

# The Lion's Roar

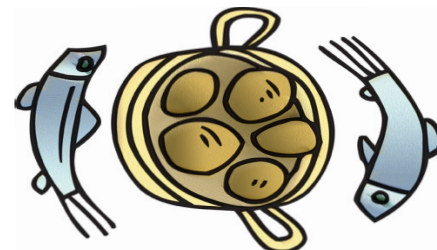


News about the ministry of St Mark Lutheran Church – Yorktown, VA

Vol. MMXVII, Issue 8

August 2017

**“...We knelt down on the beach and prayed.”  
—Acts of the Apostles 21:5b**



## Pastor's Corner



**Y**ou never know what you're gonna find washed up on the beach. This time it was the apostle Paul, falling on his knees and worshipping the Lord—bidding farewell to his former travelling companions and getting ready for the toughest face-to-face meeting he'd had since Jesus blitzed him off his horse outside Damascus. Remember that? It was just after Paul played coat-check at a party organized to stone Stephen, one of a band of seven evangelical brothers in Jerusalem. Paul had wanted to extend his terror to Syria, but the Lord Jesus changed his heart and his course. Paul—like the evangelical brothers he'd chased—was now chased across the Mediterranean himself in hopes of building the church he once tried to destroy. Imagine the reputation he had to overcome time and again.

But now Paul was back in Syria, on his way back toward Jerusalem. He knelt on the beach and prayed with his friends, maybe for strength. He'd need a lot of strength for where he was going: down the coast to a Roman seaside resort just

west of Jerusalem. Paul was headed to Ceasarea...to the home of Philip, one of the martyred Stephen's remaining band of brothers. Philip lived in Caesarea with his four young daughters: what would he do when his brother's executioner arrived at his door? Well, you never know what you're gonna find washed up on the beach...and this time, it was mercy. Mercy and welcome. Welcome and hospitality. Hospitality and grace.

How could a faith they now shared stand against a history as pained as theirs? How could peace live where hate had raged? And yet...wow. God knows all the details of those few days Paul spent with Philip and his family, but I bet more than once they knelt down on the beach and prayed.

Summer's here. Beaches are open—and by God let's keep our doors and arms and hearts and eyes open too: we never know what we'll find washing up.

*In Jesus' unquenchable peace,  
Pastor Joel*

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### Friends to Members

New & Old Friends of St Mark who desire to join as members will gather throughout September and be publicly received during worship on Sunday, September 24. While the full life and ministry of the congregation is open to all -- and our place in Christ's church is established in holy baptism -- we are also committed to one other as members

of this congregation. A new members' group will meet for one hour, Tuesday nights at 7 PM: September 5, 12, 19 (please contact Pastor Joel with scheduling questions). Walk-ins are welcome, but RSVPs are appreciated: please contact the office (757-898-4395 or churchcomm@smlconline.org) for us to be prepared to welcome you!



### Adult Evening VBS

As we mark this year of anniversaries, we are welcomed locally to take part in conversations that began globally this past May as the Lutheran World Federation gathered in our twelfth assembly in Windhoek, Namibia, southwestern Africa. We will receive from and speak back into conversations centered on the mail theme of this assembly - The Reformation banner that we're Liberated by God's Grace - along with conversations on the sub-themes proclaiming neither Salvation nor Human Beings nor Creation are for sale where God's Grace is liberating!

8:30 PM in the Library to hear from our global communion and to offer your witness alongside sisters and brothers worldwide. Please note: while each theme is tied to the others, these will be free-standing conversations. Join us for all or part of our series of conversation. Each evening will begin with a brief anecdote from the Assembly, followed by conversation based on an essay and a Bible study from the Assembly. Links will be provided for collections of essays under each theme: please read the appointed essay and Bible study for our discussions (and we will gladly offer them in hard copy form for those who don't feel comfortable using the links).

Join us **Monday, August 21 through Thursday, August 24 from 7:00 -**

# CONTACT US

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### Updates

Please contact our new Communications Facilitator, Megan Crummitt, with any updates for the website, social media sites (Facebook or Twitter), tv, kiosk, and address/email/phone number changes. Feel free to email or call using the information from above. If you haven't, make sure to like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, subscribe to our Youtube channel and connect to our Flickr account. All of which you can find from our Website!



### PJ's Faith Fable: The Great Blue Heron and the Bullfrog

The great blue heron swam out into the pond where a little bullfrog pollywog was learning how to swim. The pollywog followed the heron and learned how to swim left and right and fast and slow. And when the heron reached the shallow water and began to wade, the pollywog cried, "Teach me how to wade!" "First grow legs," said the heron, "and I'll teach you how to wade."

So the bullfrog pollywog waited to grow. Finally two strong hind legs grew close to the pollywog's tail. And the great blue heron taught the pollywog how to move its legs, first the left leg and then the right leg, step after step through the shallow water. And when the heron climbed out of the water onto the bank, the pollywog cried, "Teach me how to climb!" "First grow arms," said the heron, "and I'll teach you how to climb."

So the bullfrog pollywog waited to grow. Finally two strong arms grew to close to the pollywog's chest. And the great blue heron taught the pollywog how to climb, reaching left and reaching right, arms and legs climbing onto the bank.

And when the heron hopped over the muddy bank, the pollywog cried, "Teach me how to hop!" "First lose your tail," said the heron, "and I'll teach you how to hop."

So the bullfrog pollywog waited to grow. Finally its tail disappeared and the pollywog was a grown-up bullfrog. And the great blue heron taught the bullfrog how to hop, left and right and near and far. And when the heron was done hopping and opened its wings to fly, the bullfrog cried, "Teach me how to fly!" "You can't grow wings," said the heron, "so I cannot teach you how to fly."

"Teach me to fly! Teach me to fly!" croaked the

bullfrog. "If you really want to fly," said the heron, "hop in my beak and you can fly with me." So the bullfrog hopped in the great blue heron's beak and the heron flew away.

*"Blessed is the lion that the human will eat,  
so that the lion becomes human."*

—ANCIENT SAYING ATTRIBUTED TO JESUS  
OUTSIDE THE NEW TESTAMENT



## Financial Snapshot for June

	June 2017 Actual	June 17 Budget	Difference		2017 YTD Actual	2017 YTD Budget	Difference
Income	\$38,530	\$45,224	(\$6,694)		\$209,620	\$226,120	(\$16,500)
Expenses	\$42,417	\$45,224	(\$2,807)		\$215,060	\$226,120	(\$11,060)
Difference	(\$3,887)	\$0	(\$3,887)		(\$5,440)	\$0	(\$5,440)

- Income for June was below our budget by \$6,694.
- Expenses for June were below our budget by \$2,807.
- There was a budget deficit of \$3,887 for the month of June, increasing the year-to-date deficit to \$5,440.
- The year-to-date deficit for the same period last year was \$13,254.

### Stewardship for the month of August

8AM Holy Communion    **Aug. 6**    11AM Holy Communion    8AM Holy Communion    **Aug. 13**    11AM Holy Communion

	<b>Acolytes</b>	
	<b>Communion</b>	
Wilner Nelson	<b>Lector</b>	
Tom/Tammy Williams	<b>Tellers</b>	Tom/Tammy Williams
Laura/Wil Nelson	<b>Sacristy</b>	

	<b>Acolytes</b>	
Judy Theodosakis	<b>Communion</b>	
Judy Theodosakis	<b>Lector</b>	Marty Leschinger
Monte/Audrey Correll	<b>Tellers</b>	Monte/Audrey Correll
Laura/Wil Nelson	<b>Sacristy</b>	

**Communion Elements:** Jerry & Betty Hefner, in memory of mother Martha Hefner and Eunice Meredith.

**Flowers:** Mike & Elaine Pierson, in memory of Kristian Michael Pierson and his grandfather Dr. Michael Sabia.

**Communion Elements:** Pat & Dan Silvis in honor of Diana & Kevin Lee's 22nd Anniversary.

8AM Holy Communion    **Aug. 20**    11AM Holy Communion    8AM Holy Communion    **Aug. 27**    11AM Holy Communion

	<b>Acolytes</b>	Charisse Becraft
	<b>Communion</b>	
Gary Williams	<b>Lector</b>	Dan Silvis
Dan/Pat Silvis	<b>Tellers</b>	Dan/Pat Silvis
Laura/Wil Nelson	<b>Sacristy</b>	

	<b>Acolytes</b>	
	<b>Communion</b>	
	<b>Lector</b>	Louise Schneck
Gail Teigeler/Charles Rossi	<b>Tellers</b>	Gail Teigeler/Charles Rossi
Laura/Wil Nelson	<b>Sacristy</b>	

**Flowers:** Ray & Nancy Bowden, in celebration of their anniversary.

If you would like to participate in Worship as a Lector, Acolyte, Communion Assistant, Sacristy Duty, or Usher, please sign up on the Narthex Kiosk or contact Megan Crummitt at the church office: 898-4395.

## Announcements

**Thank you** volunteers for your service preparing and serving lunch to 32 individuals July 1 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. We will be serving lunch again September 16. Watch for the announcement in the Mark if you wish to volunteer.

**At the June 25, 2017** congregational meeting a motion was passed that directed the Church Council to establish an Associate Pastor Call Committee. On August 27, 2017 Pastor Chris Price, Assistant to Bishop James Mauney, will meet with members of the call committee in the sanctuary at 12:30 PM. Interested members of the congregation are invited to attend this presentation to meet the members of the call committee, learn about the process, and with the call committee ask questions of clarification about the the road ahead.

**Mark your calendar for the BIG DAY!** The St Mark commons will again be magically transformed into a lively holiday marketplace featuring freshly baked goodies, and local craftspersons with gift ideas galore for your shopping adventure! This year we are looking for even more talented people with interesting items to show and sell. If you would like to be a vendor, or know of someone whose

handiwork deserves a forum for sales, please contact Sandy Hopkins via email at: [santeech@aol.com](mailto:santeech@aol.com) or phone at 898-7351. Contracts for booth spaces are being prepared now and space is limited so time is of the essence! There are plans for some exciting surprises at this year's holiday bazaar – stay tuned for further announcements! The date is Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

**Quarterly Statements** were sent out in July. If you have not received your quarterly giving statement, please contact the office and we will work on getting your statement out to you. We'd like to send them electronically when possible.

### THANK YOU:

THANK YOU Margaret Seymour, and Agnes & Tony Leach for helping to get the newsletter folded and out in the mail.

THANK YOU Carlton Hardy for bringing us Thomas Pandolfi, for a wonderful concert for the Sine Nomine Series.

THANK YOU Billy & Barbara Pettigrew, Shirley Krause, Monte Correll, Virgil King and Nancy Wagner for watering plants inside and outside and for maintaining our lawn.

THANK YOU Bill Valvo for our your continued technology support.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### August Birthdays

1 Brenna Behel	20 Susan Doherty
1 Bob Johnson	21 Carl Jensen
2 Eric Walker	21 Charlotte Tyeryar
4 Dunlen Francis	22 Austin Tunstall
4 Darlena Gary	24 David Knoll
5 David Francis	24 Audrey Moore
5 Stephani Roe	24 Kristen Southmayd
7 Lemuel Meetze	24 Leda Zaginaylo
7 Faye Waller	25 John Gordon
8 Erin Marchlewski	25 Kelly Stevans
8 Nancy Wagner	26 Terri Gordon
9 James Raha	26 Trace Haskin
9 Margaret Seymour	27 Sue Peters
10 Hannah Robinson	27 Susan Vermeire
16 Wilner Nelson	29 Dot Harcum
17 Linda McIntire	29 Tony Leach
18 Lynn Forrest	31 Keith Moser
18 Arthur Pedersen	31 Karen Schrader
19 Lauren Cummings	

### August Anniversaries

2 Bob & Sharon Johnson
6 Charles & June Rossi
7 Nancy & Steve Harvin
8 David & Teresa Haskin
11 Nick & Trish Marickovich
12 Laura & Wilner Nelson
12 Bill & Pat Valvo
18 Louise & Gregory Schneck
22 Nancy & Ray Bowden
25 Matt & Michelle Creelman
26 Barbara & Bill Pettigrew
30 Jim & Susan Doherty

*Congratulations*

## Crisis at the Refugio in Quito Ecuador

The Refugio de Los Suenos in Quito, Ecuador has survived many crisis. God has always watched over his children and guided us to do the right thing for his children. Once again we need your prayers and support. This past rainy season brought exceptional amounts of damaging rainfall. Unfortunately, the rains also brought a surprising discovery when sink holes began to appear in the Refugio.

