

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

welcomes you!

July 14,
2024



The Eighth
Sunday after
Pentecost

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1st Saturdays - Chapel*)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

in-person & streaming

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP HOUR: 10:30 AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618.233.9809

EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor

PLEASE wear a **mask/face** covering *if* you are **exhibiting any upper respiratory symptoms consistent with allergies, a cold, or COVID-19** (runny nose, cough, sore throat).

To parents with small children: We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is still audible over the speakers).

Parish Hall and Restrooms are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. A second **handicapped access** restroom is available next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level is located in the Welcome Area. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

Assistive listening devices and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please STAND as you are able*

Blessed be the one God - Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

You may KNEEL or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, **help us. It is difficult to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of our world. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: in his name, + you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“O Holy Spirit Enter In”

ELW 786



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, and in our hearts your
2 Left to our - selves, we sure - ly stray; oh, lead us on the
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in



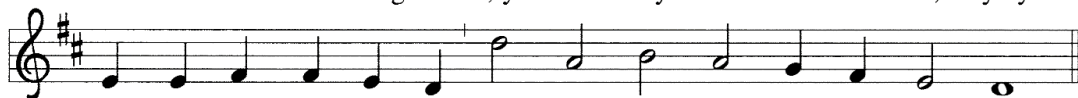
work be - gin, and make our hearts your dwell - ing. Sun of the soul,
nar - row way, with wis - est coun - sel guide us; and give us stead -
doubt and strife be in us strong - ly burn - ing, that we be faith -



O Light di - vine, a - round and in us bright - ly shine, your strength
fast - ness, that we may fol - low you for - ev - er free, no mat -
ful un - to death and live in love and ho - ly faith, from you



in us up - well - ing. In your ra - diance life from heav - en now is
ter who de - rides us. Gent - ly heal those hearts now bro - ken; give some
true wis - dom learn - ing. Lord, your mer - cy on us show - er; by your



giv - en o - ver - flow - ing, gift of gifts be - yond all know - ing.
to - ken you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.
pow - er Christ con - fess - ing, we will cher - ish all your bless - ing.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the LORD was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the LORD said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.'"

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
 and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
 the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin.*

*The response to "In your mercy," is **Hear our prayer...***

Eleanor Benton, Mary Boxdorfer, Toni Brendel, Curtis Dowty, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan,

Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson,

Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinsky, & Arianna Curnes.

PEACE *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Following **the Peace**, you may be seated for a few moments*

OFFERING *Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

OFFERTORY

“Step by Step”

D. Beaker, composer

SHINE Musicians

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... and join in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

♩ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

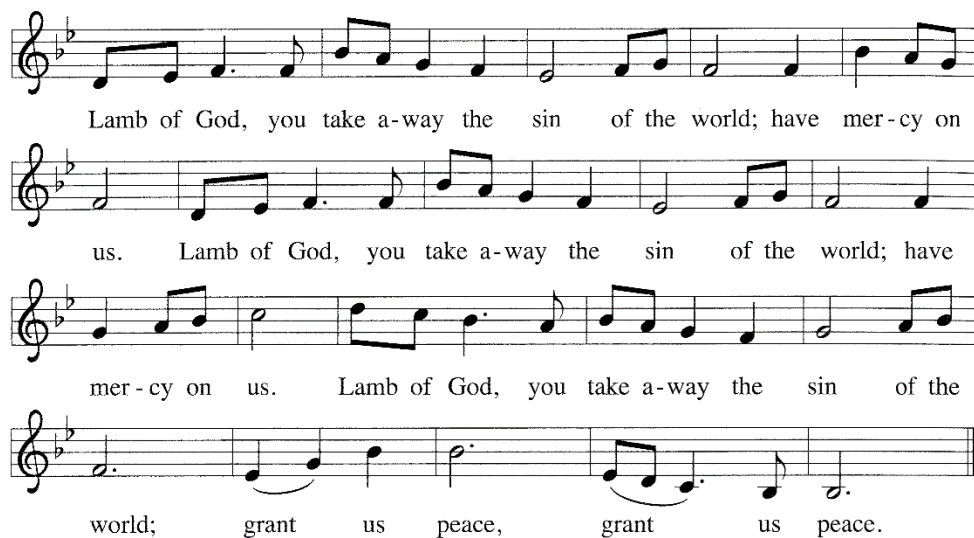


Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come forth and receive life!

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

HYMN DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“Come Thy Font of Every Blessing”

ELW 807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

ELW 697



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;
 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*

TABLE BLESSING *After the distribution is complete, please STAND as you are able.*

The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 206



Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has



done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together...

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH GATHERING ATTENDEES

Claimed by God, crafted with your own authentic gifts, you are a brave community of disruptive disciples, called to be participants in the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering.

In this, there will be times when you feel energized, and times when you feel exhausted.

Times when you enjoy every activity planned, and times you wish you were in charge.

Times when the Holy Spirit will show up in joy, and times when the Holy Spirit will show up in challenge.

And so, I ask you:

Will you use your braveness for the sake of the Gospel as you step into the journey ahead? If so, respond with “we will and we ask God to help us.”

Gathering participants: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Will you use your authenticity to enrich the gathering and the community of New Orleans?

Gathering participants: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Will you freely participate in the gathering and with the people of New Orleans with the love and compassion of Jesus?

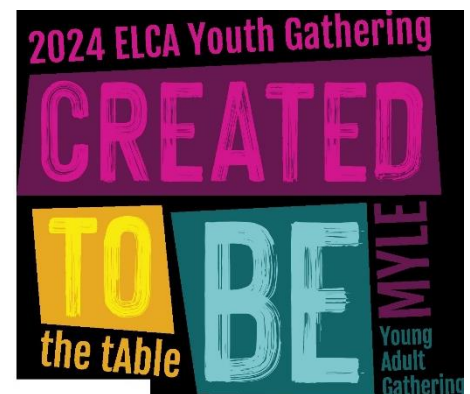
Gathering participants: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Will you seek to disrupt injustice, working together in solidarity for the sake of your neighbors?

Gathering participants: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Will you be respectful, curious, helpful, open and kind?

Gathering participants: **We will and we ask God to help us.**



To the congregation -

Will you, led by the Holy Spirit, pray for these youth gathering participants in your daily prayers, asking for God’s guidance, love, safety and blessing in their endeavors? And upon their return, will you receive them and their stories & experiences with love and openness?

All: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - be upon you and upon us all now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Allegro"

G.F. Handel

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Guenther

Crucifer: Frank Dressel + **Lector:** Aaron Fuchs + **Tech Minister:** Melanie Robison

Chalice Bearer: Tom Partelow + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

Safety Volunteer: Missy Kimbrell + **Ushers:** Rick Crosby & Rex Rothgangel

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Mary Boxdorfer, Toni Brendel, Curtis Dowty, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, & Carol Weshinsky

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Brian Dinges, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Austin Lickenbrock, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Theresa Painter, Chris Parmeter, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Cara Quinn, Goldie Rideout, Michael Robison, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Dave Schaaf, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Kris Whitley, Louise Wilson, Sue Witherell, Elisabeth Woodrome, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe, Ryan McKenzie

Members celebrating birthdays this week

Dwight Ness (7/14), Becky Schnitzius (7/14), Mike Kimbrell (7/15), Katrina Bearth (7/18), Ron Kenly (7/19)

Members celebrating wedding anniversaries this week

Monica & Tom Lynch (7/15)



Land Acknowledgement

St. Mark Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Quapaw, Myaamia, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for July 14, 2024

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday, 7/15: 2:30PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
ELCA Youth Gathering July 15-20

Youth Gathering Sending Today

Today, **Sunday, July 15**, near the end of the service we will offer a special prayer of sending for the teenagers and adult leader traveling to New Orleans this week for the ELCA Youth Gathering.

School Supply Collection!

Believe it or not, it will soon be Back-to-School time! We will again be collecting **school supplies** in support of Franklin Elementary. **Collections run from now through August 4.** A box and can are in the narthex/Canterbury Room. Things are a little different for the school this year, and they have adjusted their needs. Items most needed: **boxes of 24 crayons; large colored washable markers; colored pencils; colored highlighters; plastic folders with prongs; earbuds; adult scissors; dry-erase markers; glue sticks; Kleenex; One-gallon Ziplock bags; One-inch and 2-inch binders.** They do NOT want backpacks, paper, pencils, and pens. Cash, of course, is always helpful!

Youth Gathering In-Kind Collection for World Hunger – LAST SUNDAY

At the 2024 Youth Gathering (<https://www.elca.church/gathering>), join ELCA World Hunger and be part of the generation taking action to usher in a world without hunger, and futures filled with hope. **Your donations** make you part of a story that has been unfolding for the last 50 years through our church working together to create sustainable, lasting change.

Cash-only donations can still be accepted today; place yours in the **shadow box** in the narthex!

Honoring Pastor Ron

At its June monthly meeting, the Church Council voted unanimously to **name the Rev. Ron Neustadt**, former long-time pastor of St. Mark, as ***pastor emeritus***. The declaration will become official at our regular worship service at 9:00AM on **Sunday, August 11**, in which we will also pay tribute to Pastor Ron's **50th ordination anniversary**. Bishop Greg Busboom of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod will be present to preach and bring greetings from the synod. A cake and punch reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Please plan to join us for this special celebration!

*The conferring of the title of *pastor emeritus* represents recognition of exceptional ministry setting and a sign of a congregation's high regard for a retired pastor. It is honorary and confers no pastoral responsibilities, expectations, or compensation. The *pastor emeritus* may be listed among the congregation's staff, which will be the case with St. Mark and Pastor Ron.

May 2024 Treasurer's Note

Shown to the right are St. Mark's operational financial results for the May 2024 period and year-to-date. As the numbers show, we have a negative cash

	May	Year-to-Date
2024 Income	\$14,921.76	\$86,569.41
2024 Expenses	\$20,156.17	\$98,219.69
2024 Net Cash Flow	(\$5,234.41)	(\$11,650.28)

flow through the first five months of our fiscal year (this compares to an operational loss of \$2,273.12 for the same period in 2023). Next month represents the mid-point in our fiscal year. At that time, we will provide an update on our financials, including our performance against budget.

SHARE GOD'S WARMTH through a Hot Meal

For many years now, St. Paul's United Church of Christ (just a few blocks from St. Mark) has been offering a FREE Tuesday evening meal from about 4:30PM to about 5:15 for Belleville's homeless and those of low-income. In considering how we might help the folks who fall into those populations, our Evangelism & Social Ministry team has decided to put our efforts towards assisting other local organizations serving our community instead of trying to "duplicate efforts/recreate the wheel".

With that in mind, **we invite 5-6 people to be part of a group that will help once a month or every other month at St. Paul's Tuesday evening meal.** A couple of volunteers would assist from about 3:00pm until about 6:00pm for meal prep, serving and clean up. Others will assist with serving and clean up from about 4:00 to 6:00pm. This is a fantastic way to help others who often find themselves desperately in need! Please contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com for more information or to join!.

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program

We at St. Mark are excited to continue helping to provide free lunches for low-income children this summer!

We are collecting individual size bags of Cheez-its, potato chips, nacho chips, individually wrapped store-bought cookies (*no nuts or peanut butter please!*), and fruit juice pouches (i.e. Capri Sun), for the lunches. No peanut butter please! Bring donations to church on Sundays or contact Sherri to drop off or arrange pick up.

Monetary donations are also welcome and can be made to Sherri Foppe or Ann Martens, or electronically to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-14EWR>

Minimum of 4 volunteers are needed to help pack **150-200 lunches at Westview Baptist** on the following **Wednesday evenings from 5:00-5:45PM: July 17, 24 & 31; Aug 7**

One volunteer driver and one co-pilot are needed to help **deliver the lunches** from 10:35AM to approximately 12:45PM on the following Thursdays: **July 18 & 25; Aug 1 & 8**

Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Sherri Foppe (618-791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com) or Ann Martens 618-235-7762 or ga72mart@charter.net

St. Mark Offerings for 7/7: Operating Fund: **\$2,642.11** (online giving received by 7/05);

Al Boxdorfer Memorials: \$40; Food Pantry: \$50; Coffee Fund: \$71.25; Summer Sack Lunches: \$50