



THE CARILLON

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St. Mark's United Church of Christ
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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
Kenneth Shultz – Music Director
Todd Ryland, Consistory President
Ron Follett, Church Treasurer
Dawn Shultz, Consistory Secretary
Pine Acres

PRAYER FOR OUR PASTOR

Dear Lord,

We pray for our pastor to be filled with your Holy Spirit, and may his words and actions be a reflection of your love and truth.

Grant him spiritual discernment and insight as he leads our flock.

May he seek your counsel daily, seeking your wisdom and guidance as he gives spiritual guidance to others.

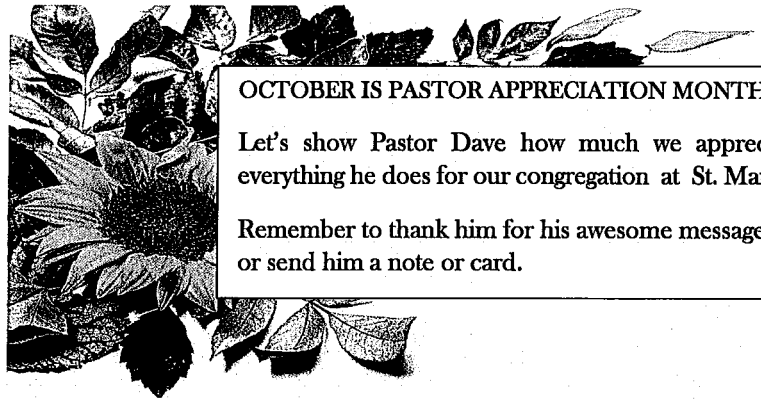
Fill him with patience, peace, and joy for his work, remembering you are with him even when the work is hard, for you are faithful to equip those who obey your call.

Strengthen him in his faith and grant him the wisdom to shepherd our congregation with grace and humility.

Amen.

Dear Pastor,

Thank you for the early Sunday mornings and the late Wednesday nights. Thank you for the seeds you plant and the disciples you nurture. Thank you for the sermons you preach and the prayers you lift up. Thank you for the wise counsel and the words of encouragement. Thank you for the sacrifice and service.



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Let's show Pastor Dave how much we appreciate everything he does for our congregation at St. Mark's.

Remember to thank him for his awesome messages or send him a note or card.



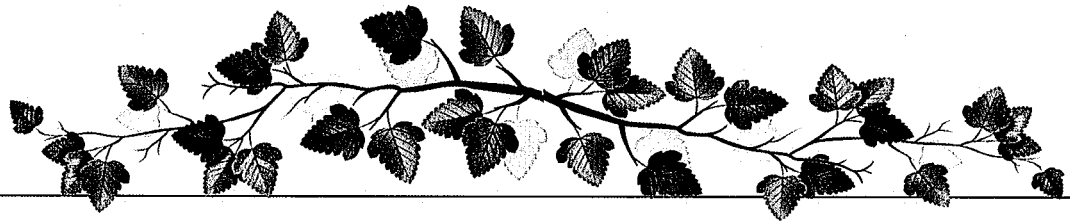
Pastor Dave brings the message of God's word alive in so many ways...

Through his inspiring sermons, his dedication to our church, and his desire to be an example of Jesus' love to others! We sincerely appreciate your dedicated service to St. Mark's.

You are a blessing to this congregation!

THANK YOU, PASTOR DAVE

A pastor never gets to say "I'm off duty". Never gets to punch out at 5. Never gets to have a normal schedule. We don't know how many sleepless nights they spend on their knees praying for their church. How much opposition they face. How many family opportunities they miss to meet with hurting people. We can't carry their burden for them but we can do what the Bible tells us to: Pray for them. Encourage them. Support them. By blessing them - we will only be blessed in return.



Scriptures for October

"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."

2 Timothy 4:2

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:31

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 15:58

"And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Romans 10:15

Something to remember:

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

The Journey Continues...

Recently, I had the opportunity to experience a unique piece of church history when I joined pastors from the Lebanon and Lancaster Associations to visit the Old Zion German Reformed Church near Brickerville. The Old Zion congregation held their first worship service all the way back in 1747, making it the first German Reformed Congregation in our area. A few years later, the congregation constructed a log cabin church which was converted into a hospital during the Revolutionary War. By 1813, they built a new church which is the building that still stands today. There is no electricity or running water at Old Zion, but the acoustics are amazing. The church has one of those old "wine glass" pulpits where you literally climb a set of stairs to get into the pulpit and the pews are uncomfortable, but I honestly didn't mind; there is so much history at Old Zion Church, I didn't mind the uncomfortable seats one bit. If you want more information about the church, you can visit www.oldzionchurch.org to see pictures and read more of the history.

So that's what happened in September. For the month of October, we are going back even further in history as we remember what took place about 40 miles east of Lebanon. Many of the Germans who immigrated to America in the early 1700's were settling in that area. As people of faith, they worshipped in their homes and barns, but they didn't have ordained ministers so they couldn't celebrate Holy Communion. In 1720, they selected a schoolteacher named John Philip Boehm to be their lay reader. Boehm was so well liked, he was urged to become their minister, even though he was not ordained. On October 15th, 1725 (51 years *before* the signing of the Declaration of Independence), John Philip Boehm presided over the first German Reformed worship service with Holy Communion in America. The location of the service was at a place called "Falkner Swamp". If you were wondering, yes, the Falkner Swamp United Church of Christ is still an active congregation. In fact, they have a Facebook page, a website, and they livestream their worship services just like we do. When October 15th rolls around in a few weeks, Falkner Swamp UCC will be celebrating the 300th Anniversary of that first worship service with Holy Communion and we are going to celebrate with them.

Before St. Mark's became a part of the United Church of Christ, we were a part of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. And before we were an Evangelical and Reformed Church, we were known as St. Mark's German Reformed Church. While St. Mark's is only 140 years old, we can trace our heritage back all the way back to the early German settlers who celebrated Holy Communion 300 years ago at Falkner Swamp. Since October 15th is a Wednesday, we are going to celebrate our German Reformed heritage with other UCC congregations in Pennsylvania on Sunday, October 12th. The newly formed Keystone Conference has compiled liturgies for the 500+ UCC congregations in Pennsylvania (most of which are German Reformed Churches) that celebrates our heritage which began 300 years ago at Falkner Swamp. I think it is very cool we are going to remember our history together in this way.

I'll be honest, all of this history is inspiring and humbling, but I feel the greatest journey is the journey we are sharing right now. We should always remember and be thankful for where we've been, but the next 300 years is more important than the last 300 years. Over the next 300 years, we can fix the mistakes from the past, while we continue to strive to be the church God has called us to be. And then Lord willing, Christians in the future are going to look back and celebrate what we at St. Mark's are doing right now. So let's follow the lead of our savior and let's create a history that people will remember for many years to come.

The Journey Continues... *Pastor Dave*

If you were not aware, October is Pastor appreciation month. With that in mind, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on how fortunate we are to have Pastor David Jones as our Pastor and Spiritual Leader. We are blessed to have a Pastor who is passionate about our faith the role that Christ and his love play in our lives. In his sermons, Pastor Dave speaks from the heart in delivering a message that is easy to comprehend and inspires us to reflect on our relationship with Christ. Some of my favorite messages that Pastor Dave has delivered to us has been when he is "in character". How blessed we are to be able to experience that.

We have a Pastor that is easily approachable when we have problems or concerns, is a great listener, interacts wonderfully with the children and youth of our church, challenges us with new ideas and ways of thinking, and can relate to the members of our congregation not only as their pastor but also as a friend. If he has one fault, it would be that he roots for the wrong football team.....but we'll forgive him for that.

On Sunday, October 5th, we will be having a potluck lunch after our Sunday service. We have extended an invitation to Pastor Will and his Spanish Church Congregation to join us for lunch that day. I encourage all of you to attend the service that day and stay for lunch, show your appreciation for Pastor Dave, and interact with our brothers and sisters in Christ from the Spanish Congregation that shares our sanctuary on a Sunday.

Respectfully,

Todd Ryland

Report of the Consistory - September 2025

Worldwide Communion Day will be celebrated on Sunday, October 5, 2025, with a luncheon following the service. The Spanish congregation will be invited to dine with the members of St. Mark's prior to their service. The lease for the day care was extended through the end of 2025. Approval was given to the youth/young adults for overnight activities - the fall retreat from November 14-16, 2025, in Cassville, PA, and an overnight sleepover in the church on Friday, December 19, 2025, after the annual cookie baking project. Phase II of the organ repairs have been completed. Phase III repairs will be made in the July/August time frame in 2026. Two additional internet access points need to be installed so the music therapy group and the day care have internet access for their programs. Currently the signal does not extend to the Christian Education building or to the Community Room. The cost will be \$1,540. If a member is willing to sponsor all or part of the cost, they are asked to contact the treasurer or use a special offering envelope. If the cost is split between the two groups and the church, the amount needed for the church's portion would be \$515. Diane Vogel is purchasing and donating two Christmas pencil trees in memory of her husband, Dallas. They will be used in the Sanctuary during the holiday season and will be placed where the Ficus trees are currently located. The Bridge Committee was added to the committee list and will serve as a liaison with all of the rental groups. Todd Ryland, Lucinda Klahr and Rev. David Jones will serve on the committee for St. Mark's.

Child Abuse Required Training

Another year has passed and it's time for that infamous Child Abuse Required Training. While it is something required by the insurance company, last year's bullying training showed us how much society has changed just in the last few years, thus making it more necessary for us to make sure we keep on our toes on protecting our young people. After reviewing many options of how to do the training, the Christian Ed committee is inviting all those that interface with our young people to join in this training.

On Sunday October 12th, we will be sharing the class on "Keeping Your Church Safe". If you attended the September 21st training, you don't need to attend this training. The class will be after church in Fellowship Hall. Pizza will be provided for all participants. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

If you have taken training through another path (i.e. school, hospital, etc), then you just need to share that certificate, so we know you are exempt from needing to attend the training that we are providing. However, you may attend if you so choose. Each video that is provided to us through Praesidium Academy is between 20-30 minutes. In addition to the video, there are discussion items for us to review. Class should take an hour.

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, that doesn't mean you can pass on the training. That means you might have a 1 on 1 class. Please see Kathy Follett for more information on what you need to do.

Please reserve October 12th.

Kid's Team/Youth/Young Adults Corner

Kid's Team

Kid's Team is having an afternoon of pumpkin carving at Pine Acres on October 12th. Time is 2-4 pm with light refreshments. See the signup sheet in the narthex to ensure we have enough pumpkins.

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 next few months of 2025:

Fall Retreat – November 14th-16th in Cassville, PA

Christmas Cookie Baking – Friday December 19th

Game Night – Date TBD

If you hear of a good Christian movie being released in 2025, let Kathy know so we can throw that into the mix.

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

Christian Ed Building Housecleaning

In 1968, Christian Ed building was dedicated. That was 57 years ago. Over those years, many things in the church have changed, but one thing that didn't change was we aren't very good stewards of housecleaning old things and bringing in new things.

Having the Gisell Gonzalez Day Care and WBMT groups rent areas of our building has nudged us to houseclean. While in the winter, we did start by housecleaning the Elementary room, we can now proudly say, the entire second and third floors of the Christian Ed building is well on its way. The new Parlor not only houses the library, but serves the purpose of bell practice room, kid's choir room and a backup children's church room. The nursery has been overhauled and looks great with the housecleaning it received.

As a result, 8 carloads of donations went to Jubilee. 4 trash totes were filled. Two van loads of items were taken to Pine Acres to burn. Two van loads were taken to metal and cardboard/paper recycling. And a "huge" pile is staged to go to auction as soon as that can be coordinated.

The group had the goal to get the Parlor ready for the fall music season and that they did. They are on break until after the holidays. At that time, the Youth Center and the completion of the Parlor/Elementary room will be pursued.

A big shout out to the housecleaning team. Becky Colban, Kathy Follett, Meredith Myers, Marilyn Reppert and Peg Scholl.

Also, a big thank you to Todd and Deb Ryland, Mark and Owen Fox for helping to clean out the Sewing Room downstairs. And Deb Ryland did a great job painting the parlor to get ready for the WB Music Therapy Group.

Mission Corner

WARM Mission Trip News

Mission Sunday to hear and see about the WARM Mission Trip is Sunday **October 26th**. Hope you can join us that day.

Asheville Mission Trip Meeting

After service on Sunday October 26th, we will have an adult only mission trip meeting to discuss whether or not we pursue going back to Asheville, NC. Meeting is in Fellowship Hall.

Non-Mission Trip Mission News

The Community dinners

We are planning a community dinner and a picnic in 2026. Stay tuned for dates and ways to help.

Dinner at the Rescue Mission

December 14th – Our next Sunday evening meal at the Lebanon Rescue Mission

We have two Sundays in 2026 reserved on the Rescue Mission calendar and also are planning a grill night. Stay tuned for those dates.

October – We will once again be doing an outreach to our neighborhoods on Friday October 31st as we participate in the county wide trick or treat night. A bin for candy donations is in the narthex.

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 before we get started at 9:30. We end somewhere between 11:00-11:30. Signup sheets will be in the narthex in December so we know who to look for on those Saturdays. Enter through the Fellowship Hall door. If elevator access is needed, just let us know you're coming.

Save the dates:

January – January 3 and 17

February – February 7 and 21

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

Cyrus Kleiser Mark

Cyrus K. Mark was born in Jonestown in 1824. His father, George, became the High Sheriff of Lebanon County in 1835, and at that time the family moved to Lebanon. Young Cyrus began his business career in the general store of David Bowman across the street from the Old Court House (Eighth & Cumberland Streets). Later he worked in a store in Myerstown until the age of 17. From here he joined his Uncle Shorb who managed Bald Eagle Furnaces.

When the gold rush began in California, Cyrus set sail with full enthusiasm via the Isthmus of Panama. Here he remained for 4 or 5 years prospecting for gold. His efforts were "well rewarded". He returned to Pennsylvania briefly and married Miss Mary McCoy Hoover before moving to Omaha, Nebraska. Shortly thereafter he joined the army and became a Brevet Major serving in the Campaign of the Lower Mississippi.

Later Mr. Mark returned to Pennsylvania and became general manager of the Pinegrove Furnace. After a number of years he again took up residence in Lebanon having interest in the Lebanon Agricultural Work.

Mr. Mark retired to Philadelphia only to go blind in 1891. Two years later he and his wife returned to Lebanon and lived with his sister, Mrs. Eliza C. Goodman which as you remember was St. Mark's first Lady Assistant Superintendent. While here they worshipped at St. Mark's and developed a close friendship with Pastor I. Calvin Fisher.

His last days were spent in the home of his daughter, first in Carlisle and then Lewistown. Here he died in 1899. His last will and testament honored St. Mark's with a bequest of \$5,000, the seed which gave birth to our present church sanctuary.

Dreams to Plans

With the death of Cyrus K. Mark and his bequest of \$5,000, the congregation swung into action in 1899. A canvass was made for subscriptions or pledges to be paid over a three-year period. The drive was successful, and a committee of 15 was appointed to collect the pledges monthly. In the mean time another committee visited new church structures in eastern Pennsylvania. Several architectural plans were reviewed, and on January 9, 1900, the congregation approved the Gothic plans of Abner A. Ritcher of Lebanon. Total construction was to be limited to \$20,000. The Rev. I. Calvin Fisher wanted the debt cleared when the sanctuary was completed!

The total bids were to include the glass windows, pews, pulpit, furniture, heating, chandeliers, and carpeting. These were fixed items; the difference was to be in the type of stone to be used. The following bids were received:

Holmesburg Granite - \$28,500
Port Deposit Granite - \$27,137
Pennsylvania Light Blue Marble - \$25,137
Pink Sandstone - no bid received
Keystone Marble - \$26,338.24
Mt. Gretna Sandstone - \$23,037
Hummelstown Brownstone - \$22,750

The choice was Pennsylvania Light Blue Marble from Schweyer and Liess whose quarries were located at King of Prussia, Montgomery County. Although the bid was \$5,000 over what was authorized, the die was cast, and Rev. Fisher had to accept the debt. In fact he had to accept a lot more since the final project rose to over \$30,000.

Jim Schucker

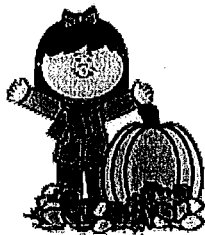
KID'S KORNER

October

WORD SEARCH



A K B T T K F H W B A T H A R
P V B Z T R E A T C Y P I K F
B L T K T G D Y Y I U C H H X
P R J V E C J R V A E Z J G J
R S M S O Y H I P U M P K I N
A F T E D K C D V D U C L Q H
K O P U B Z K E D V A R N O O
E D L E A V E S A G C C O R N
L Z L A P P L E S I R A X C Q
W S V C V W I N D Y F D B O T
I U T B V W O I W M A S K O S
O C T O B E R T C R L A A L M
Y J I O O R C J U E L M E G W
Z C C X P W E K G D X O O D I
U R I X L D N O H S T J V U X



Apples
Bat
Coat
Corn
Fall
Hayride
Leaves

Mask
October
Pumpkin
Rake
Red
Treat
Windy

MANICOTTI AMERICAN STYLE

Ingredients:

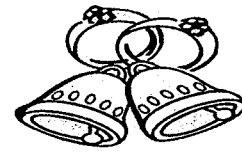
1 lb. ground chuck or sausage meat
1 c. finely chopped onion
½ c. chopped green pepper
12 oz. tomato paste
2 tsp. sugar
2 c. water
1 tsp. oregano leaves

Pepper and salt
6 qt. boiling water
1 (15-16 oz. cottage cheese or Ricotta
2 c. grated Mozzarella cheese
2 Tbsp. chopped parsley
½ c. Parmesan cheese

Directions:

1. In large skillet, cook beef until it loses red color, breaking with spoon as it cooks.
2. Add onion and green pepper; cook until tender. Drain off fat.
3. Stir in tomato paste, 2 cups water, 2 tsp. salt, sugar, oregano and ½ tsp. pepper. Bring to boil. Cover and simmer one hour, stirring occasionally.
4. Bring water to boil, gradually add manicotti and 1 Tbsp. oil to rapidly boiling water, cook uncovered, stirring occasionally until barely tender.
5. Combine cottage cheese, Mozzarella, ½ tsp pepper and parsley, using small spatula or teaspoon to fill shells with cheese mixture.
6. Pour a thin layer of meat sauce in bottom of shallow baking pan and arrange shells side by side in single layer in pan.
7. Cover with remaining sauce. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Bake uncovered in preheated oven at 350 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes.

This recipe is in the St. Mark's U.C.C Mothers Class Recipe Cookbook from Blanche Hummel.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday		Anniversary	
10/2/25	Dale Wise	10/8/25	Barry & Cathy Bossler
10/4/25	Mario Luciotti	10/10/25	Robert & Anita Eby
10/7/25	Timothy Scholl	10/17/25	Edward & Gayle Olden
10/9/25	Emery Myers	10/17/25	Scott & Jen Trovinger
10/10/25	Karen Bennett	10/23/25	Andrew & Kim Shearer
10/13/25	Marjorie Hummel		
10/14/25	Mary Earl		
10/15/25	Chad Ryland		
10/16/25	Nancy Gutwalt		
10/17/25	Kelly Bell		
10/23/25	Austin Lightner		
10/24/25	Linda Waldron		
10/26/25	Joshua Manbeck		
10/28/25	Lillian Schieber		

SENIOR CORNER

Betty Showalter
Cedar Haven Healthcare
590 S. 5th Ave., Room 12, #3C
Lebanon, PA 17042
717-565-2269

Lois Shuey
594 Doris Drive
Lebanon, PA 17046
717-273-5996

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

We are selling Texas Roadhouse gift cards!



Available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 values

(We will earn 10% of the value of each card that is purchased)

Sales begin Sunday, October 12th.

**All orders must be paid in full by
Sunday, November 2nd, or your cards
will not be ordered.**

**Cash or check payable to St. Mark's UCC
will be accepted. Please give your
payment to Dawn Shultz.**

**Cards will be delivered on Sunday,
November 23rd.**

OCTOBER

PRAYER AND EVENTS CALENDAR

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pamela & Thomas Manbeck Bible Study - 10 AM	2 Eva Miller	3 Matthew, Alyssa, & Kira Mills	4 David, Karen, Nathan & Graham Musselwhite
5 Meredith, Sean, Charleigh & Ian Myers Choir Rehearsal - 8:45 AM Worship - 10 AM Pot Luck Luncheon	6 Yvonne, Greg & Emery Myers	7 Heather Noll Bell Rehearsal - 6:30 PM	8 John Null Bible Study - 10 AM	9 Edward & Gayle Olden Spiritual Council - 6:30 PM Consistory Mtg. 7:00 PM	10 Thomas Parry	11 Paul & Kay Peiffer
12 Izayah Raiger Choir Rehearsal - 8:45 AM Worship - 10 AM Child Abuse Training	13 Jonathan & LeTonya Raiger	14 Malachi Raiger Bell Rehearsal - 6:30 PM	15 Robert Raynes Bible Study - 10 AM	16 Marie Reich	17 Michael Reich	18 Marilyn Reppert
19 Bonita & Robert Ressler Worship - 10 AM	20 Jordan Reynolds	21 Lindsey & Jay Reynolds	22 John & Vickie Ristenbatt Bible Study - 10 AM	23 Carol Ruffner	24 J. Scot, Kristy, Riley & Addison Ruffner	25 Shirley Runkel
26 Chad Ryland Worship -10 AM Mission Sunday Asheville Mission Meeting	27 Todd & Debra Ryland	28 Isabella Sandt	29 Lillian Schieber Bible Study - 10 AM	30 LuAnn Schneider	31 Allen & Peg Scholl	