

**“All who believed were together and had all things in common. Day by day, attending the temple together praising God, the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” - Acts 2:44-47**



**FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK**  
**Greetings St. Mark!**



**StMarkOmaha.org**

Forty-two. That's how many new members have joined our family of faith so far in 2024. The Lord continues to do a mighty work in our midst at St. Mark. I assure you, however, that the Lord desires not just more people at St. Mark, but deeper discipleship as well. He desires us all to grow together as His people. In fact, just before going to the cross to bring us back into fellowship with God, our Lord Jesus prayed for us to be one in fellowship with each other in a significant way. In John 17, Jesus prays for "those who will believe" in the message of the disciples. That means you and me! Here is what Jesus prayed for us: *"That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."*

Simply put: we cannot experience the full love and glory of God in our lives that Jesus died to give us if we neglect to make our fellowship together as disciples a top priority. The challenge to this is not only the frantic nature of our lives - busying ourselves with too many things that distract and pull us away from the most important and eternal matters - but also our tendency to want to privatize our faith. Maybe out of fear, maybe out of selfishness, or maybe out of complacency, many today think it best to keep our faith in Jesus a private matter. This is not, however, what Jesus desires nor what He prayed for!

I would like to share with you the words of author Jen Oshman, taken from her book entitled *Enough About Me*. I think Jen's evaluation of our current Christian culture is accurate, and a large reason why we are seeing such a disturbing decline in the church in America; not just in numbers, but more troublesome, in discipleship. We are declining in large part because we have sought to privatize our faith and our relationship with the Lord. Here is what Jen said in her book:

*I think what we have seen in the church over the last several decades—maybe the last few generations—is a prioritization of our faith being personal. This is good and right. However, as we’ve prioritized that personal relationship, we’ve also privatized it.*

*We’ve said, “Your relationship with the Lord is yours. It’s private. There’s nothing corporate about it. ‘You do you,’ even in your relationship with Jesus.” We’ve turned Scripture into this book full of sayings for me and what the Bible has for me to today; and then we’ve turned the church into a place we go as a consumer of what we want instead of asking the Lord, “God, how can I serve you?” Instead, we say, “God, how can you serve me? How is the church going to serve me? How is the Bible going to serve me? What can I get out of my relationship with the Lord?”*

*That’s not how Scripture is written, and that’s not how the church is meant to function. While the church’s prioritization on us having a personal faith is good, it has gone awry. It’s become counterfeit over time and we’ve made what should be personal into something private. It was never meant to be private.*

Jen’s right, isn’t she? Privatizing our faith so that we can live more like we want to live and not be accountable to God through our accountability to His people will not bring us the joy we are seeking. What will bring us that true joy? The Apostle John said it clearly in 1 John 1:3-4, *“That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.”*

St. Mark’s new Midweek Ministry offers us all the opportunity to experience just that. The chance for us to be complete in the joy of the Lord, to achieve the deep and meaningful Christian relationships we all long for, and that the Lord desires us to have, and that He has promised to work through to bring us the fullness of His love in our lives today. Many members of our church have already been working hard in the background to ensure our Midweek Ministry proves to be an invaluable opportunity to be complete in our joy together and satisfied with food for the body and soul!

Sarah, Lizzy, Jesse, Hezekiah, and I will be there looking forward to the joy of our fellowship together. I pray that you will heed our Lord’s prayer for our unity together in His grace as a church and family of faith.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Pastor Jay

**“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” - Hebrews 10:24-25**



# WEDNESDAY

## MID WEEK

DINNER • KIDS • STUDENTS • ADULTS

5:30pm Dinner • 6:30pm Activities

**CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!**

**BEGINS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND**

**5:30pm DINNER served all night!**

Enjoy quality food and fellowship.

\$5 requested donation per meal.

**6:30pm Fellowship Activities**

Bible-based activities and curriculum for children of all ages.

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation • HS & MS Youth Group.

Adult Bible Study focused on conversation with each other.

**[CLICK HERE FOR ALL MIDWEEK DETAILS](#)**



# 2024 Baptisms



**“Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children.” - Acts 2:38-39**



**SALEM BUCHANAN**



**BENJAMIN BURR**



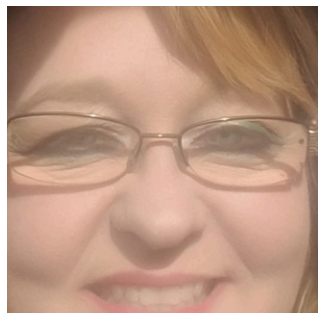
**FELIX CHERNEY**



**THEO CHRISTENSEN**



**KAYLEE COLLINS**



**TRACY FREEMAN**



**MARAJAH HILLARIO**



**MICAH HOPPMAN**



**DANIEL HUGEN**



**MACRINA HUGEN**



**BAYLOR KEILIG**



**SUTTON NATHAN**



**PORTER PFIEFER**



**CELIA TOBEN**

# NEW MEMBERS INSTALLED 2024!



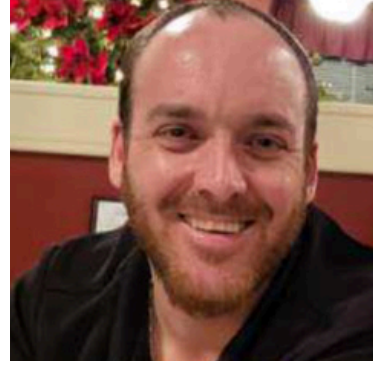
**CINDY BERG**



**THE CHRISTSENS**



**THE DAVIS FAMILY**



**COLIN GRADY**



**MICHAEL HADDEN**



**RUTH HENDERSON**



**THE HITT FAMILY**



**EVAN NEHAUSEN**



**THE PETERSENS**



**SHIRLEY RALEIGH**



**THE TOBENS**



**THE TOSCANOS**



**THE WHEELERS**



**THE WOODS**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

LEARNING THE UNFAILING LOVE OF GOD!

EASTER PUPPET SHOWS!



Blessed  
is the King  
Hosanna  
Yeah!

1:30 2:20 3:45 4:05

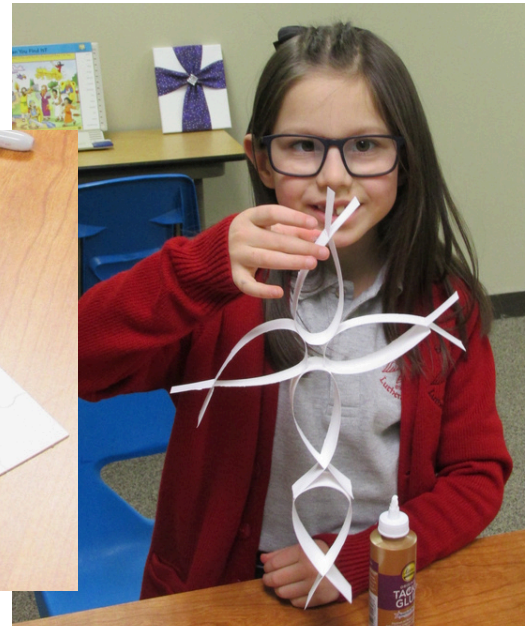


MAKING TIME FOR GOD!

JESUS THE BREAD OF LIFE!



BIBLE STORY PROJECTS!



# VOLUNTEER AS A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER!

"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 and minister to those little ones that came to them for Jesus.

**SERVE THE LORD & HELP US SERVE HIS LITTLE ONES!**

Contact Miss Lydia - [lwoods@stmarkomaha.org](mailto:lwoods@stmarkomaha.org)

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



School Supply Time!  
Some of the most important items we send in every box are school supplies and now is the best time to purchase them so please if you can pick up a few items and return to the red bin. (pens, pencils, crayons, rulers, sharpeners, kid scissors, small notebooks, ruled paper, markers, colored pencils)

**BAND OF BROTHERS**  
**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

**SATURDAYS @ 800AM**  
**IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Email Jack for more info  
[jswanda@cox.net](mailto:jswanda@cox.net)

## Mother's Fellowship

Every other Tuesday @ 6:30pm

Contact Caitlyn:

[cait.baumann@hotmail.com](mailto:cait.baumann@hotmail.com)

**IMPACT**  
Never a Stranger

"You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself."  
Numbers 19:34

**Need Volunteers!**

Please contact Jennifer Henry. [imppact@stmarkomaha.org](mailto:imppact@stmarkomaha.org)

## Can we pray for you?

<https://stmarkomaha.org/prayer-requests/>

or

[prayer@stmarkomaha.org](mailto:prayer@stmarkomaha.org)

(Indicate public, email prayer chain, or both)

