



The Lion of St. Mark's

OCTOBER 2015

Educational Opportunities to "Know Christ and To Make Christ Known"

LSM's School of Religion

*Wednesday afternoon Oct. 7, 14, 21, & 28 from 1:30 ~ 3:30
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 142 Market St. Williamsport*

This year's offerings are:

† **SPACE FOR WORSHIP** Although Christians may worship anywhere we usually have a specific place for worship. We'll discern some of the principles that stand behind the work of church architects, and explore by video some of the great worship spaces around the world. Along the way, we may discover ways in which our current worship spaces can function more effectively as proclaimers of the Gospel. Lots of information, pictures, and lively conversation. ~ *Pastor Elkin, St. Mark's*

† **"AND A LITTLE CHILD WILL LEAD THEM"** Have you ever wondered why Jesus played with children and taught adults, while we do just the opposite? Every once-in-a-while we have a chance to see things from Jesus' point of view, and over the next few weeks, we will do just that. This course will help us see the wisdom of children in ways that surprise the adults around them. Through a series of quiet, and often overlooked films, we will be taught a few things about ourselves and our world, seen through the eyes of children. Join us and see what we're talking about.

October 7 – MILLIONS The year is 1999, and the United Kingdom is about to join the European Union. When Damian's cardboard playhouse is hit by a suitcase filled with money, Damian is convinced he has received a gift from God. Damian is eager to share the wealth with those in need, but his older brother, Anthony, has other ideas, and their father is just befuddled. Find out what happens in this film that the Wall Street Journal called "Joyously Funny!" You won't be disappointed.

October 14 – PAPER CLIPS This is a true story about middle-school students in Whitby, Tennessee, who wanted to do something different to help them understand the Holocaust. What they did opened their eyes, made national headlines, and brought them international acclaim. When you see what they did, you won't forget it.

October 21 – AKEELAH AND THE BEE Akeelah Anderson acquired her love of words from her father, who was shot dead while walking home one night. As she tries to come to grips with her loss, she enters her school's spelling bee, which she wins. Still, it's a long way to Washington, DC, and the Scripps National Spelling Bee, but every journey has to start someplace. Take that first step with her, and you'll stay for the whole ride.

October 28 – BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE When Opal moves to a small Florida town with her preacher father, she's the 'new kid' who doesn't know anyone. She adopts a stray mutt, just to have a friend, and because of Winn-Dixie, life changes: for Opal, her father, and the misfits around them. USA Today called the film, "sweet, touching, and funny;" you'll likely form your own opinion, all because of Winn-Dixie.

† **PERICOPE STUDY** "Pericope" is a fancy term for the Bible passages chosen for the coming weeks. Join area pastors as they read the lessons, delve into the background of each lesson, and discuss together how best to get its message said clearly in this time and place. This is always a lively one-hour conversation, led by a different pastor each week.

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Council Notes

1 The Congregation Council will not be meeting in Sep-
 2 tember until after this edition of the *Lion* is in print. We will
 2 publish notes for that meeting in the next issue.

2 The Council met as a committee of the whole on Sun-
 3 day, September 20 to discuss the goal-setting process and
 3 to begin to prioritize the list.
 4

Staff office hours ~ 570-323-4619

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 5 **Sexton:** Lou DeSeau, Sun--Thurs 5:30 AM-1 PM

5
 6 **Parish Musician:** Jungwha Kim
 6 Sun.6:30-12, Mon - Wed 6:30-10:30

6
 6 **Financial Secretary:** Graydon Yearick
 7 Mon & Wed 8-11 AM

7
 7 **Youth & Family:** Bernadette Jones
 8 Tue.10-3 PM, Wed.9:20-2 PM, Sun 8-1 PM

8
 8 **Youth & Family:** Michele Owen
 9 Wed, 9-2 PM, Fri.11-2 PM

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 10 **Secretary:** *Position Open* Mon-Fri 9-1 PM

Staff & Officers

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 11 **Church Office** 323-4619 **Fax** 323-2452

11
 11 **Website:** stmarkswilliamsport.org

12
 12 **Main E-Mail:** stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

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Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Pastor	pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org or 323-7367
Jungwha Kim, Director of Music	jkim@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Bernadette Jones, Christian Ed.	bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Michele Owen, Christian Ed.	mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec.	gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.	ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Parish Secretary	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Ray Huff, Council President	rhuff6@verizon.net home 368-1473
Walt Haussmann, Vice-President	525-3283
Karen Boone, Secretary	995-5107
Wanda Fortin, Treasurer	337-3931
Mel Wentzel, Director, <i>The Way</i>	327-8286
Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	433-0522
Michele Fredericks, Parish Life	michele.l.fredericks@gmail.com
Donna Elkin, Family Promise	donnaelkin@gmail.com or 323-7367 (home) or 419-2949 (cell)
Deb Maggs, Family Promise	tdjmaggs@aol.com or 322-8109
Deb Homes, Altar Flowers	dholmes9@comcast.net
Larue Dieter, Prayer Chain	433-3453 or larubd@gmail.com

Parish Register

Hannah Haussmann, Gillian Buckman and Lynna Robertson completed the requirements and were approved by the Congregation Council for the rite of Affirmation of Baptism – Confirmation which was held on September 13, 2015 with Pastor Elkin as officiant.

TO ANOTHER TASK

Our parish secretary, **Susan Mahserjian-Smith**, has very capably served with us nearly ten years. She has discerned that it is necessary for her to resign the position in order to care for her mother-in-law who is in declining health and who needs constant attention. Her last day with us will be October 2. We will miss her smile and professional manner, and we wish her well in this new responsibility.

The Council received notice of Susan's resignation with regret, and the Personnel Committee is advertising widely so that we might find a suitable person to undertake the secretarial position.

The following ad has been placed:

Church Secretary, St Mark's, Williamsport

Mon - Fri, 9 AM-1 PM.

Excellent people skills, computer literacy,

Familiarity with office equipment a must.

HS graduate. Send resume to:

resume@stmarkswilliamsport.org

by September 25.



Busy times ahead!

There is something special on each of the Sundays through the rest of the year!



October 4 – *Pentecost XIX*: Blanket Sunday, and the Life Chain in the afternoon.

October 11 – *Pentecost XX*: Stewardship Temple Talk, Harvest Home, CROP walk in the afternoon.

October 18 – *St. Luke*: Consecration Sunday, with thanksgiving meals after each service.

October 25 – *Reformation Sunday*. Thank-Offering Day



November 1 – *All Saints Sunday* with its memorial banners, Pack & Wrap Day for Samaritan's purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry

November 8 – *Pentecost XXIV*: We begin our next week of hosting for Family Promise.

November 15 – *Pentecost XXV*: The third of our classes for preparation to receive Holy Communion

November 22 – *Christ the King*, the end of the church year, First Communion celebrated, Book-Fair

November 29 – *Advent I* with lunch and wreath-making



December 6 – *Advent II* Congregation Assembly to consider the 2016 budget

Consecration Sunday

Sunday, October 18, has been set as our congregation's Consecration Sunday. It is a wonderfully appropriate way to approach the everyday decisions of how we manage all of the resources that God has placed in our hands. I urge you to plan now to attend the two important events: (1) Sunday morning worship, and (2) one of the celebration meals, either the breakfast following the 8:00 service or the luncheon following the 10:30 service that same day. The meals will be held in Fellowship Hall, and they will be catered.

This spiritual-growth-oriented process is designed to enrich our biblical understanding of Christian stewardship. Rather than focusing on the need of the church to receive, the experience concentrates on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development.

We believe that you are concerned enough to attend on Consecration Sunday and make your financial commitment as a portion of your worship of the Lord God Almighty on that day.

No one will call you at your home for pledges. But we will contact you personally to secure your commitment to attend morning worship on Consecration Sunday and the Celebration Breakfast or Luncheon to be held immediately after each service. Reservations may be made in person at Sunday worship on the two weeks prior, and by telephone to the church office.

Ray Huff, Council President

BLANKETS THAT HUG

THANK YOU to all who responded so generously with kits, soap, and quilt materials. Your support was wonderful!! Simple things we take for granted, a pencil, a toothbrush, a quilt, or even a bar of soap, can mean so much to someone who faces life without them. Imagine yourself living in poverty or suddenly losing everything you own.



Lutheran World Relief sends aid to humans suffering all over the world. If you were unable to assist with kits or quilts, there is still an opportunity to help. BLANKET SUNDAY will be October 4th. Blankets can be purchased, using bulk prices. Wrapping a blanket around a cold or suffering person is like a hug of love from God. Think how much comfort a hug can give to someone in a time of deepest need. Donations should be made to St. Mark's with a designation for "Blankets". Thank you for your compassion!

Operation Christmas Child Group Pack N' Wrap



On **Sunday, November 1**, after the 10:30 service, we share a light lunch and then pack and wrap Operation Christmas Child boxes. For the past four years, we've had a great time preparing these gifts for children in need!!



At Children's Church, the following Sunday, November 8, the children will process in offertory with the completed boxes. This doesn't preclude anyone packing their own boxes if they prefer to do that. Those who choose to pack their own may bring them in on November 1 or 8, but the final deadline is November 12.

Donations are welcome and appreciated to go toward the shipping of each box.

Stephen Ministry renewed!



Stephen Ministry has been active at St. Mark's for more than 18 years. During that time nearly a score of persons have served in our one to one listening and caring ministry. Age and infirmity have reduced the number of those available for this service, and so over the past year we have been working with a group of new persons to step into this role.

After 60 hours of training and lots of conversation, we are pleased to announce that **Ed Barone, Barbara Thomas, and Matt Fortin** will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers on **Sunday, October 4** at the 10:30 service. Stephen Leaders Kathy Eshelman and Pastor Elkin have very much enjoyed working with them over these months, and we look forward to their service in the parish, and also how they can use the insights gained from this study and preparation in their daily lives.



Do you know someone who might benefit from having a Stephen Minister? Perhaps you, yourself? Contact our Stephen Leaders Kathy Eshelman at 433-0522 or kathyme54@gmail.com or the Pastor at 323-4619 or pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org to inquire whether this might be the right approach for your situation. All information given to the Stephen Leaders is confidential.

Reptileland flashlight safari

Saturday, Oct. 24th at 6:00pm (meet at church)

Ages 3-11 \$7.00 per person Ages 12-Adult \$10.00 per person

We will be paying at Reptileland that evening and seeing the Live Show at 7:00pm Remember to Bring your own flashlight!!!

This event is for all ages and please invite friends, we need 15 people minimum to get this group rate.



See lots of critters in action including mambas, cobras, pythons, and rattlesnakes, along with aquatic turtles, poisonous dart frogs, tree monitors, and crocodilians. Get an up-close look at Madagascar hissing cockroaches, a tarantula, emperor scorpion, and boa constrictor. You can even touch a few animals, like an American alligator. Take in a live show featuring a great horned owl, Norway rat, scorpion, alligator, and rattlesnake!

You'll be amazed by the efficiency of most nocturnal animals. Snakes, for example, are among the most efficient nocturnal predators, even though they have poor eyesight. Their excellent sense of smell aids in detecting and tracking prey. Snakes smell with their tongue and some even have heat-sensing organs on either side of their heads to detect the distance and location of prey! Learn all this and more with our nocturnal shows at 7:00 and 8:00 in the Program Center.

Please go to <http://reptiland.com/special-events/flashlight-safari/>

26th Annual Benefit Concert Supporting Dialysis Clinics

Sunday, October 11th at 4:00 P.M.

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Featuring

The Strolling Strings, Matthew Radspinner, Director

Instrumental Trio: Parker Konkle, piano, Rider Konkle, cello & Samuel Griffith, violin

Scott Shell, guitar and vocal

Tickets: Individual \$15 Family \$25

To purchase tickets call Dick Lakey at 570-323-7309



Harvest Home Sunday is October 11th



HARVEST
HOME

Our church family will be celebrating a "Day of Thanksgiving" by bringing nonperishable items for the local Food Pantry. Bags were handed out on Sunday, September 27th however you may use a regular plastic grocery bag. Bring your bag of food to church on either Sunday, October 4th or Sunday, October 11th. The food will be displayed on Sunday, October 11th at both worship services. We hope you and your family will be part of this annual celebration as we thank God for what He has given us. **Your generosity helps give people in need a three day supply of food.**

Items most needed are: canned fruits, veggies, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tea bags, coffee, oodles of noodles, popcorn, powdered drink mix. Crackers, gelatin mix, peanut butter, granola bars, tuna, applesauce, instant pudding, cornbread mix and canned or powdered milk.

Family Promise Hosting Week ~ November 8-15

If you would like to volunteer during hosting week calls will be taken by coordinator Deb Maggs (570-322-8109) anytime but coordinator Donna Elkin (57-323-7367) can only take calls until Oct. 5th, when she flies away to foreign lands not to return until November 19th.

She is very grateful to announce that Phil Thomas (570-322-6460) will be helping Deb with scheduling so you may get a call from him.

HOWEVER, if you don't get a call and want to be involved in this wonderful ministry, please contact Deb, Donna or Phil as soon as possible so that there is a place for YOU!

We are so very proud to have so many volunteers at St. Mark's! Donna, Deb & Phil



Roller Skating Party

Friday, October 23, 2015

6-8 PM

at Trout Pond Park in Muncy
Everyone welcome - all ages!



FREE admission ~Skate rental extra

Sponsored by Trinity Episcopal, Williamsport
All churches in the West Branch Convocation are invited!

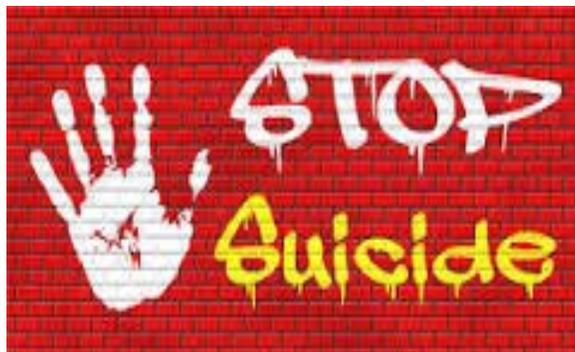
Better Together Walk

Better Together Walk to Prevent Suicide and Support Survivors:

will be held Sunday, **October 18th**
at Indian Park, Montoursville.

Check in will be at 1 p.m. at pavilion 5
and the walk will begin at 2 p.m.

For more information please contact Joe Miller at joesmiller@verizon.net
or 570-974-3958.



Fall Bazaar a Success!



The Women of St. Mark's heartily thank the congregation for their many, many donations of items to sell and food for the kitchen plus their assistance with our annual bazaar. A special thank you is extended to Deb Holmes for bringing freshmen students from Lycoming College to assist in bringing all the tables and the many items from the basement to Fellowship Hall. The students' energy seemed boundless. Then in the days preceding the sale, several men and women worked each morning to organize the tables in preparation for the big day. We were blessed to have many new faces assist with these preparations. On the day of the bazaar the rain did not deter those looking for bargains. Fellowship Hall seemed filled to capacity with shoppers. The kitchen, under the direction of the Second Saturday folks, saw many hungry customers in addition to our own folks. Fellowship Hall remained busy throughout the day with steady sales. At the conclusion of the sale, it was inspiring to see several of our members and their children assisting with the clean-up. A special thank you is given to Carol Johnson from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lou and Linda DeSeau and Pastor Elkin for their invaluable assistance throughout the week. Items not sold at our sale were donated to the Shepherd of the Streets, Daniel's Closet, Newberry Branch of NGA (Needlework Guild of America), Relay for Life/Lancers Against Cancers, Operation Christmas Child and the American Rescue Workers.

This year we raised \$1,191.00 with an additional donation from Thrivent Financial of \$300.00. These funds will be distributed by the Women of St. Mark's in support of charities both locally and globally.

What Are Thankofferings?

Lutheran women have a special way of thanking God for his many blessings. Each time they experience an act of God they put a few coins or dollars in a container and give a prayer of thanks. The event can be a significant or ordinary moment that adds meaning to our lives. When a child runs into your arms, or a beautiful rainbow appears in the sky, or a family member recovers from an illness, you thank God. This tradition, which dates back over one hundred years, connects worship to action in a tangible way. Thankofferings support the many ministries of the Churchwide Women of the ELCA. These offerings of thanks can be turned in on Thankoffering Sunday, which will be October 25th this year at St. Mark's. You can receive credit by making it out to St. Mark's, designated for "Thankoffering", and using your church envelope with your number.



Lutheran Shared Ministry



LSM is Lutherans from congregations in the greater Williamsport area praying, proclaiming, caring, connecting, sharing, and serving in Christ's name. LSM presents October's School of Religion for adults (25 yrs.), leads the annual Catechetical Retreat for tweens (17 yrs.), and seeks new means of outreach and communication in order to more effectively advance the mission of Christ's church in this community.

LSM meetings are open to leaders and laypersons from our local Lutheran congregations. Their next meeting is Tuesday, November 24th at 6:00 p.m., in our Middle Lounge.

Trick or Treat for NGA

The Newberry Branch of NGA (Needlework Guild of America) serves needy individuals, primarily children in the Williamsport Area. We have been doing so for 101 years! We provide new clothes, shoes, linens and hygiene products, as requested by participating agencies for use by their clients. Participating agencies include the United Churches of Lycoming County, Shepherd of the Streets, STEP Head Start, STEP Parent-Child Home Program, Williamsport Area School District, Loy-alsock Township School District and Lycoming County Children and Youth.



In 2014 the Newberry Branch of NGA responded to the needs of more than 600 individuals when they came knocking on NGA's door. Please consider assisting us with our work in providing family hygiene packs to the Parent-Child Home Program. P-CHP is a component of Head Start and provides in-home educational opportunities to pre-school children in rural Lycoming County.



Items being requested are wet wipes, hair brushes, combs, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes for children and adults, toothpaste, bars of soap, body wash, moisturizer and deodorant for men and women. Any items not used in the hygiene packs will be donated to the Shepherd of the Streets. Donations may be placed in the gray tub in the Narthex.

Speak with Deb Buckman, Vicki Haussmann or Becky Pryor for more information.

Daniel's Closet



Cooler weather has arrived. Now is the time to donate sweaters, coats, and other cold weather gear that your family is no longer wearing. Please no summer items. The greatest needs are for infant and children's clothing and plus-size clothing for men and women. Shoes and sneakers in good condition for all family members are always needed. Blankets, throws and afghans are most welcome this time of year.

Drop-Off at Redeemer Lutheran Church will be Thursday, October 22 from 4:30 pm - 6:00pm
Other times for drop off may be arranged by calling Redeemer's office at 570-322-2333.

Michele Owen has also offered to take any clothing brought to St. Mark's to Redeemer. If you are placing clothing in the Bazaar Room, please place it on the stack of tables near the doorway so it does not become confused with items for the Bazaar.

Distribution will be Saturday, October 24 from 9:00 am - 11:00am.



CROP WALK

"We walk because they walk."



The CROP walk, our community's annual walk to fight hunger, is Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 1:30 PM at the River Walk in Williamsport. Registration will be held here at St Mark's.

Join our Team by contacting Brenda Gair at 570-321-7561 or join Team Lion at www.cropwalk.org. You can walk a 3, 6 or 10 mile walk.

We have fun talking with members of our congregation and others along the way and stop for group prayers. A very rewarding experience!

Thank you to those who donated in 2014. Team Lion raised \$842.55, which went to our local community and internationally to help people who are hungry. Our goal for 2015 is to raise \$900.00.

Our world is filled with people in need. Disasters seem to be everywhere - fires, floods, winds, drought, war. One minute people are OK and then they are in extreme need. The plight of Syrian refugee children trying and failing to reach safety will haunt us forever. This is why Church World Service is here and their CROP program works with those who are in need.

Please know that every dollar makes a difference as 25% of the funds we raise support local hunger agencies. This year the agencies we have chosen to receive these funds are the United Churches Food Pantry - Williamsport, Son Light House Food Pantry - Muncy, The New Love Center in Jersey Shore and St. Anthony's Kitchen.

Sign up to walk or donate to Team Lion, see Brenda Gair in the Narthex after each service on Sunday.

Social Ministry Opportunities

**Free Community Supper
at Redeemer Lutheran Church
Thursday, October 8, 2015
5:30 – 6:30 PM**

Do you know a family or individual that is food insecure? If so please share that a free community supper is available the **second Thursday of each month** at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Update: Habitat for Humanity

I have once again spoken with Arion Mosier, Director of the local Habitat for Humanity. She assured me they will need Saturday luncheons for folks. But she is currently unable to provide a schedule in that Habitat is waiting for land deeds from the city of Williamsport. These deeds are necessary before work can begin on two builds on Memorial

Avenue. Once the paperwork has been finalized she will contact me to arrange for Saturday luncheons.

**Newberry Branch of NGA Yard Sale
Saturday, October 17, 2015
from 8:00 – 1:00**

St. John's-Newberry UMC Fellowship Hall

If you love yard sales you don't want to miss this one. The room is certain to be filled with treasures of all kinds and a ginormous amount of very nice children's clothing. Food will be available. All proceeds are returned to the community in the form of new clothes, coats, shoes, linens and hygiene products. We will set-up on Friday, October 16th starting at 9:30 am. We are always looking for extra hands for this job so join us if you wish to help for an hour or two.

The News in our Pews

Today I am delighted to announce a guest contributor to this column – **Phil Thomas** sent me the following information which I am happy to pass on –

*“Ever hear of the Bucksgahuda and Western Railroad Co.? For many years, our own model train enthusiast **Frank Ulman** has been intimately involved in the preservation and development of this industrial railroad located in St. Mary’s, Pa. At one time, before forklifts and conveyors were invented, industrial railroads, made up of smaller-sized locomotives and rolling stock, were the backbone of many industries, including sawmills, coal mines, brickworks and construction sites. Each Sunday on the third Sunday of both August and September, the railroad is open to the public.*

Admission is free but donations are gratefully accepted. Much larger than the trains you ride at amusement parks, the locomotives and rail cars of the B & W provide a more authentic experience as you chug along the tracks through its picturesque wooded setting. There’s lots to see and do. You can tour the restored train station, stroll through the refurbished caboose, or just settle back for a steam engine ride through the woods. Want to learn more about the B & W, just talk to Frank or log on to www.bnwrr.com! Incidentally, Frank’s railroad interests don’t stop with the B & W- he has a delightful garden railroad in his own backyard!”



Makes you want to visit, doesn’t it? **Ted Larson**, another train enthusiast, adds his recommendation to Phil’s- Ted has a wonderful train room in his lower level, complete with a beautiful mural done by Marguerite Bierman.

Understand that Phil also has model trains at his home – maybe we should arrange a tour ! Thank you Phil – maybe others will take a cue from you and send things along to me!

One last addition to the list of awards that **Jared Barone** received at graduation – he was also awarded one of the thirteen local scholarships from the Faith Foundation, formerly The Lutheran Community Foundation – congratulations, Jared.

Happy back to school to all students and teachers and happy Fall to all!

~Joyce Anne Hershberger

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

Children’s Church

Our first children’s service is Sunday, October 11! The special offerings that day are contributions toward our CROP Walk team.

For those new to St. Mark’s, Children’s Church is a time for worship planned especially for our young members. They sing hymns, share the Gospel, respond to a Psalm, learn from a sermon, make an offering and pray the Lord’s Prayer; all following the four parts of our worship service: Gather, Hear (Word), Celebrate (Meal), and Send. They finish in time to carry their offering into the Nave with the adults, then join their parents for the rest of the service. Please consider accompanying your children in the Chapel or bringing them over before you settle in the Nave.



United Churches of Lycoming County

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS CURRENTLY NEEDED:

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

Hours are: 9:30 - Noon
on Mondays for delivery.

Tuesdays/Thursdays from 10-3
clients by appointment only
570-322-1657

Castellano Center
320 Park Ave.,
Williamsport, PA

Wednesday Ecumenical Lunches

A tasty \$6 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship & a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially at Pine Street U. M. No reservations are necessary.

OCTOBER

- 7- **Mrs. Roberta Updegraff**, Christian Writers Group, *"Telling Your Story in Publishable Vignettes"*
- 14- **Rev. Ronald Shellhamer**, Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP), *"Ministry to the Aboriginal People of Northern Canada (The Cree First Nation)"*
- 21- **Mr. Kyle Murphy**, Manager, Lycoming County Transportation Museum, *"Rivers. Rails and Roads"*
- 28- **Mrs. Patty Gohrs and Rev. Gwen Bernstine**, United



Our 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 anytime!**

Calling all teens!



Teen movie night!
Sunday, October 25th at 6:00 PM
Bring a snack! Bring a friend!
Spread the word—see you there!

Ongoing Collections



We are still collecting stamps and they can be placed in the basket in the narthex. The stamps are used in various activities for those in rehabilitation and physical therapy.

Tags are collected all year round and are donated to the Ronald McDonald House which helps with their cost of maintenance, electricity, etc. Tags can be dropped off in the narthex or in the clear container in Fellowship Hall.



From those not so near but still

We received a note from **Jane Kline**, living in Arkansas. She is busy; singing in church choir, thinking about bell choir, chasing those three grandchildren (13,12, and 7) in music, school, church, and athletics. She says, "things are going well for me; when Alice gets busy, so do I!...and yes I miss you all." Notes can be sent to her at 9120 Brooken Oaks, Ft. Smith, AR 72908

We received a note of greeting from **Carol McMorris**, residing with son **Scott McMorris** in Arizona. She noted all the physical changes around our neighborhood since she was young, and spoke fondly of such persons as Dr. Houser and Sister Mildred. She has not decided whether to return to PA, but they still own the farm up on the mountain here. She sends best wishes to us all. Notes can be sent to her at 330 Forest Hills Circle, Prescott, AZ 86303.

Our Heartfelt Thanks!

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us...Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered. A thank you to all who made food, helped to serve, set up and cleaned up for the funeral luncheon for mom (Beulah Wrede.) It was lovely and everything was wonderful. Love and blessings, Dottie Burd, Kym Dunlap & Susie Hill

First Communion Classes

Letters will soon be going out to the parents of those children in the third grade, inviting the students to learn about Holy Communion and what it means to them.

If your child is not yet in third grade, but you feel he or she is ready to understand and receive Communion, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE if you want them to join the class. We feel that children of that age are ready to learn about this sacrament, but, obviously, you know your children better than we do. We are more than happy to include any of our youth in the process.

Classes begin on Sunday, November 1, at 3:00 p.m., in the Middle Lounge, and continue on November 8 & 15 at the same time. The students' First Communion will be celebrated on the festival of Christ the King, Sunday, November 22, 2015.



2nd Saturday is October 10th!

Join us in the kitchen 10:00 AM where we will be working with Apples!



Learn to make the beautiful Apple Rosettes that were served and a huge hit at the 70+ luncheon!

Call Janet Jones to make your reservation! 570772-1184

Sign-up for Corning trip (November 7th) NOW!

The sheet is up next to Bernadette's office. We leave church at 8:00 a.m. in order to be in time for the beginning of the "make-your-own-glass" workshops at 9:20. Volunteers are needed to drive.

Admission is free for all those 17 and younger; \$15.30 for 55+, AAA, military, and college students; \$18 regular admission. This does not include the fees for making your own glass. For more info on those projects, go to www.cmog.org/visit/make-your-own-glass

Youth Encounter Weekend

Youth
ENCOUNTER



QUAKES

• ZONES

January 29-30, 2015

Pittsburgh, PA

Early Bird registration December 1, 2015

\$144 (\$164 then 'til 12/18, \$184 after that)
\$75 due by above date

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

2 Corinthians 12:9-10



Wes Halula

Wes Halula has spent the majority of his life being a ham. When he was younger, this really worked against him. Later in life, he figured out how to harness his energy for good. Wes has appeared in many commercials, performed in theater across the Midwest and west coast, and performed with Comedy Sportz in Kansas City, Minneapolis, and Los Angeles. Wes is best known for his "day job" as one of the members of HappyFunTime, an improvisational and sketch comedy troupe. Wes desperately wants to see the world the way God sees it. He wants to love people the way God loves them. And he'll never pass up the opportunity to tell people just how much God has done for us.

Connecting our weekend of worship with the mission of the church, this event will include meal-packaging sessions in partnership with Harvest Pack. Session participants will have a chance to help in the packaging line, and learn more about the issue of hunger in the world, as we work together to "Share the Harvest".



GILLIAN BUCKMAN, HANNAH HAUSSMANN, AND LYNNA ROBERTSON

...were confirmed on SUNDAY, SEPT. 9, 2015! Their mentors were Mindy Wentzel, Ruth Rees, and Lorraine Barone, respectively. Our thanks go out to these ladies for their dedication to these girls and the program; thanks also to the parents for their encouragement and participation.

After the service, everyone was invited to attend a special hospitality in Fellowship Hall. The 50+ folks in attendance got to talk with the girls and sample their favorite desserts.



CATECHETICAL CLASS!

It's not too late to enroll your 6th or 7th grade child! Please call or email Bernadette for details!

Special Concerns List

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

Edith Anderson
Rose View Center
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Jane Angle
Rose View Court, Room 206
1251 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

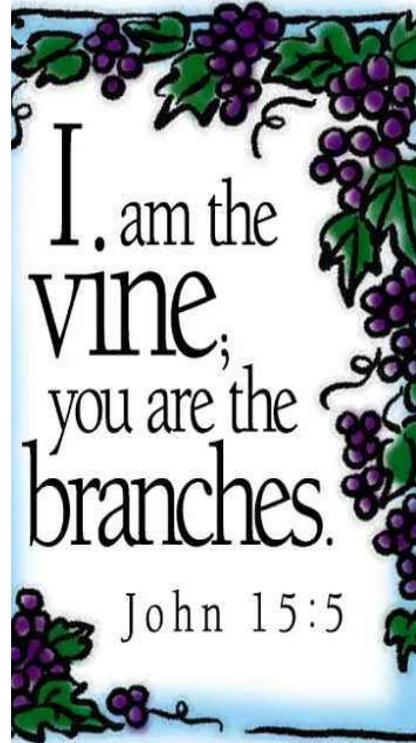
Dottie Bingaman
Williamsport Home, Apt 708
1900B Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Larry Bair
The Meadows
2160 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Marie Byerly
Sycamore Manor, Room 547
1445 Sycamore Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

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

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



Charlotte Hughes
140 Blueberry Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701

Reba Jacobs
c/o Holly Carlson
524 Locust Dr.
Danville, PA 17821

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
Rose View Center
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Robert Swartz
1522 Country Club Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701

Henrietta Tyson
Valley View Nursing Ctr.
Rm. 601
2140 Warrensville Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

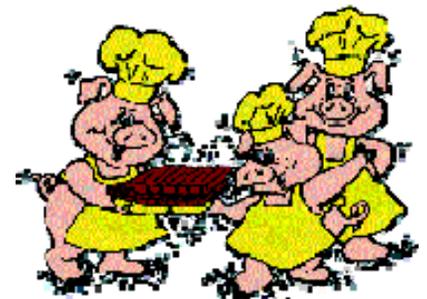
Elda Zeigler
Rose View Court
Apt. 209
1251 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Lunch 'N' Fellowship

Wednesday, October 21st at Noon

Serving Pork & Sauerkraut!

Bring a dish to share & a friend too!



Happy Birthday!

10/05 Stephanie Bieber
 10/06 Caitlin Butters
 10/09 Jane Zimmerer
 10/10 Kameera Smith
 10/11 Amy Burkholder
 10/11 Barbara Doebler
 10/11 Gary Goertz
 10/11 Patrice Santalucia
 10/12 Christine Sauers
 10/13 Shirley Vognet
 10/14 Gary Chrisman
 10/14 Makensi Doebler
 10/17 Sean Fenderson

10/18 Marion Larson
 10/19 Breanna Chicas
 10/20 Ashley Campbell



10/20 Megan Greevy
 10/21 Paige Fortin
 10/21 Carolyn Wacker

10/23 Ryan Lynn
 10/24 Charles Kuntz
 10/24 Richard Miller
 10/24 Mark Welker
 10/26 Hannah Hausmann
 10/27 Kathy Eshelman
 10/28 Andrew Hausmann
 10/28 Tait Thorne
 10/29 John Hoffman
 10/29 Barbara Thomas
 10/30 Lois Goldy
 10/30 Deborah Maggs
 10/31 Natalie Miller

Happy Anniversary!

10/01 Kirk & Michele Owen
 10/04 Lee & Veronica Doane
 10/09 Kenneth & Kathleen Caster
 10/09 Frank & Mary Lou Doebler
 10/09 Jeffrey & Catherine Kneeder
 10/09 Lawrence & Norma Lehman



10/16 Tracy & Andrea Gregory
 10/25 Scott & Mary Kimble
 10/26 Louis & Linda DeSeau
 10/26 Robert & Constance Shaible
 10/27 Jake & Audrey Comerford
 10/30 Romain & Evelyn Bastian

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

In an effort to simplify the Lion deadline I have changed it to the 12th of the month. This should make it easier for everyone to remember when articles are due.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation! God bless, Susan



24th Annual Lycoming County Life Chain

The 24th Annual Lycoming County Life Chain

will be held Sunday, October 4, 2015,
 on the Golden Strip (E. 3rd St.) at 2:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to participate in this peaceful prayer event.



St. Mark's OCTOBER Calendar of Events

Thursday October 1 Pastor Away

6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Choir

Fri October 2 Susan's Last Day

9:00am Morning Prayer

Sun October 4 Pentecost 19

Blanket Sunday (pg. 4)

8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
 10:30am Holy Communion
 10:30am Commissioning of Stephen
 Ministers (pg. 5)
 12:00pm The Way
 2:30pm Annual Life Chain (pg. 16)
 3:00pm Personnel Committee

Mon October 5

9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Civic Chorus
 7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue October 6

8:00am City Pastors
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 12:00pm Virtual School Testing

Wed October 7

9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 11:45am Bible Study
 1:30pm LSM School of Religion
 6:00pm Property Committee

Thu October 8

6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 5:30pm Community Meal (pg. 10)
 7:00pm Choir

Fri October 9

9:00am Morning Prayer

Sat October 10

10:00am 2nd Saturday (pg. 13)

Sun October 11 Pentecost 20

Harvest Home Sunday (pg. 6)

8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
 10:30am Holy Communion
 10:30am Children's Church (pg. 11)
 1:00pm CROP Walk (pg. 10)
 4:00pm 26th Annual Dialysis Benefit
 Concert (pg. 6)
 6:00pm Council Gathering

Mon October 12 Columbus Day

Lion Article Deadline

9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Civic Chorus
 7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue October 13

9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Mutual Ministry

Wed October 14

9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 11:45am Bible Study
 1:30pm LSM School of Religion
 7:00pm Finance Committee

Thu October 15

6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Choir

OCTOBER Calendar of Events continued

Fri October 16

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

Sat October 17

8:00am NGA Yard Sale (pg. 10)

Sun October 18 ~ St. Luke

Consecration Sunday (pg. 4)

8:00am Holy Communion
9:00am Celebration Breakfast
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
12:00pm Celebration Luncheon
12:30pm The Way
1:00pm Better Together Walk (pg. 7)
6:00pm Confirmands Mtg/Meal

Mon October 19

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Civic Chorus Board
6:30pm Council Mtg.
7:00pm Civic Chorus
7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue October 20

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:30pm Stephen Ministry

Wed October 21

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
12:00pm Lunch N' Fellowship (pg. 15)
1:30pm LSM School of Religion

Thu October 22

6:31am Men's Ministry
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:30am Stephen Ministry
4:00pm Daniel's Closet Clothing
Drop Off (pg. 9)
7:00pm Choir

Fri October 23

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Roller Skating (pg. 7)

Sat October 24

9:00am Redeemer's Daniel's Closet
Clothing Giveaway (pg. 9)
6:00pm Reptileland Safari (pg. 5)

Sun October 25 - Reformation Thankoffering Sunday (pg. 8)

8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
6:00pm Teen Movie Night (pg. 12)

Mon October 26

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Pastor at JVB Library
7:00pm Civic Chorus
7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue October 27

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed October 28

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
1:30pm LSM School of Religion

Thu October 29

6:31am Men's Ministry
9:00am Morning Prayer
7:00pm Choir

Fri October 30

9:00am Morning Prayer

Sat October 31

10:00am Hometown Heroes