

Christ is Our Cornerstone!



Lion's Roar – March 14th, 2024
St. Mark Lutheran School

Upcoming Events at St. Mark	
Friday, 15 th	8:10a Power Hour 8:25a Chapel Hot Lunch 3:30p Chess Club 3:45p Basketball & Cheer Photos
Saturday, 16 th	9:00a Robotics Gr. 6-8
Monday, 18 th	4:00p Kid's Choir
Tuesday, 19 th	3:30p Forensics Practice
Wednesday, 20 th	11:00a Lenten Worship 5:30p Confirmation Parents Meeting
Thursday, 21 st	6:30p Lenten Worship 3:45p Golf Club

Hot Lunch



- Fri, March 15 Tater tot hotdish, green beans, Oranges
- Fri, March 22 Ham & cheese egg bake, french toast sticks, berry & yogurt parfaits
- Fri, April 5 Homemade chicken noodle soup, cheesy bread, veggies, apples
- Fri, April 12 Cubed ham, cheesy potatoes, broccoli & grapes
- Tue, April 16** Lasagna, garlic rolls, salad, pears

Opening Thought

The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and the snakes bit the people. As a result, many people from Israel died. The people went to Moses and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD to take the snakes away from us." So, Moses prayed on behalf of the people.

The LORD said to Moses, "Make a venomous snake and put it on a pole. If anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will live." Moses made a bronze snake and put it on the pole. If a snake had bitten anyone, if that person looked at the bronze snake, he lived. (Numbers 21:6-9)

After leaving the slavery of Egypt, God led Israel to Mt. Sinai where he gave them the 10 Commandments. The LORD then led them to Canaan. Before entering, Moses sent 12 spies to inspect the land. After searching the Promised Land for 40 days, they came back with a positive report. Canaan was a land flowing with milk and honey, but the cities were well fortified. Ten spies lacked trust in God. They reported that the Israelites stood as mere grasshoppers compared to the natives in Canaan. Only two spies, Joshua and Caleb, tried to convince Israel that with God's help, they would surely conquer Canaan. But the ten spies persuaded Israel that they could not win. Israel rebelled against God and Moses. The LORD lost his patience with Israel and sentenced them to wander in the wilderness for 40 years.

Now those 40 years of wandering were almost over. It was time to enter the Promised Land. Moses led Israel on the most direct route which would go through the land of Edom. Moses sought Edom's permission to pass through their land, but the Edomites said no. They even brought their army to prove their answer was serious. So, Moses had to take Israel on a detour into the barren wilderness and go around Edom. The Israelites lost their patience.

But the people became very impatient along the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? Look, there is no food! There is no water! And we are disgusted by this worthless food!" (Numbers 21:4b-5) God loved Israel and disciplined her. The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and the snakes bit the people. As a result, many people from Israel died. (Numbers 21:6) Many people died when they were bitten. The Law did its work. The LORD's discipline cut the Israelites to the heart, and they recognized their sin and responded. The people went to Moses and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD to take the snakes away from us." So, Moses prayed on behalf of the people. (Numbers 21:7) God responded to Moses' prayer in a unique way. The LORD certainly could have taken the snakes away, but he didn't do that. He gave Israel an opportunity to actively display their trust in him. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a venomous snake and put it on a pole. If anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will live." Moses made a bronze snake and put it on the pole. If a snake had bitten anyone, if that person looked at the bronze snake, he lived. (Numbers 21:8-9)

Jesus had recently begun his public ministry. He had been preaching and doing miracles. One man's curiosity, Nicodemus, had been pricked. But Nicodemus was a Pharisee and was not going to be convinced so easily. Jesus arranged to meet with him at night. Perhaps Nicodemus feared what his cronies might think of him if they found out about this night class. A nightly meeting would keep it secret. When Jesus met with Nicodemus, he told him that a person must be born again of water and the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God. Christ showed Nicodemus that he was the promised Savior in a special way. Jesus knew that Nicodemus knew his Old Testament so he made a connection to a Bible history lesson. *"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)*

The bronze snake is a type of Christ, an Old Testament shadow that pointed to Christ. The snake was lifted up on a pole, and Jesus was lifted up on a cross. Those who believed the LORD's promise and looked at the snake were saved from physical death. Those who believe God's promise and look to the cross see Jesus as their Savior from eternal death. What a neat connection between an Old and a New Testament Bible history lesson!

Chapel on Fridays/Mission Offerings – Our Redeemer, Ladysmith, WI

Parents, feel free to join us either in-person or virtually for our morning chapel on Facebook Live on Friday mornings at 8:35 AM. We also take a weekly collection of mission offerings. The second quarter our mission offering will support Our Redeemer in Ladysmith.

