



THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

DECEMBER 2012

ADULT COOKIE BAKE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 a.m. - ?

Look for the sign-up lists!
X-TREME BAKING & FLOUR FLINGING!
Cookies are shared among the bakers
and with our shut-ins.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO OUR SHUT-INS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate the season with song as
we visit those who aren't able to get
out to join the festivities!
Hot cocoa at the church afterwards.

DECORATING OUR NAVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

12:00 p.m.

Please join us for a light lunch
followed by decorating our Nave.



BREAD BAKING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND

10:00 a.m.

What sweet or savory treats
do we have in store for this year?
Register at the office to find out!

INDEX & UPDATE

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Behold! Your King is Coming!

Council Update

The Congregation Council met in regular session on November 19 in the Crossways room. The Council:

- ◆ received the regular reports of the pastor, officers, and committees.
- ◆ Received the budget from the Finance Committee, adopted it, and called the special assembly of the congregation to consider the budget for 2013 on December 9, 2012 following both services.
- ◆ Declined the use of the nave for an event in April and agreed that a working policy needs to be developed to better deal with such questions in the future.
- ◆ Approved Lou DeSeau for addition to the Lay Ministry roster, pending completion of application, with sessions to begin in January.
- ◆ Noted that the window settlement is still pending.
- ◆ Noted that a landscape design may be done under the guidance of a Penn College professor.
- ◆ Set the date of the next gathering for December 10, with spouses, in Fellowship Hall.

Parish Register

Milestones celebrated:

First Communion on November 25, 2012 by Elizabeth Haussmann, Jonah Schreckengast, Ashton Ott, and Amalie Robertson
Bibles were given and Luncheon shared with families on November 25, 2012 also by the same four students.
All Saints Banner was crafted by Ruth Rees and displayed for the 17th time together with those of prior years on November 4. The banner named those who joined the Church Triumphant during the past 12 months.

Staff & Officers Contact Information

Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org

Main E-Mail:	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Church Office 323-4619	Church fax 323-2452
Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Pastor	pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Pastor's Home Phone	323-7367
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Bernadette Jones, Christian Ed.	bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org
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Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec.	gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org
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Ray Huff, Home Phone	368-1473
Gregg Dancho, Vice-President	435-2716
Shelby Weber, Secretary	322-7149
Ken Shafranko, Treasurer	322-6005
Mel Wentzel, Director, <i>The Way</i>	327-8286
Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	433-0522



Christmas is Coming



Selinsgrove Center Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas party for the 19 ladies at the Selinsgrove Center is only a few days away!

We still are in need of moisturizing body wash, pudding cups in all flavors, and a few more pairs of slipper socks.

Each lady receives a gift bag that includes a pair of slipper socks, body wash and two cups of pudding. Any remaining slipper socks, body wash or pudding is also donated to be used as needed by the ladies.

Please call Becky Miller Pryor ASAP (321-9523) if you are able to provide homemade cookies, a box of tangerines or clementines, a bag of apples or holiday tissue paper.

Monetary donations are always welcome to fill in any gaps with our gifting.

Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Selinsgrove Party."

All donations are needed by Sunday, December 2nd

On Wednesday, December 5, 2012 we will meet at the church at 6:00 pm to carpool to Selinsgrove. Additional "elves" wishing to join the festivities are always welcome.

Danville State Hospital Christmas Gifts

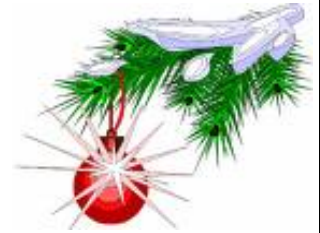
Once again we have been asked to provide modest gifts to the residents of Danville State Hospital. This year we are providing general gifts that insure every resident has a gift to open on Christmas Day. These general gifts are especially needed for those folks who get admitted to the hospital in late November and December.

If you wish to provide a gift, take a snowman ornament from the tree in the Narthex, purchase the listed item and return it unwrapped to the tub in the Narthex.

All gifts for Danville residents are due by Sunday, December 9th.

Thank you for any assistance you are able to give.

Becky Miller Pryor is the contact person for this project.



2012 Annual Service of Remembrance



This year our Remembrance Service will be held on

Sunday, December 30th at 4 p.m.

With the service being held later in the afternoon if anyone needs a ride, please call the office (323-4619) to let Michele know and we can arrange transportation.

As usual a beautiful keepsake ornament handcrafted by John Burkholder will be yours to take with you.

Christmas Hosting for Family Promise

We will be hosting families experiencing a housing crisis during the week of Christmas (December 23 – December 30, 2012.) For many of us it is a time of joy and celebration. But I can only imagine the sadness these families are feeling knowing they do not have a home in which to celebrate with their children. I cannot begin to imagine what the little ones are thinking.

As coordinator I need your help more than ever.

During our regular hosting the families are only with us for supper and overnight. But from the evening of December 24th until breakfast on December 26th the families will be with us around the clock.

We then return to the regular schedule for the remainder of the week.

As daunting of a task this week is, we have already been blessed with some help. We have been given a tree with lights for the families to decorate on December 23rd.

Gifts for the families are being provided by various groups.

The families will eat Christmas dinner (noon) at Sojourner Truth Ministries.

We already have folks who will sleep overnight December 24th and help with a light supper on December 25th.

But many more volunteers are needed. Please pray for guidance as to how you can help make a difference in a family's life.

Here is a list of ways in which you can help.

- ◆ Volunteer to drive the van, prepare meals, be an evening visitor or sleep overnight.
- ◆ Volunteer to be at church for two hours Christmas Day.
- ◆ Provide some decorations for the family tree.
- ◆ Be a cake maker or cookie baker.
- ◆ Help put the "woman's touch" on the bedrooms at the beginning of hosting.
- ◆ Do laundry at the end of the week.
- ◆ There will be several loads of blankets to wash due to the cold weather.
- ◆ Help Mel and Kirk tear down at the end of hosting.
- ◆ Provide groceries to support the donated suppers and snacking.
- ◆ Look for a list of needed items in the bulletin beginning mid-December.
- ◆ Provide money to purchase needed items that include fresh fruits, veggies, milk and bread.



Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's and marked "Hosting Fund."



**Larue Dieter and I, with help from a few others,
are calling folks now to schedule our week of hosting.
Give us a call if you have a specific day/time in mind.
If we leave a message for you, please call us back.
It makes scheduling go more smoothly.**

Becky Miller Pryor, Coordinator

Special Notice of Congregational Assembly

Financial statements were mailed out in early November for members to compare against their own records. If you have reason for concern or believe an error exists please bring your concerns to the attention of Graydon Yearick the Financial Secretary before the end of the year when final statements will be mailed. Thank you!

	2013 Budget	2012 YE Estimate	2012 Budget
Envelopes & Pledges	240,000	247,100	235,200
Investment Principal Transfer	30,252	0	16,000
Investment Income Transfer	18,000	0	18,700
All Other Income	54,850	53,500	50,975
Total Income	<u>343,102</u>	<u>301,100</u>	<u>320,875</u>
General Administrative	12,650	12,925	13,050
Salaries & Benefits	225,627	198,900	211,446
Music & Worship	6,350	5,450	5,300
Youth & Family Ministry	5,350	6,600	5,550
Building	70,000	103,000	62,350
Benevolence	23,125	21,000	23,125
Total Expenses	<u>343,102</u>	<u>347,875</u>	<u>320,821</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	0	- 46,775	54

The Congregation Council at its regular November meeting called a Special Assembly of the St. Mark's congregation, to be held on Sunday, December 9, 2012. *Note carefully the change in procedure:*

The meeting will be opened following the 8:00 service, and all voting members present will have opportunity to comment, amend and vote on the proposed budget.

This meeting will be continued until after the 10:30 service, when all voting members present will have a like opportunity to comment, amend, and vote on the proposed budget. If there have been no amendments made at the 10:30 meeting, the business of the day is closed.

If, however, there have been any amendments made at the meeting following the 10:30 service, the meeting will be continued until the following Sunday, December 16, when those attending the 8:00 service will have an opportunity to vote on the amendments.

Questions about the budget may be addressed to our treasurer, Ken Shafranko at 322-6005.

Thank You to Our December Teachers!!

Pre—2nd: Brenda Gair

3rd & 4th: Vicki Haussmann

5th: Eric Comini

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Update

Our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes have been packed, wrapped, filled and taken to the distribution center for shipment - a total of 65 shoeboxes were completed!!! With such a large number of shoeboxes, our shipping costs were even higher this year, and we want to thank everyone who gave so generously to cover this expense. Each shoebox cost \$7 to ship. A huge "Thank You" to all who helped at the Pack 'n Wrap, packed their own shoeboxes, and donated items or money for shipping, our collection certainly was a huge success!!!!!! Please consider joining us next year—it really is a fun time and it's hysterical to see the adults frantically wrapping as the children and youth circle the tables, searching for wrapped boxes, like sharks around a wreck!! Great fun!!!

WAHS Holiday Hoo-Ha!!!



The combined orchestra, chorus and band annual holiday concert was enthusiastically dubbed the "Hoo-Ha" several years ago and seems to have stuck! Join these young performers as they celebrate the season on **Sunday, December 16, at 3:00 p.m.**

Passing on Faith: First Communion & Third Grade Bible

On Christ the King Sunday, November 25, Ashton Ott, Elizabeth Haussmann, Amalie Robertson and Jonah Schreckengast, after three weeks of study, received the sacrament of Holy Communion at the 10:30 service. Afterwards, there was a luncheon celebrating the children joining the table at Communion and they all received their Bibles for the Third Grade Milestone.



The John Bower Basketball League

We have two teams this year!!!!
Beginner Pee-Wee and Midget games scheduled in December.

Saturday, December 8th

Beginners: 9:30 AM	Arena East	St. Ann's (A) vs. St. Mark's
Midget: 11:30 AM	Upstairs	St. Mark's vs. St. Boniface (A)

Note: The winner of the Midget game plays again at 12:30 pm and the loser of the Midget game plays at 9:00 AM next Saturday

Saturday, December 15th

Beginners: 1:00 PM	Arena East	Faith UMC (B) vs. St. Mark's
Midget: 9:00 AM	Upstairs	if they lost on December 8th
11:00 AM	Upstairs	if they won on December 8th
12:00 PM	Upstairs	if they win today

Good luck to all involved!!!!

Adults, feel free to help out with driving, treats or beverages.
Contact the church office at 323-4619 or e-mail us through the website.
C'mon!! Let's have some fun!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

CHILDREN'S CHURCH next meets Sunday, December 9, at 10:30, in the Chapel. For the children's special offering this month, we will prepare greeting cards to take with us on our caroling routes! If the children have any they've made or purchased, please send them along to church that day. • See you in the Chapel on December 9!

United Campus Ministry

Lessons from Clay

Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. ~ Isaiah 64:8



As the semester continues, students become more and more bogged down with school work. Their time is limited, and often extra activities and clubs are abandoned. I am finding that is the case with UCM. Students are either too busy, or they find other more fun things to do than be part of a Bible study or service project. One student had said that since we don't have very many stu-

dents in our group, that we should maybe just let UCM fade away. I didn't want to do that, but I started thinking that maybe he was right.

I am taking a ceramics class at the college, and was working on a pot as a student called to let me know he was leaving the group. Not long after our conversation, the pot I was working on broke from the top. I was ready to throw it away, but my teacher said that it could be saved. He gathered up the four broken pieces, and very patiently worked with it and put it back together with vinegar. He told me that it was fragile, and that I needed to be careful with it. That incident reminded me when we think something should be abandoned, maybe all we need to do is ask for God's help and work patiently to restore it to be the way it was. At our next class, I picked up the same pot to work on it, but I handled it by the weak joint and it broke again, this time into five or six pieces. I thought for sure it was done, and time for the trash because I couldn't get it back together the way it was. The pieces kept breaking. After looking at it awhile from different angles, I saw that I could cut away some of the broken pieces, reshape it, re-sand it, and I would still have the pot, but not the same one that it was before. Again, it reminded me of UCM, and how some parts of the ministry that weren't working as well as we wanted them to, could be cut out, and new things could emerge. I am looking forward to the challenge of a new semester to see what can be cut away and re-shaped, and I am trusting the Lord to shape and mold UCM into the ministry that He wants it to be.

With the semester's end on its way, we will be doing study bags again for the students as they prepare for finals. We are accepting snacks and water bottles donations from individuals and congregations to fill the bags. If you would like to donate something, please let me know and I will be happy to pick them up. We appreciate your prayers for the students at Penn College, and we thank you for your support.

