

# The Parish Voice

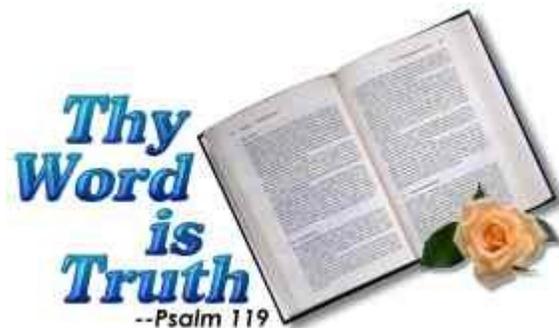
January 2017

Floyd Willis  
Lutheran Parish

## January

### Calendar

- 1-Sunday, 10:30 am, Joint Service, Zion Lutheran
- 5-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 8-Sunday, after service, St. Mark Council
- 12-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 19-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study
- 26-Thursday, 10:00 am, St. Mark Bible Study



## Read the Bible in a Year

New Revised Standard Version: Chronological  
Read the Bible as its events occurred in real time. Beginning January 1.

Jan 1: Gen 1-3

Jan 16: Gen 12-15

Jan 2: Gen 4-7

Jan 17: Gen 16-18

Jan 3: Gen 8-11

Jan 18: Gen 19-21

Jan 4: Job 1-5

Jan 19: Gen 22-24

Jan 5: Job 6-9

Jan 20: Gen 25-26

Jan 6: Job 10-13

Jan 21: Gen 27-29

Jan 7: Job 14-16

Jan 22: Gen 30-31

Jan 8: Job 17-20

Jan 23: Gen 32-34

Jan 9: Job 21-23

Jan 24: Gen 35-37

Jan 10: Job 24-28

Jan 25: Gen 38-40

Jan 11: Job 29-31

Jan 26: Gen 41-42

Jan 12: Job 32-34

Jan 27: Gen 43-45

Jan 13: Job 35-37

Jan 28: Gen 46-47

Jan 14: Job 38-39

Jan 29: Gen 48-50

Jan 15: Job 40-42

Jan 30: Ex 1-3

Jan 31: Ex 4-6

Home Baked Cookies—Hot Chocolate Mix-  
Boxes of Candy Canes-Apples and Oranges-  
An Array of Christmas Ornaments/Decorations

An amazing group of caring parishioners came together on a Sunday afternoon in December to pack bags for folks who receive weekly food from Plenty. They shopped and baked and baked some more, then packed all the goodies for 25 grateful families who were able to celebrate Christmas and receive the love-filled bags. Thank you, Marty, for organizing it all!

## Happy Birthday

6—Tom King  
9— Barbara Triplett  
15—Lola Farley  
18—Bonnie Outten  
20—Lee Ann Farley  
24—Sybil Chrismon  
27—Daniel Bower



*We need prayer shawls to give .*

*Let us know if you can make one.*

*We have yarn and patterns for knitting  
and crocheting.*



### Are You Setting Goals for the New Year?

#### What About Becoming More Involved in Your Church?

Join the Choir.....Be a Lector one Sunday.....Pray  
Bake the Birthday/Anniversary Cake....Hide Easter Eggs  
Serve as Altar Guild one month...Host a parish picnic  
Attend the St. Mark Bible Study...Be a Greeter for one month  
Plant flowers in the spring...Rake leaves in the fall  
Knit or crochet a prayer shawl to be blessed and given  
Contribute to the newsletter...Help with the Children  
Provide flowers for the sanctuary one month  
Bring in a bag of soap, paper towels, toilet paper  
Help with the Oak Grove Music Ministry  
Serve as Fellowship Host one Sunday...no cooking required  
Participate in the Women of Zion group  
Provide funds to keep the Sanctuary Candle burning brightly  
Let the Pastor know when you need prayers and help  
Carry a Christmas tree.....Pick up Easter Lilies  
Come to Church and Grow with Your Church Family

**From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things,  
and the work of their hands brings them reward.**

Proverbs 12:14

### 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

## You Were Made For This

My friends, do not lose heart. We were made for these times. I have heard from so many recently who are deeply and properly bewildered. They are concerned about the state of affairs in our world now. Ours is a time of almost daily astonishment and often righteous rage over the latest degradations of what matters most to civilized, visionary people. You are right in your assessments. The lustre and hubris some have aspired to while endorsing acts so heinous against children, elders, everyday people, the poor, the unguarded, the helpless, is breathtaking. Yet, I urge you, ask you, gentle you, to please not spend your spirit dry by bewailing these difficult times. Especially do not lose hope. Most particularly because, the fact is that we were made for these times. Yes. For years, we have been learning, practicing, been in training for and just waiting to meet on this exact plain of engagement.

I grew up on the Great Lakes and recognize a seaworthy vessel when I see one. Regarding awakened souls, there have never been more able vessels in the waters than there are right now across the world. And they are fully provisioned and able to signal one another as never before in the history of humankind.

Look out over the prow; there are millions of boats of righteous souls on the waters with you. Even though your ve-neers may shiver from every wave in this stormy roil, I assure you that the long timbers composing your prow and rudder come from a greater forest. That long-grained lumber is known to withstand storms, to hold together, to hold its own, and to advance, regardless.

In any dark time, there is a tendency to veer toward fainting over how much is wrong or un-mended in the world. Do not focus on that. There is a tendency, too, to fall into being weakened by dwelling on what is outside your reach, by what cannot yet be. Do not focus there. That is spending the wind without raising the sails.

We are needed, that is all we can know. And though we meet resistance, we more so will meet great souls who will hail us, love us and guide us, and we will know them when they appear. Didn't you say you were a believer? Didn't you say you pledged to listen to a voice greater? Didn't you ask for grace? Don't you remember that to be in grace means to submit to the voice greater?

Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach. Any small, calm thing that one soul can do to help another soul, to assist some portion of this poor suffering world, will help immensely. It is not given to us to know which acts or by whom, will cause the critical mass to tip toward an enduring good.

What is needed for dramatic change is an accumulation of acts, adding, adding to, adding more, continuing. We know that it does not take everyone on Earth to bring justice and peace, but only a small, determined group who will not give up during the first, second, or hundredth gale.

One of the most calming and powerful actions you can do to intervene in a stormy world is to stand up and show your soul. Soul on deck shines like gold in dark times. The light of the soul throws sparks, can send up flares, builds signal fires, causes proper matters to catch fire. To display the lantern of soul in shadowy times like these – to be fierce and to show mercy toward others; both are acts of immense bravery and greatest necessity.

Struggling souls catch light from other souls who are fully lit and willing to show it. If you would help to calm the tumult, this is one of the strongest things you can do. There will always be times when you feel discouraged. I too have felt despair many times in my life, but I do not keep a chair for it. I will not entertain it. It is not allowed to eat from my plate. The reason is this: In my uttermost bones I know something, as do you. It is that there can be no despair when you remember why you came to Earth, who you serve, and who sent you here. The good words we say and the good deeds we do are not ours. They are the words and deeds of the One who brought us here. In that spirit, I hope you will write this on your wall: When a great ship is in harbor and moored, it is safe, there can be no doubt. But that is not what great ships are built for.

Clarissa Pinkola Estes, Ph.D.

## 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  
Sunny  
Blue  
Skies*

### Lectors at St. Mark, Zion:

1-  
8-  
15-  
22-  
29-

### Hosts at Zion:

1-Holidays/Daibers  
8-Bday—  
15-  
22-  
29-

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

Sanctuary, Altar, Flowers:

### Zion Altar Guild:

Zion Flowers:

Zion Greeter:

Zion Candle:

## Funny Bone



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