



# The Messenger

April 2023

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*"The Lord has risen indeed"* (Luke 24:34).

To the children of God gathered at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Hallelujah!

The first Easter celebration took place in Jerusalem. The Palestinian Christian community has kept the celebration going ever since. **During Holy Week, Jerusalem's holy sites attract many pilgrims from various churches and around the world to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.**



From Palm Sunday until Easter Day, sounds of church bells, drums, boy and girl scouts performing in the streets, and the chanting of hymns.



**Palestinian Christians celebrate the 'Holy Saturday' on Easter Eve by having the Holy Fire ceremony.** The Greek Orthodox Patriarch emerges from the tomb of Christ with lit candle sticks to indicate the appearance of what Christians of all sects call the holy light.

Once the patriarch emerges from the tomb, the thousands waiting since the morning hours and carrying candles light them from the Holy Fire. The light is then taken to churches around the country and the world. Palestinians line the streets of their cities carrying candles to light them with Holy Fire and take it home for blessings.

Many church services and candle vigils take place during the Holy Week. Also, many preparations take place at home, from planning the Easter menu to making *kaek*, "cookies," to coloring eggs and picking Easter outfits. **The cookies are usually made a few days before Easter, then stored in cookie tins to be served to guests and family on Easter Sunday.** Plates full of *kaek* are often exchanged among neighbors and friends, each taking pride in the texture and presentation of their cookies.

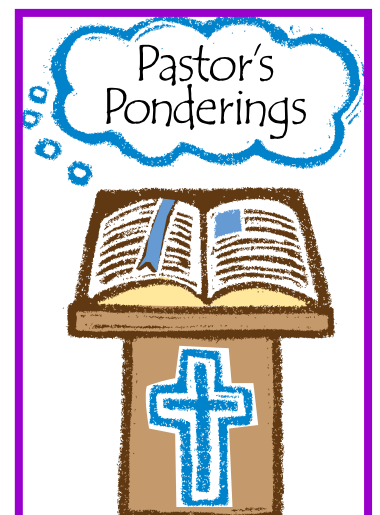


Easter Sunday is often springtime in Palestine. Families will gather at the **patriarch's house for a delicious lunch after church.** It is usually stuffed lamb, rolled grape leaves, and flavored rice. Relatives, friends, and neighbors visit each other and receive shots of alcohol like wine, chocolates, cookies, and one colored egg. Children receive bags full of chocolate bunnies, Easter eggs, and monetary gifts.

The celebration takes a whole week, and students take four days off school to join their families in visiting relatives and friends.

I pray that all your days will be like celebrating Easter.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras



Dear Pastor Niveen and Friends,

I want to thank you for your exceptional hospitality, meal, and information about the Holy Land. It was so special to worship together with colleagues in the Appleton Conference.

Special thanks too, to the cooks and servers who sent me home with a meal.

God Bless You,

Pastor Jake



Note: Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer was one of the pastors who helped us out last year as we waited for our pastor. It was good to see him at the Appleton Conference meeting in March.

I am grateful to Pat Westphal, Lois Hill, Mary Jane Hartley, Karrington Hartley, Dawn Jones, John Olson, and Jean Memken, and all who helped to prepare a Palestinian meal to be part of my Holy Land Trip Presentation.

Thank You!

— Rev. Sarras

## Appleton/Oshkosh Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Event

Attention Women of St. Mark's! The WELCA Spring Event will be on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at All Saints Lutheran Church, 1072 Honey Creek Road, Oshkosh, WI, 54904

The Theme for the Event is "This is the Holy Land Today." Speaker is Mary Volkman who will talk about her trip to the Holy Land. Pastor Niveen will lead the worship service that day.

Registration starts at 8:30 am. Coffee will be available in the morning. A Box Lunch is included with the fee. Coffee and water (both hot and cold) will be provided with lunch.

Registration Fee: \$15.00. Make checks payable to: "Women of Grace."

