

## THE CARILLON

Volume 67 Issue 2 February 2026  
St. Mark's United Church of Christ  
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[www.saintmarksucc.com](http://www.saintmarksucc.com)

Office Hours – Tuesday through Friday – 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

### STAFF

Rev. David A. Jones, Pastor  
Cindy Klahr, Secretary  
Sam Brandt, Custodian  
Cynthia Johnson, Organist  
Jim Conzelmann, Music Director  
Todd Ryland, Consistory President  
Ron Follett, Church Treasurer  
Dawn Shultz, Consistory Secretary  
Pine Acres

(717) 272-5011

### A Prayer for February

Dear God,

Thank You for being the Light of the World. Thank You for shining light into the darkness and showing me how to live a life that honors You. Help me to be an example of You to everyone I encounter, and give me the courage to shine Your light in my community and with my church family.

Let my heart be encouraged with the truth that You are a good God.

May my words and actions be ones that glorify You in our lives today!

In Jesus' Name,

Amen



### TEN WAYS TO LOVE

1. **LISTEN** without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
2. **SPEAK** without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. **GIVE** without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. **PRAY** without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. **ANSWER** without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. **SHARE** without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. **ENJOY** without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. **TRUST** without wavering. (Corinthians 13:7)
9. **FORGIVE** without punishing. Colossians 3:13)
10. **PROMISE** without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:17)



One kind word can ease a heavy heart.  
One smile can remind someone they're not alone.  
One act of courage can change the course of a day.  
One smile can remind someone they're not alone.  
One act of courage can change the course of a day.  
One quiet moment of grace can shift an entire life.  
You don't have to do it all.  
Just be the one who brings a little more light today.

### Scriptures for February

*"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other, just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."*

*John 13:34-35*

*"Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. "*

*1 John 3:18*

*"Three things will last forever - faith, hope and love --- and the greatest of these is love."*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

*"I have loved you with an everlasting love."*

*Jeremiah 31:3*

*"Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever."*

*Psalms 136:26*

*Dear God:*

*Enlighten* what's dark in me...

*Strengthen* what's weak in me...

*Mend* what's broken in me...

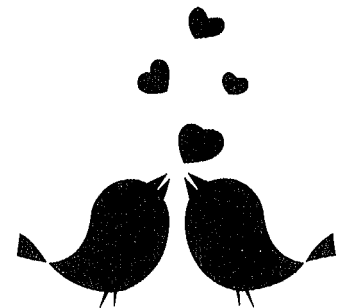
*Bind* what's bruised in me...

*Heal* what's sick in me...

and lastly,

*Revive* whatever peace and love has died in me...

*Kindness  
is like snow.  
It beautifies  
everything it  
covers.*



**HAPPY FEBRUARY**

## *The Journey Continues...*

As we are settling into 2026, we are also settling into new routines at St. Mark's. For the first time in years, we've become landlords again. I realize there are mixed feelings about renting space because we've had bad experiences with renters in the past. I get that. I was there as we dealt with those issues and it wasn't easy to find solutions. I am happy (and relieved) to report that our current tenants are very different from the tenants we've had in the past, so we aren't repeating the problems of the past. In addition, we have a better system of communication so we can address issues before they become problems. But maybe your concerns are about the additional utilities we are paying. I get that, too. We are paying higher utility bills these days. But there is no need to worry. While our expenses have gone up, our income has gone up even more. So, any additional expenses are covered by the additional income we receive.

We have been blessed with an amazing resource in our church building, and I believe we have the responsibility to use it in the best possible ways. So, I want to share with you some of the benefits you may not be aware of from sharing our space with others. Starting with the Spanish congregation that meets at noon. The name of their congregation (when translated into English), means "Shelter of Holiness and Love." I think that is an amazing name for a church. But beyond the name, Pastor Will, his wife, and their congregation have been very thankful for the space we are able to provide. There is hardly a week when Pastor Will (or his wife, or both) doesn't share how blessed they feel to be able to share our sanctuary. In addition, Pastor Will and I have been in conversations to partner in ministry outside of our worship services. They are going to help us with our Community Dinners, and they want to brainstorm ideas for our two congregations to partner in ministry to reach out to the people in our community.

