



THE LION OF ST. MARK'S

FEBRUARY 2020

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's,

On Wednesday, February 26 the church begins a new season, Lent.



Lent is a season of the Church Year commemorating Jesus' 40 Days in the wilderness following his baptism; the time that scripture tells us he was tempted by the devil. When I was a child I was always a bit overwhelmed by the temptation of Jesus. I literally thought he spent 40 whole days and forty whole nights in the wilderness. I realize now that 40 could mean scripture's way of indicating this was an extended period of time. The actual amount of time doesn't really matter. What's important is to know that Jesus' temptation was of a very long duration.

In the story of Jesus' temptation (Matthew 4:1-11) the devil does a very good job tempting Jesus to forgo his mission and ministry. I mean, Jesus could have ruled the world—isn't that one of the reasons why he came? Of course there is just one small detail—you have to worship the devil. Ah, of course we know how Jesus will react. It's like a movie we've seen over and over again. We know how this will end. The devil finally gives up; he knows he hasn't got a chance.

That's the purpose to observing the season of Lent. We need to hear the Spirit's call to repent, to turn back to God, so that we are reminded that in the end the devil, sin, evil and death do not have the last word. The call of Lent is to proclaim that though we are tempted to turn from God and though sometimes we give in to those temptations, God stands ready to forgive. Because of what Jesus did in the wilderness, at the cross and unto death, victory for us is always assured.

The promise of resurrection is never far away. When Lent is finished, so is death! Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Brian Vasey

TOP TEN THINGS YOU CAN TRY FOR A MORE MEANINGFUL LENT:

Suggestions from "The Upper Room"

10. Try an electronic fast. Give up TV, Facebook, texting, tweeting, e-mail and all things electronic for one day every week. Use the time to read, pray and learn about fasting.

- 9. Start a prayer rhythm.** Each day of Lent, pray for another person.
- 8. Go deeper. Commit to a reading a chapter of scripture everyday** as a part of your Lenten discipline.
- 7. Forgive someone who doesn't deserve it. Ask God for a deeper understanding of grace.**
- 6. Give up soft drinks, fast food, tea or coffee.** Give the money you save to help folks in a different part of the world who are in crisis.
- 5. Create a daily quiet time.** Spend 10 minutes a day in silence and prayer. See how it can help you add spiritual practice to your daily life beyond Lent.
- 4. Cultivate a life of gratitude.** Write someone a thank you letter each week and be aware of how many people have helped you along the way.
- 3. Spend time in visual meditation and prayer.** Imagine you are part of your favorite bible story.
- 2. Volunteer** one hour or more each week with a local shelter, tutoring program, nursing home, prison ministry.
- 1. Pray for others** you see as you walk to and from classes or drive to and from work.

Remember, to participate in Lent is to better prepare for Easter. When Lent is looked upon as preparatory, our Easter celebration can and does take on greater meaning and Christ truly becomes the One who brings us forgiveness and life eternal.

Let us pray for a blessed and meaningful Lent that leads to a joyous Easter

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Saturday, February 1/Sunday, February 2, Epiphany IV, Holy Communion, Setting 2 LBW
 - Saturday, February 8/Sunday, February 9, Epiphany V, "The Mass of St. Mark"
 - Saturday, February 15/Sunday, February 16, Epiphany VI, Holy Communion, Setting 2, LBW
 - Saturday, February 22/Sunday, February 23, "The Transfiguration," Holy Communion, Setting 2, LBW
 - Wednesday, February 26, Ash Wednesday, "The First Day of Lent"
 - Noon—Eucharist, Chapel
 - 7 pm—Eucharist, Nave
- Our Mid-week Wednesday Lenten Services begin on March 4, 11:30 am, in the Chapel. Our time together will be followed by a light lunch of soup and bread in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

INDEX & UPDATE

Inside This Issue:

| | |
|---|----|
| From Pastor's Desk | 1 |
| A MORE MEANINGFUL LENT | 1 |
| February Worship Schedule | 1 |
| Council Notes | 2 |
| Office Hours/Contact Info | 2 |
| Reverse Advent Calendar Results | 3 |
| Thank-Yous | 3 |
| SOUPER BOWL OF CARING | 3 |
| Operation Christmas Child | 3 |
| Valentine's Day Wishes | 3 |
| Regular Worship Schedule | 3 |
| Nibbles from the Church Mouse | 4 |
| Lunch 'n' Fellowship | 4 |
| February Ecumenical Lunches | 4 |
| Say Farewell to Christian | 4 |
| Be a Blessing | 5 |
| Church Leaders' Day | 5 |
| FEB. SERVICE ASSISTANT SCHEDULES | 5 |
| FAMILY PROMISE THIS MONTH! | 5 |
| Icon Painting Workshop | 5 |
| Sharing in the Caring | 6 |
| Family Promise Recycles | 6 |
| United Churches Needs More Volunteers | 6 |
| "THE WEEPING TREE" CANTATA | 6 |
| Creation Corner | 7 |
| Dial-a-Devotion | 7 |
| Poverty: A Faith-Based Response | 7 |
| February Commemorations | 8 |
| UCM SOUP SALE | 8 |
| Special Concerns List | 9 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries | 9 |
| BUS TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND | 9 |
| Blood Drive at St. Luke | 9 |
| February Calendar | 10 |

Council Notes from meeting of January 20, 2020

- The "Plan for Funding Ministries" (budget) was discussed and Treasurer's Report was approved.
- An Additional snowblower was purchased.
- The search for a new Music Director is under the guidance of the Personnel and the Worship and Music Committees.
- The Safety Committee has developed a "plan of action" in case of an accident or emergency during worship and has updated church First Aid Kits.
- Previously approved facilities use for the wedding of non-members Lauren Kinney and Thomas Smith will be held on May 29-30, 2020.
- Alona Hopler's family would like to utilize a portion of her endowment to purchase something for the church. Suggestions included a new dossal curtain. In the event the family agrees, a motion was made to choose the color of red for the new dossal.
- Approved the following:
 - facilities use requests from AGO to hold a lecture on hymnody on Sat., 4/25/20, from 8:00am — 12:30 pm; from West Branch Chorale to hold their spring concert on Sun., 4/26/20 from 1:30 — 4:30 pm.
 - starting the process of rekeying the church.
 - following the Synod guidelines re: supply organist fee for a single service of \$125.00 and \$150 for two services on the same day.

Next meetings: February 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

For a full report, please consult the Bulletin Board outside of the church offices located in the Parish House. Past council Reports are available for perusal in the church office.

Church Office 570-323-4619 Fax 570-323-2452
Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org
Main e-mail: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

| | |
|---|--|
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| Jackie Kinney, Treasurer | jskinney1@yahoo.com |
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| Janet Jones, Parish Life | jgmacookie@comcast.net |
| Debra Buckman, Family Promise Coordinator | dbuckman@pct.edu or dabuckman65@gmail.com |
| Kathy Kolb, Prayer Chain | kathykolb@kolbnetworks.net |
| Sally Bjornstad, Altar Flowers | 570-494-6637 |

STAFF OFFICE HOURS

Pastor: The Rev. Brian Vasey
 Mon—Thu 9am—2pm & by appointment

Sexton: Lou DeSeau
 Sun—Thurs 5:30am—1pm

Parish Musician: Christian Humcke
 Sun/Mon/Wed mornings; Mon/Thu evenings

Bookkeeper: Jackie Baysore
 Tue & Thu 8am—12:00pm

Secretary: Bernadette Jones
 Mon—Fri 9am—2pm

Reverse Advent Calendar Results

Both the Outreach Committee and the Faith and Fellowship Committee would like to thank the congregation for your participation in the Reverse Advent Calendar collection during the 2019 Advent season.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to donate 259 food items (183 pounds) to the United Churches Food Pantry. They were very grateful as the shelves were almost bare. Through our Advent collection, we also donated 92 personal care items to the Shepherd of the Streets, who was equally grateful.

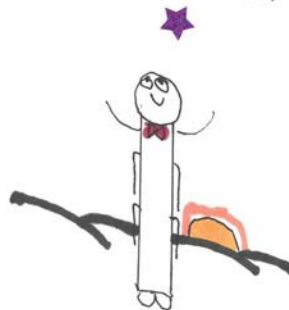
Thank you for helping St. Mark's be the hands and feet of Jesus not only this past Advent season, but also as we look ahead to serving in the New Year.

Cecil loves to chew pot stickers



January 1, 2020. Dear folks, thank you for the lovely flowers. I placed them on the night table beside my bed. Also, thank the two women who delivered the flowers...

Cecil loves to look at the evening sky!



January 9, 2020. Dear folks, thank you for the Christmas tree adornment. It is beautiful. Cecil simply adores it. Also, thanks for the candy.

I love you,
Liz Ruesskamp

The Outreach Committee thanks the congregation for their support of the New Love Center in Jersey Shore under the direction of Pastor Kerry Aucker.

During December eighty-one assorted toothbrushes, tubes of toothpaste and boxes of Jell-O were received. The toothbrushes and toothpaste will be used for their backpack program for youth in the Jersey Shore School District. The boxes of Jell-O will help fill food boxes for people in need in Lycoming and Clinton Counties.

December 28, 2019

Thank you so much for the beautiful poinsettia that was delivered to Paul at Valley View. We also appreciated the lovely cards and all the prayers.

All the best!

Paul & Sara Young



TACKLE

HUNGER

“Souper Bowl Sunday” is February 2nd this year, and once again the youth of St. Mark’s will be collecting cans of soup to help stock the United Churches Food Pantry. Monetary donations will also be taken and donated to Shepherd of the Streets to aid in their many ministries. Please consider bringing a can of soup (or 2, or even 3!) to help support not only our St. Mark’s youth, but our local community as well!

Please pray this simple prayer that started the Souper Bowl of Caring 30 years ago: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Let’s see what we can do together to help fight hunger here in Williamsport. Thank you!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are off and running with our 2020 shoebox collections thanks to everyone who donated in January! These monthly collections will enable us to easily assemble 45 shoeboxes come November!

Our February collection will be:

- Bars of Soap and Plastic Soap Boxes**
- Washcloths (preferably dark in color)**
- Knit Hats**



Choose one, choose all! Please place donations in the red, OCC bin located in the Narthex. As always, thank you for your continued generosity!


VALENTINE’S DAY WISHES

On February 9, 2020 join the Outreach Committee in the Narthex after each service. While chatting with family and friends, Valentine’s Day cards will be available to mail to our Special Concern folks and others. Please help us spread some mid-winter cheer by sending a card or two to folks we do not see as often as we wish.



JOIN US

- Saturday Eucharist, 4 pm**
- Sunday Eucharist, 8 & 10:30 am**
- Sunday Church School, 9:15 am**
- All are welcome.**

Nibbles from the  Church Mouse

We certainly miss our young folks who have gone on to college but it is nice to know that they are doing well. Vicki Haussmann reports that Ben is on the dean's list this semester and also would like to remind everyone that Elizabeth's play, "Annie," will be presented in March at the Community Theater League—watch the newspaper and be sure to attend. It will be a most interesting experience and Elizabeth will be happy to see familiar faces.

I persuaded Taylor Wentzel to share a few thoughts about her trip to the Cotton Bowl in December. She reports it took several different planes to get all 315 Blue Band Members from State College to Dallas. Texas was flatter than anywhere she had ever been before and the temperature was between 50 to 60 degrees most of the trip (I would have thought it would have been warmer). The field that the game was played on was in an indoor stadium with one of the largest Jumbotron screens in the country (everything is bigger in Texas). They left Texas in the evening after the game and arrived in State College at 2 in the morning. I think Taylor agreed that the trip was well worth it, despite the quick turnaround, and very exciting. I think it was probably most thrilling to attend such an event with the prestigious Blue Band—lucky Taylor!

Fortunately we still have some very active young folks in the congregation for a few more years. Sean Jensen's team placed fourth for sports and entertainment management at the Future Business Leaders of America Region 7 Leadership Conference on January 7. The team has qualified to move on to the state competition in Hershey. Sad to say, Sean will be in Disneyworld with the Loyalsock Band and will be unable to take part. That will be a fun trip so all is not bad. Sean is also proud to be a part of the Loyalsock Township varsity basketball team which is currently undefeated after 11 games!

