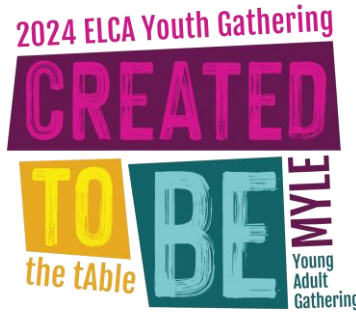


Welcome to
ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

August 25,
2024



The
Fourteenth
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

GATHERING HYMN

"Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing"

ELW 807

Please STAND as you are able

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

We are created to be brave.

Christ shines through our unique gifts, giving glory to God.

We are created to be authentic.

The Spirit transforms us through God's Word, renewing Christ's presence among us.

We are created to be free to serve others.

God is calling us to lives of justice, following the example of Jesus.

We are created to be disruptive at tables where injustice is revealed.

Guided by the Spirit, we love others as God loves us.

We are created to be disciples who follow Jesus.

SERMONETTE #1

“Brave”

Melaina Robison

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the promise of faith and rising together as faithful community, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

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

Holy One, we admit that it is easier for us to think that our ways of doing things are better than yours. We hear that you love us, but we don't always know how to trust in you. We hear your desire for us to love each other, but it feels too scary when people look, and act differently than we do. Search our hearts. Forgive us for the harm we have done to ourselves and to each other. Meet us in the mess we have created, renewing us with the good news that there is nowhere we can go where you aren't with us. Amen.

Siblings in faith, God has created us to be a part of Christ's mission of compassion, mercy, and justice. Through the grace of this promise, you are forgiven and set free to live and to love as you are loved.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead; the love of God, who created us to be hope in a broken world; and the communion of the Holy Spirit, who inspires our hearts to life - be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Lord God, you remind us that we are not alone in this world. You search us and know us. You invite us to remember that you see us and love us and call us by name. You are our light and salvation, why should we be afraid? You invite us to let our light shine and to use our freedom in you as an opportunity to serve others. You remind us of your example of turning over tables by getting in the way of injustice, oppression, and pain. Create us to be all that you desire for the world that we might follow in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Following the prayer, please **SIT**.*

PSALM 139 *spoken responsively*

O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

GOD, investigate my life; get all the facts firsthand. I’m an open book to you; even from a distance, you know what I’m thinking.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

You know when I leave and when I get back; I’m never out of your sight. You know everything I’m going to say before I start the first sentence.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

Is there any place I can go to avoid your Spirit? To be out of your sight?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I climb to the sky, you’re there! If I go underground, you’re there!

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I flew on morning’s wings to the far western horizon, you’d find me in a minute—you’re already there waiting!

If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,” even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

It’s a fact: darkness isn’t dark to you; night and day, darkness and light, they’re all the same to you.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

I thank you, High God—you’re breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation!

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting. →

Investigate my life, O God, find out everything about me; get a clear picture of what I'm about; then guide me on the road to eternal life.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia once

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:36-40

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[One of the Pharisees asked Jesus,] “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *Please SIT*

SERMONETTE #3

“Free”

Melaina Robison

Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

ELW 835, vs 1-4



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

APOSTLES CREED

Together with all those who hold faith in God, we confess our faith...

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

Created to be loved by God, transformed by the hope of the resurrection and the friendship of the Holy Spirit, let us pray... *The response to "Hear our prayers, O God, and remind us," is "That we are created to be your hope in the world."*

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.

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

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 "Adante (from Beethoven's First Symphony)" *Peggy Andersen, Piano*

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray...Generous God, every good gift comes from your open hand. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SERMONETTE #4

"Disruptive"

Anna Robison

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless you for creating the whole world; for your promises to your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells.

Born of Mary, **Jesus creates us to be.**

Eating with sinners, **Jesus creates us to be brave.**

Guiding his children, **Jesus creates us to be authentic.**

Visiting the sick, **Jesus creates us to be free.**

Dying on the cross, **Jesus creates us to be disruptive.**

Rising from the dead, **Jesus creates us to be disciples.**

One the night before he died, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave + thanks; he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave + thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion of the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith; encourage us in hope; inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory. We praise you, eternal God through Jesus your Word made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit now and forever. **Amen. Come Holy Spirit.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Contemporary*

