

St. Mark's Lutheran Church News Notes

July-August 2025

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls."

Matthew 11: 28-29

WOLFSVILLE COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

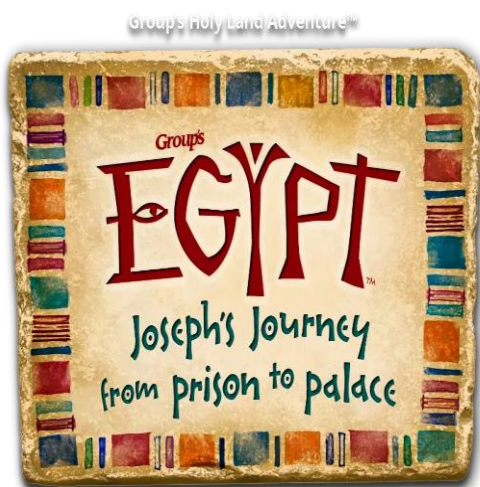
Host: Salem Community Church

July 14-18

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

For ages 3 through Grade 8

Sponsor: Wolfsville Ruritan Club



VBS is always a fun-filled, spiritually-growing week for our youth.
Please invite your young learners and register
at <https://vbspro.events/p/293486>.
or contact Hannah Rouzee
at HEccard@comcast.net for more
information.

July Birthdays

- 1 – Piper Hoffman
- 2 – Vaughn Smith
- 4 – Melissa Cristler
Jennifer Williams
- 5 – Harold Stover
- 6 – Raegan Herr
Cody Ward
- 7 – Wesley Itell
- 9 – Robert Wisner
Christopher Elliott
- 10 – Bradley Coblentz
- 14 – Mike Cline
- 16 – Bonnie Cline
- 17 – Wade Feaga
- 19 – Rick Hessong
- 20 – Kathy Lewis
- 21 – Stephen Wolf
- 23 – Barbara Kemp
- 27 – Hilary Young
Jonathan Wolf
- 28 – Jonathan Young
Leah Feaga
- 29 – Dawn Reed
- 30 – Whalen Baldwin
Granger Cameron
Steven Heinrich
- 31 – Larry Moser

July Anniversaries

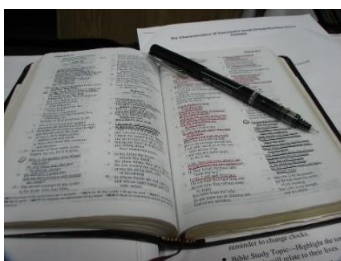
- 9 – Gregory and Heather Green
- 29 – Gerald and Karen Kunde



Pastor Eric will be on vacation **June 30 – July 9**. Pastor David Kaplan will be leading worship on July 6. Pastor Marlene Phillips from St. John's, Church Hill, will be available for pastoral care. She can be reached at 202-262-8512.

*Rest is not idleness, and to lie
sometimes on the grass under trees
on a summer's day, listening to the
murmur of the water, or watching
the clouds float across the sky, is
by no means a waste of time.*

--- John Lubbock



Bible Study

Sessions will resume
Thurs., Sept. 11
10:00-11:30 a.m.

Concluding the study of the Gospel
according to St. Matthew

All are welcome. Please join us.

August Birthdays

- 1** – Cinda Morgan
- 2** – Paul Spangler
- 3** – David Buhrman
Steve Palmer
- 4** – Audrey Routzahn
Amy Speck
- 9** – Vera Morgan (#101!)
Judith Horst
- 11** – Abby Dillon
Carter Mills
- 15** – Janice Saul
Steve Struharik
- 18** – Billy Ditchey
Susie Ward
- 19** – Angie (Frushour) Kessler
- 22** – Tricia (Buhrman) McGoldrick
- 23** – Christina Fromm
- 25** – Douglas Spade
- 29** – Lonnie Spade
- 30** – Elena Kemp
- 31** – Sydney Neel
Mike Frushour

August Anniversaries

- 6** – Richard and Anita Harshman
- 12** – Larry and Amy Speck
- 13** – Calvin and Kay Goad
- 22** – Steve and Jean Struharik
- 26** – Michael and Tina Morgan



The Lord didn't create
anything without a
purpose, but mosquitoes
come close.

* * * * *

Forbidden fruits create
many jams.

NEW SCHOOL YEAR BLESSING



All students, teachers, and support staff are welcome to receive a blessing during the worship service on **Sun., Aug. 17**. Students are encouraged to bring their backpacks to church that day for the blessing.

Collecting School Supplies



Middletown Valley People Helping People (MVPHP) will be collecting school supplies for students in the Middletown High feeder area. A large yellow bin for donations is located in our Sunday School area. Any school supplies are appreciated. See the flyer in the pocket of the bin for more information. We will be collecting items through **Sun., Aug. 3**.

Annual Wolfsville Picnic

Sat., Aug. 16, 2025

Wolfsville Ruritan Park
beginning around 11:00 a.m.



*Food, fun, fellowship
White Elephant stand
Musical Entertainment*

This is St. Mark's biggest fundraiser of the year and lots of help is needed to set up, work in the stands, and tear down afterwards. Please volunteer your time and resources to help make this a profitable day for St. Mark's and a special day for all in our community.

Watch the bulletins for more details.

*I never see a garden anywhere
That I do not see God walking there.*

*In every garden man has made
With his rake and hoe and spade,
Lacy with leaf-light and shade,
God moves down each moist brown row
To watch the tender green things grow.*

-- Grace Noll Crowell

Report of the 36th Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly
Centered in Christ: Church in Perilous Times
May 30 & 31, 2025

We gathered for worship, to celebrate what God is doing through our congregations and ministries and to be together as the body of Christ.

We learned about the new Synod Vision Teams, organized around some of the main functions of the Synod:

Equipping Leaders- raising up and supporting both lay and rostered ministers. This includes the work of candidacy (preparing pastors and deacons for ministry), the call process (calling new leaders to congregations), lay leadership development and shared ministry (congregations coming together to share leaders)

Connecting Ministries- collaborating for stronger ministry together. This includes Synodical youth ministry, young adult ministry, and groups like the Synodical Women's Organization that bring groups together.

Bearing Witness- collectively witnessing to God's love and justice, including mission congregations and the work of justice ministries such as Creation Care, the Hunger Task Force and the Racial Justice Team, among many others.

We passed the following Resolutions and Memorials:

- Approved a resolution encouraging our Bishop and those in our congregations to communicate with their elected officials to support preserving funds for SNAP program.
- Approved Global Church Sunday to be held on a Sunday in January 2026 to bring attention to our connections to Lutheran churches in Tanzania, Finland and Estonia and support ELCA programs that work to connect our global connections.
- Approved a resolution to establish a Southwest Asia—North Africa (also known as the Middle East) Peace Team in our Synod to accompany, collaborate, educate, advocate, and engage on issues of justice and peace and connect with ELCA programs in this work.
- Approved a Memorial to encourage the Presiding Bishop and the Churchwide Organization to exercise their authority to support vulnerable communities in national legal matters when needed.
- Approved a Memorial calling on the ELCA Presiding Bishop and ELCA church members to advocate for human rights for all Palestinians and Israelis and support policies that end the occupation and promote a just and peaceful resolution of the conflict.

- Approved a Memorial to urge the 2025 Churchwide Assembly to consider the recommendations from the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church with regards to mutual accountability to become a more anti-racist church.

Thanks to Audrey Wolfe and Trevor Williams who joined Pastor Eric as voting representatives from St. Mark's.

A FEW SUMMER PHOTOS FROM YEARS PAST



Brad and Lisa Burtner, Pearle Howell, Don and Naomi Kuhn at ice cream social for therapy dog fundraiser (2006)

Audrey Wolfe, Laverne Bosley, and Ann Frushour ready for a cool treat





Pastor Jurgen Hilke helps set up for summer worship service by the gazebo (2008)



"I spy" Doris Gaver, Grace Smith, Janet Hessong, Al and Karel Henneberger, Shannon Kline, Kevin Spade, Gladys Smith, Larry and Pat Moser. Who else can you identify?