



St. Mark's
Lutheran Church

The Messenger

715 24th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND | www.stmarksaf.org | 701-772-4807

"A Heritage of God's Grace" Since 1910

Member of GIFT of Grace Lutheran Ministry

January 2023



**The Annual Meeting of
St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran
Church
will be held
Sunday, January 29, 2023
following worship**

Annual Report packets will be distributed at the Forum on Sunday, January 22nd, following worship. At that time, any questions will be addressed regarding budgets, reports, etc.

The agenda for the annual meeting includes approval of the proposed 2023 Budget, election of two members to the Abiding Memorials Ministry, election of delegates to Synod Assembly and Bible Camps.

Annual reports should be submitted to the office by January 4th. Electronic reports are preferred, but not required. If possible, email your reports to stmarkselca@msn.com.

All ministries should have reports included in the annual report packets. If you are responsible for a separate checking account, a financial report should also be included.

God's Work, Our Hands

Christmas Gift Cards 2022

I wish that you all could have shared in the heartfelt thanks that I received when I delivered the gift cards to GF Social Service from this (2nd annual) project.

Caring members from all three churches in our parish bought and donated an **impressive \$2435 worth of cards** for teenage foster children in our area. I was told once again about how this age group is so neglected at Christmas time. These gifts, and the love with which they were purchased, will certainly brighten the holiday for these young people during which is certainly a difficult time in their lives.

Thank you all so much for participating in this mission with your gifts.

A special thank you to St. Mark's Abiding Memorials Committee for their contribution of \$500 toward gift card purchases.

Miles Rodacker, on behalf of Outreach Ministry

Miriam Circle

The Miriam Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 17th at 1:30 p.m. in the library. Linda Simmons will lead the Bible study and Olive Weber will be the host. An open invitation is extended to others to attend this time of study and fellowship.



Our Sympathies to:

- The family and friends of our member, **Pearl Berge**, who passed away in December. A memorial will be held for her in July.
- The family and friends of **Donna Hubbard**, as they mourn the death of her brother-in-law **Clair Hubbard**.
- The family and friends of **Ross & Mackenzie Dunnigan** as they mourn the death of Ross' uncle, **Earl Dunnigan**.
- The family and friends of **Mona & Jason Baker** as they mourn the death of Mona's brother, **Wendell Axness**.

Pastoral Care A reminder to our members. Please call the church office to inform the church of persons who have had surgery, deaths in their relationship, etc. The office will inform the WELCA Sunshine woman to whom cards should be sent. WELCA continues this caring contact to our membership in Christian love and concern.



Mona Baker has resigned from her position as office manager at St. Mark's. Until further notice, Sandy Buchmann will be staffing the church office and taking care of necessary duties. Every effort will be made to have the office open every day, but it may be a good idea to call ahead. Thank you for your patience!

AA

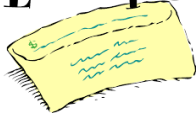
Highlights from the December St. Mark's Council Meeting

- St. Mark's Annual Meeting will be held January 29th with a Forum on January 22nd. Annual Reports will be distributed on the 22nd.
- There will be 3 people from St. Mark's on the parish call committee. Dave Christianson and Mark Peterson have agreed to be a part of the committee.
- The Constitution will be updated to be in compliance with the changes approved at ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2022. Donna Hubbard and Dave Christianson volunteered to work on this.
- No Wednesday night education activities will be held at St. Mark's this winter. All activities will be held at Walle.
- Fert-L-Lawn will be providing snow removal services to St. Mark's this winter.

ST MARK'S FINANCIAL REPORT - 01/01/22 through 11/20/22

BUDGETED GIVING:	\$ 89,608.00
(2021 YTD Giving \$ 108,820.00)	
2022 YTD Fund Income	\$ 146,960.00
2022 YTD General Fund Expenses	\$ 160,548.00
GENERAL FUND <u>Difference</u>	\$ -13,588.00

Offering Envelopes



St. Mark's has not yet received our 2023 Giving Envelopes. It looks like it will be close to mid January before they arrive. The office will advise you as soon as they arrive. For your convenience, a basket of plain envelopes are set out by the Sunday bulletins for your use. Please put your name on the outside of the envelope before placing your offering in the offering plates. We apologize for this inconvenience.