Lord, Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

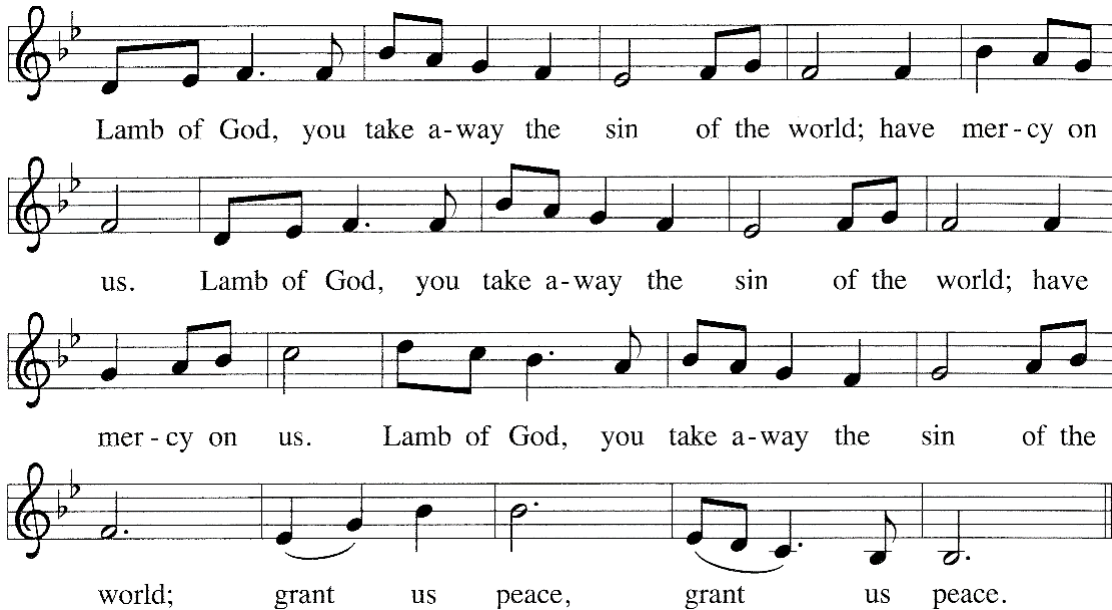
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The table is now ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. All is ready.

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.

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.

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HYMN DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

ELW 773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

“What a Beautiful Name”

Digital Recording

Verse 1

**You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ**

Chorus 1

**What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus**

Verse 2

**You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now?** ↗

Chorus 2

**What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is - The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is - The Name of Jesus**

Instrumental x2

Bridge

**Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all Names**

Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus →

2nd half of Bridge

Tag
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

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**



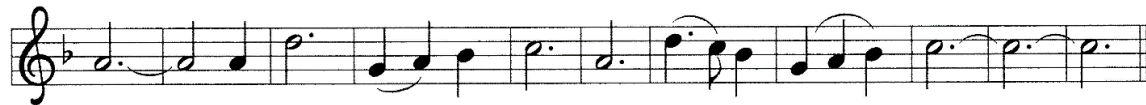
Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has



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

Let us pray... Lord God, we who do new things, sometimes feel afraid,

So make us brave.

We who live this life as a full gift from you, are often challenged,

So make us authentic.

We who serve others, sometimes are held back,

So make us free.

We who trouble the systems of this world as it is, invite anger. **So make us disruptive.**

Now send us out created to be your disciples in the world that we may tell the story of your love.

Amen.

BLESSING

Brave, authentic, free, and disruptive siblings: You have been created to use your voice, to be a presence of hope, to let your actions reveal the love of Christ throughout God's creation. May the blessing of God almighty – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - send you forth to do amazing things, as creative and faithful disciples. **Amen! Thanks be to God!**

SENDING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

ELW 856



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, “My God, how great thou art!”

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art!

How great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art!

How great thou art!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“St. Anthony Chorale”

Hayden/Brahms

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Presider: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Worship Leaders and Lectors:** Melanie, Melaina, & Anna Robison

Crucifer: Greg Martens + **Chalice Bearer:** Greg Martens + **Tech Minister:** Aaron Fuchs

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Safety Volunteer:** Mark Bearth + **Ushers:** Kathy Casey & Nancy Guenther

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Mary Boxdorfer, Toni Brendel, 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, Herb Halwachs, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Mike Koeneman, 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

Kinsley Partelow-Smith (8/26), Marilyn Robinder (8/29), Cheryl Whitaker (8/31), Joshua Robinson (8/31)

Members celebrating wedding anniversaries this week

Brooke & Damian Summers (8/27)

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

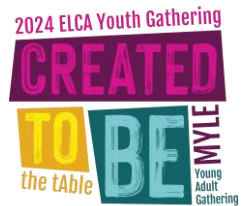
NEWS and NOTES for August 25, 2024

This Week at St. Mark:

Monday, August 26:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care committee – conference room
	7:00PM	Church Council meeting – conference room
Tuesday, August 27:	6:30PM	Safety Committee meeting – conference room

Youth Gathering Service Today

This morning, the ELCA youth gathering attendees will help present a special worship experience during our regular service time and present on their trip during the Education Hour in the Parish Hall. Come and hear about their inspirational journey!



Choirs Resume in September

Chancel and Bell Choirs resume rehearsals on **Thursday, September 5**. Bell Choir meets at 6:15PM, and Chancel Choir meets at 7:00PM. If you can carry a tune, you don't need to sing solo or read music. The Chancel choir would love to welcome you!

Joint Safety Volunteer AED/CPR Recertification Opportunity

The Joint Safety Committee of St George & St Mark's will be hosting an AED and CPR certification class. It is scheduled in the parish hall on **Saturday, October 19** from **9am-12noon**. The cost is \$65 for recertification or \$75 for new certifications.

We need additional Safety Volunteers, so if you've thought about joining the Safety Volunteer Team, or even the Joint Safety Committee, this fall would be an ideal time. The AED/CPR certification is all that is required, except of course a willingness to serve occasionally during church service.

I am available nearly anytime to answer any questions and/or provide greater detail.
Mark Bearth: mark.bearth@gmail.com or text 618-767-6543.

Special Prayer Service for a Nation in Turmoil

St. George's hosts a service of **Evening Prayer with special prayers for the nation on first Mondays from now until Election Day**. The service will also feature a common recitation of the Great Litany, the church's ancient and traditional prayer of intercession, to beseech Almighty God for blessing and protection over the church and the world in the months leading up to Election Day.

Evening Prayer for the Nation will be held at **6:00PM** in the **chapel** on **September 2, October 7, and November 4**. St. Mark members are welcome to join and to invite others to take part in this important endeavor in witness to our faith.

White Cottage Night! Tuesday, September 10, 5-7PM. A % of every purchase benefits our food pantry! Be sure to mention the pantry when you come to enjoy dinner and sweets!

St. Mark Offerings for 8/18: Operating Fund: **\$3,623.41** (online giving received by 8/16); Food Pantry: \$5

St. Mark is Now on Instagram!

If you already follow us on Facebook, or even if you don't, our Instagram feed is slightly different. Some things are posted to both, but not everything! Our Instagram is more photo-based, so you will see more artistic pics and words of inspiration on top of upcoming events! Search for STMARKBELLEVILLE on Instagram or use the QR code to find us!



Coffee Hour Teams

Being on a Coffee Hour team is not just “bringing snacks and making coffee;” it is a **ministry of service and hospitality** to our members and guests that is MUCH appreciated. If you would like to serve on a coffee hour team, or be a captain, or make a change to a different role on a team, please contact Melanie Robison in person or at 314-265-8722 or melanierobison@earthlink.net. We are looking to have 5 people on each team, so help is wanted and needed!

June 2024 Treasurer's Note

	June	Year-to-Date
2024 Income	\$20,794.26	\$107,363.67
2024 Expenses	\$23,456.84	\$121,676.53
2024 Net Cash Flow	(\$2,662.58)	(\$14,312.86)

Shown here are St. Mark's operational financial results for the June 2024 period and year-to-date. As the numbers above show, we have a negative cash flow through the first half of our fiscal year.

St. Mark's 2024 Budget is \$250,464. Of note, our actual revenues for the first half reflect 85% of our budget to-date while our expenses are at 97%.

Based on our first half, and in order to limit the operational cash shortfall for the year, we will reduce specific giving programs by basing the monthly payments on actual monthly income, rather than the original budget. This approach maintains the percentages adopted in the approved budget, but reflects the need to adapt to our reduced actual income. The following programs will be affected by this change:

- C/SIS Benevolence – paid to the synod
- Mission Gifts including:
 - Beacon Ministry
 - ELCA World Hunger
 - ELCA Disaster Relief
 - Food Pantry
 - Appointed monthly missions

We appreciated the congregation's understanding, help, and inquiries in this regard.

Franklin School Lunch Packing

St. Mark will once again be packing and delivering free sack lunches this year to 20 needy students at Franklin School for holiday weekends. Our food shelves are stocked currently, but you can help by volunteering to pack lunches. It only takes about an hour on the last school day before **Labor Day, Columbus Day, election day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Spring Break & Memorial Day weekends**. See Peggy Andersen (618-791-0992) to sign up or to ask questions. Your support is so much appreciated by the Franklin children and staff and our Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee!