

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES

March 27, 2024

From *DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2017*: Erika Bentsen

“Let there be light in the darkness.” – 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6

My day went from bad to worse. It started with a phone call that rearranged my schedule for the third time that week. Then my computer crashed. While I frantically researched computer fixes, my husband poked his head in to tell me he'd invited family over at the last minute for Easter dinner and asked if I could pick up what we needed.

I let my bad mood flourish during my hour-long drive to town. “I know Randy's busy, but can't he see I'm busy too?” I growled. I got out of my pickup and slammed the door. The cross around my neck bounced against my skin. I stopped. It didn't match the frown on my face.

This is the wrong attitude, I thought. Easter is about overcoming darkness, a celebration of joy.

I had eight stops to make, and an idea presented itself: I vowed to make someone laugh in each store, even though I didn't feel like it.

Wouldn't you know it? All my negativity dissipated after the first stop. Joking about my surprise Easter dinner guests was enough to do it. Checkout clerks saw that a lot. Many had great ideas for shaving time off dinner preparations and told their own unexpected guest stories. My darkness was vanquished. I even sang on my way home much to the chagrin of Blue Dog, my faithful cattle dog in the backseat.

“How was town?” Randy asked a little tentatively when I got home.

I smiled. “Awesome!”

Thank You, Lord, for making Your light shine to brighten my way. – ERIKA BENTSEN

Prayer: *Let us pray: Eternal and everlasting Father, You break into our darkness and give life and joy. I give thanks for this blessing in my life. As I look towards the glory of this coming Easter, remind me of the freedom won for me in Your resurrection. Help me show that good news in my walk of life, sharing it in word and in action to all that I meet. Help me follow in the path of our righteous Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00am-12:00noon

Preschool: On Break – Regular Schedule (MWF 8:30am-4:00pm | TTh 8:30am-12:00noon) Resumes **April 2nd**

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday

9:00am to 12noon – Quilters Group

7:00pm – Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

11:00am to 12noon – Bible Study

7:00pm – Good Friday Worship Service

Saturday, March 30

10:30am – Easter Egg Hunt

5:30pm – Spoken Worship – *Easter Vigil*

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

9:00am – Traditional Worship – *Resurrection of Our Lord*

No Activities following Worship

Monday, April 1

April Fool's Day – Death Was Fooled – Christ Is Risen!!!

Tuesday, April 2

1:00pm – St. Mark *Eats @* Chili's

Joe Corbi's Preorders Pickup: **10:30am-12:30pm in Fellowship Hall**

Thursday, April 4

9:00am to 12noon – Quilters Group

3:00pm – Evangelism Committee Meeting

Friday, April 5

11:00am to 12noon – Bible Study

Maundy Thursday Worship Leaders:

CPIC: Tom Long

Lectors: Martha Lippy | Pennie Highlands | Carol Reese
Susan Miller | Karen Feeser | Dave Gates | Alex Spalding | Kathy Gates

Communion Assistants: Tom Long | Karen Feeser

Greeter: Linda Bolin

Good Friday Worship Leaders:

CPIC: Alex Spalding

Lectors: Martha Lippy | Linda Bolin | Susan Miller | Karen Feeser
David Gates | Mike Stonesifer | Hollis Long | Tom Long | Kathy Gates

Acolyte: Shellene Griffin

Greeter: Linda Bolin

Easter Vigil Worship Leaders

Acolyte: Shellene Griffin

Easter Sunday Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Pennie Highlands

CPIC: Hollis Long

Processional: Pennie Highlands | Marcus Lobaugh | Morgana Lobaugh
Abby Shermeyer | Noah Shermeyer | Alex Spalding

Comm. Assts: Hollis Long | Pennie Highlands

Acolyte: Abby Shermeyer

Greeter: Bill Leppo



Prayer List: We ask that you keep all our shut-ins and those needing special help in your daily prayers. We will keep the shut-ins on the list indefinitely and those needing extra prayers will be removed after one month unless hearing otherwise. To add a name to the prayer list please write it on the list on the narthex brass stand or call the office. This week keep in your prayers: *Alvan Allison, Family & Friends of Barry Angel, Donald Becker, Larry Bolin, Jessica (Feeser) Boone, Katherine Borsella, Allen Bowersox, Frances Claybaugh, Ann Clingan, Lisa Dickensheets, Gail Dorsey, Diane Duffy, Robin Eline, Tarek Elnaggar, Jean Eshbach, Dennis Fahey, Betty Fury, Nancy Fridinger, Vickie Gouker, Dane Graham, Tom Greenholt, Carol Ann Haines, Carrie Hernden, Shirley Hippensteel, Jean Huskin, Don Jamison, Donna Jones, Pat Keefer, Craig King, Norma Kreidler, Mary Lou Krummeck, Family & Friends of Nancy Kuhn, Allen Kuhns, Family & Friends of John Kuhns, David Kunkel, Susie Laughman, Jean Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Ronnie Lippy, Naura Luqman, Dave & Denise Martin, Clara McBrayer, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Mary Ellen Melhorn, Carol Miller, Sandy Miller, Merita Moore, Leah Moul, Merle Mummert, Pam Mummert, Tammy Mummert, Carolyn Neumyer, Shirley Noel, Marian Noble, Kelly Perdue, R. Pittinger, Family & Friends of Walt Porowski, Mary Riley, Lucus Schneider, Bob and Cecelia Sell, Bob Shue, Luanne Slusser, Denise Smith, Pr. Jerry Smith, JoAnn Smith, Beverly Snyder, Phyllis Tasto, Jennie Tome, George Tracy, Allison Trump, Lois VandenHeuvel, Daniel & Gloria Wagaman, Jody Walter, Naomi Warren, Barb Watson, Diana Weaver, Ron Wentz, Kathy Wildasin, Scott Wisner, Rebecca Wisotzkey.*

