

The Messenger

From the desk of Pastor Cranmer:

Welcome to Fall! We have had our Celebration of the Seasons service, we have officially hit the autumnal equinox, the pumpkin spice latte has been released from the vault for another year. Everyone has likely settled into their new rhythm of activity now that summer break has ended, and we all are getting ready to enjoy the beauty that fall has to offer. However, have you noticed that there are two dueling falls? Maybe it is just me, but I see fall in two separate ways; one, it is busy, bustling, and energetic, and two, it is restful, calming, even cozy. There are football games and homecoming, trekking through an apple orchard, and lifting pumpkins into a trunk, and zillions of activities. And there are fall walks and blankets on the couch, leaves changing, corn and wheat fields turning gold. How do we savor it all?



Because I think it is important to savor it as best as we can. We only get so many spins on the orbit-go-round and we want to make the most of them. So how do we savor when the world of activities to enjoy is so vast. Do we really want to check off a fall bucket list, snap the photo, and move on? How do we get our brains to check in to what we are doing?

1. Choose. I do think we need to choose which events and things we are going to savor this time. If you are feeling overwhelmed, remember that seasonally, our bodies are looking for fall to be a time of winding down. What fall activity really appeals, and what one are you doing just because you've always gone to such and such pumpkin patch? We can also choose to be present. Sometimes we've gone apple picking, and it's taken all of fifteen minutes to fill our apple bag. We could have walked the orchard slowly, tested all the different apple types, inspected some bees getting drunk on fermented fruit. Instead, we picked the suckers off the tree like the frost was a-coming and we needed the harvest in as quickly as possible. We wound up feeling like we ticked a box, not experienced the day. Slow down. Think through different ways to enjoy the typical activities.
2. Celebrate your harvest. What have you sown this year? Did you start a new project, meet a new person, plant a garden, read more books? We don't typically harvest grain or bring all the potatoes into the barn, so we often miss the sensation of a "job well done" that fall can bring. Sometimes it is helpful to make a list of all the things that got done this year. People you saw and loved on, changes you made, cucumbers you grew, words you wrote. Think of this as the antithesis to the New Year's Resolutions, the list of what we will do—in fall,

Continued on Page 5

3350 North Delany Rd
Waukegan, IL 60087



Our Staff

Pastor Colin Cranmer

Victoriya Berezchna
Organist

Eric Aho
Director of Musical Ensembles

Jill Shepherd
Stephen Ministry
847-989-1919

Joanie Ryan
Office Manager

Ken Swanson
Facebook Page

Cody Ammons
Webpage Master

Wayne Voss
Council Chair

Contacts:

Phone: 847-623-5135

Fax: 847-623-5135 (Call First)

E-mail:
stmarkslutheran@gmail.com

Website: stmarkslutheran.us

On Facebook:

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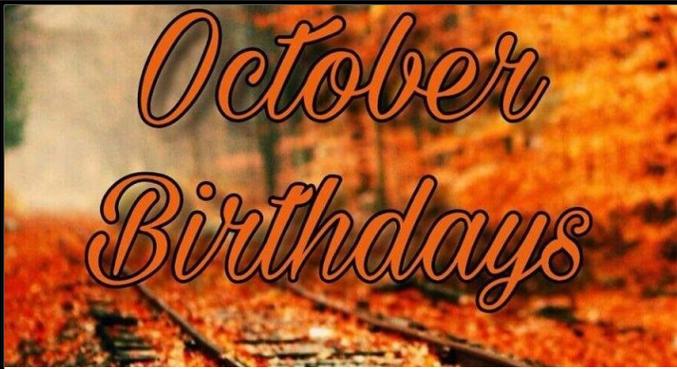
"God's Work. St. Mark's Hands"

Our Mission Statement:

*Come celebrate the gift of
Jesus Christ.*

*Grow together in faith and love.
Share the Good !*





A person's birthday is a reason for joy and is often taken as an opportunity to convey congratulations. However, it also increases your risk of identity theft and fraud. Therefore, we will no longer include this information in The Messenger, Narthex or Fellowship Hall.

Happy October Birthdays!

On your birthday, remember that you were wonderfully made by God and rejoice in his love.

**"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift"
2 Corinthians 9:15**



A person's anniversary is a reason for joy and is often taken as an opportunity to convey congratulations. However, it also increases your risk of identity theft and fraud. Therefore, we will no longer include this information in The Messenger, Narthex or Fellowship Hall.

Happy October Anniversaries!

May God's love and grace be part of your daily life, best wishes for a lovely wedding anniversary.

**"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."
1 Corinthians 13:13**



God has welcomed me into the body of Christ. I trust in Jesus Christ as my Savior. I confess my sin and my need for God's grace; I desire to live a new life in Christ; I believe that Christ is truly present in this Sacrament with gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. I declare my desire to come to the Lord's Table.

COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Name _____
Address _____
Date _____

(If you are a member of another congregation, you may write on the back of this card your church's name and location.)

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If you have not done so in the past year, please fill out a Communion Registration card, next time you are at church. This card, along with a contribution of record, will allow you to vote at our upcoming congregational meeting, on November 13th. Completed cards can be left in the offering plate, or in the donation box located outside the sanctuary wall in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Come as You Are, Whoever You Are

Everyone is welcome at St. Mark's, no matter what you have done, what has been done to you, what darkness or struggles you have faced, and regardless of whether you have been marginalized by society or denied involvement by other churches.

All are worthy of God's love and grace. We celebrate diversity, and seek to be inclusive of every race, ethnicity, faith background, age, economic status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental ability, or anything else that divides us. Christ's church is not ours to control, nor is it our job to sort, divide, categorize or exclude. But it is our place to love all our neighbors, aid the less fortunate, and to be a voice on their behalf.

Welcome!

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

October Calendar Reminders

Saturday, Oct. 1st	9 AM Prayer Ministry
Sunday, Oct. 2nd	10 AM Blessing of the Pets Worship Service
Monday, Oct. 3rd	7 PM Women of St. Mark's
Tuesday, Oct. 4th	7 PM Reflections in the Spirit
Wednesday, Oct. 5th	5:30 PM Kroll's Farm
Saturday, Oct. 8th	5:30 PM Contemporary Worship
Sunday, Oct. 9th	10 AM Worship Service
Monday, Oct. 10th	7 PM Church Council
Tuesday, Oct. 11th	12 PM Reflections of the Season
Friday, Oct. 14th	6 PM Gather Bible Study
Saturday, Oct. 15th	9 AM - 4PM WSM Parking Lot Trunk Sale
Sunday, Oct. 16th	10 AM Worship Service
Monday, Oct. 17th	7 PM Yarns of Compassion
Saturday, Oct. 22nd	Pulla Bread Baking
Sunday, Oct. 23rd	10 AM Worship Service 11 AM Trunk or Treat!! Pulla Bread Bake Sale
Saturday, Oct. 29th	9:30 AM Creation Walk Raven Glen Forest Preserve
Sunday, Oct. 30th	10 AM Worship Service

Schedule Subject to Change

PLEASE NOTE

As a reminder, St. Mark's will be installing a smart lock (timed lock) on the East fellowship (basement) entry door most likely Fall 2022.

For safety reasons, the door will automatically lock at 10:15 am on Sunday's.

Therefore, if you are not upstairs - or, are late to church, please proceed to the main entrance upstairs.

Thank you in advance for helping keep us all safe!



If you have a 'Thank You Note' that you would like the congregation to be aware of please email to the church office prior the 15th of each month, in order to make the "next month's" publication.

memorials
& gifts

*A Gift from the following was
donated in the memory of Carol Closson:*

◆ *Carol Bonnes*

*The following people have donated gifts in memory of:
Lisa Strange*

- ◆ *Carol Bonnes*
- ◆ *Lisa Myllymaki*
- ◆ *Ann Roberts*
- ◆ *Lucille Tolonen*
- ◆ *Kurt & Kathy Schild*
- ◆ *Bridgette Otterbacher*
- ◆ *Bob & Helen Ostman*



Stephen Ministry Roses Among the Thorns

Make a joyful noise to the Lord; all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

"If you think your bundle of clothes too heavy, try picking up your neighbor's." *Virgin Islands Proverb*

The following is an article I wrote November, 2017.....

(Happy Thanksgiving a little early!)



We sometimes fail to look beyond our troubles and forget the many acts of grace

God has given to us. Rev. Delmer Chilton shared the following story in "Of Grace and Gratitude" in *Living Lutheran magazine*:

Too often, too many of us, myself included, are like the man with a broken arm I heard a comedian talk about. He was at the post office and saw a man with his arm in a sling. The comic listened as the man asked for help from a postal employee. The employee obliged, writing the man's note on the card, filling in the address, putting on a stamp. Finally, he handed it back and asked, "Is there anything else I can do for you?" The man with the broken arm looked the card over a minute and then said, "Well, you could write a line apologizing for the bad handwriting."

How often have we been ungrateful or taken God's grace for granted? Consider what the apostle Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Be joyful always.

Pray constantly. Give thanks for everything, for this is God's will for you in Jesus Christ." It is a challenge to be grateful for everything. Giving thanks for painful experiences—like getting cancer or losing a loved one, is very difficult.

Experiences like these challenge us to remember that life is not about having everything exactly the way we want it. We also need to remember that we don't always know what is best for us.



We are here to learn and grow and to serve. Mother Teresa once said, "The best way to show my gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems with joy."

From Rev. Chilton:

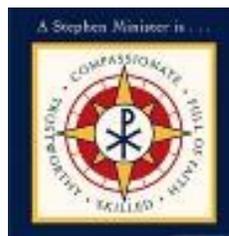
"God's call to us today is to find a way to express our gratitude to God in words and acts of prayer and thanksgiving, words and acts shared not only with God but everyone in our lives!"

Blessing for the Fullness of the Day

I bless this day in the fullness of good it already contains, in the many occasions it offers to listen deeply, to be of service to others, to express gratitude moment by moment and to keep my mind so filled with love, beauty and joy that no negativity can find even the tiniest crack with which to set foot.

I bless this day in the infinite opportunities its gives me to love: to love and bless every human I meet, every beast or bird I pass by, every plant I behold, for all are but the manifold expressions of God.

Truly, I bless this day for the wonderful adventure it can become as I walk through it with the eyes of wonder rather than boredom, use every opportunity to express peace rather than irritation, and choose love over fear. Thank you, God, for this day. – Pierre Pradervand



May God bless you,
Jill Shepherd
Stephen Leader



make a list of what you have done. Our sense of time is wonky, so it's easy to forget all the many days that made up this year. Shay has an app called One Second a Day, and she puts up tiny videos from each day of things we did, and I can't tell you how many times I've watched it and thought, "I forgot about that!" and it was only a few months ago. Really take your time to go through your calendar and photos and think about your harvest for the year.

- 3) Invite others. I slow down with other people. Apple picking with the youth group took an hour, compared to the Cranmer 15 minutes. It's more fun with more people. Fall foliage looks better when you can point the orange tree out to someone else. Our day passes more lightly after a phone call from a friend. People widen our perspective, egg us on to try new things, see it from a new point of view. There's a reason we threw harvest festivals and didn't just sock wheat away for the winter. It's worth spending the extra to celebrate together. We're made for it.

I hope you have a wonderful fall, enjoying it with people you care about, and savoring the little moments, and standing back and looking at your harvest from the last year.

Blessings,
Pastor Colin

[Continued from Page 1](#)

[Pastor Cranmer](#)

October Mission of the Month:

Social Justice - Prison Ministry

"I was in prison and you came to visit me." - Matthew 25:36

Sharing the Love of Christ

Chicagoland Prison Outreach exists to bring the love of Christ to currently or previously incarcerated men and women and their families throughout the Chicagoland region. We work with individuals in Cook County Jail, Cook County Sheriff's Boot Camp, and various Illinois state prisons, and our own Career Center in Roseland – through in-prison, post-prison and outreach programs. To provide support and guidance to these hurting people, we provide a range of Christian worship services, discipleship classes, individual counseling, vocational training and job preparation services.

Our in-prison programs include a discipleship program, where CPO staff and volunteers connect in a meaningful way with inmates in Jail to facilitate developing a Christ-like character through the practical application of God's Word. Once inmates have been released, we follow up through our Post Prison Ministry. We provide mentoring, assistance in connecting with the body of Christ, vocational training, and character building. We offer outreach programs: Outreach Christian School, Angels of Hope ministry and Women of Hope.



COOL Food of the Month:

Breakfast Items



Coming this fall, St Mark's Stewardship Drive – Phase II

Kicking off at the Fall Congregational meeting on November 13th, will be the second (three year) phase of our Stewardship campaign. As you may recall, St Mark's undertook our first ever stewardship campaign back in 2016-17, with the main goal of reducing the debt the church incurred as part of the building expansions of the Sunday School wing, and office wing. As part of that three year program we retired over \$300,000 in church issued bonds which were purchased by many individuals to support the new additions. The expansion of the church would have not been possible without this program. We thank everyone who took part in assisting us in this program!

Since that initial drive; however, much has changed for St. Mark's. A long time Pastor, left. An interim Pastor came in, covid hit and shut down in-person worship, a new Pastor came in, and now we are finally getting into a "new norm" of in-person attendance and worship. With these changes have come new financial challenges. These challenges are what we are looking to address with this second phase of our stewardship drive. Things such as, increased payroll and expenses, (such as insurance), hugely increased utility costs, and an expanded Youth program and outreach. These, combined with a recent decline in membership, have resulted in more pressure on the financials, and we don't want to limit our church, nor our new Pastor, especially as it relates to our Youth program.

While the church is presently still in good financial position, and membership has slowly begun to rebound, the concerns of running a significant annual deficit that could deplete our reserves / investments, to a level we are not comfortable operating under, are real.

The focus of the new campaign will be to address items such as: Estate giving (or lack thereof), signing up new members to Simply Giving, and expanding existing membership donations - specifically as they relate to supporting our Pastor and our expanding Youth program.

This is an on-going development process and the team (which presently consists of Don Fontana, Al Dudleston, Ken Falkinham, Wayne Voss, and Pastor Cranmer), continues to look for volunteers to assist in this effort. (If interested, please reach out!)

Watch for updates in the Messenger, along with other postings.

Blessings... Wayne Voss – Council Chair



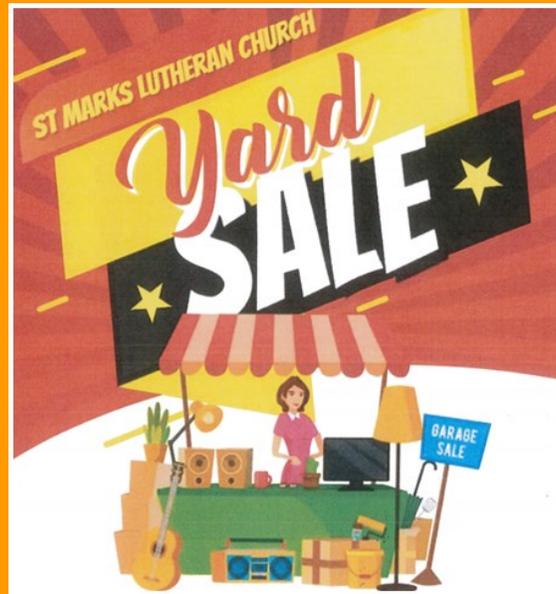
Growing Our Faith Through Generosity

Women of St. Mark's Parking Lot Yard Sale

Saturday, October 15th 2022 - 9AM – 4PM

(In the event of rain, the yard sale will be held in the fellowship hall)

Household Items
Tableware
Electronics
Jewelry
Games & Books



Tools
Purses
Children's Clothes - Toys
Homemade Jams
Collectibles

Please support the WSM by signing up!

All proceeds to benefit St. Mark's Stewardship, Foundations for the Future
& Women of St. Mark's Missions.

Contact Vicki Mattson or Bridgette Otterbacher to sign up

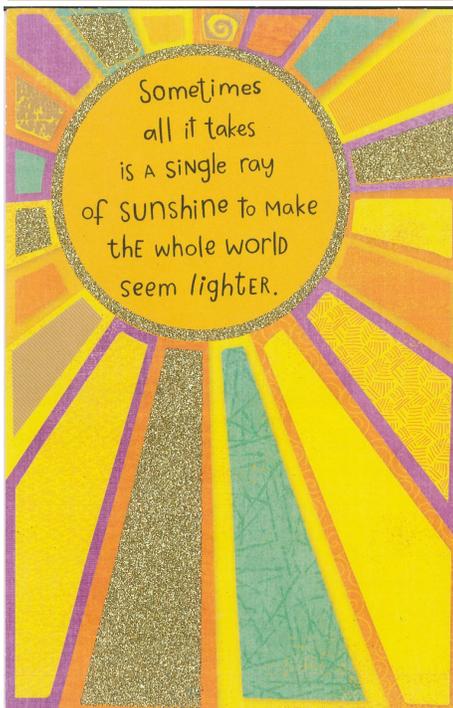
Please Join Us for St. Mark's 2nd Annual Parking Lot Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 23rd 2022 - 11 AM - 1 PM

Sign up to decorate cars and hand out candy!!
<https://www.stmarkslutheran.us/trunk-or-treat.html>



Please join us on Wednesday nights from 7pm to 8pm for our Zoom discussion group.
Come be encouraged by hearing about God's work in each other's lives!

Website: stmarkslutheran.us



To all my friends at St. Marks
 Thank you all very much
 for all your Prayers,
 Get Well Wishes and
 all your Caring Words
 of encouragement.
 I really missed coming
 to Church each Sunday
 for the Sunday Church
 Service and to visit
 With our Wonderful
 Church family at St Marks.
 Lucille Tolonen

And sometimes
 that ray of sunshine
 is a person.



Thanking God
 for You Always

God Bless you all
 Lucille

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Dear St. Mark's Family,
 I shouldn't be surprised at the outpouring of love I received after my accident.
 All the prayers, concerns, beautiful cards, calls, and wonderful meals reflected the Spirit of giving I
 experienced when I first walked into St. Mark's doors over twenty years ago!
 God bless you all. God love 'ya!
 Jill



Dear Pastor Colin,
 Thank you for your
 nice card and
 thoughtful message
 of sympathy for my
 beloved Uncle Jim. We
 appreciate your concern
 and being added to the
 St. Mark's prayer listing.
 I have heard such
 wonderful things about
 you and your caring
 leadership from my St.
 Mark's friends. We wish
 you many blessings
 ahead. Barb + Mike DiPierro

thank you 

Your kind expression
 of sympathy and friendship
 will always remain
 in our memories.
 Thank you for your
 thoughtfulness.

The family of
 James L. Hogan Jr.



Dear Prayer Group
Yarns of Compassion:

The prayer shawls are appreciated.
We can all use prayer, -
especially at the time of Lisa's
death. Thank you!
Steve Stranger Helen Hart



Your Prayer Shawl, thoughts
and Prayers was given to me
on a very difficult day.
The gift was such a surprise
and gave me comfort and
surrounded me with love
and prayer. It gave me
hope that God is always
with me.

I will Never forget
your Kindness and Love.

A Grateful Friend of
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
in Waukegan, IL.

To the Ladies of
Yarns of Compassion at
St. Mark's Lutheran Church -
Waukegan, IL 60087

My Heartfelt Thank You
for giving me the thoughtful
and comforting Prayer Shawl.

During the past several years
I've had some serious heart
health issues and lost my young
adult son to a terrible car accident.

I need to be there for my
3 Grandchildren who lost their
beloved Dad. I struggle everyday
to keep working and be there
for them.



September, 2022

Knowing friends have put me on
there Prayer Chain list and have spent
time in prayer for me has brought
me great comfort and peace to face
the results.

Using the Prayer Shawl has given
me hope, and I will always remember
the wonderful people and their
kindness and prayers at St. Marks.

With special thoughts and prayers
A Church Neighbor, Thank You!

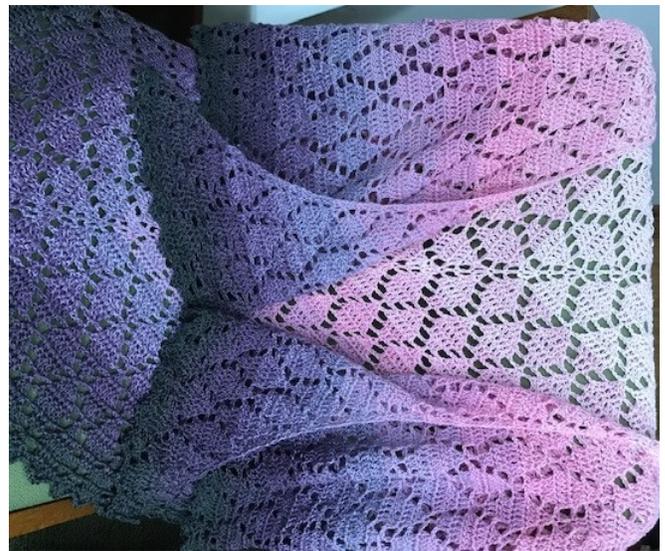
Dear Yarns of Compassion
Ministry Team

Sept 2022

I am a church neighbor and
have been to several spiritual and
fellowship events sponsored by the
women of St. Marks.

It was a complete surprise to
receive a special prayer shawl this
past week. Prayers were being said
for me as I waited for the news of my
biopsy report that my cancer may have
returned. What a shock to hear.

**Prayer
Shawls
"Kindness
with
Every
Stitch"
Created
for you
with love
and
prayers.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>10am - Blessing of Pets Outside</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>7pm - WSM</p>	<p>6pm - HOA Mtg.</p> <p>7pm - Reflections/Spirit</p>	<p>On Line</p> <p>5:30pm - Kroll's Farm</p> <p>7pm - Sermon Disc.</p>	<p>On Line</p> <p>7pm - Worsh.& Arts</p>	<p>9pm - Gather Bible Study</p>	<p>9 AM - Prayer team</p> <p>5:30pm - Contemporary Service</p> <p>9am - WSM Parking Lot Yard Sale</p> <p>Pulla Bake Baking</p> <p>9:30am - Creation Walk</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>7pm - Church Council</p>	<p>12pm - Reflections/Seasons</p>	<p>On Line</p> <p>7pm - Sermon Disc.</p>			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>7pm - Yarns of Compassion</p>	<p>On Line</p> <p>7pm - Sermon Disc.</p>				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>Pulla Bake Sale</p> <p>11am - Trunk or Treat</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>
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30	31					
<p>10 AM Worship</p> <p>In Sanctuary</p> <p>Online also</p> <p>11am - Youth Ministry</p>						



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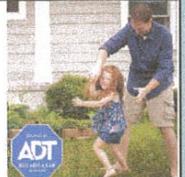
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St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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Waukegan, IL. 60087

Phone 847-623-5135
Fax 847-623-5135 (Call First)
E-mail

Serving Us This Month

October Readers

- Oct. 2 Mike Ryan
- Oct. 9 Grace Brikha
- Oct. 16 Anastasia Boots
- Oct. 23 Dean & Shannon Stelter
- Oct. 30 Bridgette Otterbacher



THE MESSENGER
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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