

# *The Grapevine*

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church



February 2019

### A Note from Nancy – February 2019

Our congregational meeting was well attended and some great ideas were presented. Thank you for approving the amount the vestry can use from the endowment for operating expenses. As you know, we have cut expenses significantly and will continue to limit spending as much as possible.

The ideas for expanding our spiritual footprint and raising money are awesome. Please bring a friend or two to the spaghetti dinner this Friday. As we already know, Heidi Buchan is a really good cook and baker so you can be sure it will be delicious and she will have her husband and brother to help. Thank you, Heidi, for your fundraising idea.

I am really excited about our Community Common Prayer this month. It will be a prayer service for animals (wild and domestic) and for those who care for them. It is an opportunity for building on our successful pet food pantry and bringing people into the church for prayer and healing. It will also be an opportunity for us to remember all the wonderful work that Steve and Gina Hoover started in our community and Steve's love for all animals. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and bring a friend or two (but no pets). Mark and Maggie will not be attending.

The season after Epiphany will be relatively long this year. Ash Wednesday doesn't come until March. Let us use the rest of this season to remember that Jesus came to bring light into the world and show us how to love our neighbors as God loves us. Please be a good neighbor to everyone you meet.

Peace, In Christ,  
Mother Nancy

### St. Mark's Episcopal Church

335 Locust Street  
Johnstown, PA 15901  
814-535-6797

Email: [stmarks@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:stmarks@atlanticbbn.net)

Web site

[www.saintmarksjohnstown.com](http://www.saintmarksjohnstown.com)

### Our Staff:

**Priest:** Rev. Nancy L. Threadgill

**Verger:** Cindy Leap

**Organist:** Dolly Lopresti

**Treasurer:** Pam Hysong

**Secretary:** Joanne McKinley

**Sexton:** Nikki Forsythe

### The Vestry:

Senior Warden: Lisa Loncella

Junior Warden: Adam Sprankle

Secretary: Lyssa Nickle– Madden

Treasurer: Pam Hysong

### 2019

Lyssa Nickle-Madden

### 2020

Kitty Batrus

Heidi Buchan

Adam Sprankle

Penn Whitlow

### 2021

Courtney Foreman

Lisa Bell-Loncella

Donovan Pendell

Douglas Zawiskie

*Please remember  
St. Mark's Church in your will.*



## **PASTORAL CARE**

February 2019

Thanks to so many for your kind and generous donations throughout Christmas and Epiphany. Gifts of food for the Pantry, pet food for the Pet Food Ministry, hand-knitted caps and also clothing and warm blankets for those in need in the Johnstown area have been welcome and given out in return. Your support of The Family Kitchen, provision of personal care items and presence to serve a meal demonstrate care and concern for the welfare of those who need it most.

Grocery gift cards, Get Go and Sheetz gas cards and donations to Pastoral Care have helped many throughout the cold winter. The blanket collection we began last fall is ongoing and continues to provide warmth to many.

Thank you for continuing to stock the shelves of the St. Mark's Food Pantry with non-perishable items. These items are always appreciated:

Cereals	Canned meats	Canned vegetables
Pasta	Pasta sauce	Soups
Boxed desserts	Boxed grains	Peanut Butter
Jams	Evaporated milk	Cooking oil
Paper towels	Napkins	5 lb bags of potatoes

Personal care items (toothbrushes, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.)

**“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”**

*John 15:12*

February blessings,  
**Pastoral Care Ministry**

Greetings, All,

As a follow-up to our conversation at last Sunday's Parish Meeting, please share your feedback regarding your desire to commit to supporting the annual Lenten Lunches at St. Mark's. There was good discussion regarding a desire to continue to serve the Johnstown community in ways that we see that we can. Many new ideas were presented and we have been asked to consider extending our outreach, worship and presence to the surrounding community.

Kitty Batrus and the ECW have put much thought into what is needed in order to continue to offer our Lenten Lunches this year. Would you be so kind as to consider if you are available to help? And if you **are** available, would you please give us your **commitment** to a few days, a time to prep ham loaves, let us know you will be there to serve, help with carry-out orders, clean up or prep on the day prior to the luncheon? Thank you in advance for your donations of time and food which feed downtown Johnstown during these three weeks in Lent. If you are unable to come on these days but can provide a salad or dessert for the lunches, please indicate that as well. Your donations are what help us feed 75-85 people each week!

In addition to the dates listed below, **please comment on your desire to have a ham loaf sale** this year, in which we would have a prep day Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> prior to the start of the Lenten Lunches. We would make ham loaves on this day, and freeze them. They would be available for purchase by the public by pre-ordering through the church office. 10 loaves would be reserved to serve the final Lenten Luncheon week.

Dates of the Luncheons:

<b>Prep: Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Minimum of 3 people (Prep food for next day, set up dining room)
<b>Lunch #1: Wed. March 27<sup>th</sup></b>		
Kitchen help	8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Need 3
Salad server	9:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Need 1
Beverage refills/Make Coffee	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Need 1
Take Out	10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Need 2
Servers	10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Have used 4 in past. We can discuss serving buffet-style luncheon and passing coffee/tea/water.
Dish Room	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	2 or 3
		Needed: Donations of 10 cakes or desserts, 10 salads
<b>Prep: Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	As above	3 people to prep food for next day and set up dining room
<b>Lunch #2: Wed. April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	As above	Minimum of 11 people on day of luncheon Donation of 10 cakes, 10 salads
<b>Prep: Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Schedule as above	3 people to prep food for next day and set up dining room
<b>Lunch #3: Wed. April 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Schedule as above	Minimum of 11 people on day of luncheon Donations of 10 cakes, 10 salads

Thanks to each of you who have steadfastly made the Lenten Lunches a St. Mark's Lenten tradition for many, many years. Thank you for your commitment to this project and to the people of Johnstown. We need you too!, Please call me or Kitty if you have any questions.

Stay warm!

Amy Whitlow  
255-4425 or 242-7676  
ECW

# *The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh*



February 6, 2019

To: Clergy and Outreach Chairs

**\*\*PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION AS YOU ARE ABLE\*\***

From: Social Justice and Outreach Committee

What are you giving up for Lent?

Last year, the Church of England suggested that, in light of environmental and human health damage resulting from plastics, this would be a good candidate for a Lenten abstinence resolution. Ingestion of plastics kills over a million sea birds, 100,000 marine mammals, and countless fish every year. In addition, plastics make 93 per cent of Americans ages six or older test positive for BPA, which can cause cancer and birth defects.

Following up on our Diocesan Convention resolution which recommends that “each parish encourage its parishioners to recycle, reuse, and reduce their use of water, electricity, gasoline and other fossil fuels, and plastics, which are polluting the ocean,” the Social Justice and Outreach Committee recalls the Church of England’s message as we encourage diocesan members to take the “Single Use Plastic Challenge” to give up as much single use plastic as possible. The Lenten calendar sent out in England in 2018 suggests such simple things as carrying your own cup instead of using disposable Styrofoam or other plastic cups and bringing reusable bags to the supermarket.

For a vivid picture of reasons to cut down on plastic, you are invited to view *Bag It*, an engaging film about one man’s attempt to cut plastic use, why he did it, and the difficulties he faced. A screening of the film is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church, 315 Shady Avenue, in East Liberty**. Discussion will follow.

The diocese owns this 65-minute film, as well as a more recent one, *Plastic Paradise*. These films are available to congregations; as we have purchased the rights to show them. (A slightly longer version of *Bag It* can be viewed free at <https://vimeo.com/150178574?ref=em-v-share>).

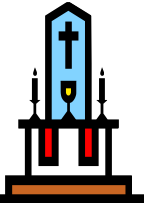
For more information about the films, please contact me at [mnovy@pitt.edu](mailto:mnovy@pitt.edu). For more on the Single Use Plastic Challenge email [suppgh2019@gmail.com](mailto:suppgh2019@gmail.com).

Yours faithfully,

Marianne Novy

Chair, Social Justice and Outreach Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



Bill and I are away until April, and once again, Amy Whitlow has graciously stepped in to take care of the Altar Guild during my absence.

I can count on all of you to help Amy in my absence.

*Thank you for all you do!  
Doris Horner*



Happy February Birthday

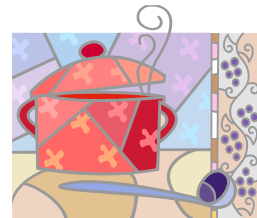
Name	<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
Greg Lilly	4	Scott Lilly	12
Dolly Lopresti	6	Mother Nancy	23
Joseph Astleford	8	Dorthy Veale	23

If we have forgotten your Birthday or Anniversary, please let us know. Call the office with your Information (535-6797) or e mail us at [stmarks@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:stmarks@atlanticbbn.net).

Thanks, Joanne

## Soup & Study Group

The Soup & Study Group is taking a break during February and we will meet again during Lent.



## Coffee Shop Bible Study



We meet at The Mill House Café at the corner of Diamond Blvd. and Luzerne Street in Old Westmont. This charming little coffee house is bright, cozy, and friendly. The sandwiches, soups, and yummy baked goods are very tempting.

Drop in any Tuesday morning at 10 for coffee or tea, study, & fellowship. We read and discuss the lessons for the next Sunday's service. Copies of the Synthesis CE Lectionary Study Guide are available for anyone in the parish hall.

To receive e-mail notices, please contact Adam Sprankle at [awsprankle@gmail.com](mailto:awsprankle@gmail.com)

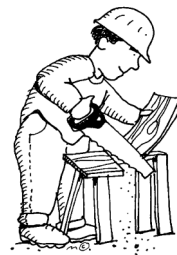
## COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY



The Collection for the First Sunday of the Month is for our Heating and Snow Removal Costs during the winter months.

## BUILDING CAMPAIGN

The Extra Collection for the Second Sunday of the month will help pay for upgrades needed throughout the Church.



### ***Rwandan Orphan***

All families of the church are encouraged to donate \$1.00 on the Third Sunday of the month (17th) for Josian, our Rwandan Orphan. Please be sure to mark your donation separately for her.

### ***Pastoral Care***

All families of the church are encouraged to donate one dollar on the fourth Sunday of the month (24th) for our Pastoral Care. Please be sure to mark your donation separately for Pastoral Care.

## FINANCE MEETING

Wednesday, February 20th

1:00 pm

## VESTRY MEETING

Sunday, February 10th

After the 10:00 am Service





## **ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL**

During the Month of January, St. Mark's lost two of the Pet Food Pantry's endearing members: Rebecca Key passed away on January 14th and Founder, Steve Hoover on January 28th. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Well, January proved to be a very busy month. We are thriving at the Pet Food Pantry due to the generosity of so many people, who came through for us during the months of November and December. During January we received donations from Carla & Anton Bravar, Patricia Taylor, Toni Marie & William Clarke (in honor of Rebecca Key), Annette Kristofco, June Farougi, Gary Howarth, Sharon Mish, Nicholas H. Bocher & Susan Kalcik, Francine Falchini, Amy Soloman, Elizabeth M. Naden, and Nancy Bryant.

During the month of January we were able to assist 138 Families, with 24 of them being new to the Pet Food Pantry, including 7 emergency walk ins..

We were able to help feed: 268 Dogs and 13 Puppies

427 Cats and 56 Kittens

Many of our families asked for additional cat food to feed so many cats left outside in the bitter cold.

### **Totals for the month of January were:**

Dogs: Dry food 1559 lbs 217 Cans

Cats: Dry food 1026 lbs 265 Cans

Thank you to our volunteers who continue to support this great cause.

Our Pet Food Dates for February 12th, 13th and 14th from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.







STEVEN HOOVER

February 15, 1951 – January 28, 2019

FOUNDER ST. MARK'S ANIMAL WELFARE MINISTRY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February					1	2  5:00 pm Holy Eucharist II
3 7:30 am Holy Eucharist II  10:00 am Holy Eucharist II	4  7:15 pm Boy Scouts	5 10:00 am Bible Study Mill House Café	6 12:00 Holy Eucharist 6:00 Put People First 6:30 Choir Practice	7  7:00 pm Unity Coalition	8 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm Spaghetti Dinner	9  5:00 pm Holy Eucharist I
10 7:30 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II Vestry Meeting	11  7:15 pm Boy Scouts	12 10:00 am Bible Study Mill House Café  Pet Food 9:00-12:30	13 Pet Food 9:00-12:30 12:00 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Choir Practice 7:00 pm Allied Artists	14  Pet Food 9:00-12:30	15	16 Medieval Group  5:00 pm Holy Eucharist II
17 7:30 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II 6:30 pm Community Common Prayer	18 7:15 pm Boy Scouts	19 10:00 am Bible Study Mill House Café	20 12:00 Holy Eucharist 1:00 pm Finance Meeting 6:00 Put People First 6:30 Choir Practice	21	22	23 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist I
24 7:30 am Holy Eucharist II  10:00 am Holy Eucharist I	25  7:15 pm Boy Scouts	26 10:00 am Bible Study Mill House Café	27 12:00 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Choir Practice	28		
				2/17 6:30 pm Community Common Prayer-Animal Prayer Service  2/20 1:00 pm Finance meeting with Ameriserv		

		Lay Ministers	Acolytes	Altar Guild	Ushers	Coffee Hour
Februay 2nd	5:00 pm	L. Loncella (L)	Available	C. Adams A. Whitlow	Available	Open
February 3rd	7:30 am	V. Joyce (L)				
February 3rd	10:00 am	A. Sprankle (L)				
February 9th	5:00 pm	L. Loncella (L)	Available	K. Batrus	Available	Open
February 10th	7:30 am	V. Joyce (L)				
February 10th	10:00 am	Open				
February 16th	5:00 pm	C. Foreman (L)	Available	L. Loncella	Available	Open
February 17th	7:30 am	V. Joyce (L)				
February 17th	10:00 am	A. Sprankle (L)				
February 23rd	5:00 pm	L. Loncella (L)	Available	A. Sprankle A. Whitlow	Available	Open
February 24th	7:30 am	V. Joyce				
February 24th	10:00 am	P. Hysong (L)				