THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

JULY 2018

The Fourth of July Celebration Needs You!

Each year our Fourth of July celebration is enjoyed by hundreds of people. Please consider joining with us as we honor God and Country on this special day. Volunteers to set up, serve and clean up are still needed. Call Becky Miller Pryor at 570-971-4585 to volunteer.

Items that we still need include:

 Bags of individually wrapped candy (Smarties, Tootsie Rolls, Blow Pops, Suckers.)



- ★ Fruit Snacks
- ★ Bags of popping corn
- ★ Bottled water in 8 oz. and 16 oz. sizes
- ★ Mini bags of pretzels and Cracker Jacks
- ★ Trinkets / Kiddie prizes

Money to purchase additional supplies not donated (hot dogs, rolls, condiments, etc.)

Donated items can be placed in the tub in the Narthex. Checks can be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line designating Fourth of July.

Thank you for any help you can give.

Whether or not you can help, join us for the fireworks and festivities. It is always a fun time for the family.

As always, a program of patriotic music will be celebrated at 7:30 PM, this year featuring the Commonwealth Brass Quintet and tenor Nathan Fulkerson with accompanist/organist Theodore Lentz.

Acolyte Schedule

JUNE SCHEDULE:

- July 1 Sean Jensen
- July 8 Annika Waffenschmidt
- July 16 Owen Gair
- July 22 Hannah & Elizabeth
- July 29 Taylor Wentzel



FISHING DERBY!!!

Bud Doebler has once again graciously offered their pond and property for use for our fishing derby!

<u>This year, it will</u> <u>take place from</u> <u>12:00 until</u> <u>4:00 p.m. on</u> <u>Sunday, July 15!</u>



Meat and rolls will be provided, so please bring a dish to share and a drink. Prizes will be awarded! In addition to your own equipment, you might want to bring a lawn chair, too.

Please join us for this day of fun, fellowship and fishin'!





949-212-8644

chumcke@stmarkswilliamsport.org

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COUNCIL REPORTS DUE JULY 10

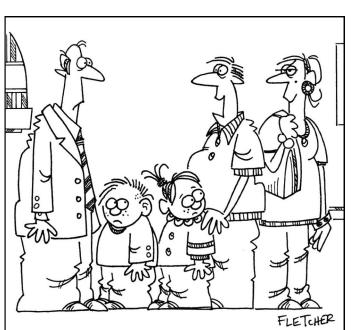
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE JULY 12

Our 24 hour Devotion Line

Have you called yet? The number is 570-322-5762. It's available 24 hours a day. Devotions change each weekday and once on the weekend, and are designed to lift your spirit and help you to have "A Closer Walk with God."

	Bernadette Jones, Youth & Fam.	bjones(@stmarkswilliamsport.org
STAFF OFFICE HOURS	Michele Owen, Christian Ed.	mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Pastor: The Rev. James West	Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec.	gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Sun-Wed 8 a.m1 p.m. & by appointment	Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.	
Sexton: Lou DeSeau		stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Sun - Thurs 5:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.	Harold Hershberger, Council Presider	
Parish Musician: Christian Humcke	-	home 570-322-0410
Sun/Mon/Wed mornings; Mon/Thu evenings	Mel Wentzel, Vice-President	home 570-327-8286
Financial Secretary: Graydon Yearick	Karen Boone, Secretary	570-995-5107
Mon & Wed 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	Jackie Kinney, Treasurer	jskinney1@yahoo.com
Youth & Family: Bernadette Jones	Todd Smith, Director, <i>The Way</i>	tsmith@southerntioga.org
Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri 10 a.m.—1 p.m.,	Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry	570-433-0522
Sun. 8 a.m.—1p.m. & by arrangement	Janet Jones, Parish Life	jgmacookie@comcast.net
Youth & Family: Michele Owen	, ,	
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri 10 a.m.—2 p.m.	Debra Buckman dbuckman@pct.	edu or dabuckman65@gmail.com
Secretary: Laura Schreckengast	Kathy Kolb, Prayer Chain	kathykolb@kolbnetworks.net
Mon-Fri 9 a.m—1 p.m.	Sally Biornstad, Altar Flowers	570-494-6637

Council Notes : The council had not yet met as the newsletter went to print.



"We're teaching our children the importance of regular church attendance . . . what time should we pick them up?"

Church Office 323-4619 Fax 323-2452 Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org Main e-mail: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org Rev. James West, Pastor jwest@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Christian Humcke, Dir. of Music J. 44 . I. **v**

July, 2018

Grace to you and peace.

My mind is a blank as I strike the keys on the laptop computer. I think that's a good thing. For most of my life my mind has been busy thinking up things to say. That's good, especially for a pastor who gets to proclaim the Word each Sunday and in daily conversations. It's possible that my mind is at rest. That's something new for me.

I'm headed to the annual Synod Assembly of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. We'll be telling stories about what and where God has been doing in our lives as congregations and individuals. Be sure to listen to the stories that Walt and Ben and Hannah Haussmann will bring back to us. This year's assembly is a bit different in that all the business will be addressed on Friday, so that Saturday can be a day of conversation. This time around, six more members of St. Mark's with join in that conversation: Grace and Ron Arner, Gregg and Kathleen Dancho, Walter "Bud" Doebler, and Lou DeSeau. Be sure to listen in to their stories, too.

I look forward to July's events, especially the Fourth of July celebration at the foot of the Market Street Bridge which is the congregation's front porch. It's one of the days of the year when there are hundreds if not thousands of conversations between members of St. Mark's and the Williamsport community. Again, listen in and remember to tell your stories of what God's been up to in your lives. People really want to know. Along with that, most people like to tell us what's going on in their lives as well.

Keep in mind the Lutheran insight that we are free in Christ Jesus. Jesus freed us from sin so that we can be free to serve others. Freed simply means turned outward from our former pre-occupation with self. Perhaps that is what is going on with me and why my mind is at rest. My hunch is that you know this, too.

Pray for me as I pray for you, always in Christ Jesus.

Pastor James West

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Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue

The conversation continues! Join us in early August at Perkins on Via Bella (in the back room); come early to share a meal together or just ar-Together in Christ rive for coffee, dessert, and discussion. All are welcome. An update will appear in the August LION.

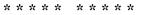
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Hello evervone!

The choir is off for the summer and I am looking for volunteers to play/sing during the offertory anthem each Sunday. If you would also like to play/ sing something for the prelude/postlude, that would be wonderful too. Let me know if you are interested, I would love to involve as many people as possible!

The best way to contact me is at







A very heartfelt thanks for all the sympathy cards when my son died recently. Your care and concern was very much appreciated. I am grateful for Pastor west's visits to the Gatehouse. They were a comfort to myself and my family. Sincerely, Ernestine Doane

* * * * * * * * * * *

Thank you so much for your support of our United Churches ministry, both financially and through your prayers.

Your contribution makes it possible for us to provide ministry in area institutions; to our community over the radio, TV, and newspaper; through the Shepherd Ministry and Food Pantry; and to work with churches in our county to do what we choose to do together.

> With a passion for unity, Gwen Bernstine

* * * * * * * * * * *

Ongoing Collections at St. Mark's:

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

Shepherd of the Streets: Hygiene items in regular sizes for infants, kids and adults. Also needed are disposable diapers and new or gently used towels and bedding.



KITS of CARE—Gifts from God

Imagine not having soap to wash your baby! Experiencing natural disasters, violence, or living in poverty is a way of life for many people. Ordinary items, such as pencil and paper or soap and a towel for a child, can make a difference for people who have nothing.

Summer sales in stores will begin soon. Bags for School Kits will be in the Narthex in July. Fill them with the school items listed and return them over the summer. Or, you may wish to make up Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, Fabric Kits, or donate soap bars. Kits of Care bring relief and hope!

All kits and soap bars are due by September 10th.

Put your faith into action!

School Kit

✓ 4 - 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½" (no loose-leaf paper)

- 1 30-centimeter ruler, or with centimeters and inches
- 1 pencil sharpener
- I blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 2½" eraser
- 1 sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new & in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close.

Personal Care Kit

1 light-weight bath-size towel (max. 52" X 27"), dark color



- 2 bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, wrapped
- 1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- I sturdy comb, remove packaging
- 1 metal nail clippers remove packaging

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

Fabric Kit



2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester).
Each piece should match one of the sizes below:

- $\,\,
 ightarrow\,$ 21⁄4 yards of 60" wide fabric, or
- > 3 yards of 44" wide fabric, or
- $\,\,
 ightarrow\,$ $\,$ 4 yards of 36" wide fabric
- $\, imes \,$ 2 spools of neutral-colored all
 - purpose thread, 250-300 yards

Fabric should have no stains or holes. Pieces do not need to match in size or color/pattern. Fold thread and one piece of fabric inside second fabric piece and tie with yarn, sturdy string, ribbon or a strip of fabric.



Layette Kit

2 lightweight cotton t-shirts
2 long- or short-sleeved
gowns or sleepers (without feet)

- 2 receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- 8 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- I jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pairs of socks
- B 2 bars of gentle soap (4-5 oz bars)
- I hand towel, dark color wrapped
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) or new. Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.

* * * * * * * * * *

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Only have a few hours a month? Consider becoming an Office Angel for Family Promise! Office Angels assist with answering phones, answering the door, taking messages and interacting with guests. Three flexible shifts available. Call our office at: 570-567-7103 today!

* * * * * * * * * *

Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.

~ Martin Luther



Transform Home Repair: First United Methodist Church Williamsport is again coordinating a local mission experience seeking to meet some of the practical needs in our community as the hands and feet of Jesus. Now in their sixth year it has grown to include repre-

sentatives from over 25 churches and has blessed the community with many home repair projects, landscaping and painting as well as things like cleaning, volunteering and serving. This year Transform will occur multiple times throughout the year. After April's, the next dates are August 2-4, and possibly a date to be announced in October or November. A home repair application (included in our supplement packet) can connect people and organizations in need. To connect volunteers contact Aaron Russell at arussell@firstchurch.cc.

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WE STILL NEED YOUR STUFF!

Summer is in full swing with many folks tackling projects around the house. If you are finding items you no longer need or want, the Women of St. Mark's will gladly accept them for their Fall Bazaar. Please be sure all donated items are clean, in good condition and working properly. Packing your items in small boxes is most helpful.

<u>This year's Fall Bazaar is on</u> <u>Saturday, September 8, 2018</u>. With your help it will be a success.



There is No Vacation from Hunger

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The Outreach Committee thanks the congregation for their generous support of our summer food and hygiene item drive for the United Churches Food Pantry and the Shepherd of the Streets' office. The bins are overflowing but we encourage more donations throughout the summer. Summertime is an exceptionally busy time at the Food Pantry and the Shepherd's office due to increased expenses for food and hygiene items for families with young children. The volunteers at the Food Pantry, the Shepherd's office and the families they serve are most grateful for your donations.

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Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given $us. \sim Martin Luther$

**** ***** THE NEED FOR FAMILY PROMISE

In 2002, a young mom arrived home from church with her two daughters to find that her husband had moved everything out of their apartment except for ice cube trays, the kids' toothbrushes and the dog. Unable to keep the apartment on her own, this mom, her two daughters and the dog moved in to their car. (There was no Family Promise in Lycoming County at that time.) Because she didn't want her girls to be taken from her, the mom had to move her car regularly. Occasionally she had offers to stay with someone, sometimes with disastrous results. Eventually, someone gave her \$500 so she and the girls could get in to their own apartment.

The mom realized the 3 jobs she was working weren't enough to keep her family. She took out student loans, enrolled in Penn College and completed her associate's degree with honors. She quit just short of her bachelor's degree because she needed to work.

This mom is Jenny Hull, who has been the case manager at Family Promise for 6 years and has just moved in to the role of Executive Director of the organization. She is living proof that the cycle of homelessness can be broken! She has first-hand knowledge of the homeless situation, and also of the hard work it takes to get out of that situation. This makes her the right person to lead Family Promise.

Jenny can't do this work alone. We will soon have a new case manager to work with our families, we have hired a part-time office support person, and we have over 1000 volunteers. Our budget covers salaries, insurances, rent and utilities, operating expenses and guest needs.

There are many more "Jenny Hull stories" here in Lycoming County. Your volunteer efforts are already helping to make a difference for families. **Please consider a financial donation as well**. Checks can be mailed to Family Promise of Lycoming County, Box 1052, Williamsport, PA 17703. Pay pal and credit card donations are accepted on our website, which can be accessed through the blue button below.

Thank you for everything that you do. Your time and donations can (and will!) truly make a difference.

Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Mark's is sponsoring a blood drive. The event is scheduled to take place on Friday, July 20, in Fellowship Hall, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

You can sign up on the Red Cross site, or at the event. https://www.redcrossblood.org/ give.html/donation-time

Summer is a time of great need. Thank-you for supporting the blood drive.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's Christmas in July for our Operation Christmas Child Ministry! Please join us after church on July 22 for hospitality as we celebrate the work



we have done during these first six months of 2018. Take a look at our shoebox model that is slowly being filled with our monthly donations. Pick up a "Christmas List" of items that would be helpful in completing our boxes. Or consider making a donation toward the \$9.00 shipping cost per box - we are still working toward that 40 box goal! Any and all support is greatly appreciated!

Even though we are celebrating, there is still

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7/11

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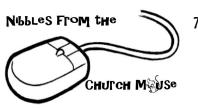
BIRTHDAYS:

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- Gabriella Gregory 7/1
- 7/2 Stanley Baker
- **Kristine Wacker** 7/2
- 7/3 Maxwell Hospes
- 7/4 Philip Thomas
- 7/5 **Kimberly Fillnow**
- **Dierah Williams** 7/5
- 7/6 **Corey Hospes**
- 7/7 Andrea Hinds
- 7/7 **Gabriel Nichols**
- Robert Lynn Jr. 7/8
- 7/9 Dylan Ott
- 7/10 Nicholas Buckman
- 7/10 Edgar Miller III

work to be done. In July we will be collecting Tshirts (youth size S-XL or adult size S-L), Crayons (I hear they've already been spotted for \$0.25) and Pens.

These items (or any others you find) may be placed in our red, OCC bin located n the narthex. We thank you for your generosity!



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The Church Mouse will return next month...please send her any crumbs of news you may find. She's hungry!

ONGOING ACTIVITIES AT REDEEMER LUTHERAN:

Free Community Dinner: Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM. All are welcome.

Daniel's Closet: Free seasonal clothing on Saturday, June 28, 2018 from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. Lighter weight clothing and accessories are most needed.

Donations may be dropped off at Redeemer on June 26, 2018 from 4:00 - 6:00 PM.

<u>Please remember</u> that donations to Daniel's Clos-



et are seasonal. Right now the Closet is looking for spring/summer clothes and will not be collecting fall/winter clothes until the end of the summer. Also, please break down clothing into small boxes or kitchen-sized bags.

If you have any questions please contact Michele Owen at mowen@stmarkswilliamsport.org.

	7/20 7/21	Patricia Alexander Pamela Jensen
Mary Martin	7/22	Connie Shaible
Doris Brown	7/23	Evan Barone
Annika Waffenschmidt	7/23	Reba Jacobs
Levi Gair	7/23	David Weaver
Declan Jones	7/23	Bryce Young
Nancy Larson	7/24	Edward Gair
William Confer Jr.	7/25	Shirley Hill
Vicki Haussmann	7/26	Gail Greninger
Ashley Butters	7/27	Ann Kuntz
Stephanie Confer	7/28	John Bower
Michael Hieber	7/29	Matthew Fortin
Kay Plankenhorn	7/30	Carol McMorris
Brenda Bower	7/31	Stephen Dewar

ANNIVERSARIES:

- Ray & Cynthia Huff 7/3
- 7/5 Walter & Margie Doebler
- 7/5 Daryl & Elizabeth Lewis
- 7/6 Robert & Kristin Lvnn
- 7/24 Sean & Maria Elkin



^{* * * * * * * * * *}

SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

Patricia Alexander Rose View Center 1201 Rural Ave., 223B 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 355 Girio Terrace, Apt. 3 S. Williamsport, PA 17702

Marie Byerly Arista Care Nursing Ctr. 1445 Sycamore Rd. Montoursville, PA 17754



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 c/o Craig Weaver 18213 Candlewood Lane Hagerstown, MD 21740

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

Marion Waldeisen Williamsport Home 1900 Ravine Rd. Bldg C Apt. 1213 Williamsport, PA 17701

Lunch & Fellowship, Wednesday, July 18

Free Community Lunch

We'll be having a cookout on Wednesday, June 13! Hamburgs and hotdogs! Please join us!!

FOOD PANTRY HOURS: 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



As always, the food pantry stands in need of any nonperishable food items. *Thank you* Save the date! "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is September 9, 2018. It is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA—one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

You work every day to make your community a better place. Let us continue doing this work together in 2018!

Daniel's Closet

Free seasonal clothing on Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Lighter weight clothing and accessories are most needed. Donations may be dropped off at Redeemer on July 26, 2018 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM.



Free Community Supper—All Are Welcome Redeemer Lutheran Church Thursday, July 12, 2018, 5:30 – 6:30 PM JULY 2018

Sunday July 1, 2018 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:30am Holy Communion

Mon July 2, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting

Tue July 3, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Outreach

Wed July 4, 2018 Independence Day - office closed 9:00am Morning Prayer 4:00 set-up for Celebration 6:00pm Community Celebration 7:30 Patriotic program



Thu July 5, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer

Fri July 6, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 11:00am Christian Ed. Comm.

Sat July 7, 2018 6:00pm Evening Service - Chapel

Sun July 8, 2018 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:30am Holy Communion

Mon July 9, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting

Tue July 10, 2018 Council Agenda Due 9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed July 11, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer

Thu July 12, 2018 Lion Article Deadline 9:00am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Redeemer Comm. Meal

Fri July 13, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer

Sat July 14, 2018 6:00pm Evening Service - Chapel

Sun July 15, 2018 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:30am Holy Communion 12:00-4:00pm Fishing Derby

Mon July 16, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Wmspt. Dog Training Club

Tue July 17, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed July 18, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 12:00pm Lunch 'n' Fellowship

Thu July 19, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-off

Fri July 20, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 11:00am Red Cross Blood Drive

Sat July 21, 2018 6:00pm Evening Service - Chapel

Sun July 22, 2018 Christmas in July for OCC! 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:30am Holy Communion Mon July 23, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting

Tue July 24, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 7:30pm LSM at St. Luke

Wed July 25, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer

Thu July 26, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer

Fri July 27, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 9:20am Lion Crew

Sat July 28, 2018 9:00am Daniel's Closet 6:00pm Evening Service - Chapel

Sun July 29, 2018 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:30am Holy Communion 12:00pm Knoebel's Grove

Mon July 30, 2018 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:03am Staff Meeting

Tue July 31, 2018

