

Christ is Our Cornerstone!



Lion's Roar – March 7th, 2024
St. Mark Lutheran School

Upcoming Events at St. Mark

Friday, 8 th	No School
Monday, 11 th	4:00p Kid's Choir
Tuesday, 12 th	3:45p Forensics Practice
Wednesday, 13 th	11:00a Lenten Worship 6:30p Lenten Worship
Thursday, 14 th	4K-4 th Grade Author Visit 6:00p Bible Fair
Friday, 15 th	8:10a Power Hour 8:25a Chapel Hot Lunch 3:30p Chess Club 3:45p Basketball & Cheer Photos
Saturday, 16 th	9:00a Robotics Gr. 6-8

Hot Lunch



Fri, March 15	Tater tot hotdish, green beans, Oranges
Fri, March 22	Ham & cheese egg bake, french toast sticks, berry & yogurt parfaits
Fri, April 5	Homemade chicken noodle soup, cheesy bread, veggies, apples
Fri, April 12	Cubed ham, cheesy potatoes, broccoli & grapes
Tue, April 16	Lasagna, garlic rolls, salad, pears

Opening Thought

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God... We preach Christ crucified, because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (I Corinthians 1:18,25)

We all do foolish things. Men often stand in front of the mirror in their bathroom and flex their muscles. Many of us have pulled up to the gas pump with the gas cap on the opposite side. Families often play silly games on long car rides that would make themselves all blush if caught by someone else. Foolish things. We all do them.

The apostle Paul spent significant time in the city of Corinth on his second missionary journey. This city was in Greece, and the Greeks were known for their wisdom and philosophy. As Paul wrote to these Christians in Corinth, he knew the challenges they would face living among such intellectual people. The Bible's message is about something that may seem foolish to those who are not Christians. *The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.* Why is the message of the cross so foolish? Human logic likes to think that man controls his own destiny. I do the right things. I obey the law. I can easily compare myself to worse people. I can save myself. Human reason questions, "How could one man possibly die for the sins of the whole world?" The unbeliever doesn't understand why people "waste" so much time by going to church. Why does a congregation spend so much money on a Ministry Plan to financially support a Lutheran Elementary School? Why does a Lutheran Elementary School put so much emphasis on studying the Bible and on a man named, Jesus? Why do the school's students memorize Bible passages? Paul's words are clear. An unbelieving heart just doesn't get it. That is why *those ... are perishing.*

But note the contrast. The Holy Spirit has changed what may be illogical to the human brain to something the human heart believes. Faith doesn't need to understand, but instead, faith takes God at his Word. Paul also says, *God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them.* (II Corinthians 5:19). Jesus did indeed live a perfect life. Jesus did die on the cross for you. *To us who are being saved, it is the power of God.* What a precious message!

Remember the means of grace, the tools the Holy Spirit uses to create and strengthen faith in *Christ crucified*. The means of grace are the Gospel in both the Word and the Sacraments. The Holy Spirit always uses the Bible to create and sustain faith. *So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through the word of Christ.* (Romans 10:17) The Holy Spirit uses the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, just a few sprinkles of water connected to the name of the Triune God to bring a dead soul to life. *He saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit,* (Titus 3:5) The Holy Spirit strengthens faith when those who are properly prepared to receive Holy Communion receive Christ's true body together with a small wafer of bread and receive Christ's true blood with a small sip of wine. *He said, "Take, eat, this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.* (Matthew 26:26b-28) Yes, even the Means of Grace seems foolish *to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.* Sometimes our friends, relatives, associates, or neighbors may chuckle that our religious beliefs are so important to us. Remember that the message of the cross may seem foolish to some, but for us it is a message that is 100% about God's love for sinners. It's a message that promises eternal life in heaven for all who believe. *God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.* (II Corinthians 5:21).

Chapel on Fridays/Mission Offerings – Our Redeemer, Ladysmith, WI

Parents, feel free to join us either in-person or virtually for our morning chapel on Facebook Live on Friday mornings at 8:35 AM. We also take a weekly collection of mission offerings. The second quarter our mission offering will support Our Redeemer in Ladysmith.

Last Week: \$57.27

Quarter to Date: \$286.90



Bible Trivia

Each week the Lion's Roar will provide a Bible Trivia question. Winners will be announced the following week in the Lion's Roar. Answers can be submitted to your child's teacher who will put them in the basket in the school office.

We congratulate Larissa W. for being the only person who correctly answered that King Agag was the Amalekite king that King Saul spared his life.

This week's question: How many sons did Jesse have?

Midweek Lenten Worship

Please note that St. Mark offers two midweek Lenten services at 11:00 AM and 6:30 PM. Make a point to take advantage of these opportunities to focus on Jesus' suffering and death to earn our salvation.

Bible Fair - March 14 - Schedule - [LINK](#)

Next Thursday, March 14, St. Mark will have its annual academic fair. This year the fair will be a Bible Fair. Families are welcome to come at the following times to see their children's presentations.

- 4K/5K/1st - 6:00-6:45 PM - in the student classrooms
- 2nd - 6:15 PM & 6:30 PM presentation - in the church sanctuary
- 3rd-4th - 6:45-7:15 PM - in the student classroom
- 5th-8th - 6:45-7:55 PM - in the gymnasium



Christ Light Schedule

Parents, we encourage you to read your child's Bible history lessons with them. Use many of the parent applications included with each lesson. *Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.* (Ephesians 6:4)

4K-5K

Date	Link to Slides	Bible Link	Main Concept	
3-11	35	Jesus teaches Mary and Martha	Luke 10:38-42	Mary choses to listen to Jesus word which is more important than earthy things as Martha was showing.

Grades 1-4 - Set 3

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
3A	David and Goliath	Monday, March 11
3B	David is Loved and Hated	Wednesday, March 13



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 11 (middle room upper grade wing) on Wednesday, March 20 at 5:30pm (it should last < 30 minutes). With this year's small class size, there is the potential to hold the confirmation service in the sanctuary. The decision is determined by anticipated attendance numbers. Parents, please come to the meeting with an estimate of expected attendees from your family/friends.

Confirmation Sunday will be May 5 in the 10:30am service. Public examination will be that week Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30pm. As the St. Mark catechumens are completing their confirmation instruction, please remember these young Christians in your prayers.

Winter Athletics by Mr. Niebuhr

We are getting ready for the Luther Prep Tournament. The players have been working all season for this weekend and their work will pay off. Thank you for your support of basketball this season. St. Mark will also be offering a golf club. That will be starting up later in March on the 21st, so make sure calendars are updated.

Coming up: 3/8-3/9 - Luther Prep Tournament

Basketball & Cheer Photos

Photos will be taken next week on Friday the 15th. Please make sure that your child has their uniform(s) with them that day. Watch for Order forms to come home Monday.



Construction Begins Next Week at St. Mark

We continue to wait for the beginning of our construction project at St. Mark. Please continue to practice the parking procedures that we put into place last week.

No School / April 18-19

Please note the email that was sent out on Monday with the schedule change. There will be no school on Thursday, April 18, or Friday, April 19. This is a schedule change from the annual calendar that was distributed last August.



Forensics Practice - Starts - Tuesday, March 12

Each spring St. Mark hosts an area Forensics competition. What is Forensics? The children can present a single poem, a series of poems with a common theme, reading a short story, reading an excerpt from a story, or reading/delivering a famous speech from history. It will be performed before a set of three judges. Students will be awarded a ribbon based on their performance. It is an optional, extracurricular activity for our students in Grades 3-8. The highlight for the children will be on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, as St. Mark will host the Forensics Night Competition beginning at 4:00 PM. This night is growing as three other WELS Schools have indicated that they will also participate.

Here are a few important things to keep in mind:

- We will have a set of regular practices after school. The schedule is provided:
 - Tuesday, March 12, 3:30-4:30 PM (Invite for all those interested. The guidelines will be explained and suggestions for selections.
 - Tuesday, March 19, 2024, Practice #1: 3:30-4:30 PM
 - Tuesday, April 2, 2024, Practice #2: 3:30-4:30 PM
 - Tuesday, April 9, 2024, Practice #3: 3:30-4:30 PM
 - Tuesday, April 16, 2024, Practice #4: 3:30-4:30 PM
 - Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 4:00 PM Forensics Night Competition

Kids Choir Begins on Monday, March 11

Kids' Choir, St. Mark's children's choir, will be up and running on select Mondays for the remainder of the school year.

What: A choir singing music to praise our Lord- helping lead the congregation in Worship during services.

