

Christ is Our Cornerstone!



Lion's Roar – September 28th, 2023
St. Mark Lutheran School

Upcoming Events at St. Mark	
Thursday, 28 th	8:30a 4K Field Trip 3:30p Flag FB Practice 5:00p A Team VB Away
Friday, 29 th	8:35a Chapel 9:15 Morning Moms 11:50a Hot Lunch 1:00p Grandparents Day 4:15p B Team VB Home
Saturday, 30 th	9:00a Soccer Tournament Home
Sunday, 1 st	8:00a Grades 1-2 Sing in Church
Monday, 2 nd	3:30p B Team VB Practice 4:00p Flag FB Away 5:4:30 A Team VB Practice
Tuesday, 3 rd	3:30p Soccer Practice 4:00p B Team VB Home 5:00p A Team VB Home



Hot Lunch

- Fri, Sept 29 Taco bake, corn, yogurt, mandarin Oranges
- Fri, Oct 6 Chicken Patty on a bun, broccoli, Grapes
- Fri, Oct 13 no school
- Fri, Oct 20 Mini corn dogs, mac & cheese, veggies, oranges
- Fri, Oct 27 no school

Opening Thought by Mr Micheel

"But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last." (Matthew 20:13-16)

"That's not fair!" How often have we heard those words coming from our children? How often have we heard fans complain about the officiating at a sporting event? How often have we harbored that phrase in our own hearts when we feel that we have been cheated?

When Jesus shared a parable, his audience readily understood the parable's context. Each parable shared an important message about the *kingdom of God*. To better help his disciples guard against the thoughts that they might earn their salvation, he shared a parable with them that emphasized that one is saved by grace alone. Jesus shared a story about a landowner who owned a vineyard. The time for the grape harvest arrived, and he needed workers to gather the harvest. He went to the Jewish marketplace at 6:00 AM, found some workers, and agreed to pay them a denarius which was a day's wage. It was a fair contract. Noting his abundant harvest and realizing that the harvest wouldn't be finished, he went to the marketplace at 9:00 AM and found more looking for work. He did the same at 12:00 PM, 3:00 PM, and even 5:00 PM. His agreement was to pay them whatever was

right. When the workday concluded at 6:00 PM, the landowner did something unique. As he settled up with his employees, he chose to pay the 5:00 PM workers first. He paid them a denarius, a day's wage. He did the same with the 3:00 PM, 12:00 PM, and 9:00 AM workers. When the 6:00 AM workers approached the master, they were excited. Surely, they would get a bonus. They had worked a full 12-hour shift. How shocked they were when they received a denarius, a day's wage! It was the same as those that had only worked 9, 6, 3, or even only 1 hour. "That's not fair!" was surely screaming from their hearts. Note the words from Jesus' parable recorded at the beginning. His list of questions could simply be answered, "Yes." He paid them fairly. It was his money, and his decision to be generous.

Jesus' message to his disciples and to us is quite clear. God's gift of eternal life (the denarius) is the same for everyone. Yet, our sinful self often wants to think that it deserves more. I've been a faithful Christian my whole life. I have suffered much for being a Christian. I deserve more! Will the person who has been a Christian his entire life be given the same gift as the person who is brought to faith on his deathbed? Yes, and celebrate God's grace. The apostle Paul reminds us, *Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.* (Ephesians 2:8-9) Grace means that our salvation is based on God's undeserved love and not our own actions. What comfort we find knowing that. Otherwise, we might be left to wonder if we have done enough to earn God's favor. God's gift is free. *But the undeserved gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 3:23b) What motivation this also gives us to share the Gospel with people that don't yet know that Jesus is their Savior from sin! Celebrate Jesus' words to the man dying next to him who came to faith in Jesus on his vertical deathbed, *Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise."* (Luke 23:43)

Salvation is a free gift from God. This message is the heart of St. Mark Lutheran School. It is a message based on God's grace with Christ Jesus as our Cornerstone.

Chapel on Fridays/Mission Offerings – KIDS Care Project-Mi Amigo Jesus

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. This first quarter our mission offering will support the KIDS Care Project-Mi Amigo Jesus

Last Week: \$50.15 Year to Date: \$242.36



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. Unfortunately, no one correctly answered that Abraham's servant asked God to give him a sign when choosing a wife for Isaac. The sign would be that the woman would offer to water his camels after he asked her for a drink.

This week's question: Jacob had 12 sons born to him. Leah was the mother of how many of those sons?

Grandparents Day - September 29

Remember that Grandparents' Day is tomorrow at 1:00 PM. We look forward to spending this special day with the children's grandparents at our school. Please remind our special guests that they can come to our church entrance, Door #1.

Spirit Day on Fridays

We celebrate St Mark Spirit every Friday at school. Children are encouraged to wear St Mark Spirit items or their annual team shirts (any year is ok).



HOT LUNCH HELPERS

We really need volunteers to help serve hot lunch for next week (September 29), as well as for November and beyond. If you are able to help from about 11:30-1:30, please sign up on the Google doc

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15v7qUNzpaAH17WZvhT9bk3UrPTfEPvorKVZSOAvml8/edit?usp=sharing> or contact Carol Rust at dcrust@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

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
God has a Plan for Joseph	Joseph's dreams Joseph sold into slavery	Genesis 37:1-11 Genesis 27:12-36	God has a plan for Joseph. Joseph's brothers were jealous of the attention Joseph received from his father. They lied to their father about Joseph being dead.

Grades 1-4

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
7A	Jacob Tricks Isaac	Monday, October 2
7B	Jacob's Dream	Wednesday, October 4



Fall Athletics by Mr. Niebuhr



The rain put a damper on the outdoor athletics this past week. Flag football's triangular was canceled and will hopefully be rescheduled for a less wet day. Soccer survived their practice and both teams are prepared for the tournament this Saturday. A-team won both their games on Monday against Regis and Messiah quite comfortably. The B-team has remained competitive with their games on Friday and Tuesday. Both teams have shown huge improvements in personal and team skills.

Soccer Tournament - September 30

Please note that our school's soccer tournament will be on Saturday, September 30.



Athletic Calendar Access

Parents, the athletic calendar can be found on the school page of the St Mark website. If you hover over an event or click on it, there will be more detail available. <https://www.stmark-wels.org/school/>

Parent / Teacher Consultations - Week of October 9 / Primarily October 12/13

Please note that St. Mark has set aside Thursday evening, October 12, and Friday morning, October 13, as the days for our parent/teacher consultations. These visits are so valuable as we discuss the progress of your children in their classrooms. Please make every effort to sign up for one of these valuable conferences with your child's teacher. Here is the Google Sheet where you can sign up for these consultations. [LINK](#) You can also use this shortened URL to register: <https://shorturl.at/cfkR9> The Google Sheet will be open to register until Monday, October 9, at 6:00 PM.

Trunk or Treat coming up!

Sign-up sheets are in the church entry for helpers for the food & beverage tent and for those who want to decorate your vehicle trunks. We will also be accepting candy donations in tubs in the coat area near the church entrance. Trunk or Treat is Friday, October 20th from 5:30-7:30pm. We are encouraging anyone that is doing a trunk to please be at the parking lot by 4:45pm that day. This is one of our really fun outreach events! Come on out & help or bring your kids to trick-or-treat!

Board of Education Meeting - November 7, 2023

As part of the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, the Board of Education hosts two open sessions where parents/guardians have the opportunity to visit/observe/and ask questions at a Board of Education meeting. The first of these opportunities will be on Tuesday, November 7, from 5:30-6:00 PM.

Welcome to the St. Mark Family

We continue to meet a new St. Mark family each week. Today we meet the Mier family: Will, Angela, and Gabriel (age 4, and a 4K student in Ms. Smith's room). Will was born in Hennepin County, Minnesota, but moved to Chippewa Falls when he was only a few years old. He attended the Chippewa Falls elementary, middle, and high school for his schooling. Will has delivered pizza for Toppers for the last five years.

Angela was also born and raised in Chippewa Falls. She also went to elementary, middle, and high school in Chippewa Falls. After graduating from high school, Angela went to Madison Area Technical College and graduated with a degree as a veterinarian technician. She then continued her education at UW Eau Claire and graduated with a degree in Business Administration. She has worked at Idexx for the last 15 years in the diagnostic imaging department.

When the Miers have some free time, they have a few hobbies. Will enjoys bowling and also plays darts. His favorite games are Cricket and 501. Angela loves to read, especially fictional and crime books. She also enjoys going fishing.

We welcome the Miers to St. Mark. Please make them feel welcome at our school.



4K students with Mrs. Smith

Our class of 15 preschoolers is having a great start to their school year. It is such a joy to watch the classroom become a community. We have conquered our first fire drill and lock-down drill like pros. Today we get to go on our first field trip to the apple orchard. In preparation we have been learning all about apples!

5K students with Ms. Plant and Mrs. Krouse

The 5K students have enjoyed learning lots during the first month of school. They love singing and have worked hard to learn a couple verses and the refrain for Christ is our Cornerstone, which we will sing to our grandparents. We visited Bushel and a Peck Apple Orchard to pick apples, feed animals, tour the farm on a tractor ride and play on the fun playground equipment. We thank Farmer Wayne for sharing the orchard with us! 5K students have also enjoyed center time and reading groups, which we do at least 4 times a week in the morning.

1st Grade with Mrs. Marohn

The First-Grade class has been having lots of fun becoming AMAZING readers! We are learning that good readers take a first look at our books. Then, we take a good look at letters and sounds. Finally, we slide through the sounds and words - and we are reading! Once we are familiar with our books, we read them all again, two and maybe three times! To make all of our reading success even more fun, we have used the dark and rainy days and turned them into flashlight reading days. We can read on our own and in groups - What amazing readers!

Also, In September, our class was also able to join the 2nd graders for a wonderful day trip to the Beaver Creek Reserve. Thank you to the staff at Beaver Creek for a wonderful trip. We learned all about a first grader's favorite things - bugs and insects! 😊

2nd Grade with Mrs. Seipel

Our 2nd grade class is off to a great start! This class loves to learn and create projects! We had our first field trip to Beaver Creek! The students enjoyed hiking and exploring God's amazing creation!

In math the class completed the first chapter on addition and subtraction.

Our class created two class books! One is about crayons and the other is about our Beaver Creek trip.

Our class is a wonderful group of singers! We are singing for 8am worship on Sunday October 1.

3rd & 4th Grades with Mrs. Pitt

It's hard to believe that September is almost done! We've had a busy month! Thanks to all the parents who drove and chaperoned to the Chippewa Valley Museum at Carson Park. We learned about the logging history of the Chippewa Valley. We also visited Sunnyview School and learned about what school was like many years ago.

In math, the third graders just got done reviewing the chapter about addition, and now we are working on subtraction facts. They are excited about getting to work on their multiplication facts in a few weeks.

In Science, the third and fourth graders just finished a unit on Space- they learned about the planets, the phases of the moon and how the moon affects the tides.

We have been practicing our songs for Grandparents' Day, and have just started on songs for our Veterans' Day Concert. I hope you can come to both events if you are able.

Blessings on your week, and have a great October! Mrs. Pitt

4th Grade with Mrs. Smith

Our narthex classroom is working out well for our afternoon class of 12 fourth graders. We are eagerly working on reviewing our basic math before moving onto

new topics. The students are also enjoying learning grammar and writing skills through our mentor texts. The fourth graders have also jumped into the challenge of reading 40 books in this school year! We may only be together for 2 hours, but they are a busy 120 minutes!



