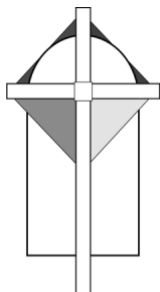




TRAITS OF HEALTHY FAMILIES:

Dolores Curran

1. Communicates and listens.
2. Affirms and supports one another.
3. Teaches respect for one another.
4. Develops a sense of trust.
5. Has a sense of play and humor.
6. Exhibits a sense of shared responsibility.
7. Teaches a sense of right and wrong.
8. Has a strong sense of family – honors rituals and traditions.
9. Has a balance of interaction among members.
10. Has a shared religious core.
11. Respects each other's privacy.
12. Values service to others.
13. Foster family table time and conversation.
14. Shares leisure time.
15. Admits to/seek help with problems.



ST MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. MARK'S MESSENGER

October 2025

Valley, Nebraska

www.StMarksValleyNE.com

402.359.2315

From the Pastor...

Pastor Barbara and Bob are taking a vacation to rest and relax. Pastor will be back in the office on Wednesday, October 1. Please keep the Oshlo's in your prayers for safe travel and good health.

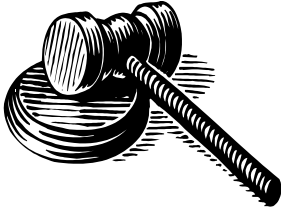
from the PMA...

Giving Up the Gavel

We are often reminded that we are made in God's image. This seems to be most prominent in our minds when we have a tendency to judge others. When we observe someone who looks different or sounds different or in our estimation makes poor personal choices, we immediately adopt the God-like behavior of judging them. Most often it is because they didn't make the same choices that we have or that we would do. Of course, we don't really know a lot about them, other than what we assume. During this time of discernment we are definitely not acting in the image of God. Judging others is not one of the ways we are to reflect his image in us. Perhaps it is time to practice the art of giving up our judge's gavel and leave the judgement to God and instead, adopt his tendency for mercy and grace.

PMA Karen

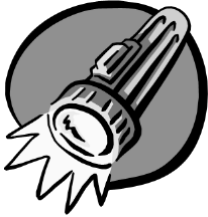




CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday
October 19, 2025
Following 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service**

On the agenda will be the approval of the 2026 Financial Plan, electing 3 Council members, approving delegates (voting members) to the 2026 Annual Nebraska Synod Assembly, and electing a Nominating Committee for 2026.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**This is a synopsis of the Council meeting
held on September 16 2025.**

- Jeff Richmond explained the Property Budget Request and the expense of new furnaces.
- Clean Up Day outside is Saturday, September 27th at 9:30 a.m.
- Congregational meeting, Sunday, September 21 following worship.
- Annual Meeting, October 19, following worship
- Pastor Barbara and Jan were excused from the meeting so that salaries, vacation times, etc. could be discussed.
- The Council approved a 2% increase in salary for Pastor, PMA and Secretary and provide Pastor with 5 weeks vacation each year with 2 weeks allowed to be carried over.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



It has been requested to have personal birthdates put in the newsletter. If we are going to do this we need you to be sure that we have your birth date. Please let the church office know your date.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING"

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Jason Foster | 19 – Paige Flynn |
| 1 – Justin Foster | 19 – Deborah Hascall |
| 1 – Alan Kreager | 20 – Jason Lehmkuhl |
| 2 – Toller Hofer | 22 – Hannah Camenzind |
| 2 – Payton Dau | 22 – Lauren Camenzind |
| 3 – Lisa Johnson | 22 – Rayna Mitchell |
| 5 – Liberty Josoff | 24 – Lisa Glidden |
| 6 – Connie Bottger | 26 – Jake Foutch |
| 7 – Cally Franklin | 27 – Brian Newill |
| 10 – Barb Kahlandt | 27 – Brett Winkler |
| 13 – Brent Saathoff | 28 – Russ Shuey |
| 15 – Millie Richards | 29 – Dennis Beers |
| 17 – Dan Josoff, Sr. | 29 – Niccole Kennec |
| 18 – Peyton Lewis | 29 – Judy Stubblefield |
| | 30 – Lucille King |

A PRAYER FOR ST MARK'S COUNCIL

God, who leads, guide the congregation as we vote for a new group of leaders. Inspire us to live more and more in faith. Amen.



Happy Halloween

OCTOBER NEWS FOR WOMEN OF ST. MARK'S

FAITH CIRCLE NEWS

FAITH Circle will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. for their regular meeting. Study of our new book, Real Faith for Real Life led by Desiree Katsampes. Refreshments will be served by Sandy Gunnerson. Discussion of the Oct. 26 Soup and Pie Supper will be discussed. Please feel free to join us

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE NEWS

JOY/PEACE CIRCLE NEWS

Joy/Peace Circle will meet on Sunday October 5, in the Sunday School Office at 8:30. We will discuss chapters 1 & 2 of Traveling Light.



The Ties That Bind will meet in Oct. on Oct. 13, 23 and 30 at 1:00 p.m..



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This Wise Owl says...
Buy your Raffle Tickets now... only \$1 each

1st prize: Alpine Blossom Quilt
 (over 1200 pieces were used to make this quilt!)
donated by Sharon Renshaw

Other prizes:
 Gift Cards from ElBees • Farmer Brown's • Rick's Meats

St. Mark's Fall Soup & Pie Supper Quilt Raffle & Silent Auction

Sunday, October 26 • 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Adult: \$10 Child (8 & under): \$8

**Can you help out? Volunteer sign up sheets
 are available at the Welcome Desk.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bill & Louise	D.J.Smith	Wylie James
Gwen Rittgarn	Jan Reis	Eli
Ruth	Leslie	Madison Laughlin
Cindy	Lawrence Bonacci	Eryn Hamke
Lois Schaefer	Kari	Steve Hirsh
Travis Hayes	Donovan	Charlotte
Mitzi	All Those Grieving	
Care Center Residents	Care Center Staff	Caregivers Among Us

ALL OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Donna Fintel	Jean Krahmer
Joan Kahlandt	MaryLou Finn
Annie Hurt	Larry Laughlin
Millie Richards	Donna Hovendick
Julie Dunn	Vernabelle Adams

For all military serving at home and around the world. We include prayers for their families as they hold things together in their absence.

All our homebound are hungry for a call, card or visit! God bless you, as you bless them!

PRAYER BOX REQUEST
 for Peace

AdvoCare Nugget

Alcohol/drug dependence and mental illness are equal opportunity destroyers. They do not care about age, race, religion or income. In that respect they are like other medical conditions. If you struggle you may feel alone, but you are not. Reach out to our congregation's AdvoCare Team.

SCRIPTURES FOR SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER 2025

October 5

Old Testament Reading	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Responsive Reading	Psalms 37:1-9
Epistle Reading	2 Timothy 1:1-14
Gospel Reading	Luke 17:6-10

October 12

Old Testament Reading	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
Responsive Reading	Psalms 111
Epistle Reading	2 Timothy 2:8-15
Gospel Reading	Luke 17:11-19

October 19

Old Testament Reading	Genesis 32:22-31
Responsive Reading	Psalms 121
Epistle Reading	2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Gospel Reading	Luke 18:1-8

October 26

Reformation Sunday

Old Testament Reading	Jeremiah 31:31-34
Responsive Reading	Psalms 46
Epistle Reading	Romans 3:19-28
Gospel Reading	John 8:31-36



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DRIVE

A Small Gift Makes a Big Difference

Operation Christmas Child collection starts October 1 through November 4. You will get more bang for your buck at Dollar Tree. If you are unable to shop we will shop for you. We will be collecting items for boys and girls such as hats, gloves, combs, brushes, ponytail holders, small toys, cards, socks, pens, journals etc. Last year we collected enough items for 115 shoeboxes.

COPE

The following items are in short supply at the COPE food pantry and they have requested that we concentrate on bringing these items: Cereal, oatmeal, any dry pasta, tomato products, such as Crushed tomatoes, stewed tomatoes, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, tomato paste, pasta sauce for spaghetti, and canned fruit.



The Puppet Ministry would like to thank Shawn MacDonald for disposing of all our excess items in the storage unit. We will be moving to a 10' x 10' unit to lower our rental cost to \$89 per month.

AUGUST MONTHLY AS OF 08/31/2025

August Budget - \$23,763

August as of 08/31/2025 Expenses - \$29,637

August as of 08/31/2025 Giving - \$19,542

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL AS OF 08/31/2025

January – December Budget - \$291,174

January – December as of 08/31/2025 Expenses - \$192,716

January – December as of 08/31/2025 Giving - \$217,293

October 2025

October 2025

November 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3	4
8:30am Joy/Peace Circle 9:30am Worship 10:30am Budget Q&A 10:30am Fellowship	1:00pm Worship at Valley Lakes 6:30pm Friendship Circle	1:00pm Faith Circle 3:30pm Circle Board	6:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	5:30pm Bible Study		8:00am Men In Mission
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am Joy/Peace Circle 9:30am Worship 10:30am Budget Q&A 10:30am Fellowship	1:00pm Worship at Valley Lakes 6:30pm Friendship Circle	1:00pm Faith Circle 3:30pm Circle Board	6:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	1:00pm Quilting 5:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm AdvoCare		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am Worship 10:30am Budget Q&A 10:30am Fellowship	1:00pm Quilting		6:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	5:30pm Bible Study		7:30am Bloodmobile
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30am Worship 10:00am Annual Meeting 10:30am Fellowship		6:30pm Church Council	6:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	1:00pm Quilting 5:30pm Bible Study		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1
9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 4:00pm WELCA Soup & Pie Supper			6:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells 7:00pm Choir	1:00pm Quilting 5:30pm Bible Study	HALLOWEEN	