



The Lutheran Church of St. Mark

in joy we share Christ's truth

www.SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

The Messenger

Summer 2022



A Message from Pastor Hoffman

How is it possible that we are almost half-way through the year 2022? I know they say that time flies when you are having fun, but I am beginning to think that time flies, regardless of what you are doing.

Before the whole year flitters away I want to encourage all of us to intentionally take some time to slow down.

Did you notice that your best ideas and solutions to problems often come when you are not thinking about them – when you are in the shower, after you've gone to bed, when you are reading a book – in other words, when you've taken the time to slow down your mind and body? Sometimes we need to give our mind some time and space of its own to relax and stretch out.

We are coming to the end of our three-year Body of Christ focus. This does not mean we will stop talking and thinking about being the Body of Christ, but it does mean that it is time to start listening and thinking about the next steps in our ministry journey. Who/What/Where are we and who/what do we want to become, and where do we want to go from here? What strengths can we build upon? What gifts do we have to share with our community?

I know that there already are some thoughts and ideas out there. I also know that these past two years have consumed a lot of energy and creativity and there needs to be some intentional time for our bodies and minds to relax and stretch. I've scheduled some vacation time and a spiritual retreat for this summer. I'm looking forward to the time away to wander and explore and rest while on vacation and the time of silence to listen and pray while on retreat.

My hope is for some new energy and renewed excitement after the break. This is my hope for all of us. So be sure to give yourself some time and space this summer. Find time to rest, to relax, to wander, to play, to pray, to stretch out – whatever it is you must do to recharge the batteries of your body and spirit. Don't worry, we will be here all summer with things to do. But when we regroup, bring all of your super ideas, your new energy and excitement for mission and ministry.

Have a great, blessed, and safe summer!

Pastor Hoffman



Our Mission:
In joy,
we share
Christ's truth

**Sunday
Worship**



9:00am

**Our Guiding
Principles**

1. We trust in God's promises.
2. We base our actions on Christ's love and teachings.
3. We practice spiritual disciplines.
4. We welcome, nurture, and respect each other.
5. We serve our local community, and the world.

Council President – Ray Frick

Remembering the Sabbath

I've been reading "Words of Love", subtitled "A Healing Journey with the Ten Commandments" by E. Gamble. She refers to the Commandments as Words of God. She is sometimes wordy in discussing a particular Word, and sometimes stretches the meaning a little too far (in my opinion), but one Word discussion which really impressed me was Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

She explains how this Word is the connecting link between the first three Words and the ones that follow. The first three concern our personal relationship to God, while the following ones concern our relationship with community. To quote: "The Fourth Word links personal practice with community piety to help us understand that our love story is not exclusively personal. It is always lived out in community. In the same way, worship is not essentially personal."

There is a rhythm to life – there are highs and lows, and work and rest. God worked creating the world in six days, and then took a rest. Obviously, our society does not take a day to rest, and unfortunately, we can get caught up in not taking a day to rest. Those of us who work probably need a Sunday afternoon to catch up on chores. And us retired folks can also get caught up in being busy. But ironically, the busier we are, the more we need Sabbath time. She noted that Martin Luther once remarked "that he was so busy he needed to pray for two hours instead of one."

So, how can you keep the Sabbath? Well, if you can't take a whole day, take small steps. For example:

1. Attend Sunday worship. As noted above, one worships in a community. I've always found that taking about 2 hours to worship and reflect on what is most important in life tends to re-center me for the week.
2. If you have to do chores, then select ones that are enjoyable and relaxing. Work in the garden if that is your hobby. Wash the car with your children or grandchildren. Put on some religious music if you must clean house. Don't scrape paint or sign in to the office.
3. Spread out your Sabbath by participating in mid-week services and refocus on God for a while.
4. Sit on your porch listening to the sounds of the neighborhood and nature.
5. Go for a relaxing walk through your neighborhood. Turn the Fitbit off!
6. The education committee is periodically hosting a Sabbath Sunday Supper. You do need to eat, so come and bring the family.

He is risen indeed. Come. See.



If you can't be here in person,
please join us for Sunday worship via Zoom:

<https://us0.us/j/85007958999>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85007958999>

The worship bulletin can be found on our website:

www.saintmarkglastonbury.org

Worship and Music – Dottie Marschhausen, Chair

Once again, the upward creep of Covid has dictated that we return to masking in our sanctuary. There will be masks and hand sanitizer available in the narthex. Please watch the weekly Mail Chimp for updates on our masking status.



 Pentecost, June 5, will be Confirmation Sunday for Jacob and Belle Christensen. We are anticipating a brightly decorated chancel and an enthusiastic observance for our two confirmands.

