



# The Parish Post

SEPTEMBER 2018

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

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The Rev. James E. Person, 717-712-8191

## Outdoor Worship/Rally Day & Picnic!



Sunday, September 9, 2018

Service at 10:30 a.m.

Bringing the whole congregation together for  
fellowship, good food & witness to our neighbors.



Don't be caught Dumpster Diving ...

Come on Saturday, October 6th (immediately following the Community Breakfast) for the **Property Committee's** "Dumpster Day." We would especially like to have a representative from each ministry or organization to be present to make sure wanted items are not discarded.

**All members are welcome to help.**

Any questions please call the church office or Chris Bair.

**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.

# EXTRAVAGANZA

Mother Nature's paintbrush has stopped using green,  
and instead is painting our world in golds, oranges and reds.  
Now. . . school bells, ghosts, turkeys and of course football are  
reminding everyone to "come one and all" to the Extravaganza.  
The Craft Artisans have created lovely items for the Autumn Season.



**September 6, 7 & 8**  
**10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

*St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*Proceeds to benefit St. Mark's Ministries & Vickie's Angel Foundation*



**BBQ Chicken & Ribs**

Saturday, September 15th  
10:30 till gone!

Reserve your dinner in advance.

**\$9.00 BBQ Chicken dinner - \$12.00 BBQ Ribs dinner**





# TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 27 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

## SAVE THE DATE

Monday, December 3, 2018 - Hunterdon Hill Playhouse  
“A Playhouse Christmas” & Dinner with your choice of entrees



<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit....<sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13,26

*(Please read this article in the context of both our congregation and the entire Body of Christ, especially our Christian brothers and sisters currently under scrutiny in the news)*

As I write this, I am experiencing some pain in my lower back similar to, but not nearly as severe as, the pain I endured several years ago with a herniated disk. Perhaps as a result of having grown more contemplative over the years since that experience, I now find myself relating the function (and/or dysfunction) of my body to the way we function as the Body of Christ, the Church. That contemplation has led me to five lessons that our physical bodies, and this mystical Body share:

- We must properly care for the Body in order for it to function at its best
- If we become careless with the Body, it will experience dysfunction and pain
- Occasionally, even when we are careful, things happen to disrupt the Body's work
- We sometimes deal with the pain by trying to “work around” it rather than correcting the issue
- We can mask the symptoms by artificial means, which do nothing to solve the real problem

*Perhaps the most important lesson, though, is that, if dealt with in a proper, healthy way, the pain can be minimized, the problem can be healed, and the Body will remain healthy and well far into the future.*

For a couple months now, I have been lax in my exercise and nutrition. That improper care and consideration has led to a weakening of some parts of my body. As the Body of Christ, we must also be constantly exercising our discipleship and feeding ourselves and each other, spiritually and emotionally. (We seem to do pretty well on physical feeding!) Only with that proper care and consideration can we remain strong and healthy.

I am pretty sure that my back pain this time was caused by thoughtlessly lifting a weight that I can usually

handle with ease off the floor to place it on a rack. This makes me wonder how many times we cause pain to members of the Body of Christ by doing or saying something without thinking; without considering the possible ramifications of our actions or words. As Paul says, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it". If we carelessly hurt others, we cause pain for the whole Body.

Sometimes, even when we do our best to care for our body, as well as The Body, something catches us off guard to disrupt smooth functioning. When those times come, we need to acknowledge them and deal with them in a healthy, beneficial way. As I am dealing with the pain caused by some of my normally painless activities, I have noticed that I am bending, turning, sitting and standing in different ways than I normally do. By doing that I can avoid, or at least lessen, the pain, but it does nothing to correct the problem. Are there times in the Church that we try to "work around" a problem rather than deal with it in a way the helps it heal. Avoiding issues rather than facing them in a healthy and helpful manner might bring temporary relief but invites an even greater amount of pain later on. Treatment may be briefly painful, but it might also avoid even more painful symptoms in the future.

Finally, I considered the use of some kind of pain reliever for temporary relief from my current back pain; something stronger than simple ibuprofen. While doing some research on possibilities, though, I came across the statement that a particular class of pain reliever "blocks the receptors on nerve cells in the brain that give rise to the sensation of pain", in other words, it shuts down communication between the cause of the pain and the brain. Might this be akin to a situation in the Church where we simply "don't talk about it"? This shutting down of communication can be a way to temporarily avoid pain, but it does nothing to heal the cause.

Our bodies have an amazing capacity to endure injury and/or illness and, with God's help and proper care, to heal themselves. This is also true of the Body of Christ, the Church. There is no problem, issue, or hardship this Body cannot overcome if given the chance. If we care for one another in a way that helps us to be healthy and strong, if we are thoughtful in the things we do and say, if we develop resilience in dealing with unexpected circumstances, if we address issues in a healthy and helpful manner, and if we openly communicate our concerns in a way that leads to healing, this Body of Christ can be the strong driving force for the sharing of the Gospel that it is meant to be.

Your partner in mission and ministry,



Pr. Jim Person



- |                     |                          |                       |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Brighton Miller   | 13 Lainey Huertas        | 29 Nathaniel Lawrence |
| 2 Jack Kane         | 14 Mary Elizabeth Howell | 30 Bill Shook         |
| 6 Kathryn Dullen    | Carla Whitaker           |                       |
| Julie Eyer          | 15 William Graves        |                       |
| Travis Sultzaberger | Bill Kroah, Sr.          |                       |
| 7 Ella Heckert      | Betty Shook              |                       |
| 8 Kaitlyn Betz      | 17 Barb Heym             |                       |
| 10 Marie DeFrank    | 21 Jax Phelan            |                       |
| Betsy Dressler      | 24 Dennis Dinger         |                       |
| 11 Luke Dullen      | 25 Mike Betz             |                       |
| Sara Shoaff         | 26 Nick Bargmann         |                       |
| 12 Donna Gutshall   | Mike Hengst              |                       |
| Emma Klick          | Janet Smith              |                       |

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

## Ukraine Mission Trip: Part 2 - Why take over the compound?

A portion of the East European Missions Network (EEMN) training curriculum includes contemplation about the “Why’s” and the “What’s” of our mission. The “what” portion was no surprise to me, since I was exposed to most of the scenarios reviewed from previous mission work experiences. The “why” portion was more challenging to me. I believed the Holy Spirit is calling me to a full-time missionary vocation. I needed to explore partnership opportunities to fulfill His plan, which led me to EEMN. I discovered our team was DEEP! They all relayed testimonies of how they prayed about this trip and answered the call. A majority of the team had participated in previous EEMN trips, but none had worked together (beyond the married couples in attendance). It was beautiful to see how well we blended together. I believe in part, because of the structured curriculum training, but mostly because God formed the team that was best suited for this type of mission.

You may be aware that the Lutheran church has several synods, ELCA, LCMS, WELS, etc. There are more in Europe, and I’ll attempt to highlight the German Evangelical Church of Ukraine (DELKU) and the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Ukraine (SELCU). My understanding is that the DELKU bishop exhibits less than desired Christian behavior to fulfill selfish means. I find it ironic that he reported struggles with a severe clergy shortage when he defrocked 12 pastors (Pastor Alexander being one of them). Partnerships are deteriorating rapidly, defamatory accusations abound, and the bishop wants more power to carry out plans to make more money, e.g. the bishop claimed for himself 14 company cars intended for local pastors, he sold 3 buildings, misused buildings, and closed schools.

SELCU, the synod to which Pr. Oleg is aligned, is interested in future cooperation between their churches, offering the seminary in Usatovo as an opportunity for education and retreats.

Pr. Oleg rented an apartment directly across the street from the DELKU bishop’s church to minister to the oppressed engaged in the fallout from recent events. He relayed the manifestation of God’s wrath in the bishop’s church – the day the bishop defrocked the 12 pastors, the church wall cracked from near the ceiling to the floor.

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) appears to be taking a hands-off approach regarding this discord but is not responsible for internal affairs.

<https://www.idea.de/spektrum/detail/die-zerstoerung-einer-kirche-105788.html>

We know what is happening, but we don’t know why. The villagers and Pastor Gross agreed that after the 8th attempt to take over the compound, things were just too dangerous for everyone. The last worship service led by Pastor Gross was on July 22, and the family has moved out of the compound. Please, keep on praying. Follow Pastor Alexander Gross, Petrodolinske, Ukraine on Facebook.

Next segment, “Yospivka, here we come!”

Peace,

Ruth Cheng



Pastors Alexander and Oleg delivering the day’s lesson to the children.

**Alleluia! Voices Raise**

*Alleluia! Voices raise,  
Sounding God Almighty's praise.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Hither bring in one consent  
heart and voice and instrument.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Now come all before God's face,  
in this chorus take your place.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
And amid the mortal throng  
be you masters of the song.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Hymn ELW #828  
Based on Ps. 148, 150

This hymn tune was composed by Richard Hilbert, born in 1923. He used words and poetry of the Psalms and those of a seventeenth century writer. Together, the tune and words convey this timeless message:

**KEEP THE MUSIC COMING! ALLELUIA!**

St. Mark's Music Ministry, has many active members who voluntarily share their special talents in our worship services. I can't possibly thank these musicians enough for the honor of serving this church with them. I pray for God's blessing on us as we embark on another church year of learning anthems, bell and chime pieces, solo numbers, new hymns and liturgy.

The music ministry rehearsals will begin in September as follows:

Sept. 6, Thursday, 6:15 Mission Bells  
Sept. 12, Wednesday, 6:30 Advent Choir  
Sept. 13, Thursday, 7:30 Chancel Choir

NOTE: ChoirChymes will begin later in the year. My invitation to join any of the music ensembles is always part of my article. It is a top priority this fall because of the retirement and relocation of former members. I would be glad to discuss any questions you may have regarding the music ministry.

It is a special joy to serve your Lord through music and make friendships along the way.

In His service  
Joyce 717-939-1235

Dear St Mark's Family,

Once again I am answering the Call to service in Peru on a medical missionary trip with Reach Global from October 27 to November 11, 2018. I am very excited to be able to be a part of this team once again. I am asking for your support in three ways. First, your prayers. It is a two week trip with no access to the outside world which means two weeks without any contact with my family. Please keep myself, my family, and the rest of this missionary team in your prayers. Second, I am collecting the following items: sunglasses, triple antibiotic ointment, cough drops, Tylenol, Motrin (or generic), adult and children's cold medications, Tums, and adult and children's vitamins. These items can be brought to church and placed in the boxes marked for Peru at either entrance to the Narthex. (PLEASE NO GUMMIES, AS THEY MELT IN THE PERUVIAN HEAT). Lastly, I am also asking for financial support as well. You can donate on line through the following link: <https://hersheyfree.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/682/responses/new> . Just copy and paste the link into your browser, when the page opens, click the drop down to select Michele Spencer. I would greatly appreciate any support you can provide. I cannot thank you enough for your past and future support to help make this happen.

I look forward to sharing my experience with all of you when I return.

In Christ's Love,  
*Michele Spencer*

**"Intelligence is knowing the right answer. Wisdom is knowing when to say it."**

**—Tim Fargo**

**"The happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything."**

**—Unknown**

**"If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them, and half as much money."**

**—Abigail Van Buren**

## THANK YOU NOTES:

Wow! Thank you so much for the 434 items donated to Health Ministries of Christ Lutheran Church. Every one of those things, from the coffee to the personal items to the wound care is a gift to those we serve.

With the heat of summer upon us, we have many people coming to us who are ill or injured, need a cool drink, or just need a rest in the air conditions. With the help of donations, we are able to care for their needs, whatever they may be. Thank you for being our partner in mission.

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Andrew Stockstill

Gratitude to Pastor Jim for supporting me in my holistic journey of healing. I have had the best 2 months of coping with my illness, and it made my life much more bearable. Thank you St. Mark's family.

*Eniko Ambrus*

I would like to thank everyone for the cards and well wishes after my knee surgery.

*Deb Banks*

## NEW ADDRESSES

**RYAN SHADLE**  
210 Long View  
Carlisle, PA 17013

**ELLIE CARROLL**  
818 White Haven Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

**MEMORIALS** for Albert Magaro  
Carol Miller  
Conte Wealth Advisors LLC

**MEMORIAL** for Hilda Deibert  
Jo-Ann Wahl

## SEPTEMBER LECTORS

	8:15 AM	11:00 AM
2	Men in Mission	Men in Mission
9	Nick Zingone	Zara Bennett
16	Bob Gill	Youth
23	John Herigan	Bruce Senft
30	Faith Smeck	David Stanton

## SEPTEMBER FLOWER DELIVERY

2	Shirley Johns
9	Sue Smithers
16	Tom & Terry Stohler
23	Peggy & Bob Davis
30	Bill & Betty Shook

## SEPTEMBER GREETERS

	8:15 AM	11:00 AM
2	Men in Mission	Men in Mission
9	N/A (Outdoor Worship)	
16	Jane Shetrone Jill Lehman	Sandy Sherwood
23	Don Flickinger Jeanne Flickinger	Barb Dudek
30	Shirley Johns Loraine Mariner	Marian Person Donna Woodrow

## SPECIAL DATES

- Labor Day, September 3, 2018
- National Grandparents Day, September 9, 2018
- Patriot Day, September 11, 2018
- First day of autumn, September 22, 2018



Tuesday, Sept. 4 - 9:00 am Projects Day  
Monday, Sept. 10 - 4:00 pm W/ELCA Board  
Tuesday, Sept. 11 - 10:00 am Esther Circle  
Tuesday, Sept. 25 - 6:30 pm Eve Circle

# 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

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

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