St. Mark’s Lutheran Church

Where we are connecting with God, one another and our neighbors.

Thank you for your generosity this year. As we approach this time of year when we are asked to consider our continued support next year for St. Mark’s, I want to take a moment to highlight some of the many ways your contributions have made a huge difference in our lives and in the lives of others:

- Added 20 new members to our congregation.
- In addition to church attendance each Sunday, we regularly have over 100 folks streaming audio or video.
- Expanded St. Mark’s music offerings to include Rejoice! Ensemble, Instrumentalists, youth voices, and mixtures of voices including chancel choir members to provide worship music at all services.
- Successfully transitioned to a new Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Grace Casola.
- Created a part time position for a K-6 children's ministry coordinator to assist with efforts to connect with families of young children.
- Created a part-time position for community outreach to identify, develop, and implement at least four initiatives/activities to help St. Mark’s connect with our neighbors.
- Expanded youth participation in the worship service beyond traditional acolyte and crucifer duties.
- Made significant repairs to the parsonage to make it beautifully livable.
- Connected with over 300 community neighbors by sponsoring a health fair in partnership with Fairfax County professionals.
- In partnership with the Life Center at St. Mark’s, housed and fed 35 homeless persons during Hypothermia Week.
- Began providing Sunday Community Suppers for those who are hungry and need a helping hand.
- Approved a $28,000 fixed price contract with Helbing, Lipp, and Recny Architects to obtain professional design options for ADA-compliant bathrooms, nursery, and other improvements for our narthex area.
- Continue significant contributions to the capital improvement account to address specific future capital needs such as the narthex project, roof repairs, and HVAC replacements.
- Continue to increase our contribution to Synod programs.
- Received a specific $15,000 estate donation for anticipated roof repairs, and a $50,000 donation for the narthex project.

This is an impressive list of accomplishments by any measure. We could have accomplished nothing, however, if it were not for you. As Pastor Triolo said at our October 6 congregation meeting, we are all in this together. Together, with the power of God’s Holy Spirit we can do amazing things.

Please consider your support to St. Mark’s next year. Please use the included pledge form to document your intended giving to God’s missions at St. Mark’s as a signal of confidence that we can execute this budget. Please take the time to indicate whether the gift you prayerfully consider is weekly, monthly, or for the entire year. If you plan to use Required Minimum Distributions for your contributions, please indicate when St. Mark’s can plan to receive your gift. Please also indicate if you intend to make your offering via e-Giving—and remember to update your e-giving form.

Please return your pledge in Sunday service offering plates or deliver them to the church office by 15 December. Thank you for continuing to share your time, talent, and treasures in the worship of our Lord at St. Mark’s.

Bob Akers
Stewardship Chairman