

## Churches in the Shenandoah Valley

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3305 Senedo Rd  
Forestville, VA 22847



### A brief History

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church traces its origin to the Solomon's congregation that began in 1793. A doctrinal dispute arose in 1845 and within two years, one faction moved to Forestville, where they worshiped in the Free Church Building until 1873. In that year, the Rev. J. A. Snyder, pastor of the St. Matthew's Church in New Market, helped organize St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

The first officers of the new congregation were Noah Zirkle and William Whistler

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who were elders and Isaac Bowers and Nathaniel S. Foltz who were deacons.

On September 4, 1873 a service was held with Professor J. B. Davis, D.D., preaching and the founding pastor, Rev. Snyder, led the congregation to the site of the current building where they laid the cornerstone for new church. The new building was dedicated on August 4, 1874.

St. Mark's Evangelical Church continued as a part of the parish that consisted of St. Matthew's and (from 1890) St. Martin Lutheran churches until 1932. In 1934 St. Mark's, St. Martin, and Mount Zion joined together under the leadership of the Rev. Edward T. Bollinger to form the Quicksburg Lutheran Parish of which St. Mark's and St. Martin remain members to this day.

The churches of the parish joined together to construct a parsonage in Quicksburg in 1934-1935. This house remains the home of the parish pastor and the office of the parish.

St. Mark's is a congregation of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is a member of the Central Valley Conference of that synod.

*Submitted by Pastor James B. Davis, November 2012*



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