

ST. MARK'S



2026

NEWSLETTER

Thoughts from the Pastor:

Dear People of St. Mark's,

First, a practical reminder: our air-conditioning is not working, so we will need to be prepared for warmer worship services. Thankfully, we have an early worship time. If the weather is especially hot, Mark and I will keep an eye on the forecast and streamline the worship order as needed.

Summer also begins the long season of Pentecost. This year, we will be moving through the Gospel of Matthew. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gathers disciples, sends them into mission, teaches them the hidden shape of the kingdom, feeds them in scarcity, rescues them in fear, opens mercy beyond expected boundaries, and finally reveals that Messiahship means the cross. I am very excited to preach on these lessons in our worship services.

Lately, I have also been thinking about the challenges the church faces in our time. We live in a world increasingly shaped by isolation and individualism. Yet Jesus teaches us that a meaningful and vibrant life requires community. We were created to live not as isolated individuals, but in relationship with God and with one another.

In our digital age, it is easy to mistake connectivity for connection. We can text, post, and scroll without ever truly being known. We can be surrounded by information and still feel alone. But the Christian life is not meant to be lived alone. The mission of the church falters without community.

Our church is not merely a building, a schedule, or an institution. We are individual believers, yes, but we are also bound together as one body in Christ. Christianity is inherently communal. It calls us to mutual care, encouragement, forgiveness, and love.

Our wider culture often celebrates self-reliance and tells us to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps. But the Christian story tells a different tale. It tells us that we need God, and we need one another. Jesus calls us into a shared life.

At St. Mark's, we are a fellowship of prayer and compassion. We acknowledge that we all carry burdens: grief, regrets, disappointments, fears, and hopes that are sometimes hard to name. And we also celebrate that we do not need to hide those burdens here. We walk together in mercy and grace, knowing that each of us needs healing, and each of us is held by God's love.

In community, we worship. In community, we learn and grow. In community, we become more like Christ, not only through what we know, but through how we practice discipleship and care for one another.

So, this June, perhaps the invitation is simple: come to worship when you are able, greet someone you do not know well, check on someone you have not seen, stay for fellowship when it is offered, and remember that your presence matters.

Being the church is not something we do alone. Jesus calls us to walk this road together. And through that shared life, we find the presence of Christ in our midst.

For me to follow Jesus, I need all of you,

Pastor Kleist



June 2026 Newsletter **Treasurer's Report**

In an ongoing effort to reduce the maintenance demands of the church property, St Mark's has paid W Hayford Lawn and Landscape to renovate the Serenity Garden. The bushes and rock will be replaced with grass. The financial information shared below represents income and expenses through March 31, 2026.

April Contributions/Income: \$8,086.72 (Excluding Investment Acct Interest)

April Expenses: \$5,972.37

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

YTD Contributions/Income: \$23,140.72 (Excluding Investment Account Interest)

YTD Expenses: \$28,043.29

Please feel free to ask me about any expenses.

Thank you,
Dana Deacon



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 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

Pastor email: pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com

Office email: office@stmarksbethlehem.com

Choir email: 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.

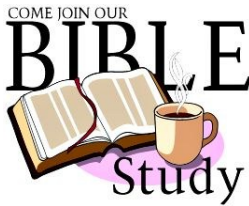


WORSHIP SERVICES: In– Person services are held and will continue indoors in the sanctuary. We will continue to live stream on Facebook every **Sunday at 9:30 AM.**



FELLOWSHIP TIME WITH COFFEE/DONUTS:

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: Begins immediately following services (approx. 10:45am) every **2nd & 4th** Sunday Unless noted differently. Led by Pastor Kleist in the fellowship hall.



MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING:

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



Pastor John D. Kleist contact info:

Email: pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com

Phone: 610-216-2970

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

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

Date: Thursday, June 18th, 2026

Time: 6:30-8:00 PM

Place: 3228 Reeve Dr. West, Apt. 18, Bethlehem

Hosts: Donna & Bill Carter

610-653-7527





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.

THANK YOU ALL for your continuing contributions of ALL food & paper products. Please contact Ron Richie if you are willing and able to help out.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your FATHER jn heaven" - Matthew 5:16

Volunteers to help cut & trim the grass needed!



VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED: We need volunteers to cut & trim the church grass - we are looking to make up 4 grass cutting teams to cut the grass - we have the riding mowers for you - we will show/teach you how they operate -please contact Tom Walters [610-868-5324] or Pete Kish [610-360-3416] We will start to cut grass approx. mid-April.



June Birthdays

06/05 - Lynne Berger
06/09 - Sara Ebersole
06/11 - Adrianna
Mantz
06/21 - Julie Barbarics
06/23 - Martina Cox
06/24 - Jennifer Porter
06/25 - Alice Walters
06/27 - Gabriella Cox
06/30 - Cheryl Gill



June Anniversaries



06/02/1973
John & Nancy McAtee



06/04/1966
Tom & Alice Walters



06/10/1995
Jim & Kari Ebersole



Servants of God for JUNE 2026

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

John Szabo

MONTHLY USHERS

Peter Kish & John McAtee

Greeters (All Month)

Donna & Peter Kish

PRAY-ERS

06/07-Donna Carter & Stephanie Trovato

COMMUNION

ASSISTANT

Jen Porter

LECTORS

06/07-Alice Walters
06/14-Donna Carter
06/21-Kari Ebersole
06/28-Alice Walters

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

06/07-Tom & Alice Walters
06/14-Al & Carol Tullock, Jr.
06/21-Mark Huston
06/28-Dawn Seyfried

BULLETINS

06/07-Open
06/14-Open
06/21-John & Nancy McAtee
06/28-Bill & Donna Carter

“WORD IN SEASON”

DEVOTIONAL

2ND QUARTER

John & Nancy McAtee

SANCTUARY MEMORIAL

CANDLE FOR JUNE

John & Nancy McAtee

Please use the Sponsor envelopes found next to the sign-up book to remit your payment for any sponsored items.

IN OUR PRAYERS



Partners in Ministry

Rev. Christopher deForest, Bishop, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

Rev. Yehiel Curry Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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

St. Mark's Disciples

Tom Walters

Ray Haring

Joe Craig

Dawn Seyfried

Bill Carter

Carl Willever

Maria Szabo

Fran Ramson

Jennifer Porter

Friends & Family

Ray Swinger

John Frable

Norman Docteroff

Jon Brannan

Micheil Koblish

Melanie

Doug Keller

Greg Keyock

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

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