



I Belong to the Lord



Lion's Roar – April 17th, 2025
St. Mark Lutheran School

Upcoming Events at St. Mark	
Friday 25 th	8:15am Power Hour Chapel Hot Lunch
Sunday 27 th	10:30am Grades 3-4 Sing in Church
Tuesday 29 th	3:30pm Dance Practice
Wednesday 30 th	6:30pm Confirmation Examination
Thursday 1 st	6:30pm PTP Art Party

Hot



Lunch

Fri, April 25	Chicken ranch wraps, baked beans, applesauce
Fri, May 2	Taco Bake, corn, oranges
Fri, May 9	Pizza tot casserole, garlic rolls, salad, and fresh fruit

Opening Thought



"The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you arrested and killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his right hand as Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and the forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." (Acts 5:30-32)

Time can change things so quickly. A gymnasium bustling with people at 9:00 PM during a high school basketball game quickly changes to only the custodian sweeping the gym floor by 10:00 PM. A young couple expecting their first child suddenly realizes the change when they come home with their newborn child only a few days after the birth. A devastating tornado can turn an established neighborhood into a pile of rubble and ruin in a few short minutes.

The Holy Spirit greatly changed the man who spoke the words recorded above. Perhaps only two months earlier, he was hanging around the temple courtyard on a chilly evening while seeking warmth from the fire. Three times, people questioned him. Three times, they accurately noted that he was one of Jesus' disciples. Three times, he denied knowing Jesus. One of those denials even came when a servant girl questioned him. Yes, the Holy Spirit greatly changed Peter.

Note both his audience and the charge. *After they brought them in, they had them stand before the Sanhedrin. The high priest asked them, "Did we not give you strict orders not to teach in this name? Look, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood down on us!"* (Acts 5:27-28) Peter and the other apostles stood before the Jewish Sanhedrin. Peter and the apostles had resisted their order to stop preaching in Jesus' name. Peter's words appropriately charged this governing group with murder for killing, *"the Author of Life."* (Acts 3:15) Peter spoke with boldness. As Jesus shared with his disciples shortly before he ascended into heaven, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you."* (Acts 1:8a) The Holy Spirit equipped Peter and the apostles to testify to the truth that Jesus is the Christ. Peter also spoke with authority. He and the apostles were eyewitnesses to the resurrected Christ. Yes, the Holy Spirit greatly changed Peter and the apostles in a short period of time.

St. Mark's mission is clear. *The mission of St. Mark Lutheran School is to assist parents, both in the congregation and community, in providing their children a Christ-centered education, preparing them for life with their Savior here on earth and eternally in heaven.* St. Mark strives to keep that mission by teaching your children Bible History lessons, Catechism lessons, daily devotions, and weekly chapel services. As our school teaches your children God's Word, we trust the Holy Spirit to do his work as well. *So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through the word of Christ.* (Romans 10:17) Peter noted well to the Jewish Sanhedrin that the Holy Spirit worked through the Word. *"So is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."* The book of Acts is filled with so many examples that note how the Holy Spirit continued to bring people to faith in Christ as their Savior. We trust and know the Holy Spirit does the same at St. Mark.

Yet, note one short, key phrase in our school's mission statement, *to assist parents.* St. Mark does not exist to replace the Christian education that begins in the home. Instead, St. Mark is here to *assist.* Paul's words are clear. *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.* (Ephesians 6:4) Parents and guardians, strive to keep your children connected to God's Word in their daily life. Your children are the most precious earthly treasure that God gives to you. Bring them to church on a weekly basis. Bring them to Sunday School and schedule an extra hour of spiritual growth for your family by coming to Bible study. Note well that Christian education is a seven-day-a-week effort so schedule time to read the Word together as a family. Use the children's Christlight lessons. Help them with their Catechism Connection sheets. Find a daily devotion to read with the family. One can easily subscribe to the free subscription to the WELS Daily Devotions and listen to such a podcast. Look up <https://whataboutjesus.com/> for more information. A teacher once noted that he can easily see the school families that treasure God's Word. The students' responses in the classroom stood out so clearly. Do the students simply answer the questions correctly in the classroom, or do they live it in their daily lives?

The Holy Spirit greatly changed Peter and the other apostles in a short time. Trust the Holy Spirit's work in your Christian home as well!

Chapel on Fridays/Mission Offerings – Altoona Mission

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 fourth quarter our mission offering will support the Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota.

Last Week: \$31.52 Year to Date: \$129.92



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. **Last week's winner:** We again congratulate Larissa W. for correctly answering that Paul and Barnabas had a disagreement whether John Mark should accompany them on the second missionary journey. This disagreement actually formed two missionary teams. Barnabas took John Mark to Cyprus, and Paul took Silas with him on his second missionary journey.

This Week's Question: On Paul's second missionary journey he stopped in Berea. What appropriate practice did they do that serve as a model for us today?

Weekly Wellness Tip by Rachel Binczak

After a long day at school, children's minds are often exhausted. Encouraging outdoor activities and movement can refresh them, helping kids stay focused for their evening activities and homework. A quick walk, bike ride, or outdoor playtime can do wonders for their motivation and well-being.



"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

BONUS HOT LUNCH!

A huge shout out to Mr. Kevin Escher, father of 8th grader Matthew Escher, for sponsoring a bonus hot lunch for all students and staff on Friday, May 9. Many thanks!



VBS for June 2025

Our theme for VBS this year will be "Dive In." VBS will be June 16-20 and run from 9:30 - 11:30 AM for children from age 3 to entering 5th Grade. The brochure for VBS was included with a Lion's Roar in March. Please sign up soon.

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)

Grades 4K-5K

Date	Lesson #	Link to Slides	Bible Link	Main Concept
4-28	45	Jesus Goes back to Heaven	Acts 1:6-11	Jesus ascends into heaven to show that he died for our sins and ascends into heaven as our God.

Grades 1-4 - Set 3

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
10A	The Coming of the Holy Spirit	Monday, April 28, 2025
10B	Peter Speaks to the Crowd	Wednesday, April 30, 2025



Please save the date for Sharon Pitt's retirement



Sharon has been teaching for 26 years - primarily in kindergarten, 3rd and 4th grade. We have been so blessed to have such a wonderful teacher with a beautiful servant's heart. Sharon will be missed! To show our gratitude, we will have a celebration open house on Sunday, May 18th from 11:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. in the Shaker Center (Gym). Hope you can make it!

Divine Call News

Mr. Hengeveld has returned his call to St Mark. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues his call at St John's, Nodine. Please also keep Mrs. Kristin Hadenfeldt & Miss Leah Klammer as they consider their calls to St Mark.

Dance Practice

There will be one more practice for dance on Tuesday, April 29 from 3:30 to 5:30. The B Team girls will finish at 4:30pm.



St. Mark Spring Concert - Tonight, 6pm

Save those Easter clothes! Girls should wear a dress, skirt or dressy clothes. Boys should wear dress pants or khaki pants with a collared shirt. No jeans or shorts. Students will meet in their classrooms at 5:40pm. It will be a great night of music and praise!

PTP Art Party – May 1st

Join us for Art Party as well as our final PTP meeting of the year. Thursday, May 1 starting at 6:30 pm. Art events will be taking place in the gym during and after the PTP meeting. Come and enjoy art games, collaborative projects, and snacks.



Arbor Day - Friday, May 2

On Friday, May 2, the classrooms will schedule time to clean up our grounds outside to make it look nice for Confirmation Day on Sunday, May 4. If you have rakes available, please label and send some along with your children so that we can use them to clean our grounds. Please take them home on Friday afternoon, May 2.

Kids for a Cause – Friday, May 16



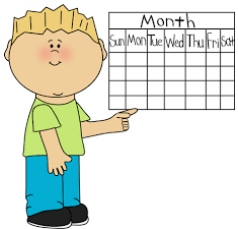
Proverbs 11:25 *"A person who spreads blessings will be enriched. One who gives a refreshing drink will be refreshed."*

Every May, the students of St. Mark participate in activities to raise money and awareness for a cause. This year our Kids for a Cause event will be raising funds to purchase stuffed police dogs for first responders to give to children when on service calls. On Friday, May 16, the 5k-4th graders will spend the morning participating in movement activities in the gym, while the students in Grades 5-8 will participate in a 3 on 3 basketball tournament. For the basketball tournament, children from St. Paul's, Menomonie, St. John's, Neillsville, St. Paul's, Bloomer, and Messiah will also attend. Next week the students will bring home more information on raising funds to help purchase the stuffed animals. **We will need lots of volunteers to help with this event! Please return the attached permission/volunteer form by May 8.**

Track Meet - Monday, May 19

Please note that the annual track meet will be held at UW Stout in Menomonie for the students in 5K-Grade 8 on Monday, May 19. An information sheet is also included with the Lion's Roar.

Information for 2025-2026 School Year



Together with this Lion's Roar, you will be receiving several items for the upcoming school year.

- School Calendar for 2025-2026 - [LINK](#)
- Instructions to Complete Enrollment - [LINK](#)
- Remember to complete the enrollment prior to May 23, 2025

TADS Statement for 2024-2025 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 "2024"

Step Five: Print a copy



4K – Mrs. Smith

The 4K students enjoyed learning about Holy Week and Easter through Resurrection eggs. Our final activity was to make a book to take home telling the passion story and God's great love for us. We have been busy practicing our songs for the Spring Concert. We are a class that loves to sing! We are very excited to put away our winter gear and be able to enjoy our time outside a little bit more. The bubbles and sidewalk chalk have been in full usage! It is hard

to believe that we only have a month left of this school year! We have really bonded as a class and are hoping to make the most of our time all together.

5K – Mrs. Plant

Wow! We can't believe we are down to the last month of school. The kindergarteners sure are excited for 1st grade and are working hard to get ready for it. In Reading, we are learning about vowels and the long and short sounds they make. We have also been talking about digraphs and blends and identifying them in sentences and books. The kindergarteners continue to write in their journals with and without prompts. In math, we continue to review addition and subtraction. To end the year, we will be learning to identify coins and their value.

We just started our plant unit and are in the process of growing our own flowers. The students will learn about the different parts of a plant, the life cycle of a plant and what plants need to grow. There are some new visitors in the kindergarten room. We have 5 caterpillars(larvae) that we are going to watch go through metamorphosis. Currently, they are eating, growing and getting ready to make their chrysalis. The Kindergarten students have really enjoyed having Mystery Readers come into the classroom. Thank you to all of you that have already come in. If you haven't been able to come in yet but would like to, please let me know and we will find a spot for you. The children have also really liked having Mrs. Binczak (our school counselor) come in and read to us and talk about topics like; patience, kindness, sharing, emotions, friendship and more.

As the school year is coming to a close, we are looking forward to several end of year events such as; Spring Concert (April 24th), Kids for a Cause (May 16th), Track Meet at UW Stout (May 19th), and Kindergarten graduation/Closing service (May 23rd).

1st Grade – Mrs. Marohn

Collaboration! What does collaboration look like in 1st grade? There are so many ways that we have been learning to work together during the month of April. From Little Ballers and working on our teamwork, to working toward collective learning and social goals as a class, we have all kinds of ways to work on our collaboration skills! We have reading groups, collaborative working tables, and STEM activities that require us to think and work with others. We all have great ideas! Most recently, we have been working on a collaborative percussion presentation that we hope you enjoy at our Spring concert. WOW! Collaboration skills can be used in so many different ways, from sports to literature to music. We have learned that we can ALL take ownership of failure, but then we can ALL be part of the great feeling of success! We are finding so much value in working together and respecting others' ideas. When we think about the Great Commission of spreading the gospel to an entire world, of ALL nations, good collaboration is an important part of accomplishing such a vital and urgent task!

2nd Grade – Mrs. Seipel

The 2nd grade class has been working hard to memorize Psalm 23. What a joy to know Jesus is our Good Shepherd! In social studies we are learning about different types of heroes! We have learned about Jesse Owens, Susan B. Anthony and Abraham Lincoln! In writing class students have been working on poetry and writing their own If You Give a... style book! It is a joy to teach and see how students are learning and growing!

3rd Grade – Mrs. Wilkins

The Third Graders have been so excited to play outside with our warmer weather. We are keeping quite busy and are trying to fit a lot of learning into our already busy days. We've been preparing our beautiful hymn for Sunday service this coming Sunday (4/27 at 10:30 a.m.), as a "thank you" to our St. Mark Church members for giving of their time and treasure to support the ministry of Christian education. It is fitting to say a big, "THANK YOU" to our church members - not only are members supporting our building/staff salaries through their generous offerings, but also giving of their precious time/talent to support our school through Tech support; maintaining our building/grounds; donating time with special events; and most importantly through their prayers of love, support, and encouragement.

Third Grade also had a special field trip to visit our own Eau Claire Police Department. They brought out a lot of staff to show us their building/equipment; inform us about what they do every day for our community; and give a

demonstration of one of their K-9's in action. Of course, the service members with four legs were our favorite - we met Manso and Murphy. Thank you to our parent chaperones who helped make our field trip happen! Lastly, we've been busy growing three different types of beans and making daily observations in our seed journals on their progress in the Life Cycle of a plant. Next, we will be investigating Owl Pellets as part of our study on animals. In addition, we wrapped up another region - the Southeast! Lots of citrus and artifacts from our travels to Florida and other Southeastern states. Lots of fun to be had in Room 15!

4th Grade – Mrs. Pitt

May is almost here! We only have one month left of school- the year has gone by so fast!

Here's a couple of items to remember for the coming days.

- Our Spring Concert is Tonight. The students will meet in our classroom at 5:45. They should wear church clothes- no shorts or jeans please. The students really do a nice job singing!
- Sunday, April 27th, we are singing in the 10:30 church service with the third-grade class. Please have the students meet in our classroom at 10:15.
- Wednesday, April 30th, we are going to the Paint Shack for a fun art class with Mrs. Kortbein. I will be gone, but Miss Henderson will be subbing for me-the students really enjoy having her as their teacher! We will be leaving at 9:45 am. Thanks to all the parents who are driving for this field trip.
- May 1st is PTP Art Night at St. Mark. It starts at 6:30 pm. It should be a fun night for all!
- Wednesday, May 7th is our field trip to the Dietsche farm. We will be leaving right away in the morning, spend the morning at the farm, and then eating lunch at the park in Bloomer. We plan to return by 2:30.
- Thursday, May 8th - Academic/Athletics Awards at 6:00 pm. Some of the 4th graders will receive awards.
- Wednesday, May 14th, is the Spring Piano Recital at 6:00.
- Monday, May 19th is our Track Meet in Menomonie. We will be leaving right away in the morning.
- Last day of school is Friday, May 23rd. This is a half day!

There's a lot going on in May! Have a blessed week and month! Mrs. Pitt

5th & 6th Grades – Mr. Micheel

The students continue to study the book of Acts in Bible History. We recently studied Paul's first missionary journey in Acts 13-14 and are now studying his second missionary journey in Acts 16-18. Be sure to ask the why Paul's vision in Acts 16 is so vital.

For Catechism, we continue to rapidly finish our study of the chief parts of Luther's Catechism. We recently studied the Ministry of the Keys and Confession and are currently studying the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Consider bringing your children to the 8th Grade examination on Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 PM. It would be an excellent review of most of what we have studied this year in Catechism. They may be amazed by how many answers they know. I am planning for their final test to be on Tuesday, May 6. We will then finish the year studying Bible History and finish the book of Acts.

For Science, we have been using the Life Science book. We recently studied bacteria and viruses and are now studying protists. We will soon study fungi, plants, and animals in the near future.

Please note that on Wednesday, May 14, they will take a field trip to the Wildlife Refuge in Trempealeau. A sheet seeking permission and drivers will go home with the students today.

7th & 8th Grades – Mr. Niebuhr

The 7th and 8th grade class had another fantastic month! As the 8th graders prepared for Confirmation, they learned about Baptism and Communion, while the 7th graders learned about the commandments and their uses in our daily life. In History, we learned about the events leading to the Civil War and the division of the US caused by slavery. In Science, we learned about chemical reactions and mixtures. Math was spent learning about probabilities and graphing equations. We spent a lot of time in music class preparing for the Spring concert, and we look forward to our final month of the school year! Written by Greta S. and Riley J.

K-8 Track Meet - Monday, May 19, 2025

The annual track meet for grades K-8 will be held at UW Stout in Menomonie on Monday, May 19, 2025. The track meet will run from around 9:45 AM-1:30 PM.

Restrooms and drinking fountains are located near the track. Students are not allowed to roam UW Stout's nearby buildings or play on or with any track equipment.

St. Paul's, Menomonie, is making a lunch for the day. The menu will be sloppy joes or a hot dog. Sides will also be included with a Gatorade. Please send **\$4.50/person** which will cover the cost of eating the hot lunch. If you prefer, you can also bring your own sack lunch.

The track meet will be run on a block schedule. Schedules will be made available at the track meet. This means each grade will be scheduled for a certain event throughout the day. **Students should wear their St Mark T-shirts to the event!**

St. Mark will be responsible for assisting with events throughout the day. Please indicate if you might be able to help out. Thanks in advance for your help.

One final note, St. Mark is paying for a school bus for students who need a ride. Please indicate on the form below how your child will attend the track meet.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Niebuhr or Mr. Micheel.

Return By Thursday, May 8, 2025

_____ Our family will drive from home and meet you at the track meet on Monday, May 19. Note: Drivers may have to pay for parking at the event.

_____ I am willing to help run an event at the track meet.

_____ My child will ride the bus.

Cost: Number of Adults/St Mark Students eating lunch _____ x \$4.50/person. **(Please send money along with the form.)**

_____ No, we will pack our own lunch.

I give my child _____
(child's name)

permission to accompany his/her class on the school outing as described above. I will not hold the school, church, or any driver responsible for any accident; realizing that extreme supervision will be exercised.

(parent's signature)

Family Name: _____

Kids for a Cause Event Grades 5K-4 from 10-11 AM

Hoops for Heart Grades 5-8 from 10 AM - 2 PM

Parent Helpers for Grades 5K-8

On Friday, May 16, St. Mark will once more be hosting our annual Kids for a Cause event. This event is a way for our students to support a special cause in Eau Claire.

We have invited Messiah Lutheran, St. John's, Neillsville, St. Paul's, Bloomer, and St. Paul's, Menomonie, to participate in the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament for grades 5-8. This is an excellent opportunity to meet some new people, enjoy fellowship, and have a great time for a great cause.

The St. Mark students in grades 5K-4 will participate in other activities from 10-11 AM in the St. Mark gym. We will need help from parents in many different ways. We will be serving lunch to everyone in our school and the other three schools. We will need extra help for this lunch so even if your child is not in the upper grades we could use your help.

Parents, children, and/or family members, if you can make it only for lunch 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM everyone is welcome. The cost is \$4.50 per person. Those who have paid for hot lunch will be covered.

Please mark off any area you can help and return the bottom portion by

Thursday, May 8, 2025

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Niebuhr or Mr. Micheel

Family Name: _____ **Please mark where you can help.**

_____ Leaf Blowers: We will need help to prepare the parking lot to remove sand and gravel. We will need to do that on Wednesday, May 14. Helper's Name: _____

_____ Grillers: We will be having burgers and hot dogs, and we are looking for some people to grill up the food. Helper's Name: _____

_____ Grill: If you have a grill available to use that you can drop off for the day, we will need a few.

_____ Lunch Prep/Servers: We are looking for people to help get lunch ready and serve. All food will be purchased so all you have to do is prep. Helper's Name: _____

_____ Lunch Servers/Clean-Up: We are looking for people to help serve lunch and clean-up. Helper's Name: _____

_____ Helpers: We need some people to help lead an activity with the 5K-Grade 4. Helper's Name: _____

_____ Basketball Hoop: If you have a portable hoop that we can borrow we could use it. We will need help picking it up and returning it home.

_____ Number of students who are eating hot lunch who have paid for hot lunch.

_____ Number of students/younger children/adults that will eat hot lunch. Please send along \$4.50/person with this form.