



The Lion of St. Mark's

SEPTEMBER 2007

Sunday School Starts September 9th!

Will YOU be there?

Do you remember your first Sunday School teacher? How about your favorite Sunday School teacher?

You know the one ~ as soon as the car came to a stop you couldn't wait to run into his or her arms!

And who could forget learning all those wonderful Bible stories?

Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt, Joseph and his coat of many colors, Daniel in the Lion's Den, Meshach, Shadrach and Abednigo in the fiery furnace and, of course, Elijah and the prophets of Baal ~ and that was just the Old Testament!

You learned about the life of Jesus ~ the angels that announced His birth, the shepherds and magi that came to see Him, the way He fed 5,000 with just a few loaves of bread and some fish. And who could forget Him raising Lazarus from the grave? And didn't your heart hurt when you learned about His death on the cross?

But then you learned that Jesus rose from the dead and your heart rejoiced!

The New Testament taught us about so many followers of Jesus who inspired us to follow Him more closely ~

Peter, James & John, Stephen, Paul, Silas, Lydia, and Timothy.

Didn't you just love learning about your Heavenly Father?

Well, it doesn't have to end because we have a Sunday School class for you!

What's that? You think you're too old?

You can never be too old or too young to learn about God ~ because God is always teaching!

Fall back in love with the Lord again—at Sunday School!!

"I know your works, your toil & your patient endurance. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first." Revelation 2:2a & 4

Or . . . Perhaps YOU want to become someone's favorite teacher?

Think about it. Your favorite teacher wasn't your favorite because they were perfect, they were your favorite because you knew they loved you & cared about you & were willing to spend time with you.

That's all it takes to be a Sunday School teacher. God's love and your willingness to do His will.

Openings are available in the following Sunday School classes:

Pre-K: December, January, March, April, May

2nd and 3rd Grade: January, April, May

Kindergarten and 1st Grade: March, April, May

4th and 5th Grade: September, January, April, May

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade: January, March, May

"You shall love the Lord you God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." ~Deuteronomy, 6:5-9

Our structuring of the Sunday School program requires a commitment of just one month at a time. Please call Sharon or Bernadette soon about which month you would like to teach.

COUNCIL UPDATE

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The Congregation Council met in regular session on Monday, August 20, 2007 in the Crossways Room.

- The Council received voluminous report from the pastor, officers and committees concerning the activities in the parish through the summer.
- The Council by consensus accepted the recommendation to use Heritage Catering of Jersey Shore for the Consecration Sunday meals this year.
- The Council by consensus agreed to use the job description prepared and adopted by the Mutual Ministry Committee for the new position of Publicity Director as a working document for developing the position to be held by Melinda Wentzel, with the understanding that more formal arrangements should continue to be negotiated and presented to the Council in November.
- The Council heard a brief presentation from Sharon Comini, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator, concerning the continuing need for members of the Council and congregation to step forward for service as Sunday School teachers for one-month terms.
- The next regular meeting is set for September 17, 6:30 P.M. A brief special meeting may be necessary before that date concerning the HVAC unit on the Parish House, TBA.

From the Parish Register

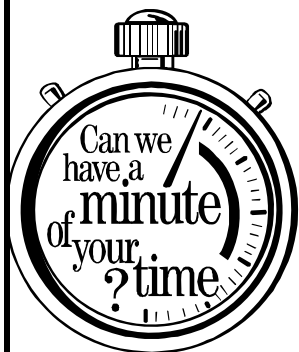
- A celebration of life service was held for William Poff on August 1, 2007.
- A celebration of life service was held for Robert Lamade on August 4, 2007.
- A celebration of life service was held for Geraldine Shipman on August 9, 2007.
- A celebration of life service was held for Louise Kneeder on August 26, 2007.
- A celebration of life service will be held for Annabelle Smith on August 30, 2007.

Website & E- Mail Addresses

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CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY NEWS



Why? Oh, Why?

Why should I use any of my time in our work together in St. Mark's congregation?

Why should I use my particular skills for the benefit of anyone but myself?

Why should I put any of my hard-earned cash to work through St. Mark's?

These are questions of stewardship, of what we say and do after we have said "I believe." Every one of us must answer them every day, whether we are thinking about them or not!

The first answer to the question of "Why?" is (1) gratitude to God for all of the gifts that we have received and continue to receive. In spite of the griefs and sorrows, in spite of the aches and pains, still we have received so much from the hand of the Lord God who made us. Our task is to figure out how best to say "Thank you" to God. And so we use time, and abilities, and possessions in ways that will let someone else know what we have discovered about the nature of God.



When we do this sharing with someone else, we are (2) copying the pattern of God's action with us; our generosity is in imitation of God's generosity with us. We have been granted a unique (3) privilege to serve the Lord God by serving one another both inside and outside of our congregation.

Part of that serving involves encouraging each other to discover how we can better use all of our resources: time, abilities, possessions, and finances. The most visible way we do that each year is our process called *Consecration Sunday*. The Council has set the date of Sunday, October 21 for this event this year. Our guest on that day will be The Rev. Gordon Smith, Pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Bloomsburg PA, a strong and encouraging speaker who will lead us in opening our hearts and minds to the Word of God. We will all have an opportunity to prayerfully offer our estimate of financial giving cards for the coming year at the end of the service, and then to move to a catered celebration brunch in the Fellowship Hall following the 8:00 service, and a celebration lunch following the 10:30 service. At the conclusion of each meal, the total of estimates presented at the services will be announced.

Look and listen carefully to the announcements that will be made in the coming weeks, and set aside the date of October 21 for these important events.

Focusing on the Future

We have very significant answers to the question of "Why?"

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

Kits & Soap due Sunday, September 16th!!



School Kit

- 3 spiral bound notebooks (8"x11" lined, 70 pgs.)
- 1 pair blunt metal scissors
- 1 12" or 30cm ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 6 new pencils w/ erasers
- 1 2 1/2" eraser
- 12 sheets construction paper
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

Pack in cloth bag and secure with cord or rubber bands



Layette Kit

- 2 shirts or Onesies
- 2 gowns or sleepers
- 2 receiving blankets
- 4 cloth diapers
- 1 sweater
- 2 washcloths
- 1 bath size baby soap
- 2 diaper pins

Wrap in one receiving blanket and secure with diaper pins



Health Kit

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 bar of soap (bath size)
- 1 toothbrush*
- 1 wide-tooth comb
- 1 metal nail file or clippers
- 6 band-aids

No Toothpaste Please

Wrap in towel and tie with ribbon or yarn



Sewing Kit

- 3 yards 45" cotton fabric or
- 4 yards 36" cotton fabric
- 1 pack of hand needles
- 1 spool matching thread
- 6 buttons on a card or
- 6 buttons tied on string

Wrap inside of fabric and secure with yarn or ribbon



Lunch N' Fellowship With Bette McCrandall!



**Wednesday, September 19th at Noon
Meat Loaf & Baked Potatoes**

Bette McCrandall, whose name we hear in the prayer of the Church each week, and whom we have supported financially over the years, will be visiting St. Mark's on Wednesday, September 19. She will be with us for conversation and a brief presentation at the Luncheon Fellowship that day. The Women of the ELCA intend to hold their fall meeting on that same day.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

Help Needed for Unborn Twins!



A local family in need has contacted St. Mark's for help. The mother is pregnant with twins and is at high risk for pre-term labor. She has been put on bed rest for the duration of the pregnancy with a due date in October although most sets of twins are born prematurely. The family is requesting help for the babies.

Donations of disposable diapers in sizes from newborn to bigger sizes and baby wipes are being accepted. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Checks can be made payable to St. Mark's. These funds will be used to assist the family with transportation in the event the babies are born at Geisinger Medical Center or for other needs of the babies.

Please consider helping this family and their unborn children. Donations will be accepted during August and September and may be placed in the box in the Narthex.

Habitat for Humanity Luncheon

Becky Miller Pryor wishes to thank the congregation for their financial support of our recent luncheon for two families on Charles Street in Williamsport. These funds covered the cost of the hotdogs and barbeque.

A thank you is also given to Kitty Calvert, Donna Elkin, Mary Schultz, Lois Smith, and Elsie Sechler for providing other luncheon foods. Donna, Elsie, and Gladys Knauss assisted on-site with grilling and serving food to some very hungry folks.

I'm also pleased to announce that Elsie and Gladys have agreed to



"In-Between Brunch" September 2nd



It's time for our "In-Between Brunch;" in-between summer and fall, and in-between our two services.

The date is September 2, and the place, (depending on the weather) is either the Courtyard or Fellowship Hall at 9:00 A.M. Come and enjoy each other's company and breakfast treats.

New Windsor Bus Trip Cancelled



Missed a service? Don't fret!

Call Shirley Vognet or the church office for a tape of any service!



Tape Committee,
Jim Buckman, John Burkholder, Frank Vognet

Nurse's Notes

September 2

It is state fair time! You would need to walk one mile (12 city blocks) to burn 100 calories. Here is the distance you would need to walk to "burn off" your favorite midway foods:

- * Carmel Apple - 3 miles * Funnel cake (6") - 3 miles
 - * Large corn dog - 4.5 miles * Soft drink (32 oz.) - 2.5 miles
 - * Cotton Candy - 1.5 miles * Sno-cone - 2.5 miles
 - * Soft pretzel - 3 miles * Fried candy bar on stick - 3 miles
- (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Extension - Alice Henneman, MS, RD)

September 9 Better-for-you Recipe Substitutions

Substitute half of butter/margarine with applesauce, mashed banana or prune puree

For one egg, substitute 2 egg whites or ¼ egg substitute

Instead of fruit-flavored yogurt, substitute plain yogurt and fresh fruit

For dried bread crumbs, substitute rolled oats or crushed bran cereal

September 16

A common side effect to some psychiatric medications is dry mouth. Listed are a few simple remedies:

- © Take frequent sips of water throughout the day
- © Avoid coffee, tea, sodas, alcohol - all increase frequency of urination and cause further dehydration
- © Keep water by your bed to sip during the night
- © Drink water with meals
- © Use sugar-free candy or chewing gum to increase moisture
- © Consider using a humidifier at night when heat is on in your home

If symptoms continue, tell your doctor. Dry mouth can increase your risk of cavities, so pay attention to good oral hygiene.

September 23 10 Great Health Foods

1. **Apples** - loaded with soluble fiber that helps lower cholesterol, and a great source of Vitamin C
2. **Almonds** - packed with nutrients, fiber, iron and calcium and protein
3. **Blueberries** - rich source of phytonutrients to help prevent urinary tract infections; also thought to improve memory
4. **Broccoli** - good source of calcium, potassium, folate (iron) and fiber
5. **Red beans** - good source of iron; low-fat and low calorie protein and fiber source
6. **Salmon** - heart healthy source of Omega-3 fatty acids; good source of protein
7. **Spinach** - high in Vitamins A & C, as well as iron, calcium and iron
8. **Sweet potatoes** - high in beta carotene; may slow the aging process and reduce the risk for certain types of cancer; low in calories - one small = 54 calories
9. **Vegetable juice** - great source of lycopene, which may reduce risk of heart attack and prostate cancer
10. **Wheat germ** - highly concentrated source of niacin, thiamin, riboflavin, Vitamin E and several minerals.

September 30

According to a report on a Stanford University study (*Prevention, September 2007, pg. 34*).

"Night Owls" - those who go to bed after 1 a.m. are more likely to suffer signs of depression, poor appetite, pessimism and score higher on depression screenings than those who retire before 10:30 p.m.

ELCA WOMEN NEWS

Come & Quilt!

Starting Wednesday morning, September 5th, join our quilting group. We meet each week at 9:15 a.m. to assemble and knot three layers of fabric together to construct a quilt. All you need are scissors and a desire to help. The quilts not only can provide warmth on a cold night, but also shelter from the sun, a room divider, or even a backpack to carry belongings. Making them is a rewarding task while enjoying



Women's Kickoff Meeting

For our fall kickoff we will again join Lunch N' Fellowship on September 19th at noon in Fellowship Hall. Bette McCrandall, our missionary to Liberia, will be the guest. Come and meet Bette. Hear about her harrowing days during the long civil war in Liberia. God's grace and her faith carried her through. Now Liberia is recovering and making considerable progress. Much credit goes to our Upper Susquehanna Synod. She will have much to say. Bring a dish to share, your

Rummage Sale & Bazaar

Saturday, October
13th

9 am—2 pm

Please donate:

Household Items China Small Appliances

Attic Treasures Chests
Dishes

Lamps Kitchen items Crystal

Pictures Bedding Bric-A-Brac

We Need:

- (1) Old blankets for quilt fillers
- (2) Empty corrugated boxes with lids to pack quilts and kits.



"Morning Pastor. I'm out on parole, and part of my sentencing is to perform a community service. Would you like me to do the 8 o'clock or the 10:30?"

USS ARK, SYNOD & WEST BRANCH NEWS

USS ARK



PENTECOST
SEASON
AUGUST 2007

Newsletter of the Upper Susquehanna Synod + Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

A Message from Bishop-Elect Robert Driesen

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I prepare to become the second bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, I urge you to pray for me and all those affected by the transition we undertake. While I continue to seek the counsel of many, I share with you my understanding of my new role, and my initial, tentative thoughts regarding my vision for the mission we share.

