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WELCOME PASTOR ERIC!



Pastor Eric's Thoughts



To Contact
Pastor Eric:

email:
revonbroadway@gmail.com

cell:
860-371-5969

If you would like
to make an appointment
with Vicar Eric,
please call
the St. Mark office at
860-887-6826.

Greetings Siblings in Christ,

I am thrilled to be a partner in ministry with all of you. In case you are new to St. Mark and don't know me, I am the recently called pastor to St. Mark, beginning ministry as pastor this month. I spent the last year serving St. Mark as vicar (intern).

As we begin a new chapter in ministry for St. Mark, we should all be ready for growing together. Our goals for growth should be in both faith and ministry. St. Mark has a strong presence in ministry in Norwich and I hope and pray that together we become even stronger.

When I started as vicar at St. Mark I was confused because there was both a *Weekly Memo* and a *Monthly Memo* at St. Mark. I have decided to rename the *Monthly Memo*, *The Rose*.

The new name connects our Lutheran roots with our presence in the city of Norwich. Martin Luther had the Luther rose symbol designed as a symbol of faith and Norwich is called the Rose City. Our new monthly publication being called "The Rose" can serve as a reminder of our Christian roots as well as our roots in the city of Norwich.

The Luther Rose was designed for Luther by Lazarus Spengler who also wrote hymns. Please read Luther's comments to Spengler regarding the Luther rose.

In a 8 July 1530 letter to [Lazarus Spengler](#), Luther interprets his seal: Grace and peace from the Lord. As you desire to know whether my painted seal, which you sent to me, has hit the mark, I shall answer most amiably and tell you my original thoughts and reason about why my seal is a symbol of my theology. The first should be a black cross in a heart, which retains its natural color, so that I myself would be reminded that faith in the Crucified saves us. "For one who believes from the heart will be justified" ([Romans 10:10](#)). Although it is indeed a black cross, which mortifies and which should also cause pain, it leaves the heart in its natural colour. It does not corrupt nature, that is, it does not kill but keeps alive. "The just shall live by faith" ([Romans 1:17](#)) but by faith in the crucified. Such a heart should stand in the middle of a white rose, to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In other words, it places the believer into a white, joyous rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives ([John 14:27](#)). That is why the rose should be white and not red, for white is the color of the spirits and the angels (cf. [Matthew 28:3](#); [John 20:12](#)). Such a rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in spirit and faith is a beginning of the heavenly future joy, which begins already, but is grasped in hope, not yet revealed. And around this field is a golden ring, symbolizing that such blessedness in Heaven lasts forever and has no end. Such blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and goods, just as gold is the most valuable, most precious and best metal. This is my compendium theologiae [summary of theology]. I have wanted to show it to you in good friendship, hoping for your appreciation. May Christ, our beloved Lord, be with your spirit until the life hereafter. ^{[2][3]}



A Note from Pastor Mary



St. Mark is a special place. “The Place”: the welcome place, the forgiving place, the thinking place, the renewing place, the caring place, and music place is my way of speaking about it. Four years ago I began as the contract pastor here at St. Mark. The leadership, council members and I had many conversations about what was happening here in Norwich. Many ideas and visions were presented as we wanted to reach out to the people of Norwich. We chose to describe St. Mark as the place: welcome, thinking, renewing, caring, forgiving, and making music. Tom and Lydia, Joe and Gail, Sandy and Jim, Rick and Sandy, Kurt and Ines, developed the Saturday evening worship service. They invited into our worshiping group people, who usually didn’t worship on Sunday mornings. Jonny Jeune speaking French, Creole Haitian, Spanish and English joined us as our Evangelist. He provided worship at 7:00 am to give workers a time they could worship before going to work or after their night shift. We chose to be “The Caring Place” for the community luncheon when it became too cold to offer it from the parking lot. When Covid over shadowed all of us from gathering at the building 248 Broadway, Brian Armstrong, Ian Frankel and I risked being together and putting worship service on Facebook and YouTube. Every Saturday the three of us broadcast St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church from “The Place”. Then we chose to worship outside wearing masks and social distancing. The front lawn with the band on the front steps became our “Welcome Place”. Neighbors and people passing by on the street certainly heard us. What a joy it was. Everyone brought their own chair and children and dogs and rabbits. We still broadcast worship to people who don’t dare risk catching the virus. The words of forgiveness, and renewal went out each Sunday. Wanting the Morning Prayer worship to continue on Mondays and Fridays we resorted to Zoom. The Book Club and Saturday Seminar are examples of being the thinking place. I truly love prayer and Bible study. When St. Mark offered to be the site of an intern from seminary, St. Mark redid the budget and provided the financial means to have Eric Heinrich as Vicar. He arrived August 7, 2021, loving the Bible, the Church and the Lord. His presence brought his love of Jesus into St. Mark and the city of Norwich. St. Mark has provided “the Place” for me to pray and read scripture with the disciples of Christ who are St. Mark. And so I say thank you for four years of ministry from 248 Broadway.

