

The Parishioner

Volume 29 Issue 5 A Publication of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2024

From the Pastor's Desk:

"I believe in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting." This is affirmed in the Apostles' Creed. With the Nicene Creed we affirm, "We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." The Athanasian Creed puts it this way: "He (Jesus) will come to judge the living and the dead. At his coming *all people shall rise bodily* to give an account of their own deeds." The order of these affirmations is important: life everlasting involves the resurrected body.

When we affirm our belief in the resurrection of the body, we are not at that point referring to Jesus' resurrection; we are affirming the promise of our own. The reason we are affirming the promise of our own is, of course, the resurrection of Jesus himself. He is the first-fruit from the dead; he paved the way. Because he lives, we live. Because he was raised, we will be raised.

This truth, this affirmation, is the climax of the gospel message. For that reason, I am always surprised by the response of many who hear this truth proclaimed. On the Third Sunday of Easter (14 April), my sermon focused on the Gospel Lesson, Luke 24, the appearance of the risen Jesus to the disciples. During this time Jesus – the resurrected Jesus – says to the disciples, "See my hands and feet.... Touch me, and see. A spirit/ghost does not have flesh and bone as you see that I have." The resurrected Jesus carries the wounds of his crucifixion; he has flesh and bone! This alone should put to rest any questions about the physicality of the resurrected body.

God created the world and saw each day, that it was good. On the sixth day, when he had created the man and the woman, he saw that his creation was "very good". We must remember that "flesh and blood and bone" are part of God's good creation. Like the rest of creation, humanity was infected by sin. When God set about to redeem the world, he sent his Son to become flesh – genuine human flesh. When the crucified and buried Son was raised from the dead, his flesh was transformed, but it remained real flesh and bone. Jesus made that clear in Luke 24 (and in John 20 & 21). He drives home the point by asking them for something to eat and eating it "in front of them" (Luke 24.43 [and implied in John 21.9-10]).

One of the unfortunate aspects of much popular teaching about "the end of the world" is that God is going to destroy this world, free us from our flesh (which is viewed as evil), and take us to heaven where we will live with him forever. The belief that flesh is evil, that the soul is good and that our hope is to be set free so that we can become eternal spirits is a pagan teaching; it is not biblical.

When believers die and go to heaven, that time is temporary, not forever. When Christ returns we will be raised, first those who are "asleep" (i.e., dead), then those who are still alive (see 1 Thessalonians 4). As Paul teaches in 1 Corinthians 15 (a passage that many well-meaning believers ignore or misinterpret), the

resurrection will involve a body, a body that will be spiritually empowered and driven, as opposed to the present corruptible body that is plagued by sin.

When God redeems creation (see Paul's passionate argument in Romans 8), there will be a new heaven and new earth. Creation will return to the state God intended when he created it in the first place. To live on the New Heaven-New Earth we will require new bodies. That is why we will be raised. We will be like the resurrected Jesus, who has flesh and bones.

If you are interested in reading further on this, I recommend to you the following two books (I have included the ISBNs in case you want to purchase one or both of them):

N. T. Wright. *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church.* New York: HarperOne, 2008 [9780061551826].

Middleton, J. Richard. *A New Heaven and a New Earth: Reclaiming Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014 [ISBN 9780801048685].

"FOR BEHOLD, I CREATE NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH; AND THE FORMER THINGS WILL NOT BE REMEMBERED OR COME TO MIND

With you in hope and ministry, Pastor Phillips

ISAIAH 65:17

You're Invited

Celebrating the Women of St. Mark's!

Saturday, May 4, 2024 @ 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Moms, daughters, grand-daughters, aunts, nieces, friends,
all are invited to gather in friendship & fellowship.

RSVP the church office today!

Stay Connected

We are working hard to continue reaching out, serving and "being witnesses" through a variety of old and new ways. Find us, "Like us" and Share us!

- <u>Website</u> stmarksbutler.org / <u>Facebook</u> St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Butler, PA)
- YouTube St. Marks Butler PA / Radio Broadcast WBUT 1050 AM, Sunday mornings @ 10:30 am
- Newsletter "The Parishioner" sent monthly to your mailbox and found on the website
- Email Parish Administrator, wendy.holt@stmarksbutler.org / Phone (724)-287-6741
- Mail 201 West Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001

Help us stay connected to you. Share and/or update your contact information so that we can keep you informed.

<u>Address Updates for your directory-</u> Please notify the church office with any address/phone number changes, or directory corrections, so that we can keep all contact information up to date. Thank You.

***Latest Updates for your directory:

- Jan Hortert contact the church office for changes
- Donna Gold contact the church office for changes
- Glen Gold contact the church office for changes



3T-Wednesday, May 1 @ 9:00 am Time of talk, task & tea - lite lunch @ 11:30am, bring a dish to share



Join us in this time of fellowship as we cut, stitch, tie, sort, weave. All abilities and hands are encouraged and welcome.

We are collecting for our 2nd bench. The updated rules require 1000 lbs. of plastic donated in a 1-year period. Any questions about plastic donations can be directed to Carol Scott; all plastic used for this project diverts it from ending up in our landfills and waterways.

- *Our collection bins are located at the bottom of the steps coming in from the parking lot.
- *Find the list of acceptable plastic items that qualify on the table near the elevator and start recycling today!

Afternoon @ the Movies

Thursday, May 2, 2024

>Seven Alone<

Spring, 1842. America's unclaimed and unexplored land drew thousands of settlers to the West, including the Sager family. Traveling from Missouri to Oregon, both parents succumbed to the untamed wilderness - the father from blood poisoning, and mother from pneumonia. Their seven children courageously continued the journey their parents began, a feat that truly defines "pioneer." Here is a heartwarming adventure film for the whole family; this is the amazing story of the Sager children on the Oregon Trail.

Thursday, May 16, 2024

>War Room<

Filled with heart, humor, and wit, WAR ROOM follows Tony and Elizabeth Jordan, a couple who seemingly have it all-great jobs, a beautiful daughter, their dream home. But appearances can be deceiving. In reality, their marriage has become a war zone and their daughter is collateral damage. With guidance from Miss Clara, an older, wiser woman, Elizabeth discovers she can start fighting for her family instead of against them. As the power of prayer and Elizabeth's newly energized faith transform her life, will Tony join the fight and become the man he knows he needs to be? Together, their real enemy doesn't have a prayer.

Viewing time is 1:30 pm; bring a friend!

Congregational Council

>Next meeting<

Tuesday, May 14 @ 6:30

Please have your reports into the office by Thursday, May 9. Envelopes will be available for pick-up in your mailboxes, Saturday, May 11.

St. Mark's Financial Overview March 2024 Receipts \$41,319.81 Expenses \$31,565.54 \$ 9,754.27 Excess

Prayer Shawl Group

Wednesday, May 8 @ 1:00 pm. If you are unable to join the group at the church, but would still like to add your talents, please reach out to Elaine Walker.

Old Testament Bible Study Thursdays @ 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Phillips. **Bible Study**

Eve Bible Study will meet on Tues., May 28, at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference room. The study that day is "Children of the Light". from the study book "By the Will of God".

Join Us! Ascension Day **Worship Service** Thursday, May 9 @ 7:00 pm

Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ in observing and celebrating this powerful and necessary act of grace. Let us, with this celebration of Ascension Day, renew our faith in the incarnate, crucified, risen, and ascended Jesus.

80+ Luncheon, Wednesday, May 22

- Fellowship, Food, Friends!
- Communion will be shared **before** lunch @ 12:00 pm.
- Make sure to invite your 80+ St. Mark's friends. We will not be sending out invitations, so consider vourself invited!
- Please call the church office by May 14 to make your reservations, (724) 287-6741



Hope to see you there!

Desserts NEEDED!

<u>June is St. Mark's month to provide desserts</u> for the Butler Meals on Wheels clients. Please have your donations to Fellowship Hall before <u>10:00 am, Tues. morning, June 4</u>.

Are you able to deliver our donations on June 4?

We are in need of a volunteer to take the desserts to St. Peter's Anglican Church.



Monthly Baked Goods Information for Butler Meals on Wheels Inc.

Butler Meals on Wheels is always looking for individuals to bake and donate desserts for our clients.

Some dessert items we can always use are:

- Cookies or Brownies

 no nuts
- Gingerbread
- Cupcakes no icing on top (can be filled)
- Bundt cakes no icing

- Pies any kind except cream pies
- Angel Food cakes for diabetics
- Sugar Free desserts for diabetics
- Breads—banana, pumpkin, etc.

Helpful Tips!

- It is a great help to have the items labeled & packed ready for the freezer in non-returnable containers.
- ◆ Items may be delivered to Meals on Wheels M—F from 8 am—10 am at the following address:

St. Peter's Anglican Church—218 E. Jefferson Street (the corner of Jefferson and Cliff Streets, next to the Little Red School house)

If you are interested, have any questions or would like more information, feel free to call 724-285-3815 or 724-285-9573.

Youth News!

VBS

SCUBA [VBS], Diving into friendship with God.

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

We are doing Vacation Bible School this year! Pleas, mark your calendars. It will be June 24-28, 9:00 am -12:00 pm, with a program, Sunday, June 30.

Registration forms are available near the church office and down stairs in the greeting area outside the library. Children ages 2 years old -8^{th} grade are invited to sign-up, with the possibility of high school through adults, depending on the number of people interested.

We are in need of lots of help for jobs like greeters, set up and clean up, and/or teachers. Can you give us one day, two days, all the days? No volunteer will be turned away.

And we need lots of children! Invite your kids, grandkids, nieces/nephews, neighbors' kids. Help us make VBS at St. Mark's the cool place to be this summer

Questions? Talk with Youth Director, Shelley O'Donnell or email her, shelley.odonnell@stmarksbutler.org

Chíldren's Hour Fun ín Apríl Cowboy Day, and fun crafts!



















Katie's Kitchen Newsletter for May 2024......

ABUNDANCE... my word for the month! Oh, what a month it has been! As some of you know, my husband has been having some health issues that the doctors couldn't seem to get a handle on. It has been a month of 2 different trips to the hospital by ambulance & spending a total of 11 days with a great team of nurses, doctors, & hospital staff. April 15 test results came back indicating that he needed a pacemaker. He was added to the schedule & it was put in the very next day. He is now home, feeling so much better & getting adjusted to his new "friend"!

This month has been an ABUNDANCE of emotions from scary & frightening to excitement that we may have finally found an answer to one of his big issues; an ABUNDANCE of texts & phone calls; an ABUNDANCE of MD's, PA's, CNPs, RN's; an ABUNDANCE of tests (I think he had everyone the hospital had to offer); an ABUNDANCE of prayers offered up on our behalf!♥

All through these days, Bill & I were very aware of God's presence in all that we were going thru. We may have questioned it, but we were confident that God had a handle on everything & would lead us & his health care team where we needed to be. In the days ahead, there may be another surgery, but we trust in God's Providence. He knows what He has planned for us & we just need to trust in His Divine Mercy. The Lord has no shortage of graces & blessings— He has an ABUNDANCE and shares them daily and free of charge! We just have to Ask & Trust!

News from the Kitchen......

- ✓ A HUGE shout out to Raylene J, Loretta, Jean, Vince, & all of the KK family for "holding down the kitchen" while I've been busy with Bill. We have a GREAT team of volunteers who know exactly what needs to be done when I'm not there
- ✓ The number of meals we serve continues to grow. We are now expecting to serve almost 300 during
 the Middle of the month! I suspect that it is in part to the lack of available food from Millers
 Meats & Save a Lot.
- ✓ We all survived the Community Meal Ministries Gala & Art Show! It was a wonderful event, bringing together all of the churches that serve meals to our hungry neighbors. It is a labor of love for all of us & it is always heartwarming to see how everyone pitches in to help! The profits will be divided among all 5 churches.

Thank you so much for the ABUNDANCE of prayers we have received! It has been humbling & overwhelming. We wish all who prayed for us an ABUNDANCE of God's grace. Please pray for all who are being physically & emotionally challenged in any way! **Justine**

"Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance."

- Eckhart Tolle







Welcome



Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp

INGREDIENTS: Strawberry-Rhubarb Filling:

- 1 pound strawberries, hulled and sliced into small bite-sized pieces
- 1 pound rhubarb (about 4 stalks), cut into ½ by ½-inch pieces (slice larger stalks in half lengthwise before slicing them into ¼-inch wide pieces)
- ½ to ½ cup honey*
- 2 tablespoons arrowroot starch or 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Topping:

- 3/4 cup old-fashioned oats
- ¾ cup white whole wheat flour or regular whole wheat flour or flour of choice
- ⅓ cup lightly packed brown sugar
- ¼ teaspoon fine salt
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons plain yogurt (Greek or regular)

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. In a 9 by 9-inch baking dish, mix together the strawberries, rhubarb, honey, arrowroot or corn starch and vanilla extract.

In a medium mixing bowl, stir together the oats, flour, brown sugar and salt. Mix in the Greek yogurt and melted butter. Stir until all of the flour is incorporated and the mixture is moistened throughout.

Dollop spoonfuls of the oat mixture over the strawberryrhubarb filling and use your fingers to break up the mixture until it is evenly distributed (no need to pack it down).

Bake for 50 to 55 minutes, or until the filling is bubbling around the edges and the top is turning lightly golden. Let the crisp rest for 5 to 10 minutes before serving. Serve with vanilla ice cream, I insist.

Source: https://cookieandkate.com/strawberry-rhubarb-crisp/

NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Letter from the Bishop On the Conflict Between Israel and Hamas

Dear Pastors, Congregations, Partners in Ministry, Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the wake of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, which is also emerging in other parts of the region, our hearts are heavy with sorrow and concern for the people and the nations involved. An abrupt offensive led by Hamas, has resulted in an escalation of violence that has caused abhorrent suffering for countless individuals, families, and communities.

The North American Lutheran Church (NALC) unequivocally condemns the violent actions of any terrorist group, as well as all forms of antisemitism found throughout the world. In contrast, we advocate for peace, justice, and the sanctity of all human life. We believe in the power of prayer and the potential of human hearts to move towards reconciliation and peace under the divine guidance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We stand with all those in the region who yearn for peace. We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all its inhabitants, remembering that we have brothers and sisters in Christ living in Israel, as well as in other Arab nations including Palestine, who find themselves in dire circumstances amidst the turmoil.

We are mindful of the complex history and deep-rooted tensions that permeate the region. Yet, we ardently pray for an end to the hostilities and for a sustainable resolution that honors the dignity, security, and rights of all individuals. We call upon the leaders involved to act with wisdom, compassion, and a genuine desire for lasting peace.

We invite our pastors, congregations, and partners in ministry to unite in fervent prayer for peace in Israel, Gaza, and the surrounding region, for the illumination and guidance of the leaders involved, and for humanitarian aid to reach those in desperate need. Let us all be praying for a future where enmity is replaced with understanding, oppression with justice, and despair with hope, under the sovereign grace of our loving and Triune God.

I encourage our congregations to be places where our doors are open for comfort and prayer for all of God's people, and where the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed to us in His life, death, and resurrection from the dead for our sin are abundantly present and found.

The following prayer is offered for your use, individually, as families, and in your congregations:

Gracious God, in a world overshadowed by sin and strife, we come before You with heavy hearts, seeking Your divine mercy and peace for the people living in Israel, the Gaza Strip, and the surrounding regions. We pray for the leaders of the nations, that their hearts may be stirred towards justice, reconciliation, and the well-being of all people.

We pray for those whose lives have been lost, for those torn from their homes and families, as well as for those who are being held hostage in this brutal conflict.

We pray for comfort, protection, and healing for wounded spirits and bodies, knowing that all true healing is found in You alone. Lord, may Your boundless love lead us through these dark times towards a horizon of hope, understanding, and enduring peace.

Help us to never lose sight of the promises we have in Jesus and to never lose hope in the One who, through His cross and resurrection from the dead, has secured our lives eternally. In the holy and precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." – John 16:33 NIV

In Christ's service, The Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo Bishop, North American Lutheran Church

Read more here: https://thenalc.org/2023/10/13/a-letter-from-the-bishop-on-the-conflict-between-israel-and-hamas/

<u>Historical Trivia for May</u> <u>This Day in History: May 1, 1960</u>, the pilot of an American U-2 spyplane was shot down while flying though Soviet airspace. The fallout over the incident resulted in the cancellation of the Paris Summit scheduled to discuss the ongoing situation in divided Germany, the possibility of an arms control or test ban treaty, and the relaxation of tensions between the USSR and the United States.

As early as 1955, officials in both Moscow and Washington had grown concerned about the relative nuclear capabilities of the Soviet Union and the United States. Given the threat that the nuclear arms race posed to national security. leadership in both countries placed a priority on information about the other side's progress. At a conference in Geneva in 1955, U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower proposed an "open skies" plan, in which each country would be permitted to make overflights of the other to conduct mutual aerial inspections of nuclear facilities and launchpads. Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev refused the proposal, continuing the established Soviet policy of rejecting international inspections in any form. Meanwhile, Khrushchev also claimed that the Soviet Union had developed numerous intercontinental ballistic missiles, which only motivated the United States Government to look for new ways to verify developments in the Soviet nuclear program. The U-2 spyplane program grew out of these concerns. The U-2 was a special high-altitude plane that flew at a ceiling of 70,000 feet. Because it flew at such heights, it was thought it would be possible for the planes to pass over the Soviet Union undetected by radar on the ground. It was important that the overflights be undetected, because normally an unauthorized invasion of another country's airspace was considered an act of war. Operated through the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the first flight over Moscow and Leningrad (St. Petersburg) took place on July 4, 1956. The flights continued intermittently over the next four years. It was later revealed that the Soviets did pick up the flights on radar, and the United States lost a plane over the Soviet Union in 1959, but as long as there was no definitive proof connecting the flights to the United States there was no advantage for the Soviets to raise the issue publically lest it draw attention to the Soviet inability to shoot down the offending flights. On May 1, 1960, the situation changed. On the eve of the Paris Summit and during the May Day holiday, CIA pilot Francis Gary Powers took off from a base in Pakistan bound for another base in Norway, with his planned flight path transgressing 2,900 miles of Soviet airspace. Near the city of Sverdlovsk Oblast in the Ural Mountains, Powers encountered Soviet fighter jets, and his plane was shot down. Powers ejected and parachuted safely to the ground, where he was captured by the KGB, and held for interrogation. The plane crashed, but parts of it were recovered and placed on public display in Moscow as evidence of American deceit.

Although the capture of Powers provided the Soviets the concrete proof that the United States had been conducting the flights, it was not immediately clear what the impact would be for the Paris Summit. At first, and before they had confirmation that Powers had survived, U.S. officials claimed that the U-2 had been conducting a routine weather flight but experienced a malfunction of its oxygen delivery system that had caused the pilot to black out and drift over Soviet air space. On May 7, however, Khrushchev revealed that Powers was alive and uninjured, and clearly had not blacked out from oxygen deprivation. Moreover, the Soviets recovered the plane mostly intact, including the aerial camera system. It became instantly apparent that the weather survey story was a cover-up for a spy program. Khrushchev had publically committed himself to the idea of "peaceful coexistence" with the United States and the pursuit of détente, so from his perspective, if U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower denied any knowledge of the spy program and the United States apologized, he would have continued the summit. Spying was common, and of course, the Soviet Union had its own agents reporting on developments in the United States. Eisenhower, however, refused to issue a formal apology to the Soviet Union; he had taken a great personal interest in the spyplane program, and considered the violation of Soviet airspace and the reconnaissance of Soviet nuclear facilities serious enough to personally approve each flight. On May 11, Eisenhower finally acknowledged his full awareness of the entire program and of the Powers flight in particular. Moreover, he explained that in the absence of an "open skies" agreement, such spy flights were a necessary element in maintaining national defense, and that he planned to continue them. Eisenhower's statement left Khrushchev in a difficult position. If he did nothing, that would be_tantamount to acknowledging implicitly the right of the United States to spy. But any action Khrushchev did take had the potential to scuttle the upcoming conference and his larger plans for a Soviet-American détente. Ultimately, he demanded that Eisenhower apologize for the past flights and promise to discontinue them as a precondition for entering into the planned negotiations on Germany. Eisenhower's refusal led the Soviet delegation to leave Paris just as the summit was about to begin. After extensive questioning by the KGB, Powers was convicted of spying and sentenced to three years in prison and seven more of hard labor. In February, 1962, however, he and a detained American student were traded for a captured Soviet spy, Rudolpf Abel. Although Eisenhower refused to end the U-2 program, it was quickly overtaken by new technology, as satellite images replaced aerial photographs. For his part, Khrushchev abandoned his attempts to cooperate with Eisenhower, opting instead to wait for the inauguration of the new U.S. President, John F. Kennedy, elected to office in November, 1960. Source: https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/lw/107188.htm

Wild flowers of Pennsylvania

Podophyllum peltatum L. - **Mayapple**, Indian Apple, Wild Mandrake, Pomme De Mai, Podophylle Pelt

Growing Information

• Duration: Perennial

Habit: Herb

• Leaf Complexity: Simple

• Leaf Venation: Palmate

• Leaf Pubescence: Glabrous

• Breeding System: Flowers Bisexual

• Fruit Type: Berry

• Size Notes: Height: 12-18 inches

• Leaf: Green

• Flower: Flowers 2 inches

• Fruit: Yellow, sometimes tinged with pink, rose, or purple 2 inches

long

Mayapple is unique in that It has only 2 leaves and 1 flower, which grows in the axil of the leaves. The large, twin, umbrella-like leaves of mayapple are showy and conspicuous. They remain closed as the stem lengthens, unfolding 6-8 inches across when the plant has reached its 1-1 1/2 ft. height. The solitary, nodding, white to rose-colored flower grows in the axil of the leaves and has 6-9 waxy white petals, with many stamens. The nodding fruit is a large, fleshy, lemon-shaped berry.

Mayapple colonizes by rhizomes, forming dense mats in damp, open woods. The common name refers to the May blooming of its apple-blossom-like flower. Although the leaves, roots, and seeds are poisonous if ingested in large quantities, the roots were used as a cathartic by Native Americans. The edible, ripe, golden-yellow fruits can be used in jellies. The alternate popular name "Mandrake" rightly belongs to an unrelated Old World plant with a similar root.

Bloom Information - Bloom Color: White, Pink * Bloom Time: Mar, Apr, May * Bloom Notes: Flowers usually white, but some populations display pinkish, rosy, or purplish flowers. Pink/rose/purple-flowered plants are sometimes referred to as a separate form of this species: Deamii.

Growing Conditions - Water Use: Medium * Light Requirement: Part Shade , Shade * Soil Moisture: Moist * Soil pH: Acidic (pH<6.8) * Soil Description: Moist, humus-rich soils. Acid-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam * Conditions Comments: Drought-tolerant within its eastern forest range, but should not be tried anywhere else. Grows under deciduous hardwoods, not under pines. Do not mix with other plants, as it does not like competition.

Source: https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=pope

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Fun riddles for the month of May to exercise your brain

- At the sound of me, you may stomp your feet, but you may also dream or weep. What am I?
- 2. A locked sphere without hinges or key. Break me open and golden treasures you'll see
- 3. What word is that, which, deprived of its first letter, leaves you sick?
- 4. I am a time for gathering crops. Remove the first three letters I become an object you can wear. What am I?
- 5. What has a green top, red on its belly, seeds on the outside, and tastes great in jelly?

Source: https://www.brainzilla.com/brainteasers/riddles/ZxMab5yG/what-has-a-green-top-red-onits-belly-seeds-on-the-outside-and/

happy **mother's day!**



May 11/12

Give your Mom the gift of worship with family, and go home with a potted flower from the St. Mark's Christian Education Department to honor your mother.



"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants." ---Psalm 116:15

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid.

They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices."

They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices."

Monday, May 27, 2024

---President Harry S Truman



Dear Friend, We are so thankful for the generous donation you made to Isaiah 117 House-Butler County.

Your donation will help achieve our mission for the children, child welfare services and foster families. Thanks for coming along side us and being part of this exciting opportunity to help those in our community.

~Love, Isaiah 117 House Team

Dear Pastor Phillips,

Thank you so very much for the beautiful dedication on Sunday. We could not have asked for anything more perfect. Thank you for allowing Matt's memory to be a permanent part of the church he loved. Thank you for your love and caring spirit you have shown us. ~ Thank you, again, so much,

The Matthew Protzman Family

Stop by the Church Library



New titles to take a look at:

- The Sinners Garden ~Kelly Rimmer
- The Dog I Loved ~ Susan Welson
- Oh, God, Where Are You ~ Abie Abraham

One note:

Please help us find the books missing from our library collection. Check through your books at home for the following titles:

- My Greatest Challenge ~ Bill Glass
- More Light on the Dead Sea Scrolls ~
 Millar Burrows
- Day-By-Day with Billy Grahm ~ Joan Winmill Brown
- Dear God, It's Cancer ~ William A. Fintel
- Abraham Lincoln ~ Carl Sandburg



A BIG thank you to everyone that volunteered, shared flower dedications, and/or participated in the Holy Week worship services.





St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church 201 West Jefferson Street

Butler, Pennsylvania 16001 Phone: 724-287-6741 Fax: 724-287-6747

Website: www.stmarksbutler.org

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 AM -- 1: 00 PM Tuesday - Friday WORSHIP SERVICES Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM Sunday School: 10:15 AM Non-Profit
Organization
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BUTLER, PA

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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St. Mark's Staff
Rev. David Phillips, Senior Pastor
Wendy Holt, Parish Administrator
John Lingenfelter, Custodian
Larry Rettig, Custodian
Rebecca Veith, Director of Music
Shelley O'Donnell, Youth Director
Sherry Young, Treasurer
Toni Tassey, Financial Secretary

Sunday		MONDAY		Tuesday		WEDNESDAY		Thursday		FRIDAY		Saturday	
						9:00am 3T 9:30am Children's Hour 6:00pm Children's Hour Program	1	1:30pm Movie 5:00pm Katie's Kitchen 6:00pm Bible Study	2		3	11:00am Women of St. Mark's Gathering 5:00pm Worship	4
9:00am Worship 10:15am S.S.	5		6	5:00pm Bell Choir 6:00pm Choir	7	9:30am Children's Hour 1:00 Prayer Shawl	8	5:00pm Katie's Kitchen 7:00pm Ascension Worship Service	9		1 0	5:00pm Worship	1
HAPPY - Mother's DAY 9:00am Worship 10:15am S.S.	1 2		1 3	5:300pm Choir 6:00pm Council	1 4		1 5	1:30pm Movie 5:00pm Katie's Kitchen 6:00pm Bible Study	1 6		1 7	5:00pm Worship	1 8
9:00am Worship 10:15am S.S.	1 9		2 0	5:30pm Choir	2	11:30am 80+ Luncheon	2 2	5:00pm Katie's Kitchen 6:00pm Bible Study	2 3		2 4	5:00pm Worship	2 5
9:00am Worship 10:15am S.S.	2 6	MEMORIAL DA	Y) 2 7	3:00pm Eve Bible Study	2 8		2 9	5:00pm Katie's Kitchen 6:00pm Bible Study	3 0		3		
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APRIL 2024

JUNE 2024

Scripture:

"...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."

~ Ephesians 3:17



May Scriptures and Prayers

May 5, 2024 - Acts 10:34-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-8, John 15:9-17

* O God, from whom all good thing come: Lead us by the inspiration of Your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by Your goodness help us to do them; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 9, 2024, Ascension Day - Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53

* Almighty God, Your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into Your presence and live forever in Your glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 12, 2024 - Acts 1:12-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-15, John 17:11b-19

* Almighty and eternal God, Your Son our Savior is with You in eternal glory. Give us faith to see that, true to his promise, He is among us still, and will be with us to the end of time; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 19, 2024, Day of Pentecost - Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 139:1-16, Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

* God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as You sent upon the disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, look upon Your Church and open our hearts to the power of the Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of Your love, and strengthen our lives for service in Your kingdom; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May 26, 2024, Holy Trinity Sunday - Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Acts 2:14a, 22-36, John 3:1-17

* Almighty God our Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, renewing and fulfilling creation by Your eternal Spirit, and revealing Your glory through our Lord Jesus Christ: Cleanse us from doubt and fear, and enable us to worship You, with Your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, living and reigning now and forever. Amen.

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MOTHER'S DAY	PIÑATA	PLANT	SEEDS	SPRING	SUNSHINE	TAURUS	TEACHER
GARDEN	GEMINI	GREEN	LADYBUG	LAWNMOWER	MAYPOLE	MEMORIAL DAY	WOW

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

BASEBALL
BLOSSOM
BUMBLEBEE
BUTTERFLY
CINCO DE MAYO
FLOWERS

