



ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

201 E. JUNIATA STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA 18103

Phone: 610-797-6440 Fax: 610-351-6114

Email: office@saintmarkallentown.org www.saintmarkallentown.org

Hospital Code - #300 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 10:00am - 1:00pm

God's People: Believing, Caring, Loving, and Serving

APRIL-MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER



The Pastor's Corner.....

Dear Friends in Christ,

Blessings for the month of April and May. We often hear *April showers, brings May flowers*. A time of year when we often need rain; to refresh the lands and rivers around us, to give way to hope, and to help birth new creation only found during spring (and maybe to help melt some snow from the most recent snowfall).

As we know, new beginnings come from God. And God may decide to do this with rain. Rain is necessary for plants to grow, to replenish our freshwater reserves, and is a reminder of God's presence and God's promises.

When water and Word are combined to unite us in Christ's death and resurrection we find the promise in baptism. And the promise found only when there has been rain, in the form of a rainbow. As the rainbow calls us back to God's covenant with the earth, with every living creature, and with Noah—that never again will the earth be flooded. In something that lasts a short time, in something so beautiful, we are reminded of God's love for the world and that with God, new beginnings can come even from the most hopeless of times.

And even though rainbows are short lived, it is the water droplets that allow us to see a rainbow by bending the light that enters it. The conditions may not always be right to produce a rainbow, but the possibility is there. That's our God! We might not always feel God's presence, we might not always think about God, but that doesn't mean that God isn't there, calling us to dive deeper into our

relationship with God.

And just like water is constantly with us and sustaining us, we still need to fill up daily. Water in like that and so is like Christ. For Christ is constantly with us and working in us, yet we need to replenish our relationship with Christ—through worship, prayer, communion, and praise.

And there are many ways to tap into our relationship with God, because God is always with us, just like water is always vigorously working in the world, bringing life to creation. Water is like the Holy Spirit. Who knows where the Spirit will rain down. It is faith, however, that the Spirit is at work right where it needs to be. Whether it be smoothing and soothing, like water does to rocks, or chopping and churning the deep, to disrupt the calm.

From rocks to rainbows we are reminded of God's love for the world. The rainbow, from Genesis and the rock from Exodus. Rocks and rainbows remind us that God's promises are true. God is working in the world, and God continues to provide hope.

Even when we can't see hope in the form of a rainbow, it doesn't mean God's covenant is gone. After all, rainbows are dependent upon your position and where you are looking from—all you may need to do, is step into the light. Remembering even in the dark, Jesus is the light of the world.

May this good news find you amidst the April rains. May God replenish your spirit. May the Holy Spirit drench you with love. And may Christ immerse you in grace. Amen.

With love and gratitude,
Pastor Lynn





The Open Door Food Pantry

Spring is officially here! For the month of February, we served 77 households at the Open Door Food Pantry. These households consisted of 173 adults, 86 children and 51 elderly (60 and over).

Our suggested donation items for the month of April are pancake syrup and spaghetti (dry/boxes). We were able to order pancake mix and spaghetti sauce from Second Harvest this month and these are good additions to these items.

Our suggested May items are canned corn and evaporated milk. The 2 items we try to always have on the shelves. We appreciate all donations and thank you all for helping to keep our shelves full and our door open.

To all the volunteers.....Thank You!
Happy Spring!!!

Blessings to all!
Sandy



2026 IronPigs Baseball with St. Mark

Friday, June 19th – General Seating gates open at 5:30pm. \$13.00 person, ticket comes w/ \$2.00 food voucher.

Friday, August 28th – Buffet on the Berks Patio, Gates open at 5:30pm, \$30.00 per person, food served from 5:15-8:00. All are invited to join us.

Bring family and friends!

Sign-up sheets are on the glass case in the Narthex. Questions about this event please see, Sue Krasley. Pray for nice weather it's always a FUN TIME!!!



Play Ball.



Happenings From March and April...

March – Brenda and Charlie led the craft class of 30 with pipe cleaner art. They made animals and flowers or whatever they were feeling that day.

