

# February Newsletter

January 2022

The small church with a **BIG** heart.



## Important Dates

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

**Worship Service** Sundays - 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 10 am

**Church Council Meeting** Monday - February 21st @ 7:00 pm

**Bible Study** Tuesdays - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd @ 10:00 am

**Quilting** Tuesdays - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd @ 10:00 am

**Newsletter Deadline** Tuesday - February 15th @ 11:30 am

**Food Shelf** Tuesday - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd - 4:30-6 pm

**WELCA** No WELCA this month

**Church School** - Wednesday - 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd - 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Confirmation** - Wednesday - 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

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## **Prayer Requests**

Rowan Nordling, Randy Ryan, Tony Nicolai, Chad Holz and Marilyn Ries

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

Dave Blank, Rosella Davisson, Arnie Felton, Robert & Margaret Hayes,  
Sharon Kappedahl, Ray Ohmann, Arlene Ringeisen, Leatrice Taylor and Wayne Weidner

### **All those who have lost loved ones recently, especially:**

The family & friends of Doug Felton and  
The family & friends of Sharon Weinel



*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 [stmarkschurch@northfieldwif.com](mailto:stmarkschurch@northfieldwif.com) or leave a message at (507) 263-9182.*

## Pastor's Message

Dear good people of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

Each year as I sit in front of the computer to write this letter for our annual meeting, I consider one word that can describe this past year. The word must encompass the work we've done together, the challenges we've overcome, and the call that we've answered from God. While the process of choosing *just one word is entirely self-imposed, this process helps me to focus and highlight rather than to simply list everything. The one word I've settled on is **generosity**.*

### Generosity in Sharing

Something I learned very early in my own faith journey was that all of us have a gift to share, and that whatever it is, it is how we minister to others. Ministry does not have to be formal, it does not require someone to earn a degree to minister, and it does not need publicity. This past year, I have seen so many instances of St. Mark's ministering to others. From sharing your time to help set up the stage for the children's program to putting away tables and pews for our annual Feast and Festival to greeting a new face in church to preparing a meal for a funeral to declaring your promise to support the newly baptized. This is generosity. These gifts have been bestowed on us to share, and in that sharing, we are ministering, comforting, and witnessing the work of God through us.

### Generosity in Caring

We have continued to see the devastating impact of COVID-19 on our community and the world. And in the midst of this great suffering, there continues to be more suffering. The answer to this great suffering is great care for the world. We saw that with the deadly tornadoes in Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee last December. In response to this loss, our church council prayerfully considered a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response, an ELCA churchwide ministry that engages with local partners and synod offices to respond to immediate needs. Based on initial damage assessments in the area, it is estimated that the recovery efforts will take years, and Lutheran Disaster Response is a ministry that is always committed to survivors until the response is completed. The council voted in December to donate \$4000 to Lutheran Disaster Response, and we are glad to know that 100% of the donation will care for survivors.

### Generosity in Trusting

Pastoral care is something I love about my job as a pastor. One of my favorite aspects of pastoral care is visiting our elders. Some of those visits are via email or on the phone, and some of those visits are in facilities or homes. I have learned a lot about farming, baking, canning, raising children, marriage, and faith from my conversations with our elders. One common theme I've gathered from these conversations is trust. All of the people I visit have stories of complete trust in God, and their faith in God is so strong that it shapes their generosity to others.

## Pastor's Message Continued

As we walk together in this new year, I know that our generosity as a community, a church, and as individuals will continue to shine. I know that whatever challenges may come this new year, we will overcome them because we have God and each other. This is the reason why I am excited to share with you the *Planting Hope Campaign*. *This is a 3-year capital campaign led by the Saint Paul Area Synod.*

The **Planting Hope Campaign** seeks to build on our strengths as a body of churches and calls us to stretch in new ways as a synod. There are four areas that the campaign will address:

- Invite** neighbors into life in Christ;
- Renew** the congregations of the synod;
- Raise up** the next generations of leaders;
- Invest** in a transformative project on the East Side of Saint Paul with Lutheran Social Services.

There will be more information in the upcoming months about the *Planting Hope Campaign* and how individuals and we as a congregation can participate and help support. *I have seen us help one another, band together as a community, and reach out to help others across the country and we are nothing short of “a small church with a BIG heart.”*

May God bless you now and forever more,  
Pastor Lue Moua



## ***Bible Study Opportunities***

### **Morning Adult Bible Studies**

Bible study on Tuesdays start at 10 am.

Please join us.

No Wednesday Bible Study January, February or March.



## **WELCA Info**

- No WELCA meetings in January, February or March
- WELCA ladies will be cleaning the kitchen during these months. If you would like to help, please let Dixie know so she can let you know what days we will be doing it.

## **Church School Calendar**

**Wednesday Evenings 6pm-7pm**

**Confirmation Wednesday Evenings 7pm-8pm**

### **February**

2nd – Class (Q3, week 4)

9th - Class (Q3, week 5)

16th - Class (Q3, week 6)

23rd - Class (Q3, week 7)



## 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, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays  
4:30 pm to 6:00 pm**

### 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 at 9 am before Church on Sunday or contact Beth Bester at (651) 437-6972



### 2 Wheelchairs Available

If you are in need of a wheelchair, for a day, a week, a month, or six months, we have 2 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](mailto: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

## 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

<b>Pastor</b>	Lue Moua <b>Church:</b> (507) 263-9182 <b>Cell:</b> (651) 500-9890 <b>Email:</b> pastorluemoua@gmail.com
<b>Office Assistant</b>	Dixie Schaffer <b>Office Hours:</b> Friday 10:00 am—12 pm <b>Cell:</b> (612) 578-8743 <b>Email:</b> dixie.schaffer@gmail.com
<b>President</b>	Dan Kuhn
<b>Vice President</b>	Al Bester
<b>Secretary</b>	Keri Lorenzen
<b>Treasurer</b>	Christine Otte
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Dixie Schaffer
<b>Deacons</b>	Kelsey Otte Stephanie Krueger Lucinda Preston
<b>Trustees</b>	Todd Staub Orin Legare Eric Otte
	<b>Church Email:</b> stmarkschurch@northfieldwifi.com
	<b>Web Site:</b> www.stmarksrandolph.com
	<b>Facebook:</b> St. Mark's Lutheran Church