



The Marker

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July 9, 2025

790 Marion Street NE • Salem, Oregon • 503.588.0141 • stmarksalem.org

SUNDAYS AT SAINT MARK

Worship

Join us on: YouTube,
Emailed to you and/or
facebook page!

Worship - 10:00 AM
IN PERSON and live-
streaming!



Join us for Picnic Church!

Picnic Church is a relaxed worship service combined with lunch together during the noon hour.

Bring your own lunch and/or something to share.

Save the dates: July 9, July 23, and August 13.

In the courtyard and/or Fireside Room from 12:00 p.m.
until 1:00 p.m.

Forum

See you in September when Forums resume.
Unless someone needs to have a Forum that cannot wait
until then. Keep watching for updates!



Comment ... Family Promise

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

Saint Mark's week for hosting Family Promise is rapidly approaching, starting July 20. When I first started volunteering for Family Promise (at another church), it was a brand new thing, and it was called "Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network". As the organization's efforts started extending beyond weeks of housing families in churches, the name changed to Family Promise. For most of us, though, our direct involvement with Family Promise is with our week of hosting. For me, that was most often being an overnight host. But when the church needed new coordinators, Bruce and I both felt called to take it on.

During COVID, as some of you remember, we only provided evening meals for the families sheltering in Madison House and other locations. Some people have remarked that that was easier. Yes, in a way, because fewer people were needed to volunteer. It certainly gave me fewer headaches in scheduling.

However, I found that I missed meeting the families. I found that surprising, because I think of myself as being an introvert, a little uncomfortable meeting and interacting with people (and horrible at remembering names.)

The families we host may also feel like that, uncomfortable in this new place. Or they may be friendly and taking what comes with humor and thankfulness. Whatever, they are our guests. If you feel like joining our cadre of 48 volunteers, please do let me know. It just takes doing a background check with Family Promise, and if possible, a training session which you can do on line or I can get a booklet for you. There are a variety of ways to help: greeting the guests each evening and spending time with them, preparing a meal, staying the night as an overnight host (you can sleep, you don't have to stay up all night!), helping set up and take down the beds and the rooms. Certainly, money donations help, because we buy food for breakfasts and lunches.

A final quote from 1 Peter 3:9 and 10: "Be hospitable to one another without

COMMENT continued ...

complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

Carolyn Stock, Coordinator
Family Promise at Saint Mark

GRATITUDE GIFTS GRACE

We are here to feel the joy of life pulsing in us – now.
Joyce Carol Oates

**This week we especially pray for:** Mahboba & Monira,

Ruth Ann Anderson, Sabiha, Verne Deplois, Bonnie Nelson, Isla May Bott, the family of Augie Koenig, Charlene Amaral-Lansi, Kate, Lewis, Sharline, TJ Putnam, Maria Florez, Ken Lindsay, Joyce Preis & family, Amy Wright, Scott Waychoff, Patricia Simila, Citlali Soleste Gonzalez, Ogan family, Mark Thorpe, Janet Templar, Beca, LeMaster family, Thomas Fender, Kenedy, Maggie Eastman, Arthur, Powell family, Megan Erb, Casey Crane, Mary Wites, Bill Eisenbeis, Kathleen O'Brien, Colleen, Evelyn & Kim Harper, Yvonne Knoll, Jennifer Morace, Mary Farris, Melissa Hamburg, Max Capellas, Kara-Jo Cone, Bill Snyder, James Krogh, Jeanne Bridges, Jim Wood, Linda Mattoon, Maureen O'Brien, and Peyton Higgins. **And Family**

Members in the Military: Nelson Westby.

If you know of someone who needs our prayers, please contact Pastor Zach or Theresa in the church office.

**BookMakers**

BookMarkers meet this month on Sunday, July 27, at 3:00 p.m. in the church library (upstairs). This month book is *My Abandonment* by Peter Rock. Joyce Peters' chose this month's book selection. Join us for the discussion!

Christmas Decorations for Fireside Room Tree

On Thursdays for another week we continue to meet downstairs in the education wing, room 103 to work on the ornaments for this year's tree. The goal is to have all ornaments be hand-made by members. If you can hot glue buttons on an ornament, tie simple bows, or string beads, stop by at 11:00 a.m. We are also looking for some people to embroider very simple designs on other ornaments. This can be done at home for those who do not want to come to church midweek. If you have questions, please see me on Sunday or call my cell. Charlotte Klampe

Women's Bible Study

"Flourishing in Relationships"

Monday July 14, at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

All are welcome!

WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

Saint Mark members have two services coming up that you may wish to attend:

Thursday, July 10 at 2:00 p.m. a graveside service will be held for

John William "Bill" Stortz at Belcrest Cemetery. Bill died June 30 at the age of 100.

On Friday, August 1 at 1:30 p.m. a memorial service will be held for **August "Augie" Koenig** at Saint Mark. A reception will follow in the Fireside Room. Augie died May 31 at the age of 98.

Both men were very instrumental in the life and community of Saint Mark during their entire lives. Please remember their families in your prayers.

MEAL TRAIN

Help us welcome new baby Rallojay to the world by dropping off a meal for Katie, Reed and Leonora! The Rallojay family is expecting their newest member to arrive this next week. They have recently relocated to Salem from the central Texas area. Their daughter Leonora is active with our children's ministry, and their family is looking forward to officially joining the congregation at the next opportunity.

[Click this link](#) to sign up online for a time to bring a meal. If online sign-up is not possible, call the office and let us know which date you'd like to sign-up for (Sundays and Thursdays starting July 20).



Meal Train® for Rallojay family

2 Adults, 1 Kid Salem, OR Drop-Off: 4:00-5:00pm

Help us welcome new baby Rallojay to the world by dropping off a meal for their Katie, Reed and Leonora!

Confirmation Camp & Camp Lutherwood

Pastor Zach spent last week at Camp Lutherwood accompanying Madeline Dozier and Zöe Bonville during their week of Confirmation Camp, and then enjoying the weekend of Family Camp with his family. Here are some snapshots from the week.



Madeline, Zöe and Pr. Zach (second row) participating in morning worship.



Zöe and Madeline learning different worship songs along with other confirmation campers.



Madeline, Zöe and other confirmation campers discussing how they would describe God's generosity beyond measure before presenting their ideas to the larger group.



Evenings at confirmation camp ended with a campfire. It was a time for fun, praise, fellowship and a reflection on the day's themes.



Give now to respond to flooding in Texas

You've likely seen the devastating news about the catastrophic flash floods in South Central Texas. Our hearts break as we learn of the damage, loss of life and ongoing search for survivors.

We join Bishop Sue Briner's call to "pray, pray, pray for those who are still lost as well as the families of those who are lost, who have died, or who have experienced loss of home or property." As ever and with your support, our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors in the Texas hill country as the floodwaters recede and rebuilding begins.

[Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response ensure that our neighbors are not alone on the long road to recovery after a disaster strikes.](#)

GIVE NOW

With gratitude, Briner, bishop of the Southwestern Texas Synod, shared: "As of this moment, we know of no congregations, clergy, or members who have suffered loss due to the flooding, but a number of us know people who are missing or connected to those missing, or who are sustaining flood damage."

The flash flood warnings have expanded, and more rain is expected. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Southwestern Texas Synod and will work with them and other partners to respond to urgent needs, provide emotional and spiritual care, and support cleanup and long-term recovery.

[Can our neighbors recovering from disasters count on your support?](#)

Through these disasters and others in the United States and around the world, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies communities throughout the recovery process, walking with them for as long as it takes.

Together, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

In prayer together,

The Rev. John Eggen, Senior Director, Annual Giving, ELCA

Calendar for this Week

Sunday, July 13

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship with Coffee
11:15 a.m. Education Committee

Monday, July 14

1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, July 15

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Council

Wednesday, July 16

10:00 p.m. Connections Committee

Thursday, July 17

9:00 a.m. Hands of Comfort

Friday, July 18

Church Office CLOSED

Sunday, July 20

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship with coffee



Living Lutheran Magazine

The *Living Lutheran* magazine in print was cancelled a few years ago and only offered online. We have received notice that the printed issue will resume. It was offered in printed issues 12 issues (monthly) for an annual subscription at \$11; now it will be quarterly with only 4 issues at a cost of \$17. There is no group discount as there was before. In the past, Saint Mark paid for our member's subscription. Church Council is interested to know how many people in our congregation would be interested in receiving this magazine. Please let Theresa know by the end of August if you would enjoy receiving this magazine. Once we know the response, Council will decide if Saint Mark will pay for the subscription.

Saint Mark Recycles, Reuses, & Reduces

This page is dedicated to reminding you of a few ways that Saint Mark earned its EarthWise certification and to ask you to help us continue to be a good partner in our world:

RestStop – For First Responders (ambulance, police & fire personnel) donate bottled water, Gatorade; Keurig coffee/tea/cocoa, individual packets of non-perishable items for snacks or quick microwaveable meals for First Responders.

Plastic/Metal Bottle Caps - donation box for collecting plastic/metal bottle caps

Helping Hands -- donate clothing and household items
(they are distributed at no cost to the needy)

Lions Club -- donate used or new eye glasses

SafeSleep United -- Personal care items for women and children seeking shelter): Hair ties, Hair brushes, Razors, Protein bars, Sunscreen, Cute socks, Band-aids, Washcloths, Small notebooks/pens, Sudoku or crossword puzzle books, Nail clippers, Nail polish, Bottles of water.

Used Batteries & Used Printer Cartridges -- bring in used batteries and/or printer cartridges so they can be recycled - any size

Lutheran World Relief / Hands of Comfort Supplies --- various items requested throughout the year: quilting material and notions; school supplies; and personal hygiene items

Aluminum Can Pull Tabs -- these pull tabs are collected and turned in for their cash per pound, and the funds then are donated to help pay for dialysis patients' treatments. A NEW basket for your tabs is now available! Please bring your tabs in a plastic bag.

Styrofoam - Clean and dry Styrofoam blocks that snap when bent only. No popcorn please. We deliver this to the appropriate place (e.g.: Fresh Start Market) for recycling since not all recycling sites accept styrofoam.

Non-Perishable Food Items -- donate canned fruit, vegetables, meats or packaged items, and we deliver them to the Marion/Polk Food Bank for the needy

Cans and/or Bottles - donate empty cans and bottles for Backpack Buddies
- blue bags with Saint Mark's identification are available to make sure funds are deposited correctly.

These items are neatly gathered in labeled baskets in the East Narthex closet.
Thanks to all who help care for God's amazing gift of our planet.

TITHELY online donations may be made on our webpage:
stmarksalem.org
 or <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2685479>

Or by using this QR code:



On the Web:

stmarksalem.org
Peter Hoelter
Web Page Coordinator
 webcoordinator@stmarksalem.org

Marker newsletter deadline ...
 12 noon, each Tuesday prior to
 printing on Wednesdays

Bulletin deadline ... 12 noon, each
 Wednesday prior to printing on
 Thursdays

We're on:

Facebook. external page:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarklutheran>

saint mark members:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintmarkers>

(it's a private page - please join if you haven't already done so!)

Instagram. @saintmarksalem

Threads. @saintmarksalem

BlueSky - <look for our page here soon!>

Help the Communications Team help you! If there are Saint Mark related events or announcements you'd like publicized on social media, send full details and visuals (visuals are super important)

to communications@stmarksalem.org, and we'll get the word out.

CHURCH STAFF EMAILS

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Welcoming
 ALL IN CHRIST

Journeying
 TOGETHER IN FAITH

Reaching
 OUT IN SERVICE

***Please consider not printing out this newsletter,
 because we want to preserve nature.***



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Salem, Oregon 97301

stmarksalem.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED