



# The Messenger

## September 2022

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



### Knowledge? No, Wisdom!

As some of you know, I have. Ph.D from Iowa State University. I really didn't think much about it when I was in graduate school, but one of my fellow students reminded me that we were pretty special.

"There are not very many people who get Ph.D.," he said. But then another student set us both straight. "You know what a Ph.D. is? It's a degree in ignorance in everything except (fill in your major here)," he said in rebuttal.

As I think about it, both of my friends were correct. Getting a Ph.D. does put you in a pretty special group. But the nature of that degree, where students totally immerse themselves in one small aspect of one field of study, does mean that perhaps they forego learning other things that might actually be more important to them in daily living. I've know plenty of people with doctorates that don't employ common sense when it comes to daily living. Likewise, I know plenty of people who don't have a Ph.D., but they are smart, wonderfully clever, and creative. I have seen evidence of tremendous knowledge in people of all ages and education levels.

As this is the time of year when school starts for many young people around the country, it seems like a good time to reflect on the difference between knowledge and wisdom. I once read in my daily Bible study that knowledge is horizontal, but wisdom is vertical. In other words, knowledge comes from what one can sense in this world. But wisdom comes from above. The Bible gives several examples of wisdom that are worth noting.

Probably the book of the Bible that most people associate with God's wisdom is Proverbs. It is true there are many nuggets of wisdom in that book. There is even a personification of wisdom in Proverbs 8:12-19: *"I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion. To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior, and perverse speech. Counsel and sound judgment are mine; I have insight, I have power. By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just; by me princes govern, and nobles – all who rule on earth. I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me. With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth, and prosperity. My fruit is better than fine gold; what I yield surpasses choice silver."*

From this little segment of scripture, we can conclude that wisdom comes from God. It starts with the *"fear of the Lord,"* in other words, a deep respect for God as a source of all wisdom. Wisdom is also something that is pure – it hates things that are evil like pride and arrogance and perverse speech. If you see these characteristics in people, they are not wise. My mother was an English teacher who abhorred profanity. She declared that people who curse and swear do so because they not bright enough to think of any more creative ways to express themselves. Apparently, the God-inspired writer of Proverbs felt the same way.

This scripture also points out the importance of wisdom to leaders. According to these verses, it is wisdom that helps leaders rule and produce laws that are good and fair. Oh, that we would see more wisdom in our national and world leaders today!

Finally, these verses reveal that God's wisdom is ours for the asking. It says, *"those who seek me find me."* And how do we seek? We merely have to ask and then *"listen"* to what God tells us in Scripture.

(continued on page 2)



## Knowledge? No, Wisdom!

(continued from page 1)

As I think of wise leaders in the Bible, my thoughts immediately turn to Moses. I know he got off to a rather rough start in saving God's people from bondage in Egypt, but as you read through the books of Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, you can see how Moses grows in wisdom the more he interacts with God. He lamented that he was not a good speaker at the beginning of Exodus, but by the end of Deuteronomy, he is arguing to convince God not to destroy the children of Israel.

When Moses first encounters God, he has no idea how to act or what to do, but when he comes down from Mount Sinai after being in God's presence, he radiates God's wisdom and uses it to lead boldly and judge fairly. We can't hope to have that kind of encounter with God on this side of heaven, but we can still gain God's wisdom by regularly communing with him in worship and Bible study.

Of course, the greatest example of wisdom in the Bible is Jesus—the Son of God with all his wisdom and perfection. Jesus is all knowing, but more importantly, he is all wise. He was able to discern exactly what needed to be done and said in every situation he encountered. When the woman who had led a sinful life began anointing his feet with perfume, he could sense the repentance she was asking for even though she didn't say a word. No one else at that banquet could recognize that. When he taught the crowds, he used parables about common things so the people could understand the point he was trying to make. No one else had spoken to them in that way, gently and yet with great wisdom and authority. When he encountered the Pharisees, he rebuked them using their own words and actions to condemn what they had done and failed to do. Jesus' wisdom shines through in every action and every word. He is wisdom personified just like we read in Proverbs.

