

THE MARKER

September 2026

From Pastor Dave

God's Work Our Hands weekend provides an opportunity to serve our neighbors in new ways, with friends from church, and with new friends in the community. It also provides an opportunity to gain new insights, to be renewed in faith and to gain fresh strength for serving in all our daily callings.

As baptized servants in Jesus' name, we live within and live out 5 baptismal vows: to live among God's faithful people; to hear the God's Word and share in the Lord's Supper; to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ Jesus through Word and Deed; to Serve all people following the example of Jesus; and to strive for Justice and Peace in all the world. God's Work Our Hands weekend is an important part of our baptismal vow-keeping and faithful living and serving.

*"It is **God who is at work in you**, enabling you to will and to work for His good pleasure."* (Philippians 2:13)
This biblical word turns around our thinking that we are the primary actors in our lives and reminds us that God is the Primary Actor "in you." When, where, or How have you been aware of God at Work in You? For you? Through you? What might you say is God's "good pleasure" that is or has been at work in you – in your family life, among your friends, at school or work, in a church activity, in a community activity or hobby or service project?

One of Martin Luther's most influential writings, "On Christian Freedom," includes this famous two-part assertion wrote:

A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none." "A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

Thanks be to God for God's good Work in you good and faithful servants in Jesus' name, and for your year-round serving, helping, praying, worshipping, sharing, giving, befriending, generous Hands and hearts!



God's work. Our hands.

Sunday School

Family Life Center

Pre-K through 3rd Grade: Meets in
the large blue room to the left

SERVE: 4th Grade
through 8th Grade



Sunday Worship

10:00 AM

through September 13

Beginning September 20:

8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

Prayer Concerns

St. Mark's Members: Camille Jones, Jane Saleeby, Linda Clark, Kim DeVerna, Ronnie Wilkins, Teresa Sloop, Linda Castoral, Cindy Ridenhour, Charlie Barone, Cathy Quade, Ruth Wagoner, BK Barringer, Peter Cuocolo, Arden Lown, Garron Wright, Lorri Monterose, Ruth Ann Swart, Lisa Shields, Angie Selig, all who are homebound, all who are caregivers, students of all ages and staff returning to school.

St. Mark's Friends & Family: Cory Sides (friend of Stan and Susan Suther), Olivette Holmes - stroke (mother-in-law of Courtney Abraham Holmes), Johnnie & Jerry Shue (friends of Virginia & Charlie Buckley), Charlie Corbin (Ed & Gail Walther's son-in-law), Johny and Sue Taylor (friends of Dawn Barone), Lekha Banerjee, mysterious illness, friend of Mark Relyea, Anna Gordon (friend of Mike & Betty Carter), Frank Owens (brother of Liz Whitlow), Randy Shoe (brother of Jeff Shoe), Mike Staley (Tracy Staley's dad), Brynda Bechtold, Dave & Annette Simpson, Maria Cuocolo, Andy Rakowsky, Ryder Krupczyn, Michael and Cathy Carpenter (friends of Peter Cuocolo), Renee (friend of Cindy Wilkins), Dave (friend of the Greene Family), Colin Goracke (Jack & Melanie Altman's grandson), Sandra Davis, Zebulon Hounslea (friend/student of Judy Fletcher), Maria Cuocolo, Emma (15- Hodgkins Lymphoma), Harriett Hepler (Barbara Overcash's sister), Tori (friend of Liz McNabb), Anne Monterosso (wife of Colin Davis), Marty Rink (friend of the Van Horns), Pastor David Gerber (Diana Cosme Avery's stepfather), Clark 'Tiger' LeBrun (cousin of Donna Enroth & Linda Melin), Ian Russell

St Mark's Military Members: Tommy Upshaw, Erik Crowder, Janet Smeltz's grandson- Dalton Leik, Andrew Boman, BK & Laura Barringer's great-grandson- Christopher Barringer.



Welcome into the body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism: Sarah Belle Gooden! (Aug. 23). Sarah is the daughter of Margaret and Thomas, and little sister of Wesley, and granddaughter of Terry Seyllar.

Left – Thomas Gooden's parents and brother.

Center – Thomas, Sarah, Margaret and Wesley.

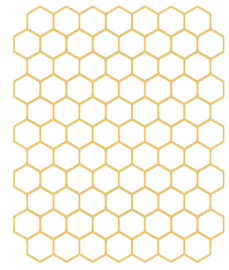
Right – Margaret's father Terry Seyllar, brother Henry and his wife Megan and their 3 children.

Wesley is holding The Story for Toddlers, an early Bible that he and Sarah can read and look at together.





The Sweet Life of Stewardship



Together We Make the Honey

"We are God's fellow workers." — 1 Corinthians 3:9

Have you ever stopped to watch a beehive?

Thousands of bees move with purpose. Some gather nectar. Some build the honeycomb. Some care for the young. Others protect the hive. Each bee has a different job, but they all work together toward the same goal.

No single bee creates the hive. Together, they create something beautiful.

As we begin our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, we invite you to join us on a four-week journey called The Sweet Life of Stewardship.

Stewardship is much more than financial giving. God has entrusted each of us with unique gifts—our time, talents, prayers, encouragement, and resources. When we share those gifts, the whole church flourishes, just like a healthy hive.

Beginning September 13, we'll discover together:

- Every Bee Has a Purpose
- Sharing Our Gifts
- Generosity Changes Lives
- Together We Make the Honey

Growing Together

Throughout the campaign, children and adults alike will discover that every bee has an important role in the hive. In the same way, every member of St. Mark's has a place, every gift has value, and every act of service helps our church grow stronger.

By the final Sunday, our completed honeycomb will be a beautiful reminder that every prayer matters, every volunteer matters, every gift matters, and every member matters.

A Sweet Invitation

This campaign has also inspired a new little friend named Bella, whose gentle adventures will help teach our children that everyone has a place in the hive. Bella discovers that even the quietest acts of kindness help the whole hive flourish. No matter your age or season of life, God has given you something meaningful to share.

Together, we make the honey.





YOUTH POOL PARTY 2026

BACK-PACK BLESSING 2026



Youth Events

September 26



Lock-in
in the FLC

- ★ 1st-5th graders
- ★ 6pm through Sunday School
- ★ Snacks and breakfast provided
- ★ please eat dinner before you arrive
- ★ RSVP with Amy 618-210-6000



Bowling at Victory Lanes

- ★ 6th grade and up
- ★ 7-9pm
- RSVP by Sep 20 to Jessica 828-514-9248

Strike!

Youth- Saturday, September 26

Youthquake: 10 a.m.- 3 p.m., at First Lutheran Church in Greensboro, 3rd-5th graders are invited to a day of fellowship, learning, service, and worship. \$22 per person and includes lunch and a YouthQuake T-shirt.

Lock-in: 6pm in the FLC. 1st-5th graders. Please eat dinner before you arrive, snacks and breakfast provided.

Bowling: 7-9pm at Victory Lanes. 6th graders and up.

Please contact Amy Wall or Jessica Fitzgerald if you would like to attend.



YOUTHQUAKE
3rd-5th Graders
September 26
First, Greensboro



Calling all musicians! The Music Ministry is getting back into the swing of things after summer break. Take a look at our various groups and come join the fun! Contact Kenney Potter (kenney@saintmarkslutheran.com) or Caroline Tyree (carolinetyree.lizy@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Chancel Choir - Wednesdays 7:00-8:00pm, Sanctuary
Prepares choral anthems and other special music to sing at the 10:30am service.

Adult Handbells - Wednesdays 6:00-6:45pm, Bell Room (resumes 9/9)
Prepares bell pieces to ring at the 8:30am and 10:30am services. Some musical experience is required.

Instrumental Ensemble - Sundays following 10:30 worship, Sanctuary (resumes 9/20)
Prepares instrumental pieces and hymns to play at the 8:30am and 10:30am services. Players with two or more years of experience with their instruments are welcome.

Beginning Handbells - Sundays 3:00-3:45pm, Bell Room
Prepares bell pieces to ring at the 8:30am and 10:30am services. Open to kids 3rd grade and older, and adults. No musical experience is required.

Ukulele Choir - Sundays 4:00-4:45pm, Sanctuary
Prepares songs to play at the 8:30am and 10:30am services. No musical experience is required. Open to all ages. Contact Caroline to try out a ukulele.

Children's Choir - Sunday mornings during Sunday School, FLC
Kids learn songs and hymns to support their Bible education and faith formation, and to share with the congregation during 8:30am and 10:30am services.

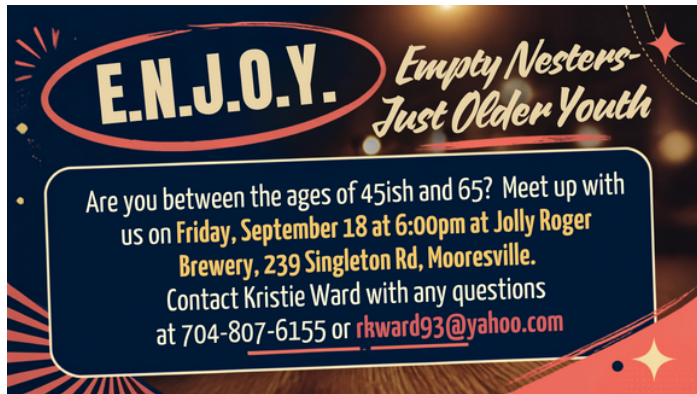
Solos/Duets/Small Groups/Visual Arts/Dance

We know that the richest and fullest worship experiences are created when everyone contributes their unique voice or gift. If you would like to share a specific song, art piece, liturgical dance, spoken work, or anything else, please reach out to Kenney or Caroline.

****Save the date! Children's Christmas Play 12/6 during worship****

Youth in Kindergarten through High School are invited to prepare a play to celebrate the season of Christmas. Rehearsals will be the first four Sundays of November (1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd). We'll start with dinner at 5:00pm, and practice until 7:00pm.





Hands On

Hands has started the 2026 fall season with prayer & ways to serve others. We will continue to make these cold weather items. Knitted hats, scarves, blankets, fleece head bands & hand warmers are being made. These items will be donated in our community & beyond.

Again this year we are filling Christmas stockings for the children & community of Living Waters Lutheran Church in Cherokee. We are asking for the following:

Yo-yo's, slinky's, SMALL stuffed animal's, SMALL books, crayons, bubbles, squishy's, nail polish, bracelets, match book cars & sidewalk chalk. Anything you feel a child would love to find in their stocking would be appreciated. Everything needs to fit into a stocking. We will begin collecting each Sunday in October. Please leave your Christmas stocking gift in a pew. A Hands team member will be collecting after each Sunday service in October.

Prayer pockets are an ongoing project for HandsOn. The prayer pockets were distributed not only in our community and congregation but also in New Orleans, LA, Spain and Italy as well. Gloria Connelly-Fosberg sent some of our prayer pockets to friends at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Orleans, LA (the oldest Lutheran congregation in New Orleans). The pockets were blessed by the retired archbishop of New Orleans and distributed along with meals through their meal program that feeds the homeless in the area. A St. Paul's volunteer then took 5 prayer pockets to her elderly Aunts in Italy who she visits each summer. Upon receiving the prayer pockets the ladies took them to Mass the following morning and had them blessed by their local Priest. The ladies send their blessings and thanks to us for spreading the Gospel and providing God's comfort.

HandsON meets on Tuesday in the FLC at 12:30. Come when you can & leave when you need to. There is always something to do & skills are not required. Fellowship & laughter are required.

Love one another,
Hands On Team!





HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW ROOF? WHAT A DIFFERENCE! OUR CHURCH BUILDING IS LOOKING FRESH AND BEAUTIFUL FROM THE TOP DOWN. A BIG THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS PROJECT POSSIBLE!



