

Thoughts from the Pastor:

Dear People of St. Mark's,

Despite the historic cold and even snow, St. Mark's members remain faithful at worship. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took down and put away the Christmas decorations—your hard work is much appreciated. So many people do so many things to make our congregation work!

Gratitude for Leadership and Service

I want to extend my deep gratitude to Jim Ebersole for his many years of service as our president. He has assured me that he isn't going anywhere, and I give thanks for his ongoing dedication to St. Mark's.

Our council recently met and elected new officers. I am pleased to announce our leadership team:

- **President:** Amy Cygan
- **Vice President:** Alison Bittner
- **Secretary:** Dawn Seyfried
- **Financial Secretary:** Cheryl Gill

I am grateful for their willingness to serve in these important roles. My style is to work as "executive director." This will be different, and I hope I can lead effectively and efficiently.

We are working to empower responsibility groups by delegating decision-making to those who gather facts and implement their recommendations. These decisions will be reviewed by our board when reports are read, refined, and approved. This collaborative approach strengthens our church's governance and ensures effective action.

Together with our excellent council members—John McAtee, Pete Kish, Dana Deacon, Jen Porter, and Lynne Berger—we are committed to leading St. Mark's into the future. While it is a challenging task, we embrace it with faith and determination.

Engaging Sunday School Sessions

I am thoroughly enjoying teaching our Adult Sunday School most Sundays following worship. Recently, we explored early heresies, and we will soon turn our attention to the Nicene Creed. Each class is designed as a standalone experience, so you can join us whenever your schedule allows. I encourage everyone to come and participate in these enriching discussions.

If You Need Me

I often get lost in my own world, and I know that I am often "out there." I might not notice things other people do. Please: I need and will take advice from anyone. If you see something I am not giving my attention to, please take the time to contact me. "The squeaky wheel gets the grease." I need everyone's help so that I may do the work as your pastor.

Supporting St. Mark's Together

Please make worship a priority whenever you are able and remember that your offerings are vital to supporting our operations. Together, we are St. Mark's! For God so loped the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoeper believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

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:: @stmarksbethlehem.com

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 : <u>office@stmarksbethlehem.com</u>.



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.



F BIBLE STUDY: Begins immediately following services (approx. 10:45am) every Sunday. Led by Pastor Kleist in the fellowship hall.

Pastor John D. Kleist contact information:



Email: pastor@stmarksbethlehem.com Phone: 610-216-2970

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

You're invited to a prayer/fellowship and devotional discussion: Date: Thursday, February 20th 2025 Time: 7:00-8:30 PM Place: 3228 Reeve Dr. West, Apt.18 Bethlehem, PA 18020 610-653-7527 Hosts: Donna & Bill Carter





St. Andrew's Food Bank

There were volunteers helping at the St. Andrew's Food Bank on Wednesday, January 15th from St. Mark's .

Thank you all for your help!- Mark Huston & Ron Ritchie

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. The next time St. Marks has duty at the Food Bank will be on <u>Wednesday, February 19th ,2025 from</u> <u>5pm to 8pm.</u> 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



<u>February Birthdays</u> 02/03– Alfred Tullock, Jr. 02/12-Christen Borso 02/18-Sharon Frankenfield 02/20-Sharon Seaman 2/23-Donna Kish 02/27-Amber Seaman





None in February

Servants of God for February 2025

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

02/02-Alison Bittner 02/09-Amy Cygan 02/16-John McAtee 02/23-Alison Bittner

<u>Monthly Ushers</u> Peter & Donna Kish

Peter & Donna Kish

Greeters

02/02-Donna & Peter Kish 02/09-Bill & Donna Carter 02/16-Kathy Grube 02/23-Donna & Peter Kish

Pray-ers

02/02-Donna Carter & Dawn Seyfried

Communion

Assistant 02/02-Dawn Seyfried

LECTORS 02/02-Lynne Berger 02/09-Kari Ebersole 02/16-Lynne Berger 02/23-Donna Carter

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

Altar flowers

02/02-Open 02/09-Al & Carol Tullock,Jr. 02/16-Open 02/23-Open

BULLETINS

02/02-Open 02/09-Open 02/16-Open 02/23-Open <u>"Word In Season"</u>

 Devotional

 1st Quarter

 Donna & Bill Carter

 Donna & Bill Carter

 John & Nancy McAtee

 3rd Quarter

 Open

 4th Quarter

 Donna & Bill Carter

Sanctuary Memorial Candle for February Donna & Bill Carter

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

IN OUR PRAYERS





Partners in Ministry

Rev.Christopher deForest, Bishop, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

<u>St. Mark's Disciples</u>

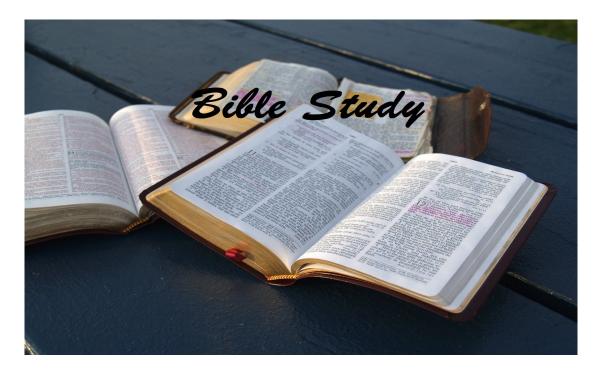
Vic Berger Ray Haring William Beaver Pat Ritchie The family of Pat Koehler on her passing on 12/25 Ron Ritchie Carl Willever Lee Koehler Cheryl Coulter Tom Walters Bea Craig Maria Szabo Fran Ramson Martha Bean

Friends & Families of St. Mark's Rick (Pat Ritchie's brother)

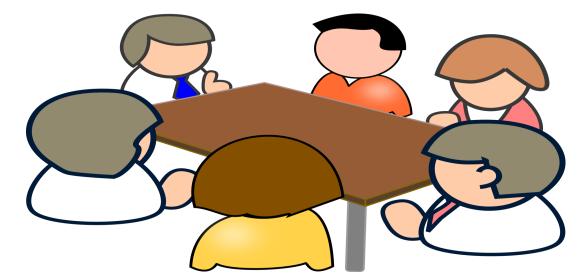




We are in need of volunteers to help clean the church. If you can help see Jim Ebersole, Pastor Kleist, Tom Walters or Mark. Thank you!



<u>Bible Study continues following worship at 10:45 AM</u> Bible Study, 10:45 AM Right after Worship!



Council Meetings are now the third Sunday of the month at following worship. (No Sunday School those days.) This month's is <u>February 16th</u> Please mark your calendars! St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church 3771 Easton Avenue Bethlehem, PA 18020

