
Monthly Newsletter

FORWARD OF ST
MARK

February 2025 ♦

Rooted in Biblical Love

As we step into February, often associated with love, it's important to reflect on the true nature of love as defined by Scripture. In 1 John 4:9-10, we read, *"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."*

Biblical love is not rooted in fleeting emotions or human affection, but in the sacrificial love of Christ. It is unconditional, unearned, and boundless. Jesus demonstrated this love through His life, death, and resurrection, showing us what it means to love without expecting anything in return.

As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect this same love to others. Jesus commands us in John 13:34-35, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another."

This February, let's remember the depth of God's love for us and seek to share that love with our neighbors, family, and friends. Let love be the mark of our lives, pointing others to the Savior who first loved us. As always, I look forward to seeing you in worship and Bible studies.
Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Tyler Werner

In this newsletter you can expect:

Pastor's Article

Stewardship
Article

Parish Nurse
Article

Birthdays and
Anniversaries

Upcoming
Events

Stewardship Article

“Christ’s Life, and Love, and Light”

*Open our eyes Lord to see Your love’s intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height
May thankfulness be days in service spent
Reflection of Christ’s life, and love, and light. (LSB 788)*

As stewards enter the month of February, it is fitting that we look at the last stanza of the stewardship hymn, “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788). It is in these words that we see that the heart of stewardship is indeed love. Love has flowed from our Lord to us in the person and work of Jesus Christ. This love is then to flow from us to others. Being a conduit of love is really the central task of what it means to be a steward. The Lord entrusts us with His love that reconciles us to Himself, so that we might be stewards of the Gospel reconciliation that is freely given through us to those around us.

If we don’t see this love from God to us, then through us, to others, our eyes will be closed not just to the needs of those around us. They will also be closed to the very heart of the Gospel itself. This is why the hymnist prays that the Lord would “Open our eyes, Lord, to see Your love’s intent, To know with minds and hearts its depth and height.”

Only when we are immersed in God’s Holy Word, washed in Holy Baptism’s life-giving water and fed on the holy, precious, body and blood of Jesus in the Holy Supper, will the Spirit be able to open our eyes to see the Lord’s loving intent for us, and those we know and love. Sin blinds us. It makes us think that we are the center of our world, and our pleasure is the key.

In the Word, the Lord shows us the depth and height of His love. The depth of that love is what moved Him from His throne in heaven into our world. There He would don our human flesh, walk the dusty roads of Palestine, and set His face toward Jerusalem. Once there we get to see the height of His love, as He is elevated on a Roman cross to die a death that we deserve. But that would not be the end. He would be lowered into a tomb for three days. On that third day we then see the heights of love ascended to in His resurrection. This resurrection is already ours too! The depth and height of this love poured out on us by the Holy Spirit then is distributed through us to others. Christ’s servant love is shown in our servant love. The hymn utters the prayer of every Christian steward:

*May thankfulness be days in service spent
Reflection of Christ’s life, and love, and light.*

This is the task for which stewards were originally created. Bearing the image of creation and redemption, we reflect Christ’s love to those around us. The light of Christ shining through us to others is the true stewardship to which we are called. It takes place in our homes. It is lived out in our workplaces and classrooms. As we bear the life, love and light received in Word and Sacrament, we carry it out in service to our neighbor and for the glory of God!

Forgive us, Lord, when our stewardship of thankfulness is shallow or lacking! Fill us with Your life, love and light! Not just for us, but through us to those we know and love, that they may know Your life, love and light for them!

Source: LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

Monday, February 3rd:

5pm Outreach Mtg

6pm Deacons Mtg

Sunday, February 9th:

10:30am Men’s Club Superbowl Brat Fry

Monday, February 10th:

5pm Trustees Mtg

6pm Church Council Mtg

7pm Board of Directors Mtg

Wednesday, February 19th:

10am Stewardship Mtg

11:30am R & R Lunch at Luigis

February 26th:

1:30pm Daughters of St. Mark Meeting

February 2025

Hear from Carolyn Eiden, RN, Parish Nurse:

Hi, From Your Parish Nurse!

February is National Heart Month so I would like to discuss heart failure this month and next month. I will be sharing with you what is heart failure, causes of heart failure, symptoms of heart failure and when to call the doctor.

Heart failure happens when the heart muscle doesn't pump blood as well as it should and can't supply sufficient blood to meet your body's needs. When this occurs, blood frequently backs up and fluid can develop in the lungs. Heart failure can be caused by a weakened, damaged or stiff heart. If the heart is damaged or weakened, the heart chambers can stretch and enlarge. Then the heart can't pump out the needed amount of blood. If the primary pumping chambers of the heart, called the ventricles, are stiff, they can't fill with enough blood between beats. The heart muscle can be damaged by specific infections, heavy alcohol use, illegal drug use and some chemotherapy drugs. Your genes can also play a role.

Other conditions can also damage or weaken the heart and cause heart failure. 1) Coronary artery disease (CAD) and heart attack. CAD is the most frequent cause of heart failure. 2) High blood pressure or hypertension makes the heart work harder than it should to pump blood through the body. As time progresses the extra work can make the heart muscle too stiff or weak to adequately pump blood. 3) Heart valve disease. Heart valves keep blood flowing in the right direction. If a valve is not working correctly, the heart has to work harder to pump blood, which can weaken the heart over time. In some cases treating the valve problem can reverse the heart failure. 4) Inflammation of the heart muscle (myocarditis). Myocarditis is usually caused by a virus, including the COVID-19 virus which leads to left-sided heart failure. 5) A heart problem you're born with or a congenital heart defect. If the heart, chambers or valves have not formed correctly, the other parts of the heart must work harder to pump blood, which can lead to heart failure.