Registration forms are available in the narthex. You can give your registration form and check to Mary Jane Hartley by April 6, and she will send them in for everyone.



## MOSES Message



April starts with Holy Week and we celebrate Easter. This is the start of renewing life. **We are learning about Jesus' journey during Holy Week.** His ride into Jerusalem, being arrested, and his crucifixion on the cross. We all remembered He died on the cross to give us everlasting life.

Please think about coming to Vacation Bible School on July 31 to August 3 from 9:00 am-noon at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. We are hosting the other churches at our church this year. We are also going to need volunteers to help with various stations. More information will be coming soon.

Have a Happy Easter!!!

### Birthdays

Avery Hill 4-15          Tyler Joachim 4-27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!!

With God's Blessings,  
Gwen Hoehne, Sunday School Superintendent





The meeting was Called to Order at 6:34 pm.

Devotions: Jason Blank

Roll Call: Pastor Niveen, Laurie Olson, Pennie Linna, Mary Jane Hartley, Ryan Blank, Jason Blank, Kim Wallmuller, and Dawn Jones

Excused: Jenny Case and Sherri Denney

Approval of minutes: Minutes reviewed. Minutes as corrected to reflect Pennie Linna as Vice President (page 6).

MSC by Mary Jane Hartley/Kim Wallmuller

Thank you notes: Thank you to Pat Westfall, Jean Memken, Mary Jane Hartley, and Lois Hill who have prepared great meals recently for Lent and the Appleton Conference Meeting. Thank you to Sherri, Jenny, and Gwen for Soup & Sandwich and Bingo event.

Financial Report: highlights shared by Mary Jane

We are currently under budget for this time in the year and giving is ahead of spending. See Stewardship and Finance Report for details.

MSC to accept the financial report Jason Blank/Pennie Linna

### **Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Niveen shared the following highlights: Pastor has connected with the Neenah Islamic Center and proposed the idea of working together. We look forward to hearing more.

Pastor shared that she is learning much from the Financial Empowerment Class and will be sharing a webinar with the Stewardship & Finance Team. Pastor and her friend Jerry will present information about her trip to Palestine at Fellowship on March 19.

MSC to accept Jason Blank/Pennie Linna

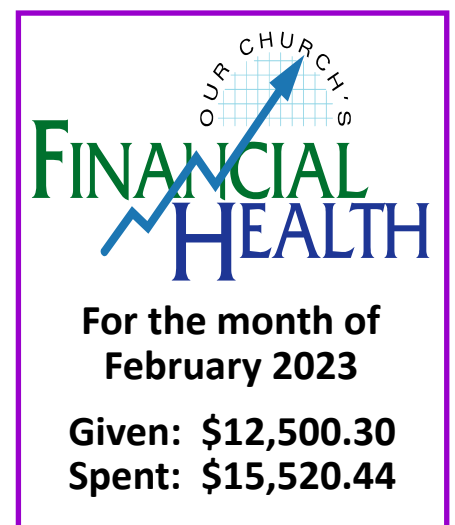
### Ministry Team Reports

Christian Education Ministry Team—February 25, 2023 ~ *Submitted by Gwen Hoehne*

Present: Jenny Case, Pastor Niveen, Sherri Denney, and Gwen Hoehne

Pastor Niveen Opened with prayer.

1. SOUP/SANDWICH LUNCH—March 12th—GOOD GIFTS—Prizes—Sherri, Food for sandwiches—Gwen, Vegetarian Chili—Gwen Chicken Noodle Soup—Sherri Will wrap the prizes for Bingo. Waiting for response from Parents for their help.
2. CONFIRMATION—Lessons—Date for Confirmation—Sherri and **Jenny and Pastor will figure out the lessons. May 14th, Mother's Day, will be Confirmation Sunday.**
3. PALM SUNDAY—April 2nd. Will inform Sunday School parents that we will have Sunday School on April 2nd and the children will participate in the processional with the palms.
4. EASTER—April 9th. There will be just one service at 10:00 am.—We will make up little boxes of goodies to give to the children after church on Easter Sunday.



