

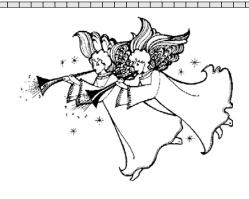
## THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

**DECEMBER 2017** 

### **ADVENT SERVICES**

Sunday, Dec. 3, 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion Mon—Wed, Dec. 4-20, 4:00pm Advent Vespers Wed, Dec. 6, 11:30am Advent service—Chapel Saturday, Dec. 9, 6:00pm Evening Svc.—Chapel Sunday, Dec. 10, 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion Wed, Dec. 13, 11:30am Advent service—Chapel Saturday, Dec. 16, 6:00pm Evening Svc.—Chapel Sunday, Dec. 17, 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion Wed, Dec. 20, 11:30am Advent service—Chapel Saturday, Dec. 23, 6:00pm Evening Svc.—Chapel Sunday, Dec. 23, 6:00pm Evening Svc.—Chapel Sunday, Dec. 24, 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion





## CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00 pm
Family Service with
Holy Communion

10:00 pm Christmas Service with Holy Communion

Please share both the preparation and the joy of the season with us as often as you wish. A meal will be served after the Wednesday services. We offer an extended hospitality between services on Christmas Eve.



### INDEX & UPDATE

Inside This Issue:	
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS Worship Schedule	
December Activity Highlights	1
Council Highlights	2
Parish Register	2
Parish RegisterStaff & Officers Contact Information	2
Staff Office Hours	2
From Pr. West	3
Holiday Lunch'n'Fellowship	3
A Belated Thank youSix Week Ecumenical Study & Deiscussion	3
Six Week Ecumenical Study & Deiscussion	3
News from the Pews	4
Reverse Advent Reminder	4
Operation Christmas Child	4
Help with a Senior ProjectCHRISTMAS CAROLING	5
CHRISTMAS CAROLÍNG	5
Christmas for Selinsgrove & Danville	5
ACOLYTE SCHEDULE	5
BLOOD DRIVE	6
FINALS WEEK SURVIVAL KITS	6
Advent Wreaths & MITTEN TREES	6
ADULT COOKIE BAKE/KIDS NIGHT OUT	
Thank Yous	7
Quilt Helpers Needed	7
Family Promise UpdateREMEBRANCE SERVICE	7
REMEBRANCE SERVICE	8
DECORATING THE NAVE	8
CHRISTMAS EVE HOSPITALITY	_
Food Pantry/Devotion Line/Stamps & Tabs	
Redeemer's Daniel's Closet & Comm. Supper	
Breakfast w/ Santa & Mrs. Claus	
Active Shooter Response Training	
Childrens' Church	9
Additional Worship Services during Advent	9
UCLC News	.10
FPLC Day Center Needs	.10
Special Concerns/Birthdays/Anniversaries	.11
CALENDAR 12 &	13

"It is a great comfort to us that Jesus took upon himself our nature and flesh." ~Martin Luther

### **STAFF OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor: The Rev. James West

Sun-Wed 8 a.m.-1 p.m. & by appointment

Sexton: Lou DeSeau

Sun - Thurs 5:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Parish Musician: Christian Humcke

Sun/Mon/Wed mornings; Mon/Thu evenings

Financial Secretary: Graydon Yearick

Mon & Wed 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Youth & Family: Bernadette Jones

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri 10 a.m.—1 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.—1p.m. & by arrangement

Youth & Family: Michele Owen

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Secretary: Laura Schreckengast Mon-Fri 9 a.m—1 p.m.

### **Council Notes**

The congregational council met on Monday, November 20, 2017, because of the holiday, both those notes and December's will appear in January's newsletter.

## COUNCIL REPORTS DUE DEC. 10 **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE DECEMBER 12**

"How is it possible for man to hear of greater joy than that Christ has been given to him as his own. The angel does not only say Christ is born, but that he makes his birth our own by saying 'to you a Savior' ... Of what benefit would it be to me if Christ had been born a thousand times, and it would daily be sung into my ears in a most lovely manner, if I were never to hear that he was born for me and was to be my very own."

~ Martin Luther

### Church Office 323-4619 Fax 323-2452 Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org Main e-mail: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Rev. James West, Pastor

jwest@stmarkswilliamsport.org 949-212-8644

Christian Humcke, Dir. of Music Bernadette Jones, Youth & Fam. Michele Owen, Christian Ed. Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec. Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.

chumcke@stmarkswilliamsport.org bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Laura Schreckengast, Parish Sec. Harold Hershberger, Council President

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org deermountain2@comcast.net home 570-322-0410

Mel Wentzel, Vice-President Karen Boone, Secretary Jackie Kinney, Treasurer Todd Smith, Director, The Way Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry Michele Fredericks, Parish Life Deb Maggs, Family Promise

home 570-327-8286 570-995-5107

jskinney1@yahoo.com tsmith@southerntioga.org 570-433-0522

michele.l.fredericks@gmail.com tfdjmaggs@aol.com or 570-322-8109

donnaelkin@gmail.com or 570-323-7367 (home) or 570-419-2949 (cell)

kathykolb@kolbnetworks.net 570-494-6637

Kathy Kolb, Prayer Chain Sally Bjornstad, Altar Flowers

Donna Elkin, Family Promise



# Holiday Lunch 'N Fellowship!

This month, we continue to invite others to share in a meal and Fellowship. Chicken & Biscuits in on the menu. After the meal, we will sing some carols and watch a classic holiday film.

Our Lunch 'N Fellowship is every 3rd Wednesday of the month at noon—this month, December 20<sup>th</sup>. The entrée this month is chicken & biscuits. Won't you join us as we break bread together?

\*\*\*\*\*

A Belated Thank You

A summary of some of the Reformation 500 Activities appeared in last month's Lion, but did not highlight several individuals and their contribution to the meaningful observations we enjoyed. A heartfelt thank you goes out to these committee members: Jake Comerford, Leah Haussmann, Vicki Haussmann, Cindy Huff, Becky Miller Pryor, Pr. West, Cheryl Williams, Dave Williams, Lou Ann Zeigler, and Ralph Zeigler. Thank you for your ideas and insights, willing hearts, and desire to serve the congregation here and our larger community. It was a pleasure working with you all and marking the historic milestone with a variety of events that added depth and meaning to my October.

In addition, kudos to all those who provided the beautiful music on Reformation Sunday; thank you to Christian Humcke, the Chanel Choir, and the Bell Choir for sharing your gifts with us all.

~Audrey Comerford

Dear Friends of St. Mark's,

Grace and peace.

As I mentioned several sermons ago after one of our national tragedies,

"If you're like me, you can probably say ahead of time what you and I are going to hear from the experts who are featured on the various news and talk shows." It is my prayer for you this December that you will be the Christ whose

birth is celebrated on the 25<sup>th</sup> rather than get caught up in the annual conversations about

- a) the commercialization of Christmas
- b) the need to put Christ back into Xmas,
- c) is it okay to say Merry Christmas in public?
- d) displays on public property and so on.

Our time, eternal as it is, and fleeting as it is at the same time, is better spent being the people God has made us through his Son via the Holy Spirit's work of making us holy as well. And while we prepare ourselves for Jesus' arrival, past, present and future, may I suggest that you meditate on Luther's Larger Catechism. We have copies in the office. If you have a computer, you can seek, knock and find it in many online locations. Only knock as a last resort, computers have feelings, too.

Pray for me as I pray for you, always,

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor James West

6 Week Ecumenical Study and Discussion

### From Conflict to Communion

"We invite all Christians to study the report of our Commission both open-mindedly and critically, and to come with us along the way to a deeper communion of all Christians."

~ from the Forward

Wednesdays at 7pm January 3 thru Feb 7, 2018 Perkins' on Via Bella (in the back room)

Free PDF download at:

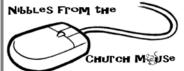
https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/From%20Conflict%20to%
20Communion.pdf

Contact Audrey at <u>ar-graft@live.com</u> with questions or for more information



"The right and gracious faith that God demands is that you firmly believe that Christ was born for you, and that his birth took place for your welfare."

~ Martin Luther



The winds of November blow cold, dark CHUTCH MSUSe seems to come earlier and earlier, and it is a

good time to cuddle up with a nice fire and a book or a project but duty still calls and the mouse does have a few items to share with you.

I think the first person ever to be featured in a huge headline in the Sun-Gazette - our own Gracie Schreckengast in a large banner headline after she recorded her 40th shutout as goalie for the Loyalsock soccer team. Their loss in the playoffs does nothing to diminish that accomplishment. Disappointing, but Gracie, ever the optimist, wants to devote her energies to organizing a quidditch team – is it possible to play the game if one cannot fly - stay tuned!

Other big news in the Schreckengast family was the arrival of Jacob home for two weeks on leave. After graduating from Navy Corpsman School (where he was named to the Dean's list) he was in holding in San Antonio for three weeks. He did get to "Remember the Alamo" after weeks of walking past it, thinking it was in the middle of the desert. He was happy to spend two weeks with family and friends and sang in the choir. He is excited to spend the next two years in Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan working at the largest naval base overseas. Good luck, Jacob!

Loyalsock Marching Band, with Taylor and and Jonah and Gracie Sadie Wentzel Schreckengast, just finished their competitive marching season and earned their highest placement ever with a first place at the Cavalcade of Bands Championship American Div. A at Hershey.

Ben and Hannah Haussmann are members of the WAHS marching band - the band had a great season (repeatedly beating Loyalsock in Tournament of Bands competition which they faced each other.)

The high honor roll included Sadie and Taylor and Jonah and Gracie at Loyalsock. Sean Jensen was named to the honor roll as well.

Taylor is playing first horn with the Youth Symphony of the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra.

Ben Haussmann was awarded one of two

leadership awards presented by the Army at one of the football games. The awards are given in recognition of leadership, dedication, commitment and teamwork at WAHS.

And last of all, received a note from John Goertz, a former member of St. Mark's and now living out of the area. He reports that the hymn A Mighty Fortress is our God was played three weeks before the dedication of the organ by a nationally known performer named Virgil Fox, a longtime friend of Fred Snell, our longtime organist.

Stay warm, have a blessed Thanksgiving and keep in touch!

Joyce Hershberger

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*



The Outreach Committee and the Christian Education Committee would like to thank you for your support of Operation Christmas Child throughout this past year.

Due to your generous donations, we were able to pack 36 shoeboxes which will be sent out to children in need all around the world.

In December, we will continue to collect \$9.00 donations. This \$9.00 helps defray the cost of shipping, but also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets. This material is written in each child's language and distributed along with shoebox gifts. It is our prayer that each child who receives a shoebox gift may see the love of God through the tangible items included.

Thank you again for your support of this worldwide ministry. We look forward to working with you again in 2018! \*\*\*\*\*

### REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Each day you add an item to the box and on Christmas Eve you

bring it to church.



### Can You Help Me?

For my senior project I am collecting snacks for Sojourner Truth Ministries. The snacks are for their After-School Program, they feed over 150 children in need on a daily basis, Monday through Friday.

There will be a tote in the Narthex for anyone to donate snacks. Once a month, or when the tote is full, I will take the snacks to the Ministry.

They ask there be no candy or soda. Items would preferably be individually wrapped but don't have to be. Any full-sized items, such as chips are placed in snack bags. You may bring in things like juice boxes, cookies, crackers and fruit snacks. They also use any size baggies: snack, sandwich, quart and gallon. This will help the Ministry as they are always low on snacks.

Sincerely, Dawson Owen

# CHRISTMAS CAROLING IS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

We need three to four carloads of carolers to visit our Special Concern folks and others we do not see as often as we would like. We will be taking fresh baked cookies and sharing a few Christmas carols at each stop.



A LUNCHEON BEGINS
THE AFTERNOON OF
CAROLING TO OUR
SHUT-INS. WE SERVE
THE MEAL IMMEDIATE-

LY AFTER THE SECOND SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10.

## Acolyte Schedule

### **DECEMBER SCHEDULE:**

December 3 Gabriella & Hannah

December 10 Elizabeth & Evan December 17 Dylan & Stefan

December 24 9:30am: Lynna & Sean

7:00pm: Grace & Jonah

10:00pm: Gillian, Taylor & Sadie

December 31 Dawson & Owen

## Calling St. Mark's Elves

Our annual Christmas party for the 14 ladies of CM-6 at the Selinsgrove Center is only days away! We are in need of pudding cups in all flavors, body wash, and money to offset the cost of the slipper socks. We also gift the caregivers with holiday cookies and fresh fruit for their break room and need those items as well.

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

Monetary donations may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Selinsgrove Party."

