



The Parish Post

FEBRUARY 2019

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109
(717) 652-6700

www.stmarksharrisburg.org
e-mail: stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com
The Rev. James E. Person, 717-712-8191



*Jesus turned 6
30 gallon containers
into wine*

God gives us: FOOD, CLOTHING, TIME, MONEY, SKILLS, COMMUNITY

We give others:

FOOD

Food Bank
Ecumenical Food Pantry
Gift Cards
Social Services Ministry

CLOTHING

Coat Drive
Community Aid
Personal Donations
Christmas Families

TIME

Nutripacks
Stephen Ministry
Hospitals/Shut-Ins
Volunteering

MONEY

Offerings
Donations
Agapé Fund
Utilities/Meds

SKILLS

Stephen Ministry
Lutheran Hands
Offering Counters
Council/Ministries

COMMUNITY

Traditional Worship
"The Table"
Community Breakfast
Outside Groups

*Every One
can make
a difference*

MISSION STATEMENT: Nourished by Word and Sacrament, the mission of the members of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to spread God's Word in Jesus Christ through our thoughts, words, and actions, proclaiming God's good news for all to hear and live.



Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So, they took it. 9When the steward tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now. John 2:6-10

Unfortunately, due to the threat of dangerous weather, we had to cancel worship services on January 20th. Since I already had what I thought was a pretty good sermon prepared for that day, complete with visual aids, I am taking this opportunity to share that message with you in a slightly abbreviated manner.

The Gospel reading for that day was John 2:1-11, "The wedding at Cana". The visual aid is the photo on the front of this month's Parish Post. What struck me as I read that passage was the amount of water Jesus turned into wine. It was hard for me to visualize just how much 180 gallons is. As I thought about what six 30-gallon containers would look like, I remembered that we see that size container quite often: trash cans! (They are actually 32 gallons but, unlike the servants in the story, we won't fill them "to the brim".)

Think of those six containers filled with wine and you will get an idea of the abundance with which Jesus blessed the wedding's hosts, for whom a lack of wine would have been a terrible social faux pas. Jesus provided far more wine than was necessary and it wasn't the cheap stuff, it was the best the steward had tasted!

Thinking of the abundance of Jesus' blessings, and the many ways he blesses us today, I began to think of the ways he fills our "containers" with more than we need. We are blessed with **food**, for many of us more than is healthy. We are blessed with **clothing**, closets full in many cases. We have **time**. Even though we hear so much about how busy people are, the average American finds time to watch 5 hours of TV PER DAY! We have **skills**, technical, mechanical, intellectual, and others. And, one the greatest blessings, we have is **community**, at home, in church, at work and school. All these blessings fill the containers of our lives abundantly.

So how do we handle the abundance? (I've heard it said that the reason some people struggle is not a supply problem, it's a distribution problem!)

If you look again at the cover of this issue, you will see the many ways we bless others with the blessings God has given us. We share our **food** through the Central PA Food bank and the Ecumenical Food Pantry. We provide gift cards to supermarkets for those in need of groceries in an emergency and our Social Services Ministry organizes meals for families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. There are several ways we bless those who need **clothing**. The Coat Drive we participated in this year provided over 500 coats for people in our area and 70 were distributed from right here at St. Mark's. We have Community Aid donation boxes on our property and many of us make donations to individuals who we know have a need. And again, the families who receive gifts from our Social Services Ministry at Christmastime are always given clothing as well as other gifts.

I don't really need to re-list everything here that is shown on the cover but I want to reiterate that we are blessing others with the abundance of blessings God provides for us. Our **time**, through serving and volunteering at church and in the community, our **money**, through our tithes and offerings, donations to other charities and through our Agape' Fund, that helps people with emergency needs. We share our **skills** through Stephen Ministry, mission trips and in a variety of ways we serve the church, and our **community** is open and inviting to members and non-members alike. We provide different worship styles to reach people in different ways, our community breakfast has become a regular event for many of our neighbors and we provide meeting space for outside groups, like 12-step groups and others, that are doing much needed service beyond what we are able to provide on our own.

Picture those six thirty-gallon containers filled with wine, then picture them filled with all the blessings God provides for us every day, and think of how you have, and can continue to, bless others abundantly with the best God has to offer.

Your partner in ministry and mission



Pr. Jim Person

CPR/First Aid: On Saturday, Jan. 19 we held a CPR/AED/First Aid training led by instructor Dave Heim, who, along with his wife Tammy generously donated their time. The training was in Heart Saver CPR, AED, and First Aid. We now have several folks trained and available to help with emergencies should they arise. Those people include: Chris Bair, Deb Banks, Ruth Cheng, Tammy Heim, Barb Heym, Marian Person, Dave Stanton, Mary Sultzaberger, Roberta Wege, and Pastor Jim. Also certified are LuAnn Gallup, Dave Heim, Pam Baranowski, Rebekah Varga and, Abigail Zingone. If an emergency should arise in church, these people are ready to help. If you or someone you know is also certified in CPR, AED, and/or First Aid, please let us know and, upon presenting your certification, we will add those names to our list. Thank You.

2018 Financial Results

During the month of December Operating receipts were adequate to substantially reduce the deficit, and with the use of Gift Card and Extravaganza Designated Funds the 2018 year ended in balance. Offerings and tithes increased \$8,200 over the prior year while expenses increased \$14,000. The largest increase in expenses was due to utility payments and the Property Committee is working hard to address this issue.

A huge thank-you to all who had a part in meeting our financial needs at St. Marks!

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Members in Christ

On January 12, 2019 the entire council met for their annual retreat and council meeting.

All council members gave generously of their time and talents to participate in this meeting. Our speaker for the day was the Reverend Rob Blezard, Assistant to the Bishop for the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA. His topic discussed the proper use of the gifts God has given us.

We explored how we manage the abundant creation God has entrusted to our care.

We were reminded that our stewardship is part of the lives we live daily: stewardship of time; stewardship of health; stewardship of loving, caring relationships - as you see, the list could be endless. The amazing part is that each of us is one of God's stewards!

At the council meeting our year end position for 2018 showed a \$7180 deficit. Most of the increase in expenses was due to an overage in utilities. Action taken to cover the deficit was to transfer unallocated funds from the gift card fund and the extravaganza fund.

In addition, all ministries now have active chairpersons, except for Finance and Endowment. This is the perfect time for anyone wanting to learn more about any ministry to come to a meeting and be welcomed as a member. Please remember there are so many opportunities to serve God and our neighbors while enjoying the fellowship of other St. Mark's members and friends. If you are interested and exploring a new opportunity, please consult the church calendar or the list of meetings in your bulletin or call the church office.

We look forward to seeing you in church!

In Christian Service

Stephanie Carl



GOOD SAMARITAN CLUB

Times have changed: Many are no longer at St. Marks, some are older and lifestyles have changed. The need has not changed. Even if you signed up in the past, please sign up for the Good Samaritan Club again. Simply fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office. This is a great outreach to our members.

GOOD SAMARITAN CLUB

Recruitment Form

Name _____ Telephone _____

I would be willing to provide transportation to church activities:

Sundays _____ Weekdays: Daytime _____ Evenings _____

I would be willing to provide main meals as needed during illness or rehabilitation at home.

(They need not be home cooked.) As needed _____ Once a month _____ 2 times a year _____

Emergency Handyman Service:

Plumbing _____ Electrical _____ Storm Cleanup _____

Any questions please contact Judee Leister at 545-4418. Thank you.

After filling out the form please put it in the Offering Plate or return it to the church office.

SPECIAL DATES

- African-American History Month
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2019
- Presidents Day, February 18, 2019

**FYI - Wednesday, March 6th - Ash Wednesday
services at Noon & 7:00 pm**

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

Tuesday, February 5 - 9:00 am Projects Day
Monday, February 11 - 4:00 pm W/ELCA Board
Tuesday, February 12 - 10:00 am Esther Circle
Tuesday, February 26 - 6:30 pm Eve Circle



- 1 Carolyn Shadle
Lori Ulrich
- 3 T. J. Bryan
Jenna Spencer
- 4 Karen Smith
- 8 Zachary Dullen
- 9 Xavier Webber
- 11 Griffin Phelan
Grace Phelan
- 13 Emma Malette
- 16 Kenneth Lang
Cynthia Lang
- 22 Logan Fleegal
Jackson Fleegal
- 24 Edward Shadle
Terry Stohler
Jenny Sustak
- 26 Donna Woodrow
- 27 Matthew Dudek
Matthew Johns
- 28 Paulette Beverly

If your birthday is in February and we missed it, please let us know. We hope you have a happy birthday anyway.

