

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.



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2018

9:30 AM

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 CLOSED on February 21st for the Presidents' Day holiday.

LENTEN THEME - Transformation can happen when we are faced with change, challenges, or the start of a new chapter in our journey. Jesus surprises at these crossroads in life with help and hope when we need it most. Join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent to hear how Jesus changed the lives of five ordinary folks in extraordinary ways. Meet Thomas, Martha, a Paralytic, Lazarus and Mary as they encounter Jesus on his journey to the ultimate place of transformation...the cross.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER AND PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS - Our mid-week Lenten worship services will take on a musical and reflective nature again this year. After our 5:30 p.m. soup supper join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (February 21 - March 21) for a service of Holden Evening Prayer and Prayer Around the Cross. Written in 1985 by musician Marty Haugen, this lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. Prayer around the Cross will be a time towards the end of the vespers service where worshipers are invited forward to pray around a wooden, sand-filled, cross. Candles will be available to light and place in the sand while offering prayers to God. Set aside a little time for reflection and prayer and join us in community and worship this Lenten season.

LENTEN WORSHIP AND SOUP SUPPERS - Lenten Soup Suppers begin on Wednesdays starting February 21st at 5:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall. Soup Suppers allow members and friends of St. Mark to share light and delicious soups as a way of enjoying Christian fellowship with one another while remembering those who are hungry and would be glad for a simple bowl of soup. Lenten mid-week worship will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary after the meal. Crock pots are available in the kitchen and you are welcome to borrow one! Please stop by the church office or pick up one on Sunday. Volunteers are needed to make soup, help with set up, and help with clean up. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex and you may sign up for as many days as you like.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION - For those interested in becoming part of the body of Christ here at St. Mark there will be a New Member Orientation on Sunday, February 25th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Childcare is available upon request. Pastor Katy will cover the basics of Lutheranism, an introduction to life at St. Mark, and living out your faith through your spiritual gifts. Please R.S.V.P. to Pastor Katy by phone (727-808-4684) or e-mail (pastorkatyfast@gmail.com). We are excited to welcome in new members to our community of faith!

WELCA SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE - St. Mark Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has begun a mid-year project to collect school supplies for Dunedin Elementary School. The items that are collected by St. Mark and donated to the school are significant gifts in the eyes of students and teachers alike who otherwise find it difficult to manage purchasing these basics for learning. WELCA will be collecting items through **TODAY**, Sunday, February 18th. For current needs, please pick up a short list from the table in the Narthex.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROJECT - Women of St. Mark will meet **SATURDAY**, February 24 from 9:30 to 11:30 am to make layettes for Florida Lutheran Services. We hope that having the project on Saturday will give those who cannot come during the week a chance to be involved with the layette project which has become so important in the lives of young mothers who are a part of Lutheran Services Florida programs.

We will:

1. Sort supplies
2. Remove tags and prepare clothes
3. Stitch and stuff puppies
4. Make layettes (samples in Narthex)
5. Package and wrap for sending
6. Have a wonderful time in service to others!

Everyone is welcome. Families are also invited. There will be tasks for everyone. Your help will be appreciated.

FEEDBACK FORMS - At our annual meeting our Strategic Planning Committee handed out feedback forms with regards to our mission and strategies moving forward as a congregation. Thank you to those who have turned in the feedback forms! Our committee really needs all the feedback they can get as they tackle upcoming visioning and planning with regards to building usage and mission. If you haven't turned in your form, please do so by Sunday, February 25th. Forms are available in the narthex and can be turned in to the offering plate during worship.

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:

Steve Miller

Jim Boyter

Cheryl Burton

Trish Kitchel

Michael Bryant

Ernie Smith, Jr. (son of Phyllis Smith)

Tim Fisher (former ReconcilingWorks Staff)

Charly Hornbrook (friend of Jared Hall)

Donita Holjes (friend of the Plasketts)

Ernie Smith, Sr. (husband of Phyllis Smith)

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

Ethan Gottlieb (grandson of Tim and Angela Langenback)

Heather Booth (daughter of the Plasketts)

Gretchen Woodard (daughter of Debbie Woodard)

Bret R. (friend of Linda Peterman)

Jerriann VanEpern (friend of Linda Peterman)

Judy Wallschlaeger (friend of Sue and Darrell Zenk)

Chelle S. (friend of Jennifer Grumbling)

Jax Cunningham (great nephew of Barbara Woodworth)

Holly and Mark Downing (friends of Suzanne Bryant)

Chris Harris (son of Dave Harry)

Frank Ollari (friend of Doris Ullestad)

Eddie Frederick (friend of the Grumbling/Delerme family)

Elizabeth K. (friend of Sue Nelson)

Karen Aungst (friend of Debbie Woodard)

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)
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 GRIEVE (Family and friends of):

Peg Weingart
Shirley Polak
Vicki Claussen (daughter of Charlotte Claussen)

FOR THOSE WHO SERVE (Family and friends of):

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)
Zoe Lekakis (granddaughter of the Nizers - Marines)
Joel Elliott (stepson of Carolyn Elliott - 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)
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)

Serving The Community of Faith

Assisting Minister: Debbie Woodard
Ushers Kathie and Ken Chernes
Offering Bearers: Emily Seiter and Max Mitzlaff
Acolyte: Madison Seiter
Lector: Jerry Rude
Communion Assistants: Jennifer Grumbling and Arnold Dano
Bread Baker: Melissa Taylor

Altar Guild: Carol Bernstein, Barbara Woodworth and Gina Rabe.

Given to the Glory of God:

Flowers are in memory of Helen Morris by Ruth Titus.
Thanks to James Harry for helping to provide refreshments today.

This Week at St. Mark

Sunday 9:30 am **Worship**
February 18 10:45 am **Refreshments**
10:45 am **Handbell Choir**

Monday **Church Office Closed for Presidents' Day Holiday**
7:00 pm Al-Anon
8:00 pm Ala-Teen Meeting

Wednesday 5:30 pm **Soup Supper**
6:30 pm **Lenten Worship - Prayer around the Cross**

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

Friday 5:30 pm **Bella Musica in Gainesville, Florida for Workshop and Concert**

Saturday 9:30 am **St. Mark Christian Service**

Sunday 9:30 am **Worship**
February 25 10:45 am **Refreshments**

www.stmlc.com

Readings for next Sunday – 2 Lent
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Roman 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

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.



*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

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.