So knowledge is good, but wisdom is better. Thanks to Jesus' example, we can see wisdom put into practice every time we open our Bible. I am certainly thankful for the opportunity I had to get a great education and I appreciate the knowledge I gained from it, but I am even more thankful that every day I can gain true wisdom from God above, and that is often my prayer as I meet the challenges of this life. I hope that it is your prayer as well. – jm



Well, it's time to think about Sunday School again. We will be starting on September 11, 2022 at 9:00 – 9:45 am. We would like the parents to attend with their child/children. We are a very small group this year, so we will be meeting every other Sunday. If you know of anyone that is interested in learning about God and Jesus and the Bible stories, tell them to contact the church office at 920-725-2828 or Gwen Hoehne at 920-725-8886. We would enjoy having more children in our Sunday School. Remember that September 11 is also "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. We are hoping to do something special that day.

With God's Blessings,

Gwen Hoehne, Sunday School Superintendent







## ST. MARK'S CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

### August 18, 2022



The meeting was called order at 6:30 pm by President Laurie Olson.

**Devotions:** Devotions were given by Jenny Case. Sherri Denney volunteered for devotions in August.

#### **Roll Call:**

Members Present: Laurie Olson, Pennie Linna, Jeff Tharp, Kim Wallmuller, Mary Jane Hartley, Jenny Case, Sherri Denney, and Judy Hellman.

Excused: Mykayla Tharp

**Approval of Minutes** for the July 21st meeting.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney**

**Thank You Cards:** Jean Memken's son for his work on the computers.

#### **Financial Report:**

1. Current Budget Balance is \$109,519.42.
2. Building Improvements is \$14,971.14.
3. July giving was 12,868.94; July spending was \$7,399.56.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to accept the report.**

**Pastor's Report:** None

#### **Committee Reports**

**Property Committee** – August 1, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Bruce Grundman*

Members Present: Bruce Grundman, Phyllis Ziemke, Joe Deckers, Ginny Schieck, Terry Stillman, and Jason Blank

1. Discussed the Feeding America truck that hit the building. We received the insurance payment for the damages. We will fix it ourselves (small dent). The check will go into the property account.
2. We are scheduling a boiler inspection.
3. We discussed our trash pickup, and possible changes.
4. The flower box with bell that was in the courtyard has been removed, and the bell will be used at some point for another purpose.

**Connections Committee** – July 25, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Mary Jane Hartley*

Attended Last meeting: Sharyn Gawlick, Betty Linna, Sandy Mathenia, Mary Jane Harley, Joy Case, Jenny Case, Jane Arps, Judy Hellman, Linda Anderson, and Ellen LaMarche.

We opened with a prayer that Betty read.

Discussed the job description of Connection committee and talked about what we could change in the descriptions and add some and reword some?

1. We do not keep record of Communion cards that are turned in. They are turned into office to be recorded.
2. When this is done and someone new comes to church, we would like to give out an information packet and gift bags with our magnet and info about services and other things. We talked about how this will be overseen by our committee.





3. We will go over them and show council what changes are need to up-date our duties.
4. We will discuss at our next meeting

Fellowship list is good for July and August. Talked about how to recruit people to volunteer. One suggestion was: during fellowship ask someone at the table we are sitting at to volunteer. Talk to someone face to face about doing a fellowship.

Would like to do a bring a friend to church in September. We asked Jenny to talk to Sunday School about helping with this.

#### New Business:

October 22,2022 Craft Fair update: 4 vendors have sent in registrations. We will have a bake sale and sell hot dogs and brats, chips, and soda. We talked about setup and take down. We will ask for help moving tables and chairs. We will ask Lydia Circle group to meet in Mary room on the Thursday before Craft sale, so we can set up tables. We will have flyers and posters out early to let other churches know we are having the craft sale.

Question about last year's craft sale profit, costs, and donations. Will have that information next meeting.

