

JUBILEE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ST. MARK'S
United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2020

MIA DAY 2020

Safely Serving Our Neighbors

Sunday, October 11

Confirmation Class 2020



Ava Adams, Mentor is Lydia Fourman, Favorite scripture is Philippians 4:13

Max Bontrager, Mentor is Jacob Zadny, Favorite scripture is Romans 8:31

Kyle Brinkman, Mentor is Joshua Harpe, Favorite scripture is John 15:13

Cooper Burnett, Mentor is DeVon Yoho, Favorite scripture is Lamentations 3:22-23

Amber Byrd, Mentor is Emily Hardin, Favorite scripture is John 3:30

Abigail Davis, Mentor is Leslie Babione, Favorite scripture is Philippians 4:13

Mason Macomber, Mentor is Ryan Howe, Favorite scripture is Philippians 4:6-7

Anna McKeown, Mentor is Susan Salter, Favorite scripture is Romans 5:3-4

Halle Seazor, Mentor is Angela Vance, Favorite scripture is Romans 8:28

Ryann Solesky, Mentor is Jill Davis, Favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11

Congratulations Confirmands!

COVID-19 Reopening Plan Guidelines

ALL PHASES MUST FOLLOW CDC GUIDELINES: PHYSICAL DISTANCING, FACE MASKS, AND HAND SANITIZER AT ENTRY POINTS. Continue to shelter in place if you are high risk (65 and older, underlying health condition). Stay at home if you are sick, until at least 10 days past initial symptoms, AND 3 days fever-free (without medicine), AND no respiratory symptoms. Recommendations for cleaning and sanitizing will be followed in all phases. For updates check out the St. Mark's website, stmarkscarmel.org/reopening. **We are currently in Phase B.**

	Phase A Starting May 31	Phase B Started July 12	Phase C TBD	Phase D TBD
Church Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open with limited hours. (M and W, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM) Sanctuary open for prayer time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited hours continue (as of October 2, the office will be open 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Mon, Wed, Fri). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase office hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD
Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online worship service continues to be offered Worship team may gather and record in the sanctuary (Adults only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online worship service continues to be offered Live family-oriented worship services with restrictions. (9:00 Current & 11:00 Traditional Service) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online worship service continue Live family worship continues with restrictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD
Adult Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues for small groups, Parking lot gatherings allowed. Leader must schedule with office. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues for small groups, Bible studies, Sunday classes. Limited live gatherings allowed (except Sunday morning) Meeting must be scheduled with office. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues for small groups, Bible studies and Sunday classes Limited live gatherings must be scheduled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD
Student Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues to be offered. Parking lot gatherings allowed, with Adult Supervision . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues to be offered. Limited live gatherings in the building allowed with Adult supervision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Street Rehearsals may resume in the building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD
Children Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues to be offered Playground is closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues Parking lot family events offered. Playground is closed. (Except for Preschool) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online presence continues. Limited Children's programming begins. Playground opens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD
Non-Church Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site meetings postponed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site meetings postponed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site meetings postponed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol

Worship

Ways to Worship

In Person Worship

9:00 AM– The Current

11:00 AM– Traditional

Online

Facebook Live at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Website—Any time during the week.

Need Help Viewing Online?

You can watch the service live or later.

- Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/stmarkscarmel.org](https://www.facebook.com/stmarkscarmel.org) (You do not need a Facebook account to watch)
- Watch from the website. Go to www.stmarkscarmel.org/connected. Scroll down to Worship from home with us and click Play on either the 9:00 AM or 11:00 AM service.
- Pick up step-by-step instructions at St. Marks. (Available at Door #2 Monday-Friday, 9 AM– 4 PM)

Communion

Communion will be served the first Sunday of every month.

Elements for home use will be available for pickup at the church the week before communion is served.



Registering Attendance

We are grateful for your presence in online worship. Please register your attendance every week by visiting stmarkscarmel.org/attend. Please include the names of all attending worship. Thank you for being a part of St. Mark's wherever you are!

What to Expect on Sundays When We Worship



- Masks are required.
- Every other pew will be used.
- Due to seating constraints, please wait to be seated by the ushers, and please stay in that seat. The Sanctuary will be filled from front to back. This allows for maximum seating capacity, minimizes cross-traffic, and complies with CDC Guidelines.
- Only family members may sit next to each other. All other people need to be at least 6 ft apart.
- Music will be provided by music team; however, there is no congregational singing.
- When Sanctuary reaches capacity (70-75 people) no one else will be seated.
- Sanctuary will be cleaned in between services.
- After the postlude is complete, ushers will dismiss from the back to front of the church to reduce cross-traffic and allow for minimal contact.
- Bathrooms will be available for emergency use.
- Hand Sanitizer Stations are available.
- Please leave the church as soon as you are released from Sanctuary.
- No Sunday school classes, Kidz Church, or nursery care will be provided.

The Pastor's Place

Dr. Brian White, Lead Pastor

bwhite@stmarkscarmel.org

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

I suspect that many of us are familiar with the passage from Ecclesiastes about timing and the fate of humankind. Ecclesiastes 3 begins:¹ For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

² a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³ a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴ a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵ a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

⁷ a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

This passage is often read at funerals with a sense of weak resignation. We think, "If there is a purpose to God's timing then we should do our best to bend ourselves to the will of God, accept what happens in life, and make the best of it." There is a passive nature to this way of looking at the poetic scripture.

However, it is also possible to look at it as a call to action. Instead of thinking "Things happen and I must do the best I can" it may be that these verses can be thought to say "The times in which I find myself call me to greater action."

It might be tempting to say of 2020, "It's a mess. We have to just get through it and hope that 2021 is better!" But could it be that the difficulties in which we find ourselves are also a call to Christian action? Could it be that God is pulling at our thoughts and consciences to find a way forward that is better than what we had before? Instead of making do is it possible that we are being called by Christ who says, "Behold, I make all things new!"? (Revelation 8:5)

If we look at our current world through this lens might it cause us to respond differently?

Instead of waiting out a pandemic and hoping that everything will return to the way it was we might seek new ways to connect to God and one another.

Instead of just lamenting the racism in our country we might be called to embrace friends of color and to speak out on their behalf.

Instead of complaining about people who disagree with our politics we might initiate a conversation with a friend and try to see their perspective as best we can.

Instead of saying, "Someone should do something!" we might come to the realization that we are someone.

These are difficult times in many ways but I have noticed that difficult times can call heroic action out of us if we are open to God's leading. It is not a season for passive resignation but for heartfelt Christian action. There are many things that work to separate us but I believe that nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39)

In Christ,
Brian



The Pastor's Place

Julia Gonzales, Associate Pastor

jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org

Dear St. Mark's family,

What comes to mind when you hear the word "vow?" Do you think of marriage vows, the determined vow of Inigo Montoya to avenge his father in *The Princess Bride*, the Unbreakable Vow from *Harry Potter*, or something else entirely? With Confirmation Sunday (finally) happening this last month, The United Methodist Church membership vows have been on my mind. There are several vows that we take when we join The United Methodist Church, whether through baptism, confirmation, or when we change our membership between local churches. We reaffirm and remember these vows as well, but sometimes it helps to read them outside of the service.



The first three have really stood out to me this last month with the way that they read together. The first question asked is if you "renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?" This is followed by, "Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?" It's one thing to say that I renounce something. The actual act of following through on it is a little harder. None of us are inherently evil, yet temptation exists in this world. When life is hard, sometimes it can make us hard as well. Yet within God, we can find freedom and power not only for ourselves, but for others as well. We're still not perfect though, and we mess up along the journey. And that's where the third vow comes in: "Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races?" When we put our trust in Christ, that is when we can find the strength to follow through on our vows to resist evil and injustice. We have Christ to guide us, and God's grace for those moments when we struggle. Like everything, it's a process and not always a fun one. But the love, grace, and freedom that come along with it are pretty awesome.

Take care,

Julia

The Pastor's Place

Mary Ann Moman, Associate Pastor

mmoman@stmarkscarmel.org

So many times during the pandemic I have said to myself: I wish I could _____. There have been many different things I wished for. I've wanted to visit friends. I've wanted to go out to dinner. I've wanted to take trips that I have canceled.

And I also give thanks for this time of distancing. I have learned new lessons about being in my home for long periods of time. I enjoy silence. I enjoy reading a book in one day. I enjoy cooking a meal from "scratch". I have enjoyed long walks in my neighborhood and meditating on the beauty of God's creation. I'm even learning to identify birds. I've played the piano more.

Yes, there are lots of things to be sad and angry about. We continue to struggle as a people to seek justice for all people. Racism is a reality in our communities. The political divide in our country tears us apart. We long for unity and we don't know how to achieve it.

In the midst of this, I am learning new ways to be in community with my neighbors. I'm learning a new vocabulary of justice. I am reading our history from the eyes of those who have been oppressed. I am being changed.

I challenge you in these days to find the good things in our new reality and celebrate them. Where have you seen beauty? Where have you seen new acts of justice?

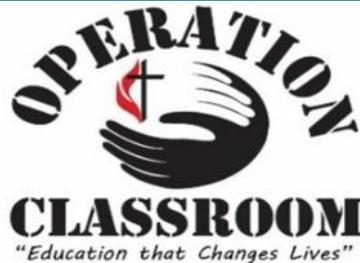
Grace and peace,

Mary Ann



October Mission Focus

Stephanie Cohen, Mission Coordinator
scohen@stmarkscarmel.org



Did you know?

- Operation Classroom; a non-profit organization that partners with the United Methodist Church in Liberia and Sierra Leone to empower the people to rise out of poverty through education.
- Operation Classroom helps young people in Liberia and Sierra Leone grow into educated and productive adults who can make a positive impact on our world and end the cycle of poverty.
- Simply *providing* for people fails to address the root cause of the poverty puzzle. It is the behaviors, social systems and mindset that create poverty. The key to ending poverty lies in the capacity of a people to change their views and perspectives so that they can facilitate change and engage in productive enterprise. Operation Classroom helps young men and women in Liberia and Sierra Leone to gain an education that alters their perspective of what is possible.
- Operation Classroom has provided thousands of scholarships allowing students who would otherwise be unable to attend school to get an education. In October 2019 Taiama Enterprise Academy opened its doors for a new kind of vocational education emphasizing entrepreneurship - project-based learning with the end goal of employment.

How can I help?

- Financial donations may be made online at stmarkscarmel.org/giving
- Mail or drop off a check to St. Mark.
- Donate in the baskets on Sunday morning.

For more information, contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org or visit operationclassroom.com

Donation & Service Opportunities

Because You Give, St. Mark's Gives!

Thank you for your generous support of the missions of St. Mark's. Since the September newsletter we have given to:

Family Promise/IHN: countless items to furnish 1 additional Apartment Shelter

Fletcher Place Community Center: 50 sack meals, 20 Oatmeal containers, 12 bags of food

Hamilton County Kids Coats: 11 coats

Outreach Indiana: 4 bags of clothes for youth, 2 bags hygiene items

Personal Dignity kit supplies: 2 bags

Roberts Park UMC: 125 sack meals to go

UMCOR Covid-19 Relief Fund: \$1500

UMCOR WASH Program: \$4205

Versiti Blood Center of Indiana: 34 units of blood.

St. Mark's Blood Drive

Sunday November 15 | 8:30 AM-1:15 PM

Thank you to all Blood Donors! Last month St. Mark's Blood Drive reached a new record: 34 units of blood received! This is truly and literally is LIFE SAVING as blood transfusions are needed every day. Our next Blood Drive will be on November 15, register to donate now at stmarkscarmel.org/signups



Habitat for Humanity Award

St. Mark's received the Church Legacy Partner award from Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity! St. Mark's received this surprise award last month while meeting for (what we thought was) a promo video. Present were Missions Coordinator, Stephanie Cohen, long time volunteers and supporters of Habitat, Joe & Diane Newton and Pastor Brian; and from Habitat, Jim Morris, President & CEO, and Joel Reichenbach, Corporate & Faith Relations Coordinator.

It was an exciting moment to honor the long-standing partnership with the wonderful team at Habitat and celebrate the many families whose lives have been uplifted and empowered through the amazing opportunities Habitat provides. Congratulations to all involved and thank you for helping more families have a home!



Shoe Drive

Changing Footprints is a local nonprofit organization that accepts shoes of all kinds and distributes them to individuals, organizations and agencies wherever there is a need, whether in Indiana, the United States or overseas. For more information visit changingfootprints.org. This month St. Mark's is collecting new or gently used shoes. Shoes may be left in donation bins inside Door #2, Monday-Friday, 9-4, until October 26, 2020.



St. Mark's Serving During a Pandemic

How is St. Mark's UMC serving our community during the pandemic? Below are just a few of the mission activities in which our members have served and continued supporting our community.

PANERA BREAD DOUGH-NATION: Every week St. Mark's volunteers pick up end of day Panera Bread food through the Panera Dough-nation Program. Day-old bagels, pastries, and breads are taken to nearby food pantries or agencies serving those in need. This rescued food reduces waste while feeding our neighbors in need!

FLETCHER PLACE COMMUNITY CENTER BREAKFASTS: Once a month, St. Mark's volunteers have cooked and served breakfast for the Fletcher Place Community residents and homeless. During the pandemic meals have continued to be provided with sack meals to-go. Hunger doesn't stop even when the kitchen is closed. Delivering meals each month allows us to continue supporting this ministry.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILDING AND MENTORING: Members from St. Mark's have continued to provide mentoring to families through the Habitat Mentoring program, providing experienced homeowners to walk beside them as they build their new home. As building of homes resumed in September St. Mark's members helped with painting on September 24, serving the Cobbs Family.

SOUP'S ON AT ROBERTS PARK: St. Mark's continues to provide meals once per quarter, to the community and homeless at Roberts Park UMC in Indianapolis. Sack meals to-go have become the safe alternative during the pandemic.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK: The Apartment Shelter Project has addressed the need for families in transition who still need homes, while IHN hosting in congregations has been put on hold. St. Mark's has provided countless housing items for 2 apartments now, partnering with St. Monica Church, Meridian Street UMC and Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

Because you Give, St. Mark's Gives!



Habitat Build



IHN Apartment Shelter

Hamilton County Kids Coats

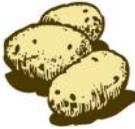
Hamilton County Kids Coats is a collaborative effort between many churches and community partners whose goal is to make sure all Hamilton County children stay warm this winter. During October we are collecting coats that will be given away in November. We need **clean** coats in good condition and in all sizes. Greatest need is **Men's Adult sizes Small, Medium, Large, XLarge, 2XL & 3XL for teen boys!** Coats may be left in donation bins inside Door #2, Monday-Friday, 9-4, until October 26, 2020. For more information or to find volunteer opportunities visit kidscoats.org.



Annual Potato Drop

Saturday, October 10 | 8:00 AM

Partnering with the Society of St. Andrew, St. Mark's is once again providing a drive thru Potato Drop, where 40,000 pounds of potatoes will be given away for FREE to Hamilton County individuals, food pantries, agencies, kitchens, churches and anyone in need. Mask wearing and safety guidelines will be followed. Visit stmarkscarmel.org/mia-day for sign up link and more info. Please help us feed America's hungry!



World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 4

This offering supports diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults to make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion Scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries; the remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduates studying in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training. These funds are administered by the General Boards' of Higher Education and Ministry and Global Ministries. Financial donations may be made online at stmarkscarmel.org/give.



MIA Project Leaders Needed

Oversee one of the MIA Day projects, communicate the provided instructions and encourage your group. Thank you in advance for helping us all serve others this year! Contact Stephanie Cohen at scohen@stmarkscarmel.org for more information.

October Programming

We miss seeing you in person. Each week, families are invited to our current activities:

- Children are welcome to attend in-person worship services in the sanctuary with their families at this time (Make sure to get a Kidz Kit for each child from one of the ushers.)
- Check out the **Connect with Kidz website** at stmarkscarmel.org/kidzconnect to find weekly Kidz Church and Kidz Music & Praise resources.
- Join our **St. Mark's Kidz Facebook** page to watch a weekly Bible Story and object lesson and share what you are up to each week.
- Children ages 4-4th grade are invited to attend "**Kidz Music & Praise Rocking 11 am**" each Sunday on Zoom. Contact Joyce Click (jclick@stmarkscarmel.org) for an invitation.

Look for updates for Children's Ministry in weekly emails!

MOPS

We are Mothers of Preschoolers (newborn to kindergarten) who desire friendship, community, support, and growth. Fall 2020 will look different during COVID-19 because we are not meeting in-person this semester. Our plan is to schedule socially distant monthly Moms Nights Out and monthly outdoor play dates (weather permitting). Additional activities and gatherings will be posted on the MOPS Facebook page as opportunities present themselves. We will reassess for Spring 2021. Email Alexis at mopsatst.marks@gmail.com to register; we cannot wait to meet you.



SAMS (School Age Moms)

SAMS welcomes mothers of children from kindergarten through secondary grades but also strives to be welcoming group for all ages. SAMS provides support, a Mom community, and a sounding board for moms from St. Mark's Preschool, the church and the community. The group will meet twice monthly via Zoom and twice monthly out at a brunch location. Weekly meetings allow for growth and also meet people where they are in terms of comfort in socializing during COVID-19. Contact Ali Lemberg, getintouchinc@yahoo.com for Zoom codes and more information.

Third Grade Bible Recognition

Sunday, October 4 | 1:00 PM

Children's Ministry is excited to once again gift *New Revised Standard Version* Bibles to current 3rd graders. Parents, please RSVP and register your child(ren) by emailing



rcoooney@stmarkscarmel.org. This year we will celebrate this milestone with a Bible Game Day celebrating our third graders and allowing them to learn more about their Bibles, enjoy fellowship time together, and have a the chance to win Bible-themed prizes.

Children's Christmas Musical

Follow the Star is planned for the Holiday season and will begin rehearsals on Zoom on Sunday, October 4 and will continue each Sunday at 11:00 AM. (Yes, you can rehearse and produce a wonderful musical on Zoom.) All children who would like to participate, please email Joyce Click, jclick@stmarkscarmel.org for Zoom information. The production will be sometime in December.



Club 56

Sunday, October 11 & 25 |

5:30 PM

**Parking Lot or Wesley Hall
(inclement weather)**



5th & 6th graders are invited to gather for fellowship and fun in the St. Mark's parking lot (practicing social distancing and safety measures) or Wesley Hall if weather is questionable. Youth are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors. Contact Ramie Cooney at kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org with any questions or for more information.

Thank you Clara Rozmaryn!

We are very fortunate that Clara picked St. Mark's as the site for her Girl Scout Gold Award project. She designed, sketched, and supervised the painting of murals in the Education Wing entrance. We can't wait for you to see her depiction of Noah's Arc. Jesus calling the disciples and Jesus feeding the 5,000. In addition to the murals, Clara will also be creating curriculum for classes to use to learn about these urals. Clara went to preschool at St. Marks's, she's currently a high school junior, and her mother teaches at the preschool. We are grateful for Clara's service.





Weekly Gatherings

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Wednesday Night Worship | 6:00 PM

Facebook Live

Bible Study-Ephesians | 6:30 PM

Contact DKB for login.

THURSDAY EVENINGS

DKB @ Starbucks Join Don on Zoom until restaurants reopen. Parents and students are all welcome! Email DKB for login.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for face-to-face Sunday School over Instagram Live.

A complete Fall Schedule is now available. Contact Don Broad, dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org or check out the website, stmarkscarmel.org/youth.

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

MIA Day



Signups available at stmarkscarmel.org/mia-day for on-site and off-site mission opportunities

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 5:00 PM

Cornerstone Fall Festival

Look for details on our Fall Festival. Location TBD

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 |

Mystery Adventure



Details will be sent via email by 10/17. Sign-up required.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 | 5:00 PM

Family Drive Thru Adventure

Families will be invited for an evening of fun and adventure. There will be prizes.



Cornerstone Rooms Redecorated

Check out the Middle School room renovations! Senior high room should be finished soon.



Adult Discipleship

Dr. Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator
grow@stmarkscarmel.org



How to Pick Up Study Books and *Upper Room* devotionals

All new studies have books available at the church entrance for contact-free pickup, Mon-Fri, 9:00AM-4:00PM. Inside the Door #2 entryway, you can find Study Books and *Upper Rooms* on the library book return box. To pay for books, please mail a check to the church (memo - "study books") or pay online at stmarkscarmel.org/giving.

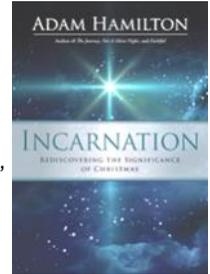
You can also order books from Amazon or Cokesbury, and some groups are hand-delivering books to those who can't make it to the church. Contact Jennifer Cloud-Buckner or your study leader with questions.

New Weekday Studies

THURSDAYS

THURSDAY AM STUDY GROUP, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

This group will begin the new Adam Hamilton Advent study, *Incarnation*, in November.



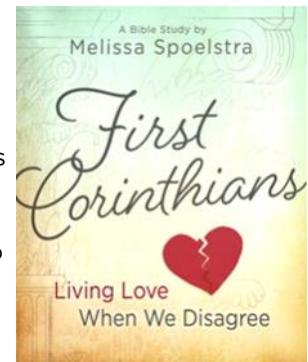
FRIDAYS

FRIDAY AM STUDY, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

First Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree by Melissa Spoelstra, 10/9-11/13

Led by Stephanie Cohen | online | Books \$13

Melissa Spoelstra's *First Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree* delves into the apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthians in search of answers on how to get along with one another. You'll discover that living out the radical love of Jesus Christ is the only way to peacefully deal with disagreements, differences, and divisions. Books are \$13 and can be picked up from the church entrance Mon-Fri 9:00AM-4:00PM.



Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups.
 Questions? Email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner
 (grow@stmarkscarmel.org) or call (317)846-4912 x. 214.

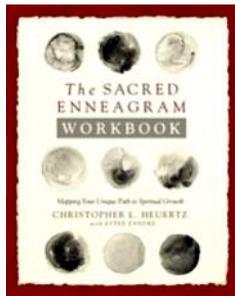
New Themed Study

THE SACRED ENNEAGRAM: YOUR UNIQUE PATH TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sundays, 10/11—11/22, 6:00-7:15 PM

Led by Pastor Brian White | online | Books \$9

Most of us spend a lifetime trying to figure out who we are and how we relate to others and God. This task is far from easy; yet, the Enneagram offers a bright path to cutting through the internal clutter and finding our way back to who we are created to be. *The Sacred Enneagram Workbook* creates the reflective space necessary to map your way home.



Join international Enneagram teacher Chris Heuertz in this interactive companion to the bestselling *The Sacred Enneagram* to discover:

- Where you find yourself in the Enneagram's nine type profiles, and how to make sense of testing results
- How to move beyond counterproductive caricatures of your type toward true growth
- Tools and practices for breaking out of your greatest emotional, interpersonal, and spiritual challenges
- And ultimately, your type's unique invitation and path toward a deeper journey with God

All sessions will meet from 6:00–7:15 PM. Books are \$9 and can be picked up from the church entrance Mon-Fri 9:00AM-4:00PM.

Sacred Enneagram Sessions include:

- October 11: 1. Exploring Who We Are
 October 18: 2. Discovering Your Type
 October 25: 3. Identifying Your Patterns of Growth and Stress
 November 1: 4. Intelligence Centers
 Nov. 8: 5. Harmony Triads
 Nov. 15: 6. The Unexpected Gifts of Silence, Solitude, and Stillness
 Nov. 22 7. Nine Journeys Home

Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups to receive the full syllabus and the Zoom connection information.

Ongoing Studies

WEDNESDAYS

PASTOR'S MEN STUDY, 6:30 AM-7:15 AM

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY, 9:30 AM-10:30 AM

The Sermon on the Mount by A.J. Levine, now through 12/9 | online

Pastor Brian's Wednesday morning studies are studying Jesus's words in Matthew 5-7 using Dr. Amy Jill-Levine's *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*.

WED AM BIBLE STUDY, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

The Color of Compromise by Jemar Tisby, now through 10/28, Dillon Park | Books \$15

The Wednesday group facilitated by Lydia Fourman is reading an acclaimed, timely narrative of how people of faith have historically worked against racial justice. *The Color of Compromise* calls from a place of love and desire to fight for a more racially unified church.

Open Groups

UMW Meeting



Tuesday, October 13 | 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Our October meeting will be by Zoom. If you are new to UMW, Welcome! For information on how to connect on zoom, please contact Mary Etta Yoho, Maryetta.yoho@gmail.com. Interest groups will meet following the main meeting. Below are the groups available. For more information on Interest Groups, go to stmarkscarmel.org/umw.

MORNING INTEREST GROUPS

Bookworms—The group will be reading in October *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. Gail Lee facilitates.

Spiritual Growth—The group will be using *Finding Peace in an Anxious World* by Erin James-Brown. Based on a sermon series at Urban Village Church in Chicago, the text states: "The purpose of this study is to recognize the prevalence of anxiety today and its impact, as well as to explore ways to find peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ, using "The Serenity Prayer" as a scaffold. Book available on Kindle and at the church office. Cost \$10. Pastor Mary Ann Moman facilitates.

Make it and Take It—Simple crafts, fun, and fellowship! A craft project with instructions will be mailed to you prior to the October meeting. You can show your completed project, if you like, at this Zoom meeting. If you were not a part of this group last year and would like to join us, please email Marilyn at marilyn.rob@comcast.net.

Color and Chat—Coloring isn't just for kids! Come enjoy fellowship while coloring with UMW friends. This group will color and

discuss pages with inspirational quotes and scriptures.

EVENING INTEREST GROUPS

Bookmarkers—Group will be reading *The Crazy Ladies of Pearl Street* by Trevanian in October. Debbie Skinner facilitates.

Spiritual Reflections—Spiritual Reflections will study *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Growing in Christlikeness* by Christopher J.H. Wright. Books have been ordered and will be available in the church office or mailed to you upon request. Contact Holly Moore, holly.e.moore693@gmail.com to receive a book.

UMW READING PROGRAM

Monday, October 26 | 7:00 PM (Zoom)

There are many reading groups at St. Mark's, the UMW National Reading group is reclaiming the title "Windows to the World." This is to remind all of you EVERYONE is welcome to be in our group. Over the year we meet 5 times after we each have read a book in a designated category, determined by national. Go to "lists" and look under UMW lists. An email to the office: Staff" asking them to check out a book. For more information, contact Susan Salter at sbf5salter@att.net.

UMM Breakfast Meetings



The United Methodist Men Breakfasts are held the 2nd Saturday of every month.

Saturday, October 10

October will be a Zoom Meeting.

United Methodist Men provides a creative, supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to seek daily his will. For more information about UMM or to be added to the email list, contact Tom Roberts, email umm@stmarkscarmel.org or call a UMM Board Member. You can also see what's going on at stmarkscarmel.org/umm. Come and join us!

Marksmen

October 8 & 22 | 6:30 AM

Meeting in St. Mark's Parking Lot (Weather Permitting) or Wesley Hall

A community of career-and family-focused men seeking to develop relationships while we unplug from the daily stress that life can bring. Meet every other Thursday.

Please bring your own Coffee. If you have any questions, email marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org.



What to Expect When Meeting in the Building

- 6 ft social distancing
- Masks
- No food or drink allowed for indoor events, other than personal water bottles. Water can be refilled.
- Water fountains will only be available for bottle refilling.
- Food and drink may be distributed or purchased when the event is outdoors if it is pre-packaged or from an authorized vendor (i.e food vendor following health guidelines)
- If attending a meeting, go directly to your assigned meeting room. No meeting rooms will be available unless scheduled in advance.
- No Childcare is available until further notice.
- Parking Lot meetings may be scheduled. Areas will be assigned.
- Any non-church related meeting requests will be reviewed and considered by St. Mark's task group on a case-by-case basis.
- No athletic events allowed in Wesley Hall at this time (volleyball, basketball, pickleball and dodgeball).
- Connection tables will not reopen before Phase D
- Limited office hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 AM- 12 PM
- Restrooms are open for emergency use.
- Sign outside the door should be turned over to indicate the room has been used and needs to be cleaned.

Open Group Schedule

Mondays

COFFEE 'N CAMERAS

Will resume when we return to building

This self-help camera group meets for conversation about photographic art & technique. Bring your camera & your questions. Contact Bob Wiens, wiens@iquest.net for more information.

CAREER CURVE

10:00 AM (Available on Zoom)

A support and resource group for those who have suffered a job loss, are unemployed or under-employed and seeking a change. The mission of Career Curve is to provide individual job search strategies, and informal counsel associated with the challenges of a job search. For more information contact Jim & Chuck, coordinators at careercurve@stmarkscarmel.org.

Tuesdays

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Join us as we prayerfully knit and crochet prayer shawls that will be used to provide comfort and solace to people in need. Supplies are available. Men are welcome too! Will not meet again until January 2021. Contact Judy Bonnet for more information at bonnetjim@icloud.com.

PAGE TURNER BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, October 20 | 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

The Hazards of Good Breeding by Jessica Shattuck. Join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month if you enjoy good books, discussions, and a shared evening with new/old friends. If you have any questions, contact Marcia Flora, mflora1950@yahoo.com. Location TBD

Wednesdays

ROMEOS (RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT)

Currently meeting in the St. Mark's Parking Lot

All men are invited to meet weekly in the Parking Lot. Bring your lunch and a chair. In case of inclement weather we will be bringing our chairs inside to the Gathering Area (outside Sanctuary). Masks will be required.

Thursdays

JULIETS

Due to COVID-19 Juliets (Just Us Ladies Into Eating Out Together) will not be eating out until 2021. Look for our schedule in January. Contact Barbara Johnson, (317) 863-2689, timberbli@gmail.com.

BRIDGE

Currently not meeting

Bridge Group meets weekly. For more information contact the church office.

CRAFT & HOBBY GROUP

Join us on Facebook at "St. Mark's UMC Craft & Hobby Group". Share what you've been working on or get ideas for new projects! Contact Kathy Bartel, krbartel@gmail.com, with questions.



ROMEOS gathering in the Parking Lot

Committee News

Finance Committee

Not so unexpectedly as we are in the summer, we ran a \$11,800 deficit to budget in August (you may recall July was also unfavorable to budget by \$12.2k). However, YTD, we continue to be \$66.7k favorable to budget with donations \$29k favorable to budget (driven by one-time yearly contributions received in January). Expenses are also \$37k favorable to budget on a YTD basis - driven by the church closure. We continue to meet all our commitments.

Recall however that given the initial uncertainty of this year with regard to the vote to happen within the UMC, we did not budget, nor have we paid, any conference tithes. This number is typically 11% of all donations and miscellaneous income. On a proforma basis, had we paid this commitment, we would be nearly \$17k unfavorable to budget, not the \$67k favorable reported above.

We have yet to fully commit the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds we received, other than to cover pre-school program wages. You may recall we had to close the program in April, and they are running at approximately 60% capacity so there are financial pressures to support.

I continue to pray for our church, our country, our schools, teachers, first responders and ... Thank you for your faithfulness, and I ask you to remain faithful to the obligations of St. Marks. Thank you for our continued support - and I thank my finance committee members that will ensure we are good stewards with your resources.

Faithfully yours,

Bill Nicolai, Finance Chairperson

Trustees

The kitchen and storage project is moving along in the planning and paperwork stages. A set of drawings has been completed and is on display in the church. The permit application has been completed and submitted. Review and approval will take a few weeks. The contractor that we used for the initial project has the drawings and is working on a bid. He is familiar with the project as he did a bid for the project as it was drawn preliminarily. Once we have approval and an acceptable bid we will be able to provide a schedule for construction.

Library

The Library is re-opening in October on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 AM—12 PM for book checkouts. Meetings or use other than checking out books would need to be arranged in advance by the church office. (Room request form)



Books may also be borrowed by calling the church office or emailing staff@stmarkscarmel.org with your request(s) from the stmarkscarmel.org/library online catalog.

Borrowed books, DVD's and donated materials will continue to be dropped in the book return box located inside Door # 2. Book sanitation will follow the same procedures as Carmel Clay Library.

Stewardship

FAITHFUL, HOPEFUL, LOVING

Throughout our faith journey, we are extended several invitations. From the invitation to make our confession of faith to the invitation to care for a sick neighbor, to the invitation to bring food to the next church event, our life in a community of faith is full of invitations.

During the next few months, our church community is going to be intentional about how we respond to the variety of invitations we receive and how those invitations spur us along in our faith development.

Jesus invites us to bring all that we are and all that we have when we become a follower, a disciple of Christ. It is a sojourn that is meant both to form us more into the image of Christ through the disciplines of study, worship, prayer, service, and generosity; as well as to strengthen us in becoming powerful agents for the good that God is doing in our world.

Our faithful financial stewardship is one way we are invited to respond to Christ's invitation. Our generosity funds the mission and ministry that we are deploying as a sign that God's Realm is among us.

On October 18 we will begin an intentional reflection titled "Faithful, Hopeful, Loving" as a preparation for determining our investment in the ministry and mission of St. Mark's. The time of study and reflection will culminate on Commitment Sunday as part of worship on November 8 and we hope you will be intentional about responding to this important invitation.

God has done and continues to do remarkable things through us and with us - things that matter in our community! Your prayers and your participation are keys to helping us advance further on the pathway of discipleship. We know that when the early church gathered, they did so with glad and generous hearts and that there was no need among them (Acts 2). We desire such a spirit of true community to be among us. I look forward to considering with you what it means for us to be Faithful, Hopeful, and Loving, as we seek to be faithful disciples in this place.

Social Justice Committee

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Social Principles of the United Methodist Church state that "the form and the leaders of all governments should be determined by exercise of the right to vote guaranteed to all adult citizens." The Social Justice team encourages all of you to make sure that you are registered to vote and then exercise that right on November 3rd, either at the polls or by absentee ballot if eligible.

Make sure that you are registered to vote and find voting locations and other information at the link below. We encourage you to share this information, especially with young adults who might not be registered. indianavoters.in.gov/



Community News

Directory Updates

John and Andrea Reno
3711 Brian Pl.
Carmel, IN 46033

Sympathies

To Hilda Meyers at the death of her daughter,
Toni Dyson.

Births

Owen Port was born August 17. He is the son of
Kaycee and Chris Port.

Thomas William Ross was born August 25. He is
the son of Greg ad Christine Ross, brother of
Nathaniel.

Rylie Jo Shilts was born August 26th . She is the
great granddaughter of Don and Jane Shilts.

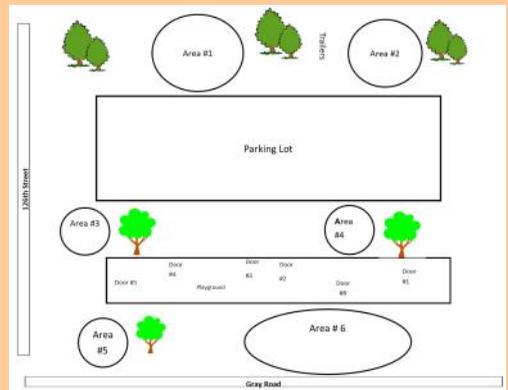
Circle of Care

The Circle of Care list includes St. Mark's
members and friends who are homebound or in
a care facility. Your prayers for these brothers
and sisters in Christ mean so much to them and
to their families. Please remember:

Annette Dunlap	Clara Breisch
Jane Roberts	Mary Hart
Betty Lachman	Ola Morrow
Jerry & Phyllis Delp	Vallie Williams
Mary Pielemeier	Don Ranck
Judy & Tom Hebenstreit	Hilda Meyers

Outdoor St. Mark's Meeting Spaces Available to Reserve

If your church small group wants to have a socially
distanced meeting in the St. Mark's parking lot or church
grounds, we now have six numbered spots (shown as
circles on the map) to make the reservation process
more clear. Fill out the form at [stmarkscarmel.org/
facilityrequest](http://stmarkscarmel.org/facilityrequest) to request your spots for the next few
weeks of summer and fall weather and Jenny Rundle will
let you know where you are assigned.



MISSION IN ACTION DAY



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, October 11

Mission in Action Day 2020: Safely serving our neighbors!

While many things look different this year, the mission of sharing Christ's love and witnessing to our neighbors in need is unwavering. MIA day returns to SUNDAY this year. We will worship through serving, working as the hands and feet of Jesus. Please join us and mark your calendar for our annual day of actively living out our motto; *"Where Mission is a Way of Life"*. All projects will follow CDC guidelines and local mandates to keep everyone safe. Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/mia-day (space is limited) **No live worship on Sunday, October 11. Pre-recorded service will be available.**

Ways to Serve

ON-SITE PROJECTS

Rice Meal Food Pack
Personal Dignity/Hygiene kit assembly
Fall/fun packs for East 10 Fall Party
Christmas Gift Bags for Roberts Park
Outdoor church clean-up
Potato Drop (Saturday 10/10)

AT-HOME PROJECTS*

Sack meal assembly for Fletcher Place
Sack meal assembly for Roberts Park
Prayer Warriors
Care Cards for shut-ins
Prayer Shaw
Prayer Square making

*At home projects should be dropped off at the church Monday, 10/12 through Tuesday, 10/13 between 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Donation Items Needed for MIA Project

As we prepare for MIA day, donations are still needed for the on-site projects. Items can be dropped off at the church at Door #2, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-4 PM until October 5.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS

Socks
Granola Bars
Travel-sized hand sanitizer
Travel-sized tissues
Adult Toothbrush (Individually packaged)
Travel size toothpaste
Travel size lotion

PERSONAL DIGNITY SUPPLIES

NEW ITEMS ONLY
Bath hand towels & Bath washcloths
Comb (sturdy, non-rattail)
Razors (with guard)
Nail Clippers
Shampoo (15-18 oz)
Deodorant (2-3 oz)

Please contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org, with any questions.

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1

In the Christian tradition All Saints Day is the time when we remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have received the grace of Christ's resurrection.



We will celebrate those at the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services on November 1. We will read the names of family members and light a candle in their memory. Please send any names that you would like read to Jenny Rundle, jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org no later than Monday, October 26.

UMW Pecan Sale

PECANS ARE COMIING. The UMW will be selling pecans in a safe manner for holiday baking and gifts. Price is still \$10 each. Watch for more information coming soon. We will be taking orders this Fall.



ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4780 E. 126th St.
Carmel, IN 46033
317.846.4912
stmarkscarmel.org

