



ST. MARY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2001 80TH ST.
KENOSHA, WISCONSIN 53143
262*658*3555
WWW.STMARYSLUTHERAN.ORG
FOUNDED 1874 ~ CURRENT LOCATION 1961

Fall into Fellowship



— 🐾 —
**Blessing
OF THE ANIMALS**
Saturday, Oct. 4
10am - East Parking Lot



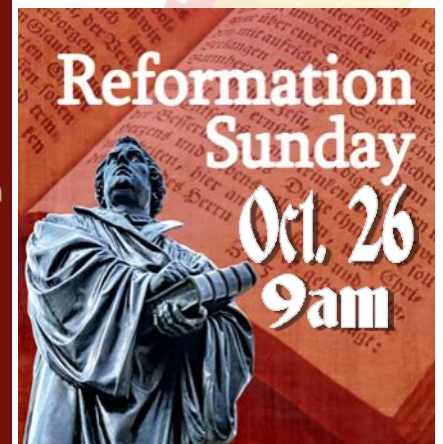
**6pm October 15th—Youth
FUNd-raiser in Fellowship
Hall! (dinner at 5!)**

Wednesday Night Meals

Join us for a midweek meal together whether you have something at church already or not!
Adults : \$5 Kids : \$3

515pm-615pm @ St.Mary's Lutheran Church

September		October		November	
9/17	Tacos	10/1	Pasta	11/5	Pulled Chicken Sandwiches
		10/15	Pizza	11/19	Grilled cheese & tomato soup



A Message from Our Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Jordan Miller-Stubbendick October, 2025

What is a blessing? Definitions vary, but I say that a blessing is a recognition of what is already holy in someone or something. It does not confer holiness upon the person/creature/place/thing, but rather calls forth the goodness that is already within.

We don't make blessings so much as we recognize them, and pronouncing blessings is not only reserved for pastors or priests or others who have religious-sounding jobs. Anyone can take on the lovely gift of pronouncing a blessing. A blessing can certainly involve God in some way, but it does not have to do so.

In *An Altar in the World*, Episcopal priest and author Barbara Brown Taylor notes, "...I am not sure you have to believe in God to pronounce a blessing. It may be enough to see the thing for what it is and pronounce it good...You constitute a blessing simply by showing up" (199).

Given this background on blessings, why is **St. Mary's blessing animals this month?**

I think we bless animals because we innately recognize how delightful they are. Because they don't use words like humans do, it is easier to love them simply, without the complications and divisions we often run into with their human counterparts.

Our pets, in particular, are a reliable source of joy for us. No one in the world greets me like my dog does. Even if I have only been away from home for an hour, my golden retriever, Rajah, stuffs his mouth full of his soft goose toy, wags his tail furiously, makes a delighted whining noise, and tries to climb in my lap every time I unlock his crate.

When I am dismayed about the state of the world, Rajah helps me to see another side of things, often by eating half a dozen of the muffins I've left to cool on the kitchen counter, or by shredding the grocery list I've just made. His actions are frustrating at times, to be sure, but they are also the source of so much laughter and perspective.

Many of us have had experiences like these that we treasure. Many have also had times when we

have been feeling sad or even despairing, and it is our pets who notice and offer comfort in the ways only they can. Truly, our pets are love with fur on in so many ways.

Besides recognizing their inherent delightfulness, we also bless animals in October as a way to honor and lift up the work of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day falls in this month.

Francis of Assisi was born in the 12th century to a wealthy family. He found his way into a life of voluntary poverty, and is credited with starting the Franciscan Order of monks in the Roman Catholic Church. There are many stories about Francis's love of animals. One such story tells of a wolf terrorizing the people in the town of Gubbio, Italy, who supposedly ate people as well as animals. Francis went up into the hills above the town and found the wolf. He made the sign of the cross over the wolf and commanded him not to hurt anyone. Francis led the wolf into town, where the startled citizens made an agreement with the animal. After learning that the wolf had attacked people out of hunger, the townspeople agreed to regularly feed the wolf, and in return, the wolf would no longer attack the people or their flocks.

