

# December Newsletter

December 2022

*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

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

**Quilting** Tuesdays - 6th, 13th, 20th @ 10:00 am

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

**Food Shelf** - Tuesdays - 6th - 8:00 - 9:30 am,  
13th, 20th, 27th - 4:30-6 pm

**WELCA** Wednesday December 14th @ 10:00 am

**Church School** - Wednesday - 7th, 14th - 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Confirmation** - Wednesday - 7th, 14th - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Christmas Program** - Sunday 18th @ 10:00 am

**Newsletter Deadline** Thursday - December 21st @ 11:30 am

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## Prayer Requests

JJ Grant and Marilyn Ries

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

Dave Blank, Robert & Margaret Hayes, Carolyn Horsch, Sharon Kappedahl, Arlene Ringeisen, Leatrice Taylor and Wayne Weidner

### **Those who have lost loved ones recently, especially:**

The family and friends of Arnold Felton.

*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.*



## Pastor's Message

Greetings St. Mark's,

Usually, it's in the January newsletter, that I write something about reflecting back on the previous year and making new year resolutions. I decided to move that topic to December's message as a way for us to reflect **in the moment**, and to perhaps, remind us that there is always time to make changes.

The Apostle Paul wrote to early Christians in Rome, "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2). In this, Paul lets Christians know that self-reflection, or the renewing of the mind, allows one to discern the will of God in our lives. When we engage in self-reflection, we can be transformed.

For some, self-reflection is difficult. We have to take a good, hard look at ourselves. Maybe we don't like what we see when we reflect. Maybe we tell ourselves that what we do, say, or believe is *good and acceptable and perfect*. As Martin Luther said, "We love nothing more ardently than our own feelings, judgment, purpose, and will, especially when they seem to be good." Maybe we don't even know how to start or where to begin.

A good starting place is to look at the Bible. Choose a passage, think about what it means for you, and how this meaning can transform your life.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.  
See if there is any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.  
*Psalm 139:23-24*

Many experts believe that self-reflection is part of spiritual growth. And in order for us to engage in self-reflection and spiritual growth, we need to pay attention to it. It doesn't just happen on its own. This means we need to set time aside to self-reflect. This time has to be intentional and purposeful. For example, if we want to grow a plant, we need to take time to pay attention and care for this plant. We can do the same with our spiritual growth.

If you've been meaning to take more time to nurture your faith and focus more on spirituality this year, it isn't too late. In fact, it's never too late, and it's something that needs to be continually nurtured. Your faith journey is life-long, and self-reflection is an important aspect of this journey. Through self-reflection, we can discern God's will and be transformed to answer God's call for us.

Thanks be to God,  
Pastor Lue

## ***Church Information***

### **Christmas Service Schedule**

**Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th**

4:00 pm Service

9:00 pm Service

**Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25**

10:00 am Service



### **Church School Christmas Program**

Sunday, December 18th at 10:00 am

The children have been practicing and working hard to show us the story of the birth of Jesus.

Please join us!



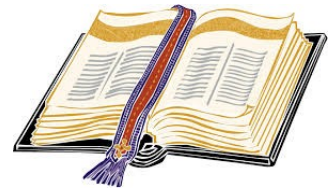
## ***Bible Study Opportunities***

### **Morning Adult Bible Studies**

Bible study on Tuesdays starts at 9:30 am.  
No Bible Study December 27th.

The 1st Wednesday Bible Study starts at 11:00 am

Please join us.



## **WELCA Info**



- **Next WELCA**-December 14, 2022 @ 10:00 am
- **Meeting** is in the Green Room at Church
- **Christmas Family** - We will be sponsoring a Christmas family this year. Gifts will be entered on Sign Up Genius. Please have them at the church by December 13th.
- **Prayer Concerns:** - Prayers for moisture for the earth, the trees and the rivers.

## **Church School Calendar**

**1st - 3rd - Wednesday Evenings 6pm-7:00 pm**

**Extra time to practice for the Christmas Program**  
**4th - 6th grade - Wednesday Evenings 6pm-7:30 pm**

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

**\*\*21st & 27th - Christmas Break\*\***  
No Church School or Confirmation

## **Our Email Address has changed**

Our new email address is: **stmarksrandolph@gmail.com**

If your email has changed please let Dixie know.

## 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**

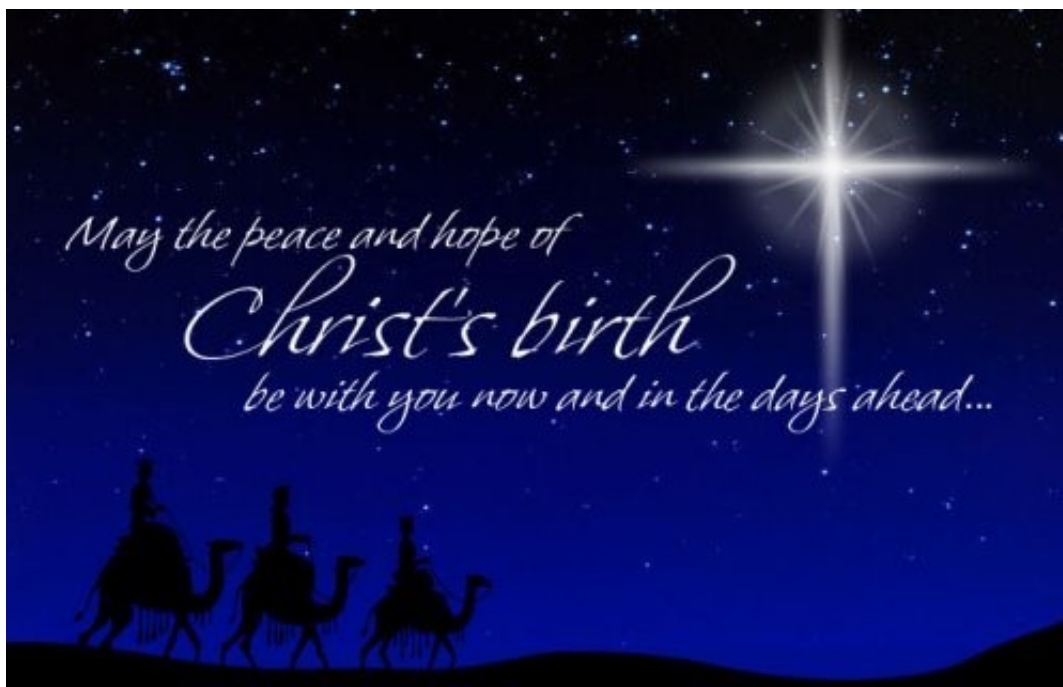
All cash donations are used to buy healthy perishable food items.



### Wheelchair Available

If you are in need of a wheelchair, for a day, a week, a month, or six months, we have 1 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  
& Streaming 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>Musician</b>	Lisa Molitor <b>Email:</b> lisa.molitor@yahoo.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

**Church Email:** stmarksrandolph@gmail.com

**Web Site:** www.stmarksrandolph.com

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