Knitting /crocheting - They continue to work on the projects at hand each month.

We celebrated lunch with Shepard's pie, cabbage and noodles, along with salad, after we played Bingo but in a new and fun way.

April – Sue and Rene led the craft class of 40+ with Participants painting and decorating wooden 3D cut outs to take home to decorate for the holidays. Knitting/crocheting –They continued with our regular group of participants.

Lunch is our Easter celebration of ham, pineapple stuffing and more. We played a bunch of Easter games and if they get the lucky egg, they will win a prize. We continue to require an RSVP for all our activities to keep the attendance within reason. This has helped us plan efficiently. **Thank You** to all who donated for this event!!!!

We had over 100 participants.

Advocacy alliance continues to assist us with volunteers each month and buying some food for our events. Thank You Advocacy!!

Looking Ahead: Next month we will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo and Sharon will lead the craft in making dried flower book markers. We will serve Mexican for the lunch and will have some games and bingo to play afterwards.

We continue to need volunteers to help on Craft Day, the volunteers would assist the participants with their craft. They would not be responsible for the craft itself. This is the first Wed of each month.

Friday, May 1st is the Lehigh Valley Mental Health Walk from 9:00am-2:00pm We sponsored a table, if you can stop by to visit us. It is held at the Daniel Rice Memorial Field, 100 W Lehigh St, Bethlehem.

Many Blessings,
Sue Krasley and the Sharing Life committee.



A message from your Council President

As we continue in the joy of the Easter season, we are reminded that Easter is not just a single day, but a season of celebration—fifty days of rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord. The empty tomb is not simply an event we remember; it is a living truth that shapes who we are as God's people each and every day.

In the resurrection, we see God's ultimate promise fulfilled. Sin is defeated. Death is overcome. Hope is restored. This is the good news that fills our hearts and gives us strength for the journey ahead. No matter what we face in our daily lives, we live as Easter people—people of hope, renewal, and new life.

The Easter season invites us to reflect on what it means to live in the light of the resurrection. It calls us to move forward with faith, trusting that God is always at work, even in the midst of uncertainty. It encourages us to share the joy of Christ with others through acts of love, kindness, and compassion.

Just as the disciples were transformed by their encounters with the risen Jesus, we too are called to be witnesses of His love in the world. Whether through a simple conversation, a helping hand, or a word of encouragement, we carry the message of Easter into our homes, our community, and beyond.

This season also reminds us that new life is always possible. Just as spring brings new growth and fresh beginnings, so too does the resurrection bring renewal to our hearts and spirits. God is continually at work, making all things new.

May this Easter season fill you with renewed faith, deep joy, and lasting peace. May you be strengthened by the promise of the resurrection and inspired to live each day as a reflection of Christ's love.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

In Christian Service,
Thomas F Rieger



HIGHLIGHTS.....

***Holy Week and Easter went well and how beautiful the Church looked and smelled Easter morning!!**

***Linda Gier reserved the pavilion at Emmaus Park for our Annual picnic to be held on Sunday September 13th.**

***The heating issues have been addressed and ASL is looking for parts or to replace the heating unit in the kitchen above the refrigerator.**

***The water dept came and replaced the water meter on March 30th. We are currently talking to different rug companies to see what we can do about the carpet in the sanctuary.**

***Dan attended a Zoom ELCA Town Hall regarding how and what to do about the church property. He shared ideas from the meeting with council.**

***Have any fundraising ideas??? See Tammy Walbert, our fundraising Coordinator!!**



April Showers bring May flowers!



March 15th, 2026
The following received
Holy Baptism during worship.
We welcome you all to the
St. Mark Family.

Angel Mae Bogert
Thea Ray Bogert
Aaron Andrew Bogert
Emma Sue Bogert

Following the service the family invited everyone to Luther Hall to help celebrate. It was a very special Sunday. Thank You Bogert Family for including everyone in your special day!

