

January Newsletter

January 2026

The small church with a BIG heart.



Important Dates

Worship Service at Church and On-line

Worship Service Sundays - 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th @ 10 am

Church School - Sundays - 11th, 18th, 25th, 9:00 am - 9:45 am

Church Council Meeting Monday - January 12th @ 7:00 pm

Bible Study - Tuesdays - 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 9:30 am

Quilting Tuesdays - 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 10:30 am

WELCA - No January or February meeting

Confirmation Wednesday - 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th @ 7:00 pm

Newsletter Deadline January 20th @ 11:30 am

Food Shelf - Tuesdays - 6th - 8:00 - 9:30 am

13th, 20th, 27th - 4:30-6 pm

Annual Meeting - January 18th after the worship service

Potluck - following the Annual Meeting.

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Prayer Requests

Marc Slininger, Dan & Samantha Doar (friends of Shelby Khun), Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister), Candace Volkert, Keith Bester, Joe Ries, Jr. (Chicky Otte's brother), Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester, Austin Burlage, 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), and Nicole Anderson, 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 Dureen (Tootsie) Mies.

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 St. Mark's,

A new year often brings mixed feelings. There is hope and anticipation, but also worry and pressure to improve and make changes. The phrase "new year, new you" is an unspoken expectation, an ad for a new diet, or an assumption that you'll hop on the latest trend. For people of faith, we start a new year with an invitation and a promise from God. In January, we hear again the story of Jesus' baptism and the reminder that God calls Jesus his **beloved**, which is the same promise spoken over each of us.

Martin Luther encouraged Christians to remember their baptism every day. Baptism is not only something that happened long ago. It shapes how we live now. It reminds us that we belong to God before we belong anywhere else. As Paul writes, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). This "new year, new you" is not just for January 1. It unfolds daily as God continues to work in our lives.

As we look ahead to the year at St. Mark's, we do so grounded in our baptismal calling. We gather around Word and sacrament. We care for one another. We serve our neighbors and seek justice and peace. These promises guide us as individuals and as a congregation.

May this new year be shaped not by fear or urgency, but by trust in a God who has already claimed us and walks with us into all that lies ahead.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lue

Church Information

Bible Study Opportunities

Morning Adult Bible Studies

Tuesday Bible study
January 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 9:30 am



The First Wednesday Bible Study

None in January or February.

Adult Bible Study Starting January 14, 2026

Join us Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 for 4 weeks starting January 14th to learn the power of simple prayer. Do you struggle to find the right words to pray? Do you feel you are not qualified to pray? Do you simply not have the time to pray? Max Lucado provides a thoughtful and scriptural perspective on prayer in his study guide "Before Amen Bible Study Guide: The Power of a Simple Prayer." You do not need to purchase the study guide to attend but it does provide day to day devotions that dig deeper into the topic.



Church School Information

Church School Calendar

Grades 1st-6th Sunday mornings 9:00 am - 9:45 am.

No Church School January 4th or 18th.

Confirmation Information

Confirmation Wednesday nights 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

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 December 3, 2025 meeting

- **Bazaar** - Net profit from the Bazaar was \$4,869
- **Thank you** to Kris Thomsen-DeWall for all her work to making the bazaar a success. Chicky Otte and her crew for make the kitchen successful. Everything was delicious! Thank you to all who brought baked goods and craft items for WELCA to sell, your time and talent are appreciated!
- **Christmas Family** - There were no families available through the school, so we are looking else where to find people to help during the year.
- **Christmas Gifts** - Gifts were given to the church staff.
- **Election of Officers** - There is no change to the officers for the next year.

Prayer concerns for all those fighting cancer and the medical staff and caregivers caring for them.

Inspiration Reading: Cure for disappointment Psalm 18 v. 30

Adjourned: 11:0 am

Next Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 10 am.

Annual Meeting

St. Mark's Lutheran Church will hold their annual meeting on
January 18, 2026 after the worship service.
We will be having a potluck meal after the meeting, please join us.
Bring a dish to share if you would like.

St. Mark's Church Council for 2026

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

The Annual Reports will be emailed before the Annual Meeting.
Thank you to Kelly Tate for her years of service to St. Mark's!

We will be having a vote on putting a Crematorium at St. Mark's.

2025 Annual Giving Statements

The 2025 annual giving statements will be going out in the next few weeks,
be sure to watch your email or mail box for your statement.
If you have any questions about your statement or if you don't receive it,
please contact Dixie at the church email
stmarksrandolph@gmail.com
or leave a message at (507) 263-9182

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 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

Pastor	Lue Moua Church: (507) 263-9182 Cell: (651) 500-9890 Email: pastorluemoua@gmail.com
Office Assistant	Dixie Schaffer Cell: (612) 578-8743 Email: dixie.schaffer@gmail.com
Musician	Lisa Molitor Email: lisa.molitor@yahoo.com
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

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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WELCA Facebook: St Mark's Randolph MN WELCA