



The Lutheran Church of St. Mark

in joy we share Christ's truth

www.SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

The Messenger
Summer 2021



A Message from Pastor Hoffman

Do you know that saying about going through a small town – don't blink or you will miss it? Well, I think I blinked. After 14 months of scrupulous caution, life has shifted once again so that caution, in many places has become an option. Don't get me wrong, I am a proud and thankful vaccine card carrier. It just feels like everything changed overnight (in a blink of an eye).

It is important to understand that this newfound freedom is not a return to the way things were (pre-pandemic). Yes, we can move around more freely, gather in large groups, walk outside without a mask, but many places still require masks inside, some places still take your temperature and ask you the Covid questions. And some good things, like outdoor dining, no-need-to-travel zoom meetings and telehealth are here to stay.

As for us here at St. Mark, we are moving ahead as well, but don't worry, you will be able to keep up with us even if you blink. Here are some things to look forward to: continued opportunities to worship via zoom; new opportunities to worship together in person; opportunity to: celebrate our graduates, give thanks to our Director of Youth Ministry, work in our new garden, fellowship around the pit; and much more as the summer unfolds. Be sure to read the rest of the messenger to see how, when and where you can be part of the movement into our new opportunities for worship, ministry and fellowship.

Have an awesome summer!

Pastor Hoffman

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

**Sunday
Worship**



9:00 am

**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.

Worship and Music Committee – Dottie Marschhausen, Chair

On-Site / In-Person Worship

Spring is finally here and summer is on the way! The sunshine, the flowers, the trees and smiling faces are so welcome. The lower positivity rates and the availability of vaccinations just add to our joy. Pastor and committees have been exploring the worship options for St. Mark.



Our summer schedule (starting June 6) will be a combination of virtual ZOOM worship and outdoor “in-person” worship. On the first and third Sunday of each month we will continue with our Zoom services. On the second and fourth Sunday of each month we will worship outdoors. **Please see the protocols for outdoor worship services at the end of this article.**

June 13 will be our first outdoor worship service. It will be a very special occasion for us all. It will be our first time worshipping together, in-person, in over a year and it will also be a celebration of some of our outstanding young people. Joshua Christensen, Julia Im, Eric Putre and Mathieu Cote will be graduating from Glastonbury High School in June. Colin Gregonis graduated in May from UVM. This is our opportunity to congratulate them in person and let them know how proud we are of them and their accomplishments.

By popular demand, we will continue to offer all three weekday prayer offices via Zoom throughout the summer. It would be wonderful to give Pastor and Martin a much-needed break by signing up to lead a week of Services. (Matins and Vespers). Everything will be made available to you in advance and no singing is required. If you'd agree to be a worship leader please contact Pastor or Dottie Marschhausen. **Please note that there is a new zoom link just for the summer weekday prayer offices. The link can be found on the church website.**

It's worth repeating as we begin a new chapter in our worship life that we have been blessed. Thanks again to Pastor for her creativity, flexibility and her willingness to think “outside the box”. She has provided so many exceptional worship experiences for our congregation during this pandemic year. Thanks to Martin who is so faithful to us with his music. We appreciate you and all you do for St. Mark. Thanks to Lee Hilliard, our tech wizard. We couldn't have done it without you, Lee. You are a gift to St. Mark.

We can be proud of our congregation and the fact that we found the blessings in this very difficult year. We did some pretty remarkable things for our church and community.

Worship and Music Committee — Continued

Protocol for Outdoor Worship Summer 2021

In the event of rain, outdoor services will become Zoom services. Whenever possible the decision to cancel an outdoor service will be made by 7:00 PM the day before the service.(i.e. Saturday)

- Members must provide their own chairs. (If you don't have a lawn chair, please contact Dottie or the church office).
- Social distancing is encouraged.
- Bulletins will be placed on a table for members to pick up prior to the start of the service. Members are encouraged to be responsible and take bulletins with them after worship or dispose of them in the church recycling bin.
- An offering plate will be available on a table for use before/after worship.
- Masks will be required for those not vaccinated and suggested for all when singing.
- The sharing of the peace may be done with physical contact that is comfortable for each individual.
- Communion will be offered in a continuous line.

Congregants should offer an open palm into which Pastor Hoffman will place a host. Members are asked to take several steps past Pastor, before consuming the host. The wine will be available in disposable glasses spread out in the communion trays. Again, after the glass is removed, please take several steps beyond the assistant before consuming the wine. The empty cups may then be placed in a basket which will be available for this purpose.

The glasses will be filled and disposed of by a person wearing a mask.



Outdoor Worship

Fellowship — Linda Hilliard, Chair

Greetings from the fellowship committee. For the summer edition of the Messenger, we will be featuring this year's graduates. We wish them CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes as they embark on the next chapter of their lives! So, we ask, what are your plans?



Joshua Christensen

Joshua Christensen: I will be going to the University of New Haven to study forensics.



Mathieu Cote

Mathieu Cote: I will be attending the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, FL to study Aerospace Engineering.



Colin Gregonis

Colin Gregonis: Colin graduated in May with a degree in Public Communication and a minor in Advertising from UVM. He is pursuing opportunities in digital marketing



Julia Im

Julia Im: I am excited to graduate from GHS, and will be attending Wheaton College in Norton, MA studying psychology.



Eric Putre

Eric Putre: I will be continuing my education studying business with a focus on accounting at Penn State University, in University Park, PA.

God speed, and keep in touch!!
And enjoy those summer days.



Fellowship — Continued

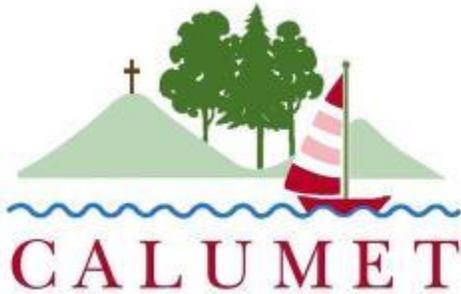
Have you noticed the St. Mark Garden? Under the direction of Jan Frick, we have designed and installed a new garden, and plants are being added even as I write this. We would like to schedule two times per week to invite people to come play in the garden. WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS at 8:00am beginning now, and continuing all summer. Whenever you are in town at these times, come on over with your garden rake, gloves, sunhat, hoes and other garden tools and get those hands dirty.



Also, I am scheduling a meeting in August to brainstorm fellowship ideas for next year, as we are emerging from the pandemic, finally. Not only will we be gradually returning to worship, but we will be returning to fellowship as well. When I think of fellowship, I think of coffee, conversation, food, fun activities, friends. What do you think of?

On Wednesday, August 4th at 7:00 pm there will be a brainstorming meeting with the purpose of imagining what fellowship will be like this year. Picnic? Potluck? Chili cook-off? Volleyball? Book club? Sewing Saturday? Assembling health kits? All are invited to come and sit around a table outside with a calendar, and help us get back together. Hope to see you then!

**The new deadline for articles, blurbs & information
for our Friday St. Mark Email Blast /Update
(also called Mailchimp) is
Thursdays at 2:00pm.**



Attention all walkers, swimmers, runners, etc.!
Join **Team St. Mark Glastonbury CT** and raise money for Calumet.

Click the following link to register:

<https://www.calumet.org/giving/walkthewalk>

You walk wherever you are...
Keep track of your miles...
Get an official "Walk the Walk 2021" T-shirt...
And invite a friend (or your dog) to sign up, too!

1,500 participants will trek 200,000 miles over
62 days and—in doing so—will raise \$106,250
or more for Calumet.

Be active this summer and help Calumet at the
very same time!



Calumet Book Club

Our next book: "**White Kids: Growing Up With Privilege In A Racially Divided America**" by Margaret Hagerman. **June 10 at 10 AM.** We hope that we are a group where everyone feels welcome to participate and to share their perspective.

Visit <https://www.calumet.org/calumetbookclub> for more information.

Missions — Linda Obedzinski, Chair

Mission Work Continues: Gardening, Walking for Calumet

I am humbled to be leading the Missions committee after having served as a member for quite a few years. We are fortunate to have dedicated members leading various initiatives:

- * Jan Frick heading up the garden effort
- * Eleanor Tunney coordinating a St. Mark team for Calumet's Walk the Walk 2021 fundraiser
- * And I will continue selling scrip cards to raise money

It's exciting to see the garden coming together. I'm always impressed by those who can bring forth food and flowers from the earth, as my side of the family missed out on the "green thumb" gene.

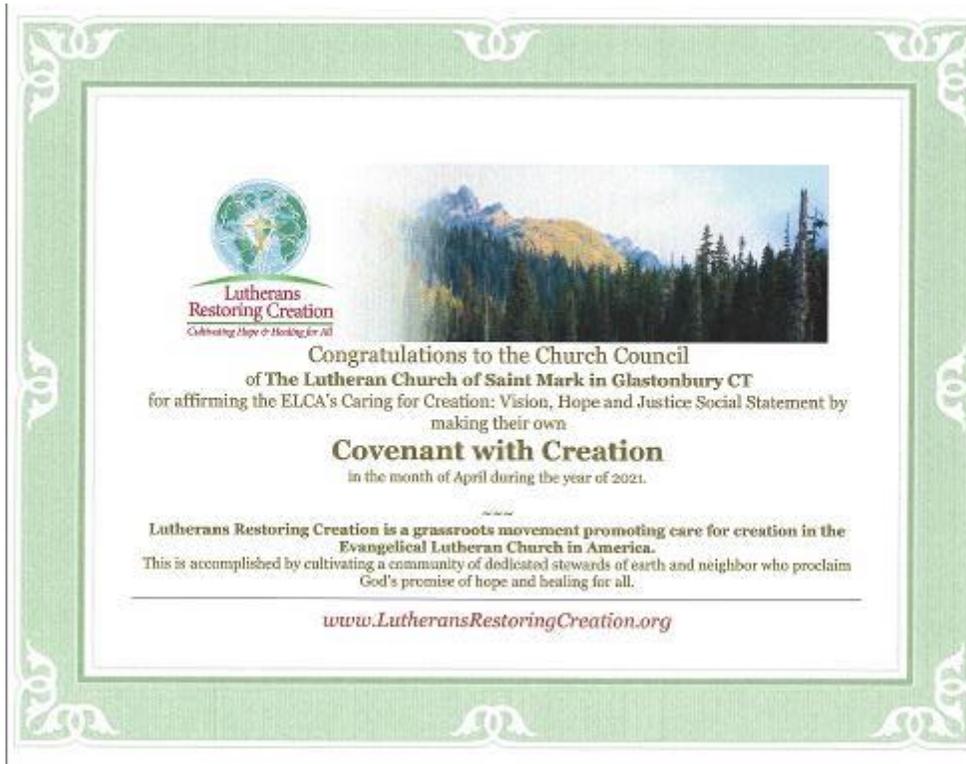
The Calumet walk is just getting organized. Registration will be ongoing throughout June, and participants will track their activity from July 1 through August 31. If you do lots of walking with your dog, you can even register your dog as a participant! (Instead of t-shirts, dogs will get bandanas to wear.)

As a reminder, if you set up a scrip account online and link it to your checking account, you can buy scrip e-cards available instantly from hundreds of retailers. This works well for those of us who don't always plan ahead.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you'd like to participate in any of these efforts.



shopwithscrip®  .com



Congratulations from Lutherans Restoring Creation for our signing of the Covenant. We have also been added to their national map for our Covenant, Garden, and Green Team.

Outdoor Game Extravaganza
Sunday, June 6th
1:00pm

Dress accordingly, since there will be water balloons involved!

MISSION SUPPORT 2020

[THANK YOU]

To the members of
**Lutheran Church of Saint Mark
Glastonbury, Connecticut**
from the
New England Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
In grateful appreciation for giving
\$4,300.00 +
for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and
churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

James S. Atkinson
Synod Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elizabeth C. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

20 Upland Street, Worcester, MA 01607-1624
Phone (508) 791-1530 | Fax (508) 797-9295
office@nesynod.org | www.nelutherans.org

April 29, 2021

Lutheran Church of St. Mark
75 Griswold Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Dear Partners in Ministry,

I want to thank you for your generous gifts of mission support to the New England Synod in 2020.

No doubt 2020 has been a most challenging year for all of us. Yet, even in the midst of all we have faced, much engaging ministry has happened in our congregations and communities.

- Ecumenical Partnership has continued with Episcopal, U.C.C. and Methodist congregations
- Many of you have begun the good but hard work of racial reconciliation
- Our congregations are finding new ways to partner with one another
- We've discovered that Lutherans can indeed change and adjust
- Many are engaging with new groups of people via online groups and worship
- People have been tremendously generous

Once again, I am grateful for your congregations' generosity. God's blessings as we move into a new phase of being the church of Christ in a post-Covid19 world.

Sincerely,

The Rev. James E. Hazelwood, Bishop
New England Synod

enclosure

P.S. I look forward to connecting with you at our 2021 Synod Assembly on June 12, 2021. Guests are more than welcome to join us for worship, reports, a keynote from United Lutheran Seminary President Dr. Guy Erwin and sermon from Bishop Patricia Davenport, Southeastern PA Synod.



AMEEN MOKDAD'S

The Curve

A MESSAGE FROM MOSUL

Sunday JUNE, 6 2021
2:00 PM

IN PERSON IN WEST HARTFORD, CT
OR LIVE STREAMED ANYWHERE

PRESENTED BY CUATRO PUNTOS &
THE AUTORINO CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Click here to register!



WWW.CUATROPUNTOS.ORG

Thank you, thank you, thank you. I am not sure how long the director of youth ministry position was posted before we received a response. It didn't take the staff support committee long to interview, check references and hire Kate Obedzinski. I believe she started on February 1, 2020. That gave her 4-6 weeks to get to know the youth before she had to totally rethink everything she thought she knew and might want to do with them as Covid shut our doors . But thanks to Kate, that did not stop the youth from meeting. Throughout the pandemic shutdown she found ways to gather the group via zoom to play games, put together a Christmas pageant, and do a service project. They were even able to meet twice (once last summer and again this Sunday, June 6th) for their most favorite activity ever – water games and balloons.

It is with a mix of sadness and joy that that I announce that Kate ends her time with us as Director of Youth Ministry on Sunday, June 13th. Kate has enrolled in the Master of Library and Information Science program at Southern Connecticut State University. While taking her on-line courses she will be working and training in her chosen field of work at the East Hartford Public Library.

I cannot express the value of Kate's contribution to our ministry at St. Mark, even in her short time here. Please come out on Sunday June 13th and help celebrate and give thanks for Kate's ministry among us as well as offer her prayers and blessings as she moves forward in new ventures.

Thank you, Kate for all that you did to keep the youth of St Mark active and together in an extremely difficult and trying time. We couldn't have done it without you!

Pastor Hoffman
& the members of Saint Mark



Director of Youth Ministry—Kate Obedzinski

It has been such an honor and a privilege to serve as your Youth Minister for the last year and a half. I will be officially leaving my post on June 13th, as I start a new job and continue with graduate school classes. I want to send a heartfelt thank you to our amazing Youth, who have brightened my days and taught me so much. Have a fantastic summer, everyone!



Outreach — Anne Davis, Chair

Greetings to all from the Outreach Committee! As most of you know, a new directory is available in digital or print format. In order to keep the directory up to date, please send updates in your email address, cell phone number or address to Ellen in the Church Office. The new email address for the office is churchoffice@saintmarkglastonbury.org.

As we begin to resume church activities, I hope to keep the Glastonbury community informed of what's happening at St. Mark's. If your church group is hosting an activity, please send me a summary of what you are doing and when. I hope to continue to publish ways in which our congregation is impacting local and global communities in the Citizen. Please get information to me two weeks in advance of the activity so the publication date will be prior to the event.



Office Notes – Ellen Topel Dougherty, Office Manager

Summer is here! I want to thank you all, once again, for allowing me the flexibility to work around the craziest of school years. (My son was in school with shorter hours, then virtual, then in school, then virtual, then in school...) As we begin moving towards another new normal, I plan to be in the office:



- June: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 9:00am—2:00pm
- July: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 9:00am—3:00pm
- I will be on a much needed vacation to see my family in Longmont, CO August 1 — August 13. Is visiting family a vacation? Is traveling by plane with an angst-ridden adolescent who hates to wear masks? Well, rest assured, I will indeed get some rest and renewal, as I will be taking three days to myself to “unplug” up in Estes Park/Rocky Mountain National Park.
- August 16—August 29: Tuesday, Wednesdays, Thursdays 9:00am—3:00pm



Sundays at 9:00am on the Church Lawn

June 13th

June 27th

July 11th

July 18th

August 8th

August 22nd

Please bring your own chairs and masks.
Social distancing is encouraged.

Please check your email for cancelations.
due to weather.

Please join us for Weekday Prayer
Tuesdays and Thursdays: Matins at 9:00am
Wednesdays: Vespers at 7:00pm
via Zoom at a new link:

<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.



Please join us for worship via Zoom
Sundays 9:00am

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

Meeting ID: 850 0795 8999

The worship bulletin
and all Zoom links can be found on our website

www.saintmarkglastonbury.org

Property Committee — Deb Gresens, Chair

Current Members: Dave Rutz, Jule Beer, Leslie O'Rourke, Deb Gresens



Updates:

- May 1 Church yard spring clean-up completed
- A giant thanks goes out to Dave Rutz, Jule Beer, Carol Weber, Al Medina, Dottie Marschhausen, Nanci and Don Orend, Greg Reinhardt, Jake Auger, and Mark Gresens. Weeding, mulching and a massive amount of brush removal was completed on the church properties.
- Addition of Greg Reinhardt to mowing team with Jake Auger
- Addition of Leslie O'Rourke to Property Committee

To be completed:

- Transplanting hostas from front bed to space surrounding meditation bench
- Additional weeding in front bed and attempt to contain the spread of the Lily of the Valley moving into the lawn

To be considered:

- Planting additional evergreens in front of Parish Hall
- Planting additional perennials in flower bed along sidewalk
- Adding gravel to the Meditation Garden
- Removal of dying/diseased perennials, trees
- Developing a timeline for community groups to return to the building in coordination with On Site (In Person) Committee



Stewardship—Jake Auger, Chair

You've Got Mail!

Contribution statements for the 1st quarter of 2021 are in the mail. If you don't receive one by early June, please let me know. My intentions are to provide quarterly updates going forward to assure we have an accurate record of your contributions of treasure, as well as to provide a gentle reminder, if needed, to keep current with your 2021 pledge amounts(s). Thank you for your generous support of Saint Mark's ministries.



Have (Give) It Your Way

One positive result of the pandemic is that you have discovered new ways of giving your gifts of treasure to Saint Mark. Some are making direct deposits from bank or investment accounts, others are using VENMO, and yet others continue to use church envelopes. I am looking into additional options for making contributions and will report back shortly. There is no "right" way to do this, except for the way that works best for you. If you have any thoughts on this topic, please share them with me. If you already know that church envelopes work best for you, please let me know by June 15 so I can make sure that a sufficient supply is ordered for the 2022 calendar year.

What's Your Special Talent or Passion?

What special talents have you been blessed with by God? Are you sharing them to help Saint Mark give witness to Christ's truth and to serve our neighboring community? If you are not sure how to accomplish this, call me and we will mutually figure out the possibilities. Let your imagination run free and listen to that little voice inside calling you to serve.

Here's My Number.....Call Me!

Whether it deals with stewardship or any other topic, your input is appreciated and needed. Call/text me at (860) 306-9205 or e-mail me at auger.jg@gmail.com at your convenience.

God bless you and enjoy the summer!



Making Your Offering Electronically by Venmo

Your Church Offerings can now be sent directly via the App or Application 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.**

St. Mark Family Celebrations

June Birthdays

6/4 Al Medina
6/7 Nancilee Orend
6/14 Jeffrey Ongley
6/14 Gregory Reinhardt
6/17 Christine Putre
6/18 Matthew Reinhardt
6/23 Michael Davis
6/28 Isabelle Christensen
6/28 Mark Gresens
6/30 Laura (Taylor) Brekka

June Anniversaries

6/5 Lincoln & Julie Thompson
6/16 William and Norma Wamester
6/17 Stephen & Christine Putre
6/18 Bernie & Andrea Clark
6/26 Mark & Elizabeth Crayton

July Birthdays

7/10 Clara Hancock
7/26 Mary Anderson
7/26 Bernie Clark

July Anniversaries

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

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

August Anniversaries

8/7 Ronald Kraatz & Eleanor Tunney
8/12 John & Dorothy Marschhausen
8/13 Donald & Nancilee Orend
8/26 Ray & Jan Frick
8/29 Dave & Ginny Rutz



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31 <i>Memorial Day</i>	1 Morning Prayer 9:00am	2 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	3 Morning Prayer 9:00am Executive Committee 6:00pm	4	5
				Martin Vacation		
6 Worship 9:00am Youth Games 1:00pm Cuatro Puntos 2:00pm	7	8 Morning Prayer 9:00am On-site Committee 7:00pm	9 Evening Prayer 7:00pm Followed by Council Mtg.	10 Morning Prayer 9:00am	11	12 Synod Assembly
Martin Vacation						
13 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	14	15 Morning Prayer 9:00am	16 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	17 Morning Prayer 9:00am Lunch Bunch GPS Leaders 7:00pm	18	19
Pastor Vacation						
20 <i>Father's Day</i> Worship 9:00am	21	22 Morning Prayer 9:00am	23 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	24 Morning Prayer 9:00am	25	26
27 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	28	29 Morning Prayer 9:00am	30 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	1 Morning Prayer 9:00am Executive Committee 6:00pm	2	3



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	28	29 Morning Prayer 9:00am	30 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	1 Morning Prayer 9:00am Executive Committee 6:00pm	2	3
4 <i>Independence Day</i> Worship 9:00am	5	6 Morning Prayer 9:00am	7 Evening Prayer 7:00pm Followed by Council Mtg.	8 Morning Prayer 9:00am	9	10
11 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	12	13 Morning Prayer 9:00am	14 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	15 Morning Prayer 9:00am Lunch Bunch	16	17
18 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	19	20 Morning Prayer 9:00am	21 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	22 Morning Prayer 9:00am	23	24
		Martin Vacation				
25 Worship 9:00am	26	27 Morning Prayer 9:00am	28 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	29 Morning Prayer 9:00am	30	31
Martin Vacation						

August 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 9:00am	2	3 Morning Prayer 9:00am	4 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	5 Morning Prayer 9:00am Executive Committee 6:00pm	6	7
			Ellen Vacation			
8 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	9	10 Morning Prayer 9:00am	11 Evening Prayer 7:00pm Followed by Council Mtg.	12 Morning Prayer 9:00am	13	14
			Ellen Vacation			
15 Worship 9:00am	16	17 Morning Prayer 9:00am	18 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	19 Morning Prayer 9:00am Lunch Bunch	20	21
22 Outdoor Worship 9:00am	23	24 Morning Prayer 9:00am	25 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	26 Morning Prayer 9:00am	27	28
29 Worship 9:00am	30	31 Morning Prayer 9:00am	1 Evening Prayer 7:00pm	2 Morning Prayer 9:00am	3	4

NOW AVAILABLE

Our Daily Bread for June, July & August
Christ In Our Home for April, May & June
Current monthly issue of *Living Lutheran*

These can be found in the green bin by the front door
of the church, near the mailboxes.

PLEASE STOP BY AND TAKE SOME!

St. Mark Congregation Council & Lay Leadership

Officers

President Ronald Kraatz
Vice President Ray Frick
Secretary Carol Weber
Treasurer Karin Reinhardt
Financial Secretary David Taylor

Staff Support Committee

Andrea Clark
Mark Gresens (chair)
Mark Crayton

Ministry Committee Chairs

Education/Youth Elizabeth Christensen
Fellowship Linda Hilliard
Missions Linda Obedzinski
Outreach Anne Davis
Property Deb Gresens
Stewardship Jake Auger
Worship Dottie Marschhausen
Member-at-large Elaine Auger
Youth Member-at-large Brigette Cote



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(860) 633-1188

email: ChurchOffice@SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

Website: www.SaintMarkGlastonbury.org

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/LutheranChurchofStMark

Pastor - Cheryl Hoffman

pstrhffmn@comcast.net

Minister of Music - Martin Smith

msmith568@att.net

Sexton - Scot Butler

Office Manager - Ellen Topel Dougherty

churchoffice@saintmarkglastonbury.org

Ministers- The people of St. Mark



The Lutheran Church of St. Mark

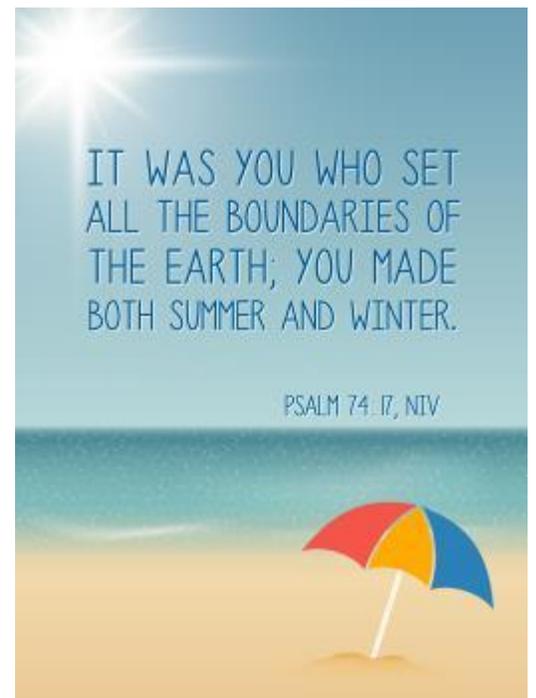
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Visit The Lutheran Church of St. Mark Facebook page at
<https://www.facebook.com/lutheranchurchofstmark>
Stay current on photos and new events by "liking" us.

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>