Coffee Hour



We will have coffee hour each Sunday following worship in Memorial Hall. Join us for a mug of Joe or a cup of tea. Conversations over a cup of coffee or tea will encourage development of new friends even as we reconnect with long time friends.

A note from the office

The office is open 9-Noon
Monday-Thursday

For office questions you can reach Linda at 860-887-6826 or st.marklutheran248@gmail.com

For the Pastor please call Pastor Eric Heinrich at 860-371-5969.

Worship Schedule

Sundays - 9:30 a.m.

Worship on Facebook / YouTube
YouTube channel: [ThePlace.stmark](#)
Links found on Facebook: [NorwichLutherans](#)

*You have a choice:
Worship in person or virtual*

Weekly Schedule Thoughts from the Pastor:

As we begin a new ministry at St. Mark one of the first things that needs to be considered is the schedule of activities at St. Mark. I recognize things such as morning prayer, Bible study, book club, Saturday seminar, and walking group have established roots at St. Mark. I also recognize that there has been great value with all these programs and many of you have been fed spiritually through them. As we move forward, I ask that each of you be open to seeing some activities end and new activities and times be added. I will be prayerfully considering changes that I make and will be listening to each of you as I do so. My goal for the church is to offer a schedule of activities that provide the most opportunities for growing in faith and ministry. I also think it is important to remember that programs and activities can move forward without the pastor being present for all. I would be open to guiding lay people in leading some existing programs or establishing new ones. I am planning to have Fridays and Saturdays as my days off. I do plan to lead Bible study and since that had been on Fridays, I am going to move it to Thursday at the same time. I look forward to working with all of you to find new and exciting ways to grow in faith and ministry.

Taking Part in Worship

There are many opportunities for individuals to get involved in worship at St. Mark. Each Sunday, we need volunteers to be assisting ministers, readers, kyrie singers, ushers, altar guild members, cameramen, and audio techs. These roles are vital to our worship, and it is easy to



join the volunteers. If you are interested in helping with any of these roles, please call the office or speak with Linda Mandel. Pastor Eric, along with our audio-visual personnel, are happy to train new volunteers.



A gift to
St. Mark Lutheran Church
has been
received and acknowledged
with thanks from:

In Loving Memory of
Robert B. Schmidt, Jr.

by

Tom & Lydia Tibbals
Michael Schmidt
Cindy Crocicchia & Dana Caviggia

In Loving Memory of
Kristin B. Zawacki

by

Bernice Driscoll
Richard Zawacki
Sandy & Chuck Anadore
Barbara & Joseph Mingo

Toiletries Collected
For
St. Vincent De Paul Place



Thank you Sandy and Rick!

Thrivent Grants for Those in Need

Sandy Neuendorf and Gail Churney have both applied for and were approved for a Thrivent grant.

Sandy's grant is to provide toiletries for the homeless and those in need. She is collecting regular size shampoo, conditioner, women's body wash, men's body wash, deodorant and toothpaste.

Gail's grant is to provide underwear for those in need. She is looking for donations of men's boxers and boxer briefs in sizes small, medium and large and women's bikinis and hipsters in sizes 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Please bring all your donations to church and place them in the cereal collection area near the altar. Thank you.



