



THE CARILLON

Volume 65 Issue 7 July 2024
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
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Lebanon, PA 17046
(717) 273-0151

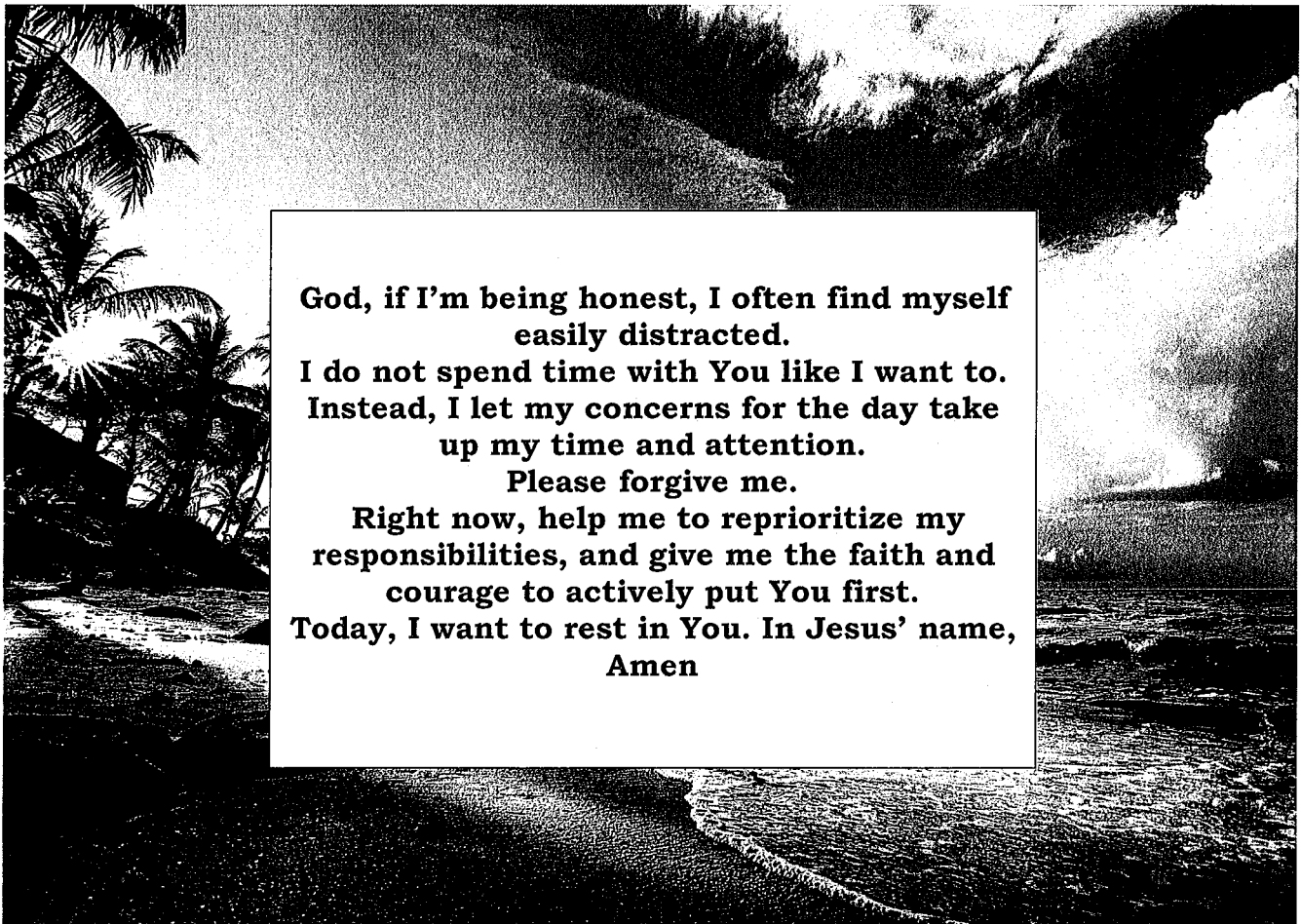
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Office Hours – Tuesday through Friday – 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

STAFF

Rev. David A. Jones, Pastor
Sam Brandt, Custodian
Cindy Klahr, Secretary
Cynthia Johnson, Organist
Jeff Clouser, Music Ministry Coordinator
Faye Fox, Consistory President
Ron Follett, Church Treasurer
Dawn Shultz, Consistory Secretary



**God, if I'm being honest, I often find myself
easily distracted.
I do not spend time with You like I want to.
Instead, I let my concerns for the day take
up my time and attention.
Please forgive me.
Right now, help me to reprioritize my
responsibilities, and give me the faith and
courage to actively put You first.
Today, I want to rest in You. In Jesus' name,
Amen**

God is with you, wherever you wander...