Talked about card sending and calls to those we did not see. We need to work on this.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

#### **Education Committee** – August 6, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Gwen Hoehne, Superintendent*

PRESENT: Jenny Case, Sherri Denney, Laurie Olson, and Gwen Hoehne

- 1) **BACKGROUND CHECKS** - Laurie Olson presented the Booklet "Child and Youth Abuse Prevention Program". She went through the booklet and gave us the forms to fill out for the background check. We discussed about the book and some situations. Understand that any one working with the Sunday School or confirmation classes needs to have a background check. Thank you Laurie for discussing this with us.
- 2) **CONFIRMATION** - We will use a new series this year "Here We Stand". It seems easier for the students to understand and to work with. This is the same program that Gloria Dei and St. Timothy's use. We are excited about it. Hopefully the students will be. They will have a meet and greet on either September 11 or 18 with breakfast for the students and parents whichever day it picked.
- 3) **SUNDAY SCHOOL** - We are looking at starting on September 11th. We only have a 3-4 kids right now and we are planning on having Sunday School every other week. Gwen sent out letters to about 20 kids asking if they were planning to attend to Sunday School this year, but only three came back. Will try to contact the ones that didn't answer, but they are not members of our church
- 4) **OTHER BUSINESS** - We discussed First Communion. We would like to have it on October 16th. Laurie will talk to Pennie about this since she teaches this class.

NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY, AUGUST 27th at 10:30 am.



Pat Wenzel  
Tracy Feldman  
Brett Gawlick  
Otto Arndt  
Ellen LaMarche  
Donna Joachim  
Mary Zalewski  
Eunice Niemuth  
Richie Sczerzen  
Sarah Hill  
Paul Gade



## **Finance and Stewardship Committee – August 16, 2022 ~ Submitted by Laurie Olson**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM.

Reviewed the end of the month current account balance. July 2022 giving was \$12,868.94 and expenses were \$7,399.56. Difference was +\$5,469.38. Year to date giving towards monthly expenses is +\$29,936.38. It was again pointed out that the positive net is reflective of not paying for a full-time Pastor salary, medical insurance, pension, etc.

Total Associated Bank checking has a balance of \$172,298.63, which includes \$62,779.21 allocated to designated accounts. Additionally, \$104,300.00 in the Thrivent money market and \$51,156.76 in the Thrivent T.I.P. account and \$52,855.76 in the ELCA Mission Investment Fund.

Reviewed detailed financial reports.

Laurie announced an opportunity for Finance and Stewardship Committee members to attend a **Four Stewardship Mindset Shifts** virtual workshop *Resources to Cultivate Generosity for Congregational Treasurers, Finance Teams and Executive Councils* on Tuesday, August 23rd - 6:30 pm. Laurie informed Mary Jane and Fern that if they were interested, she would set the event up on the Fellowship laptop/screen. She will also share this information with those not in attendance at the committee meeting.

It was decided to wait until September's meeting to discuss details on the Fall stewardship program.

It was reported that Mary Jane and Laurie will be setting up staff with deposit payroll deposit.

Laurie noted that she plans to work with Jean, in the next couple weeks, on giving envelope numbering.

Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to accept the committee reports.**

### **Mission & Vision:**

1. We now have a new monitor.

- Examples of items on the monitor are the Timber Rattlers group event, and the grandparent church camp at Pine Lake, etc.

### **Unfinished Business:**

1. Pastoral Transition Update

- A second personal interview of a candidate will take place August 24th.

### **New Business:**

1. Helping Hands Procedure

- People must fill out an application.
- If help is needed for utility bills, etc., an invoice must be presented in order to receive funds.
- A list of agencies will be given to the people in need.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Pennie Linna to approve the guidelines.**

2. Styrofoam Product use at St. Mark's

- Due to harmful effects to the waste system, we will no longer purchase Styrofoam products for the kitchen.
- In the future, paper products will be ordered

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to approve the recommendation.**

3. Racial Equity Training

**MSC by Pennie Linna/Jeff Tharp to send a team to this training.**



MSC by Kim Wallmuller/Jeff Tharp to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is September 15th, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Judy Hellman, Secretary

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Neenah

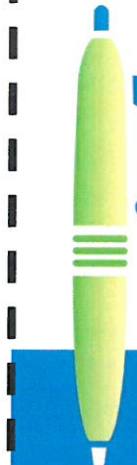
The Church Council and Call Committee invite you to:

**Special Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, September 18 at 11:15 AM**

The purpose of the meeting is to vote to call the candidate of choice to serve our congregation as our full-time Pastor—details on the candidate will be presented at the meeting.