The Quito Rotary Club has hired an engineer to evaluate the damage, come up with a plan to repair the damage, and give an estimate of the cost for the repair. At present the cost is being placed in the hands of the Toctiuco Municipal Government and surrounding neighbors.

The results of the Engineer's initial inspection has revealed that for the last 30 plus years a total of 8 neighboring houses have simply run all of their drainage and sewage down under the Refugio (which originally was a garbage dump). It has now become like mud (for lack of a better word) with parts of it washing away with the heavy rains.

The neighbors have been notified by the city government that they must put in drain pipes, but the fact still remains that the holes/tunnels must then be dried out and filled in. Some of these tunnels are approximately 2 feet wide and 9 feet deep. In short, we need lots and lots of prayers to make it through this challenging crisis.

For the time being we are very concerned about the children's safety so we have closed the Refugio for playtime. Our biggest concern after their safety was making sure they

still had something to eat. Without the Refugio many of them would starve. The ladies are preparing the same meals (minus the soup) and placing them in paper containers. The children come to the door between 1:00 – 3:00 and are given their container of food. They then sit on the sidewalk beside the Refugio and eat their lunch.

The staff continues to work with the children. Instead of the children coming to them they are now visiting the children at their homes. They are also presently giving out uniforms,

shoes and school supplies in preparation for the new school year. Our hope is that the repairs can be made in a timely manner. Contingency plans are presently being worked on to ensure the safety and care of the children during these repairs.

We have made it through many difficult times in the past and God has always continued to take care of his children through those who do His Work. Thank you on behalf of the Refugio for your dedication and prayers. Que Dios les bendiga mucho



## August Calendar

(Events and meetings are subject to change. Please check our online calendar: [smlconline.org](http://smlconline.org) for updates).

**EVERY SUNDAY (Unless otherwise noted):**

**Worship with Holy Communion: Sanctuary, 8:00 AM**

**Cafe St Mark Coffee and Pastries: Narthex, 9:00 AM**

**Worship with Holy Communion: Chapel, 9:30 AM**

**Worship with Holy Communion: Sanctuary, 11:00 AM**

Date	Day	Event	Time	Place
1	Tues.	Clergy Cluster	12:00 PM	Offsite
1	Tues.	VBS	5:30 PM	Whole Church
2	Wed.	VBS	5:30 PM	Whole Church
3	Thurs.	VBS	5:30 PM	Whole Church
4	Fri.	VBS	5:30 PM	Whole Church
7	Mon.	GPS Bible Study	1:00 PM	Library
7	Mon.	Call Committe Meeting (Closed group)	7:00 PM	Offsite
8	Tues.	Office Staff Meeting	2:00 PM	Office
10	Thurs.	Ecuadorian Committee	6:30 PM	Room 216
13	Sun.	Council Meeting	12:30 PM	Library
13	Sun.	Second Sunday Home Communion	12:30 PM	Offsite
14	Mon.	GPS Bible Study	1:00 PM	Library
21	Mon.	GPS Bible Study	1:00 PM	Library
21	Mon.	Adult Evening VBS	7:00 PM	Library/216
22	Tues.	Adult Evening VBS	7:00 PM	Library/216
23	Wed.	Adult Evening VBS	7:00 PM	Library/216
24	Thurs.	Adult Evening VBS	7:00 PM	Library/216
27	Sun.	Assoc. Pastor Call Info. Session w/ Pastor Price	12:30 PM	Sanctuary
28	Mon.	GPS Bible Study	1:00 PM	Library



**Instillation of New Virginia Synod Bishop  
September 9, 2017 at 1:00 PM**

at

**First Presbyterian Church  
W 11th Street and S Wayne Ave.  
Waynesboro, VA 22980**

A reception will follow the service at Main Street United Methodist Church,  
601 W Main Street, Waynesboro, VA 22980 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM

The Rev. Robert F. Humphrey, Harrisonburg, Virginia, was elected June 11  
to a six-year term as bishop of the Virginia Synod of the ELCA. The  
election was held during the Synod Assembly June 9-11 at  
Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia.

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