



# The Lion of St. Mark's

APRIL 2010



## ***FAMILY PROMISE OF LYCOMING COUNTY OPENING!***

It was a cold night in February three years ago when the public first gathered to hear about the possibility of Family Promise becoming active in our community. The Lutheran Pastors of the area had first heard about this program and encouraged its introduction. An interest group gradually coalesced and began the process of recruiting congregations to eventually be hosts for homeless families.

**HOSTS** St. Mark's was the first congregation to officially say Yes to hosting. At present, there are 13 Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic congregations on board to become hosts, as well as four more as supporting congregations. We are continuing to search for additional parishes in both categories, but we have enough to begin the work.

**DAY CENTER** The headquarters for the network is the parsonage given rent free to the network by Redeemer Lutheran Church on Washington Blvd. This fine house has been cleaned, a second bathroom will be added shortly, appliances have been installed, and equipment and supplies are being gathered. There are small repairs to complete, and everything should be in readiness for our opening.

**TRANSPORTATION** The way for our guests to get from the hosting congregations to the Day Center is by 15 passenger van. After an extensive search, an excellent van was located and purchased using grants from the Plankenhorn Foundation and the Lycoming Community Foundation. It is parked at St. Mark's in readiness for use.



**LEADERSHIP** The development process has been undertaken by a Core Committee. In due course the Core Committee elected a Board to be the official governing body for Family Promise of Lycoming County, which was officially registered as an IRS501c3 charitable organization. The first officers of the Board are Kristi Hammaker of Messiah Lutheran as president, Pastor Kenneth Elkin of St. Mark's as Vice-President, Donna Maxwell of First United Methodist as Secretary, and Colleen Klinger of Lycoming Centre Presbyterian as Treasurer. The Board in turn has interviewed candidates and at length has selected the first Director for the network, Sarah McCloskey, a licensed clinical social worker now residing with her family in Lock Haven. This is the only paid position in the network. Sarah began officially on March 22 to organize all of the persons and materials needed to operate the organization.

**FINANCES** The big and continuing problem will be securing sufficient funds to operate. Each hosting congregation needs to contribute significantly to the network, and each supporting congregation will find appropriate ways to do so also. We need to increase the number of supporting congregations dramatically, for even a congregation that is small or whose building does not lend itself to being a host can still lend a hand by way of financial giving, as well as offering volunteers in another congregation's week to host. Individuals also can contribute directly to *Family Promise of Lycoming County*, 142 Market Street, Williamsport PA. Any who can are urged to become a member of *Club 180*, offering a gift of 50 cents per day toward the cause, or \$180 per year. (allowing 5 ¼ days vacation per year). Gifts in any amount are welcome, either through a hosting or supporting congregation, or directly. One can also take part in various fund-raising activities such as *Iron Chef Williamsport* on April 25, 2010 by purchasing a ticket and /or becoming a patron of the event. (Call 323-4619)

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## Council Notes

The Congregation Council met in regular session on March 15, 2010 in the Crossways Room. The Council:

1. Received the regular reports of the Pastor, officers, and committees.
2. Granted Letter of Transfer for the Matt Fortin family to St. Andrew's Church, Muncy.
3. Set the annual Assembly of the Congregation for May 16, 2010 following the 10:30 service.
4. Nominated Bob Miller, Gregg Dancho, and Nick Buckman for terms on the Congregation Council, for election by the Congregation in May. Two more positions remain to be nominated.
5. Approved the request that we sponsor an entry in the Little League parade in August.
6. Moved that all Sunday School offerings be used for SS program costs.
7. Prayed the office of Prayer at the Close of the Day in the chapel.
8. Noted that four activities were happening simultaneously in the building that night: Handbell Choir, Congregation Council, Civic Chorus, and Dog Club.

## Please join us during Holy Week

**Wednesday, March 31 ~ Seder Meal, 6:15 pm**  
Reservation Needed

**Thursday, April 1 ~ Holy Communion, Noon & 7 pm**

**Good Friday, April 2 ~ Ecumenical Service, 12-3 pm**  
Tenebrae Service, 7 pm

**Saturday, April 3~ Children's Breakfast with Pastor  
& Easter Egg Hunt, 9:45 am**  
Easter Vigil, 8 pm

**Easter Sunday, April 4 ~ Worship & Holy Communion**  
8 am & 10:30 am

## Staff & Officers Contact Information

Church Office	323-4619	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Church fax number	323-2452
The Reverend Kenneth Elkin, Pastor		pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Pastor's Home Phone	323-7367
Dick Lakey, Director of Music		rlakey@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org	
Bernadette Jones, Christian Education		bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Gary Weber, President	322-7149
Michele Owen, Christian Education		mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Todd Smith, Vice-President	220-1350
Susan M-Smith, Parish Secretary		smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Jane Zimmerer, Secretary	433-3324
Richard Wagner, Financial Secretary		rwagner@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Jackie Kinney, Treasurer	323-5980
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Services		ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Jane Larson, Stephen Ministry	433-3380

## Christian Community Service Opportunities

Messiah Lutheran Church  
Yard Sale  
Saturday, April 24, 2010  
8:00 – 1:00

First  
Fire

Ward  
Hall



This sale will benefit Family Promise of Lycoming County. If you have any house-wares, toys, tools, etc. you wish to donate, they may be dropped off at the Fire Hall on Friday, April 23, 2010 from 9:00 – 5:00. Please note that no clothing will be sold at this sale.

**Faith & Family  
Footprint Walk**  
Saturday, April 17th  
11:00 a.m.



**Rain or Shine**

The walk begins at the current Habitat build at 1662 Memorial Ave to our build site at 2107 W. Third Street, Williamsport. Refreshments will be served after the walk. The groundbreaking ceremony will follow. Please remember the walk is one way.

**Thrivent Builds  
Groundbreaking**

## Campus Ministry Mission Fundraiser



United Campus Ministry Fundraiser  
April 7th 5:00 to 7:00 PM,  
St. Paul-Calvary United Methodist Church  
1427 Memorial Avenue, Williamsport.



Support this ministry to young adults  
& enjoy a good meal of meat or meatless lasagna,  
salad, bread, dessert.

Suggested donation: \$7 adults / \$3 children

# Social Ministries



## Family Promise Hosting at St. Mark's

The training of volunteers has occurred. Furniture, linens, and supplies have been readied. With a projected opening of April 12, 2010 we are posed to be the first to host families experiencing a housing crisis. Jane Zimmerer and Becky Miller Pryor are creating a schedule of volunteering during this week. We are seeking monetary donations to cover the cost of food for meals. If you wish to make a donation, make checks payable to St. Mark's. Label it "Hosting Fund" on the memo line.

## Calling All Office Angels!

Family Promise of Lycoming County continues to move closer to opening and serving families experiencing a housing crisis. The Day Center is the former parsonage of Redeemer Lutheran Church. It is a beautiful Victorian home with large, bright rooms.



Sarah McCloskey, Network Director, is in need of several Office Angels who can assist at the Day Center with greeting clients and answering the telephone. Hours can be set to accommodate your schedule from weekly to monthly for an hour or two. Please contact Becky Miller Pryor (321-9523 or [murphy173@verizon.net](mailto:murphy173@verizon.net)) if interested.

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## ***FAMILY PROMISE OF LYCOMING COUNTY OPENING!***

**TRAINING** It is crucial for the success of the network that everyone understand and apply the appropriate procedures for operations. Family Promise is active now in 163 communities around the nation and has thus gathered considerable experience in how best to organize. Locally, everyone who participates in any capacity will be trained in these best practices. Led by a representative from the national organization, training for Board members took place on March 22, for the volunteers in the first hosting congregation St. Mark's on March 23, and for the coordinators from the 13 congregations on March 24. Subsequent training will be led by the new Director, Sarah McCloskey. Anyone who has contact with the guests will be expected to participate in training.



**OPENING** It is anticipated that the network will be ready to open on April 12. There is still much to do in preparation, but enthusiasm and energy for this new congregational ministry of hospitality have the congregations, volunteers, board, and director on the move toward that end. The first three weeks of hosting will be St. Mark's Lutheran, Messiah Lutheran, and Covenant-Central Presbyterian. The entire first rotation schedule will be announced soon.

**THANK YOU** To the many congregations and individuals who have been involved in the development of Family Promise of Lycoming County, thank you for your diligence and perseverance. May this new work that we hold in common become a great blessing to our guests, our volunteers, our congregations, and our community!

# United Churches of Lycoming County

## UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY

**Study Bags** are needed as an outreach to students at Penn College as they prepare for final exams this spring. Paper bags filled with chips, cookies, popcorn, mints, gum, water bottles, juice boxes, breakfast bars, oatmeal packets...just about anything...and encouraging notes help them know that others care. If you are interested in helping, contact Sharon Comini at 419-5376 by April 30

Sharon Comini, Coordinator  
 Contact at: 419-5376 or ucm@uclc.org

**FREE Quit Tobacco Class** for smokers and smoke-less tobacco users  
 + \$100 FREE quit aides are also available. Call Donna Sorgen, Tobacco Prevention Specialist, to register (570)323-8543 ext 118.

These classes will be in two locations:

- Jersey Shore Hospital Board Room (near Cafeteria),  
 1020 Thompson St., Jersey Shore,  
 on Mondays starting March 22, through April 26, 6:30 pm-7:30 pm
- West Branch Drug and Alcohol  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 213 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Williamsport  
 on Tuesday afternoons, starting April 13 through May 18 from 3 - 4



### A 24 hour Devotion Line

is a way for everyone in our community to have "A Closer Walk With God". Devotions are three minutes or less and change daily and at least once on the weekend. Devotionalists change weekly. The phone number is **570-322-5762**.

### WEDNESDAY LUNCHES

Join us from 12 to 1 p.m. for a tasty \$4 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. Parking is free in the Pine Street lot from 11 to 1:30 p.m. No reservations are necessary. (Call 419-1464 to check for snow cancellation.)

#### APRIL

- 7- **Rev. Detlef Huckfelt**, Pastor, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, and **Mr. Todd Fox**, Executive Director, Greater Lycoming Habitat for Humanity, "Thrivent Builds Habitat"
- 14- **Rev. Ron Shellhamer**, Interim Pastor, Church of the Savior & St. Matthew Lutheran "The Church in Liberia"
- 21- **Prof. Paul Shuck CFII**, Chief Flight Instructor, AvSport of Lock Haven, "Touch the Sky! If You Can Drive, You Can Fly!"
- 28- **Mrs. Kay Huffman**, Vocalist, **Mr. Tom Wetzel**, Pianist, Area Musicians, "A Musical Salute To Spring"

This is a ministry in which everyone in our congregations and community is welcome to participate. Make plans to join us and you're welcome to bring a friend!



### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

These are the items that are currently needed:

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| oodles of noodles | canned fruit        |
| chunky soups      | elbow macaroni      |
| sugar             | cake mix & frosting |
| tea bags          | granola bars        |
| Hamburger Helper  | Tuna Helper         |
| Cereal            | Jello               |

Your donations are best brought Monday mornings from 9:30 - Noon. Persons needing food should call and leave their name and number on the answering machine. Appointments to receive food are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am - 3 pm and when necessary at other times as well. Gail Burkhart is the UCLC Food Pantry Coordinator and may be reached at 322-1657.

