



St. Mark Lutheran Church
 3307 State Street
 Eau Claire, WI 54701

April 2025

I was glad when they said to me:
**“Let us go to the house
 of the Lord.”** – Psalm 122:1

Worship opportunities...

Sundays @ 8:00 a.m. (Livestream via Facebook or at www.stmark-wels.org, under “Watch Sermons Online.”)
Sundays @ 10:30 am
Mondays @ 6:30 pm

Lent Services Wednesdays at 11am & 6:30pm
Maundy Thursday Services 11am & 6:30pm
Good Friday Services 1pm & 7pm
Easter Vigil Service 7:57pm
Easter Services 7am & 10am

Contact Us

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- Pastor Naumann: 715-214-7880, joel@stmark-wels.org
- Pastor Hollmann: 715-834-2595 (ext. 3), michael@stmark-wels.org
- Secretary Tami Jastrow: 715-379-8649 tami@stmark-wels.org

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- Mrs. Wilkins: 715-864-4607, kwilkins@smwels.org



April
 2025
AT A GLANCE

- 1 – Board Meetings
- 4 – Power Hour
- 8 – Council
- 17 – Maundy Thursday
- 18 – Good Friday
- 19 – Easter Vigil
- 20 – Easter Sunday
- 30 – Examination
- 1, 8, 22, 29 – Morning Moms
- 1, 8, 15 – BIC
- 2, 9, 16, 23 – Confirmation & Choir
- 3, 10, 17, 24 – Lion Hearts
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – Men’s Morning Bible Study

“All That We Have”

I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. (Ephesians 1:17-19)

The Apostle Paul was praying for his people. He wanted them to know and understand God’s blessings given to them in Christ Jesus.

Of course, the Christians in Ephesus understood the basic truths of the Christian faith. They knew about the transforming power of God’s gospel message. They had seen firsthand how the Holy Spirit brought them to faith through God’s Word. But no matter how “advanced” these Christians may have been in the truths of the faith, the Apostle wanted them to ponder again and again their forgiveness through Christ crucified and risen. He wanted them to continue to “[know] Christ fully.” Why?

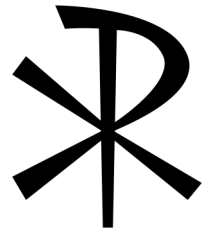
Because Christians still need to hear God’s promises. The Ephesian Christians faced the same temptations that you face on a daily basis. Satan was working hard against their hearts and minds with his lies and half-truths, as he does against you. Without the Holy Spirit’s continual encouragement through God’s Word, they would have undoubtedly forgotten the gospel message and everything it brought them.

The temptations haven’t stopped. Satan hasn’t stopped working against us. It is tempting to downplay God’s promises—especially when we’re flooded with trials and worries (whether personally or congregationally). It is tempting to see the gospel as something “less important,” setting it aside as we try to fix or solve problems without first commending them to God. When issues and trials confront us, pondering the gospel message can easily become an expendable part of our day, something that is merely assumed and forgotten or drowned out by the busyness of life. This is exactly what our sinful condition desires to do—it desires to forget all about the gospel.

But the gospel—and its blessings—are *so much more* than a fleeting thought. They are so much more than something to be left behind and picked up at our convenience.

Paul understood the Holy Spirit was powerfully working among the Ephesians through God’s Word. He passionately wanted them to know and understand how that simple gospel message brought so much to them ... and to all of us at St. Mark as well.

What, exactly, does the gospel bring? The hope you have as a child of God, a steady expectation that during your temporary life here on earth you will continue to have the forgiveness of all sin through Jesus, God’s protection and blessings, and more than enough strength to bear burdens and crosses (though they won’t be easy to bear!). The gospel brings a glorious inheritance



YOUTH CONFIRMATION MEETING Pastor Naumann would like to meet with the parents of this year's youth confirmands to start planning for Confirmation Sunday. This meeting will take place in room 14 (new classroom) on Wednesday, April 2 at 5:30pm (it should last < 30 minutes). Parents, please come to the meeting with an estimate of expected attendees from your family/friends.

Confirmation Sunday will be May 4 in the 10:30am service. Public examination will be that week Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30pm. As the St. Mark catechumens are completing their confirmation instruction, please remember these young Christians in your prayers.

LOST & FOUND is out in the upper grade wing near door 4. Please take time to check for any items you may have left behind. It will be taken away after services next week.



SPRING CLEANING will be held on Saturday, April 12. This is for the entire building & many hands make light work! Please come on out to help at 8am that Saturday.

MLC IS OFFERING a Holy Week devotional. In order to access it, you can:

Request that they send the eight devotions to your personal [email](#) on a daily basis, Palm Sunday to Easter, April 13-20. In the email, you will receive the written devotion and the link to an audio recording by the author. Or you can read them in their online flipbook. Use the link within each devotion to listen to the author's audio recording.

ALTOONA LUTHERAN MISSION Romans 15: 5-6 "May God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"



The Altoona Mission Group will find out the week of March 31 if their mission is approved for subsidy status. If approved, we would then start the process to call a pastor to help in the evangelism of the Altoona area.

Regardless of subsidy status, the group will continue to hold monthly bible studies at the Fish House in Altoona. The Fish House is part of Altoona City Park. At this time, these bible studies are planned for the 3rd Sunday of the month except for April which is the 4th Sunday because of Easter. Thanks to Pastor Naumann and Pastor Hollmann for leading us in the bible studies so far as we wait for an assigned full time pastor. If you know of anyone in the Altoona area, please invite them to come at 5:00 for some free food and fellowship.

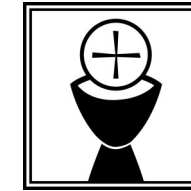
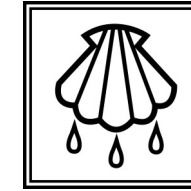
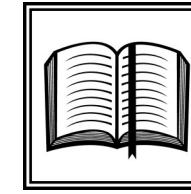
This summer we are planning our second annual concert in the park at River Prairie. It will be taking place on June 22 from 3-7. We have Pastor Christenson and his band Cross to Glory coming right now along with Kevin's Balloons and Top Dog food truck. As we get closer, more will be added to the event.

Finally, thanks to everyone for coming to Connection Sunday to learn more about what we are working on in the Altoona area.

St. Mark Ministry Highlights

Public Use of the Means of Grace:

Worship: We averaged 316 worshipers per weekend in February. The Lord's Supper was administered to 761. Membership stands at 799 souls and 625 communicants.



Official Acts:

We welcome

Chris Horsman from Resurrection, Rochester, MN

We say farewell to

Doug & Stacy Krueger, Westin & Mason to St Paul's Menomonie, WI

Darrin & Rebecca Kinstler to their own spiritual care.

Baptized

Elaina Chaulklin 2/2/2025

beyond your imagination that is waiting for you in heaven—much more than the bright lights, "good" things, and fading promises this world offers. It's knowing that God's resurrection power which raised Jesus your Savior from the dead is the exact same power that has raised you to life through your baptism. As a child of God in Christ, you have all of these things.

Ponder these things. Paul prayed that you would do just that. And our Lord—through the working of his Holy Spirit—knows that you will. Take time and reflect on the great love of God and your blessings in his Son, your Savior. Remind yourself—especially when times prove difficult—of all that you have in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Pastor Hollmann



ST. MARK
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Important Info

If you are interested in joining the St Mark Church Facebook group, please use this link:

