

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
welcomes you!

June 22,  
2025



The 2nd  
Sunday  
after  
Pentecost

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

### SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

**105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220**

**EMAIL: [WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG](mailto:WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG)**

***THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR***

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- + **To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshipping 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 use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).
  - + An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. 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.
  - + **Land Acknowledgement:** This 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 recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

**PRELUDE**

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

J. Payne

**WELCOME** *Please STAND as you are able*

In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. **Amen.**

We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. Our sins are forgiven in the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

**ELW 521**



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;  
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n-ly man-na falls;  
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:  
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;  
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum-pet calls,  
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,  
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;  
where gos-pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams  
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God tri - une.  
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.  
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh-ing streams.  
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

## **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 Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Following the prayer, please SIT.*

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:  
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps  
<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD;  
because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, "Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,"  
so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;  
my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 22:19-28** *Spoken responsively by whole verse*

<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, be not | far away;  
O my help, hasten | to my aid.

<sup>20</sup>**Deliver me | from the sword,  
my life from the power | of the dog.**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the | lion's mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

<sup>22</sup>**I will declare your name | to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;  
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied.  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!  
May your hearts | live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

## SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The Word of the Lord.

**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.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

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

<sup>26</sup>Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

<sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been

possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you. So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

**SERMON**

**Danielle Tribout, Licensed Lay Minister**

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”**

**ELW 611**



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world’s light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast.”  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live.”  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav-’ling days are 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 (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to “God of grace,” is “Hear our prayer”...*

**John** Andersen, **Eleanor** Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Wally** Kleist, **Ivan** Kohlmeier, **Bruce** Martens, **Diane** Martens, **Linda** Ness, **Kim** Palmer, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Larry** Shurtleff, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey, **Gary** Weshinskey

**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** *“Larghetto”* *G.F. Handel*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... **Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

### **LITURGICAL PRAYER FOR COMMUNION WITH PRE-CONSECRATED ELEMENTS**

*In congregations with particular expectations related to the role of ordained minister, the following prayer is offered as the bread and wine - consecrated at an earlier time by an ordained minister - are elevated by the presider.*

Let us pray... Almighty Father, whose dear Son, in the night in which he was betrayed, instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully, in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come;**

**Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

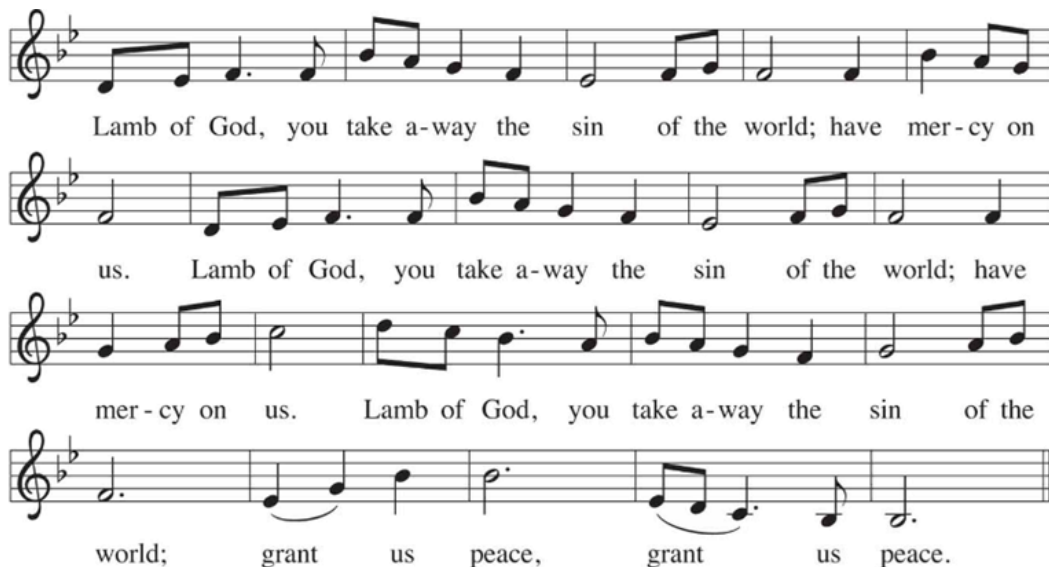
**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

## LAMB OF GOD



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 *Please SIT*

***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.*



**SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:**

**“Will You Come and Follow Me”**

**ELW 798**



1 “Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 “Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 “Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 “Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa - ters flow.  
2 We who bring them long for nur - ture; by your milk may we be fed.  
3 Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.  
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.  
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-press them with love and light.  
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,  
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir-it - born.



