

# *The Grapevine*

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church



November 2021

A Note from Nancy – November 2021

Happy Thanksgiving month!!!!

November came before I was ready – probably because Halloween was on Sunday. I know, excuses, excuses, excuses. The temperature is finally down far enough I can start wearing turtleneck shirts, sweaters and sweat shirts and it feels like football weather. Fall has always been my favorite season.

It is going to be another busy month. The most exciting thing is the consecration of Bishop-Elect Ketlen Solak on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Since I am now on the Standing Committee of the diocese, I will get several opportunities to attend events with Presiding Bishop Curry. He is always a very dynamic speaker so I am looking forward to that.

Of course, the end of the month is Thanksgiving. There will be a service at 10 am Thanksgiving Day that will be in person and on Zoom. Sunday following Thanksgiving there will a Thanksgiving prayer service at 6 pm – also in person and via Zoom.

Ideally, we are supposed to give thanks to God every day for everything that God has given us and has done for us. During this month of November, may we wake up praising God and thanking God for seeing us to the beginning of a new day. May God, in Christ, guide and strengthen us to face what ever may come our way. May we be as Christ to everyone we meet. May we end each day with joy and rest in the arms of faith. Amen.

Peace and love, 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.stmarksjohnstown.com](http://www.stmarksjohnstown.com)

### Our Staff:

**Priest:** Rev. Nancy Threadgill

**Verger:** Cindy Leap

**Organist:** Dolly Lopresti

**Treasurer:** Pam Hysong

**Secretary:** Joanne McKinley

**Sexton:** Nikki Forsythe

### The Vestry:

Senior Warden: Lyssa Nickle-Madden

Junior Warden: Michael Teore

Secretary: Erin Pavic

Treasurer: Pam Hysong

### 2022

Richard Burkert

### 2023

Collen Curry

Louise Mead

Erin Pavic

Michael Teore

### 2024

Nicole Hastings

Catty Anne McCloskey

Lyssa Nickle-Madden

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

## News of Note

### Consecration of Bishop-elect Ketlen Solak

This coming Saturday, November 13, at 11 am the Reverend Dr. Ketlen Solak will become our new bishop. The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church will be presiding at the service of Ordination and Consecrations.

The deadline to apply for tickets has passed, but all may attend virtually.

Diocese of Pittsburgh YouTube Account: <https://youtu.be/T0GhdN3Uyf4>

Diocese of Pittsburgh Facebook Account: <https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh>

Calvary Church YouTube Account: <https://youtu.be/OWGKp3KiEMI>

### Holiday Food for Families

During the Month of November, Pastoral Care will provide families who request assistance with the food items necessary for a holiday meal. Donations may be dropped off at the church. If you would like to help prepare meal baskets, meet at the Church on Saturday, November 20 from 9 to 11 AM. The baskets will be available for pick up between 12 and 1 PM. See elsewhere in the *Grapevine* for more information.

### Thanksgiving Day Services

Join us on Thursday, November 24, Thanksgiving Day, at 10 AM for a Thanksgiving service. It will be in person and over Zoom.

### Community Common Prayer - Sunday, November 28

For our November Community Common Prayer we will have a special Service of Thanksgiving—in person and over Zoom.

## Calendar and Hospitality Committee

### Tentative Plans for the Coming Months

#### November:

- Fall Halupki Harvest Dinner (11/6)
- Bishop Consecration (11/13)
- Prepare Thanksgiving Baskets (11/20)
  - Prepare baskets 9—11
  - Pickup (12—2)
- Thanksgiving Day Service 10 AM
- CCP – Service of Thanksgiving (11/28)

#### December:

- Advent Quiet Day (12/4)
- Greening of the Church (12/19)
- CCP – Blue Christmas (12/21)
- Christmas Eve (12/24)

#### January 2022:

- Epiphany Bible Study - *The Good Book Club*: Book of Exodus
- Annual Finance Meeting (1/23/2022)

## **An Invitation to the Consecration of the Reverend Dr. Ketlen A. Solak as the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh and a Request for Donations**



Dear Friends in Christ,

The Ordination & Consecration of our IX Bishop of Pittsburgh, the Rev. Dr. Ketlen A. Solak, will take place this coming Saturday, November 13, at 11 am at Calvary Episcopal Church, 315 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh.

The deadline to request tickets has passed. However you may still watch the service online. You can find the service streamed at the following sites:

- Diocese of Pittsburgh YouTube Account: <https://youtu.be/T0GhdN3Uyf4>
- Diocese of Pittsburgh Facebook Account: <https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh>
- Calvary Church YouTube Account: <https://youtu.be/OWGKp3KiEMI>

Special gifts will be presented to the new bishop during this service from the people and parishes of the Diocese of Pittsburgh: the bishop's ring, a personal crozier, a mitre, and a chasuble.

Each parish has been asked to make a contribution (and some already have). The Transition Committee is soliciting personal contributions as well. We have not yet met the total cost of these gifts, so if you are able to make a contribution of any amount, we would welcome your contribution online (<https://episcopalpgh.wufoo.com/forms/consecration-donation-form/>).

Thanks for your continued prayers for Ketlen<sup>+</sup> and for all those working hard on this service and its surrounding events. We look forward to seeing many of you on Saturday, November 13.

## Looking Forward to Advent

Advent this year starts right after Thanksgiving, on Sunday, November 28th. As we move from the fall into Advent in preparation for the coming of the Christ child, many of us will begin to think about a special Advent practice. Here are some resources you might want to consider. These are all free, but require either having an email address or access to the Internet to download materials.

- AdventWord is a global, online Advent calendar. Join an international community in prayer to explore the mystery and wonder of Advent! In its eighth year, Christians around the world are joined together as each day of Advent invites a focus on a particular word drawn from the lectionary. (<https://adventword.org/en/home/>)
- Journeying the Way of Love is an Advent Curriculum from the Episcopal Church, explores the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke which offers pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world. Although designed for small groups it could be adapted for home study with family. (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/journeying-way-love/>)
- Check out this awesome Advent Calendar which offers daily suggestions for engaging in the seven practices that encompass the Way of Love: turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go, and rest. Use it as a standalone resource—keep it at your desk or on your fridge and refer to it every day! (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/Advent-2021-Calendar.pdf>)
- Forward Movement offers several Advent meditation guides. It might be a too late to order the hard copy version, however, most are available in Kindle and Apple Books format. Check here for the Advent and Christmas offerings: [https://www.forwardmovement.org/Products/CategoryCenter/FMCHR/Advent\\_Christmas.aspx](https://www.forwardmovement.org/Products/CategoryCenter/FMCHR/Advent_Christmas.aspx)



### **2021 Weekly Altar Flowers & Monthly Altar Candles**

Donation price is \$30 a Sunday for flowers and \$8 a month for candles. Please contact Joanne in the Parish Office with your requests.

**We have openings for the following dates:**

11/7 (2), 11/21 (2), 11/28 (1)  
12/5 (2), 12/19 (2), 12/26 (2)





## **Pastoral Care Ministry**

*'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'* Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' **Matthew 25:35-40**

## **Holiday Food for Families**

During the Month of November, Pastoral Care will provide families who request assistance with the food items necessary for a holiday meal. If you know a family who might benefit, please share that information with Mother Nancy or Amy Whitlow. Beginning November 1, we will accept donations of turkeys and turkey breasts, hams and also non-perishables in order to assemble boxes for at least 10 families. Any non-perishable items are much appreciated and may be placed on the food pantry shelves at any time.

### **Items needed for Thanksgiving Dinner**

Turkey/Ham	Potatoes (white or sweet)
Stuffing	Gravy
Cranberry Sauce	(vegetables not needed)
Desserts	

*Amy Whitlow*



## Christmas Stocking Stuffer Project 2021

For many years we have joined with parishioners from more than 20 local churches to provide stuffed Christmas stockings to the patients of Torrance State Hospital. These patients are persons who require long-term in-hospital care for behavioral health disorders (mental illness). For many patients, this is the only gift they receive and is the highlight of their holiday season.

This year we have been asked to provide stuffed stockings for 12 men. Please select items from the list below for your donations. A box for your donations is located in the Parish Hall. ***Please make your donations on or before Sunday, November 21, 2021.***

### **Suggested donation items**

Candy bars (individually wrapped)-big or snack size

Small bags of chips, cheese curls or Doritos

M & M's—small bags

Individual snack cakes

Packs of crackers or cookies

Individual sugar-free drink powder packs

Chap Stick

Body wash

Deodorant (*No spray cans*)

Lotion (*No pumps*)

Shampoo

Cross Word Puzzle books

Word Search books

Sudoku books

Playing cards

Card games, such as Uno, Skip-bo, Phase 10 or even card games for children

Coloring books (adult and child)

Crayons

Paperback books (*No romances*)

(Note: books do *not* have to be new)

Blank Greeting Cards

Ankle or crew socks—any color (*NO High TUBE socks due to strangulation issues*)

Non-refrigerated pudding cups, apple sauce or fruit cups

Individually wrapped peppermint puffs

***In order to protect the residents, please do not donate glass or breakable items, aerosol cans, alcohol-based products, sharp objects, or notebooks with wire bindings. No batteries. No items with staples. Due to choking and swallowing issues, no nuts, hard candy or gum.***

Thank you for your generosity.

Louise Mead

St Mark's Episcopal Church  
Community Common Prayer  
**Service of Thanksgiving**

Sunday November 28, 2021 at 6:00 PM

**Join us as we offer up prayers of gratitude.**

**Expressing our thankfulness to God is a good way to remind ourselves just how much good fortune we have in our lives and uplift our spirits.**

**We will express thanks for all that God has given us, our community, our nation and our world.**

**The service is free. All are welcome. Please wear a mask and social distance if you attend in-person.**

**To attend via Zoom, please email The Reverend Nancy Threadgill at [revnancy-stmarks@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:revnancy-stmarks@atlanticbbn.net) in advance of the service to obtain the log-in information.**

*Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through transformational worship and service.*

# Prepare the Way of Love This Advent

## JOURNEYING THE WAY OF LOVE: ADVENT CURRICULUM

For the season of Advent, Journeying the Way of Love offers four sessions to be explored as we await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke (alternate years of the lectionary tend to cover the same themes with parallel texts). Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world.

