

"Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death."

John 8:51

SEPTEMBER 2022

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

With the dawn of the age of technology came an exponential increase in the frequency and volume of outsourcing. Outsourcing is a business practice in which a company hires another company or individual to perform tasks, handle operations or provide services for them and on their behalf.

There are many reasons why a business or company will outsource. According to Forbes magazine a business will utilize outsourcing because:

1. It avoids the high overhead costs of hiring more employees.
2. Outsourcing gives you access to a larger pool of talent and skills.
3. Outsourcing proves to yield much lower labor costs.

Despite the tempting benefits of outsourcing and the ease with which it can be done with technology in today's truly global marketplace, there are some significant risks and drawbacks to outsourcing. Forbes magazine identified 3 significant drawbacks.

1. Outsourcing gives up control over quality.
2. Outsourcing is wrought with inherent communication issues.
3. Outsourcing works against and negatively impacts company culture and the attitude of employees.

Though there are certainly times outsourcing is an unavoidable necessity, most all business editorials I have read suggest that the risks and costs of outsourcing tended to outweigh the benefits. The only way to avoid the pitfalls of outsourcing is to find a way to do the work yourself.

I think much the same thing can be said about our faith. The Bible says in James 2, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?...faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead...Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

In short, James is telling us not to outsource the work of faith. Faith is not an intellectual endeavor. Faith is a gift from God that has been given in order that we would be transformed by the grace of God through faith in Jesus, and so that through the works of our lives in all areas of our life, we might find true satisfaction and meaning by glorifying God in them. Ephesians 2:8-10 makes this abundantly clear when it says, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

As in business, when we outsource our faith, communication with God is hindered, the quality of our life is compromised, and an attitude of negativity or apathy easily settles in. When we allow our faith to be reduced to a religious commodity or head knowledge, then we miss out on the meaning of life and the purpose for which we were created; to serve God with the work of our lives. A true and living faith rejoices in the works of God, for it is in those works that we find the full expression and usefulness of the gifts, talents, resources, and other many blessings God has given to us.

To outsource our faith is to be left with a faith without works, which as James says, is dead. Your pastor cannot read or learn the Bible for you. Your tithe to the church does not satisfy the need the church has for your involvement, skills, time, and energy. The work you do every day to earn a living is not a substitute for the work of loving your family, helping your neighbor, or serving the church that Christ established to be the agent through which He would work His salvation and proclaim it to the world.

Take care and caution my friends with what work you allow to be outsourced in your life. Don't outsource the Source of life.

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Jay

GET INVOLVED AT ST. MARK!

Church is **not** a spectator sport.

We need volunteers for
ushering, tech team,
Sunday school, childcare,
musicians, and more!



Email: volunteer@stmarkomaha.org

BIBLE STUDY
EVERY SUNDAY
AT 9:15AM

GOD ONLY WROTE
ONE BOOK...
AREN'T YOU
CURIOUS?

THANK YOU

Thank you. Two small words that convey so much. Thank you to all of the Members of St. Mark who made the LWML project Lydia House a huge success. Thank you for providing 39 bags of gently used clothing, two large boxes of new bras, panties, sweatshirts and sweat pants, ten car seat/stroller combinations and three car seats. Thank you to all who attended and helped make the ice cream social so successful. God guided us from planning in April to success on July 31st. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!
~The LWML officers



Melodie Colwell
daughter of Derek & Christen Colwell, baptized Aug. 21st

Melala Gutu
daughter of Gutu Gela & Abaynesh Biru, baptized Aug. 21st

Colbie Methe
daughter of Jordan & Lisa Methe, baptized Aug. 28th

"Baptism Saves You!"
1 PT. 3:21



MELODIE



MELALA



COLBIE



God's Blessings on Your Marriage!

Brittany Murray and Lucas Minor
September 15, 2022



The Eternal Connection Radio Show

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?
Psalm 8:3-4

DID YOU KNOW...

Pastor Jay teaches on the radio right here in Omaha, Lincoln, and the surrounding area every Sunday? Joined by friends Chip Thompson and Jason Eisenman, Pastor is currently teaching through the Gospel of John.

LISTEN AND SHARE!

ETERNALCONNECTIONRADIO.COM

OMAHA: 1490 AM / 660 AM / 94.5 FM COUNCIL BLUFFS: 1420 AM / 106.5 FM LINCOLN: 106.7 FM

PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE UPDATE



JULIE KYRISS
DIRECTOR



ST. MARK
PRESCHOOL
& CHILDCARE

Preschool has started and we have a full house with 81 children enrolled in our Center! Currently we have two 3-year-old classes and two 4-year-old and a Pre-K 5 class. We have 31 families using our before and after school care, this makes for some busy days!

On Saturday, September 24th we will host our first Family Event from 9:00am-11:00am. We will have a bounce house in the gym, a craft station in the Fellowship Hall along with some delicious treats. Members of the Congregation are welcome to drop by to meet and welcome our preschool families.

I would love to have members of the congregation volunteer in our Childcare Center. If you are interested in volunteering, we have several opportunities:

- Taking home items to cut out
- Help bag snacks
- Volunteering in the classroom by reading stories or assisting with art projects
- Assist with our Family Event on September 24th by serving refreshments or helping with the craft
- Help supervise the children during lunch 11:15am -12:00pm a day or two a week

I would like to thank Vicky Hess and Sandy and Louie James for helping cut out art projects, Jeri Boone for helping with arrival, and Mary Patterson for assisting in lunch preparations and supervising the children. We really appreciate your help!

Julie Kyriss

FACILITY & OPERATIONS UPDATE



JASON CONELL
MANAGER



DAREN CLARK
TECHNICIAN

I am happy to be onboard here at St. Mark and thankful for the opportunity. I am hoping to put the talents that I have been given to good use here. My first major project was to create a plan to bring down our janitorial expenses, as they, like all others continue to rise. I am happy to say that we are going to bring all janitorial duties in house. This will save St. Mark a great deal of money that can be used other places. I look forward to finding other opportunities and ways to help us grow.

Jason Conell

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE



KELLY THOMPSON
ADMINISTRATOR



August was a busy month as we welcomed Concordia Academy back on Monday, August 15th. They kicked off their school year with an all-school chapel, and over the last few weeks we have all settled into the old familiar routine once again. We also had the end of our summer childcare program on August 31. One of the last chapels we had this summer was something different as Mr. Daren brought his boat to the church and Mr. Chip taught the children about the story of when "Jesus calms the storm" with the children sitting in the boat.

On September 1st we welcomed all of our new and returning preschool children to the new school year! It is so fun every year to see all of their excited faces coming into the building every morning to learn! And finally, we checked one more item off of the list for the facility with the replacement of the old ice machine! Anyone who had any exposure to the old ice machine over the last few years will know that it was time to find a replacement as we extended it well beyond its expected lifetime.

Kelly

IMPORTANT DATES



Thank you again for all who have taken a tag and contributed to the Operation Christmas Child giving tree and for contributing to the coffee hour fund. We have two important dates for you to put on your calendar:

- **October 12 8AM – 12 Noon:** We will have a workshop in the gathering space to assist with several small tasks - put together pencil cases, sewing kits, fishing kits and jewelry kits. We have toothbrush holders and soap/washcloth combos that need to be filled. Lessons on how to cut t-shirts for the jump-ropes. As you can see nothing too challenging but time-consuming and Helen and I could use a little assistance so please try to give us a little of your time.
- **November 12 9 AM – 3 PM Packing Day:** It usually takes about 3 hours to sort and lay out all of the items that have been donated and then 2-3 hours to 'shop' and fill the shoe boxes. So please put this on your calendar and come to the fellowship hall and give a few hours to help out. Last year due to great response we were done at about 1pm. (Lunch will be provided)

Please continue to take tags and return your purchased items. As usual bring us the t-shirts, no matter the condition to be used for jump-ropes.

Thanks again,
Rhonda Zebolsky and Helen Oldenkamp

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE



LYDIA WOODS
DCE



Earlier this month we finished out our summer Old Testament series with the stories of Ezra and Nehemiah and the return, rebuild, and renewal in Jerusalem following the years of exile.

Since our story included rebuilding the walls and the temple our first group activity was a building one. A picture was broken up into pieces and put onto 16 identical boxes. The kids then worked together using the boxes as blocks to assemble a section of wall to make a picture that showed Nehemiah directing the rebuild of Jerusalem's walls. The kids then reenacted Jericho's walls tumbling down as they knocked over the box wall and built part of the temple with the pictures on the backsides of the boxes which showed Ezra reading the law to the people. They had a lot of fun constructing the two oversized puzzles and had to work together to figure out which side of each box went with each picture since they were not given pictures to work from.

Our other group activity was using color coded handbells to learn the song 'We Are In God's House Today' since the Israelites were able to come together with their reconstructed temple to worship. God is glad to hear us pray. Let us listen to His Word – gladly do what we have heard!

SUNDAY SCHOOL



"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." - Matt. 18:3

On many occasions, Jesus taught His disciples the importance of not only having child-like faith, but also actively ministering to children. "Let the little children come to me!" That's what Jesus said, and He expected His disciples to receive those and minister to those that came to them for Jesus.

SERVE THE LORD & HELP US SERVE HIS LITTLE ONES!

Contact Miss Lydia - lwoods@stmarkomaha.org



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mary/Martha

Wednesday, September 20th @ 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Lydia and Rebekah Circle

Tuesday, September 27th @ 10:00am in the Gathering Space

LWML Joint Circle Meeting

Monday, October 10th @ 11:45am in the Fellowship Hall

NEW EDITION AVAILABLE!

PORTALS of PRAYER

FOR PERSONAL
AND FAMILY DEVOTIONS

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022

INFORMATION KIOSK

MAIN ENTRANCE

Mother's Fellowship

Tuesday, September 20th @ 6:30pm
in the Gathering Space

Contact Caitlyn Baumann caitlyn_bleich@hotmail.com or
Kayla Lawton jameskayla2018@gmail.com for details.

CONNECT ³ **SMALL GROUPS**
CHURCH • CHRIST • COMMUNITY
JOIN A SMALL GROUP TODAY!

SEPTEMBER CURRICULUM

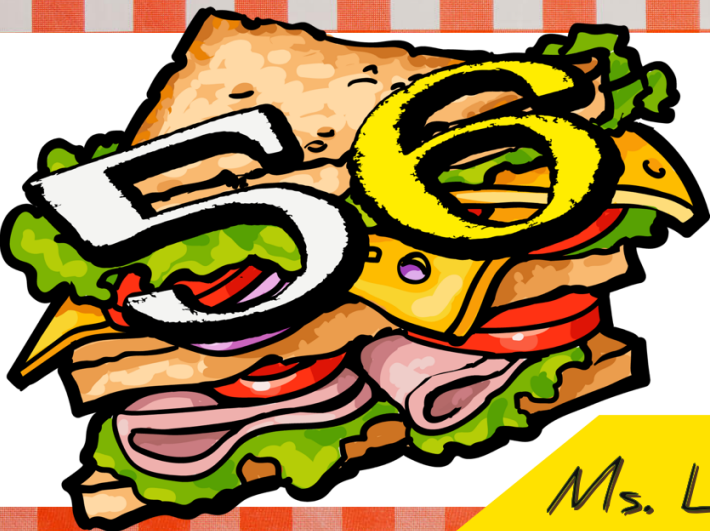
STMARKOMAHA.ORG/CONGREGATIONAL-RESOURCES

CONNECT3@STMARKMOMAHA.ORG <<<<

CLUB 56

5th & 6th Grade
Confirmation Prep Class
1st & 3rd Wednesday @ 6:00pm

Ms. Lydia: lwoods@stmarkomaha.org



YOUTH MINISTRY



HIGH SCHOOL

EVERY SUNDAY 11:30AM

MIDDLE SCHOOL

2ND & 4TH SUNDAY 11:30AM

PROVERBS 3:9

HONOR THE LORD WITH YOUR WEALTH AND
WITH THE FIRSTFRUITS OF ALL YOUR CROPS.



ONLINE GIVING
stmarkomaha.org/giving



Volunteers needed for our immigrant outreach ministry. Conversation partners and teachers needed. English and citizenship classes new semester starts Mondays & Wednesdays @ 5:30pm. Contact Jennifer Henry at impact@stmarkomaha.org



Men of St. Mark
Let's Fellowship in the Word!

Join us on Saturday mornings at 9am in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and studying God's Word together.

We are currently using St. Mark's Radio Ministry, *The Eternal Connection*, as the foundation for our Bible studies. Join us for a great time of brothers sharing with one another in the Word!

If you are not on the email list, contact Jack Swanda at jswanda@cox.net.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September 1

Kellie Rolles

September 2

Joseph Chapman
Brianna Monter
Tammy Vail Blaylock

September 3

Brian Barry
Sandra Gloor
Finnegan Likes

September 4

Adam Chapman
Mark Nicholson

September 5

Marnie Charter
Emily Douglas
Adelynn Suhr
Mariah Watson
Taylor Watson

September 7

Phyllis Austin
Elisa Hutchison
Christopher Isaac
Fred Tague

September 8

John Lawson
Jake Parker
Michael Petri
Harlan Schlueter
Ginny Sholl

September 9

Venzo Crnkovich
Kevin Leu

August 10

Joey Crnkovich
Patrick McGill
Noah Moe

August 11

Lee Ann Caracciolo
Goldie Furgison
Fran Grabbert
Jackie Knight
Chuck Kuntz

September 12

Beverly Sides
Jack Swanda Jr

September 13

Melissa Buman
Daren Clark
Martha Rasmussen
Ah'Treil Simpson
Mitzi Tillwick

September 14

Wendy Oldenburg
Megan Roth

September 15

Dan Conell
Norma Neddermeyer
Matthew Taylor

September 16

Kylie Johnson
Will Kois
Willis Maack

September 18

Lydia Taft

September 19

Stephen Augustyn
Lisa Buchele
Bonnie George
Bonnie Jones
Glenn Meyer
Jaelynn Murphy
Karen Musgjerd
Brenda Neal
Sarah Rygol

September 20

Emily Harper
Ainsley Vargas
Vivienne Vargas

September 21

Richard Hilburn

September 22

Chris Ritsch

September 23

Claire Flynn
Jason Vargas

September 24

Patricia Arnason
Jordyn Ostermeyer
Riley Papera

September 25

Carolyn Howell
Aaron Jank

September 26

Anne Dana
Janet Flemmer
Miranda Iwen
Joslyn Ostermeyer

September 27

Claire Flynn
Jason Vargas

September 28

Nancy Doerr
Elinore Sorenson

September 28

Ella Alberts
Ashlee McCary
Kate Moe
Aubrey Ossenkop
Maureen Petri

September 30

Kayla Robinson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

September 2

Dan & Jane Conell: 39 years
Dale & Melodye Olson: 54 years

September 3

Trevor & Bonnie Jones: 16 years

September 4

Brandon & Lauren Fleharty: 11 years
Charles & Kristen Poster: 1 year
Mike & Cathy Ringler: 29 years

September 5

Chris & Jena Munson: 30 years

September 7

Michael & Valinda Crnkovich: 37 years
Mark & Jessica Vanderloo: 26 years

September 8

Jordan & Lisa Methe: 10 years

September 18

Dale & Judith McPheeters: 4 years

September 19

Korey & Amanda Collins: 2 years

September 20

Jason & Kimberly Liebsack: 25 years

September 26

Nathan & Lori Garabrandt: 7 years

September 30

Raymond & Joscelyne Thompson
16 years

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a request for public prayer, please contact the Church: e-mail Kelly Thompson at kthompson@stmarkomaha.org or call the church and ask for Kelly.



CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Rev. Eric Jay, Senior Pastor
Rev. Eddie Mekasha, Outreach Pastor
Lydia Woods, Director of Children's & Family Ministry
Kelly Thompson, Church Administrator
Jason Conell, Facility & Operations Manager
Daren Clark, Facility Technician
Glenda Bock, Organist
Julie Kyriss, Preschool & Childcare Director

Elders: Doug Doerr, Andy Groothuis, Mike Ringler, Jack Swanda, Greg Zebolsky

Parish Leadership Council: Irv Dana, President; Dan Buman, Vice President ; Mike Munderloh, Treasurer; Jolene Scalzo, Secretary; Lisa Buchele, Mark Cherney, Lisa Hayes, Chuck Kuntz, Andy Rygol



Download Our App

