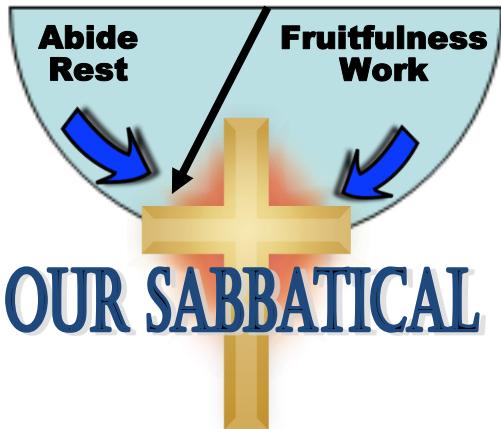


The Lookout

Summer 2019



OUR SABBATICAL

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

Tuesday—Thursday:
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Administrative Assistant
Ruth Bruckbauer

Contact Info

Pastor Andy Fettters
262-337-3755

**Marcia Marquardt,
Discipleship Coordinator**
262-784-2062

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Lookout Editor
Rene Bjerke
lookout@welcome2stmarks.com

Website
welcome2stmarks.com

Our Faith Journey

Quoting from the familiar words of Elisha Hoffman's song, *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*, I cannot help but think, "What a fellowship, what a joy divine!" As you read this, most of you have met me and perhaps heard me speak during a worship service. I recently shared with your Sabbatical Team that I consider this summer to be a sort of sabbatical for me, too. I am offered the opportunity to refocus my spiritual journey in spending time with the faithful people of St. Mark's. I get to hear a variety of people share a witness in bringing a Sunday message. I also will have my teen-age daughter help me with my phone so that I might start to listen to a variety of podcasts people have suggested I listen to. Finally, I will occasionally visit Moor Downs to commune with God's Spirit as I hopefully hit my iron shots toward the green. Throughout this summer, I fully anticipate we will remember, and perhaps even at times rediscover, how we all are invited to lean on Jesus' Everlasting Arms. I am available for meeting on Mondays and Tuesdays (10 am to 2 pm) or by appointment. See you in church on Sunday!



Summer Worship Overview

What a gift it is to gather weekly as people of God! During our Sabbatical, St. Mark's is blessed with a variety of people sharing a witness to God's presence in our lives. Each week will focus on a different aspect of seeking to put God first in our lives as well as deepen our faith journey with Jesus. Listed below is an overview around which each week's message will be focused.

June 9	Pentecost
June 16	God our Father
June 23	Christian Response to Incarceration
June 30	Listen, God is Calling
July 7	Prayers and Fasting
July 14	Love, Love, Love
July 21	A Shift in Focus
July 28	God in Creation
August 4	Busyness and Fruitfulness

Pastor Thompson



Sharing Our Bounty

Summer

Did you know the Salvation Army feeds lunch to 200-300 children PER DAY all summer? They need **PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY and individual snacks**. All summer long, please stock our baskets with as much of those items as we can. They will really appreciate it

THANK YOU



SENIOR + CONNECTION

ST. MARK'S SENIOR CONNECTION

is taking the summer off but will return
Tuesday, October 8th.

We look forward to seeing you again for more fun and fellowship.

Questions? Contact Rockie Matson 262-549-9192



Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.

Come to this group of fellow Christians to feel God's compassion And love for those of us who have pain or worry in our lives. We experience this through prayer, scripture, music and sharing. All that is topped off with fresh cookies and coffee.

CUP OF COMFORT CAFÉ
THURSDAY, June 13th, 2019
10:00 A.M.
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM

Questions? Call: Anne Link 414-379-4619



TREASURER'S REPORT

As we continue our sabbatical time this summer, I would like to say "Thank You" to the past congregational leaders who have planned for this event. We have enough in our sabbatical account to help pay for Pastor Thompson to lead us through this time in our spiritual journey. This group of leaders had the foresight to plan for this event.

Year to Date

March 2019

In = \$79,125.25

Out = \$98,523.13

Difference= \$19,397

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Timper
Treasurer

April 2019

In = \$102,603

Out = \$124,157.01

\$21,553.34

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 our church administrator, **Ruth Bruckbauer**, 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. Ruth can be reached at email: info@welcome2stmarks.com or via phone at **262-547-8213**.



BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

St. Mark's offers free, confidential blood pressure checks on the third Sunday of the month. In order to continue this service, we need trained volunteers to serve on a rotating basis. If you can help out, please contact

Rockie Matson for details. If you have done this in the past and wish to continue, please let Rockie know that as well at #262-549-9192 or matsonret@att.net.

From Deacon Marcia Marquardt

"Because he bends down to listen, I will pray as long as I have breath!" Psalm 116:2

Dear St. Mark's Family and Friends,

I'm approaching Pastor Andy's sabbatical as a time for you and I to explore and grow in our relationships with God. I sense that God wants to use this time to quiet our spirits and connect us more deeply with him. I hope that you and I will be open to what God might have in mind for each of us this summer.

Two tools that have been helpful for me in my journey to grow closer with God are reading the Bible and praying. When I combine them together, I discover a wonderful avenue to help me connect with God. As I read God's Word, I look for a verse that stands out to me. Then I rephrase that verse so that I can use those thoughts to frame my conversation with God. Sometimes I use the verse to pray for myself. Sometimes I use it to pray for someone who is on my heart.

Here are a few examples of how we can use verses from the Bible to guide our praying:

Psalm 46:10a "Be still, and know that I am God!"

God, help _____ to be still and know that you are God.

Romans 8:39 "No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."

God, help _____ to remember and trust that nothing can separate us from your love.

Psalm 37:5 "Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you."

God, help _____ to commit everything we do to you and to trust that you will help us.

Ephesians 5:1-2 "Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God."

God, help _____ to remember that we are your dear children, to imitate you in everything we do, and to live a life filled with sacrificial love.

Psalm 27:14 "Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord."

God, help _____ to wait patiently for you and to be brave and courageous.

I'm praying for you during Our Sabbatical. I value your prayers for me.

In His Service,
Marcia



Prayer Vigil



Come to St. Mark's to pray for yourself and others. We will have quiet space open on Saturday, August 3 from 9:00 am—5:00 pm so that people can come to meditate and pray at any time within those hours. Come for a few minutes or come for an extended period of time. Come individually or come as a family or friendship circle. This will NOT be a formal worship service, but an open space for people to pray. We will have Scripture and prayer prompts ready that will guide our prayers for ourselves, our families, our communities, our state, our country, and our world. We will gather prayer requests so that we can pray about specific concerns in our congregation and community. For more information, contact Marcia Marquardt or Deb Gerner.

Keeping Track of Pastor Andy

Pastor Andy will be keeping a blog during our sabbatical. He will be fasting from social media and email during this time. You are invited to follow him at abidingpastor.blogspot.com.



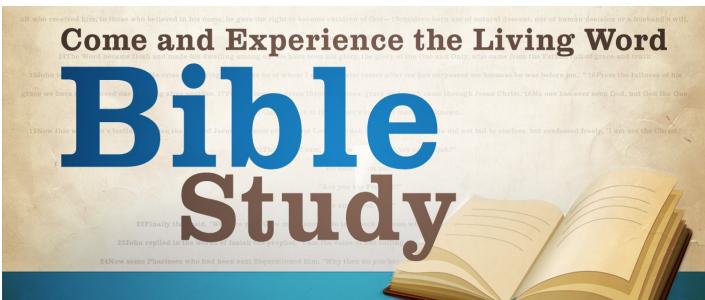
Pastors Appreciation Potluck on Sunday, August 4th

Gather as a congregation to thank Pastor Mark Thompson for his service as sabbatical pastor and to welcome Pastor Andy Fetter back after Our Sabbatical ends. We will have a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall on Sunday, August 4th after worship. Sign up at the Welcome Center near the entrance doors.



Magnificent Mystery Mission Tour

Take a 5-day tour in mystery spots throughout Wisconsin on August 12th-16th to make a difference with the love of Jesus for others. Barb Geiger, Deb Gerner, and Marcia Marquardt will be leading a group to serve in various organizations in mystery spots throughout Wisconsin. We hope to line up service projects that will help us learn about and make impact in several issues, like poverty, homelessness, aging, grief, addiction, etc. We might be cleaning a homeless shelter, doing lawn work for someone in need, or playing games at a nursing home. We'll take time each day to connect deeply with God and encourage each other in faith. We will be sleeping in beds and on air mattresses in the vacation homes of trusted friends. Why mystery locations? To add a little fun! We anticipate that the trip will cost around \$200-250 per person. This trip is open to adults and teens. Contact Barb, Deb, or Marcia for more information. Deadline to register for trip is June 2nd.



Thursdays

Dig into the worship Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday and apply principles to your life on Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 am throughout June, July and August, EXCEPT July 4th and August 15th. Wednesday Bible Study will resume September 4th Thursday Bible Study will continue throughout the summer. Bible Study meets in the 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 a 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!**

Lookout Mailing

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Mary Jo Christensen, Rene Bjerke, and Barb Ruhe

Special Gifts

Ruth Circle, Coffee Hour, Senior Connection, Faith Fermenters, Men's Breakfast

Baptism

Armonni Jackson on May 6th, child of Alicia Gregory and Shon Jackson.

Restore & Renew Giving Campaign

Robert Solberg, Anna Miller, David and Joan Hojnacki, Roger and Darlene Bjerke,

Memorials

In Memory of Ethel Kempen: Colleen McCann

In Memory of Ed Bladow: Kay Alzuhn, Brian and Julie Baumler, Elwyn and Sandra Bischmann, Roger and Darlene Bjerke, Chris and Mary Jo Christensen, Steven Ellifson, Christine Fenner, Richard and Victoria Friedeck, Russel and Melissa Engel, Debra Gerner, Thomas and Karen Handford, Kenneth and Phyllis Hansen, Earline Hollub, Stanley and Eunice Indermuehle, Allen and Anne Link, Jerry and Mary Martinson, Ken and Lana Matchett, Don and Nancy Neitzel, Mary Ann Sindelar, Donald and Judith Suleski, Doug and Leslie Hansen, Bonnie and Donald Bladow, Dustin Lockerby, David and Liz Carleton, Fred and Barb Matson, Anna Miller, Janet Hastings, Richard and Jacqueline Will, Richard and Sharon Suleski, Larry and Jennine Szwankiewicz, John and Betty Thompson, Reinhard and Carole Wolter, Delores Jones, Jean Wendt, Peter and Kay Nissen, Sharon Graminske, Glenn and Janet Graminske, James and Ina Fenske, Roger and Carolyn Bladow, Holly Wolfe, Ralph Clark, Tom and Kathryn Graf, Mark and Cindy Melby, Carl and Cleo Smith, Tom and Joan Oberhaus, Kathy Wendt.



Special Offering for Wisconsin Non-Profit

The Magnificent Mystery

Mission Tour team will invite the congregation to give a special offering on August 18th for one of the service projects in Wisconsin where they served. Come to worship that day to learn more about this opportunity to impact others in Wisconsin with our gifts.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on **Saturday, June 8th at 8:00 am**. If you have any questions please contact Tim Nekich. All men are invited and welcome to join us for food and fellowship.



Conversations about Weight Loss

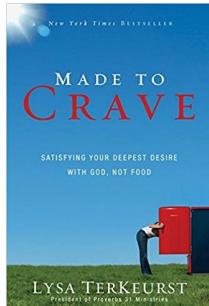
Monday, June 3rd at 1:00-2:30 pm

As a math teacher, numbers have always been a big part of my world. I have to admit, I enjoy statistics. I find them informing and have been personally helpful when making decisions and projections. That is great until I use them as a measuring stick for myself. After standing on the scale, I sometimes want to figuratively use that stick to beat myself up. Lisa

Terkeurst, the author of Made To Crave admits that she, like most of us, allows her sense of identity and worth to be tied to that number.

Here's the thing, God has promised to provide for our EVERY need. This truth is repeated over and over in the Bible. The Holy Spirit offers gifts of self control and persistence that are constant. It is not contingent on what the scale says or how I feel. God's power is mine for the asking. Wow!

On June 3rd, we will be reminded of God's words that redirect us, empower us, and lead us to victory over the scale. God wants to be in communication with us. Please join in the conversation about Weight Loss at 1:00 pm in the upstairs lounge. We gather to support each other and to draw closer to God through our struggles. The book, Made to Crave, offers us laughs, recommitment and hope. Marcia Marquardt and Jennine Szwankiewicz will lead the conversation. We are hoping that you join us, even if you have never come before. And mark your calendars for July 1st, and August 5th. ~Deb Gerner



Recycle your used eyeglasses and hearing aids

St Mark's continues to participate in the recycling program for eyeglasses and hearing aids conducted by the Lions International. To date over 500 glasses and 25 hearing aids have been donated to the program. Please bring your donation to church and deposit in the gray bin located in the back of the church.



Sunday School 2019-2020!

Registration will begin in the middle of August. The first day of Sunday School will be September 8th. Join us for a creative, interactive, faith building class for adults and children of all ages. For more information, please Contact Suzanne Lorenz-sfl@cmhlaw.com or 262-510-8849



Worship Bags for Young Families

We have added some new items to the Worship Bags: "Lift the Flap" books, felt boards, magnetic paper dolls, and reusable sticker sheets. Pick up a bag for your child from the two stands that are located at the back of the worship space. Each bag's contents are different. You might like to try a new one each time you bring your child to worship.



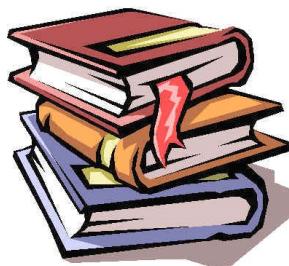
The Greater Milwaukee Synod

is hosting the 2019 Churchwide Assembly August 5-August 10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. The Synod is looking for about 600 volunteers to help this event run smoothly. Please visit the website at cwa19.org to learn more about the event and the many ways to get involved. Volunteer opportunities have various days and times with positions including: airport greeter, hotel greeter, usher, packing gift bags, worship helper and many more. There are 2 and 4 hour time slots as well as longer ones available. Please visit the web page and consider volunteering.



Nursery and Family Lounge During Our Sabbatical

Nursery volunteers will be taking a rest from their duties during Our Sabbatical (Sundays, June 2nd-July 28th) in order to return to the loving work of caring for young children with renewed energy. Families are invited to use the Family Lounge with toys and books when their children are restless. A TV screen in the Family Lounge allows people to view and hear the worship service while it is happening. The Family Lounge is located right off the sanctuary in the south hallway. Nursery volunteers will be back on duty August 4th.



Our Church Library

The church library in Fellowship Hall will be operating on an honor system – no need to sign out the books. Read, Share and Return the books when you are finished so that others might enjoy them.

St. Mark's Quilters

During the first four months of this year, **178 quilts were donated** to various organizations and individuals in the Waukesha/Milwaukee area. June 3rd will be the first day of our summer quilting schedule. Quilters will then meet every other Monday until October 7th, when we will resume meeting every week from 8:00 a.m. until about noon. Help is always needed and anyone is welcome to take part in this quilt ministry.

St. Mark's Quilters have a video on the internet. It was created by a high school student during his spring break. If you would like to view the video, just access "Youtube" and type "St. Mark's quilting" in the search box. Thank you to St. Mark's members and friends for donations and support. 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.



Caring for Grieving Young Families



Please consider using your time to help those at a time of tragedy. Volunteers are needed to sew infant burial outfits. Patterns are available, but you are also welcome to create your own designs. Children's Hospital is constantly in need of these outfits. You do not need to be able to sew.

Help is also needed to deconstruct donated wedding gowns to be used to make the outfits. This can be done at your home. If you could not make it to the meeting in January and want more information, please call Mary Beth Nytes at 414 651 8873.

Excerpt from Abiding Pastor

Today I stood at the Baptism River and remembered the promise of baptism. It was a beautiful scene. It is in this Identity that we are made whole. Water plus God's word brings meaning to who we are as God's people. This is an aspect of Sabbath that seems hard to wrap our head around. A pure gift.

A person is baptized once. Because of the unfailing nature of God's promise, and because of God's once-for-all action in Christ, Baptism is not repeated. - from The Use of Means of Grace. And from Ephesians 4:4-6



Blessings Box

Our Blessing Box has a bright new look! Thanks for supplying our box with soft items, like boxed cereals, macaroni and cheese mixes, socks, gloves, and school supplies. When someone has a need, they can take an item. When someone can share, they can place an item in the Blessings Box. People have already been using this resource. Place item donations directly into the Blessings Box located

near the sidewalk at the courtyard entrance to help others.

"Dear Lord, you instructed the disciples to feed your people. You call us to feed those that are hungry. We invite you now to bless this blessing box, to stir the hearts of our people to be generous in stocking it, and invite those who need food this day might find it here, until no one is hungry. - Amen"



SAVE THE DATE

The 2019 Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride will be held on Saturday, September 7.

2019 marks the 12th year for the Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride. There are three ride locations this year: The Waukesha County ride will again be held at St. Bruno's Parish in Dousman, WI; the Ozaukee County ride will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Grafton, WI. This year, they are adding a ride for Racine/Kenosha County, which will be held at the ELCA Outreach Center in Kenosha, WI.

Please check in early June for more information and to register for the Family Bike Ride.

All ages & experience are welcome.

You may sign up to receive Outreach for Hope emails at <http://outreachforhope.org/subscribe/>. Be sure to check the box "Annual OFH Bike Ride." (When you provide an Email when registering for the bike ride, you will automatically receive bike ride Email updates.)

Our Sabbatical Wednesday Prayer Services

Refresh your heart and prayer life! Create quiet space to sit with God in the midst of the pressures and noise of our schedules and routines. Come to Prayer Services on the first and third Wednesdays at 6:00-6:35 pm in the courtyard (weather permitting) beginning May 15th (May 15th, June 5th & 19th, July 3rd & 17th, and August 7th & 21st). Through hymns, Scripture, silence, and prayer, we'll create quiet hearts to connect deeply with God and learn more about prayer. We will use candle lighting, prayer stations, brief teaching, discussion, silence, guided meditation, and a variety of prayer forms in the various services to open our hearts to listen and share with God. Some will share and participate. Some will observe. Some will come for every prayer service. Some will come once or a few times. All are welcome. Marcia Marquardt will lead the prayer services.

June 5—Confession and Forgiveness. Explore the freedom that God offers as we let go of shame and guilt, and embrace the grace and forgiveness of God.

June 19—Thanksgiving. Enjoy contentment as we thank God for our joys, stay alert to God's work around us, and trust God through our challenges.

July 3—Intercession. Pray for our families and friends, our communities, our state, our country, and our world as we prepare to celebrate the 4th of July.

July 17—Listening. Walk an indoor prayer labyrinth in our sanctuary as a way to slow down and listen to God.

August 7—Peace. Move from worry and anxiety to peace of mind and heart that comes from abiding in God.

August 21—Hope. Settle into the sturdy foundation of God's plan and purpose for us as we face discouragement and disappointment.

Our Sabbatical

Our Sabbatical is here! Pastor Andy is praying for us, and we are praying for him. This is a time to look inward, upward, and outward—a time to appreciate the gift of developing your relationship with God.

There are many ways for you to experience this time and to focus on God and get closer to God. How about:

- ◆ read an inspiring book,
- ◆ enjoy nature,
- ◆ daily devotions,
- ◆ dwelling in the word,
- ◆ shut the radio off when driving and have a conversation with God,
- ◆ listen to a spiritual podcast,
- ◆ golf,
- ◆ fish,
- ◆ sew,
- ◆ quilt,
- ◆ craft,
- ◆ listen to inspiring music,
- ◆ find inspiration in a new adventure,
- ◆ serve someone,
- ◆ visit someone who is in need,
- ◆ invite someone to church,
- ◆ donate to a cause,
- ◆ share your gifts,
- ◆ ask for forgiveness and then offer forgiveness,
- ◆ come to church!

How do you hope your relationship with God will develop this summer? How will you free up time for God?

Prayer Shawl Ministry

During our Sabbatical, the Prayer Shawl Ministry will continue to knit and crochet from home this summer. If you love to knit or crochet, or just want to learn? Come join the prayer shawl ministry group on Monday, September 9th (due to Labor Day.) We meet once a month on the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. If there are any questions, please contact Mary Jo Christensen at mjchristensen1958@wi.rr.com or Anna Miller.



"Brown Bag Supper" with Marcia

Bring your supper and join Marcia Marquardt for conversation and care in the fellowship hall at 5:30-6:00 pm before the Wednesday Prayer Services on June 5th & 19th, July 3rd & 17th, and August 7th & 21st. She would love to get to know YOU!



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

424 Hyde Park Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188

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Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for these events to enjoy time together, grow in faith, and reach out into our community.

- Our Sabbatical Prayer Vigil on Saturday, August 3rd
- Church Picnic and Neighborhood Block Party on Sunday, September 1st
- Churchwide Retreat on Friday & Saturday, October 4th & 5th
- Inasmuch Day of Service on Saturday, October 19th
- "Finding Calm in the Chaos" Retreat on Saturday, November 2nd
- Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 17th
- Women's Retreat "Blessed Beyond Measure" on April 17-19, 2020 at Camp Timber-lee

SPECIAL MUSIC

June 2	Erin Doherty
June 9	St. Mark's Flute Choir
June 16	Rita Argus
June 23	A-Men Choir
June 30	Sarah Marman
July 7	Andrew Jacobson
July 21	MaryAnn Sindelar
July 28	Rita Argus
August 11	Taylor Matrisch
August 18	Jen Manville
August 25	Amelia Anderson

We are looking for special music volunteers for July 14th and August 4th. Please see Jennifer, if you would be able to share your talents are interested in either of those days!