

OUR MISSION

Gathered around Word and water, bread and wine,
we spread God's Word by living our faith daily
and welcoming all with open hearts and minds.



NEW YEAR'S EVE
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
DECEMBER 31, 2017

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK. Please sign our attendance pad located in each row. We are happy to have you here with us! Please join us for refreshments on the walkway following worship.

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Monday, January 1 and Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in observance of the New Year holiday.

GO "TAIL" IT ON THE MOUNTAIN: ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING - This Christmas our congregation is celebrating the birth of Jesus in a barn by raising money for a...farm! **We wanted to raise \$715 and we made our goal!** A cow, a couple of goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training will help a family somewhere around the globe achieve a fresh start. Thank you to all for your generosity.

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) - The women of St Mark are meeting to plan our projects for the spring we'll gather at 10:00 am in the large conference room on Tuesday, January 2nd. All are invited.

HANDEL'S ORATORIO MESSIAH - Make your Christmas complete and celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany! A special presentation of Handel's Oratorio Messiah (Christmas Part 1 and the Hallelujah Chorus) will be held on Sunday, January 7, at 3:00 pm at Lutheran Church of the Palms, 2250 Nebraska Avenue in Palm Harbor. The Lutheran Church of the Palms choir, friends, members of St. Mark's, and members of the Suncoast Symphony will perform this special piece to honor the sanctuary renovation at LCOP. There is no charge for the concert; a freewill offering will be available. For more information, contact Mary VanHaute at 920-680-4710.

EVA HOENIG MEMORIAL SERVICE - Our sister in Christ, Eva Hoenig, joined the heavenly hosts and passed from death to eternal life on November 1 - All Saints Day. As one staff member here at St. Mark put it "And what a saint she was!" She is going to be missed. Eva was a long-time member of St. Mark and faithful witness to Christ. Eva was also a resident of St. Mark Village for many years and passed away in their care center. A Memorial Service honoring Eva's life and witness will be held on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in the St. Mark Village Chapel.** May God surround Eva's family and friends with comfort as they mourn and may they find hope in the power of Christ's victory over death as they prepare to honor the life of a dear and faithful servant of God.

NOISY OFFERING TODAY - St. Mark will have its final Noisy Offering for the year today. The Noisy Offering is designated for ELCA World Hunger. As the children come around with their little metal buckets, please put in your coins (or currency) to help make a joyful noise to raise funds to help those who are hungry both here and around the world.

CROSS GENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY RETURNS JANUARY 14 - Weekly Bible Study for people of all ages - will return on Sunday, January 14th at 11 a.m. Grab your refreshments and head over to the Large Conference room for our continued study of the Book of Acts. Once a month, in conjunction with our Bible Study, we will be doing a service project as a way of sharing God's love with the world in a hands-on way. Watch the announcements and newsletter for service project events and dates!

WINTER BLOOD DRIVE - St. Mark's winter blood drive is scheduled for Sunday, January 14 at 9:00 am. You can be an unsung "everyday hero" by donating the gift of life. Your gift gets to someone within 72 hours potentially benefiting three persons with that gift. A Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you for your generosity!

ST. MARK ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - On Sunday, **January 28, 2018**, we will hold the second part of our meeting to celebrate God's activity in the mission and ministry of the people at St. Mark. We will receive annual reports, elect a new council member, and nominate members to attend the Florida-Bahamas Synod Assembly in June. All of this will take place in our Fellowship Hall over a delicious meal of CHILI! Look for more information to come from your Fellowship Team about our January Chili Cook Off!

DUNEDIN WALK OF PEACE - The 2018 United Faiths Walk of Peace will take place on Sunday, February 4 at 2:00 pm. Groups from a variety of faith traditions invite you to join us! The Walk is roughly along a 2 mile route through Dunedin that begins at John R. Lawrence Pioneer Park at the corner of Douglas and Main St. in downtown Dunedin, and ends at First United Methodist Church. **Our faith communities are working together in the hope that the world can find a way to live in peace.**

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your daily prayers members and friends of our congregation who are on our prayer list. If you would like to add or remove someone to or from our congregation's prayers, please call or email the church office or sign the prayer notebook in the narthex.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR IN NEED OF SUPPORT:

Cheryl Burton

Jim Boyter

Peg Weingart

Trish Kitchel

Michael Bryant

Donita Holjes (friend of the Plasketts)

Mel Bernstein (husband of Carol Bernstein)

Jennifer (Nizer) Rakas (daughter of Ray and Charlotte Nizer)

Rosalin Dano (wife of Arnie Dano)

Joes and Lee Borgacz (friends of Arnie Dano)

Ethan Gottlieb (grandson of Tim and Angela Langenback)

Heather Booth (daughter of the Plasketts)

James Dano (son of Arnie Dano)

Gretchen Woodard (daughter of Debbie Woodard)

Bret R. (friend of Linda Peterman)

Jerriann AnnEpern (friend of Linda Peterman)

Freddie Romani (friend of Arnie Dano)

Judy Wallschlaeger (friend of Sue and Darrell Zenk)

Efrain Roman (great grandfather of Milla Grumbling and Kaeden Delerme)

Chelle S. (friend of Jennifer Grumbling)

Jax Cunningham (great nephew of Barbara Woodworth)

Holly and Mark Downing (friends of Suzanne Bryant)

Kurt Dunn (friend of Arnie Dano)

Jeff Phillips (friend of the Chernes family)

Chris Harris (son of Dave Harry)

Sayre Froelich (daughter of Janice and Lee Froelich)

Ernie Smith, Sr. (husband of Phyllis Smith)

Marion Dunn (friend of Arnie Dano)

Frank Ollari (friend of Doris Ullestad)
Linda Grumbling (mother of Jennifer Grumbling)
Eddie Frederick (friend of the Grumbling/Delerme family)
Karen Aungst (friend of Debbie Woodard)
Elizabeth K. (friend of Sue Nelson)
Dinah Reid (niece of Constance and Henry Chapman)
Tom Conway (brother of Mary VanHaute)
Elaine Forestier (Emery Horvath's teacher)
Dorothy and Otto Pollei, Jr. (parents of Doug Pollei)
Vicki Claussen (daughter of Charlotte Claussen)
Heather Mackin (relative of the Plasketts)
Irene Klein (mother of Charles Klein)
Kaycee Fowler (friend of Trish Kitchel)
Helen Whitson (mother of Robin Klein)
Missy Martin (sister-in-law of Suzanne Bryant)
Carrie Leone (niece of the Walthours)
Anita Hans (friend of Sue Nelson)

FOR THOSE WHO SERVE (Family and friends of :

Alexis Grzegorzcyk (friend of Carol Czajkowski - USAF)
Mitch Shellenberger
Tierney Froelich
Rodney Mobley (son of the Nizers - Police Officer)
Calvin Jensen (friend of Carol Czajkowski - US Navy)
Steven Klein (USCG)
Sam Palmer (family of the Horvaths)
Andrew Amstutz (friend of the Langenbacks - US Navy)
Andy Bloch (son-in-law of Shirley Polak - Homeland Security)
Steven Plaskett (grandson of the Plasketts - US Air Force Academy)
Luke Ballesteros (friend of Robin Jo Bower Miller and David Miller - in Germany)
Michael Christenson (friend of Arnie Dano - U.S. Navy)
Greg Burnham (son-in-law of the Nizers—US Navy)
Kori Smeiska (friend of Carol Czajkowski - K. C. Police Officer)
Jason King (son-in-law of the Tegges - US Coast Guard)
Zoe Lekakis (granddaughter of the Nizers - Marines)
Joel Elliott (stepson of Carolyn Elliott - in Germany)

Serving The Community of Faith

Assisting Minister: Carolyn Elliott
Ushers Carol Kitchen and Janice Froelich
Offering Bearers: Kaeden Delerme and Max Mitzlaff
Acolyte: Ainsley Horvath
Lectors: Mary VanHaute
Communion Assistants: Jennifer Grumbling and Arnie Dano
Bread Baker: Melissa Taylor

Altar Guild: Carol Kitchen, Eddi Ozey, and Kathie Chernes.

Given to the Glory of God:

Thanks to James Harry for helping to provide refreshments today.

This Week at St. Mark

Sunday **Bags of Blessings distributed**
December 31 **9:30 am Worship**
 10:45 am Refreshments

Monday **Church Office Closed**
January 1, 2018 7:00 pm Al-Anon
 8:00 pm Ala-Teen Meeting

Tuesday **Church Office Closed**

Thursday 6:00 pm AA
 7:00 pm Al-Anon

Sunday **Bags of Blessings returned**
January 7 **9:30 am Worship**
 10:45 am Refreshments
 3:00 pm Handel's Messiah Concert—Lutheran Church of the Palms

www.stmlc.com

Readings for next Sunday — **Baptism of Our Lord**
Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Our Statement of Welcome

St. Mark is a spiritual community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live.

We welcome the participation of people of all ages, faiths, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, educational backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join in community to honor God and be of service to people. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God and by the grace of God is called a “child of God.”

St. Mark is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.



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*The Rev. Katy A. H. Fast, Pastor
Cheryl Burton, Music Director and Cantor
Willie Hobbs, Office Administrator
Jim Boyter & Beverly Entwisle, Property Stewards
Regina Hickey, Bookkeeper*

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Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 am until 3:00 pm



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.