

March 11, 2022



St. Mark's Messenger

Principal Tim Kollmorgen

principal@stmarksmilford.org

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

Check us out on Facebook!

www.stmarksmilford.org

(513) 575-3354

Calendar

March

13 – Worship: 8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:00pm

16 – Chapel: Pastor Fenker

18 – Free Dress Down Day

End of Quarter 3

Noon Dismissal – no extended care

20 – Worship: 8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:00pm

Coming Soon

28 – April 1 – Spring Break

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found box runneth over! Please come and retrieve clothing! If you haven't seen an item of clothing for awhile... it's probably here.



'21-'22 Theme:

Not of This World!

Romans 12:2

Spring Plant Sale

Our plant sale has been **EXTENDED** to March 17! Most people buy plants each Spring anyway – so why not from you!? The plants we sell are a super-great value. They are large and healthy and grow like crazy. Plus - the school gets a profit. We are about 1/2 of the way to our goal so far!

Easter Egg Hunt!

Hey everybody, it's time for Easter, which means it's also time for the Easter Egg Hunt!! Please join us on Saturday April 16 at 10 AM for St Mark's Easter Egg Hunt. We will start off in the Sanctuary for a brief Easter Message from Pastor Fenker. We'll then go find Easter Eggs! Typically, there is a separate area for Preschool Aged Children. After the Egg Hunt, there will be snacks, a craft, and a place for kids to start eating their Easter treats!

If you'd like to volunteer to help with the Egg Hunt, please contact Bill Bailey (513-508-7302, bbailey1250@gmail.com) or Dave Veres (513-828-8476, ussauk@aol.com). If you'd like to donate candy, there is a box in the Church Narthex! If you'd like to donate money to buy candy, please give the money to Bill or Dave!

Mother/Son Bowling!

All mothers & sons (grandmas & aunts etc.) are invited to attend a fun evening of bowling and bonding! Includes 2 hours of unlimited games, pizza, soda, and your shoe rental!

WHEN: MARCH 22nd ~ 6:30-8:30PM

WHERE: EASTGATE LANES, 1362 SR-28, LOVELAND, OH 45140

Cost: \$10 per person. Please send/bring payment to the school office by March 21st. Cash or checks payable to St. Mark's Lutheran School.

RSVP: Email Rachel Bailey ~ admissions@stmarksmilford.org Or rsvp via this signup genius link...

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4FAFA82BA4F85-mother>

Remember to Re-Enroll!

Please re-enroll your students as soon as possible as some classes are close to capacity or are filled. Preschool 4AM is full, Kindergarten is almost full, and 4th grade is almost full! If you need a new re-enrollment form, please pick one up in the school office. Re-enrollment fees, including preschool, are currently \$75 per child. They will increase to \$100 per child for preschool and \$150 per child K-8 after March 15.

If you have any questions regarding your re-enrollment or enrollment fees, please contact Rachel Bailey. admissions@stmarksmilford.org

Vacation Bible School! It's going to be *Monumental!*

Mark your calendars! St. Mark's will host its annual VBS July 25-29th!

What's the Latest?

The building committee has chosen the firm that will design our building. It will be exciting to see the conceptual drawings in a few weeks!

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

In the Spotlight

We are proud of our graduates! Hear what some of our former St. Mark's graduates say about their time here, and how attending St. Mark's has shaped their lives!



Laura Rehmer

Laura is a 2011 St. Mark's Graduate

Q. What Did You Love Most about St. Mark's?

A. I loved all my teachers that I had throughout the years at St. Mark's, I loved our annual math camp, I loved the Christmas play we put on every year and the spring musical, as well as participating in Science Olympiad. I loved the small classrooms because it gave me an opportunity to know all of my classmates and teachers. It also gave me the ability to have the one-on-one time with teachers when it was necessary. I loved interacting with students of all grade levels.

Q. What Did You Appreciate about St. Mark's?

A. St. Mark's was always a safe place for me. It was somewhere I could learn and explore. Nothing ever seemed out of the realm of possibilities. I learned that there is never just one way to do something. And I had the opportunity to do this in a safe, loving and Christ centered environment.

Q. Where Did You Go to High School?

A. I graduated from Ursuline Academy in 2015

Q. Where Did You Go to College?

A. I spent the next 3 1/2 years at The University of Akron, graduating in the fall of 2018. I hold a Bachelors of Science in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. I also hold a certificate in Parent Education and I also have a certificate in Geographical Information Systems.

Q. What Are You Doing Now?

A. Since graduating college, I have been working in the Emergency Management field. I spent 2 years working at Indiana University in their emergency management department. I just recently switched into the role that I am now in - I am the Facilities and Emergency Preparedness Manager for Jane Pauley Community Health Center.

We love our St. Mark's graduates!

Classroom Happenings

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

This week the 3 year old class learned about the letter Q. We made a Queen with our handprints and played a fun number quiz game. During Bible we learned about when Jesus fed the 5000.

Mrs. Rehmer (4 Year Old Preschool)

Our morning class enjoyed several different chapel messages this week, and I think their favorite was keeping their eye on the cross with Mr. Kollmorgen's bat. The afternoon children enjoyed learning about the last supper and retelling the story. We had a wonderful week enjoying National Lutheran Schools Week. Dressing up was by far the favorite, who doesn't? We also spent time learning about the weather. What we wear during each season and different fun activities we can do with weather.

Mrs. Sherman (Kindergarten)

This week, in celebration of Lutheran Schools Week, students began each day in worship together. On Monday, they enjoyed Purple and Gold day and got to see several species of owls brought in by Raptors, Inc. Our devotion was special because it came from Mr. Postenrieder's nephew – he is a missionary in the Czech Republic. On Tuesday, we dressed as book characters and had a Spelling Bee! Benny Bell was the all-school champion! Wednesday was Fancy Day and we dressed in our best clothes and we welcomed Mr. Ron Nance. He showed us his intricately carved Bible Sticks. On Thursday, we wore our PJs, made encouragement cards for cancer patients (in partnership with Phil's Friends), and played Bible Jeopardy. Friday was Space Day! We dressed in all kinds of space related costumes, watched "Muppets From Space", and Mr. Penry surprised us with some time in a real planetarium! We love our Lutheran School!

Mrs. Boerboom (1st Grade)

This week, in celebration of Lutheran Schools Week, students began each day in worship together. On Monday, they enjoyed Purple and Gold day and got to see several species of owls brought in by Raptors, Inc. Our devotion was special because it came from Mr. Postenrieder's nephew – he is a missionary in the Czech Republic. On Tuesday, we dressed as book characters and had a Spelling Bee! Benny Bell was the all-school champion! Wednesday was Fancy Day and we dressed in our best clothes and we welcomed Mr. Ron Nance. He showed us his intricately carved Bible Sticks. On Thursday, we wore our PJs, made encouragement cards for cancer patients (in partnership with Phil's Friends), and played Bible Jeopardy. Friday was Space Day! We dressed in all kinds of space related costumes, watched "Muppets From Space", and Mr. Penry surprised us with some time in a real planetarium! We love our Lutheran School!

Mrs. Reynolds (2nd Grade)

This week in addition to all our fun National Lutheran School's week activities we also made spring flowers, practiced adding and subtracting two digit numbers using number grids, number lines and ten blocks. We studied our Spelling bee words before our Spelling Bee on Tuesday and finished our lesson on Pioneer life by making a pioneer lapbook.

Mrs. Dowd (3rd Grade)

This week, in celebration of Lutheran Schools Week, students began each day in worship together. On Monday, they enjoyed Purple and Gold day and got to see several species of owls brought in by Raptors, Inc. Our devotion was special because it came from Mr. Postenrieder's nephew – he is a missionary in the Czech Republic. On Tuesday, we dressed as book characters and had a Spelling Bee! Benny Bell was the all-school champion! Wednesday was Fancy Day and we dressed in our best clothes and we welcomed Mr. Ron Nance. He showed us his intricately carved Bible Sticks. On Thursday, we wore our PJs, made encouragement cards for cancer patients (in partnership with Phil's Friends), and played Bible Jeopardy. Friday was Space Day! We dressed in all kinds of space related costumes, watched "Muppets From Space", and Mr. Penry surprised us with some time in a real planetarium! We love our Lutheran School!

Miss Rhonemus (4th Grade)

This week students enjoyed some extra programming for National Lutheran Schools Week, which included some neat presentations and special dress days. Students also made encouragement cards, which will be included in the Phil's Friends care packages. In addition to attending daily devotions as a school, we also took a look at the "7 C's of Creation" as put out by Answers in Genesis. In math class, students began tackling multiplying by two digit numbers. For science, we continued to work with electricity through reading and making paper circuits out of paper and copper tape.

Mr. Postenrieder, Mrs. Kiehl, and Mr. Kollmorgen (5th - 8th Grades)

In our Bible time we met with the whole school for devotions during NLSW.

In 5th math we enjoyed our 7th test and we began multiplying fractions. In Saxon Level 1 we worked with line segments and reducing fractions before multiplying. We also took our 13th test.

5th/6th grade Reading students continued working with the short story, "Thank you, Ma'am". In writing, students are practicing listening skills by listening to podcast-style stories. 7th/8th grade Reading students are working with the short story, *Seventh Grade*. In Writing, they began working on a research project titled "Hall of the Apostles".

In 5/6 Social Studies we researched and prepared power points on Mexico and Central America. 7/8 Social Studies students began a new unit on ancient Asia.

5/6 grade science began looking into environmental science and natural resources, while 7/8 grade science took a look at the wind and how the Earth's rotation affects wind currents.

In 5th – 8th grade PE we did not meet due to our movie day for NLSW.



St Mark's Lutheran School

Strategic Plan and Visioning Proposal Summary: 2021 – 2025



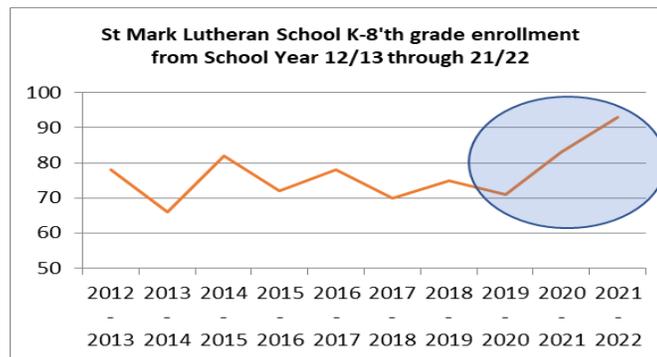
Prepared by: Tim Kollmorgen (Principal) and St Mark's Lutheran School Board

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-8th 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 5th and 6th grade into separate classrooms for the 2023/2024 school year and the splitting of 7th and 8th 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)
- 5th and 6th Grade Transitioned into single grade classrooms
- Prekindergarten reintroduced.

2024-2025

- Hire a Development Director