

December 17, 2017

St Mark Lutheran Church, Yorktown
Weekly News and Prayer Concerns



“Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry.”
—2 Timothy 4:11b

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Warm Hands and Hearts Tree: We need your help decorating our tree mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, and socks. The tree is now in the narthex. Items will be distributed to clients at York/Poquoson & Newport News Social Services, THRIVE Peninsula, and Family Focus.

Cookies for Christmas Eve Receptions: Sign up at the Narthex Kiosk to bring a few dozen homemade cookies for the Christmas Eve Receptions. Deliver to Café by 5 PM on Christmas Eve! Thank you!

Thomas Pandolfi in Concert: If you are interested in seeing this Pianist and Virtuoso in concert he will be play on Sun., Dec. 17th at 3 PM at Chestnut Memorial UMC (1024 Harpersville Road, Newport News). Free admission with a freewill offering and reception to follow.

SMLC Christmas Ornaments: Are Back In and have been a huge hit! All sales of the ornaments have helped The Magi Fund. We still have some left for sale. Please see Megan in the Church office during regular hours if you still wish to purchase one, the price is \$15.00. Thank you all!

Bless His Little Heart: the congregation is invited to bring the Baby Jesus from your home nativity scenes to be blessed as part of our 5:00 PM service for families on Christmas Eve.

Tiny Hats for Tiny Babies: The St Mark Prayer Shawl Ladies have knitted 173 preemie hats, and this is why. Each year, 1 million preterm babies die within their first 28 days. The average preterm babies in Africa are about 3 - 4 pounds. Unable to regulate their temperature, they are vulnerable to hypothermia and ultimately death. Tiny hats are an easy solution; they give tiny babies a fighting chance.

Christ's Comforting Light on the Longest Night: We will gather for a special service of Holy Communion in our Chapel of All Saints on Dec., 21 at 7:00 PM. Christmas intends to joyfully celebrate God's love and the gift of family, but – for many who grieve or experience loneliness – Christmas also highlights the pain we feel. All are welcome – those who hurt a lot and those who hurt a little. We will give space for the truths that hurt and look for truth that shines in the night where no shadow overcomes it.

Christ In Our Home: We now have these devotional booklets in the office for January, February and March of 2018. Please stop by and pick one up!

Please remember these recent St Mark prayer requests
(Prayer requests will generally be listed for 2 weeks at a time.
Please re-add names after two weeks, if needed):

Members in our Prayers

Healing: Nancy Head, Sandy, Aaron Taminger, and Stephen Robinson
Peace: Debbie
Safety: Andrew Robinson (and all troops)
Discernment: Associate Pastor Call Committee

Friends and Family in our Prayers

Healing: Delbert, Joanne, Barbara, Roy, Jeff, Beth, Melody, Luanne, Frances, Cheryl, Lindsay, Dick, Lynn, Eddie, Mike, Ronald, Sarah, Hannah, David and Gary
Peace: Ginger and James

Congregations in our Prayers

Reformation, Newport News; St Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church; United Methodist Church

Calendar at a Glance:

Sunday 12/17

8:00 AM Holy Communion with Sung Liturgy (Sanctuary)
9:00 AM Café Full Breakfast
9:30 AM Holy Communion with Narrative Lect. (Sanctuary)
9:30 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Holy Communion with Sung Liturgy (Sanctuary)
4:00 PM Youth Bells (Sanctuary)
5:00 PM Confirmation Class (Room 216)

Monday 12/18

10:30 AM Knitting Group (Library)
1:00 PM GPS Bible Study (Library)

Tuesday 12/19

7:30 AM Men's Breakfast (Narthex)
6:30 PM Adult Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday 12/20

3:00 PM St Mark Weekly Prayers (Sanctuary)
4:00 PM Advent Midweek Service (Sanctuary)
5:00 PM Cafe St Mark (Narthex)
6:00 PM Men's Bible Study (Library)
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday 12/21

12:00 PM Staff Christmas Lunch (Offsite)
7:00 PM Koinonia Group Dinner (Offsite)
7:00 PM Longest Night Service (Chapel)

Friday 12/22

Office Closed

Saturday 12/23

No Scheduled Activities

Sunday 12/24

8:00 AM Holy Communion with Sung Liturgy (Sanctuary)
9:30 AM Holy Communion with Narrative Lect. (Sanctuary)
11:00 AM Holy Communion with Sung Liturgy (Sanctuary)
5:00 PM Divine Service of Holy Communion for Families (Sanctuary)
6:15 PM Light Reception (Narthex)
7:30 PM Divine Service of Holy Communion with Candlelight for the Christ Mass (Sanctuary)
8:45 PM Light Reception (Narthex)
11:00 PM Divine Service of Holy Communion with Candlelight for the Christ Mass (Sanctuary)

To sponsor communion elements, altar flowers, or bulletins, please sign up on the Narthex kiosk.

*Today's **Bulletins** are given by Pat & Dan Silvis in honor of their 49th Wedding Anniversary.*

*Today's **Communion Elements** are given by Carolyn Petty in honor of Leslie's Birthday.*

Readings for December 24, 2017

8:00 and 11:00: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Romans 16:25-27

9:30: Unless otherwise noted, same as 8 & 11 for Advent

All: Luke 1:46b-55; Luke 1:26-38