



# Life

A Publication of St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2024  
Volume 57 Issue 3

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark,

*“Jesus said, “It is finished.”*

*Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. ” — John 19:30*

Now, if this is where our story stopped, we would not be living as people of the resurrection. We would be stunted at the crossroads, having no clue where to go and what to do. We would not know who we are or where we were going. But thanks be to God, that is not where our story ends, that is just the beginning. God does something miraculous through Jesus Christ, so we can shout with joy-filled hearts on Easter Sunday, "CHRIST IS RISEN!"



*“He is not here; for he has been raised.” — Matthew 28:6*

This is what we proclaim on Easter Sunday and every day following. Because of God's greatest promise, that he is not dead, but Christ lives! And through Christ's life, death, and resurrection we are granted grace upon grace. Through this unfailing, unfaltering, unparalleled love, we are set free to be people of the resurrection, covered by grace and forgiven. No longer finding ourselves at a crossroads, but rather, covered in grace.

Therefore, in this grace we receive from Christ Jesus, we give God our praise and thanksgiving. For the light of Christ is found in the resurrection, we see Christ in his glory and we receive the gift of grace. We sing and we trust the light of Christ will never burn out, it will never be dim, it will not let us stumble in the darkness, no Christ's light will shine and guide our steps. This is why Easter matters. Because we are never to be forsaken, we will never be left alone to wander in the darkness. True light has come and God has done something extraordinary through Jesus Christ. God, the creator of the world and liberator of all people has brought Christ to new life, and through the resurrection of Jesus we are freed from our fears, and ignited with the light of Christ. It is through Jesus Christ that we are forgiven, set free, and saved by grace. There is no greater love than this and nothing compares to this grace. Almighty God has restored humanity and in God's mercy, we are called to share this love and grace with all whom we encounter. Let the light of Christ shine in your hearts, illumine your path, and guide your comings and goings so that you might always know the way, the truth, and the light. Because we know this only through Jesus Christ, who is, who was, and who will always be our Savior and Lord. Thanks be to God.

Remember the true meaning of Easter, which is the resurrection. As the world brings out fluffy bunnies, sweet treats, and eggs, be rooted in the promises of forgiveness and grace that comes from a crucified and risen Savior. Remember that when you come to worship, we worship together, with praise and song a God of unparalleled love. We worship a God who gave everything so we might know the comfort and promise of grace. Remember that when the trumpets and fanfare fade away and the work week resumes that we are still covered in God's abundant grace. Remember that as we go about our daily lives and the glorious nature of Easter Sunday fades in your memory, God is still loving us, and Christ still died and rose again so we might know this amazing grace! Savor the sacred moments of Holy Week and let the Holy Spirit wash over you as you worship on Easter Sunday and know that God's love is why Easter matters. Thanks be to God. I look forward to Easter Worship and the blessed sacred journey of Holy Week.

In Christ,  
Pastor Travis

# March 2024

March 2024							April 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31							28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 25	26	27	28	29	Mar 1	2
<div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>9:30am Worship</div> <div>11:00am SOCIAL MINISTRY - Craft Day</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>	<div>4</div> <div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>9:30am Worship</div> <div>11:00am SOCIAL MINISTRY - Craft Day</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>	<div>5</div> <div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div> <div>6:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10:00am Bible Study</div> <div>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</div> <div>6:00pm Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>7:00pm MidWeek Worship</div>	<div>7</div> <div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>9:00am Confirmation</div> <div>1:30pm Special Olympics-Westenders</div> <div>5:00pm Worship</div> <div>6:00pm B.I.G.</div>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>9:30am Worship</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>	<div>6:30pm Finance</div>	<div>12:00pm LIFE articles duel</div> <div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div> <div>6:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div>	<div>10:00am Bible Study</div> <div>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</div> <div>6:00pm Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>7:00pm MidWeek Worship</div>	<div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div>		<div>10:00am Prayer Shawl</div> <div>1:30pm Special Olympics-Westenders</div> <div>5:00pm Worship</div> <div>6:00pm BUNCO</div>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>9:30am Worship</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>	<div>1:00pm Circle</div>	<div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div> <div>6:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div>	<div>10:00am Bible Study</div> <div>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</div> <div>6:00pm Choir Rehearsal</div> <div>7:00pm MidWeek Worship</div>	<div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div> <div>6:30pm Council</div>		<div>10:00am Habitat Lunch Prep</div> <div>11:00am Habitat Lunch</div> <div>1:30pm Special Olympics-Westenders</div> <div>5:00pm Worship</div>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<div>PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST</div> <div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>9:30am Worship</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>		<div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div> <div>6:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div>	<div>10:00am Bible Study</div> <div>6:00pm Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP @ 7pm</div> <div>4:30pm Special Olympics - C. Williams</div>	<div>GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP @ 7pm</div>	<div>10:00am EASTER EGG HUNT (Gym)</div> <div>1:30pm Special Olympics-Westenders</div> <div>5:00pm Worship</div>
31	Apr 1	2	3	4	5	6
<div>EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP</div> <div>8:30am 3rd-5th gr Bible Study</div> <div>4:00pm A. Kyle Basketball - Gym</div> <div>5:00pm Emmaus Worship -</div> <div>6:15pm Pickleball</div>	<div>9:00 Foot Clinic</div>					