Symptoms can develop slowly, but at times heart failure symptoms start suddenly. These symptoms can include: shortness of breath (SOB) with activity or when lying down, fatigue and weakness, swelling in the legs, ankles and feet, rapid or irregular heartbeat, decreased ability to exercise, wheezing, a cough that doesn't go away or a cough that brings up white or pink mucus with spots of blood, swelling of the belly area, very rapid weight gain from fluid buildup. Nausea and lack of appetite, difficulty concentrating or decreased alertness and chest pain if heart failure is caused by a heart attack.

When should you see a doctor? If you see your health care provider if you think you might have symptoms of heart failure. Call 911 if you have any of the following symptoms: chest pain, fainting or severe weakness, rapid or irregular heartbeat with SOB, chest pain or fainting, sudden severe SOB and coughing up white or foamy mucus. These symptoms can be due to heart failure, but there can be many other possible causes. Don't try to diagnose yourself. In the emergency room tests can be done to diagnose your symptoms. Call your health care provider immediately if you have heart failure and these symptoms: A cough that doesn't go away or a cough that brings up white or pink mucus with spots of blood, swelling of the belly area, very rapid weight gain from fluid buildup, nausea and lack of appetite, difficulty concentrating or decreased alertness or chest pain if heart failure is caused by a heart attack.

Next month I will continue my discussion on heart failure, talking about risk factors for heart failure, complications from heart failure and what you can do to prevent heart failure.

From: [mayoclinic.com](https://www.mayoclinic.com)

Carolyn Eiden, RN
Parish Nurse

February 2025 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Judy Koball - February 3rd

Dawn Marver - February 10th

Mary Weaver - February 19th

Willard Jost - February 26th

Sherry Bath - February 28th

Stacey Falkenberg - February 5th

Ralph Schwerin - February 14th

Benjamin Falkenberg - February 20th

Lyle Schultz - February 26th

Paul Herrmann - February 5th

Todd Goebel - February 18th

Jim Davis - February 22nd

Drew Hoblitzell - February 27th



Tim and Kathy Becker - celebrating 57 years together on February 3rd

Gloria and Tim Freidel - celebrating 61 years together on February 8th

Randy and Jeni Rydz - celebrating 47 years together on February 11th



Ann Miech - February 3rd

Libby Ogea - February 12th

Stacey Falkenberg - February 19th

Donald Diener - February 10th

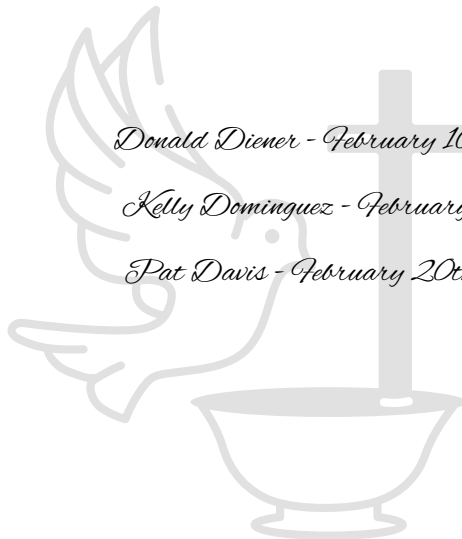
Kelly Dominguez - February 15th

Pat Davis - February 20th

Gary Leonhardt - February 11th

Melissa Eiden - February 16th

Scott Schramm - February 27th



From the Board of Directors

PRAY LIKE NEHEMIAH
OBEY LIKE DANIEL
LEAD LIKE MOSES
SERVE LIKE MARTHA
BELIEVE LIKE MARY
FIGHT LIKE DAVID
EDUCATE LIKE PAUL
BUILD LIKE NOAH
LOVE LIKE JESUS

From the Missouri Synod

Listed below are methods in which you can donate to the LCMS Disaster Response Funds.

- *Online giving and text-to-give opportunities:* lcms.org/givenow/disaster or text LCMSDISASTERS to 41444.
- *Give by credit/debit card over the phone:* Call 888-930-4438 (LCMS Donor Care Line)
- *Donate by Check:* Make your check payable to LCMS, or The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. On the memo line write "Disaster Response —Strategic Use (TR9206)."
- *Or contact Mission Advancement for other options* by calling 888-930-4438 or by email to mission.advancement@lcms.org. Mail your gift to: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod PO Box 66861 St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

**Current areas being served by LCMS Disaster Response include: California Wildfires
Hurricanes Helene and Milton Florida,
Georgia, North Carolina**

From Lutheran High School



Newsies at the LHS Performing Arts Center
Stop the presses! This Disney film turned Tony-winning Broadway smash is about to hit Sheboygan Lutheran's stage! Newsies is the inspiring tale of a charismatic newsboy who rallies against New York's titans of publishing to fight for what's right. Join us in the LHS Performing Arts Center February 21 and 22 at 7 pm or February 23 at 2 pm. Tickets are on sale at lutheranhigh.com/pac.

From St Mark's Men's Club

St. Mark Men's Club will be holding their annual Super Bowl Brat Fry Sunday, February 9th, 2025 10:30am – 1:30pm. Menu includes brats, hamburgers, German potato salad, beans and desserts. The food will be served in the fellowship hall, on the lower level (handicap accessible) or will be available for takeout orders.

Tickets available from the church office, or at the door the day of the fry.

The Men's Club is looking for volunteers to help with their annual Super Bowl Brat Fry. On Saturday (Feb. 8) help is needed for set up and kitchen food prep. It starts around 8:30am. Sign up not required, and you are able to drop in. They need the help!