

# December Newsletter

December 2025

*The small church with a BIG heart.*



## Important Dates

### **Worship Service at Church and On-line**

**Worship Service** Sundays - 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th @ 10 am

**Church School** - Sundays - 7th, 14th, 21st, 9:00 am - 9:45 am

**Church Council Meeting** Monday - December 1st @ 7:00 pm

**Bible Study** - Tuesdays - 2nd, 9th, 16th @ 9:30 am

**Quilting** Tuesdays - 2nd, 9th, 16th @ 10:30 am

**WELCA** Wednesday - December 3rd @ 10:00 am

**Bible Study** - Wednesday -December 3rd @ 11:00 am

**Confirmation** Wednesday - 3rd, 10th, 17th @ 7:00 pm

**Newsletter Deadline** December 20th @ 11:30 am

**Food Shelf** - Tuesdays - 2nd - 8:00 - 9:30 am

9th, 16th, 23rd - 4:30-6 pm

**Blood Drive - Monday, December 1st 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Church School Christmas Program - December 21st @ 10:00am**

## Prayer Requests

Diane Barrett, Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester, Austin Burlage, Rhonda Johnson (friend of the Besters), Tim Mulvihill, Bob Neil, Don Otte, Sandra Nicolai, Sarah and Jim Otto, Mary Ohmann, Kou Thao (Nou Moua's Dad), Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents), Bill Richer, and Nicole Anderson, Dureen Mies and her family.

### ***Please keep all our seniors in your prayers, especially:***

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

### **Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently; especially:**

The family and friends of Marilyn Ries, Jay Otte, and Kevin Illa

*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](mailto:stmarksrandolph@gmail.com) or leave a message at (507) 263-9182.*

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## Pastor's Message

Dear St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

As we enter Advent and prepare for Christmas, I've been thinking about how much we all look forward to light this time of year. The days are short, the evenings come quickly, and yet, this season reminds us that even a small light can make a big difference. The word "advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "arrival" or "coming". In our context, Advent is the start of a new church calendar and refers to the "coming" or "arrival" of Jesus.

I also know that December brings all kinds of feelings. Some of us are excited for family gatherings and traditions we love. Others carry worries, miss someone, or simply feel tired. Wherever you find yourself this season, I hope you know you are not alone. We hold onto the promise from John's Gospel: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it."

Throughout the month, we'll come together in worship, service, and community. I hope you'll join us whenever you can. When we gather, we remind one another what it means to be people of faith. The advent candles we light each Sunday for hope, peace, joy, and love aren't just symbols; they're reminders that God's love shines through us in everyday ways.

May we continue to be a community that carries Christ's light into the world.

Wishing you a blessed Advent and a joyful Christmas,  
Pastor Lue

## ***Church Information***

### ***Bible Study Opportunities***

#### **Morning Adult Bible Studies**

Tuesday Bible study  
December 2nd, 9th, 16th, @ 9:30 am



#### **The First Wednesday Bible Study**

December 3rd @ 11:00 am.

### **WELCA**



“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

### **Highlights from the November 5, 2025 meeting**

**Bazaar:** Chicky will be in charge of the kitchen. Kris has the vendors lined up, Sheryl and Alma will be in charge of the bake sale.

**Donation:** A donation to the Forged in Faith youth group.

**Donation:** Lutheran World Relief for the cost of shipping quilts and backpacks where needed.

**Christmas Share:** Beth will check out if there are any local families in need this year.

**Devotionals gifts** to Shut-ins.

**Mercy:** A Christmas gift was sent for Mercy.

**Prayer concerns** for all people worldwide without food.

**Inspiration Reading:** St. Ann Cookbook Thanksgiving poem. What do you think of?

**Adjourned:** 11:10 am

**Next Meeting on Wednesday, December 3rd at 10 am.**

A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who helped get the church ready for the bazaar, we couldn't do it without all the helping hands and strong backs!

## **Church School Information**

### **Church School Calendar**

Grades 1st-6th Sunday mornings 9:00 am - 9:45 am  
December 14th the kids will meet from 8:45 am - 9:45 am  
to practice for the Christmas program on December 21st

No Church School December 28th or January 4th

### **Confirmation Information**

Confirmation Wednesday nights 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
No confirmation on December 24th or 31st



### **BLOOD DRIVE**

December 1st from 1-7 pm  
at St. Mark's Church.

Please sign-up online for an appointment at

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>

Or call Red Cross @ 1-800-733-2767.

***Drop ins are welcome***

Contact Beth Bester if you have any questions  
or if you can volunteer that day

@ (651) 246-9301

## 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**

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.

*If you know of any events that should be added to Community Events, please contact Dixie at [stmarksrandolph@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksrandolph@gmail.com) or call (507) 263-9182 before the Newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month by 11:30 am.*



### 2 Wheelchairs Available

If you are in need of a wheelchair, we have 2 wheelchairs at church that you can borrow.

Check with Dixie on availability.

### Grief Material

If you are in need of some reading material regarding grief, we have a section in our library for you to borrow. You can check it out when the church is open or call Dixie at (612) 578-8743 and she will set up a time that works for you to meet at the church.

We have the book "I wasn't ready to say good bye" by

If you would like to talk to someone, you can call Pastor Lue at (651) 500-9890.



# Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship  
10:00 am  
& Streamed on Facebook

The Small Church  
with a Big Heart

We're on the Web  
& Facebook

## Giving Options

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

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President	Dan Kuhn
Vice President	Tyler Otte
Secretary	Keri Lorenzen
Treasurer	Christine Otte
Financial Secretary	Dixie Schaffer
Deacons	Kelly Tate Stephanie Krueger Lucinda Preston
Trustees	Luke Dubbels Robert Nivala

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**Facebook:** St. Mark's Lutheran Church

**Instagram:** stmarksrandolph

**WELCA Facebook:** St Mark's Randolph MN WELCA