A bishop, like all pastors, is to represent Christ to the church, just as all the baptized are to be the image of Christ both within the church and to the world. Preaching, presiding at the altar, and teaching are, first and foremost, the ministry of the bishop. Like pastors in the local community, the bishop presides over the sacraments, preaches the Gospel, absolves sin, and provides oversight; but in the bishop's case this is oversight over a larger jurisdiction, the synod. This oversight consists in seeing that all the baptized—ordained, commissioned, consecrated, laity—are, indeed, images of the Christ they incarnate, that the Word they proclaim and the sacraments they administer are Christ. To this end, it is the bishop who ordains new pastors, who listens to them, counsels them, and, when appropriate, defends them and/or disciplines them.

Pastor to Pastors

Pastors and their families need a pastor. The bishop is called to be that pastor, to comfort them at times of sorrow, to rejoice with them during times of gladness, to challenge them when complacent, to join with them in the mission we share. I hope to elicit the help of our conference deans and all of you in keeping me informed of the joys and concerns of our pastors. Surely, next to preaching, presidency, and teaching, the care of pastors and congregations is my priority. I realize, of course, that the demands of my office may overwhelm and prevent the attention I seek to provide to all my various responsibilities; but, if our new structure is fully implemented, I can assure you that one of my assistants will share the responsibility for caring for our rostered leaders, and the other will assist in the care of congregations.

Congregations need a chief pastor, a bishop, who constantly reminds them that while the church resides in their local communities, the church also transcends their local communities. We confess one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, not a multitude of independent churches focused solely upon parochial concerns. Together, we will be about what the church is doing in the world: the hungry will be fed, the lonely will be visited, justice will be sought for and with the poor, the sick will be healed, the homeless housed, the spiritually hungry will be comforted.

Great Treasure

We live in a beautiful region of the Commonwealth with majestic mountains, clean streams and rivers, quality education, arts and culture, and an abundance of recreational opportunities. In short, we share an exceptional quality of life! Whether it is the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Buggy Days in Mifflinburg, the McClure Bean Soup Festival, or Wellsboro's Mountain Laurel Days, our roots are deep and our commitments to family are strong. Nonetheless, we also know the heartbreak of broken-



Bishop-Elect Driesen presiding at the Rite of Confirmation at Messiah, S. Williamsport, where he served as senior pastor.

ness. Too many of our children leave the area to find jobs elsewhere, especially those who are college-educated. Our industrial resources have either left or are in decline. The retired seek a more comfortable life either as "snow birds" or permanent residents in the South. I assure you, however, that this is neither a cause for pessimism nor explanations available to provide us with excuses for our struggles. The Gospel is the gift of God's Spirit addressed to us—our hopes and our fears. We have inherited a great treasure but one that is living and continually confronts us with the need to address the reality in which we find ourselves.

The most important quality of a bishop in the 21st century, therefore, is to be mission-driven. Ninety-five percent of membership in America comes from parishioners transferring from one congregation to another. We need leaders that will spend more time teaching pastors and all the baptized to become more concerned about people who are lost or last, and people who aren't in a relationship with Jesus.

Reaching Out

The Upper Susquehanna Synod has lost a significant number of members. The question is not only why—because the answer to that question may do nothing more than provide us with useful excuses—but also what should we be doing to reach the significant number of people in our communities who have never known Christ or who are members of the church but who no longer know what it means to be Christian and who have little understanding of the Gospel or the commitment required by the baptized life.

continued on back

Bishop Driesen's Installation

Sunday, October 21 — 3:00 PM

Weber Chapel — Susquehanna University
Reception Precedes Service

Come, Greet and Pray for Our New Bishop!

USS ARK, SYNOD & WEST BRANCH NEWS

Bishop-Elect's Message *(continued)*

The church faces a potential leadership crisis in the retirement of a significant number of its current pastors within the next ten years. The bishop, pastors, and all the baptized, can play an important role in challenging capable persons to discern the possibility of a call to leadership within the church. Youth ministry needs to focus on creating leaders for not only the world but also the church. Our camps, campus ministries, and congregations need to identify persons for the ministry and to provide children and young people with the opportunity to serve as leaders in all areas of the church's life—from Synod Council and committees to congregational ministry, including greater roles in worship.

It is essential for the congregations of this synod to sense their connection to the whole church. Two-way communication is essential. Regular, timely communication from the synod regarding educational and ministry opportunities needs to be improved. The bishop needs to focus on the need to connect with congregations and to listen to their concerns as we shape the ministry of the synod. The new synodical structure would be an important step in this direction. With assistants to the bishop regularly attending conference meetings, the bishop, through them, should be able to both be in more regular contact with the synod's leadership and to hear their suggestions and concerns. It is equally important for those assistants, however, as well as the bishop, to make regular Sunday visits to congregations, to preach, preside and teach, and to develop collegial relations with the members of our congregations.

An Invitation

Join me in the months ahead, as together we move forward as the Upper Susquehanna Synod. God has gifted us with capable leaders, a devoted laity, and willing volunteers. I need all of you, as we continue to dream together, forming our vision of the Upper Susquehanna Synod's mission.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+ Robert L. Driesen,
Bishop-Elect

Our Missionary in Liberia

Pr. Ronald Shellhamer is in the process of beginning a two-year commitment as an ELCA missionary to Liberia.

He will have multiple tasks and responsibilities in the role, living in Totota, a two-hour drive into Liberia's interior from the capital of Monrovia. He will serve as a teacher at the newly-established Lutheran Center for Biblical Studies and has been asked to commit one or two days each week at the Gbarnga (pronounced Bong-ga) School of Theology, another two-hour drive from Totota. This latter is an ecumenical seminary and institution for religious studies.

At both schools Shellhamer will teach Old and New Testament, Lutheran Systematic Theology, and Lutheran Liturgy and Worship Practices. He will also travel to remote places and isolated villages from time to time to provide instruction for congregational members and to interact with people at worship and other special times.

His interest began when he visited the country as a short-term missionary in January-February 2002. Shellhamer will return to America for a one-month vacation in 2008 and for three months in 2009. The position can be renewed for another two years at that point, pending personal input and agreement between the ELCA and the Lutheran Church in Liberia.

Liberia endured 14 years of civil conflict, ending in 2003. The Upper Susquehanna Synod is in a companion synod relationship with the Lutheran Church in Liberia.

Up and Down the Valleys

+ **Christ, Milton.**, voted to issue a regular call to Pr. Pat Pittsnogle. She had been serving the congregation under a two-year term call.

+ **Good Shepherd, Berwick**, recently received twenty new members in two separate new member classes. **John Koons** is pastor.

+ **Aaron Werner** will serve **St. James, Rauchtown**, as intern for the coming year. Aaron is a student at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

+ **Pr. James P. Bricker** retired from **Trinity, McAlisterville**. The congregation held a thank-you brunch for Pr. Bricker and his wife **June** on July 29. June Bricker had served as organist.

+ **Grace, Berwick**, voted to use a bequest received for "capital improvements" to relocate to a new site. The congregation had four options from which to choose. An offer to donate 6 acres of land for the new site was accepted. Permits and other legalities need to be completed.

+ **Christ's United, Millmont** ("Four Bells") extended a call to **John Yost** to serve as pastor. He began August 1.

+ **Maurice "Chip" Frontz** was honored by **Messiah, S. Williamsport**, for five years of service as associate pastor. Musicians Candace Watkins and Carol Waltz wrote a song in his honor.

+ **Lynette Reitz**, member of **St. John's, Watsontown** (Delaware Run) and member of the ELCA Church Council, was promoted to full professor of sociology, anthropology, social work, and geography at Lock Haven University. Lynette is the daughter of Ruth and the late Pr. George Doran.

+ Forty people (35 from **St. Luke, Bloomsburg**) traveled to New Orleans in June to contribute to the cleanup and rebuilding effort there.

+ **Zion, Renovo**, has entered into a joint ministry with Trinity Episcopal Church. **Deacon Dee Calhoun** is serving both congregations. She will be ordained this fall.


Liberia Update

Bp. Main and Dr. Robert Bradford with their wives visited the Lutheran Church in Liberia, including a stop at Totota where Pr. Shellhamer will be teaching.

Under the leadership of Esther Thomas, 233 students, mostly ex-child soldiers, are studying at the Lutheran Training Institute near Salayae. Curran Hospital is completely under roof and has the beds donated by Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries from Ohesson Manor in Lewistown, plus a staff of Liberian physicians. The ELCA is working on hiring a surgeon.

The group saw road improvements, re-roofed churches, and Lutheran schools furnished with desks from the Upper Susquehanna Synod. People are grateful that the war has ended and are working to rebuild their country.

excerpted from West Branch Conference News, Pr. Detlef Huckfeldt



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A View from the Pew

Lots of news from one of St. Mark's first families of music- Jeff Thayer, son of Fred and Pat , married Julie Fagan on the 9th of June. Jeff and Julie met at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California. Julie is a French horn player who plans to take graduate work at Rice University in Houston, Texas, in the Fall. Jeff is concertmaster of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra.

Marc Thayer, vice-president of education and community partnerships at the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, spent two weeks in Iraq this summer. His trip was sponsored by American Voices, a cultural organization that provides quality artistic experiences for artists and audiences in parts of the world newly opened to those experiences. Additionally, he worked with three orchestras.

He was part of a group of ten musicians who went to Erbil, Iraq which is in the northern part of the country and he was sent to work with string and chamber musicians, introducing the Suzuki method and giving both group and individual lessons.

His blog, which is fascinating to read, describes the weather, very hot and dry, 110-120 degrees; the food, quite good; and most importantly his interaction with the people.

Erbil is a Kurdish area and more secure than other places in Iraq and the orchestras he worked with were very eager to learn, very receptive to the training they received and "incredibly polite, courteous and patient". There were others there from Baghdad and Suleimanya who spoke other dialects so translation was a real challenge.

The group took instruments, parts and music with them as those things are hard to come by there. He talks of security, of bomb-sniffing dogs, sharpshooters and the like. But speaks of the people as the most sincere, honest and reliable group that he has known. Their manner he describes as "gentle appreciation for what Marc's group was doing mixed with frustration for what they don't have."

It is impossible to sum up all of his observations in these short paragraphs - I am going to put his blog on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and I would recommend it to all of you. It was inspirational to read of the efforts of this group to help the Iraqi people in a most unique way.

Other good news: Marc Kinney, son of Jackie and Mike, was invited to spend a week at Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week at Lycoming College. He applied and was recommended by his accounting teacher. 1800 out of 3000 applications were accepted. Marc is a junior at Williamsport Area High School and hopes to study business management in college.

Several of our young people were off to college : Caitlin Butters, daughter of David and Carol, is off to East Stroudsburg; Jamie Larson, daughter of Ernie and Nancy, leaves for Bloomsburg University in August and Jeremiah Bittner, son of Scott and Brenda, is enrolled at Robert Morris in Pittsburgh. David Elkin is off to Duquesne for his final year of graduate school.

Rachel Clausen and her fiancé Joe Reiter leave in August for music teaching positions in Danville, Va. Both added their wonderful voices to the Senior Choir and we will miss them but wish them all the best. They are planning a December wedding at St. Mark's.

If there are other departing college students, please let me know and I will include them next time - also let me know if there is something else I should include! Till next time!

United Churches News



Food Pantry Update

Items Needed:

- Canned Fruits & Vegetables*
- Sugar*
- (Kool-Aid & Lemonade)*
- Saltine Crackers*
- Coffee & Tea Bags*
- Elbow & Egg Noodles*
- Canned Stews*
- Mac-N-Cheese Pasta*
- Powdered Drink Mixes*
- Jello & Pudding Mixes*
- Oodles of Noodles*
- Chunky Soups*

New in the Crossways Room this fall

I Believe, Help My Unbelief is the name of the study that will be happening in the Crossways Room on Sunday mornings this fall. We'll be taking a fresh look at the Apostles' Creed and discovering its Biblical basis and how it continues to speak to us today. The Apostles' Creed may seem like such a routine part of worship that we don't think much about it, but its heartfelt convictions are just as important now as all those centuries ago when it was written, and just as significant in answering the truly big questions.

Jump into something old and something new when the discussion begins on September 9, at 9:15 in the Crossways Room in the choir hallway. There's a seat for many at the table, and if needed, we will make the circle larger to hold the crowd of curious and questioning folks. Plan on being a part of it.

DID YOU KNOW?

An ELCA periodical *Seeds for the Parish* reports that a researcher, Thom Rainer has discovered some important things. After interviewing thousands of persons, he found that:

- Very few unchurched persons have had someone share with them how to become a Christian. And Christians have not been particularly influential in their lives.
- Many of the unchurched persons are far more concerned about the spiritual well-being of their children than of themselves.
- Most unchurched persons feel guilty about not attending church.
- **Only 2 percent of church members have ever invited an unchurched person to come to church with them.**

Will you do something to change these observations?

Lycoming County 2007 Life Chain

Please mark your church calendars for this year's Life Chain. As in the prior 15 years it will be held on the first Sunday of October at 2:30 p.m. on East Third Street (the "Golden Strip") Williamsport, PA. The goal of the organization committee is to have 90 churches participate with 2000 individuals praying for the lives of unborn children. The date is October 7, 2007.

The answer to a crisis pregnancy is to eliminate the crisis, *not the child.*

We will be calling you!



In our effort to update our records, we will be calling for e-mail addresses. If this inconveniences those without e-mail, please consider the call an opportunity to chat with the caller!
We look forward to talking with you!!!

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

BACK to School

Tips for Parents & Grandparents



- Many students will head back to class this month. As you shop for school supplies, help your child choose additional supplies for needy children in your community. You can help little ones write a Christian note of encouragement to include with your donation.



- Take a few moments before school begins to type up several “Lunch Lines”—little notes you can tuck into your child’s lunch each day. Use the notes to encourage your child to live for Christ, share Jesus’ love, commit school work to the Lord, and so much more. Even nonreaders will appreciate simple sketches like a cross, heart, or the child’s name.
- Get a list of your child’s teachers and begin to pray for them. If you feel comfortable, ask the teachers what needs you might specifically lift up to the Lord on their behalf. Thank and praise God for the teachers who will guide your child this year.
- Begin a tradition this school year. On the first day of school, make a special breakfast or eat at a local restaurant to mark the special day. If mornings seem too hectic, plan a special after-the-first-day-of-school activity that the entire family can enjoy: miniature golf, backyard baseball, or dinner and an early movie. End the special time with a family prayer for the new school year.



- Many morning routines will change as school begins. Call a family meeting to discuss ways to make the mornings go smoothly. Need suggestions? Encourage children to choose school clothes the night before. Give each child his or her own alarm clock. Plan lunches ahead of time or purchase

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

145th Pennsylvania State Sunday School Annual Convention October 19 & 20, 2007

Convention Theme: "The Word of God is Not Restricted" (II Tim. 2:9b)

Newville First Church of God, 475 Shippensburg Road (Route 533 West), Newville, PA
The 2007 Convention will feature over 25 different workshops, special music, displays, free literature, a lunch served at the host church and much, much more.

Workshop Session #1 Friday, 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

"Getting Children Started in Christian Outreach"
"The Word of God is Not Fettered"
"Teaching Youth in the 21st Century Church"
"Making the Lord's Day a Very Special Day"
"Be the Leader You Were Meant to Be"
"What Every Sunday School Superintendent Should Know"

Workshop Session #2 Saturday, 9:30 to 10:25 a.m.

"Value Building: Molding Christian Character through the Sunday School"
"Meeting the Needs of Special Needs Students"
"Starting a New Adult Sunday School Class"
"Attracting Youth & Young Adults to Your Church"
"Spiritual Leadership in Marriage"

Workshop Session #3 Saturday, 10:35 to 11:30 a.m.

"From Ministry Madness to Ministry Management"
"Prison Ministry: The Harvest is Truly Plenteous but the Laborers are Few"
"Caring Ministry"
"Carlisle Cares: Reaching Out to the Homeless of Your Area"

Workshop Session #4 Saturday, 12:50 to 1:45 p.m.

"Storytelling Techniques: Introducing Children to the Heroes of the Bible"
"Developing a Child Safety Program for Your Church"
"What the Bible Says About Healthy Living" (Part 1 "Why Jewish People Reject the Gospel")
"The Challenge of Teaching"
"Teaching Youth with Active/Discovery Learning"

Workshop Session #5 Saturday, 1:55 to 2:50 p.m.

"Babies and Toddlers Do Learn"
"Establishing a Resource Library for Your Church"
"Leading Effective Bible Discussion for Adults"
"Helping Youth Experience the Truths of the Bible"
"What the Bible Says About Healthy Living" (Part 2)

Please consider joining Sharon and Bernadette for this informative and enriching event.
Call the office or e-mail them for more information.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

*See You at the Pole™
September 26, 2007*

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. John 17:20-23

It's tough being a Christian student today. We're forced to make a lot of choices about who we are, and who we're not. We're supposed to be deciding on our future, when the present is hard enough to deal with.

We have a lot of dividing lines drawn for us. They're invisible, but we see them clearly every day. The grade we're in, the kind of grades we make, overachievers, underachievers, geniuses, slackers. The groups we hang with--jocks, preps, goths, sk8rs, gamers, or geeks. As a Christian, the church we attend, how we pray, the way we worship, and how we interpret the Bible. And yeah, even in 2007 race can still divide. Many of us are asking, "Where do I belong? Who cares about me? Why don't I fit in?"

See You at the Pole™ isn't about groups, grades, clothes, or churches. It's about praying. It's about all of us coming together and laying aside all the labels for one day, simply to call out to God, just as Jesus did in John 17 and say, "Lord, may we be one in you--whether jocks, preps, geeks, Pentecostals, Baptists, Catholics, freshmen, or seniors--may the world believe that You are real and have sent us to touch other through you, regardless of the dividing lines drawn by a broken world!"

So are you in? Are you ready whatever group you're in, to join us in the circle?

GATHER. UNITE. PRAY.
come together.
John 17:20-23

Join your generation of faith on Wednesday, September 26, at 7 a.m.,

GATHER at your school flagpole,

UNITE in the name of the One Who died to save you, and

PRAY for your school, friends, and families.

COME TOGETHER, just as Jesus prayed we would.

See You at the Pole is now held each year on the fourth Wednesday of September. This change was in response to the needs of students to have more time to organize See You at the Pole after the school year begins.

There is also more information on the See You at the Pole web site, www.syatp.com.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



“IN THE BEGINNING...”

The cast of 37 performers, ranging in age from 5 to ??? (we'll never tell), entertained an audience on Sunday evening, August 5, after a delicious pot-luck supper (with Dick's meatloaf), with the musical presentation of Genesis.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone involved with this great event: cooks, parents, grandparents, children and well-wishers—without any of whom we would not have been able to accomplish what we did.

You are all a wonderful gift from God!

CAST:

Lou Kolb
 Kyle Wilson
 Riley Weber
 Theoron Hershey
 Madalyn Fortin
 Annika Waffenschmidt
 Madison Walz
 Morgan Comini
 Declan Jones
 Christina Comini
 Makensi Doebler
 Kara Hershey
 Anna Zeigler

Laura Zeigler
 Stefan Weber
 Sara Jones
 Karen Boone
 Stephen Boone
 Deb Buckman
 Jim Buckman
 Ruth Burkholder
 Sharon Comini
 Eric Comini
 Lou DeSeau
 Bud Doebler
 Donna Elkin
 Stephanie Fortin

Trish Hershey
 Bob Jones
 Jane Kline
 Larry Lehman
 Lois Smith
 Pat Thayer
 Lisa Weaver
 Gary Weber
 Diana Zeigler
SUPPORT:
 Richard Lakey
 Bernadette Jones
 Shirley Kinney
 Jackie Kinney

Becky Pryor
 Sandy Dougherty
 Bonnie Mahoney
 Ruth Rees
 Mary Schultz
 Bob Schultz
 Dan Zeigler
 Shelby Weber
 Nick Buckman
 Pastor Elkin
 Susan Mahserjian-Smith
EQUIPMENT:
 Loyalsock School Dist.
 Comm. Arts Center

Friday Fun Night



September 21st
 6:30 p.m.

Children's Church

will resume Sunday, October 14.
 Please join us in worship
 with the whole family.

Trout Pond Park Family Fun Center

1935 Rte. 405 HWY, Muncy , PA

www.troutpondpark.com

Christian Skate Night 3rd Wednesday of every month 6:30-9:30 PM
 Skate rental \$2 or \$3 for Speed Skates or In-lines (groups of 10 or more free skate rental!)

All Christian Music and Fun Games

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

THE revolve TOUR
INSIDE OUT
 THE 2007-2008 EVENT FOR TEEN GIRLS FROM WOMEN OF FAITH
Join Me At The Revolve Tour
PHILADELPHIA, PA November 2-3, 2007
 Wachovia Spectrum

Let me know if you want to go!
 We'll need to register together so we can sit by each other.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS
revolvetour.com

Hawk Nelson Natalie Grant KJ-52 Ayesha Woods Chad Eastham Laura Wilkinson Kimiko Soldati Rachel Hockett

**Attention girls:
 6th-12th grade and your moms:
 Join us for the Revolve Tour!!
 Philadelphia, PA**

**How would you like to go to Philadelphia for a weekend?
 Join us for a great mother/daughter getaway to renew your faith,
 have a wonderful time and reconnect with the world around you.
 What is the Revolve Tour?**

It's a weekend of awesome music, amazing stories, faith and fun!
 It's designed specifically for teen girls (6th – 12th grades) with stuff they need & want to know.
 Girls who've been there say it's a life-changing, faith-building, totally sweet, beautiful, real, honest
 and intense experience.

Early bird deadline for registration is September 7, 2007!

**Check out the website: www.revolvetour.com,
 and see all the artists and events that will take place.
 Talk to your moms and friends about it & call Sharon if you are interested.
 Monies will be available to help defer the cost.**

MUSIC MINISTRY

Attention!!! All of You!!!



That means YOU....and YOUR RELATIVES!!!

We're on the look out for Choir Members!

That's Right!!

Those of you who can carry a tune in a bucket &

Those of you who have a hole in your bucket!!!

There is room for EVERYONE!!!



The summer is nearing it's end and the choirs at St. Mark's are soon to begin rehearsals.

You may have been longing for just a hint of when our rehearsal schedule might



begin..

Here's you chance to get in on the fun from the very beginning...

Senior Choir	Thursday,	September 6th
7:30 PM		
Contemporary Choir	Sunday,	September 9th
11:40 AM		
Adult Handbells	Monday,	September
10th 6:45 PM		
Family Handbells	Sunday,	September
16th 5:00 PM		

THE WAY

THE WAY BEGINS ANEW!

Are you interested in a spiritually exhilarating, uplifting, rewarding and challenging experience? Sunday, September 16th, we begin with a new group, for the eighth season, the process we call **THE WAY**. Why not join the seventy five plus members of St. Mark's who have participated in this process as a candidate and/or a sponsor?

*"I wanted to do **The Way** process because I wanted to learn more. I liked the process very much. For some reason in this time of my life, it seems to be more important to me to learn more of my religion. It has come clear to me that religion needs to be part of our daily family life. The process covered a lot of questions and taught me a lot, but of course there is so much more to absorb. I would highly suggest to anyone this process because it was valuable to me."*

Bonnie Eyer

*"**The Way** process is a great way to refresh your memory of all you ever knew about being a Lutheran - also to learn much more that you didn't know. If you are ever privileged and blessed by being asked to be a sponsor - don't hesitate for a second - accept!"*

Dorothy Bingaman

Here is what a few recent members have to say about their experience:



The first Gathering will be an informational get together for anyone interested in knowing more about this process.

*"**The Way** was so much more than I could have ever imagined it being. The process itself was fun and undoubtedly rewarding. Discussions were refreshing, thought provoking and at times, moving. The people involved were warm and welcoming in every way, and no question was ever deemed 'stupid'. Thinking outside the box was highly encouraged and gave us a chance to 'exercise' our brains. I'd recommend the experience to anyone wishing to grow their faith and/or their circle of friends."*

Melinda Wentzel

*"**The Way** has introduced some wonderful people into my life. We have shared many personal thoughts and experiences. I have learned so much about being a Lutheran. It has been a true blessing to me! Thank you God".*

Jeanne Fargus

**Sunday,
September 16th
4:00 P.M. in the Crossways Room**

Lutheran Shared Ministry

The School of Religion

**Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24
7 - 9 p.m.**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church
142 Market Street, Williamsport**

Please Print Your Name _____

Put a 1 next to your first choice and a 2 next to your second choice.

_____ **WILL THE REAL JESUS PLEASE STAND UP?** Every Christmas and Easter, news magazines and TV channels feature Jesus prominently-but often the presentation is of a Jesus that "scholars" or "experts" say is very different from how the Church has portrayed him over the years. In recent years alone, we've heard about the DaVinci Code, the "Lost Tomb of Jesus" and the Jesus Seminar. What truth, if any, is there to these and similar portrayals of Jesus in the media? Can we trust the Church's witness to Jesus as he is portrayed in the four Gospels? These are some of the questions we will begin to explore in our time together. Presented by Pastor Frontz

_____ **SINGING THE FAITH.** A look at how our faith is expressed in hymns. The hymns to be studied fall into the categories of Hymns of the Creator, Hymns of Grace, Hymns of Comfort and Hymns of Prayer. Presented by Mrs. Carol Waltz

_____ **BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE.** This course is based on a book written by Liz Curtis Higgs. To be clear, this course is for everyone, not just women. We will use the book "Bad Girls of the Bible". Good humor is God-given and there's plenty of it in the book. In our course of four weeks we will meet four bad girls of the Bible-starting with Eve. We will have discussions why Potiphar's wife was bad to the bone, what made Lot's wife bad for the moment. And while we are having fun, we will explore a better understanding of the culture in biblical times and what those bad-girls from-the-past can teach us. Presented by Pastor Carla Volland

To help with room assignments, please advise us if you have physical limitations.

HEALTH, HEALING & WHOLENESS

“My son shall not go with you, for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should come to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to Sheol.”
(Gen. 42:38)

Jacob of course, is unwilling to even think of allowing his youngest son to accompany his brothers back into Egypt; he had already lost two sons, so the idea of letting this one – Benjamin – go, terrified him! It's never easy letting go. For those of you who are feeling a little empty after depositing your child at the college/university of his/her choice, this article is for you.

Missing your child is normal, particularly if you and were used to spending a great deal of time together. Single parents, in particular, may find those first few weeks a bit distressing. However, separation from our parents is exactly what we raise our children to do, and is a vital part of becoming a mature, confident adult. Be proud of the fact that your child can be independent of you - you've raised him/her well! Linger with them too long, and you are in danger of becoming what is affectionately referred to on campus as a “helicopter parent” – one who hovers just a little too much!

Life is full of changes and transitions, and going off to school means that both parent and child will need to navigate role and boundary changes. Here are a few tips that may help you make the adjustment:

- ♥ Chances are that your child went to college accompanied by a cell phone with “the family plan.” Avoid the urge to call during those first few weeks. If he/she contacts you with a problem, avoid the desire to jump in, and solve the problem for them. Instead, suggest who they might contact on campus to help deal with the issue – RA, academic advisor, counseling service. Allow him/her to determine the rhythm of contact with home.
- ♥ Stay out of roommate, grade and friend disputes. If you rush to rescue, you risk your child having more difficulty taking responsibility and learning to manage conflicted situations.
- ♥ Use email. With this mode of communication, you can expect a fairly quick response, plus there are fewer parental negative undertones, and it allows both parties to reflect before responding.
- ♥ Prepare yourself for that first visit home – you both have changed. Try to negotiate home rules before this time arises – it'll be less stressful for both. In addition, be prepared for him/her sleeping late. The bed at home is likely to be much more comfortable than the one in the dorm!
- ♥ Do not hesitate to step in if your child has experienced a physical or emotional trauma, or if you begin to suspect depression or disturbing behaviors. Every kid needs to feel that they have someone “in their corner.”

Finally, congregations can show their support for teens by introducing them to campus ministry, or by acknowledging this milestone with a quilt or prayer shawl; by providing goodie boxes during mid-terms or finals; or by sending birthday cards, holiday greetings, and the congregation's newsletter. Parents, learn about the services your child's college has to offer, so when that inevitable phone call comes regarding a disappointing grade, a roommate squabble, or doubts about a major, you will see your child, not as in need of rescue, but as an adult who is growing into making competent choices!

Back to School Blessings!
Debbie Best, Program Coordinator
Congregational Health Ministries & Family Life Service – Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries

Lutheran Planned Giving

Lutheran Planned Giving of Central and Northeastern Pennsylvania

Lutheran Planned Giving is a cooperative ministry of the ELCA, ELCA Synods, and ELCA related ministries providing planned giving education, donor assistance, and assistance to congregations in establishing a Mission Endowment Fund. Lutheran Planned Giving is here to serve you and your church without cost or obligation. For more information or to schedule a Legacy seminar please contact the Lutheran Planned Giving Office.

570-374-2044

Pr. Gregory Kramer

kramerga@ptd.net

Summer 2007

Lutheran Planned Giving
Member Ministries:

*Allegheny Lutheran Social
Ministries*

Allegheny Synod

Bear Creek Camp

*Camping Corporation of Cen-
tral Pennsylvania*

Camp Mount Luther

*Diakon Lutheran Social Min-
istries*

ELCA

Gettysburg College

Lower Susquehanna Synod

*Lutheran Social Ministries of
South Central Pennsylvania*

*Lutheran Campus Ministry at
Penn State*

*Lutheran Congregation Ser-
vices, Inc.*

*Lutheran Theological Semi-
nary Gettysburg*

*Lutheran Theological Semi-
nary Philadelphia*

LUTHERCARE

*Northeastern Pennsylvania
Synod*

*Sequanota Lutheran
Conference Center and Camp*

Susquehanna University

Upper Susquehanna Synod

Before You Sell

Are you thinking of cashing in some of your stocks or bonds? Do you have a vacant lot, a vacation home or some other piece of real estate you may sell soon? Whether securities or real estate, if you have owned the asset for more than a year and the value is higher than your cost, you may want to consider placing the property in a charitable trust.

The trustee of a charitable trust can sell appreciated assets without incurring tax on the capital gain. Then the entire proceeds, less selling costs, can be invested to provide a flow of income to you as an income beneficiary of the trust. At the end of the trust, normally upon the death of the income recipient(s), the principal will then be distributed to one or more charities.

If you sell your property yourself, a significant amount of the sale proceeds could be lost to taxes. With this trust, the full value (less selling costs) is invested to meet the goals of the trust. Think of the extra income this could mean to you during your lifetime.

Because the trust is irrevocable (you can't undo it) and the remainder eventually goes to charity, you receive an immediate income tax charitable deduction when you establish the trust. And, if you can't use all of the deduction the first year, the IRS allows you to carryover the unused deduction up to an additional five years.

The beautiful thing about a charitable remainder trust is that it allows you to make a deferred gift now to one or more ministries of the Church and yet retain a lifetime flow of income to help you through your retirement years. There are other benefits as well.

To learn more about the charitable remainder trust, or for more information about how to make gifts to your congregation and other ELCA ministries using a Will or how to use your estate for charitable gifting, please call Pro Greg Kramer at the Lutheran Planned Giving Office 570-374-2044.

This information is provided for educational purposes only and should not be considered professional tax or legal advice. Please consult with your tax or legal professional about your specific situation.

BIRTHDAYS

Jeannette Lukens	09/04	Theodore Larson	09/12	Tammy Fitzpatrick	09/17	
Brett Campbell	09/05	Beth Shafranko	09/12	Deborah Holmes	09/19	
Lauren Campbell	09/05	Marion Waldeisen	09/12	Richard Harris	09/20	
Valerie Doebler	09/05	Mary Ann Stiller	09/12	Ronald Arner	09/22	
Sean Elkin	09/05			Brittany Dewar	09/22	
Kirk Owen	09/05		Noah Hallabuk	09/22		
Hailey Jarrett	09/05		Jeffery Maggs	09/24		
Laura McCullough	09/06		Aeric Powley	09/24		
Betty Rechel	09/06		Richard Kneedler	09/25		
Derek Lewis	09/06		Blanche Doebler	09/26		
Debra Buckman	09/09		Alice Helm	09/13	Abigail Robertson	09/26
Ava Peluso	09/09		Timothy Maggs	09/13	Lawrence Satifka	09/28
Mary Clouser	09/10		Stefan Weber	09/13	Bailey Sims	09/28
Mark Davis	09/10		Shirley MacGill	09/15	Ralph Zeigler	09/28
Jane Oakes	09/10	Andrea Welker	09/15	Harold Davis	09/29	
Carol Harvey	09/11	Louella Bair	09/16	Pamela Fink	09/30	

ANNIVERSARIES

Ronald & Grace Arner	09/03		Johnny & Renee Hinds	09/19
Steven & Nancy Bieber Jr.	09/03		Michael & Jackie Kinney	09/25
Eric & Sharon Comini	09/03		Arthur & Jane Kline	09/27
Clifford & Jeannette Aderhold	09/10		James & Donna Maule	09/27
William & Marion Waldeisen	09/10		Robert & Michele Ramsauer	09/28

Dear friends,

If your birthday or anniversary is not recognized in the Lion we probably do not have the date in our computer or records. Please call me with your special dates so I can publish it in the appropriate issue.

I don't want anyone to feel left out or unrecognized on their special day. Thank you for helping me accurate records in our database.

In Him,
 Susan Mahserjian-Smith
 St. Mark's Parish Secretary

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 Thank you for providing food for our volunteers on Saturday, August 4th. Everyone enjoyed the food. Building houses makes one hungry. The meal was greatly appreciated!
 Thanks again.
 Williamsport/Lycoming
 Habitat for Humanity

My Dear Friends:
As I look back over the years, I am reminded just how much the Lord has taken care of me here at St. Anthony's. You play a part in helping to continue to do what we can for the poor.
As we begin our 27th year and well over a million meals being served, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity over the many years. You are part of our family here and we could not do what we do without you.
God bless you and thank you again and know that you are in my prayers each and every day.
In Christ's Name,
Sister Henry

To the people of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 On behalf of Mount Luther we would like to thank you for your recent gift of \$75 towards our annual fund. With open contributions such as your own, Mount Luther is able to continue to operate and provide ministry and education at a reasonable rate to the people of central Pennsylvania.

It is with gracious gifts such as your own that the ministry and mission of Mount Luther will continue to grow and thrive in the future. Thank you once more for your gift and we look forward to your continual support in the future.
 Sincerely,
 Chad Hershberger,
 Executive Director
 David Shank,
 Director of Finance & Development

Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 Your recent \$20 donation to the Shepherd of the Streets Ministry is greatly appreciated. Your gift has been deposited into the General Fund and will help serve the entire United Churches Ministry. Bless you for all your love and support.
 Karen Nelson, Volunteer

Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 Your recent \$100 donation to the Shepherd of the Streets Ministry is deeply appreciated. Thank you for your generosity. Your outpouring of compassion and love is a blessing, and we pray God will richly bless you all.
 Karen Nelson, Volunteer

Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 Thank you for the wonderful donation of sheets and blankets. So many people have been asking for sheets, but our shelves have been bare. You have been an answer to prayer, and we pray God will abundantly bless you for your act of love and compassion.
 Karen Nelson, Volunteer

Dear Friends,
 Thank you so much for the wonderful donation of clothing, blankets and assorted items you gave to the center. They will be greatly appreciated by our clients.
 Sincerely,
 Darlene
 Pregnancy Care Center Volunteer

Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
 Thank you for your generosity and continued support, in this ministry, as well as those in need are truly blessed to have friends like you. May God richly bless you for your many acts of kindness.

SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

Jeannette Aderhold
2809 Four Mile Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754

Patricia Alexander
1745 Chestnut St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Nancy Bohartz
624 Sixth Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Doris Brownlee
Fulmer's Personal Care Home
201 Woodward Ave.
Lock Haven, PA 17745

Ethel Chambers
1129 East Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Bonita Crossley
R.R. #1, Box 1001
Hills Grove, PA 18619-9300

June Decker
338 Sherwood Ave.
South Williamsport, PA 17702

Larue Dieter
2150 Warrensville Road, Apt. 2
Montoursville, PA 17754

Charles Ditchfield
327 Louisa St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Luther Doebler
Wmspt. Home, Apt. #115A
Williamsport, PA 17701

Jeanne Fargus
2001 Memorial Avenue, Apt 50
Williamsport, PA 17701

Harriet Fornwalt
729 Wilson Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Doris Fortin
Rose View Center
1201 Rural Ave., Room 223
Williamsport, PA 17701

Earl Foulkrod
Sycamore Manor
1445 Sycamore Rd., Rm. 403
Montoursville, PA 17754

Jean Gulliver
3039 Elimsport Road
Montgomery, PA 17752

John Hollenback
Williamsport Home
Spec. Nursing, Rm. #306
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701



Charles Homan
2215 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Charlotte Hughes
140 Blueberry Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701

Glenn Lunger
Messiah Village
Room 259W D Special Care Unit
100 Mt. Allen Drive,
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Lucille Markel
Rose View Court, Apt. 307
1251 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Anne Miller
947 Hepburn St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Jane Oakes
833 Funston Avenue
Williamsport, PA 17701

Anne Rhodes c/o Carole Finn
20308 Cabana Drive
Germantown, MD 20876

James Sheaffer
Rose View Center
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Mary Helen Scinicarello
Danville St. Hospital
Ward #311
Danville, PA 17821

Kester & Eleanor Sobers
425 W Highland Ave.
S. Williamsport, PA 17702

Ira Tuxford
1838 Blanchard Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Henrietta Tyson
2190 Grampian Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Zelma Vitolins
Sycamore Manor,
1445 Sycamore Rd., Rm. 325
Montoursville, PA 17754

Beulah Wrede
Faxon Commons,
1804 Loyalsock Drive, Apt 305
Williamsport, PA 17701

Ralph Zeigler Sr.
Rose View Court
1251 Rural Ave., Apt. 209
Williamsport, P A 17701

SAINT MARK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2007 St. Mark's Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 <i>Pentecost XIV</i> 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HC 9:15 AM In Between Brunch	3 **Office Closed**	4 8:00 AM City Pastors Mtg. 9:00 AM Morning Prayer	5 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 9:15 AM Staff Mtg. & Sewing 9:45 AM Little Lambs Liaison Mtg. 12:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry	6 6:31 AM Men's Ministry 8:00 AM Stephen Ministry 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 5:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:30 PM Senior Choir	7 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 8:15 PM Wedding Rehearsal	8 MDA Stride & Ride 11:00 AM Wedding
9 <i>Pentecost XV</i> 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HC 9:15 AM Sunday School 11:40 AM Cont. Choir	10 6:00 AM New Windsor Trip 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 6:45 PM Adult Handbells	11 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 7:00 PM Financial Com- mittee Mtg.	12 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 9:15 AM Staff Mtg. & Sewing 12:00 PM Bible Study	13 6:31 AM Men's Ministry 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 5:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:30 PM Senior Choir	14 9:00 AM Morning Prayer	15 Dinner for BCM
16 Kits & Soap Due <i>Pentecost XVI</i> 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HC 9:15 AM Sunday School 11:40 AM Kantorei 4:00 PM The Way 5:00 PM Fam. Handbell	17 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 4:30 PM Recorder Group 6:30 PM Council Mtg. 6:45 PM Adult Handbells	18 9:00 AM Morning Prayer	19 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 9:15 AM Staff Mtg. & Sewing 12:00 PM Lunch N' Fellowship with Bere McCrandall & Women's Kickoff Mtg. 7:00 PM New Worship Task Force	20 6:31 AM Men's Ministry 8:00 AM Stephen Ministry 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 5:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:30 PM Senior Choir	21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 6:30 PM Friday Fun Night	22 Synod Cantor Workshop Messiah
23 <i>Pentecost XVII</i> 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HC 9:15 AM Sunday School 11:40 AM Cont. Choir 4:00 PM The Way 5:00 PM Fam. Handbell	24 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 6:45 PM Adult Handbells	25 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 7:00 PM Family Promise	26 7:00 AM See You at the Pole 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 9:15 AM Staff Mtg. & Sewing 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Coll. Stud. Dinner @ Trinity Episc.	27 6:31 AM Men's Ministry 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 5:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:30 PM Senior Choir	28 Pastor leaves for Spain 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 9:15 AM Lion Crew	29 7:00 PM Family Promise
30 <i>Pentecost XVIII</i> 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HC 9:15 AM Sunday School 11:40 AM Kantorei 5:00 PM Fam. Handbell						

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It's that time of year again!

Time to go back to school!

St. Mark's Sunday School
begins
Sunday, September 9th at 9:15 a.m.

Classes are available for all ages!

We hope you'll join us!