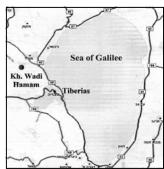


The Lion of St. Mark's

MAY 2009



Where in the World is Pastor Elkin??

On Thursday, April 23, Pr. Elkin left to seek adventure in Israel with his recent Iron Chef competitor, Pr. Aden Wertz.

They are assisting with the archaeological excavations at Khirbet Wadi Hamam (Veradim) —an ancient village about 1.2 miles from the Sea of Galilee. It covers over 12 acres on a steep slope of the Nitai Mountain and was one of the largest villages in Eastern Galilee during the Roman period. A large spring beneath the site and its proximity to the ancient route that led from the sea to central Galilee and from there to the Mediterranean coast

explain the development of a big settlement at this location.

We are sure that their sparkling conversation and tales of the challenge for Family Promise will entertain their fellow recruits when they're not working. Stay tuned for news of their exploits and (dare we hope?) discoveries.

What follows are journal entries, via Twitter, of Pr. E's time there:

Pastor has arrived safely in Israel after a very long flight.

Dig report #1 Pastor Elkin on archaeological dig in Wadi Hamam north of Tiberias on Sea of Galilee, until May 9. Exciting time planned

Dig report #2 Flight direct El-Al from Newark, with many ultra-Orthodox. Unusual experience. Sat beside Reform rabbi w/ a travel group, 60!

Dig report #3 Train from Tel Aviv to Haifa was fast, smooth, and efficient. Cab was slow, efficient, and expensive. Arrive at friends house

Dig report #4 Visited Mt Tabor and Church of Transfiguration. I liked the gardens more than the church, Steep switchbacks for the car

Dig report #5 Our quarters are functional, quaint, spartan, cozy, remote. Did I say quaint? Cow barn next door for ambience

Dig report #6 Leave quarters for dig 5:25 AM, tools out and ready to work as the sun peeks over the horizon. Soon no need for jacket

Dig report #7 Removed protective soil and sandbags from the worksite from last year, and went a bit deeper in the synagogue

Dig report #8 Work can be dangerous: Pr. Wertz nearly went over the spoil pile together with his wheelbarrow of stones...a very steep bank

Dig report #9 The professionals...grad students, etc., guide us well. Friendly, patient, helpful, articulate, from Hebrew U. in Jerusalem

Dig report #10 Breakfast at site at 9AM=tomatoes, cucumbers, hard boiled eggs, hummus, rolls. We ate without hesitation. Hungry

Dig report #11 Lunch at site at 2PM is tomatoes, cucumbers, hummus, rolls, sliced cold meat. We ate without hesitation and snarfed some more

Dig report #12 Supper 8:00 PM back at headquarters is chicken quarters, and 8 different vegetable dishes. Plenty, colorful

Dig report #13 Lecture this evening on the background of this dig by the director. Insightful and well-done.

Synopsis when I return

continued on page 12 ▶

COUNCIL UPDATE

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COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

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The Congregation Council met in regular session on March 16 in the Crossways Room. The Council:

- received the regular reports of the pastor, officers, and committees.
- set the next regular council gathering as Tuesday, May 19.



Parish Register

- James Sheaffer, passed away Wednesday, April 10.
- Pastor Elkin presided at the funeral service for Larry Lundy on April 14.
- Pastor Elkin presided at the memorial service for Anna Rhodes on April 17.
- Pastor officiated at the funeral service for Donald Young in the Maneval Home on April 18.
- Pastor officiated at the graveside service for Dorothy Hoffman in Wildwood Cemetery on April 20.
- New members: Kevin DeSeau and Matt Wellen by Sacrament of Holy Baptism at the Easter Vigil.
- New members: Doug, Beverly, and Katie Schmitt, Joshua Lynch and David Walz by Affirmation of Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

Staff & Officers Contact Information

Church Office 323-4619
The Reverend Kenneth Elkin, Pastor
Dick Lakey, Director of Music
Sharon Comini, Christian Education
Bernadette Jones, Christian Education
Susan M-Smith, Parish Secretary
Richard Wagner, Financial Secretary
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Services
Gary Weber, Website Administrator

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org rlakey@stmarkswilliamsport.org scomini@stmarkswilliamsport.org bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org rwagner@stmarkswilliamsport.org ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org gweber@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Church fax number	323-2452
Pastor's Home Phone	323-7367
Harold Hershberger, President	322-0410
Gary Weber, Vice-President	322-7149
Donna Clark, Council Secretary	998-2290
Jackie Kinney, Treasurer	323-5980
Jane Larson, Stephen Ministry	433-3380
Bob Schultz. Adult Catechumenate	326-3929

Christian Community Service Opportunities



Celebrate new beginnings!

Groundbreaking marks beginning of joyful noise in our community!

You'll soon hear the buzzing of saws and pounding of hammers, but first you're invited to hear words of thanksgiving and celebration at a groundbreaking ceremony for the newest Thrivent® Builds with Habitat for Humanity® home in our community.

Groundbreaking celebration details:

Come Join Us Saturday, May 16, 2009

Faith & Family Footprint Walk begins at 9:00 a.m., rain or shine. We will walk from the current Habitat build at the corner of Mahaffey and Linn Streets to our build site at 1662 Memorial Avenue, Williamsport.

Groundbreaking begins at 10:00 a.m.

Please remember that the walk is one way. Parking is available at Logue Baseball Field, near our departure site, and Bowman Field behind Park Pizza, near our destination.



www.thriventbuilds.com

Additions & Changes to the Church Directory

Back in Williamsport

Please refer to the local address in the directory William Hibschman (as of 5/6) Mrs. Kenneth (Lois) Winters-Goldy

New Listings

Kevin DeSeau Lycoming Mall Rd. Muncy, PA 17756

Joshua Lynch 33 S. Main St., Apt. 3 Montgomery, PA 17752

Doug, Beverly, Rachel & Katie Schmidt 51 Ridge Rd. Mill Hall, PA 17751



Changes

Scott Dietterick 260 Hughes St., Apt. C Swoyersville, PA 18704-2168

Christopher & Melissa Fremberg 2503 Dove Street Williamsport, PA 17701-4285

David, Nicole, Madison & Lucy Walz 667 Fifth Avenue Williamsport, PA 17701

Matthew, Cassandra Madisyne & Bianca Wellen 2005 Heshbon St. Williamsport, PA 17701

NEWS FROM ABROAD

(continued from page 1)

- Dig report #14 Any white clothing at the dig shall never again be that color, no matter how many times it is washed. Of this I know
- Dig report #15 Work continues with the 3 volunteers, a Baptist work group, 2 long-term residential volunteers, 4 paid workers, grad students
- Dig Report #16 Site is a small village in the "Arbel valley", historic spot, not studied before. Spot is synagogue 2nd century, earthquaked
- Dig Report #17 Tuesday: backhoe with sling to remove large stones fallen. Hoping to find mosaic floor underneath. Great anticipation!
- Dig report #18 Pr. Wertz did NOT go over the cliff; neither did Pr. Elkin push him. Having a great time together at the dig
- Dig report #19 Each day begins cool, warms quickly with the sun, is windy in afternoon, stills at sundown. Land green yet, but brown soon
- Dig report #20 Backhoe in today to carefully move large fallen stones & columns. Then moved many tons of soil to get close to floor. Mosaic?
- Dig report #21 All soil from the dig is sifted to look for small things that were missed as being dug. Very labor intensive, needs attention
- Dig report#22 Have never eaten so many cucumbers and tomatoes on every day at every meal! Cucumbers here are smaller and milder than ours.
- Dig report #23 To Independence Day event last night in Tiberias. Williamsport's fireworks much better, but there were many smiling faces here
- Dig report#24 Israel's mandatory event on Independence Day is each family grilling meat w/ clouds of charcoal smoke, much talking &loud music
- Dig report #25 Walked from Arbel to cliffs, climbed down east face, around talus slope & up north face. Handholds and guy wires provided
- Dig report #26 Many flowers blooming in Israel now: bougainvillea, poppies, Queen Anne's lace, cornflower, hibiscus, jasmine, & many more
- Dig report #27 Staff abandoned volunteers today to go home, but will return late tonight to be ready for work in the AM
- Dig report #28 Holiday village where we are staying was filled last night with families, but all have departed now. Others arrive for weekend
- Dig report #29 All are anxious to remove last 5cm of soil to see if there is any mosaic on floor of 2nd century synagogue in Wadi Hamam

This last post was late Wednesday.

For more recent postings, go to our web page and click on the Twitter badge.

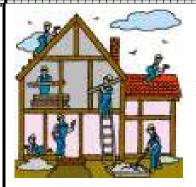
From e-mail late Thursday: Exciting times today. I started to uncover a mosaic. We have about a square yard out now and perhaps there is some more. To see the light of day for the first time in 1,500 years!

Can't wait until he gets back to tell us of this!! How about you?

Distaff:

Donna Elkin has returned safely from Europe, where she had a wonderful time with Katy. She has pictures!!!!

Social Ministry & Women of St. Mark's



Habitat for Humanity

The Thrivent build for Habitat is THIS YEAR!

If you can help out in any way—on site, meals, donations, anything—please contact Todd Smith or Becky Miller Pryor.

This is a vital, rewarding service—get involved!

Fourth of July Celebration

With spring bursting on the scene, it will be no time at all until the Fourth of July and our annual lawn party is here. Each year the celebration gets bigger and better. But it has become too much for one person to plan and organize despite lots of donations and many willing workers that day.



It is time for a working committee of folks to tackle this friend-maker of a holiday together. You know the phrase...many hands make light work. Please speak with Becky Miller Pryor if you wish to help with this important outreach to the community. She promise the meetings will be few.

Clothing Sale Success!

On behalf of the Women of St. Mark's, Shirley Hill and Becky Miller Pryor wish to thank the congregation for their generous donations of clothes and clothing accessories to the annual clothing sale. Over the course of four days numerous volunteers set up Fellowship Hall, then unpacked, folded, and organized a roomful of items. We are pleased to report that sales totaled approximately \$575.00. This amount qualifies for matching funds from Thrivent. We also contributed a truckload of clothing to each of the following charities: Daniel's Closet (a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran), the West End Community Center (a ministry of St. John-Newberry UMC) and the American Rescue Workers.

Without the efforts of many this sale is not possible. A special thank you is extended to Linda DeSeau, Russ and Lois Smith, Shirley Vognet, Ernestine Doane, Shirley Miller, Shirley and Jackie Kinney, Jane Kline, Grace Arner, Judy Fortin, Bunny Ditchfield, Ruth Sherlinski, Alona Hopler, Lucille Weaver, Elsie Sechler, Kirk, Michelle, Devin and Dawson Owen, Donna Elkin, Bob Jones and Todd Smith, for their help. An extra-special thanks is given to Bill Hill for building several new racks that were put to good use. And a huge thank you is given to Lou DeSeau for going above and beyond his duties to help make the sale a success.

News from the Pews

The biggest event of this past month, maybe this past year, was Iron Chef Williamsport which took place in Fellowship Hall Sunday, April 19. Two teams of chefs, one from St. Mark's and the other from Pine Street Methodist, competed for the dubious honor of receiving the Spoon Of Doom trophy. Both teams were outstanding but St. Mark's threesome, Bernadette Jones, Jackie Kinney and Pastor Elkin, managed to edge out the crew from Pine Street. Our own Nicole Walz, as referee; Michael Ditchfield, as one of the judges and Gary Chrisman, outstanding emcee did themselves proud as well- all proceeds go to Family Promise of Lycoming County. Congratulations to our superior team!

Two of our young ladies, students at Curtin Middle School, were selected for the "Orange and Black" award in February: Katelyn Lauer, daughter of Tracy and Mike Elliott and Emily Newcomer, daughter of Jim and Sue Hershberger, were honored.

Brett Campbell's name appears so often in the newspaper I think he needs his own press agent. Most recently he was pictured with his French-themed display to celebrate Foreign Language Week. He also placed ninth in economics at the recent Future Business Leaders of America state conference in Hershey. FBLA adviser said that placing in the top ten is quite an accomplishment. Congratulations to Brett!!

Not to outdone, Lauren Campbell gets her fair share of honors – she achieved total scores of 270 out of 300 possible points in a microeconomics and macroeconomics tests. Hers was one of the highest scores in the competition which was a part of the Economics Pennsylvania Central PA Economics Challenge and was held in Northumberland in March. Brett was also part of that competition.

Lauren was featured as student of the month at Montoursville High school and both students were on the honor roll. We will look for great things for these young St. Mark's people.

Of course our international travelers are in the news – Donna Elkin flew to Paris to spend time there and in Barcelona with daughter Katie and Pastor Elkin is doing another stint at one of his digs in Israel – more to come on that later.

Our own Linda DeSeau was pictured unveiling a mural at the West End Community Center - Linda is a board member of the Newberry Community Partnership - Elm Street Project - great work, Linda!

Riley and Stephan Weber continue to star in the Odyssey of the Mind - Both were pictured in recent newspapers.

Deb Buckman is presenting workshops to help middle and high school teachers develop their science skills - even the titles of her speaking topics challenge the mind.

The Lycoming County Visitors Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce published a very nice tribute to Art Kline. His work at the visitors' bureau and his work at the Brown Library serve as a continuing testament to this community-minded individual.

- Joyce Anne Hershberger

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

If you would like Pastor to visit with you in your home, at church, or another suitable meeting place before his trip, please call the office at 323-4619 or email the Pastor at pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org to schedule a time.



United Churches of Lycoming County

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**.

Food Pantry Needs

These are the items that are currently needed:

tuna fish canned fruits egg noodles teabags cakes mixes & icing oodles-of-noodles sugar canned veggies

saltine crackers hamburger helper clean plastic bags

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 may be made to receive food 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

Ecumenical Luncheons

Join us from 12 to 1 p.m. for the Wednesday Noon Ecumenical Lunch Program. You're always assured of a tasty \$4 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. The parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30 p.m.

No reservations are necessary.

- 5/06 ~ "A New Vision of Short-Term Rehab"

 Mrs. Sharon Shaw, Director of Admissions & Marketing, Rose View Center
- 5/13 ~ "Our Spring Mission Trip to Pittsburgh ~ Mission Possible!"

 Mrs. Sharon Comini & students of United Campus Ministry at Penn College
- 5/20 ~ "It's 10 A.M., Do You Know where Your Mother Is?"

 Ms. Sandy Hill, Intake coordinator for Albright LIFE
- 5/27 ~ "An Americana Musical Travelogue"

 Mrs. Candy Watkins and Mrs. Carol Waltz, some of our wonderful local musicians

Leave a Legacy for Ministry and Mission: We all want to do our part to leave a legacy for family and ministry. Life insurance proceeds can establish

love is a gift

our legacy by providing for the various ministries that are important to us. Consider designating some or all of an insurance policy for your favorite ministries. Call your life insurance agent and request a beneficiary form. With one easy change you can Leave a Legacy for Ministry. For more information call Pr. Greg Kramer at the Lutheran Planned Giving Office at 570-374-2044 or call the ELCA Foundation, 800/638-3522, ext. 2970 or visit our website at www.elca.org/fo

ELCA, Synod & West Branch News

New Synod Website to Launch May 1

The synod website, <u>www.uss-elca.org</u>, is about to premiere! A whole new website with tools for rostered leaders and congregations alike! A new map of congregations will direct newcomers to a USS congregation near them! Learn whom to contact about various ministries in our synod! See what the Synod Council is doing! Find archived copies of synod publications! This is one to bookmark! Watch for it!

Meet New Synod Communications Director, Chad Hershberger

Chad Hershberger has begun a part-time position as Communications Director for the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Chad continues his full-time position as director of Camp Mount Luther, but will also be responsible for synod newsletters and publications. Note this new email address for Chad for sharing your news and information: news@uss-elca.org.

Lutheran Day at the Capitol—May 12, Harrisburg

You are invited to Harrisburg on Tuesday, May 12 for "Lutheran Day at the Capitol" to meet with legislators and learn about the public policy priorities of the ELCA. This is a great opportunity to live out your baptismal calling to "strive for justice and peace in all the earth." Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania is excited to present Andrew D. Genszler, Director for Advocacy and the Washington Office for the ELCA, whose keynote address will explore "Whose Community? Lutheran Advocates and the State Fiscal Crisis". To see a schedule for the day and to register, visit the LAMPa website (www.lamp.org). You can download a PDF, fill it out, and mail it in with your \$20 check. Or you can download the registration in MS Word, e-mail it back (lampa@lamp.org) and bring your check with you when you arrive at Lutheran Day. In order to receive an information/confirmation packet, please register by May 1.

Even if you are not able to attend, please do your best to promote Lutheran Day to one or more members of your congregation or organization who show(s) an interest in the intersection of church and society. For your convenience, <u>download our Lutheran Day Bulletin Insert</u>.

Fourth Annual Bishop's Open Golf Tournament to Benefit Camp

Registrations are now being accepted for the Fourth Annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic which benefits Camp Mount Luther of Mifflinburg. The public is invited to participate in the tournament to be held on Monday, May 11, 2009 at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam.

This is the fourth year for this fundraiser which will benefit the camp's 40 By Faith Capital Campaign to enhance the ministry of the camp. Start time is 12:30 p.m. Registration and lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. Last year, nearly \$20,000 was raised as a result of this event.

Sponsorships as well as individual registrations are currently being solicited. To get a registration form, or for more information, go to the camp's website at www.campmountluther.org or contact the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or Bob Zimmerman, Tournament Chair, at (570) 286-2100.

Volunteer Needed!

Albright LIFE Center is in need of a volunteer to assist an elderly client in two ways: (1) A one-time, closet cleaning day; and (2) to escort her to the grocery store on a regular basis. If you, or someone you know would be able to help, please contact:

Fran Decker at the Albright LIFE Center, 322-5433; or Debbie Best, Congregational Health Ministries, 320-0520.

Thanks for lending a hand!

Elca, Synod & West Branch News

U.S.S. ARK



God's Work, Our Hands in the Upper Susquehanna Synod + Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work, Our Hands in the USS News of God's People in Action



Pictured: Mike McCay and Pastor Jeffrey Bohan



Front row: Jacob Woffe, Joseph Iwanski, Liam McCay. Back row: Jim Woffe, Dan Lawton, Tom Markowski, Pastor Jeffrey Bohan, Mike McCay.

Kilted for Christ

The St. Luke Lutheran Church (Bloomsburg) community was issued a challenge during its Lenten collection for ELCA World Hunger Outreach. <u>The Challenge</u>: raise \$500 for ELCA World Hunger Outreach by March 15, and Tom Markowski, past Congregation Council President, would wear a kilt on Sunday, March 22; raise \$1,000 and Pastor Jeffrey Bohan would also wear a kilt that Sunday.

In faith and with thanksgiving to God, the St. Luke Community met the challenge and raised \$2,258.13! Additional gifts brought the total to \$2,329.24 by March 17! To commemorate the achievement of this goal, and in solidarity, several others joined those designated in Celtic costume. Donations to ELCA World Hunger were accepted for this challenge through Easter Sunday, April 12.

Area Food Bank Benefits from Hunger Program

The St. Paul's Lutheran Food Bank of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lamar recently received a Domestic Hunger Grant of \$3,000 from the ELCA World Hunger Program. In 2008, the ELCA World Hunger Program awarded 329 discretionary domestic grants, totaling \$787,600, in four areas: relief, development, organizing, and Churchwide grants. For more information on these programs, go to: http://tiny.cc/hungergrant.

Souper Bowl Count Grows

Contributions on Super Bowl Sunday for local food pantries and ELCA World Hunger were reported in an earlier issue. Add to the count another \$251.55 collected by St. Luke. Williamsport!

Elca, Synod & West Branch News

Tour de Revs de Revs coming! Is Coming!

2009



From May 13 through August 20, 2009, three Lutheran pastors from West Virginia will put foot to pedal and seat to saddle and travel over 13,000 miles to raise awareness and donations to help eliminate world hunger. On Thursday, June 4, join the cyclists in a ride-along for their 18-mile stretch from Christ's United (Four Bells) Lutheran Church in Millmont, 13765 Old Turnpike Road--departure at 3pm. Or meet them upon arrival at the USS Synod Office in Lewisburg around 4pm. Come see their 3-person bamboo bicycle!

What: A new and unique way to help end hunger

When: June 4, 2009

Where: Ride Begins at Four Bells Church in Millmont and ends at USS Office in Lewisburg

Other: The Revs will speak at: Christ Lutheran Church, Milton-potluck at 6pm, presentation at 7

St Luke's Lutheran, Sunbury, 6:30, St. Luke's Lutheran, Williamsport, 7pm

Please bring food or monetary donations!

Feed Your Finals

The end of Spring Semester is just around the comer. UCM will host our Feed Your Finals event May 4. We will again provide study bags for the students and appreciate as much congregational support as possible. In De-

cember, two congregations provided 80 study bags for the students. Just think how many more students we could touch when more congregations get involved. Please continue to keep the students, especially graduating seniors in your prayers.





A special service, sponsored by Lutheran Shared Ministry, will be held at Messiah Lutheran church, South Williamsport on Thursday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m.

5th Annual Charity Drive

Wednesday, 4/29, through Sunday, 5/10.

"Daniel's Closet"

At Redeemer Lutheran Church 1101 Washington Blvd. Williamsport, PA 322-2333

Free Clothing For Children, Men and Women!

Saturday, May 23, 2009 Saturday of the month)

WHO'S GRADUATING...

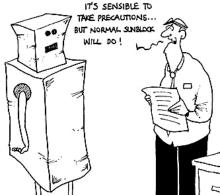


...from high school or college?? Let us know so these young people can be recognized for their accomplishments!! Call or e-mail the office—we're waiting to hear!

NURSE'S NOTES

MAY, 2009

- May 3 FDA Warns of Risk of Wearing Medicated Patches During MRIs Medication patches (trans-dermal medication) worn on the skin sometimes contain aluminum or other trace metals in their backing (the part not touching the skin), which may pose a risk to patients under-going an MRI. "While not attracted to the magnetic field of the MRI, the metal can conduct electricity, generating heat which can cause bums." Patients using skin patches that deliver medication, including some over-the counter medications, should be sure to let all their healthcare providers know about their "patch" {so they can be advised when to remove them) before undergoing MRIs. Patients should also share this information with the MRI facility when scheduling the procedure and when checking in for the scan. Transdermal patches are commonly used for certain heart medications, nicotine reduction, anti-nausea medications, and some forms of hormone treatments.
- May 10 Don't forget the sunscreen! Five or more sunburns across your lifetime doubles your risk of melanoma, and can increase your risk for other types of cancers as well. A good rule of thumb "Use about one full shot glass worth of SPF 15 or higher and reapply every few hours." (Dr. Robert W. Walters, MD, PhD, Duke University School of Medicine, as quoted in April 2009, Prevention Magazine). It is prom season, so Please remember that tanning beds produce the same skin damage as does the sun.



- May 17 Tennessee State University Researchers suggest keepin fridge, making sure it does not go above 40 degrees, to discourage the growth bacteria and keep foods fresh longer. Check it daily. They also suggest storing dairy and egg products on the top shelf (the coolest area) and not on the fridge door. [Bell, K.(April 2009). Food's cold-comfort Zone. Prevention Magazine. p 24]
- May 24 One would need to be living in a bubble not to recognize the climate changes we are all experiencing. Here is one that you may not have considered. This fact is from the National Institute of Health: "As the ambient temperature of a region rises, the ecology changes, and therefore populations of disease-carrying vectors [things] such as mosquitoes, ticks and flies, may occur in greater numbers over longer periods during the year and with less die-off over a less cold winter." [National Institutes of Health. (January 2009). Fact Sheet: Health Effects of Climate Change.]
- May 30 Are you puzzled by the terms or abbreviations that your doctor uses? Do you occasionally feel like you and your doctor speak two different languages? Then check out this great resource from the National Library of Medicine: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/medlineplus/medlineplus/medlineplus/appendixb.html. Stumped by a medical abbreviation? Check out http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/appendixb.html

THE JOB PATH



James V Brown Library Announces The Job Path Take the First Step at Your Library

The Job Path is a project of the James V. Brown Library which will connect people with the resources they need to search for the job they want.

Library resources include books, databases, and the people who can help you find and use them. The Job Path will also provide presentations on the skills needed to find and get jobs, and to keep them.

Scheduled Presentations:

April 28 Effective Job Search Strategies: The Rifle Approach - Jerry Falco

Many of the standard job search strategies do not work! This session will teach you how to use the rifle approach to job searching. The rifle approach separates the ineffective strategies from the effective ones, and enables you to concentrate your job search efforts, zero in on that great job, and increase your odds of getting it.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

April 30 Avoiding Business Etiquette Blunders: Tips for Job Seekers - Kathy Pagana

Are you projecting a confident, credible image and making the most out of business encounters? This session will help you get your behavior in expected order so that others can focus on the content of what you are saying rather than on the etiquette blunders you may be making.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

May 7 Interviewing Success: Using Etiquette to Ace Your Interview - Kathy Pagana

The idea of going to a job interview can be intimidating and overwhelming. This enjoyable and informative presentation will help you think through the issues that require preparation and reflection before you walk into your next interview.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

May 12 Wants, Needs, and Your Financial Future - Tom Fahsbender

Learn how to analyze, plan, create, monitor, and live and save on a personal household budget. This session will give you an overview of all of the elements involved in reaching these goals. 6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

May 19 - The Psychology of Job Loss - Dan Egli

This talk will be about the symptoms one can typically expect and how to respond to those symptoms effectively. Knowing these symptoms, and knowing how to treat them, increases one's chances of being able to move forward proactively in the job transition process.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

May 26 Job Loss: An Opportunity for Career Change - Jerry Falco

Job loss is dramatic and can be depressing. It is also a great time to take stock of your professional life and determine if you should move in a new career direction. This session might enable you to look back on your current situation and thank your old employer for setting you on a new improved career path.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

June 2 Resume Writing/Refreshing for Blue-Collar Employees - Jerry Falco

Your resume might be the single most important document you ever put your name on. Learn how to build a resume that gets you in the door and to the front of the line.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

June 9 Resume Writing/Refreshing for White-Collar Employees - Jerry Falco

Resumes styles have changed dramatically over the years. If you haven't updated your resume in the last 5 years, your resume has expired! Learn the how to sharpen your resume so you beat your competition to the interview room.

6:30 PM in the Lowry Room

All programs are free and open to the public. Please register by calling 326-0536.

Habitat for Humanity Youth Fundraiser

Six youth (some of our own, some from sister congregations, and some who have aided us before) are joining together to present "You're a good man, Charlie Brown" during 4th of July week: Thu. & Fri., July 2 & 3, at 7:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. on the Fourth. Brett Campbell, Declan Jones, Seth Sponhouse, Rebecca Frazier, Colleen Mahoney and Kyle Wilson will portray the beloved characters from the "Peanuts" comic strip. While admission is free, donations are gratefully welcomed and will benefit our local Thrivent Habitat for Humanity build.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

BOOK BY JOHN GORDON, MUSIC + LYRICS BY CLARK GESNER BASED UPON THE COMIC STRIP PEANUTS BY CHARLES M SCHULZ

THURSDAY + FRIDAY, JULY 2 + 3, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY, JULY 4, AT 2:00 P.M.



St. Mark's Summer Choir Camp

Sunday, August 9, thru Sunday August 16, 2009

presenting a musical retelling of Noah's Ark

NEEDED: lots of young animals and adult singers

Please set this week aside

Come to SonRock Kids Camp--An Adventure Camp like No Other!

We're really excited about this year's Vacation Bible School to be held Sunday through

Thursday, June 7 -11, 2009! The program this year is <u>SonRock Kids</u> Camp, a week of fun and adventure!

As they participate in fun-filled activities, children will learn how each one of them is loved by Jesus! We will have a great time with lively songs, hilarious skits, creative crafts, exciting games, Bible stories and tasty snacks—all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children.

For registration information, call us today at 323-4619 or e-mail Sharon or Bernadette or to find out how <u>YOU</u> can help! Plan now to join

us for a great time at SonRock Kids Camp!

VBS TRAINING NIGHT MONDAY, 5/11, 6:30 P.M.



Info for Volunteers!

We had a great time on Sunday, April 26, painting theme pieces for "SonRock!" Please join us on Saturday, May 9, from 10:00 a.m. until noon or 1:00, when we will meet again to create more atmosphere and set pieces for the opening skits. 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 Saturday, May 9, to prepare for the opening of SonRock Kids Camp!!!

Annual Church Picnic: June 14, 2009!!

Just a little over one month until our annual picnic!! Please contact Trish Hershey or Michele Owen if you want to lend a hand!

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. Thank you!



THANKS FOR THE SOUP!

Mmm...mmm...Good! It was homemade soup for the noon and evening meals during Lent.

A special thanks goes out to those who provided great tasting soups: Donna Elkin (lentil), Lois Smith (chicken rice), Bernadette Jones (chicken noodle, cheeseburger & potato), Josh Lynch (tortellini), Tim Maggs (green pepper) and David Walz (sausage/sauerkraut).

Thank you also to The Way Group who got together on Saturday, February 28, to make 62 quarts of soup. All of these soups were provided to the church at no cost. Recipes, for those interested, are available in the church office. In addition, Rick Robertson provided a case of plastic quart containers with lids to the church.

We wish to thank all these Super Soupers!!!

FRIDAY FUN NIGHT



ARE COMPUTER GAMES REALLY THAT MUCH MORE **FUN THAN JOINING US??!!**

May 22

6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

New Sunday School Study All are Welcome!

Come and learn about the letter that was written in the 1st century to the Ephesians by Paul

The following has been planned;

- Read a chapter per week together
- Open discussions your thoughts about what was read.
- Watch "Drive thru History on Ephesus."
- Look at educational posters.
- Listen to Christian music.
- Discovering learning can be fun and challenging with good fellowship.

9:30 -10:10 Time:

Location: Fellowship Hall

(After the Sunday School opening) May 3rd – June 7th

Dates:

No special material just you and your favorite Bible.

"God loves you, and so do we."

Special Thank You's

Dear Rev. Elkin,

I have lived 34 years in the city. Have been retired for 10 years, after being for 10 years a full time Presbyterian pastor in Philadelphia and San Francisco, then 30 years as a PA State Parole Agent. I always managed to get to your church on Good Fridays (except when I twice did meditations at Trinity Episc. for my friend Andy France)...For me Good Friday is the highlight of any Lenten season. Thank you for this important regular contribution to the larger community.

Sincerely,
Henry J. Hopper

Dear St. Mark's Family,

At a time like this, there is so much sorrow in our family. Our loss was so unexpected. We would like to thank you all for the wonderful outpouring of support by your prayers, cards and visits.

Thank you to Pastor Elkin for the beautiful memorial service and internment. Thank you to Dick Lakey for the beautiful music during the service. Thank you to all who helped make the reception after the service special. Words can't describe how wonderful you all were during this difficult time.

Thank you again to our St. Mark's family.

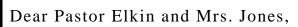
God Bless, Catherine, Carol, Bob & Sandy My Dear Christian Friends,

Our whole family wishes to convey our sincerest appreciation to our St. Mark's family for your prayers and kindnesses extended to all of us during our recent bereavement and grieving journey in the loss of our dear Art.

We shall never forget the prayers, love and support with which you showered us so unselfishly. Thanks, too, to the ladies and gentlemen serving the luncheon, the staff, and Paster Elkin for the lovely memorial and committal service, as well as Dick Lakey's music and Lou DeSeau's help. Thanks also to the ladies who set up for communion at the memorial service.

In Christian Love,

Jane Kline
Alice, Matt, the Boys & Madeline
Karen
Janet (sister) and Family
Ken (brother)



Thank you very much for planning our trip. I had a great time at the Furnace, Old Augustus, Daniel Boone's Homestead, and dinner. My favorite part was the Furnace, because it was so big and it had so much to look at. The best part was the oversized bellows.

Also, thank you to the congregation for paying for this.

Theoron Hershey

Dear Pastor Elkin, Staff and Members,

Thanks you so much for all you do for Family Promise of Lycoming County, both financial contributions and in-kind donations.

May God Bless, Colleen Klinger Treasurer

St. Mark's Celebrations!

Happy Birthday!

Robert Clokey Jr.	5/02	Elizabeth Kreider	5/14	Dawson Owen	5/24
Ruth Homan	5/02	Jane Larson	5/15	Dustin Pelleschi	5/24
Matt Wellen	5/02	Heather Merrill	5/15	Kenneth Goldy	5/25
Rosemary Clokey	5/06	Frank Vognet	5/15	Joe Peluso Jr.	5/25
Alex Larson	5/07	Robert Schultz	5/16	Jane Angle	5/26
James Doane	5/08	Stephen Boone	5/18	Norma Prato	5/26
Ian Elliott	5/08	Arthur Decker	5/18	Robert Ramsauer	5/26
Jack Fortin	5/08	Candace Dewar	5/19	Jean Soars	5/26
Randy Edler	5/10	Amy Stugart	5/19	Audrey Albright	5/27
Carl Weaver	5/10	Michael Fillnow	5/20	Joyce Hershberger	5/27
Kirk Hallabuk	05/11	James Seelye	5/21	Kyseem Smith	5/27
Thomas Waffenschmidt	05/12	Owen Lukens	5/23	Owen Gair	5/29
Catherine Lundy	05/13	Catherine Drake	5/24	Kathleen Gilbert	5/29
Lori Ann Zimmerer	05/13	Ryan Jensen	5/24	Steven Bieber III	5/31
Karen Boone	05/14	James Kreider	5/24	Randa Bieber	5/31

Happy Anniversary!

Jeffrey & Patricia Hershey	5/01	Carol & Patrick Harvey	5/17
Hugh & Marie Byerly	5/02	Philip & Jennifer Thomas, Jr.	5/21
James & Elizabeth Kreider	5/08	James & Debra Buckman	5/25
Ernestine & James Doane	5/09	Suzanne Hutchins & Marc Fish	5/28
Galen & Pamela Davenport Jr.	5/15	Creighton & Christina MacGill	5/28

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Tour de Revs 2009

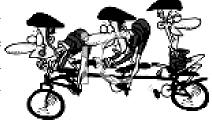
3 Guys, 1 Bike, 100 Days, 13,000 Miles, 65 Cities A Mission to Fight World Hunger

(www.tourderevs.org)

"From May 13, 2009 through August 20, 2009 three Lutheran pastors from the WV-WMD Synod will put foot to pedal and seat to saddle and travel over 13,000 miles to raise awareness (and donations) to help eliminate world hunger." (From the website)

The goal of the Tour de Revs is to encourage contributions to support ELCA World Hunger activities. On June 4, 2009 Pastors David Twedt, Ron Schlak, and Fred Soltow will make their way to the Upper Susquehanna Synod.

To help the Tour de Revs end hunger the Social Ministry Committee is collecting non-perishable food items during the month of May. These items will be given to the United Churches Food Bank. Donations may be placed in the bins in the Narthex.



HEALTH, HEALING & WHOLENESS

(W)holy, (W)holy, (W)holy, May, 2009

"I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my-neighbors, and object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me ... I have become like a broken vessel... do not let me be put to shame, 0 Lord, for I call on you... "(Ps. 31:11, 12b,17, NRSV)

Through their words, the Psalmists capture fear and anxiety, joy and praise - expressed both physically and. emotionally—as experienced by a people in captivity. Perhaps it is this raw emotion that beckons us to this book when we are at a loss for words to express to God our own deep feelings. The verses above seem to belong to one who is anxious about the way he is being perceived by the people around him. In truth, anxiety is a normal reaction to stress—a coping mechanism. But it is when one becomes chronically anxious and worried that this anxiety can cripple and distort reality.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, social anxiety is the "intense, persistent, chronic fear of being watched and judged by others and of doing things that will embarrass [oneself]". It goes way beyond the nerves, butterflies and sweaty palms that occur to most of us before making a speech, or the wobbly knees we feel when we are asked to read the scripture lesson during worship.

Instead, it is a fear that grips the sufferer on a daily basis: as he/she walks down the street...participates in a group...tries to eat while others are in the lunchroom...tries to use a public restroom...or attempts to make a phone call to a nameless/faceless repairman on the other end of the phone line. It's the fear of running into an acquaintance in the grocery store, knowing that he/she will expect you to make small talk, and thinking that you won't be able to find the words to do so—then afterword rehashing the encounter in your mind, just "knowing" how inept this person must think you are!

Those with social anxiety find it particularly challenging to interact with authority figures (teacher, doctor, police, pastor, etc.): individuals that he/she perceives as being better in some way. Perhaps worst of all is knowing that these fears that bind us are excessive and irrational, yet we just can't seem to make them stop!

Often beginning in childhood or early adolescence, social anxiety affects both men and women equally. If untreated, it can worsen, and interfere with school (skipping classes because of the fear of being called upon or under achieving so as not to draw attention to one's self), work, attending worship, dating, developing satisfying friendships, forming lasting relationships, or just plain old asking for help. In some cases, venturing out is such a painful prospect that the sufferer simply remains surrounded by the familiar in the safety of home. Because of the pain and isolation, social anxiety may be found in conjunction with depression or substance abuse [self-medication in an attempt to stop the pain].

There is no magic pill that will take away the fear and discomfort, but certain medications can help to keep these symptoms in check while the individual receives help in learning new ways to cope. There are several approaches that can be taken—cognitive-behavioral therapy that disrupts the thinking-feeling-behavioral cycle of negative self-talk or learning a technique such as "thought stopping"— that along with medication, can help one better manage these stressful situations.

If any of the examples above strike a cord or seem to describe how you often feel, please speak to your pastor, your parish nurse, or a professional therapist. You do not need to continue suffering in silence.

May the newness of spring bless you this month!

Debbie Best, Program Coordinator

Congregational Health Ministries & Family Lift Services

Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries

SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

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

Edith Anderson Williamsport Home 1900 Ravine Rd., Rm. #201 Williamsport, PA 17701

Nancy Bohartz 624 Sixth Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

William Confer 241 Country Club Lane R.R. #3, Box 518 Williamsport, PA 17702

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

June Decker 338 Sherwood Ave. South Williamsport, PA 17702

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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, Rm. #306 1900 Ravine Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701 Jean Gulliver Rose View Center 1201 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

Gail Hoffman 153 Hampton Way Montoursville, PA 17754

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Phyllis Holmes 582 East Mountain Ave. So. Williamsport, PA 17702

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Anne Miller 947 Hepburn St. Williamsport, PA 17701

Jane Oakes Presbyterian Home 810 Louisa St., Apt. 204 Williamsport, PA 17701 Anne Rhodes c/o Carole Finn 20308 Cabana Drive Germantown, MD 20876

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

James Sheaffer Rose View Center, Room 306B 1201 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

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Ira Tuxford 210 Louise Ave. Montgomery, PA 17752-9533

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

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

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

St. Mark's Calendar of april Events

May 1 Friday **May 13** Wednesday 3:30 pm—YAGMCB rehearsal 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:30 pm—Friday Fun Night 9:15 am—Staff Mtg. & Quilting 3:30 pm—YAGMCB rehearsal **May 23** Saturday 12:00 pm—Bible Study May 2 Saturday 4:30 pm—Executive Committee May 24 Seventh Sunday of Easter 7:00 pm—New council members May 3 **Fourth Sunday of Easter** 8:00 am—Holy Communion 8:00 am—Holy Communion 9:15 am—Sunday School **Thursday** May 14 10:30 am—Holy Čommunion 9:15 am—Sunday School 6:31 am—Men's Ministry 10:30 am—Holy Communion 5:00 pm—Family Handbell 8:00 am – Stephen Ministry I 5:00 pm—Family Handbell 9:00 am—Morning Prayer May 25 Monday 6:30 pm—Evening Prayer **Memorial Day (observed)** May 4 Monday 7:00 pm—Divine Drama Office closed 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:30 pm—Adult Handbells May 15 **Friday** May 26 **Tuesday** 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 9:00 am—Morning Prayer May 5 Tuesday 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:00 pm—Brownies May 16 **Saturday** 630 pm—Parish Life Comm. 7:00 pm—Family Promise May 17 Sixth Sunday of Easter May 6 Wednesday May 27 Wednesday 8:00 am—Holy Communion 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 9:15 am—Sunday School 9:15 am—Quilting 9:15 am—Staff Mtg. & Quilting 10:30 am—Holy Communion 6:00 pm—Women's Banquet 12:00 pm—Bible Study **Annual Assembly** 7:00 pm—Mutual Ministry 11:?? am—Kantorei May 7 **Thursday** 12:15 pm—The Way May 28 **Thursday** 6:31 am—Men's Ministry 3:00 pm—Conference Assembly 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:31 am—Men's Ministry 5:00 pm—Family Handbell 7:00 pm—Divine Drama 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:00 pm—Conf. Meal/Mtg. 6:13 pm - Choir Dinner 7:30 pm—Senior Choir 6:30 pm—Evening Prayer May 18 Monday **Friday** May 8 7:00 pm—Divine Drama 9:00 am—Morning Prayer Council Agenda Deadline 6:30 pm—Adult Handbell Dinner 9:00 am—Morning Prayer **May 29** Friday *Lion* Crew **May 19** Tuesday May 9 Saturday 9:00 am—Morning Prayer **Election Day** 10:00 am—VBS Workday 3:30 pm—YAGMCB rehearsal 9:00 am—Morning Prayer Fifth Sunday of Easter 6:30 pm—Council Meeting May 10 May 30 Saturday Mothers' Day May 20 Wednesday 8:00 am—Holy Communion May 31 Sunday 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 9:15 am—Sunday School **Pentecost** 9:15 am—Staff Mtg. & Quilting 10:30 am—Holy Communion 8:00 am—Holy Communion 12:00 pm—Lunch'n'Fellowship 5:00 pm—Family Handbell 9:15 am—Last Day of Mav 21 **Thursday Sunday School** May 11 Monday **Ascension of Our Lord** 10:30 am—Holy Communion 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:31 am—Men's Ministry 4:00 pm—The Way Gathering 6:30 pm—Adult Handbells 9:00 am—Morning Prayer 6:30 pm—VBS Training 5:30 pm – Stephen Ministry II **Tuesday** 7:30 pm—Ascension Day Svc. **May** 12 **Pastor returns from Israel** May 22 Friday 9:00 am—Morning Prayer Newsletter deadline 6:00 pm—Brownies

9:00 am—Morning Prayer

6:30 pm—Finance Committee

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

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Website: http://www.stmarkswilliamsport.org Email: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

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WOMEN & CHILDREN'S DINNER Wednesday, MAY 6, at 6:00 p.m.

THE ABSOLUTELY LAST
DAY TO

RESERVE A SEAT IS SUNDAY, MAY 3! COME JOIN

COME JOIN THE FLIN