



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

ReMarks and ReMindørs

May 26, 2021

CAR WASH – THIS SATURDAY

St. Mark's Youth Outreach Group is holding a car wash in our parking lot. It's Saturday, May 29th (rain date Monday, May 31st) from 10AM to 1PM.

They want to get involved in outreach programs to help others. They have been meeting for a few weeks now brainstorming ways they can reach out in our community. To get started, and to raise funds to begin, they are holding this car wash. They are "Raising Funds For A Reason". Please help support them!

THE NEWS WE HAVE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!

A message from Pastor Russ:

Indoor worship!

After considering the updated guidelines on COVID safety from the CDC and from the PA Department of Health, Worship and Music Committee and the Congregation Council have decided that, starting on Sunday, June 6, we'll be gathering for worship in person, and inside, in the sanctuary. While we'll still be taking some precautions to help minimize the chance of spreading COVID-19 in the event that someone who's not yet able to be vaccinated is in worship, this marks a major turning point in our response to the pandemic, and it's exciting to be able to gather in the sanctuary again.

In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, we're going to be observing the following precautions:

- For the sake of those who are not yet able to be vaccinated, masks will be required for all worshipers and worship leaders, regardless of vaccination status. In the book of First Corinthians, St. Paul cautions the Christians in Corinth about drawing distinctions between members of their churches, reminding them that we're all part of one Body of Christ, and saying "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." Although many of our congregation are fully vaccinated, some of us aren't yet able to be, for any number of reasons. For the sake of those members of the Body of Christ who aren't yet able to be vaccinated, we'll continue to wear face coverings when we gather for worship as a sign of our unity in Christ. (When receiving Holy

Communion, masks will need to be removed, at least temporarily. We ask that you remove your mask, receive Communion, and then put your mask back on.)

- We'll also be maintaining six-foot spacing between individuals who aren't from the same household, as much as is practical, and while we will be able to sing during worship (which is in part due to the additional coverage that masks provide), we won't be singing as often or for as long as we have done in the past.
- We'll be running the ventilation system and having all the windows open, in order to provide as much ventilation as possible.

In addition, there are several precautions that we'll no longer need to take. Those include:

- There is no need to pre-register or to notify the office that you'll be attending.
- All the entrance doors are going to be reopened.
- Hymnals and Bibles will be returned to their places in the pews.
- We'll be able to sing in worship, albeit quietly and with our masks on.

Worship and Music and Council will both be meeting regularly over the summer to evaluate how things are going and to make further determinations about how to work things going forward. If you have any questions or concerns about our worship or about our COVID-19 response, please feel free to let Pastor Russ know; I'd be glad to hear what you have to say. I'm looking forward to being able to gather for worship in our sanctuary, and I'm hopeful that as we do, we'll be able to continue to work to keep our members as safe as possible

MAY 30TH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We are holding worship service this Sunday at 10:15 AM in the courtyard. In case of rain, or if you wish to remain in your car, this service will also be transmitted through your car radio. Just tune in to 99.3 FM.

Holy Communion will be offered both in the courtyard and to those remaining in their car. Please sign and date the insert in the bulletin so we can keep communion records current. Thanks!

MEMORIAL DAY

Flags have been placed on the graves of veterans who have been buried in our cemetery. There will be a booklet listing the names of these veterans available at the worship service this Sunday. The church office will be closed on Monday, May 31st. If you have an immediate need to speak with Pastor Russ, he can be reached at 267-834-5227.

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Are you interested in learning and participating in discussion of the myriad matters that come before Church Council? Projects, maintenance, community, worship, stewardship, finance, direction, and the list goes on. There's something for every interest! Church Council has openings which need to be filled. Please contact a current Council member or call the church office (215-679-9015) We would love to speak with you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 6th ~ Indoor worship service at 10:15AM

June 11th – we are holding a Friday Fun Night! It runs from 6:00 PM to 8:00PM. There will be stations of fun and crafty things to do (no previous experience needed!) and there will be ice cream and toppings to create a delicious dessert! A great way to kick off the summer season! Hope you join us! To be sure we have adequate supplies on hand, please call or email the church office and let us know you are planning to attend. Thanks!

