

# The Parish Post

FEBRUARY 2012

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

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



## TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

All over this magnificent world, God calls us to extend his kingdom of shalom-peace and wholeness — of justice, of goodness, of compassion, of caring, of sharing, of laughter, of joy, of reconciliation. God is transfiguring the world right this very moment through us because God believes in us and because God loves us.

What can separate us from the love of God? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. And as we share God's love with our brothers and sisters, God's other children, there is no tyrant who can resist us, no opposition that cannot be ended, no hunger that cannot be fed, no wound that cannot be healed, no hatred that cannot be turned into love, no dream that cannot be fulfilled.

—Desmond Tutu, *God Has a Dream*

**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.



<sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47 (NIV)

**!!CALLING ALL MEN!!**

**(Ladies, feel free to read this too, but please pass the info on to any guy in your life that you think might be interested.)**

As some of you know, one of the things I have been hoping to get going here at St. Mark's is an active Men's Ministry group. Perhaps I should say I'd like to get a group "re-started" since there have been groups in the past that each seem to have run their course and faded away. Well, I believe the time is right for another round of Men's Ministry to begin at St. Mark's.

Conversations with a couple of men from our congregation have convinced me that there is a need here for a Men's Ministry with a special focus; active, retired men who are looking for something meaningful, worthwhile, interesting, and fun to do with their free time. And, while that group would be the main focus of this ministry, retirees need not be the only ones involved in this ministry. Other men who have time on their hands, most likely during morning or afternoon hours would be welcome to join us as well.

The book of Acts shows us that one of the most important aspects of the early church was meeting together both for worship and for fellowship. Many men today, though, once they are out of the workforce, lose many of the connections and friendships they enjoyed while working. And, even though while we're working forty or more hours a week we think it would be nice to have nothing to do, men quickly find that when there really is nothing to do, it drives us crazy. The winter months can be especially tough; too cold to golf, too icy to fish, nothing in season to hunt, and daylight hours so short we feel like hibernating till spring.

**I want to help men deal with the long, dark, lonely days of winter by forming a men's group to meet**

**regularly to do something or study something or serve someone or just get to know each other or all of the above. What I need now is the help of any and all men who might be interested in forming and being a part of such a group.**

We could drink coffee and do Bible study, we could eat pizza and shoot pool, we could form a morning or afternoon bowling league, we could collect and repair used furniture for needy families, we could do any number of things or combination of things that would provide us an opportunity for fellowship and a chance to grow in our faith. We could meet at the church, a local restaurant, or any other place we'd be comfortable doing whatever it is we decide to do. (I have been contacted by someone from the Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging who would like to see a Meals on Wheels group started at St. Mark's again, might that be something we could do?)

Men, please think this over. What would you like to do? When would you like to do it? How often? Where? The possibilities are endless but we need to get together and share ideas. **I will schedule a get-together for Tuesday morning, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM for any and all interested men to come and see what our possibilities might be.** The women of our church are doing so many things and enjoying it so much, I think it's time we guys get in on the act.

Please call the church office to let me know if you'll be at the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>, or if you are interested but unable to attend. I may even provide some refreshments, so let me know how many to plan for. I have always believed that things will happen when the time is right, that is God's time, not ours. If I'm reading the signs correctly, the time for a new Men's Ministry at St. Mark's is now. Let's follow the example of those early disciples and, who knows, God may add daily to our numbers as well.

Your partner in ministry,

Pr. Jim Person

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Well we are beginning a new year and I hope a very good year here at St. Mark's and in all of your personal lives as well. Just a few words on the meetings I've been attending! Still need Social Services, Stewardship which never meets except for the phone and Worship Music and Arts other than this I believe I have attended at least one or more of the other Ministry's meetings and I am learning it takes a lot of hard work and fun and Fellowship to make St. Mark's a growing and successful church. So to all of you I say thank you from the bottom of my heart. My wish for the new year is we continue to grow and share fellowship and get to know each other better.

May God Bless You All  
*Mary Sultzaerger*

## OUR NEW MISSIONARY

Dr. Derrick Matthews is the chief of pediatrics at Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre, an urban hospital treating Tanzanians and expatriates, serving as one of two pediatricians in a catchment area of over 1 million people. He also serves at Selian Lutheran Hospital, a rural hospital near Arusha. He participates in the training and teaching of Tanzanian rotating interns, mid-level practitioners (Assistant Medical Officers) and medical residents and students from other countries.

## Memorials for Marion Trautman

Josephine Barnes  
 Norma Graham  
 Shirley Johns  
 Patty Johnson  
 Betty Regan  
 Paul & Dorothy Remaly  
 Tom & Donna Shuler  
 Jane Smith  
 Mary Ellen Tanenbaum  
 Florence 'Mom' True  
 George & Tina True  
 Helen Warrington



--Thought that the pork and sauerkraut luncheon celebrated in Fellowship Hall on New Year's Day was a great success. He suggested looking at the Fellowship Ministry's bulletin board in the East Hallway if there was any doubt about his observation. He is so right and hopefully this will become an annual event.

--Lamented that the Christmas tree which provided a great place to share the joy of the Birth of Jesus with his fellow St. Markians had to be taken down. He thought that it was a great place to play while being a different kind of ornament.

--Was saddened to learn that Scout Troop 302, long sponsored by St. Mark's church had disbanded after many years of good times and service to the community. The daffodil cross in the front lawn, the meditation garden on the Arlington Avenue side of the church, and the bulletin boards in the east hallway are part of the legacy left by the troop. While he showed sorrow, he also expressed his gratitude for what they have done.

--Looks forward to the month of February which will bring St. Valentine's Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> the chicken and waffle supper on the 18<sup>th</sup>, Fastnacht Day on the 21<sup>st</sup>, and Ash Wednesday on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. While it hasn't been a terrible winter thus far, he is looking forward to Spring anyway.

--Likes the new outdoor lights recently installed to provide a little safer and more comfortable approach to the church for nighttime activities. After a little discussion about what LED means--I said Light Emitting Diodes, he insisted on Less Energy Demand--we said good bye until next month.

## SPECIAL DATE

- \* Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2012*
- \* Transfiguration of Our Lord, *February 19, 2012*
- \* Presidents Day, *February 20, 2012*
- \* Ash Wednesday, *February 22, 2012*
- \* First Sunday in Lent, *February 26, 2012*



## Following The Lamb...

It is almost February and the children are longing for snow (but not the staff) The children in the 3 year old class are busy learning Nursery Rhymes. Each day we all dress up, use a variety of props and act out the poems. The favorite part so far is "the dish that ran away with the spoon" as the children get to run to the door inside the classroom.

Wed. is a popular day for the 4 year old class as that is the day Mrs. Hain does her gym days. The children glide on belly boards, walk on the balance bean, play games and have lots of active fun. The four year old class is also learning the letters of the alphabet. Each letter day they meet another character, hear a story about him, color a picture and play with Mrs. Oliver's magic cupboard full of toys (all alphabet related) It is so much fun to see a child write his or her name for the first time or discover that their name begins with the letter of the day. In Feb. we will begin our I am special Days. Children complete a poster about themselves and their family and each child gets to ask the special person a question. Some of the more popular questions are "What Kind of Ice cream do you like?" or "What kind of birthday cake will you have?"

So far we have earned \$282.24 from Giant in the A plus program. Keep shopping and earning money for our school.

Mark your calendars...the Bunny Breakfast will be held on March 24th. We will have sign up sheets for volunteers in the bulletin and in the rear of the church. If you know of anyone who can donate a door prize to the school for our raffle, please have them call me at 671-4855 or at home at 545-1888. We appreciate all donations. I have form letters that you can use to get a donation and I will leave a few in the Nursery School mailbox for you . Please contact me if you have any questions about this.

Happy Valentine's day to everyone in our church family.

*Lynn Oliver*

We are now accepting applications for the 2012-13 school year. If you know of anyone who might be interested please have them call the school for an application or give them an application. They are in the hallway on our Nursery School Bulletin Board.



During Lent, as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross, let's also examine the journey of our lives. The first task when leaving on any adventure is packing. What have you placed in your bag? Are you weighed down with temptations, self-doubt, money worries, relationship troubles? Have you overlooked any important items? Maybe your bag feels too empty for the challenges ahead. Remember to pack mercy, grace and forgiveness.

Thanks to Easter, we know that our journey in Christ continues, even when the road becomes difficult. So as you prepare for Lent, carry with you the hope made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf.

—Based on the "Journey to Hope" sermon series, [www.rethinkchurch.org/lent](http://www.rethinkchurch.org/lent)

## PRAYER PARTNERS' MINISTRY



The relationship between the Bible and prayer is profound. Prayer is at the heart of the Bible and the Bible is in the heart of prayer.

Let us take a look at the prayer life of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the end of his earthly life as he hung dying on the cross, he went to the scriptures for his prayers. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" is a quotation from Psalm 22:1. "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit" comes from Psalm 31:5. At the point of his greatest anguish and extremity, Jesus turned to the Bible for his prayers. When Jesus most needed to pray, he saw no need to be original or extemporaneous. The incarnate Word lived on the Inspired Word. If Christ lived upon the Word of God should not you and I do the same?

The old hymn about prayer is true: "What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief's to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! But we would know nothing about this wonderful Jesus, and his gift of prayer, were it not for the Bible.

Please keep the following members in prayer during the month of February: Diane Reynolds, Taylor Reynolds, Dale Roat, Harry Roat, Susan Roebuck, Ralph Rothrock, Nancy Rowe, Catherine Rupp, Meg Rusanowsky, Catherine Russell, Gail Russell, Clara Ruta, Christopher Schaffer, Connie Swartz, Gary Swartz, Xavier Scrbacic, Susan Seitz, Bruce Senft, Sue Senft, Karin Senft, Christie Senft, Ryan Shadle, Carolyn Shadle and Edward Shadle.

Also, include in prayer the Church Council as they review recommendations from members and provide leadership for our church family.

In Christ's Love  
John and Margaret Herigan  
Prayer Partners Ministry



# ST. MARK'S YOUTH GROUP

## ★ News ★

5th - Super Bowl Party hosted by Fellowship Ministry  
12th - Youth Group Meeting 5:45 - 8:30 p.m.  
Sr. High Lunch 12:45 p.m. at TBD  
26th - Youth Group Meeting 5:45 - 8:30 p.m.

## SMYG CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

### Talent & Art Show!



SMYG is currently looking for acts for their annual Talent Show. If you have any gift you would like to share with the group, including; singing, dancing, acting, performing magic tricks or any

other odd talent feel free to contact Jesse Woodrow at 717-903-6309 or at [smyg4christ@verizon.net](mailto:smyg4christ@verizon.net). We will also be continuing the Art show this year so if you have any arts or crafts you would like to present also contact Jesse. The event will be held on March 9th beginning at 545P. Practice for all acts will be March 4th from 545-830P. The art must also be submitted by this date. All the proceeds from this event will be used by SMYG during their Mission Trip/National Youth Gathering this Summer! We thank you for your support!

## FREY VILLAGE

During the month of February, Frey Village will once again be holding their Auxiliary membership drive, which benefits the many projects that the Auxiliary maintains and funds. Please watch your mail for your annual membership, and consider continuing your support. If you are not a member and would like to become one or learn more about this worthwhile cause, simply contact Sandy Kroah at 564-5863 or see her after church on any Sunday.

## THANK YOU NOTES

To My Dear Friends at St. Mark's,

Thank you for all of your prayers, you are a true blessing to me. God heard your prayers and has healed my body. I still have a way to go in the healing process, but I'm doing very good.

My husband, Kenneth, went into the hospital on December 23rd and they operated on him on Christmas morning for colon cancer. So, I'm asking you to pray for him also.

Thank you again for everything. God is so GOOD to us!

Sincerely,  
Loretta Williams  
(Dolores Magaro's cousin)

Dear Everyone,

Once again I send out a big "thank you" to all who so kindly helped to make our December Extravaganza a fantastic success!

You St. Mark's people not only lovingly supported each other, but you reached out to people in the community, and they in return came to support our endeavors.

Also, Chuck Rhodes of ABC27 News, and Marijon Shearer, a reporter for the Patriot News, provided wonderful (free) publicity. (Mother Nature also did us a favor with a beautiful weather weekend—no floods or snowstorms!)

Now we are busy packing Christmas/winter away, and creating lovely new items for our Spring Opening which will be March 8 – 11. The theme will be:

*Soon winter will end and spring will be "springing".  
The flowers will bloom and birds will be singing.  
The Easter Bunny will then come a-hoppin'  
So visit the Extravaganza and do some shoppin'!*

If you've never seen the Extravaganza, please feel free to "come and see". Think Spring!

In Christian Love,  
Betty Shook and the Craft/Artisans

The family of Sally Boynton would like to thank everyone for their cards, kind words and prayers

upon the passing of Sally.

"Aunt Sally's" 98 years were truly lived as an expression of her faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The family rejoices in those memories.

*Jeanne Flickinger & Karen Lingle*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,130.00 for Christ Health Ministries and for your donation of hygiene, hospital-ity, clothing items and medications from your Angel Tree.

You have been kind and generous to us over many years, and we deeply appreciate it.

*Rev. Jody Silliker*  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

On behalf of all of us at Bridge of Hope Harrisburg Area, thank you very much for your recent contribution of \$500. We are extremely grateful for your generosity.

*Johanna Fessenden, Director*

Dear Friends,

Generous donations such as yours, enable us to increase the number of families that we can serve each year. We are blessed by your desire to care for homeless women and children. This holiday season is special for us because we are able to provide our newest family with a home for the holidays.

Kind Regards  
*Johanna*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1	Carolyn Shadle Lori Ulrich
3	Alan Judd Jenna Spencer
7	Heather Probst Staci Geiser
8	Zacery Dullen Robert Mark
11	Griffin Phelan Grace Phelan Karen Maher
12	Roland Bergner Daphne Anderson David Neidig, Jr.
13	Emma Malette
15	Mary Elizabeth Lichtenwalner
16	Anna Gabor Jesse Woodrow Jane Stone Cynthia Lang Kenneth Lang
19	Billy Clisham
22	Jackson Fleegal Logan Fleegal
23	Donna Lahr
24	Jenny Sustak Michael Frey Terry Stohler Mary Fisher
25	Cheryl Martin Christoper Moody
26	Donna Woodrow
27	Keri Flickinger Matthew Johns
29	Paulette Beverly
3/1	Lois Fritz
3/2	Donna Lee Michael Martellaro
3/3	Astrida Kahley Fred Hoover Alison Keith
3/4	Casianne Frey Heather Lee
3/5	Catherine Rupp Renee' Carpenter
3/6	Ralph Rothrock Jane Reisinger

Tuesday, February 7 - Sewing/Project Day 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 12 - W/ELCA Unified Meeting 2:00 p.m. Title of the Program "I Am She." Light refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, February 14 - Esther Circle 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 28 - Eve Circle 7:00 p.m.

Thanks to the congregation of Saint Mark's for their generosity donating to the Angel Tree for the Health Clinic at Christ Lutheran Church, the hats for Pinnacle Health and the items for the Indian Reservation.

This Christmas, the following items were donated:

Health Clinic at Christ Lutheran

8 cans of decaf coffee  
7 jars of powdered creamer  
14 tubes of toothpaste  
41 adult toothbrushes  
19 children's toothbrushes  
9 bottles of eye drops  
42 bottles of hand sanitizer  
34 pairs of men's underwear  
91 pairs of women's underwear  
66 pairs of boy's socks  
44 pairs of women's socks  
6 men's hats  
3 Bayer Contour meters with 150 test strips  
1 One Touch meter with 40 test strips

Pinnacle health

9 women's hats

Indian Reservation

31 children's hats  
7 scarves  
12 pairs of slipper socks

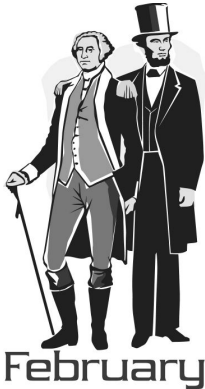
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**THE PARISH POST**

## THE PARISH POST FEBRUARY 2012

**St. Mark's Church Council**

<b>President</b>	Mary Sultzaberger
<b>Vice President</b>	Lori Ulrich
<b>Secretary</b>	Tracy Ingram
<b>Treasurer</b>	Calvin Smith
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Rita Trovalli
<b>Council Members</b>	Deb Banks
	Lisa Hand
	Dylan Kroah
	Roy Leister
	Melissa McLaughlin
	Pastor Jim Person
	David Stanton
	Tracey Swetnam
	Donald Young
<b>Organist Emeritus</b>	Betty Briner
<b>Minister of Music</b>	Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Kim DiPaolo
<b>Youth Director</b>	Jesse Woodrow
<b>Sexton</b>	Donald Young
<b>Nursery School Dir.</b>	Lynn Oliver