# ELCA, Synod & West Branch News

## Thrivent Launches *Fan it Forward* Campaign

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has launched a new charitable outreach campaign on Facebook allowing new fans an easy way to help others worldwide. Now through March 31, 2010, for every new fan of the Thrivent Financial Facebook page, Thrivent Financial will contribute \$1 to [Lutheran World Relief](#) (LWR), up to \$10,000. The goal of "Fan it Forward" is to generate \$10,000 for LWR and raise awareness for the humanitarian outreach the organization is making in countries around the world. Individuals can participate in the campaign by going to [www.thrivent.com/facebook](http://www.thrivent.com/facebook) and clicking on the Become a Fan button. A new tab on the Thrivent Financial Facebook page highlights the campaign details and gives fans quick tools to spread the word through Facebook, Twitter and email.



## Pages Needed for Synod Assembly

Calling all youth (who have completed at least sixth grade), college students and seminarians! The 2010 USS Synod Assembly is looking for pages. You'll be needed on Friday and Saturday, June 18-19, from 7:45 a.m. until the end of the day. Responsibilities include handing out papers, bulletins, and other materials as well as serving as ushers for worship and counting votes when asked. Meals will be provided for the pages. All pages receive a free T-shirt! If you are interested in being a page please contact either Michele Owen or Bernadette Jones so they can register you to serve!

## Singers Needed for Assembly Choir

On behalf of the Bishop's Committee on Worship, which is planning worship for Synod Assembly on June 18-19, you are invited to sing as part of the Synod Assembly Choir that will provide musical leadership for the Eucharist on Friday, June 18, at 10:00 a.m. and Saturday, June 19, at 10:00 a.m. in the Field House at Susquehanna University. In addition to leading the liturgy and hymns, the choir will prepare special music for the service. The assembly is being held in the Field House due to renovations in Weber Chapel. Interesting instrumentation is being planned. Adult and high school singers who would like to sing in the Assembly Choir should have some choral experience in church and/or school. Being able to read music is helpful but not required. Bring a friend. If you cannot attend both services, please feel encouraged to sing at one. Two rehearsals are scheduled for Sunday afternoons, May 23 and June 6, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the chapel of Zion Lutheran Church in Sunbury. A "warm-up" rehearsal will take place in some as yet to be designated place at Susquehanna University at 9:00 a.m. prior to each service. If you plan to sing in the choir, please contact David Reier at [dreier@ptd.net](mailto:dreier@ptd.net) by May 21. Indicate your name, address, day and night phone numbers, e-mail address, voice parts, and if you are available on June 18, 19, or both. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call David Reier at 570-286-1664 during the day or evening.



## A Shout Out for Easter Greetings

You and your congregation are invited to make and send Easter greetings to ELCA missionaries, troops, and other service personnel as part of Operation Thanks-Giving: Easter. Learn how at <http://blogs.elca.org/handinhand/post/ot-g-easter-25022010/>.

## Wanted: A Few Good Men!

Make a difference in someone's life this summer. Camp Mount Luther is in need of men to serve as counselors this summer. In addition, volunteer nurses are needed to serve as the weekly health officer. Candidates must possess a commitment to Christ, a passion for adventure, and strong leadership skills. If you or someone you know is interested, contact Chad Hershberger, Executive Director, at the camp office at (570) 922-1587. Applications are available on the website at [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org)



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

# Are You A Fool?



Both Psalm 14:1 & 53:1 reads, "*The fool has said in his heart there is no God.*" On the first of April, people will be trying to make fools out of others for fun. But when one makes a fool of oneself, by disbelief in God, that is serious. This is the fool nobody can laugh at. Why is a person a fool not to believe in God?

**Creation Declares God:** The creation leads a sensible person to acknowledge God's existence. The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the sky is declaring the work of his hands" (Psa 19:1 Rom 1:19-20). We may not be able to know or to prove the certainty of God's existence if we look only at the natural world. But the hypothesis at least cannot be denied, except foolishly. There is exquisite design and order in the created world, all the more remarkable when we observe it emerging from chaos. It is foolish to say categorically in the face of this, "There is no God."

**God Declares Himself:** God has revealed himself to mankind. God's truth was placed in the world. Paul asserts that, since the creation of the world, "they knew God" (Rom 1:21). Even pagan peoples retain some of that revelation in recognizable form. Then of course there is the Holy Bible which reveals God and his purpose for mankind.

**Jesus Christ Reveals God:** In an even more special manner, God revealed himself in Jesus of Nazareth. The testimony about his existence, his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead, is in the form of written eye-witness documents. The story of Jesus Christ is a matter of fact, not of superstition. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory" is one eye-witness's testimony (1Jn 1:1-4 John 1:1,14). There are no reasonable grounds for rejecting such evidence.

In conclusion, the natural universe, the general knowledge of right and wrong and Jesus himself, combine to lead anyone but a fool to believe in God, and in his scheme of redemption for life everlasting through his Son.

On April Fools' Day, or any other day, don't be the silliest fool of all —the fool who, in his heart or hers, says, "There is no God."

## News from the Pews

Today the sun is shining brightly, the grass is greening up a bit, the birds are singing and the promise of Spring is in the air – wow, what an upper after what has been a long Winter!

I am always impressed by the devotion shown by many of our church family couples in long marriages. Almost monthly someone celebrates a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary or maybe even longer. Most recently **Ralph and Elda Zeigler** celebrated sixty-eight years of marriage – I didn't even think they were sixty eight years old ! Their anniversary was March 1.

Our young people continue to make us proud. **Stefan Weber's** Cochran Elementary School Odyssey of the Mind Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Tournament and not to be outdone by his younger brother, **Riley's** Curtin Middle School Odyssey of the Mind Team, coached by **Shelby Weber**, placed third in the same tournament held March 13 in Mansfield.

Honor roll students included **Theron Hershey** on the high honor roll at Lycoming Valley and **Riley Weber** at Curtin. **Emily Newcomer** will portray Grace in Curtin's production of "Honk" to be performed April 9 and 10 at the school. College student **Sarah Larson** was named to the dean's list at Bloomsburg.

