



November 2023 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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

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From the Pastor

Whenever I walk into the working sacristy to put on my gown, I am amazed by how much technology we use and the number of volunteers involved in broadcasting our services on the internet. The process begins when I prepare the service, and Sal and I choose the hymns for it.

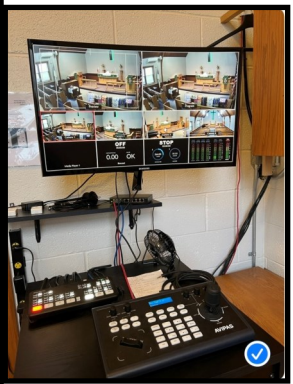
From there, Terri puts the service on the computer and sends it to us for final editing. Sal and I proofread the service, and send any changes to Terri who forwards the service to Devin.



Devin puts it into the format for the PowerPoint presentation that's projected onto the back wall. His power point *slides* are then added to the laptop located near the organ. We presently have 5 volunteers who present the Power Point using that laptop during the services.



There's also a volunteer, Dave Melvin, in the working sacristy. He chooses the live shots and at the same time is on the phone with Jim Hext in Florida. Dave controls how the service is seen and heard on the internet, while Jim is watching it. Dave has the equipment seen in the photo that picks which of the four cameras installed in the sanctuary he wants to use. During the service, he chooses the appropriate camera and he also monitors the sound, which changes depending on whether the voice is coming from a fixed mic on the lectern and pulpit or the pastor's wireless mic.



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News and Notes



The service is watched **live** by about the same number of people who attend in person on Thursday evenings. We track the number of *hits*, meaning the number of computers online during the service, although we don't know how many people are watching at each location. We know that others watch the service during the week, but we don't track that number.



What a blessing modern technology and our many volunteers bring to our ministry!

Can You Tie a Knot???

If your answer is “Yes” then you are qualified to join the quilters who now meet every Tuesday rain or shine (snow accumulation to be determined). A couple of ladies sew together beautiful tops for these quilts and then we gather and tie them together. Each quilt provides warmth, comfort and caring to the recipient. This year we sent over 144 quilts to Lutheran World Relief who in turn distributes them worldwide. Will you help us meet or beat that number in 2024?

p.s. We always finish in time for you to join the ladies for lunch on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

There will be a service for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 22nd, at 6:00pm. This is in addition to our scheduled Sunday service for that week. There is no service on Thursday evening.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

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

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.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the boards, committees and other special groups for everything that you have done this past year. All of the improvements to our church, all of the helping hands, all of the thoughtfulness, has not gone unnoticed. You all are what make this such an amazing, loving church family.

FOOD PANTRY

The next time that St. Mark will work at the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry will be January 29th, 2024, which is a Monday. Workers are asked to be there at 2:45PM. There will be a signup sheet in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions please call Anne Anderson at 715 -362-5810.



More News and Notes



LWML

First, I want to say a Big Thank You!! to those who donated underwear for children and cash donations to help with shipping costs to those places that are so needed. I received a gift card with \$200 value from Thrivent that I can use to purchase even more. This project is a Thrivent Action Team project for the purpose we have achieved. Thank you for being part of my team and "Thank You" to Thrivent for their community support.

The November Ladies Guild meeting will be another special project. We will be cutting up all those plastic shopping bags that have been brought in. They are cut into loops, which are looped together and rolled into balls, like yarn. A lady from Our Savior's Bundy then crochets them into sleeping mats which go many places around the globe. I've been told that she's completed hundreds of these. If you want to help with this project, we will begin at 10:00 on November 14. Bring scissors that you don't mind cutting plastic with, and maybe a sandwich. If we are making good progress, we may keep going into the afternoon. You can still bring in your bags.

October was the month that the LWML usually celebrates all that they do for missions. Please remember to pray for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the collection of mites, and all the projects that are supported by them. If you have any questions, you can call me at 612-803-5694.



Welcome to the New Member

Sandy Fish joined St. Mark on October 11, 2022 and is very happy that she did. She was a member of Zion and then joined the LCMS Synod Lutheran Religion. Sandy loves the smallness of our church and congregation and thinks everyone is so friendly. She likes that Pastor Miller explains everything so well and she really enjoys the organ music and even recognizes some of the hymns.

She is a quiet lady and usually attends service on Thursday evenings so you may not have met her yet. If you do see her give her a warm welcome.

Sandy was born and raised in Rhinelander and has lived here all of her life. She is a "Hodager." She has a daughter and a son. She worked at Foster and Smith for 25 years and retired in 2018. She is an avid collector of vintage glassware, carnival glass, milk glass, and depression glass. She lives with her daughter and shares her hobby with her. Sandy also loves to decorate their apartment for all the holidays. (maybe she would be willing to help decorate St. Mark for Christmas-hint, hint) Sandy also has two cats that she enjoys. Please welcome Sandy to St. Mark.



2023 BUDGET VS ACTUAL

10-Oct-23

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Actual \$ Received	13429	14765	10449	20503	16405	11119	26847	14884	11464			
Budget	12995	12995	12995	12995	12995	12995	12995	12995	12995			

