



March 2022 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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

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From the Pastor

While we were in Florida, I was able to read through a large section of the Old Testament that recorded the history of the Jewish people. I have always appreciated the directives of that old liturgical prayer that calls us to "*read, learn and inwardly digest*" Scripture. That has always been good advice, but this time I wanted to read the Bible at length instead of studying portions of it for a sermon.

One of the things that stood out to me was how human the *heroes* of The Old Testament were. Moses was quick to worry, uncertain of God's presence, and easily discouraged. David could demonstrate tremendous faith, but could also easily fall into sin. Solomon demonstrated exceptional wisdom, but also failed to resist temptation. Even with the best of human leaders in the Old Testament, their achievements were dependent on God's mercy.

The Israelites would plead for God's help when they were in danger and promised they would repent and never forget God's help, but they would inevitably forget once they experienced those blessings. Time and time again, they took their blessings for granted and assumed that God's grace was deserved and that they were entitled to even more.

Another truth that stood out was how fragile their relationship to God was. Time and time again God pleaded with His people not to forget, but as soon as they experienced God's grace they felt that they could interpret God's Word to them in ways that diluted His message, to make it more amenable to their own opinions.

My reading reminded me again of how fragile our relationship to God has always been. We are no different than the people of the Old Testament. We can be easily distracted, especially during the good times. We face the constant pressure to accommodate God's Word to our own desires. We easily can be convinced that God's grace is our right and that we deserve even more.



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. The deposit in February 2022, was \$14.00.

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

Ladies Bible study will be on March 9, since the first Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. We are continuing with the study of Peter: from Fisherman to Fisher of Men. Questions, call Barb Scott at 715-401-1670.

EASTER FLOWERS

During the month of March you will be finding an order form inside of your weekly bulletin to place your order for flowers for Easter Sunday. Please make sure that you fill them out if you are interested in providing a lovely plant for Easter. You may put them in the offering plate as the ushers take collection if you like.



LWML

Our March 8 Ladies Guild meeting will be a special event we want to invite everyone to attend. We will be in Lent at that time, and preparing ourselves by remembering what Jesus did because He loved us. We can be witness to His suffering and death by watching the movie "The Passion of the Christ" starring Jim Caviezel. We will start the movie at 10:00. Again, we want to invite everyone. I hope you will join us for this powerful viewing. If you have any question please call Barb Scott at 612-803-5694.

LADIES PRAYER LUNCH

The ladies' monthly lunch meet at the Rhinelander Family restaurant on the first Tuesday of the month at 12:00pm. All ladies are welcome to join us.

CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Included in the newsletter this month is the minutes from the last Congregational Assembly meeting held January 30, 2022. Please take a minute and read them over. Stay informed on what is happening at St. Mark Church. If you have any questions, Please address them to any member of the church council.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Any person in the congregation that has an active CPR certification please let the office or Pastor Miller know.





MORE NEWS AND NOTES



COME JOIN US
FOR
THE LENTEN SEASON



The church Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022, and runs all through the month of March. Several church boards and groups have decided to prepare an evening meal prior to the Thursday evening services during the season of Lent.

The meal will begin at 4:30pm on Thursdays in the basement fellowship hall. Come join us in fellowship and remembrance of this special church season. We look forward to seeing you.



2022 BUDGET VS ACTUAL

17-Feb-22

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

Actual \$
Received
Budget

15534
12596

