

# **PGM FARMERS MARKET**

### Pine Grove Mills Farmers Market Newsletter

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# Welcome

This is the first of what we anticipate will be routine issues to keep you informed on the future of a Farmers Market in Pine Grove Mills.

You are receiving this because you expressed an interest as a consumer or vendor in the PGM Farmers Market.

#### **Current Status**

The steering committee is working on a business plan for the Farmers Market. The business plan is required to keep the market organized and will be used in a request for funding and Township approval. We are talking to Ferguson Township about approval to hold the market at the St Paul Lutheran Church at 277 West Pine Grove Rd.

Our tentative plan is to open the Market June 14, 2018 or the first Thursday after the last day of School at the Ferguson Township Elementary School. The hours are tentatively planned for 3 pm to 7 pm. The market would be open weekly until the end of September.

"A farmers market is kind of like a public square, and there is a nice social energy. There was a study done a couple years ago that found that people have 10 times as many conversations at the farmers market than they do at the supermarket."

Michael Pollan



This photo was taken at the Harvest Festival in September.

Janet Schaufler is looking on.

# Harvest Festival

The first Pine Grove Mills Harvest Festival was held on Sept 16, 2017 at the St Paul Lutheran Church. There were 23 exhibitors displaying produce, food, crafts, technology, books and clothing. The Harvest Festival was organized by community members on a minimal budget. We received \$250 from Thrivent Financial and donations from individuals and organizations to fund the event. There were over 40 volunteers who helped at various times. Donations of \$544 were collected for the Lutheran Disaster Response fund. For future events we plan to do more advertising. Thanks to Laura Dininni, Sally Kolesar, Amanda McQuade, Charlie and Nancy Poust, Lisa Strickland, Ron Strouse, and Pastor Paul Tomkiel for organizing the event and the St. Paul Lutheran Church for hosting the event.

#### Farm to You

Farm To You features fresh prepared foods from local farms and kitchens. Yogurt from an Amish farm; homemade soups, entrees and baked goods made fresh in a farm kitchen; chocolate goat milk and drinkable yogurt, and much more. Let Farm To You introduce you to the local farmers and cooks who make these foods fresh for you in commercially licensed and insured kitchens, using locally sourced ingredients. These are among the best tasting local foods our community has to offer. Farm To You aims to bring them to you. Three farms are providing for Farm to You. They include: The Farmer's Table at Stewart Farm in McAlevys Fort, Byler Goat Dairy in Belleville, and Spring Bank Acres in Rebersburg.



Sign up to receive the weekly Farm to You e-newsletter. You can order products by email or Facebook message. St. Paul Lutheran Church is a pick-up place on Thursdays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Payment by check or cash is made at the time of pick-up.

To sign up for the e-newsletter, request a menu or make an order please email: <a href="mailto:dwgfarmpromotions@gmail.com">dwgfarmpromotions@gmail.com</a>

### Spread the Word

We have created an email distribution list to keep all who are interested in the Pine Grove Mills Farmers Market informed. If you know friends or family who would like to be on this list, please ask them to sign up at <a href="http://pgmfarmersmarket.com/News">http://pgmfarmersmarket.com/News</a> or send an email request to <a href="mailto:admin@pgmfarmersmarket.com">admin@pgmfarmersmarket.com</a>

## Steering Committee

The PGM Farmers Market steering committee is made up of local community members including: Rev. Carl Campbell, Laura Dininni, Bill Keough, James Kane, Sally Kolesar, Lisa Strickland, Ronald Strouse, and Pastor Paul Tomkiel. Please contact any of the committee members with your questions or suggestions or email <a href="mailto:admin@pgmfarmersmarket.com">admin@pgmfarmersmarket.com</a>

# Help Wanted

We need help to develop and maintain a media strategy for the PGM Farmers Market and Harvest Festival. Experience with all types of media would be ideal. This is a volunteer position. If you are interested in working to create a successful Farmers Market and have some experience in advertising please email us at admin@pgmfarmersmarket.com.



Photo of the J.L. Farm produce display at the Harvest Festival.

We wish you a happy holiday season with a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.