



SAINT MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

“THE LION”

*To know Christ and to
make Christ known.”*



of ST. MARK'S

A Monthly Newsletter by and for the members of St. Mark's



MARCH 2024



Pastor's “Lion” Message for March 2024

Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this (the resurrection of Jesus) to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale (Luke 24:12).

Some years ago Eugene O'Neill wrote a play entitled, Lazarus Laughed. It tells the story of Lazarus after Jesus raised him from the dead; how because his life was filled with controversy, he laughed at everything, even at death. According to this play his home in Bethany was called the “House of Laughter” (not a bad name for a Christian church, by the way).

How many of us were brought up to believe that the Church was to be a place of laughter? Tears, perhaps, but not laughter. We Christians usually appear to have been baptized not in water but in “lemon juice” or “vinegar”. The Preacher in the Book of Ecclesiastes says, “There is a time to weep and a time to laugh” (3 -4). A lot of us have never quite made it to the second half!

We are so deadly serious so much of the time. I think it was the French skeptic Voltaire who once said that “You Christians are going to have to look a lot more redeemed, if you expect me to believe in your Redeemer!” He had a point.

..... Continued page two

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor March Message	Page 1
Sundays in March	Page 2
Holy Week Schedule	Page 2
Newsletter Update	Page 3
March Lectors and Ushers Schedule	Page 5
Communion Assistants for March	Page 6
Family Promise News	Page 6
February Council Meeting Notes	Page 7-9
Easter Hospitality Hosting	Page 9
Sight and Sound “Daniel”	Page 10
Book Review	
“Poultry in the Pulpit”	Page 10
Mail Call	Page 11
Operation Christmas Child	Page 11
Birthdays/Anniversaries	Page 12
Ongoing Events	Page 12
Come Worship with US	Page 13
Loose Bricks	Page 14
Camp Mount Luther News	Page 14
Center City Pastor's Lunch	Page 14
Easter Flower Order Form	Page 15
March Madness Word Search	Page 16
Calendar	Page 17

STAFF OFFICE HOURS

Pastor: The Rev. Brian Vasey
 Mon-Thu 9 a.m.-1 p.m., & by appointment

Church Organist: Sam Robinson
 Summer Mon 1-3 p.m. & by appointment

Sexton: OPEN
 By appointment

Bookkeeper: Jackie Baysore
 By appointment

Administrative Assistant: Joseph Baur
 Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org



Serving Christ in the Williamsport Community
 since 1852
 142 Market Street
 Williamsport, PA 17701

In O'Neill's play, Lazarus Laughed, at one point Lazarus says, "Laugh! Laugh with me at death! Death is dead! Fear is no more! There is only life! There is only laughter!"

Easter Sunday is March 31. Easter Sunday is "Resurrection Sunday", a grand joke played on our old foe, death. In the Book of Acts, Peter says, "this man (Jesus), handed over to you according to the definite plan and fore-knowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law (Acts 2:23)." That ought to have been the end of the story. But it wasn't. Peter goes on: "But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held by its power (Acts 2:24)."

Easter Sunday brings the good news that death could not hold Jesus; death was defeated. What was true for Jesus is true for us. We have been baptized in Christ. In him and to him we belong. We are people of the Resurrection.

And so, as suggested by the play Lazarus Laughed, and by Holy Scripture, we laugh at death. In Christ and by Christ death is defeated! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Vasey

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, March 27

Bible Study on the Gospel According to Mark concludes (12:10 pm, Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, March 28 (Maundy Thursday)

Holy Communion, Chapel, 12:10 pm

Holy Communion, Nave, 7:30 pm

(Foot Washing and Stripping the Church)

Friday, March 29 (Good Friday)

Ecumenical Service, Noon,

Redeemer Lutheran Church

(Williamsport)

Tenebrae, 7:30 pm, St. Mark's Lu-

theran Church

Saturday, March 30 (Holy Saturday)

Easter Vigil, 8 pm (beginning in the Chapel)

JOIN US ON SUNDAY MORNINGS IN MARCH!

Sunday, March 3

The Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion, 8 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Holy Communion, 10:30 am

Sunday, March 10

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion, 8 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Holy Communion, 10:30 am

Sunday, March 17

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion, 8 am

Sunday Church School, 9:15 am

Holy Communion, 10:30 am

Sunday, March 24

The Sunday of the Passion

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion, 8 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Holy Communion, 10:30 am

Sunday, March 31

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Holy Communion, 8 am

Hospitality, 9:15 am (Fellowship Hall)

Holy Communion, 10:30 am

**Wednesday, March 20,
Holy Communion, 2 pm
at the Williamsport Home,
Building "A".
All are welcome.**

NEWSLETTER NEWS



Changes are coming for the “Lion”. Due to postage costs and a dwindling number of persons wishing to receive a print version, we need to look at some options.

Don't worry, the “Lion” will continue to be a monthly publication filled with all the information you have come to expect and love, it simply might need to be delivered differently.

Some options being considered:

- + Having the “Lion” available for pick up at the church building
- + Sending the “Lion” via email.
- + Using the QR code to download a copy (which would mean including the QR code in the window of the church office and/or in the bulletin).
- + Mailing only to home bound persons and others not in the Williamsport vicinity.
- + A combination of all of the above.

Currently 200 copies are needed to qualify for non-profit bulk mailing rates. At present we have 170 mailings. St. Mark's prints 30 additional copies of the “Lion” with the St. Mark's address every month to make up the difference. If we email, or make the “Lion” available by other means, only approximately 100 copies, and have 20-30 people pick-up copies at the church our printing and mailing costs will be reduced significantly (printing 50 versus 200 and mailing 30 versus 200).

Please keep the Church Council and Church Office in prayer as we try to discern the best way we can be good stewards in addressing this concern.



+ When you or a family member are ill, have a crisis of faith, or have a personal concern of which you wish to make the pastor aware, please contact him directly by church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.



+ When you or a loved one has a change of address, telephone number or email, please contact the church office at 570-323-4619 or stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family.



If you have any information that needs to be updated, please send an email to jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org or call the church office at 570-323-4619, Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

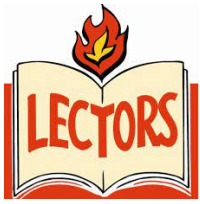
The office is working on an updated Church directory so please update any information ASAP to insure the directory is up to date.



ALTAR FLOWER PRICE INCREASE

Hall's Florist has informed us that as of January 2024 the price will increase for Altar Flowers. Due to increases in the cost of flowers and supplier delivery fees they can no longer make vases at the same price.

The price of Altar Flowers will increase from \$25.00 per vase to \$30.00 per vase and delivery fee will increase to \$5.00 per vase, an increase of \$1.00 per vase. Total cost per vase starting in January 2024 will be \$35.00 per vase.



March Lectors

March 3	8:00AM	Drew Hausmann
	10:30AM	Gary Weber
March 10	8:00AM	Vicki Hausmann
	10:30AM	Karen Marino
March 17	8:00AM	Candy Dewar
	10:30AM	Donna Boston
March 24	8:00AM	Nikki Jackson
	10:30AM	
March 28	Maundy Thursday	
	CHAPEL Holy Communion 12:10PM	
	NAVE Holy Communion 7:30PM	
March 29	Good Friday Tenebrae	
	NAVE 7:30PM	
March 30	Easter Vigil Holy Saturday	
	NAVE 8:00PM	
March 31	EASTER SUNDAY	
	8:00AM	Becky Pryor
	10:30AM	Ralph Ziegler

Altar Guild for March

Bev Hieber
Audrey Albright



Usher Schedule for March

March 3	8:00AM	Herb Poff & Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Carl Albright, captain Brenda and Levi Gair
March 10	8:00AM	Herb Poff & Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Tim Maggs, captain Carl Hieber, Charles Kuntz
March 17	8:00AM	Herb Poff & Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Mike Jensen, captain Pam Jensen, Shelby and Gary Weber
March 28	Maundy Thursday	
	CHAPEL Holy Communion 12:10PM	
	NAVE Holy Communion 7:30PM	
		Carl Albright, captain Brenda and Levi Gair
March 29	Good Friday Tenebrae 7:30PM	
		Tim Maggs, captain Carl Hieber, Charles Kuntz
March 30	Easter Vigil Holy Saturday 8:00PM	
		Mike Jensen, captain Pam Jensen, Shelby and Gary Weber
March 31	Easter Sunday	
	8:00AM	Herb Poff & Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Matt Fortin, captain Glenn Yaple, Dick Reitz

Communion Assistants
on the next page.



Communion Assistants for March

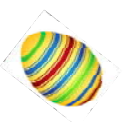
Please arrange replacement if you cannot serve.

March 3	8:00AM	Brian Jackson
	10:30AM	Dan Zeigler and Carl Albright
March 10	8:00AM	Drew Haussmann
	10:30AM	Deb Buckman and Mindy Wentzel
March 17	8:00AM	Nikki Jackson
	10:30AM	Walt Doeblner and Gary Weber
March 24	8:00AM	Becky Pryor
	10:30AM	Matt and Wanda Fortin
March 28	Maundy Thursday CHAPEL NAVE Holy Communion 7:30PM Communion	
March 30	Easter Vigil Holy Saturday 8:00PM Communion Assistants	
March 31	Easter Sunday 8:00AM Brian Jackson 10:30AM Ralph and Lou Ann Zeigler	



Family Promise News

Our hosting week begins Sunday, March 3. St. Marks is responsible for providing dinner meals. Remember - you can make a meal, order takeout (delivery), or provide the ingredients for the families to meal. Please contact me with the day and menu if you are participating. Thanks - Deb Buckman





St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

***“To know Christ and to make Christ known”
There was no Council Meeting in October***

Report of the Secretary for the Council Meeting held on February 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM
- Vicki Haussmann, Secretary

Gary Weber photographed Church Council .
Meeting was called to order by Ralph Zeigler.
Council recited our defining mission ~ *“To know Christ and to make Christ known”*
Deb Buckman led us in opening prayer.

Council Introductions and Secretary's roll call.

Present: Debra Buckman, Wanda Fortin, Vicki Haussmann, Ray Huff,
Nikki Jackson, Richard Miller, Herb Poff, Helen Schramm, Shelby Weber,
Ralph Zeigler, Pastor Vasey
Absent: Richard Reitz, Glenn Yaple

M(Shelby Weber ~ 2nd Nikki Jackson) SC: CC: 24.2.1 Motion unanimously approved to ratify the email vote approving that funds up to \$2,500 be used for the repair of the networking and computer problems and purchase of new computer(s) for the administrative wing of the Parish House.

*Brief update from Pastor Vasey that the network (wifi) and computers are now working.

The printer is still giving some grief. Due to winter weather, the repairman from State College has been unable to travel to Williamsport. Joe Baur is looking into options for a more local company to service our printer.

The Secretary's Report: for the month of January was approved as submitted.

The Treasurer's Report: as of January 31, 2024 was accepted and filed for audit.

- Deb noted that envelope contributions appear a bit higher in January due to lingering end of year donations (2023).
- Deb noted that \$30,000.00 was transferred from investments to cover expenses.

Pastor's report: As submitted by Pastor Vasey.

- Holy Communion at Williamsport Home was held Wednesday, January 17.
- Thank you note was sent for the Nativity that was gifted to St. Mark's.
- Lenten Bible study begins February 21 and runs for 6 weeks.
- Statistical reports are being processed.
- Camp Mr. Luther is in the midst of a \$2 Million Synod Capital Campaign.

To date approximately \$661,000 has been raised for much needed upgrades. How do we wish to proceed? *Ray Huff will be in touch with Bishop Emerita Barbara Collins to discuss a possible Temple Talk in April.

Paperwork:

Council Members' Contact Information was distributed.

A copy of Roberts Rules of Order ~ Simplified was distributed.

A copy of a Covenant of Conduct was distributed.

The Constitution for St. Mark's Lutheran Church was made available if council members were so inclined to take a copy



Committee Reports:

Evangelism & Fellowship/Parish Life: Written report as submitted by Becky Miller Pryor.

- Help is needed for the Center City Pastors lunch in both March and April.
- Various outreach ministries continue.
- Donations of brownie mixes are needed in March.
- Help is needed to serve a light meal following Ithaca College Choir Concert held at St. Mark's on April 21.

Faith Formation: Update provided by Vicki Haussmann.

- Lenten Devotionals are available in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall.
- Souper Bowl Sunday ~ 104 cans of soup, \$50 in donations.
- Shrove Tuesday event was a success with 30 in attendance.

Finance: Update provided by Debra Buckman.

- Organizing how information is collected and maintained for Memorial donations given to St. Mark's.
- Committee chairs will be asked for any line item additions to the budget. This is to help streamline and make more transparent the in/out items that currently are not seen in the monthly budget.
- An Audit Committee of 3 non-council members is needed.

Little Lambs: Update provided by Pastor Vasey.

- Pastor's Easter visit scheduled for March 25.
- Holly was referred to Steve Weeks from Choice Cleaning as to the lack of luster on the floors in Little Lambs.
- Parent Participation Month in March.

Nominating: Update provided by Ralph Zeigler

- NTR

Personnel: Update provided by Nikki Jackson

- NTR

Property: Update provided by Herb Poff, Liaison.

- A clipboard has been placed in the Property Mailbox. If minor (non emergency) projects around the church are needed, please write these on the To Do List.
- The lights under the front portico have been replaced.

Publicity: Update provided by Pastor Vasey, Liaison

- Pam Jensen has rejoined this committee. Welcome back, Pam!

Safety: Update provided by Herb Poff, liaison.

- Next meeting March 4, 2024 at 11:00 AM.

Worship and Music: Updated provided by Ray Huff.

- Easter is coming quickly this year! Look for flower order forms soon.



Unfinished Business:

Growing our Church:

- Lycoming College Choir performed at St. Mark's on February 11. Their time with us was publicized on their website.
- St. Mark's has been welcoming several regular visitors at the 10:30 service.

Spire Update: We are currently waiting to be put on the schedule.

Dossal Update: Meeting with Adam Miller of Merhaut Company on February 27 @1:30. All are welcome to attend.

New Business:

Sign Up Sheets: Sign up sheets for offering collection were passed around.

Easter Hospitality: Will be held between services on Easter Sunday. Parish Life will help organize this event. A sign up sheet for this hospitality was passed around.

Lion Mailing: Discussion on limiting the number of copies of *The Lion* that are mailed.

- Looking at sending *The Lion* via email. Joe could obtain the congregational group email address from Gary Weber and do a "bulk email".
 - *The Lion* is available on the St. Mark's webpage.
 - A QR code can be scanned for the option of having *The Lion* on your phone.
 - Copies of *The Lion* are available in the church office and could be made available in the Narthex.
 - Some copies of *The Lion* will still be mailed ~ especially to those out of town.
- * This change over will be a work in progress.

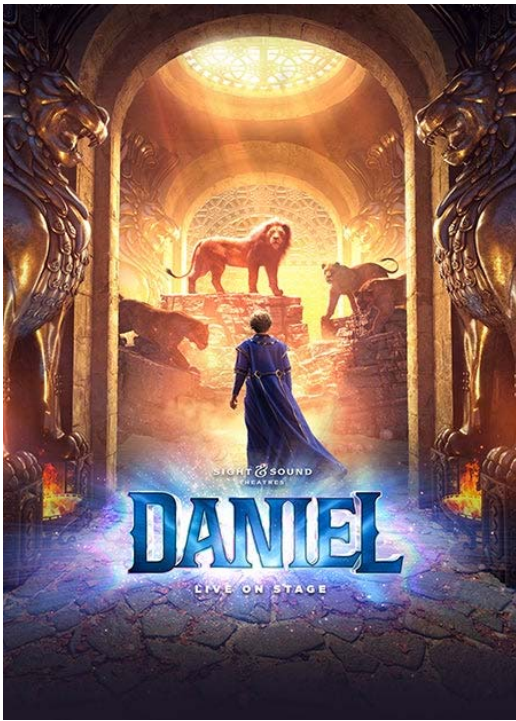
Synod Assembly: Lay representatives are needed for Synod Assembly June 14-15, 2024. These representatives will also attend the Conference Meeting on Sunday, May 5. Please let Ralph Zeigler know if anyone is interested.

Debra Buckman led us in closing prayer.
The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: Monday, March 18th, 2024 @ 6:00 PM (Middle Lounge)



We are excited to once again be hosting Easter Hospitality! Please join us March 31 for a variety of tasty treats ~ nothing too big so no worries that Easter dinner will be ruined. We will meet in Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour (anytime after 9:15 should work well) for refreshments and Christian Fellowship. All are invited and welcome to join in our Easter Celebration! We can't wait to see you!



SIGHT AND SOUND “DANIEL” BUS TRIP



SEPTEMBER 11.

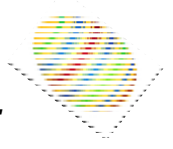
Our bus to see “Daniel” at the Sight and Sound Theatre is accepting reservations now for the September trip. The bus departs from Beiter's Parking Lot (540 Montgomery Pike, Williamsport) 6 am on September 11. Please park your car in the West End Parking Lot of Beiter's.

The cost for the trip is \$153.00, which includes the show ticket, meal and the bus trip.

Questions may be directed to Mrs. Cheryl Williams (570-327-1627). Send checks to Mrs. Cheryl Williams, 249 Johnson Drive, Williamsport, PA 17701.



This Month:



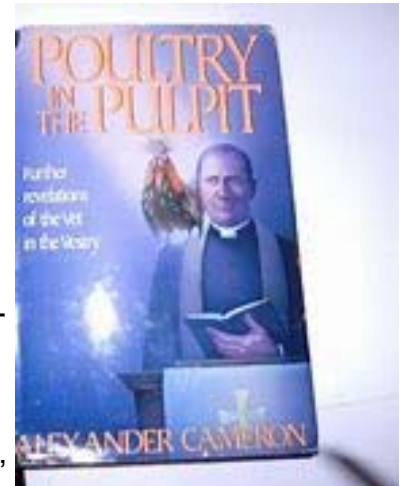
POULTRY IN THE PULPIT By ALEXANDER CAMERON

St, Martin's Press
NY, New York 1988

This book is an autobiography of the author, Alexander Cameron. Mr. Cameron was born in Scotland. He was trained as a Presbyterian minister and also a veterinarian in Scotland and England. He was in charge of the largest church, Aldermouth Old, which had 1000 practicing members in Scotland. On the first Sunday of the month, he gave 3 sermons, which included Communion. morning, afternoon, and evening. He also was in charge of Sunday School and a teenage Youth Group every Sunday. In addition, he made daily trips to the local nursing home and the hospital to sit with the very ill. Mr. Cameron was always “on call” as the town’s veterinarian too. He also presided over weddings and funerals, provided counseling, and attended Church events.

One day, he decided to use one of his hens and her 2 chicks, one all white, the other all black, to make a point in his sermon. The ministers refer to it as a “gimmick”. He liked to refer to it as an “audio-visual aid”. So he explained to the Congregation, just as the hen loves each of her chicks equally, so God loves each of his children equally. We are God’s children! (pg. 100) Hence, the name of the book.

I chose this book because I am an animal lover. I had no idea how much time a veterinarian spends on “disease, sickness and death. I cannot recall ever philosophising about the whole question of suffering.” (pg. 150). If you are an animal lover, as I am, and curious about the life, trials, tribulations, and triumphs of ministers and veterinarians, then this book is for you! I highly recommend it.

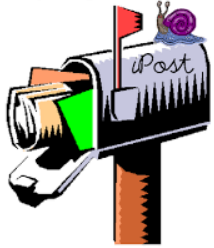


By Sally Bjornstad

Faith Formation Committee Member



Mail Call



**FROM: Amanda White Director, Congregational Generosity
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Dear St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. The glory of God shines through you.

**From: Tammy L. Edkin Executive Director
United Churches of Lycoming County**

Dear St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Thank you very much for your very generous donation of \$1010.00 to our general fund that we received in February. On behalf of our neighbors that benefit from your generosity, I say "Thank You!"



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

"I took each item out of my box one by one. I wanted to rejoice for everything."

~ Andy, shoe box recipient.

Please consider donating to our shoebox collections this month. The items are small, and yet so meaningful to the child who receives them.

- In March, we will be collecting:
- Combs/Brushes/Hair Accessories**
 - Toothbrushes**
 - Toothbrush Holder**
 - Mini Flashlights with extra batteries**

Monetary donations are also welcome as we are looking into including "Grow With Me" shoes in this year's boxes. While these are a bit pricey at \$20.00/pair, they adjust over time and can "grow" 5 sizes as the child's foot grows. These shoes are often needed for children to attend school so receiving them is a huge blessing indeed! Checks may be made to St. Mark's with OCC in the memo line.

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

*The age ranges for both boy and girl boxes we fill are 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14





Theodore Comerford	March 1
Trisha Harvey	March 5
Michael Kinney	March 11
Dinah Labenberg	March 16
Diane Bardsley	March 18
Gary Weber	March 24
Leah Hausmann	March 25
Sara Larson	March 25
Jonathan Bower	March 27
Sandra Edler	March 28
Tyler Bower	March 29
Carl Hieber	March 29

Donna and Gary Clark March 6

Evangelism and Fellowship Committee March 2024

Easter Greetings

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs the congregation's help in sending Easter greetings to our Special Concern Folks and others we do not see as often as we would like.



Cards will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, March 17, 2024 before and after each service. Please add a cheery message, affix a stamp and mail in time for Valentine's Day. Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Help Needed for Parish Life



The Center City Pastors, a group of twelve, meet the first Tuesday of the month at St. Mark's at 1:00 PM. The Parish Life Committee prepares and serves a light lunch for them. We are in need of help preparing lunch on April 2. We also are in need of a dessert to serve. Speak with Becky Miller Pryor if you can assist with the meal or in providing a dessert.

Easter Egg Hunt



New Covenant United Church of Christ is hosting a community Easter egg hunt at Lycoming College on Sunday, March 24, 2024. They are in need of the following items to help with hosting.

Plastic Easter eggs, Individually wrapped candy, Fruit snacks, Snack bars, Lollipops

Donations may be placed in the Easter box in the Narthex. All donations are needed by Sunday, March 17, 2024.

Ongoing Collections at St. Mark's:

United Churches Food Pantry: Needed are items that the pantry is unable to purchase with grant money. Small cans of coffee, sugar, flour, disposable salt and pepper shakers, cooking oil, cake and brownie mixes and cans of frosting.

Shepherd of the Streets: Needed are shampoo, conditioner, bodywash, tooth paste and toothbrushes for adults and children, feminine hygiene products, paper towels, Kleenex, hand and dish soap.

Blessing Boxes at New Covenant UCC: Easily prepared foods like Cup of Soups, individual packs of crackers and cookies, microwave mac & cheese, ramen noodles and individual boxes of cereal are needed. Travel size hygiene items are also needed.



Monetary donations for making sandwiches for the Blessing Boxes. Checks can be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating Parish Life.

Sojourner Truth Ministries: Bleach, Dawn dish detergent, brown lunch bags, spices, plastic wrap and foil.

Donations to the Food Panty, Shepherd of the Streets, the Blessing Boxes or to Sojourner Truth Ministries may be placed on the tables in the Narthex Coat Room.

Ongoing Events at Redeemer Lutheran:

Community Dinner on Thursday, March 14, 2024 beginning at 5:00 PM until all meals are distributed. This is a take-out meal available at the curb. All are welcome.

The Parish Life and Evangelism and Fellowship Committees provide desserts each month to support Redeemer's dinner. This month we will provide brownies for dessert.

This month's clothing drop off at Redeemer Lutheran is Thursday, March 21 from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

If you have a large quantity of clothing, please call Redeemer's office (leave a message) at 570-322-2333 to make an appointment. Smaller quantities of clothing may be placed on the stage.

Daniel's Closet Distribution of clothing is **Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 8:30 – 11:00 AM.** Especially needed are children's clothing and men's size small clothing. Blankets, throws and afghans are also needed.

UPCOMING EVENTS





**OUR SUNDAY
MORNING SERVICES:**

**Holy Communion, 8 and
10:30 am
Sunday Church School, 9:15
am**

ALL ARE WELCOME!



The Adult Sunday School Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:15 am in the Chapel. All are welcome to join us for study, discussion and fellowship.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN? ADULTS WISHING TO UNITE WITH ST. MARK'S IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ARE INVITED TO CONTACT PASTOR VASEY.



Pastor Vasey has a new cell phone Number: 272-788-0161. Please use this number as his primary telephone number when he is not available by the church telephone or the church email. Thank You!

Loose Bricks

By Joe Baur



Love is going with your husband to the Lego Fest 2024. I am heading to the Lego Fest at the end of March (VIP tickets of course). I enjoy reviewing all the creative builds and the talent of all the presenters. It makes me realize I am just a novice when it comes to LEGO. Of course the excitement of the kids is infectious as they explore and build in giant pits of LEGO bricks.

I enjoy being able to share some of my favorite builds in my office with everyone. There are times when someone asks me, “you play with LEGO?”. Yes I do, especially with my grandchildren. There is so much going on besides “playing”. Motor skills, critical thinking are just a few benefits of “playing”.

So much of what we do for one reason has benefits in other areas that we never think about. I think about that each week when I do the prayer requests, one prayer equals so many benefits.

CAMP NEWS



Camp Mount Luther is looking for Volunteer Nurses for the 2024 summer camp season.

Come for the whole camping week or just a day.

Contact cml@campmountluther.org



CENTER CITY PASTOR'S LUNCH

This month's luncheon will be Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 1:00PM. We are looking for additional help with this meal. Speak with Becky Miller Pryor if you enjoy setting / decoration tables or could provide a dessert. Generally, twelve pastors attend.

Soles4Souls Information Workshop

Saturday, April 13 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM

Messiah Lutheran Church

South Williamsport



Do you have shoes you no longer wear but they still are wearable? If so **Soles4Souls** is in need of them. Messiah's Women of the ELCA cordially invite you to an information workshop that will explain the work of Soles4Souls and the need for your donations.

Soles4Souls was established as a nonprofit in 2006 in Nashville, TN. Their mission is: *Creating sustainable jobs and providing relief through the distribution of shoes and clothing around the world.*

Come and hear Abby Yorks of Middleburg, PA explain the goals and scope of this organization. To date S4S has given 94 million pairs of shoes and items of clothing to people in 138 countries and all 50 US states!

A Continental Breakfast will be served from 8:30 -9:00, followed by two one-hour presentations where Ms. Yorks will give an overview of Soles4Souls, explaining her involvement as the Pennsylvania representative for the nonprofit and how S4S is working to eradicate poverty here and around the world.

There is no fee for this event, but pre-registration is requested by April 1, 2024. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. We can carpool if there is interest.

A free-will offering will be taken at the conclusion of the workshop for Soles4Souls.

Donations: The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee will be collecting shoes of all styles, sizes and genders that still have "life" in them and not in need of repair. These shoes will be taken to the workshop in support of S4S's work. Your donations may be placed in the tub in the Narthex.



Spring Cleaning? Got Stuff?



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee and the Women of St. Mark's need donations for our annual Fall Sale. We will need many more donations than we currently have if we are to have a sale in 2024.

We are accepting holiday decorations, housewares, linens, toys, small working electronics, gadgets, dishes, jewelry, lamps, art work and the list goes on. If you don't want it, we probably can sell it. Not certain we can use it, speak to Becky Miller Pryor before bringing it.

Please place your donations in boxes small enough for us to lift and place them in the Bazaar Room in the basement. If you cannot get to the basement, leaving them on the second landing in the back stairwell is helpful.



EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORMS FOR 2024

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Name: _____ Envelope#: _____ Telephone _____

I am ordering:

_____ Asiatic Lilies (6" assorted) @ \$9.00 = \$ _____

_____ Easter Lilies (6" Easter Lily 1 bulb) @ \$9.00 = \$ _____

_____ Easter Lilies (12" Easter Lily 2 bulbs) @ \$17.00 = \$ _____

and/or a *gift for other decorations* = \$ _____

and/or a *donation to Local Hunger* = \$ _____

These are given: (if more room is needed use the back of the card)

