



February 2025 Newsletter

St. Mark Lutheran Church



21 S. Baird Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501 (715-362-2470)

In this issue:

- Pastoral Letter
- Holy Communion
- February Birthdays
- Monthly Group Gatherings
- February Volunteer, Altar Guild, Trustee, and Counters Schedule
- Officers and Boards for 2025
- February Calendar
- Missionary News
- Worship Schedule and Office Hours

From Pastor Miller

I just finished reading an interesting devotional. It was about a person, recognized within the church as an important part of our Christian history. It was about Katharina von Bora Luther, also called Catherine. She would be surprised to see her name on that list. Her husband, Martin Luther, always seemed to be the center of attention.

Catherine had been placed in a convent while still a child, and became a nun at the age of 15. As the Reformation progressed, some convents closed and the nuns were released. Martin Luther took on the task of finding husbands for these nuns. He was successful for all but three, including Catherine. She was almost married once, but it didn't work out. A second suitor was found but was rejected by Catherine. She told Luther's friend to stop looking for others. She wanted to marry Martin Luther. They were married in June of 1525.

In the devotional, in the daily prayer assigned to Catherine's birthday, it reads in part, "You raised up Your servant Katharina to support her husband in the task to reform and renew Your church." Luther was consumed by his work, so managing the household, including their six children as well as finances, was left to Catherine. Martin was involved with various groups of people, and would often bring them home, unannounced, for dinner. Catherine handled it well, providing the support which made his work possible. At some point Luther would write, "I have a pious, faithful wife, on whom a man may safely rest his heart".

I think it can be safely said that Luther wouldn't have been Luther without Catherine at his side. I know that times have changed and it's a different world now, but the same can be said of Christian marriages today, a husband and his wife complete one another under God's blessings.



NEWS AND NOTES



HOLY COMMUNION

If you need to have Holy Communion brought to you in the pew, please let an usher know. Pastor will be happy to accommodate you.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

“Thank you” to all members continuing to participate in the “Choice Dollars” donation to St. Mark Church. The Thrivent deposit for January was \$21.00.

LADIES PRAYER LUNCH

The ladies' luncheon will meet at the Rhineland Family restaurant on February 6th and 20th at 12:00pm. All ladies are welcome to join us.



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The next time that St. Mark will work at the Rhineland Area Food Pantry is Monday, March 31st, 2025. Workers are asked to be there at 2:45pm. All are welcome to volunteer. There will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions please call the office at 715-362-2470.

ST. MARK QUILTERS

Were you wondering if your donated fabric scraps make a difference? Were you wondering what 7,192.8 square feet of fabric might look like?

Well, let me tell you. Added up, that is the area that the quilts would come to that St. Mark sent to Lutheran World Relief. Laid out, that is equal to 1 1/2 basketball courts, 2 1/2 tennis courts, a typical suburban home lot or 8 pickle ball courts.

That is an enormous amount of fabric and why we are always asking for your leftover fabric scraps. Remember, your donation of just a little turns into a whole lot.



*Article and pictures submitted by
Cathy Ziolkowski*