Who: St. Mark kids grades K-8 (both public and private school kids)

When: Mondays after school 3:25-4:25

Rehearsal Dates:

- March: 11 and 18 (no rehearsal Monday, March 25)
- April: 8, 15, 22, 29 (no rehearsal on Monday, April 1)
- May: 6

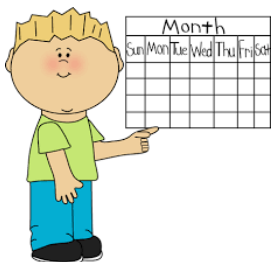
End of year celebration TBD- more information to follow.

Singing Dates:

- Palm Sunday (Sunday, March 24) both services- singing during the early service and at the beginning of the late service and then leaving.
- Ascension (Thursday, May 9th)
- Mother's Day (Sunday, May 12)-Both services- singing during the early serve and at the beginning of the late service and then leaving.

WE NEED PARENTS TO SIGN UP TO SUPERVISE/CHAPERONE STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL IS DISMISSED. We ask families to help from 3:20-3:45 as we transition from school to rehearsal. Supervising drink and bathroom as well as helping student get into the church calmly. Supervision during this time is an essential part of why this choir can exist. Please sign up using this [LINK](#) or type in this URL bit.ly/smkidschoir24

Jeannie Miller and Grace Metko- co directing, Lori Maassen- accompanist



Martin Luther College Permission Forms

Parents with students in grades 7-8, please remember to return your child's permission slip along with the payment for Martin Luther College by Friday, March 22. This trip will be on April 18-19.

Golf Team Practices - Start Thursday, March 21

St. Mark is planning to offer spring golf practices once more beginning on Thursday, March 21. We thank Miss Addie Slominsky for coaching these practices.

All practices will be in the St. Mark gym. For those Grades 5-8 students who wish to participate, please bring a check for \$15 made payable to the St. Mark PTP at the first practice.

Here is a list of the practice days and times.

Thursday, March 21, 3:45-5:15 PM

Thursday, April 11, 3:45-5:15 PM

Monday, April 22, 3:45-5:15 PM

Monday, May 6, 3:45-5:15 PM

Thursday, April 4, 3:45-5:15 PM

Monday, April 15, 3:45-5:15 PM

Monday, April 29, 3:45-5:15 PM

Monday, May 13, 3:45-5:15 PM



Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Please note that registration for the 2024-2025 school year has already begun. Instructions for enrollment will be sent this week with the Lion's Roar. You may also click on the [LINK](#) to view these instructions. **Please note that there is a \$25 discount on the book fee for those that register before May 23.**

TADS Statement for 2023-2024 School Year

Parents, if you want to print a copy of your book fees / school tuition records for tax purposes, it is easy to do. Just follow these steps.

- Step One: Login to your TADS Account at the following address: <https://secure.tads.com/Accounts/Login.aspx>
- Step Two: Click on the Billing Tab.
- Step Three: Click on the "Household Paid Tuition Tax Report" link at the top of the page.
- Step Four: Enter the Tax Year "2023"
- Step Five: Print a copy.

Don't Forget Schedule PS

As the 2023 tax year recently ended, be aware due to tax law, that your family may benefit from a state tax deduction using Schedule PS. Click on the [LINK](#) to access this form. The state tax deduction is for those who pay tuition to private / parochial schools and could also possibly include the book fee that is paid as well. Contact your tax advisor for more information. If you would like a form pre-filled with St. Mark's Federal Employee Identification Number (FEIN), please contact the church/school office.

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program

- The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program application period will begin on February 1, and run through April 18. All returning children and all new families must apply each year.
- Returning families will also need to provide a valid proof of residency.
- All new families will need to provide a valid proof of residency. They will also need to provide a proof of income. Finish filing your 2023 taxes before applying for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program.

See this sheet for additional information. - [LINK](#) or <http://tinyurl.com/y4dtmr5n>

March Birthdays

1-Madelyn S.
2-Mrs. Binczak
7-Isla L.
11-Briley S.
13-Silvia R.



13-Mrs. Staebell
14-Gabriel H.
15-Avery S.
17-Evelyn W.
21-Noah M.



22-Rhett S.
26-Mr. Hahm
26-Mr. Stallman
30-Nicklaus N.
30-Mrs. Micheel

