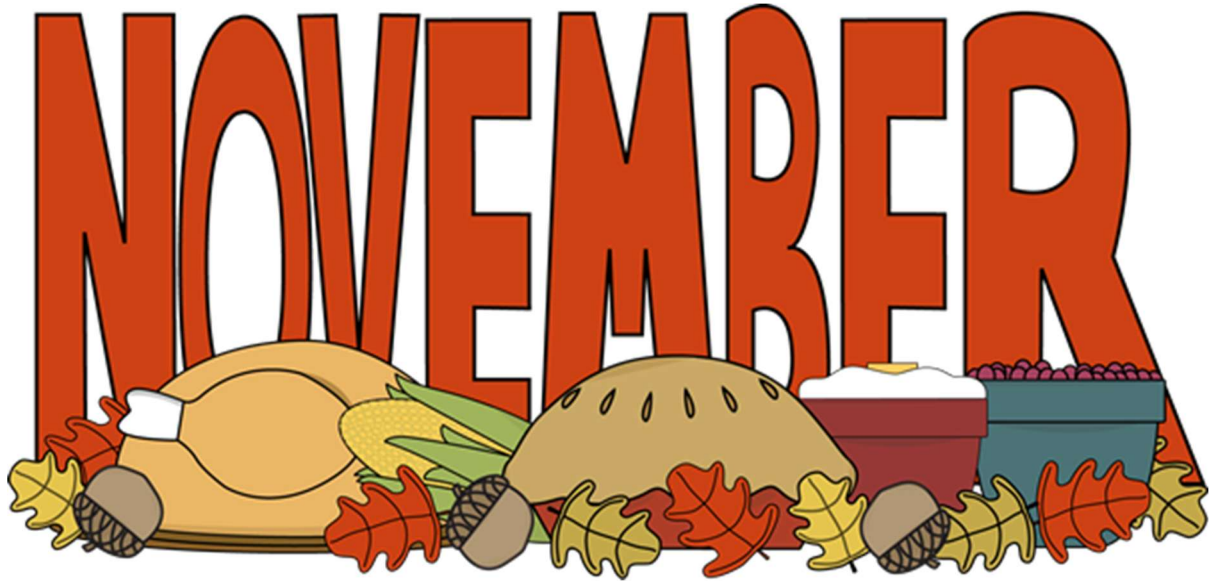


ST.MARK'S



2026

NEWSLETTER

Thoughts from the Pastor:

Dear People of St. Mark's,

November is upon us, and it is always a busy month at St. Mark's. We are in the middle of preparing our budget for 2027, and as you might expect, this is becoming increasingly challenging.

This past year, we faced some unexpected expenses for roof and electrical repairs that were necessary to keep our building in good working order. Even our ordinary operating expenses are becoming harder to meet. For example, fuel oil will cost 75% more than last year. The Congregation Council and I are working carefully on a budget that we will present at our annual congregational meeting on December 13, following worship.

As we continue this work, I invite each of you to reflect on your financial support of St. Mark's. The reality is that we are living pretty much hand to mouth, with very little room for unexpected expenses.

But I also want us to remember **why St. Mark's matters to us**. This is where we gather to worship our Lord, to strengthen one another in faith, and to be renewed for living out the life of Christ in our daily lives. What happens here is about much more than maintaining a building and paying the bills.

This ministry depends on our shared generosity. We are asking those who have the resources to consider giving more. We are not asking anyone to give more than they have. **Our goal is to be a congregation where no one is burdened beyond their means, and where those who have more can help carry the load for those who have less.** That, too, is a way of living out the Gospel.

Speaking of generosity, I want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to our cleaning and mowing volunteers and to everyone who helps make St. Mark's work. Because of your faithfulness and hard work, our building and grounds are beautifully maintained, and everything is prepared for worship each Sunday. So much of what makes our congregation special happens because people quietly give their time and talents. Your service is noticed and deeply appreciated.

As we move through November, please keep our congregation and its leaders in your prayers. We face some real challenges, but we also have much for which to be thankful. **I believe that together, trusting in the Holy Spirit who has been breathed into us, we will find a way forward.**

Many good things continue to happen at St. Mark's, and I am grateful to be sharing this journey with you.

With gratitude and love in Christ,
Pastor Kleist

Important Fraud Warning: Please Be Alert!

We want to make everyone aware of a scam that has been used against members of churches across the country.

If you ever receive an email, text message, or other communication that appears to come from our Pastor asking you to purchase gift cards, send money, or make a special contribution, DO NOT RESPOND. IT IS A SCAM!

Scammers sometimes pretend to be pastors, using their names and even their pictures. They may claim that I need your help with an emergency, that someone in the congregation needs assistance, or that I am too busy to speak with you personally. They often ask you to purchase gift cards and send them the numbers or photographs of the cards. The Pastor's voice can even be cloned from our Facebook live streaming.

PASTOR WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO PURCHASE GIFT CARDS OR SEND MONEY TO ME THROUGH AN EMAIL OR TEXT MESSAGE. PASTOR WILL NOT CALL YOU ASKING YOU TO DO THIS EVER!

Please remember:

- Never purchase gift cards because of a request supposedly from our church.
- Never send gift card numbers, photographs, or personal financial information in response to such a message.
 - Do not reply to suspicious messages or click on their links.

These criminals take advantage of the trust and generosity that exist within church communities. They know that people want to help their pastor and their neighbors. Unfortunately, they try to turn that goodwill into an opportunity to steal.

PEOPLE WHO DO THIS ARE DISPICABLE. PLEASE BE CAREFUL!



NOVEMBER 2026

TREASURER'S REPORT

The church has incurred several unplanned building related expenses this year. Haller Enterprise repaired the electric box, issues with the electric box were identified during the emergency electric work done this past summer. Payment of \$1092.47 cleared the bank in September 2026. There were no additional unusual expenses in September 2026.

The financial information shared below represents income and expenses through September 30, 2026.

September Contributions/Income: \$5,424.59 (Excluding Investment Acct Interest)

September Expenses: \$5,998.87

The financial information shared below represents income and expenses through September 30, 2026.

YTD Contributions/Income: \$49,959.50 (Excluding Investment Account Interest)

YTD Expenses: \$61,853.45

Please feel free to ask me about any expenses. Thank you.

Dana Deacon



WE GIVE *because* GOD GAVE FIRST

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16*

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

3771 Easton Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18020

Give+mobile app Apple iOS OR Give+mobile app Google Play Store

Text to give: text any amount to 833-756-0334

INTERNET RESOURCES:

Website address: www.stmarksbethlehem.com

Pastor email: pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com

Office email: office@stmarksbethlehem.com

Choir email: music@stmarksbethlehem.com

Facebook, Instagram & Twitter: [@stmarksbeth](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbeth)

Change of address? Or Phone or Email?

Please alert church office of any changes to your address, phone or email.

You may put a note in the giving plate, leave in office door, email or call 610-694-0212.

WORSHIP SERVICES: In Person and via Facebook at **9:30 AM on Sundays.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME WITH COFFEE/DONUTS: **November 1st**

1st Sunday of every month (unless noted differently). Come join us in fellowship hall following worship for some yummy treats and fellowship time together!

BIBLE STUDY:**November 11th, 22nd & 29th**

Begins immediately after worship services (approx..10:45am) **every 2nd & 4th Sunday** unless noted differently.

MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING: **November 15th**

3RD Sunday of every month following worship service, unless otherwise noted. Meets in fellowship hall.

Pastor: Reverend John D. Kleist contact information:

Email: pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com

Phone: 610-216-2970

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY-Every 3rd Thursday of the month

You are invited to a prayer/fellowship and devotional Discussion:

Date: **Thursday, November 19th**

Time:6:30-8:00 PM

Place:1573 Siegfried Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017

Hosts: Al & Carol Tullock 610-691-2415

Coming Up:

November 4th **6261 meeting for rostered leaders** from 9am until 3:30pm. It is the quarterly 6261 bundle seminar.

Red Cross blood drive **Friday November 6th** from 11:00am-5:00pm
please sign up on the bulletin board.

6261 brunch **Sat November 7th** from 10:00am-12:00 pm at Palmer Moravian Church.

- **Council meeting Sun November 15th** after worship.
-
- **Food bank** at St. Andrew's **Wed. November 18th** 5-8:00PM.



St. Andrew's Food Bank

Thank you for your many donations of food, etc- we are always in need of paper products too (Toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, etc) –if you are able and willing- please place the donations in the tote in the Narthex.

The next food bank that St. Mark's is scheduled to help at is on Wednesday, **November 18th from 5:00-8:00 PM** at St. Andrew's Church

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your FATHER in heaven.” – Matthew 5:16



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/04- Esther Chulik

11/20- Eileen Hein

11/20- Jeffrey Kalamar

11/22- Janice Keyock

Servants of God for November 2026

Note To All:

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 email the office. Contact the coordinator if you are unable to find someone to serve in your place. (Worship Assistants/Communion Assistants- John Szabo//Ushers-John McAtee//Lectors/Greeters/Pray-ers -Donna Carter.

Worship Leader: The Reverend John D. Kleist

Worship Assistant Amy Cygan

Monthly Ushers: Peter Kish & John McAtee

Communion Assistant: Alice Walters

Pray “ers”: Donna Carter & Stephanie Trovato

Greeters:

11/01-Donna & Bill Carter

11/08-Donna & Peter Kish

11/15-Donna & Peter Kish

11/22-Donna & Bill Carter

11/29-Donna & Peter Kish

Lectors:-----

Al Tullock, Jr.

Lynne Berger

Alice Walters

Donna Carter

Kari Ebersole

Sign up in the Narthex to sponsor the items that follow:

Altar Flowers

11/01-Amy Cygan

11/08-Peter & Donna Kish

11/15-John & Christen Borso

11/22-Amy Cygan

11/29-Amy Cygan

Bulletins:

Donna & Bill Carter

Al & Carol Tullock, Jr.

Peter & Donna Kish

Al & Carol Tullock, Jr.

Open

“Word In Season” Devotional Booklets-4th Quarter:

Donna & Bill Carter

Sanctuary Memorial Candle for November:

Donna & Bill Carter



IN OUR PRAYERS



Partners in Ministry

The Reverend Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

The Reverend Jennifer Dee, the Bishop of the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod

Pastor John D. Kleist, our faithful Pastor at St. Mark's

St. Mark's Disciples

Sue & Carl Willever

Cheryl Coulter

Tom Walters

Joe Craig

Dawn Seyfried

Bill Carter

Maria Szabo

Fran Ramson

Jennifer Porter

Friends & Family

Jack Gutshall

Dave Carter

John Frable

Norman Docteroff

Jon Brannan

Micheil Koblish

Melanie

Doug Keller

Greg Keyock

NOVEMBER

2026

NEWSLETTER

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

