ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
WORSHIP, LOVE, SERVE

October 2017 Volume

THE GRAPEVINE

Dear Faithful Disciples,

The theme for this year's stewardship emphasis is ***Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love.*** We will begin this emphasis on October 15. As God's people, we have been given the high honor of being his stewards. As his stewards, we are called to manage faithfully all that we've been entrusted with according to God's will and benefit. Because of God's generous gifts of grace, faith, and love, we can accomplish all that God asks us to do. God works in and through us as we become His hands, feet, and mouth. Each week during this three-week emphasis, we will be focusing on one of the three virtues, grace, faith, and love.

In week one, our focus is on God's undeserved kindness and love which the Bible calls grace. God's grace comes from God through Jesus and his work for us. It is not something we have a right to. Jesus obtained it for us. We get it freely because of the obedience and sacrifice of Jesus. This saving grace also enables and motivates us to be God's stewards. The power of God's grace in our lives compels us to use our time, talents, and money in ways that glorify God.

In week two, we are reminded that it is through faith that we have access into God's grace and a new relationship with Him. Through faith, God changes us, and we are born anew of Him. Not only does faith justify us and give us peace with God (Romans 5:1), we are told by James and other writers that faith produces works (James 2:18). Faith leads to action. Through faith, we are empowered to fulfill God's purposes. Our deeds as stewards are evidence of our faith.

The third week we will focus on the virtue of love. Love ought to follow faith. Love seeks the welfare of others. *"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us"* (1 John 4:11-12). God's love in Christ will compel us to do things that appear foolish to unbelievers. God's love prompts us to give freely of our time, talents, and treasures to help others and extend His kingdom.

I hope and pray that God will use the sermon messages on ***Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love*** to draw you closer to Him. I urge you to make every effort to be with us each week during our sermon series and bring a friend as we are transformed by Grace, Faith and Love.

Blessings+
Pastor Don

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CHURCH NEWS

Annual Congregational Meeting

We will have our Annual Congregational Meeting to discuss the budget on **November 12** between services. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

500th Anniversary of the Reformation Service

The Evansville Area Lutheran Church Cluster (ELCA churches) is hosting a Reformation 500 Anniversary Service on **Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 3:00 pm** at the Evansville National Guard Armory with Guest Speaker, Bishop Rev. Dr. William O Gafkjen. A reception will follow the service.

Scrips Orders

Scrip orders need to be turned in **Sunday, October 8.** This is a great way to help St. Mark's earn money by buying gift cards for places you already shop. Get your Wal-mart and Target cards and use them to buy your Halloween costumes and candy for Trick-or-Treaters!

Preschool Board

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Preschool Board. This group meets three times per year and the next meeting is on **January 15 at 5:30 pm.** Please see Pastor Don or Heather Miller if interested.

community outreach

Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday, **October 21 from 3:30-6:00 pm**. We are currently collecting candy to hand out to trunk-or-treaters. If you can help with games or decorate your trunk, please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering area.

Also, if anyone has access to a flatbed trailer and garden tractor for the hayride, please let Pastor or Stephanie know.

10/1—Christy Ferley
10/4—Diane Hawkins
10/5—Karen Mitchell
10/8—Sharon Arvidson
10/14—Barbara Rendleman
10/16—Brad Anderson
10/17—Connor Borg
10/18—Marilee Johnson
10/18—Eric Forche
10/18—Isabella Nelson
10/18—Malachi Nelson
10/19—Ethan Gray
10/27—Mary Blanke
10/28—Nicholas Forche
10/30—Carrie Ferguson
10/31—Barbara Hamlow

small groups

There's a place for you!

Monday Morning Bible Study

We meet on the **first and third Monday of the month at 10:00 am at St. Mark's.** Please contact Carol Courter if you would like more information.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will not meet in October. We will resume meeting on **November 7** and meet the first and third Tuesday thereafter. We will be studying Luther. *All women are invited and do not need to be members of St. Mark's to attend.* Please see Diane Meier for more information.

Ladies' Night Out

Ladies Night Out will be held **October 13 at 6:00 pm.** The cost is $5 and includes dinner and dessert. Please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area if interested. Thank you!

Lunch Crew

This group meets for lunch and fellowship on the 3rd Monday of each month at various restaurants around town. **Lunch Crew will meet on October 16 at 12:00 p.m.** More information to follow. All are welcome! Please join us for fellowship and a great meal.

Take note

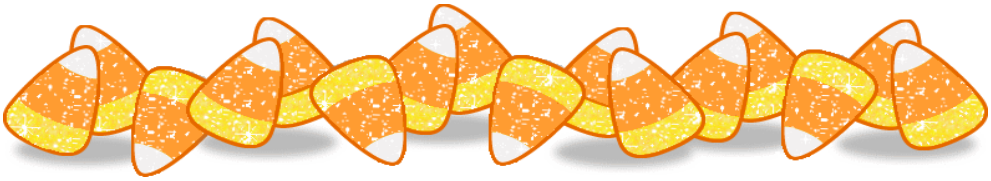
You don't want to miss Reformation Sunday! The music will be incredible! We will have trumpet, flute, tenor saxophone, and clarinet along with the piano and organ. Be sure to join us on October 29 as we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation!

The choir is also gearing up for Christmas Eve. If you would like to sing with the choir for the 7:00 pm Traditional Candlelight service, please begin attending choir practice this Thursday from 6-7 pm. We're tackling some challenging music for Christmas Eve, so it's imperative that everyone begin learning the music early.

On another note, we're always looking for musicians and vocalists to share the gift of their music with us. If you'd like to participate with a solo, duet, or instrument, please contact me.

Musically in Christ,

Debra Ordner



Missional Services

Disaster Relief

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, designated for "US Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100 percent) for this disaster until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Envelopes to support this response can be found in the back of the sanctuary, or you can give online at www.ELCA.org/disaster or call 800-638-3522.

Lutheran Disaster Response

We Remember In Our Prayers

The family of Lillian K. Breitwieser,
the family of Mary Robinson,
the family of George Murphy,
Skip Herrera & family,
Thelma Brown,
Caleb Krodel,
Carole Ross,
Lyman Roll,
Barb and Dave Jacobsen,
Joe Koewler & family,
Judy Hodoval,
Kimberlee Grimm,
Michael Cavasos,
Bryce Pitlick,
Arlene Sellers,
Tom Savage,
Sharon Bieber,
Sharon Cota,
Michael Lawson,
Terry Lampton,
Charles Paine, Sr.,
Mary Lou Thayer,
Sally & June Coslett,
Ken & Jan Heugel,
Clay Gascoigne,
Dolores Zahm,
Laura Wiegand Brown
Eve Corlew

Let Us Pray...

Father God, be the oneness that exists between us, the focus of our lives and worship, our unity of faith.

Precious Jesus, be the peace that is shared between us, the compassion we show to others, our unity of love.

Holy Spirit, kindle the flame that burns within us, the light that will shine in the darkness, our unity of hope.

Amen.

—Birch, John. The Act of Prayer: Praying through the Lectionary, Bible Reading Fellowship.

Please Remember Our Shut-Ins and Homebound Members

Arthur Aarstad—*Newburgh Healthcare*
Norma Cobb—*Home*
Jan Heugel—*Protestant Home*
Dottie Peteritas—*Oasis Dementia Care*
Dolores Zahm—*Protestant Home*

October Ministry Schedule

	10/1	10/8	10/15	10/22	10/29
Altar Guild	J– Donna Myers T— Mike & Judi Chase				
Usher		Scott & Linda Larsen	Dan & Lynne Mowrey	Mark & Sherri Zeller	
Greeter	J— Margaret Boyles & Cathy Goller T—	J— Terry & Debbie Garoutte T— Scott & Linda Larsen	J— Lee & Judy Hodoval T— Dan & Lynne Mowrey	J— Marilee Johnson & Pat Powers T— Erlus Shatara & Pat Baker	J— KewBee McDonald & Diane Meier T—
Communion Assistant	J— T—LaVon Niehaus	J— T—	J— T—LaVon Niehaus	J— T—	J— T—LaVon Niehaus
Nursery Attendant	J— Angela Koewler T—	J— Cathy Goller T— Christy Ferley	J— Kelsie Tarter T—	J—Jayme Trevino T—	J—Diane Hawkins T—
Lector	Eugene Hamlow	LaVon Niehaus	Barbara Hamlow	LaVon Niehaus	Lynn Wahoski
Assisting Minister	Karen Dunlap	Sherri Zeller	Sherri Zeller	Mark Zeller	Jeff Braun
Coffee Hour	Forche	Birthday Sunday / Larsen	Nelson	Kelly/Krodel	Carole Ross/Susann Betz
Kids' Church	J— Heather Miller T– Susan Gray	J— Susan Gray & Heather Miller T– Susan Gray	J— Susan Gray & Heather Miller T– Susan Gray	J— Susan Gray & Heather Miller T– Susan Gray	J— Susan Gray & Heather Miller T– Susan Gray
Media Ministry	J— Don Rodd & Barbara Rendleman T— Andrew Nelson & Carol Courter	J— Don Rodd & Barbara Rendleman T— Mike Myers & Carol Courter	J— Don Rodd & Barbara Rendleman T— Andrew Nelson & Carol Courter	J— Don Rodd & Barbara Rendleman T— Mike Myers & Carol Courter	J— Don Rodd & Barbara Rendleman T— Andrew Nelson & Carol Courter

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
2300 Washington Avenue
Evansville, IN 47714

Please join us for worship each Sunday

9 am Contemporary Service

10 am Coffee Hour/Sunday School

11 am Traditional Service