

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Prayer Ministry

You are invited to participate in a new prayer ministry. We meet on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in St. Mark's sanctuary. If you are unable to attend and have a prayer request you would like lifted, please contact the church office or feel free to place your written request in the prayer box located in narthex.

Council has adopted a new policy for anyone that wishes to use the fellowship hall for an event. All requests are to be sent to Lisa Bartholomew. She can be reached at 231-9494. She will handle all the arrangements, scheduling, paperwork and payments. This will allow for a one point person contact rather than having too many people involved.

Please see all the flyers for events you can attend or projects you can assist with for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up in prayer:

Prayers for our new pastor
Allison

Upcoming Events

Nov 3 - Coats for Kids 6:30- 8:30

Nov 11 - Men's prayer breakfast

Nov 13 - Council meeting 7:00

Nov 23 - Happy Thanksgiving

NET dinners at St. Mark's will resume in January 2018

Council Members:

**President - Marie Whittaker
Vice President - Chris Cash
Secretary - Lori Roney
Treasurer - Debbie Palmatier
Members - Jim Brigadier,
Dennis Foland and Lisa
Bartholomew.**

Enclosed you will find a brief survey from the call committee. It is asked that you would take a few minutes to complete it, place in a sealed envelope and place it in the box at church. Please return these by November 19th.

Love is a two way street

In the Scriptures we are told not to fear, God will provide. The days have been passing by quickly as they are filled with many activities, obligations, and responsibilities, one of which was what to write on this page which is nearly a week overdue. As I sat staring at the screen the phone rings with a request to help, to serve. This was, as every call or request has proved to be, a multi-blessing from God for me. It was my brother Matthew Coltrain on the phone. I believe more and more that we are from the same blood, although not having the same kin, we can claim to have been filled with the same spirit and loved unconditionally by Pastor Carol Coltrain who is 'mom' to both of us.

Matthew was sharing with me about this past Sunday's Gospel reading that he preached on as he filled in for his mother at church. *Matthew 22:37 Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* One of the reasons I believe we are from the same blood is that we both feel God is telling/teaching us something when we prepare for the privilege of sharing God's word from the pulpit. We both have felt that the words God gives us, are for us to hear...and if someone in the congregation gets something from them as well, that's OK too.

Matthew's message Sunday on the commandments Jesus spoke of in the Gospel reading opened his eyes to an understanding that is not immediately obvious to many of us who have chosen to follow and serve the Lord. When we fully embrace the depth of the grace that we have been freely given by God, and have freely received through our will to do so, we are truly baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire by Jesus. We feel on fire to serve the Lord and serve others. We desire to freely give of our selves, our time, our gifts, and our talents. We desire to give and give and give because of the heart warming, joyful feeling that it creates in the new heart that God has given us.

Where all of us seem to struggle is that we believe it always better to give than to receive and so we have a hard time humbling ourselves to allow others to freely give to us in love. There is so much need throughout the world that it can make us feel guilty if others try to give to us. We unintentionally deny others the gift of giving. To *'love your neighbor as you love yourself'*. We fear the labels of possibly appearing arrogant or selfish when others want to compliment or acknowledge something we have done. We may feel guilty when someone wants to help us by giving to or supporting a temporary need we may encounter. We may avoid asking for help because we do not want to be a bother or a burden to others.

When God came down and the Word became flesh, He not only experienced temptation as we do, but I believe he experienced need as we do. When we are in greatest need we have scriptural proof and truth that...*God will provide*. God gives us opportunities to serve and to love others with God's love as well as opportunities to allow ourselves to be served. To let others love us, with God's love. It is better to give than to receive, but if we do not let others give to us as well, have we truly loved them? Have we truly loved God who created all of us in His image?

Thank you Matthew for sharing with me a new insight into the giving and receiving of love. The love you are experiencing from our community in the mission to 'Bring Mom Home'. Thank you Lord Jesus for Matthew and all of our sisters and brothers who share their experiences of how they encountered you in a new way in life. An abundant life that is filled with the joy of loving and being loved. AMEN.

In God We Trust / Love and Prayers, Pastor Dave

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Servers for Nov

November 5:

Acolyte - Dylan
Ushers - Denise/Kaleb
Reader - Ted
Greeter - Pat
Prayer - Ted
Counter - Diane

November 12:

Acolyte - Lisa
Ushers - Deb/Marie
Reader - Nannette
Greeter - Janet
Prayer - Georgia
Counter - Carrie

November 19:

Acolyte - Dylan
Ushers - Sharon/Tom
Reader - Georgia
Greeter - Deb P.
Prayer - Beth
Counter - Debbie

November 26:

Acolyte - Lisa
Ushers - Dean/Lori
Reader - Jim
Greeter - Ginny
Prayer - Jim
Counter - Diane

We Give Thanks

Our Father in Heaven
We give thanks for the pleasure
Of gathering together for this occasion.
We give thanks for this food
Prepared by loving hands.
We give thanks for life,
The freedom to enjoy it all
And all other blessings.
As we partake of this food,
We pray for health and strength
To carry on and try to live as You would
have us.
This we ask in the name of Christ,
Our Heavenly Father. Amen

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Happy Days !!!!!

Birthdays: November

Nov 8 - Vivian Hanley
Nov 12 - Karen Van Dyke
Nov 13 - Bonnie Morton and
Jenna Warner
Nov 14 - Taylor Cater and Al Canelli
Nov 20 - Ryan Whittaker
Nov 25 - Heather Palmatier
Nov 28 - Sydney Shoemaker and
Ron Lower
Nov 29 - Ethel Cater

Anniversaries : November

Nov 10 - Ellen and Ted Langenbahn

Nov 12 - Willard and Freya Karsch

Joshua Project News -

Thanksgiving basket project - we estimate that we will be delivering 250+ baskets this year. We are looking for any food items that will help families to have a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. We are also looking for volunteers to help with deliveries on November 19th after church services. A box is in the front of the church for donations of food or money. Schoharie County Christmas for Kids Program is gearing up. Last year we gave out toys, clothing and \$25 Wal-Mart gift cards for older children. We made Christmas merrier for 870+ children representing 270+ families in Schoharie County.

Did you know St. Mark's offers the following opportunities for you and your family to participate?

Phoebes - every Monday from 9-2 PM

Youth Sunday School - Held during the worship service message

Adult Sunday School - Sundays from 9:15 - 10 AM

Prayer Ministry - every Thursday night beginning at 5:30 PM

After School Program - every day from 3 - 5:30 PM following school schedule

Men's Prayer breakfast - second Saturday of each month

Can you help with new unwrapped toys or cash so that we may buy new toys? Thank you for always being there for any needs in our community. Any questions see Carrie Foland.

Thanksgiving food items:

stuffing mix
canned gravy
cranberry sauce
green beans
instant potatoes



Community Thanksgiving Eve Service

at

Middleburgh Methodist Church

on

November 22, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

**Come join us in praising and thanking God
for His many blessings!**

Coats for Kids

Please donate new or gently used coats for
Schoharie County children in need.

Coat drop off locations until Sunday, November 12, 2017

The Laundry Basket
131 Campus Dr. (Granite Dr.)
Cobleskill

&

Mart Cleaners
107 Union St.
Cobleskill

Dates of Distribution at SCCAP
Shoppers Mart Plaza, 795 East Main St., Cobleskill

Saturday, November 4	8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Monday, November 6	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Tuesday, November 7	10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Date of Distribution at St. Mark's Lutheran Church
326 Main St., Middleburgh

Friday, November 3 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm



Schoharie County
Community Action Program
795 East Main St. Suite 5
Cobleskill, NY 12043
518-234-2568

Monetary donations for new coat purchases can be made directly to SCCAP.
For more information call Kim at SCCAP's Community Services Department - (518) 234-2568 x3011.

Catholic Charities & The Joshua Project

Thanksgiving Baskets



for eligible families

Sign up dates:

OCTOBER 16 - NOVEMBER 9

Between 9AM – 4 PM

At our office

489 West Main Street
Cobleskill, NY 12043



JOSHUA PROJECT – THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Dear Congregation,

We have been blessed with a beautiful autumn, a bountiful harvest, and continued participation with our wonderful rural neighbors. The time has come to start planning the non-perishable food drive for Thanksgiving meal baskets which are provided through The Joshua Project and delivered to appreciative families in our area.

We are asking congregations to collect items such as: canned green beans, corn, peas, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, turkey gravy (jars or packets), boxes of Stove Top Stuffing. Turkeys are provided through another source.

This food campaign will begin the weekend of October 28 – 29 and continue for a total of three weekends until November 11 – 12. We are then asking that all items be delivered to Our Lady of the Valley social hall. Please make arrangements for convenient drop off times by contacting Stephanie Tinker at (518) 827-4352 or Debbie Brigadier at (518) 827-8276 or to make arrangements for items to be picked up.

We thank you so very much for your support, participation, and love of our community. The Thanksgiving baskets will be delivered to families on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, which this year will be November 19. With your help, the Joshua Project continues to spread love and good cheer in Middleburgh and throughout the county.

In His Service,
Stephanie Tinker for The Joshua Project

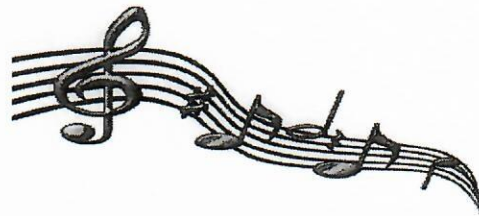


As in the past, we would like to bless children throughout the world through Operation Christmas Child's shoebox project. Shoeboxes are available at St. Mark's so please stop by to pick up one to fill and return to St. Mark's no later than Sunday, November 12th.

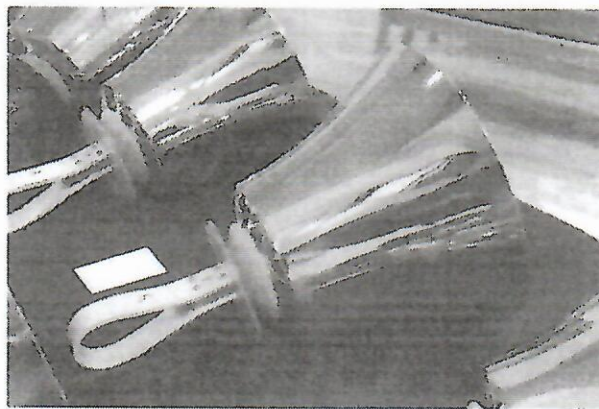


We would also like to bless the Native American children of the Wings As Eagles Ministries through the purchase of Walmart gift cards. Cards may be purchased in any monetary denomination. Please place them in the special box located at St. Mark's sanctuary no later than Sunday, December 3rd.

THE MIDDLEBURGH
ECUMENICAL BELL CHOIR
Christmas Concert



Sunday — December 10 — 3 PM



St. Mark's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
326 Main Street, Middleburgh



Our Middleburgh Ecumenical Bell Choir is ringing in the holiday season by playing with the Schoharie Presbyterian Church Bell Choir at the Schoharie Valley Concert Band Christmas concert. The song we are playing is *The Christmas Rose*. This piece was composed by a member of the band and is a piece written for two bell choirs and the band.

The concerts will be held on Friday, December 8th at 7:30 p.m. in the Schoharie High School Auditorium and on Saturday, December 9th at 7:30 p.m. in the Cobleskill-Richmondville High School Auditorium.

Coming to this concert is an excellent way to start your Christmas celebration. We look forward to seeing you there!