Grades 5-6 News and Notes - Mr. Micheel

September has flown by quickly. I have the privilege of teaching both Bible History and Catechism to the students in Grades 5-6.

For Bible History, we are studying the same lessons as the students in Grades 1-4. We are studying the book of Genesis and the line of the Savior as it moves from Adam through Noah to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We note well God's providence, his guiding hand through the events in their lives, to keep the Messianic line faithful to his three-fold promises of the land, nation, and Savior.

For Catechism, we are studying the First Article of the Apostles' Creed. It focuses on God the Father as both the creator and preserver. Please note that the students will have their first Catechism test on Tuesday, October 3.

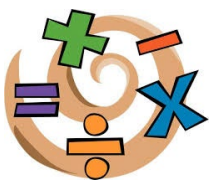
Finally, for Science, we have been studying Earth Science. The students made two models showing the four layers of the Earth: inner core, outer core, mantle, and lithosphere (crust). We have also been studying minerals and their characteristics. Finally, we have begun to study the three different types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic. Be sure to ask the students about their growing salt crystals in baby food jars.

5th & 6th Grades with Mrs. Knickelbein

Room 12 is abuzz with excitement over auditions for the musical Annie that we hope to perform on May 21st. Mark your calendars! We have also been busy analyzing characters and coming up with ideas for writing. This week, we will be wrapping up several month-long studies including our trait of the month—ideas, our hymn of the month—“Open Now My Heart to Hear”, and identifying South America’s 13 largest countries (on a map). We are putting our knowledge of citing textual evidence to work using the RACES (Restate the question, Answer the question, Cite evidence from the text, Explain how the evidence connects to your answer, and Summarize) response on our first official book interview. Finally, we are looking forward to Grandparents Day this week.

7th & 8th Grades with Mr. Niebuhr

The school year is in full swing in the 7th and 8th grade classroom. The 7+8th graders are reading the book “Across Five Aprils” in reading class. It is a challenging book with a lot of old English in it but the 7th and 8th graders are coming along nicely reading it and we are almost done with the book. In math, the 7th graders have been learning about comparing fractions and turning them into decimals, while the 8th graders have been learning about integers and exponents. In Phy Ed, we recently finished our speedball unit and are now beginning a frisbee unit. The 7+8th graders were doing really well in the speedball session as they continued to develop their skills such as throwing, catching, and playing as a team. These last couple of weeks we have been studying physics and although the stuff they learned was pretty complicated, most of them caught on as we just took our second quiz. In U.S. history we completed our study on the War of 1812, as well as the Jefferson era. We began a new section studying the Oregon Trail, along with the settlers moving west. Mr. Niebuhr’s classroom is pretty neat.



-written by the 8th Graders



CORNERSTONE
• LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL •

Cornerstone Lutheran High School is one month into its first school year. Students are adjusting to high school life and coursework. Teachers are learning to appreciate each individual and the gifts God has given them. Most importantly, we have been able to realize our purpose. Each day at Cornerstone, we are blessed to prioritize the worship of our God and the study of His Word. Please keep the work of Cornerstone in your prayers as the work of St. Mark is in ours.



Cross Country

Congratulations to our cross-country team for their terrific work last week. All four runners finished from upper to middle of the pack with our fastest runner placing 13th. It was a great showing from our young team in a varsity meet!

CANDY NEEDED!

Cornerstone is involved in two terrific community events on October 20th. We will have a booth at the YMCA in Chippewa Falls that evening. The Halloween at the Y event is anticipating over 1,000 guests! That’s a lot of candy! Cornerstone will also have a display at the St. Mark Trunk or Treat Event. That means even more candy! If you can help Cornerstone with a candy donation for these two events, please drop candy off in Mrs. Marohn’s classroom. Thanks for considering!