In honor of the special relationship Francis had with animals, it is common to offer a blessing for the animals in our lives on or around his feast day on October 4.

We bless animals for many reasons: to honor their unique place in our lives, to give thanks to God for the many gifts our animal companions give us, and to recognize the goodness of God which animals also bear, among other reasons.

Please plan to join us on Saturday, October 4 at 10 am in the east parking lot for a special, brief worship service and blessing of animals. All animals are welcome, and if your animal companion cannot join you for whatever reason, you are welcome to bring a picture of them to the service. You are also welcome to attend this service without a pet!

Peace,
Pastor Jordan



Dear people of Kenosha ELCA congregations,

There is something powerful about gathering together for a special worship service. You feel a different kind of energy and communion with other children of God, especially if you are with a group of people with whom you don't regularly worship. You experience God's presence and the vibrancy of Christian community in a new way.

Especially in these chaotic times in which we are living, it is more important than ever to come together for worship and encouragement as we seek to follow in God's ways of justice, peace, and love. Additionally, there is often a need to find supply pastors on the same day for multiple Kenosha ELCA congregations, and this can be a challenge.

Pastoral and lay leaders from Spirit Alive!, Trinity and Lakeside, and St. Mary's Lutheran Churches are planning a special way for you to experience this.

These four Kenosha ELCA congregations will come together for worship on four special days. We will be able to worship in different buildings around the city of Kenosha, hear different pastors preach, and enjoy fellowship with new friends and those we might not get to see very often.

Christmas Day, December 25, 2025

Worship is at 9 am

Lakeside Lutheran Church

3833 8th Ave

Kenosha, WI 53140

Pastor Becca Laabs (pronouns: she/her)

Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 24, 2026

Worship is at 9 am

Trinity Lutheran Church

7104 39th Ave

Kenosha, WI 53142

Pastor Becca Laabs (pronouns: she/her)

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Spirit Alive! Lutheran Church (meets in the building of Wesley United Methodist Church)

Worship is at 10:45 am

4600 60th St

Kenosha, WI 53144

Pastor Wesley Isberner (pronouns: they/them)

Labor Day weekend: Sunday, September 6, 2026

St. Mary's Lutheran Church

Worship is at 9 am

2001 80th St. Kenosha, WI 53143

Pastor Jordan Miller-Stubbendick and Pastor Debbie Hartfield (pronouns for both: she/her)

For each of these holidays, the combined worship service will be the only one offered by St. Mary's, Spirit Alive! and Trinity and Lakeside. We plan to annually continue offering these combined worship services around these four holidays weekends.

These combined worship services also allow us to take an offering that benefits the wider community, as follows:

Christmas Day: Women's and Children's Horizons

July 4: Lutherdale

Memorial Day: Breaking the Chains

Labor Day: Walk in My Shoes

We are thrilled to offer a new way for the Kenosha ELCA community to worship together, and to celebrate that we are stronger and better together. If you have questions, please contact your pastor.

Peace,

The Kenosha ELCA combined worship planning team

(with representatives from Trinity and Lakeside, Spirit Alive! and St. Mary's Lutheran Churches)

Thursday, December 25, 2025	Sunday, May 24, 2026	Sunday, July 5, 2026	Sunday, September 6, 2026
9:00 am	9:00 am	10:45 am	9:00 am
Lakeside Lutheran Church, 3833 8th Ave.	Trinity Lutheran Church, 7104 39th Ave.	Spirit Alive! Lutheran Church, 4600 60th St. (inside Wesley United Methodist Church)	St. Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th Ave.
Pastor Becca Laabs	Pastor Becca Laabs	Pastor Wesley Isberner	Pastor Jordan Miller-Stubbendick & Pastor Debbie Hartfield
Offering for Women's and Children's Horizons	Offering for Breaking the Chains Church	Offering for Lutherdale Camp	Offering for Walkin' In My Shoes

CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Presidents Corner (Quarterly)

Hello fellow members of St. Mary's Lutheran Church!

WOW, it is with a profound sense of humility and gratitude that I greet you as the Council President. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the council and all of you for the trust you have placed in me to serve our church community in this capacity. I am truly honored to follow in the footsteps of the many dedicated leaders who have come before me.

I have been a member of this wonderful faith family for 20 years, and in that time, I have been continually blessed by your warmth, your fellowship, and your unwavering faith. I am inspired by the ministries that thrive here and the way we extend Christ's love into our community. You are the heart of this church, and your commitment is what makes this a vibrant and loving home for so many.

WOW.

We are now in the season of Autumn, my how time goes on. The word WOW, I have thought of often. If we use it as an acronym, it could stand for; '**W**onderful **O**pportunities **W**ithin'. And yes each of you have wonderful opportunities within, be it through your talents/gifts, your time, your experiences, your relationships, your resources, and the list goes on.

We all also have wonderful opportunities within our church, here at St. Mary's. Be it through worship, music, education, preparation, socializing, community service, and this list goes on as well. We have been blessed and are so blessed here at St. Mary's LC. If I may ask you to reflect on your **WOW**.

† *What does that look like?*

† *How can God use that to add to the blessings of our church and community?*

† *Where is the Holy Spirit leading you through your WOW?*

I will be sharing other acronyms to think on quarterly, in the Spirit and if you know of one that can be inspiring please let me know.

Peace.
Andy Schroeder
Council President



NURSE SUE—ADVOCATE FAITH & HEALTH—OCTOBER 2025

Dear friends,

I will be offering a free Companionship workshop on Thursday, October 23rd from 9 am to 2 pm at St Mary's Lutheran Church, 2001 80th Street Kenosha. Those that volunteer or are thinking about volunteering in the community/neighborhood/church would benefit from the training.

The Companionship workshop is a Pathways to Promise program, a multifaith and multicultural mental health support organization. The program was developed in 1987 by Rev. Craig Rennebohm and others. It aims to address the need for comprehensive mental health support for individuals living with mental health conditions and their support networks. The model is rooted in our natural capacities to be sensitive, compassionate, and concerned for another person in distress.



We use this workshop to educate faith and health working leaders with practices, guidelines, and settings by responding relationally to others who are experiencing difficult times (isolation, loneliness, suffering, homelessness) and in need of healing support.

The session's goals are:

- To inform Faith and Health work leaders about the various challenges individuals face when they are in distress.
- To equip Faith and Health work leaders with five practices of Hospitality, Neighboring, Journeying Side by Side, Listening, and Accompaniment, and demonstrate how to integrate these practices when responding to individuals in need of healing and recovery.
- To train Faith and Health working leaders to utilize their natural abilities to establish relationships with people, especially in the fast pace of life and walking with someone facing a mental health challenge.

To emphasize the significance of healthy relationships for good mental health and well-being and to promote self-care for leaders.

Please register by Monday, October 17th by calling St Mary's Lutheran's office at 262-658-3555. Include your name, phone number and e-mail address. Orders for free lunch meal choices will be obtained at registration. A free workbook will be provided for the training. Limited seats are available at this event so sign up ASAP to reserve your space. Thank you for considering this event!

<https://www.pathways2promise.org/>

Shalom,
Nurse Sue R.N., F.C.N.
Aurora Faith and Health Team

SUNDAY SCHOOL OCTOBER



SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES

October 5 9:00 A.M.
October 12 9:00 A.M. S.S. Greetings!!
October 19 9:00 A.M.
October 26 9:00 A.M.



TRUNK / TREAT SUNDAY OCTOBER 26



UPCOMING

October 1

Faith and Home - Family Connection Night
A whole congregation intergenerational night!
Icebreakers, games, snacks, and fun.

Bring a friend!

