



The Parish Post

MAY 2018

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



Saturday, May 19 - Chicken BBQ
10:30 am till gone.

Reserve your dinner in advance.

June 23 - Chicken/Ribs BBQ

July 21 - Chicken BBQ

September 15 - Chicken/Ribs BBQ

You're Invited



Friday, May 11 at 6:00 pm

A Free Will Offering will be taken. Sign-up sheets are at both entrances to the sanctuary.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

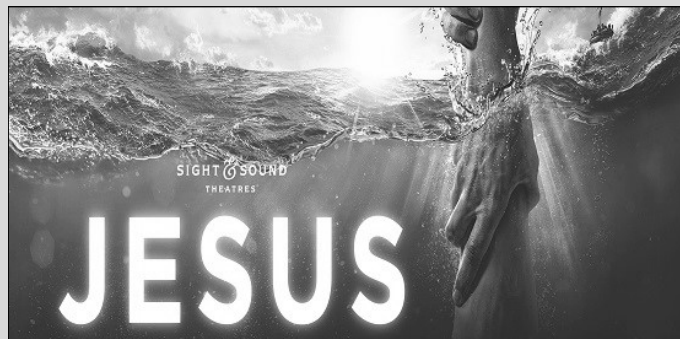


\$95

All inclusive.



Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



Tuesday, July 10, 2018

9:30 am Depart St. Mark's
10:30 am Sight & Sound
11:00 am Showtime
1:30 pm Depart for Dinner
2:00 pm Huckleberry's
4:30 pm Arrival back

Flea Market/Car Wash



July 14
8:00 AM

Spaces available



July 16 - July 19, 2018

Contact Sandy, Pam or
Rebekah at:
stmarkshbg.vbs@gmail.com
for more info!





"Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:12-14 (NRSV)

Paul's words to the church in Philippi, quoted above, have always been some of my favorite words in all of scripture. When I wonder what it is God has in mind for me, I turn to Paul's example and simply keep "pressing on" with the understanding that, whatever it is God has in store, God will show me the way to go. As I see God at work in so many ways at St. Mark's these days, I believe that is also a good way for us to approach the future God has in store for us as a church.

What Paul talks about not having already obtained is knowing Christ and becoming like him. Those are, of course, lofty goals that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we will obtain when we leave this world for the next. Until then, we keep pressing on, "forgetting what lies behind."

Again, to put Paul's words into context, he doesn't expect us to give up all our history, tradition, or heritage. What Paul was leaving behind, and what we should work to leave behind, are the things from our past that have held us back in our pursuit of the goal God has for us. History, tradition, and heritage can be good things if we use them as a foundation to build on for the future.

I also like the verses following the passage above, this time quoted from *The Message*, a paraphrase of scripture by Eugene Petersen, "**So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it.**"

Petersen's version makes it clear that sometimes we need to get moving, and keep moving, before the path is made clear. I believe we are on the right track and so I say, "Let's stay on it!"

Recently we have seen renewed vigor and enthusiasm in several of our ministries. The Evangelism Ministry has had some exciting meetings and has come up with some great ideas for outreach within and beyond our walls. The Stewardship Ministry is working to find ways to both encourage and educate us on the importance of Biblical Stewardship. The Worship and Music Ministry has come up with some wonderful ways to enhance the already Spirit-filled worship of St. Mark's. The Easter Vigil, held here for the first time in a long time, is one example of one such successful addition to our Holy Week schedule. The blending of music by our Spirit and Truth Band into the 8:15 and 11:00 services has been, for the most part, a welcome addition to our worship. (By the way, Marian and I attended the concert SATB put on at St. Peter's in Middletown and we were both struck with a new appreciation for the talent and gifts we are so fortunate to have in our midst.)

Whatever new and exciting things that are happening are in addition to the many wonderful things that have been happening all along here at St. Mark's. The Fellowship Ministry continues to find ways to bring us together (mostly around food, of course) and to raise some funds to help offset the cost of some of our "extracurricular activities. The Christian Education Ministry has been building a great Sunday School and Confirmation program that saw eight youngsters receive their First Holy Communion and three youth will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 20th. Also, the Confirmation Class project set a wonderful example for emphasizing different aspects of our ministry throughout the year and I would like to see our standing ministries take on and continue that effort.

Our youth groups, Lutheran Youth of Faith (LYF), and LYF Jr. are among the most active and vibrant anywhere. The ministry they provide to the youth of our congregation and community is an essential part of faith formation for those young people when it matters most. And, in the area of Youth and Family Ministry, our annual family Retreat has grown from the first year's participation of just 11 people to this year's total of over 40 participants, in just three years.

Thanks to two grants we have received, the Property Ministry has some exciting work to do as well. We have also received a generous bequest from the estate of Helen Kegerreis, earmarked for capital improvements and/or building expansion that will help with improvements to our facilities over and above simple, necessary maintenance. (See Council President Nick Zingone's article for more on what the Property Ministry has in store. Yes, we are on the right track;

let's stay on it!

Of course, like Paul and individual Christians everywhere, there are some areas in which we could improve. Communication, both internal and external is one that immediately comes to mind. If you have skills in this, or any other area that might help St. Mark's "**press on toward the goal of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus**" please speak up, step up, and help us to stay on the right track.

Your partner in ministry and mission,



COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Have you ever felt like you're having a bad week and you just can't shake the feeling, when something occurs to suddenly renew you? From that moment your perspective shifts with the revelation and it gives you a new sense of purpose. I experienced such a moment this morning hearing verses 14-16 from chapter 10 of John's Gospel:

I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd.

It was verse 16 (underlined) that had the most profound impact. In that moment it was the reminder that Jesus wants everyone to be part of His flock, not just those who are already members of a Christian congregation. We do a pretty job caring for the 500+ sheep who make up the flock of St. Mark's. Are there opportunities to improve? Sure.

Now let's consider those sheep around us who are not yet part of the flock. It's incredible when you start to think how many non-members our ministry touches on a regular basis. Try to add up everyone who attends a group meeting in our facility, eats a meal at our community breakfasts, attends our Nursery School, receives food via the Nutripack program, and on and on. That number certainly reaches into the thousands!

Our physical facilities (building and grounds) are at the core of the ministry we provide. You could even liken our church structure to the physical enclosure

that would surround a flock of sheep keeping them safe. With all the people we serve, it is vital that we ensure this physical space is adequate for our current and future needs. It's all the more reason to ensure we continue making investments in our facilities to ensure they support rather than hinder our mission. That's why our property ministry has prioritized the Fellowship Hall for renovations over the coming months. As preparation and planning are underway, I encourage your participation by attending upcoming property ministry meetings. If you're unable to make a meeting you are welcome to speak with members of the ministry such as Chris Bair, Randy Whitaker, or Pastor Person to ask questions or provide input for the project.

Other Recent Council Action:

Approved a request to guarantee financial support to three youth desiring to attend summer camp in excess of budget should they be unable to obtain a campership from the Lutheran Camping Corporation. Total commitment not to exceed \$675 allocated from undesignated Extravaganza proceeds.

We want to hear your questions or concerns. Please speak with any member of Council, join us the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm for our Council meetings, or e-mail me at nzingone@verizon.net.

Faithfully Yours,
Nick Zingone

THANK YOU NOTES

I would like to acknowledge everyone involved in the St. Mark's Family Retreat, April 13 - 15, 2018 at Camp Kirchenwald. Bennett Williams, Kellen and the Youth Group planned and organized it and Pastor Jan lead us to Worship God in a family atmosphere. The food was fresh and lovingly prepared by Cheryl Long with help from Ruth Cheng. The music, food and fellowship was greatly enjoyed along with the beautiful weather, campfire and s'mores. We made lots of friends. We all look forward to next year. Hope to see you there. Thank you to everyone!

In Christian Love,
Lucy & Suezan

I would like to Thank my St. Mark's Family for the 60 Birthday Cards I received for my 98th birthday. God has truly blessed me with such wonderful friends.

God Bless,
Miriam Glosser

MEMORIAL for Harry Roat from:

Arlene & Stanley Machamer

WORK DAYS AT CAMP Saturday, May 5, 2018, 8:30am Kirchenwald & The Wittel Farm Saturday, April 28, 2018, 9:00am Nawakwa Volunteers needed to do general housekeeping, gardening, painting, carpentry, and other tasks. A noon meal will be provided. Please call the Camping Office to volunteer 717-677-8211.

Women of the ELCA

Tuesday, May 1 - 9:00 am — Projects Day
Friday, May 4 - 6:30 pm — Women's Fellowship Dinner
Monday, May 7 - 4:00 pm — W/ELCA Board
Tuesday, May 8 - 10:00 am — Esther Circle
Tuesday, May 22 - 6:30 pm — Eve Circle

W/ELCA SPRING SERVICE PROJECT

A tree decorated with suggested items for donation will be collected for Christ Lutheran Church Health Ministries. The tree will be located in the narthex until Sunday, May 20.

Gifts can be placed in the wooden boxes in the narthex.



- 5 9am - 5pm — Tanbark Party
- 6 12:30 - 4:30 pm — LYF Family Kite Day
- 5 - 8:30 pm — LYF Meeting
- 12 10 am — Youth Service Rehearsal
- 13 7:30 am — Youth Service
- 20 12:30 - 4 pm — LYF Jr. Last Meeting
- 5 - 8:30 pm — LYF Meeting



On Sunday, May 20, 2018, three youth will be confirmed at the 11 am service. Nathaniel Harris, Tate Ingram and Christian McClain have attended the required 3 years of confirmation classes, confirmation camp, and they completed their confirmation project.

Nathaniel Harris is a freshman at Central Dauphin East High School, Tate Ingram is an 8th grader at Lower Dauphin Middle School, and Christian McClain is in 8th grade at Linglestown Middle School. Between the two church services on May 20th, a breakfast, hosted by the Fellowship

Ministry, will be served in honor of our confirmands.

Come support Nathaniel, Tate and Christian as they undergo the religious rite of confirmation!

St. Mark's Nursery School

Following The Lamb ...



Hello St. Mark's!

We will be planning to celebrate the success of our 4/5 Year Olds and getting them ready to be going to Kindergarten in the Fall with a Graduation Ceremony on Friday May 18th at 10:30 AM. All are welcome to come and join us in this celebration. We are excited to announce that we will have 16 students graduating this year!

In March was our Annual Bunny Breakfast. Myself and the Nursery School Board would like to say Thank You! We greatly appreciate the support of everyone with this event. We wouldn't have been able to have such a successful event without the volunteers and donations given from everyone. With all your help we have made this year's event the best one we have ever had here at St. Mark's. Thank You again!

We are counting down the days to the last day of school but are not slowing down with learning our different Bible Verses about Adam and Eve and the creation of a Beautiful Garden. We also will be learning about Jonah and the Whale and acting out getting eaten by a whale. It has been a great year at St. Mark's and we are looking forward to another year. If you know anyone interested in our program we still have openings in our 2, 3, and 4 year old program!

Pamela Baranowski
Director

SPECIAL DATES

- National Day of Prayer, May 3, 2018
- Ascension, May 10, 2018
- Mother's Day, May 13, 2018
- Armed Forces Day, May 19, 2018
- Pentecost, May 20, 2018
- Trinity Sunday, May 27, 2018
- Memorial Day, May 28, 2018

MEN'S RETREAT AT KIRCHENWALD - April 27-28, 2018. Need a weekend with the guys? Come on out to Kirchenwald for a retreat that's sure to put hair on your chest. Get your hands dirty with on-site service projects, break a sweat with some athletic competition and bike riding, and join in fellowship and Bible study in a faith-based environment. The retreat runs from 7pm on Friday until 4pm on Saturday. Participants must be at least 18 years old, or 15 if accompanied by an adult. (It's a great way to spend time with your grandson/nephew, etc!) \$65 per person.

LUTHERAN CAMPING NIGHT with the HARRISBURG SENATORS - Harrisburg Senators vs. New Hampshire Fisher Cats, Friday, May 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm. A portion of each Advance Sale Ticket will benefit the Lutheran Camping Corporation's Campership Fund. Group tickets are available through your congregation. Individual tickets may be purchased by calling the Senators box office at 717-231-4444.

19th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT - Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania. Friday, June 8, 2018 at Honey Run Golf Course, York, PA. 1:30pm Shotgun Start \$90 per golfer \$360 per foursome. Enjoy golf, dinner, and fellowship. Proceeds benefit the Campership Fund. Download a registration form or register online at LutheranCamping.org.

SUMMER CAMP KICK-OFF, WORSHIP & PICNIC Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Nawakwa, Worship begins at 3:30 pm. Join friends, volunteers, and staff of Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm to celebrate the opening of the 2018 Summer Camping Season with worship, fellowship, and fabulous food. RSVP by May 11 to 717-677-8211 or LutheranCamping.org

MEN'S RETREAT at Kirchenwald April 27-28, 2018. Need a weekend with the guys? Come on out to Kirchenwald for a retreat that's sure to put hair on your chest. Get your hands dirty with on-site service projects, break a sweat with some athletic competition and bike riding, and join in fellowship and Bible study in a faith-based environment. The retreat runs from 7pm on Friday until 4pm on Saturday. Participants must be at least 18 years old, or 15 if accompanied by an adult. (It's a great way to spend time with your son/grandson/nephew, etc!) Registration is \$65 for the weekend. Please register by April 20. Register at LutheranCamping.org or by calling the Camping Office 717-677-8211



- 1 Morgan Adams
- 2 Dennis DeFrank
Lucy Nusz
- 5 Christopher Smith
- 6 Kris Kiner
- 7 Nathan Banic
- 8 Connor Ellestad
- 10 Dwayne Geiger
- 12 Stephanie Carl
- 14 Mary Sultzaberger
- 16 John Herigan
- 19 Marian Person
Christie Senft
- 24 Joshua Heym
- 25 Joshua Smithers
- 27 Lori Bargmann
- 28 Shirley Johns
- 29 Stan Simpler
- 30 Landon Brown
Robert Haines
- 31 Ethan Appleby
Alice Hoover
William Kroah, Jr.

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



From Joe Baranowski

MAY COMMUNION ASST.

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 6 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 13 Jeannie Flickinger
Lauren Zaccarelli | Tracy Ingram,
Sandy Sherwood |
| 20 Alice Graham
Roberta Wege | Dennis DeFrank
Sara Jane DeFrank |
| 27 Laurie Womer
Paul Deibler | Lore-Lee Walak
Elliott Walak |

MAY LECTORS CARE

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 6 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 13 Youth Sunday | Youth Sunday |
| 20 Lisa Hand | Youth |
| 27 Fred Mast | Judy Horton |

MAY ALTAR CARE

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 6 Laurie Womer | Sara Jane DeFrank |
| 13 Laura Young | Marian Person |
| 20 Sue Bennick | Barb Dudek |
| 27 Barb Heym | Sara Jane DeFrank |

MAY FLOWER DELIVERY

- 6 Tom & Terry Stohler
- 13 Bill & Betty Shook
- 20 Barb Heym
- 27 Barb Dudek

MAY GREETERS

8:15 AM

11:00 AM

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 6 Men in Mission | Men in Mission |
| 13 Doug & Laurie Womer | Dick & Louise Botts |
| 20 Ed & Carolyn Shadle | Barb Dudek |
| 27 Bill Van Nieuwkuyk | Marian Person |

How do you describe Biblical Stewardship? - Biblical Stewardship to me is using my abilities and gifts to help show all of God's good to our community and faith family. This has allowed me to teach the young minds and show how God is good in everything we do. This is one of the greatest rewards in my faith!

Has good stewardship always been important to you? - As a young adult stewardship tended to be off an on in my life. But now as an adult with two young kids learning about their faith, I felt the need to show stewardship and respect for my faith and for the church as a whole.

What would you like to tell others about Biblical Stewardship? - Don't be afraid to share your gifts with God. We are all blessed with different ways of being able to serve God and the church, it is important to not hide behind our uncertainties of what others will think. We need to know that God has given us our gifts as rewards in life. These are meant to be shared with everyone and celebrate and glorify God.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Harrisburg, PA 17109

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THE PARISH POST



St. Mark's Church Council

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