



The Parish Post

MAY 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



Saturday, May 4th

10:30 AM

All volunteer are WELCOME!

MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Sunday, May 5th

Between services in Fellowship Hall

Come out and support our wonderful music program!



Sunday, May 12th

SATB Band will play at both 8:15 & 11:00 services.
No Alternative Worship "The Table" for May.

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.



Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
John 20:21

While preparing Bible study for the Second Sunday of Easter I came across an interesting note in my folder for John 20:19-31, the Gospel reading for that Sunday; just over 22 years ago, on April 6, 1997, I preached my first "real" sermon right here at St. Mark's on this very passage. At that time, I was a 40-year-old, second career seminary student who had come to St. Mark's for Teaching Parish. Along with me came my wife, Marian and two children

Eli, 16, and Sarah, 12.

One thing my family and I will always remember is the way we were greeted when we came here. From the very first day we were taken in as if we had been here all our lives. We felt instantly that St. Mark's was our home away from home. This was especially important to us since our family was, and mostly still is, three hours away in Greensburg and Latrobe. Our son, now 38, is still living in Western PA with his wife Lisa, while Sarah and her husband Michael Williams live right here in Harrisburg with our two wonderful, amazing, incredible, fantastic, grandsons, Brooks and Teddy. We had an especially blessed Easter experience this year as Sarah, Michael and the boys joined us for worship and were welcome by our St. Mark's family just as we have been over these past 22 years.

It is hard to explain our relationship with St. Mark's in any way other than to say it is God's plan for us. Of all the places we could have been assigned for Teaching Parish, we ended up here. We were even told that some congregations discouraged students from bringing their families with them on Sundays during Teaching Parish. This was, at least in part, due to the responsibility of the congregation to provide a meal and conversation with the student following worship and apparently some congregations felt that was too much of a burden to be expected. Here, however, I was told that the congregation would be disappointed if I did not bring the whole family and every Sunday enhanced that family experience and strengthened our relationship with St. Mark's.

When Teaching Parish ended, I had an unexplainable feeling that we would someday be back at St. Mark's. That feeling proved true when graduation time came, and I received a call to St. Mark's as Associate Pastor. Our experience as members of the St. Mark's family was renewed and my experience, along with Pastor Kiser's mentorship, proved invaluable to my life in ordained ministry. That early experience was somewhat short-lived, however, as God had other things in mind for us. With an opening at Prince of Peace Lutheran church in Latrobe, Marian's hometown, we made a move west to be with our "original" families. Five years in Western PA gave us a chance to reconnect with family and friends and the experience as sole Pastor was important to me and my ministry. Again, though, as we said farewell to St. Mark's I had a feeling that someday, somehow, we would be back.

Early in 2007 we heard that there was an opening for a Pastor at (guess where!) St. Mark's. After talking it over with Marian, meeting with the bishops of both the Southwestern PA and Lower Susquehanna Synods, we decided to enter the call process with hopes of returning to our home away from home. Now, 12 years later, I find myself preparing to preach a sermon on that very same passage that was my first sermon preached outside a seminary classroom over 22 years ago. In some small way, I can identify with Jesus's words, "I will be with you always, even to the end of the age."

As I said, there is no other way to explain our experience at St. Mark's other than to see it as God's plan. As Jesus says in the passage above, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." It's not so much an enlistment as it is a draft; Jesus calls us to serve others through the church, then sends us where he wants us to be, not only as Pastors and their families, but as disciples of Jesus Christ in any and all walks of life.

What service has Jesus drafted you into? Where is he sending you to serve? Look back over your life and ahead to your future, where has God's plan brought you to, and where are headed? What might God have in store for you in the next 22 years and beyond?

Your partner in ministry and mission,

Pr. Jim Person



Friday, May 3 at 6:30 pm Women's Fellowship Dinner
Tuesday, May 7 at 9:00 am Projects Day
Saturday, May 11 at 9:30 am Day of Renewal
St. Bartholomew United, Hanover
Monday, May 13 at 4:00 pm W/ELCA Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 28 at 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 for the month of May. Gift can be placed in the wooden boxes in the Narthex.



Sunday, June 2, 2019
One service at 10:30 am
followed by a picnic

*Let's all celebrate a great year
and welcome summer!*

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

We have just journeyed through Lent to the glorious resurrection of our Lord. It has been a busy season here at St. Mark's. Seeing accomplishments of so many groups of people and feeling the energy of their ministries has been amazing!

Fellowship seems to have an endless supply of energy and hosted our Lenten soup and bread meals as well as the coffee hour on Palm Sunday. Nursery School had the Art Show and Bunny Breakfast which took a great amount of organization and a large number of volunteers. Our music program shared their talents to enhance and enrich our worship. Altar ministry was busy as well as people signing up for the prayer vigil. Extravaganza showcased an incredible array of handmade treasures - proceeds to benefit various community organizations. Our youth group has been busy with their regularly scheduled meetings, the family retreat, making Easter candy and serving as volunteers for various events. Social Services Ministry scheduled highway cleanup and collected funds for the ELCA fruit tree nursery project.

Whether you are reading my words or participated in any of these or other Ministry initiatives or simply felt the energy of things happening at St. Mark's, you are experiencing stewardship at work! It is members and friends and community all sharing their time, talent and treasures to do God's will and to love our neighbors.

Please take this opportunity to show your response to the greatest gift God could offer. Remember that we all have been blessed abundantly and that sharing our time, talents and treasure is what enables us to continue the St. Mark's mission to the neighbors we serve.

I look forward to our continued stewardship and to seeing you in church!

Stephanie Carl
Council President



Saturday, May 18, 2019

Chicken & Ribs BBQ

10:30 am till gone!



To all of my friends at St. Mark's,

I want to express my gratitude to everyone that had sent a birthday card to me for my 99th birthday.

What a wonderful surprise and a great way to be remembered by my church family.

Thanks so much.

Your friend,
Miriam Glosser

To My Friends at St. Mark's,

Thank you for all your prayers and concerns for when I had my colonoscopy procedure done with good results.

Sincerely,
Judy Horton

Dear members of St. Mark's,

Thank you! Your 2018 Mission Support of \$24,321.17 has helped our church to stand strong and be faithful to our mission despite challenges.

Thank you, again, for your partnership and commitment to the work that God sets before us!

LSS

- 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, Sr.
- 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

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

The **ST. MARK'S BOOK CLUB** has some interesting books to talk about in the next few months. If you enjoy reading, perhaps you would like to read one of the books and join us in the parlor at 10 am for a discussion of the following books:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Author</u>
May 23	PA Stories Well Told	William Ecenbarger
June 25	Varina	Charles Frazier

APRIL LECTORS

8:15 AM	11:00 AM
5 Men in Mission	Men in Mission
12 Youth Sunday	Youth Sunday
19 Abigail Zingone	Calvin Smith
26 John Herigan	David Stanton

APRIL ALTAR CARE

8:15 AM	11:00 AM
5 Laurie Womer	Marian Person
	Donna Woodrow
12 Sue Bennick	Marian Person
	Donna Woodrow
19 Laura Young	Barb Dudek
26 Barb Heym	Sandy Dinger

APRIL FLOWER DELIVERY

5 John & Margaret Herigan
12 June Miller
19 Laurie Womer
26 Sue Dillahey

NEW ADDRESSES

DORIS ATKINSON

Stonebridge
102 Chandra Drive
Duncannon, PA 17020

MILDRED FORNEY

Broadmore Senior Living
1175 Professional Cr., Rm. 121
Hagerstown, MD 21740



FREE
First Saturday of every
month.
8:00 - 9:30 am

JUST A COINCIDENCE?

As we journey through life, we encounter events that we may attribute to luck, coincidence, the stars and moon lined up, and maybe even Divine intervention. Who or what gets credit in these examples?

Scenario	Person	Luck	Coincidence
I pray for a stranger on the prayer chain, and the recipient pulls through surgery with flying colors.	Medical professionals		My own prayer power
I volunteer for an event, and I am asked if non-Christians are destined for hell.		Where's pastor?	
I am a work leader at a mission construction site, and we have just enough supplies needed for the day.	It's all about my great planning		
I am struggling with the value of a tv show, and when I wander into a group of strangers, a pastor mentions a similar scenario during the sermon.			Great minds think alike
I broke a mirror, had a flat tire, and forgot my lunch money in the same day.		Bad juju	

Especially during Easter season, we as Christians remain particularly joyful at just what Jesus has accomplished for us. I challenge you to reflect on your mindset. Is it like the responses in the chart above? There are no coincidences with the Lord. *"The purposes of a person's heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out."* (Proverbs 20:5)

Treasurer's Report Summary 3 Months (Jan. – March) 2019

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES	
Operating	\$66,379	Operating	\$71,641
Benevolence	<u>5,544</u>	Benevolence	<u>6,544</u>
Subtotal	71,923	Subtotal	78,185
Gift Cards	12,900	Gift Cards	14,440
Extravaganza	0	Extravaganza	2,050
Mellinger Interest Fd	2,000	Mellinger Interest Fd	152
Hunger	325	Hunger	325
Building Fund	2,121	Building Fund	16,850
Nursery Sch Scholarships	65	Nursery Sch Scholarships	0
Youth Designated & I/O	7,752	Youth Designated & I/O	2,078
Memorial Funds	45	Memorial Funds	0
Seasonal Flowers	447	Seasonal Flowers	540
Fellowship	456	Fellowship	1,671
Nursery Sch Payroll	9,388	Nursery Sch Payroll	9,388
Senior Trips	1,107	Senior Trips	0
Agape Fund	0	Agape Fund	500
Bricks/Mem Garden	335	Bricks/Mem Garden	137
Fellowship Hall Renovation	0	Fellowship Hall Renovations	396
Misc	275	Misc.	1,161

Harriet Mark Estate

Endowment Fd 66,262
 Buidling Fd 26,505
 Outside Benevolence 13,252
 Special Projects 13,252
 Operating Reserve 13,252

Total Receipts \$241,663 Total Expenditures \$127,873

Calvin Smith, Treasurer

HAPPY Mother's DAY



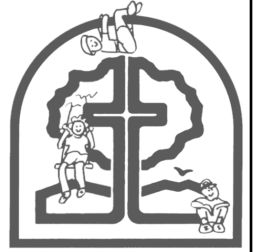
4th - Tanbark Party - 9am to 5 pm
 11th - Youth Service Rehearsal - 10 am
 12th - Youth Service - 7:30 am
 19th - LYF Jr Last Meeting - 12:30 to 4 pm
 LYF Meeting - 5 to 8:30 pm
 24th - 26th - Sr. High & Young Adults
 Retreat (Joint Retreat with SPYG @ Nawakwa)

SPECIAL DATES

- National Day of Prayer, *May 2, 2019*
- Mother's Day, *May 12, 2019*
- Armed Forces Day, *May 18, 2019*
- Memorial Day, *May 27, 2019*
- Ascension, *May 30, 2019*



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm
PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303
717-677-8211 • www.LutheranCamping.org



LUTHERAN CAMPING NIGHT at the Harrisburg Senators

Friday, May 3, 2019

The Lutheran Camping Corporation and the Harrisburg Senators Baseball Team invite your church family to a night of fun and fellowship at FNB Field for our annual Lutheran Camping Night! Tickets are \$11 each (\$4 of each ticket will be donated to the LCC)

MEN'S RETREAT at Kirchenwald

Friday & Saturday, May 3 & 4, 2019

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!) \$80 per person

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT at Manada Golf Club, Grantville

Saturday, May 11, 2019

The tournament will benefit the Campership Fund, which allows all persons to have a camping experience, regardless of financial means. In the history of the Lutheran Camping Corporation, no camper applicant has ever been turned away due to inability to afford the cost.

THE WITTEL FARM GROWING PROJECT PLANTING DAY

Saturday, May 18, 2019

The area under vegetable production will be between 5 and 6 acres this summer. We will plant a greater variety of vegetables over a longer growing season with the addition of both earlier and later maturing vegetables. To meet this challenge, we will need more volunteers. Join us for Planting Day on May 18 beginning at 9am. Additional opportunities to help with planting, tending, harvesting on Wednesdays and Saturday mornings from 9am-12 and Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm, June 5 through August 28.

SUMMER CAMP KICK-OFF WORSHIP & PICNIC at Kirchenwald

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Join friends, volunteers, and staff of Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm to celebrate the opening of the 2019 Summer Camping Season with worship, fellowship, and fabulous food. A free event. Kirchenwald's 50th Anniversary activities begin at 1:30.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Calling all of God's Helpers of his Creation and
STAFF

Save the Date

Sunday July 28th - Thursday August 1st

Contact Sandy, Pam or Rebekah at:
stmarkshbg.vbs@gmail.com

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

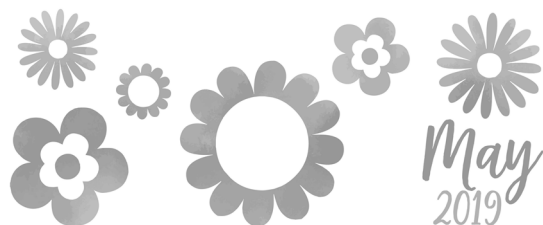
4200 Londonderry Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

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

May 2019