*Thank you for your continued support of Community Table hosted by our partner in faith, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Neenah. We continue to offer this valuable outreach ministry to our community on the second Tuesday of every month from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Please note: This is no longer a drive through service! There's a "place at the table" for everyone, so please come inside for fellowship and a welcoming meal!*



**Thank You**  
*from Community Table*

## "School for Seniors" at St. Mark's on September 30

St. Mark's will host a school for seniors in the Fellowship Hall on September 30, from 8:45 am to noon. The program is being sponsored by the City of Neenah and Lakeland University.

Classes offered include:

1. Protect yourself from Common Scams
2. Breathe Your Way to Wellness: Lessons from the Operatic Stage
3. Investing During Retirement: Fun or Fear?

There will be displays as well which will open at 8:00 am. Refreshments will also be available. Come and learn some practical ideas for senior health and well-being!

## Confirmation News

Our Christian Education Team has moved to a new confirmation curriculum: *Here We Stand*. Each lesson follows the same basic pattern, which models the familiar pattern for worship-gathering, word, meal, sending. The student book makes strong connections for each lesson with fun, interactive content, discussion questions, cartoons, charts, and the Small Catechism.

Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am with the first class being a parent/student and instructor class. At this first class:

- ♦ A brief overview of the new program will be presented. The Christian Education Team thinks the youth will enjoy the new materials.
- ♦ St. Mark's is making and serving breakfast to kick-off the new season of classes and in celebration of our confirmands.
- ♦ Medical/contact form will be completed by parent/guardian.
- ♦ Calendar of classes (dates) will be distributed.





# PASTORAL TRANSITION Update

The Call Committee held an in-person interview, tour of church/community and dinner with a pastoral candidate on Wednesday, August 24. The Call Committee unanimously decided to move forward with this candidate. Here is a summary of the remaining steps in the Call Process:

1. Executive Committee will meet to review and negotiate the compensation package for the candidate of choice.
2. A background check will be conducted.
3. References will be called.
4. A Church Council Meeting will be held and the candidate will be presented by the Call Committee and the compensation package reviewed.
5. Council President will discuss and determine start date with candidate.
6. A Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 18 at 11:15 am to vote on accepting the candidate of choice.
7. Candidate Accepts the Call.

If all the above goes smoothly (which I anticipate), we potentially could have our new Pastor at St. Mark's sometime in November. An installation date and reception will be scheduled for at least a few weeks after the start date of the new Pastor so that they can be a part of the planning.

Please continue to include the Call Committee and this process in your prayers!

Feel free to contact one of your St. Mark's Church Council Members, if you have any questions. Updates will continue to be announced during worship, in future newsletters, emails, and/or direct mailings.

PEACE

Laurie Olson  
Council President

## Helping Hands Fund Guidelines Established



The Church Council approved a procedure and an application for the Helping Hands Fund. In addition, a community resource document was compiled, listing various agencies which assist with food, shelter, clothing, etc. {The Helping Hands Fund has existed for many years. Last year, the Council moved the account to the Social Ministry Committee and their oversight.} This procedure will assist the church office and Pastor on a procedure to consider when individuals contact the church seeking assistance.

The purpose of the Helping Hand Fund is to provide financial aid to an individual who is in need on an urgent basis. The Helping Hands Fund may not be applicable for cases which need long-term financial support. The church has the right to adjust or to disapprove an applicant's request and may consider providing assistance other than monetary help (e.g., food, clothing, or transportation). There is currently \$521.68 available in the fund.

Copies of the complete Helping Hands Fund procedure and application, along with the community resource document can be found in the wall pamphlet rack in the church narthex.

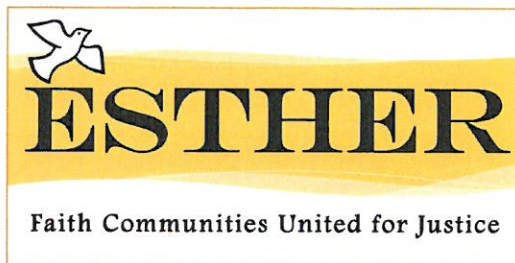
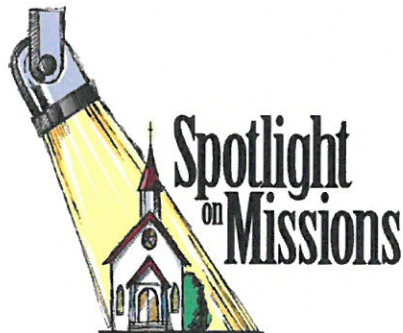




The Food Pantry has been very busy lately. We've gotten new patrons every week. In July, our numbers were down with only 28 families getting food for 109 family members. In August, we had more shoppers. We never know what to expect from week to week. With your wonderful donations of food and cash we were able to help those that come, especially if they come early on Wednesdays. We are in need of paper products, bar, dish and laundry soap, sugar, sweet cereal, and canned pasta meals.

Please continue working on making all the beautiful hats, scarves and mittens. They will be given to the needy in November.

Our next meeting will be October 10th at 6:30. — Karen Jordan



ESTHER

ESTHER stands for Empowerment Solidarity Truth Hope Equity Reform

ESTHER is an interfaith social-justice organization. They are grassroots and non-profit, focusing their work in the Fox Valley region of Wisconsin.

ESTHER aims to bring together people of faith and communities of faith to build community and to identify and act on issues of injustice. Faith communities covenanting with ESTHER join together based on shared values such as equality and human dignity. They work with congregations and individuals in collaboration with community partners and public officials so that everyone can have a voice and role in bringing about strong and just communities. ESTHER sometimes seeks to mobilize support for or opposition to particular legislation or rule-making; we do not, however, advocate for candidates or parties.

#### ESTHER seeks to:

- Bring healing and unity as an interfaith community that reaches beyond the divisions of race, creed, and socio-economic status
- Build solid relationships with one another and with community leaders
- Identify and address root causes of poverty, oppression, and injustice
- Be agents of change that unite the community and spread a message of hope
- Work at local, state, and national levels to promote justice
- Empower people to overcome injustices and respond to the social-justice concerns of people in the communities of the Fox Valley





## St. Mark's to Phase Out Use of Styrofoam

In concern for caring for God's creation, we will be ending the purchase and use of Styrofoam products at St. Mark's. The Church Council voted to phase out the use of Styrofoam. We will use what we have on site and when the need to purchase supplies develops, we will purchase environmentally friendly products.



The Bible includes a number of verses that speak to God's views on his creation as well as on the importance of treating the Earth well. Here are a few of those scriptures:

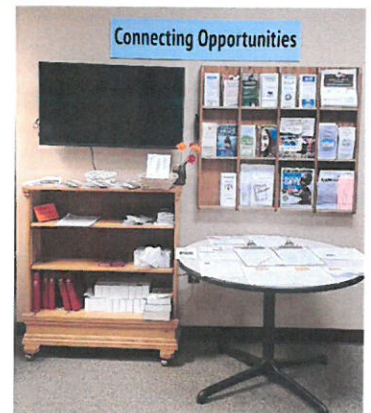
1. "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." - Genesis 2:15 (NIV)
2. "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." - Revelation 4:11 (NIV)
3. "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." - Psalm 24:1 (NIV)
4. "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'" - Genesis 1:26 (NIV)
5. "The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it." - Psalm 89:11 (NIV)

There is endless information on why Styrofoam is bad for the environment and it is not just about it not being biodegradable (can take anything between 500 to 1 million years to decompose), including the toxic pollutants from Styrofoam, the impact on animals and the health risks during the manufacturing of Styrofoam.



## What New in the Narthex

St. Mark's Mission & Visioning team developed four Ministry Results Areas (Goals). One of those goals is Connecting Passions to Ministry. An objective in meeting that goal was to develop a better on-site communication area. We thank the family of Virginia Siebert for directing her memorial fund to assist with the purchase of a new wall pamphlet rack and the monitor. The monitor will be streaming current opportunities for individuals/families to plug into (use their ministry gifts in service to the church, community and world). We will also be announcing educational and special event offerings. Come check it out!



We have purchased a new sofa and chair for the narthex. This was made possible with funds generated through the SCRIP program. Even though the sofa we had was still clean and in good condition, it was very difficult to get in and out of because it was low to the ground and squishy. The chair still had life, but was nearing the end of its functionality. Both were donated to a local non-profit.



# Lay School Begins September 16

Jenny Case reports she is looking forward to the 2022-2023 year of Lay School of Ministry. Here are the courses she will be taking.



## **Keep the Church Weird**

*In this course, we will explore the church's historic, sacramental, countercultural, empire challenging, radically inclusive, forgiving prophetic, compassionate, grace-filled weirdness. We will do this through the Biblical narrative and through the voices of those who call us to faithful witness.*

*Instructor: Pastor John Meachen has taught Lay School since 2005. His primary focus has been Martin Luther, Reformation history, and Lutheran confessional theology. Stemming from a love of congregational life, his continuing education classes have been focused on exploring and building the health of the local parish and its leaders.*

## **History of Women in Christianity**

*This course will explore the diverse roles and experiences Christian women have had with and within the Christian tradition from the early church until today. Topics will include martyrdom, monasticism, women's commitment to missions and reform, women in leadership, and women's roles and challenges today.*

*Instructor: Dr. Jennie Wojciechowski is an assistant professor of church history at Luther Seminary. She is author of the book Women and the Christian Story: A Global History and numerous articles. Her research focuses on women's history, American history, and the intersection of religion and social reform.*

## **The Art of Preaching**

*Preaching is an art so much more than a science. But like all art forms, there are techniques and disciplines to learn that not only make us better preachers, but hopefully more informed listeners. We will look at the component pieces of crafting a sermon as well as delivery, while also reflecting on what it means to preach as an act of faith.*

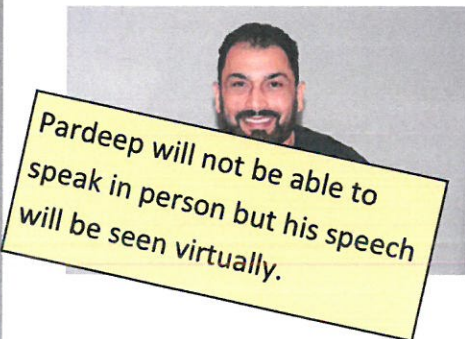
*Instructor: Past Rachel Knoke has served Trinity Lutheran in Green Bay since 2015. Prior to that, she spent a decade in Washington state at a L'Arche community, living and working with adults with developmental disabilities. She loves serving alongside the people of Trinity.*

## **The ABCs of Biblical Hebrew**

*Instructor: Pastor Phyllis Smoot, who serves St. John in Mosinee. She was ordained in 2009 at her home church on the Northside of Chicago. Pastor Smoot believes learning the languages of Hebrew and Greek, translating the scriptures, and studying them, has given me a deep knowledge of the Bible and a knack for teaching this to others so that the scriptures can be renewed in their lives. (Course descriptions taken from Lay School website: <https://ecswlayschool.org>)*

Jenny reported that she really enjoyed Pastor Smoot's class last year on Luther's Small Catechism. "She made class discussion fun and I learned a bunch that I didn't know from our text. Through this Lutheranism class, I gained a new perspective on Luther's Catechism. I wouldn't miss a chance to take another class with her as instructor!"

St. Mark's members attending Lay School this year are being supported by our Endowment Fund.



Pardeep will not be able to speak in person but his speech will be seen virtually.

## **ALL GATHERING - ESTHER is celebrating 18 Years Building Community, Sharing Hope, Standing for Justice**

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Social 4:30-5:00 Dinner 5:00-6:00 Program Following  
Jefferson Park, 989 Kargus Drive, Menasha

### **"Bridging Our Differences"**

Keynote speaker Pardeep Kaleka

Author and CEO of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee

Pardeep's father was killed in the mass shooting at the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, WI, in August of 2012. In the wake of this attack, he has become a powerful voice against hate. Pardeep and his friend, former white supremacist, Arno Michaelis, formed Serve2Unite so that, in Pardeep's words, "children of all ethnicities, from the inner city to the suburbs, are coming together to cherish each other as human beings and to assume the identity of peacemakers in their schools and communities."

\$50 per person in person; \$25 if attending via zoom. Registration deadline is September 8, 2022.



