

# The Parish Voice

September 2016

Floyd Willis  
Lutheran Parish

## September Calendar

- 1-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 8-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 11-Sunday, after service, St. Mark Council
- 15-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 18-Sunday, 10:30 Zion Homecoming, service/potluck
- 22-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 29-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study

## From the Pastor



*Dear Friends in Christ,*

In 2014, our ELCA presiding bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, introduced 4 emphases for our work together:

*We are Church.*

*We are Lutheran.*

*We are Church together.*

*We are Church for the sake of the world.*

The beauty of Bishop Eaton's emphases is that they are timeless and they describe the work of Lutheran Christians, from a member of a small parish to the presiding bishop, the highest elected office in our church.

In the next year, we'll be hearing a lot about the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Reformation and we'll lift up the work of Martin Luther as a key player in the reformation of the church. As we gear up for Reformation celebrations, let us remember that our identity as Lutherans is sandwiched by two larger truths:

*We are Church. We are Church for the sake of the world.* As followers of Christ, we are called to be in community with other believers, not to serve ourselves, but to serve those in need in the name of Christ.

The call of Christ sounds as clearly in 2016 and 2017 as it did in 1517 for Martin Luther. As we go about our daily routines and our preparations, let us remember that you and I are part of something much greater than ourselves, a wave of grace that sweeps over us, drowning the sin within us and carrying us forward to love all we meet in the name of Jesus.

*In Christ,*

*Pastor Linda*

SILVER BELLS  
AND  
CHRISTMAS FOR  
CHILDREN  
BENEFIT

COMING OCT. 2

OAK GROVE  
PAVILION

FOOD, FUN,  
AND MUSIC

*Happy Birthday*

3-Susan Paris  
3-Pat Coulehan  
7-Marion Fontaine  
9-John Garland  
13-Linda Fox  
15-Marty Holliday  
17-Brook Smith  
18-Nadine Rutrough  
18-Judy Lowrance  
21-Dolly Marshall  
22-Isabella Riccobono  
22-Cheryl Spangler  
24-Ward Lowrance  
25-Walter Way  
29-Doris McGee  
30-Michael Quesinberry

*Happy Anniversary*

1-Judy and Ward Lowrance  
13-Louise Baker and George Anderson



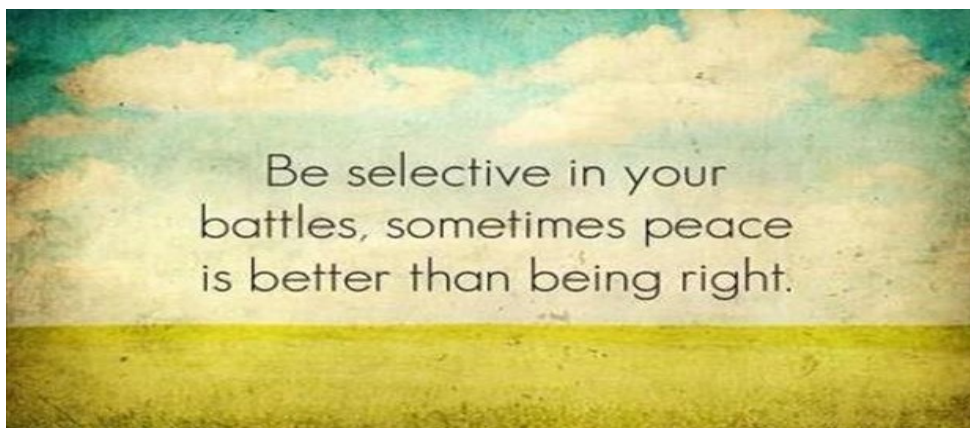
***Zion Homecoming—Sept. 18***

***Joint Service at 10:30 am***

***With potluck after the service***

*Calling all those who knit and crochet*

*We are so grateful for the work you have done in the past and all the lovely prayer shawls that have been given, but we need you....we currently have only one shawl to be given. Please let the parish office know when you have shawls to donate.*



**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



### The Best Part of My Job: Seeing Lives Changed.....excerpts from Stephen Shumilam

My favorite part about my job as a program manager for Lutheran World Relief in Kenya is seeing how people's lives are changed. I recently returned from a visit to two of our projects in Western Kenya. I heard so many stories about how people have increased their incomes. Each family has a lot of needs, but we heard how people can now afford health insurance, feed their families, buy seeds and tools, and pay their children's school fees. I visited several groups that bring together about 30 people to pool small amounts of money to give each other loans. These savings and lending groups really change people's lives!

George Odongi (photo above) used to farm sorghum and maize that his family ate. Through LWR's project, a "lead farmer" from the organization invited him to learn about tomato farming. He decided to give it a try. He joined the project's savings group, from which he borrowed about \$30 to buy seeds and fertilizer. He planted tomatoes on his small plot of land, and when he sold them three months later made a profit of \$300! He was so proud to tell me that he was able to send his eldest daughter to a really good high school. He intends to pay for all six of his children's education and he hopes his daughter gets her Ph.D. or becomes a doctor.

My role is to help our partners stick to the plans we developed together for their project. I coach the leaders of our partner organizations so that they gain skills to operate strong cooperatives, even without LWR's support. We're planning for their future. What I saw with APOKO and KOFDEG really gives me hope for the farmers of

## Backstage

### Bishop

[A backstage look at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly with Bishop Eaton- see if you can spot Bishop Mauney!](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiGRwzLhxyM>

## 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



### Lectors at St. Mark, Zion:

4-Phil Fullbright, Billy Motley  
11-David Harman, Ward Lowrance  
18-Joint Service, Bill Gardner  
25-Tyson LeRoy, Tom King

### Hosts at Zion:

4-Holidays  
11-Bday— Lowrances  
18-JOINT SERVICE at Zion-Potluck  
25-Motleys

### B-Day/Anniv at St. Mark: Beth Smith

Sanctuary, Altar, Flowers: Unknown

Zion Altar Guild: Linda Fox

Zion Flowers: Lowrances

Zion Greeter: NEED VOLUNTEER

Zion Candle: NEED VOLUNTEER

*Grateful for*

*Angels in our midst*

## Funny Bone

### *Tis the Season.....*

Do you know what cupcakes and a baseball team have in common? They both count on the batter!

Why did the coach kick Cinderella off the baseball team? Because she ran away from the ball.

Does it take longer to run from 1st base to 2nd base, or from 2nd base to 3rd base? 2nd to 3rd because there is a short stop in the middle.

Why does a pitcher raise one leg when he pitches?... If he raised both legs, he would fall down.

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