

The SERVANT

November 2022



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Worship

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

**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**

Quilt raffle supports Cameroon roof fund

St. Mark's quilters are selling raffle tickets to help raise funds for a roof on a church in Cameroon. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 tickets for \$25. Tickets are available for purchase from quilters, members of the Mission Committee and are also available in the church office.

Four quilts are being raffled. Tickets allow those who purchase tickets to indicate the quilt of their choice. Quilts are on display in the narthex.



(A) "Crazy Quilt"
King Size



(B) "Hello Fall"
Twin Size



(C) "Cozy Quilt"
King Size



(D) "Autumn Garden"
Twin Size

Pastor's Letter

Dear family and friends of St. Mark's,

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them as their God; they will be God's peoples, and God will be with them; God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." —Revelation 21:3-4

Each November we celebrate All Saints' weekend. It is a beautiful way to celebrate baptism and to remember our loved ones with all the candles and incredible music. It is also painful and hopeful. It is often difficult to open the floodgate of grief but then of course we are reminded that grief is real even if we are not acknowledging or naming it. J. S. Golubich wrote, "There's no end to my grief journey because there's no end to my love for you." On these particular days we name our grief and love. We gather in community and sing the songs of our ancestors. We proclaim God's promises that are timeless.

Very few readings or poems have spoken to me like "Tis a Fearful Thing" by Yehuda HaLevi (1075–1141).

'Tis a fearful thing
to love what death can touch.
A fearful thing
to love, to hope, to dream, to be —
to be,
And oh, to lose.
A thing for fools, this,
And a holy thing,
a holy thing
to love.
For your life has lived in me,
your laugh once lifted me,
your word was gift to me.
To remember this brings painful joy.
'Tis a human thing, love,
a holy thing, to love
what death has touched.

Peace,
Pastor Lori Hope

Vicar's Notes

Truth-Telling and Reconciliation

Dear friends at St. Mark's, grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord!

The calendar has once again turned to November. It is hard to believe that 2022 is nearing its end! Soon, we will be entering the festive holiday seasons with Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas.

Thanksgiving has been one of my favorite holidays as an adult. Mostly because of the zero expectation that comes with this celebration. We gather friends and family. We enjoy being in community with each other through conversations at the table, and there is often a lot of good food to share.

Even though Thanksgiving Day is a time of joy and celebration, the White, Euro-centric narrative of this holiday has often come at a cost towards our indigenous siblings causing a great deal of pain and suffering. The Reverend Dr. Bradley S. Hauff, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe (Lakota) and an Episcopal priest serving on the Presiding Bishop's staff, has written that Thanksgiving, "is about families gathering and feasting and giving thanks to the Creator who has given us the gift of resiliency and empowered us to survive in the face of all odds. This has always been a part of our culture since before the arrival of Europeans, and it will continue to be so." (Building Faith, 2021)

One of the gifts I give thanks to the Church for is how it can be a place for reconciliation. The Prophet Isaiah reminds us of our call towards seeking reconciliation when we are named as "repairers of the breach." (Isaiah 58:12) Acknowledging the truth and naming what has been breached will lead us on the path towards healing and forgiveness. We can do all this through Jesus Christ, who is God with us, who came to bring good news to the poor and let the oppressed go free.

Blessings to you always,

Vicar Sawyer

Vicar receives Fund for Leaders Scholarship

Vicar Sawyer Vanden Heuvel was selected as a recipient of the 2022 Fund for Leaders Scholarship through the ELCA. This year, in the 25th Anniversary of the Fund for Leaders, 375 students were awarded scholarships totaling over \$3.4 million! This record number represents Fund for Leaders' commitment to expanding eligibility to new groups of students.

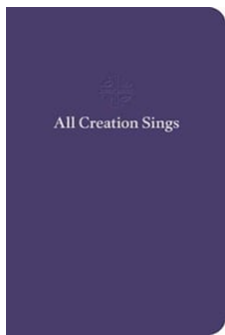
On September 30, 2022, Vicar Sawyer attended the 25th Anniversary Celebration in Chicago, Illinois, with Bishop Constanze Hagmaier and a group of seminarians from South Dakota. Vicar Sawyer was one of 13 scholarship recipients specific to mission development. He was nominated by Luther Seminary and affirmed by the South Dakota Synod to receive this scholarship. Sawyer is looking forward to exploring this year what it means to be a mission developer pastor in the ELCA. He is grateful for the ways the church continues to support his calling into rostered ministry.

All Creation Sings

All Creation Sings (ACS) is a supplement to our current hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW). We have been introducing songs from ACS during worship services over the past several weeks.

You may purchase copies of ACS in honor or memory of loved ones. Hymnals will have bookplates indicating the names of donors and those who are honored and remembered.

You may also purchase copies of ACS for use at home, for gift giving, or to help us reach our goal — we hope to add 200 new books alongside our ELW Hymnals.



Use the order form below or fill out the [online form](#).

Deadline for order and payment: November 20, 2022.

My Gift for the New Worship Book:

All Creation Sings

Name _____
Please Print

Phone _____

Number of Books _____ at \$14.50/book

If desired, you may designate your gift:

In honor of: please print

In memory of: please print

If paying by check:

Make check payable to St. Mark's Lutheran Church with "Hymnals" on the memo line. Checks/cash may be mailed to St. Mark's with the order form or paid in person at the church.

For office use:

Check Number: _____

Date: _____

Welcome New Member

Colleen Lathrop

Colleen was born and raised in Estherville, Iowa. She has lived in the Sioux Falls area for 48 years and currently lives on a farm northeast of Sioux Falls. She has four children. Bennett is a critical care nurse at Avera Heart Hospital. Garrett is an ATM specialist in Alaska. Brigett is a teacher in the Baltic schools. Collin drives truck for Liberty Tire Recycling. Colleen also has ten grandchildren, five of each. She has kept all of her grandkids while their parents work and still has four of them every day. Colleen enjoys cooking and baking. She loves gardening and canning. Her family has a huge garden, fruit trees, berry beds and lots of asparagus. She does all of the canning for her family. They also raise chickens and turkeys. Colleen especially likes Christmas baking. According to Colleen, "My kids say I'm in my element when December rolls around!"

Exploring Good Earth



Members of St. Mark's Youth Group enjoyed the fall colors at Good Earth State Park on October 16 with Pastor Lori and Vicar Sawyer. Pictured left to right are: Cora Hokanson, Johanna Neiderhiser, Maelia Darling, Clara Walz, and Vicar Sawyer.

ReconcilingWorks

LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



All Are Welcome

All Are Welcome! Why isn't that enough?

Several members of St. Mark's attended a Safe Zone training where we explored that question. We realized that All Are Welcome isn't enough for people who are LGBTQIA+, non-white, mentally or physically challenged, and for other people who feel "different."

We now have a St. Mark's Task Force with the goal of becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation that actively, through an inclusive welcoming statement, makes it clear that our church is open to ALL.

Currently, Sally Turner, Vicar Sawyer, and Ann Sansgaard are working with the Open Door Synod Task Force to assist congregations to design welcome statements. A letter from Bishop Hagmaier for you to read shares the Synod's support for diversity and is available on the table in the narthex.

Also, Task Force members would welcome a chance to talk with you: Sally Turner, Ann Sansgaard, Cathy Larson, Rae Yost, Rachel Gertner, Barb Stanley, Christy Hallenbeck Ask, and Jon Hallenbeck Ask.

Blessing the Pets



Members brought their pets to the south lawn for the Blessing of the Pets on October 16. The Sunday School brought stuffed animals to be part of the annual observance.

“Until one has loved an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened.”

—Anatole France

St. Lucia Festival



St. Lucia Dance practice starts November 6

St. Mark's will host our traditional St. Lucia Festival on Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10, at 7:00 pm. All of our previous dancers and new ones are invited to participate in this joyful event. Remember, you can invite friends to participate, but dancers must be in kindergarten or older to participate. Children ages 4-5 can be star children.

Dance practice will be held on Sundays from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. starting on November 6. Participants are encouraged to attend as many practices as possible, but if you have to miss a few, you can still participate. We also understand that dancers may only be able to dance at one performance. If you have any questions, please contact Kerri Smith in person at church or via text (605-212-2276) or email - kerri.smith@k12.sd.us.

God Jul!

St. Lucia Sign Up

Please fill out the form below if your children are interested in dancing in this year's Lucia Festival at St. Mark's.

[St. Lucia Festival 2022 Dancer Sign-Up Form](#)

Updates and Announcements

Decorating the sanctuary

The Worship & Music Committee invites all St. Mark's members to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas on Saturday, November 26, at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact a committee member: Shari Smith, Barb Stanley or Pat Seiner.



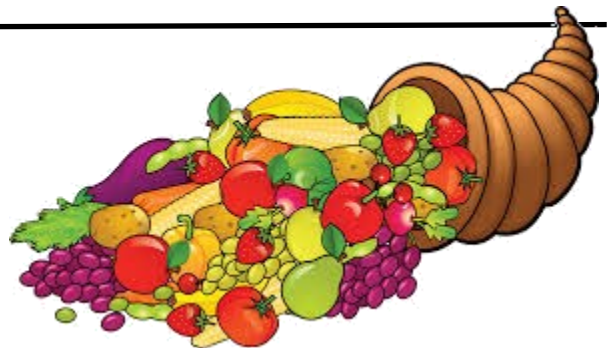
Brew and Renew: Part II

Join Vicar Sawyer for the second Brew and Renew night at [Full Circle Book Co-op](#) on Thursday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m. We will once again be looking at queer stories of the Bible. Last month we had a large group join us for a fun evening of studying Scripture and having stimulating conversations.

Full Circle has a variety of beverages for sale. Purchase your favorite "brew" and pull up a chair for an evening of community and storytelling. All are welcome!

Thanksgiving Eve Service

St. Mark's Thanksgiving Eve service will be held on Wednesday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m. The offering from the Thanksgiving Eve Service will support the Pastoral Special Needs Fund.





Invitation

Christmas with C.S. Lewis

You are invited to “Christmas with C.S. Lewis” at the Washington Pavilion. Dates and times are December 2 and 4 at 7:30 p.m. and December 3 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Jonathan Swenson (former Program Director at Mount Carmel Ministries in Alexandria, MN — and Rachel Gertner’s camp supervisor and friend) will be performing four shows that weekend portraying C.S. Lewis. According to Swenson, “This powerful yet intimate portrayal allows you to spend an enthralling evening with a man whose books have literally changed millions of lives.”

Tickets are typically \$64 a seat, however Jonathan has provided a promo code for 50% off the ticket price. Type “DAVID” (all caps) in the promo code box at the top right of the screen and click “ok” to validate the promo code before selecting tickets.

It would be wonderful for Jonathan to have your support as he begins this new endeavor!

ORDERING LINK:

<https://www.washingtonpavilion.org/event/christmas-cs-lewis>

Thank you, St. Marks

The family of Pastor Lloyd Stivers thanks our St. Mark’s family for all the love and support given to us over the last few months.

We so appreciate all the stories we have heard, the joy we have felt, and all the work that went into the reception after his memorial service. Special thanks to Pastor Lori for all the support, visits, words of wisdom, and love she showed to Lloyd and our family over the past years.

Laurie, Jill and David

November Baptism Anniversaries

Mary Ann Andersen	Diedra Nissen
Lori Buschena	Emily Sievers
Paul DeBoer	Lia Sievers
Tayson DeJong	Kjerstin Smith
Amelia Des Enfants	Michael Smith
Cora Hokanson	Delores Straatmeyer
Trudy Johnson	Dan Varns
Rebekah Kane	Brenda White
Harley Kuper	Darla Wilkens
Nora Lindell	Aidy Zellmer

THANK YOU

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

Transportation Ministry Sponsor
Marlon Mollett is the November sponsor.

