

Mark Times

News & Notes for the week of October 25, 2026

Monday, October 26:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care committee – conference room
	7:00PM	Church Council - CR
Thursday, October 29:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>
Friday, October 30:	5-8PM	Downtown Belleville Trick-or-Treat

Adult Forum: *Lutheran Hymnwriters: Nicolai, Heerman, Gerhardt*

On this Reformation Sunday morning we look at the lives and works of three influential Lutheran hymnwriters who collectively share October 26 as their commemoration day: **Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt.**



Food Pantry Fundraiser THIS Tuesday!

WE have The Meats THIS Tuesday, October 27! St. Mark/St. G's Food Pantry is sponsoring a fund-raising event at **Arby's at Belleville Crossing**. Visit any time during their serving hours; drive-thru or dine-in are both acceptable! **You must show the flyer or mention the Food Pantry event prior to ordering.** We will receive 20% of all orders after \$100 is spent. Tell your family and friends and help the pantry! Flyers will be available in the narthex/Canterbury Room.



Our All Saints Sunday worship service is NEXT Sunday, November 1 at 9:00AM.



Names of deceased loved ones may be entered into our Book of Remembrance, which is now on the St. Mark table in the Narthex. **You are welcome and encouraged to write names of any deceased loved ones you wish to remember.** You may also contact the church office (office@stmarkbelleville.org) to add a someone to the list.

****Please have your names written or submitted by noon on Thursday, October 29.****

All written names will be included in the worship folder, but **only** the names of those **who have died over the past year** will be **read during the service**, with a single toll of a bell after each name. Please mark a **star** or an **asterisk** next to the names of loved ones who have died in the last year.

“Share the Warmth” – LAST DAY

Today is the last day of our drive to collect gently worn **coats, thermal underwear, sweatshirts, t-shirts, undershirts, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. for the homeless in our area. **Mylar/mylar “space” blankets**, other gently used blankets, **handwarmers** and **new underwear for men and women** are also greatly appreciated. Contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 with questions.

St. Mark Offerings for 10/18: General Fund: **\$1,280**; Coffee Fund: \$40; Food Pantry \$107

Downtown Belleville Trick-or-Treat THIS Friday, October 30!

We're going **COOKIE CRAZY** at this year's Halloween event!! We will have three booth spaces from which to hand out hot chocolate, pre-packaged cookies, and where **COOKIE MONSTER** will take photos with kids (and adults!)



VOLUNTEERS needed! Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex and the Parish Hall.

- 1) **SET UP 3:30 TO 5:00PM: 4-5 PEOPLE** to load two 8' tables, two half-tables and 6 chairs at the church and set them up at our space on East Main, unload and set-up 2-3 10 x 10 canopies and transport 5-gallon containers of hot chocolate/water from the church to our space. Hang church signs and decorate the space after the canopies are set up.
- 2) **HOT CHOCOLATE PREP: 3:30 TO 4:45PM: 2 PEOPLE** to heat water, fill containers and mix hot chocolate
- 3) **HANDOUT HOT CHOCOLATE, and COOKIES: 5:00 to 7:30: 4-6 PEOPLE** volunteer for an hour, 2 hours, or the full 2.5 hours.
- 4) **TEARDOWN/CLEAN UP 7:30 TO 8:15PM: 4 PEOPLE** to pack up remaining products, break down tables, canopies, & decorations, load and return items to the church and unload them.

We will also need a couple of folks to make sure Cookie Monster doesn't eat all the goodies!!!

St. Mark 50th Anniversary celebration!

St. Mark Lutheran Church turns 50 years old in December, and the anniversary committee has been hard at work planning events! A year of celebration kicks off on **Saturday, December 5 at 10:30AM** with a commemorative **worship service** in the place where it all started: the **Belleville Philharmonic Hall**. A luncheon in our Parish Hall follows. Watch for sign-up sheets and invitations in a couple of weeks!



GriefShare: *Surviving the Holidays* Event on November 21

St. Mark will again offer a one-day, two-hour session of *Surviving the Holidays* to offer support, encouragement, and practical tools to help you navigate this holiday season with peace and assurance after the loss of a loved one. Join our special session, led by Nurse Becky, on **Saturday, November 21** from **1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at griefshare.org/events/294597



*If you've attended this session previously, please consider attending again; grief and loss affect us differently with the passage of time, and you may benefit from another session in ways you can't anticipate.

Pumpkin Palooza returns November 15!



On Sunday, November 15, our eagerly anticipated **pumpkin bake sale** between and after all three services is back, with proceeds to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**. Bake a fall treat and bring before services on November 15!

Community Dinner Volunteers Needed

St. Mark members have been assisting St. Paul UCC occasionally with their **free Community Dinner on Tuesday evenings**. Over the last several months, the number of individuals attending the dinner has increased. We have been asked to provide **two volunteers** on **1st Tuesdays** to assist their existing team. Volunteers would **arrive at 3:45pm** and **finish about 6:00pm**. No heavy lifting involved! Contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com if you would like to assist once a month or every other month.