



# The Lookout

April 2022 - May 2022

## Justice is love in Action

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Easter brings new life, a familiar phrase for almost every Christian. Jesus' resurrection illustrates God's love for us. In another way, the empty tomb brings justice to what happens on the cross. "The cross was not God's invention - it was ours. In all our need for an eye for an eye, I have to wonder sometimes if God listened to us cry for blood and offered his own - If Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was not to sate God's wrath, but to show God's response to ours." (Mike McHargue)

This new life of Easter is intended not just for our personal salvation but to bring justice to the world. Consider the number of people experiencing injustice in the world right now; Ukrainians suffering from Putin's invasion, people in the southwest experiencing the worst draught in 1200 years, continued violence in Yemen, more civil war in Sudan, even children in our own neighborhoods experiencing food insecurity.

The prophet Amos tells us that the Lord says to, "let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5:24)

Justice is different than charity. Charity removes us from the proximity of injustice, that is our privilege. Pastor and Philosopher Cornell West reminds us that "justice is love in action." When the need arose, I invited members of our church to come to the altar to pray about helping and accompanying Afghan refugees. Moved by the Holy Spirit, a number of people from all ages and backgrounds came forward to offer their time and resources. That was an example of love in action. For whatever reason, the needs we were asked to fulfill already happened through other resources. Deacon Marcia invited us to consider this an opportunity to prime the pump for what might come next. This Lenten season, we are offering a special donation to the Lutheran Social Services Refugee Resettlement. This act of charity is out of love.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu invites us to consider; "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." I have long said that 'sin entered the world a long time ago.' But if Jesus' resurrection from the dead tells us anything is that sin and death have no power. If Jesus' empty tomb brings justice to the injustice of the cross, then there is hope. There is hope that the systems that continue to bring injustice to our world will come to an end because our love comes to action to end them.

~ Pastor Andy

### **St. Mark's Church**

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

### **Worship Services**

In Person and Live Streaming  
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

### **Office Hours**

Monday and Thursday:  
Please make an appointment  
with Pastor Andy  
[welcomestmarks@gmail.com](mailto:welcomestmarks@gmail.com)

### **Contact Info**

**Pastor Andy Fetters**  
262-337-3755

**Deacon Marcia Marquardt,  
Discipleship Coordinator**

262-784-2062

**Gene Geiger  
Council President**  
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# SENIOR + CONNECTION

St. Mark's Senior Connection  
YAY GOD!!!!

After so much time apart and behind masks, it is such a joy to share that we will be gathering once again. How sweet it is to be together during our Lenten journey with Christ to the cross. We will hear a Lenten scripture and sing the old favorites to praise our Father and His Son. We will meet in the sanctuary for hymn singing and then proceed to Fellowship Hall for coffee, muffins and conversation.



**It will be so great to see you !!!!**

**Hymn Sing and Fellowship**

**Tuesday, April 5th at 10:30 A.M.**

**Meet In the Sanctuary**

Questions: Call Anne Link at  
414-379-4619



**FOOD Pantry**  
OF WAUKESHA COUNTY

## April and May

As we spring forward, let's add canned fruit, applesauce (especially the individual cups) and peanut butter and jelly to our baskets. The Salvation Army Food Pantry and Waukesha Food Pantry continue to need our help to fill their shelves. Blessings to all of us for our generosity to those who continue to be in need.



{ cup of comfort }  
this is where the healing begins

**"Fear not, for I am with you." Matthew 28**

The Cup of Comfort Ministry welcomes **YOU** to join us as we gather to raise our spirits and support each other as we share what is on our hearts.

Through music, scripture, sharing, prayer and listening, we offer God's gifts of balm for your heart and peace for your mind.

### Our Next Gatherings are:

**Thursday, April 14th & May 12th**

We meet in the upstairs lounge at 10:00 am  
We would be pleased to see you and share our coffee and cookies with you.

If you have any questions or concerns about attending one of our gatherings, please call me, I would be happy to share with you.

Anne Link 414-379-4619

**\*ALL ARE WELCOME\***



## Ruth Circle

To all ladies, you are invited to come to Ruth Circle on Wednesday, April 20th at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall at St. Mark's. Masks are optional. We will be discussing chapter 7, page 75 in our book, The Power of a Praying Woman. In May, our meeting on May 18th will be at DiDi's Restaurant at the Ingleside Hotel at 12:00 pm - please call Mavis McGrath at 262-968-3160 to confirm a reservation for you.



## Weekly Communion Offered

**Holy Communion** will be offered every Sunday for those who are worshipping in-person and for those worshipping at home through Live Streaming. Those at home may use their own elements of bread/cracker and fruit of the vine.



