



St Mark's Remarks

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
1008 Franklin Rd., SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

June, 2019



OUR THREE-YEAR CAPITAL APPEAL

STRONG HERITAGE. STRONG FUTURE.

"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..." —John 15:16a

For 150 years, St. Mark's Lutheran Church has been committed to proclaiming the gospel and nurturing faith in the lives of the people who worship here, in the Virginia Synod, and in the community around us. Our capital appeal theme, "Strong Heritage. Strong Future." is a reminder of that strong past and of the promise that the Holy Spirit will be continuing to impact lives through us for generations to come.

What Is The Appeal For? We are replacing a significant part of our pipe organ which can no longer be repaired, installing new heat and AC for the nave and Fellowship Hall, making repairs to the nave floor, resealing & striping the parking lot and supporting youth ministry in the Virginia Synod.

Why Are We Doing This? Because these are things which will enable us to "bear fruit that will last" in the lives of our congregation, community and synod for years to come!

How Much Are We Going To Raise? We are coming together to raise \$330,000 over three years.

\$330,000 Seems Like A Lot of Money. Can We Really Do That? We can absolutely do this! One of the gifts of our strong heritage is the memory of every occasion the Holy Spirit has drawn us together to bear fruit that will last.

We already have \$200,000 in three-year pledges & in-hand gifts!

Make An Estimate of Giving *Strong Heritage, Strong Future* is a significant appeal, and we have a responsibility to be good stewards of the gifts received as part of the appeal. Having estimates of giving allows our congregation to plan realistically for the future.

This appeal calls for significant giving by all members of our congregation—perhaps more than you ever dreamed of giving for the mission and ministry of Christ through your church. Your gift will help St. Mark's continue in ministry in the years to come. Pray and think carefully about your gift.

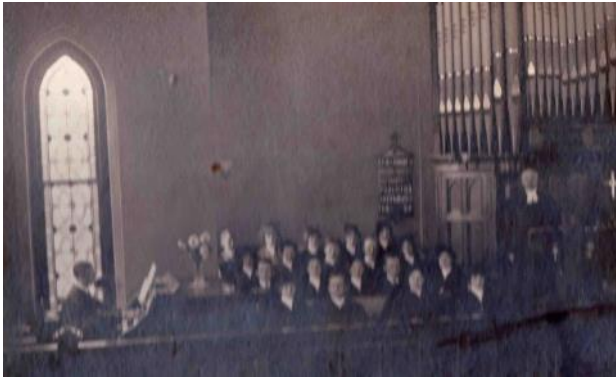
The Bible teaches proportionate giving. Although we cannot all give an equal amount, we can all give generously of the gifts God has given us. All gifts are important, from the smallest to the largest.

| No. of Gifts Needed | Total Gift Amount | Three Year Monthly Gift | Cumulative Amount |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 10 | \$1,000 | \$28 | \$10,000 |
| 8 | \$2,500 | \$69 | \$30,000 |
| 8 | \$5,000 | \$139 | \$70,000 |
| 6 | \$7,500 | \$208 | \$115,000 |
| 5 | \$10,000 | \$278 | \$165,000 |
| 3 | \$15,000 | \$417 | \$210,000 |
| 3 | \$20,000 | \$556 | \$270,000 |
| 2 | \$30,000 | \$833 | \$330,000 |

We will announce the total amount pledged or given to support *Strong Heritage, Strong Future* on Sunday, June 9 after worship.

150TH ANNIVERSARY

HISTORY—ST. MARK'S BEGAN TO GROW ON CAMPBELL AVENUE



St. Mark's worshiped on Campbell Avenue from 1902 to 1953. Pastor T. O. Keister (right) stood with the choir in old St. Mark's.

After the move to the former Methodist Church on Campbell Avenue in 1902, the stage was set for St. Mark's to embark on a half-century of growth in the middle of downtown Roanoke. Many members walked to church from their homes nearby in Southwest or Southeast. The red, brick church at the southwest corner of Campbell Avenue & present Third Street, is mainly remembered for its second-story nave, Sunday School rooms and an assembly room on the first floor and an adjoining Men's Brotherhood House and kitchen facing Third Street. Two stairways led to the second floor and two aisles led to the curved communion rail. The nave had seating for an estimated 250-300 Lutherans.

