



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

ReMarks and ReMindors

April 1, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RUSS

Update on in-person worship:

As you've all heard by now, St. Mark's is in the process of resuming in-person worship. For the time being, we're not going to be able to gather in person in the sanctuary, because of the increased risk of spreading COVID-19 that large indoor gatherings of people carry with them. Instead, we'll be meeting in the courtyard, with safety precautions in place. As an alternative (or in case of rain), we'll be continuing to broadcast the service over the radio so you can worship with us from your car in the parking lot, as well as over the Internet so you'll be able to worship with us at home.

In order to help ensure the least possible risk of transmission from those courtyard gatherings, we'll be taking several precautions: masks are required, worshipers are asked to maintain six feet of physical distancing, and we're asking that singing be done only by the song leaders at the present time.

I know that singing is a very significant part of worship for many people, and I know that it's a huge part of the way that a lot of people (especially Lutheran people) find connection with God in worship. I long for the day that we'll be able to return to worship and all raise our voices together in song. Unfortunately, the current guidance on COVID safety is that since singing involves moving more air through a person's lungs, it carries a higher risk of transmission than speech does. Because of that, out of love for our fellow people, as we gather for worship right now, our songs will have to be sung by a few on behalf of us all. As the pandemic progresses, and if the guidance on singing is updated, I'll let you all know. Until then, if you have any questions or concerns, I'd be glad to meet with you and talk about them.

In Christ,
Pastor Russ

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

The service tonight for Maundy Thursday will be available on our website. That is www.stmarkspennsburg You will also be able to access a bulletin for the service there as well.

The Good Friday Stations of the Cross will be held at 12 Noon. You can begin at New Goshenhoppen UCC church, the St. Phillip Neri Family Life Center, or the Pennsburg UCC church. This will conclude at the front steps of St. Mark's. When all have assembled, (at or about 1PM) Pastor Russ will hold a service of word and prayer. This service will be held outside on the front steps and will take the place of the evening service.

Easter Sunday will begin with a sunrise service at the cemetery. Then at 10:15AM we will hold our Easter worship service in the courtyard and/or the parking lot. If you choose to remain in your car, please tune to 99.3 FM. Holy Communion will be offered in both the courtyard and in the parking lot.

CELEBRATIONS

Esther Arner will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 4th – Easter Sunday! If you wish to send her birthday greetings, her address is: 128 Five Points Road, Macungie, PA 18062. Or if you wish to call: 215-679-4817.

Helene & Willard Long will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on April 7th! If you wish to shower them with congratulations, you can send a card or note to them at 160 Washington Street, Red Hill PA 18076. You can also call them at 215-679-2172.

CAN YOU HELP?

Caring Ministries is organizing meals for Charlie and his brother Tom. This will be once a week, probably Wednesday, and continue indefinitely. If you would like to contribute a meal, please contact Harriet Rapine at hmrp11@gmail.com or call her at 215-679-8844. We can arrange for “contactless” drop off if you would like.

HELP WANTED

St. Mark's Cemetery has an open position for part-time help. They need someone to help with weeding and able to use a weed-whacker. If you are interested, please contact Charlie Schultz – our cemetery caretaker – for more information. His phone number is: 610-462-8284.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- April 4th: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:30 – ish (will advise)
Easter Sunday Worship 10:15AM Courtyard / parking lot
- April 13th: Outreach Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM
- April 16th: Outreach is planning a virtual cooking night! Sounds like fun!
- April 20th: Worship Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM

The Outreach Committee is planning to hold a virtual pizza baking night on April 16th. The master chefs are Donna & Jeff Ney. As soon as I get the list of ingredients, I will send them to you. There will be games to play while the pizza is baking. The fun all starts at 6PM.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The adult bible study group meets every Sunday at 8:30AM via Zoom. Please note the new time. They are beginning a new book entitled Call In the New Testament. If you like to listen, like to learn, like to share then this is the group for you. Please contact Deb at Debra.reed588@comcast.net ~ she will send you the zoom link to use.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Marilyn Donis, Randy Dotter, Andrew Erb, Renae Fosbenner, Charlie Greulich, Marie Grubb, David Haines, Harold Hieter, Marie Jones, Dennis Laubach, Steve Law, Barbara Lehmann, Pat Matthews, Kenneth Miller, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski, Lenny Rafalko June Reigner, Mary Jane Schaeffer and Charlene Wilson.

Please call or email me with any changes or additions. The church office phone is 215-679-9015. Email address is: stmarks@stmarkspennsburg.com