



# *I Belong to the Lord*



Lion's Roar – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
St. Mark Lutheran School

Upcoming Events at St. Mark ....	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Kids for a Cause Day Chapel Hot Lunch
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Track Meet
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	5K-2nd Grade Field Trip
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11a 4K Graduation
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10a 5K Graduation 11a Closing service & 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Graduation

Hot



Lunch

Fri, May 16

Burgers, hot dogs, chips,  
carrots, fruit

## Opening Thought

*When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel."*

*But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?"*

*Then he said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."*

*Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here because the LORD has sent me to Jericho."*

*But he said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.*

*Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?"*

*He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet." (II Kings 2:1-5)*

The Bible text recorded above describes the last work God had for Elijah as a prophet before he was miraculously taken to heaven in a whirlwind. God had already chosen Elijah's successor, Elisha. Elijah's final task was to go and visit three places: Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho. Each location included a school of the prophets. In some ways, we might suggest that these schools were similar to a seminary that trains our pastors today. Why did Elijah want to visit them? Likely for a few reasons. First, he wanted to be certain that these schools were training their students properly. He wanted to study their doctrinal teaching to make sure that what was being taught was in line with what God's Word says. His visit would also give the teachers and students the confidence to persevere in times of trial and persecution. Finally, these schools would be made well aware that God had chosen Elisha to be Elijah's successor.

Isn't this amazing? Schools, whose main purpose is to train future prophets or pastors, have been around for almost 3000 years. Last week, our students in grades 7 and 8 traveled for their Focus on the Ministry trip. While on this trip, they visited two of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod's schools, Luther Preparatory School in Watertown

(Grades 9-12), and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (the final years of training for our pastors) in Mequon. These two schools are funded by the WELS. In addition, the WELS also supports another preparatory high school, Michigan Lutheran Seminary, in Saginaw. Finally, the WELS also supports Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. MLC trains our future pastors (their first four years of training) and future teachers in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. As noted above, those men who graduate from MLC continue their study to become pastors by finishing at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. For those men and women who are studying to be teachers, they will graduate and receive a Divine Call to teach in one of our WELS schools. Why is this training so vital? If our church body is going to continue to strive to teach God's Word in its truth and purity, it will need pastors and teachers who are well-grounded in the Scriptures. We pray that God would continue to bless these schools as they train their students. St. Mark will certainly keep our eyes on Martin Luther College's graduation and Divine Call assignments for two reasons. First, St. Mark will have two members graduate from MLC this Saturday. Both Josie Biebertiz and Ty Marohn will graduate on Saturday morning. Then they will also be assigned as teachers to one of our WELS schools in the special Divine Call service in the afternoon. Second, St. Mark has also requested a graduate to be assigned to St. Mark to teach 5th Grade. Will this request be filled with a "Yes"? We will wait and trust the Holy Spirit to answer that question in the most fitting way. St. Mark will also keep an eager eye on the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary assignments next week as one of our former students at St. Mark, Ethan Carter, will be assigned to serve as a pastor in a WELS congregation.

Finally, so why do we take our 7th and 8th graders on such a Focus on the Ministry trip? While it is true that many of them will not become pastors or teachers, it will at least show them where their pastors and teachers received their training. It will assure them that these schools provide a solid foundation for our called workers in our Synod. It may also lead our own students to consider the full-time public ministry. One day, maybe one or a few of our students will respond like Isaiah. *Then I heard the LORD's voice saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"* (Isaiah 6:8)

## 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: \$40.23      Year to Date: \$253.85



## 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 Agabus prophesied that Paul would be captured when he arrived in Jerusalem. **This week's question:** Identify the student who answered the most Bible trivia questions.

## Weekly Wellness Tip by Rachel Binczak

Summer is a great time to **get outside and enjoy God's creation**. Read a book outside, visit a playground, or explore a trail. Time in nature has been shown to decrease stress by lowering the stress-associated chemical cortisol. It's no surprise, as the Bible is full of praise over God's creation!



*The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. (Psalm 19:1-2)*





## 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 this Sunday, May 18th from 11:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. in the Shaker Center (Gym). Hope you can make it!

## Closing Service/8th Grade Graduation - Friday, May 23, at 11:00 AM

Please note St. Mark will host its closing service on Friday, May 23, at 11:00 AM. Parents, guardians, and grandparents are all welcome to attend.

The 8th-grade students will also receive their diplomas at this service as well.

When the service is finished, the children will receive their 4th Quarter report cards, and they are free to go home for the summer.

## 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. Flyer is attached in email.



## 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
5-19	36	Jesus Blesses Children	<a href="#">Mark 10:13-16</a>	Parents and grandparents brought little children to Jesus. While the disciples thought Jesus was too busy, he scolded them and showed that he values little children and blessed them.

Grades 1-4 - Set 3

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
13A	Philip and the Ethiopian	Tuesday, May 20, 2025
13B	Jesus Changes Saul's Heart	Wednesday, May 21, 2025



## Kids for a Cause - Tomorrow



Tomorrow, May 16, our students will celebrate Kids for a Cause. The students in Grades 5K-Grade 4 will participate in many physical activities that morning. 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. We still need lots of volunteers to help with this event!

## Track Meet - Monday, May 19

Remember that the track meet will be this Monday, May 19.

For those students riding the bus, they should come to school at the normal time. The bus will leave at 8:40 AM. For those who are driving to the track meet, please be to the UW Stout track by 9:30 AM. Thank you.

MANY THANKS from Mrs. Rust!

Thank you, sincerely, to everyone who supported the hot lunch program this year with your donations of money for desserts, and your time for helping to serve. It is a blessing to work with the school families, and to serve lunches each week. God bless your summer!



### Spring Survey

As an important part of continuous school improvement, the Board of Education and faculty appreciate gathering input from our parents as we reflect on this school year coming to a close under the theme "I Belong to the Lord" and look forward to a new school year. Please take a few minutes to answer this brief survey. Here is the [LINK](#) for the survey. **Please submit by May 23.**

### Basketball Camp – June 2-5

Cornerstone Lutheran High School will be hosting a Basketball Camp this summer. The dates for this camp are June 2nd-June 5th, and it will be hosted at St Mark Lutheran School. Registration is now open for all students entering grades 1-9 (Current K-8th grade students). To register, go to this link: <https://bit.ly/CLHSBBCAMP>. The cost for the camp is \$20/child, and includes a camp T Shirt, prizes, an 8 hours of basketball skills sessions. If you have any questions, reach out to Mr. Marohn ([marohn@cornerstonelhs.org](mailto:marohn@cornerstonelhs.org)) or Mr. Gustafson ([gustafson@cornerstonelhs.org](mailto:gustafson@cornerstonelhs.org))



### Camps this Summer at LPS



We are just one month away from the start of our summer camps!

*June features overnight basketball camps:*

K-3rd Parent-Child June 13-14

3rd-6th Parent-Child June 14-15

8th-9th Boys June 15-18

6th-7th Boys June 18-21

7th-9th Girls June 22-25

*July features all other overnight & day camps:*

8th-9th overnight Girls Volleyball July 6-9

5th-9th overnight Boys Wrestling July 7-8

6th - 7th overnight Girls Volleyball July 9-12

6th-8th overnight Phoenix Adventure Camp co-ed July 13-16

Various Day Camps July 14 - 17

We would love to see you at Luther Prep this summer!

Visit [lps.wels.net/summercamps](https://lps.wels.net/summercamps) to register.



4K, 5K & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates!!!