

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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## **Upcoming Events**

Wed., Feb 9<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m. – Net Dinner at  
Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church.

Sun., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> – “Souper Bowl” Sunday  
(see article)

Sun., Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 p.m. – Church Council  
Meeting

Wed., Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 5:00 p.m. – Net Dinner at  
St. Mark's Church.

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## **Prayer Chain Requests In January**

Family of Pearl Moxham  
Family of Nicholas Birsén  
Family of Patrick Chichester  
Family of Toni Urrey  
Family of Helen's Cousin Karl's Wife  
Family of Wayne Bevins  
Family of Pr. Robert Kitchen  
Family of Dennis Shaw

Rodney Lilley  
Sharon Nesbitt  
Janet Abram's Family  
Pr. David McGettigan  
Tom Chichester  
Sarah Lloyd  
Austin Roney  
Dean Roney  
Pr. Mark Chavez  
Mark Wainwright  
Pamela & Corey Moore

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## **Thought for the Day:**

Don't play being a Christian  
because Satan doesn't play being  
the devil.

## Trust

Trust is a very powerful word which is evidenced by its definition as “a firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something”. It involves more than just believing; it is a firm belief. In order for who or what is trusted in to exist and survive, it must be reliable and truthful. Trust is also very fragile for it can be, and has been, easily broken throughout history. When the something or someone violate or break our trust by being untruthful or unreliable, it undermines the ability to believe. How often have the words “trust me, I’m telling the truth” been wrongfully used, which leads to the challenge that discerning the truth is not always easily accomplished. The question often pops up in my mind when Pontius Pilate asked Jesus, during his mockery of a trial, “What is truth?”.

Depending on the translation you use, you will find that the word trust appears over 185 times in the Holy Bible. In every verse in which it is written, it is used by someone who believes in the reliability of God, of God’s ability and of God’s strength.

Here are just some of the reassuring verses you will find in Scriptures:

*Psalm 56:4 - In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?*

*Psalm 56:11 - In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?*

*Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;*

*My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;*

*Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man.*

*Proverbs 3:5 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding*

I find all of these verses to be very helpful in times such as these. Times when so many voices are promoting so many thoughts and beliefs and opinions that it not only undermines our trust, but our beliefs as well.

Jesus said: *John 14:1 - Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.*  
*John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me'.*

When we see the word “trust” in association with God and Jesus, we can be assured that it is reliable and truthful. We know that our trust will not be broken. Our faith may be tested, for we are asked to be patient and “wait on the Lord”. We may not understand what is going on or why, but remember it is written: *Isaiah 55:8 - 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,' says the Lord.*

On our currency, several government buildings, plaques and insignias, you will find our nation’s current motto: “In God We Trust” as well as these words “E Pluribus Unum” which means “from many, one”. Let us not forget who we are and whose we are. We are one in the Spirit and one in the Lord. Let us seek to revive what true trust is by being “One Nation Under God”.

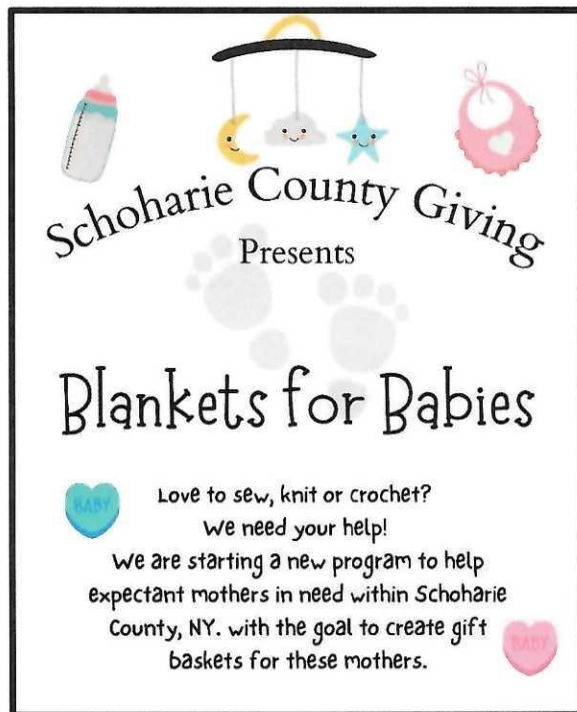
Satan’s ways are built on dishonesty, deceit, and deception. He wants to break our trust to undermine our faith, which will destroy our hope. We are called to resist Satan’s temptations and their evil ways in whatever forms they are presented. Do not give in to the devil! Always hope in the Lord, believe in the Lord, trust in the Lord!

In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Phoebes are embarking on a new project...

When members of the Phoebe Circle saw the following notice, we felt led by God to help. So...on Monday mornings, if you visit the Phoebe room, you will now see us making baby blankets as well as adult and children's quilts.



If you sew, knit or crochet, please feel free to join us in blessing the expectant mothers with blankets for their babies.

## "Souper Bowl" Sunday

While football's Super Bowl LVI will be watched by many fans on Feb. 13th, our food pantry is hosting their own "Souper Bowl" at St. Mark's sanctuary. From the present through the 13th, we are collecting cans of soup so please prayerfully consider making a donation of any kind of soup when you come to worship. Remember...We "CAN" make a difference by helping to feed our neighbors!



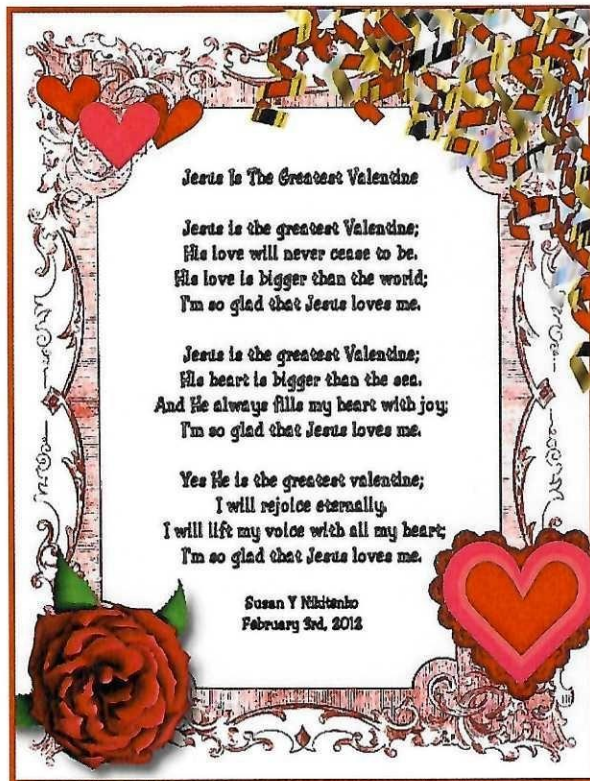
..."Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

- Matthew 25:40

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church



**On Valentine's Day, embrace  
God's limitless love and open  
your heart to spread His  
heavenly light!**



**Total Needed for Basement  
Repair - \$28,000**

**Our Basement Fundraiser Goal  
- \$15,000**

**Year-to-date Donations  
- \$8,344**

Good news... our basement repairs are completed!!! A huge thank you to Bob Troidl for the excellent work he did to stabilize our sanctuary. While we were unable to obtain 100% of our goal for the basement funds, we are happy that we were able to reach ~ 56% of it. Thank you to all who helped us in our fundraising efforts. God truly blessed us in this endeavor.

## **Steeple Repair and Painting**

Have you ever noticed that in our homes as soon as we make a repair on one thing, something else requires our attention? Sometimes the same thing happens in God's house so our focus is now turning to repairing and painting our church steeple. The estimate we received in August 2021 was \$8,890; however, with rising costs, this estimate may change. Once again we are planning some fundraisers to help defray the cost and ask for your continued support both prayerfully and financially. Thank you!!!

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Servers for Feb.

### Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>:

Reader – Alyssa  
Prayer – Ron  
Ushers Bill / Bonnie (for communion)  
Counter – Sharon N.

### Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>:

Reader – Sharon N.  
Prayer – Carolyn  
Counter – Diane

### Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>:

Reader – Nannette  
Prayer – Georgia  
Counter – Carrie

### Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>:

Reader – Deb P.  
Prayer – Cheryl  
Counter – Deb P.

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## Operation Christmas Child

In 2021, 26 shoeboxes were donated from St. Mark's to Operation Christmas Child. This is double what was donated in 2020. The best news is that the Northeastern Area Team collected at total of 11,251 shoebox gifts. This is 1,251 above their goal. Thank you to all who generously donated and thank you, Lord, for blessing this outreach program!

## Feb. Birthdays:

Bob Meunier	Feb. 1
Harry Amendola	Feb. 3
Logan Bartholomew	Feb. 6
Bill Morton	Feb. 23
Kaleb Minton	Feb. 24
Greg Howland	Feb. 24

## Feb. Anniversaries:

Sandi / Ed Johnson	Feb. 14
Ron / Edna Lower	Feb. 16



## Christmas Encouragement Baskets

Last Christmas, Janet Abrams and her "elves" created beautiful baskets that were shared with others in the community. Unless you have been a recipient, it is difficult to describe the wonderful feeling someone gets when they receive a basket.

Encouragement baskets are available all year, not just at Christmas, so please contact Janet whenever you would like to have one made. Thank you Janet and "elves" for your faithful service!

## A message to Sisters in Christ as St. Mark's.....

To all the Women of the Atlantic Mission Region:

You are cordially invited to attend the FIRST ever Women of the Atlantic Mission Region weekend retreat—***Beautiful Feet***—which will be held on **Friday, May 6—Sunday, May 8, 2022** at **Twin Pines Camp and Retreat Center** (3000 Twin Pines Rd, **Stroudsburg, PA**). Check in/registration and supper begin at 6 PM on Friday, and the retreat will run until noon (lunch) on Sunday. Yes, it is Mother's Day weekend—but you will be home in time for your children to have supper ready for you!

Cost of the retreat is \$175 (for a double occupancy room) or \$200 (for a single occupancy room). All meals from Friday supper through Sunday lunch are included in the cost. All linens and towels will also be provided. We are taking over Aspen Lodge and will be the only group at the lodge. Also included that weekend are the *Beautiful Feet* Bible study, gifts, camp fire, walking trails, worship, and lots of fellowship and FUN! To check out the location, please visit the Twin Pines website at [www.twinpines.org](http://www.twinpines.org).

We are offering a **pre-registration option** for this retreat. Enclosed you will find a pre-registration sheet. To guarantee a spot you may fill out this sheet and return it with a **\$50 non-refundable deposit** (made out to the Atlantic Mission Region with "Women's Retreat" on the memo line) and mail it **by February 28** to:

Robin Harris  
1800 Oak Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042

**OR** you may pre-register online by following this link:

<https://atlanticmissionregionnalc.regfox.com/amr-2022-womens-retreat-pre-registration>

We hope to see YOU there! Please contact Robin Harris at [rjhh67@gmail.com](mailto:rjhh67@gmail.com) if you have any questions. **Final registration with payment in full will be available in March** (and will be both available online and as a mailing).

***How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News!***

- Romans 10:15

Thank you!

Robin Harris

Administrative Assistant to the Deans and Council of the Atlantic Mission Region

*Atlantic Mission Region Women's Weekend Retreat*

***Beautiful Feet***

***Friday, May 6, 2022 with arrival & supper at 6:00 PM to  
Sunday, May 8 at noon***

***Beautiful  
Feet***

*Twin Pines Camp and Retreat Center  
3000 Twin Pines Camp Road  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360*

*"How beautiful  
are the feet of  
those who preach  
the good news!"*

*Romans 10:15*

***Pre-Registration Form***

Total cost for the weekend is \$175 for a double occupancy room; \$200 for single occupancy. All meals (Friday supper—Sunday lunch), linens & towels, the Bible study, hiking trails, campfire, and great fellowship and fun are included.

**YES! I am interested in attending! Save me a spot!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Name \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ My **\$50 non-refundable pre-registration fee** is enclosed. This guarantees me a spot!

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be interested in a double room. Roommate request: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be interested in a single room.

I will confirm registration and finish paying \_\_\_\_\_ online OR \_\_\_\_\_ via a paper registration.  
*Both modes will become available in March.*

**To Save Your Spot:**

Please complete this form and mail it with a check payable to the AMR  
(Women's Retreat on the memo line) to:

Robin Harris  
1800 Oak Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
**BY FEBRUARY 28, 2022**