

# The Parish Voice

November 2016

Floyd Willis  
Lutheran Parish

## November

### Calendar

- 3-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 10-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 13-Sunday, after service, St. Mark Council
- 17-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 19-Saturday, 3:00 pm Thanksgiving Meal at St. Mark
- 24-Thursday, Thanksgiving Day
- 27—First Sunday of Advent

## From the Pastor



*Dear Friends in Christ,*

This is the time of year when our congregations prepare a budget for our 2017 ministries. By sharing our God-given time, talents and financial resources with our churches, we are participating in God's work in our communities and around the world. When we make a financial contribution to our congregations, a percentage of that gift is shared with the wider church – with the Virginia Synod and the ELCA. Each year, during budget season, our congregations pledge to send a portion of the offerings we receive to fund ELCA ministries in our synod and beyond. This is called Mission Support; it shows who we are as church together and is essential to who we are as the ELCA.

Mission Support provides 80 percent of the resources to enable the ELCA to begin new ministries and accompany existing congregations as growing centers for evangelical mission. These funds also provide the staff and resources for the development of new leaders, partnership with churches around the globe, alleviating poverty, working for justice and peace, and so much more.

In 2015, ELCA members gave \$1.75 billion in unrestricted offerings to support God's mission and ministries through the three expressions of the ELCA. 94.3% of those offerings were used for congregational ministries. \$50.8 million was stewarded by the ELCA's 65 synods and \$47.1 million went to the ministries of the ELCA churchwide organization. To see a nifty graphic of where how our churchwide organization uses its portion of our giving, go to [http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA\\_Where\\_Your\\_Offering\\_Goes.pdf?\\_ga=1.105381254.467828304.1403534893](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA_Where_Your_Offering_Goes.pdf?_ga=1.105381254.467828304.1403534893)

In a few weeks, the St. Mark and Zion councils, along with the joint council, will recommend budgets for 2017. Take a close look at those budgets and see how your contributions support the work of our parish, both here and beyond. Consider how your time and energy might be offered to the ministries of our parish as well. Our financial generosity enables us to do God's work in ways that no individual, congregation or synod can do alone. Thank you for all you do to make our ministries happen.

**Thanks to all that God gives us,  
we are church together for the sake of the world!**

*In Christ, Pastor Linda*



## Thanksgiving Meal At St. Mark

Invite your friends and  
neighbors and enjoy the  
fellowship of gathering  
together in gratitude

Saturday, November 19th  
3:00 pm

### Happy Birthday

1—Woody Farley  
4—Jakeob Farley  
4—Tyson LeRoy  
7—Benny Willards  
13—George Anderson  
14—Bill Gardner  
17—Paul Hill

### Happy Anniversary

15—Lorraine and John Dunn  
15—Vickie and Joe Sowers  
24—June and Rick Syx  
26—Judy and Harry Hill



*We need prayer shawls to give .*

*Let us know if you can make one.*



"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."- Psalm 46:1

Hurricane Matthew, one of the most powerful Atlantic hurricanes in years, has caused heavy rain, dangerous winds, landslides and flooding from Haiti to North Carolina. Together, we will work with congregations, synods, trusted partners and companion churches in the area that know the communities well and will walk with people on the road to recovery.

Gifts designated for "Hurricane Matthew" will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those affected by this hurricane until the response is complete.

Because of your generous offerings of prayer and financial support, the ELCA walks alongside disaster survivors. Thank you!

### Council Members

#### St. Mark

Jean Harmon  
Laura LeRoy  
Billy Motley, President  
Beth Smith  
Vickie Sowers

#### Zion

BJ Bauermeister  
Michael Daiber  
Bill Gardner, President  
Marty Holliday  
Jack Wall  
Tom King  
Marjorie Wells

#### Joint Council

Vickie Sowers,  
President

### Oak Grove Benefit- Carter Holliday

The Benefit went very well. We had 3 young ladies who all played guitar and sang very good. Some of the songs were written by the students, themselves adding a person touch. The main show was Scott Perry and Shades of Blue. The Shades of Blue are young men, students of Scott's for a number of years. It was amazing to see,listen and hear how much the learned and improved in their playing ability. It was a beautiful fall day and the BBQ and fix in's were good and the collection totaled \$1006.00 which will be split 50/50. Vet's of Floyd gave a specific \$1000.00 dollars to Christmas for Children,

Oak Grove Pavilion would like to thank Scott Perry School of Music for putting the show together. And thank all of the supporters of the Benefit from the public and Zion Church family



### Run-Walk 500 Miles for Martin Luther

Among the many Reformation anniversary events planned next year is the 500 Years of Reformation, 500 mile Challenge by New River Valley Lutherans. They are challenged to commit to walk, run, bike or swim 500 miles between Oct. 31, 2016 and Oct. 31, 2017!

**Let Pastor Motley know if you would like to participate**

### Family and Patient Support Volunteers Needed

We have a need for both men and women (18 years of age or older) in the New River Valley who are willing to offer a caring heart to help people in the final stages of a life-limiting illness. Volunteers offer companionship, respite, may run errands or do simple chores. No previous experience required.

**Volunteer Training Schedule:** Classes 4 pm—7 pm on Wednesdays November 2, 9, 16 and 30

**Pre-Registration Required:** Call or e-mail Deborah Lovelace to request a registration form or to find out more about our volunteer program. 540.381.3171 dlovelace@goodsamhospice.org You must be available and committed to attend all four sessions.

**Training will be held at** Good Samaritan Hospice office 1160 Moose Drive Christiansburg, VA 24073

Training includes speakers from various Good Samaritan Hospice departments that constitutes the team that provides hospice care for our patients.

### Growley is Lutheran Ambassador at Va Tech

Growley II, a Lutheran dog from Botetourt County, is the new ambassador for the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. He was billed as an instant success in the Virginia Tech-Boston College football game. Originally named Tank, the 3-year-old yellow Labrador Retriever came from the Troutville Kennel of Sybille and Mark Nelson, members of St. Philip, Roanoke. In his short life, Growley/Tank served as a St. Francis Service Dog at the Bland Correctional Farm and then was trained as a registered Pet therapy dog, serving with Witnessing Paws Ministry and the Pet Pals program at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He also visited children at the Minnick School. His new name comes from a custom of calling breakfast "growley."



Soon after he arrived in Blacksburg, Growley was promoted to brigadier general, becoming the highest ranking cadet, receiving salutes from first-year cadets. Zack Sever, a Tech senior and Growley's handler, said he hopes the dog will become a symbol for the Corps that will connect cadets and others for generations to come. "He brightens up people's days." Virginia Tech President Tim Sands told The Roanoke Times, "I look forward to welcoming Tank to campus as yet another symbol that links us to our long and proud heritage of service." People who see him on campus stop for pats.

Legend holds that a Corps commandant had a dog named Growley in the 1930s when food was scarce and cadets shared their breakfasts with him. Junior and senior handlers are in line to succeed Sever after he graduates.

- from the Virginia Lutheran

## Floyd Willis Lutheran Parish

PO Box 37  
Floyd, Virginia 24091  
Phone: 540.745.2096  
Email: zionstmk@swva.net

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
5655 Floyd Hwy South, Willis—Service at 11:15 am

Zion Lutheran Church  
135 Needmore Lane, Floyd—Service at 9:30 am

### **Pastor's Office hours:**

**Mondays and Wednesdays**  
10:00 am—1:00 pm

ALIVE IN CHRIST, CHRIST ALIVE IN US

Check us out on the web at  
[floyd Lutherans.weebly.com](http://floyd Lutherans.weebly.com)

## Sunday Servers



*Grateful for  
the warmth of home*

**Lectors at St. Mark, Zion:**  
6-David Harman, Bill Gardner  
13-Laura LeRoy, Ward Lowrance  
20-Tyson LeRoy, **NEED VOLUNTEER**  
27-Doris McGee, Tom King

**Hosts at Zion:**  
6-Margie Wells  
13-Bday— Judy and Ward Lowrance  
20-**NEED VOLUNTEER**  
27-**NEED VOLUNTEER**

**B-Day/Anniv at St. Mark: Pat Coulehan**  
**Sanctuary, Altar, Flowers: Pat and Jim**

**Zion Altar Guild: Daniel Bower**  
**Zion Flowers: NEED VOLUNTEER**  
**Zion Greeter: BJ Bauermeister**  
**Zion Candle: Margie Wells**

## Funny Bone

\*The checkout clerk at the supermarket was unusually cheerful even though it was near closing time. "You must have picked up a ton of groceries today," a customer said to the checker. "How can you stay so pleasant?" "We can all count our blessings," the clerk replied. "The hardest part of this job is the turkeys and the watermelons. I just thank God that Thanksgiving doesn't come in July."

\* I worked on a toll road, answering the phone, collecting money and issuing toll tickets. One Thanksgiving Day, a woman called to ask about road conditions on the turnpike. After I said everything was A-okay, she told me a friend was coming for dinner. Then came the stumper. "If my friend just left from exit twelve," she asked, "what time should I put the turkey in?"

\* When a Butterball Talk-Line staffer asked a caller what state her turkey was in (meaning how thawed was it) the caller responded with, "Florida."

*Newsletter submissions would be welcome! Email by 20th of each month.*