## Our Sunday Servants – September

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Acolyte
August 7	Jeff Tharp	Pennie Linna	Pat Thompson Phyllis Ziemke	Joy Case Jenny Case	Jeff Tharp Kim Wallmuller Pat Westphal	Volunteer
August 14	Tom Wenzel	Jeri Travis	Linda Anderson Nancy Maslow	Emil Leppiaho Nancy Bricco	Jane Arps Ellen LaMarche Emil Leppiaho	Volunteer
August 21	Judy Hellman	Jenny Case	John & Laurie Olson	The Blank Family	Gwen Hoehne Doug Sebstead Renie Sebstead	Volunteer
August 28	Bruce Grundman	Tara Dieck	Jeff Tharp Wanda Webster	Evie Peterson Lois Kemp	Bruce Grundman Lois Kemp Judy Olson	Volunteer

Altar Guild: Mary Jane and Jane Hartley

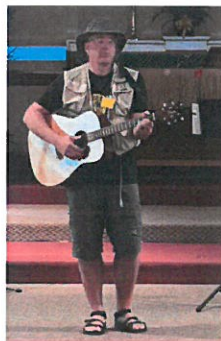
## VBS was a Real Adventure!

Vacation Bible School was held on August 1-4 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Neenah. The theme was "Discovery on Adventure Island" and the Bible verse that guided the week was "Arise! Shine! Your light has come, the Lord's glory has shone upon you!" (Isaiah 60:1)

Those attending came from Our Savior's, St. Mark's, Gloria Dei, and St. Paul's Lutheran churches in Neenah. Adult volunteers from St. Mark's were Laurie Olson, Jean Memken, Jenny Case, Joy Case, and Ginny Schieck. Laurie headed up the recreation each day, and Jean and Joy worked on refreshments. Ginny worked at the craft station and Jenny helped with crafts, bible story, and snacks.

The kids had fun rotating through the five different stations and singing high energy songs led by Pastor John from Our Savior's. He wore an adventure outfit and played his guitar.

It was very rewarding doing things together with the other ELCA churches in Neenah. Below are some pictures from the week.



*First row: Pastor Jon, with help from Jenny, lead the Bible Study.*

*Pastor John leads the singing.*

*A sheep for snacktime!*

*Second Row: Science Time*

*Laurie leads the recreation!*

*Craft Time!*



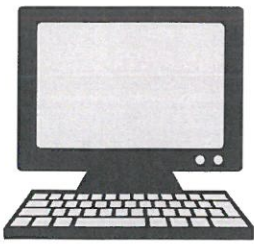




# Mission of the Month: ESTHER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>KEY</b> Red—Fellowship Orange—Online Green—Library Blue—Mary Room						
4 9:00 Bible Class 10:00 Worship w/ Comm 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Education Comm.	5 LABOR DAY (Church office closed)	6 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	7 9:00 Food Pantry	8 6:30 Special Church Council Meeting	9 7:00 AA	10
11 GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Box Lunch 11:30 Service Events <i>Scrip Orders Due</i>	12 6:00 Esther Prison Reform	13 11:30 Community Table 6:30 Finance & Stewardship 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	14 9:00 Food Pantry	15 1:30 Lydia Circle 6:30 Church Council	16 7:00 AA	17
18 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Special Voters' Meeting and Fellowship <i>Scrip Orders Delivered</i> 6:30 Neenah Baseball	19 10:30 Worship/Music	20 Day in the Park Bingo Party 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	21 9:00 Food Pantry	22	23 7:00 AA	24 WELCA Retreat Imago Dei Village
25 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Fellowship 2:00 Voices of Peace Concert at Linwood Pl.	26 1:00 Connections	27 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	28 9:00 Food Pantry	29	30 8:00 School for Seniors 7:00 AA	31





# Visit St. Mark's Website

[www.stmarksneenah.org](http://www.stmarksneenah.org)



*Do we have your  
email address?*

Please send an e-mail to  
[office@stmarksneenah.org](mailto:office@stmarksneenah.org)  
so we can update our  
church records.



Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

—William Arthur Ward



#### St. Mark's Office & Leadership Email Addresses

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**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

**140 S. Green Bay Road**

**Neenah, WI 54956**



**SEPTEMBER**

