

The ReMarker

DECEMBER 2025

**St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mechanicsburg**

117 West Keller St.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor
Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173
Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager
Karen's Cell Phone: 717-580-7507
Church Office: 717-766-4482
Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

Denise Hirn, Director of Children's Choir
Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064
Email: denisehirn@hotmail.com

Brad Hull, Director of Music
Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795
Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

www.stmarkmburg.com

Visit & like us on Facebook:

St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

"To Know Christ and To Make Him Known"



Dear Siblings in Christ,

Advent is a time of waiting. Most of us just see waiting as a waste of time but God does not. Waiting can be productive. It can also teach us valuable lessons. In fact, there are many who argue that children's imaginations and critical thinking skills are improved when they are bored. There have even been some great discoveries made because of boredom and waiting.

There was a scientist who was once working in creating stronger adhesives. Unfortunately, Dr. Silver created an adhesive that was weak and only lightly bonded with another surface. He struggled and waited to find some type of use for this seemingly useless invention. But a colleague was also struggling with a problem. During his church choir rehearsals, Dr. Art Fry was trying to mark hymns that would be sung on Sunday morning. But all the little scraps of paper would just fall out of the hymnal between Wednesday and Sunday. Then he remembered the adhesive that Spencer Silver had created. According to Post-Its own website, this is how the Post-Its were born!

I know that we long to rush to Christmas. We do not like waiting. But holy waiting is good—it gives us time to reflect. It gives us time to focus on what is most important. It gives us time to prepare for Christ to come into our lives.

May Advent be not a time of unproductive waiting but of hopeful and faithful waiting for Christ to come.

Happy Advent!

Pastor Marleen

Pastor Marleen

OCTOBER 2025 ATTENDANCE



Service Date	8:30 am In-Person	8:30 am Zoom	11:00 am In-Person	YouTube Service
October 5	45	5	5	8
October 12	50	7	3	19
October 19	55	8	7	6
October 26	50	8	5	17

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Advent devotionals are available on the table in the Narthex. Please take one for yourself and one to share with a family member or friend.



LIGHTING OF THE LUMINARIES

The lighting of the Luminaries will begin at **3:15 pm** on Christmas Eve, December 24.

DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:

4:00 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

There will be an early Christmas Eve service inside at **4:00 pm** following the lighting of the luminaries with **special music at 3:45 pm**. This service will include candle lighting but will be a shorter service for children and others who may not be able to attend a longer worship service.

9:30 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

There will be a Christmas Eve candlelight service starting at **9:30 pm** with **special music beginning at 9:00 pm**.

St. Mark will not hold services on Christmas Day. Please watch the bulletins for a list of churches that will conduct worship on Christmas Day.

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH, NEW KINGSTOWN
INVITES YOU TO:

Holden Evening Prayer Service & Soup Supper

ADVENT WEDNESDAYS:
DECEMBER 3, 10, 17

PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 30

717-766-2168



OFFICE@STSTEPHENLC.ORG

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICE AT ST. STEPHEN

Pastor Marleen Griffith-Stull and Pastor Gwenn Trout will lead Holden Evening Prayer Services on Wednesday, **December 3, 10, and 17**, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church with Lynne Immell accompanying on piano. The **services will begin at 6 pm** and will be followed by a **soup supper in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm**. Plan to join us for these opportunities to take the time during this busy season for fellowship and to reflect, revive, and remember the joy of our Savior's birth.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

We recognize that Christmas celebrations are fast approaching. **We are seeking musicians of all kinds to add their talents for Christmas Eve.** There are two opportunities: **3:45-4:00 pm for the early service and 9:00-9:30 pm for the evening service. *GOOD NEWS!*** You can volunteer for both. A simple musical offering of 2 to 3 minutes would be wonderful. Do you feel called to explore this possibility? Or perhaps you could reach out to a friend or family member that is musically inclined?

Please contact Brad at bradleyjhull@gmail.com **no later than December 7** so we can plan repertoire and schedule a rehearsal or two. Additionally, should you be interested in joining the vocal choir to sing at our Christmas Eve service, rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm Please come and join us.



THE TREASURER'S REPORT



CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2025

•	General Operating Fund	\$	10,379.76
•	Capital Expenditures Fund	\$	7.92
•	Designated Gifts		
	Memorial Fund Undesignated	\$	13,689.12
	Fellowship	\$	342.70
	Social Ministry	\$	6,576.60
	Quilting Connection	\$	116.23
	Youth Fund	\$	796.51
	Music Memorial	\$	843.00
	Columbarium	\$	2,669.01
	Noisy Sunday	\$	1,146.46
•	Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$	2,193.29
•	Investment Account	\$	350,879.74
•	WinGS Account	\$	168.92
•	Altar Guild Account	\$	1,717.19

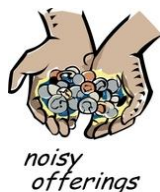
In reference to any financial questions, congregation members should contact Barb Yost, Finance Chairperson and Treasurer, or send an email to: byost@stmarkmburg.com.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will meet on **December 10 at 1:00 pm** in the Finance Office.

NOISY SUNDAY—MAKE SOME NOISE!

We collected \$130.28 during October. December's Noisy Sunday will be held December 28, 2025.

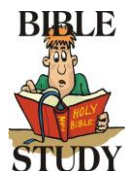


October, 2025	
<u>General Fund - Offering Envelope Information</u>	
YTD 2025 Offerings Needed through 10/31/25 to Meet Our Budget	\$ 162,435.50
YTD Offerings Received through 10/31/25	\$ 152,920.28
Shortage	\$ (9,515.22)
<u>2025 vs 2024 COMPARISON (All Accounts *)</u>	
YTD Deposits through 10/31/25	\$ 223,816.46
YTD Deposits through 10/31/24	\$ 266,585.04
Difference	\$ (42,768.58)
YTD Expenses through 10/31/25	\$ 206,232.98
YTD Expenses through 10/31/24	\$ 260,038.25
Difference	\$ (53,805.27)
<i>* Includes General, Pastor's, Designated Gifts and Capital Appreciation Funds</i>	

The last date that contributions made to the church for 2025 should be received is **no later than Sunday, December 28**. Any monies received after that date will be credited to 2026.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study continues **Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am** in the Parlor on **December 3 and 10** and then resuming **January 7, 2026**. We are continuing our study of Matthew. ALL ARE WELCOME!



JANUARY 2026 REMARKER DEADLINE

Please deliver or email your information and articles for the **January 2026 ReMarker** to the church office **no later than Monday, December 15**.



ENJOY THE MUSIC

From the Choir Loft—

VOCAL AND BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

The bell choir rehearses at **6:00 pm** on **Wednesdays** in the Parlor. The adult choir rehearses at **7:00 pm** on the same evening in Brad's office. Questions should be directed to Brad Hull, Director of Music, (Cell Phone: 202-738-2795) or Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

New singers are always welcome—no experience needed, just a willing heart and a smile.

Looking ahead to Christmas, we are assembling a **children's orchestra** to share prelude music at the **Christmas Eve service** and during the **Christmas Season**. Any children who play a band or orchestra instrument (all levels welcome) are invited to join us. To sign up or ask questions, please contact Denise Hirn at denisehirn@hotmail.com or by phone at 717-802-1064. Sincerely, *Miss Denise*

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

The next Worship and Music Committee will be held on **December 3, at 2:00 pm**, in the Parlor.

A MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP

BE A GOOD STEWARD OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

December is such a busy time of year, and a month that tempts us to lose sight of the profound spiritual importance of the Advent and Christmas seasons.