On <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 3</u>, <u>2017</u> we will enjoy a light lunch after the late service and <u>at 1:00</u> <u>PM carpool to Selinsgrove</u>. 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 this year for both men and women include socks, gloves, hats and scarves, pajamas, nightgowns, packs of batteries (size AA and AAA), inexpensive wallets and watches. Sizes for both men and women are large and up.

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 10, 2017.

Thank you for any assistance you are able to give. Becky Miller Pryor is the contact person for these projects.



## **BLOOD DRIVE**

St. Mark's will once again be hosting a blood drive on Friday, December 15th, 2017 from 11am—3pm in Fellowship Hall.

Please look for sign-up information in the near future in the narthex or if you have any questions please contact

Michele at mowen@stmarkswilliamport.org or go to <a href="http://www.redcrossblood.org/">http://www.redcrossblood.org/</a>

## \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* Sharing in the Caring

As it is written, "He scatters abroad, He gives to the poor; His righteousness endures forever. He who supplies the seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." II Corinthians 9:9-12.

## Ongoing Collections at St. Mark's:

United Churches Food Bank: Non-perishable food items are always in need.

Shepherd of the Streets: Hygiene items in regular sizes including diapers (size 5) and items for infants.

Bazaar Room: The Women of St. Mark's need your items for our 2018 sale.



# FINALS WEEK SURVIVAL

We are sending these out on December 4!

Last minute addressees or donations are needed now.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### ADVENT WREATH MAKING

We are sorry, but this event was moved to November 26th because of a scheduling conflict with Fellowship Hall. We hope everyone who wanted to was able to come.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

THE MITTEN TREES ARE UP AND WAITING TO BE DECORATED with mittens, gloves, hats, scarves,

and socks! Please stop in Fellowship Hall and add your gift to the

trees. The socks, mittens, gloves, and hats will be given to area families in need.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## ADULT COOKIE BAKE

SAT., DEC. 10, 8:00 am -? X-TREME BAKING & FLOUR FLINGING!



Bring a favorite recipe and any special ingredients that it requires (flour, sugar, eggs and butter are provided). Cookies are shared among the bakers and with those we visit while caroling the next day.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## KIDS' NIGHT OUT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

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 holidays! the Look for the signup list!



Dear Friends.

Thank you so much for your contributions. God will surely bless you for your generosity. Without you, we could not do what we are doing for the poor.

I hope you know how much we need your help and how much we appreciate each and every donation.

God bless you. You are in my VVVV prayers every day.

Sincerely in Christ, Sister Henry St. Anthony's Center

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## Love is the Thread that Binds Us

The Quilting Ladies are seeking additional people to join in making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. In 2016 they were able to sew 76 quilts. But due to illnesses and surgeries only 57 quilts were sewn this year. There are tasks for every level of sewing skill. If you can tie a knot you can quilt. Speak with Shirley Hill or Becky Miller Pryor to learn more.

## FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Thank you to the many volunteers who assisted with our most recent week of hosting for Family Promise, October 29 through November 5. We were supported once again by folks from 1st Presbyterian Church. Although Bethel Presbyterian folks planned to assist on October 31st the two families opted to go trick or treating and services were not needed from the Bethel folks. It was a whirlwind week with the number of families/children changing several times. family left the program on Monday after securing housing. On Friday we received a call and accepted a family of 8! Although it was a challenge to accommodate all the needs, we appreciate everyone's patience in serving these families who are in crisis and struggling to care for their children.

As most of you know, this was the last time

that Donna Elkin and I will serve as coordinators for the program. Deb Buckman has agreed to be one of the coordinators and other folks are considering being a coordinator along with Deb. Vicki Haussmann and Phil Thomas have agreed to continue in their roles of scheduling evening hosts and transportation, respectively. Sally Bjornstad has been responsible for arranging the "set up and take down" for the hosting weeks. Training is being planned for the new coordinators and any volunteers who were never trained or could benefit from a refresher.

It has been a privilege to serve in this capacity and we look forward to the continued support by our congregation.

~ Debbie Maggs

\*\*\*\*\*

St. Marks Family,

We have felt tremendous love and fellowship over the many years we have called St. Mark's our Lutheran home. Thank you for your support in walking with all of us in our faith journey.

> Peace and love, The Hopler Family Alona, Alona Ann, and Marti

On Saturday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup>, the 6:00 service was one of farewell to Alona. She has moved to Allentown to live with her daughter. Hospitality was served in Fellowship Hall, where those who attended had the opportunity to chat with Alona before she left.



