

# The SERVANT

September 2022



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## Worship

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.  
(through Sept. 18)

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, 10:45 a.m.  
(starting Sept. 18)

**Masks are recommended  
but not required**

**Pastor  
Lori L. Hope**



St Mark's Lutheran Church  
2001 S Elmwood Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-332-4092  
[www.smluth.org](http://www.smluth.org)

## **Celebrate! St Mark's fall kickoff!**

It's time to celebrate all the blessings we share, and celebrate we will, as we kick off fall with a meal for the entire congregation. Pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, and assorted sides will be served to all following church services on Saturday, September 10, and Sunday, September 11. Our dessert (back by popular demand) will be tin roof sundaes!

Our special weekend will **celebrate** all the great things God is doing within our church and beyond our church walls.

- We will **celebrate** the opportunity for our entire congregation to join together for a meal.
- We will **celebrate** and welcome our new intern pastor, Sawyer Vanden Heuvel.
- We will **celebrate** the week of serving others through "God's work. Our hands,"
- and we will **celebrate** the effort to provide a new roof for a church in Cameroon.

The meal is being provided by the Mission Committee and you will have an opportunity to donate to the Raise the Roof fund as we push closer to our \$8,000 goal. We have raised about \$5,000 up to this point so we have only about \$3,000 to go! Plan to take a break from cooking and join us in this celebration meal!

—Doug Larson, Mission Committee

**Friday, September 9, 3:00-7:00 p.m.**

(or whenever the work is finished)

Help Dixie clean up her back yard (near 26th and Lincoln)

**Saturday, September 10, 9:00-11:00 a.m.**

Help with yard work at Bethany Sioux Falls

**Sunday, September 11**

Help tie quilts. Come to St. Mark's "quilting room" after the service. All are welcome; instruction provided!

**Sunday, September 11, 2:00 p.m.**

Help celebrate Grandparents Day at Bethany Sioux Falls in the Dining Room

# Pastor's Letter

Family of St. Mark's,

***Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic,  
love one another, be compassionate and humble.***

– I Peter 3:8

We were created in and for community. The creator said, "Let US make humankind in OUR image." There are so many quotes that can feel like clichés that are indeed true:

"We are stronger together."

"We are all in this together."

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

They are all true and they are all biblical. Living in community is intended to be lifegiving and a gift. At St. Mark's we believe and try to act as if this is true under our church roof, in the community, and around the world.

The month of September is a great time to live into our understanding of our life together as we return to Sunday School classes, choir rehearsals, "God's work Our hands" weekend, getting to know a new intern, and service opportunities. Dan Cable wrote, "Freedom across the world is a result of many individuals working together." The good news of Jesus is freedom and love; we are free to love, forgive and hope. We are reminded of grace, mercy, and joy in the presence of one another.

We have had five gatherings of our Circle of Eight groups as of the end of August. There are four more Circle of Eight groups scheduled for the month of September. During our time together we share ideas, experiences and hopes. If you have been unable to attend one of our gatherings and are still interested, please let the office know by September 16.

As God's people, we are called to live into God's promises in our own lives and share them with everyone. We are called to be people of hope in times that are difficult. We are called to be people of peace when words and actions of violence are tolerated. We are called to be people of love even with our enemies.

***Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic,  
love one another, be compassionate and humble.***

Peace,  
Pastor Lori L. Hope

# Vicar's Notes

## Welcome, Vicar Sawyer

Sawyer Vanden Heuvel has joined the staff of St. Mark's for a one-year internship.

Sawyer is a Master of Divinity student at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, MN, and is a candidate for Word and Sacrament ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). He most recently served as the Director of Communications at the South Dakota Synod for the past six years. After his internship year at St. Mark's, Sawyer will be ready for his first call in the ELCA.



Sawyer received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 2012 from Augustana University with a major in Business Administration. Prior to serving in the church, he worked in the banking and marketing industries. Freed by God's grace, and as a member of the body of Christ, Sawyer has a passion for serving the neighbor and using his voice to stand up for the most vulnerable among us. As a future pastor of the ELCA, Sawyer seeks to create intentional Christian communities where all are welcome, fed, seen, and heard at Christ's table as God's beloved children.

Sawyer lives in Sioux Falls, with his spouse, Mark. Mark works at the Sioux Falls Food Co-op. In his spare time, Sawyer likes to spend time outdoors, hanging out with friends in Downtown Sioux Falls, traveling, baking bread, reading, or climbing. One of Sawyer's most recent travel adventures was this past summer on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Feel free to ask him about his time in Israel!

He is very excited to get to know the community of St. Mark's as well as to learn and grow this coming year.

