

January 14, 2022



# St. Mark's Messenger

Principal Tim Kollmorgen

[principal@stmarksmilford.org](mailto:principal@stmarksmilford.org)

St. Mark's Lutheran School  
5849 Buckwheat Rd.  
Milford, OH 45150

Check us out on Facebook!

[www.stmarksmilford.org](http://www.stmarksmilford.org)

(513) 575-3354

## Calendar

### January

- 15 – Basketball Practice 10:00 – 11:30am
- 16 – Worship: 8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:00pm
- 17 – ML King Day – **No School**
- 18 – Science Club – 4:15pm  
Basketball Practice @ St. Marks – 4:15pm
- 19 – Chapel: Mrs. Reynolds  
Basketball Practice @ St. Marks – 4:15pm
- 20 – NO Science Olympiad  
**Basketball @ Beautiful Savior**  
Girls – 4:30pm Boys – 5:30pm
- 21 – Student Council – 4:15pm  
Basketball Practice – 5:00pm



'21-'22 Theme:

## Not of This World!

Romans 12:2

## What's Next for St. Mark's?

This is an exciting time for St Mark's Lutheran Church and School! K-8 enrollment is the highest it has ever been - currently at 93 students. Over the past 2 school years, we have transitioned grades 1-4 from multi-age classrooms into single-graded classrooms!

The School Board and Mr. Kollmorgen have developed a **5-year Strategic Plan** - thank you to the Church members and School families who helped to develop this plan!

Mr. Kollmorgen and the School Board are planning to share-out the 5-year Strategic Plan **(and 22-23 tuition information)** in a special session for School Families on Sunday January 23 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. **A shorter summary of the Strategic Plan is in the Messenger today.**

A motion will be presented at the Church Voters' Meeting to spend up to \$20,000 on conceptual drawings for a School Expansion of 4-6 classrooms and a gymnasium. Please keep the Church and School in your prayers during this time, as we prayerfully consider the next steps for this important ministry that God has entrusted to us.

## Re-Enrollment is Here!

Re-enrollment forms for the 2022-2023 school year are coming home today! The form is prefilled with your student(s) '21-'22 enrollment information. Please review this form and make any changes directly on the form. Return the form, along with your enrollment fee, to your teacher or the school office. Enrollment fees increase after March 15! Enrollment fees for re-enrollment are \$75 per student, maximum of \$350 per family.

**Your re-enrollment will not be complete unless you include the \$75 per student enrollment fee.** This fee guarantees your spot in your preferred classroom. Please re-enroll with the fee as quickly as possible, as our classrooms are growing and filling quickly!

If you have any questions regarding your re-enrollment or enrollment fee, please feel free to contact Rachel Bailey [admissions@stmarksmilford.org](mailto:admissions@stmarksmilford.org).

## Open House

Our wonderful school will be hosting an Open House January 30<sup>th</sup>! The best way to advertise St. Mark's is to tell others all about it. You received a new postcard to pass out to a family member or friend. We have yard signs in the school entrance, too. Please pop on in, grab one, and display it proudly in your yard! Thank you for your help and support of our amazing school!

## Classroom Happenings

### Mrs. Newell (2 Year Old and 3 Year Old Preschool)

This week the 3 year olds learned about the letter W with some fun winter crafts. We also learned about Jesus' baptism.

### Mrs. Rehmer (4 Year Old Preschool)

We are continuing our winter theme, learning about different arctic animals, including polar bears, penguins, and arctic foxes and hares. (Did you know that some penguins are as tall as a young child? We measured ourselves up next to one and were really surprised!!) Some of our polar friends came in for cookies and cocoa. In our Bible stories this week we see how God always listens to our prayers, as we see Jesus heal the blind man. Mark 10:46-52

### Mrs. Sherman (Kindergarten)

At Bible time, we heard about the wise men visiting Jesus. We talked about reflecting Jesus' love and being a light in the world. In reading, we read about how animals use different parts of their bodies. We segmented and blended words and wrote complete sentences. At math time, we counted to 100, played counting games and added buttons on snowmen.. We enjoyed reading Snowmen At Night. We drew snowmen and wrote about what they did at night.

## **Mrs. Boerboom (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)**

1st grade had a busy week! In math, we worked more on related facts and reviewed how addition and subtraction are related. In Reading, we learned how the leopard got its spots! We also started writing our paragraphs for our science fair project. We have been observing a pumpkin that has been decomposing in an airtight container in our classroom since the end of October! In Social Studies, we are learning more about how different countries celebrate holidays around the world. In Bible Study we read about the baptism of Jesus and the start of His ministry.

## **Mrs. Reynolds (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)**

This week 2nd graders began learning how to add coin values. They used their knowledge of tens and ones to help them count dimes and pennies. We also started adding in nickels and quarters. We took our growth measurement for the middle of the school year and all the students have improved a lot since the beginning of the year! We learned that Jesus' first miracle was performed at a wedding. He chose regular people to be His disciples to help share His purpose with others and He chooses us to help build His kingdom as well. We read "Good Citizen" - about a dog with excellent manners and discussed how we too can be good citizens. We started our Science Fair projects. We observed the decomposition of a banana and did an experiment with bread to show us the importance of washing hands.

## **Mrs. Dowd (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**

In Religion this week, we completed our unit on Jesus' three kingdoms: power, grace, and glory. We focused on Acts 4:12 as memory work for this week. In Reading, we read Chapters 26-30 of The Tiger Rising. We are excited to be almost finished with our study novel! In Math, We started learning different ways to solve a division equation. In Science, we reviewed the steps in the Scientific Method as we completed a candy cane experiment. In Social Studies, we learned about artifacts and photographs.

## **Miss Rhonemus (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

This week students have been reading a humorous story about research and the library entitled "Dear Mr. Winston". Students also focused on supporting generalizations with text evidence. In math, we learned about representing and solving division problems. Students also continued work on their science fair project reports. For religion, we talked about the similarities between the Israelites and us after reading about the bronze serpent incident.

## Mr. Postenrieder, Mrs. Kiehl, and Mr. Kollmorgen (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

In our Bible time, we began to study the book of James.

In 5<sup>th</sup> math we worked on adding fractions. In Saxon Level 1 math we worked with the decimal number line and multiplying fractions. We will also enjoy our 9<sup>th</sup> test. Level 3 math is learning to use the Slope-Intercept form of an equation. Algebra 1 is using substitution to solve similar equations.

5th/6th grade ELA students continued the novel, I am Malala. In writing, they began working with persuasion and writing techniques that are used for persuasion. In Writing, 7th/8th grade students also worked with persuasion and effective technique usage. In Reading, they continued their text, A Traveler's Guide to Medieval Times - as well as working with different forms of punctuation.

In Social Studies we continued our study of Canada. We looked at differences between a Presidential Government and a Parliamentary Government. In 7/8 social studies, we continued studying Ancient Africa.

5/6 science learned about how scientists study the populations of organisms in a particular area. 7/8 science began their study of atoms and elements.

There was no 5-8 grade PE this week because we had a half day of school Friday.

## Assess Symptoms Daily!

**If your child doesn't feel well, please keep him/her home!**

One of the main ways to limit the spread of the virus is to check for symptoms daily – of course we take temperatures at the door each morning, but you can help by making sure that your son or daughter does not have any of the following symptoms:

Fever or chills	Cough	Diarrhea	Nausea or vomiting
Fatigue	Sore throat	Headache	Loss of taste or smell
Congestion or runny nose		Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	
Repeated shaking with chills		Muscle or body aches	



# St Mark's Lutheran School

Strategic Plan and Visioning Proposal Summary: 2021 – 2025



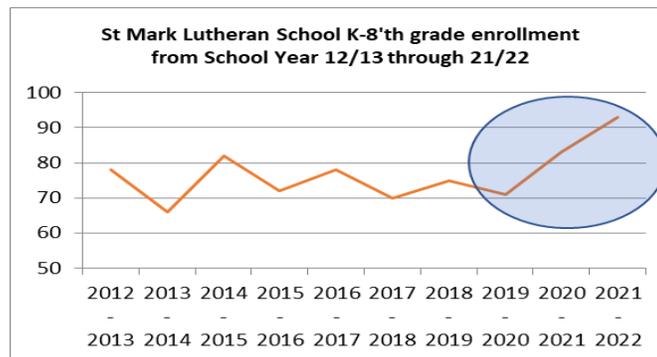
Prepared by: Tim Kollmorgen (Principal) and St Mark's Lutheran School Board

Our Mission: Connecting Students with Jesus While Providing Excellence in Education

## Where Are We Now?

We officially exist to serve the educational needs of St. Mark's member's children, and as an outreach to our community. Our students belong to a wide variety of Christian Denomination Churches, and many claim no church home.

The following graph shows the K-8<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment changes over the last 10 years, which shows an upward trend in the last 5 years. In the last two school years, the School has split grades 1-2 and 3-4 into single graded classrooms. Currently, K-3 are in single-graded classrooms and the Youth Room has been repurposed as a classroom. Also, classes are being held during the week in the Werner Conference Room and the Fellowship Hall. **We are currently at the highest K-8 enrollment in the school's history!!**



**In the next three years (2022 – 2025), enrollment for K-8 is projected to keep increasing.** Current enrollment projections would require the splitting of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade into separate classrooms for the 2023/2024 school year and the splitting of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade into separate classrooms for the 2025/2026 school year. **Without additional classroom space by the fall of 2023, the School will be forced to limit new enrollment.**

Preschool growth projections are harder to predict because **our current circumstances do not include a Pre-Kindergarten option, or even classroom space in which to hold the class.** The 2-year-old and 3-year-old class is currently held in the Nursery. The Nursery is not an ideal classroom for a Preschool, which is inhibiting enrollment in 2-year-old and 3-year-old classes. **Without additional classroom space, the Preschool will not be able to offer the types of programs that are needed by many parents (all-day, 5-day/week, and Pre-K options), which will continue to limit growth in the future.**

# Strategic Plan Proposals by School Year

## 2021-2022

- Hire an Admissions Coordinator (Complete)
- Hire a Social Media Coordinator (Complete)
- Maintain NLSA (In Progress)
- **Begin Building Process**
- Hire Reading tutors (In Progress)
- Promote Estate Planning and Giving to SGOs (In Progress)

## 2022-2023

- Make the Building Look Good and Remodel Outdated Areas (renovations to Fellowship Hall, Church Men's Restroom, etc.)
- 100 or more students in K-8 – apply for Blue Ribbon status.
- Continue Building Process

## 2023-2024

- Hire a Preschool Administrator/Teacher
- New School Addition Opens (4-6 classrooms plus gymnasium)
- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Transitioned into single grade classrooms
- Prekindergarten reintroduced.

## 2024-2025

- Hire a Development Director