

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES
July 10, 2024

From DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2018: Sharon Foster

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. – ISAIAH 11:6

My friend Mary leads Bible witness camp for girls each summer, and there's always something new to learn.

“Do any of you hold grudges?” she asks the girls.

As a leader, I'm tempted to answer, but remain silent.

Several of the campers raise their hands. Mary chooses one of the campers and places a basketball in each of the girl's open palms. It's comical to watch as she balances the balls with her outstretched arms. “My arms are getting tired,” the girl whines.

“But you have to hold on to the balls. Those are your grudges.”

Then Mary picks up a bag of candies. The other girls sigh with delight. “Hold out your hands,” Mary says and pours candies into their outstretched hands. “These are the blessings of the Lord.” The blessings are beautiful to behold - showers of red, blue, yellow, green, and orange.

It is a lesson for the girls, but I look into my own heart. *What grudges am I holding on to?* The ones that come to mind first are childhood memories to protect me from those who hurt me, abused me.

Mary lifts the two balls from the camper's hands and replaces them with candy. I'm not a girl anymore. I'm safe, and I don't need grudges to protect me. I forgive and then feel a weight lift from my shoulders. My hands are open now, ready to receive blessings.

Lord, show us the weights that we carry, grudges that are invisible to us. Give us the courage to forgive, then shower Your beautiful blessings on us! – SHARON FOSTER

Prayer: *Let us pray, Almighty God, I give thanks that Your hands and strength carry me through life, bearing with me all my burdens, sorrows, and even my grudges. Help me release these unnecessary burdens that hold me from forgiving, loving, and living to Your glory. Guide me in the ways of Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, in whose name I pray. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

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

Preschool: Preschool on Summer Break

Thursday, July 11

9:00am to 12noon – Quilters Group

1:00pm – Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting

6:00pm – St. Mark *Eats* @ Dutch Country

Friday, July 12

11:00am to 12noon – Bible Study

6:00pm to 8:00pm – Visitation at Wetzel Funeral Home for Pat

Hagarman with **Prayer Service to Follow at 8:00pm**

Saturday, July 13

8:00am to 4:00pm – St. Mark @ Snack Town Street Fair

5:30pm – Spoken Worship – 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, July 14

9:00am – Traditional Worship – 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Provide-A-Lunch (PAL) Meeting Following Worship

5:00pm – “Honoring Our Heroes” Community Event – PLEASE

JOIN US AND BRING A FRIEND!

7:00pm – “Honoring Our Heroes” Free Concert

Monday, July 15

- OFFICE CLOSED -

Tuesday, July 16

10:30am – Preschool Board Meeting

Thursday, July 18

9:00am to 12noon – Quilters Group

Friday, July 19

11:00am to 12noon – Bible Study

Sunday Worship Leaders:

CPIC: Kathy Gates **Lector:** Karen Feeser

Communion Assistants: Gail Merlo | Hollis Long

Greeter: Bill Leppo **Altar Care:** *Need Volunteer(s)*



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: *Dora, Grayson, Donald Becker, Nancy Bender, Family & Friends of 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, Nancy Gill, Vickie Gouker, Dane Graham, Tom Greenholt, Family & Friends of Patricia Hagarman, Carol Ann Haines, Justin Hartz, Chase Henry & Family, Carrie Hernden, Drew Highlands, Martha Howells, Family & Friends of Jean Huskin, Donna Jones, Debbie Kellenbenz, Craig King, Kelly Koontz, Norma Kreidler, Mary Lou Krummeck, Allen Kuhns, David Kunkel, Jean Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Ronnie Lippy, Naura Luqman, Dave & Denise Martin, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Mary Ellen Melhorn, Carol Miller, Sandy Miller, Merita Moore, Leah Moul, Glenn Mummert, Merle Mummert, Pam Mummert, Carolyn Neumyer, Marian Noble, Kelly Perdue, 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, Family & Friends of Lois VandenHeuvel, Daniel & Gloria Wagaman, Jody Walter, Naomi Warren, Barb Watson, Diana Weaver, Ron Wentz, Kathy Wildasin, Edward Wiltrout, 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. During July, we are given the opportunity to contribute to **Medical Ministry International (MMI)**, a group which organizes medical missions to all parts of the world. It is the group responsible for planning and organizing the mission trips taken by Gary Laabs.

To support July's designated fund, write "**MMI**" or "**July Fund**" on your check or on your offering envelope on the line marked "Other." Amounts written in on the "Other" line with no other fund specified will automatically be attributed to that month's designated fund.

In Memorial: It is with deep regret we must announce the passing of **Patricia Hagarman** and **Lois VandenHeuvel**, who entered the everlasting promise found in the living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

- A Memorial Service for **Pat** has been planned for 8:00pm on Friday, **July 12th**, at Wetzel's Funeral Home, following visitation with her family from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.
- Funeral arrangements for **Lois** will be announced once they are known.

Two white roses will be placed in the chancel this weekend in memory of these two beloved church members. Please keep the families and friends of both Pat and Lois in your prayers.

Altar Flowers: Thank you to all who sponsored July vases! We still have several in August, so if you'd like to honor a loved one or their memory, please add your dedication to the altar flower book in the narthex.

Attention Current & Future PAL Team Members: Please plan to attend a very important PAL Team Planning Meeting on **July 14th** following worship. We need your help, so please join us.

Celebrating Community Heroes: Our second "Honoring Our Heroes" event is coming up soon. It begins at 5:00pm on **July 14th**, with fire trucks, ambulances, police cars, a tour of the nurses' garden at UPMC, military and veteran support groups, face painting, stickers, and post-concert root beer floats! Stay for the concert at 7:00pm, featuring a color guard as well as The Barbershoppers, LAMB, readings, and a sing-a-long. To pick up flyers to share or a digital version to post on your social media, please contact Joni in the church office.

Flat Sheets Needed: The sewing group needs full or queen flat sheets in new condition – any colors but especially white, pastel colors, or even subtle prints. Thank you for your support of their mission!

July Inspirations: July inspirations are available in the Inspirations box in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself and more to share, if you wish.

Fellowship Hosts Needed: We need volunteers for our coffee and donut fellowship. We'd like to continue these special fellowship times but need helpers to keep it going. Please sign up on the sheet across from the church office if you are able to volunteer on the first Sunday of any upcoming months. Thank you!

Ice Cream! St. Mark Preschool is holding their first fundraiser of the year at Big Dippers (2135 Baltimore Pike) on Meet the Teacher Night, Thursday, **August 15th**. A portion of all sales between 5:00pm and 8:00pm will go to the preschool, so come out and enjoy a sweet treat while supporting the school!

Greeting Cards Needed: Our VBS and Sunday School will be gluing 4"x5" personal care notes with medical and hygiene instructions to the backs of greeting cards for Gary to distribute on mission trips. To contribute pretty cards (used cards are fine), please place them in the marked narthex box. Thank you!

July Directory: The new Church Directory is available in the bell tower room for pickup.

Prayers for Peace from Bishop Eaton: We recently received a letter from Bishop Eaton in response to "the horrific, ongoing violence in and around Gaza," asking us to "continue to **pray** for those who suffer and grieve, **advocate** for an immediate cease-fire and **walk with** all who long for a just peace." She goes on to say, "thanks to the faithful, generous people of the ELCA, Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of walking alongside and supporting our partners. Gifts to 'Middle East Crisis' will be used to continue addressing humanitarian needs in the region." If you feel called to donate to LDR, you can send a check or money order to: **Lutheran Disaster Response** | PO Box 1809 | Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. You can also call 800-638-3522 or go to ELCA.org and search for "[Lutheran Disaster Response](#)" to donate online. Alternately, you can make out your offering envelope's "Other" line to read "LDR: Middle East Crisis" to donate through St. Mark to this effort.

Snack Town Street Fair: The annual fair in downtown Hanover will be held this Saturday, **July 13th**. A sign up to help man St. Mark's booth is posted on the bulletin board across from the church office.

St. Mark Eats: Please join us at Dutch Country tomorrow, **July 11th**, for dinner and fellowship at 6:00pm. Then save the date for Saturday, **August 17th**, for our Indoor Picnic and Potluck Dinner in the Fellowship Hall following worship. Signups are in the narthex.

Upcoming Mission Trip: Gary Laabs will be traveling to South America on a medical mission trip with MMI on **September 28th**. He is collecting medication donations, especially vitamins (non-gummy) to take along. A collection box is in the narthex with specific guidelines, or contact the church office for more info.

Vacation Bible School: St. Mark's and St. Paul's co-hosted "Bible Olympics" VBS will be **July 29th through August 2nd**. **Registration is now open** on St. Paul's website at stpaulsyorkst.org/community-vbs.

We Need More Painters! While there has been a lot of interest in our **August 4th** Paint Event, we do not have enough signups yet to meet the minimum required by the instructor. **PLEASE SIGN UP SOON** if you're interested so we don't have to cancel the event. Registration is required, and the cost of \$35.00 (supplies included) is payable in advance: <https://www.thecolormixer.com/product-page/stmarks>

Health & Wellness Classes: York County presents two health and wellness classes geared toward seniors: *Fall Prevention:* For important information on preventing falls that can do serious harm. Call Lindsey at 717-487-2752 for more information. *Chronic Pain Management:* A class on chronic pain self-management on Thursdays in July and August. For that class, contact Megan at 717-855-0437. Go to yorkcountypa.gov/181/Health-Wellness for more information on both wellness classes.

Medicare 101: The York County Department of Aging is offering an introductory class on Medicare to anyone approaching 65 years of age: **July 25th**, 6:00pm to 8:30pm at 2401 Pleasant Valley Road, Room 214, in York. For more information call 717-771-9008, 800-632-9073, or email aging@yorkcountypa.gov.

National Night Out: The Hanover Area Night Out is Tuesday, **August 6th**, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Emory H. Markle Middle School with free hot dogs and giveaways, and children can register for a bike raffle.

Summer Lawn Concerts: The Hanover Area Historical Society is celebrating its 15th year of lawn concerts at the Warehime-Myers Mansion on Baltimore Street. On **August 7th**, HAHS presents the Jazz Berries. Then The Generations Big Band will perform on **September 4th**. Refreshments are available at 6:00pm, with the concerts beginning at 6:30pm.

URGENT NEED – Meals-On-Wheels Drivers Still Needed at HACC: If you can volunteer even one or two days, it's a very big help! Please contact HACC at adminhacc@hanoverareacouncilofchurches.org.