5. VBS— We will be hosting VBS at St. Marki's this summer. The tentative dates are July 30 or 31 to August 3. The material will be decided on in the next couple of weeks.
6. OTHER— Pastor Niveen brought up the suggestion of sending the confirmation students to Confirmation Camp the week of June 18-23rd. Pastor Niveen would like to go which is great! Will mention it to the students. Also, there is a possibility of going to the Reservation in South Dakota. Will keep waiting for the dates.

NO NEXT MEETING DECIDED!!

Worship and Music Ministry Team—February 21, 2023 ~  
Submitted by Judy Hellman

The Worship and Music Ministry Team met on Monday, February 21st at 10:30 am. Members attending were Joy Case, Jenny Case, Mary Ellen Tracey, Pat Westphal, Pasto Niveen and Judy Hellman. Pastor Barb attended as a guest. Devotions were given by Pat Westphal. Judy Hellman will have devotions in March.

Pastor Niveen outlined the Wednesday Lenten services. All services will begin at 6:30 pm. All songs and liturgy will be the same each week. In order to conserve paper, the service bulletin will be re-used each week. There will be a soup/sandwich meal before each Wednesday service. This will begin on March 1st at 5:30 pm.

Pastor Barb introduced a prayer quilt walk. The team agreed to use this during Holy Week. This will be done in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation will receive information on **the procedure of the "prayer walk."**

Organ repair was discussed. Due to the age of the organ, it may not seem feasible to fix the organ. Many churches are not replacing their organs and are purchasing electronic pianos which have several lovely organ stops on them. Perhaps a special group needs to be formed to discuss this issue further.

The Seder Meal will take place at 6:00 pm on Maundy Thursday in the Fellowship Hall. The service will consist of the Seder Meal, Holy Communion, sermon, songs, and the washing of hands.

**The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.**

Our next meeting will be March 13th at 10:30 am. This is one week earlier than usual due to several schedule conflicts.

Worship and Music Ministry Team—2nd Meeting—March 13, 2023 ~ Submitted by Judy Hellman

The Worship and Music Ministry Team met on Monday, March 13th. Members attending were Pat Westphal, Jenny and Joy Case, Ardys Seelow, Judy Hellman and Pastor Niveen. Devotions were given by Judy Hellman. Jenny Case volunteered for devotions in April.

The Seder Meal was discussed. Final revisions have been made for this special service which begins at 6:00 pm. Lois Hill is chairperson for this special event on Maundy Thursday.



Pat Wenzel  
Tracy Feldman  
Brett Gawlick  
Richie Sczerzen  
Jan Travis  
Ellen LaMarche  
Sarah  
Doug Bedor  
Erin Biese  
Todd Bagley  
Pastor Chuck Flugel  
Jan Bagley  
Marguerite Brechlin  
Mary & Ron Zalewski  
Sara Forrest

Good Friday services will take place at 1:00 and 6:30 pm. These services will consist of many songs and readings. Jean Memken will be given a list of people to do readings. A special event at this service will be the lighting of a candle by each member after bowing before the cross. This will take place after the sermon and before the bidding prayer.

Pastor Niveen will consult with Pastor Barb concerning the Prayer Quilt Walk. This will take place in the Fellowship Hall during Holy Week when the church office is open.

The Arndt Memorial fund was discussed. It was decided that this money could be donated to the future purchase of a Clarinova, which is a combination organ/piano instrument. A committee has been formed to check out this instrument. Committee members are Pat Westphal, Joy and Jenny Case, Ardys Seelow, and Judy Hellman.

**Rules for ushers were discussed. It was decided to have a meeting for all ushers to review “usher responsibilities.” This meeting was scheduled for Sunday, March 26th in the church immediately following the service.** Jean Memken will be asked to conduct this meeting.

There will be a sign-up sheet for donating potted spring flowers to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. We ask that these flowers be brought to the church during the week following Palm Sunday.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 17th at 10:30 am.

**We Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.**

Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team – March 14, 2023 ~ *submitted by Laurie Olson*

Members Present: Mary Jane Hartley, Evie Peterson, Pennie Linna, Fern Fuhrmann, and Laurie Olson

Members Absent: Pastor Niveen and Jean Memken

Reviewed the end of February account balances. February giving was \$12,500.30 and expenses were \$15,520.44. Difference was -\$3,020.14. Year-to-date (January & February) includes a +\$5,990.97.

Reviewed financial reports.

Laurie noted that she received an email from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund, which we have **\$53,000+ invested, relating to the recent developments with two of the country’s regional banks.** Mission Investment Funds wanted to assure us of the continuing strength and stability of MIF. That they have a proven track record as a strong, stable investment and lending institution for ELCA congregations. They said their balance sheet is sound and they maintain strong levels of liquidity. Further, they wanted us to be aware that MIF is not subject to the type of exposure that the regional banks have encountered.

Discussed possible dollars in designated funds to be available for youth wishing to attend the Confirmation Camp. Pennie noted that the money in the YOUTH, ROCK & TUG accounts would be appropriate sources for funding. The total amount in those two accounts equals \$1,385.33. Mary Jane added that there is a designated Crossways Confirmation Camp account with a balance of \$900.80. Total available funds = \$2,286.13.

**Closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 7:00 pm.**

Property Ministry Team—March 6, 2023 ~ *Submitted by Ginny Schieck*

The Property Ministry team met on March 6th at 6:30 pm. Members present were Ginny Schieck and Jeff Tharp. The following items were discussed.

1. Timer on outside lights has been adjusted.
2. Lights above the altar have been replaced and adjusted.
3. We need to add a latch protector on the North door.

Social Ministry Team—March 13, 2023 ~ *Submitted by Gwen Hoehne*

Chairperson: Karen Jordan

Present: Phyllis Ziemke, Jane Arps, Kim Wallmuller, and Gwen Hoehne

Phyllis opened with devotions.

1. Discussed gift cards for Easter.
2. Date is set for Graduation recognition. Karen will send out letters to those who are graduating from High School and College.
3. Karen will send Easter cards to shut-ins.

### **Closed with the Lord's Prayer.**

MSC to accept the Mission Team reports Pennie Linna/Kim Wallmuller

### New Business:

Seminary intern-Pastor shared she was contacted by the ECSW to consider an Intern from Wartburg Seminary to begin in September 2023. They are looking at St. Mark's because we are welcoming to the LGBTQ+ community. The intern is limited to a site in our area. The cost is approximately \$25,000 for the one year internship. Council discussed the finances, timing and responsibilities of Pastor Niveen as the site supervisor. MSC Jason Blank/Pennie Linna to not take an intern at this time. We would love to host an intern in the future.

Filthy Kids Fun Run Sponsorship: MSC Mary Jane Hartley/Pennie Linna to be the volunteer sponsor the 2023 event.

Food handling Procedures: **It's time to increase our care when handling foods. Examples include change knives with products, wear gloves, and wash hands when entering kitchen.** Signs will be posted in the kitchen and Ministry Teams that handle food will be informed of the increase in care of handling foods. It was noted that better food gloves will be needed. Laurie will order latex free gloves for the kitchen. MSC to improve food handling and procedures Kim Wallmuller/Pennie Linna

Large Group Use of Building-Building Hosts: Host would check to ensure heat was turned down after the event, tables and chairs put back in place, garbage is taken out, help with supplies, and building is secure and locked up properly. Jean has made a point to stopping in for recent events. We need a plan in place to ensure Jean is not burdened with stopping in with every group. Property will ask for volunteers.

Confirmation Camp Registration Fees: St. Marks confirmands are encouraged to go to the Crossways Confirmation Camp in June. The cost is \$585 per youth (2 adults are able to go free). The Stewardship & Finance Ministry Team has earmarked funds, to assist in covering the fees; Crossways Confirmation Camp, ROCK, TUG & Youth Activities designated accounts (Total of \$2,792.29). Council discussed an **amount that each family could contribute to their youth's camping experience. It was suggested that** each student should contribute \$25.00 towards the registration. MSC to cover camp costs for Crossways Confirmation Camp from the Crossways Confirmation Camp, TUG, ROCK, and Youth Activities designated accounts and ask families to contribute \$25 towards the registration fee. Pennie Linna/Jason Blank.



Other Discussions:

Council Installation will be March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Council discussed the status of the organ and felt that the church should at least have a professional look at the needed repairs and get an estimate, prior to abandoning it entirely. It was noted that we can still pursue a Clavinova. Pastor Niveen will talk to Worship and Music Ministry Team about getting an estimate for organ repairs.

MSC to adjourn at 8:12 PM by Pastor Niveen/Kim Wallmuller

Next Meeting is May 8th, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Jones, Secretary



## Racial Equity Library Is Now Open

Sponsored by St. Mark's Racial Equity Ministry Team

**"WHY ADDRESS RACIAL EQUITY?"** What is asked of us but: to work for Justice...to practice Kindness...and to Love one another, as we do ourselves or our family.

We are called by Jesus to "love our neighbors as ourselves." As persons called to love one another as God has loved us, we therefore proclaim our commitment to speak with one voice against racism and white supremacy. We stand with those who are targets of racist ideologies and actions. With them, we demand and will advocate for a more just, loving, and peaceful world where the gifts of all people are appreciated, and the lives of all people are treasured; *(In 2019 the ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted this resolution condemning white supremacy [CA19.04.18])*

Anti-racism books that make a difference - When it comes to understanding race and social justice in this country, authors of the most prominent books about racism have a message: Skip the announcements about your good intentions and instead settle in to do the hard work. Investing in our own understanding of systemic racism allows us to reflect on our own behavior and learn to do better. It's also important to realize this work is not the responsibility of any one race — it must be shared by everyone who wants a better and more fair country. The best books on race, culture, and ally ship are a good place to start if you truly want to understand the history and underlying context of racism in America. *(Readers Digest - "20 Books About Racism Everyone Should Read" - August 25, 2021)*

### RACIAL EQUITY BOOK CHECKOUT SYSTEM

1. Remove card from the book you are checking out.
2. Complete the card with your information.
3. File card alphabetically by TITLE in card box.
4. When you return the book, find the card in the box, place it back in book & put book back on cart.
5. PLEASE RETURN BOOKS AFTER ONE MONTH OF CHECKOUT DATE.





## St. Mark's Youth Ministry

This month's Mission of the Month is our own St. Mark's Youth Ministry Program. We are starting to see some of our youth taking a more active role in the life of our church. Our Sunday School program is growing, too, and this year we will host VBS for the children of our congregation as well as youth from all the other Neenah ELCA Churches. Your gifts will support outreach and programs that are geared to our youth, helping to strengthen their faith and letting them know they are an important part of our St. Mark's family.

Some of the activities your donations will fund include community projects, national youth gathering travel, and mission trips, as well as fellowship activities for our youth here at St. Mark's. If you are interested in supporting our youth, please make your giving envelope as a "Mission of the Month" donation or donate electronically through the VANCO giving program.

We will have a **QUILT WALK** during the week in the mornings where everyone who would like to follow the maze of the quilt while meditating, prayer, or just clearing the mind are welcome to do so. Our church sanctuary will also be open each morning during Holy Week for anyone who would like to spend some time there reflecting on our Lord's Passion.



