

JANUARY 2017 Calendar of Events



Sun January 1, 2017
The Name of Jesus
9:30am Holy Communion

Mon January 2, 2017
 Office Closed

Tue January 3, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed January 4, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 6:00pm Bible Study

Thu January 5, 2017
 6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
 8:00pm Young Adult White Elephant

Fri January 6, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer

Sun January 8, 2017
8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
 10:30am Children's Church
10:30am Holy Communion
 11:45am Rememb. of Baptism
 Milestone w/Ext. Hospitality
 12:00pm The Way

Mon January 9, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue January 10, 2017
Council Agenda Due
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 10:00am Publicity Committee

Wed January 11, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 6:00pm Bible Study
 6:30pm Personnel Committee

Thu January 12, 2017
Lion Article Deadline
 6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 5:30pm Redeemer Community Meal
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri January 13, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
10:30am Christian Ed Meeting

Sat January 14, 2017
 10:00am 2nd Saturday - Bread Baking

Sun January 15, 2017
8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
 6:00pm Catechetical Dinner/Meeting

Mon January 16, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 6:00pm Civic Chorus Board Meeting
6:30pm Council Meeting
 7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal
 7:00pm Wmspt. Dog Training Club

Tue January 17, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed January 18, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 12:00pm Lunch 'n' Fellowship
 6:00pm Bible Study

Thu January 19, 2017
 6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-Off
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal



Fri January 20, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer

Sun January 22, 2017
8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
 12:00pm The Way
 6:00pm Teen Movie Night



Mon January 23, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue January 24, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 6:00pm LSM at St. Luke's

Wed January 25, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
 6:00pm Bible Study

Thu January 26, 2017
 6:31am Men's Ministry
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:30am Stephen Ministry
 4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-Off
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri January 27, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Lion Crew

Sat January 28, 2017
 9:00am Daniel's Closet Clothing
 Giveaway

Sun January 29, 2017
8:00am Holy Communion
 9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion

Mon January 30, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer
 7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue January 31, 2017
 9:00am Morning Prayer

A Message from the President of Council:

Happy New Year! January (named for Janus, the two-faced Roman god who looked forward and backward) is a time for remembrance and anticipation. We fondly recall Pastor Elkin's 20+ years of service to the congregation and we are anxious to see where we are headed next. Pastor has given his all to St. Mark's for over 20 years. For that reason alone, following council's preference, Bishop Collins has agreed that we will not begin the call process until later this year. This will give us time to reflect on who we have been as God's people and discern where God is calling us to be in the years ahead.

We are pleased to announce that the Reverend James Erwin West will be our Intentional Interim pastor for the next year. He has been trained specifically for the task of bridging the gap between a long-standing pastor and the deliberate calling of our next pastor. He has served in this capacity in San Diego and most recently in a church in Windsor, Colorado with about the same attendance and budget figures as St. Mark's. Pastor West is also a retired Navy chaplain. He will bring all of this experience with him as the full-time Intentional Interim Pastor of St. Mark's beginning on January 29.

We will have four services in January prior to Pastor West's arrival. The synod's normal procedure is to have a Supply Pastor or an Authorized Lay Worship Leader (ALWL) lead the service and celebrate the Lord's Supper with the congregation. We are fortunate to have three ALWLs at St. Mark's. Lou Kolb will preach at the single service on January 1; Ray Huff will lead services on January 8 and Walter Haussmann will lead services on January 15. Bishop Collins has graciously offered to lead our services on January 22.

Some volunteers are in the process of attending *Creating Healthy Congregations Workshops*. The workshops are a preparatory step in the call process. A Call Committee will be named in the next few months. We are not rushing to find a new pastor; we are being deliberate per the Synod guidelines. You may view these guidelines on the Synod website (go to Upper Susquehanna Synod and then check Call Process).

The conference dean (Reverend Doctor Kerry Aucker) will discuss the call process and appointment of the Call Committee at a regularly scheduled council meeting. The Call Committee will consist of six members, two of whom will be members of council. In the meantime, the congregation and council will continue to attend workshops to determine what our needs might be.

Our other loss is that of our Director of Music, Jungwha Kim. Ms. Kim has accepted a position in Hummelstown that will provide her with a full-time position. We congratulate her on furthering her personal and professional career and thank her for her excellent musical contributions to St. Mark's.

A committee has been formed to identify what our needs will be in our musical future. Advertisements, interviews and auditions will take place. We look forward to a new music director in the near future. Donna Elkin has graciously agreed to be the interim director of music until we find a permanent one.

So, we look back with fond memories and we look ahead to new possibilities. We can always quote the famous saying "Times change, people change, situations change, relationships change...the only thing constant is change." We at St. Mark's are aware of all of the changes that we are facing, but our one and only constant is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. With Him all things are possible.

Yours in Christ,

Ray Huff