For those members using Simply Giving for your contributions, please let Sandy know if you would like to make any adjustments for your 2023 giving.

If you are interested begin using Simply Giving in 2023, Sandy can get you enrolled!

WELCA meets on Monday, January 2nd, at 5:30 pm, in the library.

Men's Ministry meets the first Thursday of each month. They will meet for breakfast January 5th at 8:00 am, at Grama Butterwicks. No registration is needed and all are welcome.

St. Mark's Council meets the second Tuesday of each month. Their meeting is on Tuesday, January 10th, at 6:30 pm.

Parents of Loss meets the second Tuesday of each month in the St. Mark's Chapel. The support group will meet January 10th, at 7:00 pm.

The deadline for the **February Newsletter** is January 24th.

Quilting Group meets every Wednesday morning from 9-noon at St. Mark's

REMINDER ----REMINDER ----REMINDER ----

Now that cooler weather is here, it is especially important to **make sure all meetings/functions are on the church office calendar.** If the office isn't aware of your events, the rooms won't be scheduled for heat. So, to be assured that you will have a comfortable space for your meeting/function/event, be sure that that you notify the office you will be here. Thank you.



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Winter Weather Cancellations

Please look for weather cancellation information on the local television stations of KVLY, KX4 and WDAZ. You will also find cancellation information on the St. Mark's Facebook page or the GIFT of Grace Facebook page. If you would like to be contacted directly to be notified of church cancellations, please contact the church office.

January Birthdays and Anniversaries...

Birthdays:

- 3 Navy Oss
- 4 Jeanette Gratton
- 15 Watson Oss
Rev. Robert Weber
- 17 Sandy McCleary
- 22 David Christianson
- 23 Robert Bohj
Ryan Bohj
- 29 James Glick
- 31 Brittney Balsdon



St. Mark's Abiding Memorials Ministry meets on a quarterly basis – generally the first month of the quarter. In order to have the time to handle all fund requests, they request that **all requests for project funds be submitted to them by the last week of each quarter.** This will give them sufficient time for all members to review the paperwork. Thank you!

Please remember that all Annual Reports are due into the office by January 4th. If your ministry maintains its own finances, please supply a report of those finances as well.

The reports will be prepared and available at the Forum following worship on Sunday, January 22nd.

Thank you!!



President	David Christianson	
Vice President	Iver Buchmann	
Secretary	Ann Henderson	
Treasurer	Michele Peterson	
Jeanette Gratton	Donna Hubbard	
Jane Humble	Marsha Oss	Art Ruud

Office: 701-772-4807
Office Email: stmarkselca@msn.com



Missionaries: Willie & Annie Langdji
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-12 (may vary)
Websites: St. Mark's www.stmarksgf.org GIFT www.giftofgracegf.org



Please look for our logo and "Like" us on Facebook at St. Mark's Lutheran Church









Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Eastern North Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 Worship 10:30 Bonfire @ Walle	2 5:30 WELCA 	3	4 9-Noon Quilting Annual Reports Due	5 8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Butterwicks	6 	7
8 8:30 Walle 10:30 St. Mark's Worship	9 7:00 Scouts	10 6:30 Council 7:00 Parents of Loss	11 9-Noon Quilting 5:30 Education at Walle	12	13 	14
15 8:30 Evanger 10:30 St. Mark's Worship	16 7:00 Scouts	17 1:30 Miriam Circle	18 9-Noon Quilting	19	20 	21
22 8:30 Walle 10:30 St. Mark's Worship	23 7:00 Scouts	24 	25 9-Noon Quilting	26	27 	28
29 8:30 Evanger Worship 10:30 St. Mark's Worship	30 7:00 Scouts	31				
29 ANNUAL MEETING						