In the slightly older set our own **Philip Thomas** was among those selected to receive the 2009 John Dillon Award in recognition for outstanding service to the members of the Pa. Assoc. of School Retirees and the Lycoming County Chapter.

**Katy Elkin** continues to make a name for herself in the world of baroque music. Her recording, "Crossing the Red Sea", is a recording of the music from the concert given by her group, Le Tendre Amour, at a music festival in Summer, 2009. The critic wrote "an album with charm, evocative of a world that tries to live again and again, but the tragedies darken. The music becomes a sweet refuge, a companion can evoke joy leaking over time." Congratulations to Katy and her group.

A personal note, I try to scan the papers, even the tiny print in honor roll lists for news of our congregation but sometimes I miss one. Please send me your news, e-mail [deermountain2@comcast.net](mailto:deermountain2@comcast.net) so that you will be included!

**- Joyce Anne Hershberger**

Please submit items to Joyce via her email [deermountain2@comcast.net](mailto:deermountain2@comcast.net) or by calling her at 322-0410.

## Christian Community Service Opportunities

# Spring Clothing Sale



**Saturday, April 10, 2010**  
**9:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.**



The Women of St. Mark's will once again host their annual clothing sale on April 10th. Donations of clean clothing and clothing accessories in sizes infant to adult may be placed in the Bazaar Room.



<b>Coats, jackets, suits?</b>	<b>We'll take it!</b>
<b>Shoes, boots, ties, belts?</b>	<b>We'll take it!</b>
<b>Handbags, scarves, jewelry?</b>	<b>We'll take it!</b>
<b>Sneakers, hats, socks?</b>	<b>We'll take it!</b>
<b>Jeans, slacks, sweaters?</b>	<b>We'll take it!</b>



This is a "win-win" situation for everyone involved! You get to clean out your unwanted items, the buyer is able to provide for their family at a bargain price (and during these economic times that's a big bonus to many families) and with Thrivent matching funds the women raise money for mission support! Who knew those unused items could benefit someone on the other side of the world?

Any clothing not sold the day of the sale will be sorted and distributed to **Daniel's Closet** (an outreach of Redeemer Lutheran), **NGA** (New Garment Agency formerly the Needlework Guild of America), the **West End Community Center** and other local charities that express a need for clothing when contacted, and the **American Rescue Workers**.

**As you tackle that Spring-cleaning, please take a few minutes and help us reach out to those in need in our community.**

**Please contact Shirley Hill (323-7546)  
 or Becky Miller Pryor (321-9523)  
 with questions or to volunteer.**



# YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



## REMINDER: OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Don't go rushing to your calendars—we know it's spring!!! As we did last year, we are making the packing of these boxes an intergenerational event AND taking advantage of sales during the rest of the year!! Find coloring books for 25¢ each? Pick up several!! Fun erasers or pencils? Get a couple packs!! A white sale with washcloths for two bits? Bring it on!!

So, scout around the sales now. Don't try to get a lot of different things to fill one or two boxes. If you find a good deal, pick up a dozen or so of one item! Bring it in to the office here (there's a box in the hallway by Middle Lounge). We'll store it.

In the beginning of November, we'll once again meet for soup and sandwiches after a 10:30 service and have a group pack-and-wrap!!! We've been having a lot of fun with this service!!! How about joining us this time!?!

This doesn't preclude anyone packing their own boxes if they enjoy it. This is merely another reason to get folks together for a good time and to help others. So! What do you say?? See you at the mall!!



## St. Mark's Annual Church Picnic June 6, 2010

If you are interested in being on the committee for our annual picnic, please join us in Middle Lounge on Sunday, April 18, immediately

following the 10:30 service.

If you have any ideas and would like to help, but can't make it to the meeting, please call or email Michele Owen: 323-4619 or [mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org).

If anyone would like to make a donation toward the purchase of food and supplies for the picnic, envelopes are available in the narthex for your contribution.

# JOIN US FOR FRIDAY FUN NIGHT April 30th 6:30 PM



Is this the scene at your house when it's time to play games? Bring everyone down and remember what real fun is!!!

Bring your favorite game, snack and enthusiasm to Fellowship Hall.

If you need a ride—CALL US!

We'll be glad to come for you and take you home at the end of the evening!

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

# MILESTONE MINISTRY

## BLESSING OF THE KEYS



We have a special milestone celebration for the youth in our congregation who attain their junior driver's licenses. It's a meaningful observance, during which the new driver gives up something from his or her childhood in exchange for the new responsibility of driving. We have also developed a means of recognition for those drivers receiving their senior license.



In March, **Katie Schmitt** received this blessing from the congregation at the 10:30 service. Are there more youth out there ready for this important step?

Since different families have different timetables for these events, we can't just refer to the church register for the information. We have no idea which youth are reaching this important milestone in their lives—unless you tell us!! Please let the church know if your child has recently received a junior or senior license as soon as possible. A date for celebration will be set once we know who these special teens are.



# HEAVE-HO! LET'S GO!

## Ready for the voyage of a lifetime?

At High Seas Expedition, kids explore the mighty love of God on a journey that will change them forever! High Seas Expedition is filled with incredible Bible-learning kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, teambuilding games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the High Seas Expedition activities that help faith flow into real life.

Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear *that* phrase a lot!

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at the end of each day, because that's when we'll be having The Floating Finale—a daily celebration of God's love you won't want to miss.

So mark these dates on your calendar: Sunday, June 13, through Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Call 323-4619 or email [mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org)

or [bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org) to register your children for this life-changing adventure!

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### IRON CHEF Williamsport

The competition between St. Mark's and First UM begins at 5:00 P.M., Sunday, April 25, 2010, in Fellowship Hall at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 142 Market St., Williamsport.



