

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL AND REMINDERS / UPDATES

May 20, 2026

From *DAILY GUIDEPOSTS 2011*: Gina Bridgeman

*Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter,
and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me." – GENESIS 21:6*

I was in a doctor's waiting room when I noticed that the man next to me, reading a magazine, was making some strange noises trying to stifle a laugh. Concerned for his well-being, I began to watch him out of the corner of my eye. First he stopped up a giggle and then a little bigger laugh. Then he made a noise like *zrggggg-ah* as the stifling became nearly impossible.

Smiling, I turned to him and said, "You need to laugh out loud or you might explode." Given permission, he burst out in a loud guffaw. And when he laughed, I laughed, even though I had no idea what was so funny.

"Oh, thanks," he said. "I just couldn't help it."

It turned out he was reading an article about how men and women are different, and when I ask him to read some of it to me, we both laughed – this time out loud.

Laughter is such potent medicine; there's no doubt it's a gift from God. That day showed me how easily it comes, too, if I let it. And like all good gifts, it's so much better when it's shared.

Lord, open my eyes and ears to the laughter that's bubbling up around me today. – GINA BRIDGEMAN

Prayer: *Let us pray: Lord, with a thankful heart I enter into prayer seeking to dwell with Your Spirit of joy and peace. Come and rest upon me this day, filling me with the comfort of Your presence and the inexpressible happiness found in knowing You. Use me to express that feeling of spiritual joy and faith to others as Your own Son, Jesus, did for so many. In his name I pray. Amen.*

Weekly Schedule:

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

Preschool: On Summer Break

Wednesday, May 20 1:00pm – Garden Club Meeting

Thursday, May 21 9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

9:30am – Choir Practice

Friday, May 22 11:00am – Bible Study

Saturday, May 23 5:30pm – Spoken Worship – *Pentecost Weekend* **WEAR RED**

Sunday, May 24 9:00am – Traditional – *Day of Pentecost*

WEAR RED

Pentecost Pie Sunday (Please Bring a Pie to Share!)

Sunday School Celebration and Teacher Appreciation

Bells Rehearsal

PAL Team A Serves at HACC

Monday, May 25 *Memorial Day*

OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, May 28 9:00am to 12noon – Quilting Group

~~9:30am – Choir Practice~~ **NO CHOIR PRACTICE**

Friday, May 29 11:00am – Bible Study

Sunday Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister: Hollis Long

CPIC: Gail Merlo

Acolyte: Elsie Wildasin

Communion Assistants: Gail Merlo | Hollis Long

Processional: Hollis Long | Elsie Wildasin | Gail Merlo

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, Bryce Adamson, Shannon Allen, Al Allison, Daniel Ard, Kim Bartell, Donna Bell, Becky Bingel, Robert Bingel, Judy Bolin, Katherine Borsella, Nancy Brady, Patrick Brady, Susan Bucher-Laughman, Family & Friends of Michael Carter, Lucas Cherry, Family & Friends of Frances Claybaugh, Susan Coleman, Lois & George Cornell, Pastor David DeLong, Lisa Dickensheets, Diane Duffy, Robin Eline, Tarek Elnaggar, Jean Eshbach, Landon Evans, Dennis Fahey, Nancy Fahey, James Farver, Don Feeser, Abigail Fett, Nancy Gill, Vickie Gouker, Dane Graham, Bob Groft, Sandy Hart, Debby Hartlaub, Chase Henry & Family, Carrie Hernden, Peg Hippensteel, Family & Friends of Catherine Hollingsworth, Blaise Humes, Michael Humes, Martha Howells, Donna Jones, Kathy Jones, David Kaufman, Debbie Kellenbenz, Craig King, Keith Klunk, Shawn Klunk, Kelly Koontz, Norma Kreidler, Winchester Kuhn, Allen Kuhns, Jo Kuhns, Russell Laughman, Laurie Leppo, John Lippy, Ronnie Lippy, Naura Luqman, Carol McDermitt-Humes, Merita Moore, Andrew Moul, Leah Moul, Linda Mummert, Merle Mummert, Nancy Mummert, Pam Mummert, James Murphy, Wayne Noel, Susan O'Brien, Kelly Perdue, Jessica "Rose" Pulliano, Bill Reese, Mary Riley, Carl Sandruck, David Sandruck, Lucus Schneider, Cecelia Sell, Bob Shue, Luanne Slusser, Denise Smith, Pr. Jerry Smith, JoAnn Smith, Joyce Smith, Family & Friends of Ron Smith, Sarah Smith, Jody Spellman, Jamie Stalb, Dennis Staub, Monica Staub, Stephanie Stauffer, Matt Test, Dawn Tice, Jennie Tome, George Tracy, Allison Trump, Ed Wagaman, Gloria Wagaman, Jody Walter, Naomi Warren, Barb Watson, Ron Wentz, Family & Friends of 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 **HACC PAL (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.

Celebrate Their Success: 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 with names of any and all students we have graduating this year. If your daughter, nephew, grandchild, or anyone else in your family (they don't have to be members) is graduating, please let us know!

Sunday School Year Celebration and Pentecost Pie Sunday: This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, and we will mark the end of the Sunday school year with a festive celebration of pie and ice cream for Pentecost. Following worship, we invite you to join us to enjoy a sweet treat of shared pies. Please bring in your favorite homemade or storebought pie to share. We may even have some ice cream to go with it. Please plan to join us for worship and fellowship time on **May 24th**. And don't forget to **WEAR RED!**

Altar Flowers: We have many vases available this summer including **two on June 7th**. If you can dedicate one or both of these (or any future vases), please fill out the flower book in the narthex or contact Joni (717-637-8904 or offcoor129@gmail.com). Thank you for helping us keep fresh flowers on the altar!

Share Some Inspiration: June inspiration packets are available in the narthex. These are great for your own spiritual meditation. Additionally, you can pick up an extra one to give to someone else and share your faith!

Successful Heroes Celebration 2026: This year's Community Heroes Celebration was beautiful and a wonderful afternoon of celebrating and honoring our heroes. We want to thank everyone who came out to join in the festivities and those who helped plan, set up, serve, and clean up during our community event. A big thank you goes to our leaders, Amy and Abby Shermeyer, and all the leaders and evangelists of St. Mark who helped out. If you missed out on all the music, the food, the activities, and the fun, be sure to check out the pictures that will be posted soon in the hallway.

\$5 Jewelry Sale: Many members enjoyed the Hospital Auxiliary's \$5 Jewelry Sale here at St. Mark last year, so we've agreed to host it again. Save the dates: **September 17th, 18th, and 19th!**

2026-2027 Preschool Registration: The preschool has a few openings left in the **T/TH 3-year-old class** and in the **4-year-old afternoon class. The M/W 3-year-old class and 4-year-old AM class are both full.** Registration is first-come-first-serve. Go to stmarkpreschoolhanover.weebly.com

Eating Together is Fun Fellowship: Our next St. Mark's Eat Out event is in the evening at C&D Bar & Grill on Tuesday, **June 2nd at 6:00pm.** Come join us for dinner and fun conversation. Sign up. Hope to see you there!

Fellowship Hosts Needed: We need more volunteers to continue our monthly fellowship times on the first Sunday of each month. Treats and coffee are provided by the church – we just need someone to set it all out and clean up after.

Flat Sheets Needed: The Sewing Group is in need of full-size new/like-new flat cotton sheets. They would like to thank those who've donated flat sheets in response to their need.

PAL at St. Mark: In April, our church's Provide-A-Lunch team served approximately 85 people a hot lunch at HACC. But it all starts with buying food. Please consider donating to our "PAL Supplies" fund to help us purchase the ingredients we need to serve lunch at HACC. 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. If you'd like to help out with serving, contact Shellene Griffin.

Vacation Bible School: Our VBS theme this year will be *Camping with God* and is scheduled for **July 27th-31st** from 9:30am to 12noon each day. Please save the dates and help us spread the word. We have room for 40 kids, ages 4-10, and will have crafts, games, snacks, stories, and music. Registration via St. Paul's website (stpaulsyorkst.org) will open **before May 26th** – watch our announcements for the exact date. If you'd like to help us plan, our next meeting to plan VBS will be Wednesday, **June 17th**, at 1:00pm. We'll also be looking for guides and helpers during the week of the events. If you can help, please talk to Karen Feeser or Pastor Kirk, or call the church office.

Hanover Library Is Reopening! Guthrie Memorial Library plans to reopen on **June 1st**. After being closed for over 100 days due to water damage, they plan to resume all normal programs and services.

Free Hanover Playground Program: From **June 1st to July 24th**, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Hanover Borough and the YMCA invite you to bring your K-8 children for supervised play at Baer Avenue Park, DeGuy Park, Elm Avenue Park, Moul Field, and Union Park. Watch the Borough's Facebook page closer to the dates for more information, or contact Hanover Borough. Children under age 6 must be accompanied by an adult.

Free Weekly Outdoor Story Time: Library Along Lake Marburg will be held every Wednesday this summer (**June 10th through August 12th**) in the Codorus State Park Classroom Building. Miss Kelly & Miss Renae will share stories, crafts, activities, and games with the kids. Parents must attend with children (no drop-offs). Bring a blanket or camp chair! Call Guthrie Memorial Library at 717-632-5183 for more information.

Kids' Carnival & Food Truck Event: New Hope on Sunday Drive is holding a carnival on Friday, **May 22nd**, from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Contact the New Hope Faith Community Church for more information.

Memorial Day Parade: Don't forget about the parade! On Memorial Day, **May 25th**, beginning at 8:30am, Hanover will gather to remember and honor fallen heroes.

Save the Date: All day Saturday, **July 25th**, Hoss's on Carlisle is holding an American Cancer Society fundraiser. If you bring in a card or piece of paper (can be handwritten) with the number **133532** written on it, 20%-25% of the proceeds from your meal will be donated to the American Cancer Society. For more information, contact Hoss's.

Snacktown Car Show: Hanover Borough is sponsoring an antique and historic car show at the Hanover Market House on Saturday, **June 13th**, from 11:00am to 3:00pm. If you'd like to enter your car, contact ParksAndRecDept@HanoverBoroughPA.gov. Everyone else, just come out and enjoy the cool cars!