

August 23, 2026

St Mark Lutheran Church, Yorktown
Weekly News and Prayer Concerns



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Loving God in Trinity: As Pastor Tina Toburen succeeds the Rev Dave Delaney (a former pastor of St Mark) as our synod’s Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Pastor Joel will temporarily serve as vice pastor to Trinity Lutheran Church, Newport News. Pastor Joel will meet monthly with their council and offer emergency pastoral care (*such as ministry at the end of life & presiding at funerals*), maintaining a primary role for the pastoral ministry of St Mark. Trinity rests in our prayers ’til an interim pastor joins them as soon as faithfully possible.

The ceiling is telling the glory of God and we thank Tom Auth, Monte Correll, Duane Melson, Fred Sommer (and all other helpful hands!) for so efficiently rebuilding the preschool hallway ceiling and walls as of our preschool year approaches!

Midweek Worship Returns to our Chapel of All Saints at noon on Tuesday, September 1. About once a month from now ’til Pentecost, we gather for a simple divine service of Holy Communion during weekday work hours — *often for the feast days of Christ & the saints* — in our small chapel here at St Mark dedicated to All Saints, many of whom rest in its columbarium.

Book of Esther “For a Time Like This” — On September 2 our weekly Wednesday morning Bible study resumes at 11am with Pastor Joel. We’ll be exploring the Book of Esther, both its ancient Hebrew and Greek perspectives, which is a story of God’s protection of beloved vulnerable people from deception and attack. No previous knowledge is needed; all are welcome, together in our St Mark conference room and/or via Zoom.

“Creation in Christ” is a new inter-denominational feast on our liturgical calendar, introduced from Eastern Orthodoxy. This Labor Day weekend we’ll celebrate God’s “labor & delivery” of all creation! Simple bouquets from our yards are welcome to embellish the altar with the *Creation* we are *in Christ!*

Confirming Connections, our instruction in God’s Word and our Lutheran witness, resumes Sept–May for students in grades 6-8 (other ages, talk with PJ). Confirmands and families, watch for details—and if you think you might not be on our contact list, please let the office know (757-898-4395)!

Tables of Eight for 2026-2027: A season of friend-making, memory-making, and food delights. Meals may take place in homes, in restaurants, or in a park, and may be a dessert event or a brunch. Dates and times will be determined by each group. Sign up on the kiosk today!

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...with Handbells! Come, find the joy of ringing, striking, shaking, thumping, plucking and counting bells! Reading music is not a prerequisite; but counting to 4 is (and sometimes we do fractions). We always look to welcome new ringers. We have an immediate opening for a long-term sub to ring with us until mid-November. We rehearse Thursday evenings from 6-7:00; we ring to God’s glory about once a month during worship. First rehearsal is Sept 10. Questions? Call Gail Teigeler: 757-810-5691

SMLC: Supports Making Life Creative! In the coming weeks, be on the lookout for Pastor Joel to invite leaders of our many artistic/creative ministries to coordinate how we can amplify and showcase the broad creative ministries we foster at SMLC!

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, Timmy Holden, Sharon Johnson, Amy Page, Tom Rector, Fred Stanley
Peace & Comfort: Peggy Anderson, Brenda Stabler

Friends and Family in our Prayers

Healing & Strength: Barbara, Bev, Carole, Charlotte, Daniela, Debra, Jack, Jamie, Jennifer, Jenny, Jess, Lindsey, Mary, Nancy, Rosalyn, Sarah, Sheila, Terrel, Terri, Trina, Valentina
ELCA clergy ordained from St Mark: Andy, Christine, Laura, Shannon, Suzanne, Travis
Eternal Rest: Fern, Mary

Fertility and Family Growth

Andy & Caroline;
Matt & Martha;
Stephen & Lauren

Congregations in our Prayers

Trinity Lutheran Church in Newport News along with:
Apostles, Gloucester;
Zion Prospect Baptist Church;
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada;
St Mark's Lutheran Church, Roanoke

Calendar at a Glance:

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

Sunday 8/23

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 8/24

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

Tuesday 8/25

9:00am Garden Stewards

Wednesday 8/26

8:30am Spirit Walkers (*Yorktown Beach*)
6:00pm Pack 595 Open House

Thursday 8/27

9:00am Garden Stewards
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 8/28

No Scheduled Events

Saturday 8/29

No Scheduled Events

Sunday 8/30

8:30am Summer Choir Rehearsal
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August 30, 2026

*Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b;
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28*

Mark the Date:

Chapel Service & 1st Day of St Mark Lutheran Preschool
Tuesday, September 1

Upcoming Lion’s Roar—Seasonal Newsletter
Send articles, photos or news to share to Amanda by Sept 4

Feast of Creation in Christ
Sunday, September 6 (your flowers are welcome!)

Confirming Connections, 6-8 Graders
Sunday, September 27 (12:15-1:30pm, bring a lunch!)

OktoberFest
Sunday, October 4 (side dishes & desserts are welcome!)

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