



THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

APRIL 2011

Success in our musician search!



The Search Committee, the Mutual Ministry Committee and the Congregation Council are pleased to announce the selection of Jungwha Kim as Parish musician for St. Mark's. She will begin her duties here on May 2, 2011, after she concludes her work in Freeport in western Pennsylvania.

She comes to us with experience and excellent training. She began her professional study with a Bachelor of Music degree from Yonsei University in her native South Korea. She also holds a Sacred Music Diploma from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and a Master of Music in Organ Performance and Literature, also from the Eastman School, and an additional Professional Studies certificate from the Juilliard School in NYC. She has also participated in Organ academies in Goteborg, Sweden; Montreal, Quebec; and Calgary, Alberta. She has presented recitals both in New York and in Pennsylvania.

Jungwha has experience in a variety of situations, most recently as organist/choirmaster in Freeport United Methodist Church and Park Presbyterian Church in Beaver. She has also served in Episcopal, Roman Catholic and Baptist churches when she was engaged in professional studies. She is proud of works that she has composed for hand-bells, for organ, and also for choir.

She served as guest organist at St. Mark's on Epiphany Eve, Wednesday, January 5, and returned as guest organist on the Festival of the Transfiguration, Sunday, March 3. She adroitly handled the intricacies of Evening Prayer and the Holy Communion liturgy, and she was pleased to work briefly with our choir and greet many members of the parish.

Negotiations have been completed, and she has accepted the congregation's offer of employment. Housing arrangements are also underway now, and moving is planned for shortly after Easter. Jungwha has chosen to use the office first occupied by Mr. Snell when the building was new. This room at the end of the choir hall will be painted and prepared next month in preparation for her arrival.

It is an important thing for a faithful Lutheran congregation to have competent musical leadership. We look forward to Jungwha stepping into the long tradition of excellence at St. Mark's.

Our special thanks is due to Donna Zierdt Elkin, who has so capably served as musician for seven months while the search was continuing. Working under severe time constraints, she has kept the rehearsal schedule for the ensembles, and even expanded things by leading our string students in playing at Christmastime. She has begun work on computerizing the catalog of the music library and made good use of the resources at hand. All this and more has been done with unfailing good humor and attention to detail that helps the whole process of worship and music to move ahead, to the glory of God.



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Council Notes

The Congregation Council met in regular session on February 21 in the Crossways room.

The Council:

- ✦ received the regular reports of the pastor, officers, and committees.
- ✦ granted Letter of Transfer to Laurie Marchese to Trinity Church, State College.
- ✦ endorsed the hiring of Jungwha Kim as parish musician at St. Mark's.
- ✦ decided to forgo Yellow Pages advertizing in future years.
- ✦ nominated Ray Huff, Walter Haussmann, and Bonnie Eyer for seats on Council, subject to election by the congregation in May.
- ✦ elected Gary Weber and Beth Shafranko to be Synod Assembly delegates in June.
- ✦ approved participation in the Little League parade, and set aside \$100 for expenses.

Parish Register

- ✦ March 7, 2011, Funeral Service for **Helen Ochs**, Nave, burial in St. Paul Cemetery, Pr. Elkin presiding, assisted by Pr. E. Deibler
- ✦ March 13, 2011, Enrollment of **Breanna Chicas** for Baptism at the Easter Vigil in April.
- ✦ March 20, 2011, Reception of Members by Letter of Transfer from Christ Church, Lewisburg: Daniel, Diana, Laura, and Anna Zeigler.
- ✦ March 21, 2011, Graveside Funeral service for **William Hoffman**, Wildwood Cemetery, Pr. Elkin officiated.

Staff & Officers Contact Information

Church Office	323-4619	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Church fax number	323-2452
The Reverend Kenneth Elkin, Pastor		pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Pastor's Home Phone	323-7367
Jungwha Kim, Parish Musician			Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org	
Bernadette Jones, Christian Education		bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Gary Weber, President	322-7149
Michele Owen, Christian Education		mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Todd Smith, Vice-President	220-1350
Susan M-Smith, Parish Secretary		smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Jane Zimmerer, Secretary	433-3324
Richard Wagner, Financial Secretary		rwagner@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Ken Shafranko, Treasurer	322-6005
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Services		ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org	Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	433-0522

United Campus Ministry

Seeing our Nation's Capitol Through the Eyes of a Servant

After all the fundraisers and preparation, we finally left for our mission trip to Washington D.C. thinking we would prepare meals in soup kitchens and sort food at the Food Bank. However, God had other plans for us. What we did in two days took us out of our comfort zone, challenged us and in the end, made us smile, because we knew it was all worth it, and in some small way, we helped to make things happen.

We got started on Sunday night right after we arrived. Our coordinators took us on a prayer tour of the city. We stopped at "The Children of Mine Youth Center," where we prayed for Mrs. Hannah Hawkins and her work with the inner city youth who came to the center. We drove through the affluent Adams Morgan community where black and white came together, lived in unity and where diversity was celebrated. We prayed in the impoverished community of Anacostia where housing projects were being renovated. You would think that would be a good thing, but the renovations raised the prices so much that the residents could not afford to live there anymore. At the end of our prayer tour, we drove up to an overlook where we could see the entire city. Even in the pouring rain, we not only saw our beautiful nation's capital, we also saw a city of hope, where people cared enough to want to make a difference.

On Monday, we went to "A Wider Circle." This organization gives furniture and small household appliances away to those who need it. This program was started by a man who was delivering a meal to a family. When he walked in their apartment, there was no couch, no beds, and no table to eat their meal he had delivered. He decided to do something about it and "A Wider Circle was born." We thoroughly cleaned the furniture in the showroom. What struck me the most was that these people were on a waiting list for months. After waiting so long, the day the staff helped them choose their furniture, and we helped them load it onto trucks was truly a happy day for them. It brought me joy to know that I had a small part in helping them with their furniture, when the day before, they were sleeping on the floor. Later that afternoon, we worked with elementary school students at an afterschool program located in an apartment building. Meneta Wyatt, the director there, truly had a heart for these kids. She treated them as her own. For three hours we helped the students with homework and played with them in the small, grassy area outside the apartment complex. The kids' smiles were contagious and they really enjoyed having our undivided attention. Meneta was grateful for our help and playing with the kids made the afternoon so worthwhile.

On Tuesday, we worked with an organization called "Community Group Homes" and raked and cleaned an elderly woman's yard. Under all the leaves and branches we cleared were the first signs we had seen of spring. There were flowers blooming everywhere. By the time we finished, her yard looked terrific and spring had definitely arrived.

Our biggest challenge came on Tuesday afternoon when we did an activity called the "Urban Plunge." There were four of us in a group. We were given \$2.00 per person and bus tickets with enough money on it to get us to and from our destination. We had to feed our group and a homeless person with the \$8.00 we had. We also had to have enough money left over to buy a pair of socks to give to someone. Once we were there, we had to talk with the homeless to find out many things; where to find a cheap meal, where to sleep if we had to spend a night in the city, and where we could go if we were sick and didn't have any insurance. I was amazed at how friendly and helpful the homeless were to us. We got our meal at CVS. We were able to buy four cans of spaghetti and meatballs and the socks. We ate our dinner right out of the can at the park and I couldn't help but notice the looks that our group received from passersby. It was a very humbling experience and it made me realize how difficult it would be to even spend one night on the streets.

It seemed very fitting to end our Washington experience by attending the Ash Wednesday service at the National Cathedral. In the midst of the beauty of the cathedral, the ashes on our foreheads were a solemn reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Everything we have is because God chooses to provide for us, and it is our obligation to keep our hearts and minds fixed on his kingdom and serve those in need.

"He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." ~ Micah 6:8

United Churches of Lycoming County

ECUMENICAL LUNCHES Wednesdays, 12 to 1 PM

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

No reservations are necessary.

LENTEN SERIES: The Dramatic Silences

Some speakers to be announced

APRIL

- 6- **"By the Fire"**, Luke 22:60-61
- 13- **"In the Courtroom"**, Mt 27: 13-14
- 20- **"Of the Threefold hour"**, Luke 23:44-45a
Dr. J. Morris Smith, Shepherd of the Street

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



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 weekly. The phone number is 570-322-5762.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

These are the items that are currently needed:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Ramen noodles | canned fruit | tea bags |
| mac-n-cheese | snack bars | pasta |
| peanut butter | spaghetti sauce | coffee |
| Saltine crackers | hot cocoa mix | Granola bars |
| canned veggies | powdered drink mixes | |

Donations are received Monday mornings from 9:30 - Noon. Appointments to receive food are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am - 3 pm and when necessary at other times as well. Gail Burkhart is the UCLC Food Pantry Coordinator and may be reached at 322-1657.



"Forests for People---More Than You Can Imagine" is the theme for the 2011 Stewardship Week sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). April 24-May 1, 2011 will be the 56th year of observance of the week.

The mission of the NACD is to provide leadership and a voice for natural resource conservation through outreach offices, down-loadable forestry education resources about energy, habitat, soil, and water, a compact disk with a PowerPoint presentation, clip art, e-links concerning Arbor Day and the International Year of Forests, and a series of publications on working trees for agriculture, communities, water quality, wildlife, livestock, silvopasture, treating waste, carbon cycle balance, and windbreaks. A national website for more information is at <http://www.nacdnet.org/stewardship/2011/index.shtml> Locally, Carey Entz is the Watershed Specialist at the Lycoming County Conservation District located at 524 County Farm Road, Suite 202, Montoursville PA 17754. 570-433-3003 E-mail centz@lyco.org



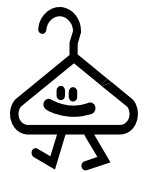
2nd Annual Billtown Festival
Williamsport PA
April 21-23 7 PM

The thematic focus this year is the environment. They have a very eclectic mix of animation, live action, narrative and documentary styles that explore climate change, alternative energy technology, social and moral responsibility, and environmental sustainability. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Daniel's Closet

Free clothing for men, women & children!

Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 9 - 11 a.m.



Do you realize the impact that Daniel's Closet has had on our community since it began over three years ago? We have helped thousands of people by providing clean, free clothing to them on a monthly basis. All because of one little boy's concern. This ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church could not happen without your help.

Our volunteers make this program a reality and to them we say, "THANK YOU!" We are amazed at the outpouring of love from the community each month, as our storage room fills up after emptying on the day we are open. God is at work in our community...thanks to all of you!

St. Mark's Social Ministry



Hosting for Family Promise

Coordinators Jane Zimmerer and Becky Miller Pryor thank the congregation for all that was done on behalf of the children and their parents who stayed with us during the week of March 13, 2011. Your prayers, meals, fellowship, food items and monetary donations made the care and concern for our families easier. During our week of hosting we saw seven new volunteers; two from our congregation and five from the community. We continue to need and welcome new volunteers. Please consider joining us as we host June 19, 2011 to June 26, 2011.

Family Promise of Lycoming County Volunteer Appreciation Spring Dinner

April 15, 2011 6:00 P.M.
Genetti Hotel and Suites

\$20 per person \$35 per couple

To Purchase Tickets Please contact Becky Miller Pryor



Family Promise Training Needs You!



Thursday,
April 28, 2011

6:00 pm at the Day Center



Spring Cleaning for the Fall Bazaar

Although we are not having a clothing sale this spring, the Women of St. Mark's still need your house wares and other items for our annual Fall Bazaar. Spring cleaning donations may be placed in the Bazaar Room in the basement. Please consider donating your seasonal clothing to Daniel's Closet.

Thank you! Thank You! Thank you! Thank You! Thank you!

Dear Friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the special Baptism ceremony. It was a special blessing for Audrey and I to be baptized together on that special evening. We would also like to thank Vicki Haussmann for her blessed time and kind heart during this special time. During the Remembrance ceremony we would like to thank Ed Gair for his time & expertise in making the Faith Chests. Also a big thank you to John and Ruth Burkholder for the wonderful anchor crosses. The faith chests are a wonderful treasure and will hold many valuable pieces in the years to come.

God bless, Tanya Sheets & Audrey Bower

To the congregation,

Thank you so very much for your patience and understanding as we prepared fellowship hall to host the 3rd annual Iron Chef competition. Without your support we could not have successfully hosted such a large banquet.

Thank you again!

Bob Jones, Parish Life Committee

Dear St. Mark's members,

Your generous donations of time, talents and money help to keep Family Promise making good on it's promise to area residents of safe provisions. It is a costly undertaking and we are proud of it's success. But that success is a reflection of so many who care.

Thank you,

Melissa Magargle, Executive Director,
Family Promise of Lycoming County

From the children of Helen Grieb Ochs...

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For your expressions of sympathy to us following the death March 3, 2011 of our wonderful mother, Helen Ochs; for your prayers, visits, flowers and caring inquiries while she was at The Gatehouse and the Williamsport Home hospice suite; for your well-wishes to her upon her 95th birthday February 12; and for the Christmas 2010 visit to her in her apartment by carolers. We sincerely thank you.

Donna Ochs Maule and Michael Ochs

ELCA Local & National News

2011 Synod Assembly Registration Begins

The 2011 Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly will take place at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove on Friday, June 17, and Saturday, June 18, 2011 with the theme "The Church Must Be Planted." Registration materials are being mailed to congregations in early March. Congregations elect their voting members to the assembly in the process designated by their congregational constitutions. Early registrations (received by April 15) receive a discount of \$10 off the registration fee. This year's assembly will gather an "in-kind" offering of health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Congregations are encouraged to collect kits together, sending a box full (or more!) with their voting members on the first day of the assembly. Our synod's goal is to collect 3,365 kits (the average number of kits distributed by LWR in one week in 2010). Go to <http://www.uss-elca.org/usslwr-health-kit-in-kind-offering> for more details about collecting LWF health kits.

April 30, 2011: USSWO Day of Learning

The Upper Susquehanna Synod Synodical Women's Organization will hold their annual Day of Learning on April 30, 2011, at Sharon Lutheran Church, Selinsgrove. The theme will be "God's Creation, Today's Environment," based on Genesis 1. The speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Gilson Waldkoenig, professor at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. Carol Loveland from Penn State Extension will also do a workshop on the Marcellus Shale drilling. The offering that day will go to the Carol Main Scholarship Fund for Liberian Pastors' Spouses.

May 21, 2011: Camp Mount Luther Spring Work Day

Practice stewardship through service at Camp Mount Luther at our annual Spring Work Day. The camp needs your help getting the camp grounds and facilities ready for Summer Camp. There will be plenty to do and everyone in the family can help! The event runs from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, 2011. Please bring supplies to do cleaning, mulching, raking, and light construction projects such as step ladders, buckets, rakes, etc. A light lunch will be served. RSVP by May 16 if staying for lunch. Some projects are being funded by individual chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

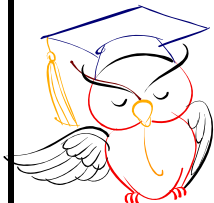
YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

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!



Palm Crosses

will be made on Saturday, April 16 at 9:30 AM. in Fellowship Hall. There will be several experienced cross makers present to help those who have not participated in this fun project.

Please join us - no supplies are needed. - just your willingness to help.



An Opportunity for a Family Ministry to a Foreign Exchange Student

A former Italian exchange student with a retired Eagles Mere resident has asked her host family if they could help her find a family for her teenage daughter for this coming school year. The student's family would be part of an exchange program. They would be paying for all of their daughter's transportation, insurances, medical needs, and spending money. Their daughter would like to live with a family who has a least one teenager. She will need a bed, meals, and getting to school. This young lady speaks fluent English. The Eagles Mere resident would be happy to house this student for any holidays or vacations if needed.

For information regarding this student please contact Christelle Loftus 570-525-3283. For information regarding being a host to a foreign exchange student, please contact Leah Haussmann 570-525-3283. Thank you

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Mission Trip to Manassas, VA

for youth in sixth-twelfth grades

On Friday and Saturday, May 13th and 14th, those youth who are interested are invited to go on this mission trip to Manassas, Va. We will be leaving early Friday morning and traveling by car. On arriving, we plan to tour the sight of the Battle of Bull Run. We'll stay overnight in an hotel and be up very early (we are to be ready to start at 7:00) to work as a team where we are assigned. The cost per person is \$30 for youth and adults. The church will pay for our hotel rooms for the night. Each individual is responsible for their fee and money for food (Saturday lunch is provided at the site).



Project information:

“Two Point of Woods (Manassas) neighborhoods will be the focal point of our project.

The two neighborhoods include 440 townhomes built in the 1970s and '80s. Many were severely affected by the mortgage/foreclosure crisis. Overcrowding, property deterioration, broken fences, graffiti, tall grass and trash are just some of the stressors discouraged homeowners have endured.

In 2009 a handful of homeowners stepped forward to make a difference. They restored the entrance walls to the neighborhood, abated graffiti, installed some motion-detector lighting in alleys and started a small neighborhood watch. By hosting community events like yard sales, cleanups and fall festivals, they have begun to engage neighbors again.

We need your youthful energy, hard work and spirit to boost to their goal of restoring neighborhood pride.....Point of Woods has a dream...a field of dreams. We would like to honor the memory of Sergeant John D. Conner III, the only police officer to die in the line of duty in the history of Manassas by creating a community garden and memorial gazebo in a 3-acre field. With your help, we will raise that community garden and gathering place from the ground up and dedicate it as the Sgt. John D. Conner Memorial Park.”

Several adults already plan to attend.

Our group will be staying together to work on one project.

Forms will soon be available for all interested in this service.

For more information, go to <http://1byyouth.com/locations/spring-2011/manassas>

All registrations are due no later than Easter—no exceptions.

Youth must have good grades as we will be pulling them from school on Friday, May 13th.

This will be an excused absence for educational and religious reasons.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

This summer,
we invite Children to



PandaMania, this year's vacation Bible school event, will be hosted here at St. Mark's from **Sunday, June 12, to Thursday, June 16**. As kids explore a bamboo forest filled with crazy pandas, they discover that God loves us. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into yummy treats and experience electrifying Bible adventures. Bible Memory Buddies, Boomer, Fez, Amanda, Lulu and Pogo, remind them of God's wild love. They'll create Bible Point crafts to take home and play with all summer long. Plus, God Sightings prompt children to look for evidence of God all around them. Each day concludes with a **Rowdy Wrap-Up**—a celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.



Family members and friends (also called Very Important Pandas) are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at **8:30 p.m.**

PandaMania is for kids from Pre-K to Fifth Grade and will run from **6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.** each day.
For more information, call 323-4619

YOU CAN HELP!

Bernadette and Michele have planned workdays for the construction and painting of theme pieces for "PandaMania." On **Sunday, May 15**, after the 10:30 service until about 2-2:30; and two **Saturdays, May 28 AND June 4**, at 10:00 a.m. until noon or 1:00, we will meet for a period of productive fellowship. So if you have any artistic talent, can wield a mean utility knife, paint a solid base coat, or just be able to keep the coffee coming—please join us on one or all of these days to prepare for the opening of "PandaMania."

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILY FUN NIGHT **April 15**



Is this the scene
at your house
when it's time to
play games?

Bring everyone
down to remem-
ber what real
fun is!!!

Check it out at 6:30 p.m., Friday, April 15,
in Fellowship Hall!

Church picnic: **June 5, 2011**



If you want to help
with our annual picnic,
please call or email the office.
Michele, Bernadette or Bob.
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!

St. Paul Lutheran Church Scholarship Program

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & STUDENTS IN COLLEGE!

The Scholarship Program:

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

Eligibility

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

Scholarship Awards

Scholarships awarded in 2011 will be available only for the 2011-2012 academic year. Scholarship awards may be used only for educational expenses, including tuition, books, laboratory expenses, or other education-related expenditures that are approved by the Foundation.

Selection of Recipients

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

Application Process and Deadline

Students who wish to apply to the scholarship program must complete an application and required letters of recommendation and submit materials postmarked no later than **April 15, 2011**. The application and required attachments will be available in the staff hallway or online at http://www.thelcf.org/grants/scholarship_applications.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Wednesday Meal Menu during



- April 06 Pierogies & Galumpki (stuffed cabbage)
- April 13 Pizza, red, white (no sauce) and veggie
- April 20 No Lunch N' Fellowship
Please join us for the Seder Meal in the evening.

Breakfast with the Pastor and St. Mark's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 23 at 9:45 AM



Please join us as we have fun with our youth, ages toddler up to grade 5, here at the church during the morning of Saturday, April 23, starting at 9:45 a.m.! We will begin by having breakfast with the Pastor and then we will have our Easter Egg Hunt.

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

We need to be sure we have enough food for everyone who comes. We always plan for more, but recently the planned-for number almost doubled. It was great that that many were able to attend and it was wonderful to see everyone—we hope to see you all again this year!

Donations of small erasers or egg-sized Easter toys would be appreciated and accepted! We look forward to seeing you there!

LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERVICES & MEALS:



Midday:

Prayer at 11:30 a.m., Luncheon at noon

Evening:

Supper at 6:15 p.m., Prayer & children's activity at 7:00 p.m.

Want to join us Wednesday evenings in Lent, but don't know what to do with the kids?

As was done last year, the children will be included in the evening meal. When it's time for evening prayer at 7:00, the children will meet in Middle Lounge for a movie or story.

Michele Owen will supervise the event and will be choosing material that relates to the lessons being heard at the adult service. Everyone should be home before 8:30, so you can get your offspring off to bed.

Please join us: everyone at supper, adults at evening prayer, and children for a story time.

Pysanky Egg-Dying!

Learn how to dye these beautiful eggs! Bernadette will be having a workshop on the art of Ukrainian egg-dying beginning at 9:00, Friday Morning, April 16. Learn this or the American form of egg decoration in which the eggs are "died" by cooking them in onion skins or cabbage leaves, then scratching a design on them. Due to some of the tools being used, attendance is limited to adults or older youth. If you are interested, call or e-mail her at the office.



Children's Church

Sunday, April 10th
10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.



We look forward to seeing you and your family there!
Children of all ages are welcome!

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

IRON CHEF Williamsport

At 5:00 P.M., Sunday, March 27, 2011, a full house of 115 guests was gathered in Fellowship Hall, here at St. Mark's, waiting to be fed and entertained. The kitchen staff, under the direction of Bob Jones, was ready and waiting to plate up the meal featuring pork tenderloin with an apple cider demiglaze and a chocolate indulgence for dessert; our dining room staff (with new junior servers) was primed to provide the best service in town; Carlos and his crew were making final equipment checks. Pastor Elkin was pacing, while Jackie Kinney was kibitzing with the kitchen staff and Bernadette Jones was wondering why...

Fortunately, he stopped pacing, she stopped talking and she...is still wondering why...our home team faced up to St. Joseph the Worker Parish with all the fortitude and culinary skills they had at their disposal. Both teams had to prepare flank steak as an entrée. As their vegetable and starch, St. Mark's was required to work with, beets and parsnips; while St. Joseph was given collard greens and turnips. As an added challenge this year, our culinary consultant, Nicole Walz, borrowed a page from "Chopped" and assigned us cream cheese, raspberries and Fruit Loops to be utilized in our dessert. Our opponents dealt with flour tortillas, cream and Nutella.

The menus and results were as follows:

ST. MARK'S:

Grilled Stuffed Flank Steak
Beet Salad w/Toasted Pine Nuts and Endive
Parsnip Pancakes w/ Caramelized Onions
& Sour Cream
Loopy Razzkivers

ST. MARK'S: 203

ST. JOSEPH:

Marinated Flank Steak
Creamed Collard Greens
Mashed Turnips
Joseph's Dessert

ST. JOSEPH: 205

The competition was stiff: referee Chef Mike Ditchfield kept them honest and the judges—Chef Kevin Nash, Chef Peter Zerbe and Chef Chris Grove—came to a fair conclusion. Congratulations to both teams!

Many thanks go out to our patrons and guests; to all those who worked so hard preparing and serving the meal; to our worthy opponents and officials; our emcee, Gary Chrisman; and First Contact Productions for their technical expertise (see the entire list on the next page.)