Farewell and Godspeed, Alona!



The Remembrance Service is a reflective, quiet time during which we remember those whom we especially miss at this time of year.

Names of the deceased are read as a candle is lit for each of them. An ornament is given to the family member or friend who requested a loved one's name to be included in the service.

A light treat, coffee, or tea is shared in the Nave immediately following.

Please notify the office by Wednesday, December 13th of any names you wish to be included during the service.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

On Sunday. December 24, directly after the 10:30 service. we will decorate the nave for Christmas.

We are in a crunch time this year because the fourth Sunday of Advent is Christmas Eve.

Trees have to be decorated (they will have been put up some time, the aisle torches set in their holders, the Nativity brought out, the wreath hung (and the previous one taken out!).

To give us energy for the tasks at hand, soup and bread will be available in the kitchen for all those helping—to be eaten as our schedule permits.

Many hands make light work. So, please, stick around after church to help out—we all would like to get home in time to relax a little!



### CHRISTMAS EVE HOSPITALITY

Many of us participate in both the 7:00 and the 10:00 services on Christmas Eve. A few years ago, we began the tradition of of bringing in some snacks to share. Well, it's grown a little bit...just a bit!

Folks are welcome to stay late after the early service or come early to the late service—either way, it's a time of celebration!

Donations of favorite holiday treats are welcome. Please sign up for this outside the Youth & Family offices.

## **FOOD PANTRY HOURS:**

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

Tuesdays/Thursdays from 10

clients by appointment only 570-322-1657

Castellano Center 320 Park Ave., Williamsport, PA

**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!

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 electricity, maintenance, etc. Tabs can be dropped off in the narthex or in the clear

container in Fellowship Hall.

## Daniel's Closet this is one week earlier Due to Christmas.

(Free Seasonal Clothing) on Saturday, December. 16th from 9:00 – 11:00 AM (Donated clothing may be dropped off on December 14th from 4:30-6:00 PM)

Free Community Supper All Are Welcome

Redeemer Lutheran Church Thursday, December 14, 2017 5:30 – 6:30 PM



Join us for breakfast! We'll have pancakes, plus arts and crafts stations—and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus!

Sponsored by Camp Mount Luther and Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village

Diakon's Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village and Camp Mount Luther are teaming up to provide a fun morning of food, fellowship, and Christmas crafts and games on Saturday, December 9, 2017. The breakfast will feature an appearance and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, chocolate chip pancakes, craft stations, and cut-out cookies. Space is limited. Call Gretchen at 570-523-4285 to RSVP. The event will be from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village Common Building.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING DECEMBER 18 @ 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

In light of recent mass shooting events, church leaders have asked to have training in how to respond if an active shooter comes into the building. United Lutheran Seminary will offer this training at the Gettysburg campus December 18th led by the Safety & Security team of Gettysburg College.

This event is open to all interested persons who wish to receive such training. Questions can be directed to Chelle Huth, Director of Lifelong Learning, United Lutheran Seminary at <a href="mailto:chuth@uls.edu">chuth@uls.edu</a>. It is a busy time of year, but ULS wanted to offer this in a timely manner. Another training will be scheduled in the new year.

The Active Shooter Response Training will be held on Monday, December 18, 2017, from

10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m. at the Church of the Abiding Presence on the United Lutheran Seminary Gettysburg Campus. Cost is \$10 per person, payable at the door (reservations/registration not necessary).

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SUNDAY, Dec. 17, at 10:30 a.m., in the Chapel, is our next celebration of Children's Church.

The special offering that day is after-school snacks to go to Sojourners Truth fro their after school program.



WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT,
PLEASE JOIN US FOR MID-DAY PRAYER
AT 11:30, BEGINNING DECEMBER 6.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Service will be followed by lunch at noon.



## **ADVENT VESPERS**

During Advent this year, on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday evenings at 4:00 we meet in the Chapel for Vespers. Please join us for this quiet service at the end of the day.

\*\*\*\*\*

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving! God bless you in a very special way this Thanksgiving!

Gratefully,

Sister Henry



### WEDNESDAY ECUMENICAL LUNCHES

Wednesday lunches at Pine St. UM have begun again: they serve 11:45 a.m. Lunch is \$6. Parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30. No reservations are necessary, but a call to the United Churches office 570-322-1110 if you are not a regular attender will help our caterer, Heidi, know how to prepare.

### **DECEMBER**'s programs:

6th Carl and Opal Schlappi, Old Time Gospel Duo, "Celebrating the Christmas Season"

13th Mr. Brian Spies, Art To Go Instructor, "Bringing an Art Cart to our Neighborhoods"

20th Dr. Charles Getchell, Bringing handbells and music for singing "Carol Ring"

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Here is a recap of our busy month of October... There were five on-campus Bible Studies, four Jesus and Java coffee hours, a "God is Big" on campus event, an Open House and we were present at the Out of the Darkness Walk. None of these events would be possible without the support of all of you!



Special thanks to our pastors this October...Pastor Stan (Christian Church of Cogan Station), Rick Taylor (New Life Orthodox

Presbyterian), Pastor Mark Brumbach (South Williamsport United Methodist Church) and Pastor Velinda (Sojourner Truth).

Cogan Station Christian Church and New Covenant United Church of Christ contributed supplies to our on campus event...outdoor games and a popcorn machine. Thank you both!

We handed out 6 cases of bottled water at the Suicide Awareness walk. Thank you to Patty for printing every single label for the bottled water, in addition to all of our weekly devotions for Jesus and Java and our church directories for the Open House! We keep her busy and she only shows us love!

Looking ahead, if anyone would be willing to contribute towards survival bags for finals week, please contact me at ucm@uclc.org.

Tammey Aichner, Coordinator, ucm@uclc.org

Lycoming Arts Alliance is looking to promote their new Art Cart and would like to present to various groups looking for a guest speaker. The Art2Go! Program is a mobile arts classroom providing structured creative outreach led by a certified arts instructor. It seeks to support organizations and community members who have identified a need to expose others to the imaginative and therapeutic powers of the arts. It is committed to sharing the fun dimension of the arts by providing opportunities to create for entertainment purposes. The Contact is Brian Spies, brianjamesspies@yahoo.com 443-977-8682.

Williamsport Music Club will present Christmas Music by Candlelight at the Pine Street United Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 4 pm. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Shepherd of the Streets ministries of United Churches.

Festival of Lessons & Carols will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 844 W 4th St, Wmspt. on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 4 pm. Modeled on the annual celebration at King's College, Cambridge, this service features nine readings (lessons) interspersed with traditional congregational hymns and carols. This event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 3:30 pm.

Handel's Messiah Sing-Along and Play-Along is being sponsored by the Williamsport Music Club on Dec. 30 at Pine Street United Methodist Church beginning at 7 p.m. Theodore Lentz will be the conductor of singers and instrumentalists in portions of Handle's "Messiah" with audience participation. Music scores will be provided. A \$10 donation will be accepted at the door.

### Family Promise Day Center Needs

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Liquid Fabric Softener
Q-Tips
Baby Soap, Baby Oil
Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo
Hair Brushes
Size 3 diapers

Child Toothbrush Steelwool/Brillo Pads Blankets and Pillows



### SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

### Patricia Alexander

Rose View Center 1201 Rural Ave., 223B Williamsport, PA 17701

### Edith Anderson

Rose View Center 1201 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

### Jane Angle

Leighton Place Sr. Lvg. Rm 206 1251 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

### Dottie Bingaman

Williamsport Home 1900 Ravine Rd. Williamsport, PA 17701

### **Dottie Burd**

Room 17, Ravine Ridge 1900 Ravine Rd. Williamsport, PA 17701

### Marie Byerly

Arista Care Nursing Ctr.Rm 547 1445 Sycamore Rd. Montoursville, PA 17754

### Art Decker

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

### Alona Hopler

2114 Riverbend Road Allentown, PA 18103

### Reba Jacobs

c/o Holly Carlson 36 Linden Lane Danville, PA 17821

### Carol McMorris

330 Forest Hills Circle Prescott, AZ 86303

### Ruth Pile

Wmspt Home Care Ctr #508A 1900 Ravine Road Williamsport, PA 17701

### Kay Poliska

1100 Allen St. Montoursville, PA 17754

### Ed Richner

1900 C Ravine Rd., Apt. 1218 Williamsport, PA 17701

### Elizabeth Ruesskamp

Rose View Center 1201 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701

### Carl Weaver

424 Wyndham Court Williamsport, PA 17701

### Elda Zeigler

Leighton Place Sr. Lvg. Apt. 209 1251 Rural Ave. Williamsport, PA 17701



### SPECIAL DAYS FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE!



12/1 Maria Elkin 12/1 Sara Jones

12/2 Rob Ott

12/3 Robert Miller

12/4 David Elkin

12/6 David Gilbert

12/7 Laura Schreckengast

12/9 Emma Elkin

12/12 Ernest Larson

12/15 Lyndsi Stugart 12/16 Betty Kaufman 12/17 Derek Gilbert 12/17 Marlene Vollmer 12/18 Ryan Clokey 12/18 Michael Jensen 12/19 Kurtis Caster 12/19 Martha Hopler 12/19 Gladys Knauss 12/19 Fred Thayer 12/22 Daryl Lewis

12/23 Edith Anderson 12/23 Judith Fortin

12/24 Holly Thorne

12/26 Hannah Ramsauer 12/30 Amalie Robertson 12/31 Cynthia Huff



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

### DECEMBER 2017

Friday December 1, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Publicity Committee

Sat December 2, 2017 6:00pm Evening Service-Chapel

Sun December 3, 2017
7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
1:00pm Christmas Party at
Selinsgrove Center
1:00pm Special Event FH

Mon December 4, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting 3:45pm Christian Education Comm. 4:00pm Advent Vespers 7:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh. in Nave

Tue December 5, 2017
9:00am Morning Prayer
1:00pm City Pastors' Lunch
4:00pm Advent Vespers
6:30pm Outreach

Wed December 6, 2017
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
11:29am Staff Meeting II
11:30am Advent service in chapel
12:00pm Ecum. Lunch, Pine St UM
12:00pm Advent luncheon
4:00pm Advent Vespers

**Thu December 7, 2017** 9:00am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Outreach Committee 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri December 8, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Civic Chorus Reh. in Nave Sat December 9, 2017
8:00am Adult Cookie Bake
5:00pm Kid's Night Out
6:00pm Evening Service-Chapel
7:00pm Civic Chorus concert Nave
8:30pm Civic Chorus reception FH

Sun December 10, 2017
Congregational Meeting
Council Agenda Due
7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
12:00pm Caroling Luncheon & visitations

Mon December 11, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Little Lambs staff lunch 4:00pm Advent Vespers 7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue December 12, 2017 Lion Article Deadline 9:00am Morning Prayer 4:00pm Advent Vespers

Wed December 13, 2017
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
11:29am Staff Meeting II
11:30am Advent service in chapel
12:00pm Ecum. Lunch, Pine St UM
12:00pm Advent luncheon
4:00pm Advent Vespers

Thu December 14, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:30am Stephen Ministry 4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-off 5:30pm Redeemer Comm. Meal 6:30pm Stephen Ministry 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri December 15, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 11:00am Red Cross Blood Drive

Sat December 16, 2017 Wreaths across America - Veterans 9:00am Daniel's Closet 6:00pm Evening Service-Chapel

Sun December 17, 2017
7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
10:30am Children's Church
3:00pm Remembrance Service

Mon December 18, 2017
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:30am Little Lambs Christmas Tea
10:03am Staff Meeting
4:00pm Advent Vespers
6:30pm Council Meeting
7:00pm Wmspt. Dog Training Club
7:00pm Bell Choir

Tue December 19, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:30am Little Lambs Christmas Tea 4:00pm Advent Vespers

Wed December 20, 2017
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
11:29am Staff Meeting II
11:30am Advent service in chapel
12:00pm Ecum. Lunch, Pine St UM
12:00pm Lunch 'n' Fellowship
4:00pm Advent Vespers

**Thu December 21, 2017** 9:00am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri December 22, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:20am Lion Crew



### DECEMBER 2017

Sat December 23, 2017 6:00pm Evening Service-Chapel

Sun December 24, 2017
7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
11:45am Decorate the Nave & lunch
7:00pm Christmas Eve Family Svc.

10:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Mon December 25, 2017 CHRISTMAS - Office Closed 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:45am Staff Meeting

Wed December 27, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:00am Quilters 11:29am Staff Meeting II 12:00pm Ecum. Lunch, Pine St UM

**Thu December 28, 2017** 9:00am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Fri December 29, 2017 9:00am Morning Prayer Sat December 30, 2017 6:00pm Evening Service-Chapel

Sun December 31, 2017 7:00am Morning Prayer 8:00am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion



