



THE MESSENGER

JULY/AUGUST 2011

STAFF:

John Place-Pastor, Director of Music-Mary Anne Blazer, Church Secretary- Sharon Kempf, Custodian-Keith Hall

CHURCH COUNCIL:

Congregational President - Debra Geier, Financial Secretary, Don Bullock, Treasurer - Mary Johnston, Treasurer (Assist.) - Tim Blazer, Council Secretaries - Lori Crank & Sandy Oxner, Outreach Ministries - James Geier, Eugenia Hilbrink , Clara Crawford

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Belles of St. Mark's- Peggy Bullock, Mary Elam, Chancel Guild-Clara Crawford, E-mail Prayer Chain-Sharon Kempf, E-mail Event's Blaster-Sharon Kempf, Memorial Committee - Don and Peggy Bullock, Ministry to Families - Peggy Bullock, Newsletter (The Messenger)-Sharon Kempf, Social Concerns-Eugenia Hilbrink, St. Mark's Webmaster - James Geier

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

MISSION

To welcome all people to experience and accept God's love in Christ.
To grow together in faith as the family of God.
To go into the world sharing God's love and care.

VISION

Building on Christ — Serving To His Glory!

VALUES

We believe that we are called to:
Accept the Bible as the inspired Word of God
Live with integrity according to Biblical principles
Reach outside our four walls speaking Christ's word of welcome to all
Follow Jesus as both Savior and Lord
Practice Biblical hospitality, meeting the real life needs of others
Grow in faith and encourage each other in living lives of faith



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK,

Have you ever noticed that people are funny, especially church people?

They want the front of the bus
The middle of the road
But the back of the church

The "Purpose Driven Church" Committee completed the study June 29 begun March 9. After much, much prayer, study, discussion and dreaming of possibilities the committee has put together a plan of action for St. Mark's called the "Blueprint for the Future." The purpose of the "Blueprint" is to provide guidelines and suggestions to assist St Mark's to reach out to the unchurched, to help our member to "grow in their faith" and how to better use our facilities for expanded ministries. The plan will be presented to Council on July 21 for adoption. A date will then be set for the congregation to review and adopt the "Blueprint."

SELAH

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah...(Psalm46:7)

This verse is one of many passages found in the psalms that end with Selah. While the exact meaning of Selah is lost to us, it is thought to be a musical direction, by the leader to raise the voice or perhaps an indication of a pause of contemplation. "To raise the voice." When it comes to raising our voices, the average Christian seems to do it more in the parking lot after service or during a voters' meeting than in worship. Raising our voices to God in worship and praise is something that does not require an operatic voice. It really only requires a willing heart and an open mouth. But raising our voices is not an activity for Sunday morning alone. If God truly is our fortress, why would we choose to use His protection on just one day a week? Does the enemy – out of kindness and consideration – wait until Sunday morning to wage warfare on us? Do we quietly and willingly accept the wounds he inflicts just because it's Thursday? The fortress is there for our protection at any time, so let us go to it whenever we find ourselves in need. Selah.

When it comes to pausing, we all appreciate a break. But there is more to pausing than just stopping all activity. We pause to hear the voice of God speaking to us. God desires a relationship with us, and just like in any of our relationships, mutual communication is a critical component. God does speak to us, but for us truly to hear and listen, we must set aside the busyness of our schedule, the frantic pace of our jobs, the responsibilities of our families, and the passions of our lives, and make ourselves totally available to the Father and to the Word He speaks to us. Just as the television can distract a couple trying to talk, we can be easily distracted and miss what God is saying to us. Early in the morning, in the quiet of the night, while on a break at work, anytime and anywhere you have a chance, pause. Selah.

To raise your voice is to speak to God. To pause is to listen to God speak to you. Together, the relationship we have with God will be Strengthened and built through Him who is everything to us.

Peace and Power in His Name,
Pastor John



MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

May 01, 2011 – “40”	June 05, 2011 – “38”
May 08, 2011 – “36”	June 12, 2011 – “35”
May 15, 2011 – “38”	June 19, 2011 – “34”
May 22, 2011 – “41”	June 26, 2011 – “37”
May 29, 2011 – “41”	



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

To add a person or continue a person on the prayer list, please call or E-mail the church office or make a notation on your Ministry Opportunity Sheet in your Sunday bulletin.

Members, Relatives & Friends of St. Mark's:

Kendra Barnett (friend of Jennifer Kempf), Dave Bertram, Lynn Brown (sister of Dorothy Ringleman), Madge Blankenship (sister of Dorothy Ringleman), Bob Conlkin (grandfather of Amanda Kempf), John Cowden (friend of Bunny Proper), Steve and Dee Dean (family of Sharon Kempf), Richard Dowers (nephew of Kathy Goetz), Carol Eubanks (friend of Sharon Kempf), Felice Deike (mother of Kathy Goetz), Pastor Robert Forsberg, Marge Henderson (sister of Libby Young), Grace Kwok (friend of Mary Anne Blazer), Vicky Martin (friend of Tonya Dean), Charley Mercer (friend of Lee and Mary Johnston), Louella Nisonger (friend of Sandy Oxner), Ruthanne Neff (daughter of Phyllis Neff), Stephen Place (grandson of Pastor John and Beth Place), Cindy Tipton (sister of Johnnie Crank), Jerry (friend of Sharon Kempf)

Nursing/Assisted Living Center Residents:

Kathleen Henry, Paul Schmidt

Military

Brian Blakley - serving in Afghanistan,
Christopher Collinworth - Home from Afghanistan

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



July Birthdays: 10-Kathy Goetz, 11-Nick Bowman, 11-Jennifer Kempf, 12-Sandy Oxner, 16-Ryan Kempf, 17-Lee Johnston, 17-Eileen Jungel, 19-Elizabeth Young, 20-Sandra Fuchs, 26-Isabella Dunwiddie, 27-Martha Stettler, 28-Martha Dwyer, 31-Doug Bullock

August Birthdays:

3-Doug Goetz, 13-Ruth Clensy, 21-Donna Reichard, 22-Ann Frederick, 26-Beth Ensing

July Wedding Anniversaries:

2-Jerry and Pam Browning, 7-Brian and Michelle Wallace

August Wedding Anniversaries:

14-Meinhardt and Lucille Jacober, 30-Terry and Sharon Kempf

THANK YOU NOTES

Members of St. Mark's,

Chris returned home from Afghanistan on June 17th and we would like to thank everyone for the prayer support provided while he was on his tour. Thanks to everyone...and praise God for answering prayer. Ervin and Janice Collinworth

Thank you to Elinor Gebhart for repairing St. Mark's Banners.

Thank you to Debra Geier, Peggy Bullock, and Anastatia Halfacre for setting up and delivering food from Abiding Christ to St. Andrews for their "Day of Discovery."

Thank you to Clara Crawford and Punky Williams for all the lawn care they have been providing throughout the summer.

Thank you to Pastor Terry Morgan (June 12), Christa Clealan (June 19), and Pastor Craig Fourman (June 26) for leading our worship services during the month of June.

Thank you to Christopher Slone for filling in as pianist for the June 12 and 19th worship services.

Thank you to the St. Mark's Fellowship Committee, Clara Crawford, Martha Dwyer, Mary Elam, Ann Frederick and Marie Williams for serving and providing the Sunday snacks following the worship service. You are much appreciated!!

Thank you to Peggy Bullock for weeding and maintaining the church landscaping.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dorothy Taylor, Dorothy was crowned 2011 Sweet Corn Festival Queen by the Fairborn Art Association.

Congratulations to Paul Schmidt who took part in an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in May to see the war memorials.



GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to Bradley MacLeod, grandson of Clara Crawford, who graduated from Springfield Shawnee High School May 29, 2011. Bradley received a football scholarship and will be attending Ohio Northern College in the fall.

Congratulations to Daniel Bullock, grandson of Don and Peggy Bullock, who graduated from Breckville-Broadview High School, Cleveland Ohio, June, 2011.

PLEASE NOTE



The Fellowship Committee will be taking a break during the month of July and will resume in August.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



MARCH, 2011

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Place. Council members gave reports which were approved.

The (LSIM) Celtic Mass held in Donnelsville was successful, well received and well attended. One youth will be attending Bible Camp July 5-8 at Lutherwald Bible Camp in N.E. Indiana. Pastor Place explained at least six churches have left our synod and the restructuring planners asked us to join the N.W. Conference, the motion passed unanimously. A Seder Meal will be held at Abiding Christ on April 21 (Maundy Thursday); and the Day of Discovery will be held on April 10th with Pastor Hanford preaching and leading the Visioning Process. Kevin Hall has been hired as custodian and is waxing various sections of the floors each month. Arrangements are being made to spray for bugs again. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm.

APRIL, 2011

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Place. Council members gave reports which were approved.

The Day of Discovery was held successfully on April 10. During July and August a class will be held titled, "What is a Christian to Believe?" beginning July 3 at 9:15am on Sunday mornings. The Messenger has been added to the St. Mark's web site. Easter services was publicized in the local newspaper. The Fairborn Pest Control will be coming quarterly to try to diminish the presence of bugs. Estimates are currently being taken to repair the ceiling leak near the elevator. Officers will be elected at our May Council meeting set for May 18th. The W-2 issue with Pastor Robert Forsberg, has been taken care of. A request was sent to Synod conference affiliation that will put all the LSIM, (Lutheran Saints in Ministry), in the same conference area. Pastor Craig Forman will be at St Mark's during the month of September to better understand the working of our congregation. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

MAY, 2011

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Place. Council members gave reports which were approved.

Pastor discussed blueprint for the future - topics to include evangelism, education and future youth programs. Debra reported Good Friday and Easter Sunday were wonderful. Adopt a Family funds were applied for and received. Floor work is ongoing including Sharon's office space and baseboard work continues.

Election of Officers: Congregational President - Debra Geier, Financial Secretary, Don Bullock, Treasurer - Mary Johnston, Council Secretaries - Lori Crank & Sandy Oxner, Outreach Ministries - James Geier, Eugenia Hilbrink, and Clara Crawford. Roger Boyd resigned as vice president and with regrets council accepted.

ST MARK'S RECEIVES AWARD

St. Mark's Lutheran Church recently received an award from the Fairborn Downtown Betterment Association. The award is on display in the back narthex.

WATERMELON BOOTH FOR JULY 3RD



During the Downtown Block Party we will be giving away free watermelon. If you would like to donate a watermelon please drop them off at the church Sunday July 3. If you would like to give a cash donation please designate a pew envelope "Watermelon" and place in the offering. Volunteers are also needed to help serve the watermelon at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd. If you would like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet is posted on the table in the narthex or call Deb Geier at 767-2180.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH PICNIC



St Mark's Church Picnic will be held August 28th, at 10:45 a.m. Shelter #4 behind the Bath Township Building on Yellow Springs-Fairfield Rd. Pastor John will lead our worship service under the shelter located in the park. In case of rain the picnic will be held at St. Mark's in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. This year's Church Picnic will be a "Potluck" luncheon. Please bring a dish to share, dessert, your own table service, drinks and lawn chairs. Located next to Shelter #4 is an **AWESOME playground** for the children. Musical Entertainment will be provided by Ryan Kempf (guitar/vocal). ***Please invite friends and family to our annual St. Mark's picnic.***

Mark Your Calendar for an Upcoming Event...

**Sunday, October 23rd, 5:30pm, St. Mark's Members & Friends will be going to
The LaComedia Dinner Theater**

We will be seeing "A Second Helping", a sequel to "The Church Basement Ladies." The setting is 1969 and the world is changing and the ladies of the church are preparing for changes below in the House of God of their own. You will see them serve High School students at the Luther League banquet, a church sponsored Missionary Night, and the rise and fall of a Vikings Super Bowl Sunday. Cost will be a group rate of about \$42.00 per person for the food and show. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex in August. **We will car pool from St. Mark's to the theatre, please indicate on the sheet if you can drive or need a ride.**

**It will be a very fun filled evening for all!!
You'll laugh until your side-dish hurts!**



JULY AND AUGUST, 2011 MUSIC SCHEDULE FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

Most summer Sundays, the choir is asked to Sing on the first Sunday of the month and rehearse that day!

July 3 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 9 – Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. – Adult Choir warm-up in the balcony

Prelude – "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" – arr. F. Ritter

Organ-Piano (Kay Mitchell) duet

Offertory – "Let there be Peace on Earth" – arr. H. Ades Adult Choir

During Communion – "Fly with the Eagles" – R. D. Vandall - Piano duet

Postlude – "God of Our Fathers" – G. W. Warren - Organ-Piano duet

AFTER WORSHIP – 12: 20 – 1:00 – Women's Ensemble rehearsal for next Sunday

July 10 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 10

10:00 a.m. – Women’s Ensemble warm-up in the balcony
Prelude – “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” - arr. H. H. Hopson
Anthem – “Rock-a-my-soul” – H. H. Hopson
Women’s Ensemble
Offertory – “I’M So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” – A. D. Miller
Women’s Ensemble

July 17 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 11

Prelude – “Prelude in c# minor” – S. Rachmaninoff
Darren Hodgkinson, pianist (student of Mary Anne Blazer)
Anthem – vocal solo by Sandy Oxner
Offertory – “Prelude in D Flat” (Raindrop Prelude) – F. Chopin - Piano solo
Postlude – “Onward, Christian Soldiers” – A. Sullivan - Organ-Piano duet

July 24 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 12

Prelude and Offertory – violin solos by Caroline (Lake) Gentry
Anthem – “Amazing Grace” – piano duet by Becca Gentry and mom
Postlude – “To God Be the Glory” – W. H. Doane, arr. T. Smith and D. Hustad
Organ-Piano duet

July 31 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 13

Prelude and Offertory – French horn solo by Alex Duell

August 7 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 14 and communion

10:00 a.m. – Adult Choir warm-up in the balcony
Offertory – “God Is So Good” – D. E. Wagner - Adult Choir
During Communion – “One Bread, One Body” – J. Raney - Piano and Adult Choir

August 14 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 15 and communion

Guest Organist

August 21 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 16

Prelude – Organ solo
Offertory – Vocal solo by Marianne Pitts

August 28 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 17

Annual Church Picnic at Bath Township picnic area
Special music by Ryan Kempf and Nicole Weber, guitar and vocal
Also a special song by ALL the children at the picnic service!

September 4 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 18

10:00 a.m. – Adult Choir warm-up in the balcony

Offertory – “Grace, Peace Unto you” – H. H. Hopson - Adult Choir

During Communion – “I Come to the Cross” – J. Raney - Piano and Adult Choir

September 11 – A Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 19

Prelude and Offertory – organ-piano duets by Kay Mitchell and Mary Anne Blazer

Anthem – “I Believe” – Beard and Tucker - Jeanette Bombach and Kay Mitchell

Adult Choir rehearsals will start on Sunday mornings September 25 from 9:30 to 10:30 and then the choir will participate in the worship service. We still need more voices in all sections – soprano, alto, tenor and bass.

The Handbell Choirs will begin the season the end of September. There will be a handbell worship on Saturday, September 17 or 24 at noon. Watch next messenger and Bulletins for exact day and time. The Joyful Ringers will start the season on Sunday, September 25 from 12:20 to 2:00 with a luncheon and rehearsal. The Baroque’N Bells will start the season on Wednesday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. More details later.

HANDBELL WORKSHOP COMING UP

Have you ever wanted to ring a handbell? Do you want to learn all those special handbell techniques? Then plan to join us on Tuesday, July 26 at Fairborn United Methodist Church. Rena Leatherman, mentor of many ringers and directors in the the Dayton area, will be leading the workshop! Mary Anne Blazer will be helping Rena. Please contact Mary Anne if you are interested in attending this NEAT workshop!



SUMMER OFFERINGS

As summer approaches and we begin heading out of town a little more often, please remember St. Mark’s. Your offering is very much needed through the summer months. Expenses go on. If you would give your entire gift one Sunday for that month or mail it to the church weekly, it would be much appreciated. May your summer be a blessed one.

THOSE WHO SERVE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY/AUGUST 2011

(If you are unable to serve, please trade with someone on the list
and notify the Church Office of the change)

ALTAR FLOWERS

July 03 – Tim and Mary Anne Blazer	August 07 – Joyce Smith
July 10 – Johnnie and Lori Crank	August 14 – Meinhardt and Lucille Jacober
July 17 – Friends of St. Mark's	August 21 – John Warrick, Margaret Warrick, & Marcia Althon
July 24 – Friends of St. Mark's	August 28 – Terry and Sharon Kempf
July 31 – Friends of St. Mark's	September 04 – Don and Peggy Bullock

CRUCIFER/ACOLYTE

Phillip Smith

GREETERS

July 03 – Debra Geier, Anastatia Halfacre	August 07 – John and Dorothy Robinson
July 10 – Ruth Clensy, Ann Frederick	August 14 – Terry and Sharon Kempf
July 17 – Roger Boyd, Martha Dwyer	August 21 – Don and Peggy Bullock
July 24 – Bunny Proper, Libby Young	August 28 – Lee and Mary Johnston
July 31 – Betsy Fair, Jeanette Bombach	September 04 – Debra Geier, Anastatia Halfacre

DEACON ASSISTANTS/LECTORS

July 03 – Deacon Assistant – Clara Crawford Lector – Doug Goetz	August 07 – Deacon Assistant – James Geier
July 10 – Lector – Debra Geier	August 14 – Lector – Doug Goetz
July 17 – Lector – Doug Goetz	August 21 – Lector – Joyce Smith
July 24 – Lector – Richard Johnson	August 28 – Lector – Richard Johnson
July 31 – Lector – Joyce Smith	September 04 – Deacon Assistant – Debra Geier

SOUND SYSTEM

July 03 – Beth Cauley	August 07 – Tim Blazer
July 10 – Sandy Oxner	August 14 – Sandy Oxner
July 17 – Tim Blazer	August 21 – James Geier
July 24 – James Geier	August 28 – Beth Cauley
July 31 – Beth Cauley	September 04 – Tim Blazer

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

July – Clara Crawford, John Robinson
August – Tim Blazer, Lee Johnston
September – Roger Boyd, Debra Geier

OFFERING COUNTERS FOR THE MONTH

July – Don Bullock, Eugenia Hilbrink
August – Clara Crawford, Tim Blazer
September – Joyce Smith, Ann Frederick



JULY WEEKLY CALENDAR – 2011

Friday 01

Saturday 02

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY JULY 03 – Third Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship-Communion

Service ; 2pm- Downtown Fairborn Block Party; 2pm-Water Mellon Stand

Monday 04 – 4th of July

Church Office Closed; 10:00 am-Downtown Fairborn Parade; 8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 05

6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting

Wednesday 06

1-4pm-We Care Arts

Thursday 07

6-7pm-SonSet Café

Friday 08

Saturday 09

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY JULY 10 – Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service

Monday 11

8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 12

11:00 a.m.-The Belles of St. Mark's; 6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting

Wednesday 13

2:30 pm – Church Council meeting; 1-4pm-We Care Arts

Thursday 14

6-7pm-SonSet Café

Friday 15

7:00 p.m. – Good Friday Service

Saturday 16

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY JULY 17 – Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service

Monday 18

8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 19

6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting
Wednesday 20
1-4pm-We Care Arts; 2:30 pm-Church Council Meeting
Thursday 21
6-7pm-SonSet Café
Friday 22
Saturday 23
10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club; 7:30pm-(LSIM) Movie Night at Abiding Christ Lutheran Church

SUNDAY JULY 24 –

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service-Communion
Monday 25
8pm-A.A. Meeting
Tuesday 26
6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting
Wednesday 27
1-4pm-We Care Arts
Thursday 28
6-7pm-SonSet Café
Friday 29
Saturday 30
10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY JULY 31 – Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service

AUGUST WEEKLY CALENDAR – 2011

Monday 01
8pm-A.A. Meeting
Tuesday 02
6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting
Wednesday 03
1-4pm-We Care Arts
Thursday 04
6-7pm-SonSet Café
Friday 05
Saturday 06
10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY AUGUST 07 – Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service (Communion)
Monday 08
8pm-A.A. Meeting
Tuesday 09
11:00 a.m.-The Belles of St. Mark's; 6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting
Wednesday 10
1-4pm-We Care Arts
Thursday 11

6-7pm-SonSet Café (St. Mark's to Host)

Friday 12

Saturday 13

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY AUGUST 14 – Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service

Monday 15

8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 16

6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting

Wednesday 17

1-4pm-We Care Arts; 2:30pm-Church Council Meeting

Thursday 18

6-7pm-SonSet Café

Friday 19

Saturday 20

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY AUGUST 21 – Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; 10:45am-Worship Service

Monday 22

8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 23

6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting

Wednesday 24

1-4pm-We Care Art

Thursday 25

6-7pm-SonSet Café

Friday 26

Saturday 27

10:30am-Rec. Inc., 7pm-Book Club

SUNDAY AUGUST 28 – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

9:15-10:30am-Adult Bible Study; **CHURCH PICNIC** - 10:45am-Worship Service at the Bath
Township building shelter #4

Monday 29

8pm-A.A. Meeting

Tuesday 30

6:30pm-Ladies A.A. Meeting; 8:30pm-A.A. Meeting

Wednesday 31

1-4pm-We Care Arts