



THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

OCTOBER 2018



Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church:

Sunday, October 21, has been set as our congregation's Consecration Sunday. It is a wonderfully appropriate way to approach the everyday decisions of how we manage all of the resources that God has placed in our hands. I urge you to plan now to attend this important event.

This spiritual-growth-oriented process is designed to enrich our biblical understanding of Christian stewardship. Rather than focusing on the need of the church to receive, the experience concentrates on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development.

We believe that you are concerned enough to attend on Consecration Sunday and make your financial commitment as a portion of your worship of the Lord God Almighty on that day.

No one will call you at your home for pledges. In the past we have had a breakfast and luncheon following each service. The purse strings are a little tighter this year so we have opted for an extended hospitality in Fellowship Hall following each service. The emphasis is on what we choose to give back to God.

Yours in Christian love,
Melvin Wentzel, Council President

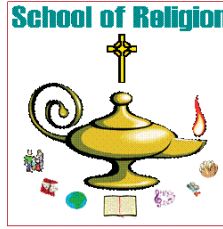
"My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary."

~ Martin Luther

Acolyte Schedule

OCTOBER SCHEDULE:

- October 7 Sean Jensen
- October 14 Annika Waffenschmidt
- October 21 Owen Gair
- October 28 Taylor & Sadie Wentzel;
Hannah Haussmann



School of Religion at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 142 Market St. Participants will together conduct a book study of *The Name of God is Mercy*, written by Pope Francis and Andrea Torielli. The group

will meet the **first four Wednesdays in October**, beginning Oct. 3rd. The fourth Wednesday, October 24, will be a joint service of worship. The sessions will take place from 7 - 8 PM at St. Mark's Fellowship Hall, 142 Market St., Wmspt, with parking available on the lots directly next to the church. Copies of the book will be available Oct. 3rd at the first session for \$10/each.

A special choir is forming to contribute to the joint Roman Catholic/Lutheran Vespers service on the last night of the program. The choir will rehearse each Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

On Wednesday, October 3, at 1:15 pm, we begin a Bible study class in the Middle Lounge. Please join us!



Bible Study at the Williamsport Home, lower level (past the cafeteria on the left), Building "C". The front door is left open until 1 PM for all Bible study participants so you need not fear an inaccessible room. The group meets Tuesdays at 1:00 pm.



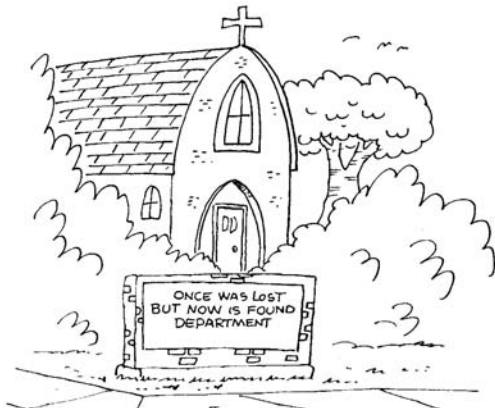
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Free Concert hosted by the Repaz Band
October 7, at 7:00
in the Community Arts Center, Wmspt.

INDEX & UPDATE

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Council Notes: The council met on September 17, 2018. Notes will appear in the November *LION*

Lycoming County Life Chain will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018, at 2:30 PM on the "Golden Strip" (3rd Street) in Williamsport, PA. Our goal is to have a prayer chain of 2,000.

For the past twenty-six (26) years, with the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have joined together, as many as 2,000 strong in a local Life Chain. With our simple signs we have delivered the Lord's message. The number of people of all ages and denominations has been tremendous, and the congregations singing and praying have been an inspiration to all present. God was surely with us as we have acted for those members of our society who cannot yet speak. We have been peaceful, prayerful and visible witnesses of Christ's love. The vision of activating His Church is becoming a reality. Our hope and prayer is that in 2018 even more churches will join us and that more members of already participating churches will also stand against the taking of innocent human life. you are interested, contact Kim Corson, 570-745-3121 or Denise Boring, 570-745-7185.



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

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Bernadette Jones, Youth & Fam. bjones@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Graydon Yearick, Financial Sec. gyearick@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Lou DeSeau, Environmental Serv.

Mel Wentzel, Council President tookool4school@comcast.net
home 570-327-8286

Becky Miller Pryor, Vice-President home 570-971-4585
Wanda Fortin, Secretary 570-337-9137

Jackie Kinney, Treasurer jskinney1@yahoo.com
Todd Smith, Director, The Way tsmith@southernitioga.org

Kathy Eshelman, Stephen Ministry 570-433-0522
Janet Jones, Parish Life jgmacookie@comcast.net

Debra Buckman, dbuckman@pct.edu or dabuckman65@gmail.com
Family Promise Coordinator

Kathy Kolb, Prayer Chain kathykolb@kolbnetworks.net
Sally Bjornstad, Altar Flowers 570-494-6637

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—Fri 10 a.m.—2 p.m.,

Secretary:
Mon-Fri 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Dear Friends of St. Mark's,

Grace to you and peace.

I'm sure that you noticed that this newsletter is much lighter in weight.

This is due to some weighty matters in staff changes. Our parish secretary, Laura Schreckengast, tendered her resignation. We are grateful for her service and know that she will do well in her new position.

Thus you hold in your hands the lighter than usual newsletter. Rather than do more with less, we are printing less as we adjust to having a smaller paid staff. Part of this transition is relying on our lay leadership. An example of this is the continuing work of our Reformation 500 Team and the continuing Roman Catholic-Lutheran dialogue in Williamsport.

REFORMATION 501. We will continue the Lutheran Catholic conversation that began last year with the commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Here's the schedule for the first three Wednesdays of October:

- 6:15 p.m. Community Choir Rehearsal with Christian Humcke
- 7:00 p.m. Roundtable Discussion of *The Name of God is Mercy* by Pope Francis

Then on the fourth Wednesday, October 24th, we will celebrate our joint call to serve with Evensong at 7 p.m. (Vespers), supported by the community choir. Please read, learn, speak, share, and worship with us. This is a joint project built on the foundation of Lutheran Shared Ministry and School for Religion. And literally, that's only half of the story.

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

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Transform! Mark your calendars for another local service opportunity with Transform, hosted by First Church, on October 18-20.

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 representatives 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.



Together in Christ

HOW ABOUT QUILTING?

It is an enjoyable pastime with the satisfaction of helping people in need. Quilting has resumed at St. Mark's, and new members are needed. Why not try it?

A quilt is made of three layers—top, filler, and backing. Sewers make the top. Assemblers lay out the three layers and baste them together. Knotters then secure the layers by tying knots. Binding is done on home machines.

We meet on Wednesday mornings. Bring a pair of scissors and give it a try. You will enjoy the camaraderie.

Donations of large pieces of new or gently used fabrics (no fiberglass) are greatly appreciated. Flannel sheets are particularly good. Monetary donations can be made to St. Mark's with a designation of "Quilters".

Quilts cover the world with love.

* * * * *

THE PLACE TO BE FOR LUNCH WEDNESDAYS

Join us Wednesdays for lunch and an interesting program! The lunch line opens about 11:45 a.m. and you are always assured of a tasty \$6 lunch, warm ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially.

Speaker for October are

- 3- **Mr. Bruce Huffman**, Local Historical Investigator, *"Williamsport, Government, and the Struggle for Change"*
- 10- **Rev. Harlan Frank Showers**, Retired Lutheran Pastor, *"Songs and a Prayer for a New Day"*
- 17- **Mrs. Roberta Updegraff**, Local author who often writes for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Mission Mosaic, *"Immigration Solutions Don't Take Sides"*
- 24- **Ms. Nicole Miller**, Executive Director, Transitional Living Center, *"Helping Women Stay Out of Prison"*
- 31- **Rev. Bradley Walmer**, Pastor, New Covenant United Church of Christ, *"A Reformation Worship Service"*

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 Gwen or Patty at the United Churches Office 570-322-1110, will help our caterer, Heidi, know how to prepare if you are not a regular attendee.

Plan to attend! Bring a friend! Make new friends!



Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to your continued generosity, our OCC shoeboxes are almost complete. In fact, they are just about bursting at the seams ~ a great "problem" to have! For the month of October, we will be collecting "Odds N Ends" ~ things that will help us finish each of the 40 boxes that we will be donating to Samaritan's Purse. Items such as stuffed animals, toothbrushes, chap stick, socks, t-shirts ~ all which can easily be found at the Dollar Tree.

Please take a tag from the OCC bin in the Narthex and bring back the item(s) listed. This will help to not have too many duplicates. Not a huge fan of shopping? Please consider donating \$9.00 to help cover the cost of shipping our boxes. Thank you again for your continued support of this outreach project. We are excited to see our boxes come together in November!

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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. Items for either the Pantry or Shepherd may be placed in the tubs in the Narthex coatroom.

Aluminum Soda Can Tabs: Containers are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Tabs are given to support the Ronald McDonald House in Danville.

Cancelled Postage Stamps: A basket is available in the Narthex. Roxie Larson collects these stamps for use in occupational therapy for folks.

* * * * *

Ongoing Events at Redeemer Lutheran

Free Community Supper on Thursday, October 11, 2018 from 5:30 PM -6:30 PM. All are welcome.

Daniel's Closet (Free Seasonal Clothing) on Saturday, October 25th from 9:00 – 11:00 AM.

Donated Clothing may be dropped off at Redeemer on Thursday, October 27th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

If you have a large quantity of clothing that cannot wait until the monthly drop off, please contact our church office first. We now have contact numbers for folks at Redeemer who can meet you at Daniel's Closet and save all the unloading and loading that occurs



when it is first brought to St. Mark's.

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SAFETY PROTOCOL

Please use the main narthex door or the side handicap entrance near the sacristy on Sundays. Once the service begins, all doors will be locked. For those coming late, the narthex door will be the only entrance.

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ALTAR FLOWERS

If you sponsor flower arrangements for the altar at Sunday services, please take them with you after the service. If you choose to leave them there, others may:

Deliver Floral Cheer

Please help deliver some cheery flowers to members of the Special Concern list or anyone else you may know who would enjoy a short visit. After the late service you may take a vase from the basket in the Sacristy and take a few stems from the vases of altar flowers. We have lots of vases so do not fret over returning the vase. It would be helpful if you would sign the notebook with the date and name of the person you visited.

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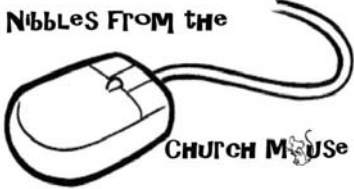
Doesn't the new year seem like it should start when school returns? Not in the middle of

winter when nothing is going on. There is so much excitement on campus. We have an amazing leadership team to lead UCM into the 2018-2019 school year. They have a love for God and are not afraid to share with those that He has placed in their path. I learn so much from them.

We kicked the year off with a business meeting with about a dozen students and it has been full steam ahead since. This semester we will be looking at Ecclesiastes, James, Kings, and closing with Psalms. The students are excited to lead a few studies again this year. We continue with Jesus and Java on Wednesday mornings... handing out free devotions and coffee/baked goods to the early risers.

We have a few needs...I still have just a few openings for Bible Studies this Fall. If you need to warm your kitchen up, as the weather cools down, we would love donations of baked goods for Wednesday morning. Little Debbie helps us out in a pinch. We need to restock our sno-cone supplies, particularly the paper cones. And, finally, if you have extra cases of water, we would take them off your hands for our table at the walk. I can be reached at ucm@ucl.org. ~ Tammy Aichner, Coord.





