



# THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

NOVEMBER 2012

*The following was written by our counterpart across the water...the Susquehanna, that is. Kathy Wither is the director of youth programs, confirmation, special events, and the pastor's assistant at Messiah Lutheran Church.*

## **“OUR YOUTH ARE OUR FUTURE - OR ARE THEY?”**

“I hear it all the time: ‘Our youth are our future.’ And indeed, there is some truth to this...depending on how you look at it. In theory, today's youth will grow to be tomorrow's adults, and if we do our job well, they will go on to live as faithful disciples of Christ and join us in supporting the church family. But in reality, not all of our youth will reside in this community or continue to worship at (*St. Mark's*). Some will stay, but many of our young adults will earn college degrees and move to areas that offer more opportunities to put their education to use—and, perhaps, a better paycheck! Some will marry and attend the churches in which their spouses were raised. Whether they stay or go, some will remain faithful...and others will not.

“This past Sunday, six young people committed themselves to confirmation ministry for the coming year. Each of these young teens has been matched with a mentor—an adult who has committed him or herself to building a relationship with the student—a relationship through which the mentors model a life of discipleship, sharing with the students their own faith stories—the struggles, the joys, the revelations that they have experienced on their journeys through life. The aim is to lead the students, through word and example, to become people who embody what it means to be disciples of Jesus in their lifestyle, beliefs, and values. You see, Christianity is not something we strive “to do,” but rather *it is a way of life altogether*. Our hope is that the students will grow into a faith so sincere and develop a commitment so deep that *following Christ becomes as natural as breathing*.

“But it doesn't start or end with confirmation ministry. The moment a child is baptized, he becomes one of us, a member of the family of God. So what is our goal, really, when it comes to our youth? *Each of us* is called to pass on the faith, to affirm them as members of the body of Christ, and to give them the skills, insights, and experiences they need to be faithful...not just if and while they are with us...but so that they are equipped to continue in the covenant of their baptisms for a lifetime—*wherever* they may go as they reach adulthood. But for this to happen, they need committed adults in their lives with whom they can build lasting relationships—*now*. If you have a heart for youth ministry, I urge you to get involved. On whatever level you serve, include the youth whenever possible, and let them know that they are valued as fellow Christians.

“Because our youth are not our future - *they are our today.*”

*This is so true on so many levels. It distresses us that, this far into the school year, we have not yet filled the roster for Sunday School teachers...despite having it been made as convenient as possible for volunteers. We've been asking for someone to step up as a coach for our basketball team, because, due to life circumstances, our coaches of the past seven years are unable to take it on this year. Our thanks go out to all those who do give their time and energy. All others, please reconsider your commitment to our children.*

*God bless you all, Bernadette & Michele*

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## Council Update

The Council met in regular session on Sunday, October 14, 2012 in Middle Lounge.

### The Council:

- Listened to an inspiring message from Pastor Shipman via. Telephone in anticipation of Consecration Sunday.
- Discerned the remaining persons to be contacted about Consecration Sunday reservations.
- Received the regular reports from the Pastor, officers and committees.
- Moved to accept Robert Campbell by Letter of Transfer from a Lutheran Church in Wisconsin.

## Parish Register

- ◆ Pastor Elkin officiated at the Memorial Service for Betty Diehl on October 6, 2012 at the Maneval Funeral Home. Interment of ashes was on October 10 in Wildwood Cemetery.
- ◆ Pastor Elkin officiated at the Funeral Service for Doris Diehl on October 17, 2012 at the Maneval Funeral Home, with Interment of ashes in Wildwood Cemetery.



## Staff & Officers Contact Information

Website: [stmarkswilliamsport.org](http://stmarkswilliamsport.org)

Main E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org">stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Church Office 323-4619	Church fax 323-2452
Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Pastor	<a href="mailto:pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org">pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Pastor's Home Phone	323-7367
Jungwha Kim, Director of Music	<a href="mailto:jkim@stmarkswilliamsport.org">jkim@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Bernadette Jones, Christian Ed.	<a href="mailto:bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org">bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Michele Owen, Christian Ed.	<a href="mailto:mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org">mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Susan M-Smith, Parish Secretary	<a href="mailto:smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org">smsmith@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec.	<a href="mailto:gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org">gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.	<a href="mailto:ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org">ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Ray Huff, Council President	<a href="mailto:rhuff@stmarkswilliamsport.org">rhuff@stmarkswilliamsport.org</a>
Ray Huff, Home Phone	368-1473
Gregg Dancho, Vice-President	435-2716
Shelby Weber, Secretary	322-7149
Ken Shafranko, Treasurer	322-6005
Mel Wentzel, Director, <i>The Way</i>	327-8286
Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	433-0522



## Remembering Our Saints

# All Saints Sunday November 4, 2012

We honor and remember all those who have moved to the

## Church triumphant

In the past year:

**Ardath Houser**, October 15, 2011  
**Jean Gulliver**, December 1, 2011  
**Anna Stiadle**, December 13, 2011  
**Ruth Homan**, March 1, 2012  
**Frank Vognet**, March 4, 2012  
**Laura Decker**, March 31, 2012  
**Richard Kneedler**, April 10, 2012  
**Aletha Swartz**, May 19, 2012  
**Alice Helm**, May 26, 2012  
**Charles Homan**, July 21, 2012  
**Anne Miller**, August 1, 2012  
**Ralph Zeigler, Sr.**, August 11, 2012  
**Beatrice Doebler**, September 7, 2012  
**Betty Diehl**, October 3, 2012

## DONATION DRIVE FOR OUR OVERSEAS SOLDIERS



The Pipeline Wives of Williamsport in conjunction with Retired Marine Officer Keith Miller are conducting a drive for our military men and women in Afghanistan to show them we truly appreciate their service to our country, for us each and every day.

These men and women put their lives on the line for our freedom as well as those throughout the world. Little things from home mean so very much to them. It's getting cold. After a day on the front line, these soldiers would appreciate something warm to come back to like a blanket or instant soup or hot chocolate or a thank you note. Please read the list below and choose items you would like to donate. Thank you for supporting our soldiers! **The Following Donations are needed by Sunday, November 18, 2012.**

Fleece blankets	Shampoo	Deodorant
Disposable Razors	DVD/CD's	Instant Hot chocolate
Toothbrushes	Gloves	Instant soups
Nuts	Beef Jerky products	Aspirin/Vitamins
Ear Plugs	Foot Powder	Bug Spray
Small Flashlights	Tuna in packs	Lotion
Boot Laces 72" black	Games	Hand Sanitizer
Candy (Hard)	Travel Clocks	Hand/Toe Warmers
Writing Pads	Pens/Pencils	Socks – White or Black
Envelopes	Dental Floss	
Assorted Cards – Thank You/Birthday/Etc		

***All gifts may be placed in the container in the Narthex.***

## THE CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN THE HOLY LAND TODAY

Join us for a local lecture by  
Dr Khoury

Monday, Nov 12, 7 pm

At

Holy Cross  
Orthodox Church

1725 Holy Cross Lane, Williamsport

Free-will offering.

Refreshments & Book-signing

following lecture.

[holycrosswilliamsport.org](http://holycrosswilliamsport.org)

Dr Maria Khoury was born in Tripoli, Greece and raised in Denver, Colorado. She is a graduate of Hellenic College (1982), Harvard University (1985) and Boston University (1992) with a doctor of education degree. On December 31, 2009 she was included on the top four Human Rights Champions list by DC Human Rights Examiner including the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Hillary Clinton.

Dr Khoury lives in Taybeh, Palestine, with her husband, the honorable Mayor David Canaan Khoury and three children Elena, Canaan, and Constantine. Her family is active in St. George Orthodox Church. She is also a fundraiser for a housing project to help sustain the small Christian community living under military occupation. Her articles have been published world-wide in numerous publications and have been translated into several languages. In the Fall of 2011, she was a consultant interviewed by reporter Bob Simon for a "60 Minutes" broadcast that incited significant conversation. She is also the author of Orthodox Christian children's books, bringing awareness of the Christian presence and life in the Holy Land. The Khourys returned to the Holy Land in 1995 following the Oslo Peace Agreement.

## CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Susquehanna University

invites you to

"Motion Scriptures:  
Religious and Theological Reflection  
on Contemporary Movies"

Horn Meditation Chapel  
(in Weber Chapel)

Tuesday, November 13  
7 ~ 10 PM

*The Shawshank Redemption*

Discussion leader:  
Chaplain Mark Radecke



HOLY CROSS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1725 Holy Cross Lane, Williamsport

Ninth Annual

**ELECTION  
DAY  
DINNER**

**Tuesday, November 6, 2012**

**4:30 to 7 pm**

Chicken Pot Pie, Sides, Dessert, Drink

Donation: **\$8.00**

Children 6-12: **\$4.00** (5 and under: Free)

Take-Outs Available: 3:30-4:30 pm

[holycrosswilliamsport.org](http://holycrosswilliamsport.org)



## Concerts Benefiting our Community

### 23rd Annual Organ Concert

*to benefit North Central Pennsylvania Dialysis Clinics*

*Featuring Dick Lakey, Nancy Ackerman & The Trombone Consortium*

*November 4, 2012 4:00 pm*

*St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1400 Market St., Williamsport, PA*

#### *Special Sponsorship Opportunities:*

Friend	\$25—\$49
Giver	\$50—\$74
Contributor	\$75—\$ 99
Supporter	\$100—\$249
Donor	\$250—\$499
Benefactor	\$500+

#### *Non-Sponsorship Tickets: Individual \$10 Family \$15*

*Advance tickets may be obtained by sending your check  
to St. Luke Lutheran Church, c/o Dick Lakey,  
1400 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Or by calling Dick Lakey 323-7309  
Tickets will be available at the door*

## KEN DAVIS COMEDY CONCERT

### "Fully Alive"

**A Comedy Concert for the Entire Family**

**Sunday, November 11, 2012**

**6:30 p.m. (Doors open at 5:45 p.m.)**

**Williamsport Area High School**

**2990 W. 4th St. Wmspt.**

**Music provided by "Spoken For" and Band.**

*This concert will benefit  
Shepherd of the Streets Ministry  
coordinated by*

*First United Methodist Church of Williamsport.*

#### **Tickets:**

**Gold: \$20 (Preferential Seating 370 available)**

**Advance: \$15 (General Adm.)  
\$12 for 6 or more**

**Door: \$20**

**Get your tickets online at  
[www.kendavistickets.com](http://www.kendavistickets.com)  
or at First UMC Office**

**at 604 Market Street, Williamsport  
During their normal business hours  
(Mon.-Thur. from 9-3:30  
and Fri. from 9-Noon)**

**For more information, please contact  
the church office at 570-322-3572  
or visit the church website at  
[www.firstchurch.cc](http://www.firstchurch.cc)**



# CALLING ST. MARK'S SELINGSGROVE CENTER ELVES



Preparations are underway for our annual Christmas party with the **19 ladies of CM-6** at the **Selinsgrove Center**. This year our party is **Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:00 pm**. As is our tradition we tell stories, sing songs and take modest gifts for the ladies and their caregivers.

Please consider donating an item or two from our list of requests. These items include:

Slipper socks,

Moisturizing body wash, unscented if possible; Non-refrigerated pudding cups in any flavor (The center only serves vanilla); White and holiday tissue paper; A few bags of holiday candy for the caregivers (candy kisses, individually wrapped mints.) Closer to our party I will be asking for donations of apples, clementines, bananas and homemade cookies for a fruit basket and cookie tray for the caregivers. Monetary donations are always welcome to fill in any gaps with our gifting. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Selinsgrove Party." A container is available in the Narthex for your donations. Thank you in advance for any help you can give to this very meaningful project. Speak with Becky Miller Pryor with questions or suggestions.

## Thank You to Our November Teachers!!

*There is no substitute for a great teacher!*



Pre-K & K: **Brenda Gair**

1st & 2nd: **Jane Kline**

3rd & 4th: **Sharon & Christina  
Comini**

5th: **Eric Comini**

## Along the Way Book Fair

*Start your Christmas shopping early... and you don't even have to leave the church!*

**Sandy Grier from Along the Way will offer a Book Fair at St. Mark's on Sunday NOV. 18<sup>th</sup>**

"Fill your Christmas Stockings with religious items for the children. There will be many small items starting at \$.50 each.

We'll also have Lutheran World Relief's Fair Trade items for the older crowd such as sterling silver jewelry, Christmas decorations and many other gifts that help the craftsmen and their families from countries around the world including the USA.

There will be Bibles and Story Bibles for all ages (a great Christmas gift to really reinforce why we celebrate the holiday).

There will also be Christmas Books priced at a \$1 and up. We'll have a book about the real St. Nicholas, several books on the Nativity with beautiful illustrations a few books about Carols of Christmas, board books, pop up books, Advent Calendars, plus so much more.

Many of the books have presentation pages, so years from now whoever receives the book will remember the person and year given to them.

Stock up on holiday gifts and treat yourself to something as well.



**10% of all Sales are donated back to St. Mark's for your ministry.  
THIS IS A ONE DAY EVENT ONLY – NOV. 18<sup>th</sup> in FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

**Cash and Checks are accepted. See you in Nov.  
Your friend in Christ, Sandy Grier, Along The Way Books."**

# Just for Kids



## Children's Church

SUNDAY, November 11,  
10:30 a.m., in the Chapel,  
is our next celebration of  
Children's Church.

The special offerings that day are contributions toward the shipping costs of the finished shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The children will process with the boxes.

## FIRST COMMUNION

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



If your child is not yet in third grade, but you feel he or she is ready to understand and receive Communion,



PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE if you want them to join the class. We feel that children of that age are ready to learn about this sacrament, but, obviously, you know your children better than we do. We are more than happy to include any of our youth in the process.

Classes begin on Sunday, November 4, at 3:00 p.m., in the Middle Lounge, and continue on November 11 & 18 at the same time. The students' First Communion will be celebrated on the festival of Christ the King, Sunday, November 25, 2012.

## Passing on Faith: Third Grade Milestone



Our third graders will receive Bibles at the 10:30 service on November 25. They and their families are invited to join in the luncheon immediately following the service.

At that time, Pastor Elkin will sit down with the children to explore their Bibles and see what messages relatives and friends have written or favorite passages they have highlighted in the Books.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD GROUP PACK N' WRAP!

**NOVEMBER 4 AT 11:47 (RIGHT AFTER 2<sup>ND</sup> SERVICE)**



**Shoebboxes  
for kids**

*We've been gathering items all year for the shoebboxes and received an additional boost from the "admission" for Fall Fun Fest, in which quite a few items and monetary donations for postage were collected.*

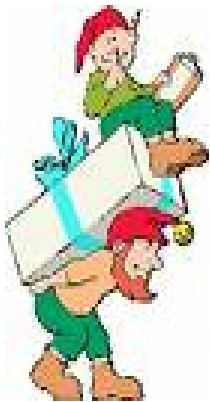
So, on Sunday, Nov. 4, c'mon over to Fellowship Hall after church to join us for a light lunch of finger foods and the always entertaining wrapping of empty shoebboxes for the children to fill up with surprises for needy children around the world.

On Sunday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, the children will process with the boxes for offering after Children's Church. On that day, if you have prepared your own gift boxes at home, you are welcome to present your offering to the effort with the children. We will be taking the boxes to the collection center on Tuesday, November 15—so the absolute last chance to bring them here is that Sunday.

The cost of shipping each box is \$7, so if we have 30-40+ boxes as we have had in the past, the cost builds up quickly. If you would care to contribute to this expense, envelopes will be in the narthex on Sunday, Nov. 4 and Nov. 11, or you can send your gift to the office with the designation "Operation Christmas Child."

As always thank you all for your generosity with our various endeavors.

## ADVANCE NOTICE – MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



**KIDS' NIGHT OUT**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
**5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

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



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

## TEDDY BEAR & MITTEN TREES!



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

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

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

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



# Join Us in Prayer for Our Youth

Our next prayer time will be on  
**Sunday, November 18th**  
 at noon in the chapel.  
 Please join us as we  
 remember our youth,  
**21 and under**  
 in a time of prayer.



## News in Our Pews

October is the month when fall is at its most beautiful – the woods are full of vibrant colors and there is a chill in the air. It is the season for football games and marching bands.

As the Williamsport High School Millionaire Band comes on the field, they are directed by our own **Sara Jones** as drum major. The Millionaires are doing very well in band competitions as well. In Bloomsburg they were awarded best in their division as well as best in show. This weekend they will participate in the Atlantic Coast Championships – good luck to all!

Our Sheridan students do very well – both **Hannah Haussmann** and **Sean Jensen** were named students of the month as I think they have been each year!

**Jackie Kinney** shared with me that she had beaten **Mike** in a recent golf game – by three strokes, I think. That is an achievement for her because Mike is quite an accomplished golfer. I told her I could make her as famous as I did **Donna Boston** with her iris but she isn't sure as yet.

Another St. Mark's member famous in another venue is **Nick Buckman**. Nick is the music director for the Rocky Horror Show which will be performed at the former Site:B at the Pajama Factory October 25, 26 and 27. The show is live with many surprises and the audience is encouraged to come dressed in costume.

We are happy to see **Matt and Wanda Fortin** and family back at St. Mark's and to see young **Brandon's** picture in the Shopper as a part of the Hughesville Senior High Student Council's "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" program. Donations were accepted by students and staff in conjunction with Homecoming week.

Lots of exciting things happening – don't forget to keep me in the loop!

*~Joyce Anne Hershberger*

*Please submit items to Joyce via her email [deermountain2@comcast.net](mailto:deermountain2@comcast.net) or call her at 322-0410.*

## Ongoing Collections



### Stamp Collecting

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

### Tab Collecting

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



# FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING

We are fortunate to have a dedicated core group of volunteers for our four weeks per year of hosting families with children experiencing a housing crisis. We also receive assistance from five members of First Presbyterian Church. But if any one experiences illness, an unavoidable commitment or an emergency we are hard pressed to cover our responsibilities while the families are in our care.

**Our final week of hosting in 2012 is December 23rd to December 30<sup>th</sup>.** This is a very busy time for everyone. I am asking you to make a commitment now to helping in a way that is possible for you.

In addition to our regular slots for van driving, preparing and serving meals, visiting a few hours or sleeping overnight, we need some additional folks to help as follows when our regular volunteers are unavailable.

- ◆ Additional van drivers. It's a short trip from St. Mark's to Sherman Street.
- ◆ Grocery Shopper. We are responsible for providing all the meals for the families including breakfast and lunch that are eaten at the Day Center. A few days before the families come to us, we receive a list of needed supplies for the Day Center. These items need to be purchased and delivered to the Day Center by our first Sunday of hosting. We have a fund to reimburse the shopper for the items purchased.
- ◆ Unlock the back door at 4:30 pm. for meal preparers who do not have a key.
- ◆ Kitchen Helpers to assist meal preparers with setting out the dishes, etc. If the meal preparers are from another congregation they are unfamiliar with our kitchen.
- ◆ Dishwashers for when the meal preparers do not know how to operate our dishwasher.
- ◆ Additional evening visitors to chat with folks after supper until 8:30 pm.
- ◆ Overnight hosts. With another set of hosts no one who is already staying overnight would need to do two nights.
- ◆ We have a great set up/tear down crew. But we need a few ladies to put the homey touch to the bedrooms at the beginning of hosting and assist in storing our items at the end of hosting.
- ◆ At least 3 people to do the laundry at the end of the hosting week. Last hosting week we amassed six garbage bags full of sheets, blankets and hand towels.
- ◆ Monetary donations are always welcome to fund our hosting. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Hosting Fund."

Speak with Becky Miller Pryor if you can assist in any of these areas or wish to reserve your time of serving in December. Larue and Becky will begin making phone calls beginning no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Our Prayer Chain, It's Not Just For Telephones Anymore!



If you have hesitated about becoming part of the Prayer Ministry because you aren't home to answer the phone or just don't like the responsibility of having to call the next person on the list we have a 21st century solution.

We are going to begin sending our prayer requests out by email. To receive notification of prayer needs contact the office by phone or email (page 2 for contact info) and leave your email address. You will be added to the list and receive an email whenever a need arises. This way you can pray at your convenience and without pressure. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to prayer for those needing prayer!

# Youth

## ENCOUNTER

# QUAKES + ZONES

**January 25-27, 2013  
Pittsburgh, PA**

# thrive

JEREMIAH 29:11



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

Eleven adults and students are signed up for the trip in January...possibly a couple more. We will soon have calendars available for sale to help defray the costs for the students. The calendars are from the same company as last year, and will cost the same.

As before, the proceeds from calendars sold by youth not going on the trip will go to Heifer International.

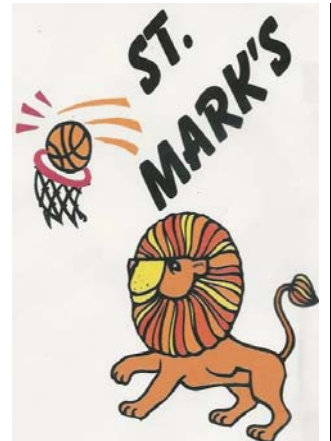
## John Bower Basketball League

Basketball practice will begin on Monday, November 5th.  
Practice will be held in the Cochran Elementary School gymnasium.  
Once we have our teams,  
we will contact individual players with their specific start times.  
If you have any questions please contact Michele Owen at 323-0610.

**We are in need of a coach this year,**

if you are interested in coaching or have any questions,  
please contact Michele at 323-4619 or Kirk at 323-0610.

A background check will be necessary but will be paid for by the church.



# Lutheran Shared Ministry



On Friday, November 30, and Saturday, December 1, 2012, Lutheran Shared Ministry (LSM) will present *A Christmas Carol*, dinner theatre style, in Fellowship Hall at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. All donations will go to UCM of Penn College.

Rehearsals began on Monday, October 8, at 6:30 p.m., and will continue on Mondays and Wednesdays through mid-November.

We have succeeded in casting the last few empty slots in the cast!: Ebenezer's ghost, Nick Buckman; Bob Cratchit, Ken Schreckengast; young Eudora, Laura Zeigler; her fiancé, Jared Barone (doing double duty); and Tiny Tim, Owen Gair.

If you want to be a caroler, the first rehearsal is Saturday, November 10, at 9:00 a.m.; the second is Sunday, November 18, at 2:00. Everyone will be expected to be there November 25 through December 1 (with the exception of a night off on Tuesday that week).

Set work and painting days are Saturdays, November 10, at 10:00 a.m., and November 17, at 9:00 a.m.

So, please think about this wonderful opportunity for our churches to get together at this special time of year; pencil us in on your calendars; and join us for Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.

## ADULT ADVENT ACTIVITIES

**ADULT COOKIE BAKE**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
**8:00 A.M. – ???**  
*Please note our new time!*



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**  
**TO OUR SHUT-INS,**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

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

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS DESPERATELY NEEDED



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

# Thank You Notes

**Thanks go to all of you!** Because I haven't been at my mothers' deathbed, just once I truly want to see her smile in any kind of encounter. I miss my mother! When I sent my father to heaven last year, I of course was panicked because that was the first loss to me, but at the same time I was relieved in peace God gave me.

I was stunned to be surrounded by godly people in St. Mark's church who prayed, sent cards, and gave monetary fund. What a big family I have in Christ!

Often I even blame Adam's fall, but we know there would have been the second or third Adam if Adam had not been deceived through Eve. However through this mortal body we receive Spirit and enter to eternal life to fellowship with God. What a wondrous God's love toward us! As we clothe in glorified body through death we would be like Jesus knowing all things. We living mankind on the earth are the only ones who don't know clearly God's plan, time for our ages. Now my mother clothed in glorified body together with my father praising God and knowing all things in wisdom. They will meet the coming Lord before me. Hallelujah! ~ Jungwha Kim

Thank you to everyone who brought food for Harvest Home Sunday, October 14. The response was wonderful. Folks who are food insecure turn to the United Churches Food Pantry when in need. They are given a three day supply of food. These are people that YOU help so generously. Please remember to bring nonperishable food throughout the year. A box is located in the narthex.

~ Worship & music Committee

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$375 to the Shepherd of the Street program.

It is with generous donations such as yours we are able to help many people in need in our community. Your gift is much needed and appreciated by this ministry.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Gloria Greevy, Volunteer

## Calling all Teens!!



**Sunday, November 25, 6 pm**

**Bring a treat, some friends  
and join us!**

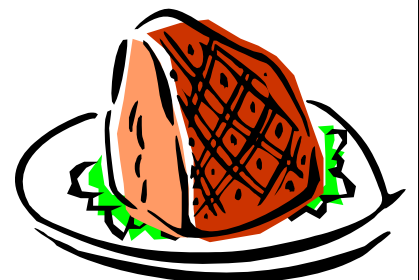
## Lunch 'N' Fellowship

Wednesday, November 14 at Noon

Serving Ham

Bring a side dish & dessert to share.

