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**Lion's Roar - September 2013**

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**The Lion's Roar**  
**St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Chenango Bridge, NY**  
**September 2013**



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**From the Church Guy**

The good news is spreading, but just in case you haven't heard...

My sweet wife Paula finished her treatment for breast cancer, and then, three months after the treatments were over, she had a medical scan. On August 12, we got the results from her oncologist. The scan found no cancer. We were of course relieved, excited, and grateful.

Thank you for your prayers, your notes, your concerns, and, above all, your love and support over the months since her diagnosis last November. I feel blessed beyond words to be part of this church family.

I've sometimes compared St. Mark's to the bar in the old TV show "Cheers." (And not because I serve you wine each week!) If you want it to be, this is a place "where everyone knows your name, and they're always glad you came."

I need a place like that. Thanks for being that place for me.

Father Mark +

## Church School Starts on September 15

Church school will begin on September 15 with a 'Welcome Back' get-together for our children and teachers. It's a time to greet each other after the summer months of vacations. It will be good to see all the children together again.

We are in need of teachers - if interested in teaching please contact me.

Our curriculum is *Living the Good News*. It is an online program for which you will be given information to access the sessions. But, if you don't have a computer I can download the material for you - so don't let that stop you from teaching!

The children of St. Mark's are a great bunch: eager, energetic, and fun to work with. Our teachers are asked to take one Sunday a month - so, ideally, we need 4 teachers for each grade level. The levels are: Pre-K-Kindergarten, 1st-3rd, and 4th-6th. This year I would also like to have more volunteers in the Nursery, which will free me up if a teacher finds he or she can't teach on a particular Sunday.

Requirements: a healthy love of children, a willingness to share one Sunday a month, and a member of St. Mark's for a year. (Also, our teachers must have Safe Church Training from Fr. Mark.)

We will have a teachers meeting on Sunday September 8 after the 10 a.m. service. Please contact me if you are interested or would like to talk about teaching.

Mary Taylor  
Christian Education

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## Come to the Table!

The September edition of the St. Mark's Table will be on Tuesday the 17th. Come to the undercroft at 6 pm with a food dish to share and your own place setting. We eat together, sing together, and make Eucharist together. It's always a pleasure to gather at the table with church friends.

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## Share Your Food with the Hungry

Jesus told us to feed the hungry, and it's an important task for us at St. Mark's. Don't forget that September 1 is CHOW Sunday, but ANY Sunday is right for bringing food for our CHOW pantry. The need keeps growing; the

downtown CHOW warehouse is stretched thin and they are counting on the local churches to step up and provide more food if we can.

We can. Please be generous.

And don't forget to sign up for our 4th Sunday at the Canteen -- September 22 is the Sunday people from St. Mark's will provide a meal for needy guests at Trinity Church, Binghamton. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at church.

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### **Music anyone?**

"I understand the inventor of the bagpipe was inspired when he saw a man carrying an indignant asthmatic pig under his arm. Unfortunately, the manmade sound never equaled the purity of the sound achieved by the pig."

(Alfred Hitchcock)

Whatever voice you may have (be it bagpipes, pig or even chainsaw), use it to honor God. It's HE who gave you that voice; give it back to HIM, whether good or bad! Join us; we're the St. Mark's adult choir and we'd love to have you!

Adult choir rehearsal begins after the 10 a.m. service on September 8th.

Cindi Ferranti  
Choir Director

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### **St. Mark's Youth Group Eats Again!**

Sunday, September 29, at 11:30, Father Mark and Eric & Sabrina Laine will provide pizza for our youth fellowship. This group is for kids in grades 7 - 12. We have fun, we talk, we eat, we play, and we pick on clergy. Don't miss it!

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### **In Case You Missed It Last Month: Attention All Bad Girls**

The time is rapidly approaching for us to reconvene and I, for one, am looking forward to it. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, September 25th at 7:00 P.M. at Judy Peterson's house (8 Poplar Hill Road).

Liz Curtis Higgs has a new book out called The Girl's Still Got It: Take a Walk with Ruth and the God Who Rocked Her World (not sure how they got all

Walk with Ruth and the God Who Rocked Her World (not sure how they got all that on the book jacket). It is available in paperback and on Kindle. The price ranges from \$7.33 to \$11.99 plus shipping and handling. My thanks to Sandy Zanker-Nichols for her researching all that. Arrowhead may also carry the book locally.

Please read at least the intro and first chapter before we meet. And please know that all are welcome to join us. We have a great time, really good discussions, and lots of laughs.

See you in September.

Judy Kessler +

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### **A Note from Our Greeting Card lady, Mary Porteus**

The St. Mark's Card Ministry is alive and well! On behalf of the parish, and with Father Mark's co-operation, I send cards of thanks, or condolence, or with get well wishes, or congratulations. Would you like to donate cards I could use to send to parishioners? If you would like to help by donating your extra or unused cards, please leave them in the Card Ministry box we'll keep on top of the coat rack outside the sanctuary. Thanks so much!

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### **Cheers for the St. Mark's Ramp Team!**

On Saturday, August 17, fourteen kids from our parish did an amazing job building a ramp for a 6-year old girl named Maddie. Maddie suffers from spina bifida, and is wheelchair-bound. We all got to love her, her brother and sister, her parents, and her grandparents during the project.

The kids not only built a ramp (and a beautiful one, at that); they did more. They also helped the dad load damaged possessions from a flooded basement on his trailer for disposal, which saved him several hours of effort. And they dug gravel and moved it in a wheelbarrow to remove it from an undesirable spot under a new room addition and resurfaced the whole driveway with that gravel. Some of the kids played with Maddie's two siblings, giving their mom a welcome break and the two children a very happy day.

The teens worked hard and cheerfully. The grandfather told me how obvious it was that they were having fun as they served, and he was quite moved by this. I told him that's just how the kids of St. Mark's are.

I applaud them one more time: Liam Allport, Jenny Carr, Abbie Carr, Eric Castelucci, Dan Gridley, Lauren Gridley, Elizabeth Jacobs, Leila Johnson, Max Johnson, Mary-Emma McRae, Lynnsey Osterhout, Jake Pierson, Kayla Sweet, and Melice Sweet. Be proud of them! They bring great honor to our parish

and miss sweet. Be proud of them! They bring great honor to our parish reputation!

And I thank the adults who in addition worked Monday evening and all day Friday of that week, preparing and getting started so that the teens could get right to work on Saturday. These mentors make all the difference in our project: Dave Gridley (son Dan worked with us on Friday, too!), Eric Laine I, Ben Reid, and Dave Surgent. Jeff Jacobs joined us for the first time as an adult mentor on Saturday. These guys are great, and I'm so grateful to them.

Mark +

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### September Birthdays

Judy Kessler 9/1

Anne Blakeslee 9/16

Dalya Alkass-Blaise 9/1

Jerri Bush 9/18

Zach Bodine 9/1/99

Robert Reynolds 9/19

Brian Kessler 9/4

Alanna Cooney 9/21

Claire Ernstrom 9/4

Heather Benning 9/24

Sue Blythe 9/5

Jonathon Hall 9/25

Teresa Lockwood 9/7

Dominic Surace 9/25/03

Paul Bibbins 9/11

Zachary Dattoria 9/25/11

Mary Stasko 9/11

Colleen Boyce 9/26

Ava Laroussi 9/13/06

Duane Mayo 9/28

Mark Giroux 9/16

Judi Laine 9/30

Peyton Dattoria 9/30/09

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### Anniversaries in September

Jim & Mary Stasko 9/4/82

Frank & Lillian Ruf 9/6

David & Sue Surgent 9/7/85

Nate & Cristina Phelps 9/8/07

Chuck & Sue Praefke 9/14/74

Larry & Chris Sweet 9/14/91

Wendell & Patricia Weller 9/16/66

Christopher & Christine Samsel 9/20/97

Andrew & Dorothy Pierce 9/28/91

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### **For Your Calendar in September**

#### **September 1**

##### **CHOW Sunday**

8am Holy Eucharist Rite I & Healing

10am Holy Eucharist & Healing

9am Bible Study

#### **September 2**

7pm Al-Anon

#### **September 5**

7am Men's Group @ Red Oak

7:30am Women's Group @ Denny's

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Weight Watchers

#### **September 6**

1pm Singles Ministry - Father Mark

6pm Quilters

#### **September 8**

8am & 10am Holy Eucharist

Baptism of Lukas Wilczewski

9am Bible Study

11:30am Teacher's meeting

#### **September 9**

7pm Al-Anon

#### **September 10**

9am Guy's Breakfast @ Red Oak

#### **September 11**

1pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

7pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  
7pm Altar Guild

### **September 12**

Rector to Commission on Ministry  
7am Men's Group @ Red Oak  
7:30am Women's Group @ Denny's  
9am Morning Prayer  
6pm Weight Watchers

### **September 15**

8am & 10am Holy Eucharist  
9am Bible Study  
10am Church school - Welcome Back!  
11:30am Vestry meeting

### **September 16**

7pm Al-Anon

### **September 17**

6pm St. Mark's Table

### **September 18**

1pm Women's Luncheon @ Cortese

### **September 19**

7am Men's Group @ Red Oak  
7:30am Women's Group @ Denny's  
9am Morning Prayer  
6pm Weight Watchers

### **September 20**

1pm Singles Ministry  
6pm Quilters

### **September 22**

8am & 10am Holy Eucharist  
9am Bible Study  
10am Church school  
11am Canteen

### **September 23**

7pm Al-Anon

### **September 24**

9am Guy's Breakfast @ Red Oak

### **September 25**

7:30am Clericus

7:30am Services

7pm Bad Girls @ Peterson Home

### **September 26**

7am Men's Group @ Red Oak

7:30am Women's Groups @ Denny's

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Weight Watchers

### **September 29**

8:15am & 10am Holy Eucharist

9am Bible Study

10am Church school

11:30am EYF meeting

### **September 30**

7pm Al-Anon

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**St. Mark's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 458, Chenango Bridge, NY, [www.stmarks-cb.org](http://www.stmarks-cb.org)**  
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