FEBRUARY LECTORS

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 3 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 10 Nick Zingone | Dennis DeFrank |
| 17 Laurie Womer | Youth |
| 24 Bruce Senft | Betty Briner |

FEBRUARY ALTAR CARE

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 3 Sue Bennick | Marian Person |
| 10 Laurie Womer | Sandy Dinger |
| 17 Laura Young | Barb Dudek |
| 24 Barb Heym | Sandy Dinger |

FEBRUARY GREETERS

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 3 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 10 Ed & Carolyn Shadle | Marian Person |
| | Donna Woodrow |
| 17 Sue Senft | Nancy Hartman |
| 24 Laura Young | Sandy Sherwood |

FEBRUARY COMMUNION ASST.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 10 Jeannie Flickinger | Tracy Ingram |
| Lauren Zicarelli/Hengst | Sandy Sherwood |
| 17 Laurie Womer | Dennis DeFrank |
| Paul Deibler | Sara Jane DeFrank |
| 24 Laurie Womer | Lore-Lee Walak |
| Paul Deibler | Elliott Walak |

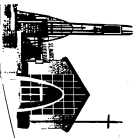
FEBRUARY FLOWER DELIVERY

- 3 Terry Stohler
- 10 Tracy Ingram
- 17 Laurie Womer
- 24 Donna Lee



Colonial Park Meals on Wheels is in need of volunteers. Please consider volunteering for 1 day a month delivering meals to home-bound seniors. Meals are delivered to the Colonial Park United Church of Christ, 5000 Devonshire Road about 8:45 am. It takes about 1½ to 2 hours to complete the route. If you are interested, please call Jan Smith at 717-545-7816.

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div></div> <div>ST MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN</div>				6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm OA	1 Ground Hog Day 8:00 am Community Breakfast
3 8:15 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday Church School 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm LYF Super Bowl Party 7:30 pm AA	4 6:00 pm CODA 6:00 pm Fellowship Ministry 6:00 pm Worship/Music/Arts 6:30 pm NA	5 8:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:00 am Projects Day 1:00 pm Social Services Ministry 6:30 pm ALANON	6 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Family Support Group 6:30 pm Advent Choir 6:30 pm Christian Education 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm ACA	7 1:00 pm The Craft Artisans 6:00 pm CODA 6:15 pm Mission Bells 6:30 pm NA 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	8 7:30 pm OA	9
10 8:15 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday Church School 9:45 am Alternative Worship "The Table" 11:00 am Worship 4:00 pm ACA Study Group 5:00 pm LYF St. High Meeting 7:30 pm AA	11 4:00 pm W/ELCA Board Meeting 6:00 pm CODA 6:30 pm NA 7:00 pm Lioness Meeting	12 10:00 am Esther Circle 6:30 pm ALANON 6:30 pm Property Committee 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry	13 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm ACA Study Group 6:30 pm Advent Choir 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm ACA	14 Valentine's Day 1:00 pm The Craft Artisans 6:00 pm CODA 6:15 pm Mission Bells 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Evangelism Ministry 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	15 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm OA	16
17 8:15 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday Church School 11:00 am Worship 7:30 pm AA	18 President's Day 6:00 pm CODA 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Fred Shultz (Pastor) 7:00 pm Pax Christi 7:30 pm AA	19 6:30 pm ALANON 7:00 pm Council	20 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Family Support Group 6:30 pm Advent Choir 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm ACA	21 1:00 pm The Craft Artisans 6:00 pm CODA 6:15 pm Mission Bells 6:30 pm NA 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	22 7:30 pm OA	23
24 8:15 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday Church School 11:00 am Worship 12:30 pm LYF Jr. Meeting 4:00 pm ACA Study Group 5:00 pm LYF Meeting 7:30 pm AA	25 6:00 pm CODA 6:30 pm NA	26 6:30 pm ALANON 6:30 pm Eye Circle	27 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm ACA Study Group 6:30 pm Advent Choir 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm ACA	28 10:00 am Book Club 1:00 pm The Craft Artisans 6:00 pm CODA 6:15 pm Mission Bells 6:30 pm NA 7:30 pm Chancel Choir		

UPDATE: Total coats donated 194,799.

WARM COATS AND WARM HEARTS COAT DRIVE (Nov. 7 through Jan. 21, 2019)

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." (Romans 12:13)

As the 12th annual Delivering Good, Burlington Stores and Good Morning America coat drive comes to a close, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who jumped in to support this worthwhile cause, including those in Evangelism, Social Services, WELCA, Council, Spirit & Truth Band, Stephen Ministry, LYF, Jill Marks, Kellen, Jenny and Pastor Jim.

As of this writing, we collected over 530 coats which were distributed by Tammy & Charlie Roberts to St. Mathew and Union churches in York and by Pastor Karin Pejack to Zion Lutheran in Harrisburg. We also distributed about 70 within our own church, particularly through your notifications, our Community Breakfast participants, and Romanian children in need. Over 160,250 coats were donated nationwide last year.



Our involvement was made possible because of St. Mark's participation in the HEROES Care (Homefront Enabling Relationships, Opportunities and Empowerment through Support) program. HEROES Care is designed to equip Stephen Ministers to provide proactive support for military members and their families through pre-deployment, deployment, family reintegration and post-deployment. As a congregation that actively recognizes the dedication of our beloved veterans, I encourage you to continue to support this organization by becoming a HEROES Care volunteer through Stephen Ministries. I can tell you from first hand experience that the few minutes I spent on emails, texts and a few phone calls were invaluable moments to family members stressed by uncertainties surrounding their loved ones' deployments. By completing just 48 hours of training, you are prepared to affect hundreds of lives. "You can do what you have to do, and sometimes you can do it

even better than you think you can." - Jimmy Carter



3 LYF Super Bowl Party - 5 pm
10 LYF Sr. High Meeting - 5 - 8:30 pm
24 LYF Jr. Meeting - 12:30 - 3 pm
LYF Meeting 5 - 8:30 pm

NEW ADDRESS:

Alice Dormer
VibraLife
Senior Living Community
707 Shepherdstown Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



FREE

First Saturday of every month.

8:00 - 9:30 am

All are welcome!

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4200 Londonderry Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 618
Harrisburg, PA.

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY
DATED MATERIAL

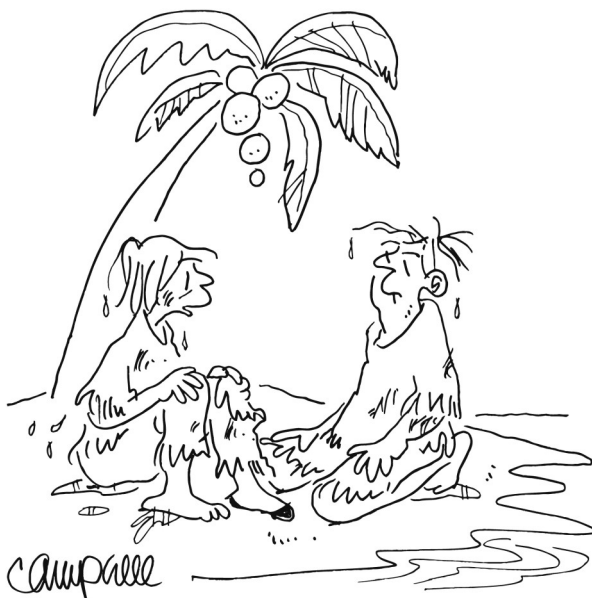
THE PARISH POST



St. Mark's Church Council

President	Stephanie Carl
Vice President	Sandy Sherwood
Secretary	Loraine Mariner
Treasurer	Calvin Smith
Financial Secretary	Mary Sultzaberger
Council Members	Chris Bair
	Joe Baranowski
	Tom Graham
	Jim Long
	Pastor Jim Person
	Rebekah Varga
	Lore Lee Walak
	Roberta Wege
	Laura Young
	Nick Zingone
Minister of Music	Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk
Minister of Contemporary Worship	Bennett Williams
Church Secretary	Kim DiPaolo
Youth/Family Ministry	Kellen Michalowski
Sexton	Donald Young
Nursery School Dir.	Pam Baranowski

THE PARISH POST FEBRUARY 2019



"Don't worry. I'm a church pastor. First little problem, and they'll find me."