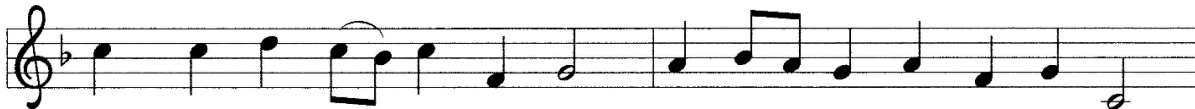
Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.  
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.  
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

*After the distribution is complete, the assembly STANDS for the blessing.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

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

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thankful Hearts & Voices Raise”**



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 and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... **Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### “Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer”

ELW 618



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

“Forties”

*B. Marcella*

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Guest Presider & Preacher:** Danielle Tribout, *Licensed Lay Minister*

**Assisting Minister:** Charlie Duncan + **Crucifer:** Corbin Monfre **Lector:** Curtis Dowty

**Chalice Bearer:** Greg Guenther + **Tech Minister:** Mike Murakami

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

# Prayer Intentions

## St. Mark Members

John Andersen, Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Wally Kleist, Ivan Kohlmeier, Bruce Martens, Diane, Martens, Linda Ness, Kim Palmer, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinsky

## St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, John Belz, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Jordyn Brazelton, Patty Brennecke, Doug Carpenter, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Marge Gardner, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Jimmy Jurgens, Mark Klawonn, Austin Lickenbrock, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, Bob Vaughn, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Jeanie Workman, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

## Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie

## Members who celebrate birthdays this week

Mary Hill (6/23), Alice Murakami (6/24), Bonnie Schaefer (6/25), Cynthia Southers (6/25), and Tony Southers (6/27)

## Members who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries this week

Nathan & Amy Partelow (6/25) and June & Craig Benedick (6/28)

## St. Mark Staff

**Pastor:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt

**Administrative Assistant:** Randi Cardoza + **Music Director:** Carol Kugler

**Organist:** Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius

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# MARK TIMES

## NEWS and NOTES for June 22, 2025

Friday, 6/20-Friday, 6/27: *Pastor on vacation*  
Monday, June 23: 7:00PM Church Council meeting – Conference Room  
Tuesday, June 24: 6:00PM Safety committee meeting – conference room  
Thursday, June 26: 6:00PM Yoga – Parish Hall  
Friday, 6/27-7/4: *Randi on vacation*

### Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian is on vacation through Friday, June 27.

In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Synodically-Authorized Minister Danielle Tribout at 618-531-2790.

### Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program

We're partnering again with Westview Baptist to provide **free lunches for low-income kids!**

**Donations:** Individually packaged Cheez-Its, chips, pretzels, nut-free cookies, and juice pouches (e.g., Capri Sun).

Drop off at church or contact **Sherri Foppe** for other arrangements.

+ **Monetary gifts welcome:** Give to Sherri, Ann Martens, or online: [secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-15AC7](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-15AC7)

+ **Food Safety:** Gloves required for packing; masks optional for delivery.

+ **Volunteers Needed for...**

**Packing:** Wednesdays, 5–5:45 PM @ Westview Baptist

**Delivery:** Thursdays, 10:35 AM–1 PM

**Dates:** June 4–Aug 7 (weekly)

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall!

**Info:** Sherri (618)791-6148 | [cookinsherri2@gmail.com](mailto:cookinsherri2@gmail.com) or Ann (618)235-7762 | [ga72mart@charter.net](mailto:ga72mart@charter.net)



### Summer Sack Lunch Mini Traveling VBS


The Evangelism/Social Ministry and Christian Education teams are launching a **new mini traveling VBS** during Summer Sack Lunch deliveries!

We'll visit 4 distribution sites with a 20-minute program featuring **Bible heroes David and Queen Esther**, including a story/skit, craft or game, and possibly music.

**\*Volunteers Needed!\*** Each site needs **4–5 helpers** (more on **July 10** at Hough Park, which serves 40–50 children). No experience needed—just a heart to serve!

**Remaining Program Dates & Times:**

- **June 26** (11:20 AM–12:30 PM) – *David & Goliath*
- **July 10** (10:50 AM–1:15 PM) – *Queen Esther*, led by Jan Richards
- **July 17** (11:20 AM–12:30 PM) – *Queen Esther*

 Sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall (with the Driver/Co-Pilot and Lunch Packers sheets).

**St. Mark Offerings (6/15):** Gen. Fund: **\$2,842.44**; Dwight Ness Memorials: \$45; Lois Gentsch Memorials: \$245; Coffee Fund: \$134.70; Sunday Morning Coffee: \$16



## Our Brother's Keepers Tour – June 25

Members, family and friends are invited to tour **Our Brother's Keepers of Southern IL** at 614 N. 7th Street in East St. Louis **THIS Wednesday, June 25**. We will meet in the St. Mark parking lot then carpool to the facility for our 60-minute to 90-minute visit. We will tour the facility, meet the staff and potentially meet a few clients.



Those planning to attend are asked to **sign up to ensure enough transportation** and no one is left behind! **Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex** (Canterbury Room) **and in the Parish Hall**.

In the last year we learned so much about the difficult process of former inmates struggle to rejoin communities as productive citizens. Want to know more? Visit their website <https://obkministry.org/> and join us on June 25.

## Care Facility Sing-Alongs Next Sunday!

Join us **next Sunday, June 29**, as we travel to **Mercy** (now EverVella) **Rehab & Care Center** (Swansea) at **1:00PM** and **Freeburg Care Center** at **4:00PM** to **sing** some patriotic songs and other favorite melodies. We'll get a bite to eat and/or stop for ice cream in between!

## From the Parish Nurse...

**June is National Safety Month!** This is a good time to focus on key safety practices in different areas of your life. Today, the focus is on **Digital Security**.

**Digital security** is all about protecting your online identity, data, and devices from cyber threats. Whether you're protecting sensitive data, shielding yourself from cyber threats, or just keeping nosy eyes off your digital footprint, there's a lot to consider.

Here are some key areas on which to focus:

1. **Passwords & Authentication:** Use strong, unique passwords for each account. Better yet, a password manager can generate and store them for you. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) wherever possible. **Two-factor authentication (2FA)** is a security measure designed to add an extra layer of protection to your accounts beyond just a password. It works by requiring two forms of verification before granting access. This significantly reduces the chances of unauthorized access, even if someone steals or guesses your password.
2. **Software & Device Security:** Keep your operating system, applications, and antivirus software updated. Outdated software is a goldmine for cybercriminals.
3. **Network Safety:** Avoid using public Wi-Fi for sensitive transactions. If you must, use a virtual private network (VPN) to encrypt your connection. One of the worst places to use public Wi-Fi is an airport.
4. **Phishing & Scams:** Be skeptical of unexpected emails, links, or attachments. Cybercriminals love to masquerade as legitimate sources.
5. **Privacy Settings:** Review and adjust your privacy settings on social media, apps, and devices. Limit data collection when possible.
6. **Backup Strategy:** Regularly back up your files to a secure cloud service or an offline storage device to protect against data loss.
7. **Physical Security:** Lock your devices when unattended. A stolen phone or laptop can be a gateway to your entire digital world.

## Looking Ahead...

In process is a congregational **pool party** at **Westhaven Pool & Racket Club** on **Tuesday, July 29** from **4-8PM!**

Mark your calendars for the third annual **"Guys Nite"** on **Friday, August 22**. Volunteers for planning, set-up, clean-up would be great. Keep an eye on the *Mark Times* for updates!

The Joint Safety Committee is sponsoring a class on **Saturday September 20** from 9am-1pm.

**Chestnut Health Systems** will present information on *Mental Health, Substance Abuse/Narcan and Suicide Awareness/Prevention*. A sign-up will be available later in the summer.