

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Publisher
Church mouse

Issue Number
114

Date
November 2020

Reminder: Masks /
face shields are required for
everyone's safety.

Please Note: The **second**
and last Sunday of each
month attendees will be
required to wear their mask /
face shield during the **entire**
worship service.

Upcoming Events

Mon., Nov. 16th – 6:00 p.m. – Church
Council Mtg.

Council Members:

President – Diane France
Vice President – Georgia VanDyke
Secretary - Lori Roney
Treasurer - Debbie Palmatier
Members - Jim Brigadier, Lisa
Bartholomew and Deb Roberts

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Thought for the Day:

While it looks like things are out of
control, behind the scenes is a God
who has not surrendered his
authority.

- AW Tozer

Prayers Concerns

Family of Richard Harty
Family of John Jens
Family of Christina Porter
Family of Latrelle Alotta
Family of Sharon Fancher
Family of Jim Marquit
Family of Duane Kennedy
Joe Cooper
Steven Brooks
Tim Gordon
Jim Crowell
Janet Abrams
Mike Keller & Emilie Engle

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

IT WAS THE VETERAN

NOT THE REPORTER,

WHO GAVE US FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

IT WAS THE VETERAN

NOT THE POET

WHO GAVE US FREEDOM OF SPEECH

IT WAS THE VETERAN

NOT THE CAMPUS ORGANIZER,

WHO GAVE US FREEDOM TO DEMONSTRATE

IT WAS THE VETERAN

WHO SALUTES THE FLAG,

WHO SERVED BENEATH THE FLAG

AND WHOSE COFFIN IS DRAPED BY THE FLAG

IF YOU LOVE YOUR FREEDOM

Mad World News

THANK A VET!

The Year That Is

One day we will look back and call this the year that was. For now it is our reality and the challenges, the inconveniences, and the pain are very real. It has greatly affected our work life, our social life, our family life, and our worship life. We have had to cancel or alter many important events in each of these areas of our lives. Even with the benefit of technology which allows us to stay in touch through live streaming of video and/or audio, texting, e-mailing or telephoning, we can still feel empty inside, missing the connectivity we were used to. Can we even imagine what our lives would be like if we were back in the day when there was only telephones or "snail mail" as it is referred to these days? The most popular question these days seems to be "When?" When will this be over? When will we get back to normal? What will normal be for us when we look back and remember the year that was?

I wonder if in all of the hurriedness of our lives if we have lost the quality of patience. Have we lost the desire to be in the moment? To find joy and contentment in where we are and with what we have? To wait in the expectancy of what we desire to be our normal again? To wait on the Lord? Isaiah 40:31 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. Our ability this year to gather together and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord was impaired by this current pandemic and the way we celebrate the birth of our savior will be as well. This year we have suffered in many ways yet we are not, and must not feel defeated. We must remain strong, unified in one faith, one baptism, and one body...the body of Christ. We must not grow weary in supporting our church with our presence (as we are able to while adhering to the guidelines of the day), our prayers, and the offerings of our time, our talents, and our gifts. We must continue to fulfill the missions and ministries that we are blessed to be able to do. We must do so with great courage. Psalms 27:14 Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

Let us not feel severed or cut off from each other and the body of Christ. Let us use the resources available to stay connected, whether it be through technologies of today, the methods that still survive the test of time (phone calls, cards, and letters), or in person as we are able. Let us remember all that we have to be thankful for each day and on that special day we celebrate with great Thanksgiving later this month. Let us also look forward with expectant hearts to our celebration next month of when "Love came down at Christmas". Wherever you find yourself on these upcoming days which are special in our lives and our faith, may you be filled with hope and love for we are never alone; the Lord is with us always and has a plan for our lives. Yes, it is good to wait, to wait on the Lord for He is good. Lamentations 3:26 It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

May the good Lord bless and keep you, whether near or far away, May you find that long awaited, Golden day today. AMEN

May you have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, a bright and Merry Christmas, a hope filled and joy filled Happy New Year.

In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave and Melody

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

November Birthdays:

Karen Berkheimer	Nov. 2
Deb Roberts	Nov. 11
Karen VanDyke	Nov. 12
Bonnie Morton	Nov. 13
Michelle Nespica	Nov. 28
Ron Lower	Nov. 28
Ethel Cater	Nov. 29

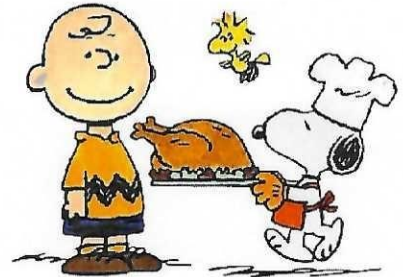
November Anniversaries:

Ted / Ellen Langenbahn	Nov. 10
Russ / Barb Elder	Nov. 23

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Our lifestyle may now be a little different due to the pandemic; however, this situation cannot hinder us from blessing others through our outreach programs. As Christmas approaches, let's remember the WAEM's Native American children and elders by prayerfully making a donation of a **Walmart** and/or **Target gift card** in any denomination to be used by Pastors Lori and Gary to provide Christmas gifts for them. **Please place your gift in a collection box at St. Mark's sanctuary no later than November 29th.** Thank you for your generosity in making their Christmas more joyful.



Thanksgiving is the time of year when we pause to express our gratitude to God for His many blessings. As in past, Joshua Project is offering us the opportunity to share our blessings with others through non-perishable goods and/or monetary donations to be used for their Thanksgiving Basket Program. The food items needed are:

Instant potatoes
Cranberry sauce
Applesauce
Canned gravy
Canned vegetables
Boxed stuffing mix
Canned yams

If you would like to help provide a delicious Thanksgiving dinner for others, **please bring your donations to St. Mark's no later than Sunday, November 15th.**

God bless you!

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Servers for Nov.

Nov. 1st:

Reader – Sandi
Prayer – Carolyn
Counter – Diane

Nov. 8th:

Reader – Georgia
Prayer – Georgia
Counter – Carrie

Nov. 15th:

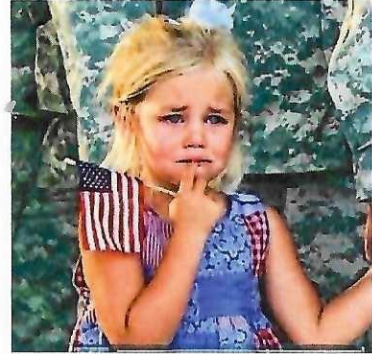
Reader – Nannette
Prayer – Ron
Counter – Sharon N.

Nov. 22nd:

Reader – Peter
Prayer – Cheryl
Counter – Diane

Nov. 29th:

Reader – Deb B.
Prayer – Deb B.
Counter – Carrie



Her hair was up in a ponytail,
her favorite dress tied with a bow.
Today was Daddy's Day at school,
and she couldn't wait to go.
But her mommy tried to tell her,
that she probably should stay home.
Why the kids might not understand,
if she went to school alone.
But she was not afraid;
she knew just what to say.
What to tell her classmates
of why he wasn't there today.
But still her mother worried,
for her to face this day alone.
And that was why once again,
she tried to keep her daughter home.
But the little girl went to school
eager to tell them all,
About a dad she never sees,
a dad who never calls.
There were daddies along the wall in back,
for everyone to meet.
Children squirming impatiently,
anxious in their seats.
One by one the teacher called
a student from the class,
to introduce their daddy,
as seconds slowly passed.
At last the teacher called her name,
every child turned to stare,
Each of them was searching,
a man who wasn't there.

(Cont'd on next page)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

'Where's her daddy at?'
she heard a boy call out.
'She probably doesn't have one,'
another student dared to shout.
And from somewhere near the back,
she heard a daddy say,
'Looks like another deadbeat dad,
too busy to waste his day.'
The words did not offend her,
as she smiled up at her Mom,
And looked back at her teacher,
who told her to go on.
And with hands behind her back,
slowly she began to speak.
And out from the mouth of a child,
came words incredibly unique.
'My Daddy couldn't be here,
because he lives so far away.
But I know he wishes he could be,
since this is such a special day.
And though you cannot meet him,
I wanted you to know,
All about my daddy,
and how much he loves me so.
He loved to tell me stories,
he taught me to ride my bike,
And he surprised me with pink roses,
and taught me to fly a kite.
We used to share fudge sundaes,
and ice cream in a cone,
And though you cannot see him,
I'm not standing here alone.
'Cause my daddy's always with me,
even though we are apart,
I know because he told me,
he'll forever be in my heart.
'With that, her little hand reached up,
and lay across her chest,
Feeling her own heartbeat,
beneath her favorite dress.
And from somewhere here in the crowd of
dads,
her mother stood in tears,
Proudly watching her daughter,
who was wise beyond her years.

She stood up for the love of
a man not in her life,
Doing what was best for her,
doing what was right.
And when she dropped her hand back down,
staring straight into the crowd,
She finished with a voice so soft,
but its message clear and loud.
'I love my daddy very much,
he's my shining star,
And if he could, he'd be here,
but heaven's just too far.
You see he is a soldier
and died just this past year,
When a roadside bomb hit his convoy
and taught the world to fear.
But sometimes when I close my eyes,
it's like he never went away.'
And then she closed her eyes,
and saw him there that day.
And to her mother's amazement,
she witnessed with surprise.
A room full of daddies and children,
all starting to close their eyes.
Who knows what they saw before them,
who knows what they felt inside.
Perhaps for merely a second,
they saw him at her side.
'I know you're with me Daddy,'
to the silence she called out.
And what happened next made believers,
of those once filled with doubt.
Not one in that room could explain it,
for each of their eyes had been closed.
But there on the desk beside her,
was a fragrant long-stemmed rose.
And a child was blessed, if only for a moment,
by the love of her shining star.
And given the gift of believing,
that heaven is never too far.





EMPTY BOWLS SCHOHARIE COUNTY

It's Souper Easy to Participate in Empty Bowls
2020: it's a to-go event this year!

Sunday, November 15

at Cobleskill-Richmondville High School
starts at 11am

ORDER YOUR SOUP + BOWLS ONLINE

Please place your order for bowls, soups, ice cream sundae kits on our website (emptybowlschoharie.org), and choose a time slot to pick up your order at the event on November 15. The sooner you order, the more choices of soups you will have!

PICKUP YOUR ORDER AT THE EVENT

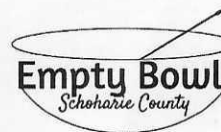
A volunteer will check your order receipt when you arrive. You will be able to walk through the line to choose your bowls. Your soups/ice cream will be waiting for you at the end of the line.

Remember to wear a mask and bring a box to carry home your soups/bowls. All state laws relating to COVID will be strictly followed.

QUESTIONS?

Email us at emptybowlsschoharie@gmail.com.

Thanks to all our restaurants who donated soup, community members who donated bowls, The Sterling Foundation, The Cobleskill Partnership, Inc., The Fusion Community Church, and The Studio for Art and Craft.





Spirit Broadcasting

Grace and Peace.

We are excited to announce the recent launching of ***Spirit Broadcasting, Inc.*** in the beautiful Upstate New York area. The Mission of ***Spirit Broadcasting, Inc.*** is to provide Christ-centered television of high technical quality and programming excellence to uplift, unite, educate, challenge, and encourage viewers in a manner consistent with the teachings of God's Word.

Our mission provides the solid foundation upon which our vision rests. ***Spirit Broadcasting, Inc.*** strives to:

- Communicate the redemptive love of Jesus Christ through an authentic Christian witness.
- Strengthen new Christians through programming which assists in the discipleship process.
- Edify and educate all Christians to deepen their faith in Jesus Christ and expand their knowledge of God's Word.
- Comfort and encourage all people in need.
- Encourage racial and ethnic reconciliation in the community.
- Offer corporate and individual worship opportunities.
- Inform and educate viewers about Christian ministries and outreach efforts worldwide.
- Produce local general-interest, public-service, and public-affairs programming.
- Unify believers in Jesus Christ while strengthening local churches.

Spirit Broadcasting, Inc. is committed to bringing powerful, anointed national and local programming to our viewers via the following:

- WUCB 32.1 - Cornerstone Television and Local Programming
- WUCB 32.2 - Daystar
- WUCB 32.3 - Preach the Word
- WUCB 32.4 - Sonlife
- WUCB 32.5 - Spirit TV
- MIDTEL - channel 147 - Cornerstone and Local Programming

Spirit Broadcasting, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We look forward to providing quality broadcast services to local churches and other organizations within the faith community. We also look forward to meeting with you to discuss your ministry goals as well as further details regarding our services.

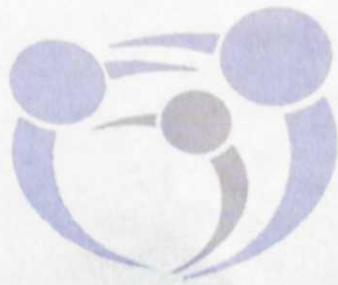
Spirit Broadcasting, Inc. is committed to bringing anointed preaching, teaching and music to Upstate New York and beyond.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Lent

Director of Operations

mlent@spiritbroadcastingtv.com



Open Arms
Recovery Resource Center

(The Living Room— 289 Main Street, Schoharie)

CONFIDENTIAL - NO PAPERWORK - NO INTAKE FORMS – NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

OPEN TO ALL: INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS.
Help and information regarding addiction and recovery.
Staffed by community persons in recovery and SCCASA

Hours of Operation:

Thursdays: 8am-4pm @ The Living Room Open Access (in person) all day

Mondays-Wednesdays: 7am-11am @ SCCASA— call Tom at (518) 605– 3867

YOU ARE NOT ALONE



SCHOHARIE COUNTY
COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Are you struggling with addiction?

Are you interested in recovery?

Do you have a loved one struggling with addiction?

Has your life changed due to a family member's addiction?

Call or text for more information

Tom Moran-Peer Engagement Specialist

518-369-5448

Maggie Jackman Pryor-Family Support Navigator

518-265-8109

What Is Recovery?

Recovery is an intensely personal experience that is hard to define in a general way. There are multiple pathways to recovery. Everyone's journey results in their own unique experience of recovery. Therefore, recovery has many definitions and it is hard to agree on a single one. It goes beyond abstinence alone to include a full re-engagement based on hope, resilience, health and wellness, and includes family, friends and community. Recovery starts when a person begins to make better choices about his or her physical, mental and spiritual health.

Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism
and Substance abuse
349 Mineral Springs Road
Cobleskill, New York 12043



*Peer Engagement
Specialist/Family
Support Program*

FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH
A SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER AND /OR
WHO ARE IN RECOVERY
FOR FAMILIES WHO
HAVE A LOVED ONE
WITH A SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER OR IN
RECOVERY

Recovery Advocate will assist in:

- Educating Participants on multiple pathways to recovery from a substance use disorder
- Help start the process into an inpatient facility, and maintain communication with the facility during their stay to monitor their progress
- Identifying goals/ developing recovery plans
- Coming home from inpatient or incarceration, Getting reconnected with the community
- Helping participants self-monitor their progress
- Attend court and other system meetings as a support
 - Attending doctors' appointments
- Modeling effective coping skills

What We Do:

- ❖ Support
- ❖ Encouragement
- ❖ Guidance
- ❖ Referrals
- ❖ Linkage to Services
- ❖ Develop Service Plans
- ❖ Introduction to meetings

Family Support Services:

To help families and individuals understand the progression of addiction, how to navigate the insurance and treatment systems, and how to adjust to a loved one's return home from treatment. Family Support Navigators provide support for families throughout the recovery process and connect them to a variety of vital resources. They connect with children all of ages whose parents have struggled with addiction and are in treatment.

Family support groups:

Al-Anon
Al-Ateen
ACOA

For More Information Call
518-234-8705

Or
518-369-5448

For more information visit

OASAS.NY.GOV Click on RECOVERY





Nutrition and Wellness Series

Come join us for a series of FREE parent and child cooking classes!!

Now offering:

- Virtual lessons from home or classroom lessons at the Cornell Cooperative Extension office.
- In-person classes will be limited to 2-3 families at one time.
- Each family will be provided their own ingredients and space.
- Masks must be worn at all times and sanitizer and gloves will be provided.

Next in-person series starting (Mondays) November 23rd and (Thursdays) December 3rd @ 4:30pm

Next virtual series starting November 18th @ 4:30pm



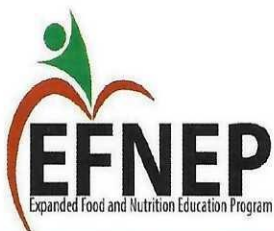
Receive a \$40 gift certificate to the Shoe Department upon completion of 6 lessons

Stipend for certificate awarded by Bassett 5210 Initiative

If interested please contact Michelle Leveski at:

518-234-4303 ext. 115 or

Email: mm139@cornell.edu



**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Schoharie and Otsego Counties**

"Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities"