

## St. Mark Chairman's Monthly News Letter

July 2022

Hello Fellow St. Mark Members,

I would like to start this month's letter by thanking the Prahls family for taking time out of their busy schedules to come back to Eau Claire and share the memory of Pastor Prahls with their St. Mark family. For me it was a very touching service and brought back quite a few memories from over the years. I would also like to thank all the St. Mark members that helped plan and do the grunt work to make sure the Memorial Service for Scoop, his nickname on the softball field back in the day, was special. It was a well-planned and organized event remembering Pastor Prahls's dedication to St. Mark. It also brought many past members back to town.

This past Sunday the St. Mark Voters gathered for our annual meeting. Here are a few details from that.

After presentation of the board reports we heard from the Vision Committee and the Expansion Committee. The Vision Committee had a printed report. A copy of that report, prepared by Eric Fischer, is included with the emailing of this letter. The Expansion Committee is reviewing previous plans and talking to various suppliers and contractors. The Expansion Committee requested some seed money to cover various costs that come up as they go forward. The voter's granted the \$10,000 to help with their needs.

We had one item from the April meeting to review. That was follow up discussion of discontinuing the live broadcast of our Sunday services. We will continue with the live broadcast of the Sunday, 8:00 AM service. The Elders will discuss if we will continue the live broadcast of the of midweek services. The issue isn't that we don't want to offer them, but we need more volunteers to do the production. So, if you would like to help with this important part of the St. Mark Ministry, please contact someone from the Elder's or Technology Boards or leave your name with our secretary, Ashley Yang. Maybe there are a few high school kids that would like to be producers?

Since St. Mark School has joined the Choice Program and our enrollment has grown, projected at 132 for this fall, the need for aides has increased. We have not been able to fill these positions from WELS and ELS members. The voter's approved the Board of Education to be able to hire outside of the WELS and ELS membership. The candidate would need to be a member of good standing in a Christian congregation. The interview process would include an interview with one of the Pastors so that the candidate understands the confessional standards of the congregation. There would also be interviews with the Principal and Board of Education. The candidate will also be required to take part in a Bible Information Class. The information from the BIC, learning of the spiritual teachings and practices of the WELS are valuable information as they assist the teachers and children of St. Mark. The voter's approved these changes to both the St. Mark Bylaws and job description for Teacher's Aides. Bylaw changes have to be approved by the WELS Western Wisconsin District Constitution Committee. The change was submitted and approved.

The fund raising for the landscaping project of the beautification of rocks and greenery around the church and part of the gym is about \$9,000 short of the \$35,000 goal. We would like to get this project done before the snow starts flying again. The voter's approved borrowing from special funds with the plan to continue fund raising and pay those funds back as funds come in.

So hopefully in the next few weeks we will see a new look to our property. If you would like to donate just put your offering in an envelope, mark for the landscaping fund, and put it in the collection plate or the mail slot by the church office door.

Over the years, St. Mark has gathered paraments and church banners that aren't being used. At this point they are packed in a closet and just taking up space. The voter's approved permission that the Elders look into the repurposing of 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 as a donated item or you helped make an item, and would like to have that item speak to the Elders or one of the Pastors. More information on this will be in the Ministry Page in the coming weeks.

In Sunday's service Pastor Naumann told us when praying to ask for the Kingdom. When praying remember St. Mark in your prayers. St. Mark has some very exciting times in our future. We have a school that is bursting at the seams. To take care of those bursting seams we have a Vision Committee and Expansion Committee that are planning for our Spiritual growth, along with the expanding of our Church and School needs. Also exciting, is the plans for Cornerstone Lutheran High School starting up classes for the 2023-2024 school year. Pray that all these items God has in our plans.

There were some new members that were added to the council starting July 1. Here is an update of the chairmen of the boards and trustees. If there are any questions of any of us, please let us know.

#### Board Chairman

Elders - Scott Krueger, [SKrueger144@gmail.com](mailto:SKrueger144@gmail.com)  
Board of Education - James Paulus, [jpaulus86@gmail.com](mailto:jpaulus86@gmail.com)  
Building and Grounds - Zach Jastrow, [ziastrow@gmail.com](mailto:ziastrow@gmail.com)  
Board of Finance - David Bounk, [dbounk@gmail.com](mailto:dbounk@gmail.com)  
Board of Stewardship - Mark Nettell, [nettellmk@gmail.com](mailto:nettellmk@gmail.com)  
Board of Technology - Michael Beilke, [mbeilke@cvtc.edu](mailto:mbeilke@cvtc.edu)

#### Trustees

Treasurer - Paul Jastrow, [pjastrow55@gmail.com](mailto:pjastrow55@gmail.com)  
Secretary - Paul Buenger, [paul.buenger@hpe.com](mailto:paul.buenger@hpe.com)  
Chairman - Mark Roekle, [mroekle@aol.com](mailto:mroekle@aol.com)

Serving the Lord and St. Mark.

Mark Roekle