DINNER GROUPS

SEPT - DEC

Contact Pastor Dave to sign up

Small groups meeting at home or a restaurant

Wednesday Evenings

**5:30 Potluck Dinner
6:15 Worship**

Sept. 2 thru Nov. 18

Food + Fellowship + Faith + Fun

in the FLC
Activities for Children Too

**WED, SEPTEMBER 9
11:30AM**

Ladies Lunch Bunch

**FUNK HEIZERS DINER
631 BRAWLEY SCHOOL ROAD
MOORESVILLE, NC 28117**

**RSVP BY MONDAY, SEP 7
SUSANALTIERINC@GMAIL.COM
704-929-5648**

Martha Circle

*Meets on 4th Mondays
at 10:00am
in the conference room*

Women of the ELCA

Bible Study with Pastor Dave

RESUMES SEPTEMBER 2
WEDNESDAYS AT 10AM
IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM
(ZOOM AVAILABLE SEP 16)

Christ in Our Home



**DEVOTION BOOKS
ARE AVAILABLE IN
NARTHEX, OFFICE,
AND SIDE HALL
PLEASE FEEL FREE
TO TAKE ONE**

Lutheran Men in Mission congratulates and thanks Dave Finger, Paul Houck, and Bill West! They have all been awarded Honorary Life Memberships in the North Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission! Bill, Paul and Dave will be awarded during the LMM Dinner, Sunday, October 4. All men are invited to attend the LMM dinner that evening. More details forthcoming.

The next LMM BREAKFAST and meeting is Sunday, September 13, 7:30am. Join us for breakfast!



3RD THURSDAYS (except July & Aug)
12PM IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
FELLOWSHIP GROUP
COVERED DISH LUNCH & A PROGRAM
OPEN TO ALL SENIOR (55+) MEMBERS



**SEPTEMBER 17
SHOW AND TELL**
Bring an item that has a story, a family heirloom, an award you received or an item that will keep us guessing. There may be a prize for the most unique.



Food for Days

ITEM OF THE MONTH

January: Chewy Granola Bars
February: Pudding Cups
March: Chicken noodle soup(10.5oz)
April: Beans & Franks-8 oz
May: Ravioli (flip top cans)
June: Oatmeal, variety pack
July: Crackers (variety pack)
August: Ramen Noodles
September: Pop Tarts
October: Lg. Chef Boyardee
Nov: Fruit & Applesauce Cups
December: Vienna Sausages



1 Meadows, Whitey	12 Ward, Rob	22 McNabb, Jim
3 Mills, Karen	13 Kraft, Jackson	22 Keck, Nina
3 Fletcher, Don	13 Hansen, Al	22 Wulf, Marc
3 Cline, Macie	13 Relyea, Annette	23 Uzarski, Douglas
3 Mays, Jaxon	14 Sursi, Michael	24 Pless, Mary Jo
3 Breault, Amelia	14 Scoggins Jr., Troy	24 Wills, Lya
4 Pettit, Henry	16 Van Horn, Brian	25 Mays, Tonya
4 Leonard, Art	16 Horiszny, Sharon	25 Kraft, Allison
5 Parker, Jaxon	16 Morgan, Dian	26 Mills, Ed
6 Leal-Ontiveros, Lisa	17 Upshaw, Mitsi	27 Davis Jr., Colin
8 Little, Malinda	18 West, Cindy	28 Keck, Rachel
8 Leone, Danny	18 Habersang, Carol	28 Leatherman Jr., Raymond
8 Shirley, Allen	20 Bleier, Matthew	29 Elkin, Katie
9 McNabb, Liz	20 Wagoner, Ruth	29 Breault, Edith
10 Shields, Kaitie	20 Wright, Kaeden	29 Frankos, Everly
11 Westmoreland, Wayne	20 Mattingly, Stephanie	30 Rodriguez, Jennifer
11 Joy, Sullivan	21 Quade, Cathy	30 Stanbery, Beth



1 Greg & Jenny Hans	14 yrs
7 Chris & Laurie Isetts	41 yrs
11 Paul & Juanita Houck	34 yrs
12 Garron Wright & Sarah Baxter-Wright	13 yrs
13 Wes & Donna Enroth	40 yrs
15 Thomas & Margaret Gooden	14 yrs
21 Bill & Michelle Corbett	35 yrs
22 Mark & Annette Relyea	42 yrs
23 Jacob & Alex Mays	9 yrs
28 Dan & Emily Dubay	12 yrs
29 Art & Leslie Leonard	47 yrs