Congregation Council Members

James Quarto, president	860-608-1085	jsquarto@hotmail.com
Sue Underhill, vice-president	860-701-8763	jsunderhill@comcast.net
Dale Eichholz, secretary	860-859-0401	dale_c_eichholz@sbcglobal.net
Lily Armstrong	860-334-7376	joydog38@gmail.com
Joy Bachand	860-564-7333	joybachand@yahoo.com
Joe Churney	860-884-6582	jchurney@snet.net
Barbara Gladue	860-334-7291	mickeybonnie@comcast.net
Tom Seidel	860-642-6316	jtseidel@comcast.net
Linda Stewart	860-367-3410	
Tom Tolppi	860-389-6818	tomtolppi@yahoo.com
Pastor Eric Heinrich	860-371-5969	revonbroadway@gmail.com

Other Officers: Treasurer, Tom Tolppi
Financial Secretary, Kurt Kallmeyer

THANK YOU PASTOR MARY!!



Your faith, wisdom, work ethic, kindness, patience, guidance, compassion, support, comfort, strength, dedication, love, leadership, generosity, teaching and encouragement, have been a blessing to everyone.



Jazz Mass



Megan & Pete

“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday

When: September 11, 2022

Time: 9:00am-3pm

Where: St. Mark Lutheran Church, 248 Broadway, Norwich CT 06360

“God’s Work. Our hands.” September 11, 2022, is a day for rediscovering others and ourselves in service. It is an opportunity for us to perform acts of service in response to God’s love through Jesus. St. Mark will be preparing and serving the community luncheon that day. We will need assistance with making lasagna, salads, bread, dessert, and drinks, setting up and cleaning up after the lunch, as well as serving and interacting with those in our community who come for lunch at 1pm.

In addition, we will be collecting items such as underwear and toiletries for those less fortunate in the community, along with other small service projects. Please wear your St. Mark or God’s Work Our hands T-shirt on Sept. 11 and join with all the Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America in displaying our love for Jesus through service to others.



Call committee

**Many thanks to the
Call Committee for all
of their hard work:**

**Richard Russ
Sue Underhill
Robin Slane
Joy Bachand
Sandy Quarto
Rick Neuendorf**



A Report from the 2022 Churchwide Assembly

From August 9-12, 2022, I was privileged to attend the Sixteenth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in Columbus, OH. I was one of thirteen representatives of the New England Synod (ELCA) led by Bishop James Hazelwood. There were over 800 voting members from 65 synods and more than 8,900 congregations serving on behalf of the more than 3.3 million baptized members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in addition to visitors and support staff. The Churchwide Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the ELCA and empowered to deal with all matters necessary in pursuit of the purposes and functions of the church. It was a time marked by inspiring worship, fellowship and discussions about the Church's shape and future. We heard reports from the Churchwide Leadership, with a focus on the changes taking place in the church. Speakers emphasized growing a more diverse church and ways the church has adapted to the COVID pandemic. There were sober moments. Following second plenary session, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton issued an apology on behalf of the ELCA to Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina following the abrupt removal of their pastor on the the Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe last year, along with a public commitment to be an anti-racist church. As I mentioned in my report from this year's Synod Assembly, Bishop Hazelwood posted a message along with links to the documents relating to the controversy at <https://www.JamesHazelwood.net/blog>. On the second day of the Assembly, there was a service of Holy Communion centred on Native voices as part of the implementation of the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly's resolution to repudiate explicitly and clearly the European-derived doctrine of discovery.

The Assembly considered numerous actions, but there are some I want to highlight in this report. As with the Congregation's Annual Meeting and the Synod Assembly two of the primary tasks of the Churchwide Assembly is to elect officers and to approve a budget. After five ballots, Imran Siddiqui, the Vice President of the Southeast Synod, was elected to serve as Vice President of the ELCA.

The ELCA Treasurer conducted a hearing prior to the Assembly, which facilitated consideration of the Budget Proposal. The Assembly approved a 2023 current fund spending authorization of \$68,814,000 and a 2023 ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$22,869,000. The Assembly approved a 2024 current fund income proposal of \$70,191,000 and a 2024 ELCA World Hunger income proposal of \$22,930,000. The Assembly approved a 2025 current fund income proposal of \$71,594,000 and a 2025 ELCA World Hunger income proposal of \$22,960,000.

One significant action was that the Assembly directed the Church Council to establish a Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church comprised of leaders of diverse representation from all three expressions (Churchwide, Synod, Congregation) that shall reconsider the statements of purpose for each of the expressions of this church, its organizational structure, and all matters pertaining thereunto, being particularly attentive to our shared commitment to dismantle racism, and will present its findings and recommendations to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly in preparation for a possible reconstituting convention to be called under the rules for a special meeting of the Churchwide Assembly. It was emphasized that this was not a decision to have a reconstituting convention and that decision would be made by a subsequent Churchwide Assembly.

Pastor Mary and Mitch Robinson

September Volunteer Schedule

*These assignments are made based on past willingness to serve.
If this is a problem please contact the church office. Thank you.*

Date:	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
Assisting Minister	Christine Kuzmenko	Virginia Maloney	Kurt Kallmeyer	Robin Slane
Lector	Sue Underhill	Sandy Quarto	Dale Eichholz	Megan Armstrong
Ushers	Joan Seidel Linda Stewart	Richard Russ Robin Slane	Sandy & Chuck Anadore	Richard Russ Linda Stewart
Altar Guild	Sandy Neuendorf C. Kuzmenko C. Schanandoah	Sandy Neuendorf Ursula Chartier	Sandy Neuendorf Virginia Maloney C. Schanandoah	Sandy Neuendorf Linda Stewart
Eucharistic Minister	Linda James		Rick Neuendorf	

If you are unable to serve on your assigned dates, please let Linda Mandel in the office know who your replacement will be by Wednesday evening so that the changes can be put into the Sunday bulletin.
st.marklutheran248@gmail.com or 860-887-6826 Thank you!

Unitarian Universalist Church

The Unitarian Universalist Church is back and is worshipping on Sundays in the Chapel. They will worship at 10:00 a.m. We welcome them and look forward to sharing our building with their congregation.



Prayer Chain

A prayer Chain is a group of persons linked together who take up their responsibility to pray, in their own time and place, for certain persons or concerns made known to them by the prayer chain leader who receives the prayer requests.

The prayer chain here at St. Mark is a means by which we live out our God-given mandate **“to pray for one another”**. It lets immediate confidential prayer support begin at the time

it is needed. Those who have been identified as links in the chain are linked together by phone or email. Joy Bachand is the Prayer Leader and can be reached at joybachand@yahoo.com or 860-564-7333. She will make sure prayer needs are sent out to those who chose to be a link in the chain. If you want to become one of the links contact Joy.

Old Batteries?

If you have batteries that need recycling bring them to church. There is a pail in Memorial Hall for you to recycle your old batteries.

2022 Flower Chart



The Flower Chart for 2022 is posted in the Narthex
Reminder:
The cost is \$30.00 per Sunday.



Calendar of Events - September

* Each Sunday there is coffee hour after worship

Thursday, September 1

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Gathering Room

Friday, September 2

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Memorial Hall

Saturday, September 3

Sunday, September 4, Pentecost 13

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Unitarian Universalist

11:00 a.m. Cornerstone

1:00 p.m. Community Luncheon - Memorial Hall

Monday, September 5

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m. Bully Busters Parent Group—Memorial Hall

Tuesday, September 6

6:30 p.m. Cornerstone - Gathering Room

Wednesday, September 7

Thursday, September 8

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Gathering Room

Friday, September 9

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Memorial Hall

Saturday, September 10

Sunday, September 11, Pentecost 14

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Unitarian Universalist

11:00 a.m. Cornerstone

1:00 p.m. Community Luncheon - Memorial Hall

Monday, September 12

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m. Helping Parents Heal - Gathering Room

6:00 p.m. Bully Busters Parent Group—Memorial Hall

Tuesday, September 13

6:30 p.m. Cornerstone - Gathering Room

Wednesday, September 14

10:00 a.m. Worship Committee

Thursday, September 15

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Gathering Room

Friday, September 16

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Memorial Hall

Saturday, September 17

Sunday, September 18, Pentecost 15

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Unitarian Universalist

11:00 a.m. Cornerstone

1:00 p.m. Community Luncheon - Memorial Hall

Monday, September 19

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m. Bully Busters Parent Group—Memorial Hall

Tuesday, September 20

6:30 p.m. Congregation Council

6:30 p.m. Cornerstone - Gathering Room

Wednesday, September 21

Thursday, September 22

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Gathering Room

Friday, September 23

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Memorial Hall

Saturday, September 24

Sunday, September 25, Pentecost 16

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Unitarian Universalist

11:00 a.m. Cornerstone

1:00 p.m. Community Luncheon - Memorial Hall

Monday, September 26

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m. Bully Busters Parent Group—Memorial Hall

Tuesday, September 27

6:30 p.m. Cornerstone - Gathering Room

Wednesday, September 28

10:00 a.m. Worship Committee

Thursday, September 29

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Gathering Room

Friday, September 30

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting - Memorial Hall

Birthdays



*Happy Birthday!
To those celebrating their
Birthday in September*



- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 14 - Lucille Spanos | 27 - Megan Armstrong |
| 21 - Kelsey Caulfield | 29 - Stephen Houk |
| 21 - Eleanor Caulfield | 30 - Bruce Ashline |
| 23 - Devon Briggs | 30 - Jeffrey Briggs |

If you are celebrating your birthday, and you don't see your name here - please call the church office at 860-887-6826 so we can add it to our records.

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

October Newsletter
The Rose
Pictures and Articles

Please send your articles for **October's Rose** to st.marklutheran248@gmail.com by **Tuesday, September 20, 2022.**
Thank you.

Community Luncheon

St. Mark will be providing food for the luncheon being held on September 11. If you want to help prepare the meal please talk to Sue Underhill or Sandy Neuendorf



Preparing the Community Luncheon



Thank you for filling in Pastor Will!

Prayer List

We include in our prayers:

Homebound members: Betty Schmidt, Lorraine Fox, Anneliese Kempf, Lucille Spanos, Irene Toscano, Bruce Ashline, Hazel Lotring, Martha Johnson, Debbie Andrews, Irene Signorino.

Clergy: For Elizabeth and Jim, our Bishops; for Eric, our Pastor.

We pray for the sick especially: Jo Glover, Robin Slane, Mary Elizabeth Lang, Ariann Griffin, Lydia Tibbals, Tate Campbell, Charlene Seltz, Christina McCann, Lina Granados, Hope McCann, Yvonne Scott, Sarah Sullivan, Parker Churney, Charles Peters, Jennifer Stark, Janet Hatch.

We pray especially for: Those with addictions, their families & friends. Children being sexually abused, adults healing from abuse, the homeless, all persons living with HIV/AIDS, those who have been affected by COVID-19. Those who are out of work or looking for work; those with a mental illness, the families and friends who support them.



If You or a Loved One Go to the Hospital

- * Call the church office as soon as you know you will be admitted.
- * When asked if you are part of a local faith community answer YES, and tell them where you are a member. ***If you are not asked tell them.***
- * When asked if you want your name released to representatives of your church say YES. If you say no, or if you do not give our church's name the hospital will not be able to release your name to us.

Note: L & M Hospital is the only hospital that notifies us when our parishioners are hospitalized.

Cereal Ministry



We continue to feed people: To simplify giving to St. Vincent de Paul Place you can drop off your cereal at St. Mark or send a check with St. Vincent de Paul in the memo section. They are accepting other non-perishable food items as well. We will send the money and cereal to them once a month.

If you would like to give to this ministry, any donation would be appreciated. This is our opportunity to still safely support an outreach ministry.

Facebook Page

We have increased our social media presence with an additional FB page:

ThePlace.StMark

This page is intended to share with the community the number of ways they can be fed at The Place, a place we all lovingly refer to as St. Mark Lutheran Church.

A place for people to be enriched by diversity of religious traditions, to be in community, to be fed, to find music for all, to find peace, to find worship, to find book clubs, to be welcomed.



St. Mark is on Instagram

Check us out on Instagram - @ThePlace.StMark

NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MARK LUTHERAN
CHURCH

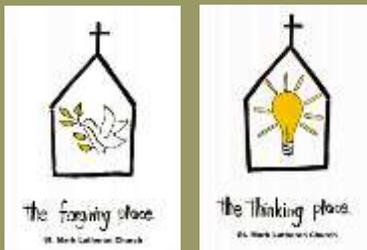


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September 2022 Newsletter



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.