

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES

April 9, 2025

From *DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 1999*: Linda Neukrug

And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. – ISAIAH 35:5

The tiny, curtained cubicle in the doctor's office was freezing. I'd just had my mammogram. Till now, these hadn't worried me, but this year I was still reeling from the fact that my mother had had breast cancer. A friend had been diagnosed with early-stage cancer, too. And my own doctor was away, and this one seemed new – and brusque. So I sat in the cubicle and waited. And waited. And waited, getting more nervous as each moment passed. “Keep your gown on,” the mammogram technician had instructed me earlier. “Doctor will be in to discuss your results shortly.” *Why was he taking so long? What was wrong?*

Twenty minutes later, I finally pulled the curtain back and tapped a passing nurse with my sweaty palmed hand. “Excuse me... if he's with another patient, that's fine... but I've been waiting for my results.”

The young nurse's eyes widened. “Are you still here? Oh, I think he forgot you!”

In less than a minute, the doctor stuck his head in the curtain, snapped, “You're fine. You can get dressed and go,” and strode off. I was fuming. *What nerve! He forgot me, and all I get is a two-second brusque, “You're fine.” And I waited so long, and it's cold in the paper gown, and all he says is “You're fine.”*

I closed my eyes and stopped mid-thought. *What would my mother or my friend have given to hear those words, spoken brusquely, spoken in pig Latin, spoken at all?* I rolled the words around in my mind: *I'm fine. I'm fine. Thank You, God.*

Today, God, let me give up my petty grievances and rejoice in the good in my life. – LINDA NEUKRUG

Prayer: *Let us pray: Gracious Lord, I thank You for all the small gifts of life that I take for granted so often in my day. Help me see the beauty of my life and the many miracles that surround me. By Your Spirit fill me with the joy of Your peace and the heart to serve as Your Son, Jesus, served in love. In His name I pray. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

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

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

Saturday, April 12 8:00AM TO 2:00PM - \$5 Jewelry Sale to Benefit Hanover Hospital
5:30pm – Spoken Worship – *Palm Sunday Weekend*

Sunday, April 13 9:00am – Traditional Worship – *Palm Sunday*
Sunday School Following Worship
Confirmation Class
Bells Rehearsal

Monday, April 14 6:00pm to 8:00pm – Family Visitation for Bill Leppo at Wetzel's Funeral Home
10:00am to 11:00am – Family Visitation for Bill Leppo at Wetzel's

11:00am – Funeral Service for Bill Leppo at Wetzel's

Tuesday, April 15 1:00pm – Garden Club Meeting

Thursday, April 17 9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

7:00pm – Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Friday, April 18 11:00am – Bible Study

7:00pm – Good Friday Worship Service

Sunday Worship Leaders

CPIC: Kathy Gates **Lector:** Hollis Long

Communion Assistants: Kathy Gates | Karen Feeser

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 we're told 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, Family & Friends of 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 Rodenhaver, 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.

In Memorial: A white rose will be placed in the chancel this weekend in memory of a beloved church member. It is with deep regret we must announce the passing of one of our members, Bill Leppo, who entered the everlasting promise found in the living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead on April 4th. Please keep Bill's family in your prayers.

A funeral service will be held at Wetzel's Funeral Home, 549 Carlisle Street, on **Monday, April 14th, at 11:00am**, with interment at Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery later that day. **PLEASE NOTE:** The date originally announced has changed due to scheduling conflicts with the cemetery. The family will receive visitors at Wetzel's on **Sunday, April 13th**, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm and on **Monday, April 14th**, from 10:00am to 11:00am.

\$5 Jewelry/Accessory Sale: The Hanover Hospital Auxiliary is holding a sale in our fellowship hall this week on **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.

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."

Diaper Drive: Just a note that next week is the last week for our diaper/wipe collection to benefit Tender Care. 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 **one last time** tonight 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.

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!

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

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, please call the church office (717-637-8904).

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!

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*

Mission Trip: Gary Laabs and his granddaughter will be going to the Dominican Republic with MMI **June 21st through the 28th**. A box has been set up in the narthex to begin receiving donated medications to send with him, especially vitamins (not prenatal) and OTC pain medication. More information will follow as the trip date nears. No more greeting cards are needed at this time, but we will need help prepping the cards and glueing on the medical information. Please contact the church office if you can help (717-637-8904).

Piggy Banks: Don't forget to bring in your loose change and put it in the glass box this coming weekend or next, as our piggy bank drive is ending soon. Remember, the Sunday School will then use the change to purchase farm equipment, animals, and other basic sustainable programs to help those in need.

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* to help the Easter Bunny out! PLEASE NOTE: The candy does need to fit into plastic Easter eggs. And if you know of any kids up to age 10 who'd like to hunt for sweet treats, please make sure they sign up soon in the narthex or call the office at 717-637-8904.

St. Mark Eats: We invite you to join us on **May 6th** for lunch at the Railside at **1:30pm**. Please sign up!

New Coloring Group Here at St. Mark! 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 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.

Bus Trip! St. David's UCC is organizing a bus trip to see *Noah* at the Sight & Sound theater on **July 11th** from 10:45am to 7:30pm. Tickets are \$155.00 (ages 3-12 - \$92.00) and include bus fare, show tickets, and lunch plus gratuity at Hershey Farms. Driver gratuity is not included. Payment must be received by **May 1st**. Contact 717-637-2299 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.

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.

Stolte Scholarship: HACC 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.