**Journey together to the cross and empty tomb during Holy Week**

**April 10th—Palm Sunday**

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

**April 14th—Maundy Thursday**

Worship at 7:00 p.m.

**April 15th—Good Friday**

Worship at Noon

**April 21st—Easter Sunday**

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

**All the services will be held in the sanctuary and on Facebook and YouTube live.**

**Spring Flowers**

Think Spring and offer flowers for our Sanctuary. We would love to see flowers after Easter!

Would you like to remember or honor someone? Please contact Barb Helling (414-378-8435) if you would like to provide flowers during the year for special anniversaries or birthdays.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Looking for an activity to keep your hands busy and your hearts warm? Come join the knitters and crocheters of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Don't know how but are eager to learn? We will teach you! Prayer Shawl meets on the second Mondays of the month at 1:00 pm. Our schedule for the Spring of this year is April 11th, and May 9th. For more information contact Anna Miller or Mary Jo Christensen.

If there are any questions, please contact Mary Jo Christensen at 414-405-4075 mjchristensen1958@wi.rr.com.



**Welcome Back to In-Person Worship**

You are invited to worship in-person at St Mark's and online through Live Stream on Sundays at 9:30 am. The lower entry is open and available with elevator access. We have a Welcome Team there to help. Communion cups, Bulletins and Prayer Request cards are provided. We hope this makes it easier for you to enter, especially for those who park in the handicapped spots.

**Masks are optional** while we practice social distancing in the church building. Thank you for your patience and understanding. God is with us and working in our midst during this time. We turn to him asking to give us compassion, grace, and faith to continue guiding us.

**Funerals**

God's Comfort and Peace for the families of:

**Rudy Szucs** (husband to Rene Szucs), who died on February 14th, 2022. Funeral was held on March 4th, 2022.

**George Markle** (husband to Darlene Markle), who died on March 6th, 2022. Funeral was held on March 12th, 2022.

**Lenten Special Offering: Lutheran Social Services Refugee Resettlement**

You are invited to help others through a Lenten special offering for Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Refugee Resettlement. Since 1974, LSS's structured program for refugee resettlement has started more than 10,000 refugees on a new life in the United States. As the Wisconsin affiliate of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, LSS provides comprehensive resettlement services to refugees fleeing from war and persecution around the globe.

About 15-20 St. Mark's volunteers have gathered to investigate what we might do to help in refugee resettlement. We are waiting to hear whether we will be needed to serve as co-sponsors for a refugee household resettling in our area. If we are needed, this special offering will be used by Lutheran Social Services specifically to help this household begin their new life with housing and household needs. If we are not needed, then our special offering will be sent to LSS to help other refugees resettle.

Checks may be made payable to: St. Mark's Lutheran Church with "refugee resettlement" on the memo line. Thanks for sharing! Your generosity makes a difference!



## Remember the Blessing Box



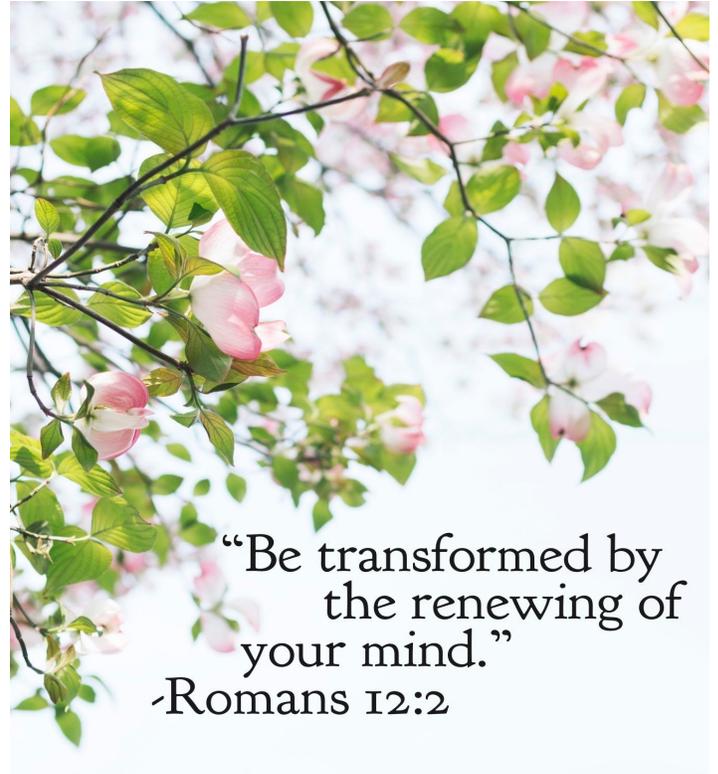
Thanks for supplying our Blessings Box with food and supplies. It's an opportunity for us to share the love of God with our neighbors in need. Please place donations items directly into the Blessings Box located near the sidewalk at the courtyard entrance or in the box near the church entrance.

. Thank you!



## Office Volunteers Needed

Could you offer one or two hours on Mondays or Tuesdays to help in the church office? Contact Pastor Andy for more information.



“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”  
-Romans 12:2

## "Blessed to be a Blessing"

How has God blessed you? For what or whom do you extend the blessing? We are "Blessed to be a Blessing." Send a short video (up to 1 minute) to Pastor Andy, [GOpastorGO@gmail.com](mailto:GOpastorGO@gmail.com). Keep it simple! He will put together the videos for us to celebrate God's work in and through us.



## Property Team

**Two Ceiling lights** in the Narthex have had new drivers (power switches) installed. One of the fixtures also needed a complete parts repair. The parts were under warranty and only labor was charged. These repairs were initiated in October 2021 and are now finally complete.

**Windows were washed** in the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall on March 28th. This service had been put on HOLD for the past two years due to Covid-19. We can see clearly now!

**Smoke Detectors** were checked and discovered to be expired. Eight smoke detectors and three combo (smoke & CO2) detectors were donated and installed.

**New Weather stripping** has been added to the upper and lower entry doors.

**Parking Lot** – Bids are being received to crack fill and seal the parking lot this summer. Due to Covid-19 this project had been put on HOLD. The last time the lot was done was in 2016. (It is recommended that this normally be done every 3-4 years.)

### Many thanks to:

John G. for continuing to dispose of recycling and garbage while our garbage pick-up is on Hold.

Larry S. for repairing the boom microphone used by Jennifer, and for several donated projects.

Christine F. for purchasing, assembling and donating a new table for the AV computer.

Bob Salb, at SiteOne Landscape Supply for a delivery and donation of nine bags of salt for our sidewalks

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Fenner  
Property Chair



## From Deacon Marcia Marquardt

"I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there?  
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth!" Psalm 121:1-2

"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us,  
to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think." Ephesians 3:20

Dear St Mark's Family and Friends,

I can picture the scene clearly in my mind. Friends had come for a visit long ago. They were a family with kids similar in age to ours. I can see the older sister pointing to something up high to her little brother who was probably around 2 or 3 years old. He did something so cute. He put his hand under his chin and lifted up his own head. Such a sweet sight! I wondered if others had put their hands under his chin in the past to get his attention and now he was doing that same direction to himself.

Lift your head! Change your focus! Look up! These are great directions for us as we journey to the cross and the empty tomb again this Lenten and Easter season. Sometimes all we can see is what is before us. Maybe today is filled with pressure, uncertainties, and problems. Maybe today is filled with unfulfilled needs and desires. Maybe today is filled with worry and sadness.

But today God reminds us to put our hands under our chins, lift our heads, and look up. Look up past what is before you and see the cross and the empty tomb. See the God who gave himself for you. See the God who surprises us with his power. See the God who loves you and will never let you go.

*Jesus, you gave it all for us. Help us to keep our eyes on you every step of our journey today. Amen.*

In God's Love and Grace,  
Marcia



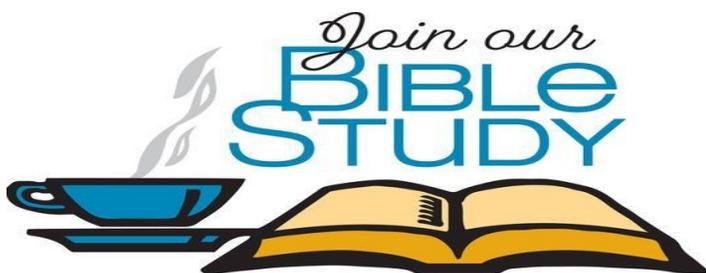
## Reach Out and Say Hello

We need care and concern in a time of social distancing. Pick up the phone and call someone to say hello. Think about the people who normally sit in the pews around you and give them a call. Think about those who live alone or in assisted living and give them a call. Contact Pastor or Marcia if you need a phone number.



## Weekly Email Blast

Stay current with Happenings at St Mark's by receiving the weekly email blast. Contact Marcia Marquardt (marcia1@wi.rr.com) to get signed up.



## Bible Study Wednesdays on Zoom Thursdays on Zoom AND In-Person

Renew your faith, learn more about the Bible, and prepare for worship on Sunday! Come to Bible Study!