*You're invited!*

**Help us welcome Vicar Sawyer to St. Mark's.**

Enjoy a meal and time together.

Saturday, September 10, after 5:00 p.m. service

Sunday, September 11, after 10:00 a.m. service.

## Papa I love you

Felix Carrier-Damon made the news recently for a simple act of love.

Felix hit two home runs, including a grand slam, in a baseball game on July 30. He was able to keep both baseballs after the game. To sign the balls and commemorate his big day, he wrote, "best feeling ever" on the first ball. For the second one, the grand slam ball, he wrote, "Papa, I love you," and gave it to his grandfather, Bruce Carrier.

Melissa, Felix's mom and the Carriers' youngest daughter, filmed that moment between grandfather and grandson and posted it on Instagram.

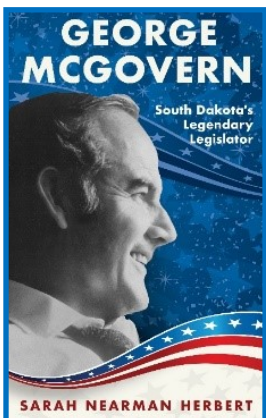
The reaction has been unexpected and incredible.

Hundreds of media outlets have featured the viral video, with dozens of networks interviewing the Carrier family directly to share their inspiring story. Tens of millions of people have viewed it and responded online. The owners of the New York Mets sent a complete care package to the family, full of merchandise and collectibles, including a ball for Felix signed by the entire team. Epoch Times, based in Vietnam, saw the story and sat down with the duo to record a show segment to broadcast in 15 countries.

Bruce Carrier, a member of St. Mark's, commented, "I have been so overwhelmed that this simple video of emotion and love between my grandson Felix and his Papa has received so much remarkable attention."



See more: [Pigeon 605](#), [USA Today](#), [KELOLAND](#), [ABC News](#), [TODAY](#)



## Books about George McGovern for George McGovern

St. Mark's is undertaking a project this fall to supply George McGovern Middle School (GMMS) with books about the school's namesake, George McGovern. In honor of McGovern's 100th birthday, St. Mark's will donate a copy of the book *George McGovern: South Dakota's Legendary Legislator* by Sarah Nearman Herbert to each of the 50 classrooms at GMMS. Additional copies will be a bonus for school staff to use for special projects or to welcome new families.

Herbert's book describes McGovern as an "ordinary kid" who grew up in Mitchell, SD, and went on to do extraordinary things at a national and international level.

St. Mark's has connected with GMMS for the past five years. Projects have included providing meals for staff during parent teacher conferences and delivering treats with cards of encouragement for the teachers.

## How you can help

- **Donate money** to purchase copies of *George McGovern: South Dakota's Legendary Legislator*. The book sells for \$11.99. A portion of the purchase price is being donated to Feeding South Dakota in honor of McGovern's 100th birthday. One of McGovern's goals was to see that all children worldwide were fed a healthy lunch every day. To donate: Make checks out to St. Mark's Lutheran Church with GMMS Books in the memo line.
- **Go into classrooms** to share the book with students and staff. Classroom visits will take place during October and will involve a 45-minute time commitment. St. Mark's will conduct a training session for classroom volunteers on Thursday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to participate, please sign up as soon as possible by calling or emailing the church office.

# Mark Your Calendars

## Sunday School Starts September 18

Sunday School resumes the regular schedule on Sunday, September 18, 9:30 a.m.



Families of preschool (age three and potty trained) through middle school students are encouraged to register their child(ren) for Sunday School. Use the QR code to register. Registration forms are also available in the office and [online](#).

## Try your hand at poetry

St. Mark's is offering a four-week poetry writing class. If you have never (or rarely) written poetry before, this course will introduce you to the joy and satisfaction of putting your feelings, ideas, and experiences on paper. No difficult demands on form or structure — the course will focus, instead, on the power of language in a free verse format.

The course is offered to those who are 60+ years old. Enrollment is limited to eight participants. Call or email the office to sign up.

**Dates:** Thursdays, September 29 to October 20

**Time:** 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** St. Mark's

**Facilitators:** Linda Hallstrom, Dr. Rosanne Kirts

## Watercolor sessions resume

St. Mark's will be offering watercolor sessions again this fall. Ann McGovern will facilitate. The Wednesday group will meet at 1:00 p.m. starting on September 14. The Saturday group is scheduled to start on September 17 at 10:00 a.m. The sessions will last for six weeks. People new to painting are encouraged and welcome. Materials will be provided for first-time participants. Call Ann McGovern with questions or concerns. Contact St. Mark's office to sign up.

*Everybody born comes from the Creator trailing wisps of glory. We come from the Creator with creativity. I think that each one of us is born with creativity.*

– Maya Angelou

## Laundry with Love: October 11



St. Mark's is scheduled to coordinate Laundry with Love on Tuesday, October 11. St. Mark's will be providing a meal and helping with laundry. **We are looking for someone to take charge of the event.**

Please let Pastor Lori know as soon as possible.



## St. Mark's Sunday School has a wish list

You can help the St. Mark's Sunday School by fulfilling a wish or two. The link below will take you to an Amazon site listing toys and books that would be welcome additions to the Sunday School rooms. Online purchases will be delivered to the church.

[St. Mark's Kids' Amazon Wish List](#)

September is the month of maturity; the heaped basket and the garnered sheaf. It is the month of climax and completion. September! I never tire of turning it over and over in my mind. It has warmth, depth and colour. It glows like old amber.

– Patience Strong (1951). "The Glory of the Garden"

# St. Lucia Festival



St. Mark's will be hosting the 47<sup>th</sup> St. Lucia Festival this year at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10. The Lucia Committee needs your assistance to make this happen. We need persons to chair or co-chair the food committee, the costume committee, and the finance committee. A description of each committee's responsibilities is included below. If you are interested, please contact the Lucia Festival Chair, Kerri Smith, by email at [kerri.smith@k12.sd.us](mailto:kerri.smith@k12.sd.us) or text/message at 605-212-2276.

## Food Committee

Organize all the food for the festival — cookies, Lucia buns, fruit soup, and lefse — and work in the kitchen during the festival to get the food out and cleaned up.

## Costume Committee

Fit costumes for all the dancers, make repairs/adjustments to costumes for dancers, iron costumes and help with costumes before and during festival performances, clean and store costumes after the festival is complete.

## Finance Committee

Handle the banking for the Lucia Festival, keep track of expenses and make checks for purchases and donations, get cash for the Festival, put out donation envelopes for the Festival, collect and count donations both nights of the Festival, create a report of the Festival's costs and donations.

— Kerri Smith, Lucia Committee

# Updates and Announcements

## Fair Trade Tea and Coffee available

St. Mark's has restocked its supply of Fair Trade tea and coffee. Carts are in the narthex with a wooden box for payment.

Purchase of tea and coffee helps small farmers in some of the poorest countries of the world earn a fair price for their coffee. If you have a little extra change, it's a generous gesture to add that to the purchase price.

For years Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has helped coffee growers with farming techniques, helped farmers organize into cooperatives, helped them meet certification for Fair Trade, and helped market Fair Trade's products.

As Margaret Blume has said, "Drinking coffee is not a third Lutheran sacrament, but the good our coffee purchase does is certainly sacred."



# Thank you, St. Marks

## Good food, good fun, good fellowship

Nearly 200 people turned out for St. Mark's Pie and Ice Cream Social on August 2. In addition to being enjoyable, the event was generous as it yielded donations for Journey of Hope: 70 bottles of shampoo and conditioner, 20 sticks of deodorant, a good supply of other personal products like bar soap and body lotion, and \$246.00 in monetary gifts. [Journey of Hope](#) partners with local agencies and churches to provide drawstring bags with hygiene items, socks, and words of inspiration to give to individuals reintegrating from behavioral health hospitals, incarceration, or experiencing homelessness.

Dear St. Mark's Family,

Thank you for the cards and gifts for my going away party. This year has been such a blessing. I have felt your love and support deep in my bones. I came to St. Mark's afraid of making mistakes, but I'm learning when I fall on my face, there are people who will pick me up! Blessings on your continued ministry.

Vicar Leif

Dear St. Mark's,

Thank you for the wonderful evening. I enjoyed it all! The pie and ice cream were a special treat. The music was special. The neighbors were fun to see out and about.

*Thank You*

Sincerely,  
Florence Willis  
2100 S. Lyndale

## With Sympathy

The funerals of Lyla Hillstrom and Ray Laurila were held in recent weeks at St. Mark's. The funeral of Rev. Lloyd Stivers will be held on September 10. We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of Lyla, Ray, and Lloyd.

Thank you to St. Mark's Sunday School for the beautiful quilt you gave me. To Pastor Lori for bringing it down to the Tieszen Memorial Home in Marion and for the nice visit. I want to thank the people at St. Mark's for the birthday cards and the sympathy cards on the loss of Delores and Becky's dad this last year.

