



March 2023 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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

In this issue:

- Pastoral Letter
- Holy Communion
- Ladies Prayer Lunch
- Scrip Program
- March Birthdays
- Monthly Group Gatherings
- March Volunteer Schedule
- March Altar Guild, Trustee, and Counters Schedule
- Officers and Boards for 2023
- March Calendar
- Worship Schedule and Office Hours

From the Pastor

This week I am scheduled for my annual appointment with my medical doctor. It's a time for the doctor to evaluate my general health, and give me whatever recommendations he has. It reminded me that physical health and spiritual health have a lot in common. What follows are some things that come to mind as we approach Lent.

It's tempting to skip the meeting with my doctor. He might have bad news or some recommendation that I don't want to hear. I think Lent falls into that same temptation. We could just wait until Easter and celebrate, rather than listen again to the cost that Jesus paid in order for us to celebrate Easter.

Before my exam, a blood test is taken to measure cholesterol and a number of other indicators. The Lenten season calls for us to do a self-diagnosis of our spiritual health. Scripture lessons, hymns, and sermons will suggest spiritual self-testing. Our natural response is to see such activities as unnecessary.

When I do meet with the doctor, I have the choice to either listen to what he says or simply go through the motions and not change at all. I could selectively listen to the positive and forget the negative. Spiritual health could be easily treated the same way. That would be like my doctor recommending that I take some medicine and then not doing it.

Are you willing to evaluate your spiritual health this year? Are you willing to submit to God's Word even when it calls for change? That's again the challenge that we face. The great thing about such a process is that we can, under the power of the Holy Spirit, make spiritual progress. And the greatest news is that Jesus welcomes those who are "weak and heavy laden". Jesus can heal us.



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 2023, was \$789.00.

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.

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.

LADIES PRAYER LUNCH

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



LWML

I want to share with you all some exciting and interesting news about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. This summer, as is our usual schedule, the biennial convention will be held. It will be held this year in Milwaukee. Our North Wisconsin District is hosting with South Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. It will be held from June 22-25. It always begins with a communion worship service. An amazing experience to be part of. If happen to be in the Milwaukee area the evening on June 22 I recommend coming. A new Mission Grant goal is also voted on and new projects selected to support with our Mites. The current goal for 2021-2023 is \$2,150,000. That goal has already been achieved and passed in December. As of January 15 \$2,154,511 has been received! What a blessing and miracle God and His people have done.

Each time you choose to give to LWML Mission Grants, you are directly pouring God's mercy and message into the lives of others – some you may know and others you may never meet. The people you are helping range in age from little children to the elderly, and their homes are located across the globe. Some recipients may be right in your neighborhood, others are men, women, and children living abroad. No matter their age, or how near or far, God knows the needs of every single person.

Our group of ladies here at St Mark collects our mites at every meeting, but anyone can give to the projects. We enjoy fellowship, usually a Bible study or special event. All ladies are welcome. Our March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14 at 10:00.



MORE NEWS AND NOTES



COME JOIN US
FOR
THE LENTEN SEASON



The church Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023, and runs through to March 26th. 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

