

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES
May 14, 2025

From DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2011: Karen Barber

Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God?... – GALATIANS 1:10

During free time on a silent retreat, I decided to take a walk on a nature trail. As soon as I hit the woods, two pesky horse flies started dive-bombing around my head. I waved a hand over my head as I walked, but soon my arm was worn out. Finally I picked up a three-foot-long branch and moved it back and forth like a cow switching its tail.

When the trail merged onto the grassy field behind the retreat house, I encountered a fellow retreat participant jogging toward me. *She must think I'm crazy, walking around waving this branch over my head*, I thought. My embarrassment was compounded by the retreat rule of complete silence, which prevented me from explaining my odd behavior to her as she wordlessly jogged by.

Suddenly I was struck by the absurdity of being so concerned about what the jogger thought about me. How much of my mental energy did I use worrying about how I looked to other people? How much time did I waste every day, needlessly explaining myself so that others would approve of me?

I hurried up to my room, took out my notebook, and came up with a plan to stop investing so much time and energy in what others thought about me. Instead I'd learn how to invest that energy in doing things to please God.

Dear Lord, help me to do what pleases you and not worry about what others think. – KAREN BARBER

Prayer: *Let us pray: Almighty God, by Your love You have given grace and joy to all people. You have accepted me and loved me as Your own child. Help me see this gift as a blessing and learn not to worry and fear what others may think or say, and instead rely on Your promise of love and understanding. Guide me in sharing that grace so that others may know of Your gift, given through Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am to 12:00noon

Preschool: Mon-Fri 8:30am to 4:00pm

Wednesday, May 14

Last Day for Preschool M/W 3-Year-Old Classes
6:00pm to 8:00pm – Family Visitation for Carol Miller at Wetzel's

Thursday, May 15

Last Day for Preschool T/TH 3-Year-Old Classes
9:00am to 10:00am – Family Visitation for Carol Miller at Wetzel's
10:00am – Funeral Service for Carol Miller at Wetzel's
9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

Friday, May 16

10:30am/2:00pm – Preschool Graduation
11:00am – Bible Study

Saturday, May 17

5:30pm – Spoken Worship – 5th Weekend of Easter

Sunday, May 18

9:00am – Land & Seasons Worship – 5th Weekend of Easter
Sunday School Celebration & Ice Cream Sundaes Following Worship
5:00pm – Honoring Our Heroes Event/7:00pm – Concert

~DEADLINE TO DEDICATE GERANIUMS~

~~Bells Rehearsal~~ **NO REHEARSAL**

Tuesday, May 20

Armed Forces Day
Election Day Polling at St. Mark

Thursday, May 22

9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

Friday, May 23

11:00am – Bible Study

Sunday Worship Leaders:

CPIC: Hollis Long **Lector:** Karen Feeser

Communion Assistants: Hollis Long | Kate Klunk

Band: Deb Zumbrum – Violin; Martha Lippy – Cello | LeAnn Baird – Flute

Abby Shermeyer – Flute | Noah Shermeyer – Saxophone | Joanna Suehr – Guitar | Melinda Elnaggar – Piano

Vocal Leaders: Karen Feeser – Kyrie | Laurie Leppo – Hymn of Praise | Thomas Long – Sanctus

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, Katherine Borsella, Patrick Brady, Susan Bucher-Laughman, Kath Campbell, Lucas Cherry, Frances*

Claybaugh, Tom Cowan, Oscar Crow, Lisa Dickensheets, Diane Duffy, Robin Eline, Tarek Elnaggar, Jean Eshbach, Landon Evans, 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, Winchester Kuhn, Allen Kuhns, Jo Kuhns, David Kunkel, Russell Laughman, Jean Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Ronnie Lippy, Naura Luqman, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Family & Friend of 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, Family & Friends of Larry Rhoten, Family & Friends of Dennis Robert Rose, Carl Sandruck, David Sandruck, Lucus Schneider, 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, Betty Tyson, 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. During May we are given the opportunity to contribute to **HACCPAL (Provide-a-Lunch) Program** which serves a free hot, nutritious home-cooked lunch *seven* days a week, prepared by churches in the Hanover area. To contribute to this month's designated need, please mail in your donations or place them in our collection plates, specifying "PAL" or "May 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.

In Memorial: This weekend, there will be two white roses on the chancel in memory of beloved church members. It is with deep regret we must announce the passing of two of our members who entered the everlasting promise found in the living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead:

Larry Rhoten passed on May 7th. The family has planned a private service.

Carol Miller passed on May 10th. A funeral service has been planned for Carol for tomorrow, Thursday, **May 15th**, at 10:00am at Wetzel's Funeral Home, 549 Carlisle Street. Family visitation will be held **this evening, Wednesday**, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, and again **tomorrow** from 9:00am to 10:00am.

Please keep Larry's and Carol's families in your prayers.

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.

Altar Vases: Thank you to everyone who responded to our request for altar flower sponsors – May is now full! We have two vases left for June on **June 22nd**, as well as two in July on **July 27th**. If you can dedicate a vase to a loved one or their memory, please contact the church office or add your dedication to the Altar Flower book.

Piggy Bank Results: Our grand total for the Global Barnyard collection came to **\$700!** The Sunday School was able to purchase the following for communities in need: 5 groups of chicks, 5 piglets, 10 honeybee hives, 5 water filters, and fruit tree seedlings for a farm. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project and to everyone who saved their coins and otherwise donated to this very good cause!

St. Mark Eats: We invite you to join us **THURSDAY, JUNE 5th**. We'll be taking advantage of our longer days by moving to dinnertime when we visit Dutch Country at 6:00pm. Please sign up!

GERANIUM DEADLINE SUNDAY: This Sunday, **May 18th**, is the last day to dedicate geraniums for Pentecost. If you forget to or can't fill out a form, feel free to email Joni at offcoor129@gmail.com or call the church office at 717-637-8904.

Sunday School: Please join us for ice cream sundaes this Sunday, **May 18th**, as we celebrate the end of the Sunday School year following morning worship and give thanks for our teachers.

St. Mark's Graduates: Calling all proud parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles: this is your time to share the wonderful news of upcoming graduates in your family! Once again, we'll take a Sunday in June to congratulate our graduates from high school, college, graduate school, and trade school. We want to make sure we don't miss anyone, so please contact the church office (717-637-8904, offcoor129@gmail.com) with names of any and all students we have graduating this year.

Help Us Buy Ingredients: HACC's Provide-A-Lunch program makes sure there is a hot meal for anyone in the Hanover area who needs one. St. Mark's two teams serve lunch each month and provide the ingredients for each meal. To help us continue this mission, please consider donating to our PAL Supply fund. To contribute **directly to St. Mark's PAL efforts**, please note "PAL **SUPPLIES**" (be sure to specify "supplies" so that your donation is directed to the right place) on the *Other* line of your offering envelope. Thank you!

Honoring Our Heroes: Our Heroes event is this Sunday! 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!

Vacation Bible School: VBS will be **July 28th through August 1st**. **We really need volunteer guides to escort the groups of children to and from the activities, so sign up in the office hallway as soon as possible** – a timely response will allow us to better plan a program. Without our volunteers, VBS will not be possible – please sign up!

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

Medications Needed: A box has been set up in the narthex to receive donated medications to send with Gary to the Dominican Republic. Vitamins (not prenatal or gummy) and OTC pain medications are especially needed. Medications should have an expiration date of December 2025 or later and should be brought in by **May 25th** so they can clear Customs in time for the trip.

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 meets monthly, usually on the second Tuesday, from 10:00am to 11:30am. June's meeting will be Tuesday, **June 10th**. 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.

St. Mark Representative Needed: Are you able to attend HACC's quarterly board meetings? We need a church member to represent St. Mark at meetings of the Hanover Area Council of Churches once per quarter, usually a Monday night from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Our former representative is no longer able to attend. If you're a member and able to take on this duty, please contact Pastor Kirk or the church office. Thank you for your help!

Cultural Celebration: The Hanover Area Diversity Alliance presents PeopleFest, a celebration of cultures, on **May 17th** from 10:00am to 5:00pm. The event takes place in the Codorus State Park Recreation Area and will include music, dancing, cultural displays/activities such as a native powwow, children's activities, and the "Highland Games." For more information, contact Aaron Zipp at 717-521-3764 or info@hanoverdiversity.org.

Free Motown Concert: "Motown Get-Down," featuring music by NA'Chord, will take place at the Codorus State Park Recreation Area on **May 16th** from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, with food trucks at 5:30pm. Contact the park for more information.

Mindfulness Sessions: Emmanuel United Church of Christ at 124 Broadway offers free mindfulness and stress reduction sessions the **1st & 3rd Saturdays** of each month, 6:00pm to 6:45pm, in person (courtyard entrance) and on Zoom. Contact Karen Jones at kjones@mindfulnessandmotion.com for more information

Volunteer Fiesta: HACC is recognizing volunteers with a Volunteer Fiesta that includes food, music, prizes, and fun on **May 31st** from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. The event will be held at St. Paul Dubs Church. RSVP by **May 16th** at 717-633-6353.