Palm Sunday Pastor Lynn lead the children around the church in a parade to show them what it was like that day. A few people even threw their coats down as they paraded around.



To everyone who....
Donated to and volunteered at the Egg Hunt
To Thomas J. Rieger for playing the trumpet during worship making the music even more special
All who helped prep food the day before, set-up, and clean-up for the Easter Breakfast
All who donated to the Easter Breakfast
All who volunteered during the Easter Breakfast
To Linda Gier for doing the cooking and baking
We had over 50 in attendance at the Breakfast!



Debra Deifer will always be collecting old eye glasses and all kinds of can tabs. They benefit The Pennsylvania Association for the Blind. There is a basket in the Narhex on the table to place your items. Thank You!!!



April-May BIRTHDAYS!!!
We want to wish you a Very, Blessed Happy Birthday!!

Dan Christman – April 2
David Moll – April 4
Jennifer Poplawski – April 10
Patricia Kleman– April 19
Cynthia "Cindy" Arnold – April 23
Myrtle Stoeckel – April 28

Josephine Wieder – May 3
Brenda Moll – May 4
Cheryl Keck – May 7
Elizabeth Brndjar – May 12
Samantha Wragg – May 24
Marcus Rompilla – May 25
Christopher Raad – May 28
Ian Cunningham – May 29

Share your birthday with us, please call the church office. We would love to see you on our birthday list.



Sunday, May 3rd 2026 is the last day of Sunday School
We hope you have a **FABULOUS SUMMER!!!**
It will return again in the fall!!!

Don't forget to place all old recyclable clothing, bed sheets, purses, backpacks and shoes can be placed in the **Green Bin** in the Parking lot, we receive a donation for every pound they pick up. To date we have made over \$200 for just filling the bin.



Sunday, May 11th Celebrate Moms, Grandmom's, Great-Grandmom's, etc. Show them how much we love and appreciate them. God Bless them all.



Altar Guild, Lectors, Ushers, Acolytes and videographers are asked to perform their duties each Sunday. Please find a replacement and notify the church office if you cannot join us on your scheduled Sunday.

April 2nd, 2026 – Maundy Thursday 7:00pm

April 3rd, 2026 – Good Friday 7:00pm

April 4th, 2026 – Egg Hunt 10:00am

April 5th, 2026 – Easter Sunday 10:00am

Easter Breakfast 8:30am

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 12th, 2026 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

April 19th, 2026 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

April 26th, 2026 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

Hoping everyone had a Happy Easter with their families!

In the event of cancellation of Sunday School and our worship service due to inclement weather, please tune into WFMZ TV Channel 69, visit wfmz.com, check the St. Mark Facebook page or website.



We are streaming "LIVE" during the service via Facebook each Sunday.

You can access the service on Facebook, user or not, at the following web address:

www.facebook.com/stmarkallentown

Please be patient while the page loads.



He Is Risen!!! Alleluia!!

A Prayer for After Easter.....

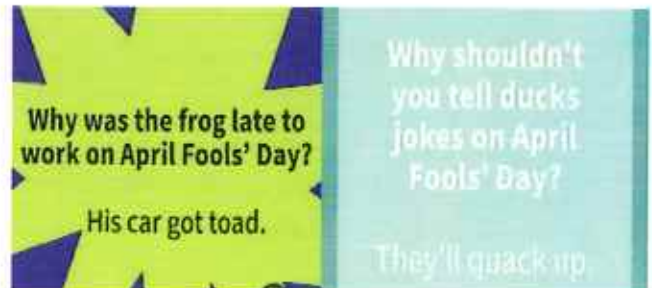
"Lord God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. Guide us in the path of discipleship, so that, as you have blessed us, we may be a blessing for others, bringing the promise of the kingdom near by our words and deeds. Amen".

Did You Know???

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church

Sunday, April 19, 2026

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.



Happy April Fool's Day!!!

April 2026

St. Mark Lutheran Church
 201 E Juniata St
 Allentown PA 18103
 610-797-6440 fax 610-351-6114

www.saintmarkallentown.org
 Watch us on Facebook user or not, at:
www.facebook.com/stmarkallentown
 Hospital Code: 300

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Easter Morning Breakfast 8:30am Worship 10:00am	6	7	8 Widows' Club 1:00pm Perkins Lehigh St	9 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am Coffee Hour sponsored by the Wragg and Bogert Families	13 Worship/Music Meeting 6:00pm	14 Open Door 10:00am – 12:00pm	15 Sharing Life Luncheon 12:00pm – 3:00pm Choir 6:00pm Council 6:00pm	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am	20 Open Door Food Delivery 10:30am	21 	22	23 Open Door 4:00pm – 6:00pm	24	25 Luther Hall Reserved by Wragg Family
26 Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am	27	28	29	30	MAY 1	2

Serving Our Church April 2026

<p>April 5th – Easter Sunday 8:30 Breakfast/10:00am Worship</p>		
<p>Lector/Communion Assistant: Linda Kline</p>	<p>Ushers: Brenda Covely Tom Rieger Roxann Rieger Kathy Walker Zachary Walker</p>	<p>Council on Duty: Gloria Hottenstein</p>
<p>Altar Guild: Roxann Rieger, June Ruth and Edie Lindenmuth</p>		<p>Videographer: Tom Rieger</p> <p>Acolyte: Wyatt Trautman</p>
<p>April 12th – 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School/10:00am Worship <i>Coffee Hour Sponsored by the Wragg and Robert Families</i></p>		
<p>Lector/Communion Assistant: Brenda Mann-Orben</p>	<p>Ushers: LuAnn Bresnak June Ruth Bill Ruth</p>	<p>Council on Duty: Darryl Miller</p>
<p>Altar Guild: Sue Krasley, Mayala Krasley and Josephine Wieder</p>	<p>Sam Wragg Josephine Wieder</p>	<p>Videographer: Terri Harkins</p> <p>Acolyte: Zander Wragg</p>
<p>April 19th – 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School/10:00am Worship</p>		
<p>Lector/Communion Assistant: Carol Hartigan</p>	<p>Ushers: LuAnn Bresnak June Ruth Bill Ruth Sam Wragg Josephine Wieder</p>	<p>Council on Duty: Carol Hartigan</p> <p>Videographer: Kathy Walker</p> <p>Acolyte: Patrick Merkle</p>
<p>Altar Guild: Sue Krasley, Mayala Krasley and Josephine Wieder</p>		

<p>April 26th, 2026 – 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School/10:00am Worship</p>		
<p>Lector/Communion Assistant:</p>	<p>Ushers: Doris Brezan Tammy Walbert Linda Gier</p>	<p>Council on Duty: Josephine Wieder</p>
<p>Altar Guild: Terri Harkins and Linda Gier</p>	<p>Terri Harkins Sandy Biery</p>	<p>Videographer: Dan Christman</p> <p>Acolyte: Zander Wragg</p>
<p>May 3rd, 2026 – 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School/10:00am Worship/Pressure Cuff</p>		
<p>Lector/Communion Assistant: Linda Kline</p>	<p>Ushers: Doris Brezan Tammy Walbert Linda Gier</p>	<p>Council on Duty: Sandy Biery</p>
<p>Altar Guild: Terri Harkins and Linda Gier</p>	<p>Terri Harkins Sandy Biery</p>	<p>Videographer: Tom Rieger</p> <p>Acolyte: Wyatt Trautman</p>



Altar Guild, Lectors, Ushers, Acolytes and videographers are asked to perform their duties each Sunday. Please find a replacement and notify the church office if you cannot join us on your scheduled Sunday.

May 3rd, 2026 - 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 10th, 2026 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 17th, 2026 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 24th, 2026 – Day of Pentecost
***PLEASE WEAR RED TO SERVICE**

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

May 31st, 2026 – The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20



THREE IN ONE



We are streaming "LIVE" during the service via Facebook each Sunday.

You can access the service on Facebook, user or not, at the following web address: www.facebook.com/stmarkallentown
Please be patient while the page loads.

Welcome Pentecost
Sunday, May 24th



Then there appeared to them divided tongues, **AS OF FIRE** and one sat upon each of them. (Acts 2:3)

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!! Monday, May 25th
Church Office closed for the Holiday.



Did You Know???

Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

Friday, May 22nd is the deadline for the church office to receive all Newsletter Information for June.



St. Mark Lutheran Church
 201 E Juniata St
 Allentown PA 18103
 610-797-6440 fax 610-351-6114

www.saintmarkallentown.org
 Watch us on Facebook user or not, at:
www.facebook.com/stmarkallentown
 Hospital Code: 300

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am Pressure Cuff Ministry	4 Worship/Music Meeting 6:00pm	5 	6 Sharing Life Craft/Needlework 1:00pm-3:00pm	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am Coffee Hour sponsored by the Rieger Family	11	12 Open Door 10:00am - 12:00pm	13 Widows' Club 1:00pm Perkins Lehigh St	14	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am	18	19 Open Door Food Delivery 10:30am	20 Sharing Life Luncheon 12:00pm - 3:00pm Choir 6:00pm Council 6:00pm	21	22	23
24 Pentecost Sunday Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:00am  Wear Red	25 Office Closed 	26	27	28 Open Door 4:00pm - 6:00pm	29	30
31 Wear Red	1 JUNE	2	3	4	5	6

Serving Our Church May 2026

May 3rd, 2026 – 5th Sunday of Easter

9:00am Sunday School/10:00am Worship/Pressure Cuff

Lector/Communion Assistant: Linda Kline	Ushers: Doris Brezan Tammy Walbert	Council on Duty: Sandy Biery
Altar Guild: Terri Harkins and Linda Gier	Linda Gier Terri Harkins Sandy Biery	Videographer: Tom Rieger
		Acolyte: Wyatt Trautman
May 10 th – 6 th Sunday of Easter 10:00am Worship <i>Coffee Hour Sponsored by the Rieger Family</i>		
Lector/Communion Assistant: Brenda Mann-Orben	Ushers: Brenda Covely Tom Rieger	Council on Duty: Pat Golley
Altar Guild: Linda Kline and Linda Raad	Roxann Rieger Kathy Walker Zachary Walker	Videographer: Terri Harkins
		Acolyte: Aliyah Wrags
May 17 th – 7 th Sunday of Easter 10:00am Worship		
Lector/Communion Assistant: Carol Hartigan	Ushers: Brenda Covely Tom Rieger	Council on Duty: Carol Hartigan
Altar Guild: Linda Kline and Linda Raad	Roxann Rieger Kathy Walker Zachary Walker	Videographer: Kathy Walker
		Acolyte: Wyatt Trautman

May 24th, 2026 – Pentecost Sunday

10:00am Worship (wear red)

Lector/Communion Assistant:	Ushers: LuAnn Bresnak June Ruth	Council on Duty: Cindy Arnold
Altar Guild: Roxann Rieger, June Ruth and Edie Lindenmuth	Bill Ruth Sam Wrags Josephine Wieder	Videographer: Dan Christman
		Acolyte: Zander Wrags
May 31 st , 2026 – The Holy Trinity 10:00am Worship		
Lector/Communion Assistant: Linda Kline	Ushers: LuAnn Bresnak June Ruth	Council on Duty: Linda Raad
Altar Guild: Roxann Rieger, June Ruth and Edie Lindenmuth	Bill Ruth Sam Wrags Josephine Wieder	Videographer: Terri Harkins
		Acolyte: Wyatt Trautman
June 7 th , 2026 – 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am Worship/Pressure Cuff		
Lector/Communion Assistant: Linda Kline	Ushers: Doris Brezan Tammy Walbert	Council on Duty: Rick Krasley
Altar Guild: Sue Krasley, Mayala Krasley and Josephine Wieder	Linda Gier Terri Harkins Sandy Biery	Videographer: Tom Rieger
		Acolyte: Aliyah Wrags