~ Sharon Comini, UCM Coordinator

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS DESPERATELY NEEDED

**TEACHERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR
SEVERAL MONTHS THIS YEAR!
PLEASE CALL MICHELE TODAY!! 323-4619**



TEEN MOVIE NIGHT!

Because of the way the holidays fall,
we meet again on December 30, 6:00 p.m.

Spread the word—hope to see you there!!



Thank You Notes

Dear Pastor Elkin,

First of all, let me tell you how much I appreciated your phone call last week, for many reasons. Secondly, please do express our gratitude to the members of St. Mark's for the generous offering gathered and forwarded to us for storm relief here in New Jersey. The need is so great. Now, let me recount a story of how mysteriously God provides for need.

At the same time that your letter arrived in the regular mail, I received an e-mail communication from one of our members who works for New Jersey Natural Gas. She is now working seven days a week as a buyer to make sure their workers have all they need to restore gas lines and service to the Jersey shore area around Seaside and Long Beach Island. Monique also told me that her office has been designated as a drop off point for the Red Cross for direct local distribution to the residents of that hard-hit area. She has asked that our members collect donations of bottled water, non-perishable food items, baby food, diapers, and personal care items. As they come in, Monique will take the donations to her office. This week I am sending out four designated shoppers to purchase the needed items with your generous offering of \$615.00. To those purchases we will also be adding our own donations of these goods. Together we will be able to meet the needs of so many more shore residents. We may need to borrow a truck!

Thank you so much for your care and generosity. With prayers for you and the good people of St. Mark's as you serve our Lord through serving others, I remain

Your sister in Christ, Rev. Linda Larson
All Saint's Lutheran Church, Piscataway, NJ



Dear friends, Thank you so much for inviting me and my bookstore for the annual Christmas Book fair. It is always so nice to see so many people that are familiar and old friends. It's also nice to meet new friends each year. I've enclosed a check for \$30 from the sales at the book fair which I hope will help in your ministry. Many thanks my friends! Wishing you a blessed holiday season!

Sandy Grier, Along the Way Bookstore

KID'S NIGHT OUT

KIDS' NIGHT OUT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Look for sign-up list in the staff hallway soon!!



**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME FOR THE KIDS' SPECIAL DAY!!
(WE ARE HOPING TO AVOID BASKETBALL CONFLICTS!)**

TEDDY BEAR & MITTEN TREES!

**THE TREES COME ALIVE THIS ADVENT SEASON
with Teddy Bears, mittens, gloves, hats!**

Two trees will be ready to decorate with these items by Sunday, December 2.

Please stop in Fellowship Hall and add your gift to the trees.

The Teddy Bears will be given to the Williamsport Police, Wise Options for Women and the Pregnancy Care Center;
and the mittens, gloves, and hats will be given to area families in need.



Join Us in Prayer for Our Youth

Our next prayer time will be on
Sunday, December 16th at noon in the chapel.
 Please join us as we remember our youth,
 21 and under in a time of prayer.



News in Our Pews

We are so blessed to have the **Little Lambs Preschool** at St. Mark's – not only is it an excellent use of space we don't need during the week but the school is always presenting a wide array of programs – in recent newspapers they have been featured sponsoring a "Hibernation party" spending time in caves they created by decoration shoeboxes. On fire safety day they held a contest for the best dressed firefighter and enjoyed a visit from firemen and their truck.

In other school events the Williamsport Area High School life skills class held a Thanksgiving lunch for staff members, families and community members. **James Newcomer**, son of Susan and Jim, participated in preparing and serving the festive meal.

Congratulations to **Riley Weber** who recently completed his Eagle Scout project at Stevens Elementary School. Thanks to Riley and his work in securing donations the school now has a new set of benches and landscaping at the front of the school! Good work, Riley – there are lots of nonprofits who could use your fundraising skills!

Beth Shafranko was pictured in the newspaper featuring the Center For Body Balance. Beth explains that there is much more than massage at her center. In addition to four licensed massage therapists, they have an occupational therapist and two licensed social workers. As happy clients of one of her massage therapists, **Bud** and I happily recommend the center!

Nice picture of **Donna Ochs Maule** wishing her a happy 65th birthday on October 31 – Said she looked good at thirty and 65 – and she does!

I think I have a replacement reporter in **Annika Waffenschmidt** – her article about the 5K runs at West Branch School appeared in the local paper. The students have been training for a 5K run for the past two years. I think I spotted two Larson grandchildren in the picture but can't be sure and also saw Annika in costume for one of their plays. When you are ready Annika, I have a place for you!