Bring some friends too!





# Corning Museum of Glass

On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will be ***leaving*** St. Mark's ***no later*** than 8:00 a.m. to travel to Corning Museum of Glass. Sign-up sheets are in the staff hallway. If you want to get tickets to creating your own glass piece, you may either take your chances when you get there, or sign up as part of a group...money for this is needed no later than Thursday, Nov. 1.

The museum opens at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m. **Admission is free for students 19 and under**; adults, \$15; college students, 55+, AAA & Military, \$12.75.



## **Fusing** (age 4 and up)

**Frame or Mirror** Large \$28, small \$19

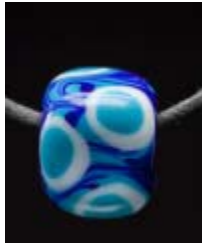
**Clock** \$28

**Nightlight** \$19



## **Flameworking** (age 10 and up)

**Bead** \$19 **Pendant** \$19



## **Glassblowing** (all ages)

**Ornament** \$27

**Pumpkin** Sept. 4~Nov. 30  
\$27



## **Sandblasting** (all ages)

**Bowl, vase, mug, canister** \$10

## 2012 St. Mark's Annual Hayride

On Saturday, October 13th, approximately 20 adults and children met at Styer's Farm in Muncy for a hayride. We enjoyed the hayride first - we filled our own wagon! - everyone picked their own pumpkin, and we enjoyed the barn which was filled with some adorable baby animals.

The kids also played on the hay bales and enjoyed the tractor slide.

It was a beautiful day and we even had time to stop for a snack of apples, pretzels and apple cider.

Thank you to all who attended!!



# Health, Healing & Wholeness

*"Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!'"*

*(NRSV; Revelation 5:13-14)*

I'll admit, I was a bit skeptical when I first met Guinevere. As soon as she walked into the room all eyes were on her as she eagerly moved from person to person, her blond hair bouncing with every movement. As the support meeting began, she worked her way around the perimeter of the room and came to sit by one of the evening's participants. Periodically, she would look into his face as he spoke about his struggle with mental illness, and every so often, he would pat her on the head. A change came over this gentleman – a calmness that was not present at the beginning of the meeting. Later, the woman who had accompanied Guinevere that evening spoke of their years of partnership, in providing therapy to people of all ages, and in a variety of different settings.

Guinevere is a trained, certified therapy dog. Her handler, a behavioral health therapist, is employed by a local elementary school. Along with Guinevere's job of soothing frightened, sometimes angry children, she was also a non-judgmental listener to youngsters who were struggling with learning to read. Perhaps you have encountered one of Gwenny's colleagues when you've visited a long-term-care facility, or even the local emergency department.

In the past, I wrote of the many health benefits of owning a pet. The positive effects of animal assisted therapy have been studied, and are now generally accepted in medical settings around the globe. So how does a puppy become a therapy dog? It all begins with meeting the basic requirements of good manners and good health. A therapy dog must:

Be at least one year of age	Walk on a leash without pulling	Have a negative fecal test once a year
Be good around other dogs	Not mind strange noises or smells	Be clean and well groomed
Listen to their handlers	Be calm for petting	Pass multiple tests and evaluations "in the field" [supervised visits]
Allow strangers to touch them all over	Not be afraid of people walking unsteadily	
Not jump on people when interacting	Be current on all vaccines required by law	

Many people confuse Therapy Dogs with Service Dogs. Service Dogs provide assistance to the differently-abled, such as alerting their human of an impending seizure, bringing or carrying objects for their partner, leading the blind, opening doors, etc.

Therapy dogs are family pets that are trained and registered or certified through therapy organizations, and are only half of the therapy team – the handler is the other half. Unlike service dogs, which are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act, they are only allowed into institutions by invitation or prior approval.

Therapy dogs can be any size or breed; he/she must be easygoing, patient, and comfortable with strangers. Handlers keep an eye out for signs of stress – excessive panting, tucked-under tail, or erratic behavior – to make sure the dog is not overburdened by his work. The esteemed Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN has utilized therapy dogs since 2002, and has more than a dozen certified dogs as part of Mayo Clinic's Caring Canines program. In an August 25, 2012 article on the subject, they report, "It's [also] important to note that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has never received a report of infection from animal-assisted therapy. ([www.mayoclinic.com/health/pet-therapy/MY02122](http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/pet-therapy/MY02122)). The dogs make regular visits to various hospital departments and even make special visits on request."

What is it about dogs that create such a powerful effect? No one can say for certain, but once again, dogs prove their worth as good and faithful servants, and beg the question, "Will we see our four footed friends in heaven?"

Debbie Best, RN, BSW, MHA

## ADVENT WREATH MAKING

You...yes, you...and your family are invited to attend the annual

**Advent Wreath Making on  
Sunday, December 2,  
at noon in Fellowship Hall.**

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



# United Churches of Lycoming County

## FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED ALL THE TIME:

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

Hours are

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

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



## 24 hour Devotion Line

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

## November Ecumenical Lunches Wednesdays, 12 to 1 PM

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

7- **Dr. Jonathan Williamson**, Professor of Political Science, Lycoming College, *"The 2012 National Election"*

14- **Dave Fagerstrom**, CEO, Williamsport YMCA, *"The New YMCA"*

21- **Rev. Gwen Bernstine**, United Churches, *"A Thankful Heart"*

28- **Rev. Ken Elkin**, Pastor, St. Mark Lutheran Church, *"Beginning the walk, the Camino de Santiago"*

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

## TWO SPECIAL CHOIRS FORMING

### A Special 75th Anniversary Choir

is being formed to sing for the

**Williamsport Music Club's**

**75th Annual**

**Christmas Candlelight Service**

on

**Sunday, December 2 at 4 pm**

in the First United Methodist Church,  
2 Ross Street.

**Singers from all churches  
are invited to participate.**

The rehearsals are Sunday, November 25,  
from 4-5 pm, and Saturday, December 1, from  
9-10 am, both at First United Methodist Church.  
(Use the Ross Street entrance.)

For further information,  
contact Kay Huffman at 326-3019.

### Be Part of the Dream: Community Combined Choir

is being formed  
to perform during

**Dr. Martin Luther King Celebrations.**

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

Rehearsal dates will be announced.

Contact Gerald Smith at  
570-494-8400

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



## Happy Birthday!

11/01 Shawn Wright  
 11/04 Marguerite Smith  
 11/04 Elizabeth Ward  
 11/06 Samantha Kneedler  
 11/07 John Bower  
 11/07 Ann Kuntz  
 11/08 Paul Fornwalt  
 11/08 Brenda Gair  
 11/09 Cathy Fenderson  
 11/09 Michele Fredericks  
 11/09 Becky Miller Pryor  
 11/11 Shawn Zimmerman  
 11/12 Pamela Davenport  
 11/13 Elizabeth Haussmann

11/17 Kyle Doebler  
 11/18 Ronald Baker  
 11/18 Donna Baker



11/20 Tracey Heaps  
 11/20 Donna Hutchinson  
 11/21 Ray Reams  
 11/22 Lisa Weaver  
 11/23 Robert Jones

11/23 James Newcomer Jr.  
 11/23 Ralph Thorne  
 11/25 Nancy Bieber  
 11/25 Stephen Dewar  
 11/25 Ashley Miller  
 11/25 Lois Smith  
 11/26 Shirley Miller  
 11/26 Lucia Walz  
 11/27 Shelly Clokey  
 11/27 Katlin Jensen  
 11/29 John Burkholder  
 11/29 James Gilbert  
 11/29 Matthew MacGill  
 11/30 Harold Hershberger

## Happy Anniversary!

11/05 Rick & Jennifer Robertson  
 11/06 Gregg & Kathleen Dancho  
 11/12 Eugene & Reba Jacobs  
 11/15 David & Emily Elkin

11/18 Stephen & Candace Dewar  
 11/19 David & Cheryl Williams  
 11/19 Ralph & Lou Ann Zeigler Jr.  
 11/20 Robert & Mary Clouser

11/22 David & Nicole Walz  
 11/25 Michael & Tracie Elliott  
 11/26 Charles & Judith Fortin  
 11/30 Melvin & Melinda Wentzel

## Directory Updates

### CHANGE:

**BITTENBENDER, MARK:** change the address to: **1209 S. Bouldin St., Baltimore, MD 21224-5004**

**DOANE, JAMES & ERNESTINE:** change the address & phone number to:  
**108 Rocky Lane, Apt 205, Montoursville, PA 17754 (570) 368-8574**

**JONES, JOYCE:** change the address to: **2121 Hailey Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053**

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

## United Campus Ministry

It's hard to believe mid terms are here already. Our fall retreat at Krislund Camp was all about "Letting go of excess baggage." We were reminded that Jesus wants us to cast our burdens unto him for he cares for us. We joined First Baptist Church in worship at the end of September for a combined service with Love Unlimited. It was refreshing to have such a diverse worship service.

Homecoming is upon us and we are pleased to have Lauren Barrett and David Solomon represent UCM this year. The king and queen are chosen based on money collected for charity (theirs is Krislund Camp scholarship fund since they both worked there as counselors last summer.) Our fall mission weekend comes soon. We will be doing a few service projects, working with Yokefellow Prison Ministry and with the Needlework Guild for their bazaar. We are very excited about our spring break mission trip to New York City, working with the Center for Student Missions. We'll have fund raisers to help with costs. Our first will be a bake sale at the college on Oct. 31. We'd appreciate your donations. Thanks!

Sharon Comini, Coor., [ucm@uclc.org](mailto:ucm@uclc.org) or 570-419-5376

## SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST



**Patricia Alexander**

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

**Edith Anderson**

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

**Jane Angle**

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

**Dottie Bingaman**

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

**Marie Byerly**

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

**Kay Crane**

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

**Bonita Crossley**

73 Pine St.  
Hills Grove, PA 18619-9300

**Art Decker**

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

**Larue Dieter**

2150 Warrensville Rd, Apt. 2  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Beatrice Doebler**

Williamsport Home, C-1212  
1900 Ravine Rd.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**Catherine Goertz**

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

**Bill Hibschan**

Williamsport Home, Apt. 709  
1900 Ravine Rd.  
Williamsport, PA 17701



**Charlotte Hughes**

140 Blueberry Lane  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**Gene Jacobs**

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

**Reba Jacobs**

1306 Faxon Parkway  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**Irma Logan**

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

**David & Carol McMorris**

330 Forest Hills Circle  
Prescott, AZ 86303

**Robert Miller**

947 Hepburn St.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**Kay Poliska**

1100 Allen St.  
Montoursville, PA 17754

**Elizabeth Ruesskamp**

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

**Mary Helen Scinicarello**

Danville St. Hosp. #311  
Danville, PA 17821

**Eleanor Sobers \***

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

(\*Temporary Address)

**Robert Smith**

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

**Beulah Wrede**

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

**Elda Zeigler**

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



# ST. MARK'S NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**1 Thursday**

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

**2 Friday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**3 Saturday**

8:00 AM Corning Glass Museum

**4 All Saints Sunday**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
11:45 AM Family Handbells  
11:47 AM Pack 'n' Wrap for OCC  
3:00 PM First Communion Class  
4:00 PM 23rd Annual Dialysis Organ  
Concert @ St. Luke

**5 Monday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Handbells  
7:00 PM Wmspt. Civic Chorus

**6 Tuesday Election Day**

8:00 AM City Pastors  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
4:30 PM Holy Cross Dinner  
6:00 PM Brownies

**7 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
11:45 AM Bible Study  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal

**8 Thursday**

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

**9 Friday ~ Council Agenda Deadline**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**10 Saturday**

9:00 AM CC Carolers Rehearsal  
10:00 AM CC Set Work/Painting

**11 Sunday ~ OCC Shoeboxes Due**

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  
3:00 PM First Communion Class  
6:30 PM Ken Davis Comedy @ WAHS

**12 Monday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM Little Lambs Liaison  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Dr. Khoury Lecture  
7:00 PM Handbells  
7:00 PM Wmspt. Civic Chorus

**13 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM Conf. Pastors@ CaS  
7:00 PM The Shawshank Redemption  
Movie Discussion @SU

**14 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
12:00 PM Lunch N' Fellowship (Ham)  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal

**15 Thursday**

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

**16 Friday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**17 Saturday**

9:00 AM CC Set Work/Painting

**18 Sunday ~ Gifts for soldiers due**

8:00 AM Holy Communion  
8:30 AM Book Fair  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
11:45 AM Family Handbells  
12:00 PM Prayer 4 Youth/Chapel  
12:15 PM *The Way*  
2:00 PM CC Carolers Rehearsal  
3:00 PM First Communion Class  
6:00 PM Confirmands meal/mtg.

**19 Monday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM Civic Chorus Board  
6:30 PM Council Mtg.  
7:00 PM Dog Club  
7:00 PM Handbells  
7:00 PM Wmspt. Civic Chorus

**20 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM Brownies

**21 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting

**22 Thursday ~ Happy Thanksgiving!  
Office Closed****23 Friday ~ Lion Article Deadline**

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**24 Saturday**

9:00 AM Daniel's Closet

**25 Sunday First Communion**

LSM -Tech Week  
8:00 AM Holy Communion  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Holy Communion  
11:45 AM Bible Milestone Luncheon  
11:45 AM Family Handbells  
6:00 PM Teen Movie Night  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal

**26 Monday**

LSM -Tech Week  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:00 PM LSM Mtg. @St. Mark's  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Handbells  
7:00 PM Wmspt. Civic Chorus

**27 Tuesday**

LSM -Tech Week  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer

**28 Wednesday**

LSM -Tech Week  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Staff Mtg & Quilting  
12:00 PM Pastor @ UCLC Luncheon  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal

**29 Thursday**

LSM -Tech Week  
6:31 AM Men's Ministry  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM CC Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Senior Choir

**30 Friday**

LSM -Tech Week  
9:00 AM Morning Prayer  
9:20 AM Lion Crew  
6:00 PM LSM "A Christmas Carol"

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

Phone: 570-323-4619  
Fax: 570-323-2452

Website: <http://www.stmarkswilliamsport.org>  
Email: [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org)



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Lutheran Shared Ministry  
presents  
Charles Dickens'

## A Christmas Carol

Friday, November 30, 2012  
Saturday, December 1, 2012

Spaghetti Supper at 6:00 p.m.  
Performance at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is free, but tickets are required ~ 323-4619

A free-will offering will be collected the nights of the event.

All proceeds benefit the  
United Campus Ministry of Penn College

