



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

ReMarks and ReMindors

December 22, 2021

CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST HERE!

Are you ready? Have you decided which Christmas Eve service you will attend? The church will look so festive with all the poinsettias. The music will be wonderful! And the story of that first Christmas Eve night is new every year – it never gets old no matter how many times, or how many years, you have heard it. Christmas hymns resound the story each time you hear them. So come and behold. Come be filled with Christmas spirit. Come and hear, come and sing! But just to be sure we keep the well-being of all in mind, you are once again being asked to wear a mask. For the sake of all. Hmm, isn't that Christmas?

YOUTH OUTREACH

Attention Youth Group: You are needed to help set out and take in luminaries on Friday. And don't forget, Wednesday, Dec. 29th, you will be meeting here at church at 4:00PM for your Christmas celebration and trip to the zoo. Please note that the time has been changed to 4PM

OUTREACH

The Twelve Days of Christmas Donations was a great success! Donations were received from you – St. Mark's church family – and also from people in the community who saw the advertisement in Town & Country and NexZest. There was a group of people who call themselves The Christmas Network and once a year pool their funds and shop for a worthy cause. This year they chose The Twelve Days. The donations received in total just about filled up the multi-purpose room. Grouping like items to keep this from being way too long to read, here is what was received and is in the process of being distributed:

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|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 372 containers of toiletry items | 121 Cereal / breakfast items |
| 180 paper towels | 144 rolls of toilet paper |
| 91 boxes tissues | 34 bags of cough drops |
| 41 containers of laundry detergent | 20 boxes dryer sheets |
| 133 containers cleaners/wipes/spray | 49 coats |
| 79 hats | 72 pairs of gloves |
| 196 pairs of socks | 51 scarves |
| 53 packs of diapers | 50 packs of baby wipes |
| 55 containers baby formula/baby food | \$245 gift cards for The Open Link |

On top of all that, there were numerous pairs of pajamas that were included in the Elf Bags (PJ Project) and \$25 in gift cards for The Well. All items received will be distributed to The Open Link, The Well, PJ Project, Safe Berks, and the coats were delivered to the Clothing Closet at St. Luke's in Allentown..

This amazing donation drive helps so many people. Thank you to YOU for all you have given. Thank you to all the people in Outreach who organize this. If you are interested in joining Outreach activities, please contact Becky Folk at 610-391-0153.

THINGS TO KNOW

There will be only one service on Sunday, December 26. It's at 10:15AM. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study will resume on January 2nd.

The annual winter Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mark's will take place on Tuesday, Jan 4th from 2:00PM to 7:00PM. It's never too early or late to schedule your donation time. New donors are welcome and needed! Please contact Maribeth Reigner at 215-679-8563. A few minutes from you can be worth a lifetime to a recipient. Thanks!

The flower chart for 2022 is hanging in the narthex. Please take a minute to check that the information already filled in is correct. This information was taken from the 2020 chart. If any changes need to be made, please contact Bonnie at 215-280-4861. There are quite a few open dates if you would like to sponsor altar flowers. Just fill in the date you wish or call Bonnie.

Did you notice the floor when you were in church? A few weeks ago, Charlie Schultz took on the challenge of matching old floor with new stain or varnish. In the places where the pews were shortened and along the front pews. Now it all looks great! Thanks, Charlie!

There's a photo of our tree and a manger scene ornament at the end of this.

We are receiving many calls and cards thanking us for the fruit baskets. Heartfelt thanks expressing how much your thoughtfulness meant to them. Thank you to all who made this possible – from your donations to the people who delivered the baskets last Saturday – you have made the holidays bright and cheery!

Harold Hieter has moved to Phoebe Richland – Meadow Glen Room 232, 108 South Main Street, Richlandtown, PA 18955. His daughter, Sue, said he will be there for the foreseeable future. Harold's new phone # is 267-371-4972. He

would love to hear from you!

The Thrift Shop on 4th Street in Pennsburg is in need of volunteers. Stop in or call Fred at 215-679-6555 if you can help with moving items, pricing, etc.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Elsie Antonio, Ed Bieler, Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Barbara Diehl, Marilyn Donis, Andrew Erb, Marie Grubb, John Gruver, David Haines, Peggy Haines, Harold Hieter, Lisa Krause, Mitchell Kulp, Marie Jones, Dennis Laubach, Barbara Lehmann, Pat Matthews, Kenneth Miller, Thomas Mohr, Sylvie Moll-Peugh, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski, Lenny Rafalko June Reigner, Mary Jane Schaeffer, Patsy Wampole and Charlene Wilson.

Please call the church office (215-679-9015) with any changes/additions.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!