### Contents

**Advent One:** The Annunciation: Saying "Yes" to the Journey ·

**Advent Two:** Mary and Elizabeth: Journeying with Family and Friends ·

**Advent Three:** The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community ·

**Advent Four:** The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World ·

Parishioners are encouraged to read and reflect on these passages in Luke throughout the season of Advent and "try on" the spiritual practices of the Way of Love. Parishioners also are encouraged to print a copy of the Journeying the Way of Love Advent Calendar <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/Advent-2021-Calendar.pdf>. The calendar offers daily suggestions for engaging in the seven practices that encompass the Way of Love.

Learn more about The Way of Love and The Episcopal Church at [www.episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove)





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**ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL**

Many Thanks to the generous contributions from Barry & Karen Orner, Annett Kristofco, The Amslo Club (Rosie & Judy), Nardecchia Spay Neuter, Maryanne Marchl, Marlin Boratko, Tim Cicotello, Joann Lacko, George & Diane Purpiglio, Valerie A. Kasper, Joan Cesare, June Holland, Judy Zubal, June Farougi, Theresa Kosaber, Carol & Lou Schaffer, Susan Kalcik & Nick Bocher, Linda & Clair Cordes, Slovenian Savings & Loan, Mr. & Mrs. Delbert Hess, and Patricia Taylor. We appreciate your continued support!

During the month of October, we were able to help feed 106 Dogs, 8 Puppies and 408 Cats, 74 Kittens.

The Cambria County Humane Society discontinued their monthly Pet Food program in October. In all probability, we will see an increase in families coming to us for help within the next few months.

We gave out the following:

Dogs:	Dry food	640 lbs	Cats:	Dry food	925 lbs
	Cans	85		Cans	259

We hope to give out canned dog and cat food during December.

Total amount of food given out from January through October:

Dry Food	Dog	8,680 lbs	Cat	9,462 lbs
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Our Pet Food Pantry will be open on Nov. 3rd & 4th and Dec. 8th & 9th.

A special thanks to Marnie Gallop who has been a great asset to our Pet Food Pantry over the years. Marnie has relocated out of State. We wish her all the best!

Many thanks to our volunteers for their continued support.

*Cynthia Greig and Joanne McKinley*

Congratulations and Welcome

New Vestry Members!

Nicole Hastings

Catty Anne McCloskey

Lyssa Nickle-Madden

Many Thanks to those who completed a term

Lisa Bell-Loncella

Donovan Pendell

Doug Zawiskie

WHAT A SUCCESS

Many “kudos” to everyone who brought “baked goods” for our Apples Festival Bake Sale which was held on Saturday, October 3rd.

Several families brought their Pets to the Church to be blessed during the Feast of St. Francis which was held a week later this year.

Our Holupki Harvest Dinner, on Saturday, November 6th was a HUGE Success! Many thanks to the planners, the shoppers, the cooks and the servers. We sold over 160 dinners!

Bake Sale	\$210.00
Halupki Harvest Dinner	\$1549.00

## **SNOW REMOVAL & HEATING BILLS**



During the Winter Months, the extra collection for the First Sunday of the month is set aside for Snow Removal and Heating Bills. Please be generous.

## **BUILDING CAMPAIGN**

The extra collection for the second Sunday of the month is for our Building Campaign.

Monies will go towards the various projects within the Church.

### *Vestry Meeting*

**Sunday, November 12th  
After  
the 10:00 am Service**

### ***Rwandan Orphan***

All families of the church are encouraged to donate \$1.00 on the third Sunday of each month (Nov. 19th) for Josiane, 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 each month (Nov. 26th) for our Pastoral Care. Please be sure to mark your donation separately for Pastoral Care.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>November</b>						
<b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist</b> Church & Zoom	<b>1</b>  ALL SAINTS DAY	<b>2</b>  ALL SOULS DAY	<b>3</b>  <b>PET FOOD</b> 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM	<b>4</b>  <b>PET FOOD</b> 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  11:00 am to 1:00 pm Halupki Dinner "Take Out"
<b>7</b>  <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II</b> Church & Zoom	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>   VETERANS DAY	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II</b> Church & Zoom	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Pack Holiday Meal Baskets 9 - 11 AM
<b>21</b>  <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II</b> Church & Zoom	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Thanksgiving Service 10 AM Church & Zoom 	<b>26</b>  	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  <b>10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II</b> Church & Zoom	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		11/3 AND 11/4 PET FOOD PANTRY 9:30 - 1:00 11/25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING 11/28 CCP Service of Thanksgiving 6 PM 11/28 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT		