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SATURDAY WORSHIP AT 5:00PM RESUMES*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

SEPTEMBER SUNDAYS AT 9:00AM

WITH RALLY DAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH!

*(TEMPORARILY—SEE ARTICLE BELOW)

Blessed Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we enter the season of fall, we are also entering a new season in the life of St. Mary's. Calling a new pastor is an exciting time, full of possibilities, but it can also be a challenging time. While the goal is to match with a pastor who meets our needs, we also must be mindful of the needs of a new pastor. The Greater Milwaukee Synod currently has 117 churches that they serve. 32 of those 117 are in the process of looking for a new pastor or as the synod calls it, "in transition". Unfortunately, there are not enough pastors available to fill all the openings. This makes the search a formidable task. Pastors seeking a new call can be highly selective in what they choose because there are so many open positions.

The lack of candidates can be compared to a buyer's market in real estate. Buyers looking for a new home can be selective in what they choose because there are so many options available. Sellers must make their home as appealing as possible. Like sellers in a buyer's market, we also need to do some self-reflection to see what we can do to stand out in a positive way to the few pastors currently looking for a new home.

Out of the 117 churches in the synod, only 9 single pastor churches have weekly Saturday services. 4 additional churches offer Saturday services, but only once or twice a month. 7 additional churches offer a Saturday service, but 2 or 3 pastors share the responsibilities. The remaining 97 churches in our synod do not have a Saturday service.

As we enter this new season of St. Mary's we must consider the future as we make decisions. We need to make choices that will not only help the health of our church, but also the health of our pastor. We ask for you to prayerfully consider transitioning to one Sunday service, 2 Sunday services, a Sunday and a weekday evening service, or a Sunday service and a Saturday service once or twice a month. Please listen for more information during the weekend services of September 16 & 17 and September 23 & 24, 2023. The WMA Committee will be surveying the congregation after this so you can make an informed decision on services moving forward.

*God's Love and Peace,
Adam Fonk
Church Council Vice President
Julie Schmit
Worship, Music, Arts Chairperson*

The mission of St. Mary's Lutheran Church is to be a fellowship of believers, called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit, to bear witness to Jesus Christ in the community and in the world. We equip ourselves for our mission by: Prayer, Worship, Education. Enabling us to witness through: Evangelism, Service, Stewardship.

WE ARE

GOD'S PEOPLE

FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST

GIFTED BY THE SPIRIT

GO PRAY

GO LOVE

GO SERVE

THANKS BE TO GOD!



We are a
RECONCILING in CHRIST
Congregation

**[More] information during
the weekend services of
September 16 & 17 and
September 23 & 24, 2023.**

Watch these services online
three ways:

- 1) Like our church [Facebook Page](#)
- 2) Watch Live on [YouTube](#)
- 3) Watch videos from the [church Website](#) (on Monday afternoons)

August 2023

Worship Attendance

6/7: 120	13/14: 104
20/21: 83	27/28: 108

Thank you to all our volunteers for helping with worship this summer! You are the ❤️ of the church!

Interim Pastor, Pastor Kathy Brown

Greetings and peace to you!

Though the Easter resurrection is celebrated in March or April, September is a kind of resurrection in itself. Rather than eggs and bunnies, it is welcomed with red apples in the orchards and the sound of farm equipment working in the fields to bring in the various harvests. The weather outside has its own sense of change of the new season of autumn. School, (it hadn't in August) has begun again. Many church activities that were on hiatus during the summer return to the calendars.

St. Mary's Rally Day will be Sept. 10. It's a time of getting back to *Sunday School, Youth Group, Choir, Bells and the several other events and activities.* Rallying can have that sense of resurrection, that sense of a fresh breath and new life. And that resurrection life isn't limited to that one day, but should fill all of our days with that newness – new ideas, new opportunities, the search for a new pastor.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He is the Way, Truth and Life. His being raised from the dead brought us all new life. How will we, in this September resurrection, live that new life, individually and as a congregation? May our hearts and minds, and all of our senses lead us to discover that newness, celebrate it, and engage it to its fullest.

In Christ,

Pastor Kathy

FUSION!

2008

2017



Flashback SMLC
Programming!

2015



Sunday School!

CHOIR & BELLS!

2013



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

2013



CHURCH COUNCIL

Hello St. Mary's Community.

Praise God for the chance to rebuild as a vibrant community of faithful servants to Him.

I continue to be thankful for you, the St Mary's Lutheran Church community, and how you continue to step up to move **OUR** congregation forward into the next chapter of the St Mary's Lutheran Church timeline.

Special thanks to

All the individuals who are sharing their bountiful harvests. I love seeing the variety of fruits and vegetables our congregation grows.

The MET for the endless hours gathering information and completing the MSP.

The individuals who provided feedback on the MSP.

Everyone who attended the townhall to review the MSP.

The Call committee, who will soon be reviewing resumes and interviewing potential pastoral candidates.

MPS/Call committee update

The MSP has been updated based on the townhall feedback. Looking for council's final approval by the end of August.

By the time the September Spirit is published a Call committee chair and secretary will have been selected and Orientation with Pastor Kristen will have been scheduled.

Personnel updates

Artem (Art) Kotenko has been hired and onboarded as our new Sound/Video Technician.

Let's welcome him, his wife Olga and 2 children to our community. Olga has also joined the team to learn the system.

Applications are being reviewed for the Youth Leader position with hope of having an individual in place in time for the new school year.

Worship update

As communicated in May the summer worship schedule would be evaluated in August. WMA recommended to council and council approved returning on a temporary basis to the Saturday service starting September 9th. The temporary basis allows WMA and Council to ask the congregation for feedback, assess all services and educate the congregation. The expectation is to have a decision on St. Mary's worship services by 31 Dec 2023. You will be receiving a more in-depth communication. Please assure you provide your feedback in a timely manner when you are asked.

The Back-to-school season has arrived. Please pray for all students/teachers as they return to school. Praying for their safety, focus, and faith is important at this time as many will be going through a variety of emotions from excitement (seeing old friends) to anxiety (new school and friends).

Go Pray, Go Love, Go Serve
Keith Richter, SMLC Council President

Come and join us

St. Mary's Lutheran Church

2001 80th STREET KENOSHA 262 658-3555



CELEBRATION

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30 6-10 PM

AFTER THE 5:00 SERVICE

MUSIC PROVIDED BY

The Hungry Five and Friends

plus

MGV Harmonia Choir

Homemade German Food \$12.00

Beer & Wine \$

NURSE SUE—ADVOCATE FAITH & HEALTH

Dear Friends,
As we prepare for fall and the changes of the season, we can also celebrate the month of September by observing Healthy Aging month. Here are ten upbeat tips from [Healthy Aging](#) magazine that could help reinvent yourself with a positive twist! May we strive for improved mental health and wellness.

Do not act your age or at least what you think your current age should act like. What was your best year so far? 28? 45? Now? Picture yourself at that age and be it. Some people may say this is a denial, but we say its positive thinking and goes a long way toward feeling better about yourself. (Tip: Don't keep looking in the mirror, just FEEL IT!)

Be positive in your conversations and your actions every day. When you catch yourself complaining, check yourself right there and change the conversation to something positive. Looking for things that you can be grateful for is a start. (Tip: It might help to limit your viewing of news and political commentary.)

Shine your Light. Do you know people who complain all the time and constantly talk about how awful everything is? Try to surround yourself with energetic, happy, positive people of all ages and you will be happier too. (Tip: Smile often. It's contagious and wards off naysayers.)

Walk like a vibrant, healthy person. Come on. You can probably do it. Analyze your gait. (Tip: Walk with your heels first and wear comfortable shoes.)

Stand up straight! You can knock off

the appearance of a few extra years with this trick your mother kept trying to tell you. Look at yourself in the mirror. Are you holding your stomach in, have your shoulders back, chin up? Check out how much better your neck looks! Fix your stance and practice it every day, all day until it is natural. You will look great and feel better. (Tip: Your waistline will look trimmer if you follow this advice.)

How's your smile? Research shows people who smile more often are happier. Your teeth are just as important to your good health as the rest of your body. Not only is it the first thing people notice, but good oral health is a gateway to your overall well-being. (Tip: Go to the dentist regularly.)

Lonely? Do you ever feel like your friends or family are too busy for you? Do something about it now. Right this minute. Pick up the phone, landline, or cell and make a call to do one or more of the following: Volunteer your time, take a class, and invite someone to meet for lunch, brunch, dinner, or coffee. (Tip: Volunteer at the local public school to stay in touch with younger people and to keep current on trends, offer your time at the ELCA outreach center, take a computer class or a tutorial session at your cell phone store to keep up with technology, choose a new person every week for your dining out.)

I am looking forward to the positive energy that all of us have the potential to radiate!

***Blessings,
Sue Quever R.N., F.C.N.
Advocate Faith and Health Team***



Advocate Health Care

*Nurse Sue's in the Office on
Tuesdays Only. Call 658-3555 for
Appointments.*

SMLC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Sunday School Calendar

September 10: Rally Day!

September 17: Sunday School Begins!

Sunday School music time begins after Kids Connection, the kids return for Communion, and then have instruction until 10:30.

www.facebook.com/smlcsundayschool

Fish/Fusion Calendar

September 11: KICK OFF NIGHT! 6-8pm

September 17: Youth sing at
Contemporary Service

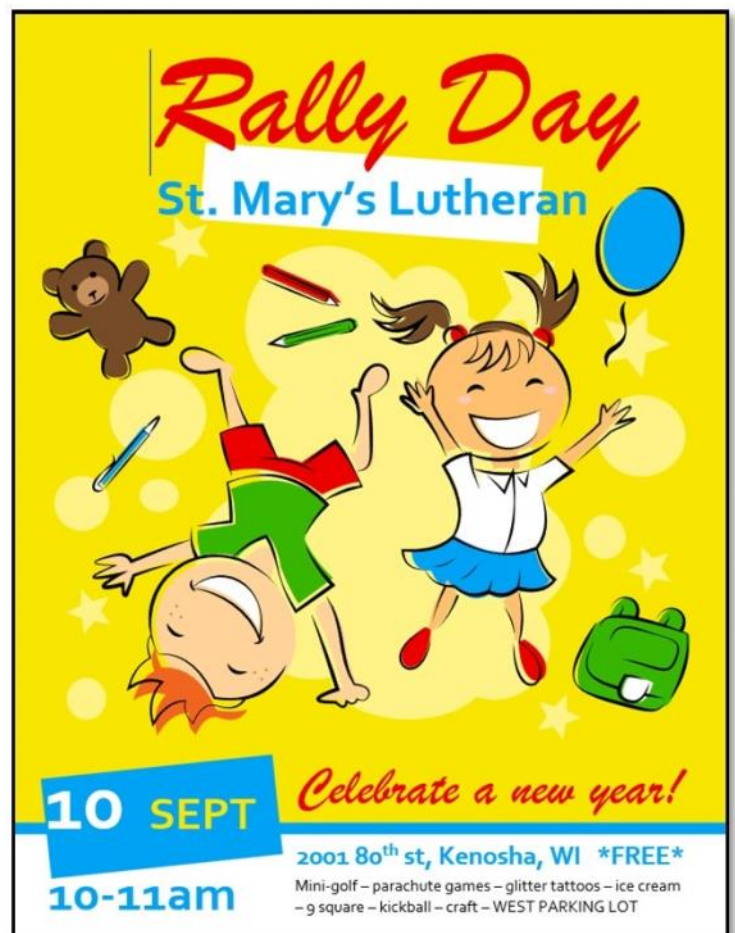
September 18: FISH and Fusion

September 24: Cookies N Christ

September 25: QUEST NIGHT 6-8pm

FISH 6:00-7:30pm Fusion 7:00-8:30pm

www.facebook.com/smlcyouthed



Michelle Fonk - Children & Youth Education Coordinator 262-770-0523
Kendra Richter - Middle & High School Youth Lead (FISH & Fusion) 262-287-2463
Stephanie Raszkievich - Children's Ministry Lead (Sunday School) 262-945-7519

smlcyouthed@gmail.com

The Middle and High School Youth had a great summer flocking, their mission trip and preparing the youth room for another year! We are excited for another school year of bringing the unseen into our routines and growing in our relationship with God and one another!!!



FISH (Forever in Service to Him) is our Middle School Confirmation Program for 6th to 8th graders that meets Monday Nights from 6pm-730pm in the youth room.



FUSION is our High School Youth Group for 9th-12th graders that meeting Monday nights from 7pm-830 pm also in the youth room.



NEW THIS YEAR: Cookies N Christ– a high school bible study that will meet twice a month on Sundays from 630-730!

Youth Mission Trip to Minneapolis and St. Paul Minnesota July 22nd-26th





Stellar Vacation Bible School July 30th-August 2nd

32 kids attended, 2/3 not affiliated with SMLC!



