



March 2021 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



21 S. Baird Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715-362-2470)

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From the Pastor

We are in the process of making our service available on the internet permanently. This spring we will be installing several permanent cameras mounted on the walls of the worship area which can be controlled remotely. One of the blessings that has come during this pandemic is the great response we have gotten from many viewers from multiple states that join us in worship.



Most of you are aware that we have experienced burst water pipes in our church. One of the pipes leading to a heater in the old narthex burst, flooding not only that area but also flooding the basement again. While that problem has been fixed, we have been told that there are problems with our furnaces. Our trustees are currently evaluating what we will need to do. We will keep you informed as soon as we know.



As this pandemic continues, we are approaching the Easter season with some restrictions still in place. The Board of Elders will be looking into what options are available.



We have been under pandemic restrictions now for almost a year. Join with me in my daily prayer that we can return to something close to normal. While our congregation has been blessed in many ways, we all miss the blessing of being physically together in worship and fellowship.



Business Old & New



HOLY COMMUNION

If you need to have Holy Communion brought to you in the pew, please let an usher know. Pastor will be happy to accommodate you.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

“Thank you” to all members continuing to participate in the “Choice Dollars” donation to St. Mark Church.

ST. MARK QUILTERS

St. Mark quilters meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am and sewing until noon. We would love to have some new people who may be interested come and join us.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies Bible study group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm in the fellowship hall They will be meeting on March 3rd. All ladies are welcome. Please join us. Please wear your mask as we are all still practicing being safe for each other. Questions, call Barb Scott at 715-401-1670.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

As the Board of Education, we have not held an official meeting as of yet due to Covid and the inability to have in person Sunday school. We will be communicating with all board members and Jayme Wyss soon to take a look at where we are and how we should continue. As of right now, each of the church children receive a weekly bulletin and their Sunday school lesson in the mail and a parent’s packet is mailed out also for the parents to help their children stay current in their lessons.

LWML

Ladies, you are missed and we all miss the opportunity for fellowship and Bible Study. Now that many are receiving their Covid-10 vaccines, I hope you will join me for a gathering and Bible Study on Tuesday, March 9 at 10:00am. Please continue to wear a mask, and we will continue to practice social distancing, but still enjoy being together. As always, bring your mites! If you have any question please call Barb Scott at 612-803-5694.

LADIES PRAYER LUNCH

The ladies' prayer lunch is suspended until further notice. Stay healthy and safe this holiday season. We will announce when we are able to meet again.

FOOD PANTRY

The next time that St Mark will be working at the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry will be on March 30th. Please mark your calendars for that date. We will need 12-15 people to volunteer for helping with the distribution of food items. The hours needed are 2:45pm until 6:00pm. Many hands make light work. Please consider donation some of your time to help at the food pantry. Questions: Mickey Steil-715-362-2282 or the church office at 715-362-2470.



MORE NEWS AND NOTES



A New Lending Library!

The Evangelism Board would like to give you the opportunity to fill a void you might be feeling. As we are now in Lent, and still dealing with the effects of Covid-19 isolation, there are some books on the shelves in the Fellowship Room for you to borrow. There are devotional, meditative, biography, fiction and other choices. This is on the honor system, so come and help yourself. If you have books you would like to share, please bring them in. May these be an encouragement and source of hope for you.

God of the Little Things

Little things matter. When God gets involved in the minutia of life, unmistakably intervening in the smallest details of our day-to-day dilemmas, it means He cares enough to bother with what's bothering us. The God who created the vast universe works through life's circumstances to bring about His good purposes. That's big. We know, too, that if God is involved in our everyday lives, He's also working on the more complicated situations—the big things. He might just be working behind the scenes. When troubles come and God seems not to notice, think of times when He's intervened. Recount and revel in them. Rest assured in God's perfect plan for big and small. "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to this purpose": (Romans 8:28)

The Little Secrets of Snowflakes

The complex shapes and uniqueness of snowflakes have confounded scientists for hundreds of years. In the past, it was generally recognized that the formation of a snowflake is a two-step process: making a single crystal and then having it grow.

This process begins as a microscopic speck of dust is trapped in a molecule of water vapor inside the winds of a winter storm. As the particle is frosted with droplets of supercooled water, it becomes heavier and begins its plunge to earth. The falling ice crystal is sculpted by the varying temperature and humidity—lengthening here, a spiky branch pushing out there—until it grows into a shape as unique as a person's fingerprint.

But in the past few years, as our ability to study these beautiful flakes has improved with the development of new technology, a great mystery has emerged. Scientists have discovered that very few snowflakes contain a speck of dust or any other particle which has long been believed to be necessary for a snowflake to form! How are these unique flakes formed?

Dr. John Hallet, a physicist at the University of Nevada, has discovered the answer. As snowflakes are being formed, extremely dry or cold air cause snowflakes to break up into smaller parts. The small fragments then act as seeds for new flakes to develop. In other words, it takes snow to make snow!

Sometimes we forget that it is necessary for Christians to give a personal witness of their faith in order for others to discover the love and life Christ has for them. In other words, Christ uses Christians to make Christians!

Whenever we experience pressures and difficult burdens, when we see a part of our lives broken or shattered, these are often the circumstances God uses to let our faith touch someone close to us and be the seed for a new and beautiful life in Christ. To many, the reason we face difficulties in life is a great mystery. But to us, we live expecting to bear burdens for our Savior and anticipating that the pressures we endure will be used by God to produce new life in others!

2021 BUDGET VS ACTUAL

09-Feb-21

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Actual \$
Received 17427
Budget 11545