## Notes from the Organ Bench by Ross Jallo

This month we are making our way through Lent, through Holy Week, and finally to Easter Sunday, which occurs this year on March 31st. (If that seems pretty early for Easter, well, it is. The Feast of the Resurrection is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the spring equinox, which means that Easter will fall in March only about 20% of the time.)

At no other time of year do we get such a sense of *narrative* in the liturgical calendar: our lectionary readings lead us from the life and miracles of Jesus into his betrayal and execution. Holy Week -- the week that begins with Palm Sunday, continues with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and ends with Easter -- is the climax of the Christian year. Events from the life of Jesus (the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the last supper, the crucifixion, the resurrection) are observed in real time, as it were: we have church services within the week that are scheduled basically when these events took place. If you have any interest in entering into the life of Jesus -- to get a sense of events as they happened -- the best thing you can do is attend our Holy Week worship services. We get so entrenched in the idea that church is only on Sundays that it can be difficult to break this habit and attend on other days of the week, but this is the time of year to consider making an exception.

Earlier in Lent, St Mark's choir sang an anthem based on an old American folk hymn, "Jesus walked this lonesome valley". Part of the text is especially relevant:

*We must walk this lonesome valley;*

*We have to walk it by ourselves.*

*Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;*

*We have to walk it by ourselves.*

Nobody else can attend church for you. If you want to get something out of it -- if you want to grow in faith -- the only option is to show up.

### Congratulations to the following who will be serving on the St. Mark Church Council:

Nancy Baderstadt, President  
Beth Claey's, Vice-President  
Barb Jakubowski, Treasurer  
Rob Sherrod, Secretary  
Cathy Barton  
Mike Crews  
Diane Fellman  
Julie Ginn  
Tom Leibold  
Candy Nagel  
Linda Ray  
Doug Rowley

Please pray for these members as they serve in these very important leadership positions.



There are now options online to give through Vanco and our Website [www.stmarkcares.org](http://www.stmarkcares.org) for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter designations. For those households who are using Vanco or another form of automatic giving through your financial institution and would like to opt-out for envelopes being mailed to you, please call the church office 563-322-5318. Any questions or if you want to sign up for Vanco please contact Jodee Williams or Barb Jakubowski through the church office.

## Finance Update

### General Fund Summary

January Offerings	\$ 20,501
January Expenses	\$ 28,503

### Regular Offerings 2024 Through January

Received	\$ 20,501
Budgeted Amount	\$ 20,833



## Mid-Week Lenten Meals:

Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>  
Luther Hall from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM.

*SOUP, BREAD, DESSERT*

A free-will offering will be taken to offset the cost of the meal.

This is an opportunity to gather as a community around a meal and worship. One does not need to have dinner to attend worship.



## Mid-Week Worship

Holden Evening Prayer  
In Chapel at 7PM

Communion Instruction will be scheduled in March. If you have a child who is ready to receive communion or has been receiving communion and has not received instruction, please let the office know by calling 563-322-5318 so we can schedule a time and date that works for those interested.

Would you like to join the St. Mark Circle? They meet once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month in the church lounge at 1 PM. If you would like more information, please call the church or email and we will connect you to one of the current members.



## BUNCO NIGHT

Saturday, March 16th  
at 6:00PM

\$5 donation is suggested and a snack to share. You may also want to bring a drink. There are Door Prizes and Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

We offer the Families of:

Jean Mumm

and

William Mass

words of love, support, and comfort. May they rest assured in the midst of their challenges and adjustments that God will sustain them in the loss of their loved one through faith in our Risen Lord.



*Because He lives  
we too shall live.*

*In Memory*

## Grace Lutheran Church

*Centering Prayer*

*Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom*

*(Excluding holidays)*

Cheryl Kritsch facilitates the Centering Prayer Group which meets via ZOOM every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm. Periodically the group will meet in-person in the Grace Lutheran Church Choir Room providing the ZOOM option, as well. Please contact Cheryl Kritsch with any questions and to verify if the group is meeting in-person on that Monday at 563-343-0135.

Zoom Meeting ID: 392 407 7028 Passcode: 2020



## March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

At LSI, we believe every Iowan deserves the independence they need to thrive. LSI's Host Homes is an innovative way LSI is serving adults with disabilities. Through this program, an individual moves from Supported Community Living into a private family home with a carefully selected mentor. This program is built entirely around an individual's goals and interests, and LSI's extensive matching process ensures the mentor and mentee are a great fit.

Take a moment to read the following story from a Host Homes mentee:

"My journey with LSI's Host Homes started in early 2023. I've known my mentor for a few years while he provided hourly services to me. We learned about Host Homes and thought it would be a good fit for us. I moved into my mentor's home where he helps me maintain a daily routine with schoolwork, household tasks, daily living skills, improving independence, and more.

I attend a college nearby and go to classes a few days a week. I am able to navigate the local bus system to access my community to attend classes and visit friends. My mentor is always available to transport me into the community as needed.

This summer, I went on a trip across the country with one of my classes. While on this trip, I was able to maintain my independence with limited support, but I knew my mentor would be available by phone to assist me with my coping skills and problem solving. This trip was a big success for me knowing I had support only a phone call away.

I like LSI's Host Homes Program because my mentor supports me in the way I want to be supported, assists me with some daily tasks I struggle with, and understands me."

If you are interested in becoming a Host Homes mentor and helping a fellow Iowan achieve independence, please visit [LSIowa.org/HostHomes](http://LSIowa.org/HostHomes) for more information.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

## Habitat For Humanity Lunches - March 23, 2024

St. Mark will provide the lunches to different locations; the number of volunteers working on these days will be known closer to the date. We will meet between 10-10:30am on Saturday 03/23/2024 to put everything together and have lunches delivered by 11:30am. Sign-up sheet will be in the lounge. Questions can be directed to Maureen Currier **(563-940-8744)**.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this ministry!

## Mark Your Calendar! Easter Egg Hunt at St. Mark

**Saturday March 30, 2024 10:00AM Start Time**

Meet in the Gym by 9:45am

Ages 6 months to 11 years

Lunch will be Served.

Prizes to be Won.

Candy donations will be accepted Feb 18-Mar 24. A basket will be in the Lounge.

Healthy snacks are welcomed. All donations greatly appreciated.

Any Questions: Contact Kim Sherrod-Hensler 563-322-4369



# Peace and greetings from Beth Claeys, Parish Nurse!

## Talking With Your Doctor

How well you and your doctor communicate with each other is one of the most important parts of getting good health care. Being prepared can help you make the most of your visit, whether it is in person or through telehealth. Here are some things you can do to make the most of your appointment:



- make lists of your concerns, anticipate allergies and all the medicines, herbs, or vitamins you take
- write down a description of symptoms - when they started, what makes them better, what makes them worse, etc,
- ask a trusted friend or family member to be with you at your appointment
- take notes during your appointment
- learn how to access your medical records, do you can keep track of test results, diagnoses, treatment plans, and medicines

Make sure you understand your diagnosis and any treatments. If you don't understand your doctors responses, ask questions until you do understand. Ask your doctor for written instructions if you need them. Find out where else you can go for further information.

(Source NIH: National Institutes of Health)



Prayer Shawl Group will meet in the Church lounge  
Saturday March 16th, 2024 from 10 am - 11 am



*There will be a foot clinic on Monday April 1, 2024.  
Sign-up sheet is in the lounge. Appointment is required.  
Cost is \$35.*



We will be holding our annual Palm Sunday Breakfast on Sunday March 24th in the Gym. We will start serving breakfast at 8am and will wrap up around 9:30am. We will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, biscuits and gravy, fruit, and pastries as well as milk, juice, and coffee. A free will donation will be collected to help the Youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.

BIG Saturday will be March 9th. We will worship together at the 5pm service followed by a walking taco bar and games. We will also be talking about some fun new changes coming this summer to our youth programming. Please RSVP to Amber or Lisa by March 6th so we have plenty of food. This month, all of the food will be provided so please bring yourselves, a fun game you like to play, and a friend.



## Food Donations

St. Mark Lutheran Church Food Pantry would like to thank the following members, friends, churches and groups for their generous donations during the month of January 2024

St. Mark Church Members and Friends  
Lois Vasquez

Together we served **142** families!!!

## Thank You!!

To everyone who contributed to our  
**SOUPER BOWL of CARING**

## Save the Date!!!

Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the  
Redeemer Bedient Organ to be held  
Sunday, April 7th, 2024 at 2:00pm

Followed by fellowship at

Redeemer Lutheran Church

1107 Tanglefoot Lane

Bettendorf, IA 52722

For more information or questions, please contact

Karen VanDeWostine at

musciredeemberbett@gmail.com or 563-529-3690



If you would like to honor or remember a loved one by sponsoring our Easter decorations, please use this form and include it and **\$15.00** in an envelope and mail it to church. We will include all the names of the loved ones honored and/or memorialized in the April 2024 edition of LIFE.

**Thank you!**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Offering Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**-or-**

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

**The forms are due in the office by March 12.**

## Bible Study

**Wednesdays at 10 AM**

All are welcome to attend.

We are currently doing a Lenten Study. We have bibles available or bring your own to highlight, underline, and circle your favorite passages.



## A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

‘Thy Will be done’.....familiar words to us all. We speak them often; some of us daily. But what do those words mean to us in our lives? What is God’s

Will for us? Is it attending church regularly? Showing others what a “good Christian” looks like? God tells us that we are His hands and feet and He has provided us with the time, talents, and treasures to do His work. But His Will is for us to use ALL He has given us in every way needed. If God’s church struggles to pay its bills, if no one signs up for Bible Study, if a visitor doesn’t feel welcomed, that’s on all of us. Each of us has been given God’s grace in so many ways. The next time you speak “Thy Will be done”, truly listen to what God calls you to do.

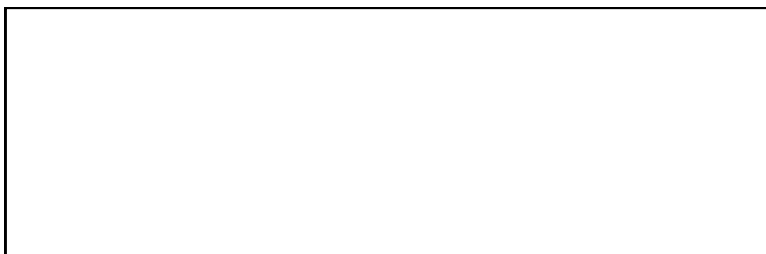
In Christ’s Service – Your Stewardship Committee



ST. MARK LIFE  
St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Davenport, Iowa 52808

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**MARCH 24, 2024**  
**WORSHIP AT 9:30am**



**MARCH 28, 2024**  
**WORSHIP AT 7:00pm**



**MARCH 29, 2024**  
**WORSHIP AT 7:00pm**



**MARCH 31, 2024**  
**WORSHIP AT 9:30am**



**Saturday**  
5:00pm  
**Sunday**  
9:30am



**Office  
Hours**

**Tuesday - Thursday:**  
9:30-2:30  
**Friday:**  
by appointment  
Call Church office at  
563-322-5318

Visit Us! St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church • 2363 West Third Street, Davenport IA 52802  
Send Correspondence to: St. Mark Ev. Lutheran Church • PO Box 3248, Davenport IA 52808 Phone: 563-322-5318  
Annual subscription of \$1.00 per year is included in payment of weekly pledge of members. Email: [stmark@stmarkcares.org](mailto:stmark@stmarkcares.org)