After Pastor L.G.M. Miller left in 1905, the congregation called Pastor T. O. Keister, a Shenandoah Valley native who was ordained in Pennsylvania, to service from 1905 to 1913. He also served at Muhlenberg, Harrisonburg, and Christ, Staunton, and as president of Virginia Synod. During this time, serious breakage of windows was reported as a result of boys playing ball on the church lot. In 1910, church council deplored the "unsightly and undesirable prospect of a poultry house, erected by Mrs. Strobecer on her property adjacent to the church on Campbell Avenue." If the poultry house could not be removed because of its location within the city fire limits, the property committee chairman asked council to consider the cost of a big board fence to shield the poultry house from sight. Homes were on Campbell Avenue above the church.

When Pastor Keister accepted a call to Pennsylvania, St. Mark's made a significant decision in 1914 to call Dr. J. Luther Sieber, of New Haven, Conn., and his service lasted more than 30 years, raising the standing of the congregation to leadership among Virginia Lutherans. A committee of five council members met the train when the Sieber family arrived in Roanoke. Sieber immediately began a round of receiving new members from a number of Virginia localities, as Roanoke was growing. The congregation decided to build a parsonage a few blocks away on Church Avenue for \$6,500, a building that was later used by the Red Cross. The old parsonage was sold for \$400. As regional church activity increased, St. Mark's was chosen as the site for organization of the United Synod of the South in 1886. Southern Lutheran synods at last were bound together as one ecclesiastical body, according to Dr. W. E. Eisenberg, synod historian. This lasted 32 years. But a movement was underway to combine the United Synod of the South with the General Synod and the General Council to form the United Lutheran Church in America. So in November 1918, the United Synod of the South came back to St. Mark's for a closing convention in the very same week the nation was celebrating the Armistice, ending World War I. Leaders of the closing United Synod left their meeting to carry banners in the Armistice parade in downtown Roanoke.

Anniversary Event Schedule

| Date | Event |
|----------|--|
| June 23 | Pastor Matt Henning, preacher |
| June 30 | Pastor Bill Van O'Linda, preacher—Homecoming with music & food in the Miller Garden. |
| Sept. 22 | Bishop Bob Humphrey, preacher—150th Anniversary Festival Worship with Catered Luncheon |
| Oct. 20 | Pastor Tim Anderson, preacher |



150TH ANNIVERSARY, CONT.



Pictured L-R: Jill, Sarah, Ashleigh and Matt Henning

The Rev. Matt Henning to Preach on June 23

Son of St. Mark's, The Rev. Matthew Henning, will be preaching on Sunday, June 23, as a part of our ongoing 150th anniversary celebration.

Matt grew up at St. Mark's and was a member from 1974-1995. He is a graduate of VMI and the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, SC. He was ordained in 1995 and served Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, John's Creek, GA until 1998. Since May, 1998, Matt has served at Community of Grace Lutheran Church, Grayson GA

He is married to the Rev. Jill J. Henning. Jill is the part-time Interim Director of Youth for the Southeastern Synod, ELCA and the Arch-Dean of the Synod. Together they have two children, Sarah, 22, A University of Georgia graduate serving as a young adult in Global Mission for the ELCA in 2019-2020; and, Ashleigh, 16, a junior at Grayson High School. Ashleigh is a Junior-Class member of the Southeastern Synod Youth



The Rev. Bill Van O'Linda to Preach on June 30

Like Matt Henning, Bill Van O'Linda also grew up in St. Mark's and he will be preaching on Sunday, June 30.

Bill attended Roanoke College and Southern Seminary. He served at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Wytheville, VA and a congregation in Florida before retirement. He and his wife, Barbara, live at Glen Allen, near Richmond. Together, Bill and Barbara have three children.

Their daughter, Christy (nee, Van O'Linda) Huffman, an ordained deacon in the ELCA, is married to an ELCA pastor who serves as a Navy chaplain. In addition to their daughter they have two sons: Bill, Jr. and Matthew. Bill Jr. is an attorney at Pinehurst, NC, and Matthew is an account technology manager in Boca Raton, FL.

Also on June 30, we will be hosting a 150th Anniversary Homecoming celebration. Former members will be invited to the Homecoming service and afternoon of food with music by Rick Dellinger.

Join the 150th Anniversary Celebration!

Bringing three sons of the congregation, a former pastor and two bishops to preach in this 150th anniversary year will have the expense of travel, lodging and honorariums. The total cost is more than \$4,000. Part of the cost is being defrayed through the use of Thrivent Action Teams and sponsorships. The Anniversary Committee is inviting the congregation to support the celebration with a financial contribution, too. Checks should be made to the church.

Name.....

Address.....

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FAITH FORMATION THROUGH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. MARK'S

By: Linda Anderson



Loretta Barnard with her Sunday School Lego Cake.

After my dear husband passed away and I knew that I was moving to Roanoke, James told me that one of the primary Sunday School teachers had left the church. He knew that I had been teaching for decades so he asked if I could fill in until we found someone. That was 4 years ago! I am NOT complaining at all. I love teaching about the word of God. Sunday, May 19th we had a wonderful pot luck after church to celebrate our Sunday School and the kids who attend. We continued with the Lego theme (thanks Andy Jones for the great idea) and Loretta even made a delicious Lego cake! At that gathering we shared about our experiences in this year's Sunday School. We thank all who attended but honestly, I was disappointed at the turn out.

We all agreed that teaching our children is a wonderful privilege and that we get more out of it than the children do! We never would have had the opportunity to form the relationships that we have without the Sunday School. Our children are precious and they are the future of our church. I hope that you would prayerfully consider teaching a class in the fall. Team teaching is the best!! Please see Pat Gibbs if you are interested. You do not have to have teaching experience. You just have to love our children and telling them about how God has blessed your life.

Parents of young children: wouldn't it be great if there was a place for you while your children are attending a Sunday School class? While your kids are forming relationships with their peers, you can do the same! Grab a chair and a cup of coffee and share with other parents - frustrations and triumphs. Again, it's all about relationships!! Let's build our Sunday School (not with Legos!) Thanks to this year's teachers: **Pat Gibbs** (Youth Group), **Andy Jones** (Middle) **Linda Anderson** (Primary), **Loretta Barnard** (Pre-School), **Connie Parsell** (Young Adults), **George Kegley** (Adults) and helpers, **Becky Whisnant** and **Ginny Mclelland**. See you in the Fall!

VIRGINIA SYNOD FAITH FORMATION—POWER IN THE SPIRIT



"Children of the Same Heavenly Father" will be the theme for Power in the Spirit at Roanoke College on July 11-13. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Dawn Rundiman, nationally known teacher, professor, author and resource speaker on children's development. Dr. Rolf Jacobson, professor of Old Testament and chair of the Scripture, Theology and Ministry at Luther Seminary, will lead Bible study in his third participation at Power in the

Spirit. George Donovan, music director at Bethel, Winchester, will return to lead music for the event.

Dr. Dawn Rundiman



Dr. Rolf Jacobson

Participants will have a choice of two service projects. Retired Pastor Paul Henrickson will lead a Habitat construction project and welcoming cards for incoming refugees and immigrants will be prepared in a Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services project.

Activities for children, aged 3 to 10 will be led by Renee Durieux of Epiphany Richmond. A Little Free Library will have space to share books on matters of faith, under the motto, "Take a Book---Share a Book." Any remaining books will be donated to Salem Public Library for a book sale.

Rundiman, who holds a doctorate in developmental psychology from the University of Oregon, developed faith formation resources for Sparkhouse and Augsburg Fortress and published her most recent book, "Little Steps, Big Faith." Jacobson, a frequent teacher and preacher, is known for his humor and biblical interpretation. Donovan has returned to Bethel where he served from 2011 to 2015 until he was called to a South Carolina church.



George Donovan

Outreach Outlook

THE FOOD PANTRY



DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, THE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTED FOOD TO FEED 64 FAMILIES (187 INDIVIDUALS!)

Thank you to the May volunteers: **Caleb, Luke, McKinley, Scott, Ralph and Sandy Anders, Shon-Thompson, Laura Bolton, Martha Eddleman, Thomas Rutherford and George Kegley.**

Special Thanks to:

George Kegley, Connie Watkins, & Jim Rettinger for picking up 1578lbs. of food from the food bank and delivering it to St. Mark's Food Pantry in May. Thank you to **Ralph and Sandy Anders** for stocking the food.



During the month of May the Clothes Closet provided clothing to a total of 79 people. Thank you to the May Clothes Closet volunteers: **Sonny & Charlotte Scholz, Melissa Anders, Gail & Sid Scott, Becky Whisnant, Shirley Dyer, Kathron Richards, and Suzy Bubnell.**

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

St. Mark's Congregation Council will meet on Tuesday, June 11th at 6:45 p.m. in the Library. Finance Committee will meet at 5:45.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are available at a cost of \$40.00 per Sunday. If you are interested in reserving a particular date, please call Kathy in the church office (344-9051).

Newsletter articles for July are due in the church office no later than June 19. Please submit articles by email (preferably) or in type-written form.

WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES

Worship Leaders for June

| Date | Acolyte | Crucifer | Lector | Greeter | Coffee Hour |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| June 2 | Jonah Trout | Caleb Anders | Virginie Ertz | Jean/Jim Weber | Amy Spangler / Mary Ann Snider |
| June 9 | Chisom Ugochukwu | Abby Trout | Jean Weber | Laura Bolton | Don/Gwynn Derrick |
| June 16 | Ben Armentrout | Eric Armentrout | Cheryl Gordon | Becky Whisnant | Sue Nutter |
| June 23 | Jordan Bryant | Haley Merritt | Jen Armentrout | Ginny McLelland | Karen Arthur |
| June 30 | Rilee Rodgers | Caleb Anders | Nan Keenan | Youth | 150th Anniversary Event |

In the Congregational Family



The following individuals and families were named in prayer in worship during March. Let us continue to keep them in prayer. We pray: O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants the help of your power that they may experience the healing power of your Holy Spirit. We pray for: **Denise, John Walker, Bob Holbrook, Mo Nelson, Pasqua, Kim Franklin, Lenore Trout, David, Jim and Rick Reese, Glorine Largen, Pearle Thompson, Rilee Rodgers, Alma & David Wertz, Angela and Allison Dudley, Gary Schmauder, Jonathon Ugochukwu, Denise Childress, LeighAnn Duncan, The Duncan Family, Sidney & Wanda, Mike & Brittani, Wanda, Butch, Russell & Nancy, Norman, Ron & Judy Adkins, Rick Huddleston, Robert, The Harmon Family, Dax & Sheri, Norma Jean, Sonja, Shirley & Gene, Teresa Kincaid, Rick Marmaduke, Doris Eakin, Erin Davis, Jaeda Wray, Leemon Williams, Dolph Moeller, Jean HEpp, Mac Angell, Mark, Claire Blake, Peter, Linda Minnix, John Walding, Vickie, Dana Crouse, Jack Brewer, Judy Clayton, Neshit Family, Britt Kinsley, Claussin Family, Dave Pepke, Wanda & Doug Wills, Virginia, Suzy Bubnell, Charlotte Sieber, Grant & Shirley, Phyllis & Casey, Gordon Family, Mitzi Albert, McKinley Garland, Doug Adams, Aryon Davis, Rachel, Jim Kidd, Jane Dockery, Claire Blake, Barbara Dyer, The Powers Family, Lingerfelt Family, Grace, Carter, Dorothy Loving, Betty Graham, Jean King, Susan Nilson, Brad Creef, Lucas Brown, Margaret Wood, Ocelia Polard, Janis Erb, Evan Riley, Kelly Gibson Family, Charles Arthur, Branda Santos, William Taylor, II, Cleo & Mike Armstrong, Mary Tucker, and Wendy.** Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



June Baptismal Anniversaries

June baptismal anniversaries are:

6/1 Eric Armentrout
6/2 Bentley Sifers
6/3 Brittany Fitzgerald
6/8 Caroline Sink
6/12 Berkeley Wray
6/14 Shirley Dyer
6/14 Briar Spangler
6/14 Natalee Spangler
6/16 Isabella Wray
6/21 Daniel Dyer
6/23 Franci Sifers
6/28 Ashley Spangler

June Birthdays

Members of St. Mark's family celebrating birthdays in June are:

6/1 Logan Altizer
6/4 Lois Densmore
6/11 Nancy Duncan
6/12 Barbara McLelland
6/13 Laura Bolton
6/16 Judy Adkins
6/22 Wally Coffey
6/25 Lindsay Arthur
6/27 Jordan Bryant

Music in the Garden

Join us the third Wednesday of each month this summer for a series of informal concerts in the Miller Garden. Each concert will begin at 7 p.m. and last around a half hour, and each month features a different local musician. Music will range from classical to Broadway (and lots in between). Watch for announcements regarding details in the bulletin, upcoming newsletters, and on Facebook.

Wednesday, June 19—George Saunders, trumpet

Wednesday, July 17—Brett Roden, vocalist

Wednesday, August 21—Brandon Mock, saxophone

All concerts begin at 7 p.m.

