

THE PARISH POST

June 2009

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

www.stmarksharrisburg.org

e-mail: stmarkslutheran@verizon.net

The Rev. James E. Person, 717-695-7525

FROM THE PASTOR

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.
(I Corinthians 12:27-31, NRSV)

Many of you have no doubt read or heard the passage above before, some of you many times. In his letter to the church in Corinth, Paul is encouraging them to work together as best they can for the spread of the Gospel. It seems that in the early church many people had gotten the idea that certain "spiritual gifts" were more or less important than others. (One that was particularly prized was speaking in tongues, which Paul puts at the bottom of the list then later spends some time downplaying.)

Notice that as he presents his list of gifts Paul

makes it clear that every one is important to the healthy functioning of the church. In other letters Paul uses similar imagery of the church as the Body of Christ as well, and he is always quick to point out the importance of all the parts. This is as true in the Church today as it was in Paul's time, and as true at St. Mark's as it was in Corinth, Rome, Ephesus or anyplace else the Church existed or exists today.

Unfortunately, "so much to do, so little time" seems to have become the catch phrase of our society these days, both in the church and in other areas of life. And it is true that while opportunities abound, our time is limited. It has usually been my experience though, that I am able to find the time to do those things that are, first of all, most important, but also those things that I am either most interested in or am good at doing. (They are not always the same!) If we look honestly at the ways we spend our time, I think most of us could say the same thing. Fortunately, St. Mark's has need for your participation in a wide variety of areas, all of which are important, and at least one of which is likely to be something you either enjoy or are good at, or both. If we see these needs as opportunities to use our interests and skills rather than burdens to bear, perhaps we will be more likely to see that there can be both enjoyment and fulfillment in

PURPOSE STATEMENT - St. Marks is a church that

Praises God

Relishes Relationships

Acts as God's Ambassadors

Yearns to Learn

Serves God and Our Neighbors

Worship

Fellowship

Evangelism

Discipleship

Ministry

serving God by serving the Church.

One of the easiest ways to become more involved in the life of the church is to volunteer to fill one of the slots on the "Those Who Serve" sheet that is published each month in the Parish Post. The coordinators for those ministries do a great job of contacting folks and we really appreciate everyone who agrees to help out. There are many of you, though, who may still be waiting for a call or for some reason have not been contacted but you would like to serve. If you are interested, feel free to contact the coordinator listed on the sheet and volunteer your help. If you have questions about what might be expected of you, they will be glad to answer any concerns you may have.

Serving on congregation council is another opportunity to be involved in the workings of the church. A wide variety of skills, interests, and personalities ensure that the congregation will be well represented. As leaders of the congregation, council members share the same sense of fulfillment as the pastor in being "called" to serve the Body of Christ.

You may not be aware that we have twelve "official" ministries of the congregation that carry out the work of St. Mark's. They are, Stewardship, Finance/Endowment, Evangelism, Worship/Music/Arts, Christian Education, Youth, Social Service, Property, Fellowship, Communications, Mutual Ministry, and Administration/Records.

As you might be able to tell from the titles of these ministries, they cover a wide variety of activities and responsibilities. Most of our ministries are quite vital and functioning very well, but they can always use new folks with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

One ministry in particular that is in need of members right now is Administration/Records. While its title does not sound particularly "churchy," it is essential to the smooth functioning of our congregation nonetheless. When questions arise as to updated documents, organization of information, or proper distribution of information, we turn to Administration/Records for answers. If you have interests and/or abilities in the area of organizational skills, please speak to Council President Jim Carl or me about ways you might help strengthen this Body we call St. Mark's.

The same is true of any other ministry you might be interested in. Let us know what areas your interests

and abilities are in and we can find a way to help you exercise them for the good of the church. Think of something you like to do, and it is almost certain there is way the Church can benefit from your involvement. God grants us a wide variety of gifts because the world has a wide variety of needs to be met. What better place to bring gift and need together than in the church!

Be sure to attend the congregational meeting on June 7th to learn more about any ministry you may have questions about and to let us know how we can help you use your gifts to build up the Body of Christ at St. Mark's.

Your partner in ministry,



W/ELCA SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2009

June 2 – Sewing and Project Day 9:00 AM

June 8 – Unified Meeting 6:30 PM. Covered dish dinner & election

June 9 - Esther Circle 9:30 AM

Eve Circle – No meeting

June 26 & 27 – Lower Susquehanna Synod Women's Convention

UNIFIED MEETING:

Join us for our last Unified Meeting of this program year. You know we will eat well, being that it is a covered dish dinner. The program will be a video "Created in the image of God, a community of women". We will also be electing board members for 2009-2010.

At the Women's Fellowship dinner it was suggested that a copy of the recipe be brought with the dish. All the recipes can then be gathered and copied for those who are interested. See you there.

**22nd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE LOWER
SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION**

WHEN: JUNE 26 & 27, 2009

WHERE: Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut
Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: 717- 737-8635

WHO: Any woman, man, or youth that would like to
enrich their faith, grow in their understanding of the
Women of the ELCA, and enjoy fellowship.

The theme comes from. "Let anyone who is thirsty
come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink.
As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart
shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:37b-39

The facility is air-conditioned and handicap accessible.
There is an elevator to all floors and most times only a
short distance to walk to the meeting.

WHAT AND WHOM TO EXPECT

Registration – Friday 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Saturday
7:15 – 8 :45 a.m.

Opening of Convention – 1:00 p.m. Friday
Workshops held Friday & Saturday.

Bishop Penrose Hoover will be with us Friday for
conversation and Saturday morning worship.

Sydney Brinkman, Churchwide Rrepresentative
Rev. Nancy Rouse Easton, Chaplain

Friday Evening Banquet – 6:30 p.m. At Trinity
Saturday Breakfast – 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. (church or hotel)
Saturday Lunch – 12:45 – 1:15 p.m. Trinity
Eucharist Worship Service – 9:00 a.m. Sat.
Closing 4:00 p.m. Saturday

If you are interested in attending, there will be
informational packets the Scout Room.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your support and concern
during this new challenge in my life. I appreciate all
your doing to help us get through it.

Love & Prayers
Judee Leister

To My St. Mark's Family,

Thank you for the prayers, cards and flowers during
the recent loss of my mother, Carrie Young. I really
appreciated your kindness, caring and support during
a very difficult time for me and my family.

I feel very blessed to be a member of such a wonderful
group of people! May God Bless You All.

Sincerely,
Don Young

To All Our Friends at St. Mark's,

Thank you so much for all of your well wishes and
kind blessings as we welcomed Caden into our lives.
Thank you to Pastor Jim for coming to visit us and
bring the beautiful blue blanket. Caden loves it and we
use it nightly!

We can't wait to introduce him to all of you!

Fondly,
T. J. , Leigh Ann & Caden
(St. Mark's newest member!)

Dear St. Mark's Family,

I would like to express my sincere thanks for all of the
prayers, the cards, the flowers and the visits I received
during and after my recent stay in the hospital.
A special thank you to Pastor Person for his visits.
Your thoughtfulness and kindness were and are greatly
appreciated.

In Christian Love,
May Gill

To My St. Mark's Family,

Thank You so very much for your prayers, cards, and
words of encouragement during illness and death of
my husband, Larry. A special Thank You to Pastor Jim
for his daily visits to Larry. It meant a lot to us and I
know Larry is with God. All of you at St. Mark's are
wonderful people and I do think of you as family.

Yours In Christ,
*Sally Collins and
Mike Gonzalez*

PLEASE NOTE in an effort to ensure the continuing quality of the ministry and communication provided through *The Parish Post*, the Mutual Ministry Committee asks that all articles submitted for publication in *The Parish Post* be submitted in complete form, as they will appear in *The Parish Post*. Handwritten or typed articles are OK, but content should be complete when submitted. If an article needs to be written from an outline or other minimal content, it should be submitted by the Thursday prior to the final deadline for submissions. The final deadline for Parish Post information will continue to be the third Sunday of the month preceding the month in which the information is to appear, unless affected by holidays or other circumstances.

Submission dates for upcoming *Parish Post* articles are:

June 21st for the July *Parish Post*

July 19th for the August *Parish Post*

August 16th for the September *Parish Post*

Material submitted after the deadline will appear the following month if the information *is still pertinent*

MEMORIALS

For Carrie Young

Larry and Carol Watkins

Gitta May

St. Mark's WELCA

SMYG SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 6: End of the Year Party 4pm-???

@ The Spencer's Pad

June 14-20th: Confirmation Camp*

@ Camp Nawakwa (Counselors report 13th)

June 27: Flea Market/ Car Wash 6am-2pm

July 5-11th: Leadership Training Camp**

@ Camp Nawakwa

July 18th-27th: Mission Trip/National Youth Gathering*

August 1: Car Wash 9am-1pm @ Beacon Residential

August 9: SMYG Pool Party @ The Evan's Pad

Any questions, comments, or concerns contact Jesse at smyg4christ@verizon.net or for immediate needs at 903-6309.

*Denotes Sr. High only

** This event is by invitation only

Notice to all new SMYGers! Whether you are going to

be in 6th grade through 12th grade this school year, we cordially invite you to your first official youth event! Come out to the Evans' House for the kickoff SMYG gathering for the 2009-2010 year! All are welcome- families friends and most of all YOU!

SMYG goin' to New Orleans... again!

As many of you know St. Mark's Youth Group is returning to the Gulf Coast. I hope that this article will inform you all of what God has planned for us to do this summer.

Our travel will begin on July Saturday 18th. We will be leaving the Susquehanna Township High School parking lot around 6PM. (Come see us go if you are free!) We will be travelling by bus, along with 130 other participants that are taking part in the "Gathering EXTENDED" Mission Trip that is being offered by LutheranHANDS. The bus ride will be around 22 hours. (Are we there yet?) We will arrive at Camp Victor in Ocean Springs Mississippi Sunday evening July 19th.

We will begin our mission work bright and early Monday morning at 630AM. We will work through Wednesday afternoon. We will have no idea how we are going to serve until we arrive at Camp Victor. We know that God will put the tools we need in our hands and hearts that we need to serve those on the gulf coast. Wednesday afternoon we will travel the one hour and twenty minute drive to New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering (NYG). This drive has a great impact because the route we will be driving was all devastated by the hurricanes and flooding.

There are three full days to the NYG, they include a day of service, a day of "learning", and a day of theology. These three main themes of the gathering will be endeared by morning worships, evening free time activities, and nighttime SMYG devotions. SMYG has also signed up to be a part of serving as communion assistants for Sunday morning worship. The members of SMYG will be helping serve communion to over 36,000 Lutherans!!!

We will depart New Orleans on Sunday afternoon around 3PM. This means SMYG will return to the Susquehanna Township High School around 2PM on Monday July 27th. Again please feel free to come show your support on our return.

If you feel like you can help in any way please do.

With all of this travel we can definitely use your prayers. In other congregations there are members creating small devotions including a scripture with a quick thought for their youth to read along the way. This is one more way to contribute to our mission. Lastly, if you are still able to financially help the trip in any way, please mark your giving envelope for the "SMYG Mission Trip". With this notation your gift will go directly to our efforts of serving the Gulf Coast. Thanks again for all of your help! We will return the gratitude with another Mission Sunday as we have traditionally done.

List of participants: Youth: Mercedes Bretz, Bradin Carter, Hannah DeFrank, Jake Esworthy, Julie Eyer, Dameion Frey, Sarah Goodman, Dylan Kroah, Ian Merritt, Laura Rumberger, James Stanton, Taylor Trout and Reagan Whitaker. Adults: Lisa Hand, Sean Hoffman, Bill Kroah, Sarah Rudi, April Trout, Carla Whitaker and Jesse Woodrow

In addition to those who are going on the trip with us, a few volunteers from our congregation are going to be giving up a week of their summer to serve the group of 36,000 at the gathering: Tina Dinger, Astrida Kahley, Jess Roberts, Anthony Weldon, Pam Weldon.

SENIORS AWARDED

Congratulations to our two graduating high school seniors, Chas Evans and Julie Eyer, who both received awards at a recent Central Dauphin awards program. Chas was awarded the West Hanover Business Association Scholarship and the Fishing Creek Elementary PTO Scholarship for academic achievement and community service. Julie received the Kenneth E. Beard Scholarship for academic achievement for a student who will major in education. Both graduate from Central Dauphin High School on June 2.

Chas will attend Wiedner University in Chester, PA for engineering. He also will be a member of the football team. Julie will attend Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA double majoring in English Education and Theatre. She hopes to continue singing and playing volleyball while at school..

CONGREGATIONAL DAY CAMP

St. Mark's will be hosting a Congregational Day Camp from June 22 through June 26 from 9:00AM - 4:00PM. The cost for the week will be \$110. St. Mark's will pay \$55 of that fee. If you need further financial assistance, please contact Molly Stanton (657-7725) or Pastor Person (652-6700) Counselors from Camp Nawakwa will provide the campers with the same program materials that campers who are attending resident camp at either camps Kirchenwald or Nawakwa will receive. This program is open to children who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade for the current school year. This is a perfect opportunity for children who have never been to camp to come and experience all that camp has to offer without leaving home. If you are interested in this program please contact Molly Stanton (657-7725).

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|--|
| 4 | Brian McClenahan Paul Deibler |
| 5 | Doris Atkinson Willem Van Nieuwkuyk |
| 8 | Nicole Coutlangus Tom Comrey |
| 12 | Andy Malette |
| 13 | William Dullen Anthony Sultzaberger |
| 14 | Jonathan Lee |
| 15 | Kenneth Sutch |
| 16 | Aaron Appleby Virginia Ragot |
| 17 | Margit May |
| 18 | Jo-Ann Wahl |
| 19 | John Amaike |
| 23 | Charles Judd |
| 24 | Grace Harr |
| 25 | Conner Smith Jacob Sholder |
| 26 | Loraine Mariner |
| 27 | Luann Johns |
| 28 | Beth Evans Tanya Betz |

Treasurer's Report Summary
April 2009

| RECEIPTS | | EXPENDITURES | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <u>April 09</u> | | <u>April 09</u> | |
| Operating | \$20,443 | Operating | \$20,862 |
| Benevolence | <u>2,287</u> | Benevolence | <u>2,462</u> |
| Subtotal | 22,730 | | 23,324 |
| | | | |
| Hunger | 180 | Hunger | 187 |
| Building Fund | 541 | Building Fund | 0 |
| Memorial Fund | 445 | Memorial Fund | 0 |
| Designated Funds | 1,416 (1) | Designated Funds | 1,829 (2) |
| Nursery Sch payroll | <u>3,358</u> | Nursery Sch payroll | <u>3,247</u> |
| Total | \$28,670 | | \$28,587 |

(1) Receipts include: Nursery School Scholarships \$72; Youth \$157; Mission Partner \$90; Extravaganza/Bell Fund \$509; Carillon Fund \$108; Evangelism Outreach \$75; Lenten Project \$105; Food Pantry \$50; Bible Study Books \$225; and Misc. \$25.

(2) Expenditures include: Evangelism \$310; Food Bank \$100; St. Francis \$100; Youth Trip \$654; Confirmation Camp \$636; and Misc. \$29.

Calvin Smith
Treasurer



— Enjoyed the May 3 presentations by the Mission Bells (known to some as The St. Mark Ding a Lings) and watched with pride as friends and parishioners alike added to the gifts which brought the new carillon even closer to reality.

— On that same day said a private “Good bye” to Cassandra as she spent her last day with St. Mark’s as seminarian. He wishes her luck and offers prayers for her as she continues her training in pastoral care at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He sees a bright future for Cassandra as she continues to serve God in the ministry.

— Continues to explore the church and found a large wooden box behind the altar. While he was there he heard a noise like a fan inside the box. Soon there was a clicking sound followed by a loud hiss which was louder than any cat he had ever encountered. As he ran he heard the glorious sound of music and came to the conclusion that his is how a pipe organ works - -

was right in the middle of the sight and sound of the worship service led by St. Mark’s young people on May 17th.

— Would like everyone to know that he is going to yield to the animal instincts God gave him and he will be moving to the open spaces around the church for the summer. He will try to slip into the church for the June 21 congregational meeting, otherwise he will see you in September. He hopes you will all have a good summer and scurried away humming “God Be With You ‘Til We Meet Again’.

WORSHIP SERVICES NOW ON DVD!

St. Mark's worship services are now being recorded and are available on DVD to be taken to shut-ins, shared with prospective members, etc. We also have available a portable DVD player that can be used in the hospital, rehab, or other times when a TV and DVD player may not be available. If you would like to use the DVDs and/or player, please contact Pr. Jim.

Serve the Lord with Gladness



Those who serve St. Mark's in Worship



| DATE | ALTAR CARE | GREETERS | COMMUNION ASSISTANT | BREAD DELIVERY | FLOWER DELIVERY |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| COORDINATOR | Barb Dudek 652-1619 | Zara Bennett 732-5005 | Stephanie Carl 657-1605 | Alice Houck 545-1068 | Gitta May 545-5254 |
| June 7 - early | Laurie Womer | K. Lingle C. Reddinger | A. Graham P. Deibler | | |
| June 7 - late | Betty File | Norma & Gary Graham | B. Dudek S. Sherwood | Tracey Swetnam | Margie Stouffer |
| June 14 - early | Barb Heym | The Whitaker's | L. Womer S. Bennick | | |
| June 14 - late | Marian Person | A. Gabor P. Ernest | C. Smith T. Trout | Cindy Lang | Zara Bennett |
| June 21 - early | Sue Bennick | Tracey Swetnam | D. DeFrank H. DeFrank | | |
| June 21 - late | Margie Stouffer | Donna & Donald Gutshall | D. Stanton J. Stanton | Alice Houck | Barb Heym |
| June 28 - early | Tracey Swetnam | | B. Whitaker C. Whitaker | | |
| June 28 - late | B. Dudek S. Collins | F. Shultz D. Atkinson | M. Sultzaberger T. Ingram | Stephanie Carl | Bill & Betty Shook |

SIGN-UP SHEETS for "THOSE WHO SERVE" are on the bulletin board across from the church office, or call the coordinator.

SPECIAL DATES

- * Trinity Sunday, *June 7, 2009*
- * Flag Day, *June 14, 2009*
- * Father's Day, *June 21, 2009*
- * First day of summer, *June 21, 2009*

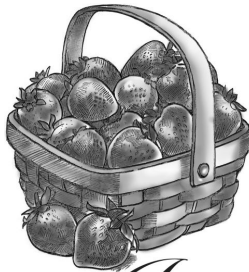
ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
4200 Londonderry Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 618
Harrisburg, PA.

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY
DATED MATERIAL

THE PARISH POST



June

THE PARISH POST
June 2009

St. Mark's Church Council

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| President | James Carl |
| Vice President | Charles Reddinger |
| Secretary | Lisa Hand |
| Treasurer | Calvin Smith |
| Financial Secretary | Rita Trovalli |
| Council Members | Zara Bennett |
| | Greg Bennick |
| | Reuel Deppen |
| | Melissa McLaughlin |
| | Pastor Jim Person |
| | Molly Stanton |
| | Mary Sultzaberger |
| | Tracey Swetnam |
| | Lori Ulrich |
| | Donald Young |
| Organist Emeritus | Betty Briner |
| Minister of Music | Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk |
| Church Secretary | Kim DiPaolo |
| Youth Director | Jesse Woodrow |

