

# St. Mark's Messenger

## August 2023

### FATHER JOHN'S REFLECTIONS



There are many ways to measure the passage of time. Sure, the days get longer or shorter, but we can also mark the cycles of fruits and vegetables at the farmers' markets. I buy from the Amish every Wednesday, so I've seen asparagus appear (yay!) and then slowly disappear. The same is true for raspberries (red and black). Once the zucchini arrive, they just keep on coming. Now we're in the season of peaches and early apples. Let us thank God for all these seasonal gifts.

For all things there is a season.

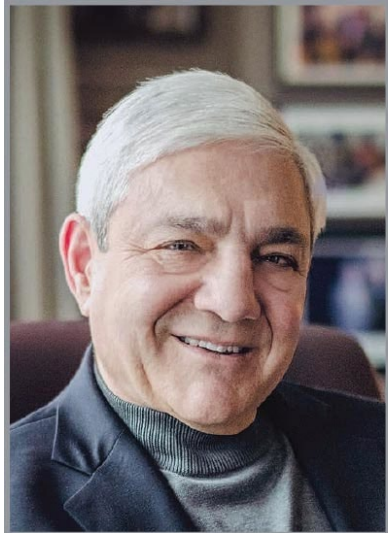
While I'm enjoying summer, I'm also planning for winter. This week I've talked with the organizers of the Ice Festival and the dancers at our

Church. I've talked with two businesses about supporting Toys for Tots.

Wasn't it a joy to have our young artists with us in July? Josh, Kaley, and Jonah brightened our service by bringing our hymns to life. We look forward to Joanne's return at the end of the month but are so grateful that Jonah found us.

John+

## FIRST SUNDAY AT ST. MARK'S: GRAHAM SPANIER



On Sunday, August 6, at 2PM  
St. Mark's will feature  
"A Conversation with  
Graham Spanier."  
21 South Main Street,  
Lewistown, PA

*A  
First Sunday  
Conversation  
with*  
Graham Spanier



On Sunday, August 6 at 2PM, Dr. Spanier will be speaking at St. Mark's about his new book, *In the Lions' Den: The Penn State Scandal and a Rush to Judgment*. Join us for a conversation with President Spanier and refreshments afterwards.

President of Penn State from 1995 to 2011, Dr. Graham Spanier saw his life change dramatically when news emerged about the arrest of Jerry Sandusky on charges of child molestation. Almost immediately, both he and Coach Joe Paterno were removed from their positions after decades of leadership and national prominence. Penn State

was punished by the NCAA and the Big 10 with fines and sanctions, including the forfeiture of football games won by Joe Paterno. It was a terrible time for Penn Staters.

How did it affect Graham Spanier? What sustained him during this traumatic time? What insights did he gain into himself? Since he also spent two months in prison, what did he learn about the criminal-justice system?

We will have refreshments after the presentation.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

We will dine at Vince's in Burnham at 8AM on Saturday, August 5.

### A PRAYER FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Since classes begin in August, we pray for our schools. Dear Lord, we trust in You to keep our children safe throughout this school year. We pray that they will enjoy and excel in their education. We declare Your divine covering over every child, from the crown of their heads to the soles of their feet. In this school year, we release them to You and ask that You watch over them in Jesus Name, **Amen.**

**PROPERTY UPDATE**

We are renovating the office space for Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard so that it will be more efficient for both our volunteers and our guests. The changes will enable MHC to return from the parish house (which was essential during COVID) to its original space. Thanks to Jim Cherry and our volunteers (Hal, Blair, Fred, Wade, and Jeff) for great work!



We’ve put in a new door and counter and decluttered the area so that we’ll have more room for groceries.

We have replaced the lock on the Water Street entrance with one that is easier to use.

We will be removing a large, dead oak tree from the cemetery.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

<p>4: JEFF AND ROBIN WILSON (#38)          7: ALEXIS KUHNS          8: BENJAMIN HARWOOD          10: DIANE CARTER          15: MARK REMY</p>	<p><b>O GOD, OUR TIMES ARE IN YOUR HAND: LOOK WITH FAVOR, WE PRAY, ON YOUR SERVANT <i>N.</i> AS (S)HE BEGINS ANOTHER YEAR. GRANT THAT (S)HE MAY GROW IN WISDOM AND GRACE, AND STRENGTHEN OUR TRUST IN YOUR GOODNESS ; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. <i>AMEN.</i></b></p>
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**MOTHER HUBBARD’S CUPBOARD AND BREAKING BREAD TOGETHER**

December	468	individuals
January	535	individuals
February	560	individuals
March	714	individuals
April	851	individuals (365 families; 27 new families & 73 new individuals)
May	960	individuals (395 families; 36 new families & 106 new individuals)
June	1,034	individuals (412 families; 29 new families; 79 new individuals)

Our July numbers will decrease because of changes we're making in the distribution of "bonus" items available through one of our programs. We will, however, ask the community for additional financial support.

### PRAYER LIST

We pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month; and we pray especially for Ralph Bitner, Sharon Copenhaver, Mary Daily, Ron Diven, Ann Harwood-Nuss, Tony Hatfield-Nicholson, Carole Mease, Steve Myers, Willa Silverman, Jane Smith, Lynn Stricker, Patty Wagner, Evelyn Wilson, and Bill Wilson.

St. Mark's Episcopal  
Church  
21 S Main Street  
Lewistown, PA 17044