Keep in touch. I look forward to hearing from you!

Joyce Hershberger

SAY FAREWELL TO CHRISTIAN

While you are making your new year's resolutions, be sure to plan to attend Christian's farewell services on Sunday, February 9, at 8 or 10:30.

This will be a special event featuring Christian's worship service setting. The service will conclude with a rousing rendition of Widor's Toccata.

After the service, we gather to wish Christian safe travel and to thank him for sharing his incredible talent with St. Mark's.

FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH 'N' FELLOWSHIP WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, AT NOON

And the menu is—mmm, love this!—

Hamburger Stroganoff over Noodles!



COME AND ENJOY!

February Ecumenical Lunch

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.

Parking is free in the lot north of the Pine Street UM 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 attendee will help our caterer, Heidi, to prepare.

Please note that if the Williamsport Area School District closes schools because of winter road conditions we will not have Ecumenical Lunch. If you aren't sure what we are doing, call Gwen at 570-419-1464.

FEBRUARY:

- 5—**Rev. Angelique Labadie-Chianowyz**, Executive Director, Sojourner Truth Ministries, *"House of Hope"*
- 12—**Rev. Jeff LeCrone**, Interim Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Williamsport, *"Helping Youth Grow In Faith"*
- 19—To Be Announced
- 26—**Rev. Gwen Bernstine**, United Churches, *"What Is Ash Wednesday All About?"*



Be a Blessing

Our neighbor, New Covenant UCC, has a special box in the front of their church. It contains non-perishable snacks and hygiene items for folks in need who are walking by. In the few short months this Blessing Box has been in operation, the need for items to fill it has grown immensely. The Outreach Committee is asking congregation members to donate one or more of the following items to support this ministry.

Individual Packs of
Snack Crackers

Ramen Noodles

Cup-of-Soups

Individual Packets of Cocoa Mix

#beablessing

Items may be placed in the tub in the Narthex. Thank you for being a blessing to others.

An Anniversary Prayer in Celebration of the Dedication of the Nave of Saint Mark's*

Almighty God, on whom we build all our hopes, we ask that with your lovingkindness you will continue to bless this house of worship known as St. Mark's.

May the walls of this building always rise in security and in beauty; and may the hearts of your people be joined together in a living temple, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone.

AMEN.

**On Friday, February 28, St. Mark's celebrates the 60th anniversary of the dedication of the present nave.*

CHURCH LEADERS' DAY

FEBRUARY 1, 2020 @ 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

A Church Leader's Day for all congregation council members and rostered leaders will be held on February 1, 2020, at Christ Lutheran Church, Lewisburg, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

New to council? Get off to a good start with spiritual grounding and practical tools.

Been on council often and for a long time? Refresh yourself and your practices for a deeper ministry of the church together.

Workshops include Vision and Discernment, Church Finances, Church Constitution, Effective Meetings, Church Technologies, Synod Resources, Committees and Policies. We welcome anyone interested in coming. The fee is \$10 per person. Any questions can be directed to Pastor Tom Glasoe at secretary@uss-elca.org.

FEBRUARY SERVICE SCHEDULES

USHERS

| | | |
|------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 2/2 | Miller/Poff | Fortin Team/Connie S. |
| 2/9 | Miller/Poff | AlbrightTeam/Cindy H. |
| 2/16 | Miller/Poff | MaggsTeam/Nancy L. |
| 2/23 | Miller/Poff | JensenTeam/Pam J. |

ASSISTING MINISTERS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2/2 | Drew Haussmann | Dan Zeigler |
| 2/9 | Lou DeSeau | Lou DeSeau |
| 2/16 | Becky Pryor | Joyce Hershberger |
| 2/23 | Lou DeSeau | Donna Clark |
| 2/26 Ash Wednesday—Ray Huff | | |



LECTORS

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2/2 | Vicki Haussmann | Gregg Dancho |
| 2/9 | Lou DeSeau | Bernadette Jones |
| 2/16 | Lou Kolb | Ralph Zeigler |
| 2/23 | Ruth Rees | Brenda Gair |
| 2/26 Ash Wednesday—Audrey Albright | | |

