

# SAINT MARK'S EPISTLE

## St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

302 S. Norris Ave. POB 580

Pender, NE 68047

402-385-3340

E-mail: [saintmarkspender@abbnebraska.com](mailto:saintmarkspender@abbnebraska.com)

Pastor Karen McNeil-Utecht

Cell Phone: 402-385-8825

Council President : Jaima Geisert

Church Secretary: Jane Tonjes

402-922-3946

FEBRUARY 2025

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**ST. MARK'S  
WORSHIP  
SERVICES  
ARE LIVE ON  
FACEBOOK AND  
AIRED ON  
CHANNEL 98.  
AT 12:00 PM**



## *Pastor's Ponderings*

Life is a sort of dance.

I remember years ago I was a faithful Arthur Murray student. At first, I was excited about something new. I was concentrating on where my feet went when my instructor went left or right. I was pleased because everything seemed to be going great. Then we had to attend these dances with other students. I felt like my feet were always getting stomped on and these people who were also doing it for the first time were telling me how it should be done. I began to dread classes. I finally gave them up, because they were getting too expensive.

Long story short. A professional dancer asked me to dance and I felt like Cinderella. It felt like I had been dancing all my life. I had a vision of what I was capable of, and it made the effort worth it.

While we continue to learn and enjoy the process of being church together, we have been given a vision of what the author of the dance can make of us. That doesn't mean we won't get our feet stomped on occasionally, relationships are give and take and that can be clumsy. Everyone wants to do their best – well, almost everyone – still, sometimes we are sure we are right and they are wrong, in church, work, family, politics, almost anywhere we are in relationship.

How can life move beyond “the Jerk” and towards a waltz? Start each day dancing with the master. The steps are in his Book and he is always available for classes. Don't worry about the cost, everything is prepaid. Your sister in Christ, *Pr. Karen*

*Happy* ♥  
*Valentine's* ♥  
*Day* ♥

**February HS Tech Students**

Febr. 2— Kaddo Schrunk

Febr. 9— Addi Johnson

Febr. 16— Kira Swinton

**February Acolytes/Readers**

Febr. 2        Laurel Felber

Febr. 9        Kolin Schrunk

Febr. 16       Marcus Dregalla

Febr. 23       Beau Thomsen



St. Mark's Annual Meeting was held following the service on January 19th. The council presented the financial and committee reports for review and approval.

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2025 ARE:**

**Jaima Geisert -  
Joel Lamplot  
Andrea Hansen  
Dana Beckman  
Eric Beckman  
Max Cochran  
Joanne VonSeggern  
Kira Swinton**

*Thank You!*

**2025 Synod Assembly**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**May 30—June 1**

**Kearney, NE**

**We will enjoy time with the bishops in our companion Synods, Argentina & Tanzania! Jazz Concert!**

**We need two voting member's from St. Mark's. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor know.**



## WORDS OF THANKS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Thank You!*

*Thank you Raegen Anderson  
for serving on council.*

*Thank you!*

*Ellen Lander for auditing the bank  
statements for 2024*

*Till we meet again*

*We said goodbye to Leonard Urbanec on January 10th.  
Condolences and prayers for his family.*

*We welcomed Nash Antares Miller into the St. Mark's family through the  
Sacrament of Holy Baptism on December 22, 2024. His parents are  
Demitrius & Janae (Kubik) Miller. Sponsors were Jenna Kubik, Adam  
Poley and Orion Miller. God's Blessings to the Miller Family.*

***WELCOME** David and Tammy (Nelson) Lovett to the St. Mark's  
Family. They moved to Pender earlier this year and transferred their  
membership from St. Matthew's Lutheran in Omaha..*

### Treasurer's Report for the Month of December 2024

#### GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 41,707.80
Income	\$ 38,200.62
Memorial Fund Transfer	\$ 3,643.04
Expenses	\$(15,751.80)
Balance 12/31/24	\$ 67,799.66

**Thank you for your generous donations in December!!**

**ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
302 S. Norris Avenue  
P.O. Box 580  
Pender, NE 68047**

**Forwarding Service Requested**

**To this believer in God's love:**

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

Feb 3: Kellie Fillipi

Callie Rink

Feb 2: Natalie Gutzman

Feb 4: Alex Doht

Feb 5: Diann Ballard

**Paul + Teresa Powley**

Feb 6: Callie Janke

Feb 9: Karen Tietz

Feb 10: Jeanne Hansen

Feb 11: Cindy Janke

Jeff Mathis

Bennett Lamplot



Feb 12: Amy Leonard

Josh Hansen

**Steve + Jill Smith**

Feb 14: Mark Dolezal Jr.

Feb 15: Bev Novak

**William + Sharlene Krusemark**

Feb 16: Chris Buchholz

Rich Suhr

Feb 17: Taylor Buchholz

Jase Johnson

Navy Swanson

**Richard + Donna Smith**

Feb 20: Marcus Dregalla

**Marvin + Marilyn Kubik**

Feb 21: Vicky Case

Feb 22: Marika VonSeggern

Feb 23:

Matt Buchholz

Cory Heise

LaVonne Nilges

Evan Schrieber

Feb 24: Jonathan Darling

Feb 25: Jeff Kai

Feb 27: Courtney Montgomery

Melanie Leonard

**Eric + Dana Beckman**

Feb 28: Colby Dregalla

John Doht