**Please note that there will be NO Bible Study sessions during Holy Week (April 13th & 14th).**

Wednesdays at 3:45-5:15 pm on Zoom only

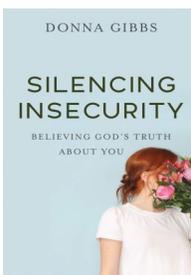
Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 am on Zoom **AND**  
In-Person in the fellowship hall

Zoom meeting ID number:  
817 7030 6574

Contact Marcia for the passcode.

## Conversations about Weight Loss on Monday, April 4th and May 2nd at 3:30-5:00 pm

Ready for a conversation to encourage you in your journey toward weight loss and healthy living? The Weight Loss Conversation is reading *Full* by Asheritah which shapes our thinking and strengthens our faith in the midst of weight loss challenges. **We will conclude this book in May, and begin the book, *Silencing Insecurity* by Donna Gibbs in June. Copies of the book are available FREE of charge (while supplies last).**



Contact Marcia for a copy. There is no homework. We read the book together in the Conversation.

Marcia Marquardt will lead the conversation. Zoom: 817 7030 6574  
Contact Marcia for the passcode.

**Mark your calendar for more  
Conversations on  
June 6th and July 11th**

## St. Mark's Quilters Meet on Mondays 8:30 am—Noon

The quilters have been receiving many heartfelt thank you letters from quilt recipients. The *Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative* sent a thank you for the quilts which will be used for clients such as a disabled Navy veteran who is the single mother of three. They helped her to find housing and set up a new household. The letter writer says, "We love the kids blankets!"



*The Milwaukee Rescue Mission* sent a note thanking St. Mark's for the quilts which will help to keep people warm during these cold winter months. One quilt recipient wrote, "I am in the middle of five months of chemo treatments. I am using the quilt every day as I take my daily nap on the couch! I know that wrapping myself in my quilt every day brings a smile to my face." Another said, "The quilt is keeping me warm as well as your thoughts and prayers." Also, 20 quilts and 16 children's quilts were distributed to Waukesha shelters and individuals.

St. Mark's Quilters are great stewards of their resources. They recycle all the very small leftover scraps of material and batting to be made into pillows for pets waiting for new homes at the *Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha County - HAWS*.

Join us for an hour or for the morning. We would be happy to teach you how to help us in our mission to provide warmth and comfort to members of our community and the world. We meet weekly on Mondays until the end of May. In June, our schedule will change so be sure to check the church calendar for meeting dates.

We have quilts available to give away. If a need is found anywhere in the community, please let us know. Any questions, call Vickie at 262-549-4825 or (cell) 414-333-4331 and be sure to leave a message.

Vickie Friedeck and Cathy Hernandez



### Sunday School

April 3rd and 24th

May 1st and 15th

We will meet downstairs during worship.

Contact Suzanne Lorenz at sfl@cmhlaw.com or 262-510-8849 with any questions or concerns.

### Save the Date for Women's Retreat: A Break for Busy Bees

What's all the buzz about? You are invited to a Women's Retreat on September 30th-October 2nd at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC) in Oregon, IL. Our theme will be "A Break for Busy Bees." We'll explore a REST from striving as we embrace our status as God's **BEE-loved** and our value as ones who will always **BEE-Loved** by him. And we'll see how this kind of REST leads us to BEE Love to the world around us from a deeper resource than ourselves. Sounds sweet as honey! Marcia Marquardt will lead the retreat. Contact Marcia for more information.



2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING

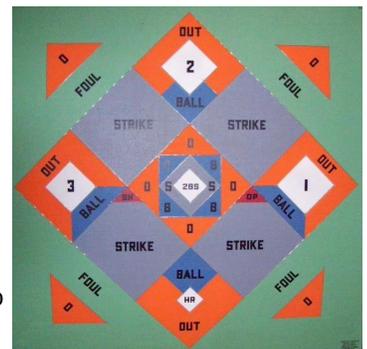
# boundless

GOD BEYOND MEASURE

**National Youth Gathering July 24-28**  
**Registration has been paused due to Covid surges and recent changes in gathering leadership.**

### St. Mark's Dartball

It was great to be able to have our dart ball season this year after not having one last year due to Covid. Thank you, to St. Mark's for letting us use fellowship hall for our home games.



We had a great time playing the other teams. Our guys and girls, yes, we have 3 ladies on our team, had fun shooting underhand darts at the 4-foot square board 20 feet away. Sometimes the darts fell a little short. We took last place again this year. But then someone has to lose the most games. Captain Bob Johnson



## A Report From Your Council...

As we all struggle to put this Covid pandemic behind us I would like to say how proud I am of each and every member of St. Mark's. It has truly been a collective effort to keep the worship and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ loud and strong through these unprecedented times.

Thank you to the leadership for making the difficult decisions necessary over the past few years and thank you to the congregation, for refusing to allow the required isolation and Covid protocols to throw water onto our burning faith.

As we are now beginning to see things returning to the worship of old, I also need to thank God for his never-ending, endless love. I am reminded of the saying, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger" and St. Mark's has a collective faith that endures world pandemics.

God bless this congregation.  
Your Council President,  
Gene Geiger

## The New team for Church Council is:

Gene Geiger - President  
Rod Brandenburg - Vice President  
Frank Remfrey - Treasurer  
Cathy Hernandez - Secretary  
Jennine Szwalkiewicz - Gather  
Sandy Solberg - Grow  
Kelly Colgrove - Go  
Kristine Anderson - Go  
Susan Cyr - Gather



## YOUR LEADERSHIP



## St. Mark's Legacy Fund

St. Mark's Legacy Fund was created several years ago for the purpose of funding new or expanding church ministries not covered by the annual operating budget. When the fund was created it was hoped that it could be funded by designated estate or memorial gifts and gifts from members or friends outside of regular offerings or tithes. The Legacy Fund was not meant to be funded as a substitute for regular offerings or tithes of members.

The Legacy Fund was utilized in 2020 to create the meditation garden outside of the main entrance. Funds from an estate allowed us to enhance this area as well as the other gardens surrounding the church.

At the present time the balance of the Legacy Fund is \$1,115. We want to remind the members of St. Mark's that those funds are available for ministry initiatives that supports St. Mark's mission statement "Gathered together by God to grow and go out."

Here are some examples of ministry initiatives that could be funded: A special ministry training program, A neighborhood meal program sponsored and run by members of St. Mark's, Special speaker at a retreat or workshop, Guest musician or speaker at special events.

The fund is not intended for paying utility bills or capital projects: If you have an idea that could be considered for utilizing the Legacy Fund, feel free to contact me for more information on the application process that has been established.

Frank Remfrey, Treasurer



# WELCOME new members



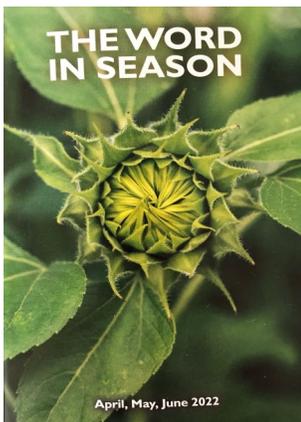
Welcome to new members: Sherry Mohr, Russel Werner, and Betty & Dave Groenewold. We welcome you as members of this congregation, inspired and invested in the ministry we all share. You are beloved! Your presence here is a gift! May God bless these new relationships and our common call as agents of God's mercy and the abundance the world needs!



## PRAYER CHAIN

Do you have a Prayer Chain request? Others will pray for you! Contact **Lana DeCoto** at: [lrdecoto@gmail.com](mailto:lrdecoto@gmail.com)  
Thank you to Sharon Collins for her service these past years.

## New Devotional Booklets Available For April



Looking for a way to connect with God daily? Try **The Word in Season** devotional booklets. They are a **FREE** quarterly resource that provides a brief Scripture reading, message, and prayer for each day. Their small size makes it easy to place in a pocket or purse. They are available at the entry stations and in the Blessings Box and Little Library at the church.

## Get THE LOOKOUT via Email Today!

The Lookout is now a **BIMONTHLY (every other month) Newsletter**. You can receive the newsletter by email or pick up a black/white version at the welcome desk in church or in the Blessings/Little Library Boxes outside the church. If you would like to be added to the email list, please send your name and email address to: [stmarkslookout@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkslookout@gmail.com). Thank you! If you have questions, contact Rene Bjerke at the above email address.



## Zoom Meeting Numbers

We will be using the church's Zoom account for online meetings and small group gatherings in the future.

Here are the numbers:

**Faith Formation Gatherings, including Bible Study**

Zoom: 817 7030 6574 Pass: 945456

**Church Meetings**

Zoom: 823 2326 4353 Pass: 830997



## Online Giving Available!

Are you interested in the convenience of online giving for your church contributions? It's easier than ever to begin! Contributions can be taken directly from your bank account or credit card on an ongoing or individual basis. Please contact the office for details at: [welcometostmarks@gmail.com](mailto:welcometostmarks@gmail.com) or by phone at **262-547-8213**.