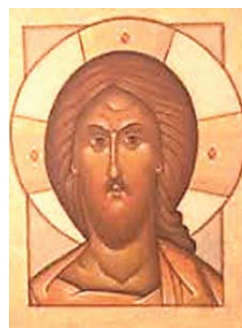
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS (10:30)

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| 2/2 | Ken Schreckengast |
| 2/9 | Deb Buckman |
| 2/16 | Bud Doebler |
| 2/23 | Audrey Albright |

Family Promise Update

Our next hosting begins February 2—any day now! There are currently four families in the system. If you want to help and have not been contacted, please call Deb Buckman, Dave Williams, or Vicki Haussmann. Our next hosting week is in April and the last one is in August. We are hosting only three weeks this year. Thanks for all you do.





An Icon Painting Workshop,

led by Peter Pearson, iconographer and priest will be held February 20-22, 2020 at Christ Episcopal Church, 426 Mulberry Street, Williamsport. The workshop will be held on Thursday and Friday evenings from 6:30-9 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (bring a bag lunch). The cost is \$200 (all materials provided) with

half due at registration. No previous experience or innate talent is required.

Contact Fr. Kyle Murphy: Christepchurch@gmail.com
570-322-8160.

Sharing in the Caring

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 4 and up) and feminine hygiene items for women.
- * Soda Tabs: Collected for the Ronald McDonald House in Danville. Containers are in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.
- * Bazaar Room: The Women of St. Mark's continue to accept donations for the annual fall bazaar. This year's sale is Saturday, September 12, 2020.

Ongoing Activities at Redeemer Lutheran:

- * Free Community Dinner: Thursday, February 13, 2020 from 5:30-6:30. All are welcome.
- * Daniel's Closet: Free seasonal clothing on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Donated clothing may be dropped off at Redeemer on January 27th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM.



If you have a large quantity of clothing that cannot wait until the drop-off date you can now call Barb Horn @ 570-974-3744 or Carol Johnson @ 570-772-6674 to arrange a mutually convenient time to take your clothes to Redeemer Lutheran.

Recycle your Items at FPLC



Beginning January 4th and continuing throughout the year, the first Saturday of each month Family Promise of Lycoming County will be open for donations and as a food pantry and clothing closet. Hours are 10-1.

If you would like a donation pick-up of items, we are available at that time to pick up your donation. Call the office at 570-567-7103 to get on our pick-up schedule.

We accept the following in good condition:

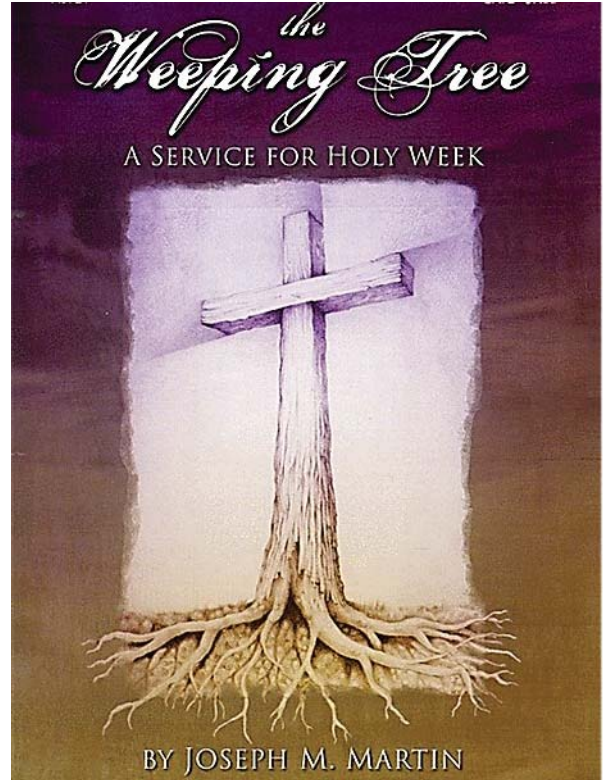
*couch clothing chair kitchen items
tables & end tables dressers appliances*

If you have questions please call us at 570-567-7103.

MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need a few more volunteers to fill the ministries schedule for 2020. Both clergy & laity can help. Currently there are about 30 services open. Pat Jenkins, outgoing coordinator, reminds us, "There are no special requirements to participate in the nursing home ministry. All that is needed is the passion and

saying yes to God when the desire is placed on your heart to share God's Word and message with others." It is a blessing to offer residents the ability to worship with folks of their own denomination as well as with a variety of Christians represented in these facilities. The services mean far more to them than many of us realize. Leaders are needed for services on Sunday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Contact Gwen at director@uclc.org or 570-322-1110 to help.



Join singers, musicians, and clergy from local Episcopal and Lutheran congregations for

"The Weeping Tree"

a musical service for Holy Week

to be presented at Christ Episcopal Church,
426 Mulberry Street, Williamsport
on Tuesday April 7 at 7:00 PM.

This service is free and open to the public.

If you are interested in participating, registration sheets are available in the office hallway or the choir room.

All registration forms must be returned by Feb. 16.

For any other questions about the concert please contact Jeff Johnson at johnsonje@lycoming.edu or 570-786-1168.

CREATION CORNER

Christian Social Concerns Committee

Dates: Past and Future

- 1/21/1935 The Wilderness Society founded
- 2/2/2020 World Wetlands Day
- 2/14/2020 Great Backyard Bird Count begins
- 2/26/2020 World Spay Day
- 2/27/2020 International Polar Bear Day
- 3/3/2020 World Wildlife Day
- 3/22/2020 World Water Day
- 4/22/2020 50th anniversary of first Earth Day (1970)
- 4/24/2020 Arbor Day
- 4/26-5/3/2020 Soil and Water Conservation Week and Sunday (sponsor: National Association of Conservation Districts)

Quotations Worth Remembering

- You must take action. You must do the impossible. Because giving up can never ever be an option. ~ Greta Thunberg.
- The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that's wrong with the world. ~ Dr. Paul Farmer.
- In truth, we don't know which of our acts in the present will shape the future. But we have to behave as if everything we do matters. Because it might. ~ Gloria Steinem, My Life on the Road.
- If you assume that there is no hope, you guarantee that there will be no hope. If you assume that there is an instinct for freedom, that there are opportunities to change things, then there is a possibility that you can contribute to making a better world. The choice is yours. ~ Noam Chomsky.
- This new decade could be the most determinative in human history. ~ Michael Brune, Sierra Club executive director.

DIAL -A -DEVOTION *

Have you called yet today?

The number is 570-322-5762, available 24/7

Devotions are three minutes or less, change weekdays and once on the weekend, and are designed to lift your spirits and help you to have "A Closer Walk with God."

- 2/3-9 Rev. Georgiana Welsh
- 2/10-17 Mrs. Rebecca Logan
- 2/18-23 Rev. Bernice Coaxum

Listen today and tell others about this ministry!



POVERTY: A FAITH-BASED RESPONSE

Christian Social Concerns Committee

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. -Mt 2:11. Epiphany holds rich significance for Christians. May we have a deeper "ah-ha" moment regarding what we will do, as we start a new decade, in charity and in justice for those experiencing hunger and poverty in our communities and the world. What talents and other gifts will we bring?

Resolutions for the New Decade: We Can End Hunger by 2030 - The United States and the world have made substantial progress against hunger and poverty over the past 50 years. But too many people, including Americans, are still being left behind. Ending hunger and poverty in our state and country requires political will as well as comprehensive solutions that enable people to move toward financial stability. Elected officials should:

- **Support adequate federal funding for programs that help low-income communities.** Anti-hunger programs such as SNAP and WIC help families deal with a job loss or crisis. Efforts to reform Medicaid should ensure that vulnerable families do not lose health care access.
- **Support strong foundations for families, individuals, and workers.** Ensuring that everyone has access to good jobs, a livable wage, and strong benefits lays a strong foundation for our workers. In addition, having access to quality education, affordable housing, health care, and asset and credit building opportunities empowers families and individuals to become financially independent.
- **Support fair and equitable tax policy.** Tax reform legislation should strengthen and expand earned income tax credits and child tax credits, narrow the widening inequality between top and bottom earners. Tax policies should prioritize low-income workers so they can earn more, save more, and build assets for the future. Legislation should not increase taxes for low-income workers.
- **Support comprehensive immigration policy.** Immigration is a hunger issue on both sides of the border. Reform should both address the push factors that lead people to migrate from their home countries and, for those already here, prioritize family unity, human dignity, work opportunities, and responsible pathways to U.S. citizenship.
- **Support a fair and equitable criminal justice system.** Mass incarceration perpetuates hunger and poverty. Sentencing reform and support for individuals returning from incarceration, e.g., jobs, affordable housing, and programs such as TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), will lower recidivism as well as hunger and poverty. (Source: Bread for the World)

FEBRUARY COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday, February 2, 2020 **Presentation of Our Lord**

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.



This is the time....for you to get you order in for the Penn College Campus Ministry's Annual Soup Sale!

Monday, February 3, 2020 **Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865**

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.

Wednesday, February 5, 2020 **The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597**

Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

Friday, February 14, 2020 **Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs**

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 **Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546**

Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.

Sunday, February 23, 2020 **Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156**

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 **Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921**

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

Soup Sale for United Campus Ministry

Donation: \$7.00 per quart

Checks payable to "United Churches Campus Ministry"

All soup freshly homemade then frozen.

Order Form

| Type | Quantity |
|--|----------|
| Beef and Barley..... | _____ |
| Chicken Corn Chowder..... | _____ |
| Chicken and Wild Rice | _____ |
| Chili | _____ |
| Ham and Bean | _____ |
| Hot Sausage and Shrimp Gumbo | _____ |
| Italian Wedding..... | _____ |
| Potato with Chicken and Rivals | _____ |
| Spinach, Sausage and Tomato Tortellini ... | _____ |
| Tomato | _____ |
| Vegetable Beef Soup | _____ |

Total Quarts ordered: _____ x \$7 \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Mail check and order form to:

Pastor Tammey Aichner
1325 Mansel Avenue
Williamsport, PA 17701

Orders are needed by March 1st.

Quantities are limited: first ordered, first served.

Delivery will be between March 18th—31st. Tammey will contact you to arrange pick up or delivery. Soup will be delivered frozen.

All proceeds go toward United Campus Ministry.

"Such great a cloud of witnesses..." Hebrews 12:1

SPECIAL CONCERNS LIST

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

Dottie Bingaman
Williamsport Home, Rm 309
1900 Ravine Rd.
Williamsport, PA 17701

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

Catherine Lundy
c/o Carol Butters
123 Aberdeen Road
Williamsport, PA 17701

Carol McMorris
330 Forest Hills Circle
Prescott, AZ 86303

Ruth Pile
Wmspt Home Care Ctr #105A
1900 Ravine Road
Williamsport, PA 17701

Kay Poliska
1100 Allen St.
Montoursville, PA 17754

Elizabeth Ruesskamp
Rose View Center, 222B
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Betty Stroup
Rose View, Room 210
1201 Rural Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701

Frank Ulman
Muncy Place, Room 132
215 E. Water St.
Muncy, PA 17756

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



Happy Birthday!

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| April Biblehimer | 02/08 |
| Margie Doebler | 02/08 |
| Matthew Heaps | 02/08 |
| Paul Zimmerer | 02/08 |
| Gloria Greevy | 02/10 |
| Charlene Wright | 02/10 |
| Lisa Lewis | 02/13 |
| Emily Newcomer | 02/13 |
| Michele Owen | 02/13 |

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Elsie Sechler | 02/13 |
| Scott Kimble | 02/16 |
| Jarrett Eyer | 02/17 |
| Rick Robertson | 02/17 |
| Betty Stroup | 02/17 |
| Amanda Eyer | 02/19 |
| Tyler Stugart | 02/20 |
| Donna Elkin | 02/21 |
| Brandon Pelleschi | 02/21 |
| Evelyn Ward | 02/21 |
| Kahla Doane | 02/22 |

February's special people



| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Seth Greninger | 02/22 |
| Kenneth Caster | 02/24 |
| Pr. Brian Vasey | 02/26 |
| Gary Clark | 02/27 |
| Ralph Zeigler Jr. | 02/29 |

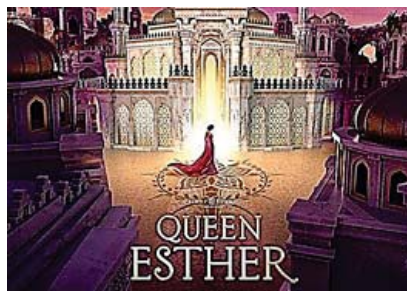
Happy Anniversary!

Vincent & Diane Bardsley 02/18

BUS TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND

A Susquehanna Trailways bus trip to Sight & Sound is planned for April 15, 2020. The cost for the trip is \$153 per person. Susquehanna Trailways has assured us that there is plenty of room—they will arrange additional buses as necessary.

Several members of the congregation already plan to go. For more information, please contact Cheryl or Dave Williams at 570-327-1627.



BLOOD DRIVE AT ST. LUKE

Give Blood on Monday, January 27 at the Community Blood Drive held in the Social Hall at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1400 Market Street, Williamsport, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sponsored by Williamsport Mom's Demand Action, homemade soup will be available to all presenting donors.

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Williamsport Moms to schedule an appointment. You can also streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your predonation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Saturday February 1, 2020
4:00pm HOLY COMMUNION

Sun February 2, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
8:00am HOLY COMMUNION
9:15am SUNDAY SCHOOL Children & Adults
10:30am HOLY COMMUNION

Mon February 3, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
9:00am Morning Prayer
7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue February 4, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
9:00am Morning Prayer
11:00am Staff Meeting
1:00pm City Pastors' Lunch
6:30pm Outreach Committee

Wed February 5, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
9:00am Morning Prayer
11:30am Little Lambs Liaison Mtg.
12:00pm Pine St. Ecumenical Lunch

Thu February 6, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
9:00am Morning Prayer
10:45am Faith & Fellowship Comm.

Fri February 7, 2020
Family Promise Hosting

Sat February 8, 2020
Family Promise Hosting
4:00pm HOLY COMMUNION

Sun February 9, 2020
FAREWELL TO CHRISTIAN
8:00am HOLY COMMUNION
9:15am SUNDAY SCHOOL Children & Adults
10:30am HOLY COMMUNION

Mon February 10, 2020
Council Agenda Due
9:00am Morning Prayer

7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal
Tue February 11, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:00am West Branch Conference meeting @ Messiah
5:00pm Finance Committee

Wed February 12, 2020
Lion Article Deadline
9:00am Morning Prayer
12:00pm Pine St. Ecumenical Lunch

Thu February 13, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
5:30pm Redeemer Community Meal
6:30pm Property Committee

Fri February 14, 2020
St. Valentine's Day

Sat February 15, 2020
4:00pm HOLY COMMUNION

Sun February 16, 2020
Stephen Ministry Day
8:00am HOLY COMMUNION
9:15am SUNDAY SCHOOL Children & Adults
10:30am HOLY COMMUNION

Mon February 17, 2020
Presidents' Day
Office Closed
6:00pm Civic Chorus Board Meeting
6:00pm Council Meeting
7:00pm Wmspt. Dog Training Club
7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue February 18, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
10:30am Publicity Committee
11:00am Staff Meeting

Wed February 19, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
12:00pm Pine St. Ecumenical Lunch
12:00pm Lunch 'n' Fellowship

Thu February 20, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer

Sat February 22, 2020
9:00am Daniel's Closet
4:00pm HOLY COMMUNION

Fri February 21, 2020

Sat February 22, 2020

Sun February 23, 2020
8:00am HOLY COMMUNION
9:15am SUNDAY SCHOOL Children & Adults
10:30am HOLY COMMUNION

Mon February 24, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
9:20am Lion Crew
7:00pm Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tue February 25, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
11:00am Staff Meeting

Wed February 26, 2020
Ash Wednesday
9:00am Morning Prayer
11:30am Ash Wednesday Service (Chapel)
12:00pm Pine St. Ecumenical Lunch
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service (Nave)

Thu February 27, 2020
9:00am Morning Prayer
4:00pm Daniel's Closet Drop-off

Fri February 28, 2020
60th Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Mark's Nave

Sat February 29, 2020
4:00pm HOLY COMMUNION

