

St. Mark Chairman's Monthly News Letter

August 2022

Hello St. Mark Members,

By the time you read this St. Mark Lutheran School will be in their first week of classes of the 2022-2023 school year. Opening day of classes saw enrollment at 132. Breakdown per class is as follows: 4K-16, 5K-12, 1st-22, 2nd-14, 3rd-11, 4th-8, 5th-13, 6th-13, 7th-7, 8th-16. All grades are full except there is still room for students in 5K, 3rd and 4th grades. This year St. Mark School has kids from 17 new families that were not part of St. Mark School last year.

A very exciting event is happening this school year. I was informed that the 2022-2023 school year marks St. Mark School's 50th year of holding classes. First classes were held in Fall 1973. Sounds like a celebration is in order at some point during the next year. If there is anyone that would like to head up a committee to put together a celebration event let Peter Micheel or myself know. What a great blessing God has extended to St. Mark members.

The past two weeks the landscaping project was tackled. All the old shrubbery, rocks and fabric were removed on the north side of church and the west side of the church and gym. The area will be adjusted for better water runoff and refreshed with new fabric, rocks and shrubbery. There will also be grass planted around the St. Mark sign on the corner of State and Hamilton, giving it a cleaner look. We have been trying to do this project without any additional hit to the budget. We have received donations to cover all but \$9,000 of the approximate \$35,000 cost. If you are so inclined with helping with this cost please place your donation in an envelope and mark it for Landscaping Project. If we don't receive the needed amount we will have to ask the voters at the October voter's meeting to fund the project through a different fund. Thanks to all of those that have helped with this project. I talked with the foremen on the project and he said it was needed since drainage in some places was flowing toward the building.

I mentioned this last month, but thought I would mention it again. Over the years St. Mark has gathered paraments and church banners that aren't being used. At this point they are just gathering dust. The voter's approved that the Elders look into repurposing these items to a place where they can continue to serve the Lord's work. If you have a connection with any of these items, either you were involved in the donation or helped in making an item, and would like to repurpose the item yourself, speak with one of the one of the Pastors or myself.

A few items from the August council meeting. The Board of Elders reported that the youth of St. Mark are looking to get involved with a WELS Mission Project in the off year that the WELS Youth Conference isn't held. This will involve the youth going to someplace in the country to help with a Home Mission project. The Board of Stewardship is going to start working on putting together a time and talent survey. They are also looking to bring back the sealed pledge for next year. The Board of Education is working on future goals. They are also still looking for various teacher aide positions to be filled. Peter Micheel met with two school resource police officers to discuss school security measures. The Board of Building and Grounds reported that the bathroom renovations are complete. With the new power toilets, we will take off toilet plunging from the job description for our teachers and secretary. The next Quarterly St. Mark voter's meeting will be held Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 11:45 AM.

That is about it for now. May God bless everyone as you go through your daily activities.

Serving Jesus,
Mark Roekle- St. Mark Chairman