



The Parish Post

MAY/JUNE 2022

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



There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do. Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of his body. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 27 (The Message)

The twelfth chapter of First Corinthians is probably one of the most quoted chapters of scripture when it comes to the healthy working of the church. This is the chapter where Paul names the many spiritual gifts shared by church members and notes that all the members of the church are meant to work together like the many parts of the body. He also warns that a healthy congregation, like a healthy body, is dependent on the many parts working together for the good of the whole.

A more modern analogy, perhaps more fitting to our sports-crazy culture, is that of a team made up of many athletes who depend on each other for the success of the team. I used this example at a recent Congregation Council meeting to point out the urgent need for teamwork as we work through what many sports teams call a "rebuilding phase".

For two years activity in the church was limited. Due to those limitations involvement of members was limited as well. We were like the National League players who were unable to have early spring practices due to a labor dispute. The St. Mark's team was still here, we were as active as we could be, but many of our once active teammates were unable to be as involved as they would have liked. *The time has come, though, for those who were once active, and those have not been so active, to get off the bench and into the game!*

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.

One of the first and most enlightening things I learned at seminary is that the word “liturgy” means “work of the people.” Our worship is called “liturgical” because it is an activity in which “the people”, the team members, are all involved. (Besides, more people involved prevents the pastor becoming too boring!)

There are many opportunities to serve St. Mark’s as we sustain the life of the resurrected church following the pandemic limitations. Some are front and center, others are behind the scenes, but all are vital to the life and health of our congregation. The more visible ways to serve include lectors to read the lessons on Sunday, Communion assistants to distribute the wine, and ushers to help with offering, seating, and generally watch over things during worship. We can once again enlist Worship Assistants to offer prayers and help with other parts of the liturgy. For those musically inclined, Joyce will always welcome members into the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir. And acolytes, usually thought of as the job of the youth, are not limited by age, just ask Bob Gill or Ed Shadle. Training is available for anyone who is, or thinks they might be, interested in serving in any of these positions. We are also thinking of ways to make participating more “doer friendly” so more people will be more comfortable taking part. Behind the scenes we have several ministries that go about the work of the church both internally and in the community. If there is some way you would like to get involved, I’m sure we can find a place for you. Ministries include: Stewardship, Finance, Communications, Fellowship, Social Services, Christian Education, Property, Evangelism, Worship-Music-and Arts, Youth & Family, Mutual Ministry, and Administration & Records. We also have a Nursery School Board, Women of the ELCA, Lutheran Men in Mission, A Nominating Committee, a Servant’s Heart Scholarship Committee, and at times have had ad hoc task forces as needed.

You can tell from that list, there is a place for everyone to offer skills, interests, or abilities for the well-being of the Body of Christ. If you have any questions, please contact me at 717-652-6700, or by email at revjperson@gmail.com. I, and others who are involved in the life of the church, will be glad to answer any questions. We’ll even let you have an “open tryout” to see where (not if) you fit in on the St. Mark’s team.

Your partner in ministry and mission,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Jim".

Pr. Jim Person

From Council President

Hello Members of St. Mark's,

The designation "active member," in most churches, simply means those who attend regularly and financially support the church. Not much more is expected. But God has far greater expectations for every Christian.

God expects every Christian to use their gifts and talents in ministry. If we can ever awaken and unleash the massive talent, resources, creativity, and energy found in the typical local church, Christianity will explode with growth at an unprecedented rate.

I believe that the greatest need in every church is the release of members for ministry. A healthy church congregation is first started by creating an intentional, well-planned system for uncovering, mobilizing, and supporting the giftedness of its members. People must be given a simple process to follow that will lead them to deeper commitment and greater service for Christ. They need a track on which they can move forward.

One of our biggest goals at St. Mark's is to get everyone plugged in to a small group. That's where the real life change begins to happen. And small groups are the ultimate launching pad to send people into their ministry and mission.

There are people at St. Mark's with all kinds of abilities that are not being put to use: recruiting, researching, writing, landscaping, interviewing, promoting, decorating, planning, entertaining, repairing, drawing, and even feeding. These abilities should not be wasted. "There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord" (1 Corinthians 12:5 NIV).

Won't you please consider giving of your time and talents to one of our ministries? So much more can be accomplished by working together. We are starting on the road to "recovery" and the glorious Easter service was the beginning of our resurrection here at St. Mark's.

**In Christian Love,
Sandy Sherwood, Council President**

Chris Bair is NO LONGER collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

**Anita Featherman is collecting old used Wooden Sleds
any condition also Women's old Ice Skates. Call her at
(717)469-0840 and she will pick them up**



Birthdays for June

06/03 – Jackson Adams

Anita Fleegal

06/04 – Paul Deibler

Carla Kolter

06/05 – Doris Atkinson

06/06 – Rebekah Varga

06/07 - Jill Lehman

06/09 - Lincoln Miller

06/10 - Mark Banic

06/11 - Samuel Lang

06/12 – Joe Boslet

06/13 - William Dullen

Anthony Sultzaberger

06/14 - Jonathan Lee

06/15 - Sarah Dinger

Kenneth Sutch

06/16 – Aaron Appleby

06/17 – Margit May

Michele Spencer

06/18 – JoAnn Wahl

06/21 – Kailyn Edwards

(McClenahen)

Sherry Davis

06/24 - Grace Harr

06/25 - Connor Smith

Jacob Sholder

06/26 - Loraine Mariner

06/27 - Luann Johns

06/28 - Tanya Betz

Beth Evans

06/29 – Janice Alloway

06/30 - Amy Simpler

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



Thank you for the love and concern on the Passing of my wife Marsha..

It is indeed comforting to be a member of the St Mark's Family.

Gene Nicodemus



Tate Ingram & Christian McClain

St. Mark's Book Club

| Date | Book | Author | Facilitator |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 2022 | | | |
| June 23 | West With Giraffes | Linda Rutledge | _____ |
| July 22 | The Girl with the Dragon' Tattoo | Stieg Larsson | _____ |
| Aug 25 | The Warsaw Orphan | Kelly Rimmer | _____ |
| Sept. 22 | The Hello Girls | Elizabeth Cobbs | _____ |
| Oct. 27 | The Old Success | Martha Grimes | _____ |
| Dec. 1 | Refusal | Dick Francis | _____ |

Book Club meets at 10:00 AM in the parlor



Chicken & Rib Dinner BBQ

Saturday, June 25, 2022— 10:00 am until SOLD OUT

Chicken Dinner - \$10.00

Rib Dinner - \$15.00

Pre-orders are recommended . Call church office to place your order 717-652-6700

Change of Address:

Mary Ann Kane
800 Kimberton Road
Apt. H7
Phoenixville, PA 19460

William "Bill" Snyder
Oakridge Manor
4500 Oakhurst Blvd
Apt. 215
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Show Me the Way

The Lord speaks to us in countless ways. For me, He speaks through scripture, song, conversations, dreams, de ja vu, and other infinitesimal ways throughout my day. Please reflect on this story and tell me, what would you do as a follower of Christ?

A female person of color read a text from a friend in another country, requesting assistance to transport a large sum of money through 4 countries to help Christian friends in a war-torn area. (No, it was not a money-laundering scheme, it was a sizable legitimate donation!) She responded immediately, "What do you need me to do," without regard to safety or circumstance. The checkpoints through the neighboring countries were crowded, confusing, chaotic, and permitted passage rules may change at the whim of the border guards. Initially, she was an ideal candidate to cross the borders because of her gender, and ability to navigate unfamiliar territory with relative ease. Within 24 hours, various scenarios were explored to develop a plan to transport dollars from country #1 to country #2. Country #2 would receive the money and convert to their own currency. Country #2 would transport funds to Country #3 and exchange to Country #4's currency, and transport said funds to Country 4's destination.

During this planning phase, the woman contacted her family and pastors to relay her involvement in this situation. Her closest "bubble" remained steadfast in fervent love and continued to pray that safety in the Lord's work would prevail.

Challenges arose because the large sum was not readily available in the subsequent countries, and time was of the essence. Numerous calls to contacts in neighboring countries were made. Many internet searches were researched for itineraries by airplane, bus, car, and on foot. News was relayed that people of color, regardless of gender were being detained at the border. Then God opened our eyes. Country #2 had a contact in Country #3 who had a relative that worked in a currency exchange office. Because of this relationship, the best conversion rate was obtained. Country #3 had a contact who frequented the border of Country #4 and saw the border guards twice a day to bring food and clothing to refugees and transport refugees to safety. He had dual citizenship and was retired, and could freely transfer amongst neighboring borders. Within 72 hours, the plan came to fruition and the money arrived safely in the hands of the intended recipient. Praise the Lord!

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such a faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

But if someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. (James 2:14-18)

You are a baptized follower of Christ, affirmed to live as He taught. What will you do today to show your love of Jesus?

Peace,

Ruth



Greetings from the Church Mouse

Hello Members of St. Mark's!

Wow! What an exciting time it has been around our church! And I got to see it all happen from my various posts around the sanctuary. There were very happy times when three of our newest church family members were baptized. On April 3, I watched Catlee Davis be baptized (her parents are Nicholas and Lauren Davis), on April 24, I saw Liam Thomas Graham be baptized (his mother is Maria Graham) and on April 30, I saw Joshua Miller (son of Stacy Morris Miller) be baptized. That makes my heart feel so warm.

Then we started our journey from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.

Another very special time was on Maundy Thursday at the evening service when I watched Pastor Jim administer First Holy Communion to three young members of our church family. They were Jackson Klick, Jackson Lee and Alexis Neidig. We are all so proud. So, things are looking up for my St. Mark's congregation.

I saw the sad hours of the Good Friday service. It's a very somber time for Christians and each year I have to prepare myself for the loud bang at the end of the service which signifies the closing of Jesus's tomb.

And then came the glorious time of the resurrection on Easter Sunday! The church was so pretty with the flowers and all the special gold paraments that are used for just that one special time. Everyone sings special songs and I just love that.

On May 21 we had a very special occasion here at St. Mark's. The women of the ELCA, Lower Susquehanna Synod, held their Day of Renewal in the fellowship hall. After all the festivities, speakers, and lunch, the ladies all came to the sanctuary for a traditional church service. Pastor Jim officiated and I watched and listened from my post. Most of the people didn't know I was there but I was. There were pretty many women in the pews and it was nice to see.

I want to wish all the people of St. Mark's a safe and happy spring and summer!

Peace of the Lord be with you all ,

The Church Mouse

The RONALD McDONALD HOUSE in HERSHEY NEEDS GUEST CHEF VOLUNTEERS to PREPARE DINNER for OUR FAMILIES!

Our guest numbers are going up! We REALLY need your help!

We are currently providing dinner meals for 35 guests per evening!

Our Guest Chef Program is perfect for groups of friends, families or co-workers who love to cook. This program is a volunteer opportunity and donation all in one! Each group plans, purchases and prepares a home-cooked meal for our families. Groups use our in-House kitchens with all cooking tools provided.

Guest Chef groups are limited to SIX people and participants must be 18 years of age or older. You will be required to wear a mask while in the RMH, but we are no longer requiring that volunteers be vaccinated against COVID-19.

To schedule a meal, visit our website at <https://www.rmhc-centralpa.org/get-involved/meals-and-activities/> OR for more information, contact Alyssa Noel at 717-533-4001 x-158 or anoel@rmhc-centralpa.org



NOW ENROLLING

2022-2023 **2, 3, and 4 year olds**

St. Mark's Nursery School



Following the Lamb

4200 Londonderry Rd.
Harrisburg, PA 17109

(717) 652-6700

www.stmarksharrisburg.org/nursery



Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

[Capture the Flag Spectacular](#) at Kirchenwald - October 2, 2022

Review your camp map, paint your face, and practice your cone zone celebration dance. Invite your friends and family (parents, too) to join you in this CTF summer reunion event. Play alongside familiar faces from your week at camp, plus campers from every other week of the summer. Campfire worship to follow.

[Adult Study Retreat](#) at Nawakwa - October 4 - 6, 2022

A Book Study Retreat on the book: Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis – J. D. Vance. Suggested supplemental books can be found on the website. All meals (7) are included in the price and served at the Dining Hall. This mid-week retreat begins Tuesday morning and ends with lunch on Thursday. Please register by September 24. Registration fee: \$150. Register by September 24.

[Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald](#) at Kirchenwald - October 23, 2022

Return to camp for the afternoon to enjoy fall activities, worship, and a picnic supper. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends or introduce new folks to camp. An evening meal is included. Event runs from 1-6pm. At Kirchenwald, enjoy Pumpkin Painting, Canoeing / Kayaking, Mountain Biking, Hayrides, Hiking, and More! Registration Fee: \$10 per person covers activities and an evening meal.

[Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa](#) at Nawakwa - October 23, 2022

Return to camp for the afternoon to enjoy fall activities, worship, and a picnic supper. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends or introduce new folks to camp. An evening meal is included. Event runs from 1-6pm. At Nawakwa, enjoy Pumpkin Painting, Apple Butter Boil, Hayrides, Hiking, and More! Registration Fee: \$10 per person includes activities and an evening meal.

[Annual Quilt Auction](#) at Nawakwa - November 6, 2022

Join us for this year's Quilt Auction, November 6, at Nawakwa. This fun-filled day of bidding raises money for the LCC Endowment Fund, which helps to financially sustain our fine ministry activities.

[Advent Day Apart](#) at The Wittel Farm - December 3, 2022

Join us for an Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm, a day of Bible study, worship, and prayerful reflection as we seek to prepare for the coming of the Christ. Registration fee includes lunch.

NOW HIRING SUMMER STAFF

Both Kirchenwald and Nawakwa still have positions available on their summer camp staffs. Those interested in serving the church in the capacity of camp staff can apply online or download an application on the Camping Website. The camp season runs from the beginning of June to mid August.

For details regarding employment, please visit <https://www.lutherancamping.org/employment> or call Zach Weiss (Kirchenwald) at 717-964-3121 or Mindy Shively (Nawakwa) at 717-677-8211.

If you know of someone that would be a great addition to the summer staff at Kirchenwald or Nawakwa, please share this information with them!

Current Needs

Kirchenwald: Counselors

Nawakwa: Counselors

→ **More Information - <https://www.lutherancamping.org/employment>**

THE NAWAKWA GARDEN PROJECT

Nawakwa Garden Project Planting Days

Weeding Wednesday

Wednesdays, June 1 - August 31, 9am-11am

More Information - <https://www.lutherancamping.org/nawakwa/nawakwa-garden-project/>

Register for Summer Camp!

It might just be the best week you've ever had! Don't wait, sign up today for a summer camp program at Kirchenwald or Nawakwa.

Programs are starting to fill up, don't wait ...reserve your spot today!

→ **More Information - <https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/>**

THE WITTEL FARM GROWING PROJECT

Have you, your family, congregation, or group signed up to support the Wittel Farm this spring/summer season? Join us to plant, grow, and share farm fresh veggies with our neighbors.

More Information - <https://www.wittelfarm.org>

THE WITTEL FARM GROWING PROJECT

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More Information - <https://www.wittelfarm.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Elder Camp](#) at Nawakwa - July 10 - 16, 2022

[Family Camp I](#) at Nawakwa - July 17 - 23, 2022

[Adult BYOC Week](#) at Kirchenwald - July 17 - 23, 2022

[Kirchenwald Camp-K-tion \(Family Camp\)](#) at Kirchenwald - August 7 - 13, 2022

[Family Camp II](#) at Nawakwa - August 7 - 13, 2022

→ [More Information - https://www.lutherancamping.org/events/](https://www.lutherancamping.org/events/)

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM FORMERLY "55/ALIVE PROGRAM"

If interested in taking the 4 hour Refresher course, you must have taken the 8 hour course to qualify. We are making the 4 hour course available after July 4th, in fellowship hall on a Saturday (date and time will follow).

If interested, Sign Up Sheet in the narthex or call the church office to be put on the list. You do not have to be a member of the church to sign up.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Deibler, (717)564-2434. All payment checks made payable to AARP before class. The cost is \$20.00. Deadline to sign up is June 30, 2022.

St. Mark's Nursery School is seeking an assistant teacher for the three year old class starting in September. Work days and hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. Please send your resume or letter of interest in this position to St. Mark's Nursery School, 4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 or call (717)652-6700 Ext. 3. Leave a message and someone will return your call.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4200 Londonderry Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

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THE PARISH POST



MAY/JUNE
2022

St. Mark's Church Council

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| President | Sandy Sherwood |
| Vice President | Tom Graham |
| Secretary | Rebekah Varga |
| Treasurer | Calvin Smith |
| Financial Secretary | Mary Sultzaberger |
| Council Members | Pastor Jim Person Chris Bair Deb Banks Paulette Beverly Emmor Boslet Stephanie Carl Dave Featherman Loraine Mariner Susan Shultz Jay Snyder |
| Minister of Music | Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk |
| Administrative Assistant | Loraine Mariner |
| Youth/Family Ministry | Kellen Michalowski |
| Sexton | Donald Young |
| Nursery School Dir. | Jessica Pope |



“Because he works from home. That’s why we never see God in person.”