

THE CARILLON

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St. Mark's United Church of Christ
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STAFF

Rev. David A. Jones, Pastor
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Jim Conzelmann, Music Director
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Ron Follett, Church Treasurer
Dawn Shultz, Consistory Secretary
Pine Acres

(717) 272-5011

Dear God,

Thank you for your guidance and protection.

Thank you for your goodness and mercies in my life.

As we begin this new month, I pray that you Lord will help me to fix my heart on you and abide in you.

Help me to let go of any kind of distraction that will interfere with my connection with you.

Teach me to love you and help me to keep my focus on you.

Cleanse me of my sins and help me to let go of anything that does not honor your Holy name.

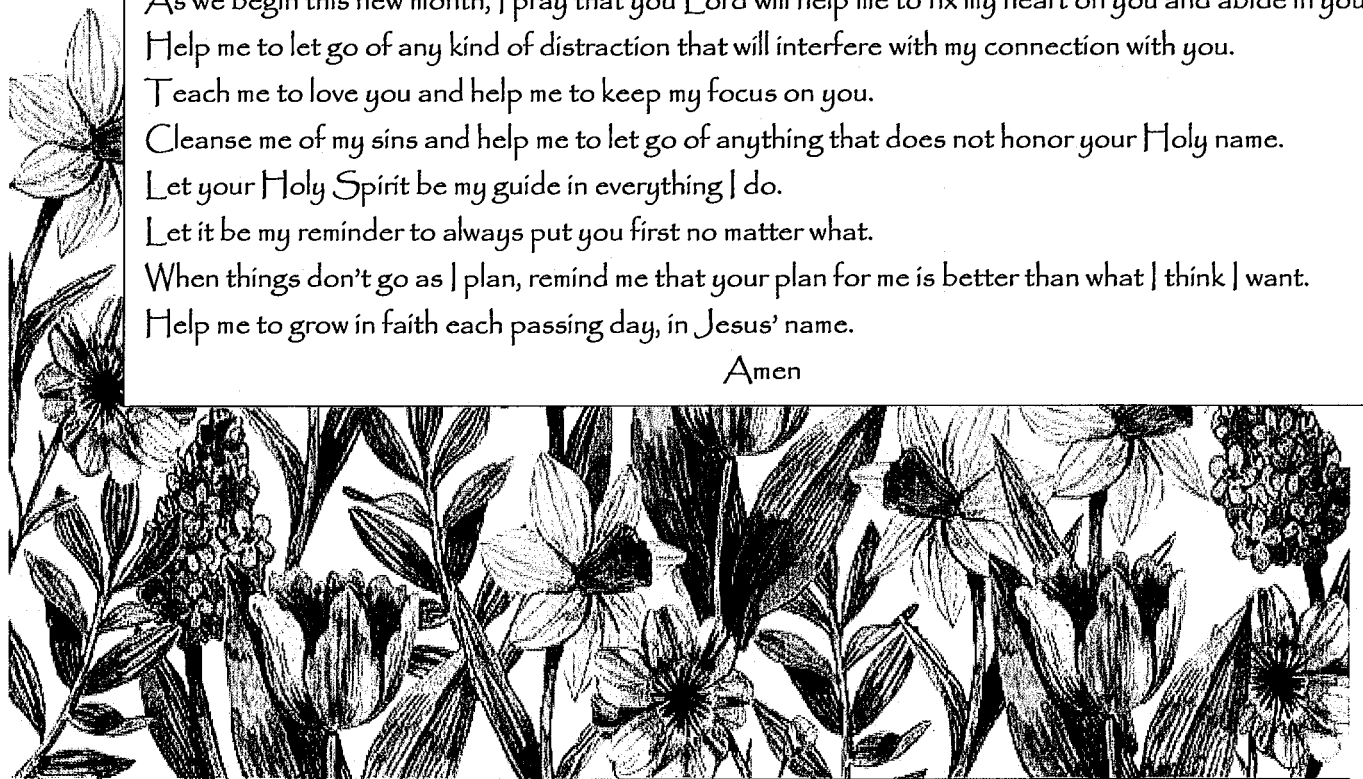
Let your Holy Spirit be my guide in everything I do.

Let it be my reminder to always put you first no matter what.

When things don't go as I plan, remind me that your plan for me is better than what I think I want.

Help me to grow in faith each passing day, in Jesus' name.

Amen



Leave It In God's Hands

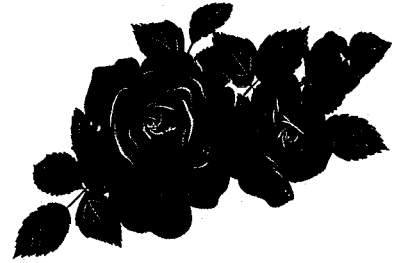
As much as you want to fix it, control it, or even fight for it, sometimes the wisest and hardest thing you can do is let go...and leave it in God's hands.

Because not every battle is yours to fight.

Not every burden is yours to carry.

Not every outcome is yours to decide.

Surrender doesn't mean giving up. It means believing that His ways are higher, His timing is better, and His hands are far stronger than yours.



MOTHER'S DAY QUOTES

"Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible." - Marion C. Garretty

"I got to grow up with a mother who taught me to believe in me." - Antonio Villaraigosa

"My mother is my root, my foundation. She planted the seed that I base my life on, and that is the belief that the ability to achieve starts in your mind." - Michael Jordan

"All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." - Abraham Lincoln

"My mother was the making of me. She was so true and so sure of me, I felt that I had someone to live for- someone I must not disappoint. The memory of my mother will always be a blessing to me." -

Thomas A. Edison

"There's nothing sweeter than a mother's hug."

"If you have a loving mother, you have everything."

Scriptures for Mother's Day

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." *Proverbs 31:31*

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." *Proverbs 31:25*

"And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart." *Luke 2:51*

"When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness." *Proverbs 31:26*

"God is within her, she will not fall." *Psalms 46:5*

The loveliest
MASTERPIECE
of the
HEART OF GOD
is the heart of a
Mother



The Journey Continues...

I remember exactly where I was and what I was doing April 1st, 2026 at 6:35pm. I was making dinner while watching the LiveStream of the Artemis II launch on YouTube. When there was about 25 minutes until liftoff, my phone rang. Uh oh. Sometimes a phone call brings bad news but thank goodness this call was good news. My grandson Maverick was calling me on FaceTime. I asked if he was watching the countdown. It was a good thing I said something because his mom forgot about the launch. So I got to watch the launch of the Artemis II mission with my grandson. Being able to share that moment with him – seeing the wonder and amazement in his eyes – as those rockets ignited is a memory I will cherish for a long time.

The launch of Artemis II was flawless and the images the astronauts shared from their journey to the moon were nothing short of breathtaking. For all the tension and division in our lives these days, Artemis II felt like a breath of fresh air because the mission instilled a much-needed sense of awe and humility. Instead of looking for reasons to tear each other apart, people welcomed the distraction of hearing where the astronauts were and what they were doing.

As Maverick and I watched the launch, my daughter Ashley and I mused about the difficulty of the math equations needed to successfully launch a rocket into outer space and to safely bring it back to earth. The scientists at NASA use computers to calculate the launch, the path, and the speed of the rocket during its mission, and they knew where the capsule would be in the Pacific Ocean after it reentered the earth's atmosphere. While those calculations are mind-boggling, there was a time when those calculations were made the old-fashioned way.

Sixty-four years ago – February 20th, 1962 – astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth as part of the Mercury-Atlas mission. Astronaut Glenn piloted a capsule named "Friendship 7" as it orbited the earth three times before returning back home. The scientists at NASA – and specifically three mathematics geniuses named Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson – were able to make the calculations necessary to successfully send John Glenn into orbit and to bring him back safely WITHOUT the aid of computers. The accomplishments of those three women were so incredible, they made a movie in 2017 titled "Hidden Figures" based on their lives and their efforts for that space mission. If you haven't seen that movie, I highly recommend you check it out. You won't be disappointed. It is a true gem of a movie.

While the Mercury-Atlas mission was an enormous boost for our country in the space race, John Glenn was only able to spend 4 hours and 55 minutes in space before returning to earth. On the other hand, the Artemis II crew spent 10 days in space before returning to earth. So, we've come a long way in 64 years, but we still have a long way to go. The goal of the next mission is to land people on the moon and then one day, they want to land people on the planet Mars. This is incredible stuff, but it pales in comparison to what God has done to create life and to bring us into relationship with him.

As mind boggling as the math equations are for missions to outer space, just imagine the math equations to figure out the velocity and gravity needed to hold the sun, planets, and their moons in perfect balance. This is what God has done. And that is just our solar system. There is an entire universe out there we have yet to explore. Now isn't it amazing and humbling, that the same God who created the complexity (and immensity) of life in this universe, also created a path for us to spend all of eternity together as part of God's family? Yes, it is awesome to learn about the universe from space missions like Artemis II, but that is nothing compared to learning about God's love in our lives. God's love gives us strength for today and hope for tomorrow. And best of all, God's love makes this journey through life worthwhile. So my friends, let us enjoy the journey God has given, because the best is yet to come.

The Journey Continues... *Pastor Dave*

ST. MARKS CONGREGATION (CIRCLE OF FRIENDS)

THIS MESSAGE IS NOT A FACE BOOK OR INSTAGRAM POST:
PLEASE DO NOT DELETE BEFORE READING!!!!

In a Circle of Friends each person is supported, and each person is supporting. Everyone in the circle is equal and each person shares joys and burdens with the others. Together, they are surrounding the Light of Christ which is guiding their way.

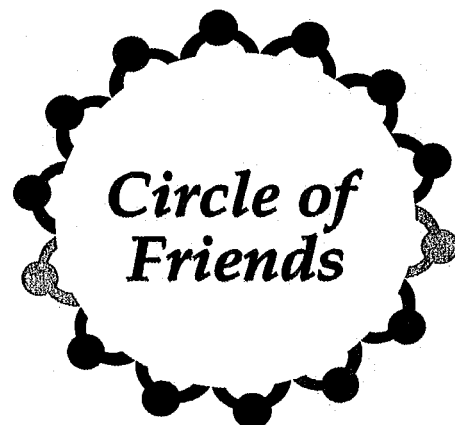
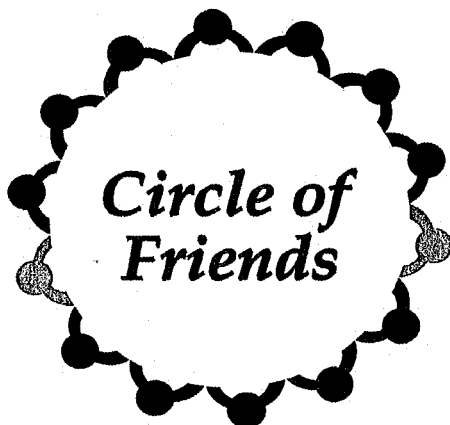
We are a Circle of Friends at St. Marks and as such we are asking for your cooperation in the following: An Ad Hoc Committee (with Consistory approval) has been created to evaluate our current standing committees and to make recommendations regarding: right-sizing, restructuring and possibly merging committees to better meet the needs of the congregation and encourage participation from new friends in our circle

We are so blessed at St. Marks that our congregation is growing and we need to meet the needs of a growing "Circle of Friends"

If you have questions, comments, concerns, or recommendations, the members of the Ad Hoc Committee are:

Pastor Dave, Diane Vogel, Sam Brandt, Faye Fox, Cindy Klahr and Steve Snyder

Look for additional information and updates in the next Carillon



Report of Consistory - April 2026

The bridge committee met with the daycare and music therapy tenants and reported that there are no problems or concerns with either group. Easter flowers were delivered to shut-ins and nursing home residents. The confirmation class will join the church on May 24, 2026. Holy communion will be observed at the service. A celebration luncheon will be held in Fellowship Hall after the service. Pine Acres will be ready to open by the beginning of May. The new disabled parking spaces behind the building have been painted and signs were installed. The shingled roof project will begin in August. Donations are still being accepted to cover the cost of the roof replacement. The steeple was inspected with both human and drone observations. A final report of the assessment has not yet been received. The treasurer made interest payments to those members who are assisting with the parking lot loan. A new contract was negotiated with Comcast as the current one expires with the May billing cycle. Streaming the services on YouTube should begin in the next few weeks.

Pine Acres News

Mowing season is upon us. We could use another 1 or 2 people to mow or weed whack. We are back to our Thursday schedule. We begin around 7:30 and are typically done mowing by 10ish.

We plan to start replacing the poles that are holding up the pavilion roof with 6x6 posts. The old poles on the end of the pavilion are deteriorating and the roof needs solid support for these heavy snows.

Stay tuned to bulletin announcements for a possible workday on Saturday May 9th. Work to dos are being assembled, but could include painting/staining, power washing, electrical repairs, housecleaning the house and prepping the beds for planting.

Kid's Team/Youth/Young Adults Corner

Kid's Team

Save the date – Kid's Kamp 2026 – July 13th – July 16th. Registration forms are in the narthex.

Stay tuned for a mini golf outing with the youth (most likely August)

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 6th 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:

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

Stay tuned for a mini golf outing with the Kid's Team (most likely August)

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

Mission Corner

Hammer & Heart Mission Trip

Final meeting for this trip and commissioning service is May 10th. This will be a short meeting to verify details of the trip.

We depart bright and early on Wednesday May 13th, work Thursday-Saturday, returning home late on Sunday May 17th.

Thanks to all who have taken non-perishable slips to provide for us on the trip. Prayers for safe travels and safety on the jobsite are appreciated.

WARM Mission Trip

The WARM mission trip will be from August 1st through August 8th. Next meeting for the trip is June 14th after the service. If you are unable to attend, but planning to go on the trip, please ensure to talk with Kathy.

Non-Mission Trip Mission News

The Community dinners

July 25th – community picnic is planned. Due to unpredictability of the weather, tables and chairs will be set up in Fellowship Hall versus the parking lot. Look for more information closer to the date.

Dinner at the Rescue Mission

April 19th – thanks to all who helped with this meal. Jenny and the men were greatly appreciative

June 25th or 23rd – a grill night with the men at the LRM. Date is being verified with LRM. Look for signup sheets in May.

November 1st – our second Sunday at the LRM

Sno Cone

The last several years, we have been celebrating the last day of school for the Lebanon School District with a sno cone day. The last day of school is Friday June 5th. Snack bags are needed to assist with this project. Look for signup sheets if you're available to help on that day.



KIDS KAMP 2026 INFORMATION

Dates: Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16

Place: Pine Acres

Ages: Preschool 4 years through completed 6th grade 2026

Theme: Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God

Registration/Permission Slips: Table in Narthex or contact Kathy Follett or Marilyn Reppert

Donations Needed: Empty paper towel rolls



JOIN US FOR OUR
10TH ANNUAL MUSIC GATHERING

Golden

SHINE LIKE YOU
WERE BORN TO BE!

Thursday, May 14 • 6:30 pm

Doors open at 6:00 pm

St. Mark's UCC, 426 N 8th St, Lebanon, PA 17046



The recital will be in the sanctuary.



Afterwards, join us for pizza, refreshments, and fellowship in the narthex, just outside the sanctuary.

No stairs are needed to access either space.



Parking on Mifflin St.
and Monument St.



The Journey of St Mark's Live Stream

February 28, 2020, is a day that Pastor Dave and I will remember. It's the day we had a conversation about what do you think of this thing called Covid pandemic and its impact on services. Do we need to start trying to figure out how to live stream our services? Two weeks later, we held our last in person service for months and the journey of figuring out how to live stream began.

In those early days, it was extremely bumpy. Pastor Dave and I chuckle about it now. We had a skeleton/essential only crew at church. They got to see our archaic way of how we started. Picture 133 feet of ethernet cable running from the workroom in the office into the sanctuary plugged into adaptors that went into Pastor Dave's phone.

While we did that, we were scrambling like every other church in the nation to figure this out. We worked with a company in Ephrata to get us a laptop, install live streaming software and buy our first camera. With that came figuring out how to get sound into the live stream software because our sanctuary is large. The microphone on the camera wasn't going to cut it, so we hired Choice Communications to run a cable from the sound board, under the Sanctuary and up into the choir loft. Born was Jack Mic.....he is a stubborn little sound fellow some Sundays. He has been deleted and reinstalled more times than I can count.

While this was all fine and dandy, for the summer we were at Pine Acres. We do not have access to Wi-Fi there, so using our new equipment was on hold until fall. In September 2020, we were back at church and ready to live stream our first service. A new hiccup occurred; we had to figure out how to stop the buffering that was happening as our Wi-Fi signal wasn't strong enough to live stream. Choice Communications came back and ran two ethernet lines from the office, through some very painful cinder block, into the sanctuary and we became "hardwired" to live stream. While this helped, we still had buffering issues. We needed to change our internet provider as our bandwidth capabilities were not high enough.

With the live stream option, we found an opportunity to "advertise" happenings at the church. Born was the idea of having a Power Point run before the service while Cindy J played meditative music. Why the meditative music? Those early months were very bumpy, and we wanted to make sure we were up and running each week. Hopefully, the slides at the beginning of the service are helpful to know what's going on.

Our viewers on Facebook were raising issue with having the choir sing but not being able to see them. Back came Choice Communication and a cable was run from the floor by the lectern underneath the sanctuary back into the choir loft as we added camera 2. Finally, all the cabling that we need to run live stream efficiently is completed, we hope.

As we did more live stream services, we finally got into what we thought would be a rhythm. However, as we all know, technology is always evolving. As a result, we had to keep evolving with the changes. The Facebook platform was never meant to be a live stream platform. In 2024, Facebook announced that they were going to start deleting videos that were older than 21 days. Yikes. They sent out instructions to Facebook users on how to save those videos so that we could

at some time in the future, upload them to YouTube. We found out in early 2026 that those instructions were incorrect and those “saved” videos are lost for good.

As this all was occurring, we began to evaluate what our long-term direction should be for live streaming. We are not a congregation that is blessed with a lot of people who understand Information Technology (IT) and can make live streaming happen. For the two of us that have been making this happen, there have been many, many, many hours spent Googling each step of the way. As a result, we asked the question, do we/can we keep creating the live stream video.

I will admit, for 6 years, I really haven't enjoyed worshipping because I really am not able to worship. Just when we think we are in a rhythm, a gremlin does something to the sound. Or a camera doesn't want to work. Or our live stream software came out with a new version that doesn't work with Microsoft. Or....well you get the idea. All these factors were discussed. We really were leaning towards stopping the live stream capability, but we realize the benefits it provides to grow our congregation.

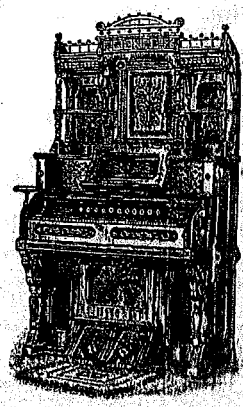
As a result, we realized things need to change.

- 1) We realized Facebook doesn't want live streamers on their platform anymore, so we created our YouTube channel. As a band aid, we have the two-step process of live stream to Facebook and wave magic wand to get it to YouTube. I will say, I about wet my proverbial pants when we got flagged for Copyright claim id in uploading services.
- 2) We needed to increase our live stream license to suit our needs to allow our soloists to use accompaniment tracks.
- 3) We needed to get at least 50 subscribers to join our YouTube Channel so we could move to YouTube for direct live stream.
- 4) We needed to go into the Wirecast (our live stream software) library and figure out how to do live stream using the Wirecast software with the equipment we have to stream to YouTube. I wasn't up for challenge before Easter, so we will attempt this change after Easter.
- 5) We need to educate those trained to set up live stream services to move to this new way of live streaming. Currently, there are 3 of us that have the skillset and knowledge for this.
- 6) We will be creating a rotational team for working the camera each week. This means, you will see the service a little differently each week as we all have our own “technique” or artistry of what the frame should look like.
- 7) We need to upgrade our second camera, so it works better with our software and Jack Mic.

The journey has been long. It has been very educational. It has been tiring. There will still be challenges along the way (i.e. live streaming team doesn't get snow days nor does live stream perform well if we are not in the Sanctuary). There will continue to be annual costs to provide this service (i.e. licenses, software upgrades, computer upgrades, equipment replacement). But hopefully, the live stream service that has been created is leading us into the future as a congregation.

Kathy and the Streaming Team

Pipes & Music



St. Mark's Mission was first served by a small cabinet organ until 1890 when the Sunday School purchased a Miller Organ for \$1,250. It is no surprise that the instrument bore the name Miller and was manufactured just two blocks north of the Chapel since the founders of the company were very active members of the new congregation. After selling the organ at or near cost, Abraham Miller himself contributed \$500 to the organ fund.

Without electricity, the Miller Organ needed pumping, and the salary for this was \$1.00 per month! In 1901 the organ was rebuilt and installed in the present sanctuary where it sang with the congregation until 1926.

The second pipe organ was built on Long Island by the Midmer-Losh Company of Merrick. It had four manuals with electrical action and was recognized as one of the finest church organs in eastern Pennsylvania. The price tag was \$17,500 plus the Miller Organ. When the four organ chambers were renovated the cost rose to \$22,500, all of which was paid when the instrument was dedicated June 13, 1926. A year later a new heating system was installed so that each of the four organ chambers would be heated equally to insure the organ stayed in tune.

The Midmer-Losh Organ was rebuilt in 1968 by John Gumpy and the Lehigh Organ Company for a cost of \$13,700. The organ was reduced from a four to a three manual keyboard, 35 ranks, and all electric movements. The organ was placed in the Great Organ Chamber* behind the choir loft with the harp and the chimes above the Eighth Street entrance.**

With the complete renovation of the sanctuary in 1975, the congregation ordered a new organ to be built by the M.P. Moller Company of Hagerstown, Maryland. Dr. Robert Baker, director of the church music department of Yale University was hired to design the instrument. The organ's primary purpose is the spirited leading of the congregational singing, and its placement, with the pipes in tonal cases above the level of the congregation, to gather, mix, and project the sound, is in the old European tradition. The Principle sounds are unenclosed, as are those of the Bass. The softer and more colorful sounds are enclosed in the chambers behind operable louvers, which create great flexibility in accompanying the choirs and soloists. The console, electrically operated and separated from the pipework, has been so placed as to ensure that the organist can hear the instrument as does the congregation. The organ itself consists of 19 ranks. Cost of the new organ: \$90,000.

(*The back of the present choir loft extends into what was the Great Organ Chamber.

**This Eighth Street entrance is no longer used. It was in the southwest corner of the present sanctuary; the doors can be seen from the exterior of the building.)

KID'S KORNER

Name: _____ Date: _____



Word Scramble

In the Northern Hemisphere, May is a month when flowers bloom, the weather gets warmer, and school starts to wind down for the summer. Can you figure out the seasonal vocabulary words by unscrambling the letters?