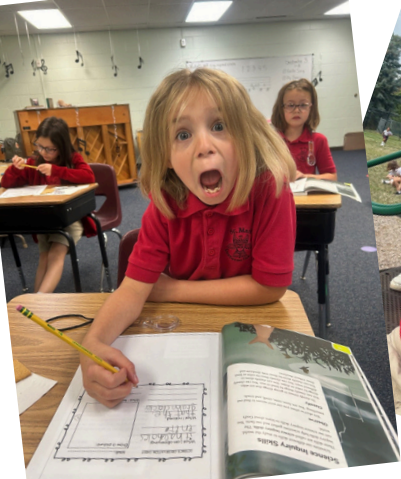
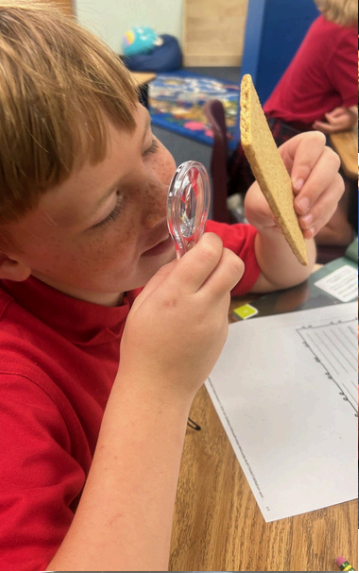
# PRESCHOOL & K5 SCHOOL AT ST. MARK!



St. Mark  
**Seraphs**



ST. MARK  
**PRESCHOOL  
& CHILDCARE**



Generous to Generations

[StMarkOmaha.org/g2g](http://StMarkOmaha.org/g2g)





# The Eternal Connection

Radio Show

**BROADCAST THROUGHOUT NEBRASKA!**

**CLICK HERE FOR LISTING.**

A RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY OF



**LISTEN AND SHARE!**

**[ETERNALCONNECTIONRADIO.COM](http://ETERNALCONNECTIONRADIO.COM)**

**YOUR CHURCH IS ON AIR !**

**Did you know that Pastor Jay teaches on the radio right here in Omaha and all over Nebraska and Council Bluffs every Sunday? Right now Pastor Jay is teaching through the book of:**

Join us each week as we tour the Book of

**JAMES**

If you need **wisdom**, ask our generous God, and **he will give it to you.**

James 1:5a

*Want to maximize your study? Read each chapter ahead, then listen!*

**[LISTEN ON THE ST. MARK MOBILE APP - CLICK HERE!](#)**



## **WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES**

**Saturday 5pm (Traditional)**

**Sunday 9:15 Adult Bible Study**  
(Childcare and Sunday School Available)

**Sunday 10:30am (Blended)**



Download Our App

Available on the  
**App Store**

GET IT ON  
**Google Play**

- Sermon Archives
- Daily Devotionals
- Radio Show Episodes
- Spirit Newsletter
  - Latest News
- Ways to Connect

# Get Involved in the Many Ministries at St Mark!



- Men's Fellowship/Study
- Women's Fellowship/Study
- Connect 3 Small Groups
- IMMPACT Immigrant Ministry
- Youth Ministries
- Children's Ministry
- Vacation Bible School
- Preschool & Childcare

Contact the church office!

## *"Follow Me" ~ Jesus*

**Here are the ways you can get involved in your Lord's work at St. Mark.**

**Worship Music & Tech:** From playing an instrument or singing, to helping with the on-screen media and sound. All experience levels welcome.

**Ushering:** Help Pastor prepare and execute worship service logistics and be a smiling face to welcome folks to worship.

**Sunday School Teachers:** As young families continue to join St. Mark, we really need help with our 9:15am and 10:30am Sunday School classes. We do all the prep and provide all materials. An easy and impactful way to serve the Lord.

**IMMPACT:** Serve the immigrants and refugees among us by simply having conversations in English with them as part of our IMMPACT Immigrant Ministry citizenship and English classes.

**Musicians Needed!** We are always looking for more talented musicians to help us glorify God through excellent and reverent worship. Contemporary band, traditional choir, handbells, it's all here!

**EMAIL [CONTACT@STMARKOMAHA.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@STMARKOMAHA.ORG) TO SERVE!**

# CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Rev. Eric Jay, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Glenn Meyer, Associate Pastor  
Lydia Woods, DCE  
Julie Kyriss, Preschool & Childcare Director

Beth Kelly, Church Administrator  
Jason Conell, Facility & Operations Manager  
Daren Clark, Facility Technician  
Glenda Bock, Organist



ST. MARK  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Connecting People to **Jesus**

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

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



# ST. MARK

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Connecting People to **Jesus**