I wish you all a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

~Joyce Anne Hershberger

Please submit items to Joyce via her email deermountain2@comcast.net or call her at 322-0410.

Ongoing Collections



Stamp Collecting

We are collecting used stamps again. There is a basket for collection in the Narthex. The stamps are used at the Veteran's Hospital by patients for their therapy. Thank you for your contribution.

Tab Collecting

We are still collecting soda tabs in the crossways hallway! These tabs are sold at a recycling center and the money will be used by the Ronald McDonald House for the operation of the facility. Even a few tabs add up, so please keep collecting. There is a collection container for tabs in the Narthex.



Youth

ENCOUNTER

QUAKES
+ ZONES



"For I know the plans I have for you,"
declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future."
- Jeremiah 29:11

Friday-Sunday, January 25-27, 2013
Pittsburgh, PA
All youth in 6th—12th grades

Several of our youth have signed up to go on this trip in January.
Sharon & Eric Comini and Bob & Bernadette Jones are chaperoning.
If any youth would still like to register, **THEY MAY!!!** It will be an additional \$15 cost.
Our youth are working to earn their portion of the \$132 (\$147 late registration) fee by:

SELLING CALENDARS!!

Calendars are now on sale for \$7.00 each.
Ask one of our youth to see one...they make great gifts!!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, AT 12:30!!



Not only will you be served by our youth, but entertained by them as well!!! Our very talented troupe of teens will perform on a variety of musical instruments for your enjoyment! Cost for all ages is \$7.

YOU MUST RESERVE IN ADVANCE!

*Thank you in advance for helping our youth
with one or both of their projects.*

*As last year, all money raised by the youth that is not used for the trip
will go toward Heifer International.*

*Among the youths' various efforts, Children's Church and VBS, our young people
were able to send a water buffalo, sheep, chickens, rabbits, bees, and trees
to disadvantaged communities around the world.*

Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Health, Healing & Wholeness

"Hold me up, that I may be safe..." Ps.119:117a, NRSV

When my son was a toddler, he suffered from recurrent ear infections. At one point, our physician referred us to an Ear, Nose and Throat specialist to determine if Andrew should have tubes surgically inserted. In the waiting room, the surgeons had assembled shadow boxes containing some of the more unusual items they had removed from the ears, noses and throats of kids throughout the years. I don't recall seeing any "button" batteries then, but I'm sure they have since been added to the collections. According to Safe Kids USA, in 2010 alone, more than 3400 swallowing cases were reported in the US. Nineteen children sustained life-threatening or debilitating injuries – others died.

Button batteries are those small, disc or button shaped batteries that are being used in a wide variety of electronic items. They can be found in laptops, TV remotes, remote car keys, calculators, cameras, bathroom scales, digital thermometers, talking books, video games, hearing aids, insulin pumps, watches, and greeting cards – even in children's toys. Their resemblance in size and shape to candy appears to be tantalizing to toddlers. Meanwhile, at the other end of the age spectrum, elderly hearing aid users have been known to accidentally swallow them because of their closeness in shape and size to medication tablets.

Lodged in the nose or inner ear, the battery can burn through cartilage leading to difficulty breathing and hearing loss. If swallowed, they can become fatal, as the battery's chemicals, burn through or tear the esophagus – leading to internal bleeding and/or the formation of fistulas in delicate tissue and blood vessels. All this can begin within the first two-to-two-and-a-half hours of swallowing. Unfortunately, the majority of ingestions are un-witnessed, and the signs of ingestion are not specific. Webmd, quoting data from the National Battery Ingestion Hotline, indicates that 54% of fatal cases were misdiagnosed. Non-specific symptoms include, vomiting, fever, lethargy, sore throat, irritability, cough, wheezing, or drooling.

Safe Kids USA provides the following tips for battery safety
[\(\[www.safekids.org/safety-basics/safety-spotlight/battery-safety\]\(http://www.safekids.org/safety-basics/safety-spotlight/battery-safety\)\):](http://www.safekids.org/safety-basics/safety-spotlight/battery-safety)

- ◆ Search your home, and any place your child goes for gadgets that may contain coin/button batteries. place heavy tape over the compartment containing the battery.
- ◆ Secure battery-controlled devices out of sight and reach of children and keep loose batteries locked away.
- ◆ **Share this life-saving information** with caregivers, friends, family members and sitters.
- ◆ **In Case of Emergency** - Keeping batteries out of reach and secured is key, but **if a child swallows a battery, parents and caregivers should follow these steps:**
- ◆ Go to the emergency room immediately. Tell doctors and nurses that your child may have swallowed a battery. If possible, provide the medical team with the identification number found on the battery's package.
- ◆ Do not let the child eat or drink until a chest x-ray can determine if a battery is present.
- ◆ Do not induce vomiting.
- ◆ Call the National Battery Ingestion Hotline at 202-625-3333 for additional treatment information.

According to the CDC, "given the increasing use of such batteries, public health and health care providers should include warnings of the dangers of button cell battery exposures when routinely counseling parents. Legislation is under consideration requiring that child resistant battery compartment closures are used on all consumer products using button cell batteries." Until then, however, education and preventive action are vital.

Advent and Christmas Blessings
Debbie Best, RN, BSW, MHA

United Churches of Lycoming County

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED ALL THE TIME:

Chicken Helper	Desert Mixes
Hamburger Helper	Condiments
Canned Fruit & Juice	Pizza Mix
Tea/Coffee/Cocoa	Cookies
Cake Mixes & Frostings	Beef Stew
Oodles of Noodles	Noodles
Canned Vegetables	Jell-O
Pancake Mix & Syrup	Pudding
Macaroni & Cheese	Tuna Helper
Spaghetti & Sauce	Flour
Soups	Sugar

Hours are
9:30-Noon on Mondays for delivery
and
Tuesdays/Thursdays
from 10-3 for clients
(appointments are needed)

We are in The Center,
600 Campbell St, Wmspt.



24 hour Devotion Line

is available to encourage you in your relationship with God. Devotions are under three minutes and change weekly. Call 570-322-5762.

November Ecumenical Lunches

Wednesdays, 12 to 1 PM

A tasty \$6 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship & a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially at Pine Street United Methodist Church.

DECEMBER

5- **Dr. Charles Getchell**, Area Musician, *"Here We Go A Caroling With An Old Fashioned Hymn Sing and a New Fashioned Hymn Ring"*

12- **Ms. Jenny Thorsen**, Restore Manager, Greater Lycoming Habitat for Humanity, *"Using Your Purchasing Power To Support Habitat's Mission"*

19- **Mrs. Kathy Clees**, Kate and Friends Ventriloquism Show, *"Scooter First Hears About Christmas"*

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

TWO SPECIAL CHOIRS FORMING

A Special 75th Anniversary Choir for the Williamsport Music Club's 75th Annual Christmas Candlelight Service



Sunday, December 2 at 4 pm
in the First United Methodist Church,
2 Ross Street.

Be Part of the Dream: Community Combined Choir is being formed to perform during Dr. Martin Luther King Celebrations.

The concert will be held on
Wednesday January 16, 2013
at **Clark Chapel, Lycoming College**

Rehearsal dates will be announced.
Contact Gerald Smith at
570-494-8400

or smithenterprisea@comcast.net
for details and to let him know of your interest
to be part of this musical event
and to be part of this dream for our community.

Happy Birthday!

12/01 Maria Elkin	12/12 Ernest Larson	12/19 Fred Thayer
12/01 Sara Jones	12/13 Megan Catino	12/19 Zachery Zimmerman
12/03 Beth Fillnow	12/15 Richard Hafer	12/20 Clint Eppleman
12/03 David McMorris	12/15 Lyndsi Stugart	12/22 Daryl Lewis
12/03 Edgar Miller Jr.	12/16 Betty Kaufman	12/23 Edith Anderson
12/03 Robert Miller	12/16 Lucille Weaver	12/23 Judith Fortin
12/04 David Elkin	12/17 Marlene Vollmer	12/24 Patti Drake
12/06 David Gilbert	12/18 Ryan Clokey	12/24 Holly Thorne
12/07 Brittany Lynch	12/18 Michael Jensen	12/26 William Hill
12/07 Laura Schreckengast	12/18 William Waldeisen	12/26 Hannah Ramsauer
12/08 Catherine Goertz	12/19 Kurtis Caster	12/28 Helen Schramm
12/09 Emma Elkin	12/19 Martha Hopler	12/30 Amalie Robertson
12/11 Orion Snyder	12/19 Gladys Knauss	12/31 Cynthia Huff

Happy Anniversary!

12/08 Matt & Cassandra Wellen

12/21 Thomas & Becky Miller Pryor

Directory Updates

CHANGES:

CROSSLEY, BONITA: change the address to:

Highland Care Center, Room 318-2, 918 Main St., Laporte, PA 18626

DIEHL, BETTY: change the address to: **2450 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, pa 17701-4006**

HIBSCHMAN, WILLIAM & HELEN: change the address to:

Williamsport Home Apt C-1004, 1900 Ravine Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701

SANTALUCIA, PATRICE: change the address to: **426 Waverly St. #3, Waverly, NY 14892-1461**

WHEELAND, JEFFREY: change the address & phone number to:

418 Wyndham Ct., Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 279-1679

2013 Offering Envelope Alert

**Offering
Envelopes**



Beginning Sunday, December 2nd, offering envelopes for 2013 will be available in the Narthex.

Once again the box numbers will be reassigned to reduce the number of boxes ordered so you may have a different number than previously.

If you don't know your new number the money counters will look it up for you.

End of year note:

All contributions for 2012 must be in the Church Office by Monday, December 31st!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Christmas Lunch N' Fellowship

Wednesday, December 19th at Noon

Pastor's Pomegranate Pork

Bring a dish & dessert to share!

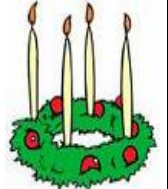
Bring a friend!



Advent Wreath Making

Sunday, December 2, noon Fellowship Hall

The children will again decorate their tree in the Hall with the hand-made ornaments donated to the children of St. Mark's. Please join us for a time of food, fun and fellowship and make an advent wreath for your home!



SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

Patricia Alexander

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

Edith Anderson

The Hillside, Room #104
2725 Four Mile Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754

Jane Angle

Rose View Court, Rm. 206
1251 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Dottie Bingaman

Williamsport Home, Apt. 708
1900B Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Marie Byerly

Sycamore Manor, Rm. 547
1445 Sycamore Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Kay Crane

Williamsport Home, Rm. 213
1900B Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Bonita Crossley

Highland Care Center
Room 318 Bed # 2
918 N. Main St.
Laporte, PA 18626

Art Decker

Williamsport Home, Apt. 1209
1900C Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Larue Dieter

2150 Warrensville Rd, Apt. 2
Montoursville, PA 17754

Catherine Goertz

Williamsport Home, B-816
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Bill Hibschan

Williamsport Home, C-1004
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Charlotte Hughes

140 Blueberry Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701



Gene Jacobs

Williamsport Home. Rm. 312
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Reba Jacobs

1306 Faxon Parkway
Williamsport, PA 17701

Irma Logan

Valley View Nursing Ctr. 401-1
2140 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

David & Carol McMorris

330 Forest Hills Circle
Prescott, AZ 86303

Robert Miller

947 Hepburn St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Kay Poliska

1100 Allen St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Elizabeth Ruesskamp

Willow View Personal Home
124 Emery St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Mary Helen Scinicarello

Danville St. Hosp. #311
Danville, PA 17821

Eleanor Sobers *

Valley View Nursing Center
Rm. 102-1
2140 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Robert Smith

Valley View Nursing Center
Rm. 113
2140 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Beulah Wrede

Wolf Run Village
Apt. A-15
3750 Rte. 220 Hwy
Hughesville, PA 17737

Elda Zeigler

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

ST. MARK'S DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1 Saturday

6:00 PM LSM "A Christmas Carol"

2 Sunday**Advent I**

8:00 AM Holy Communion
 9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Holy Communion
 11:45 AM Family Handbells
 12:00 PM Advent Wreath-Making
 12:15 PM The Way
 4:00 PM 75th Christmas Candlelight
 Service Choir @ UCM Ross St.

3 Monday

Pastor at STS Retreat
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 5:45 PM Beg. Pee Wee Practice
 6:30 PM Midget Practice
 7:00 PM Handbells
 7:00 PM Wmspt. Civic Chorus

4 Tuesday

Pastor at STS Retreat
 8:00 AM City Pastors
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 6:00 PM Brownies

5 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
 11:45 AM Bible Study
 6:00 PM Selinsgrove Ctr. Party

6 Thursday

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

7 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

8 Saturday

8:00 AM Adult Cookie Bake
 9:30 AM JBBL-Beginner
 11:30 AM JBBL- Midget
 12:30 PM JBBL- Midget (win today)
 5:00 PM Kids' Night Out

9 Sunday**Advent II****Gifts for Danville State Due**

8:00 AM Holy Communion
 9:00 AM Congregational Assembly
 9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Children's Church
 10:30 AM Holy Communion
 11:45 AM Congregational Assembly
 11:45 AM Family Handbells
 2:00 PM Caroling to Shut-Ins

10 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 5:45 PM Beg. Pee Wee Practice
 6:00 PM Council Holiday Dinner

10 Monday

6:30 PM Midget Practice
 7:00 PM Handbells

11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 10:00 AM Conf. Pastors@ CoS

12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
 11:45 AM Bible Study

13 Thursday

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

14 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

15 Saturday

9:00 AM JBBL- Midget (loss 12/8)
 11:00 AM JBBL- Midget (won 12/8)
 1:00 PM JBBL- Midget (win today)
 1:00 PM JBBL-Beginner

16 Sunday**Advent III**

8:00 AM Holy Communion
 9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Holy Communion
 11:45 AM Family Handbells
 12:00 PM Prayer 4 Youth/Chapel
 12:15 PM The Way
 3:00 PM WAHS Holiday Hoo-Ha
 6:00 PM Confirmands meal/mtg

17 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 5:45 PM Beg. Pee Wee Practice
 6:30 PM Midget Practice
 6:30 PM Property Committee
 7:00 PM Dog Club
 7:00 PM Handbells

18 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 12:00 PM Staff Christmas Luncheon
 6:00 PM Brownies

19 Wednesday

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

20 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 9:20 AM Stephen Ministry
 7:00 PM Senior Choir

21 Friday**Lion Article Deadline****21 Friday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

22 Saturday

9:00 AM Daniel's Closet

23 Sunday**Advent IV****Hosting FPLC**

8:00 AM Holy Communion
 9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Holy Communion
 11:45 AM Family Handbells
 12:00 PM Decorate Nave & Lunch

24 Monday**Christmas Eve****Hosting FPLC**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 7:00 PM Handbells
 7:00 PM Holy Communion
 10:00 PM Holy Communion

25 Tuesday**Christmas Day Office Closed****Hosting FPLC****Office Closed***Merry Christmas!***26 Wednesday****Hosting FPLC**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
 9:30 AM Deliver Shut-In Flowers
 11:45 AM Bible Study

27 Thursday**Hosting FPLC**

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

28 Friday**Hosting FPLC**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 9:20 AM Lion Crew

29 Saturday**Hosting FPLC****30 Sunday****Hosting FPLC**

8:00 AM Holy Communion
 9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Holy Communion
 11:45 AM Family Handbells
 4:00 PM Remembrance Service
 6:00 PM Teen Movie Night

31 Monday**New Year's Eve**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 7:00 PM Handbells

*May God richly bless you in 2013!*

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



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Celebrating the Savior in so many ways!

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Dec. 2 | Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM
Liturgy of Welcome to The Way, 10:30 AM
Sunday Church School, 9:15 AM |
| Dec. 5 | Selinsgrove Center Christmas Party
leave the church @ 6:00 PM |
| Dec. 8 | Kids NIGHT Out, Cookie Baking,
Craft & Gift Making, 5 PM
Adult Cookie Baking, 8:00 AM |
| Dec. 9 | Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Church School, 9:15 AM
Children's Church 10:30 AM
Congregational Assembly following worship
Caroling, 2—4 PM |
| Dec. 16 | Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Church School, 9:15 AM |
| Dec. 19 | Lunch N' Fellowship, Noon |
| Dec. 23 | Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Church School, 9:15 AM
Christmas Decorating, 12-1 PM |
| Dec. 24 | Christmas Eve
Service of Holy Communion, 7 PM
Service of Holy Communion, 10 PM |
| Dec. 26 | Delivering Poinsettias to shut-ins, 9:30 AM |
| Dec. 30 | Worship, 8 & 10:30 AM
Christmas Fellowship, 9:15 AM
Service of Remembrance, 4:00 PM |
| Jan. 2 | Holiday Bread Baking, 8:00 AM |