Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

December Newsletter

The small church with a BIG	heart	•

Important Dates

Worship Service at Church and On-line Worship Service Sundays - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22th, 29th @ 10 am Bible Study Tuesdays - 3rd, 10th, 17th @ 9:30 am Quilting Tuesdays - 3rd, 10th, 17th @ 10:00 am Church Council Meeting Tuesday - December 10th @ 7:00 pm Newsletter Deadline December 20th @ 11:30 am Food Shelf - Tuesdays - 3rd - 8:00 - 9:30 am, 10th, 17th, - 4:30-6 pm No Food Shelf on December 24th WELCA Wednesday February 5th @ 10:00 am Church School - Sunday - 8th, 15th - 9:15 am - 9:45 am Confirmation - Wednesday - 4th, 11th - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Inside this issue:	
Pastor's Message	2
Church School	3
Adult Bible Study	4
WELCA	4
Community Events	5
Church Contact In-	6

December 2024



Prayer Requests

Kim & Bonnie Sather (parents of Kayla Barrett), Lloyd Meyer (Beth Besters Dad), Jack Vang (Nou's Uncle), Matt Crosby, Baby Koralai Keeler (friends of Dorry Wallof), Mary Ohmann, Justine Ohmann, Diane Trapp, Bill Richer, Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's mom), and Nicole Mies Anderson, Dureen/Tootsie Mies and her family.

Please keep all our seniors in your prayers, especially:

Robert & Margaret Hayes, Carolyn Horsch, Sharon Kappedahl, Chico & Clarice Krenik, Leatrice Taylor and Wayne Weidner

Those who have lost loved ones recently.

When requested, we will be keeping loved ones on the prayer request list for a month. If you would like them to stay on longer please let Dixie know. You can contact Dixie at stmarksrandolph@gmail.com or leave a message at (507) 263-9182.

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we gather in this season of Advent, we are reminded that Advent is a *BIG* time of waiting, watching, and hoping. It is a season of anticipation, as we prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ—the light of the world.

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival." During this season, we not only reflect on the birth of Jesus over two thousand years ago but also on His promised return. As the prophet Isaiah tells us:

> For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

Nothing gets BIGGER than this promise *of* Christ. In the busyness of our lives, it can be easy to lose sight of the significance of waiting. Yet, Advent teaches us that waiting is not passive—it is a time for active prayer, reflection, and preparation.

In today's world, we wait for many things: healing, peace, reconciliation, or answers to life's uncertainties. Just as Mary and Joseph waited with faith for the birth of Jesus, we are also invited to wait with hope.

Let us embrace this season as a time to draw closer to God and to one another. Light the Advent candles in your home, share the story of Christ's birth with loved ones, and take time to pray and listen for God's voice.

As a church family, let us support one another in this season of hope. Whether you are waiting for personal breakthroughs or yearning for a deeper sense of purpose, know that you are not alone. Together, we will experience the joy and peace of Christ's birth and the reassurance of His love in our lives today.

May this Advent season fill your heart with hope, your soul with peace, and your life with the light of Christ.

In Christ's love, Pastor Lue

Church School Information

Church School Calendar

Sunday Mornings 9:15 am-9:45 am

No Church School for Christmas Break December 22nd & 29th

Confirmation Wednesday Evenings 7pm-8pm

No Confirmation for Christmas Break December 18th, 25th, and January 1st

Church School Christmas Program Sunday, December 15th @ 10 am

The kids have been working very hard and will present **Symbols of Christmas**



Church Information

Bible Study Opportunities

Morning Adult Bible Studies

Bible study on Tuesdays starts at 9:30 am. No Bible Study on November 26th.

The 1st Wednesday Bible Study starts at 11:00 am

Please join us.



WELCA Info

<u>WELCA Is On Facebook</u> St. Mark's WELCA has started a page on Facebook. Find us at: **St. Mark's Randolph MN WELCA**

- Next WELCA-February 5, 2024 @ 10:00 am (none January)
- Meeting is in the Green Room at Church
- **Bazaar** There was a good turnout for the Bazaar. The net income was \$4,288.
- **Food Shelf** gave out Thanksgiving meals to all the families and there will be meat boxes for Christmas.
- Women of St. Mark's should watch their email for a questionnaire to fill out and return to Dixie.
- **Christmas giving** there will be a list of items to give to the school for teachers and the Social Worker to use.
- Election of Officers for 2025 President Diane Trapp, Vice President - Dorry Wallof, Treasurer - Dixie Schaffer, Inspiration Person - Colleen Thompson, Secretary - open (Alma Johnston will fill in)
- **Prayer Concerns**: Prayers for peace on Earth, Safe Holidays, a warm place for the homeless, and Nicole Mies Anderson and her family..

Community Events

Community Food Shelf

Here at Saint Mark's Lutheran, we try our best to serve our neighbors. One of the many ways we help is by providing food to our local communities. Saint Mark's Lutheran would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting our food shelf.

If you know anyone that could benefit from receiving some extra food please let them know we're here to help.

1st Tuesday- 8:00 am - 9:30 am 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays -4:30 pm to 6:00 pm No Food Shelf December 24th

All cash donations are used to buy healthy perishable food items.

College Student Food Shelf Invite

The Food Shelf is inviting any College Student to come and get some supplies from the food shelf. We want to help with your expenses during these years. Please come when the Food Shelf is open or contact Beth Bester at (651) 246-9301.

1 Wheelchair Available

If you are in need of a wheelchair, for a day, a week, a month, or six months, we have 1 wheelchairs at church that you can borrow. Check with Dixie on availability.

If you know of any events that we should add to Community Events, please contact Dixie at stmarkschurch@northfieldwifi.com or call (507) 263-9182 before the Newsletter deadline which is the 3rd Tuesday of the month by 11:30 am.



Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

PO Box 206, 28595 Randolph Blvd. Randolph, MN 55065 (507) 263-9182

Sunday Worship 10:00 am And Live on Facebook

The Small Church with a Big Heart

We're on the Web & Facebook

<u>Giving Options</u> You can send your offering

through the mail at PO Box 206 Randolph or download the Vanco Mobile app on your mobile phone search st marks randolph mn or

click the GIVE button on our website.

Saint Mark's Lutheran Contact & Staff

PastorLue MouaChurch: (507) 263-9182Cell: (651) 500-9890Email: pastorluemoua@gmail.comOffice AssistantDixie SchaffeCell: (612) 578-8743Email: dixie.schaffer@gmail.comMusicianLisa MolitorEmail: lisa.molitor@yahoo.com

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Financial Secretary Deacons

Trustees

Al Bester
Dan Kuhn
Keri Lorenzen
Christine Otte
Dixie Schaffer
Lucinda Preston
Kelly Tate
Stephanie Krueger
Eric Otte
Luke Dubbels
Robert Nivala

Church Email: stmarkschurch@northfieldwifi.com Web Site: www.stmarksrandolph.com Facebook: St. Mark's Lutheran Church Instagram: stmarksrandolph WELCA Facebook: St. Mark's Randolph MN WELCA