

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

5073 Daly Blvd.  
Flint, Michigan 48506



Pastor  
**Rev. Gary L. Beck**

Music Director  
**Mrs. Sheila Tabone**

Minister of Family Life  
**Mrs. Rose Ferguson**

Minister of Outreach and Assimilation  
**Mr. James M. Mol**

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## “NOTES AND NEWS”

*Advent*

**December 16, 2018**

### Serving in the Lord's House Today

Preaching: Rev. Gary L. Beck

Organist: Mrs. Sheila Tabone

Worship Assistant:

8:00 am Bill Scott, Cliff Veit

10:45 am Roger Westenfeld, Bill Braham

Ushers: 8:00 am Paul Mannor, Steve Miller,  
Scott Owen

10:45 am Dan Echols, Ed Lessner,  
Ken Minto, Ken Minto III

Readers: 8:00 am Phyllis Mol

10:45 am Kelli Verran

### MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

DEC 19 7:00 PM — MIDWEEK CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

### CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

DEC 24 4:00 PM — FAMILY SERVICE

DEC 24 11:00 PM — CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

DEC 25 10:00 AM — CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

### ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

**On Sunday, December 30,** there will be **ONLY ONE SERVICE** starting at **9:30am**. There will be Bible Study following service at 10:45 am

**We will also be collecting bread** for Outreach East on December 30. Please bring a loaf of bread for those less fortunate in the community.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.**  
Please ask an usher for one before the service.

### THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Today: 8:00 am Worship / Holy Communion  
9:10 am Adult Confirmation  
9:30 am Bible Study / Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship / Holy Communion  
12:00 pm Youth Christmas Party  
*Scrip sales after each service*

Monday: 6:00 pm Joyful Singers  
6:30 pm Board of Directors  
6:30 pm Men's Basketball  
7:00 pm Handbells

Tuesday: 10:00 am Grief Support  
6:30 pm Trustees

Wednesday: 5:30 pm Adult Choir  
7:00 pm Advent Children's Program  
8:30 pm Poinsettia Set Up

Thursday: 9:00 am Quilters  
6:00 pm NO-Jr. Confirmation  
6:00 pm NO-Faith Adventures  
6:00 pm NO-Mom Pop Tots

Friday: 6:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast @  
Apollo Restaurant, Davison

Sunday: 8:00 am Worship  
9:10 am Adult Confirmation  
9:30 am Bible Study/ NO-Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship  
12:00 pm Voters' Meeting

**BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 am**—A Bible study on Luke 7:18-28. Led by Pastor Beck in the Luther room

### **KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Shannon Church  
Tim Dorrow  
Dick Anderson  
George Sevon

**Our Christian sympathies and prayers for those who grieve the death of loved ones:**

For the family of Karen Hale, sister of Doug Hale whose funeral was Wednesday at Allen Funeral Home

For the family of Barb Kuberski, whose funeral was at St. Mark on Saturday

### **GENERAL FUND**

Deposit for Sunday 12/9/18 = \$ 6121.28

*Projected budget income **shortfall** Year to Date \$ 19190.*

### **TIF LOAN BALANCE**

With the payment made to Church Extension on Nov. 16, our TIF Mortgage balance is now \$117,467.36. Because of your generosity, an extra \$17,700 was added to our regular monthly payment of \$7,677. Thank you!

### **MEMORIAL**

A thank offering for blessings received was given to the Youth Mission Trip Fund and Dayschool Scholarship Fund by Jeanette Zienert

**ATTENDANCE: Wed:** Dec. 5:53

**Sunday:** Dec. 9: Early: 85 Late: 115

### **MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS** Dec 19-25

12/19 SAWYER MATHESON, ABBY THAMS  
12/20 NIAH MINTO  
12/21 LUKE HAWKINS  
12/22 KRISTEN HAMPTON, CRUZ KNIZNER  
DECLAN WHEELER  
12/23 GRETA MILLS, ASHLEY NEWMAN  
LYNDA WESTENFELD, JOHN WILSON  
12/24 GRANT BELLAMY

### **MEMBERS CELEBRATING WEDDING**

#### **ANNIVERSARIES** Dec 19-25

12/19 SHANE & ABBY THAMS 3 yrs  
12/22 WILLIAM & ELEANORE BRAHAM 6 yrs  
12/23 JOHN & JEANNE MILLS 57 yrs  
12/24 TIMOTHY & SHIRLEY BYRNE 31 yrs  
12/24 JAMES & PAMELA SMITH 41 yrs

Note: If we should miss your special day, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

**Deadline for December 23 and December 30 combined  
Notes and News is THIS Wednesday, December 19  
at Noon**

**THANK YOU** to the youth, their parents and helpers who were responsible for the wonderful selection of cookies for the cookie walk. We are very proud of you!  
Rita & Hugo Brackrog

**THANK YOU** for all your support of the Youth Cookie Walk! Because of your generous donations of both the cookies to sell and the money to buy them, we raised \$881 for the National Youth Gathering and Next Step Mission Trip—wow! We are so thankful for the loving, generous hearts of our St. Mark family!

**I WOULD** like to thank “Santa” for the gift left in my box. You brightened my day and they are delicious!  
Dawn

**JR. & SR. HIGH CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Today, Sunday Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 12-3pm in the basement; join us for pizza, games, and the Christmas Sock Exchange! Please bring the most wildly patterned pair of new Christmas socks that you can find. Don’t wrap it fancy, just bring it in a plain brown paper bag (I’ll have extra bags) No cost for pizza this week!

**YOU’RE INVITED TO THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** this Wednesday Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, with a reception to follow in the Luther Rooms. Come enjoy their “Crazy Busy Peaceful Holy Night”!

**HOLIDAY SEASON Staff Gifts.** Well, it is that time of year once again. Stores are full of Christmas sales. Houses are lite up with lights and surrounded by decorations. The airways full of holiday songs and inundated with ads pushing products. The list could go on and on. But, this is not what the season is about. It is about being thankful and grateful for the greatest gift bestowed on to us and what that gift has given us. In addition to forgiveness and being saved from this world, he has given us servants to help guide, teach, and share the Lords word and his salvation with us. I ask that you think of our St Mark staff and pray for them, not just this season, but all year giving them strength and guidance in doing his work. And if you find it in your heart to do so, a small gift to show your appreciation for their time and efforts this Christmas season. There is a gifting box in the Narthex in which you can place your gift. Please keep them in your prayers. Thank you for your thoughtful considerations. Scott Owen (BOD Vice Chair)"

**THE TRUSTEES** have placed a tool box with some basic tools in the white cabinet below the balcony stairs. Feel free to use whatever you need when working around the church. Then please return the tools back to where they belong so they will be there for the next person who needs them.



**CONGREGATIONAL Christmas Card:** If you would like to send a Christmas greeting to your fellow St. Mark members but would rather not address individual cards to everyone, feel free to sign the congregational Christmas card on the table at the back of the church. Then if you so choose, you could donate what you would have spent on cards to defray the cost of the new Chrismons on the altar area Christmas tree.



**AS YOU ADMIRE** the altar Christmas tree, notice the 13 new Chrismons that have been added this year. To help you understand the significance of each Chrismon, we have printed a picture and meaning of the last 4 of them in your service folder today. Feel free to check them out after service. Look to see if you recognize the older symbols as well. They all point to why we celebrate Christmas.



**Crown of Thorns** – represents our Savior's crown of suffering before the crucifixion.



**Fish** – secret sign used by the early persecuted Christians to designate themselves as believers in Jesus Christ. The first letters of the Greek words for “Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior” spell the

Greek work for Fish.



**Alpha and Omega** – the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet which signify that Jesus is the beginning and the end of all things.



**Twelve Tribes of Israel** – a reminder of the promises given to Abraham that were carried forward through his son Isaac, then through his son Jacob whose name was changed to “Israel.”

Jacob had 12 sons and each became the father of a tribe of the ancient nation of Israel. God's promise to bless Abraham with a multitude of descendants was fulfilled.

**THERE WILL BE** a brief Voters’ Meeting after the late service on Sunday, December 23. Pastor to give details during announcements

**HEARTS AND HAND** Ministry is collecting bread for Outreach East in Davison Sunday, December 30. Then Jesus Declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.” John 6:35 Even one loaf makes a difference in a family's life. Thank you for reaching out to our family in Christ!!

**THE HUSTLE** and bustle of Christmas is upon us and will keep us busy for the next few weeks as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord with our loved ones. Yet the homeless families will still be among us struggling to provide just the basics for their families. This includes the families we host from Family Promise. It is a very difficult time for children and even more so for their parents who find it very hard to keep their chin up and see the light at the end of their personal tunnel. So my first and most important request is for all of us to keep the families we work with, and those who remain unseen to the general public, in our prayers. Prayer is so very important. Second, please remember that we will be hosting families here at St. Mark from Sunday Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. This will begin the 4<sup>th</sup> year we will be putting our faith into action. Timothy tells us, “Show me faith without works and I will show you works without faith.” For me this is a clear command and we are most assuredly blessed to be a part of this mission outreach. Immediately after Christmas I will be placing sign-up sheets for the various volunteer needs to make this another successful hosting. It takes roughly 30 volunteers to host for a week. There is something for anyone interested in volunteering. Should you not find something on the lists you are able to help with please call me at (810) 348-0214, or catch up with me at church, as there are always unexpected needs come up you may be able to help with. Your sister in Christ, Debbie Nicholls

**LIFE LINE Screening**, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St Mark Lutheran Church on 1/29/2019. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) or text the word circle to 797979**

**ANY MEMBER** who does not have a mailbox or contribution envelopes but would like them please contact the church office 736-6680.



**APPLICATIONS** for the use of 2018 income from the Endowment Fund will be accepted until December 31, 2018. Members are encouraged to consider the use of this money for non budgeted items. The categories for use of the money are as follows:

- † Mission: Local, regional and world projects
- † Education: College and Seminary scholarships
- † Youth: Support for youth of all ages
- † Worship: Support for the worship life of St. Mark
- † Capital Projects: Major renovations of building and new facilities for St. mark

Applications are available in the church office.

**BE ON THE LOOK OUT**—if you see a **RED LIGHT** in the parsonage front window, the heat is too low. Please contact the church office, Cliff Black or Paul Mannor ASAP

