



June 2026 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



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

In this issue:

- Pastoral Letter
- Holy Communion
- Fellowship Prayer Lunch
- Scrip Program
- June Birthdays
- Monthly Group Gatherings
- June Volunteer Altar Guild, Trustee, and Counters Schedule
- Officers and Boards for 2026
- June Calendar
- Worship Schedule and Office Hours

From the Pastor

The best way to feel closer to a person or an organization is to be involved. If you want to appreciate the work of any group, be an active participant. That was certainly evident with our recent Work Day.

An attractive exterior is the first impression the community and visitors make of St. Mark. We want to say we are dedicated to our ministry here and take it seriously. Our recent spring cleanup proved everyone can contribute to a project.



From the Vicar

Greetings, St. Mark family!

Last week, I turned in my final project for my latest class, *SYS411: The Master Narrative*. It was a six-page paper designing a five-week worship series that walked through key moments in the biblical story using readings, prayers, hymnody, and liturgy that I selected or wrote. This was the 3rd of 16 total classes in the SMP program. As a reminder, I'm taking one seminary class at a time, year-round, for four years — and I'm still in year one. With this class now wrapped up, I'm jumping immediately into the next one: *SYS412: Creedal Themes*. This course digs into the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds to see how each part tells the story of what God has done to save us. We'll be learning how these core teachings fit together, guard the truth of the Gospel, and shape how I preach, teach, and share Christ with people today. It's a full course with online sessions, lots of reading, and a week at the Seminary in St. Louis in June for the intensive portion. It really does not let up.

This has been a particularly demanding season as I try to keep up with my full-time job, seminary coursework, coaching high school Track & Field, caring for my family, and fulfilling my duties at St. Mark. I've been running on fumes for the last three months and relying heavily on whatever strength God provides.

In May, I attended the 2026 LCMS North Wisconsin District Spring Pastors' Conference at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Minocqua. The main speaker was my professor (and Synod President nominee), Dr. Joel Biermann. After seeing him through a computer screen for the past three months, it was great to hear him in person. He spoke on "Navigating the Two Realms" of church and culture and how they should — and maybe shouldn't — interact. His presentations were very well received. I've attached a photo as well. I was able to connect with pastors I know throughout the District and even a member of my SMP cohort from Munising, Michigan. It was a good couple of days, even if it added to the busyness of this season.

I continue to feel deeply blessed by the people of St. Mark. Pentecost was a perfect example. Seeing the sanctuary filled with geraniums, more than a hundred people in the pews, hearing the strong

singing, watching the children come forward for the Children's Sermon and head to Sunday School, and seeing so many stay for Pastor Miller's Bible Study. It was wonderful. The Christian life is something we're formed into together, not as isolated individuals but as a community shaped by God's Word. The more time we spend together hearing, learning, and being formed by Scripture, the stronger we become as a community of believers walking in Christ's story.



Vicar Wyss



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.

AFTER SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

We will be having fellowship after each service all year. Please check the sign-up board in the fellowship hall for available dates that you or you and a friend would be willing to provide and serve treats. Coffee, juice and milk will be provided along with paper plates, napkins and cups.

ST. MARK QUILTERS

St. Mark Quilters are taking the summer off. They are hoping that more cotton fabric will be brought in over the summer so that they can start fresh in the Fall. Please check you leftovers of projects that you may have accumulated. Any color and size is appreciated. We will keep you posted as to when they will start again.

ART IN THE PARK

The annual CAR SHOW and ART IN THE PARK takes place on June 13, 2026. The Board of Evangelism will once again be handing out bags of popcorn and snow cones and spreading the good news about Jesus. They will be putting up a signup sheet for some help during the hours of 8:30am and 3:30 p. Everyone will work outside of the church in our parking lot. It is an excellent chance to meet our community and share with them what we are about here at St. Mark. (No preaching involved, just good old fashioned getting to know us). Check your calendar for June and see if you have a little free time to help. Any time that you can give will be greatly appreciated.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

The dates for the Fellowship lunch are June 2nd at Friendship House and June 16th at CT's Deli. We meet at the restaurant at 12:00pm on these dates. Everyone is welcome. Give the office a call if you are coming so that reservations can be made. We look forward to seeing you.

MEMBERS OF ST. MARK

Hello Congregation!

Wonderful news from the Board of Education! We are hosting Vacation Bible School again this summer August 10th - August 14th from 9am to 12pm. We are inviting all children from ages 3-12 (fully potty trained) on a wild adventure learning about the Psalms on our journey through Rainforest Falls! We are looking for volunteers to help run this as well. Registration will be released soon. Please reach out to Robyn Willey with any questions at 302-531-8402.

We can't wait to go on this adventure with all of you!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Our next opportunity to work at the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry is Monday, June 29th. We are looking for 10-12 volunteers to help with the distribution of food items. The hours needed are 2:45pm until 5:00pm. Many hands make light work and your time and support can make a real difference for families in our community. Please consider volunteering for this important cause.

2026 BUDGET VS ACTUAL

28-May-26

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

Actual \$
Received
Budget

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 13092 | 13125 | 18194 | 17852 | | | | | | | | |
| 17770 | 17770 | 17770 | 17770 | 17770 | | | | | | | |

