

**ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS/UPDATES**  
**June 4, 2025**

From DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2009: Scott Walker

*And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world...* – MATTHEW 28:20

I like surprises, little unexpected things that pick me up on a lonely or difficult day. When I get home, I always look in the mailbox before opening the front door. I'm eager to know if I've received a letter from a friend. I'm thrilled when my hopes are fulfilled and disappointed when only bills greet me.

When I work at my computer, I fight the urge to pause and check my email. I want to find out if someone has reached across the expanse of cyberspace to contact me, to say hello, ask a question, share a thought.

The same thing is true in my spiritual life. I long to feel the presence of God. I often open my Bible seeking a "letter from God," a special word addressed to me. Early in the morning or late at night, I take long walks and talk aloud to my Creator. Many times it's a monologue, and I can only hear the sound of my own voice. But occasionally the monologue is transformed into a dialogue. I hear no heavenly voice, but I know that God is talking to me. And when that happens, it's a joyous surprise.

And so I guess I have a choice: I can sit and wait for others to communicate, or I can take the initiative and write the letter, flash the smile, give the gift or share the touch. Above all, I can faithfully talk to God, knowing that in His own good time He will speak to me.

*Father, in the midst of loneliness, may I remember the words of St Francis:*

*"For it is in the giving that we receive." Amen.* – SCOTT WALKER

**Prayer:** *Let us pray: Almighty Father, through Your love You have redeemed me and washed away my sins so that I may be in a relationship with You forever. Continue to walk beside me, encouraging me when I feel self-conscious, challenging me when I feel too self-assured, opening me to new possibilities when I am self-centered. Speak to me Lord and guide me to live in the footsteps of Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Savior, in whose name I pray. Amen.*

**Weekly Schedule:**

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

**Preschool:** On Summer Break

<b>Thursday, June 5</b>	9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group 3:00pm – Evangelism Committee Meeting 6:00pm – St. Mark Eats @ Dutch Country
<b>Friday, June 6</b>	<i>D-Day</i> <del>11:00am – Bible Study</del> <b>NO BIBLE STUDY</b>
<b>Saturday, June 7</b>	5:30pm – Spoken Worship – <i>Pentecost Weekend</i>
<b>Sunday, June 8</b>	9:00am – Traditional Worship – <i>Pentecost Weekend</i> <b>REMEMBER TO WEAR RED!</b> Confirmation of Abby Shermeyer Bells Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday, June 10</b>	10:00am to 11:30am – Coloring Book Group for Adults
<b>Thursday, June 12</b>	9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group
<b>Friday, June 13</b>	11:00am – Bible Study

**Sunday Worship Leaders:**

**CPIC:** Hollis Long

**Lector:** Karen Feeser

**Communion Assistants:** Hollis Long | Kathy Gates

**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, Family & Friends of 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, Carl Sandruck, David Sandruck, Ethen Schneider, 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, Family & Friends of Edward Wiltrout, 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 June we are given the opportunity to contribute to the **Visiting Nurses Association (VNA)** of Hanover and Spring Grove, a hospice program that provides services at home and in nursing homes for people who are at the end of life. To contribute to this month's designated need, please mail in your donations or place them in our collection plates, specifying "VNA" or "June 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.

**LSS-ELCA Assembly:** This Thursday night and all day on Friday and Saturday is the Lower Susquehanna Lutheran Synod Annual Assembly, at which time the business of our synod and election of a new Bishop will take place. Along with Pastor, our congregation's delegates, Shellene Griffin and Mike Noble, will be in attendance. All members are invited to watch on St. Matthew's (York) YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@stmatthewlutheranchurchyorkpa>

**Preschool:** All preschool classes are **now full**. Thank you to everyone who spread the word about our openings!

**Altar Vases:** Thank you to everyone who responded to our request for altar flower sponsors – June is now full! **We do still have two vases in July on July 27<sup>th</sup>**, as well as **most of August**. 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.

**Blood Drive:** The next UPMC blood drive will be here at St. Mark from 7:00am to 7:00pm on Thursday, **June 19<sup>th</sup>**. To sign up to donate, go to [717giveblood.org](http://717giveblood.org), click Find a Blood Drive, and choose UPMC Hanover from the dropdown menu. All blood donors will receive a free pint of Bruster's ice cream, as well as a BOGO Papa John's coupon.

**Please Check Your Info:** The latest Church Directory will be published in July. Please be sure to check your information before then, **even if it hasn't changed lately**. Occasionally, we find that a phone number or address has been incorrect for years, and it doesn't come up until someone contacts the church office to try to find the information. Please look at a printed copy (found in the bell tower room) or contact Joni for an emailed copy to verify your info is correct. Thank you!

**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 next Tuesday, **June 10<sup>th</sup>**. Call the church office or email [offcoor129@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Office Closed:** The church office and building will be closed on Monday, **June 16<sup>th</sup>**.

**Geranium Planting:** Thank you to all who dedicated geraniums for our Pentecost worship service and, later, the church gardens. We do have one volunteer to plant them next week, but if you'd like to help, please let Pastor Kirk know or contact the church office. Thank you!

**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!

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

**Pentecost Sunday:** This weekend celebrates the Birthday of the Christian Church, The Day of Pentecost, **June 8<sup>th</sup>**. On Sunday, we take part in the Affirmation of Faith by Abby Shermeyer and then we'll celebrate with a cake fellowship time afterward. We hope you can join us! **BE SURE TO WEAR RED**, the color of the fiery Holy Spirit.

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

**St. Mark Representative Needed:** Are you able to attend HACC's board meetings four times each year? 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!

**VBS REGISTRATION OPEN & FILLING UP FAST!** Vacation Bible School will take place **July 28<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>**. To register, go to <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/vbs-registration> or go to St. Mark's website and click on the VBS flyer on our home page ([stmarkhanover.org](http://stmarkhanover.org)). **We still really need 4 more volunteer guides to escort the groups of children to and from the activities, so sign up in the narthex 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!

**Volunteers Needed:** And speaking of volunteers: St. Mark will once again participate in Hanover's Snack Town Street Fair to spread the Word and invite fairgoers to St. Mark. We can use some help making this happen. This year's fair is on Saturday, **July 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please sign up in the narthex – we appreciate anyone who can help out so we can continue this evangelizing effort!

**D-Day Lecture:** Mikele Stillman, Historian, will speak at Guthrie Memorial Library on **June 10<sup>th</sup>** at 10:15am. His lecture is entitled *D-Day WW II: The Normandy Diary of Marie Louse Osmont 1940-1944*. Call 717-632-5183 to register for lunch and/or for more information.

**Free Weekly Outdoor Story Time:** The Guthrie Memorial Library offers free story time with Miss Kelly in Penn Township Community Park (Kids' Kingdom) this summer on Tuesdays from 10:00am to 10:45am. The program runs from **June 10<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>** and includes crafts, activities, and games. The park is located at 4601 Grandview Road in Hanover. Call the library at 717-632-5183 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](mailto:kjones@mindfulnessandmotion.com) for more information.

**Sheep Shearing Reading & Demonstration:** The Neas House will host children's author, Roxanne Dean, reading *Shearing Day on the Farm*, followed by a shearing demonstration by Leslie Orndorff. The event will take place this Saturday, **June 7<sup>th</sup>**, from 12:00pm to 3:00pm on the Neas House Lawn.

**Summer Concert Series:** The Hanover Area Historical Society is again hosting free lawn concerts this summer on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm (refreshments available at 6:00pm). The Lyric Band kicks off the first tonight, **June 4<sup>th</sup>**, with *Americana*. On **July 2<sup>nd</sup>**, HSO Brass will perform a patriotic concert: *A Salute to America*. The rest of the schedule can be found at [hanoverpahistory.org](http://hanoverpahistory.org).

**Yard Sale!** All Saints Episcopal, 890 McCosh Street, is holding a yard sale on Saturday, **June 14<sup>th</sup>**. The event is 8:00am to 2:00pm, rain or shine. Vendors spaces are \$15. Call 717-637-5772 for more information.

**Strawberry Social:** St. Paul's on Broadway is hosting their annual Strawberry Social this Saturday, **June 7<sup>th</sup>**, from 11:00am to 2:00pm. To order beef noodle or chicken corn soup ahead, call 717-637-0511.