

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for October 18, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, October 19:	2:30PM	Fiber Arts – Westfield Manor
Wednesday, October 21:	10:15AM	Health & Wellness meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, October 22:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>
Saturday, October 24:	6:00PM	Reformation Potluck and Hymn Sing-a-Long

Adult Forum: *Witchcraft: Strictly Taboo?, Part 2*

Two weeks ago we looked at what the **Bible** says about **witchcraft** and how the **church** wrestled with it across two thousand years. Today, join Pastor Brian for Part 2 as we explore what Lutheran teaching says today, including a look at a living reality for our own Lutheran communion: sister churches across Africa who handle witchcraft accusations and exorcism ministry as ordinary pastoral work. All are welcome (pointy hats encouraged, but not required!).



Reformation Dinner & Hymn Fest NEXT SATURDAY

Join us **next Saturday** evening, **October 24** from **6-8PM** in the **Parish Hall** for an evening of **Reformation Day fellowship** with a classic **Lutheran potluck** and a beloved old-fashioned **hymn-sing!** A **sign-up** sheet to bring a dish is **in the Parish Hall**.

SHARE THE WARMTH October 4 thru 25, 2026

Continuing to be inspired by “Phillip’s Wish” in the movie **5000 Blankets** and the needs of our food pantry clients, a collection of gently worn **coats, thermal underwear, sweatshirts, t-shirts, undershirts, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. will be collected 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. Donations may be distributed to various organizations throughout the project period with donation numbers provided at the end of the collection. A collection container will be in the Narthex/Canterbury Room next Sunday. Please feel free to contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 with any questions.



Second THIRD Sunday Food Collection

We're collecting **jellies/jams, peanut butter, soups/chili, and canned fruit** this month for our **food pantry**. Please place them in the big basket as you come into church, or bring them by the office between 9am and 3pm, Monday-Friday.

The 50th anniversary committee will meet this morning at 10:30AM in the Parish Hall near the library

Our All Saints Sunday worship service is **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.

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!



Downtown Belleville Trick-or-Treat on 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!!!

Food Pantry Fundraiser

WE have The Meats on 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.



St. Mark Offerings for 10/11: General Fund: **\$4,059;**