

St. Mark's Epistle

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HOW^{you}can HELP

**IS GOD CALLING YOU FOR
CHURCH COUNCIL?**

We have one opportunity to serve on the council starting in January. We invite you to ask God to open your heart to the possibility of serving St. Mark's through this ministry. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please contact a member of council or the office.

(402)385-3340

Blessings

A publication of St. Mark's Lutheran Church - Pender, Nebraska

Listen, God is calling

Pastor's Ponderings



Listen, God is calling,

I imagine each of you is hoping and planning for a positive and prosperous New Year. If you have such a goal, I applaud your vision, but I am going to be nosy and ask, did God come into the equation at all? Before you began considering making changes to your routine or behaviors, did you take time to talk to God? In truth, most people don't.

If we are honest with ourselves the very question leads to a knee-jerk response, "What's God got to do with it?" What does God have to do with my diet or changing

jobs? What does God have to do with going back to school or taking a trip? God is about church. I'm making changes for myself.

Have you forgotten that God has a vested interest in you. You are the church, baptized and called. You are in a relationship with Christ your caller and this relationship calls you and all of us to live a life where he will be seen and known through our service and actions. God will not discourage you from doing something positive, but you may be asked if the choice you make serves or interferes with God's call to you. How will you know, unless you ask?

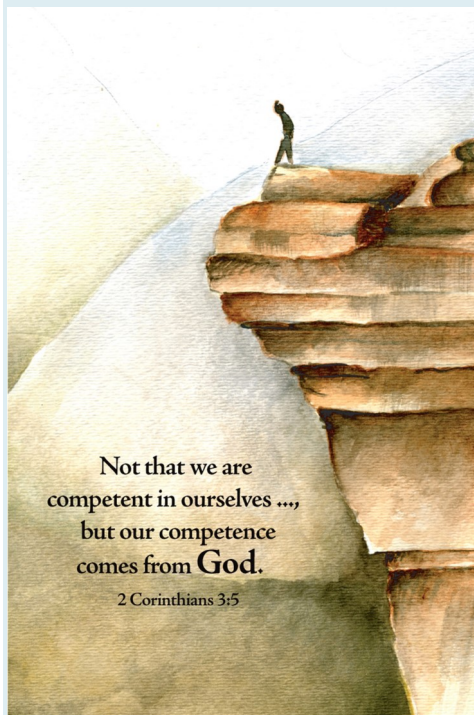
Your Sister in Christ,
Pr. Karen

ANNUAL MEETING

St. Mark's Annual meeting will be held on Sunday **January 19th 11:00am** following church.

If I have all reports and yearly statements in the office early enough to get audited and printed, I will try to have the booklet ready for you to pick up after the January 5th church service, but I need everyone's help in getting this done.

Melissa



Not that we are competent in ourselves ..., but our competence comes from **God**.
2 Corinthians 3:5

General Fund

Balance on hand 10/30/19	\$ 28,720.52
Income	\$ 13,805.81
Total	\$ 42,526.33
Expense	\$ 10,800.26
Balance on hand 11/30/19	\$ 31,726.07

December Attendance/ Offerings

<u>DATE</u>	<u># IN ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>OFFERING</u>
Sun 12/01	68	\$ 1,401.00
Sat 12/07	28	\$ 657.00
Sun 12/08	100	\$ 3,611.00
Sat 12/14	18	\$ 455.00
Sun 12/15	110	\$ 1,282.00
Sat 12/21	14	\$ 287.00
Sun 12/22	50	\$ 672.00

Contact Us

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Website: saintmarkspender.org



Find us on **FaceBook**



WELCA - Martha's Circle

Women of the ELCA purpose: As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

All ladies are invited to participate

The **MARTHA CIRCLE** meets the first Wednesday of the month in the church parish hall. January's meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8th at 2 pm.

LEADER: Janice Smith
HOSTESS: Fawn Smith

2020 WELCA Officers: President ~ Carolyn VonSeggern,
Secretary ~ Janice Smith,
Treasurer ~ Margaret Reppert



WELCA Publications - online

Gather magazine

Café (boldcafe.org)

bold connections

Interchange/Intercambio

<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/publications>

Would you like to learn more about WELCA, the Women of the ELCA?



From their Ministry&Action page:

“We engage in ministry; we take action through advocacy; we promote healing and wholeness, and we support one another in our callings.

We offer anti-racism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs.

We assist participants in their desire to discern God's call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education.

We offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

Join us as we make a difference in the world.”

<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/>

Happy New Year

Many Thanks!

Thank You to all the people that made our 2019 Soup Dinner a success. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Carolyn VonSeggern
WELCA President

*To the Confirmation Class
Members that helped:*

Thank You for helping at the soup dinner. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Carolyn VonSeggern
WELCA President

**A huge Thank You to
Kira Swinton &
Christine Dregalla**

for all of your hard work on the Children's Christmas Program this year! The program was wonderful and the kids were absolutely amazing.



Beautiful Christmas Eve Service



It was another meaningful Christmas Eve Service with beautiful music. **Thank you** to the Choir, Jacob & Olivia Vanderford for the beautiful duet, Barbershop Choir, Amy Chen for her flute solo and singing Silent Night with Nike Ritschel in their own languages. Taryn Vanderford for playing the saxophone and Nancy Beckman and Janice Smith for playing the organ and piano.

Read the bible in a year - January

Day 1 - Genesis 1-3

Day 2 - Genesis 4-7

Day 3 - Genesis 8-11

Day 4 - Job 1-5

Day 5 - Job 6-9

Day 6 - Job 10-13

Day 7 - Job 14-16

Day 8 - Job 17-20

Day 9 - Job 21-23

Day 10 - Job 24-28

Day 11 - Job 29-31

Day 12 - Job 32-34

Day 13 - Job 35-37

Day 14 - Job 38-39

Day 15 - Job 40-42

Day 16 - Genesis 12-15

Day 17 - Genesis 16-18



Day 18 - Genesis 19-21

Day 19 - Genesis 22-24

Day 20 - Genesis 25-26

Day 21 - Genesis 27-29

Day 22 - Genesis 30-31

Day 23 - Genesis 32-34

Day 24 - Genesis 35-37

Day 25 - Genesis 38-40

Day 26 - Genesis 41-42

Day 27 - Genesis 43-45

Day 28 - Genesis 46-47

Day 29 - Genesis 48-50

Day 30 - Exodus 1-3

Day 31 - Exodus 4-6

To our Newsletter preparers



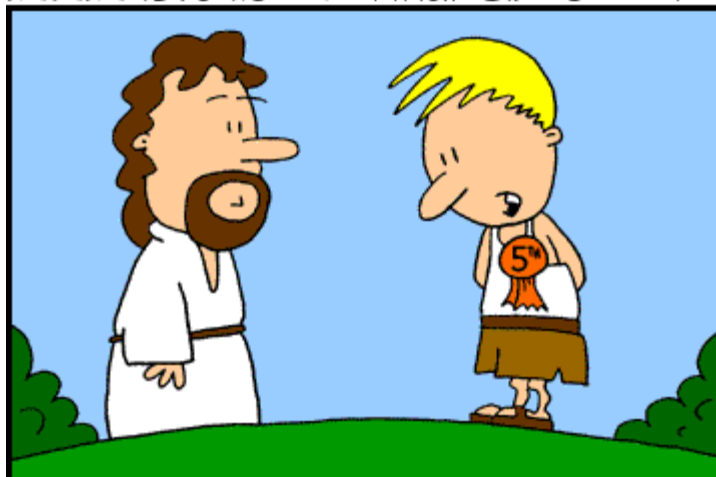
Newsletter

To the women who come in faithfully month after month to prepare more than 200 newsletters for mailing.

Thank You!

You rearrange your calendars to accommodate weather and changing schedules, to stuff, fold, tape, and count, so that the congregation stays connected to the work of the church. What a blessing you are!

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Thanks to David McElhinney

11-05-1998

I KNOW YOU ASKED ME TO 'COME FOURTH'
... BUT I TRIPPED

2021 ELCA
YOUTH GATHERING

boundless

GOD BEYOND MEASURE

ELCA Youth Gathering

June 29-July 3, 2021

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

An important part of the Gathering's ministry are the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE), a faith formation and leadership development event primarily for youth of color, and the tAble, a gathering that gathers, blesses and empowers youth with disabilities.

<https://elca.org/gathering/>



We have a winner!!!

Quilt made by St. Mark's quilting ladies was won by Bev Kai. **Thank you** everyone for your donation. The funds from the raffle will be used to buy batting and fabric.

**ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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Pender, NE 68047

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One Year Bible/January - page 4
New Look, More Content

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St. Mark's Epistle



Jan 3: Fawn Smith
Dale & Peggy Krusemark

Jan 4: Doug Johnson
Lee & Jane Tonjes

Jan 5: Mercede Roberts

Jan 6: Kerrie Renter

Jan 7: Alan Doht
Todd VonSeggern
Jayne Bihr

Jan 9: Marty Prokop
Bennett Lamplot

Jan 10: Connie Duffy

Jan 11: Kristen Bressler
Colin Ross

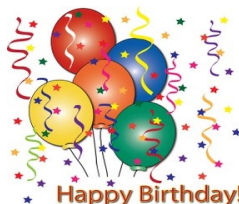
Jan 12: Travis Dunn
Rodney Zvacek

Jan 13: Karen Hamm
L.G. Norman
Carla Urbanec

Jan 15: **Bob & Nancy Beckman**
Jan 17: Matthew Dolezal

Jan 19: **Harlan & Judy Gathje**

Jan 21: Christy Glissman



Jan 23: Lorraine Lander
Rebecca VonSeggern
William & Lisa Reppert
Verne & Jennifer Tyrrell

Jan 24: Mandy Johnson

Jan 25: Paul Urbanec
Lincoln Johnson

Jan 27: Michaela Buchholz
Ashley Smith
Amber Smith

Jan 29: Sarah Sebade

Jan 31: Michelle Hallstrom
Charles & Margaret Reppert