A tasty meal of salad, chicken cordon bleu, broccoli, red stripe potatoes, and roll with a chocolate delight for dessert will be served to all those making reservations through St. Mark's at 323-4619. Once the meal has been served, the cooking challenge begins. St. Mark's team of Pastor Kenneth Elkin, Ruth Rees and Bernadette Jones face off against the First UM team led by Pr. David Spearly. In order for all those present to view the event, the contest will be projected on the large screen on stage. (It will also be streamed live on the web at <http://www.ustream.tv/stmarkschurch> for those unable to attend.)

Seventy-five percent of the \$25 ticket cost will go directly to Family Promise of Lycoming County. This is very exciting, as Family Promise is ready to leap into action in April! They now have thirteen host congregations (plus several supporting churches), a director, a day center and a van! All that's needed now is funding!

If you cannot attend (or even if you can!), you can become a patron of this event in support of Family Promise of Lycoming County. We will place patrons in the *a la carte* listing (\$1 - \$49), the *cordon bleu* listing (\$50 - \$99), or the *haute cuisine* listing (\$100 and more) of our program. Please contact St. Mark's with your donation.



Please join St. Mark's as they defend the title, Iron Chef Williamsport, in this second annual competition. Whether you're cheering for them, for First UM or for Family Promise—they'd love to see you there!

To read the original challenge and for your viewing pleasure, please go to <http://www.youtube.com/user/StMarksChurch>. Feel free to forward it to others after enjoying it yourself.

**Thrivent  
Builds**



The next Thrivent build site will be 2107 West Third Street in Newberry. Anyone interested in participating in this year's build should contact Todd Smith.

For information on the Thrivent Builds Ground-breaking Ceremony and the Faith & Family Footprint Walk see the related article on page 4.

**WHO'S GRADUATING...**  
from high school or college??

Let us know so these young people can be recognized for their accomplishments!!  
Call or e-mail the office—we're waiting to hear!



## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### A Journey to Our State Capitol

On a beautiful morning on Saturday, March 20, nine seekers of adventure gathered at 7:30 a.m. at St. Mark's, ready to head south to the seat of our state government. Their number included three catechetical students, one additional youth, two mentors, one parent, one instructor, one pastor, and a partridge in a ... sorry, got carried away for a moment ... They hit the road before 8:00 a.m. and arrived at their first stop ... EARLY!

Their first stop was at St. Catherine Laboure Parish, a round church with seven contemporary stained glass windows encircling the congregation. The next destination on the agenda was St. Ann Byzantine Church where they viewed overwhelming icons and learned about worship steeped in tradition from member, Marie Nestor. The last visit of the morning was to historic Paxton Presbyterian Church, learning a lot about local history from Ron Wix, as well as the 270-year-old church.

They wended their way through the city, around the beginnings of a parade and across the bridge to City Island where they lunched on the bank of the Susquehanna,



After their meal, they trekked back to the city over the bridge (remember the parade? No parking on the east bank!) and up to State Street to meet Pr. Hawkins at St. Michael Evangelical Lutheran Church. Pr. Elkin and Lou scooted back across the river to collect the cars, drove back to State St. to pick up the rest of the group, and then raced north to make their appointment with Mike Schatz at Beth El Temple. They learned about the Torah, scrolls and scribes; patriarchs, matriarchs and holy days. After saying good-bye to Mr. Schatz, they hustled downstream to get a glimpse of St. Patrick's Cathedral before the evening service began.

In what has become a tradition for these trips, they located the nearest Old Country Buffet and dined there before turning the front bumpers toward home. Having been blessed with wonderful weather, enthusiastic instructors, good friends and good food, they arrived back in Williamsport shortly after 9:00 p.m.

Some of the students reported on their thoughts of the day and messages to the congregation.

## Breakfast with the Pastor & St. Mark's Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 3, beginning at 9:45 a.m.



Please join us as we have fun with our youth, ages ranging from toddlers up to grade 5, here at the church during the morning of Saturday, April 3, starting at 9:45 a.m.! We will begin by having breakfast with the Pastor and then we will have our Easter Egg Hunt.

*It is very important to call the church office to let us know if you will be attending and how many will be in your party.*

We need to be sure we have enough food for everyone who comes. We always plan for more, but recently the planned-for number almost doubled. It was great that that many were able to attend and it was wonderful to see everyone—we hope to see you all again this year! Donations of small erasers or egg-sized Easter toys would be appreciated and accepted! We look forward to seeing you all there!

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

### ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & STUDENTS IN COLLEGE!!!

## THE ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP

#### The Scholarship Program

The St. Paul Lutheran Church Scholarship Program was founded by the congregation of the former St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. St. Paul Lutheran Church, prior to its closing, established this special scholarship program to benefit Lutheran students in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, in perpetuity.

#### Eligibility

Eligible candidates will be graduating seniors of a high school, or a high school graduate equivalent, located in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. Candidates must be members of a Lutheran church, and eligible candidates also include those individuals who were members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, at the time of its closing. Candidates must be attending, or plan to attend in the 2010-2011 academic year, an institution of higher education (academic, technical, or vocational). Eligible candidates must also have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and demonstrate involvement in church and community. Candidates may reapply in successive years for scholarships available from this program.

#### Scholarship Awards

Scholarships awarded in 2010 will be available only for the 2010-2011 academic year. Scholarship awards may be used only for educational expenses, including tuition, books, laboratory expenses, or other education-related expenditures that are approved by the Foundation.

#### Selection of Recipients

The number of scholarships awarded, the amount of the scholarship awards, and the selection of scholarship recipients will be determined by the Foundation.

#### Application Process and Deadline

Students who wish to apply to the scholarship program must complete an application and required letters of recommendation and submit materials postmarked no later than **April 15, 2010**.

The application and required attachments is available online at:

[http://www.thelcf.org/grants/scholarship\\_applications/the\\_st\\_paul\\_lutheran\\_church\\_scholarship](http://www.thelcf.org/grants/scholarship_applications/the_st_paul_lutheran_church_scholarship)



### Children's Church

will be held on Sunday, April 11,  
2010,

at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

The children's special offering will  
be a special offering for Family  
Promise.

We look forward to seeing you and  
your family there!



If you've never considered helping out in the nursery, please give it some thought and volunteer for this worthwhile service. The care of our children is a very rewarding ministry—and not having children of nursery age is *not* an excuse! Most of our volunteers have grown children or attend 8:00 a.m. service and do not use the nursery for their own children!

Please see if you can find it in yourselves to help out with our little ones and give Vicki Hospes a call to sign up as a volunteer. Thank you!

## St. Mark's Celebrations!

Jenna Eyer	04/02
Jon Huff	04/02
Bernadette Jones	04/02
Mary Helen Scinicarello	04/02
Eric Comini	04/05
Tina Harvey	04/05
Linda Rosini	04/06
Carol Butters	04/07
John Goertz	04/07
Zachary Travis	04/08
Elda Zeigler	04/09
Taylor Wentzel	04/10
Sadie Wentzel	04/10
Robert Clouser	04/11
Nathan Hafer	04/12
Geoffrey MacGill	04/13
Michael Ochs	04/13
Ezra Buckman	04/14
Veronica Doane	04/14
Johnny Hinds	04/14



## Happy Birthday!

Steven Bieber Jr.	04/15
Jami Larson	04/15
David Hughes	04/17
Sara Neal	04/17
Paiton Patrick	04/17
Beverly Best	04/18
Christina Comini	04/18
Beverly Schmitt	04/18
Cynthia Hartzel	04/19
Jeffrey Byerly	04/20
Doris Griggs	04/20
Karen Pelleschi	04/20
Carl Reidy Jr.	04/20
Catherine Kneeder	04/21
Marc Fish	04/23
Benjamin Hausmann	04/23
Karen Burd	04/26
Lisa Welker	04/27
Ruth Ditchfield	04/29
Dorothy Bingaman	04/30

## Happy Anniversary!

Robert & Bernadette Jones	04/08
Louis & Kathy Kolb	04/08
Theodore & Jane Larson	04/21



Carl & Audrey Albright	04/23
Randy & Jeannette Lukens	04/23
Clint & Megan Eppelman	04/26

## High Seas Help Wanted

Bernadette and Michele have planned workdays for the construction and painting of theme pieces for "High Seas Expedition." On Sunday, May 2, after the 10:30 service until about 2-2:30; and two Saturdays, May 15 AND May 29, at 10:00 a.m. until noon or 1:00, we will meet for a period of productive fellowship. So if you have any artistic talent, can wield a mean utility knife, paint a solid base coat, or just be able to keep the coffee coming—please join us on one or all of these Saturdays to prepare for the opening of "High Seas Expedition."

## A Special Thank You

Thank you to everyone for the many cards, phone calls & prayers I received during my recent surgery. It was very encouraging to be remembered by so many wonderful people!

- Dick Wagner, Financial Secretary

## HEALTH, HEALING & WHOLENESS

***“Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.” (Genesis 18:8, NRSV)***

Some Biblical scholars believe that the **curd** with which Abraham fed his heavenly visitors, might actually have been a form of what we now call yogurt (NLV). Indeed the word yogurt comes from the Turkish for “thick milk”. Both curds and yogurt come from milk; however, there is a slight difference in the way each is produced. Yogurt is produced by introducing certain types of edible, helpful bacteria [probiotics] to milk and allowing fermentation to occur (breaking down the sugar lactose). Curds, on the other hand, are produced by the curdling of milk with an enzyme called ‘rennet’ or by adding an edible acid, such as lemon juice or vinegar, to the milk. These acids cause milk proteins to tangle into solid masses, or curds. Milk and milk products – from a variety of sources [goat, cow, camel] played a vital role in the daily lives of the Hebrew people, and are mentioned numerous times throughout the Bible.

Perhaps you have seen ads on TV or in magazines for a “new” type of yogurt which promises “to be scientifically proven to help with slow intestinal transit when eaten daily for two weeks as part of a balanced diet and healthy lifestyle” [it relieves constipation], thanks to the introduction of something called *Bifidus regularis*. *Bifidus wha-is?* *Bifidus regularis* is a probiotic – helpful bacteria that when added to food (in this case, yogurt) and ingested, helps to maintain the natural balance of organisms in the intestines. Helpful bacteria are “vital to proper development of the immune system, to protection against microorganisms that could cause disease, and to the digestion and absorption of food and nutrients.”

([www.nccam.nih.gov](http://www.nccam.nih.gov) – *Get the Facts: An Introduction to Probiotics*). Foods containing probiotics include yogurt, miso, tempeh, and some soy beverages. The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicines (NCCAMM) reports that sales of probiotics in the US nearly tripled from 1994-2003.

For years, doctors have encouraged the use of regular yogurt as a means to correct diarrhea that is linked to antibiotic use (antibiotics tend to eliminate both good and bad bacteria in places such as the digestive track). A decrease in beneficial bacteria can also lead to other infections within the urinary tract, and trigger yeast infection in women. Scientific studies of probiotics continue. The NCCAM indicates that there is “some encouraging evidence” that specific probiotic forms may be useful in:

- treating other types of diarrhea, especially rotavirus (the plague of daycares)
- treating irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)
- reducing recurrence of bladder cancer
- shortening how long an intestinal infection lasts when caused by a bacterium called *Clostridium difficile* or *C.diff* (a particularly nasty bacteria that causes intestinal infection in some long-term-care settings)
- preventing and managing atopic dermatitis (eczema) in children. (*Get the facts ...*)

**So... does it really work?** More information is needed, in particular in probiotic use by small children, the elderly, pregnant or nursing mothers, or by folks who have a compromised immune system. But there is promise. Tufts University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine is studying the possibility of certain probiotics being used to treat diarrhea in undernourished children of third world countries.

Side effects of use are typically mild, but can include allergy, gas or bloating, and there is always the potential for adverse interaction with prescription and over-the-counter medications. The bottom line is this, **always consult your health care provider before you plan to use any form of dietary supplement, including probiotics.**

Debbie Best  
Diakon Family Life Services

## SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

Patricia Alexander  
505 Center St., Apt. #61  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Edith Anderson  
The Hillside, Room #104  
2725 Four Mile Drive  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Nancy Bohartz  
624 Sixth Ave.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Elizabeth Chrisman  
690 Harding Ave.  
Williamsport, PA 17745

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

June Decker  
Williamsport Home, Room 413  
1900 Ravine Rd.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

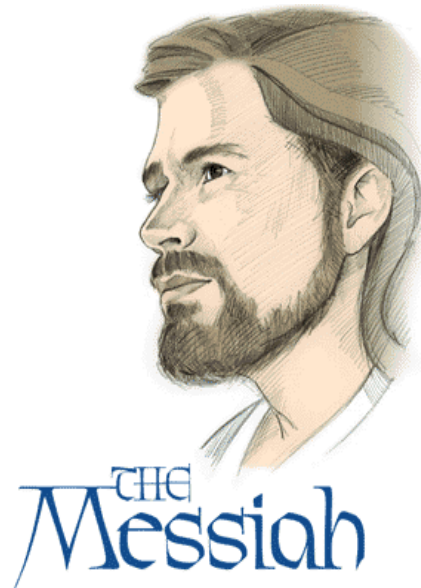
Larue Dieter  
2150 Warrensville Road, Apt. 2  
Montoursville, PA 17754

Charles Ditchfield  
Valley View, Room 308  
Montoursville, PA 17754

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

Lois Graybill  
Williamsport Home,  
Nursing Unit  
1900 Ravine Rd., Rm. #306  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Jean Gulliver  
Rose View Center  
1201 Rural Ave.  
Williamsport, PA 17701



Gail Hoffman  
153 Hampton Way  
Montoursville, PA 17754

Charles Homan  
2215 Warrensville Rd.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

Charlotte Hughes  
140 Blueberry Lane  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Eugene & Reba Jacobs  
1306 Faxon Parkway  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Anne Miller  
947 Hepburn St.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Jane Oakes  
Presbyterian Home  
810 Louisa St., Apt. 204  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Mary Helen Scinicarello  
Danville St. Hosp. #311  
Danville, PA 17821

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

Anna Stiadle  
1900 A. Ravine Rd., Apt. 112  
Williamsport, PA 17701

Ira Tuxford  
210 Louise Ave.  
Montgomery, PA 17752

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

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



## Listing of Current St. Mark's Staff, Council, Chairs & Volunteers

***Please notify the Susan with any corrections or additions! Thank You!***

### Staff

Pastor	Rev. Kenneth Elkin	323-4619/323-7367	pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Director of Music	Richard Lakey	323-4619	rlakey@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Christian Education	Bernadette Jones	323-4619	bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Christian Education	Michele Owen	323-4619	mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Parish Secretary	Susan Mahserjian-Smith	323-4619	smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Financial Secretary	Richard Wagner	323-4619	rwagner@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Church Sexton	Louis DeSeau	323-4619	ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Church Website	stmarkswilliamsport.org	Church email	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Office Number	323-4619	Fax Number	323-2452

### Council

Council President	Gary Weber	322-7149	gweber@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Council Vice-President	Todd Smith	220-1350	tr.smith@us.army.mil
Council Secretary	Jane Zimmerer	433-3324	
Council Assistant Secretary	Beth Shafranko	322-6005	shafrankob@chilitech.net
Council Treasurer	Jackie Kinney	323-5980	jskinney1@comcast.net
Council Assistant Treasurer	Brenda Bittner	326-0803	bitnews@comcast.net
Council Member	Nick Buckman	323-1707	alasterb@gmail.com
Council Member	Bud Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Council Member	Bill Hill	323-7546	wjh1226@verizon.net
Council Member	Bob Miller	322-5825	rlmagm@aol.com
Council Member	Scott Bittner	326-0803	bitnews@comcast.net
Council Member	Bonnie Eyer	368-3636	bonnie@fisheragency.com
Council Member	Clinton Eppleman	244-1371	eppleman@lycoming.edu
Council Member	Dinah Labenberg	435-5168	xtremephilafan@aol.com
Council Member	Michele Ramsauer	368-8036	perur@comcast.net
Youth Observer	Declan Jones	320-9703	fighterjock26@gmail.com

### Chairs

Mutual Ministry	Carl Hieber	323-5921	retiredbroker@comcast.net
Worship & Music	Beth Shafranko	322-6005	shafrankob@cs.com
Social Ministry	Becky Miller-Pryor	321-9521	murphy173@verizon.net
Parish Life	Bob Jones	323-4619	bobjonessells@gmail.com
Property	Frank Doebler	326-1621	fdoebler@verizon.net
Fine Arts	Joyce Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Little Lamb Liaison	Joyce Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Stewardship	Ray & Cindy Huff	368-1473	rhuff@montoursville.k12.pa.us
Archives	Clinton Eppleman	244-1371	eppleman@lycoming.edu
Memorials	Carl & Beverly Hieber	323-5921	retiredbroker@comcast.net
Finance	Jackie Kinney	323-5980	jskinney1@comcast.net
Women of ELCA	Shirley Hill	323-7546	wjh1226@verizon.net

## Listing of Current St. Mark's Staff, Council, Chairs & Volunteers

### Other Ministry Leaders

Stephen Ministry	Jane Larson	433-3380	janelarson1@verizon.net
The Way Ministry	Mel Wentzel	327-8286	tookool4school@comcast.net
Website Ministry	Gary Weber	322-7149	gweber@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Publicity	Kathy Kolb	326-7529	kathy@kolbworks.com

### Other Volunteers

Acolytes	Brittany Lynch	279-8545	brittanyltoy@hotmail.com
Nursery	Vicki Hospes	326-7318	
Shut-In Mailings	Judy Fortin	323-7715	
Pew Cards/Pencils	Ernestine Doane	368-2942	
Worship Greeters 8:00 AM	Tim Maggs	322-8109	tfdjmaggs@aol.com
Worship Greeters 10:30 AM	Tim Maggs	322-8109	tfdjmaggs@aol.com
Altar Guild	Beverly Hieber	323-5921	retiredbroker@comcast.net
Flower Delivery			
Altar Flowers	Deb Maggs	322-8109	tfdjmaggs@aol.com
Greeting Card Ministry			
Lector Scheduling 8:00 AM	Grace Arner	433-3237	
Lector Scheduling 10:30 AM	Joyce Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Communion Assistants	Carl Hieber	323-5921	retiredbroker@comcast.net
Assisting Ministers	Joyce Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Quilt-making & Sewing	Shirley Hill	323-7546	
Hospitality 8:00 AM	Shirley Kinney	327-8917	
Hospitality 10:30 AM			
Ushers	Bud Hershberger	322-0410	deermountain2@comcast.net
Home Communion	Lois Smith	433-0183	rsmith@suscom.net
Prayer Chain	Larue Dieter	433-3453	larud@peoplepc.com
Prayer Venture Cards	Gene Jacobs	322-0390	
Bread & Soup Ministry	Jane Kline	326-9672	janart1@verizon.net
Family Promise	Becky Miller Pryor Jane Zimmerer	321-9523 433-3324	murphy173@verizon.net
Birthday & Anniversary	Susan Mahserjian-Smith	323-4619	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Food Service	Bob Jones	323-4619	bobjonessells@gmail.com
Transportation Requests	Bernadette Jones Michele Owen	323-4619 323-4619	bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Bulletin Sponsorship	Susan Mahserjian-Smith	323-4619	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

# St. Mark's April Calendar of Events

## 1 Thursday

### Maunder Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
12:00 PM Holy Communion  
7:00 PM Holy Communion  
8:00 PM Senior Choir

## 2 Friday

### Good Friday

Office closes at noon  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
12:00 PM Good Friday Ecumenical Service  
7:00 PM Tenebrae

## 3 Saturday

9:00 AM Decorate  
9:45 AM Breakfast & Egg Hunt  
8:00 PM Vigil of Easter

## 4 Sunday

### Easter Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion

## 5 Monday

### Office Closed

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
7:00 PM Civic Chorus



## 6 Tuesday

8:00 AM City Pastors  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM Brownies  
6:30 PM Family Promise Board

## 7 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg.  
9:30 AM Clothing Sale Set-Up  
12:00 PM Bible Study

## 8 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
8:00 AM Stephen Min. I  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:30 AM Clothing Sale Set-Up  
7:30 PM Senior Choir

## 9 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:30 AM Clothing Sale Set-Up

## 10 Saturday

9:00 AM Clothing Sale

## 11 Sunday

### Easter II

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
12:15 PM The Way Gathering  
2:00 PM Icon Tea  
5:00 PM Family Handbells



## 12 Monday

Family Promise Opens!  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM Civic Chorus Board  
6:30 PM Adult Handbells  
6:30 PM Property Committee  
7:00 PM Civic Chorus

## 13 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM Finance Committee

## 14 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
12:00 PM Bible Study

## 15 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
5:30 PM Stephen Min. II  
7:30 PM Senior Choir

## 16 Friday

### Newsletter Deadline

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
7:00 PM American Guild of Organists Program

## 18 Sunday

### Easter III

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
12:15 PM The Way Gathering  
1:00 PM Server Training  
5:00 PM Family Handbells  
6:00 PM Catechetical Gathering

## 19 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM Adult Handbells  
6:30 PM Council Mtg.  
7:00 PM Civic Chorus  
7:00 PM Dog Club



## 20 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM Brownies

## 21 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
10:00 AM Little Lambs Liaison Mtg  
12:00 PM Lunch 'N' Fellowship

## 22 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
7:30 PM Senior Choir



## 23 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:15 AM Lion Crew

## 24 Saturday

9:00 AM Daniel's Closet @ Redeemer

## 25 Sunday

### Easter IV

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
5:00 PM Iron Chef FP Fundraiser

## 26 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM Adult Handbells

## 27 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
7:00 PM Family Promise  
7:00 PM Wmspt. Music Club

## 28 Wednesday

Beiter's Charity Drive  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
12:00 PM Bible Study

## 29 Thursday

Beiter's Charity Drive  
6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
7:30 PM Senior Choir

## 30 Friday

Beiter's Charity Drive  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM Friday Fun Night

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**142 MARKET ST.**  
**WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701**

Phone: 570-323-4619  
Fax: 570-323-2452

Website: <http://www.stmarkswilliamsport.org>

Email: [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org)



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**Permit No. 257**  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**You are cordially invited to the**  
**Icon Tea**  
**Sunday, April 11, 2010**  
**2:00 P.M.**

Among the wonderful possessions of St. Mark's is our collection of icons and icon prints. Each Sunday we see one or more of them displayed in the chancel, but we have not undertaken to see the whole collection of more than 30 objects at once in all its color and story-telling power. From 2:00 to 4:00 on Sunday afternoon, April 11, plan to visit Fellowship Hall where our icons will be displayed and we can hear and see what they have to tell us of the Good News of Jesus Christ. In addition, we will display several of our special needlework possessions which we use but don't have time to discuss and appreciate in the midst of worship. We'll also enjoy tea and a light dessert while we learn about and enjoy the visual arts. Our special guest near the beginning of the time will be Fr. Dan Kovalak of Holy Cross Orthodox Church here in Williamsport, who will speak about icons with special reference to several of the ones in our collection. It is a special opportunity; come and enjoy!