June 21st – Make Music Upper Perk is back! This year, the music will be all outdoors. There are 13 venues hosting music throughout the day. St. Mark's will be hosting The Red Hill Band! They will be playing at the gazebo at 7:30PM. Hope you can stop by – a great way to spend a summer evening! To find out the musicians and schedule for the whole day, go to ValleyArtScene@wordpress.com

GRAB & GO SUMMER MEALS

The Open Link is again providing Grab & Go Meals this summer. The program runs from June 14 to August 20. It's for all kids 18 and under – the meals are **free**, no registration or ID required. The food will be available at 5 locations:

Mondays & Thursdays: Treichler's Mill Park, Hereford @ 11:30 – 12 Noon
Bieler Park, East Greenville @ 12:15 – 12:45 PM

Tuesdays & Fridays: Pennsburg Commons, Pennsburg @ 11:30 – 11:55AM
Hope Valley Church, Red Hill @ 12 Noon – 12:25 PM
Isaac Smith Park, Green Lane @ 12:30 – 1 PM

Each child gets 2 breakfasts + 2 lunch meals each time. Service is available as either drive-thru or walk-up. Last year The Open Link served over 5,000 meals during their summer lunch program. They are looking forward to serving all kids again this year!

CEMETERY NEWS

The Cemetery Committee would like to remind you that planting is not allowed in the cemetery. If you have planted flowers, please arrange to remove them. Plantings make it difficult for cemetery upkeep. Thanks for your help with this.

SPEAKING OF PLANTS

There are some geranium plants that have not yet been picked up by you. If you have ordered a plant or two for Pentecost and have not taken yours home, please try to do so by this Sunday.

HEAVENLY HELPERS HOAGIE ORDERS

The Heavenly Helpers (a.k.a. The Mission Team) will be holding a hoagie sale fundraiser each month through September. We just enjoyed their May hoagie sale and now it's time to think about June. One thing that was discovered in the May order was that the price of meat has gone up. That means Heavenly Helpers has to increase the cost of hoagies – something they have not had to do in the last 4 years. They hope you will continue to support their efforts to help others. The form for ordering will be at the end of this issue.

THE BELL

Every week the mail brings in a few more pledges and donations designated for The Bell. Church Council thanks you for your response to our capital campaign. We understand that this is quite an undertaking. Every donation helps. You will be helping make St. Mark's Bell ring once again!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible Study group meets every Sunday at 8:30AM via Zoom. Please note the new time. 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.

CALLING ALL COOKS

Caring Ministries continues to organize meals for Charlie and his brother Tom. They are enjoying the delicious dinners you are providing! If you would like to contribute a meal, please contact Harriet Rapine at hmrp11@gmail.com or call her at 215-679-8844. From what I hear, the menu is wide open! They like all kinds of food!

IN OTHER NEWS

Palm Schwenkfelder Church is looking to hire an Assistant Preschool Teacher. More information is available on their website: palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

Penn Foundation is holding a job fair for clinical and administrative positions on June 3 from 2 to 6PM in Sellersville.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Buddy Allen, Elsie Antonio, Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Wilbert Derr, Jr., Marilyn Donis, Randy Dotter, Andrew Erb, Renae Fosbenner, Charlie Greulich, Marie Grubb, John Gruver, 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 the church office (215-679-9015) with any changes/additions.

HOAGIE ORDER

Name _____ Phone _____

Turkey \$8.00 each #w/onion _____ # NO onion _____ # Pepper sides _____

Italian \$7.00 each #w/onion _____ # NO onion _____ # Pepper sides _____

Total # Hoagies _____ TOTAL \$ _____ included or pay at pick up (circle)

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING 6/10/21 PICK UP: Thursday, 6/17/21