

# March Newsletter

March 2024

*The small church with a BIG heart.*



## Important Dates

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

**Worship Service** Sundays - 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st @ 10 am

**Bible Study** Tuesdays - 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th @ 9:30 am

**Quilting** Tuesdays - 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th @ 10:00 am

**Church Council Meeting** Tuesday - March 12th @ 7:00 pm

**Food Shelf** - Tuesdays - 5th - 8:00 - 9:30 am,  
12th, 19th, 26th - 4:30-6 pm

**WELCA** Wednesday March 6th @ 10:00 am

**Church School** - Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

**Confirmation** - Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Soup Suppers** Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

**Lenten Services** Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 7:00 pm

**5th Grade/First Communion Class** - Wednesday 27th - 6:00 - 7:30 pm

**Newsletter Deadline** Thursday - March 20th @ 11:30 am

**Palm Sunday Service** - March 24th @ 10:00 am Church School Sings

**Maundy Thursday Service** - March 28th @ 7:00 pm

**Good Friday Service** - March 29th @ 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday Service** - March 31st @ 10:00 am

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## Prayer Requests

Yer Thao & her family (Nou Moua's aunt), Brenda Larson (friend of Jill Ballard),  
Mardell Sande & Richard Doffing (grandparents of Adam & Ashley Schiller),  
Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's mom), Bill Richer, and Nicole Mies Anderson

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

Robert & Margaret Hayes, Carolyn Horsch, Sharon Kappedahl, Audrey McKeag,  
Arlene Ringeisen, Leatrice Taylor, May Wallof, and Wayne Weidner

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



## Pastor's Message

Dear St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

If you read my section in last month's newsletter, you know I'm trying a new approach to this year's newsletter. I'm going to focus on this theme of "BIG," and how we can continue to be **A Small Church with a Big Heart** this year.

The Lenten season is among us, and you probably know it's a BIG deal in our faith. Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter, which is another BIG deal in our faith. In other words, the month of March is a busy time in the life of the church.

For this year's Wednesday Lenten services, we are using a liturgical study from ELCA World Hunger, which is a ministry of the ELCA, working with and through ELCA congregations to end hunger and poverty. This liturgical study invites us to follow Jesus into the wilderness and to consider the "wild places" of the world, where we encounter human need, abuse of power, risk and God's grace. Each Wednesday service, we focus on themes found in Luke 4:1-21, and as we journey through the BIG wildness, we are asked to reflect on baptism, hunger, power, faith and the good news Jesus proclaims to the poor, the oppressed and the captive (Luke 4:18).

This year's Lenten theme reminds us that there are BIG ways the world is in need. Not only are we spiritually hungry for a loving God, but the physical realities of hunger and poverty surround us. Sometimes those physical realities are quite visible, and most times, those realities are more hidden. Maybe it is trying to stretch those dollars and cents until the next paycheck, stopping at the food shelf because there were more important bills to take care of this month, or avoiding those dreaded phone calls from the debt collector. These are the realities that we and our neighbors quietly face that keep us up at night.

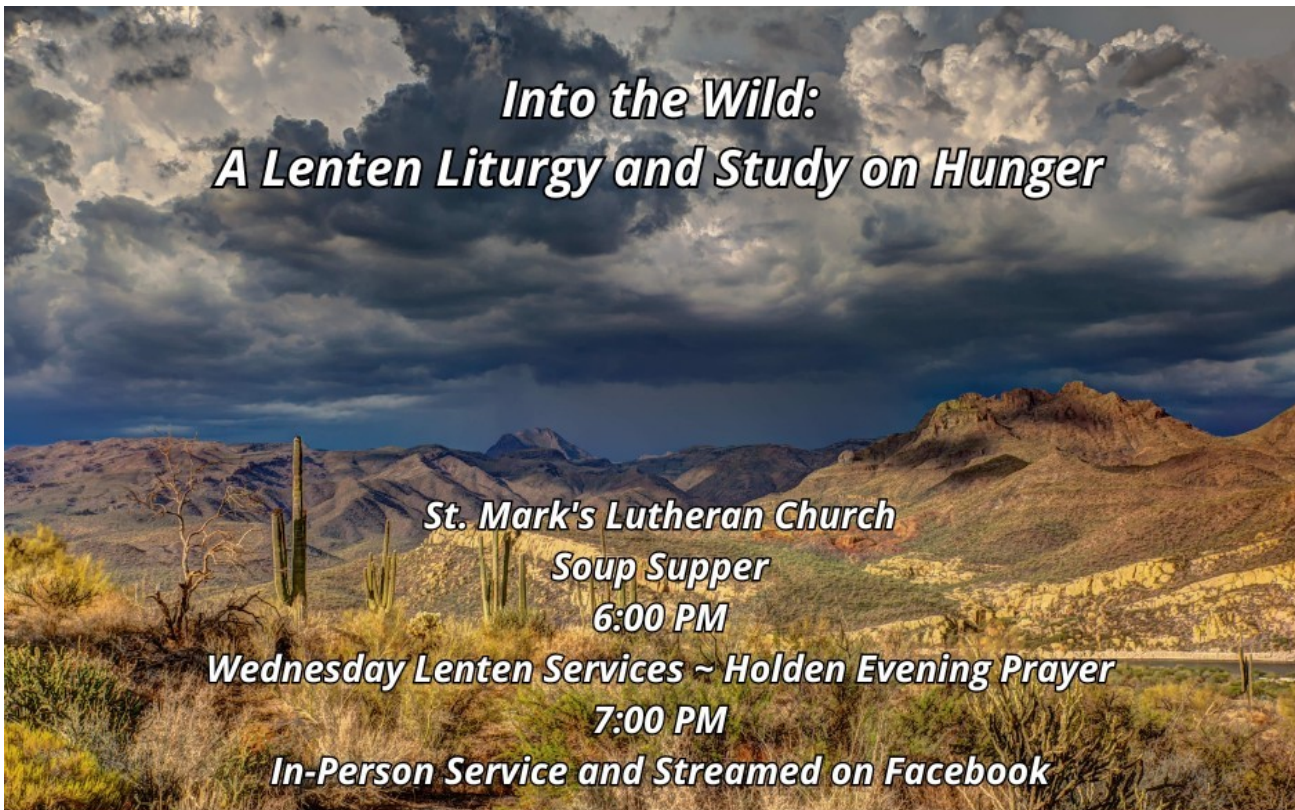
And just when we think no one is paying attention to the BIG problems in our lives, God is there. God is there in the food shelf volunteer, helping us load up our car. God is there in the neighbor, sharing a meal. God is there in our silent prayers, even if that prayer is two words: Please, God.

The Lenten season and Easter show us two extremes—the wilderness where Jesus is tempted and the resurrection of Jesus from death. Through both, we see God's BIG love, faithfulness, and presence in all of it. Just as God was there for Jesus, God is here for us.

I hope you will be able to journey with us through Lent and join us for our Easter celebration.

Thanks be to God,  
Pastor Lue

## Church Information



Ash Wednesday February 14	Feb 21	Feb 28	Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20
	<i>"Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness..."</i>	<i>"One does not live by bread alone ..."</i>	<i>"Worship the Lord your God..."</i>	<i>"It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"</i>	<i>"...to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor"</i>

Journey through Lent with St. Mark's. Our Lenten theme is **Into The Wild**.

Soup supper starts at 6pm followed by Wednesday evening Lenten services starting at 7pm through March. 20th.

Our Wednesday Lenten services will feature the beloved Holden Evening Prayer.

### Holy Week & Easter Sunday

**Palm Sunday Service** - March 24th @ 10:00 am Church School Sings

**Maundy Thursday Service** - March 28th @ 7:00 pm

**Good Friday Service** - March 29th @ 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday Service** - March 31st @ 10:00 am

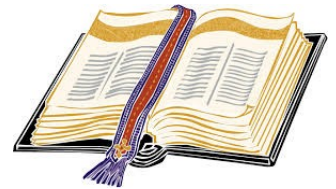
## ***Bible Study Opportunities***

### **Morning Adult Bible Studies**

Bible study on Tuesdays starts at 9:30 am.

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

Please join us.



## **WELCA Info**

- **Next WELCA**-April 3, 2024 @ 10:00 am
- **Women's Retreat** - Saturday April 6th at 9 am

### **St. Mark's WELCA Presents** **2024 Women's Workshop & Retreat** **"Understanding Your Grief"**

Free attendance - bring a friend – all are welcome!

**Saturday, April 6th - 9 am** to early afternoon

Lunch, beverages & snacks provided by WELCA.

Free book (& workbook) "I Wasn't Ready to Say Goodbye"  
provided to you as a gift with attendance.

So we can order materials for the workshop

Please RSVP by March 25<sup>th</sup> to  
stmarksrandolph@gmail.com or  
(507) 263-9182 and leave a message.

Area women are welcome!

Questions, please call Dorry Wallof @ 612-309-2066 or email: [dorry@midco.net](mailto:dorry@midco.net)



## **Church School Calendar**

**Grades 1st-6th Wednesday Evenings 6pm-6:45 pm  
March 6th, 12th, & 20th**

### **Church School Singing on Palm Sunday**

The kids will be singing at the 10:00 worship service on Sunday, March 24th.

### **First Communion Preparation for the 5th Grade Class**

The 5th grade class will be meeting on Wednesday, March 27th to prepare for their 1st communion on Thursday.

### **First Communion**

First Communion will be on Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 pm.

## **Confirmation Information**

**Confirmation Wednesday Evenings 7pm-7:30 pm**

***Confirmation students must attend the Lenten services***

The last day of confirmation classes for the year will be March 20th.  
The Confirmation classes year end party will be April 10th.



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

### BLOOD DRIVE

April 25th 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.

***You must make an appointment.***



### Wheelchair Available



If you are in need of a wheelchair, for a day, a week, a month, or six months, we have 1 wheelchair 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.*

### BLOOD DRIVE

#### Volunteers Needed

April 25th between 1-7 pm  
at St. Mark's Church.

If you are able to help out on April 25th, please call the church at (507) 263-9182 and leave a message or email [stmarksrandolph@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksrandolph@gmail.com) or contact Beth Bester @ (651) 246-9301

## 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>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>	Al Bester
<b>Vice President</b>	Dan Kuhn
<b>Secretary</b>	Keri Lorenzen
<b>Treasurer</b>	Christine Otte
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Dixie Schaffer
<b>Deacons</b>	Lucinda Preston Kelly Tate Stephanie Krueger
<b>Trustees</b>	Eric Otte Luke Dubbels Robert Nivala

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

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

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

**Instagram:** stmarksrandolph