

# WELCOME TO ST. MARK LUTHERAN

## 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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 9, 2018  
9:30 A. M.

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK** – We are happy to have you here with us! Please sign our attendance book at the end of each row. We invite you to join us for refreshments in the breezeway following worship.

**HOLY GOSSIP SESSIONS** - Join us as we dive into the MAKERS video series, "Have a Little Faith," featuring Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber. We'll watch short topical clips that will inspire our study and discussion. We have bi-weekly meetings. This month we will have "The Devil = Your Inner Critic" on **December 13th** and "How the Truth Sets You Free" on **December 27th**. These gatherings will be held at Hackett's Causeway Cafe at the corner of Curlew Road and U. S. Alternate 19 from 7:00 pm until 8:00 pm. If you have any questions or need more info, call, text or email Jennifer Grumbling, 813-892-9707 or [grumbje@gmail.com](mailto:grumbje@gmail.com).

**ADVENT ON THE WATER** - Experience the songs, prayers, and scriptures of Advent against the serene beauty of a sunset on the water. For three Wednesdays in December grab your folding chair and flashlight and meet us at **5:00 p.m.** on the water for Advent worship. On **December 19th** we'll be at the Dunedin Causeway (near the kayak rental) and on **December 12th** we will be at Phillippe Park in Safety Harbor. As darkness unfolds for the day we will enjoy the music of guitars, djembe drum, and maracas as we reflect on how the light of Christ is coming into the world. Services will be led by Pastor Katy Fast of St. Mark Lutheran Church and Pastor Nancy Hauptert of St. Matthias Lutheran Church.

**HANDBELL ENSEMBLE CONCERT** - The Suncoast Bronze Ringers Handbell Ensemble presents "Do You Hear What I Hear" a Christmas handbell concert. St. Mark has members who are a part of this group! Three concerts are planned for December 2018 and the first is on **December 9th beginning at 3:00 pm** at Hope Lutheran Church located at 12321 Canton Avenue in Hudson. For more information find the group on Facebook or call 352-232-1622. Also, see the flyer in the glass case in the breezeway.

**ST. MARK BIBLE STUDY** - Fear not...God is at work beyond our ability to imagine! We will gather to talk about our fears, great and small, and God's promise - fear not. I bring you good tidings of great joy....yes, the Christmas story. Come explore remaining calm within our busy lives. We'll meet **Tuesday, December 11th at 10:00 am** in the large conference room. Bring your Bible. Copies of the study will be in the Narthex. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AVAILABLE** - Please pick up your booklet of envelopes from the Narthex at your convenience. If you would like a booklet of envelopes, you may put your name on the list and one will be provided.

**CASA CHRISTMAS PARTY**—On **Wednesday, December 12th**, St. Mark members are invited to join the youth of St. Mark for our 18th Annual trip to CASA in St. Pete to host a Christmas Party for some of the young children receiving services from CASA. We will read stories, do crafts, and share in fellowship with the children and their families. If you plan on attending, please sign up in the Narthex or e-mail Jennifer Grumbling. We will meet and depart from St. Mark at 5:00 pm and stop at McDonald's on U.S. Highway 19 for a quick dinner. The event is from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Please bring money for McDonald's on the way (if that is an issue, please don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Grumbling by email ([grumbje@gmail.com](mailto:grumbje@gmail.com)) or phone ([813-892-9707](tel:813-892-9707))). We are also looking for four volunteers to bake 2 dozen sugar cookies each for the children to decorate while we're there. Please email the office or sign up in the narthex if you are interested in attending or donating undecorated sugar cookies.

**ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** is open to all ages as well as friends and neighbors of our members. This is a great opportunity to come and enjoy our beautiful church decorations and socialize with old or new friends while enjoying a variety of refreshments. The event will take place **Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** There will be holiday lights and music as well as some crafts or games for young attendees. Beer, wine as well as non-alcoholic beverages will be available. So that we know how many to plan for, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex which has a check off box for anyone needing transportation that evening. The Fellowship Team is seeking 15 volunteers to provide an appetizer and 5 to bring a dessert. Appetizer/Dessert sign-up sheets are also in the Narthex.

**CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING** - St. Mark's Congregational Meeting is held in two parts. On Sunday, **December 16th following worship** we will meet in the sanctuary to adopt a budget for 2019. You're invited to stay and get updated information on church finances and to ask questions, if you would like. All confirmed members are asked to attend these meetings.

**ST. MARK CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOUR** - Mark your calendars for Saturday evening, **December 29th, at 6:00 p.m.** to hop on board an open air Jolley Trolley and tour local Christmas lights. St. Mark has reserved two trolleys that will take us for a tour of the light displays in the area. We get to determine our tour route so if you have a favorite neighborhood for lights, please let Kathie Chernes know so we can consider it in our itinerary. Free to participate. An offering box will be on board for donations to defray cost. Members are welcome to invite friends or family to join us. Available seating is limited to 60, so participants must sign up in the Narthex. Need a ride to/from St. Mark that night? No problem, just check off transportation column on the sign-up sheet.

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## Serving The Community of Faith

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**Assisting Minister:** Sue Nelson  
**Ushers:** Rick and Meta Palmer  
**Offering Bearers:** Emily Seiter and Rys Brown  
**Acolyte:** Madison Seiter  
**Lector:** Gina Rabe  
**Communion Assistants:** Carolyn Elliott and Sue Zenk  
**Bread Baker:** Sue Zenk

**Altar Guild:** Janice Froelich, Grace Herrera and Eddi Ozey

### Given to the Glory of God:

**Presence candle** is in honor of Leona Feldhausen's birthday by Pastor Klaus Koch.

**Thanks to James Harry** for helping to provide refreshments today.

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## This Week at St. Mark

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**Sunday** 8:30 am **Sunday School**  
December 9 9:30 am **Worship**  
10:45 am **Handbell Choir**  
10:45 am **Refreshments**  
11:00 am **Prayer Team Meeting**  
3:00 pm **The Suncoast Bronze Ringers Concert**

**Monday** 7:00 pm **Al-Anon**

**Tuesday** 6:00 pm **Fellowship Team Meeting**  
7:00 pm **Church Council Meeting**

**Wednesday** 5:00 pm **Advent on the Water (Phillippe Park)**

**Thursday** 6:30 pm **AA**  
7:00 pm **Holy Gossip Session (Hackett's Causeway Café)**

**Friday** 3:00 pm **The Suncoast Bronze Ringers Handbell Concert**

**Sunday** 8:30 am **Sunday School**  
December 16 9:30 am **Worship**  
10:45 am **Handbell Choir**  
10:45 am **Refreshments**  
11:00 am **Prayer Team Meeting**  
3:00 pm **The Suncoast Bronze Ringers Handbell Concert**

### Readings for next Sunday - 3 Advent

Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

## 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 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:**

Arnie Dano  
Darrell Zenk  
Julie Kitchen  
Suzanne Bryant  
Cheryl Burton  
Michael Bryant  
Clayton Stoots  
Jean Hardwick  
Ian Clark (great grandson of Mickey Lovering)  
Aaron (cousin of Susie Peterson)  
Tom Schnack (cousin of Sue and Darrell Zenk)  
Diane Gleason (friend of Debbie Woodard)  
Carol Stone (fiancé of Clayton Stoots)  
Laurie Froelich (sister-in-law of Janice Froelich)  
John Swan (grandson of Pat Croy)  
Judy Rebane (friend of Sue Nelson)  
Dave McDougall (friend of Bryan Fast)  
Derek (son-in-law of Sue Nelson)  
Tim Grumbling (brother of Jennifer Grumbling/uncle of Milla and Kaeden)  
David Mengel (uncle of Jennifer Grumbling)  
Colleen Brice (friend of the Horvath family)  
Sonia Silva (aunt of Janelys Hormes)  
Chris Rothgery (nephew of Trish Kitchel)  
Emily Fletcher Dano (granddaughter of Arnie Dano)  
Nancy Olson (sister of Suzanne Bryant)  
Kevin Morden (son of Don and Peggy Morden)  
Sharon (Leslie) Horst (friend of Jennifer Grumbling)  
Chris Tovar (son-in-law of Wanita Beier)  
Vibeke Bredal (friend of Sue Nelson)  
Ingeborg Kayser (sister-in-law of Horst Kayser)  
Lou Straccioni (friend of Barbara Woodworth)  
Ernie Smith, Jr. (son of Phyllis Smith)  
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)  
Bret R. (friend of Linda Peterman)  
Jerriann VanEpern (friend of Linda Peterman)  
Bret R. (friend of Linda Peterman)  
Jerriann VanEpern (friend of Linda Peterman)  
Chelle S. (friend of Jennifer Grumbling)  
Tom Conway (brother of Mary VanHaute)  
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):**

Wanita Beier (mother of Lynne Anderson)  
Carlene Goodliffe (mother of Linda Peterman)

**FOR THOSE WHO SERVE (Family and friends of):**

Zoe Lekakis (granddaughter of the Nizers - Marines)  
Joel Elliott (stepson of Carolyn Elliott - in the Air Force)  
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)  
Calvin Jensen (friend of Carol Czajkowski - 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)  
Sam Palmer (family of the Horvaths)  
Andrew Amstutz (friend of the Langenbacks - US Navy)  
Alexis Grzegorzcyk (friend of Carol Czajkowski - USAF)  
Mitch Shellenberger  
Tierney Froelich  
Rodney Mobley (son of the Nizers - Police Officer)

## 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 and Beverly Entwisle, Property Stewards  
Regina Hickey, Bookkeeper*

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email: stmark@tampabay.rr.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/stmarklutheranchurchelca>

**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.