The best way to stay focused on **keeping Christ in Christmas** is to be good stewards of his presence in our daily lives this Christmas season. Here are simple ways to exercise good stewardship of this sacred time of year:

1. **Give God a very special gift during the Christmas season:** Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about and let it be a sacrifice. Perhaps your gift will be to commit to spending more time with God daily. Perhaps there is a habit you know you should give up. Why wait for a New Year's resolution? Start now!
2. **Set aside a special time after Christmas Day to read the Christmas story in the Gospel of Saint Luke 1:5-56 through 2:1-20 more reflectively:** Consider reading this account with your family and discussing it together.
3. **Keep a crèche up in your home throughout the Christmas season:** Consider having one set that is "kid-proof" which your children are allowed to handle. Kids love to make the Nativity story their own, and they especially love the angels!
4. **Take a group Christmas caroling to a nursing home or a children's hospital:** Get people together after the busyness of the days leading up to Christmas is over. Make it a festive time. Bring the gifts of your joyful smiles and voices to those who may need these gifts.

5. **Give a surprise gift of service to each member of your family:** The idea of giving an unexpected gift of service to members of your family in the days following Christmas reveals your own love and concern for them. You might consider giving your spouse a day away, running an errand for your brother, or cleaning out a closet for your mother. Make it personal and meaningful.
6. **Continue to send Christmas cards and thank you notes that convey a spiritual message:** This is an easy way to share your faith during the Christmas season. Don't just sign your name! Include a personal message with each card. Set aside some time after Christmas Day to write thank you notes and help your children to write thank you notes for the gifts they receive. This is a wonderful habit for a lifetime, and a good way to foster a steward's gratitude for all gifts.
7. **Write a Christmas letter to someone far away such as someone in the service, or perhaps someone working or ministering in a foreign country:** It has been said that receiving a letter when you are far away from home is like opening a priceless gift on Christmas morning, no matter what day of the year. Many people are unable to travel home for the holidays, so it can be a very lonely time for them. Write a special Christmas letter to someone of your choice.

International Catholic Stewardship Council (ICSC) 2025

DECK THE HALLS AND TRIM THE TREES

Come join in the fellowship as we hang the wreaths and decorate the trees for Christmas on **Saturday, December 13, at 9:00 am.** Hoping to see you there!





St Mark Lutheran Church

Christmas Carol Singalong



Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our Christmas Carol Singalong. Sing your way through the neighborhood with us and then gather with family and friends to enjoy the timeless melodies that echo the joy, warmth, and love of the season.

Cookies and cocoa will be served.

AT 03:00 PM

7

DECEMBER

117 West Keller Street, Mechanicsburg, PA
parking and entry in rear alley

www.stmarkmburg.com

NEW HOPE MINISTRIES—HELPING THOSE IN NEED

The Social Ministry Committee designates one Sunday per month to bring items in support of New Hope Ministries food drive. We collected 208 pounds of Thanksgiving food, 48 pounds of pasta, and 3 separate turkeys during the November. Below are the items for December through February:



NOVEMBER 30 for DECEMBER—CHRISTMAS FOOD ITEMS

Turkey or Ham, Potatoes, Stuffing, Canned Yams, Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy, Aluminum Roaster pan, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Boxed Stuffing, Dry Beans, or anything you would like to give.

JANUARY THROUGH FEBRUARY (SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY)

The battle continues again in 2026 between Karen's Team CHICNS (Creating Hope in Chicken Noodle Soup) and Shannon's Super Duper Tomato Soup-ers. Please bring soup in each week and place in the containers or on the football field outside Fellowship Hall.



WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE - WinGS

The WinGS group will meet on **Tuesday, December 9, at 6:30 pm.** The agenda will include filling Christmas bags for the homebound and shut-ins. All women are invited to attend.

BLANKETS, HATS, NEW SOCKS, GLOVES, AND NEW SWEATSHIRTS FOR THE HOMELESS

Bethesda staff advised us that the most needed items, in addition to warm blankets, are **NEW SOCKS and SWEATSHIRTS.** So, watch for the sales, and fill the bin at the rear entrance of the church with lots of new socks and sweatshirts. Thank you!



LADIES AND FRIENDS NIGHT OUT

Take a break from Christmas shopping and join the next Ladies and Friends Night Out Event. It will be held December 11, at 6:15 pm. Location to be announced.



SPONSOR A LUMINARY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

We are offering you the opportunity to sponsor a luminary for \$5.00. Every dollar collected will be donated to Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels. We will place your name on the luminary bag(s) along with the

information you provide. We will begin the lighting of the luminaries at 3:15 pm on Christmas Eve. You are welcome to join us and light the luminaries that you sponsor, or we will light them for you. Worship services will be held at 4:00 pm (special music starting at 3:45 pm) and 9:30 pm (special music starting at 9:00 pm). The order form is located in the back of the weekly bulletins and The ReMarker. Please make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note "luminary sponsor" on the memo line no later than December 14.

HELP WANTED—MECHANICSBURG AREA MEALS ON WHEELS (MAMOW)

Our local MAMOW is in desperate need of volunteers to help prepare meals for their clients. Meals are prepared on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. You will need to be there at 7:30 am. You do not need to make a commitment to go weekly, monthly, etc. They are just looking for additional help. If this is something you feel able to do, please reach out to MAMOW them directly. The phone number is 717-697-5011. Thank you!



WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE (WINGS)—HANDWRITING PROJECT

If you or someone you know needs assistance with writing a handwritten letter or cards, the women of WINGS are here to help. We know how important handwritten letters and cards can be for anyone receiving them or writing them. To make arrangements, please contact Debra Kreiger at debkreiger@hotmail.com or call 717-919-4676.




BOOK CLUB EVENT


The Evangelism Committee is hosting a book club read on **Thursday, January 15, at 1:00 pm** in the parlor. The ***Tortilla Curtain*** is a 1995 novel by American author T.C. Boyle. It is about middle-class values, illegal immigration, xenophobia, poverty, and environmental destruction. In 1997, it was awarded the French Prix Médicis Étranger prize for best foreign novel. It is available through the library, e-bay, Amazon, etc.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please contact Sara Jane Miller at 717-448-4777 or Karen in the church office at 717-766-4482 if you would like to obtain a prayer shawl, blanket, or prayer square to give as a blessing to someone or if you would like to join our wonderful team of crocheters and knitters.



DECEMBER 2025 8:30 AM - Worship Svc.; 11:00 AM- Worship 1 st Sunday of the Month 9:45 AM Sunday Church School and Children's Choir		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
	1 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons	2
7 Second Sunday in Advent 8:30 am-In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc.-Communion 9:45 am-Sunday Church School 9:45 am-Children's Choir 3:00 pm-Neighborhood Caroling 4:00 PM-St. Mark Christmas Caroling 11:00 am-Simple Svc.-Comm. 12:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	8 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons	9 6:30 pm-WinGS
14 Third Sunday in Advent 8:30 am-In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc. 9:45 am-Sunday Church School 9:45 am-Children's Choir 12:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	15 8:00 am-Garden Club 7:00 pm-German Club 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons	16
21 Fourth Sunday in Advent 8:30 am-In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc. 9:45 am-Sunday Church School 9:45 am-Children's Choir 12:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	22 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons 7:00 pm-German Group	23 1:00 pm-Social Ministry 2:00 pm-Fellowship
28 First Sunday of Christmas 8:30 am-In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc.-Comm. 9:45 am-Sunday Church School 9:45 am-Children's Choir 12:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	29 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons 7:00 pm-German Group	30 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 2:00 pm-Violin Lessons 7:00 pm-German Group

DECEMBER 2025 8:30 AM - Worship Svc.; 11:00 AM- Worship 1 st Sunday of the Month 9:45 AM Sunday Church School and Children's Choir			
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 11:00 am-Bible Study 2:00 pm-Worship & Music 3:15 pm-Worship Planning 6:00 pm-Midweek Service & Supper at St. Stephen 6:00 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm-Adult Choir	4 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons	5 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	6 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros
10 11:00 am-Bible Study 1:00 pm-Finance 6:00 pm-Midweek Service & Supper at St. Stephen 6:00 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	11 9:00 am-Property Committee 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons 7:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	12 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons	13 9:00 am-Decorate the church and trim the trees for Christmas 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros
17 11:00 am-Bible Study 6:00 pm-Midweek Service & Supper at St. Stephen 6:00 pm-Bell Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	18 9:00 am-Property 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons 7:00 pm-Church Council 7:00 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros	19 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons	20 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros
24 CHRISTMAS EVE 3:15 pm-Lighting of the Luminaries 3:45-pm-Special Music 4:00 pm-Candlelight Svc. 9:00 pm-Special Music 9:30 pm-Candlelight Svc.	MERRY CHRISTMAS Come let us <i>Adore</i> Him 	26 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons	27 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros
31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S EVE	JANUARY 1, 2026 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 2:30 pm-Violin Lessons	3 6:30 pm-Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT—

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Three individuals from St. Mark were honored with special recognition on November 9 at the Annual Congregation Meeting. Certificates of appreciation were presented to:

Certificate of Appreciation

*St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mechanicsburg acknowledges with heartfelt thanks*

Jacqueline Deck

*for serving as the Altar Guild Treasurer
and Church Money Counter for many years.*

*St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mechanicsburg acknowledges with heartfelt thanks*

Thelma Fissel

*for serving as the Church Historian
and Record Keeper for many years.*

*St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Mechanicsburg acknowledges with heartfelt thanks*

Werner Jonas

*for feeding the community—
both body and soul—for so many years.*

“FAITHFUL FEET” RAISE OVER \$41,000 TO FEED THE POOR!

Nearly 400 neighbors let their feet witness to their compassion for the needy as they walked and jogged in the 2025 Mechanicsburg/West Shore 5K CROP Hunger Walk, held October 19, 2025 at Memorial Park in Mechanicsburg, PA. Together, they raised a record \$40,706 (early data as of end of October and with additional contributions sent the total up over \$41,000) with every penny serving the poor locally through New Hope Ministries and Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels and globally through Church World Service. CONGRATULATIONS walkers & sponsors!

THANKS AGAIN for your participation and your partnership in making a difference in the lives of the needy!

Karen Fisher, Team Captain

Walkers	TEAM NAME	\$ RAISED
6	Camp Hill United Methodist	\$ 1,142.00
7	Crop Walk Planning Committee	\$ 571.40
15	Cumberland Vista and Friends	\$ 1,251.00
0	Grace United Methodist	\$ 151.00
8	Grantham Church B.I.C.	\$ 1,350.00
46	Harrisburg Korean Presbyterian	\$ 1,615.21
11	Hope United Methodist	\$ 145.00
4	Kercher Family	\$ 100.00
7	Landisville Mennonite	\$ 4,543.00
9	Mechanicsburg Church of Brethren	\$ 1,815.00
10	Mechanicsburg Meals on Wheels	\$ 585.00
8	Mechanicsburg Presbyterian	\$ 1,080.00
5	Monaghan Presbyterian	\$ 1,175.00
0	Mt. Olivet United Methodist	\$ 50.00
7	Muddy Waters Anabaptist Comm.	\$ 900.00
0	New Cumberland Walkers	\$ 505.00
20	New Hope Ministries	\$ 1,320.00
18	PA Bible Teaching Fellowship	\$ 375.00
10	Shepherdstown United Methodist	\$ 1,732.00
17	Shiremanstown United Methodist	\$ 1,535.00
14	Silver Spring Presbyterian (CORE)	\$ 460.00
39	Slate Hill Mennonite	\$ 2,128.00
9	St. John's Lutheran	\$ 1,105.00
10	St. Luke's Episcopal	\$ 2,315.00
11	St. Mark Lutheran	\$ 1,285.00
21	St. Peter Lutheran	\$ 2,385.00
9	St. Timothy Lutheran	\$ 995.00
10	Team Bob (LA Fitness Friends)	\$ 1,025.00
14	Team Dept. of Corrections	\$ 516.00
34	The Marketplace at John Gross	\$ 890.00
5	Thrive in Faith	\$ 400.00
11	Trindle Spring Lutheran	\$ 2,295.00
4	VFW Post 7530	
4	Unidentified/Independent	\$ 1,832.00
0	Hoss's Community Day	\$ 1,135.00
395	TOTALS *Preliminary Data	\$40,706.61

**YOU ARE THE BEST—ST. MARK WALKERS,
SPONSORS, & CONTRIBUTORS!**

Mark your calendars for the

2026 Mechanicsburg/West Shore CROP Hunger Walk:

Sunday, October 18, 2026, Memorial Park Mechanicsburg,

To help plan this 100% volunteer effort benefitting our community,
contact: **Ulli Klemm**

ulliklemm@yahoo.com 724.464.8748 (Cell/Text)

THANKS TO OUR YOUNG-AT-HEART MEMBERS



On November 16, Shannon Weaver publicly thanked many of our 80 plus year old members for all the many ways they have contributed and continue to contribute to our ministry at St. Mark Lutheran Church. Some did not wish to be recognized officially but we do want to thank all of our *Young-at-Heart* members. You are each an important part of the Body of Christ and a vital member of our congregation.

We are grateful for the contributions from both of these wonderful women.

Sara Jane Miller

Sara Jane, along with husband Vic, worshipped at St. Mark from 1962 till 1965 when they moved out of the area. They returned to St. Mark in 1971 and have been with St. Mark since then. Vic passed away in March of 2023. Sara Jane participated in Helping Hands. She currently is a member of the Social Ministry Outreach Committee where she is the contact individual for the Prayer Shawl Ministry and the baked goods for Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels (MAMOW). Sara Jane actively participates during the Lenten Bread and Broth meals. She is the treasurer for the Women in God's Service (WinGS) and is an active member of the Fellowship Committee. Sara Jane has taught Sunday School and was also a Bible School teacher. She is active as a member of the Altar Guild, as well as a Lay Reader and Usher.



Beverly Weaver

Bev has been a member of St. Mark since 1973. Three of her grandchildren were baptized at St. Mark. Bev is an active member of the Social Ministry Outreach Committee, where she has made numerous items for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. She actively participates in the kitchen when we have funeral dinners. Bev is also a very active member of the Fellowship Committee where you will find her busy in the kitchen. Bev is a member of the Altar Guild and ushers when called upon. Bev is a former member of the Adult Choir and the Bell Choir. She also worked in the Nursery.



Please be sure and check the January 2026 ReMarker where we will highlight additional *YOUNG AT HEART* members of St. Mark.

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your certificate of appreciation.
I have always enjoyed being a member and
participating at St. Mark.
Jacquelin Deck



Dear Siblings in Christ at St. Mark Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your recent gift of \$100.00 given via Synod Benevolence on October 31, 2025, designated for Unrestricted use. Thank you for partnering in this ministry through your contribution.
*Yours in Christ, Michel Youse, Executive Director
Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania*



If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary to be printed in the ReMarker, please call the church office (717-766-4482) or email the church office at kfisher@stmarkmburg.com with your name and birthday/anniversary. Thank you.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9	Susan Ditmer	20	Brystol Brudowsky
10	Callie Hoover	23	Carol Fencil
11	Deb Murray	25	Arnold Watkins
11	Elliot Thumma	26	Barry Miller
14	Jim Atticks	28	Suzanne Wright
17	Carol Stoltz		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

24 Ed and Amanda Brudowsky

SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers go with Frankie and Keith Hensel and family and Cindy Larkin and family on the death of their brother, James (Jim) Dobbs, Jr., who passed away on November 17, 2025.



All are welcome to join Jim's family at his viewing on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, from 11:00 am until time of service at 12:00 pm at Buhrig Funeral & Cremation, 37 East Main St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055; with Reverend Marleen Griffith-Stull officiating.

[James Ramsey Dobbs, Jr. Obituary November 17, 2025 - Buhrig Funeral Home & Crematory](#)



ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST

DURING WORSHIP SERVICES, due to security issues, we pray out loud the first names only of individuals who have been placed on the prayer list. The full name of the individual is printed in our newsletter, The ReMarker, (see below) and in our weekly bulletins. If you would like to


add OR remove a name on the prayer list, please contact Karen in the church office at **717-766-4482** or e-mail at kfisher@stmarkmburg.com. Thank you.

PRAYER CIRCLE

The names are not automatically placed on the prayer circle and the prayer list. To add a name to the *Prayer Circle*, please contact Bev Reihart at **717-432-3148**.

The Prayer List is cleared quarterly; therefore, will be cleared at the end of December 2025. If you would like an individual to remain on the list, please contact Karen either by email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com or by phone at 717-766-4482. Thank you.

WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS

USHERS		
7 Tina Freidhof, Michele Connor		
14 Shannon Weaver		
21 Ben Yost, Kevin Amos		
24 (4:00 pm) TBA*		
24 (9:30 pm) TBA*		
28 Charles Rusnak, Karen Rusnak		
LAY READER	ASSISTING MINISTER	
7 Scott Kreiger	7 Sean Gimbel	
14 Karen Heath	14 Denise Hirn	
21 Dave Harnish	21 Phyllis Mihalich	
24 (4:00 pm) TBA	24 (4:00 pm) Karen Heath	
24 (9:30 pm) Terri Hopkins	24 (9:30 pm) Alma Gimbel	
28 Matt Yost	28 Tina Freidhof	
ACOLYTE	ALTAR GUILD	
7 Caroline Stull	7 Terry Shaner, Joan Murphy	
14 Brett Hirn	14 Sandy Brown Andrea Sassaman	
21 Audrey Johnston	21 Michele Connor, Phyllis Mihalich	
24 (4:00 pm) Joan Murphy	24 (4:00 pm) TBA	
24 (9:30 pm) Sean Gimbel, Jonas Gimbel	24 (9:30 pm) TBA	
28 Katie Stull	28 Sara Jane Miller, Joan Murphy	
OFFERING DUTY-DECEMBER Terry Shaner		

***We are in need of ushers for both Christmas Eve Services. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Shannon Weaver at 717-691-1618.**

Holiday Hours...



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed from Christmas Day, December 25, 2025, through January 5, 2026. Pastor Marleen will be available for pastoral care/emergencies. You may reach her at (878) 295-2173.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a **BLESSED NEW YEAR**

DECEMBER ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS

December 7	Altar Greens to the Glory of God by the Altar Guild
December 14	Altar Greens to the Glory of God by the Altar Guild
December 21	Altar Greens to the Glory of God by the Altar Guild
December 24	Poinsettia Sponsors
December 28	Poinsettia Sponsors

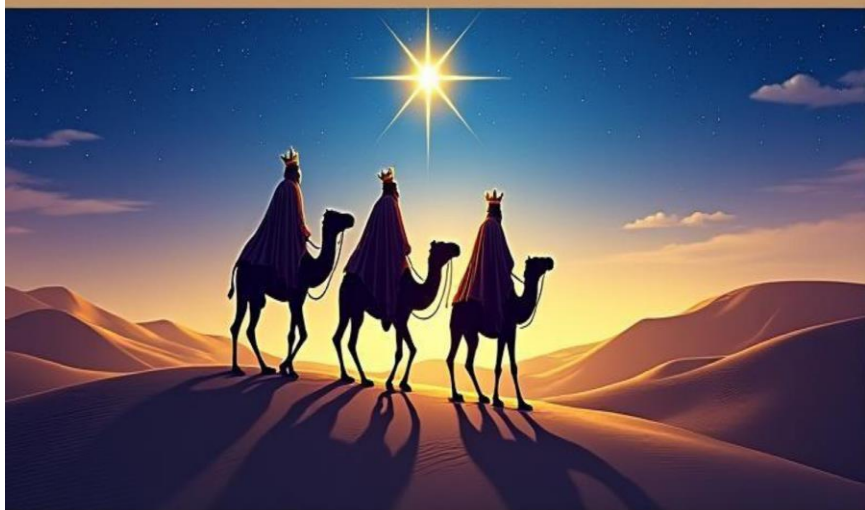
UN-DECK THE HALLS

What goes up must come down. Join us on **January 11, 2026 at 9:00 am** as we take down the Christmas decorations.

Join Us for an Epiphany Service

St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mechanicsburg

117 West Keller Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



Tuesday, January 6, 2026
Service with Holy Communion
beginning at 7:00 p.m.



Come Early and Join Us for a
Taco Tuesday Dinner
at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
RSVP for Dinner by calling (717) 766-4482 before Dec. 31st.

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

ROLLER SKATING PARTY



Monday, February 2, 2026

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Olympic Skating Center

60 E Shady Ln, Enola, PA 17025

Bring your friends!

**Admission covered by St. Mark Youth &
Family Ministry Committee**

Snack bar available. Roller skates and in-line skates for rent

-WORD SEARCH-



OH HOLY NIGHT

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

ANGEL
ANIMALS
BABY
BETHLEHEM
DONKEY
FRANKINCENSE

GIFTS
GOLD
JESUS
JOSEPH
MANGER
MARY

MYRRH
PEACE
SAVIOR
SHEPHERD
STAR
WISE MEN



**SPONSOR A LUMINARY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2025**



We are offering you the opportunity to **sponsor a luminary for \$5.00**. Every dollar collected will be donated to Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels.

We will place your name on the luminary bag(s) along with the information you provide below.

We will begin the lighting of the luminaries at 3:15 pm on Christmas Eve. You are welcome to join us and light the luminaries that you sponsor, or we will light them for you. Worship services will be held at 4:00 pm (special music starting at 3:45 pm) and 9:30 pm (special music starting at 9:00 pm).

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOXES

Total number of luminaries sponsored _____

☐ I will come and help light luminaries at 3:15 pm.

☐ In honor of _____

☐ In memory of _____

☐ To the Glory of God

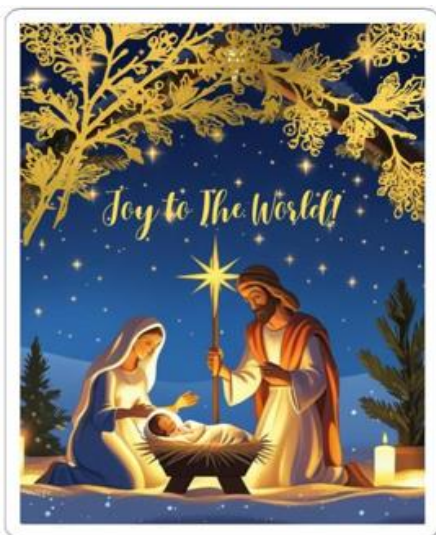
Sponsored by _____

Check amount _____

Please make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note “luminary sponsor” on the memo line no later than December 14.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 7	Christmas Caroling for Neighbors-3:00 pm
December 7	Christmas Carol Sing with cookies and cocoa in Fellowship Hall-4:00 pm
December 13	Decorate the church for Christmas
December 24	Christmas Eve Services & Lighting of the Luminaries
January 2026	Soup-er Bowl Begins
January 6	Epiphany Day Taco Tues - 6:00 pm
January 6	Epiphany Day Service - 7:00 pm
January 15	Book Club Event - <i>The Tortilla Curtain</i>
February 2	Roller Skating Event - Olympic Skating Center
February 18	Ash Wednesday
February 25	Bread and Broth Begins
February 25	Lenten Service



From all the Staff at
St. Mark Evangelical
Lutheran Church
of Mechanicsburg,

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR!