

Community Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast

Make plans to bring your children/grandchildren to our breakfast and Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 24 hosted by St. Mark's Family/Fellowship/Outreach team. Children and parents/grandparents are invited to fellowship hall for a drop-in breakfast from 8 - 10:30 am. The Easter bunny will be our special guest.



After eating, the children are invited to join in an egg hunt on the church campus.



Holy Week

Passion/Palm Sunday

On Sunday, March 25 we will observe Passion/Palm Sunday. This day marks not only Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem accompanied by waving of palms. It also looks at the trials of Jesus' suffering and death on our behalf.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday, March 29 service begins at 7:00 pm. On this night, we recall Jesus gathering with his disciples in the Upper Room. Lovingly, Jesus washed the feet of each of his disciples. They shared a meal together that has become the Lord's Supper. Jesus gave them a new commandment, to love one another which has become the defining mark for all believers including us. Like the disciples, we will share a meal, Holy Communion, as part of this unique service.

Easter Sunday

An Easter Sunday, April 1 celebration will take place at our regular times of worship: 9:00 am Traditional and 10:45 am Contemporary. Special music is planned for both worship services as we celebrate that Jesus is no longer dead but is alive. Consider the persons that you know who you could personally invite to join in our Easter celebration.

Lenten Study of the Final Words from the Cross

Our Lenten Study, "Final Words from the Cross" continues on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8 pm throughout March. Even if you missed the beginning, it's not too late to participate. As we continue with this study, future topics are being planned. If there is a topic or study you would like to see presented, please share it with [Pastor Tim](#). Reading and reflecting on God's Word with other believers helps all of us grow in our faith.

Life on Mission - H3 Class

The Life on Mission team will be offering a four session class called H3 on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm starting Apr. 4 through Apr. 25. H3 seeks to incorporate how we relate and live out our faith using our Head, Heart, and Hands. Head - examines what a disciple knows and understands. Heart - considers the character of a disciple. Finally, Hands - answers the question of what a disciple does. If you would like to participate or would like further information call the church office at (717) 653-5493.

Financial Peace University

How does God desire for us to handle our money? What does Financial Peace look like? What can I do to better handle my money? Join us for a 9 week class as we explore the answers to these questions. The class will be coordinated by Laura Ligo and volunteers of St. Mark's and taught by Christian Finance Expert, Dave Ramsey. The class will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 pm beginning on Wednesday, April 4.

The class will be held at Aspire Community Center on 45 East Main Street. Please call our church office at (717) 653-5493 if you have any questions about FPU. We hope you will join us or invite others to participate!

To join, you must purchase a FPU Membership kit through the [Dave Ramsey website](#). If you'd like to be part of our church's bulk order, or if you would like to provide a scholarship, please contact [Laura Ligo](#) by Sunday, March 25.



Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again Challenge

Once again our church has responded to human need. As of late-February, St. Mark's collected \$1,842 to aid the Methodist churches in Puerto Rico recovering from last fall's devastating hurricane. The Finance team agreed to match funds - so more than \$3,684 will be sent to help our sister churches. Last month, our District Superintendent, Pastor Bumkoo Chung along with others from our Annual Conference spent several days helping in Puerto Rico. Thank you for your generous response. Your gifts truly make a difference.

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Art Sundays

Aspire will be open on March 11 and 25 for all types of artists from 6 - 9 pm. Painters, knitters, poets, musicians, etc. are encouraged to bring your project and supplies. Contact [Sherrie Gilbert](#) at (717) 669-1931 for more information.



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(717) 669-1931
sherrisacredspace@hotmail.com

Part-time Custodian - Mark Laukhuff

Organist - Lois Stites
loisstites@gmail.com

Chancel Choir Director - Michael Kohler
bwaynut@comcast.net

Sunday Custodial Coordinator - Bob Miller

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to turn your clock forward on Sunday, March 11

Ham Dinner

St. Mark's Sunday Dinner Team will be cooking and serving a delicious ham dinner on Sunday, March 11. Scalloped potatoes, a vegetable, applesauce, rolls & butter, dessert, and beverages complete the dinner. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$3 for children 4 - 11; and children under 3 are free. The proceeds from this ham dinner will go to support the following missions - GAIN, James Labala, and F.A.I.T.H. Homes of Donegal. Please join us on March 11 for delicious food and great fellowship while raising funds for three missions.

Free Hamloaf Dinner

A ham loaf dinner will be served free to the public at St. Mark's on Sunday, March 18 from 4 - 5 pm. The meal will also include buttered macaroni, a vegetable, applesauce, rolls & butter, dessert, and beverage. Although there is no cost for this meal, reservations should be made by calling the church office at (717) 653-5493 by 4 pm on Thursday, March 15.

Senior Ministry Luncheon

St. Mark's Senior Ministry invites all seniors to a luncheon on Wednesday, March 14. Please arrive at Fellowship Hall at 11 am. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am and will include a salad, beef stroganoff, and bread. Following the meal, we'll enjoy Winter Olympics themed activities. Donations will be accepted to help cover the expenses.

Soup Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who supported St. Mark's January soup sale. A very special thank you to all the volunteers who helped peel and dice potatoes, as well as to those who made the delicious soups! With your support and the support of many community members, we sold 358 quarts of soup! A total of \$1363.81 was raised to help support the Family/Fellowship/Outreach team's 2018 events with the focus on our church picnic.

SAVE THE DATE
Church Picnic - Saturday, August 25

Volunteer Opportunities - Easter Egg Hunt

The Family/Fellowship/Outreach team is looking for donations of small, individually wrapped pieces of candy to fill the plastic eggs for our egg hunt on March 24. Candy may be placed in the basket in the Welcome Center on Sundays, March 11 and March 18.

The team is also looking for volunteers to fill the plastic eggs with the donated candy, as well as help with the breakfast/egg hunt on March 24 from 8 - 10:30 am. To volunteer to fill the eggs or help with the event, please contact [Janet Lehman](#) at (717) 653-4189.

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Easter Candy Sale

Ladies from the church are gathering again this year to make chocolate Easter eggs and other Easter candy to raise funds for the General Fund. Last year's sale was a big success and the ladies would like to expand this opportunity by asking each of you to offer your friends and family the chance to order homemade candy. Order sheets are available in the Welcome Center and are due by March 4. You can pick-up your orders on Palm Sunday, March 25 in Fellowship Hall. Thanks for your support. Contact [Deb Rupp](#) at (717) 278-7202 for more information.



Thank you St. Mark's, Jim and I are both so humbly thankful to those of you who took the time to come into the Fellowship Hall to say good bye. Thank you for the prayers, cards, for those who put together the reception and to those who brought gifts. We know that God has touched our lives through our interaction with all of you in many ways. We are richer as we leave here.

Jim wants to say "thank you for your 'Martha style' of fellowship.

As we all know – when God closes one door we need to look for that open one He has for us – in our case the door here at St. Marks has closed – we will be looking for the open one He has for us in Texas. Feel free to keep in touch with our current emails and phone numbers.

Blessings,
[Jill](#) & [Jim](#)

info@connectstmarks.com

FAITH FACTORY NEWS

Greetings from the Faith Factory crew! The children have been so glad to be able to get outside a bit with this crazy weather! One minute it is snowing and the next it is 60 degrees! As we get closer to spring, we have some fun activities coming up! Our annual Race for Education is on April 25. Our plant sale will be heading this way for Mother's Day. This was such a big hit last year, that we are excited to offer it again! Look for our children to join with their Faith Factory Sunday friends for choir and bells on Mother's Day! It has been so rewarding to watch the friendships that have been formed.

We have been so blessed that the church members and staff are so connected with our children! The children love to see Miss Kim, Miss Sherrie & Miss Laura; they make sure that everyone around them hears them yelling "hello!" Mr. Rob is another familiar face and they love when he jokes around with them.



Miss Lois is a special favorite. They love to hear her practice the organ. As a former teacher, she is always so willing to take the time to show them the organ and listen to them as they share their stories with her.

4 Faith Factory extends a warm welcome to our newest teacher - Miss Pat!

We pray that during this Lenten season, you are able to take the time to reflect on the amazing power and love of Jesus. Lent is the time to prepare our hearts for Easter and bring Jesus back to the forefront of our lives. For more information about Faith Factory, contact [Patti Shearer](#) at (717) 653-8201.

Summer Mission Trip

Reach is excited to announce that this summer we will be teaming up with Christian Endeavor once again for their Missions Week! We will be traveling to the other side of Pennsylvania to New Castle to work with the local community to improve living conditions for residents who are in need of structural updates. We will be leaving Sunday, July 8 and returning Saturday, July 14. If you would like to support our mission team, we would appreciate financial donations, but we would also greatly appreciate prayer support as we prepare our hearts for this trip!

Family Easter Event

Children's Ministry will be holding an Easter Event for families on Sunday, March 18 between services from 10:00 - 10:40 am in Fellowship Hall. Join us for some snacks, a craft, and a story with Pastor Tim! Please RSVP to [Laura Ligo](#) by March 16.

Children's Choir

Kids Choir will be starting on Sunday, April 8 from 10:10 - 10:40 am for 3 year olds - 6th graders. Our group will meet weekly until we will perform on Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day). The group is led by Ms. Joi, Ms. Patti, and Ms. Margaret. The Kids Choir practices in the adult choir room in the basement level of the church.

Children's Bell Choir

Kids Handbell Choir has started practicing, but it is not too late for any new Kindergarten - 6th grade students to join. Practices are on Wednesdays from 4:30 - 5:00 pm. We will meet weekly until we perform on Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day). The bell choir is led by Ms. Laura and Ms. Cindy.

Please contact Laura Ligo if your child is interested in participating in our choir or handbell groups!





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Herbert Tshudy
- 2 Joyce Ricedorf
John Stauffer
- 3 Krista Wee
Mark Shearer
Tiffaney Snyder
- 4 Carol Walmer
Tyson Bomberger
Torrey Bomberger
Rosie Spence
- 6 Keith Gephart
- 9 Bonnie Boyer
Jean Harter
Alicia Orner
- 11 Frank Spence
Gail Merchant
Olivia Shenk
- 12 Diana Blace
Susan Williams-Patton
- 13 William Wealand
Tori Hans
Emebet Abere
Evelyn Kitchen
- 15 Karen Michnya
- 16 Steve Fiorello
Tanya West
- 17 Karlene Acker
- 18 Charles Hobday
Aria Rajnic
- 19 Sean Rajnic
Jonathan Brandt
- 20 Zachary Kramer
Elizabeth Billman
- 22 Ann Brubaker
Sue Patzer
Keith Cramer
Kaleab Weldeyes
Regan Ross
- 23 Heather Shepler
- 24 Margaret Longridge
Robert Meyers
Susan Harmon

- 26 Hazel Germer
Griffin Luft
Nathan Acker
- 27 Dan Bosse
- 28 Peggy Hann
Ken Lutz
Allyson Pietsch
- 29 Charlotte Lively
Janice Schell
Molly Cahill

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

- 70 Jean Harter
- 75 Ken Lutz
- 80 Bonnie Boyer
- 80 Charles Hobday
- 80 Ann Brubaker



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 John & Susan Patton
- 5 Troy & Annette Drohan
- 7 Bill & Charlotte Robinette
- 9 Charles & Joyce Ricedorf
- 14 Harold & Elaine Brady
William & Janet Eby
- 19 John & Melissa Billman
- 21 Gary & Elizabeth Karichner
- 29 Ken & Shirley Good

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 55 Charles & Joyce Ricedorf

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter flower order envelopes are available in the Sanctuary kiosk. The lilies are \$8.50 and tulips are \$7.00. You can dedicate them to a loved one and pick them up after Easter worship. Place your orders in the offering plate by March 19 or contact [Marge Yeich](#) at (717) 492-0606.



CAFÉ SCHEDULE AND SETUP

March Schedule	Donuts - Ken Gephart	Setup
4 Diane Kerlin, Gail Hawthorne		Sylvia Stark
11 Coffee and donuts		Judy Libhart
18 Carol Gockley, Mary Ann Rupp		Scott Libhart
25 Lois Stites, Kathy Wilfong		Judy Libhart

Support the Memorial Day Parade!

An auction to benefit the Mount Joy Memorial Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 3 at 9 am in Fellowship Hall.

Library News

Lent and Easter books are on display in the Library in the Welcome Center. Feel free to borrow a few. **Parents and Grand-parents:** Bring the children to select Christian books and videos for the family. When returning items, place them in the white basket.

Endowments to St. Mark's

A financial endowment is a donation of money or property to a non-profit organization for the ongoing support of that organization. St. Mark's instituted its first Endowment Fund Policy in 2000; a more recent policy was adopted in October 2011. There are four specific endowment areas:

- Property Maintenance - includes three sub-categories: Prayer Chapel/Children's Christian Education, Capital Enhancement, and the Hornafius Fund
- General - used for specific ministry projects or endeavors
- Education - specifically for individuals seeking to become a minister or missionary
- Missions - support for new or unfunded missions of St. Mark's

Investments to support the endowment funds are made in harmony with the ethical beliefs as embodied in the Social Principals of The United Methodist Church and with minimal asset management fees to ensure good stewardship of the entrusted funds. The primary objective for each fund is the preservation of the principal and utilizing only the capital gains and/or interest earned.

Numerous individuals have generously provided gifts that will help support the ministry and mission of St. Mark's well into our future. If you are interested in finding out how to set up a Legacy Gift for the church, contact [Rob Stoner](#) at (717) 653-5493 ext. 230.

Men's Ministry

All men are invited to attend Men's Ministry on Tuesday, March 6 at 6:30 pm at Aspire. The guys will also meet at Gus's Restaurant on Saturday, March 17 at 8 am for breakfast and fellowship. Contact [Jeff Selph](#) at (717) 928-4545 for more information.

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Trustees Corner

Calling all painters and do-it-yourselfers:

The Trustees are planning to undertake a number of painting projects this year, beginning with the Children's and Chancel Choir rooms. In addition, from time to time there are other minor projects that need to be accomplished around the church. If you have skills in any area of property maintenance; painting, plumbing, drop ceiling, electrical, etc. and would be willing in working as part of a team or individually to assist in maintaining God's house, please contact [Rob Stoner](#).

The bell tower restoration and stair tower repointing and sealing projects are moving forward with Houck Group, Inc. of Harrisburg. The contract includes replacement of deteriorated cut stone bands and architectural features as well as structural repairs to the bell tower, repointing and moisture proofing / sealing. Drohan Brick & Supply, Inc. and McCreesh Slate Roofing of Red Lion will also be involved in the project.

Help Lessen the Burden on Local Families

Mount Joy Helping Services and the Food Bank touches hundreds of lives by helping to meet basic needs such as food, clothing, heat, rent, and even temporary housing. Prayerfully consider supporting these two ministries by using your specially-marked giving envelope, texting 'foodbank17552' to 30131 or visiting www.connectstmarks.com/online-giving. Your food donations, prayer and financial support make a big difference to those in need and are greatly appreciated!

Prayer Meeting

Gather with others spending time in prayer on Tuesday, Mar. 13 at 9 am in the Prayer Room.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

St. Mark's Prayer Shawl Ministry invites you to join them on Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 pm to knit or crochet a prayer shawl. For more information, contact [Myrl Sherk](#) at (717) 653-5133.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Do you want to learn more about the Bible? Grow closer to others in the church? Join the Thursday Bible study group from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Room 102. Contact [Jean Ann Harter](#) at (717) 892-3003 or [Sylvia Stark](#) at (717) 341-2654 for more information.

2018 Leadership Chair

[Dave Schell](#) is the new Chair of the Leadership Team. Please contact him at (717) 653-2573 with any questions or concerns.

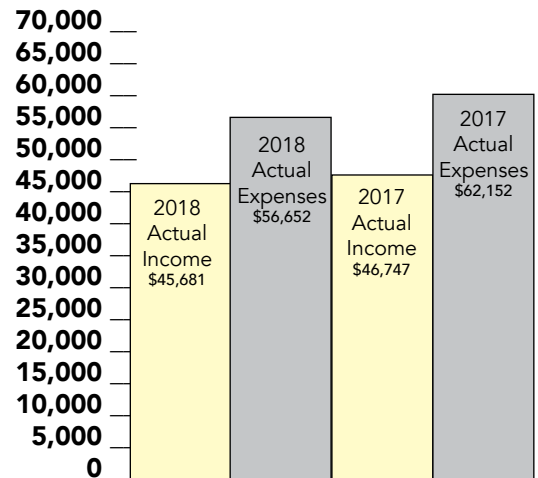
GIVING REPORT

YEAR 2017 GIVING REPORT

January 1 - January 31, 2018 Last Year

General Fund	Y.T.D.	Y.T.D.
Actual Income	\$ 45,681	\$ 46,747
Budget Needed	\$ 51,481	\$ 65,037
Actual Expenses	\$ 56,652	\$ 62,152
Building Fund (45 E Main/Trustee Projects Loan)		
Actual Income	\$ 920	\$ 1,370
Budget Needed	\$ 1,179	\$ 1,179
<i>Loan Balance = 92,469</i>		
Capital Campaign		
Actual Giving	\$ 1,260	\$ 17,576
Mission Giving		
Jan. Mission of the Month -		
Faith Factory	\$ 1,000	\$ 799
Total Mission Giving	\$ 1,317	\$ 2,091
St. Mark's Emergency Fund		
Actual Income	\$ 1,405	\$ 4,860
Actual Expenses	\$ 105	\$ 1,063
Special Offerings		
Actual Income	\$ 2,331	\$ 1,929
TOTAL GIVING	\$ 55,472	\$ 74,573

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY



We've Made E-giving Simple!

Sign up today by enrolling in automatic, recurring donations by Credit Card, Debit Card, or Automatic Withdrawal from your bank account.

Log onto www.connectstmarks.com and click on About Us, Giving, then Online Giving. Log in or Give as a Guest. If you need further assistance, contact [Janice Schell](mailto:Janice.Schell) at (717) 653-5493 ext. 225.

Giving Statements

Statements can be printed anytime at www.connectstmarks.com. Scroll down the screen and click on Login to My St. Mark's Connection. (If you don't have a password, click on Are You New, Create an Account and a password will be emailed to you.) Once you are logged in, scroll down the page to your personal information and click on GIVING. Choose a date range. Click PRINT.

Service of Remembrance

Hospice and Community Care invites you, your family and friends to attend a special Service of Remembrance in memory of loved ones who passed away in 2017. The Lancaster service will be held at Highland Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 11 at 2 pm. Childcare is available at this location. A York service will be held at Luther Memorial Church on Sunday, March 18 at 2 pm, For more information, call (717) 391-2413.

**St. Mark's
United Methodist Church**
37 East Main Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

(717) 653-5493
www.connectstmarks.com
info@connectstmarks.com

For questions or to submit information contact:
Sarah Clarke
sclarke@connectstmarks.com
or Kim Wargo
kwargo@connectstmarks.com

The deadline for the next newsletter is

APRIL 16

The deadline for the enote, weekly bulletin and video announcements is two weeks before the publication date. Announcements normally run no more than two/three weeks.



37 East Main Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552

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Change Service Requested



meeting needs, touching lives, changing the world

Happy Easter!



"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth."

Job 19:25