

ST. MARK'S  
MAY 2024  
NEWSLETTER



# Thoughts from the Pastor:

Dear disciples of St. Mark's,

I trust this message finds you well and filled with the joy of Easter's promise.

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful Easter celebration we shared together. It was truly a special time for me, and I cherished the opportunity to worship alongside each and every one of you. The music, particularly the uplifting offering from our choir, added an extra layer of joy to our gathering. Having my family present to share in the celebration, and seeing them experience the beauty of St. Mark's, was special for me.

As we continue our journey through the season of Easter, we have embarked on an exploration of Jesus' resurrection and its significance in our lives. In the coming weeks, our sermons will delve into the teachings of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John, focusing on the transformative "I am" sayings. These passages, including John 10:11-18 and John 15:1-8, remind us of Jesus' role as the Good Shepherd and the true Vine, calling us to abide in Him and love one another with the same selfless love He has shown us.

On April 28th, we will hold an after worship celebration of the Resurrection with an event in our fellowship hall. I will make the briefest exposition of the Disciples on the Road to Emmaus, and we will share coffee and pastries. It is a time to rejoice in the victory of our risen Lord and renew our commitment to living as people of resurrection power.

On Mother's Day, May 12, we will reflect on the exemplary life of Mary, the mother of Jesus, as portrayed in the Gospel of Luke. Her unwavering faith, courage, and devotion serve as an inspiration to mothers everywhere, reminding us of the profound impact of maternal love and sacrifice.

Looking ahead to Pentecost on Sunday, May 19th, we eagerly anticipate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us. While I will be away at my daughter's wedding, we are blessed to welcome my friend and licensed lay minister, Jane Knotek who will share a message of renewal and empowerment for the mission of our church.

I am looking forward to joining one of our church's mowing teams and invite you to join us in this essential service. Maintaining our church grounds is not only a practical necessity but also a meaningful way to serve our community and steward the beauty of our church and grounds.

As we continue to journey together in faith, let us remain ever mindful of God's presence and guidance in our midst. May we cherish each moment of fellowship and growth, knowing that we are united in love and purpose as members of the body of Christ.

If you need to reach me, please don't hesitate to send an email to [pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com](mailto:pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com). It comes directly to my cell phone, and I am always here for you.

With warmest regards,

Pastor: John D. Kleist



**Stay connected through your giving:** Continue to be active in the ministry of Christ's church at St. Mark's by taking advantage of our various giving opportunities. Give via our website, mail, or through the Give+ mobile app. Each of these giving opportunities provide secure ways to ensure your contributions are safely handled.

[www.stmarksbethlehem.com/give](http://www.stmarksbethlehem.com/give)

3771 Easton Ave.  
Bethlehem, PA 18020

[Give+ mobile app Apple iOS](#)

[Give+ mobile app Google Play Store](#)

**Now introducing: text to give!**

Text any amount to 833-756-0334

[Click here for details and instructions for using text-to-give services.](#)



#### Internet Resources

**Website address:** [www.stmarksbethlehem.com](http://www.stmarksbethlehem.com)

**Pastor email:** [pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com](mailto:pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com)

**Office email:** [office@stmarksbethlehem.com](mailto:office@stmarksbethlehem.com)

**Choir email:** [music@stmarksbethlehem.com](mailto:music@stmarksbethlehem.com)

**Facebook & Instagram & Twitter:** [@stmarksbeth](#)

#### Change of Address?

**Please alert the church office** of any changes to your address, telephone number, or email address. You may use the pew cards/envelopes, put a note on the office door, phone the office at 610-694-0212, or email the secretary at :

[office@stmarksbethlehem.com](mailto:office@stmarksbethlehem.com).



**WORSHIP SERVICES:** In- Person services are held and will continue indoors in the sanctuary. We will continue to live stream on Facebook every **Sunday at 9:30 AM.**



## Confirmation

Gavin Monahan will be having his confirmation on Sunday, May 12th, 2024.

We will also be celebrating our “mother’s “ in honor of Mother’s Day this day.

Please feel free to stay after service to have some cake and wish him well!



## **St. Andrew's Food Bank**

Thank You for your many donations of food, etc. – we are always in need of paper products [TP, Tissues, Towels & Napkins] – if you are able and willing – please place the donations in the tub that is in the Narthex.

**On Wednesday, May 15, St. Marks has duty at the St. Andrews Food Bank on Pa. Ave. from 5pm to 8pm.** We need volunteers to help over 65 families per Wednesday – help the families shop, set up bread and desert trays, pack meat, re-stock the shelves as they get empty, etc.  
**THANK YOU ALL** for the continued donations of paper products [towels, TP, tissues & napkins] and cereal.

Please let Tom Walters [610-868-5324] know if you are able and willing to help out – we need you!

***“Let your light so shine before all people, that they may see your good works & glorify your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16”***

## PRAYER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY



You're invited to a prayer/fellowship and devotional discussion:

**Date:** Thursday, May 18 2024

**Time:** 7:00-8:30 PM

**Place:** 3228Reeve Dr W. Apt. 18

Bethlehem 610-653-7527

**Hosts:** Donna & Bill Carter



Please join us for **Mother's Day service on Sunday, May 12th**. We will be celebrating mothers of all kinds and picking some hymns from the box that YOU selected! There will be special surprises as well! Also, we will be **celebrating Gavin Monahan's confirmation that day**— join us for cake after service! This will truly be a celebratory Sunday!

Hope to see you there!



## St. Andrew's Food Bank

### FOOD BANK:

St. Marks had duty at the St. Andrews Food Bank on Wednesday, March 20, from 5pm to 8pm They served 67 families, and we THANK Jim Eber-sole for volunteering that evening!!!!!!

THANK YOU ALL for the paper products and food that you have donated for the food bank.

Please continue to donate if you are able & willing the paper products [towels, napkins, tissues & TP] to the food bank.

Our next time to volunteer at the food bank will be on:

**Wednesday, May 15th, from 5pm to 8pm.**

Also, we are now **accepting any donations of food products as well** for St. Andrew's !

THANK YOU ALL!

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your understanding: In all your ways acknowledge HIM, and HE shall direct your paths.”  
Proverbs 3:5-6*

If you are able and willing to help –  
please contact Tom Walters, 610-868-5324





## May Birthdays

05/03-Dawn Seyfried

05/04-Stacie Ickes

05/05-Bill Carter

05/06-Sandra Bruder

05/14-Frances Ramson  
-Pat Ritchie

05/19-Lauren Miller

05/20-Andrew Keyock

05/26-David Seaman  
-Chris Ebersole

05/28-John McAtee

05/30- Kathy Grube  
-Peter Kish  
-Sierra Kalamar



05/17/1996

Paul & Diana  
Docteroff



05/19/1990

Amy & Joseph Cygan

# Servants of God for May 2024

## **Note to all**

### **“Servants of God”:**

Please note the date you have been scheduled to serve; kindly find a replacement if you are unable to serve on your scheduled date and notify the church office. Contact the coordinator if you are unable to find someone to serve in your place. Sign up sheets are found in the narthex.

ASSIGNMENTS ARE FOR THE **9:30AM** SERVICE.

## **WORSHIP LEADER**

**REV. JOHN D. KLEIST**  
(5/5,5/12 & 5/26)

## **GUEST PASTOR**

05/19-Pastor Jane Knotek

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**

05/05-Alison Bittner  
05/12-Amy Cygan  
05/19- John McAtee  
05/26- John Szabo

## **MONTHLY USHERS**

Tom & Alice Walters

## **GREETERS**

05/05-Donna & Bill Carter  
05/12-Donna & Bill Carter  
05/19-Donna & Peter Kish  
05/26-Donna & Peter Kish

## **PRAY-ERS**

05/05-Donna Carter & Lee Koehler

## **COMMUNION**

### **ASSISTANT**

05-05-Alice Walters

## **LECTORS**

05-05-Alice Walters  
05/12-Al Tullock Jr  
05/19-Lynne Berger  
05/26-Alison Bittner

**SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX TO SPONSOR THE ITEMS THAT FOLLOW:**

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

05/05-The Flexer Fund  
05/12-Ron & Pat Ritchie  
05/19-Al & Carol Tullock  
05/26-Peter & Donna Kish

## **BULLETINS**

05/05-Donna Carter  
05/12-Ron & Pat Ritchie  
05/19-Open  
05/26-John & Nancy McAtee

## **“WORD IN SEASON”**

### **DEVOTIONAL**

Open

## **SANCTUARY MEMORIAL**

### **CANDLE**

Al & Carol Tullock

## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Open

## **BREAD PROVIDER**

Open

*Please use the Sponsor Form found next to the sign-up book to remit your payment for any sponsored items at least a week before the date for which you have signed up.*



## ***IN OUR PRAYERS***



### ***Partners in Ministry***

**Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod  
Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
St. Andrew's of Easton and Rev. Tom Neel  
All Because He Loved Us Church**

### ***St. Mark's Disciples***

**Kari Ebersole  
Dawn Seyfried  
William  
Cheryl Coulter  
Bea Craig  
Pastor Lisa Aviles and her family  
Peter Kish  
Pat Ritchie  
James Lafey  
Maria Szabo  
Ernest Barbarics, Jr.  
Pat Koehler  
Karen Hallman  
Fran Ramson  
Martha Bean  
Nancy Stauffer**

## PENTECOST GERANIUMS



THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SPONSORED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST ON MAY 19TH.

YOU MAY TAKE YOUR PLANT AFTER SERVICE THAT MORNING OR LEAVE IT TO BE PLANTED AROUND THE CHURCH.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE ALTAR LOOK EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL!

GOD BLESS!

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3771 Easton Avenue  
Bethlehem, PA 18020

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