KEY CONTACTS—WHO DO YOU CALL?

CHURCH COUNCIL 2023-2024 St. Mary's Church Council meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. Committee Meeting Day/Times to be reviewed. All are 1+(262) unless otherwise noted. Council liaisons are as follows:

AUDIT

Keith Richter..... 697-2359/948-9020
ktrichter25@gmail.com

CARING

Lana Woller.....697-9908/945-7563
t.woller3@yahoo.com

CHURCH IN SOCIETY

Patricia Mason.....721-8065
godslittlesinger71@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Stephanie Raszkievicz.....945-7519
stephrz01@yahoo.com

FINANCE

Keith Richter..... 697-2359/948-9020
ktrichter25@gmail.com

THE FRIENDLY CENTER

Lisa Rasmussen-Zanin..... 909-1181
lzanin1953@gmail.com

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Adam Fonk..... 649-6389
adamfonk@gmail.com

NOMINATING

Dana Larsen..... 414-748-0448
dana.larsen.wdc@gmail.com

PERSONNEL

Andy Schroeder.....344-1902
amgeoteach90@yahoo.com

PROPERTY

Christine Johnson.....818-8879
chris.johnson1800@gmail.com

RECONNECTIONS

Hollie DeFranco.....914-0136
holliedefranco@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP

Stephanie Raszkievicz.....945-7519
stephrz01@yahoo.com

WORSHIP MUSIC ARTS

Markie Hylinski.....515-3032
hylinskim@gmail.com

YOUTH

Adam Fonk..... 649-6389
adamfonk@gmail.com

Council Connection for September:

Dana Larsen.....(414)748-0448
dana.larsen.wdc@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S STAFF:

Rev. Kathy Brown.....**INTERIM PASTOR**
pastorkb@stmaryslutheran.org
799-5791 or ext. 333

Rev. Debbie Hartfield
.....**Associate Pastor/Pastoral Care**
pastordeb@stmaryslutheran.org
599-5795 or ext. 343

Nurse Sue**ADVOCATE FAITH AND HEALTH**
COMMUNITY PROGRAM/CARE MINISTRY
COORDINATOR

FCN@stmaryslutheran.org (call church office)

Beth Kerscher..... **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**
bkerscher@stmaryslutheran.org.....ext. 300

Sondra Kuro..... **BOOKKEEPER**
bookkeeper@stmaryslutheran.orgext. 323

RECEPTION..... **FRONT DESK VOLUNTEERS**
info@stmaryslutheran.orgext. 303

Deb Black.....**ORGAN/PIANO ACCOMPANIST**
Laurel Borter.....**PIANO**

Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma.....**ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR**
Madeline Weirick..... **JUBILATE! HANDBELL DIRECTOR**
Art Kotenko **SOUND/VIDEO TECHNICIAN**

When You Are Sick in Mind, Body, Spirit:

St. Mary's is one of the only church congregations that employs a Parish Nurse/Faith Community Nurse. She has amazing resources, both as a Registered Nurse, and as a Christ-Centered servant. Please call the office and leave a message with how we can call you back. **Do not give any personal, private or symptomatic information to the office.**

When You Are Hospitalized:

Please call the church to notify the staff of your admission. Don't assume the hospital will notify the church, even if you have asked them to. Hospitals are very busy places, and some tasks are put off for more urgent needs.

Please notify the church office when you are scheduled for surgery (in or outpatient).

If you wish to be included in the Prayers of the People, please contact us.

We don't mind getting more than one phone call about a parishioner who is hospitalized. Please don't assume that someone else will be notifying us.

A FRESH LOOK AT THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AT ST. MARY'S! SEPTEMBER, 2023

WORSHIP ON SATURDAYS, 5PM* & SUNDAYS, 9AM

Worship will be entirely inside the sanctuary. Both worship services' orders of worship will be the same, except when we celebrate a *Holden Evening Prayer* service at 5:00pm Saturdays and a Contemporary led service at 9:00am Sundays. Worship materials include using the ELW hymnal, printed bulletins, announcement sheets, etc. Printed material available online at our church's website under "uploaded documents". **Holy Communion** at the railing or from your seat as needed; on Sundays that are Contemporary style (2nd Sunday each month after September) communion will be by intinction. Gluten-Free or regular wafer, wine or juice offered. Children who haven't received instruction yet, or anyone not receiving communion may come forward for a blessing instead. Simply fold your hands when approaching.

Sharing of Peace during worship will now be up to you: *[the people] you may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. You may consider a gesture without physical touch, perhaps a slight bow, or crossing arms over the chest, as a symbol of an embrace.*

Offering: Passing the Plate resumes immediately. Our ushers will once again enter the sanctuary space and pass the offering plates through the pews. You are welcome to give that way, online or mailing in your checks.

MUSIC GROUPS

Adult Choir~ Rehearsals begin 9/6, singing monthly on 1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays (5th is applicable). Contact Dick Sjoerdsma, Deb Black or any AC member to join!

Contemporary Worship Team ~ Tuesdays (2x month) 5:45pm; sing monthly 2nd Sunday (after Sept), Bjorn Hanson is the contact if you're interested in joining!

PRAYER BREAKFASTS

Tuesday Morning Women's Prayer Breakfast. Our goals are to share devotions, discuss who in our church, in our lives and world as a whole, need our prayers. We also have fellowship time with each other and rejoice in being Christian women gathered together. All women are welcome to join us Tuesdays at 8:00am at The Hillcrest Restaurant, 6000 75th Street—Kenosha. Any questions? Please call Inez Lemnus at 694-1099.

Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast After having started in 1972, St. Mary's Men's Prayer Breakfast continues to meet. We meet in the glass side room of the Marina Garden near the entrance. They have a parking lot with ample space. Each Wednesday at 7 a.m. we mostly go over the texts for the upcoming Saturday and Sunday. Besides a light-hearted discussion of the texts, we might also have a heavy

discussion of the Packers, Bucks, or Brewers. Anyone is quite welcome and, at times, a wife or two is present to get their husband there. Call Ken Winkle (654-8436) for additional information.

WOMEN'S CIRCLES

Miriam ~ 2nd Tuesday @1:00pm

Circle of Friends ~ 3rd Wednesday @1:00pm

Women's Book Club ~ 1st Tuesday @2:00pm

Lydia Circle ~ 2nd Monday @ 11:00am

Lydia Circle is a part of WELCA, Women of the ELCA.

Lydia Circle is a group of women that meets in the Chapel Lounge on the 2nd Monday of each month at 11 a.m. for Bible study and fellowship. All women are welcome to join at any time. No prior notice or knowledge required. Free will offerings collected at meetings for use in our community.

St. Mary's Quilters ~ Mondays @ 9:00am

The St. Mary's Quilters meet on Monday mornings in the gym from 9a-12p. Our group makes quilts that are donated locally, worldwide through Lutheran World Relief, and to the annual Lutherdale Bible Camp quilt auction. Last year we donated a total of 475 quilts. We encourage anyone who is interested in helping with this mission to either stop by any Monday morning or contact Lynda Ryan at 914-1244 or Mary Saarela at 960-5477. You do not need sewing skills to be part of this group. People are needed to cut fabric, lay out quilt tops, assemble and tie the quilts and pack boxes for shipping. If you are unable to join us on Monday mornings but would like to cut or sew at home, we can provide the supplies you would need.

SENIOR MINISTRY

At this time **The Friendly Center** meets in the Fellowship Hall with an 11:00am start time. The Friendly Center is currently scheduled to meet on the following **Wednesdays: September 27th; October 25th; and November 13th.** During December we plan to meet at the Fireside Restaurant. Reservations for lunches are REQUIRED. Catered or box lunches vary from \$10—\$20 per person. If interested in learning more about our this senior ministry, please contact Bob/Sue VanBendegom and/or Faith/Rod Pfeiffer. Call the church office for details.



**temporary as leadership will assess and evaluate all worship services throughout the remainder of 2023.*

September 3rd—**One Sunday 9:00am Service**

September 9/16[^]/23/30—5:00pm Saturday Traditional

September 10/17[^]/24—9:00am Sunday Traditional

^ Holden/Contemporary Weekend

Important Information Gathered at 16/17, 23/24 weekend services! (see Page 1 for details)



Did you know the **Kenosha Achievement Center** has children's services, in addition to adult services? Services include Early

Intervention, Early Head Start in-home visiting for families with children under 3 years old, and multiple weekly "Sprouts" playgroups. St. Mary's has been home to one of these playgroups since last summer. During Sprouts time, families and children under the age of 5 connect and engage in developmentally appropriate activities for 90 minutes. Activities include free play, stories, songs, snack, art, and gross motor time. Sprouts provides an opportunity for parents and caregivers to build a support network that minimizes isolation and prepares their children for school and life-long success. Sprouts is a free program led by a KAC facilitator, along with parents. To learn more or sign up for a Sprouts playgroup, please contact Erin Mendoza at 818-3824.

Small Groups, Ministries & Support

Boy Scouts of America: Chartered #533~ Mon/Tues/Wed evenings at 6:30pm Downstairs/Gym

Resettlement Team (as needed) @3:30pm 1W

12 x 12 Southport AA [non-smoking]. This group meets on Sundays @6:00pm in Room 1W. Please use the west side parking lot and double doors. Contact Dick S. for details.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Property Committee is responsible for building and grounds maintenance and care. The Committee works together with the Church Council, other committees, and many volunteers to fulfill these responsibilities for our church family and outreach opportunities. We analyze building usage, utility and maintenance costs, and prioritize spending with guidance of the council, Finance Committee, and other input as necessary. We have committee members with background in historical property committee work, HVAC and mechanical systems, interior design and remodeling, small engine and equipment maintenance and repair, building maintenance and repair, building inspection, industrial and commercial project management, and others with a keen interest in these activities and responsibilities. We historically meet monthly on the first Monday at 6:00pm. Co-chairs of the committee are Bob VanBendegom and Dave Frost. ***We welcome your questions and comments to either of us, our other committee members, or addressed to our committee from the Church Council.***



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Welcome Through Baptism

Kennedy Alyse Wagner—April 2, 2023

Graham Lyle Ibrahim Gifford—May 21

Hallie Janet Ayala Salazar—June 18

In Memoriam ~~

Patricia E. Kleist—Oct. 16, 2022*

Richard A. Lough—April 2, 2023*

Dr. Thos. W. Radmer—May, 6*

James Taube—May 6

In Memoriam ~~

Jeff Galligan—May 8*

Rev. Kara Baylor—May 25th

Duane L. Corso—June 8*

Lorraine Gram—June 13

Sally Schneider—July 1*

Michael Moncher—July 19*

Mary Rohde—July 26*

Jeanette Westra—July 22

Gregg Mengo—August 2

Donna Nelson—August 4*

Lillian Lachman—August 15

Dennis Marx—August 17

Judith Hansche—August 17

Joan M. Holmes—August 17

Jane Marie Wick—August 23

**members who had services at funeral homes or didn't contact the church or pastors*

OUTREACH FOR HOPE

This is the 16th year for the Outreach for Hope bike ride and also the 16th year that **RALPH TOLLAS** has participated. Ralph indicated that it takes him about 3 hrs. to ride the route.

Church in Society wishes to congratulate Ralph on his 16 years of participation in supporting this mission and to encourage members of St. Mary's to donate to "Outreach for Hope" in honor of Ralph. Outreach for Hope supports the ELCA Outreach Center and the Grace Welcome Center.

I want to make a cash or check donation to Ralph's fundraiser? You can mail checks or have Ralph hand-deliver checks/cash to our offices. Contact us at info@outreachforhope.org or 414-671-1212 for more information. Join Team OFH for our 16th annual Family Ride Run Walk fundraiser! Together, we hope to raise \$160K for grants to our Ministry Partners serving neighborhoods experiencing material poverty in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA.

Kenosha Event Site

Saturday, September 30

Petrifying Springs Park (Site #3)

Our Kenosha event site features the following route options:

- 13-mile trail bike ride on the North Shore Bike Trail (family-friendly)
- 25-mile road bike ride (for more experienced riders)
- 5K fun run
- 2-mile walk
- Volunteer options
- Fellowship-only participant option

Following the rides, run and walk, all participants and volunteers will receive an individually packaged box lunch to enjoy outdoors with the community of Outreach for Hope supporters.



RECONNECT TEAM **REPORT by Christine Johnson**

Sunday Kringle Mingle has done very well for the summer months. Thank you to all who volunteered and brought the treats in for Sunday. We have added to the Kringle, fruit, cheese and crackers. Kringle has been purchased from Paielli's Bakery. Hollie DeFranco also bakes whenever possible.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd a new sign up board and sheets are in Fellowship Hall. We need all the ministries to please sign up. Your group can bring in the treats for that day. Please let Chris know if you are providing or if we need to get the items. If you would like to be a part of our Reconnect Team or have any ideas or would like to have your special event during the Sunday Kringle Mingles, please contact Chris 818-8879.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th is the "Oktoberfest Celebration". **DON'T MISS IT!** Lots of food and fun. "The Hungry Five and Friends" will be providing the music! Plus, Chip Millholland leads the MGV Harmonia Choir. A lot of our St. Mary's members are part of MGV.

St. Mary's Reconnect Team is also heading up the **150th Anniversary of St. Mary's Lutheran Church for 2024.** We are in the planning and preparation stages. If you would like to be part of this or have any historical information, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you to all who volunteer, "Be cheerful with joyous celebrations in every season of life."



FOOD, FOOD AND MORE FOOD!

Thank you for making the **FOOD ON THE FIRST** inaugural food drive for the *Grace Welcome Center* such a success! I am so proud to be a member of St. Mary's Lutheran Church and be able to tell you that you contributed a total of 493 pounds of quality food!! You are directly helping to feed the over 200 families that currently come through the center each week. With the high cost of rent and groceries, *Grace Welcome Center* is providing a much needed resource in the heart of Kenosha. Please remember that the "red bags" will be available at the end of **EACH** month for you to take and return on the first weekend, **FOOD ON THE FIRST**. If you are able to shop a little for others as you get your own groceries, you will be helping a neighbor in need more than you know.

If anyone would like to see firsthand what the *Grace Welcome Center* is doing in our community, please let me know and the *Grace Welcome Center* would be happy to show you around their facility!

THANK YOU!
Cheryl Hayes



NKOARANGA ORPHANAGE

The members of St. Mary's Lutheran Church have supported the Nkoaranga Orphanage owned by the Meru Diocese for many years.

On average, there are 30 children in the orphanage, from the ages of 0 to 3. The orphanage makes sure that the children are adopted by a family by the age of 4. The family reunification is a major goal of the orphanage.

Our members will once again have an opportunity to donate to this worthy cause. The orphanage depends on donations to survive. St. Mary's Lutheran Church raised \$2150 in 2022, a record-breaking amount!

Jars will be available for donations on weekends in the months of September and October. You may also place a donation marked for the orphanage in the offering plate.

If you would prefer to mail a donation to be forwarded to the orphanage, *checks can be sent to Cheryl Hayes, the treasurer of WELCA, made out to "WELCA St. Mary's Lutheran Church", at 4741 - 40th Street, Kenosha, WI 53144.*

Let's surpass 2022's generous contribution!



Denise Russell, GWC
Executive Director
Temple Talk



Food on the 1st

CHURCH IN SOCIETY THANK YOU!

Church in Society Ministry shouts out a Great Big **"THANK YOU"** to **Kathy Neururer** for coordinating another successful "Christmas in July" collection of personal care items for the ELCA Outreach Center.

CIS also shouts out a Great Big **"THANK YOU"** to **Margaret VanBoven** for organizing the donation of snacks for the ELCA Outreach Summer Campers.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

If you walked through the Fellowship Hall near the end of July, you saw the overwhelming support for "Christmas in July" with a huge pile of personal care items collected for the ELCA Outreach Center. A Great Big **"THANK YOU"** to everyone who participated as St. Mary's collected nearly 500 pounds of items as well as an additional \$265 in cash. The weight of the donations was much greater than the last several years and approximately 75% greater than last year. We received a very nice thank you from the Outreach Center with Karl Erickson adding that it was the most successful drive they have ever had.

CIS COMMITTEE

September 2023 Volunteer Schedule						
Temple Talk: Education Committee, Sunday School and Adult						
Sunday	Saturday	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday
September 3	September 9	September 10	September 16	September 17	September 23	September 24
Assisting Ministers						
Di Michalski	Tim Somers	Patti Mason	Tim Somers	Julie Schmit	Harold Frush	Dana Larsen
Readers						
Patti Mason	Lisa Zanin	Julie Schmit	Bob VanBendegom	Richard Sjoerdsma	Tim Somers	Harold Frush
Communion Assistants						
Carol Shadduck	Lisa/Mark Zanin	Leslie/Dave Sandahl	Edie Iverson, Tim Somers	Kay Manderfeld	Edie Iverson, Todd Woller	Pat Gallo, Todd Woller
Council Connection - Dana Larsen - dana.larsen.wdc@gmail.com (414)748-0448						
Greeters						
Margaret VanBoven		Hayley/Kris Jensen		Anne Winkle		Kay/Dave Manderfeld
Musicians/Instrumentalists/Groups						
Deb Black	Laurel Borter	Deb Black	Deb Black/Holden Evening Prayer	Contemporary Worship	Laurel Borter	Deb Black
Organ	Piano	Organ, Adult Choir	Piano	Band	Piano	Organ, Adult Choir
Ushers - Each Service would like additional Volunteers!						
Gary R., Ralph T., Dan N., Dave R., Carol S., Sandy B.	Sandy B., Dale B., Bob V.	Gary R., Ralph T., Dan N., Dave R., Carol S., Sandy B.	Sandy B., Dale B., Bob V.	Gary R., Ralph T., Dan N., Dave R., Carol S., Sandy B.	Sandy B., Dale B., Bob V.	Gary R., Ralph T., Dan N., Dave R., Carol S., Sandy B.
						Sandy B., Dale B., Bob V.

Don't forget to check out St. Mary's Lutheran Church's website for uploaded Weekly Worship Bulletins, Announcement Sheets, and so much more!
 Call the office if you have questions (262) 658-3555
info@stmaryslutheran.org www.stmaryslutheran.org

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES FOR ST. MARY'S SAINTS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					Tammie DeFranco Hollie & Jim DeFranco	Jeff Sporer Nancy & John Gardynecki
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Natalie Rugg Paul Smith	George Follensbee Katie Fox Brian & Sandy Bear	Jeff Wollert Lori Boughman Nancy Carr Sharon Apostoli Denise & Mark Fox Charles & Joyce Grapentine	Adam Honey Dale Gospodarek Mary Fuller Richard Preston Larinda & Travis Becker	Jack Burleson Judith Bernhardt Carol & Gary Rice	David Krellwitz Don Gerlach Ela Honey Peter Cianci Rachel Lachman Rod Pfeiffer Matthew & Natalie Rugg	Clayton Rossmann Joanne Henningfeld Judy Sturzenegger Dean & Linda Kangas Erin & Richard Preston
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Benjamin Marecek Alice & Peter Schwalbe	Dean Kangas Emily Fonk Julie Wrycha	Deb & Jeff Mitka	Noelle Sporer Randy Hansche	Beverly King Rachel Petersen Shirley Solberg Christina & Daryl Jaquith	David Vorhes Diane Pynaker Henry Kessler Molly O'Boyle	Denise Mosher Pat Gallo Tamara Balmes Anne & David Blair
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Richard Bushey Kristen Guttormsen Dan & Jen Bakkala Wade & Beth Kerscher	James Kaucic Taylor Beer	Eileen Ziens Zachary Brey Kurt & Lori Martin Roger & Debra Koessl	Charlene & Paul Smith Kristin Hudrick Michael Holzer	Aubree Westland Deliah Rosmann Derek Moore John Wick Katelyn Podskarbi	Betty Boyd Michale Gospodarek Ryan Eschmann Cari & Keith Richter	Anne Herbert Deanne Sukus Steven King
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Andrew Hayes John Schoettler Larry Kreuser Laura & Jeffrey Cvik	Rosemarie Niznik	Bonita Moschell Joan Lachman Tracy & Dave Chapa	David Parmentier Leslie Carr Taylor Rasch	Joy & Robert Wojtak Dawn Smick Jakob Jensen Justin Borchardt	Christine Pratt Luna Lundgren Naomi Reyes Sally DeKok Andrew & Jacqueline Knapp	Abigail Rader Carol Anderson Reina Haapanen Vicky Chovan Dale & Julie Wrycha

THE SPIRIT

the newsletter of
ST. MARY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
www.stmaryslutheran.org
September, 2023

St. Mary's Lutheran Church
2001 80th Street
Kenosha, WI 53143
RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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August 31, 2023 Volume 28, Issue 9

Treasurer's Report: July 2023

Income Actual	\$43,045.90
Expenses Actual	\$36,953.55
Profit/Loss	+ \$6,092.35
Fiscal Year-to-date 23/24	
Income Actual	\$43,045.90
Expenses Actual	\$36,953.55
Profit/Loss	+ \$6,092.35

*The current Year-to-date percentage of electronic giving to total offerings given is 32%.



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