Sometimes we all have moments where our mistakes take control, where our hearts are weighted down with heaviness, when we feel so far away from God. But here's the thing: God sees all of that. He sees our mess, our brokenness, our guilt.

And He loves us anyway.

There is *nowhere* we can go to hide from His love. There is no point in our lives, where He sees us as undeserving or unworthy of love. There is nothing we can do to separate ourselves from Him.

So even when you feel like you've gone so far from His grace, know that He hasn't left your side. Know that all you need is to ask for forgiveness, to clean your heart, and to trust in Him to lead you out of temptation and back into healing and light!



TODAY

**Don't let your feathers
get ruffled over little
things,**

Just wing it!!



**When you Pray,
God Listens
When you Listen,
God Talks
When You Believe,
God Works**

Scriptures about Joy

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise."

James 5:13

"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you." Psalm 5:11

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him." Psalm 28:7

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

LIFE

is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets.

So love the people who treat you right,
forgive the ones who don't.

And believe that everything happens for a reason.

If you get the chance,
take it.

If it changes your life,
let it.

Nobody said it would be easy.
They just promised it would be
worth it.



The Journey Continues...

Have you ever been so overwhelmed by the challenges of life, that it seems like God must be leaving you face those struggles alone? If you're anything like me, you've felt that way more than once. Whether it's family life, work life, finances, health issues, or dealing with difficult relationships, there are countless ways the struggles we have in our lives leave us feeling like we're all alone in the world. So, what do we do? Do we try to "muscle through" the struggles of life by ourselves? Do we accept the feelings of abandonment we might have as something we deserve because God is punishing us, or God is teaching us a lesson? Or do we seek out a new and better perspective?

I distinctly remember a time when it felt like the walls were closing in around me. It was the summer of 2008, and I was getting ready to start my final year at seminary. It should have been a time of great hope and anticipation, but it was one of the hardest times of my life. I had just moved to Ohio to live on campus full time as my first marriage was coming to an end. In addition to losing my marriage, I had to give up the church where I was a pastor because my relationship with the United Methodist Church...the only denomination I had ever been a part of...would no longer authorize or recognize my ministry. I was devastated and I knew there was no way I could ever be ordained in the United Methodist Church.

One day when I was feeling especially overwhelmed by so much loss and uncertainty of the future, I went down to the prayer garden on campus for some quiet time to seek out God's guidance. It had rained pretty hard the night before, so the stream that wound its way through the wooded area where the prayer garden was located was unusually lively. Typically, the stream was shallow and quiet. But after the heavy rains the night before, the stream came alive with the sounds of water splashing and crashing over the rocks.

It was strange to hear those noises coming from a normally quiet stream, so I walked over to see what was going on for myself. As I looked at the water tumbling over the rocks, I was reminded of Jesus' words that he is the Living Water. It seemed appropriate because I was watching this "living water" right in front of me as it moved downstream. But then I looked a little closer. The "noisy water" was coming from the place where the water was shallow. But once the water got into the deeper section, it quieted down and moved a lot slower.

That's when the answer I was seeking came to me. My life – with all of the fear, pain, and uncertainty of losing my marriage, my church, and my denomination – felt like the section of the stream where the water was shallow. It was fast and loud and it seemed to be out of control. But what I was looking for was the calm water in the deeper section of the stream. My problem was not the circumstances in my life. My problem was that the Living Water was not deep enough. Simply put, I needed to invite more of Jesus into my life. I needed to depend on him to be the strength and grace I needed instead of trying to muscle my way through these issues alone.

Fast forward 16 years later, and I am still reminding myself of the lessons I learned that day. We are streams where the Living Water (Jesus) runs through our lives. If the Living Water is shallow, our lives will be noisy and choppy and chaotic. But if the Living Water runs deep, then we will experience calmness and peacefulness.

One final thing to keep in mind: when the waters are calm, that doesn't mean the rocks are absent. The rocks are just as present in the deep sections as they are in the shallow sections. The difference is, when the Living Water is deep enough, the rocks won't have the same effect as where the Living Water is shallow. So my friends, let us deepen the Living Water in our lives. Let us seek the calm and peacefulness of Jesus by inviting him into every part of our lives. And may we always trust that our savior is more than enough for the challenges we face.

The Journey Continues...

Pastor Dave

By now you should know that we are beginning a campaign to replace our roofs at the church. We have three different types of roofs and all of them are more than twenty five years old. The slate roof over the sanctuary just needs to be repaired, but the shingled roof over the narthex and office area as well as the rubber roof over the Christian Ed building need to be replaced. This is a very expensive project with estimates of about \$105,000, and is not covered as part of the general fund budget.

As a kick-off to this project, one member of the church is challenging the congregation to support this project by matching donations made for the roof project up to a total of \$4,500. If you can donate, there will be small brown envelopes in the narthex marked "Roof Repair". You can use these envelopes to give your donation. Just put your name on the envelope so that you can receive credit on your annual statement. Donations can also be made using the on-line giving option.

Let's give this project a great start and hopefully within the next year we will have the funds available to complete all three roofs.

GETTING INVOLVED IN THE CHURCH

At times a friend will ask me why I am so involved in my church. Sometimes I answer with a question, "Why not?" There are many benefits of being involved in things at St. Marks. Among my favorites are the socialization and fun we have while volunteering, the good feeling that you are helping others, and getting to know more about my fellow members. You can sit near someone for years at church, but you really don't know too much about them until you spend some time talking and listening.

Here at St. Marks there are many opportunities to get involved. We always need ushers, readers, people to help with Koffee Klatch, kitchen help when we have a social event, helping with community dinners, or being a greeter on a Sunday morning. If you are musically talented, you can also share that talent by singing with the choir or offering to do special music during the summer months. All of us have some God given talent, and we need to share that with others.

I'm asking all of you to think about something you could do to help out at St. Marks. If you would like to volunteer for a certain project, or if you just want to help but aren't sure where, let me know and I will find a spot for you.

Faye

REPORT OF THE CONSISTORY – JUNE 2024

Bids from Gable & Son Roofing for replacement of the rubber and shingled roofs were reviewed. Monies will be needed to fund the project as it totals almost \$105,000. A member has pledged \$4,500 in matching funds to get the fund started. There will be special giving envelopes available beginning June 30, 2024. Other funds will be requested from Endowment in 2025 and 2026. Effective immediately, Gable & Son will also be the primary contact for all roofing needs/repairs for the church. Christian Education presented a new policy regarding guidelines/requirements for chaperones. The policy was approved and submitted to the church secretary to be added to the policy manual. Mary Jane Jones and Michael Shott were approved as delegates to conference and association meetings for 2024. The community picnic will be held Saturday, July 27, 2024, in the parking area behind the church. The city has approved the closure of Liberty Alley/Street for the event.

Kid's Team/Youth/Young Adults Corner

Kid's Team

A perfect evening for mini golf was held on Saturday June 8th. If you were golfing with the younger crew, you definitely needed to have an open mind and patience for the evening as these youngins are golfers in training. But who cares, as long as there was ice cream at the end of the evening. A great evening for all.

Kid's Kamp is right around the corner. Reserve the week of July 15th – July 18th. See Marilyn Reppert for registration forms or the information table in the narthex.

After Kid's Kamp, Kid's Team will take a short break to enjoy the rest of the summer.

If you aren't sure the age for Kid's Team and have a child or grandchild that might be looking to join, most Kid's Team activities are planned for ages K-4 through 6th grade. If you aren't already receiving Kid's Team announcements, please check in with Kathy Follett or Meredith Myers.

Youth/Young Adults

Here are the upcoming activities for the Youth/Young Adults for the next few months of 2024:

14 people enjoyed an absolutely beautiful weekend in Cassville. From having deep discussions about Would You Rather, to playing Minutes to Win Its to taking a boat tour to learn the history of Raystown Lake, it was a good time for fellowship for our youth and young adults. And now we can say, we know what it means to play geocaching. Plans are in the mix for our fall retreat in November, stay tuned.

June – date TBD - assisting at Pine Acres to build roofs on play areas

June 30th – Living Room Chat as part of the morning service

July 27th – assisting at the Community Picnic

September/October – attending a Cedar Crest and Northern Lebanon football game to support Wyatt and Matt. Stay tuned for details.

If you know of someone between 7th grade and 30 that is currently not receiving the Youth/Young Adults information, please contact Kathy Follett.

Mission Corner

This year's mission trip will be returning to Wilmington NC to work for WARM. The week that has been chosen is August 3rd to August 10th. We have 11 participants for the trip. After having breakfast at church, we will be departing on Saturday August 3rd for our 11-12 hour drive. We will then worship with Little Chapel both as part of their morning beach service and then as part of their traditional service later Sunday morning. With the increase in participants, we are asking for the congregation's assistance. First, in prayer for the group. Second, we will have the non-perishable slips back and available. Look for them in the narthex on Sunday July 7th. All items must be back at church by Sunday July 28th. And finally, support of the team at the commissioning service to be held Sunday July 28th.

On Saturday July 27th we will be hosting the summer Community Picnic. Weather permitting, this will be held in our church parking lot adjacent to the church with Liberty St closed off for the day. We will need helping hands to move tables/chairs, line servers and bussers. The meal will include burgers/hot dogs, pasta salad, beans and finish with an ice cream bar. Ways that you can help will be shared at the narthex table end of June through July. In case of inclement weather, we will be in Fellowship Hall.

Future dates to reserve are:

September – Saturday Sept 21st – Grill night at American House (Food prepped at St Mark's and served at American House)

Oct 6th – Sunday night meal at the Lebanon Rescue Mission

Child Abuse Required Training

As many of you have done, our insurance company requires us to have current child abuse background checks on file when working with our young people. In addition to background checks, we are required to do annual training. After reviewing many options of how to do the training, the Christian Ed committee is inviting all those that have active background checks to join us at this year's training class.

On Sundays September 29th and October 6th, we will be sharing the class on "Preventing Bullying". You only need to attend ONE of the Sundays. The class will be after church in Fellowship Hall. Pizza will be provided for all participants. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Why Bullying? Did you know that 1 out of every 4 kids is bullied every year. The long-term effects that bullying causes is mind boggling.

If you have taken training through another path (i.e. school, hospital, etc), then you just need to share that certificate, so we know you are exempt from needing to attend the training that we are providing. However, you may attend if you so choose. Each video that is provided to us through Praesidium Academy are between 20-30 minutes. In addition to the video, there are discussion items for us to review (i.e. did you know we have a policy outlining bullying).

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, that doesn't mean you can pass on the training. Please see Kathy Follett in September for more information on what you need to do.

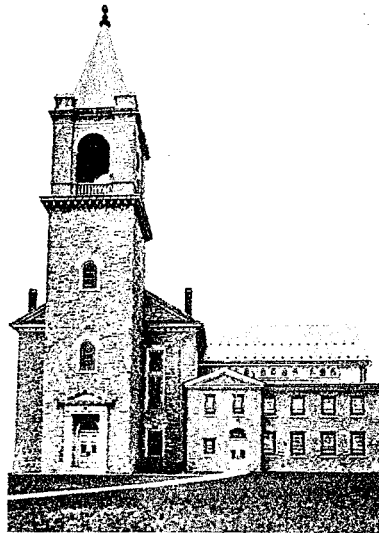
Please reserve either September 29th or October 6th.

The “Mother Church”

Die Grubben Kirche, established in 1747, was one of the earliest Reformed Churches (union) in what is now Lebanon County. Its location two miles southeast of what is now Lebanon, was a suitable one at that time. Later, however, the center of the Reformed movement shifted to the north when George Steitz laid out his farm in building lots thus beginning the village of Steitztown (now Lebanon). Steitz was quick to recognize the need for religious activity in his community and so he deeded a track of land to the four-year-old Tabor Reformed Church in June 1760. (A second lot went to the Lutheran Congregation, Salem.) Two years later this small congregation built its first structure, a log building, as well as called its first pastor.

The Grubben Church was later absorbed by Tabor, or First Reformed Church of Lebanon.

During the second half of the nineteenth century, Lebanon experienced a period of rapid growth, and with this growth came a rigorous expansion of the Reformed movement in our city, initiated primarily by Tabor. The first came in 1860 with the establishment of St. John's or Second Reformed Church. This was not exactly a mission program but an effort to avoid a split in the “Mother Church.”



The issue was language, and the English speaking members of Tabor were supported by their German speaking brothers in establishing a new English speaking church, St. John's.

Another mission of Tabor resulted in the support of a Sunday School in Bismark, now Quentin*, in December 1879. Two years later this group became St. Paul's Reformed Church. St. Mark's Sunday School and Church were organized in 1885 and 1887. Templeman's Chapel was begun a year later in 1888 in Rexmont. Tabor also planned to erect a Sunday School building at Fourth Avenue and Weidman Streets, however, this project was moved to Avon in 1894, later becoming Grace U.C.C. ! The last mission of the Mother Church came in 1903 when St. Stephen's was established. It became a congregation in 1907. Its first location was on Locust Street in what later became the Salvation Army Building.

(*Originally known as Eby's Corner, the community was first named Independence. Later it became Bismark. During WWI, the community changed its German name to Quentin, adopting the first name of the son of Theodore Roosevelt who was killed in France in the conflict.)

KID'S KORNER



July 4th

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these Independence Day words?

R	D	S	T	L	F	A	M	I	L	Y	N	D	Y
P	O	P	S	I	C	L	E	S	L	R	S	P	L
R	M	E	Y	T	R	E	B	I	L	I	M	P	U
F	E	D	U	E	S	E	P	I	R	T	S	N	J
I	E	R	U	N	P	S	U	M	M	E	R	W	T
R	Y	L	O	S	T	A	R	S	S	L	I	I	U
E	B	E	C	N	E	D	N	E	P	E	D	N	I
W	M	C	A	B	E	R	I	T	M	R	I	W	E
O	C	M	U	A	M	E	Y	I	E	E	J	E	T
R	E	R	R	B	G	C	E	H	R	U	U	E	G
K	N	E	V	C	I	R	M	W	U	H	S	A	H
S	R	S	I	P	I	C	N	I	C	P	L	P	I
L	B	L	A	C	I	R	E	M	A	F	L	Y	U
W	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	E	V	A	R	B	D

WHITE
FLAG
BRAVE
INDEPENDENCE
LIBERTY
POPSICLES
BLUE
PICNIC
STRIPES
RED
JULY
STARS
FAMILY
FIREWORKS
FREEDOM
SUMMER
AMERICA

Name: _____

Score: _____

MACARONI SHRIMP SALAD

Use 1 cup macaroni; cook and drain. Pour over ¼ cup French dressing; mix and chill.

Add:

- 1 c. raw cauliflower (small pieces)
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 can shrimp and broth, cut in pieces

- 1/2 c. olives, chopped
- 1/4 c. mayonnaise
- 1/3 c. chili sauce

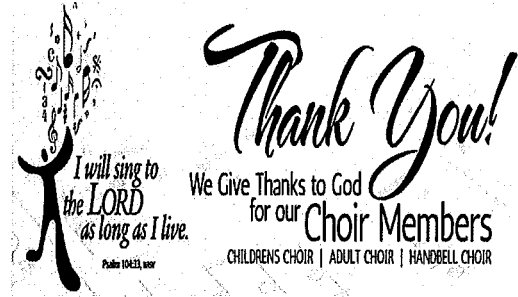
Mix together and chill.

This recipe is in the St. Mark's U.C.C. Mothers Class Recipe Book (1985) and is from Betty Gundrum.



July 2024 Make A Note of It...

Thank you to all those who participate in the music ministry and assist in enhancing worship at St. Mark's through special music. Your efforts are welcomed and appreciated. A special thank you to our church family for your continued encouragement and support of the church's musical endeavors.



Prayers for our organist/accompanist Cindy as she recovers from her carpal tunnel surgeries. May relief come to her successfully, completely, and comfortably without complications. **Thank you to Pastor Dave, Kathy, and Tim** who will be assisting with worship/music as Cindy takes the time needed to heal and recover.

Seeking volunteers to provide special music this summer June through September. Look for the sign-up sheet on the music bulletin board in the narthex and please sign up. Please remember to contact the office with the title of your song, the composer and/or arranger, the date it was published and who published the song. This is needed for the bulletin and for license reporting purposes. Only one musical selection relating to worship theme is necessary. Thank you.



I want to express my sincere gratitude to all the church musicians who gave of their time and talent to participate in the music ministry at St. Mark's UCC this musical season. From choir to children's choir to bells to special music as well as summer musical offerings; all of it was a blessing to the church and the community. Thank you also to Ken Shultz, Peg Scholl, Heidi Fox, Kathy Follett, Cindy Johnson and others for helping to keep the music ministry operating during the music ministry coordinator's continued health issues. With much appreciation I thank you and the congregation thanks you too. I hope you have an enjoyable and restful summer and look forward to making music again this coming fall.

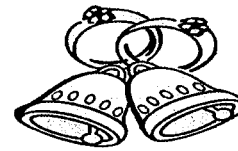


An Update from your Music Ministry Coordinator:



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers, cards, and emails as I continue my leave of absence to recoup and recover from my illness. I appreciate the continued kindness, grace, and support shown by the church, congregation, Personnel Committee and Consistory and thank Ken, Peg, Heidi, Kathy, and Cindy for stepping in as needed. I'm also thankful for the accommodations that have been made so I can continue to contribute to the music ministry. I miss making music with my church family and attending church. At the time of this writing I am trying to wean off Lexapro and start Prozac. This has been a very uncomfortable wean for me making it difficult to do life's activities right now. Hopefully it will be helpful but only time will tell as this will be at least a five week process. It's very challenging to push through severe anxiety/ocd as it likes to push back and keep me from doing things. Anxiety/ocd creates physiological symptoms that can be debilitating and difficult to overlook. Unfortunately medication can only do so much but it would be nice if I could find something that provided better relief. I am super sensitive to any sensation I feel in my body. I have to figure out how to overcome that and live through and lean into the distress which is really hard to do. Exposure therapy to retrain the brain is tough work. It can cause me to be laid up for days after one exposure as was the case after attending my son's concert. I'm hoping I can get enough courage to start attending church even on a modified schedule. My therapist really wants me to try to make the effort. Please keep in mind though that my visits may be brief and require minimal interaction with others at first. It will require me to build up stamina and confidence as it will be an exhausting process. There is still much to learn about long covid so doctors do not know how long recovery can take thus I don't know when I will be well enough to work full and part time again especially when other symptoms keep popping up. My therapists and doctors indicated that my condition may have been years in the making and that the trauma caused by having covid one time triggered my current health crisis so it's going to take a much longer time to heal. I try to remain hopeful but I'm sure you can see how this can be a challenge at times like these. Your continued prayers for good days and complete healing are appreciated as my recovery continues.

With every best wish,
Jeffrey Clouser,
Music Ministry Coordinator



JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday		Anniversary	
July 2	Nancy Basselgia Barry Bossler Gary Lehman	July 22	Chad & Alicia Thomas
July 3	Gladys Gettle Kay Peiffer Jay Reynolds	July 25	Jeff Clouser/Brent Weaver
July 4	Jay Eisenhauer		
July 7	Mary Brandt		
July 12	Kim Shearer		
July 13	Diane Vogel		
July 14	Nathaniel Bell Jay Fisher Carole Hoffman Pam Manbeck		
July 15	Roman Blauch		
July 17	Parker Sidella		
July 18	Ginny Gruber		
July 19	Annette Pyles Carol Weise		
July 20	Cathy Bossler		
July 22	Deborah Follett		
July 24	Ken Brown		
July 29	Jim Schucker		

SENIOR CORNER

Jeanette Heim
Lebanon Valley Home
550 E. Main St.
Annville, PA 17003
717-867-7037

Blanche Hummel
Cornwall Manor
Corson Hall, Room 205
PO Box 125
Cornwall, PA 17016
717-272-7494

Please send notes, cards or give them a phone call. Let Jeanette and Blanche know that St. Mark's has not forgotten about them. Thank you.



