



November 2024 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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

In this issue:

- Holy Communion
- November Birthdays
- Missionary News
- Nov. Volunteer Schedule
- Nov. Altar Guild, Trustee Schedule
- Officers and Boards for 2024
- November Calendar
- Worship Schedule and Office Hours

From the Pastor

“Initiating the Question”

Some years ago, when I was at Redeemer in Manitowoc, I traveled briefly to Thailand. While Sal and I didn't stay long, my goal was to identify a Christian mission which our congregation could start. Our group, including our Hmong Deacon, continued the trip to the far northern part of Thailand, an area where our church body had never done any mission work.

At Nan, a city in northern Thailand, our Deacon met with the local Hmong leaders who lived in the jungle far outside the city. When asked what would be most needed by their village, they all agreed that education beyond 6th grade was needed for their children, but not possible. The children would need to be housed safely and fed, in the city where schools were available. Redeemer rented a house, located a trusted Hmong family to live with the children, and we also provided food and school fees for children.

When the arrangements were made, our Deacon met with the village leaders. “Why are you doing this?” the leaders asked. That question opened up the opportunity for our Christian witness. Our Deacon explained to them that we were Christians. Christ's love toward us empowered us to share that love with others.

My point is simply this. Witnessing gains credibility by our actions. Your life in Christ that demonstrates your faith is used by our Holy Spirit to give credibility to your words. The Scripture writer says, “I will show you my faith by what I do.”



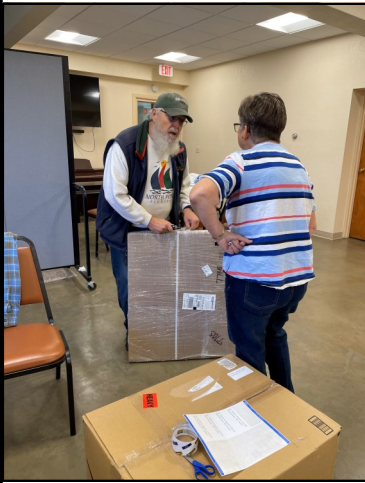
This student is still in Thailand. Graduated from our Redeemer mission project program in 2005. She continued her education and now graduated from Medical school in Thailand. She finished school because the help of our mission money. Thank you Redeemer members, you did some thing good in Jesus's name.



News and Notes



When Does 216 = 300, 000?



It is when 216 quilts from St. Mark are taken to Wausau to join others from around the state and nation to be distributed worldwide through Lutheran World Relief.

It reminds me of the loaves and fishes. Jesus took a little and made it a lot. These quilts are proof that He still does that today.



Submitted by Cathy Ziolkowski

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.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

There will be a service for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, **November 27th 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.

FOOD PANTRY

The next time that St. Mark will work at the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry will be December 30th, 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 the church office at 715-362-2470

Holy Spirit,

At the dawn of creation,
You brought order out of chaos,
Light out of darkness
Life out of nothingness.

Breathe on us once again,
And change this culture of
Death into a culture of life.

Inspire in your people
A spirit of generous welcome
For each and every life,
No matter how unexpected or
Dependent that life may be.

Holy Spirit,
You are the Advocate.

As you fill us with Yourself,
Make us advocates for the
Unborn and all the vulnerable,
Until we are all united in the
Endless life and joy of
The Father, Son and
Holy Spirit, God,
Forever and ever.

Amen

RESPECT LIFE MONTH



More News and Notes



2024 Planning Retreat

St Mark Planning Retreat Sept 21, 2024

Members of St Mark enjoyed a day of fellowship, discussion, and forward thinking at Camp Luther in Three Lakes. District President Lueck enriched the discussion with information about District and Synod activities. The group sought to find the best ways to use the many gifts the Lord has provided to fulfill the purpose of St Mark;

- Preaching the word and administering the sacraments
- Adult and youth education
- Sharing of the gospel to the unchurched of the community
- Spreading the Kingdom of God in all the world through District and Synod
- Fostering Christian fellowship and love
- The discussion led to several ideas that are being pursued by small groups. These include:
 - Senior outreach (Deb Kinney, Manfred Rauer, Chuck and Sue Komp)
 - Online presence, online worshipers (Dave Melvin, Ethan Willey)
 - Short term missions/service events (Dale Kinney, Dave Krueger)
 - Family/children events (Sarah Melvin, Robyn Willey)
 - Engaging visitors/new members - new member information packet (Robyn Willey)



Work on each topic will be reported to the appropriate Board or the Council. More information about the retreat will be shared at the Congregational Assembly on Oct 27.

For more information, please contact Chuck Komp chkomp1@gmail.com



2024 BUDGET VS ACTUAL

09-Oct-24

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

Actual \$
Received
Budget

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|--|
| 15756 | 12467 | 25470 | 11661 | 11016 | 13986 | 19211 | 9510 | 29844 | | | |
| 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | 13809 | | | |