A total of over \$6000 was raised for Family Promise of Lycoming County. Most of this was from our generous patrons; a large part in ticket sales; still more from the purchase of the centerpieces; Riley Weber won the prize from the Williamsport Country Club kitchen staff, earning the most "Tips for a Promise" from the guests he was serving: together the youth earned a total of \$650 in tips from their tables! All in all: a good time for a great cause!

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

We had over 50 folks working for Iron Chef Williamsport
To benefit Family Promise of Lycoming County.
From ages 9 to 84, the outpouring of support from
our congregation was overwhelming and appreciated.

Our thanks go out to the following:



Meal Service:

Nicole Walz
Michele Owen
Chele Fredericks
Beth Shafranko
Sharon Comini
Mel Wentzel
Lou DeSeau

Servers:

Sara Jones
Devin Owen
Riley Weber
Christina Comini
Stephen Boone
Hannah Ramsauer
Corey Hospes
Theoron Hershey
Julia Deibler
Mike Hooker
Ben Hartman
David Walz
Bob Jones

Utilities (server aides):

Anna Zeigler
Morgan Comini
Taylor Wentzel
Laura Zeigler
Max Hospes
Kara Hershey
Sadie Wentzel

Meal Preparation:

Bob Jones
Kathy Eshelman
Lois Smith
Mae Thaljih
Sara Jones
Nicole Walz
David Walz
Chele Fredericks
Michele Owen

Room Set-up:

Lou DeSeau
Bob Jones
Devin Owen
Mel Wentzel
Kirk Owen

Advisor/Equipment Source:

Ruth Rees

**Special thanks to
all-around supermen:**

Lou DeSeau
Bob Jones

Secretary and Cheerleader:

Susan Mahserjian-Smith

Patron list:

Joyce Hershberger

Hostess:

Becky Miller Pryor

Flower Arrangement:

Pr. Kenneth Elkin

Tabletop:

Ernestine Doane
Roxie Larson
Gladys Knauss

Iron Chef Team:

Pr. Kenneth Elkin
Jackie Kinney
Bernadette Jones

**First Contact
Productions:**

Carlos Saldivia
Ed Ploy
Nick Falvo
Mike Morris
Brian

Emcee:

Gary Chrisman

Clean-up:

Lou DeSeau
Kirk Owen
Bob Jones
Sharon Comini
Jackie Kinney
Chele Fredericks
Pr. Kenneth Elkin
Devin Owen
Ben Hartman
Bernadette Jones

Facilitator/Fork Washer:

Kathy Dancho

**Special thanks for services
rendered or equipment loaned:**

Clear Channel Radio
Beiter's Home Center
Williamsport Country Club
Wmspt. Sun-Gazette
Ozzie & Mae's Hacienda
Robert M. Sides Music Center
St. Luke Lutheran Church

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Meandering through Museums and More!

On Saturday, March 5, five catechetical students (with adults in tow) ventured hence to Philadelphia, PA. While there, they visited Gloria Dei Church, Penn's Landing and the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Here's what engaged them:

On the confirmation trip, we stopped at the Gloria Dei Church. "Gloria Dei" translates in "Glory of God." The site is more commonly known as Old Swedes Church. The church is the oldest in Pennsylvania. It was built between 1698 and 1700. It started as a Lutheran church for its first 150 years, then became an Episcopal church in 1845 because of its "unique historical significance." Betsy Ross got married in this church. The Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church cemetery has been in continuous use since the early 1700s and is one of the oldest burial grounds in Philadelphia. ~ Kara Hershey

The Museum of Boats: The Bacuna is a submarine that was used in World War II. Its rank is guppy. I saw the engineer where it was operated. There was a ship behind the Bacuna. It was used for war as was the submarine. It had a secret spot for the captain to steer. The other big wheels were to distract the enemy. It took six men to turn them. It had 6-pound guns on the top of it. Inside the museum, they had a spot where you could hear different ships' horns. There was one for fog. I saw a room where they were working on boats. There was a man there who told you about building a ship model. There was a room where you could push a button and a guy will start talking about his life. If you go upstairs, you'll see art. They had a model of a famous bridge. ~ Ezra Buckman



My favorite part of the trip was when we went to the seaport museum. I liked seeing the submarine that had sunk three Japanese subs and rescued hundreds of pilots whose planes had been shot down. There was also a ship that was huge. It had lots more room in it than the submarine. But the submarine was way cooler. My favorite part was to hear the World War II veteran talking to us in person. ~ Dustin Pelleschi

My favorite part was the Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt exhibit at the Penn Museum. I learned that the Pharaohs ruled Egypt for about 3,000 years. It was usually a man that was often thought of as a god. He would have controlled the army, government and high priest of every temple. Cleopatra was called king not queen because they dressed her up as a man because they thought it would be alright for her to be a higher order because men had a higher standing in Egypt. Like the Greeks, they also had more than one god. ~ Anna Zeigler

The Greek area of the Penn Museum was my favorite. The Greeks ruled by more than one god. They had 12 major gods. The three most powerful were Zeus, god of the sky; Poseidon, god of the sea; and Hades, god of the underworld. Some others are Hermes, god of messengers; Ares, god of war; Athena, goddess of wisdom and battle strategy; Aphrodite, goddess of love and beauty; Apollo, god of poems and the sun; Dionysus, god of wine; Hephaestus, god of fire; Morpheus, god of sleep; Demeter, goddess of the earth; Hera goddess of marriage; and Hestia, goddess of the hearth. Those are most of the gods, not including the minor gods. ~ Laura Zeigler

Happy Birthday!

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

04/13 Michael Ochs
 04/14 Ezra Buckman
 04/14 Veronica Doane
 04/14 Johnny Hinds



04/15 Steven Bieber Jr.
 04/15 Jamie Larson
 04/17 David Hughes
 04/17 Sara Neal

04/17 Paiton Patrick
 04/18 Beverly Best
 04/18 Christina Comini
 04/18 Beverly Schmitt
 04/19 Cynthia Hartzel
 04/20 Jeffrey Byerly
 04/20 Doris Griggs
 04/20 Karen Pelleschi
 04/20 Carl Reidy Jr.
 04/21 Catherine Kneeder
 04/23 Marc Fish
 04/23 Benjamin Haussmann
 04/26 Karen Burd
 04/27 Lisa Welker
 04/29 Ruth Ditchfield
 04/30 Dorothy Bingaman

Happy Anniversary!

04/03 Gary & Dee Goertz
 04/08 Robert & Bernadette Jones
 04/08 Louis & Kathy Kolb



04/21 Theodore & Jane Larson
 04/23 Carl & Audrey Albright
 04/23 Randy & Jeannette Lukens
 04/26 Megan & Clint Eppleman

News in Our Pews

Many of you will remember when Paul Harvey paid special tribute to those marriages which had lasted over fifty years – well, right in our midst we have a couple who have celebrated sixty- nine years of married bliss in the persons of **Elda and Ralph Zeigler**. Warmest best wishes and congratulations to them both!

Our Sheridan young people are doing great things at their school – **Elizabeth Haussmann** was named student of the month and sister **Hannah** was featured with her friend and co-author of her book titled “Pay It Forward” – I was especially grateful to Hannah because she used her swimming party to ask for donations to the SPCA- great work, Hannah!

Also two of our star basketball players for St. Mark’s were selected for pictures in the Sheridan School “How will I look in 100 Years!” **Sean Jensen** and **Mark Halterman** cut a handsome figure in old age.

The **Campbell twins** continue their honors in college. **Brett** was on the dean’s list for the fall semester and has been selected as a residence advisor for next year. Additionally, he is interning at Italian Wine Merchant, Inc. Brett is a student at NYU. **Lauren**, attending American University, was also on the dean’s list this fall and is alumni chair for the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority.

Stefan Weber is a member of Cochran School’s Odyssey of the Mind team and their team placed second in the competition, Le Tour Guide, and will continue to states April 9 at WAHS.

And lastly one of my spies spotted a photo of **Tim and Deb Maggs** in an advertisement for Corter’s Carpet in the Old Lycoming Township section of the newspaper – thank you, **LaRue!**

A joyous Easter season to all!

- *Joyce S. Hershberger*

HEALTH, HEALING & WHOLENESS

If you find great enjoyment in food (I've met few who don't fit this description), take some time to read the eleventh chapter of the book of Leviticus. The writer goes into great detail regarding the purity and impurity of a variety of foods. More than just quaint legalism, some of these Hebrew "laws" probably saved more than a few lives. Today we have modern methods of food preservation, preparation, and storage. In addition, we've all been schooled in the importance of hand washing and proper clean-up when working with fresh foods.

According to the Food and Drug Administration, an estimated **76 million cases** of food-borne illness occur annually, resulting in **325,000 hospitalizations** and **5,000 deaths** - meaning that roughly 13 men, women and children die every day because of food-borne illness. This is an estimate, because many cases of gastrointestinal illness are treated at home, without being seen by a doctor.

"If you have used your kitchen sponge longer than two or three days ... it is swimming with millions of bacteria, more specifically, E. coli, salmonella, or campylobacter ... that means that any time you use the sponge to wipe up a surface you are potentially spreading those pathogens."

(Elizabeth Scott, co-director of the Simmons Center for Hygiene and Health in the Home, Simmons College, Boston)

UGH!! Dr. Charles Gerba, a microbiologist at the University of Arizona states that a home's highest levels of contamination are found in areas which remain damp: the kitchen sponge or dishcloth, kitchen and bath sink drains, and the kitchen faucet handle.

What to do?

- ✦ Wash your hands in hot, soapy water for at least 20 seconds before food prep and wash them again after touching raw foods (including vegetables).
- ✦ Kill bacteria from your sponge by microwaving the damp sponge on high for one minute – every day. Do not microwave a dry sponge – it might catch fire!
- ✦ Launder (in bleach) or microwave dishcloths regularly (while damp also!).
- ✦ Even plastic cutting boards are not 100% safe. 90% of bacteria will die in the dishwasher, but play it safe, wash the board in hot soapy water (or dishwasher) and **in addition**, rinse them with a solution of 1 teaspoon chlorine bleach in one quart of water.
- ✦ Your kitchen sink drain, disposal and connecting pipe are often overlooked. They should be sanitized periodically by pouring down the sink, a solution of 1 teaspoon of chlorine bleach in 1 quart of water.
- ✦ Make sure the water in your dishwasher is hotter than 140 degrees or bacteria will survive. Water lower than that temperature may actually spread bacterial contamination to other items in the dishwasher.

So the cleanest of kitchens, might turn out to be the dirtiest – especially if you wipe the counters often – you might be spreading bacteria in the process. In a University of Arizona study, the "cleanest kitchens were those of bachelors who never wiped up and just put the dirty dishes in the sink – go figure!"

Debbie Best, RN, FCN, BSW, MHA

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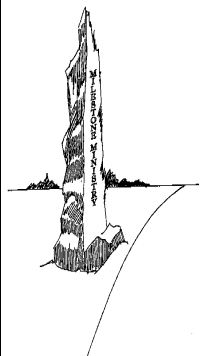
Beulah Wrede

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

Ralph Zeigler Sr.

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

Passing on Faith: Wedding Anniversary Milestone



Our next milestone will be taking place on Sunday, May 22, 2011.
St. Mark's Lutheran Church will be celebrating those folks in our congregation
that have been married for between 50 & 52 years with a Wedding Anniversary Milestone.
A sit down lunch will be presented with the youth of St. Mark's serving.
Please look for more information about this milestone in the May

newsletter and future bulletins!

We don't want to miss anyone!!

If you were married or if you know someone who was married
between 1959 to 1960, who has not already been honored,
PLEASE CALL US TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE THAT INFORMATION!

ST. MARK'S APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
4:00 PM Suzuki Group

3 Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Communion
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion
11:45 AM Family Handbells
12:15 PM The Way Gathering

4 Monday

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

5 Tuesday

8:00 AM City Pastors
9:00 AM Morning Prayer

6 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
11:30 AM Lenten Mid-Day Worship
12:00 PM Lenten Mid-Day Meal
6:15 PM Lenten Evening Meal
7:00 PM Lenten Evening Worship
7:30 PM Senior Choir

7 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry
9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:30 PM Worship & Music Comm. Mtg
7:00 PM Mutual Ministry

8 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

10 Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Communion
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Children's Church
10:30 AM Holy Communion
11:45 AM Family Handbells
12:15 PM The Way Gathering

11 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:00 PM Civic Chorus Rehearsal - Nave
6:45 PM Handbells

12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:00 PM Brownies

13 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
11:30 AM Lenten Mid-Day Worship
12:00 PM Lenten Mid-Day Meal
6:00 PM Civic Chorus Rehearsal - Nave
6:15 PM Lenten Evening Meal
7:00 PM Lenten Evening Worship
7:30 PM Senior Choir

14 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry
9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:20 AM Stephen Ministry
6:00 PM Executive Committee

15 Friday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:00 PM Civic Chorus Rehearsal - Nave
6:00 PM FPLC Volunteer Dinner
6:30 PM Friday Fun Night

16 Saturday

9:00 AM Pysanky Egg Dying
9:00 AM Civic Chorus - Nave
9:30 AM Palm Cross Making

17 Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Communion
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion
11:45 AM Family Handbells
12:15 PM The Way Gathering
3:00 PM Civic Chorus Concert
6:00 PM Confirmands, Parents & Mentors

18 Monday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:30 PM Council Mtg.
6:45 PM Handbells
7:00 PM Dog Club

19 Tuesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

20 Wednesday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting
6:15 PM Seder Dinner
7:00 PM Lenten Evening Worship

21 Thursday

6:31 AM Men's Ministry

21 Thursday

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
12:00 PM Holy Communion Chapel
7:00 PM Holy Communion Nave
8:00 PM Senior Choir

22 Friday

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

23 Saturday

9:00 AM Daniel's Closet @ Redeemer
9:45 AM Breakfast & Egg Hunt
8:00 PM Vigil of Easter

24 Sunday

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

25 Monday

Office Closed
9:00 AM Morning Prayer
6:45 PM Handbells

26 Tuesday

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

27 Wednesday

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

28 Thursday

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

29 Friday

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

30 Saturday

USSWO Day of Learning

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

Phone: 570-323-4619
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Website: <http://www.stmarkswilliamsport.org>
Email: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org



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Please join us during Holy Week

Wednesday, April 20th

Seder Meal, 6:15 pm

Thursday, April 21st

Holy Communion, Noon, Chapel
Holy Communion, 7:30 pm, Nave

Good Friday, April 22nd

Ecumenical Service, Noon to 3 pm
Tenebrae Service, 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 23rd

Great Vigil of Easter, 8 pm

Easter Sunday, April 24th

Holy Communion, 8am & 10:30 am