

August 2, 2026

St Mark Lutheran Church, Yorktown
Weekly News and Prayer Concerns



Lunch & Learn at PPCC on Tuesday, August 18: Bring your lunch and join Pastor Joel and others to grow in our understanding of change (and in our skills for managing it!) at Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center's *Lunch & Learn* workshop on Aug 18. This is a free opportunity to learn and improve resiliency in ourselves and our community. Each month, PPCC's *Lunch & Learn* workshops run from noon to 1pm and are conducted at PPCC's main office at 707 Gum Rock Court in Newport News. Talk with Pastor Joel or see the kiosk to reserve your seat for this August opportunity!

"Therefore let us keep the feast!" In April 2026, ecumenical bodies around the world adopted a new feast for our liturgical year, accepting the invitation of Eastern Orthodox leader's to share their long-standing Festival of Creation in Christ, marked each year on September 1 (*or observed on a close Sunday*). Both our Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches have adopted this feast, alongside Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Coptic, Evangelical, Mennonite, Methodist, Pentecostal, Reformed and Salvation Army Christian bodies. This is our first newly-added feast since Christ the King was instituted a century ago—and we look forward to this new feast as we'll celebrate it for the first time on Sunday, September 6!

Joyful Generosity (Pink Envelopes): Our Joyful Generosity (pink envelopes) this month aides GraceInside. GraceInside is Virginia's prison chaplain service provider. Chaplains serving in Virginia's prisons are licensed or ordained ministers from various denominations who receive specialized training for this unique ministry setting. Chaplaincy in prison includes one-on-one pastoral care, leading worship services, coordinating volunteers, supporting correctional staff, and additional ministry to serve God's command for us to "remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison" (Hebrews 13:3a). + + + Our generosity in July raised \$960 to support Lutheran Disaster Response, which has been "on the ground, working through trusted partners including the Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela ... assessing urgent needs and providing immediate relief ... (after) two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela. *Thank you!*

Red Cross Blood Drive: Join us for our next blood drive this Tuesday August 4 from 12noon-5pm. Schedule an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org and searching St Mark, but walk-ins are always welcome. The heat is on to find lifesaving donors! Come to give blood and get a \$20 Amazon gift card by email!

The Virginia Synod is excited to announce that the Virginia Synod Council has called our local neighbor, Pastor Tina Toburen — most recently serving Trinity Lutheran Church, Newport News, as our new Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, following the retirement of Pastor Dave Delaney (whose first call had been here with St Mark). Pastor Tina will begin serving our synod on August 1, 2026.

Join the Summer Choir! Have you ever wanted to sing in the choir but can't make the weekly commitment? Our summer choir will meet on Sunday mornings starting August 2 through August 30. We will start rehearsing at 8:30 am for the 9 am service and at 10:30 am for the 11 am service. A simple anthem will be prepared. Music-reading ability is not required but is helpful. No robe is required.

Please remember these recent St Mark prayer requests (Prayer requests will generally be listed for 2 weeks. Please re-add names after 2 weeks, if needed):

Members in our Prayers

Healing & Strength: Lin Hines, Sharon Johnson, Amy Page, Tom Rector, Fred Stanley
Peace & Comfort: Peggy Anderson, Brenda Stabler

Friends and Family in our Prayers

Healing & Strength: Audrey, Barbara, Bev, Brenda, Debra, Dylan, Gail, Jack, Jamie, Jenny, Jess, Lindsey, Mary, Neil, Terri, Trina, Walt
Peace: Jay, Jennifer
ELCA clergy ordained from St Mark: Andy, Christine, Laura, Shannon, Suzanne, Travis
Eternal Rest: Connie, Matthew, Norman, Rev Dr Patricia

Fertility and Family Growth

Andy & Caroline;
Matt & Martha;
Stephen & Lauren

Congregations in our Prayers

Living Water, Kilmarnock;
St Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church;
United Methodist Church;
St Mark's Lutheran Church, Springfield (Metro DC Synod)

Calendar at a Glance:

St Mark Office Support: M-F, 10am-3pm
Please call 757-898-4395 to make an appointment!

Sunday 8/2

8:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Eucharist Worship Service
Coffee Hour between services
10:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal
11:00am Eucharist Worship Service

Monday 8/3

10:30am Stitching with Friends (*Conference Room*)
1:00pm GPS Bible Study

Tuesday 8/4

9:00am Garden Stewards
12:00-5:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive
4:00pm Ecuador Meeting

Wednesday 8/5

8:30am Spirit Walkers (*Yorktown Beach*)

Thursday 8/6

9:00am Garden Stewards

Friday 8/7

No Scheduled Events

Saturday 8/8

No Scheduled Events

Sunday 8/9

8:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Eucharist Worship Service
Coffee Hour between services
10:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal
11:00am Eucharist Worship Service
12:30pm Council Meeting

August 9, 2026

*Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33*

Women of Faith Bible Study: Ladies, please join us this fall for a study on Ten Women of the Bible by Max Lucado. Find out how God enabled ten women to do his will and influence everyone in their world. How does he work in our lives today to help us be the best people we can be? We will meet on Mondays from 9:30-11 a.m. at the church beginning on September 14. Questions? Contact Anne Baumgartner 757-660-6166 or anneb2000@cox.net. Study book available on Amazon.

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