



The Lion of St. Mark's

DECEMBER 2015

To Know Christ and To Make Christ Known

Advent's events:

The circle of the Church Year begins again with Advent, with so many wonderful events beginning on Sunday, November 29th.

Advent Wreath Making ...November 29, 12 PM

Mid-Day, Mid-Week Prayers ..December 2, 9, 16, 23, 11:30 AM...

In addition to our familiar seasonal activities, one new one has been added this year. All those who are available in the middle of the day are invited to gather for Mid-Day Prayers on the four Wednesdays of Advent, December 2, 9, 16, and 23, in the Chapel. The prayer office is similar to what we use at midday during Lent, a simple service with hymns, lessons and prayers with a brief exposition of a particular topic or passage. This year our subject will be "What Good News the Advent Hymns teach."

Since many of our gatherings involve food, this will be no exception! We'll plan on light lunch fare; soup, bread, and something sweet. The first week will feature Caldo Gallego, a hearty sausage/bean/potato soup which Pr. Elkin learned to appreciate very much in northern Spain. The third week is of course our regular Luncheon Fellowship, which is always especially fun in December. The second and fourth weeks are open yet for menu ideas.

Williamsport Chamber Choir and Orchestra Concert ...Dec. 4, 7:30 PM... see pg. 12

Enrollment for *The Way* ...December 6, 10:30 AM

Visit to Selinsgrove Center ...December 8, 6 PM... see pg. 6

Cookie-baking ...December 12, 8 AM... see pg. 7

Kids night out ...December 12, 5 PM... see pg. 4

Time for poinsettia and other flower orders ...December 13... see pg. 7

Caroling around the parish ...December 13, 12:30 PM... see pg. 3

Williamsport Civic Chorus Concert ..December 13, 3 PM... see pg. 12

Decorating for Christmas season ...December 20, 12 PM... see pg. 4

Christmas Eve Services, December 24, 7 & 10 PM... see pg. 5

Remembrance service ...December 27, 3 PM... see pg. 3



INDEX & UPDATE

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Council Notes

1 The Congregation Council met in regular session on Monday,
 2 November 16, 2015 in the Crossways Room. The Council:
 2 --received the regular reports of the pastor, officers, and commit-
 2 tees.
 2 --granted Letter of Transfer for Rosemary Hafer to St. John
 "Brick" Church.
 2 --approved the installation of new double doors at the east (canopy)
 3 entrance.
 3 --continued discussion of the congregational goals and plans for
 4 implementation.
 4 --approved the congregation budget for 2016 for submission to
 4 special congregation assemblies and called the assemblies to be
 5 held Dec. 6th.

Staff office hours ~ 570-323-4619

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

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

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

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

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

Secretary: Laura Schreckengast Mon-Fri 9-1 PM

Staff & Officers

Church Office 323-4619 Fax 323-2452

Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org

Main E-Mail: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Pastor	pastor@stmarkswilliamsport.org or 323-7367
Jungwha Kim, Director of Music	jkim@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Bernadette Jones, Christian Ed.	bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Michele Owen, Christian Ed.	mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec.	gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.	ldeseau@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Laura Schreckengast, Parish Sec.	stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Ray Huff, Council President	rhuff6@verizon.net home 368-1473
Walt Haussmann, Vice-President	525-3283
Karen Boone, Secretary	995-5107
Wanda Fortin, Treasurer	337-3931
Mel Wentzel, Director, <i>The Way</i>	327-8286
Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	433-0522
Michele Fredericks, Parish Life	michele.l.fredericks@gmail.com
Donna Elkin, Family Promise	donnaelkin@gmail.com or 323-7367 (home) or 419-2949 (cell)
Deb Maggs, Family Promise	tdjmaggs@aol.com or 322-8109
Deb Homes, Altar Flowers	dholmes9@comcast.net
Kathy Kolb, Prayer Chain	326-7529 kathy@kolbnetworks.com

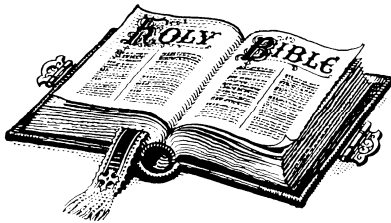
Parish Register

Pastor Elkin presided at the Holy Baptism on the Festival of All Saints, November 1, 2015 with Asher Owen Buckman, son of Sean Buckman and Megan Tice, and John Edward Bower, son of Jonathan Bower and Tanya Sheets.

For Thought and Action...

The author of our Crossways Bible Study series, Dr. Harry Wendt, recently wrote: "I have traveled to Slovakia several times to conduct seminars in Bible colleges in Bratislava (its capital city) and in Martin. During one of those visits, a pastor shared with me how the Communists who ruled the Eastern Block countries for four decades after World War II set about destroying the Church. They told the Christian community:

"We will never try to stop you from going to church. Go to church every Sunday. Listen to those sermons. But remember this: There are to be no Bible study groups, no prayer groups, no Sunday schools, no youth groups. Just go to church and listen to those sermons. And all sporting events for children and youth are to be held on Sunday mornings!



"He assured me that this strategy succeeded in all but destroying the Church. Sad to say, what the Communists imposed on people living in Eastern Block countries is what many people in the West embrace as the norm. They believe that being a Christian means listening to a sermon once in a while. But involvement in Bible study? Not necessary!"

Passing on Faith: Service of Remembrance

Please join us for this moving service on Sunday, December 27, 2015, at 3:00 pm, during which we remember those who have gone before us to join the church triumphant. If anyone needs a ride, please call the office. Anyone who can assist with transportation, please do the same.



Christmas Caroling to Our Shut - Ins

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

11:45 a.m - ? p.m.

Celebrate the season with song as we visit those who are not able to get out to join the festivities.

We will begin with lunch in Middle Lounge...

We would LOVE for you to join us!



Lutheran Shared Ministry presents:
THE 17TH ANNUAL CATECHETICAL RETREAT

JANUARY 9, 2016
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



LSM's Catechetical Retreat for our middle school students has been in successful operation for seventeen years now! Held on an early Saturday in January, Pr. Elkin has led St. Mark's in organizing this event, even though, in the beginning, it was held at Messiah. An average of 100 students, parents, and worship leaders gather for a day of instruction and fellowship.

Pr. Elkin will be teaching one of his popular "hands-on" classes and Keith Wood will lead a seminar on Parents, Teens & Money Matters again this year. Information regarding other class offerings is on its way in from other pastors as this goes to press. Look for brochures *soon!*

ADVENT FUN!

DECORATING the NAVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
 right after the 10:30 service...

we will decorate the Nave for Christmas!! We take down the blue of Advent, hang the wreath, and erect our trinity of trees, lighting and decorating them with the Chrismons made by congregation members. Please join us for a light luncheon and this fun afternoon!



KIDS NIGHT!

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 12,
 5 P.M. – 8 P.M.



Look for the sign-up lists! Kids eat a light supper and participate in baking for our shut-ins, crafting for gifts, storytelling and games while Mom & Dad get things done for the holidays!

Remember...
 No regular Second Saturday activities...we will be doing the Adult Cookie Bake in its place ...
THIS MONTH ONLY!



Pack 'n Wrap Success!



Our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes have been packed, wrapped, filled and taken to the distribution center for shipment - a total of well over 45 shoeboxes were completed!!!

With such a large number of shoeboxes, our shipping costs were even higher this year, and we want to thank everyone who gave so generously to cover this expense. With each shoebox costing \$7 to ship, our total is over \$300. Donations toward this will continue to be accepted!

A huge "Thank You" to all who helped at the Pack 'n Wrap, packed their own shoeboxes, and donated items or money for shipping, our collection certainly was a huge success!

Please consider joining us next year—it really is great fun!!!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

CHILDREN'S CHURCH meets Sunday, December 13, at 10:30, in the chapel. For the children's special offering this month, we will prepare greeting cards to take with us on our caroling routes! If the children have any they've made or purchased, please send them along to church that day. See you in the chapel on December 13!



Christmas Eve 7 PM!

Brother Heinrich's
Christmas



a Christmas fable with music
by John Rutter

Brother Heinrich, the choir director at the monastery, has just discovered that the archbishop will be attending their Christmas morning service and that the choir must sound better than ever!!! Moreover, he must write a new piece of music AND he must prevent his donkey, Sigismund, from joining in on the re-frains! Join us for this delightful piece and the 7:00 service on Christmas Eve. It promises to be a joyful experience!

SOCIAL MINISTRY NOTES

Calling St. Mark's Elves

Our annual Christmas party for the 15 ladies of CM-6 at the Selinsgrove Center is only days away! We are still in need of pudding cups in all flavors and a bag of candy kisses. We also gift the caregivers with holiday cookies and fresh fruit for their break room and need those items as well.

Please call Becky Miller Pryor ASAP (570-971-4585) if you are able to provide homemade cookies, a box of tangerines or clementines, or a bag of apples.

Monetary donations are always welcome to offset the cost of the slipper socks and to fill in any gaps with our gifting. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Selinsgrove Party."

All donations for the ladies of CM-6 and their caregivers are needed by December 6, 2015.

On **Tuesday, December 8, 2015** we will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. to carpool to Selinsgrove. Additional "elves" wishing to join the festivities are always welcome.

Gifting for Danville State Hospital

Forgot to take a gift tag for a resident? There is still time to provide a modest gift to ensure all residents will have gifts to open on Christmas morning. We supply general gifts that can be used where they are most needed. The need is greatest for those residents who arrive in November or December.

Items being requested for both men and women include socks, gloves, pajamas, night-

gowns, sweat shirts, sweat pants, underwear, shirts and packs of batteries (size AA and AAA.) Sizes for both men and women are large, extra-large and larger. Other gift suggestions are inexpensive wallets and watches.

All donations should be left unwrapped and placed in the tub in the Narthex. Thank you for any assistance you can give to this outreach.

All donations for Danville State Hospital are needed by Sunday, December 13, 2015.

Calling All Carolers

Sunday, December 13, 2015

The Social Ministry Committee needs at least four carloads of carolers on December 13th to visit members of the congregation who do not get out as much as they used to. We will be taking fresh baked cookies and sharing a few Christmas carols at each stop.

Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or speak with Becky Pryor, Deb Holmes, Audrey Comerford, Michele Owen or Karen Boone to join us. A light lunch will be served after the late service and then it is off to share some Christmas joy.

Free Community Dinner

Redeemer Lutheran Church

Thursday, December 10, 2015

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

If you know someone who is experiencing food insecurity, please share this information with them. All are welcome!

Thinking of Lynn

The Social Ministry Committee extends heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the congregation for their support of Lynn and Adam Zitta. For two Sundays, members of the congregation donated money to Lynn and Adam as they continue their stay at Hope Lodge and the Hershey Medical

Center.

Pastor Elkin personally delivered our prayers and our donations to them. They were sincerely moved by and grateful for our outreach at this difficult time in their lives.



ADULT COOKIE BAKE



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:00 am - ?

Look for the sign-up lists!

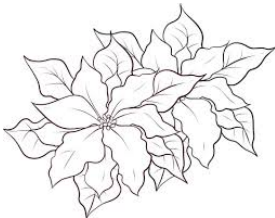
X-TREME BAKING & FLOUR FLINGING!

Cookies are then shared among the bakers and with our shut-ins. Come and join us for this very special, once-a-year activity!

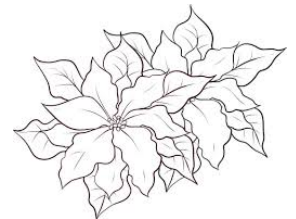
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Enclosed with this copy of the Lion is an envelope for ordering Christmas flowers.

- * *Flowers may be dedicated in honor or memory of a special loved one.*
- * *You may also give a monetary gift towards relieving local hunger or towards other decorations to be used in the Nave.*
- * *These gifts may also be dedicated.*



Please have all orders in the church office
by December 13th!



Lutheran Shared Ministry



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

LSM meetings are open to leaders and laypersons from our local Lutheran congregations. Their next meeting is Tuesday, January 26th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., in our Middle Lounge.

SafeChurch Facilitator Training

During the third week of October, Donna Clark and Bernadette Jones participated in a three-day training seminar provided by Samaritan Counseling Center in Lancaster. While there, they met with others of different faith backgrounds, but all had one goal: providing a safe environment for our children.

The training began at 8:15 each morning and ended at 5:00 pm, with a one-hour lunch break. Morning and afternoon sessions focused on different aspects of Child Sexual Abuse and its impacts, adult survivors and healing, sexual offenders and the “grooming” process, mandated reporting, responding to disclosures, pastoral care of victims and offenders, making our facility safer, policy development, and spiritual issues (including forgiveness).

It was informative, emotional, spiritual, and not a little overwhelming for them. There was “homework” each evening...the first night composing a theological framing statement for our protection policy, the second



night was writing a paper about the urgency of people of faith becoming leaders in the preventing child sexual abuse.

During the coming year, they will be calling on the people of St. Mark's to make a commitment to dealing with this issue.

A team of 3-6 people will need to commit to attending six training sessions with teams from other congregations. A committee dedicated solely to child protection will need to be put in place.

As Lutherans, we are called on to “...faithfully care for them (the children) and help them in every way as God gives opportunity...” This quote is from the LBW in the service for Holy Baptism. Many will probably feel that St. Mark's does not have this problem and, therefore, doesn't need to get this involved. But, as Luke 12:48 says, “...to whom much is given, much shall be required...”

Daniel's Closet at Redeemer Lutheran Church

Saturday, December 19, 2015

(This date is one week earlier due to Christmas.)

9:00am – 11:00am



Clothes, jackets, coats, boots and shoes in good condition for the entire family are needed this month at Daniel's Closet. They are especially in need of children's clothing, plus size clothing for men and women and shoes and boots for children and adults. Gently used blankets, afghans and throws are also needed. Donations may be taken to Redeemer Lutheran Church on Thursday, December 17th from 4:30 p.m. -6:00 p.m. for distribution that Saturday. If the drop-off date is inconvenient for you, Michele Owen has graciously volunteered to take any clothing dropped off at St. Mark's to Redeemer.



CROP WALK

"We walk because they walk."



Thank you to all who walked and donated for the CROP walk on October 11th. Together we reached our goal of raising \$900.00!! We enjoyed another day of beautiful weather and fellowship while we stopped along the way and prayed for those we were walking to help. We made one more step to Help Stop Hunger. We hope you can walk with us next year!



Thinking Ahead to 2016...

On March 6, 2016, we will host the seventh annual Iron Chef Williamsport competition, one of the largest fundraisers for Family Promise...

And you can join our team, too!

How? By:

- ✦ Tell your friends and neighbors
- ✦ Pray for the volunteers and for those who need Family Promise
- ✦ Stuff envelopes
- ✦ Hang posters in places you frequent in the course of your days
- ✦ Hand out flyers at your clubs or civic organizations
- ✦ Make phone calls from the comfort of your home

It takes much more than kitchen work to make this event successful. Iron Chef Williamsport is one of the better ways we have of going outside the four walls of St. Mark's, involving the community, and providing for those less fortunate than we.

So, what can you do?



The News in our Pews

On Veterans' Day Wednesday Harold and I had to travel to Mahanoy City for a Diakon board meeting. Getting there by way of route 42 was an experience in itself but what impressed us was the outpouring of support for our veterans. Every restaurant had a free offer for those who have served and we saw lots of men in uniform, some from many years ago but still a fit! Our own Ray Huff has spent the last twelve years visiting the fourth grade at Lyter Elementary School talking about veterans and military affairs. It is a good thing to remember the sacrifices so many made for us and our freedom.

It was nice to catch a glimpse of Dottie Bingaman celebrating her longevity with others at The Williamsport Home apartments – Dottie is amazing at 100 – she was amazing in past years and is still looking good!

A further note about Alice Alt – her employers and coworkers at the proposed Marshalls' Museum in Arkansas have glowing reports of her dedication and commitment to seeing this project completed. Alice says she adores the project and has fallen in love with western Arkansas. She wakes up every day eager to continue with her work – those of us who remember Alice are not at all surprised.

Little Lambs preschool had their annual Harvest Party and Parade and were featured prominently in the Sun Gazette.

Diana Zeigler reports that both Laura and Anna have been selected to perform with Les Chanteuses, a small musical group at WAHS.

And last some notes from our secretary, Laura, about news from Loyalsock High School. Taylor and Sadie Wentzel and Gracie Schreckengast just finished

their marching band season (Sadie spinning flags in the color guard, and Taylor and Gracie playing in the mellophone (marching French horn) section. After a summer full of practices and band camps, they have performed at all the high school football games and had competitions almost every weekend since the end of September. Their biggest achievements were winning first place at the TOB Chapter Championships, and participating in the TOB Atlantic Coast Championships in Hershey (returning home at 3 a.m. Mon. morning), and a fourth place at the Cavalcade Championship in Hershey in November. They love the hard work, friendships, and especially the Candy-Grams which they receive at competitions!

Gracie is also a member of the girls' soccer team - they've had a successful season and as this goes to press, will be playing for the State Championship in Hershey! Gracie is the varsity team's keeper and somehow keeps her cool even when the other team is barreling straight at her at high speeds - she has the bruises to prove it, but she usually keeps the ball out of her team's goal. Congratulations to Gracie and the Lady Lancers' Soccer team!

Gather up your news for next month and send it along and have a blessed Thanksgiving!

~Joyce Anne Hershberger

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

Share the Warmth!

THE TREES ARE UP AWAITING TO BE DECORATED...

Please bring in hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, and socks to Fellowship Hall. The trees are ready & waiting for YOU!

All donations will be donated locally to those in need.

Thank You!



United Churches of Lycoming County

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS CURRENTLY NEEDED:

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

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

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

Castellano Center
320 Park Ave.,
Williamsport, PA

Wednesday Ecumenical Lunches

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

DECEMBER

12/2- Rev. Gwen Bernstine and Mrs. Patty Gohrs, Staff,
United Churches *"Enjoying Your Christmas
Greetings to the Fullest"*

12/9- To Be Announced

12/16- *Here We Are A Caroling*



Our 24 hour Devotion Line
is available to encourage you
in your relationship with God.
Devotions are under three minutes
and change weekly.
Call 570-322-5762 anytime!

Calling all teens!



Teen movie night!
Sunday, December 27th at 6:00pm for
a Christmas Movie Celebration
Spread the word—hope to see you there!

Ongoing Collections



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

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



Youth Encounter Weekend



January 29-30, 2015

Pittsburgh, PA

Early Bird registration December 1, 2015

\$144 (\$164 then 'til 12/18, \$184 after that)



Performing: Wes Halula

Wes is best known for his "day job" as one of the members of HappyFunTime, an improvisational and sketch comedy troupe. Wes desperately wants to see the world the way God sees it. He wants to love people the way God loves them. And he'll never pass up the opportunity to tell people just how much God has done for us.



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

2016 Offering Envelopes

Beginning Sun. Dec. 6th, offering envelopes for 2016 will be available in the Narthex.

**Offering
Envelopes**



*Please help us save postage by taking yours
and the envelopes of anyone you know who is a shut-in.*

**End of year note: All contributions for 2015 must be in the
Church Office by December 31st!**

UPCOMING MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

***There are a number of wonderful musical events being held over the next
weeks...here are just a few:***

- Tue. Dec. 1 - The Repasz Band Holiday - 7:30PM - Community Arts Center*
- Wed. Dec. 2 - Loyalsock HS Holiday Concert - 7:30PM Loyalsock HS Auditorium*
- Fri. Dec. 4 - Williamsport Chamber Choir - 7:30PM in our Nave*
- Sun. Dec. 12 - Williamsport Civic Chorus - 3PM in our Nave*
- Sun. Dec 20 - Williamsport Area Band, Orchestra, & Choir "Hoo-Ha" - 3pm*



Special Concerns List

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

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

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

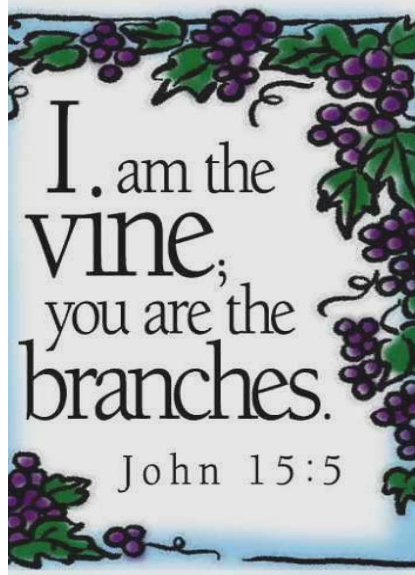
Dottie Bingaman
Williamsport Home, C1004
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

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

Marie Byerly
Loyalsock Creek -
Rehabilitation & Nursing
Home - Room 547
1445 Sycamore Rd.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Hugh Byerly
1625 Ritchey St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

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



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

Charlotte Hughes
140 Blueberry Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701

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

Carol McMorris
330 Forest Hills Circle
Prescott, AZ 86303

Robert Miller
947 Hepburn St.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Kay Poliska
1100 Allen St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Elizabeth Ruesskamp
Rose View Center
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Robert Swartz
1522 Country Club Lane
Williamsport, PA 17701

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

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

LUNCH 'n FELLOWSHIP



Wednesday, December 16th at Noon

- Serving Beef Stroganoff

- Enjoy lunch and a Movie!

Happy Birthday!

12/01 Maria Elkin	12/15 Richard Hafer	12/19 Zachery Zimmerman
12/01 Sara Jones	12/15 Lyndsi Stugart	12/20 Clint Eppleman
12/03 Beth Fillnow	12/16 Betty Kaufman	12/22 Daryl Lewis
12/03 David McMorris	12/16 Lucille Weaver	12/23 Edith Anderson
12/03 Edgar Miller Jr.	12/17 Derek Gilbert	12/23 Judith Fortin
12/03 Robert Miller	12/17 Marlene Vollmer	12/24 Patti Drake
12/04 David Elkin	12/18 Ryan Clokey	12/24 Holly Thorne
12/06 David Gilbert	12/18 Michael Jensen	12/26 Hannah Ramsauer
12/07 Brittany Lynch	12/18 William Waldeisen	12/28 Helen Schramm
12/07 Laura Schreckengast	12/19 Kurtis Caster	12/30 Amalie Robertson
12/09 Emma Elkin	12/19 Martha Hopler	12/31 Cynthia Huff
12/11 Orion Snyder	12/19 Gladys Knauss	
12/12 Ernest Larson	12/19 Fred Thayer	
12/13 Megan Catino		

Happy Anniversary!

12/21 Thomas & Becky Miller Pryor
12/29 Joseph & Rachel Reiter



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!



Calendars from Youth Still Available!



Our youth still have some of the scripture, full-color, heavyweight wall calendars available! The cost is \$7.

Proceeds will go toward their trip to the Youth Quake & Zone in January, and to the ongoing collection for Project Heifer.

Thank You for supporting our youth!

St. Mark's DECEMBER Calendar of Events

Tue December 1, 2015

8:00am City Pastors
9:00am Morning Prayer
7:30pm Repasz Band Concert at CAC

Wed December 2, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
11:30am Mid-day prayers for Advent
1:15pm Pericope Study
7:00pm WCCO Orchestra rehearsal

Thu December 3, 2015

6:31am Men's Ministry
9:00am Morning Prayer
6:30pm Girl Scout Meeting
7:00pm Choir
7:00pm WCCO rehearsal



Fri December 4, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
7:30pm WCCO Concert in the Nave

Sun December 6, 2015

Advent 2

8:00am Holy Communion
9:00am Special Congregational meeting
- budget
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
10:30am Enrollment for the Way
11:30am Special Congregational meeting
- budget
12:15pm The Way



Mon December 7, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:00am Pastor at STS retreat
7:00pm Civic Chorus/Nave
7:30pm Bell Choir

Tue December 8, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer

2:00pm Pastor returns from retreat
6:00pm Selinsgrove Center

Wed December 9, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
11:30am Mid-day prayers for Advent
1:15pm Pericope Study
6:30pm Personnel Committee

Thu December 10, 2015

6:31am Men's Ministry
9:00am Morning Prayer
5:30pm Redeemer Community Meal
6:30pm Girl Scout Meeting
7:00pm Choir

Fri December 11, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Civic Chorus/Nave



Sat December 12, 2015

Lion Article Deadline

8:00am Adult Cookie Bake
9:00am Civic Chorus/Nave
5:00pm Kids Night Out

Sun December 13, 2015

Advent 3

8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
10:30am Children's Church
11:45am Luncheon & Caroling
3:00pm Civic Chorus Concert & Reception



Mon December 14, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
7:30pm Bell Choir

DECEMBER Calendar of Events continued

Wed December 16, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
11:30am Mid-day prayers for Advent
12:00pm Lunch N' Fellowship

Thu December 17, 2015

6:31am Men's Ministry
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:30am Stephen Ministry
10am Little Lambs Christmas Tea
11am Little Lambs Christmas Tea
4:30pm Daniel's Closet Drop Off
6:30pm Girl Scout meeting
7:00pm Choir



Fri December 18, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Lion Crew
10am Little Lambs Christmas Tea
11am Little Lambs Christmas Tea

Sat December 19, 2015

9:00am Daniel's Closet Clothing
Giveaway

Sun December 20, 2015

Advent 4
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
12:00pm Decorate Nave & Luncheon
6:00pm Confirmands Mtg./Meal



Mon December 21, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
7:30pm Bell Choir

Tue December 22, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed December 23, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Staff Meeting & Quilting
11:30am Mid-day prayers for Advent

Thu December 24, 2015

Christmas Eve

9:00am Morning Prayer
7:00pm Family Service
10:00pm Candlelight service

Fri December 25, 2015

Christmas Day



Sun December 27, 2015

St. John's Day, 3rd Day of Christmas

8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Gathering in Fellowship Hall
10:30am Holy Communion
3:00pm Remembrance Service
6:00pm Teen Movie Night

Mon December 28, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Flower Delivery

Tue December 29, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed December 30, 2015

9:00am Morning Prayer

Thu December 31, 2015

New Year's Eve

9:00am Morning Prayer



Enclosed with this copy of the Lion is an envelope for ordering Christmas flowers.

Flowers may be dedicated in honor or memory of a special loved one.

You may also give a monetary gift towards relieving local hunger or towards other decorations to be used in the Nave.

These gifts may also be dedicated.

Please have all orders in the church office by December 18th, preferably before.