EENRG _____

GHITL _____

LLAIC _____

ASRSG _____

BTRUTELYF _____

OBLMO _____

SDSEE _____

AOEMYLP _____

ICPINC _____

RESO _____

SRDIB _____

IHSNNSUE _____

ATRSUU _____

LOFREW _____

OMSSLOB _____

LDABGUY _____

PATLN _____

MBULEEBBE _____

EGADNR _____

ISNRGP _____

OERTHM _____

AHTWMR _____

PUITL _____

AELBALBS _____

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CRUSTLESS CHEESE CAKE

Ingredients:

1 lb. cream cheese

1 lb. cottage cheese

1 ½ c. sugar

4 eggs, slightly beaten

1 ½ Tbsp. lemon juice

1 tsp. vanilla

3 Tbsp. flour

3 Tbsp. cornstarch

¼ lb. butter, melted

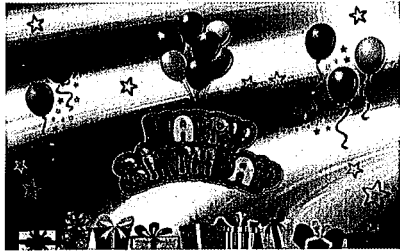
1 pt. sour cream

Directions:

Use a springform pan. Cream cheeses together. Stir in 1 cup sugar. Add eggs, lemon juice and vanilla. Sift remaining sugar with cornstarch and flour. Add gradually to cheese mixture. Add melted butter and sour cream. Blend thoroughly. Pour into greased springform pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour. Turn off heat, open oven door (as for broiling) and leave in over for another 2 hours. Cool well before releasing pan.

Note: It might seem that the cake isn't done after one hour but the extra 2 hours will do it.

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



MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday		Anniversary	
May 1	Stephanie Andreozzi	May 2	Michael & Lois Smith
May 2	Rosy Gonzalez	May 6	Gail & Dick Winters
May 6	Thomas Strohm	May 8	Deb Ellis & Ed Gundrum
May 7	Jennifer Trovinger	May 9	Thomas & Lisa Strohm
May 10	Serenity Earl	May 12	Jonathan & LeTonya Raiger
May 13	Samuel Scholl	May 17	Linda & John Bering
May 23	Bonita Ressler	May 19	Bonita & Robert Ressler
May 30	Casey Bossler	May 25	Doug & Marjorie Hummel
May 31	Nancy Freed		

SENIOR CORNER

Janet Lehman
Stoneridge Retirement Living
440 E. Lincoln Ave., #330
Myerstown, PA 17067
717-866-3682

Eva Miller
845 Mt. Zion Road
Lebanon, PA 17046
717-272-4973

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

MAY

PRAYER AND EVENTS CALENDAR

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Todd & Debra Ryland Wedding Rehearsal - 7 PM	2 Bella Sandt Wedding - 2 PM
3 Lillian Schieber Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM Worship - 10 AM Nom. Comm. Mtg.	4 LuAnn Schneider	5 Allen & Peg Scholl Bell Rehearsal - 6:30 PM	6 Andrew & Penny Scholl Bible Study - 10 AM	7 Jonathan Scholl	8 Matthew Scholl	9 Russell Scholl
10 Samuel Scholl Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM Worship - 10 AM Mother's Day	11 Timothy Scholl	12 Jim Schucker Spiritual Council Mtg. 6:30 PM Consistory Mtg. - 7 PM	13 Andrea Shearer Bible Study - 10 AM Asheville Mission Trip	14 Andrew & Kim Shearer WBMT Recital 6:30 PM Asheville Mission Trip	15 Kristine Shearer Asheville Mission Trip	16 Lowell Sherman Asheville Mission Trip
17 Michael Shott Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM Worship - 10 AM Asheville Mission Trip	18 Betty Showalter	19 Lois Shuey	20 Ken & Dawn Shultz Bible Study - 10 AM	21 Melissa, Jeffrey, Parker, Cameron Sidella	22 Gloria Simmers	23 Michael & Lois Smith
24 Steve Snyder Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM Worship - 10 AM Pentecost Sunday - Confirmation Luncheon	25 Rod Soliday	26 Kathleen Stroh	27 Thomas & Lisa Strohm Bible Study - 10 AM	28 Cynthia Sullivan	29 Rick & Kim Sullivan	30 Alicia & Chad Thomas
31 Paxton Thomas Choir Rehearsal - 8:30 AM Worship - 10 AM Ad Hoc Comm. Mtg.						