# HOLY WEEK SERVICES

onsite / online

APR 2	<b>Palm Sunday</b> 10:00 AM
APR 6	<b>Maundy Thursday &amp; Seder Meal</b> 6:00 PM - Please let the church office know if you are planning to attend.
APR 7	<b>Good Friday</b> 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM
APR 9	<b>Easter Sunday</b> 10:00 AM

## Seder Meal Planned for Maundy Thursday Worship

Sunday, April 2, is the last day to sign up for the Maundy Thursday Seder Meal Worship Service. The service will start at 6:00 pm and will be in the Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate the Passover as Jesus and his disciples did on the night he was betrayed. Holy Communion will be included as part of the celebration. You will not want to miss this very special service, so be sure to sign up to be included on the guest list.







**Social Ministry  
Team**

On May 21, St. Marks will be honoring our 2023 graduates. If someone in your family is graduating from high school or any advanced education, please inform the church office. We will send them a letter asking about their accomplishments and plans for the future.



**St. Mark's  
Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry still has fluctuating numbers, but it seems to be picking up again. In February we had 35 families shopping for about 100 family members. We are in need of paper products, laundry and dish soap, Spam, jam and Hamburger Helper. Thank you very much for your continued support.

## Our Sunday Servants

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Acolyte
April 2 Palm Sunday	Jeff Tharp	Pennie Linna	The Blank Family	Ginny Schieck Judy Fowler	Jeff Tharp Kim Wallmuller Pat Westphal	Hailie Anderson
April 6 Maundy Thur. Seder		Gwen Hoehne Jeff Tharp Leland Tharp	Jean Memken			
April 7 Good Friday 1:00 pm		Pat Westphal		Ginny Schieck Lois Kemp Jean Memken		
April 7 Good Friday 6:30 pm		Pat Westphal		Ginny Schieck Lois Kemp		
April 9 EASTER SUNDAY	Jean Memken	Pat Westphal	Doug Sebstead Renie Sebstead		Jane Arps Ellen LaMarche Emil Leppiaho	Ariana Hopkins
April 16	Tom Wenzel	Bruce Grundman	Karen Jordan Nancy Bricco		Gwen Hoehne Doug Sebstead Renie Sebstead	Sophia Kersten
April 23	Judy Hellman	LaVerne Arndt	Pennie Linna Betty Linna		Bruce Grundman Lois Kemp Judy Olson	J.T. Rose
April 30	Sherri Denney	Tara Dieck	Pat Thompson Phyllis Ziemke		Laurie Olson Dawn Jones Judie Hilliker	Lily Anderson

### Communion Assistants:

April 2—Sherri Denney, Gwen Hoehne, Laurie Olson, Pennie Linna, and Judy Hellman

April 9—Jean Memken, Chuck Baumgartner, Sharyn Gawlick, Pat Westphal, and Bruce Grundman

April 16—Judy Hellman, Phyllis Ziemke, Ginny Schieck, Gwen Hoehne and Sherri Denney

Altar Guild: Jean Memken



## Easter Opportunities

An Easter Musical of Faith and Belief  
The Borrowed Tomb

Friday, March 31st, 2023, at 7:00 pm a  
Grace Lutheran Church of Winchester  
8396 Steeple Hill Dr, Larsen, WI 54947

Saturday, April 1st, 2023 at 2:00 PM  
Zion Lutheran Church in Oshkosh  
400 N Sawyer St, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Sunday, April 2nd, 2023 at 2:00 PM  
Faith Christian Church  
1100 Orville Dr, New London, WI 54961

Oshkosh Chamber Singers  
Haydn – "The Creation"

Sunday, April 2, at 3:00 pm, St. Mary's  
Catholic Church, Most Blessed Sacra-  
ment Parish, Oshkosh Tickets: \$20

All Rise! The Northeast Wisconsin  
Passion Play

7:00 pm March 31 and April 1

1:00 pm April 1 & 2

Xavier Fine Arts Theatre, Appleton  
Tickets: \$13 (\$12 for seniors)

## Remember to Handle Food Safely

In an effort to prevent foodborne illnesses, the Church Council discussed and approved increased food handling procedures. All Ministry Teams and groups preparing and serving food at St. Mark's are asked to follow these procedures. These procedures have been established by our insurance carrier Church Mutual.

Posters are hanging in the kitchen and includes the following:

- ◆ Keep HOT foods over 140° and COLD foods under 40°.
- ◆ Wash your hands for 20 seconds before and after food preparation, and always wear gloves when preparing and serving. New food handling gloves have been purchased and are in the kitchen.
- ◆ Refrigerate perishable foods, ideally within two hours.
- ◆ Thaw food in the refrigerator or microwave – never at room temperature.
- ◆ Separate raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs from other food items, and use separate cutting boards and utensils for each.
- ◆ Wash produce thoroughly.



## We Bury the “You Know What”

Traditionally, we refrain from singing joyful songs of praise during the Lenten season, and this year is no different. But to commemorate this exclusion in our regular worship, the children of St. Mark’s and Pastor Niveen “buried” the banner pictured to the right in an ornate box that now sits on our altar. You will want to be sure and attend the Easter worship service where we will open the box and once again sing our joyful Easter songs of worship and praise. Thank you, children, for helping us to remember our Christ’s passion during this Lenten season.



## Soup and Bingo a Rousing Success (and a lot of fun!)

On March 12th, the children of our Sunday School and Confirmation Classes and their families treated us to a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon after church with a robust round of Bingo following the meal. There were a variety of delicious soups and toasted cheese sandwiches and lots of great desserts. Prizes were plentiful and everyone walked away with at least one. Many thanks to the children and their families and to our Christian Education Ministry Team, Gwen Hoehne, Sherri Denney, and Jenny Case, for organizing this fun event. Proceeds from the



free will offering for the meal will be given to ELCA “Good Gifts” which supplies needy families around the world with agricultural items, animals, and educational supplies they need to sustain their lives. We look forward to learning the children’s decisions on what “Good Gifts” they used the proceeds to buy.

## Lenten Meals Supplied Worshippers With a Hot Meal Before Worship



**T**his year, members of St. Mark’s and their friends were treated to a hot bowl of soup and appropriate sides and desserts before each of our Lenten services. Worshippers gathered each Wednesday at 5:30 pm and enjoyed an hour of food and fellowship and then made their way into the sanctuary for our Lenten worship services. Our cooks and servers for these meals included Mary Jane Hartley, Pat Westphal, Lois Hill, Gwen Hoehne,

Karrington Hartley, and Jean Memken, along with some help from the Connections Ministry Team members. Thanks to everyone who came especially to all who helped prepare these wonderful meals.



# Palestinian Presentation and Meal Held at St. Mark's



We had a magnificent time of Fellowship at St. Mark's on March 19th when Pastor Niveen and her friend Jerry made a presentation about their recent trip to the Holy Land. Accompanying the presentation was a Palestinian buffet meal that included lamb kebobs, stuffed grape leaves, mousaka 'a, pita bread, humus,

salad, fresh fruit, and an array of beautiful Middle Eastern delicacies for dessert. Over 80 people attended this event and worship service before. Pastor Niveen and Jerry spoke about the history of Palestine from the end of World War II until the present day, and some of the political turmoil that continues to plague that part of the world. Then they showed slides of their wonderful trip and the various landmarks they were able to visit including the Mount of Transfiguration, and the Holy Sepulcher (Jesus' Tomb for 3 days). **Pastor Niveen announced that she would be leading a trip to the Holy Land next year from January 15-25 and invited all to sign-up to join her.** For more information about the trip, including the itinerary and cost, visit the following Website:

[https://mcusercontent.com/adc7611e5cadb04ccc1a934a3/files/3fef0303-aa06-44c8-3da2-50f287d2e8ed/January\\_15\\_25\\_Dr.\\_Sarras\\_modified\\_Itinerary\\_1\\_.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/adc7611e5cadb04ccc1a934a3/files/3fef0303-aa06-44c8-3da2-50f287d2e8ed/January_15_25_Dr._Sarras_modified_Itinerary_1_.pdf)



## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

140 S. Green Bay Road

Neenah, WI 54956

# APRIL