5:30p-7:00p open house



OCTOBER 12

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETERS BEGINS THE
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
ANY AVAILABLE CHILDREN ON OCTOBER 12 CAN
GREET. TRY TO BE AT CHURCH AT 8:40A WE WILL
START GREETING SCHEDULE /
SIGN-UP SHEETS BEGINNING NOVEMBER.

October 26

- Trunk / Treat post service



Sunday December 14

- Christmas Program with full dress rehearsal Saturday December 13

Sunday January 11, 2026

- P.J. and Movies
-

Lutherdale Retreat

3rd through 6th grade

Saturday February 7 - Sunday February 8



Contact Info

JOAN OEHLBERG:
Coordinator of Children's Ministry
Email: kidmin@stmaryslutheran.org



High School Calendar
10/1 FUSION 7-8:45
10/8 NO FUSION
10/15 BINGO
10/22 FUSION 7-8:45
10/27 Halloween Party
10/29 FUSION

Middle School Calendar
10/6 FISH 630-8
10/13 Service Night @ the Outreach Center
10/20 FISH 630-8
10/27 Halloween Party

A CHORD WITH THE LORD
Middle and High School Choir
 Meets October 1st and October 22nd
 this month at 6pm!! Interested 6th-
 12th grade singers, welcome!!



**Join Us For Bingo on
 October 15th!**

5pm—Sheet Pizza Dinner
6pm—BINGO
\$10 for 10 rounds



ALL ARE WELCOME! Middle and High Schoolers
 do not have to be members to attend FISH and
 Fusion!! If you know a middle or high schooler
 who would like to join us, connect them with
 Kendra and she will get them the info!!

NATIONAL IMMIGRANTS DAY

OCTOBER 28, 2025

On October 28th, 1987, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed National Immigrants Day. It was particularly fitting that the proclamation was made on the 101st anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty, October 28th, 1886.

Lady Liberty represents all the best about the United States: freedom, Democracy, and the opportunities that America offers to people worldwide. These well-known words-found on the pedestal of the statue-reverberate around the World:

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

Our country was founded and settled by immigrants in 1776. Since then, tens of millions of immigrants from every country on the globe have come to our nation with hopes of a better life. Immigrants have contributed countless ideas, inventions, and innovations for our society. They bring new languages, new foods, new religions, new styles of music. As a nation of immigrants, we must remember that generations of immigrants have helped lay the railroads, build our cities, pioneer new industries, and fuel our Information Age. They worked in oilfields; in gold, silver, and coal mines; and in rubber and steel mills. They spend their incomes on American goods and services, pay taxes, and raise the productivity of U.S. businesses. Immigrants are good for the economy, not the other way around.

1. **Immigrants start businesses.**
2. **Immigrant-owned businesses create jobs for American workers.**
3. **Immigrants are also more likely to create their own jobs.**
4. **Immigrants develop cutting-edge technologies and companies.**
5. **Immigrants are our engineers, scientists, and innovators.**
6. **Immigration boosts earnings for American workers.**
7. **Immigrants boost demand for local consumer goods.**
8. **Immigration reform legislation like the DREAM Act reduces the deficit.**
9. **Comprehensive immigration reform would create jobs.**
10. **Comprehensive immigration reform would increase America's GDP.**

Source: Ten Ways Immigrants Help Build and Strengthen Our Economy, BY JASON FURMAN, DANIELLE GRAY



Winter is coming - Volunteers Needed!

We need YOU in order to keep our neighbors and friends safe and warm in the coming months. The Shalom Center is hosting a training for those interested in helping to staff 4hr evening and overnight shifts in the Hope Hub warming /cooling center during dangerous cold events this winter.

Call 262-658-1713 ext. 124 to register

Date: October 7th, 2025

Time: 8:30am - Noon

Address: 4314 39th Ave. Door #4



**SHALOM
CENTER**

Your paragraph text

October 23rd CUSH 25 YEARS Anniversary Banquet

5:30pm to 8:00pm
"The Vault" 625 57th St.
Kenosha, WI 53140
\$50/individual | \$400/table



VIOLINS of HOPE
A concert of Remembrance and
Resilience

Racine Symphony Orchestra
October 11, 2025

7:30 pm First Presbyterian Church, Racine
Tickets: \$45.00



Holocaust violins that survived because of acts by the people. These violins were saved during the Holocaust and have been restored. In partnership with the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra — a few violins will be on display and perhaps will be part of the concert.

A Message from Pastor Jordan:

There has been ongoing conversation recently about whether to include people's last names in the prayers of the people during worship. We know that only using first names can lead to unwanted confusion about who is being prayed for.

However, unless those on the prayer list specifically request otherwise, St. Mary's uses only first names to protect people's privacy. This way, those on the prayer list can decide if and when they want to share their stories with others. People on the prayer list come both from St. Mary's and from the wider community.

If you hear a familiar name on the list, you are welcome to directly ask the person what is going on. Please don't ask the pastors, Nurse Sue, or the office staff for updates on the prayer list.

We want to respect people's privacy and steward their stories with care. We trust those on the prayer list to exercise their own agency about whether they wish to share details of their own stories. We trust that the St. Mary's community will offer prayer whether or not we know the specifics of what is happening with those on the prayer list.

Thanks for your understanding, and your continued prayer for those you know and those you do not know. Those on the prayer list appreciate it!

prayer

ST. MARY'S "FOOD ON THE FIRST" RED BAGS

Drop Off is SATURDAY,
October 4th



& SUNDAY October 5th, 2025

The "Food on the First" red bag program helps feed clients of Kenosha Welcome Center.

This has been a wildly successful donation campaign sponsored by The SMLC Endowment Foundation, Lydia's Circle, and WELCA.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!
251 LBS. DONATED IN SEPTEMBER!!



When You Are Sick in Mind

Body, Spirit:

St. Mary's is one of the few 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.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request for St. Mary's Prayer Chain, contact:

Sue VanBendegom 652-1770 and
FCN Nurse Sue 658-3555.

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.



CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Whether you scrapbook, quilt, crochet, knit, or whatever your hobby may be, come join us for two days of crafting!

We will host the two day event in fellowship hall on Friday and Saturday from 8am until 10pm. There will be two opportunities per year. One in February and the other in November. The cost is \$10 a day which will cover the building rental fee and one 8' table or 5' round table. Feel free to bring in snacks to share to keep you fueled for two full days of fun. Your table can remain set up for the entire time so you can come and go as you please. Someone will always be in fellowship hall to make sure your items are secure.

Mark your calendars for:

November 7th & 8th, 2025

February 6th & 7th, 2026

November 6th & 7th, 2026

If you are interested or want more information contact Jackie Larsen at 262-496-8800 or email: jmlarsen2987@gmail.com.

Space is limited so payment is due to hold your spot!

Treasurer's Report ~ August 2025

Income Actual.....\$49,287.28

Expenses Actual.....\$45,218.28

Results.....\$4,069.00

Fiscal Year-to-date 25/26

Income Actual.....\$85,386.14

Expenses Actual.....\$96,882.75

Results.....(-) \$11,496.61

The current Year-to-date percentage of electronic giving to total offerings given is 35%.

Exercise Class 4 U

Join Gonnies and many others for lo-impact exercise. Meet in the church gym on Thursdays in October from 4:30-5:30p.

Looking forward to seeing everyone! (A free will offering collected towards space rental).



Good Samaritan Fund

Oct. 25/26

St. Mary's executive committee has decided to bring back Good Samaritan Sundays on a quarterly basis. We will have the first Good Samaritan Sunday the weekend of October 25 and 26. On Sunday, October 26, Nurse Sue will give a temple talk during worship about the ways the Good Samaritan Fund facilitates the vital ministry she provides to our community.





2025 Chili Fundraiser

October 26th, 11:00-12:00



Trinity Lutheran Church - 7104-39th Avenue, Kenosha
(Available for pick up at west entrance doors)

All dinners are \$15 each and are enough for one person.
\$6 for an extra cup of chili. Kid's meals \$7

Chili Dinner includes:

16 oz. chili, Dinner roll, Taffy Apple Salad, Pumpkin Square

Kid's Meal includes:

Kraft Mac 'n Cheese, Taffy Apple Salad, Cookie

*Please call or text/call to pre-order - Gayle 262-237-9448
The last date to order is Wednesday, October 22nd.
*Payment at the door -

- Check (made out to Trinity Lutheran Church)
- Exact cash amount (in envelope)



NKOARANGA ORPHANAGE GIVING CAMPAIGN, 2025

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 ensures 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 has been generous over the years.

Plastic 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. Thank you St. Mary's Lutheran Church!

If you would prefer to mail a donation to be forwarded to the orphanage, checks sent to:

*Cheryl Hayes, the treasurer of WELCA,
Payable to "WELCA St. Mary's Lutheran Church"
4741 - 40th Street, Kenosha, WI 53144.*

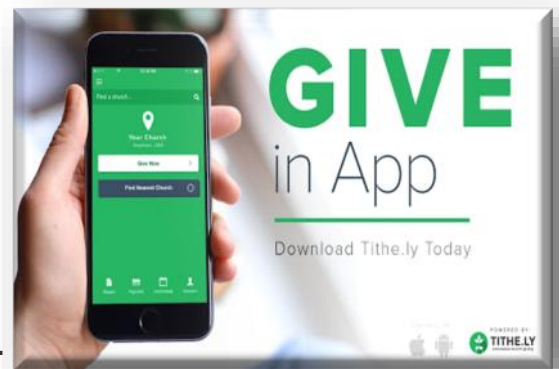
STAY CONNECTED when unable to join us for worship. You can watch these services online three ways:

1. Like our church **Facebook Page**
2. Watch Live on **YouTube** or On Demand (Live videos)
3. Watch videos from the **church Website** (by Tuesdays)



SCAN ME

**GET THE TITHE.LY APP
OR SCAN THIS QR CODE FOR
WEEKLY OR ONE-TIME GIVING.
THANK YOU!**



A Message About Stewardship: October, 2025



Siblings in Christ:

Happy Fall Y'all! Fall is a beautiful time of year, when Mother Nature shares her bounty with the assistance of God's hand. Colors become vibrant in the trees. After a spring and summer of tending to the gardens and fields, harvests become a reality. Hands work together to gather the fruits of the land. While autumn starts a movement toward the earth's time of rest, there are other things starting up and

gaining momentum, such as school, children's and youth ministries, and other activities. **God's Work. Our Hands.** Is message of hope and productivity. All of these experiences are reminders of God's generosity in all things. Fall is a common time to take an inventory of what we have for the coming months to determine how to best use these resources from God to spread God's love. As an extension of these resources, the leadership of St. Mary's Lutheran Church is curious what God is up to in our neighborhood and community and how we can support the Holy Spirit inside and outside of the church. If you have not done so, please consider viewing the videos regarding mission renewal that guide us to connection with our neighbors:

<https://milwaukeeesynod.org/resources/for-congregations/resources-for-mission-renewal/>

Gratefully collect your buckets to gather the seasonal gifts to be shared with loving kindness to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Live Your Faith, Pursue Your Passions, szPrepare for Your Future

At Carthage College, you don't have to choose between faith, community, and your future — you can embrace them all. If you're a high school junior or senior, visit Carthage this fall and discover the place that could become your home. All visitors will receive a \$1,000 visit grant as part of their financial aid award. And as a member of an ELCA church, you will receive a \$1,000 Lutheran Grant. 100% of students receive scholarships and grants, money you do not pay back!

Carthage is Wisconsin's only ELCA-related college, offering strong programs in the fine arts, athletics (D3), and academics (over 75 majors and programs) — including health, engineering, and many more fields.

Ready to apply? The \$35 application fee is waived with the fee waiver code: ELCA

www.carthage.edu/apply

I'd love to welcome you to campus and meet you during your visit!

— *Pastor Adam Miller-Stubbendick*
Carthage College Campus Pastor

ST. MARY'S CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICES

The contemporary service in November will be the last contemporary service at St. Mary's for the present time. There will not be a contemporary service in December, because the Sunday school Christmas program will be on the second Sunday of December. The decision to discontinue the contemporary service at this time was voted on by the Worship, Music, and Arts team, and was subsequently discussed with the church council.

We know that the contemporary service has meant a great deal to many people. We are grateful for the leadership, musicians, and presence of the contemporary service over the years. Special thanks goes to Bjorn Hanson for providing the leadership of this service for several years. Bjorn has decided to step down from planning and leadership duties in December, and we have been unable to secure ongoing leadership from another person in Bjorn's place.

The inability to find another person who is willing to plan and lead the contemporary service each month is the reason that the decision was made to discontinue this service. If someone comes forward in the future and wants to lead the contemporary service, we can certainly talk about that.

Thank you to everyone who has made the contemporary service possible over the years! We appreciate you and are grateful for your

Worship Update

OPPORTUNITIES @ CHURCH ~ OCTOBER 2025

SATURDAYS, 4PM & SUNDAYS, 9AM

Our weekend order of worship will be available online under “uploaded bulletins, announcements” each week by Friday afternoon. *USE THEM WHEN YOU’RE WATCHING FROM HOME, OR LIVE-STREAMING OUR SERVICES!*

ASSISTING MINISTERS An assisting minister is a liturgical leader who assists the congregation in worship and alongside the presiding minister throughout the worship service. Assisting ministers proclaim the word of God in prayer and scripture readings, receive offerings, pray for the concerns of the church and the world. They stand at the font helping welcome new Christians and help distribute the bread and wine. Assisting ministers send the congregation into the world for mission.

Singers & Non-Singers welcome!

HOLY COMMUNION at the railing or from your seat as needed; once a month, communion will be by intinction. Gluten-Free/regular wafer, wine/juice offered. Children who haven’t received instruction yet, or anyone may come forward for a blessing instead. Simply fold your hands when approaching.

USHERING All ages, genders & skills welcome! We will be passing the plate.

WORSHIP GREETERS: Our first impression specialists! Families can sign up! Individuals! Buddies! Sign up with Margaret Van Boven (mav5804@gmail.com)

MUSIC GROUPS

ADULT CHOIR~ The choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Choir Room. Adult Choir needs you (especially Tenors & Basses). Contact Dick Sjoerdsma (rsjoerdsma@carthage.edu)

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP TEAM ~ (see note on Page 13). Last Contemporary service is SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH at 9:00am. Special Recognition to follow!

JUBILATE! ~ Join Nathan Larsen and his dedicated teammates for rehearsals Mondays at 5:30pm in the sanctuary. Jubilate! performs the first Sunday of each month! October 5th is the Premiere Event!

“A CHORD FOR THE LORD” YOUTH CHOIR

St. Mary’s middle and high school choir will meet Wednesday, October 1 and October 22 at 6pm in Chapel Lounge. 6th-12th graders can contact Kendra (kendra.richter13@gmail.com) or Christina!

CIRCLES & SMALL GROUPS

St. Mary’s Community Quilters ~ Mondays @ 9:00am (Gym)

Miriam ~ 2nd Tuesday @ 1:00pm (Lo)

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

Women’s Book Club ~ 1st Tuesday @ 1:00pm (Lo)

Lydia Circle ~ 2nd Monday @ 12:30pm (Lo)

Exercise Class ~ Thursdays @ 4:30pm (G)

MINISTRIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN SESSION~ 3 yr.—5th Grade Joan Oehlberg’s email

KidMin@stmaryslutheran.org. You can follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/smlcsundayschool>

FISH & FUSION UNDERWAY! Kendra Richter’s email Youth@stmaryslutheran.org. Check out the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/smlcyouthed>

SENIOR MINISTRY ~ St. Mary’s **The Friendly Center (TFC)** is a senior ministry that has been around for a very long time. OCTOBER’S LUNCHEON IS OCTOBER 29TH! BOO!

Call Lisa Zanin 909-1181 with any questions.

PRAYER BREAKFAST—Wednesdays, 7:00am Marina Gardens Restaurant. All are welcome. This is now the combination of the Ladies’ & Men’s groups for one, amazing gathering of prayers.

Worship Attendance—September, 2025

August 30/31: 92

September 6/7: 149 Rally Day Sunday!

September 13/14: 117

September 20/21: 116

KEY CONTACTS—WHO DO YOU CALL?

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025-2026 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/FINANCE

Keith Richter.....948-9020
ktrichter25@gmail.com

CHURCH IN SOCIETY

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

EDUCATION (FAITH FORMATION)

Andrea Beer.....945-5901
beerski222@aol.com

THE FRIENDLY CENTER

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

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Andrea Beer.....945-5901
beerski222@aol.com

NOMINATING

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

PERSONNEL

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

PROPERTY

Keith Richter.....948-9020
ktrichter25@gmail.com

RECONNECTION*HOSPITALITY*FELLOWSHIP

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 Sandy Bear.....496-4370
sandymbear@outlook.com

Council Connection for October 2025
Hollie DeFranco (Council Secretary)
 914-0136 holliedefranco@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S STAFF: 658-3555 *The Dial by Name directory is set up for FIRST Names except for Nurse Sue—she isn't listed.*
All staff emails ...@stmaryslutheran.org

The Rev. Dr. Jordan Miller-Stubbendick,
 Lead Pastor 799-5791 or pastorjordan@stmaryslutheran.org
 Rev. Debbie Hartfield, Associate Pastor
 599-5795 or pastordeb@stmaryslutheran.org

Deb Black, organ.....choirmama100@gmail.com

Beth Kerscher, Admin. Assistantext. 300 or bkerscher@stmaryslutheran.org

Art Kotenko, Audio Video Technicianavtech@stmaryslutheran.org

New Bookkeeper.....ext. 323 or bookkeeper@stmaryslutheran.org

Willy Mueller, piano.....sillywilly.m@gmail.com

Nurse Sue, Advocate Faith and Health Community Program/
 Care Ministry Coordinator.....658-3555 or fcn@stmaryslutheran.org

Kendra Richter, Youth Director.....287-2483 or Youth@stmaryslutheran.org

Joan Oehlberg, Coordinator of Children's Ministry
 658-3555 or KidMin@stmaryslutheran.org

Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma, choir.....rsjoerdsma@carthage.edu

Nathan Larsen, handbells.....NathanLarsen2012@gmail.com

St. Mary's said "FAREWELL" to Sondra Kuro as she retired from being our church's staff Bookkeeper on September 26th. She will be missed and we look forward to her replacement.

Church Office Hours:

Mondays/Tuesdays/Thursdays: 9:00am-3:00pm

Wednesdays: Noon—6:00pm

Fridays: 9:00am—Noon

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE OPEN ON
 COLUMBUS/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
 DAY, OCTOBER 13TH.



THE SPIRIT

the newsletter of
ST. MARY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
www.stmaryslutheran.org
October, 2025

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The Mission & Core Practices of St. Mary's Lutheran Church

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.



Becoming Inclusive—Becoming a congregation that does not build walls, but opens doors to all God's beloved people.



Connecting People—Building small groups for mission, prayer, fellowship, travel, and support.



Growing Disciples—Teaching and experiencing Christian faith for adults and children for a life of transformation.



Practicing Generosity—Giving of our time, talent, and treasure for God's mission in the world.

