

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES

April 2, 2025

From *DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 1999: Allison Sample*

Show yourself... A model of good deeds... – TITUS 2:7

I signed up for duty at a children's hospital in Manhattan with hopes of saving the world – only to discover I was the world's worst volunteer. Every Tuesday night, I joined twenty other women to lead craft time for young kids who lived at the hospital year-round. My sheltered, Alabama childhood had certainly not prepared me to work with city kids from broken homes. I colored and painted with them, but their emotional outbreaks and battles for our attention made me a nervous wreck. I didn't know how to reach out to them – even hugging was against the rules because most of the children had been abused. After a few months of failing to connect, I was just about ready to give up. Surely, someone else could love them better than I.

On what was to have been my last night, eight-year-old Victor wanted help drawing a tiger. “Please, somebody,” he pleaded, as one by one the volunteers turned him down. “How about you?” He stood right in front of me with a brown crayon. I didn't want him to be disappointed, but it was only fair to warn him: “It won't be perfect, Victor.”

He frowned and pointed right between my eyes. “Nothing in life is perfect, but you have to try.” I looked at that child, whose life had been anything but perfect, and knew he was right. I might never be the best volunteer, but I could be a willing one. So I tried. And for weeks to come, a goofy tiger with a lopsided grin hung over my favorite second-grader's bed.

Lord, I know I'm not perfect, but with my trust in You, I'll try. – ALLISON SAMPLE

Prayer: *Let us pray: Loving Father, You have created me in Your image and loved me. But I know I am not perfect and have fallen short in so many ways. Help my imperfections. Guide me in cherishing those same imperfections as the uniqueness of being who I am in Your eternal family. Use me in all my abilities and gifts to lift up Your praise, serve Your love, and witness to Your glory. I pray all this in the name of Jesus, my redeemer and Lord. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am to 12:00noon | **Preschool:** Mon-Fri 8:30am to 4:00pm

Wednesday, April 2 7:00pm – Lenten Evening Prayer in Sanctuary

Thursday, April 3 9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group
3:00pm – Evangelism Committee Meeting

Friday, April 4 11:00am – Bible Study

Saturday, April 5 5:30pm – Spoken Worship – 5th Weekend in Lent

Sunday, April 6 9:00am – Traditional Worship – 5th Weekend in Lent

Sunday School Following Worship

Fellowship Time Following Worship

Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 9 7:00pm – Lenten Evening Prayer in Sanctuary

Thursday, April 10 8:00am to 7:00pm - \$5 Jewelry Sale to Benefit Hanover Hospital

9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

Friday, April 11 8:00am to 7:00pm - \$5 Jewelry Sale to Benefit Hanover Hospital

11:00am – Bible Study

Sunday Worship Leaders

CPIC: Gail Merlo **Lector:** Grace Groft

Communion Assistants: Gail Merlo | Hollis Long

Altar Care: Sunday Morning Volunteers



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, Daniel Ard, Family & Friends of Herbert Bartell, Katherine Borsella, Patrick Brady, Susan Bucher-Laughman, Kath Campbell, Lucas Cherry, Frances Claybaugh, Tom Cowan, Oscar Crow, Pastor David DeLong, Lisa Dickensheets, Diane Duffy, Robin Eline, Tarek Elnaggar, Jean Eshbach, Landon Evans, Family & Friends of Carol Fadenrecht, Dennis Fahey, Nancy Fridinger, Nancy Gill, Vickie Gouker, Dane Graham, Tom Greenholt, Bob Groft, John Hagerman, Chase Henry & Family, Carrie Hernden, Peg Hippensteel, Michael Humes, Martha Howells, Donna Jones, Debbie Kellenbenz, Craig King, Shawn Klunk, Kelly Koontz, Norma Kreidler, Allen Kuhns, Jo Kuhns, David Kunkel, Russell Laughman, Jean Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Bill Leppo, Ronnie Lippy, Naura Luqman, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Carol Miller, Merita Moore, Ed Moran, Emily Moul, Leah Moul, Merle Mummert, Pam Mummert, Wayne Noel, Carolyn Neumyer, Marian Noble, Susan O'Brien, Kelly Perdue, Mary Riley, Wally Rodenhauer, Carl Sandruck, David Sandruck, Lucus Schneider, Family & Friends of Jim Schuman, Bob and Cecelia Sell, Bob Shue, Luanne Slusser, Denise Smith, Pr. Jerry Smith, JoAnn Smith, Sarah Smith, Jody Spellman, Amanda Stuckey, Phyllis Tasto, Jennie Tome, George Tracy, Allison Trump, Erin Viozzi, Ed Wagaman, Gloria Wagaman, Jody Walter, Naomi Warren, Barb Watson, Ron Wentz, Bill Whelan, Kathy Wildasin, Rebecca Wisotzkey.*

St. Mark's Monthly Offering for Designated Needs gives us an opportunity as a congregation to support specific domestic and international needs pre-determined by our council each year. April's offering benefits **Itete Hospital of the Konde Diocese**. Of the various partners who support Konde Diocese, through the work of our Konde Medical Needs Committee, we, as the Lower Susquehanna Synod, are the only partner providing ongoing support for the Itete Hospital. As the Itete Hospital in the Konde Diocese of Tanzania grows in its capacity to care for people as a District Designated Hospital, their needs grow. To contribute to this month's designated need, please mail in your donations or place them in our collection plates, specifying "Itete Hospital" or "April Designated Giving" on your check or the *Other* line of your offering envelope. Donations made on the *Other* line with no written designation will automatically go toward that month's ministry fund. Thanks for your support.

\$5 Jewelry/Accessory Sale: The Hanover Hospital Auxiliary is holding a sale in our fellowship hall **April 10th and 11th** from 8:00am to 7:00pm and **April 12th** from 8:00am to 2:00pm. There will be jewelry, scarves, flashlights, leggings, Croc charms, and other small items – all marked \$5. Proceeds benefit the hospital.

Mission Trip: Gary Laabs and his granddaughter will be going to the Dominican Republic with MMI **June 21st through the 28th**. We're collecting medications to send with him, especially vitamins (not prenatal) and OTC pain medication. More information will follow as the trip date nears. A box has been set up in the narthex to begin receiving donated medications as well as greeting cards to make into medical information cards.

Preschool Sunday: Our preschoolers will be extra special guests on **April 27th** at our 9:00am worship and will add to the service by performing two songs during Children's Time. This will be an enjoyable time for all!

Plant Sale: The Hanover Garden Club's Spring Plant Sale is set for Saturday, **May 3rd** from 8:00am to 1:00pm in our fellowship hall and parking lot. The Garden Club will be selling perennials from their own gardens. These are plants that are proven to grow successfully in our area and should flourish in your yards. Free gardening advice will also be available throughout the day. Be sure to stop by the church on the 3rd from 8:00am to 1:00pm.

New Coloring Group Here at St. Mark! Coloring books aren't just for kids – if you're an adult who enjoys coloring, either on paper or on your iPad, grab your supplies and join us for our new coloring group each month starting **April 8th** here in a St. Mark classroom. The group will meet monthly, usually on the second Tuesday, from 10:00am to 11:30am. Call the church office or email offcoor129@gmail.com for the schedule or if you need more information. And if you know of anyone else who'd like to come, please let them know – flyers are on the office hallway table.

Pentecost Geraniums: To dedicate Pentecost geraniums to a loved one, please submit a form found in the narthex or April newsletter. The Day of Pentecost is June 8th, and the deadline to order is **May 18th**. As always, we'll be planting the geraniums to beautify the church gardens. If you can help plant, call the church office (717-637-8904).

2025-2026 Preschool Openings: There are still some spots left in the T/TH 3-year-old class. Please go to stmarkpreschoolhanover.weebly.com or stmarkhanover.org/st-mark-preschool for more information.

Blood Drive: Our next UPMC Central Blood Bank drive is on Thursday, **April 24th**, in our fellowship hall. To schedule an appointment, go to 717giveblood.org and click on "Donate Now."

Inspirations: April inspiration packets are now available. Be sure to pick up one for yourself and one or more to share.

Easter Message: “It's Easter time, and time to remember the homebound or hospital-bound on the sick list. These folks are members too and need to be remembered by us. So, let's make them feel like part of the church. We can all send a card to someone. If you are close to someone on the sick list, you may want to call them, or, even, give them a visit. I believe it will give them reason for a smile. Happy Easter to You!!” – *Linda Bolin, Evangelism Committee*

Honoring Our Heroes: We hope and pray for another successful event on **May 18th**. Please join us for activities and displays at 5:00pm with a concert at 7:00pm, followed by root beer floats. All St. Mark activities are free of charge, and food trucks will be present to sell refreshments. Please spread the word to anyone who may want to attend or have a table display. Flyers are available on the office hallway table, so if you know of places to post them, please do so!

Diaper Drive: Just a note that our annual Lenten diaper/wipe collection for Tender Care is ongoing. Please bring donations to the narthex table. We appreciate any and all donations!

First Communion Class: Part of the tradition of looking forward to Easter is using this time to prepare anyone wishing to take part in first communion. Please speak to Pastor soon to schedule a meeting.

Lenten Prayer Worship Evenings: We will gather together each Wednesday through Lent for an **Evening Worship of Prayer and Word** at 7:00pm **in the sanctuary** for all who wish to attend and seek a Lenten time of devotion.

Piggy Banks: We are collecting loose change ‘til Easter Sunday. The Sunday School will then use the change to purchase farm equipment, animals, and other basic sustainable programs to help those in need.

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

St. Mark Easter Egg Hunt: Our Easter Egg Hunt is coming up on **April 19th** at 10:30am, and we're in need of ***individually-wrapped candy*** and/or ***plastic eggs***, to help the Easter Bunny out! PLEASE NOTE: The candy does need to fit into plastic Easter eggs. Look for the donation box in the narthex. All kids up to age 10 are welcome to participate in the hunt, even if they're not associated with St. Mark. Signups are posted in the narthex and preschool hallway, or call the office at 717-637-8904.

St. Mark Eats: We enjoyed yesterday's lunch at Chili's and invite you to join us on **May 6th** for lunch at the Railside at 1:30pm (NOTE: DIFFERENT TIME). Please sign up!

High School Musical: Hanover High School presents *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* on **April 4th** and **5th** at 7:00pm and on **April 6th** at 2:00pm. Non-student tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Hanover.revtrak.net, or call 717-637-9000.

Slagle Scholarship: The Slagle Scholarship Committee is awarding \$1,000 to a graduating senior of Hanover or SWHS who plans to enter the nursing profession, the ministry or other religious work, or attend a vocational (technical) school. Interested applicants should contact Martha Lippy at 717-637-8891 or pick up an application in the church office on weekdays between 9:00am and 12noon. **Completed applications must be received by the church office on or before NOON THIS FRIDAY, April 4th, 2025.**

Stolte Scholarship: HACC also offers a scholarship for \$1,000 to any Hanoverian pursuing a career in ministry, missions, or humanitarian service. The deadline is **April 25th**. Contact HACC at 717-633-6353 for more information.

Egg Hunt at Grace: Grace Church on Albright Drive is holding an Easter Egg Hunt on **April 12th** from 11:00am to 12:30pm. Call Grace for more info: 717-637-3100

Free Community Breakfast & Egg Hunt: St. Jacob's Lutheran Church in Glen Rock is hosting a free breakfast of eggs, ham, sausage gravy, sausages, pancakes, and casseroles on Saturday, **April 12th**, from 8:00am to 9:30am. A magician will perform during breakfast, and an egg hunt will follow. For more information, call 717-235-7313.

Photos with the Easter Bunny: Perkins Restaurant is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on **April 5th** from 3:00pm to 7:00pm with a visit from our favorite bunny. This is a free event for all ages. Donations to “Give Kids the World” (a nonprofit resort village in Florida that grants week-long “wish” Disney vacations to critically ill children and their families) are appreciated.

Wind Ensemble at EUCC: Emmanuel UCC on Broadway presents the Encore Chamber Winds on Sunday, **April 6th**, at 3:00pm for a free community concert. Contact EUCC at 717-632-8281 for details.