

September Newsletter

September 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 Kickoff - Sunday - 14th @ 11:15 am

Church School - Sundays - 28th 9:00 am - 9:45 am

Church Council Meeting Monday - September 8th @ 7:00 pm

Bible Study - Tuesdays - 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th @ 9:30 am

Quilting Tuesdays - 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th @ 10:00 am

WELCA Wednesday - 3rd @ 10:00 am

Confirmation Wednesday - 17th, 24th @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Newsletter Deadline September 20th @ 11:30 am

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

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

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Prayer Requests

Carolyn Chester, Kevin Lawson (friend of the Schaffers), Rhonda Johnson (friend of the Besters), Tim Mulvihill, Bob Neil, Sarah and Jim Otto, Marilyn Ries (Chicky Otte's mom), Kevin Illa, Don Otte, Sandra Nicolai, Bill Richer, Mary Ohmann, Austin Burlage, Kou Thao (Nou Moua's Dad), Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents), 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.

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,

As September arrives, our lives begin to shift once again. School doors reopen, routines return, and the energy of fall is here. In this month's newsletter, we study the Eighth Commandment: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

Martin Luther explained the commandment like this: *We should fear and love God, so that we do not lie about, betray or slander our neighbor, but excuse him, speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.*

Luther reminds us that this commandment is not only about avoiding lies, it is about protecting our neighbor's good name. Words have tremendous power. They can build up or tear down, bring healing or cause deep harm. St. Paul writes, "Therefore, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another" (Ephesians 4:25).

In today's world, information spreads faster than ever through conversations, social media, 24-hour news, and even casual remarks. So, this commandment feels incredibly relevant. Reputations can be damaged by half-truths, assumptions, or words that are spoken without much thought. Sometimes we fail to speak out when someone is unfairly criticized, or we let gossip pass without challenging it.

To live faithfully under the Eighth Commandment is to become people of truth and grace. It means practicing restraint before speaking, choosing words that protect rather than wound, and striving to see our neighbors in the best possible light. It means asking ourselves: *Am I helping build trust and understanding, or am I adding to division and harm?*

This commandment also challenges us in how we talk about those with whom we disagree. In a time when public conversations can be so polarized, Luther invites us into a different way: a way of charity, patience, and careful listening. To live out this commandment is to resist the easy path of criticism and instead look for the image of God in each person.

As we enter the season of fall together, may we commit ourselves to being people whose words reflect God's love and truth. May we be known as a congregation that not only avoids gossip and falsehood, but one that actively builds up our neighbors, defends the vulnerable, and speaks in ways that bring life.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Lue

Church Information

Bible Study Opportunities

Morning Adult Bible Studies

Tuesday Bible study
September 10th, 17th, 24th @ 9:30 am.



The First Wednesday Bible Study

October 2nd @ 11:00 am.

Evening Adult Bible Study

You are never too old to learn about God's love for you! Join us on Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 pm at church for a six-week Bible study starting October 1st. We will be exploring the book of Romans in "Romans; in the grip of grace" by Max Lucado. The study includes a short daily devotional; copies will be available at the first bible study. You can still come if you do not do the daily devotional. The weekly meeting includes a short video and discussion as we learn about the freedom of grace through salvation described in Paul's letter to the Roman church. We will not meet Wed Oct 15th and last class will be Nov 12th.



Church School Information

Hello St. Mark's Families!

I can't believe it's already that time of year, summer seems to have flown by! We hope everyone is having a great first week of school, and are praying over the kids to have a safe and happy year.

We are opening registration for Church School! I will share a link to our google form for signing up, and PDFs of our schedule and other information. There will be a few events added throughout the year, such as the kids singing during the church service, and we will be sure to update everyone in a timely manner.

Our first day of classes will be on **Sunday September 14th at 9:00a** and ending at 9:45a. We'll have sign ups in person at this time, if there are any of you that prefer to do it that way as well.

We are asking for a \$20 donation for each child, with a \$50 family cap. This helps us purchase curriculum and various supplies needed throughout the year. We can accept checks or cash. Checks can be made out to St. Mark's Church, with 'Church School registration' in your memo.

It is not required, but very much appreciated.

Most of our wonderful teachers are coming back for classes this year, but we would love to have some extra help! If you are available to teach, sub, or help occasionally, please check in with us. Curriculum is pre planned and all supplies are provided.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out.

We are looking forward to another great year together!

LINK TO REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/STp5soQ5pMP4ByWY7>

Your St. Mark's Church School Superintendents,

Shelby Kuhn shelbykuhn11@gmail.com

Christine Sachs csachs2@hotmail.com

Church School Calendar

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

Church School begins September 14th at 9:00 am

You can also find the calendar on our website

Confirmation Information

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

Confirmation begins Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 pm

There are 2 ways to sign up for Confirmation. Either online with the link below or in person on Sunday, September 14th after the worship service at about 11:00 am. The fee for this Confirmation school year is \$20.00 per child payable at the time of registration or on the first day of Confirmation which will be Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 pm

LINK TO REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/aFCtrJ427LDxusHW8>

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 September 3, 2025 meeting

- Sending \$500 to Randolph School Social Worker for any needed supplies.
- Completed 24 book bags filled with supplies to send to Lutheran World Relief.
- Looking for someone to be in charge of the kitchen for the Bazaar.
- Thank you from JD Kuhn for receiving our scholarship donation this year.
- Quilters received a \$250 Thriven donations for supplies

Prayer concerns for the families, kids and teachers affected by the shooting at Annunciation Church in the cities.

Inspiration Reading: From the Women of the ELCA - Jesus parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us that a true “neighbor” is anyone in need, not just someone familiar or liked, and that compassion means acting to help others without prejudice or judgment.

Adjourned: 10:45 am

Next Meeting on Wednesday, October 1st at 10 am.

Contact Dixie if you would like to be in charge of the kitchen for the Bazaar @ (612) 578-8743 or dixie.schaffer@gmail.com.

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.



1 Wheelchairs Available

If you are in need of a wheelchair, we have 1 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.

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