

# *It All Began With God...*



## *Lion's Roar* *St. Mark Lutheran School*

**December 2, 2021**

### **Upcoming Events at St. Mark ....**

**TODAY:** Hot Lunch

5:00 A-Team Boys vs. Regis/Messiah

**Friday:** Chapel

**Monday:** 5:00 B-Team Boys vs. Regis

6:00 B-Team Boys vs. Regis/Liberty Christian

7:00 B-Team Boys vs. Regis/Liberty Christian

**Tuesday:** 9:00 Morning Moms

4:30 A-Team Boys vs. St. Paul, Menomonie

5:30 Board of Ed

**Wednesday:** 11:00 & 6:30 Advent Services

(Grades 1 & 2 Sing)

**Thursday (12/9):** 4:30 A-Team Boys vs. Liberty Christian



**Thursday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Hot ham on a bun, tater tots, green beans, peaches

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Chicken nuggets, rice blend, broccoli, veggies & dip, oranges.

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – Pizza tot casserole, garlic bread, salad, grapes.

**Wednesday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Order out pizza  
(Activity fee will pay for it)

### **Divine Call for a First Grade Teacher - December 12 at 11:45 AM**

The Holy Spirit moved Faith Scheer to return her Divine Call to St. Mark and continue serving at Christ the Lord in Brookfield.

St. Mark has set its next Divine Call meeting for Sunday, December 12, at 11:45 AM. We trust the Holy Spirit will guide us to call the right person to be our next first grade teacher!

### **Children's Christmas Service Information**

Please note the following dates for the upcoming children's Christmas service.

- Sunday, December 12 - 9:15-10:15 AM (Practice)
- Wednesday, December 15 - 5:30-6:15 PM (Practice)
- Sunday, December 19 - 10:30 AM (Worship Service)

## Opening Thought

*The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on their way and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light. In this way they could travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night never left its place in front of the people. (Exodus 13:21-22)*

*As for you, lift up your staff, stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide the sea so that the Israelites can go through the middle of the sea on dry ground. (Exodus 14:16)*

This past week, your children read and heard about the Bible lessons where the LORD miraculously delivered his people, the Israelites from the Egyptians. As the Israelites left Egypt, they had a visible reminder, a tangible way, to see the LORD was with them as he guided them. The words recorded above in Exodus 13 show how the LORD would guide them as a pillar of a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire during the night. What assurance the people must have felt knowing their LORD was with them!

Note also another visible way the LORD demonstrated his presence among the people. Moses used his staff, the staff of God, to do many, many miracles. Just think of the many plagues when Moses used the staff to bring forth the plague. He used the staff to part the waters of the sea. He used the staff to bring forth water from a rock. He used the staff to help the Israelites to defeat the Amalekites by keeping Moses' arms above his head. What a beautiful symbol of God's visible presence of how he fought for his people! Look at Moses' response. *Moses built an altar and named it "The Lord Is My Banner," (Exodus 17:15)*

As we read the visible ways that showed the LORD's presence, we may often wonder and wish that it would be awfully nice if we could have God's visible assurance that he is with us as well. Wouldn't it be great if that visible presence could encourage us when life got challenging. Surely that would help us to stay focused and help us to never question God's decisions and his wisdom when life gets tough, right?

As New Testament Christians, there is much we need to learn. God is present with us each day. Unlike the Israelites, we have God's visible presence in his written Word. *In the past, God spoke to our forefathers by the prophets at many times and in many ways. In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son. (Hebrews 1:1-2a)* We have the recorded Old Testament promises of the Savior. We have the New Testament words showing how God kept those promises and seeing the fulfillment of his plan of salvation for sinners. We have the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion where God uses earthly elements connected with his words to offer forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

While the Israelites had the LORD's visible presence, they quickly grumbled and complained when things didn't go well. Are we any different? We compare how difficult our job is compared to our neighbor. We see how blessed others are with their material possessions and loathe in self-pity how we don't enjoy such blessings. We only think about our health when we are sick. How quickly we chase after earthly possessions, and yet find out how hollow those treasures truly are! We are no different than those Israelites in the desert. That is why we need to go to the visible presence of God's Word and confess those sins and seek his forgiveness. *Lord have mercy on me a sinner.* As God's Law appropriately cuts us down, we find comforting assurance through the tangible presence of his Word. We are assured of his forgiveness. *Who is a God like you, who forgives guilt, and who passes over the rebellion of the survivors from his inheritance? He does not hold onto his anger forever. He delights in showing mercy. (Micah 7:18)* Thank you God for your presence in our lives. Thank you for your generosity that you shower on us each day. Thank you for your plan of salvation that you offer each sinner. This assured message is the heart of our church and school! May God keep us focused on his Word, the tangible evidence of his presence with us each day.

## CHAPEL ON FRIDAYS / MISSION OFFERINGS



Parents feel free to join us for our morning chapel on Friday mornings at 8:30 AM. We also take a weekly collection of mission offerings. This second quarter our mission offering will support the Grace Among Outreach in Vietnam.

11/19/21: \$57.76

QTD: \$147.75

## 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)

Note: New Christ light Book - Book 2

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
3A	God Gives His People Food	Monday, December 6
3B	God Takes Care of His People	Wednesday, December 8

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 the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart after the 6th plague.



### This week's question:

The LORD blessed the Israelites with morning manna for 40 years. He gave them two special instructions for collecting manna. What were those instructions?

### **Board of Education Meeting - Open Invitation**

Parents/guardians, as part of the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, our Board of Education must notify our families that there will be two meetings each year where parents are welcome to come and attend. The two dates for these meetings are on Tuesday, December 7, from 6:00-6:30 PM and Tuesday, February 1, 2022, from 6:00-6:30 PM.

**CARDS FOR A CAUSE** Just a reminder that the Cards for a Cause fundraiser goes through the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. Please return order form and all payments with your child by Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser supports the new Cornerstone Lutheran High School. Thank you!

# ATHLETICS



Our A-Team boys basketball team got their first win this past Monday against St. Paul's in Bloomer. It was another nail-biter in the second half, but the Lions stuck together and got the 1-point victory!

Our B-Team boys basketball team also played in Bloomer this week. Unfortunately, they lost both of their games on Tuesday night, but they continue to work on improving as players and as a team. Keep up the good work!

Tonight, our A-Team plays two more games at St. Mark against Regis and Messiah. Come and cheer on your St. Mark Lions!

A reminder that our online school apparel store will close on Dec. 6th. So, check out the new St. Mark gear and order your favorite items before it closes to show your support and school spirit.

## Welcome to the St. Mark Family

We continue to meet our new St. Mark families. Today, we meet the Stolt family: Adam, Robyn, Declan (age 8 and a 3rd Grade student in Mrs. Pitt's room), and Madelyn (age 5 and a Kindergarten student in Ms. Plant's room).

Adam was born and raised in Bloomer. After graduating from high school in Bloomer, he went on to Waukesha County Technical College where he majored in Mechanical Design. After graduating from college, Adam worked for a while in Milwaukee as a mechanical designer, but he wanted to move closer to home where he grew up so he took a job with RB Scott Company in 2010. He works as a manager of engineering and technical support. RB Scott is an equipment dealer for the aggregate industry.

Robyn was born and raised in Delafield, Wisconsin. She attended the Hartland public schools and graduated from Arrowhead High School. She then went on to the University of Minnesota where she majored and earned her Bachelor's degree in Interior Design. She worked for an architectural firm in both Madison and later the Wisconsin Dells. She actually met Adam for the first time while in high school but reconnected with him after they both had graduated from college at a Super Bowl party. She moved to Eau Claire when they got married in 2011. Robyn started her own Interior Design company where she works with architects. She has helped design both residential and commercial properties which include dentist offices, restaurants, hotels, and even a casino. She appreciates the flexibility with her own business to take time with their children when needed.



The Stolts have many hobbies. They especially enjoy being outdoors. Adam enjoys deer hunting and even shot a doe opening weekend this year. The family works together to raise a vegetable garden. Now that the weather is getting colder the Stolts plan to do some ice skating together on a pond near their home. Both children also play soccer for the AYSO program in Eau Claire. Finally, the family loves to travel. Most recently, Adam and Robyn went to Alaska this Fall, and the family took a trip to South Dakota last year and road-tripped to Florida earlier this year.

We welcome the Stolts to our school. They are an easy family to visit with so please introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome as a part of our school family.