Arnie Hinseth and  
Laurel Luke Family

## September Baptism Anniversaries

Kyle Alberty	Cathy Larson
Leslie Cunningham	Lorin Phillips
Sarah Erickson	Dianne Schnabel
Davina Fanciullo	Isaac Smith
Melvin Holmbeck	Mark Smith
Mason Johnson	Stephanie Wencil
Eliaza Kane	Jane Williams



## THANK YOU

to those who are sponsoring Soliette, our missionary in Nicaragua, and our Transportation Ministry sponsors for the month of September

**Transportation Ministry Sponsor**  
Marlon Mollett is the September sponsor.

**Mission Ministry Sponsors**  
September 4: Kim and Jane Williams  
In memory of parents  
September 11: Dave and April Hokanson  
September 18: Jana Keller  
In memory of parents  
September 25: Marlon Mollett

# Council Minutes

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council August 16, 2022

**Present:** Cathy Wencil, Karin Lindell, Luanne Alberty, Kent Alberty, Pastor Lori Hope, Dianne Schnabel, Sally Turner, Katie Harms, Deb Carrier, Sandy Jerstad, Becky Luke  
**Visitor:** Josh Zellmer

**Devotions:** We told a few jokes in place of devotions. Laughs were had all around.

**Minutes:** We reviewed the minutes from the previous council meeting. MSC.

**Old Business:** We discussed the following old business:

The Pie and Ice Cream Social was a smashing success! We had about 200 people attend. We even had to set up more tables and chairs.

We will bring coffee back between services starting September 18. We will not put the tables back in the narthex yet. Instead, we will encourage people to use the Fellowship Hall.

Sawyer Vanden Heuvel, our new intern, starts on August 22. Vicar Leif is assigned to the NW Minnesota synod.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Smith has agreed to be our new treasurer. He will be part of both Finance and Council. MSC

**President's Report:** Nothing really new.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor thanked everyone who helped clean out the rental house. They were through in less than an hour.

### New Business

We discussed the Abuse policy at length. Josh gave us a lawyer's point of view for the original policy we received from the synod. Josh will follow up on several questions we have and will report back to us as soon as possible.

We did discuss that we also need more young families represented on Council.

### Committee Reports

**Chris Ed:** Multi-generational Sunday School open house is August 28.

**Property:** The damaged tree is gone.

### Devotions:

- September – Sawyer
- October – Katie
- November – Sandy
- December - Becky
- 

We closed the meeting with prayer petitions and the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Becky Luke



# September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Book Study, 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m.	2 Pastor Out of Office	3 Worship, 5:00 p.m.
4 Worship, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Out of Office	5 	6 Quilters, 9:00 a.m.	7 Office Staff, 1:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m. Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.	8 Book Study, 10:00 a.m.	9 <b>God's work. Our hands.</b>	10 Worship, 5:00 p.m.
11 Worship, 10:00 a.m. <b>God's work. Our hands.</b>	12 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	13 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m. Mission Committee, 4:00 P.M. Circle of Eight, 7:00 p.m.	14 Circle of Eight, 10:00 a.m. Watercolor, 1:00 p.m. 11th Grade Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	15 Book Study, 10:00 a.m. George McGovern Middle School Project Training, 7:00 p.m.	16	17 Watercolor, 10:00 a.m. Worship, 5:00 p.m.
18 Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.	19 Pastor and Vicar Out of Office/ Continuing Ed	20 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Exec Committee, 6:30 p.m. Council, 7:00 p.m.	21 Watercolor, 1:00 p.m. 6th-8th Grade Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	22 Book Study, 10:00 a.m.	23	24 Watercolor, 10:00 a.m. Worship, 5:00 p.m. Circle of Eight, 6:00 p.m.
25 Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Youth Group at Corn Maze, 2:00-5:00 p.m. 	26 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	27 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m.	28 Watercolor, 1:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	29 Book Study, 10:00 a.m. Poetry Class, 1:00 p.m. Circle of Eight, 7:00 p.m.	30	

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
2001 S. Elmwood Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**†he Servant** September 2022

## **Office Hours & Contact Information:**

- Sawyer Vanden Heuvel, Vicar  
Tuesday- Friday  
[sawyer@smluth.org](mailto:sawyer@smluth.org)
- Linda Hallstrom, Office Manager  
Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
[stmarks@smluth.org](mailto:stmarks@smluth.org)
- Karin Lindell, Ministry Coordinator  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Wednesday 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
[karin@smluth.org](mailto:karin@smluth.org)
- Deb Carrier, Finance Manager  
Wednesday  
[deb@smluth.org](mailto:deb@smluth.org) *If you need anything related to finance, please email Deb anytime.*

St. Mark's office is also open on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



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