

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS / UPDATES
October 15, 2025

From DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2009: Marilyn Morgan King

...A time of war, and a time of peace. – ECCLESIASTES 3:8

I've always believed that God's will is for peace on earth. Yet as I write this, there are wars going on in many places around the world. Sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers are being killed every day, and when I watch the news, my heart aches for them and for their families.

I recently heard a speaker say, "Only about 10% of the soldiers in World War II actually aimed their shots at people. Most of them just shot in the enemy's direction. So the army started using dummies as targets on the rifle range to get soldiers used to shooting at other human beings."

So I ask the stinging question that's in my heart: "Why? Why must we keep fighting wars when we have an inborn sense that it's wrong?" Yet no clear answer comes. Instead, out of the sacred silence I hear:

*Some hard questions are shrouded in mystery,
too deep for human minds to understand;
the hidden answers aren't meant to be unlocked,
until the soul is ready to see life whole.
Every good thing has its shadow,
and every dark night is the back side,
of a new day waiting to dawn.*

*Father of all great mysteries, I'll trust Your balancing grace and
continue still, to pray for peace. Amen. – MARILYN MORGAN KING*

Prayer: *Let us pray: Creator Lord, You have made heaven and earth and all that is in them. You have set up the cosmos and breathed life into existence. But we have broken Your creation in sin and lived opposed to Your ways of peace and love. Help us learn to overcome all our temptations and differences, so that we may learn to live in the joy and peace of Your creation. Fill me with Your Spirit this day to bear witness to Your will and be a peace-filled example as taught by Jesus, 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

Thursday, October 16 9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group – **SPECIAL STAR-MAKING SESSION!**

Friday, October 17 11:00am – Bible Study

Saturday, October 18 5:30pm – Spoken Worship – 19th Weekend of Pentecost

Sunday, October 19 9:00am – Traditional Worship – 19th Weekend of Pentecost

Sunday School Following Worship

Bells Rehearsal

Monday, October 20 **-OFFICE CLOSED-**

Tuesday, October 21 1:00pm – Hanover Garden Club

Thursday, October 23 7:00am to 7:00pm – UPMC Blood Drive

9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

Friday, October 24 11:00am – Bible Study

Sunday Worship Leaders

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

Communion Assistants: Kathy Gates | Jeff Kindschuh

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, Becky Bingel, Robert Bingel, Katherine Borsella, Nancy Brady, Patrick Brady, Susan Bucher-Laughman, Lucas Cherry, Frances Claybaugh, Susan Coleman, Oscar Crow, Pastor David DeLong, 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, Family & Friends of John Hagerman, Sandy Hart, Debby Hartlaub, Carrie Hernden, Peg Hippensteel, Blaise Humes, Michael Humes, Martha Howells, Donna Jones, Kathy Jones, Debbie Kellenbenz, Craig King, Shawn Klunk, Kelly Koontz, Norma Kreidler, Winchester Kubn, Allen Kubns, Jo Kubns, Family & Friends of David Kunkel, Russell Laughman, Jean Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Ronnie Lippy, Hollis Long, Naura Luqman, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Merita Moore, Leah Moul, Merle Mummert, Pam Mummert, Wayne Noel, Marian Noble, Susan O'Brien, Kelly Perdue, Jessica "Rose" Pulliano, Bill Reese, Mary Riley, Carl Sandruck, David Sandruck, Lucus Schneider, Cecelia Sell, Julie Sell-Smith, Bob Shue, Family & Friends of Randy Shultz, Luanne Slusser, Denise Smith, Pr. Jerry Smith, JoAnn Smith, Sarah Smith, Jody Spellman, Phyllis Tasto, Dawn Tice, Jennie Tome, George Tracy, Allison Trump, Ed Wagaman, Gloria Wagaman, Jody Walter, Naomi Warren, Barb Watson, Ron Wentz, Bill Whelan, Rebecca Wisotzkey, Victims and families affected by the September 17th police incident in North Codorus*

St. Mark's Monthly Offering for Designated Needs gives us an opportunity as a congregation to support specific domestic and international needs. During October, we are given the opportunity to contribute to the **YWCA Safe Home**. The foundation of the program is the strong belief that individuals have a right to control their lives and make decisions without fear of assault or degradation. To contribute to this month's designated need, please mail in your donations or place them in our collection plates, specifying "Safe Home" or "October 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.

All Saints' Weekend: Join us on All Saints' Weekend, **November 1st & 2nd**, as we celebrate the lives of those of our members who have gone to their great reward this past year by displaying Saint banners and lighting candles. If you have lost a loved one this past year and would like him/her to be remembered at our All Saints' tribute, please contact the church office.

Altar Vases: We have two vases open on **November 9th** and two on **December 28th** – the rest of 2025 is now full! Thank you to all of those who continue to help us keep fresh flowers on our altar. If you'd like to dedicate a vase on either of those weekends, please contact 717-637-8904 / offcoor129@gmail.com or fill out the Altar Flower book in the narthex. Thank you!

Begin at the Beginning – GENESIS: Our Friday morning Bible Study group has recently begun the study of Genesis. What better time is there than now to start and join in the fellowship and learning as we travel through the stories of creation, the flood, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the twelve tribes of Israel? Discover our past in Bible Study, as we come together for an hour of learning **every Friday morning** at 11:00am.

Bishop Installation: Our synod is installing a new Bishop, Reverend Stephen Herr, on Saturday, **October 25th**, at 2:00pm at St. Matthew's Lutheran, Hanover. All are invited to participate in this special synod celebration.

Blood Drive: Our next UPMC blood drive is on **October 23rd**. Go to donate.717giveblood.org to register.

Flat Sheets Needed: The Sewing Group is in need of full-size new or like-new flat cotton sheets.

Christmas Dedications: Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about poinsettias, wreaths, and world hunger stars. Dedications will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletin, and poinsettias/stars can be taken home after the evening Christmas Eve service. This year's deadline for poinsettia (\$17.00) and indoor/wreath (\$25.00) dedications is **November 24th**. Stars (\$5.00) can be dedicated through **December 8th**. Order forms are now available on the narthex shelf. They will also be in the November newsletter, or you can just contact Joni in the church office. Thank you for helping to beautify our Christmas Eve altar.

Fall Bazaar Preparations: The bazaar is almost here! Join us Saturday, **November 1st**, from 8:00am to 2:00pm and be sure to spread the word – we'll have food, crafts, and more. The Evangelism Committee appreciates food donations, help with prepping ahead, help with setup on **October 31st**, and workers the day of. **Sign up in the church hallway** if you can lend a hand!

Vendor Deadline Is Here! And if you'd like to be a vendor at the bazaar or know of someone who might, applications can be found at stmarkhanover.org – just click on the Fall Bazaar flier to download one, or you can pick up one from the church office. Applications and payment are due **TODAY, October 15th**. If you're able to post physical fliers or share a graphic on your social media, contact Joni at 637-8904 or offcoor129@gmail.com.

Grannie's Attic Items Needed: Time to clean out your attic, basement, closets – everywhere! We're looking for transportable items to sell in our Fall Bazaar rummage area. Bring them over to the church on a weekday between 9:00am and 12:00pm, and we'll make sure they find a good home. While we appreciate all donations, furniture and very heavy or bulky sale items make it hard on our cleanup volunteers to take unsold items to Community Aid after the sale ends, so **please limit donations to things that can be transported easily**.

Inspirations: October's inspiration packets are available in the narthex. Be sure to pick up one or more to share with friends and family!

Invitation: The Sewing Group will be making paper stars in memory of Diana Weaver tomorrow, Thursday, **October 16th**, at 9:00am. They invite everyone who's interested in helping. They are also looking for advice from anyone who may know how to fold stars, even if you can't make it tomorrow or help make them.

Lighting Advent Candles: We are looking for individuals or families willing to take a turn lighting an Advent candle each Sunday and at Christmas Eve worship. If you would be willing to help count us down to Christmas by lighting a candle and reading the candle prayer, then please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Next St. Mark Eats: We enjoyed our October lunch at Hoss's and invite you to join us at 1:00pm on **November 4th** at El Rodeo for lunch and fellowship.

Preschool Fundraiser Bake Sale: The preschool is holding an Election Day Bake Sale on **November 4th** to raise money for the school. If you would like to help by donating homemade baked goods like fudge, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, Rice Krispie treats, etc., they would greatly appreciate it. If you can help, please wrap the treats individually for sale and drop them off Monday, **November 3rd**, in the church office between 9:00am and 12noon or before 3:30pm in the big kitchen. Thank you in advance!

Processional Volunteers Needed: If you can take part in any/all of the upcoming processions coming up as part of special worship services (Reformation, All Saints', Christ the King), please sign up in the narthex.

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.

Serving Lunch: Help Us Buy Ingredients: Each month, one of our St. Mark PAL (Provide-A-Lunch) teams cooks and serves a hot lunch to about 100 people at HACC. Please consider donating to our "PAL Supplies" fund to help us buy the food we need to continue this. To contribute **directly to St. Mark's PAL efforts**, please note "PAL **SUPPLIES**" (specify "supplies" so your donation is directed to the right place) on your offering envelope. Thank you!

St. Mark Adult Coloring Group: Grab your supplies and join us for our coloring group here in a St. Mark classroom. The group meets monthly, usually on the second Tuesday, from 10:00am to 11:30am. Please spread the word! Fliers are on the office hallway table. **NOTE: November's coloring group will take place on November 18th due to the Veterans' Day holiday.**

Hanover Against Hunger: St. Matthew is hosting another food packing event on Saturday, **November 1st**. To participate in this event, contact Doug West at St. Matthew's, 717-451-0394.

Hanover Area Historical Society Events: Vance Sheffer will present the *World War Experience from WWI to Vietnam* on **November 1st & 15th** from 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

Outside Family Fun! Join in the fun at Fall Foliage Day on **October 19th** from 1pm to 6pm at Camp Nawakwa in Biglerville. There will be pumpkin painting, hayrides, leaf peeping hikes, a picnic dinner, and more. Only \$15 a person. Register at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/event/fall-foliage-day-at-nawakwa/> or call 717-677-8211.

Trunk-or-Treats: Both St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Chestnut and Hanover Church of the Brethren on Wilson invite you to Trunk-or-Treat celebrations! Hanover Church of the Brethren's will be held on **October 27th** from 5:30pm to 7:00pm and includes a community meal, candy, and crafts. St. Matthew's will be on **October 28th** from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Contact each hosting church for more information.

Trivia Night: Guthrie Memorial Library will host a Trivia Night on Tuesday, **October 28th**, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm.