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?

I will make a pathway through the wilderness.

I will create rivers in the dry wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19

The spirit of the RE:Formation was built around the spirit of RE:Inventing. We have the opportunity to become a community of faith RE:levant to the world and the community we serve. The RE:Formation did not just change the world because there was opportunity, the RE:Formation changed the world because it connected the people of God by reinventing the way church was done. We have not lost that spirit. If Diana Butler Bass is correct that RE:Formations happen about every 500 years, we are due for another one. RE:Inventing is not a way of casting all things off and starting over. Instead, it is a way of seeing God do something new as God had promised. This new reality is always marked by the new life God brings through death. When we celebrate this 500th anniversary, it is possible that the world might find ways of uplifting our RE:Inventing spirit 500 years from now. — Pastor Andy

St. Mark's Church

424 Hyde Park Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188
262-547-8213

Worship Services

Wednesday—7 p.m.
Sunday—9:30 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday:
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Contact Info

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Baptisms

- Charlotte Baumler – September 10

Funerals

The comfort of Jesus is shared with our members and their families who lost loved ones:

- Kristine Anderson & Kelly Trautman and their families in the death of their father, Charles Barten

Special Gifts

Special gifts were given this month to help support the ministries of St. Mark's by: Coffee Hour, Ruth Circle, and Senior Connection.

Lookout Mailing

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Mary Jo Christensen, Roger & Darlene Bjerke, Delores Grulke, and Barb Ruhe



Thank You!

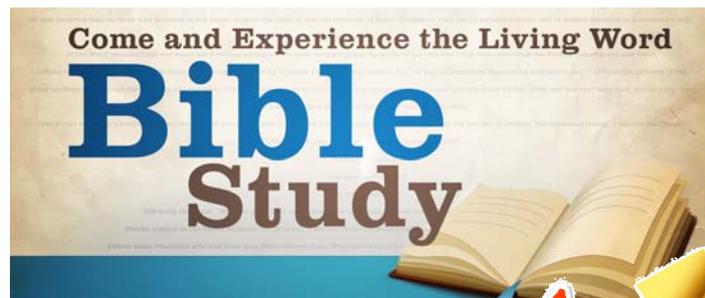
PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



**Prayer
Shawl
ministry**

Looking for a new way to occupy yourself during the upcoming months of winter? Come join the Prayer Shawl members as we offer a beginner's class in knitting and crocheting. Bring your own supplies if you have them, or we can supply them for you. We will teach you the basics and get you started on a new, fulfilling hobby.

Join us **Monday, October 2** at 6:30 p.m. Any questions? Contact Mary Jo Christensen or Anna Miller.



BIBLE STUDY:

Wednesdays and Thursdays

NEW

Something new this Fall—an additional time for the same Bible Study. Dig into the worship Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday and apply principles to your life. Now, with TWO options:

- **Wednesdays at 3:30-5:00 p.m. OR**
- **Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 a.m.** Please note that there is **NO** Bible Study on **Thur., Oct. 12.**

Both sessions meet in Fellowship Hall.

Each week Marcia Marquardt offers some background information to help the group understand what is happening in the text. She asks questions that lead into discussion to discover and apply principles for living. No Bible experience necessary! Some people are quiet and some discuss. Some come every week and some come when they can. All are welcome!



QUILTS FOR HARVEY RELIEF

The quilters donated 10 quilts along with 3 baby quilts to the JJ Watt drive at Pewaukee High School.



SENIOR + CONNECTION



Tuesday, October 10

11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand—it's Senior Connection Game Day! We have invited guests from Luther Manor to join us for a potluck lunch, games, crafts, music, devotions, and prizes. Please bring a dish to share—and invite a friend! Join us for a day of fun and fellowship!

Questions? Contact Rockie Matson at #262-549-9192 or matsonret@att.net.



ST. MARK'S CUP OF COMFORT CAFÉ

Thursday, October 12, 2017

10:00 A.M.

Upstairs Lounge Room (South Hallway)

Our mission has changed to serve all who need comfort, no matter the reason—grieving the loss of a loved one, experiencing personal issues (such as health, job loss, loneliness, family turmoil, etc.), or anyone who needs a place to turn for comfort. Our purpose is not to solve these issues, but to focus on God's love for us and to comfort and support one another through music, conversation, prayer, words from the Bible, and care for one another. We accomplish this with a cup of coffee, often homemade cookies, and lots of hugs.

No matter the reason, if you are seeking God's comfort and love, please join us. **YOU** are welcome into this circle of caring.

If you have any questions, please call **Anne Link** at #262-542-6517.

"For the Lord comforts His people and will have compassion on all his afflicted ones." Isaiah 49



OPEN OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Andy will host open office hours on **Wednesdays** from **9:00—11:30 a.m.** at Roots Café in downtown Waukesha, located at 363 W Main Street.

Please drop by to say hello, ask any pressing questions, have a cup of coffee, or simply check in.



PRAYER CHAIN

Do you have a Prayer Chain request? Others will pray for you! Contact Sharon Collins at 262-385-7401 or email at prayerchain@welcome2stmarks.com.



OCTOBER

Football competition time!! Green and gold food/packages (Green Bay Packers) vs. brown and orange food (Cleveland Browns). Last year the Browns won, but the Food Pantry and Salvation Army are the big winners. No matter what we deliver to them they are very appreciative. Thank you!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

On **Saturday, October 14** at 8:00 a.m. we will resume our Men's breakfast schedule.

We will meet the **second Saturday of each month** through May. The dates are:

- October 14
- November 11
- December 9
- January 13
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12

IMPORTANT NOTE: Start times will vary. Watch for details as the various dates draw near. Jim Plaster will take the role of Master Chef and Tim Nekich will moderate the activities.

From Deaconess Marcia Marquardt

Psalm 139:14 "Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it."

Dear St. Mark's Family and Friends,

What do you see when you look in the mirror? What do you see about yourself that may be hidden from others? God sees beautiful you! He sees and loves us just as we are. He sees our needs, hurts, and desires, and reaches out to us with compassion, grace, and wisdom. In a culture that is quick to evaluate and condemn, we long for acceptance, love, and significance. Jesus offers himself to us to fill the longings that are deep within.

Women of all ages from several churches and communities will gather on **Saturday, November 4** to take a day of refreshment and renewal in God at Camp Timber-lee in East Troy. We'll explore God's "Be-YOU-tiful" value for us and his "Be-YOU-tiful" calling in our lives. We'll listen to video presentations and discussions, and spend some time connecting deeply with God in prayer and worship. And we'll have free time to enjoy lunch together, God's creation at Camp Timber-lee, and an optional craft project. It will be a great time to get to know other women. Invite friends to come, too!

Pick up registration forms at the Welcome Center at church or contact me. Registration forms and the \$20 fee are due on October 22. Don't let the cost keep you from coming! Scholarships are available. Contact me for more information.

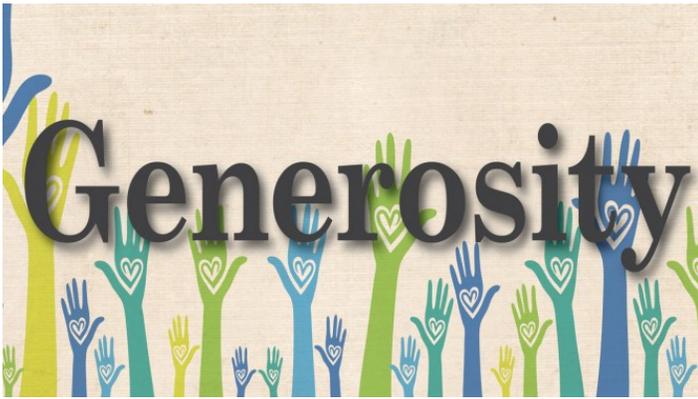
As always, I'd love to get to know you better. Stop me at church or contact me to sit down for a conversation.

In His Service,

Marcia



Be·You·tiful



GENEROSITY SMALL GROUPS

You are invited to examine and explore GENEROSITY! All that we are and all that we have comes from God. We are grateful to God for it all, and are responsible to God for how we use it. This Fall we will gather in small groups to view engaging video presentations by Dr. Mark Allan Powell and discuss principles around the good news of generosity. This is NOT a guilt-inducing conversation, but an opportunity to explore a cheerful way of life that builds our faith in God.

- **Tuesdays at 6:30-8:00 p.m.**
September 26-October 31
Leaders: Deb Gerner and Jennine Szwalkiewicz
- **Thursdays at 1:30-3:00 p.m.**
September 28-November 2
Leaders: Barb Geiger and Larry Nines

Come to one, a few, or all the sessions. Sign up for one group, but feel free to visit another group when convenient for your schedule. The groups will gather in the church lobby. Contact Marcia Marquardt for more information.

CHRISTMAS FLUTE CHOIR

If you are interested in playing in this year's Christmas Flute Choir, the event will take place on December 3rd with a few rehearsals in the Fall. We are hoping to add more new faces this year! Please see Jen for more details.



SINGING LADIES

The Singing Ladies of St. Mark's will again sing for worship on **Sunday, October 15!** Rehearsals will occur on **Wednesday evenings, October 4 and 11 at 6:15 p.m.** It is important to be in attendance at both rehearsals. If you are interested, please see Jen for music and more information.



RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, October 11 at 1:00 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining our group, please come. All are welcome! We are currently reading "Moments of Grace for a Woman's Heart" by Elizabeth George.

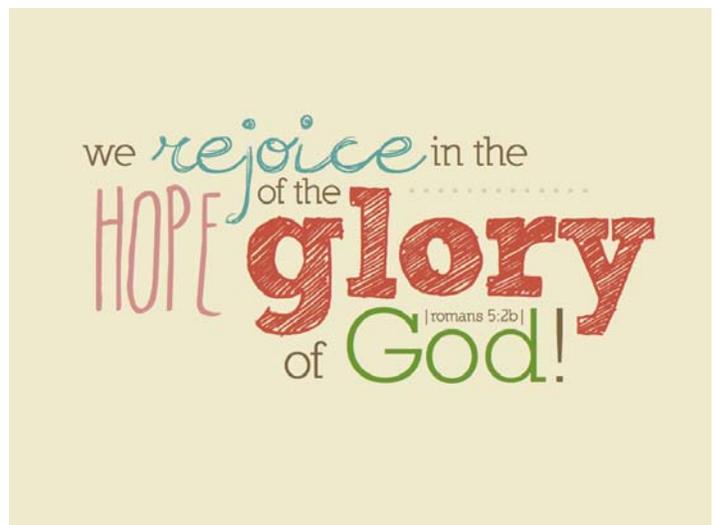
Any questions, please contact **Carole Wolter** at **#262-542-8807**.



WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT—NOVEMBER 4 Camp Timber-Lee in East Troy

What do you see when you look in the mirror? God sees beautiful YOU! Come away for a spiritual make-over that renews and transforms your thinking and attitudes about YOU!

Through presentations, discussions, and quiet time with God, we will see the "Be-YOU-tiful" plan God has for our lives. Friends are welcome, too. Pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center or from Marcia Marquardt. Registration deadline is Sunday, October 22.



PRAYER PARTNERS

ELCA churches in the Greater Milwaukee Synod are linked in partnership with churches in Tanzania. Each month the Go Ministries at St Mark's will reach out to people in Tanzania to invite a prayer partnership. People in Tanzania are praying for us. Would you pray for them?



Paulo Kimaro, a member of Makumira Church in Tanzania, sent this message without any provocation or request:

I am writing you this message while very sadly shocked by the hurricane which has attacked parts of your states. It is really shocking and frustrating situation. Please just know that we are highly praying for hundreds of thousands of the people that might have been hugely hit by this. Please let me have any updates and please feel free to point out the areas that we can concentrate and include it to pray for in our daily prayers. I am so sorry for this.

Paulo

St Mark's is blessed to have brothers and sisters in Christ, living half a world away from us, praying for us. We, in turn, want to be pray for them.

They have asked us to pray "...government officials are restructuring our economy, something which seems to create some misunderstanding and trouble for some. We ask that you ask God to wisely lead our President to make right decisions and to embrace our country peace."

This month we have also asked members of Makumira and Kilala Churches to pray for our members to grow in faith, and that we grow in tolerance of others with differing thoughts and opinions. These people will also pray for our children—that they will apply themselves to their fullest in school.

Please include this request for prayer for our fellow Christians as you meditate.



The blessing of Pastor Andy on his 10-year Ordination Anniversary.





The 7th Annual *Fun Run & Walk for Hope* will be a Halloween-themed event to be held Wednesday, October 25 on the Carroll University campus. (Costumes are welcomed and there will be prizes for the best costume). The Fun Run & Walk is a family friendly and individual activity that will benefit Hope Center and the thousands of Waukesha women, children and men that depend on Center programs to fulfill their basic needs for food, clothing, and simple household furniture.

Rain or shine, Run-Walk registration will be at 5 p.m.; the 1 mile Run-Walk will begin at 5:30 p.m.; awards, refreshments, and chili at 6 p.m. Runners and walkers can also register online by visiting the Hope Center website, www.hopecenterwi.org. For more info, call the Hope Center at **262-549-8726** and ask for Laurie.

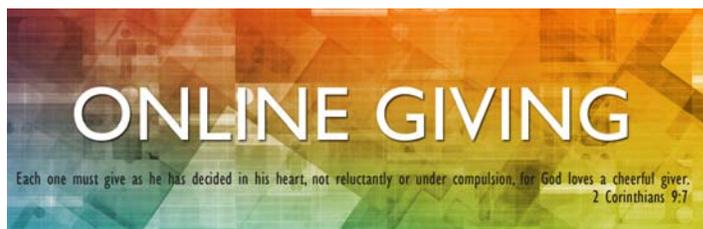


THRIVENT DONATIONS

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? If so, there are several ways that you can help our ministry together at St Mark's and in the community. Here are two ways:

- Your "Choice Dollars" can be directed to St Mark's or other qualifying charity organizations.
- Seed Money for "Action Teams" provide two opportunities each year for \$250 to be invested in qualifying ministries.

Contact Marcia Marquardt if you are a Thrivent member and learn more about these opportunities.



ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE!

Are you interested in the convenience of online giving for your church contributions? We have begun using our new church management software and it's easier than ever to begin!

You are able to have your contributions taken directly from your bank account or credit card on an ongoing or individual basis.

Please contact our church administrator, **Nancy Mitchell**, for details. She will send an email to you explaining the process and it will include a link to take advantage of this convenient giving program, if interested. Nancy can be reached at email: info@welcome2stmarks.com or via phone at **262-547-8213**.



TREASURER'S REPORT— THRU AUG 31

Total <u>Income</u> Year-to-Date	\$161,575
Total <u>Expense</u> Year-to-Date	<u>-188,951</u>
Net	\$(27,376)

As the RE:Formation approaches, let's all pause and RE:Focus on the never-ending blessings that our Lord has bestowed upon us.

Let's RE:Joice and generously support our congregational mission of "Gathered together by God, to Grow, and Go Out!"

Be strong in your faith and good stewards with what God has entrusted to you.

Tom Beranek
Treasurer

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
424 Hyde Park Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188
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SPECIAL MUSIC—FALL 2017

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Oct 1 | Sarah Marman |
| Oct 8 | Chad and Jen |
| Oct 15 | Singing Ladies of St. Mark's |
| Oct 22 | Dave Hojnacki and Jim Plaster |
| Oct 29 | Amelia |
| Nov 5 | Alicia Storin and Rachael Charles |
| Nov 12 | Dan and Jamie |
| Nov 19 | Barb Geiger and Tim Milo |
| Nov 26 | Alicia Storin and Megan Buschkopf |
| Dec 3 | St. Mark's Flute Choir |
| Dec 10 | Dan and Chad |
| Dec 17 | Erin Colgrove |
| Dec 24 (am) | Jen |
| Dec 24 (pm) | St. Mark's Singers |