

March 4, 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

- 4 – No Preschool (Teacher Workshops)
- 5 – Science Olympiad @ Xavier University
- 6 – Worship: 8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:00pm

Lutheran Schools Week Begins!

Students Sing @ 10:30 Service

- 7 – Purple and Gold Day
- 8 – Book Character Day
- 9 – Fancy Day
Chapel: Pastor Fenker
- 10 – Pajama Day
- 11 – Space Day



'21-'22 Theme:

Not of This World!

Romans 12:2

Lutheran Schools Week!

Sunday begins Lutheran Schools Week with all of its fun events. The first event will have the students singing and ringing (handbells) in church at our 10:30 service. It is fitting that we do this as a thank you to the congregation that gives us unwavering support! A list of events is included on page 3.

Spring Plant Sale

Keep promoting our plant sale! 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 1/5 of the way to our goal so far!

Inclement Weather

Watch WCPO 9 and monitor your email and Facebook for school closing notices.

Lost and Found

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

Mexican Food! My Favorite!

Thank you to Chipotle and to you – the St. Mark's famished family! Thanks to your excellent appetites, we raised \$434.00 – and had a great time with great people.

Watch for our next dine-for-dollars Triple "F" (Food, Fellowship, Funds) event for St. Mark's

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!

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

It's going to be *Monumental!*

What's the Latest?

A building committee will be meeting with our shortlist of Architects on Tuesday, March 8. Praise God that he continues to provide for our school and all of his children!

National Lutheran Schools Week

At a glance...

NLSW	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Devo Time	Q&A with Ben 9:30	Mr. K 8:40	CHAPEL	Mr. K 8:40	Mr. K 8:40
Dress	Purple & Gold	Book Character	Fancy Day	PJ Day	Space Day
Activity	Raptors Inc 2:00pm	Spelling Bee 12:30 1 st – 8 th Grade	Bible Sticks 10:00-10:45 K-3 10:50-11:50 4-8	Bible Jeopardy 1:45pm	MOVIE "Muppets from Space" 1:20
Service Project				Cards for Phil's Friends 11:00	

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!

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

Fatigue Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Repeated shaking with chills

Diarrhea

Headache

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Muscle or body aches

Nausea or vomiting

Loss of taste or smell

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 olds celebrated Dr. Seuss! We made thing 1 and 2, cat in the hat, and we tasted green eggs and ham! During Bible we learned about the story of Jarius' daughter.

Mrs. Rehmer (4 Year Old Preschool)

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss! We celebrated all week, reading many different stories by Dr. Seuss and learning Dr. Seuss style. We rhymed, explored our wacky classroom, thought about what we wanted to do when we grow up and even made some really cute Seuss style crafts. In our Bible stories this week we learned how the people from Jerusalem welcomed Jesus as he rode into town on a donkey.

Mrs. Sherman (Kindergarten)

At Bible time, we heard about another of Jesus' miracles as He healed a paralyzed man. During reading, we reviewed sight words, verbs and synonyms. We read fictional and informational texts about scientists. In Math, we added and subtracted. We finished our dental health unit with a fun craft and writing activity to go along with the book, What If I Had Animal Teeth? We compared and contrasted versions of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. We built bridges to help the goats cross the river!

Mrs. Boerboom (1st Grade)

In first grade, we read about "Animal Groups", and discovered how animals are alike or different based on their traits. We also finished our math module. We learned about earning money and wants and needs in social studies, and learned more about the earth's surface in science. In Bible Study, we talked about how Jesus told the people about heaven and how he provides for us. We are getting very excited for National Lutheran Schools Week!

Mrs. Reynolds (2nd Grade)

Second graders are learning what it means to "love your neighbor" by reading Jesus's parable about the Good Samaritan. We learn we are supposed to love others like God loves us - even people who are hard to love. In Math, we practiced adding and subtracting two digit numbers using a number grid. In Reading we read about a brave dog named Dex in "Dex - The Heart of a Hero".

Mrs. Dowd (3rd Grade)

In Religion class, we learned the parts that make up the Lutheran worship service. We also learned the different parts of the church year. In Reading, we read the story, *Ramona Quimby: The Extra Good Saturday*. We focused on verb tenses. In Math, we worked our way through adding and subtracting within 1,000. In Science, we learned about the dynamics of the Olympics. In Social Studies, we learned about the history of the summer Olympics! At the end of the week, we held our own version of the winter and summer Olympics by competing in different games and going for the gold!

Miss Rhonemus (4th Grade)

This week the 4th and 5th graders took a look at friendship and jealousy while reading about David, Johnathan, and Saul. Fourth grade math wrapped up round one with long division. We will take a break to learn how to multiply multi-digit numbers by multi-digit numbers. In reading, we read all about ants and identified the author's purpose. For science we continued studying energy.

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

In our Bible time we continued our study of the book of James.

In 5th math we worked with adding/subtracting mixed numbers and enjoyed our 7th test. In Saxon Level 1 math we took our 12th test. We then worked on multiplying/dividing mixed numbers, used prime factorization to reduce fractions, and learned about line segments. Saxon Level 3 math is calculating the area of trapezoids, while Algebra 1 is solving systems of equations with subscripted variables.

In 5th/6th grade Reading, students are comparing and contrasting a poem with a fiction short story. They also began working with the short story, "Thank you, Ma'am". In Writing, students are creating book reports from their own independent reading book. 7th/8th grade Reading students compared and contrasted two different literary works. In Writing, students created book reports based on their own independent reading book.

In 5/6 Social Studies we turned our attention to Mexico and Central America, while 7/8 students continued work with a unit on people of the Americas, focusing on North America.

5/6 Science took a test over ecosystems and biomes, while 7/8 studied the parts of the atmosphere and began studying heat transfer.

In 5th – 8th grade PE we participated in a week of fitness.



St Mark's Lutheran School

Strategic Plan and Visioning Proposal Summary: 2021 – 2025



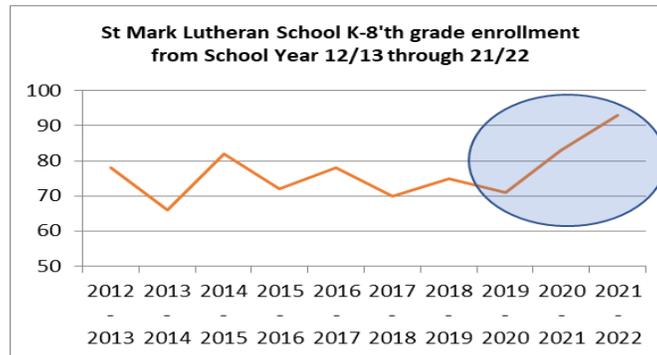
Prepared by: Tim Kollmorgen (Principal) and St Mark's Lutheran School Board

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