The older we get the more change seems to be painful. No sooner did we learn of Michele's leaving than we found that Laura Schreckengast

was taking another position at St. John's School of the Arts. Over the years I have worked with Laura more than Michele and I always found her courteous, knowledgeable and helpful. In her quiet way she did lots of things that lots of folks probably don't know about and always kept the needs of the parish and its members first in her priorities. We will miss her and wish her well in her new venture.

It is a change to have last year's seniors off to college – we know that is part of growing up but we still miss seeing them on Sundays. Ben Hausmann was home for a weekend recently and it was good to see him.

In other news the Wentzel family went to the Elton John concert in State College recently. The tickets were a birthday present for Taylor and Sadie. Sadie and Taylor are working hard with the Loyalsock Band – we can hear them every night practicing from our house. Jonah Schreckengast is also part of the band.

If you go to Bruster's for ice cream at the right time you may see Hannah Hausmann working there – that would be hard to avoid eating the inventory!

Saw a photo and Shelby and Gary Weber enjoying the beach in Jamaica – after the summer we have had it must have seemed like Paradise!

And last of all, I did mention Elizabeth's swim for Special Olympics last month but neglected to say she swam fifty laps of the pool – quite a feat!

Your call committee continues to hope that we will soon have a candidate for your consideration but all would agree it has been a long and difficult process – I don't think any of us believed it would take so long but we keep our hopes up!

Keep in touch – I love to get your news.

Joyce S. Hershberger, Official Church Mouse



FAMILY PROMISE is hosting our 4th annual fundraiser at Farrington Place on November 3rd.

The theme this year is **Homes for All, Blue Jean Ball** (wear what is comfy AND support families!)

Plan on having a lot fun! Enjoy a dinner, live music, live auctions, basket raffles and a silent auction. PLUS there are surprises and fun planned for the entire night. A former guest, Megan Welch, will be speaking about her time at Family Promise and sharing how volunteers changed her life.

A live auction will raise money for NEW beds for families.

The Program Partner of the Year will be announced with a special presentation.

Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, beer and wine, a yummy dessert bar and more. You can reserve your ticket today by emailing Jenny at jenny.hull@familypromiselycoming.org and sending a check...or pay by paypal through their website www.familypromiselycoming.org

CROP Walk 2018

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

Registration begins at 1 P.M.

This is our 40th year of walking in Lycoming County to help end hunger!

These walks all happen rain or shine. The reason being that we walk in solidarity with those who have to walk for their food and water... rain or shine! Our world is filled with people in need. Disasters seem to be everywhere - Rain - Hurricanes - Floods - Fires! One minute people are OK and then they are in extreme need.

Our goals this year include 200 walkers and \$15,000 in money raised. Please know that every dollar makes a difference. 25% of the funds we raise support local hunger agencies. This year the agencies we have chosen to receive these funds are the Son Light House Food Pantry, Muncy; The New Love Center, Jersey Shore; Sojourner Truth Ministry, Williamsport; and the United Churches Food Pantry, Williamsport.

Regardless of its size, your gift has an impact....

- \$1-U.S. Foodbanks distribute \$10 of groceries.
- \$15-Provides 10 jerry cans to carry water safely.
- \$25-Provides seeds and tools for a family garden.
- \$125-Buys a pair of goats (milk/fertilizer/protein/\$\$)
- \$1000-Buys a pump for a community to access clean water and the training to use and maintain it.

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 Hople
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

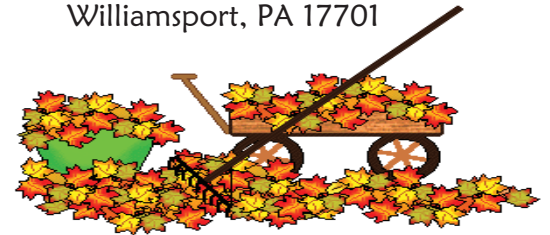
Kay Poliska
1100 Allen St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Ed Richner
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

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

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



Birthdays:

Stephanie Bieber 10/05
Caitlin Butters 10/06
Jane Zimmerer 10/09
Kameera Smith 10/10
Amy Burkholder 10/11
Barbara Doebler 10/11
Gary Goertz 10/11
Patrice Santalucia 10/11
Christine Sauers 10/12
Shirley Vognet 10/13
Gary Chrisman 10/14
Makensie Doebler 10/14
Sean Fenderson 10/17
Marion Larson 10/18
Breanna Chicas 10/19
Ashley Campbell 10/20
Megan Greevy 10/20



Paige Fortin 10/21
Carolyn Wacker 10/21
Ryan Lynn 10/23
Charles Kuntz 10/24
Richard Miller 10/24
Mark Welker 10/24
Hannah Haussmann 10/26
Kathy Eshelman 10/27
Andrew Haussmann 10/28
Tait Thorne 10/28

John Hoffman 10/29
Barbara Thomas 10/29
Lois Goldy 10/30
Deborah Maggs 10/30
Natalie Miller 10/31

Anniversaries:

Kenneth & Kathleen Caster 10/09
Jeffrey & Catherine Kneeder 10/09
Lawrence & Norma Lehman 10/09
Andrea & Tracy Gregory 10/16
Scott & Mary Kimble 10/25
Louis & Linda DeSeau 10/26
Robert & Constance Shaible 10/26
Audrey & Jake Comerford 10/27
Romain & Evelyn Bastian 10/30



Lunch & Fellowship, Wednesday, October 17 Free Community Lunch

We'll be having Pork & Sauerkraut—yum! on Wednesday, October 17! Please join us!!



COUNCIL REPORTS DUE OCT. 10

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE OCT. 12



Monday October 1, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:03am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh.

Tue October 2, 2018

8:00am PDoH Cyber Sch Health Screening
9:00am Morning Prayer
1:00pm City Pastors' Lunch
6:30pm Outreach

Wed October 3, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters in Nave
1:15pm Bible Study
6:15pm Joint L/C Choir Reh.
7:00pm Lutheran/Catholic Study

Thu October 4, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:00pm Chancel Choir

Fri October 5, 2018

11:00 Christian Ed

Sat October 6, 2018

5:00pm Vespers
6:00pm Holy Communion

Sun October 7, 2018

7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
1:30pm Liberty Band--free concert
CAC
2:30pm LIFE CHAIN

Mon October 8, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:03am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh.

Tue October 9, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed October 10, 2018

Council Agenda Due
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters in Nave
1:15pm Bible Study
6:15pm Joint L/C Choir Reh.
7:00pm Lutheran/Catholic Study

Thu October 11, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
5:30pm Redeemer Comm. Meal
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:00pm Chancel Choir

Fri October 12, 2018

Lion Article Deadline

Sat October 13, 2018

6:00pm Holy Communion

Sun October 14, 2018

7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
1:30pm Crop Walk

Mon October 15, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:03am Staff Meeting
6:00pm Civic Chorus Board Mtg
6:30pm Council Meeting
7:00pm Wmspt. Dog Training Club
7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh.

Tue October 16, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed October 17, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
12:00pm Lunch 'n' Fellowship
1:15pm Bible Study
6:15pm Joint L/C Choir Reh.
7:00pm Lutheran/Catholic Study

Thu October 18, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:30am Stephen Ministry
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:00pm Chancel Choir

Sat October 20, 2018

6:00pm Holy Communion

Sun October 21, 2018

Consecration Sunday
7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
10:30am Children's Church
Mon October 22, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:03am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh.

Tue October 23, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed October 24, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
1:15pm Bible Study
7:00pm Joint Roman Catholic/ Lutheran Vespers

Thu October 25, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
6:00pm Bell Choir
7:00pm Chancel Choir
4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-off

Fri October 26, 2018

9:20am Lion Crew

Sat October 27, 2018

9:00am Daniel's Closet
6:00pm Holy Communion

Sun October 28, 2018

7:00am Morning Prayer
8:00am Holy Communion
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Communion
Pumpkin Carving

Mon October 29, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
10:03am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Civic Chorus Reh.

Tue October 30, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer

Wed October 31, 2018

9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am Quilters
1:15pm Bible Study