Last Week: \$57.27

Quarter to Date: \$286.90



Bible Trivia

Each week the Lion's Roar will provide a Bible Trivia question. Winners will be announced the following week in the Lion's Roar. Answers can be submitted to your child's teacher who will put them in the basket in the school office.

Unfortunately, no one correctly answered that Jesse had eight sons.

This week's question: What overly confident offer did Abishai make to David?

Bible Fair - March 14 - Schedule - [LINK](#)

Tonight, Thursday, March 14, St. Mark will have its annual academic fair. This year the fair will be a Bible Fair. Families are welcome to come at the following times to see their children's presentations.

- 4K/5K/1st - 6:00-6:45 PM - in the student classrooms
- 2nd - 6:15 PM & 6:30 PM presentation - in the church sanctuary
- 3rd-4th - 6:45-7:15 PM - in the student classroom
- 5th-8th - 6:45-7:55 PM - in the gymnasium

Construction Begins Soon at St. Mark

We continue to wait for the beginning of our construction project at St. Mark. Please continue to practice the parking procedures that we put into place last week.

Midweek Lenten Worship

Please note that St. Mark offers two midweek Lenten services at 11:00 AM and 6:30 PM. Make a point to take advantage of these opportunities to focus on Jesus' suffering and death to earn our salvation.

Christ Light Schedule

Parents, we encourage you to read your child's Bible history lessons with them. Use many of the parent applications included with each lesson. *Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.* (Ephesians 6:4)

4K-5K

Date	Link to Slides	Bible Link	Main Concept	
3-18	39	Jesus rides into Jerusalem	Luke 19:28-44	The people praised Jesus as their king. The prophecy of him riding a donkey is fulfilled.

Grades 1-4 - Set 3

Lesson #	Title of Lesson	Date Taught
4A	David is Kind to Saul	Monday, March 18
4B	Saul Dies and David Becomes King	Wednesday, March 20

Youth Confirmation Meeting

Pastor Naumann would like to meet with the parents of this year's youth confirmands to start planning for Confirmation Sunday. This meeting will take place in room 11 (middle room upper grade wing) on Wednesday, March 20 at 5:30pm (it should last < 30 minutes). With this year's small class size, there is the potential to hold the confirmation service in the sanctuary. The decision is determined by anticipated attendance numbers. Parents, please come to the meeting with an estimate of expected attendees from your family/friends.

Confirmation Sunday will be May 5 in the 10:30am service. Public examination will be that week Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30pm. As the St. Mark catechumens are completing their confirmation instruction, please remember these young Christians in your prayers.



Winter Athletics by Mr. Niebuhr

The Luther Prep tournament ended the coed A team's basketball season. The 7-8 graders played well in all four of their games and came away with a third-place finish. When you see one of the eighth graders, thank them for representing St. Mark well during the tournament and through their whole career wearing green and gold. Starting up next week is the Golf Club. Please reference a following article with details about this club.

Coming up: 3/21 - Golf practice

Basketball & Cheer Photos

Photos will be taken next week on Friday the 15th. Please make sure that your child has their uniform(s) with them that day. Watch for Order forms to come home Monday.



Kids Choir News

Kids' Choir, St. Mark's children's choir, will continue on select Mondays for the remainder of the school year. It is a choir singing music to praise our Lord- helping lead the congregation in Worship during services. St. Mark kids grades K-8 (both public and private school kids) are welcome. Rehearsals are Mondays after school from 3:25-4:25. Dates are March 11 and 18, April 8, 15, 22, 29 & May 6.



Singing Dates:

- Palm Sunday (Sunday, March 24) both services- singing during the early service and at the beginning of the late service and then leaving.
- Ascension (Thursday, May 9th)
- Mother's Day (Sunday, May 12)-Both services- singing during the early serve and at the beginning of the late service and then leaving.

We need parents to sign up to supervise/chaperone students after school is dismissed. We ask families to help from 3:20-3:45 as we transition from school to rehearsal, supervising drink and bathroom as well as helping students get into the church calmly. Supervision is an essential part for this choir to exist. Please sign up using this [LINK](#) or type in this URL bit.ly/smkidschoir24

Golf Team Practices - Start Thursday, March 21

St. Mark is planning to offer spring golf practices once more, beginning on Thursday, March 21. We thank Miss Addie Slominsky for coaching these practices. All practices will be in the St. Mark gym. For those Grades 5-8 students who wish to participate, please bring a check for \$15 made payable to the St. Mark PTP to the first practice.

Practice days and times.

Thursday, March 21, 3:45-5:15 PM	Thursday, April 4, 3:45-5:15 PM
Thursday, April 11, 3:45-5:15 PM	Monday, April 15, 3:45-5:15 PM
Monday, April 22, 3:45-5:15 PM	Monday, April 29, 3:45-5:15 PM
Monday, May 6, 3:45-5:15 PM	Monday, May 13, 3:45-5:15 PM

No School / April 18-19

Please note the email that was sent out on Monday with the schedule change. There will be no school on Thursday, April 18, or Friday, April 19. This is a schedule change from the annual calendar that was distributed last August.

Groundbreaking / Expansion Kickoff - Children Sing

On Sunday, April 7, St. Mark Lutheran Church will be celebrating the groundbreaking / expansion kickoff for the two additional classrooms for our school. This celebration will begin at 11:45 AM.

- The St. Mark Lutheran School students will sing, "Christ is Our Cornerstone" as a part of this special event.
- A Sunday dinner that includes brats, hot dogs, salads, chips, and desserts will also be served on this day.
- Finally, the Expansion Committee will provide a full presentation on the entire building project.

Kids Expo Booth - Sunday, April 7, from 11:00am - 3:00pm - We Need Your Help!

St. Mark Lutheran Church and School will again have a booth at the Kids' Expo on Sunday, April 7, from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The Kids' Expo is at the Eau Claire Indoor Sports Center. We need several volunteers. Parents/guardians, you are our best advocates. Please consider donating an hour of time to help promote our church and school at the booth. You may sign up at this [LINK](#) or use the short URL: <https://shorturl.at/ikoL4>. One other note, you will get **free admission** if you tell the people at the front desk that you are volunteering at the St. Mark booth! Contact Mr. Micheel if you have any questions.

Kid's Heart Challenge – Friday, May 17



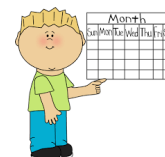
We are kicking off our Kid's Heart Challenge fundraising effort tomorrow. We are sending the sponsor forms for the Kid's Heart Challenge today to all children in grades 5K-8 today. The letter we sent by email on Tuesday explains how to have your children ask for sponsors online. The Kid's Heart Challenge will take place on Friday, May 17th. 4K students will not participate.

Forensics Practice - Continues on Tuesday, March 19

- Tuesday, March 19, 2024, Practice #1: 3:30-4:30 PM
- Tuesday, April 2, 2024, Practice #2: 3:30-4:30 PM
- Tuesday, April 9, 2024, Practice #3: 3:30-4:30 PM
- Tuesday, April 16, 2024, Practice #4: 3:30-4:30 PM
- Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 4:00 PM Forensics Night Competition

Martin Luther College Permission Forms

Parents with students in grades 7-8, please remember to return your child's permission slip along with the payment for Martin Luther College by tomorrow. This trip will be on April 18-19.



Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Please note that registration for the 2024-2025 school year has already begun. Instructions for enrollment will be sent this week with the Lion's Roar. You may also click on the [LINK](#) to view these instructions. **Please note that there is a \$25 discount on the book fee for those that register before May 23. Please also remember to check your address, email & phone information for needed changes.**

TADS Statement for 2023-2024 School Year

Parents, if you want to print a copy of your book fees / school tuition records for tax purposes, it is easy to do. Just follow these steps.

- Step One: Login to your TADS Account at the following address: <https://secure.tads.com/Accounts/Login.aspx>
- Step Two: Click on the Billing Tab.
- Step Three: Click on the "Household Paid Tuition Tax Report" link at the top of the page.
- Step Four: Enter the Tax Year "2023"
- Step Five: Print a copy.

Don't Forget Schedule PS

As the 2023 tax year recently ended, be aware due to tax law, that your family may benefit from a state tax deduction using Schedule PS. Click on the [LINK](#) to access this form. The state tax deduction is for those who pay tuition to private / parochial schools and could also possibly include the book fee that is paid as well. Contact your tax advisor for more information. If you would like a form pre-filled with St. Mark's Federal Employee Identification Number (FEIN), please contact the church/school office.

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program

- The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program application period will begin on February 1, and run through April 18. All returning children and all new families must apply each year.
- Returning families will also need to provide a valid proof of residency.
- All new families will need to provide a valid proof of residency. They will also need to provide a proof of income. Finish filing your 2023 taxes before applying for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program.

See this sheet for additional information. - [LINK](#) or <http://tinyurl.com/y4dtmr5n>.