Also, on the evening of June 5 at 7:00pm the **Bass Clef Choir** from St. Patrick – St. Anthony Church will honor us with a concert in our sanctuary. Our own Martin Smith is a member of this accomplished choral group. Thanks, Martin, for arranging this event.



 Father's Day, June 19, will be a time to honor our "Dads and Grads". If you have a graduate in your family please give Ellen Dougherty or Pastor Hoffman the graduate's name so we may honor them at our annual "Dads and Grads" celebration.

Our summer worship schedule will remain the same. Sunday worship will be at 9:00am, "in person" in our sanctuary. Yes, there might be an outdoor service this summer. Again, our weekly Mail Chimp will keep you updated as plans are finalized.

Prayer offices will continue virtually through the summer months; Tuesday morning Matins (9:00am) and Wednesday evening Vespers (7:00pm). Please join us.

The possibility of a summer outdoor concert by Cuatro Puntos is being investigated.

Minister of Music – Martin Smith

BASS CLEF CHOIR

of Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony church in Hartford
(in which our Music Minister, Martin Smith, sings bass)
presents a

CONCERT OF SACRED CHORAL MUSIC
at SAINT MARK
Sunday, June 5

7:00pm in our sanctuary

A reception will follow the concert.



After much acclaim in pre-Covid years, we are delighted to welcome them back to raise our spirits with live music. This choir rehearses weekly and sings every other week, generally at the Sunday 5 pm liturgy at its home church. Volunteers and professional section leaders, under the direction of Dr. Gabriel Löfvall, Director of Music & Organist, sing a variety of music, from Gregorian chant through polyphonic music of the 21st century.

The concert is free. Donations gladly accepted.

Missions – Linda Obedzinski, Chair

Scrip card orders due first Sunday of each month

Please consider buying gift cards at face value to earn funds for our Missions work. Think of what you spend on groceries each month. Wouldn't it feel good if 4% of it went to help those in need? And scrip cards make great gifts for dads, grads, brides and grooms!



Place your order online or bring Linda O. a check by June 5, and she will deliver the cards by June 19.

A Missions Minute

The Missions committee is hard at work planning this summer's garden and St. Mark's participation in Camp Calumet's annual walk (virtual again). If you'd like to participate, please speak to Jan Frick about the garden or Eleanor Tunney about the walking team. And if you'd like to join the Missions committee and have a voice in what our congregation supports locally, speak with Linda Obedzinski.

Check out the Missions bulletin board, which has been refreshed with updated information from several of our Missions partners, including Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC) and Lutheran World Relief (LWR). We plan to have representatives of some of our local partner organizations speak after worship once a month so we can all learn more about their important work caring for our neighbors in need.

Thank you to all who supported Glastonbury Links Together through their Lenten offerings! And please keep this key partner in mind throughout the year for your charitable donations.

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs

The Glastonbury Junior Women's Club is collecting bread tags for *Danielle Cares for Chairs* to recycle. Funds raised through recycling bread tags provide mobility equipment for those in need. There is a small container in the lounge for you to deposit your plastic bread tags.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

[THANK YOU]

To the members of
Lutheran Church of St. Mark
Glastonbury, Connecticut

from the
New England Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
In grateful appreciation for giving
\$8,922.00

For Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

James S. Atwood
Synod Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elizabeth B. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Christian Education and Youth – Jan Frick, Chair

On Pentecost Sunday June 5th, we will be celebrating two confirmands. Sister and brother, Belle and Jacob Christensen, will be confirming their faith commitments to themselves, to the church, and to God. This is a joyous event when we worship the power of the Holy Spirit to move among us and support those committing their lives to the Lord. Please be sure to come and celebrate with them.

On Father's Day Sunday June 19th, we will be honoring all those who have been father figures for us. We will also be congratulating our graduates from High School: Evie Christensen, Tommy Krystopa, and Xamadhi Quinonez. Again, please be sure to come and celebrate with them.

The week of August 15th-19th, St. Mark will be holding Vacation Bible School. Plans are in the works and more information will be available during the Summer. Be sure to hold the date for any children, grandchildren, and others who would enjoy singing, playing, and learning about God.



We're Proud of You!

Outreach Committee – Anne Davis, Chair

Can you remember what is featured on the Lenten banners in the Sanctuary? I really enjoyed Pastor's Lenten message reminding us that God has no hands, eyes, ears, feet on earth but ours. Our call to discipleship is a call to use our bodies and resources to show God's love to the world we live in. After reflecting on which of these body parts is the most challenging for me to use, ears was the part I think I could use more effectively.

I have been trying to become a better listener. The challenge is real!

I learned my sister likes coconut cake, my kids love lemon/blueberry best! I learned I can sing an alto part as long as I have Linda O. to listen to. I love the sound of the birds' songs, morning and evening and always the sound of laughter. These sounds remind me God's love is all around me.

The summer presents new ways to serve our community. The community garden will be planted soon. Our commitment to Glastonbury Links Together continues. If you have suggestions for work the Outreach committee should explore... I am listening!



Fellowship — Linda Hilliard, Chair



The Fellowship Committee will be meeting over the summer to plan more fun events!



LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, June 16

12:30pm

BURTON'S

Evergreen Walk

South Windsor, CT

Please contact Elaine by June 13 if you plan to attend:
860-432-4488 or eauger0311@gmail.com

Stewardship — Jake Auger, Acting Chair



Listen.....God is speaking.....

Life is full of twists and turns that require big decisions, small decisions, adjusting to major life changes, and tackling day-to-day living. And it seems there are always plenty of people ready and willing to give you advice. However, if we entertain too many different influences, thoughts and opinions, it can lead to confusion. In the midst of it all, you may feel uncertain that you're hearing the one voice you long to hear most - the voice of God.

God is a speaking God, and He speaks to His children every day *if we only listen*. We don't have to go blindly making decisions or relying on our own abilities. We can hear Him clearly and consistently if we invite Him into our heart.

When you seek the Lord with all your heart, and listen to His voice, you will always have the advice you need to face any circumstance. You will enjoy a powerful relationship with Him that will change your life. Begin to listen and be confident in knowing that He wants to speak to you and He wants you to hear His voice. You can hear from God!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Do you own a Thrivent life or health insurance product with \$750 or more in annual billed premiums? Do have \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying Thrivent life insurance and annuity products? If so, then you are eligible to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to the Lutheran Church of Saint Mark (or other non-profit organizations). For information on how to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars contact your Thrivent representative or call one of Thrivent's Customer Care professionals at 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

Coming soon.....mid-year contribution statements

Be on the lookout for your mid-year contribution statement in early July. Review it closely for accuracy and call/text me (860-306-9205) with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your generous financial support and keeping current with your 2022 pledged amounts in support of Saint Mark's General Budget, Capital Campaign and varied ministries.

Enjoy the summer sun.

All praise and glory to Jesus Christ, the Son of God!

Making Your Offering Electronically by Venmo

Your Church Offerings can be sent directly via Venmo@stmark-Glastonbury.
For questions on how to use Venmo contact Dave Taylor at 860-796-1678.



**Thank you for keeping your offerings current
so that our church can operate effectively for our congregation.**



Property Committee—Deb Gresens, Chair



Summertime and the livin' is easy......but the Property Committee will continue to oversee projects that will preserve our building and beautify our property. The following list includes major events you will see happening:



- Rainbow Painters will begin scraping and painting specific sections of the church exterior near the end of June or beginning of July, weather permitting.
- Dave Rutz will continue to work with Jody Kretzmer to select appropriate replacement landscaping plants/trees and establish a timeline.

Other happenings:

- Landscaping campaign-“What a Wonderful World” to offset cost of replacing trees and other landscaping items. See window in the Narthex for details.
- Continue to use mowing teams
- Dispose of old/non-functioning equipment
- Research moving to “green” cleaning products-cost/ease
- Improve recycling-increase number of appropriate containers
- Prepare education wing classrooms for additional fall VRABE classes

Volunteer opportunities:

- Spreading mulch, top soil and/or pea gravel
- Weeding in Memorial Garden/flower beds
- Watering flower beds/large urns/additional small planters
- Planting perennials/annuals, as needed
- Transplanting hostas, as needed





Sign up to walk, run, bike or swim miles to earn funds for Camp Calumet this summer! Register at www.calumet.org/walkthewalk2022 and join the St. Mark team, making a minimum \$25 donation. Track your mileage throughout July and August, then report it to our team captain, Eleanor Tunney: elianortunney@gmail.com. This is a great way to get outside during the warmer months and support a wonderful cause.



Come check out our updated St. Mark Calumet bulletin board near the classrooms!



WEEKDAY ZOOM LINKS



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84665292047?pwd=WGZtQWJQSDlqZzlsRzAzaEloNVcrZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 6529 2047

Passcode: 420062 (REQUIRED)

Worship bulletins and all Zoom links can be found on our website: www.saintmarkglastonbury.org

Office Notes — Ellen Topel Dougherty

Happy Summer!



I am grateful for the outdoor grounds of St. Mark. Whether admiring the flowers as I enter the front doors each day, spending a quiet moment in the memorial garden remembering Ron, or enjoying a quick chat with Eleanor and Jan at the table by the garden, I am moved by the beauty that surrounds us here. It is important, in the hustle and bustle of bulletins and email blasts and rushing back to Hebron in time to get my son from school, to stop for a few minutes and take in the awesomeness of it all. Thank you to all who work so diligently to make St. Mark such a beautiful place.



As the school year winds down and the camp season gears up, my office hours will change slightly:

I will be down in Florida, from Sunday, June 5—Tuesday, June 14, to help my ailing uncle while my aunt goes up to Canada to visit their daughter. I do not know what my availability will be while I am there. If you have any immediate administrative needs during that time, please contact Pastor Hoffman. Thank you to Martin Smith for the use of his church laptop and to Steve Putre for commiserating with me about Microsoft.

May/June

- Tuesday, 5/31 9:00am—2:00pm, Wednesday 6/1 9:00am—2:00pm, Thursday 9:00am—4:00pm, Friday 6/3 TBD
- Wednesday 6/15 9:00am—2:00pm, Thursday 6/16 9:00am—2:00pm
- Monday 6/20 10:30am—3:30pm, Tuesday 6/21 9:00am—3:30pm, Thursday 6/23 9:00am—3:30pm, Friday 6/24 TBD
- Monday, 6/27 9:00am—3:30pm, Tuesday 6/28 9:00am—3:30pm, Thursday 6/30 9:00-3:30pm

I will be on vacation, visiting family in Colorado from Saturday, July 2—Saturday, July 16. After that, I will be in the office Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am—3:30pm, with additional hours worked from home. Please note that these dates/times are subject to change as needed.

As I write this, it is humid outside, but inside it feels cool and dry. Thank you to Jule for installing the new AC in the church office! It is quiet and cools the room well.

NOW AVAILABLE

Our Daily Bread for June, July & August
Christ In Our Home for April, May & June
Living Lutheran May Issue

These can be found in the narthex and in the green bin by the front door of the church.

PLEASE STOP BY AND TAKE SOME!

Saint Mark Celebrations

June Birthdays

6/4 Al Medina
 6/6 Nanci Ordend
 6/7 Alicia Kraatz
 6/15 Greg Reinhardt
 6/17 Christine Putre
 6/18 Matthew Reinhardt
 6/23 Mike Davis
 6/28 Belle Christensen
 6/30 Laura Taylor

July Birthdays

7/10 Clara Hancock
 7/26 Bernie Clark
 7/30 Ellie Hancock

August Birthdays

8/2 Greg Gregonis
 8/9 Ray Frick
 8/18 Allen Hill
 8/18 Fred Jacobs, Jr.
 8/19 Deb Gresens
 8/21 Sarah Davis
 8/21 Karin Reinhardt
 8/28 Ginny Rutz



June Anniversaries

6/16 Bill & Norma Wamester
 6/17 Stephen & Christine Putre
 6/18 Bernie & Andrea Clark
 6/26 Mark & Elizabeth Crayton

July Anniversaries

7/2 Stephen & Denise Stenger
 7/31 Mark & Deb Gresens

August Anniversaries

8/7 Ronald Kraatz & Eleanor Tunney
 8/12 John & Dottie Marschhausen
 8/13 Don & Nanci Orend
 8/26 Ray & Jan Frick
 8/29 Dave & Ginny Rutz



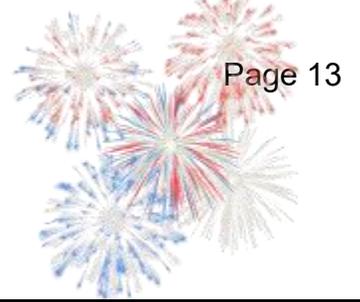
JUNE 2022



Saint Mark Event Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Worship 9:00am	30 Memorial Day AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	31 Matins 9:00am	1 Vespers 7:00pm	2 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	3 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	4 AA Meeting 8:00am
5 Pentecost & Confirmation Worship 9:00am Bass Clef Choir 7:00pm Scrip Deadline	6 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	7 Matins 9:00am	8 Vespers 7:00pm	9 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	10 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	11 AA Meeting 8:00am
Ellen Vacation						
12 Holy Trinity Worship 9:00am	13 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	14 Matins 9:00am	15 Vespers 7:00pm Church Council	16	17 Council Dinner 6:30pm AA Central Valley 7:30pm	18 AA Meeting 8:00am Council Retreat
Ellen Vacation						
19 Father's Day Grads & Dads Worship 9:00am	20 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	21 Matins 9:00am	22 Vespers 7:00pm	23	24 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	25 AA Meeting 8:00am
Pastor Vacation						
26 Worship 9:00am	27 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	28 Matins 9:00am	29 Vespers 7:00pm	30	1 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	2 AA Meeting 8:00am
Pastor Vacation						

Saint Mark Event Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Worship 9:00am	27 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	28 Matins 9:00am	29 Vespers 7:00pm	30	1 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	2 AA Meeting 8:00am
Pastor Vacation						
3 Worship 9:00am	4 <i>Independence Day</i> AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	5 Matins 9:00am	6 Vespers 7:00pm	7	8 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	9 AA Meeting 8:00am
				Ellen Vacation		
Pastor Vacation						
10 Worship 9:00am	11 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	12 Matins 9:00am	13 Vespers 7:00pm	14 Exec. Committee 6:00pm	15 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	16 AA Meeting 8:00am
Ellen Vacation						
17 Worship 9:00am	18 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	19 Matins 9:00am	20 Vespers 7:00pm Followed by Council	21	22 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	23 AA Meeting 8:00am
24 Worship 9:00am	25 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	26 Matins 9:00am	27 Vespers 7:00pm	28	29 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	30 AA Meeting 8:00am
31 Worship 9:00am	1 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	2 Matins 9:00am	3 Vespers 7:00pm	4	5 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	6 AA Meeting 8:00am



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31 Worship 9:00am	1 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	2 Matins 9:00am	3 Vespers 7:00pm	4	5 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	6 AA Meeting 8:00am
Pastor Retreat						
7 Worship 9:00am	8 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	9 Matins 9:00am	10 Vespers 7:00pm	11	12 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	13 AA Meeting 8:00am
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Pastor Retreat						
21 Worship 9:00am	22 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	23 Matins 9:00am	24 Vespers 7:00pm	25	26 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	27 AA Meeting 8:00am
28 Worship 9:00am	29 AA Freedom 6:30pm AA Nutmeg 7:00pm AA Step 7:30pm	30 Matins 9:00am	31 Vespers 7:00pm	1	2 AA Central Valley 7:30pm	3 AA Meeting 8:00am



Free Choice Food Bank Update

The room has been prepped and the appliances and shelving have been purchased. We are awaiting their arrival. The goal for opening is late summer/early fall. In the meantime, cash donations are still being accepted.



Saint Mark Congregation Council and Lay Leadership

Officers

President	Ray Frick
Vice President	Jake Auger
Secretary	Carol Weber
Treasurer	Karin Reinhardt
Financial Secretary	David Taylor

Staff Support Committee

Andrea Clark
Mark Crayton
Mark Gresens (Chair)

Ministry Committee Chairs

Education/Youth	Jan Frick
Fellowship	Linda Hilliard
Missions	Linda Obedzinski
Outreach	Anne Davis
Property	Deb Gresens
Stewardship	open
Member-at-large	Elaine Auger



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75 Griswold Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 633-1188

email: ChurchOffice@SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

Website: www.SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LutheranChurchofStMark

Pastor - Cheryl Hoffman

Minister of Music - Martin Smith

Office Manager - Ellen Topel Dougherty

Sexton - Dan Dickau

Ministers- The people of St. Mark

pstrhffmn@comcast.net

msmith568@att.net

churchoffice@saintmarkglastonbury.org



The Lutheran Church of Saint Mark

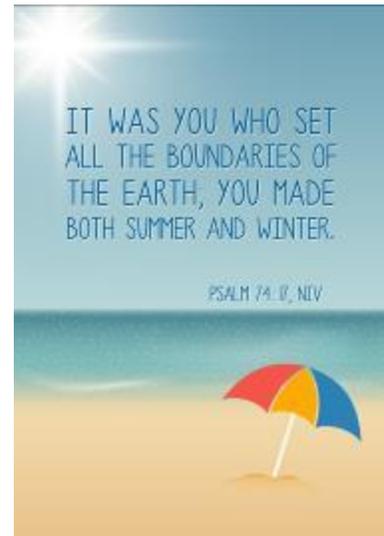
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75 Griswold Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033



Visit The Lutheran Church of St. Mark Facebook page at
<https://www.facebook.com/lutheranchurchofstmark>
Stay current on photos and new events by “liking” us.

If you have a change in your email, phone or address,
please contact the Church Office, (860) 633-1188 or email:
ChurchOffice@SaintMarkGlastonbury.org



<http://www.SaintMarkGlastonbury.org>
<http://www.NESynod.org>
<http://www.ELCA.org>