Mission Ministry Sponsors

November 6: Rex and Margie Rolfig
in memory of Alex Rolfig

November 13: Dale and Dianne Schnabel
in memory of Henry Hansen

November 20: Karin Lindell

November 27: Cary and Cathy Wencil

Council Minutes

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council October 18, 2022

Present: Cathy Wencil, Karin Lindell, Pastor Lori Hope, Vicar Sawyer Vanden Heuvel, Dianne Schnabel, Sally Turner, Kent Alberty, Luanne Alberty, Mark Smith, Deb Carrier, Katie Harms, Sandy Jerstad, April Hokanson, Becky Luke

Caring Conversation: Dianne is scheduled to have hip replacement on November 7.

Devotions: Katie shared devotions about rest.

Introductions: We all introduced ourselves to our new treasurer Mark since this is his first meeting.

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

Old Business: We discussed the following old business:

Circle of Eight meetings are completed but were so well received that we are hoping for one more.

Due to cold and flu season, we aren't making any changes to the COVID procedures as we have them.

The Abuse Policy task force is not completely assembled yet.

All Creation Sings hymnal supplement – we are developing an order form so if people want to order or donate, they can. Someone asked why we quit using the blue *With One Voice* supplement. Most of that hymnal was incorporated into the cranberry hymnal, so it was simply obsolete.

Website – We have a screenshot of the front page and it looks very nice, according to Pastor and Vicar.

Treasurer's Report: Nothing from Mark as he is just getting started and learning the position. We are to let him know if he's not completing some of his duties. MSC

President's Report: Nothing new.

Pastor's Report: About ten people will be joining over the next month.

Vicar's Report: Brew & Renew had a wonderful attendance. The next one is scheduled for November 3. The intern and supervisors' retreat went well. Vicar Sawyer and Pastor Lori talked to several students at the Augie Faith Fair. Students were excited about the chance to win a \$50 Hy-Vee gift card.

New Business

It's budget time. Exec started their budget proposals and we ask that all committees get their budgets submitted.

Let Karin know if you have any changes for the Time and Talent form by October 25.

Committee Reports

Youth: Three students are going to be confirmed in October.

Hy-Vee grocery cards are available in the office.

Chris Ed: Going well. Lots of kids and we need volunteers.

Property: Lawn care costs are down. We are looking for a new sidewalk snow removal company.

Devotions:

November – Sandy

December - Becky

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

Minutes submitted by Becky Luke

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m.	2 6th-8th Grade Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	3 Book Study, 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m.	4	5 Worship, 5:00 p.m.
6 All Saints Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. St. Lucia Dance Practice, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Youth Group, after church to 2:00 p.m.	7 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	8 Election Day Polling Place Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m.	9 Mission Committee, 4:00 p.m. 6th-8th Grade Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	10 Book Study, 10:00 a.m.	11	12 Worship, 5:00 p.m.
13 Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. St. Lucia Dance Practice, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	14 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	15 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Exec Committee, 6:30 p.m. Council, 7:00 p.m.	16 6th-8th Grade Confirmation, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.	17 Book Study, 10:00 a.m.	18	19 Worship, 5:00 p.m.
20 Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. St. Lucia Dance Practice, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	21 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	22 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m.	23 Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00 p.m.	24 	25	26 Decorate the sanctuary, 10:00 a.m. Worship, 5:00 p.m.
27 Worship, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. St. Lucia Dance Practice, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	28 Pastor's and Vicar's Sabbath	29 Quilters, 9:00 a.m. Office Staff, 9:30 a.m.	30 Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. Choir, 7:00 p.m.			

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

The Servant November 2022

Office Hours & Contact Information:

- Sawyer Vanden Heuvel, Vicar
Tuesday- Friday
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
- 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
- Deb Carrier, Finance Manager
Wednesday
deb@smluth.org *If you need anything related to finance, please email Deb anytime.*

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