St. Mark's Monthly Offering for Designated Needs gives us an opportunity as a congregation to support specific domestic and international needs which are pre-determined by our council each year. March's offering benefits **Olivia's House of Hanover**. Olivia's House is an organization of caregiving professionals and volunteers committed to supporting grieving children. To contribute to this month's designated need, mail in your donations or place them in our collection plates, specifying "Olivia's House" or March Designated Giving on your check or the *Other* line of your offering envelope. Donations made on the *Other* line that have no written designation will automatically be given to that month's ministry fund. Thanks for your support.

2024 Acts of Glory: The Evangelism Committee is asking everyone to anonymously share anything you've done that glorifies God in your everyday life. Submit them via index card (found in the pews – place in the bucket under the Inspirations envelopes) or email them to offcoor129@gmail.com

2024-2025 Preschool Registration: Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open to the public. Interested families can go to stmarkpreschoolhanover.weebly.com/. **NOTE: All classes are now FULL except for the M/W/F afternoon 4-year-old class, which only has three spots left.**

Daniel: Clearview Terrace Travel Club is planning a trip to see *Daniel* at the Sight & Sound Theater on **May 22nd**, leaving at 9:00am. The cost of \$150 includes the show, transportation, lunch, and gratuities. Registration deadline is **April 12th**, but there are only 52 seats available, so get your ticket soon if you're planning to go!

Diapers for Lent: This is the final week of our diaper collection on behalf of Tender Care Pregnancy Center. You can drop off your donations of new diapers or wipes during church office hours, Monday through Friday, between 9:00am and 12noon, or just bring them to church when you attend worship this week.

Don't Forget! Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt for kids at St. Mark and in the community is **this Saturday, March 30th**, at 10:30am. This is your last chance to let people know about the hunt and/or to sign up your own children or grandchildren by calling 637-8904.

HACC's Stolte Scholarship: This scholarship awards \$1,000 for a Hanoverian pursuing a career in ministry, missions, or humanitarian service. The deadline is **April 23rd**. For more info, contact HACC at 633-6353.

Envelopes Requested: April Inspirations packets are now available. Be sure to pick one up – not just for yourself, but also one or more to share. The Evangelism Committee is looking for donations of boxes of white #10 envelopes to use for Inspiration envelopes for community events such as Messy Church, the Hanover Snacktown Street Fair, and our November Fall Bazaar. Thank you!

Piggy Bank Project: Remember to keep filling your piggy banks with loose change this week and next, **right up until Easter**, to provide necessities for growth for families and communities in underprivileged areas. Then bring the piggy banks back in to help fill our glass container to overflowing.

Ruth's Harvest Donations Sought: This HACC program provides children with packages of food to get them through the weekends when they might not otherwise be regularly fed. Individual fruit, veggies, snacks, and tuna/chicken pouches can be placed in the floor bin next to the office.

Save the Dates for these St. Mark Events: Please mark your calendars and tell your friends to save the dates for these upcoming St. Mark Events: On Friday, **May 17th**, the East Berlin Community Singers will present a free concert in our sanctuary at 7:30pm. Then on **July 14th**, please plan to attend Honoring our Heroes at St. Mark beginning at 5:00pm with a concert at 7:00pm. Please join us!

Slagle Scholarship - \$1,000: The Slagle Scholarship Committee is awarding \$1,000 to a graduating senior of Hanover or South Western who plans to enter the nursing profession, the ministry or other religious work, or attend a vocational (technical) school. Contact Martha Lippy at 717-637-8891 or come by the church office on weekdays between 9:00am and 12noon to pick up an application. **Completed applications must be received by the church office on or before April 5, 2024.**

Special Services Reminder: We hope to see one and all at our special worship services during this holy week. On **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday**, services are at 7:00pm. Then we'll hold our **Easter Vigil** on Saturday at 5:30pm. On **Easter Sunday**, we will, of course, rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please join us!

Spring Altar Flowers: If you'd like to honor someone or their memory this spring, we **have three vases open in April and one in May**. Just fill out the altar flower book, email offcoor129@gmail.com, or call 637-8904. Thank you for helping us keep fresh flowers on the altar!

St. Mark Eats: We'd like to invite you to our last luncheon of the year before we switch over to dinner gatherings. On Tuesday, **April 2nd**, we'll be lunching at Chili's at 1:00pm and then dinner at 6:00pm on **May 7th** at the Starlight Diner. We'd love to have you join us at either or both!

Upcoming Community Concerts: Emmanuel UCC (717-632-8281) on Broadway presents the L'abri Trio on **April 7th** at 3:00pm. And on **April 20th at 7:00pm**, the College Choir of Lebanon Valley College will sing at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Carlisle (717-249-3310).