Which brings us to Walborn and Beeman Music Therapy or WBMT. WBMT provides a wonderful service as they utilize music to help people who have autism, ADHD, intellectual disabilities, Alzheimer's or dementia, and those dealing with anxiety and depression. In the short time they've been using our space, Cindy, Sam, and I have gotten to know the therapists and some of their clients. I can tell you, the clients of WBMT are some of the nicest and most genuine people you will ever meet. They wave, they say hello, and they look forward to seeing us as much as we look forward to seeing them. In addition, the therapists who work for WBMT provide an amazing service and ministry (yes, they are a Christian based organization) for their clients.

Which brings us to Giselle Gonzalez's Daycare that meets in Community Rooms downstairs. It's rare to come across people who are as kind, generous, and hard working as Giselle. The costs of daycare these days are staggering, but Giselle makes huge sacrifices for a few of her families to provide their children a safe place to be while their parents go to work. Without the sacrifices Giselle makes, the parents of these children would not earn enough to cover the costs of childcare. So, without Giselle's kindness, these parents would need to stay at home and live off government assistance. But now, these people can know their children are well taken care of while they contribute to the economy. Our community has been blessed by Giselle's generosity, and it's nice to know there are grace-filled people like her in this world.

Despite the unexpected benefits, I realize there will still be issues as we settle into our new role as landlord. We now have four different groups (including ourselves) utilizing space in one building. With all four groups having their own needs, we will have to adapt from time to time. I know we can do that, just as I know we are making better use of the building we've been blessed with, by sharing it with our neighbors. Knowing that these three groups are sharing so many blessings with others, makes any challenges on the journey worthwhile.

The Journey Continues...

*Pastor Dave*

Looking back, 2025 was a pretty good year for St. Marks from a financial standpoint. There were a lot of positive things that happened financially including finishing the year at 98% of the budget and finishing the year with a relatively small deficit in the general fund, despite the fact that we received a hefty and unexpected bill from our HVAC services provider in December for boiler maintenance and repair that was needed. Additionally, we rented out three different under-utilized areas of our building in 2025 and will continue to generate rental income from that in 2026. And, through the generosity of our congregation we have completed 2 phases of our organ refurbishment, we have replaced the large roof over the Christian Education wing, we continue to pay down the parking lot loans to members, and we re-sealed both parking lots. These things should all be celebrated.

There is still financial concern in 2026 as we have the pending smaller shingled roof replacement at a cost of \$33,000, there is work needed on the bell tower at a cost that is still to be determined, we need to replace the church generator at an approximate cost of \$15,000, and Consistory has presented a budget to the congregation that is \$20,000 more than the 2025 budget primarily due to utility rate increases, staff salary increases, and increases in the church insurance policy. The congregation of St. Marks pulled together in 2025 to complete needed repairs and still end the year in a good financial position. Thanks to all who contributed and continue to contribute financially to St. Marks. Despite the financial challenges and repair work needed in 2026, I am confident that our members will once again rise to the occasion financially in their support of St. Marks.

Respectfully,

Todd Ryland

## **Report of the Consistory - January 2026**

The consistory is preparing for the annual meeting on January 25, 2026. Due to the Spanish congregation using the sanctuary after the church service, the annual meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall. The nominating committee has asked for assistance/ad hoc committee to review the committee listing. The 2026 leases for the day care and the Spanish congregation have been signed and are effective as of January 1, 2026. The updated bid for the shingled roof is \$32,880. The congregation is encouraged to make donations for this project. The elevator is scheduled to be inspected the week of January 11th. Heather Eggert has been contacted to assist with the contract issues with the elevator company. Personnel has requested that Kenneth Shultz be paid half salary until James Conzelmann assumes the full duties of the Music Director. They also requested that both organists be paid the same amount for each Sunday they play. Hoss's will be contacted to set a fundraiser date for April.

## **Pine Acres News**

- We've dropped numerous dead trees. We will need help splitting wood and stacking for future firewood. Once the snow melts, we will have a workday or two to clean up the grounds as well as stack all the firewood. Stay tuned for those dates. You ask what happens to the firewood. We have been selling very old (6-10-year-old firewood) to help with funding projects. One project funded is a new sign as you come in the lane to welcome people to Pine Acres as well as reminding them it's a smoke free campus.

During the "off season", we look for the "warmest" day of the week to work at Pine Acres. We will be "off" in February due to weather, however, when we're back at it in March, if you'd like to help in any of the weekly days, contact Doug Hummel or Kathy Follett for more information.

# **Kid's Team/Youth/Young Adults Corner**

## **Kid's Team**

Kid's Team will be heading to Mt Gretna on a Sunday in February, rescheduled from the January snow, to go roller skating. Look for the date in coming flyers once the big snow is past. Time is 1:30. This will be during open skating and is not exclusive to St Mark's. Liability forms are required and will be included with the paperwork given to Kid's Team members.

Look for the date in March or April to head to the Lancaster Science Factory.

Save the date, April 4<sup>th</sup> for the annual Egg Hunt at South Hills. Time is 10:00. Look for more information in the March carillon.

Save the date – Kid's Kamp 2026 – July 13<sup>th</sup> – July 16<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more information and registration forms.

If you aren't sure the age for Kid's Team and have a child or grandchild that might be looking to join, most Kid's Team activities are planned for ages K-4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If you aren't already receiving Kid's Team announcements, please check in with Kathy Follett or Meredith Myers.

## **Youth/Young Adults**

Here are the upcoming activities for the Youth/Young Adults for the winter/spring of 2026:

Palm Cross creation – March 28<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 PM

Prayer Vigil – April 4<sup>th</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup>

Spring Retreat – May 29-31 – Penn Lake in the Poconos

If you know of someone between 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 30 that is currently not receiving the Youth/Young Adults information, please contact Kathy Follett.

# Mission Corner

## Hammer & Heart Mission Trip

Next meeting for this trip is February TBD after service in Fellowship Hall. A new date is being picked due to congregational meeting falling over top due to weather. Working on menu and paperwork.

Formerly known as the Asheville trip, we'll refer to the spring mission trip as Hammer & Heart. The team agreed to return to work in the Black Mountain/Swannanoa NC area. We'll be working again with Hammer and Heart. We depart on Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>, work Thursday-Saturday, returning home on Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>. This trip is for those 18 and above. If you weren't able to make the meeting, but are interested, please see Kathy. More details will come in the new year of how to help.

## WARM Mission Trip

The WARM mission trip will be from August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>. If interested, but were not able to attend the meeting, please see Kathy.

## Non-Mission Trip Mission News

### **The Community dinners**

March 21<sup>st</sup> – community dinner planned. Look for more information closer to the date.

July 25<sup>th</sup> – community picnic is planned. Look for more information closer to the date.

### **Dinner at the Rescue Mission**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** – our next time at the LRM

**September TBD** – a grill night with the men at the LRM

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** – our second Sunday at the LRM

### **Jigsaw Evangelism**

Last year, we tried something new and that was making jigsaw puzzles to get out of the house in those cold/snowy months of January, February and March. In 2026, we will again be gathering for jigsaw evangelism.

All dates are a Saturday. We will meet anytime after 9:00 with a short fellowship time (coffee and donuts) before we get started at 9:30. We end somewhere between 11:00-11:30. Enter through the Fellowship Hall door. If elevator access is needed, just let us know you're coming.

#### **Save the dates:**

February – February 7 and 21

March – March 7 and 21. The 21<sup>st</sup> is if needed as we also are planning a community dinner that day.

## ***By-laws of the Ushers' League of St. Mark's***

**Section 2:** Its object shall be to give proper ushering to the people at the regular preaching services, and to officiate at such other services as they may from time to time be required. To promote friendly and mutual fellowship among the young men of the church.

**Section 3:** The members shall consist of young men of good moral character, not less than 17 years of age, who shall be ready for service in the work assigned them by the League.

**Section 6:** The regular monthly meeting shall be held the first Friday night of each month, in the Junior Sunday School room. Special meetings can be called by the President or by any five members of the League.

**Section 10:** The dues of the League shall be 3 cents per month for each member. Any member who fails to pay his dues for one year shall be notified of his arrearage by the Treasurer; if he shall continue in such arrears for one month after such notification he shall at the discretion of the Executive Committee be dropped from the roll by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the next regular meeting.

**Section 11:** If unable to be present when assigned for duty, Ushers shall notify the President or Vice President in advance. Failing in this subject the offender to (receive) a fine of 5 cents for such neglect; five neglects to pay the fine renders the said member liable to suspension from the League on recommendation of the Executive Committee by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

### **Section 14: (Duties)**

- (a) To be on hand twenty minutes before service ready for duty. Neglect in this renders members liable to fine.
- (b) To give special attention to strangers; offering them desirable seats.
- (c) To aim to seat from the front back, and to keep the various sections as evenly balanced as practicable.
- (d) To seat no one, and as far as possible detain the late comers during the reading of the Scriptures.
- (e) If the Ushers see that the attendance is to be small, to seat the people generally, for an audience so seated makes a better appearance.

From ***St. Mark's Observer***, August 1901

Jim Schucker

# KID'S KORNER

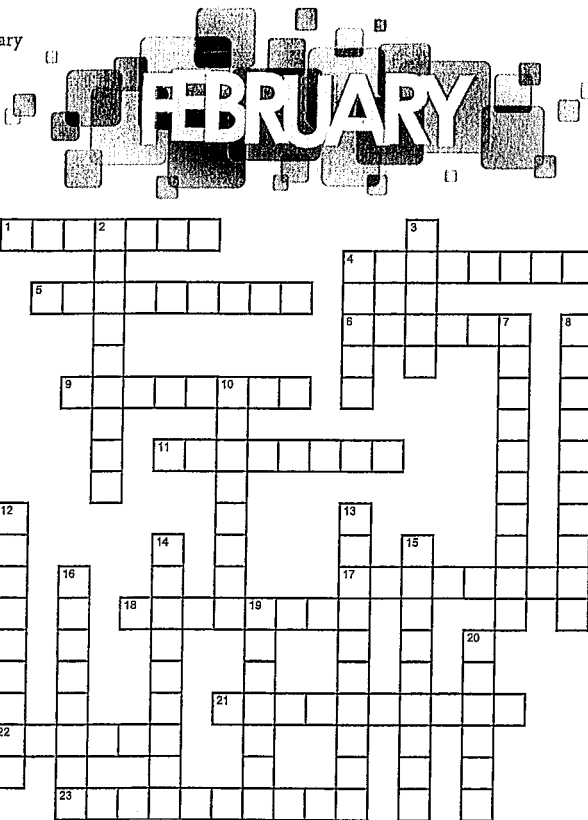
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACROSS

1. Famous president born in February
4. Festive celebration before Lent
5. Weather-predicting animal on February 2nd
6. Zodiac sign for late February birthdays
9. Winter sports event often held in February
11. February's purple birthstone
17. Special February with 29 days
18. Early-blooming February flower
21. President honored on Presidents' Day
22. Chilly season in February
23. Leaders celebrated in mid-February

## DOWN

2. Sweet treat often given on Valentine's Day
3. Icy coating on February windows
4. Love-spreading cherub with bow and arrow
7. Delicate ice crystals falling in February
8. Affectionate term for a Valentine
10. Freezing February weather event
12. Major football game in early February
13. Love-filled holiday on February 14th
14. Colorful celebration before Ash Wednesday
15. Sweet message delivered on Valentine's Day
16. Sudden drop in February temperatures
19. Love in the air during Valentine's season
20. Purple flower associated with February



AMETHYST	ICE STORM	ROMANCE
CANDYGRAM	LEAP YEAR	SNOWFLAKES
CARNIVAL	LINCOLN	SUPER BOWL
CHOCOLATE	MARDI GRAS	SWEETHEART
COLD SNAP	OLYMPICS	VALENTINE'S
CUPID	PISCES	VIOLET
FROST	PRESIDENTS	WASHINGTON
GROUNDHOG	PRIMROSE	WINTER

## PIZZA FLAVOR CASSEROLE

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 c. chopped onions
- 1/2 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 can condensed tomato soup

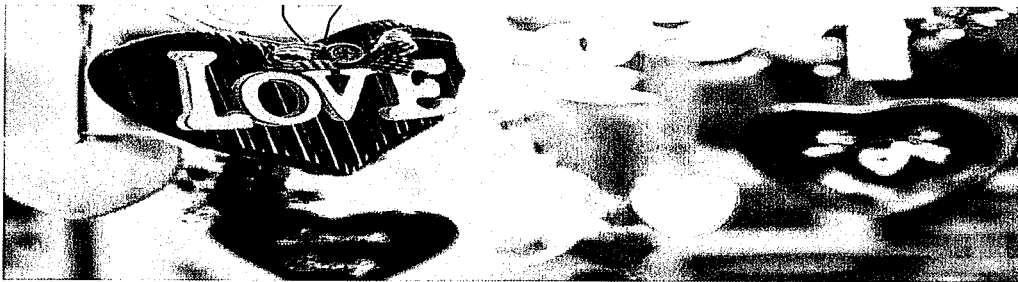
- 1/3 c. water
- 2 c. cooked wide noodles
- 1/2 c. shredded cheese

### Directions:

Brown beef with onions, garlic, oregano, stirring to separate the meat. Combine all ingredients except cheese. Sprinkle cheese over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

This recipe is in the St. Mark's U.C.C. Mothers Class Recipe Book and is from Juanita Fuhrman.

## **HELPING HANDS/CARING HEARTS**



**Share the love**

**Please consider donating  
to the Good Samaritan Fund.**

**The fund helps organizations in our community  
and members of our congregation who are in need  
of a little extra help.**

**An envelope will be available for donations.**

**Please put your name on the envelope.**

**Donations will be collected until 2/15.**

**Thank you,**

**The Good Samaritan Committee**

## 2026 Lenten Services

### **Renewed in Mercy: A Journey Toward New Life**

The Lenten journey and our discipleship path encourages us to grow, to go deeper, to climb higher, to reach further than we may have before. Lent is a time of introspection, but also a call to action as we seek to be the pilgrim people of God, seeking God's kingdom and shaping God's kingdom in worship and in service. This Lent, we invite you to experience the renewal that comes from God's never-ending mercy and then to walk with our Lord on a journey to new life.

#### **Ash Wednesday, February 18**

Theme: A Clean Heart

Location: Cornwall Manor, Zerr Chapel

Preacher: Jason Arnold

#### **March 18**

Theme: Journeying in Grace

Location: Grace UCC

Preacher: Deanna Geiter

#### **February 25**

Theme: Mercy on the Wilderness Road

Location: Iona UMC

Preacher: Dave Jones

#### **March 25**

Theme: Redemption Road

Location: Mount Gretna UMC

Preacher: Lisa Flory

#### **March 4**

Theme: Guided by the Promise

Location: St. Mark's UCC

Preacher: Ruthann Seibert

#### **Good Friday, April 3**

Theme: Journey's End - Reaching  
Destination

Location: Iona UMC

Preacher: David Harris

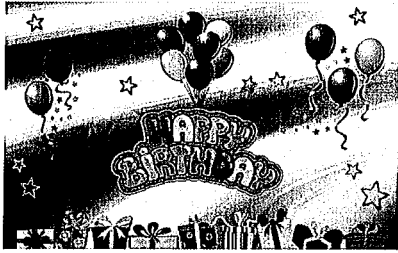
#### **March 11**

Theme: Companion for the Journey

Location: Cornwall UMC

Preacher: Andrea Haldeman

**All Lenten Services will start at 7 PM**



## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

### Birthday

February 1 Gail Winters  
February 2 Harmonie Earl  
February 5 Greg Myers  
Cynthia Sullivan  
February 10 Keith Gruber  
Matthew Scholl  
Scott Trovinger  
February 13 Lucinda Klahr  
February 15 Nell Kline  
February 16 Malachi Raiger  
February 17 John Hoffman  
February 19 Cindy Johnson  
Jonathan Scholl  
February 20 Yvonne Myers  
February 24 Kevin Waldron  
February 26 Michael Daub  
February 27 Sarah Blauch  
February 28 Paxton Thomas  
February 29 Andrew Scholl

### Anniversary

February 17 Larry & Carol Houser

## **SENIOR CORNER**

Karen Bennett  
One Kindred Place  
#72  
Annville, PA 17003  
717-269-6166

Ruth Boyer  
Lebanon Valley Home  
550 E. Main St.  
Annville, PA 17003

Please send notes, cards or give them a phone call. Let Karen and Ruth know that St. Mark's has not forgotten about them. Thank you.

# FEBRUARY

## PRAYER AND EVENTS CALENDAR

# 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mary, Serenity & Harmonie Earl <b>Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM</b> <b>Worship - 10 AM</b> <b>Annual Congregational Mtg.</b>	2 Robert & Anita Eby  <b>Evan. &amp; Mission Mtg. - 6:30 PM</b>	3 Kimberly, David, Andrew & Taylor Edmondson  <b>Bell Rehearsal - 6:30 PM</b>	4 Abigail Eggert  <b>Bible Study - 10 AM</b>	5 Heather Eggert	6 Holly & Carey Eggert	7 Jay Eisenhauer  <b>Jigsaw Evangelism - 9 - 11:30 AM</b>
8 Deb Ellis & Ed Gundrum <b>Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM</b> <b>Worship - 10 AM</b> <b>Super Bowl Sunday Property Comm. Mtg.</b> <b>Hammer &amp; Heart Mtg.</b>	9 Jay & Susan Fisher	10 Kathy Follett	11 Ron & Deborah Follett  <b>Bible Study - 10 AM</b>	12 Faye Fox  <b>Spiritual Council Mtg. 6:30 PM</b> <b>Consistory Mtg. - 7 PM</b>	13 Heidi Fox	14 Owen Fox
15 Wyatt Fox  <b>Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM</b> <b>Worship - 10 AM</b>	16 Nancy Freed	17 Juanita Fuhrman	18 Melissa & Luther Furman <b>Bible Study - 10 AM</b> <b>Ash Wednesday Cornwall Manor Chapel - 7 PM</b>	19 Tony Furman	20 Gladys Gettle	21 <b>Rosy Gonzalez &amp; Cadence</b>  <b>Jigsaw Evangelism - 9 - 11:30 AM</b>
22 Ashley Gruber  <b>Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM</b> <b>Worship - 10 AM</b>	23 Ginny Gruber	24 Keith Gruber	25 Nicole Gruber & Annie <b>Bible Study - 10 AM</b> <b>Lenten Service - Iona UMC - 7 PM</b>	26 Mary Anne Gutwalt	27 Nancy Gutwalt	28 Betty Hackman  <b>Birthday Party - 1 to 5 PM</b>

**CORNWALL MANOR** – 1 Boyd Street, PO Box 125  
Cornwall, PA 17016

Ken & Charlotte Wengert – Cornwall Manor,  
1 Boyd Street,  
PO Box 125,  
\* Ken – Jan. 11 Health Center, N. View 2 Bradley Hall, Apt. 109  
\* Charlotte – June 28 Cornwall, PA 17016  
Health Center

Lowell Sherman \*January 20  
Health Center – Northview 2  
Room 213

**CEDAR HAVEN** – 590 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Sue Kline – Room #415 \* April 24  
Betty Showalter – #3C, Room #12 \* Sept. 11

**LONDONDERRY VILLAGE**

Nancy Basselgia \*July 2  
100 Cottage Drive, #202  
Palmyra, PA 17078

**KINDRED PLACE** - One Kindred Place  
Annville, PA 17003

Nancy Freed \* May 31  
38 Kindred Place, Annville, PA 17003  
717-867-8538

Karen Bennett \* October 10  
72 Kindred Place, Annville, PA 17003  
717-269-6166

**Stoneridge Retirement Living**

Janet Lehman \*Nov. 30  
440 East Lincoln Ave., #330  
Myerstown, PA 17067

Colette Aurentz \*Oct. 28  
440 East Lincoln Ave., #363  
Myerstown, PA 17067  
717-866-3446

**LEBANON VALLEY HOME** – 550 E. Main St.  
Annville, PA 17003

Betty Bartal \* Dec. 14  
Ruth Boyer  
Juanita Fuhrman – \*January 26 - 24B, F Wing  
Jeanette Heim \* Jan. 22

LuAnn Schneider \* January 3  
**St. Anne's Retirement Community**  
Room PC123L  
3952 Columbia Avenue  
West Hempfield Twp.,  
Columbia, PA 17512  
717-285-6141

**ALPINE VALLEY HEALTHCARE-**  
945 Duke Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Jeanine Keefer – Room 103 (No flowers)  
\* January 25 717-389-1331  
Paul & Kay Peiffer – Room 127  
\*Paul – April 18  
\*Kay – July 3 717-644-9279

**Tremont Health & Rehab.**

Gayle & Ed Olden  
44 Donaldson Road  
Tremont, PA 17981

\*Gayle – Dec. 8  
\*Ed – April 2

Please send notes or cards to our Shut-in and Homebound members of St. Marks. Let's show everyone that we haven't forgotten about them and brighten up their days. Thank you.

\* Birthday

**ST. MARK'S SHUT-IN/HOMEBOUND LIST**  
**(Page 2)**

Ginny Gruber \* July 18  
306 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
717-272-2020

Lois Shuey \* Sept. 18  
594 Doris Drive  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-273-5996

Eva Miller \* June 21  
845 Mt. Zion Rd.  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-272-4973

Gloria Simmers  
2000 Walnut Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042 \* Nov. 21  
717-272-3313

Shirley Runkel  
732 Soliday Court  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-272-8618

Linda Waldron \* October 24  
1725 Grace Avenue  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-865-7245

\* Birthday