A big Thank you to Pastor Dave for the service for Greg. It was appreciated very much by everyone.

Sincerely,
Ginny Gruber

We want to thank Deb Ryland for hosting the Women's Painting Party held on June 22nd. What a blessed and enjoyable day. Great fellowship and all the wine bottles turned out awesome. Great job, Deb.

GRACE

Grace is when God gives us good things that we don't deserve.

Mercy is when He spares us from bad things we deserve.

Blessings are when He is generous with both.

Truly we can never run out of reasons to thank him.

God is good all the time!

ST. MARK'S U.C.C. - FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY

(Non-Profit Organization)



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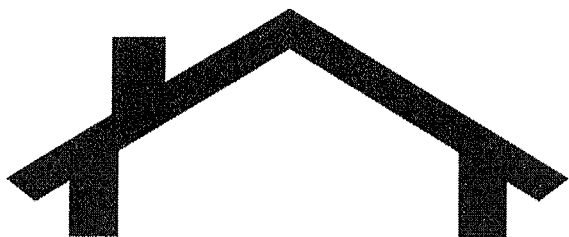
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DIANE VOGEL - 717-269-9431

For more details visit [boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](https://www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends)

*Exclusions Apply



Roof Replacement Funding Needed

Did you know the church has three types of roofing on the building?

***A rubber roof covers the Christian Education building.**

It was last replaced in 1988 making it 36 years old!

***A shingled roof covers the addition to the building completed in 1991.**

It is the original roof making it 33 years old!

***A slate roof covers the remainder of the building.**

It was the original roof replacement in 1975 when the sanctuary was turned around and remodeled making it 49 years old!

All three roofs have been repaired many times over the years and two of them - the rubber and the shingled - need to be replaced within the next two years to avoid any major repairs and/or damage to the building.

A campaign will begin June 30, 2024, to receive donations for the replacement of the rubber and shingled roofs. Estimates have been received that total almost \$105,000 for this work. That money is not in the budget or the building fund. We are hoping that members can help to fund the remaining amount that is needed.

One member of the congregation will match the first \$4,500 that is donated to the roof fund. Another portion of the money will be requested from the Endowment Fund in 2025 and 2026.

Every dollar counts! Please help if you are willing and as you are able.

Special giving envelopes will be available for your donations.

THANK YOU!

St, Mark's Consistory

JULY

PRAYER AND EVENTS CALENDAR

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Casey Bossler Evan. & Mission Meeting - 6:30 PM	2 Kenneth Brandt	3 Mary Brandt Bible Study - 10 AM	4 Samuel & Holly Brandt Office Closed 4th of July	5 Jake Brewer	6 Fred Brown
7 Ken Brown Worship-10 AM	8 Timothy Brown	9 Kathy Burke	10 Roxanne Carpenter Bible Study - 10 AM	11 Kathryn Ceresini Spiritual Council - 6:30 PM Consistory Mtg. 7:00 PM	12 Destiny Chernich	13 Matthew Chernich
14 Margaret Clark Worship-10 AM @ Pine Acres - Lunch Christian Ed. Meeting - after worship	15 Ruth Clark Kid's Kamp	16 Rebecca Colban Kid's Kamp	17 Gerald Collins Kid's Kamp	18 Michael & Jennifer Collins Kid's Kamp	19 Colin Daub	20 Michael & Heather Daub
21 Ryan Daub Worship-10 AM	22 Kathryn Dissinger	23 Bob & Anita Eby	24 Kimberly, David, Andrew & Taylor Edmondson Bible Study - 10 AM	25 Abigail Eggert	26 Heather Eggert CIA Meeting - 10 AM	27 Holly & Carey Eggert Community Picnic 4:45-6 PM
28 Jay Eisenhauer Worship -10 AM Commissioning Service - Mission Team	29 Deb Ellis & Ed Gundrum	30 Jay & Susan Fisher	31 Kathy Follett Bible Study - 10 AM			