In Honor of (living person) _____

In Memory of (deceased) _____

All flower orders *must* be in by March 10, 2024

March Madness Word Search

CHAMPIONSHIP	N V I C T O R Y A X J E D X U C A V A U W J I K
UNIVERSITY	G A F Q T E D D J O H W U Y Y E W K J J D F P A
TOURNAMENT	J K I T A S U J B B D H C A O C Z Z C Q X F W O
BASKETBALL	S T A D I U M D H P X E L B B I R D P R S A C L
ATTENDANCE	U U Z E D F K U Y D I S K L A C K Z V J O Z F M
GYMNASIUM	Y D T C R A O N T Y T O U R N A M E N T V C W A
PRACTICE	N A R I R E T E L H T A V R D S F C B N B H W M
NATIONAL	I T M O B B R A C K E T S C K I H Z A L H A C J
STADIUM	Y E S N E F E D U A Q H J M O B O N S V B M Z L
REFEREE	I S S F V Q W H P T I R I P S P Z O K T W P L Q
DEFENSE	J Z B A J Z H W Z V E Z L V L R M N E D E I Y L
OFFENSE	B Y V J V N O T Q K A V T K D A P V T X Y O E K
VICTORY	E T E H Y C W X E A T X M P V C L Y B A B N Z U
DRIBBLE	Z B T K C A Z H Q U T O U Y W T I C A W S S V U
COLLEGE	Q B G J O T W P Y B E B I C U I B Q L N N H O N
BRACKET	Y Y W I H S X C L W N I S W N C R Z L W Q I H X
ATHLETE	X E M L C J I T F R D B A A I E E V X S E P X Z
SPIRIT	B G D A O M A Y H L A N N Q V K F G K U Y S E S
COACH	G E P N I I J A O Q N F M K E X E P N E C O Y A
FOUL	Y L K O F S Y R X B C D Y O R S R W W Q Q S R K
	S L T I U D V V Y K E J G D S E E T I R Z W M Z
	B O V T F W D E S N E F F O I B E I R M Q P B K
	A C H A P Z E F X H H I G M T O E F D U I S A P
	F K N N X P U E J F L U O F Y N U R P F B F Y J





Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3 Holy Communion 8:00AM Holy Communion 10:30AM	4	5 City Pastor's Lunch 1PM	6 Bible Study 12:05PM	7	8	9
10 Holy Communion 8:00AM Holy Communion 10:30AM <i>Deadline for Easter Flower Orders</i>	11	12	13 Bible Study 12:05PM	14	15	16
17 Holy Communion 8:00AM Holy Communion 10:30AM	18	19	20 Bible Study 12:05PM	21 Deadline for April "Lion"	22	23
24 Sunday of the Passion Holy Communion 8:00AM Holy Communion	25 Pastor Time with Little Lambs	26 	27 Bible Study 12:05PM	28 Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Chapel 12:10PM Nave 7:30PM	29 Good Friday Tenebrae Nave 7:30PM	30 Easter Vigil 8:00PM (beginning in the Chapel)
31 EASTER SUNDAY Holy Communion 8:00AM Holy Communion 10:30AM	APRIL 1st Easter Monday Church Office Closed	APRIL 2nd City Pastor's Lunch 1PM		 MARCH 28 Assembling the "Lion"		

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
142 MARKET STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701
Address Service Requested
 Phone: 570-323-4619
 Fax: 570-323-2452
 Website: www.stmarkswilliamsport.org
 Email: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org



Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 257
 Williamsport, PA 17701



Church Office 570-323-4619 Fax 570-323-2452
Website: stmarkswilliamsport.org
Main e-mail: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
 Rev. Brian Vasey, Pastor bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org 570-323-4619 or 570-523-1415
 Sam Robinson, Church Organist
 Jackie Baysore, Bookkeeper
 Ralph Zeigler, Council President
 Nikki Jackson, Vice-President
 Vicki Haussmann, Council Secretary
 Treasurer - Deb Buckman
 Janet Jones, Parish Life
 Debra Buckman, Family Promise Coordinator
 Sally Bjornstad, Altar Flowers
 Joseph Baur, Administrative Assistant



March Edition

STAFF OFFICE HOURS

Pastor: The Rev. Brian Vasey
 Mon-Thu 9 a.m.-1 p.m., & by appointment
 Church Organist: Sam Robinson
 Summer Mon 1-3 p.m. & by appointment
 Bookkeeper: Jackie Baysore
 By appointment
 Administrative Assistant: Joseph Baur
 Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org

