

JUBILEE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ST. MARK'S
United Methodist Church

February 2022



Mission is
always our
way of life

stmarkscarmel.org

The Pastor's Place

Dr. Brian White, Lead Pastor

bwhite@stmarkscarmel.org

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

For six years I was a District Superintendent for the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. I related to 109 churches in 14 counties in the Southeastern part of Indiana. Being a DS meant that I spent a great deal of my time in my car traveling from church to church and community to community.



When I began in 2007, my primary way of finding my way around was to use an online service called MapQuest. I'd input my starting point and then my destination and MapQuest would chart a route for me, and I would then print out turn by turn directions for my day. I also kept a detailed map of Indiana in my car just in case I had to make an unexpected detour or add a stop to my itinerary.

Around 2010 that all changed when I got a car that had a built-in GPS system. For quite awhile I printed off routes anyway because I didn't totally trust this new (to me) technology. I wanted to make sure I had a back up plan in case the GPS system didn't function properly. In time, I moved to a more dynamic GPS system on my phone that even alerts me if there are traffic slowdowns and suggest alternate routes. Like many of you, I suspect, my way of navigating on the road has changed radically in the last fifteen years or so from published map booklets, to printed computer generated routes, to ever evolving GPS systems.

I could chart a similar evolution in other parts of my life and in the past few years the changes in ministry have come faster and faster. We have moved from using video as an occasional resource to a weekly part of our programmatic life. We have moved from very occasional online meetings to having Zoom meetings be a normal part of our committee meetings, Bible studies, and programs. We have moved from having livestreaming being something that we offered but was rarely used to having almost every worship service being livestreamed for our folks who worship at home.

I think of Paul, Peter, John, Silas, Barnabas, and the other early apostles who never imagined that they would travel outside Palestine, much less go as far as Ephesus, Athens, or Rome. When they became disciples of Jesus Christ they said yes to an adventure that would take them out of their comfort zone in the far reaches of their known world.

In 2021 we were often saying that we looked forward to life post COVID-19. Now we are coming to realize that returning to our old way of doing this is probably not going to be possible. And we ask ourselves, what have we learned during these past two years? What things have we learned to do and what ways have we learned to reach out that need to be carried into the future to better make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

I will probably never go back to printing off computer generated routes for my trips. (Although, I do still carry an atlas in my car just in case!) And we will never go back completely to where we were two years ago. But what I do believe is that God continues to lead us forward into new fields of mission and ministry if we are willing to follow. Jesus said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8, NRSV) Let us pray that God will continue to expand our boundaries and empower us for the ministry ahead!

In Christ's service,

The Pastor's Place

Julia Gonzales, Associate Pastor
jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org

Hello St. Mark's,

“What can you do when you are deeply, madly, truly in the moment?” So it is sung in one of Disney's latest films, *Encanto*. The story of a family living in the mountains of Columbia is filled with magic, music, and wonder, but it is the line from the song “What Else Can I Do?” that I felt truly needed to be shared.

How many of us have moments where we doubt ourselves and our ability to do something new? How many times in work or in our faith journey do we hold ourselves back from trying something new or attempting to see things differently? We can grow comfortable where we are and it can be a good thing to have what is familiar around us. But when all we know is what's comfortable and familiar, are we truly able to be in the moment? That is, if everything around us is always familiar then how are we making sure that we're not just going through the motions? What is holding you back from being truly in the moment and living your life?

The prophet Jeremiah writes, “I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope.” (29:11 CEB) God having a plan for us doesn't mean that everything in our life will go perfectly with no hiccups or mistakes. But the plan does include hope and peace, for things working out in the end. It is putting our trust in the promise of hope and peace, a promise that Jesus echoes in his own teachings, that makes it possible for us to live deeply, madly, and truly in the moment.



Take care,

Julia

Mission Focus

Stephanie Cohen, Missions Coordinator
scohen@stmarkscarmel.org



MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
midwestmission.org

Did you Know?

- Midwest Mission Distribution Center, a ministry of the United Methodist Church, distributes kits *around the world and around the corner* for health, education, and disaster relief supplies.
- Since opening for ministry in 2000, Midwest Mission has been showing God's Love in practical ways. They transform the resources of God's people into humanitarian relief, powered by your prayers and contributions, and connecting with local aid organizations.
- While many families are still struggling to cope with Covid-19 and many hurricanes, Midwest Mission has provided humanitarian relief to children and families in Guatemala, Honduras and America! Shipments over the past year have sent relief supplies such as Rice meals, birthing and student kits, personal hygiene essentials, furniture, water tanks and more.
- St. Mark's will partner again with Midwest Mission Distribution Center for a Rice Meal Food Pack. All meals go to non-profits internationally. In connecting with "Food for the Poor" response is given where the need is greatest. Last year St. Mark's provided and packed 7,200 meals for people in Haiti!

How Can I Help?

- Financial donations to MMDC may be given online at stmarkscarmel.org/give or in the Mission Envelopes on Sunday.
- Sign up for the All Church Rice Meal Food Pack on Sunday, March 13 at 2:00 PM. (COVID protocol will provide a safe and family-friendly opportunity for anyone age 5 and older.) Contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org for more information.

For more information on Midwest Mission Distribution Center visit midwestmission.org.

Donation & Service Opportunities

February Cooking Supply Drive

Second Helpings has been accepting donated overstocked food to prepare



nutritious meals for thousands of hungry children and adults every day, since 1998. They distribute meals free of charge through local social service agencies in Greater Indianapolis. Meals go to shelters, senior centers, after-school programs, and, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, also delivered to the homes of those who cannot access food any other way. Second Helpings also trains unemployed and underemployed adults for meaningful careers in the culinary industry.

During the month of February St. Mark's is having a *cooking supply* drive to help Second Helpings create nutritious meals for neighbors who may otherwise not get a full meal that day. Please help us by donating their current HIGH PRIORITY food items:

Pan Spray Black Pepper
Soy Sauce Mayonnaise
Cooking Oil

Large or bulk size preferred but all quantities accepted.

Donations can be left in the donation bins inside door #2, Monday-Friday, 9-4.

For questions contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org.

Fletcher Place Breakfast

Thursday, February 24

"Worrying about where your next meal will come from, is one of the biggest concerns for our homeless friends. When COVID first hit, we had people begging us to stay open. They were terrified they would starve". Staff at Fletcher Place.

St. Mark's provides breakfast for Fletcher Place Community Center, on the 4th Thursday of each month. All food and supplies are provided by St. Mark's. Volunteers will meet at St. Mark's, load up supplies, then drive to Fletcher Place. Cooking is done in Fletcher Place's kitchen, packed in carry-out containers, and then distributed by staff at Fletcher Place. Thank you for helping keep hungry Indianapolis fed! Sign up today at stmarkscarmel.org/signups.

Brightwood Community Center

"I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." Brightwood Community Center, 2140 N. Arsenal Ave,



Indianapolis, is providing food for families at various locations near BCC every **second** Tuesday & Wednesday of each month. Your hands can help!

- Tuesday from 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM to sort and box food.
- Wednesday from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM to box perishables and load recipient's cars in food distribution.

Please contact Diane Newton for exact location, more information, and to sign up at 317-288-4523 or joediane244@att.net.

Panera Bread Pickup

Every week volunteers from St. Mark's pick up end-of-day Panera Bread food through the Panera Dough-nation Program. Bagels, pastries and breads that are left over by closing time are taken to nearby food pantries or non-profit locations who serve those in need. This rescued food reduces waste while providing nourishment for our hungry neighbors!

Can you help be a sub for occasional weeks needed? Pick-up is on Wednesday evenings, most deliveries the next morning. Contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org if you can help.

Special thanks to Rod Spence, Greg & Cindy Binder, Jay & Judy Bonnet and Carl & Laurie Kaiser for picking up the donations.

St. Mark's Blood Drive

Sunday, 2/6 | 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

EMERGENCY NEED for blood donations: The ongoing COVID-19 crisis, a series of tragedies in the Midwest and decreased holiday donations have resulted in a dangerously low blood supply - the lowest in a decade - and a potential crisis for our communities. Donations are needed immediately, or patients' lives could be at risk. Please consider being a blood donor at your local Versiti location or at St. Mark's on February 6! Contact Mindy Davis at Melinda.kay.moore.davis@gmail.com for more info. Sign up online at stmarkscarmel.org/signups.



IHN Hosting Suspended

Family Promise has had to make the



difficult decision to once again suspend IHN hosting, for all congregations, until further notice, due to increased Covid cases and related challenges. Thank you so much for those who had signed up to help! Stay tuned for more info coming soon on other ways that St. Mark's will support this mission, such as through their Apartment Shelter Program. We hope to be hosting families here at St. Mark's in July!

All Church Food Pack

Sunday, March 13 | 2:00 PM

St. Mark's will partner again with Midwest Mission

Distribution Center for a Rice Meal

Food Pack.

Mark your calendar for Sunday,

March 13, 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM in Wesley

Hall. Safety guidelines will be

followed as we share a fun and family-friendly opportunity for anyone age 5 and

older. Signup is required. Space is limited.

Signup today at stmarkscarmel.org/signups.



SAVE THE DATE

Club 56 Mission Camp

Monday, June 13—Thursday June 16

Incoming and outgoing 5th & 6th graders are invited to participate in St.

Marks' annual Mission Camp. Youth will learn

about the importance of mission outreach while safely serving others and having fun fellowship! Registration coming soon.

Contact Stephanie Cohen with questions at scohen@stmarkscarmel.org



@ St. Mark's

Because You Give, St. Mark's Gives!

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

- **Bishop's Christmas Offering:** \$2000
- **IN UM Children's Home:** \$500
- **UMCOR Tornado & Hurricane Relief:** \$6655
- **HVAF (Hoosier Veterans Fund):** \$500
- **Carmel UMC Food Pantry:** 33 bags of food, \$1116
- **E. 10th UM Children & Youth Center:** 103 Christmas gifts from Angel Tree, and 100 books
- **Fletcher Place Community Center:** 125 meals served, 35 bags of food & households, 16 oatmeal, for Christmas Program: 125 canned goods, 52 toys, 75 outfits, 100 books
- **Good Samaritan Network:** 18 bags of food
- **Open Doors Food Pantry:** 37 bags of food, 20 bags of household items, \$1116
- **Outreach Indiana:** 12 bags of food, 7 recycled smart phones
- **Red Bird Mission:** \$8385
- **Sheperd Community Center:** 100 books for Christmas thrift store
- **The O'Connor House:** 20 books
- **Third Phase Food Pantry:** 32 bags of food, \$1116
- **Travel Size Toiletries for Homeless Shelters:** 16 bags
- **Wheeler Mission:** 13 bags of food, 2 bags of household items, \$1000

2021 St. Mark's UMC Missions Giving

MISSION	YEAR TO DATE GIVING
Brightwood Community Center	\$5,040.79
Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children	\$2,000.00
Carmel UMC Food Pantry	\$2,783.00
East Tenth UM Children & Youth Center	\$5,083.00
IN United Methodist Children's Home	\$1,000.00
Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis	\$11,392.00
Fletcher Place Community Center	\$7,005.00
Good Samaritan Network	\$5,568.00
Habitat for Humanity Greater Indianapolis	\$4,337.00
Hamilton County Kids Coats	\$1,000.00
Meals to various ministries	\$1,192.00
Mission Guatemala	\$4,455.00
Mustard Seed of Central Indiana	\$1,500.00
O'Connor House	\$115.00
Operation Classroom	\$5,817.00
Midwest Mission Distribution Center	\$4,266.07
Red Bird Mission	\$8,485.00
SAWs (Servants at Work, Inc.)	\$3,000.00
Society of St. Andrew	\$6,666.75
UM Special Sundays	\$1,120.00
UMCOR Covid 19 Relief Fund	\$2,265.00
UMCOR Tornado & Hurricane relief	\$6,655.00
UMCOR General Fund	\$5,552.00
Second Helpings	\$1,000.00
Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign	\$2,419.01
Open Doors Food & Clothing Pantry	\$2,783.00
Third Phase Christian Center	\$2,783.00
Outreach Indiana	\$1,000.00
Wheeler Mission	\$1,000.00
Youth Mission Work Trips	\$11,500.00
Exodus Refugee Immigraion	\$649.00
Hoosier Veterans of IN	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$119,932.00

Sunday Morning Offerings

NURSERY & TODDLER CARE

Staffed by experienced, caring adults and teens, our nursery is here to help care for our littlest members.

KIDZ LEARN & GROW | 9:40 AM & 11:00 AM

Children have a blast learning about God, beginning with Worship followed by lively & age-appropriate stations taught by members of the congregation. We'll enjoy Bible Stories, experiment, crafts, and games!

CLUB 56 | 9:40 AM

For students entering fifth and sixth grade. Club 56 weaves together Bible instruction, some theology, service projects and relationship building. All 5th & 6th graders are welcome to come join the fun! Feel free to invite friends, grandchildren, and neighbors!

KIDZ MUSIC & PRAISE | 11:00 AM

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord with in-person and hybrid programming during this fun-filled hour each week. Children participate in this high energy class that incorporates music, drama, art & puppets. Contact Joyce Click, jclick@stmarkscarmel.org for a Zoom invitation. Starting this month participants will begin preparing for the Lenten Musical, *Raise a Hallelujah*, to be performed on March 13th at 1:30pm. All are welcome to join the fun!

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Check out the Connect with Kidz website at stmarkscarmel.org/kidzconnect/ to find weekly Kidz Church, Club 56 and Kidz Music & Praise resources.
- Join our [St Marks Kidz Facebook](#) page to watch a weekly Bible Story, worship and get family activity ideas .

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

2/3 | 9:30 AM-11:15 AM

Baby & Toddler Eating Tips with Jeannie Marrungo

2/17 | 9:30 AM-11:15 AM

Being a Mom Doesn't Mean You Stop Dreaming with Dani Carter Iddins



MOPs group has a few openings for mothers and moppets. Learn more at stmarkscarmel.org/study. MOPs meets twice monthly on Thursday mornings for fellowship, learning and fun as well as monthly MOPS Moms' Night Out events, family play dates, and child-free monthly coffee/brunch dates. Come join the fun!

Contact Amy Bender at mopsatst.marks@gmail.com to register for MOPs or Ramie Cooney at kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org.

Preschool Dine-Out Fundraiser

PANERA (1346 RANGELINE ROAD)
THURSDAY, 2/17

Would you like a break from cooking during the week? Enjoy a dine-in or take-out meal at the Panera located in Carmel at 1346 S. Rangeline Road and benefit the St. Mark's preschool on February 17th. More details available at stmarkscarmel.org/events/

Infant Recognition

Sunday, February 13

St. Mark's is excited to celebrate infants born between March 2021 and January 2022. Families are invited to send a picture of their baby (even if they cannot attend) to kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org by 2/9. Babies and parents will be recognized at the start of the 9:40 and 11 service. If you would like to volunteer to deliver gifts to families who are not able to attend the celebration in person, please contact Ramie Cooney at rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org. As in previous years, we will also have a white rose to honor those families who lost a child in 2021.

Childcare Job Opportunity

St. Mark's is looking to hire several (paid) childcare staff. Childcare helpers needed during weekday mornings and occasionally during the early evening. All training provided. Please contact Ramie Cooney at rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org to apply or for more information.

Volunteer Recruitment

Come join the fun and impact a child's life! Please prayerfully consider how you can be involved in this critical local mission—our own St. Mark's children. We need a few people called to assist during Kidz Church. Training and materials are always provided, and you will always have a partner. Contact Ramie or Jackie kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org to get involved. Even if you cannot volunteer in a classroom, please pray for the volunteers God is nudging to serve.

Club 56 Upcoming Events

LASER TAG (617 34D AVE SW)
2/19 | 1:00—3:00 PM

Does your pre-teen like to have fun? Choosing to play laser tag is an easy decision—Club 56ers get to be active, have an adventure, and work together as a team. Bring a friend (or two) and meet up at Laser Flash located at 617 3rd Ave SW in Carmel (parents will need to bring tweens in to register and pay to play). Contact Don Broad, dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org with any questions or for more information.



@ St. Mark's



Weekly Gatherings

SUNDAY MORNING

Club 56 (grades 5 – 6) | 9:40 AM

Students in 5th and 6th grade will meet in the lower-level den. As always, inviting friends is encouraged! stmarkscarmel.org/club56/

Cornerstone AM- Middle School | 9:40 AM

Middle School students will meet in Room M. For more information contact Aaron Koenig, aaron.koenig@wellpoint.com.

SUNDAY EVENING

Cornerstone Fellowship (grades 7-12) | 5:00 PM

We gather weekly in Cornerstone Commons for a time of games, fellowship, worship, a quick message, and small groups. We hope to be able to serve dinner each week as well.

THURSDAY EVENINGS

DKB@Starbucks | 5:00 PM-7:00 PM

DKB will be at the Starbucks at 131st Street and Hazel Dell Parkway from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Feel free to join him for conversation, coffee, or just to catch up. Parents are welcome as well.

Youth Sunday

Sunday, February 27

Signup online to participate in Youth Sunday stmarkscarmel.org/signups or contact Don Broad, dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 5

Ski Trip—Perfect North (Offsite)

Sunday, February 6

9 Square

Sunday, February 13

Super Bowl Pizza Sale

Saturday, February 19

Club 56 Laser Tag (Offsite)

Sunday, February 20

Evening Out-K1 Karting (Offsite)

Sunday, February 27

Youth Sunday

Sign up to participate, stmarkscarmel.org/signups

Sunday, 6/19– Saturday, 6/25 | Port Huron, MI

Work Camp

Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/workcamp.

Sunday, 7/24– Friday, 7/29

Week of Hope

Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/weekofhope

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting February 6 | 9:40 AM

Students in 7th and 8th grade will meet in Room M where we'll read and discuss God's word and interactively apply it to everyday life. We'll use the Bible, videos/movies, and anything else we can think of to learn and have fun. Inviting friends is always encouraged. Contact Aaron Koenig, aaron.koenig@wellpoint.com.

Adult Discipleship

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

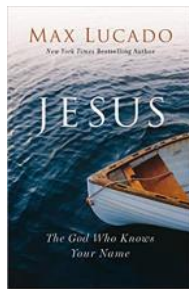
Max Lucado's *Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name*

Fridays 2/11-3/25 | 9:30-11:00AM

Led by Stephanie Cohen | Hybrid online and Room B/C | Study Guide is \$9 | Optional full book is \$11

Do you ever feel like Jesus couldn't possibly know what you are going through in your daily struggles? The good news is, he does. During his 33 years, Jesus felt human weakness, weariness, sadness, rejection, headache, tired feet, temptation, and more. In becoming human, Jesus made it possible for us to see God. His tears, God's tears. His voice, God's voice. Want to know what matters to God? Find out what matters to Jesus through his words and life.

This book helps us connect in a personal relationship to God by exploring Jesus's life, death, resurrection, and specific details about his time alone, his time at a party, and his interactions with friends and enemies. Sign up online to join.



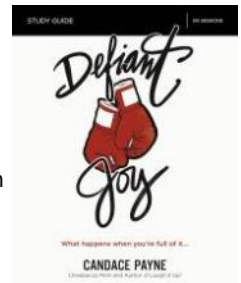
Candace Payne's *Defiant Joy*

Thursdays, 2/24-3/31 | 9:30-11:00 AM

Led by Judy Woempner | Hybrid online and Room B/C | Study Guide \$11

Joy is closer than you think, because God is better than you may believe! Using humor, wit, and wisdom, author Candace Payne (aka "Chewbacca Mom," from the viral video of her side-splitting laughter on a tough day) reveals biblical insights to

unshakable joy and freedom in every circumstance. Dispel the myths that joy is frivolous, immature, or reserved for a few select "happy" people, and open your heart to receive the God's freedom and joy. In this six-session video Bible study, be uplifted as you learn what it is to live a life expressed by joy through any circumstances. Sign up online or on the GROW Connection Tables.



How to Pay Online for Books

If you would prefer to pay online for books, click on "Give" from the stmarkscarmel.org website. Click "Give Online." Find the top question saying "How would you like to allocate your donation" and select **Study Books** from the dropdown menu.

Sign up and see more info at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups or on the GROW Connection Tables in the Gathering Area.

Questions? Email
Jennifer Cloud-Buckner (grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

New: Encouragement Group for Widows

Beginning February 17
6:00-7:00PM | Room B/C

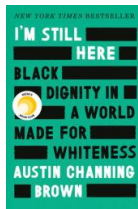
As a branch off from last year's Grief Group, we are launching a new encouragement group for those who have been widowed. Whether widowed recently or a long time ago, this group is a chance to find a listening ear through shared experiences-- remembering anniversaries, unexpected griefs and joys, and all the new practicalities one experiences in widowhood. This group will begin every other Thursday evening for 4 meetings (**February 17** and **March 3, 17, 31**), and then the group will decide the future schedule of gatherings.

Contact Meridith Anderson or email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner at grow@stmarkscarmel.org with questions.

Social Justice Book Discussion: *I'm Still Here*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 | 6:30-8:00PM
Hybrid online and Room J/K | Books \$9

Join the Social Justice team in discussing Austin Channing Brown's memoir *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*. Learn more on page 24 or at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups.

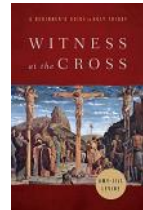


Lenten Study: A.J. Levine's *Witness at the Cross*

Wednesdays, 3/2-4/6

EARLY AM MEN'S STUDY, 6:30 AM-7:15 AM
PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY, 9:00 AM-10:00 AM
Led by Pastor Brian White | Hybrid online + Room B/C | Books \$13

Experience Holy Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die: Jews and Romans, friends and strangers, the powerful and the powerless, the hopeful and the despairing. We are transformed as we find that each Gospel has its own story to tell and discover how the witnesses at the Crucifixion paint a distinct picture of the death of Jesus.



In *Witness at the Cross*, Amy-Jill Levine shows how the people at the cross each have distinct roles to play and helps us to read, think, and experience the story in a new way.

Fertility Struggles Encouragement Group

February 17 | 6:00-7:00PM | Lemon's Bakery & Café (at Needler's Market)

New location! This monthly encouragement group is offering support to women who have had struggles with fertility and miscarriages. If you are interested in joining this group, email Pastor Julia at jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org.

Sign up for studies and see full descriptions of Sunday Morning Groups at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups. Questions? Email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner (grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

Open Groups

UMW

Tuesday, February 8 | 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM
St. Mark's United Methodist Women

are excited about beginning 2022.

Our January 11th Gathering started

us into this New Year with activities that have been rescheduled from the past year.

The Dessert Extravaganza, in the Narthex on February 13th, will provide an array of delicious sweet treats for purchase and enjoyment. Join us February 8th, in Cornerstone Commons, 9:00 AM or 7:00 PM for our monthly gathering. Fellowship, Inspiration, Refreshments, and Encouraging Interest Groups fill the programs. Hope to see you! information can be found stmarkscarmel.org/umw on the St. Mark's website.



INTEREST GROUP NEWS

Cultural Insights

February: Kathy Lentz will share about her experiences in South America.

March: Ramie Cooney will share stories and inform us about living in Ghana.

April: Pat Parks will bring glimpses of the years they were able to live in London and her visits to neighboring European Regions.

Caring and Sharing

Your donations have been greatly appreciated. We prepared and delivered 20 baskets so far. Please let us know who might be blessed by one of these baskets. We are accepting donations as well: packets of hot chocolate, hot cider, tea bags, blank note cards & envelopes, small

devotionals, soup packets, stickers, ribbons, glue sticks, small stuffed animals, baskets & plain gift bags, small books, tissue paper, cereal, fruit grain bars, small tubes of hand cream, individual cracker packages, Little Debbie treats, lip balm. Contact Sonja at clod1725js@aol.com.

Bookworms 2022 Books

February **Carnegie's Maid** by Marie Benedict

THE UMW READING PROGRAM

Monday, 3/14 | 7:00 PM

All women of the church are invited to participate in the United Methodist Women National Reading Program "Your Window to the World"

Book Discussions take place 5 times a year in the church library.

The next Book discussion is Monday, March 14. The category is Leadership Development. For more information or to be added to the reading program email distribution list contact Kathy Lentz KathyLentz@gmail.com

BAKERS NEEDED

We will be selling delicious homemade goodies during and after all the church services on Sunday, February 13.

We will be asking our bakers and candy makers in the church to contribute if they can to this worthy event.

Items should be dropped off at the church on that Saturday, February 12 between 10 AM and Noon. If nuts are in the recipe, be sure to mark your item accordingly.

Look for sign ups at the UMW meetings or online.

UMM Breakfast Meetings



Saturday, 2/12 | 7:30 AM

The United Methodist Men invite all men to our in person meeting. The United Methodist Men Breakfasts are held the 2nd Saturday of every month. Please plan to attend and invite other men to join us for this special gathering.

UMM provides a supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to seek daily God's will. UMM has donated to many Missions. Some of the groups we donate to are: Family Promise, East 10th Methodist Youth Center, Fletcher Place, Habitat for Humanity, Wheeler Mission, Second Helpings and SAW.

For more information about UMM or to be added to the email list, contact Mike Bultemeier, email umm@stmarkscarmel.org or call a UMM Board Member. You can see what's going on at stmarkscarmel.org/umm. Join us!

Marksmen

Panera Bread (Range Line)

2/3 & 2/17 | 6:30 AM

A community of career-and family-focused men seeking to develop relationships while we unplug from the daily stress that life can bring. We meet periodically. if you have any questions or would like to be put on our , email list, email marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org.

Open Gyms

Basketball- Tuesdays

Volleyball-Wednesdays

Pickleball—Thursday

Open Gyms
most Tuesday,
Wednesdays and
Thursday.



For more information:

Volleyball -

Ed Rowell, jackieanded@mail.com

Pickleball-

Doug Brown, dthbrown@gmail.com

Basketball-

Mark Moore, mvm2920@aol.com

Open Group Schedule

Mondays

COFFEE 'N CAMERAS

This self-help camera group meets for conversation about photographic art & technique. Bring your camera & your questions. Contact Ken Shultz, ken_shultz@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Tuesdays

BASKETBALL OPEN GYM | 7:00 PM

Join us every Tuesday for Open Gym Basketball for ages 16 and above. Contact Mark Moore, mvm2920@aol.com for more information.

PAGE TURNER BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, 2/15 | 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month if you enjoy good books, discussions, and a shared evening with new/old friends. If have any questions, contact Marcia Flora, mflora1950@yahoo.com. The group will be picking books for 2022 at the February meeting (Zoom only).

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Friday, 4/8 | 11:00 AM | Chapel

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! Contact Judy Bonnet, bonnetjm@icloud.com for more information.

Wednesdays

ROMEOS (RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT)

Le Peep | 86th & Keystone | 11:00 AM

All men are invited to meet weekly at Le Peep's. Contact Don Mehl for more information at djmehl2004@aol.com

VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYM | 6:30 PM

Join us every Wednesday for Open Gym Volleyball for ages 16 and above. Playing experience is recommended. Come ready to have fun! For more information contact Ed Rowell, jackieandedrowell@gmail.com.

Thursdays

JULIETS

Thursday, 2/17 | 11:30 AM

Bruburger | 12901 N. Meridian

Juliets (Just Us Ladies Into Eating Out Together) Contact Barbara Johnson, (317) 863-2689, timberblj@gmail.com, or text 303-918-6308 by 2/13 so correct reservations can be made.

PICKLEBALL

Thursdays | 7:00 PM

Join us on Thursdays for Open Gym Pickleball. All welcome. Contact Doug Brown, dthbrown@gmail.com for more information.

CRAFT & HOBBY GROUP

Thursday, 2/24 | 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Join us for a time of fun and fellowship as we each enjoy our craft or hobby. We will follow all guidelines established by the church at the time of our gatherings.

RSVP to Kathy Bartel, 317-294-4908 or krbartel@gmail.com.

Committee News

Social Justice

The Social Justice Committee will be placing an emphasis on racial justice during the first part of 2022 by providing the following opportunities for study and self-reflection.

The Social Justice team advocates, educates, and engages our congregation and community on issues of social justice using the UMC Social Principles. Join the team for a congregational discussion on Austin Channing Brown's memoir *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*. Register at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups for either the on-site or Zoom portion of the meeting. Books are available in the church entrance and on the GROW Connection Tables. Questions? Email Jessica Stevens with questions at jessicalynnestevens@gmail.com.

An opportunity for self-reflection can be found by using the following Implicit Racial bias test at implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/. Select "Project Implicit Social Attitudes" and then select

"Or, continue as a guest by selecting from our available language/nation demonstration sites:"

Stewardship

As we wrap up our Stewardship Campaign for 2022, the Committee would like to say thanks for all the support and pledges made. The missions of St Marks can not be accomplished without the caring and dedication of its membership. Like many of our outreach programs and missions, church activities, personal gatherings and even church services we have all had to adapt and make changes the last couple of years. While the campaign numbers were down this year from last it is still positive, especially with our operating campaign. It is probably understandable that the building project campaign is down as we are coming off a very good year of improvements. Here are the numbers:



	2022	2021
Operating \$	\$831,367	\$873,367
Building Project	\$ 79,882	\$101,553
Operating Pledges	224	249
Building Pledges	100	119

Again, thanks to all as we continue to serve. And thanks to those past and present who serve on the Stewardship Committee.

In Christ's name,
Scott Baker

SPRC (Staff Parish Relations)

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

St. Mark's is blessed with a wonderful staff! In each issue of the Jubilee we will feature those staff members who are observing the anniversary of their hire dates.

Happy 5th Anniversary to Ramie Cooney!

On staff at St. Mark's since January, 2017, Ramie is our Children's Education Director, responsible for envisioning, planning, and advocating for infants and children through programs that and nurture and grow their personal relationships with Jesus. She and her husband, John, have two daughters: Caitrin, 20, and Coco, 16. Ramie says of her membership at St. Mark's: "I love how we embody our mission here at St. Mark's, and particularly enjoy our all-church intergenerational activities (like Holy Walk, MIA Day, and VBS)." As Children's Education Director, Ramie enjoys getting to know new people, "but I think my favorite part of the job is mentoring young people."

Outside of work, Ramie treasures family time and counts gardening, reading and cooking among her hobbies. Her favorite hymn is "without a doubt, Amazing Grace. My parents sang it to me from as early as I can remember, it was at our wedding, and I hope it will be at my funeral." When asked about her favorite scripture, Ramie said, "I always will treasure the old, faithful United Methodist Fellowship benediction of my youth from Numbers 6:24-26 (New Living Translation): "May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace."

Happy 7th Anniversary Becky Mills!

Becky Mills is celebrating seven years as a St. Mark's staff member this month. Hired in February, 2015, Becky provides technical computer support throughout the building, as well as maintaining the church website and the digital signs in our hallways. A 12-year member of St. Mark's, she enjoys the Page Turners book club, UMW and its craft group, and completing sewing projects.

Becky and her husband, Charlie, have been married 20 years and have one son, Matthew, who is 12. Her favorite hymn is "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"; her favorite scripture, Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

NEW STAFF HIRES

Please welcome our new staff.

Ryan Howe- AV Coordinator

Dr. Casey Hayes- Organist/Accompanist

Jonathan Cruz-Interim Contemporary Music Leader

Also, a big Thank You to Ros Gilson for filling in as organist/accompanist since this Fall.

Community News

Directory Updates

Mike & Heather Raymond

15759 Byrding Drive
Westfield, IN 46074

Sue & Wayne Long
4995 Webster Drive
Noblesville, IN 46062

Births

Maya Jade Keyt was born on 1/9/22. Parents are Matthew Keyt and Madison Faria. Grandparents are Donna Schwartz and Jeff Keyt.

Rose Autumn Lee was born on 11/12. Parents are Michael & Kacie Lee; sister is Tris Lee; grandparents are Bob & Louret Diener and Gail Lee.

Sympathies

To Deb Forbes at the death of her brother, Larry.

To the family of Lia Goens.

To Mandy Rosenkrans at the death of her step-brother, David.

To the Tingley family and Lemberg family at the death of their mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother, June Ann Reeves.

To Thomas Hebenstreit at the death of his wife, Judith.

To Lori McKeown at the death of her mother Gail Hintz.

To Don Rix at the death of his sister, Tammy Rix.

To Sally Simon at the death of her husband Don Simon.

To Scott Howell at the death of his mother, Pauline Kolmer.

To Liz Rix at the death of her brother-in-law, William Carney.

To the Congregation

To the St. Mark's Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful azalea plant and kind words after the passing of my father. His loss I greatly felt by our family, but knowing we have a church family brings comfort.

Thank you again,
Lisa Stenger

To St Mark's,

Thank you for the beautiful azalea plant received at the time of my mom's death.

Connie Tingley & Family

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.

Myrneth Anderson	Jean Anderson
Don Ranck	Doris Carlow
Annette Dunlap	Dorothy Ensign
Phyllis Gidley	Rosa Groot
Georgia Herzog	Hilda Meyers
Betty Lachman	Dorothy Mecca
Ola Morrow	Jane Roberts
Melvin Myers	Marlene Myers
Jerry Weikel	Brenda Weikel
Jerry Delp	Phyllis Delp

Library

Stop in soon to visit your St. Mark's library which is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 3:00, Friday from 9:00 to 12:00 and Sunday from 8:00 to noon.



New arrivals are located on shelves under the courtyard window. Signout cards will be found in the back of each book, and can be left in the box on the signout table. Returned books can be left in the return box just inside Entrance #2.

The St. Mark's card catalog can be accessed on the computer just inside the library door, or on your phone or tablet. Search by title, author, subject or key word to find both fiction and nonfiction titles for all ages, including our youngest readers.

Can't find a book? Leave us a note and we will let you know when it becomes available.

Donations are always welcome, as are suggestions for purchase.

Preschool Registration

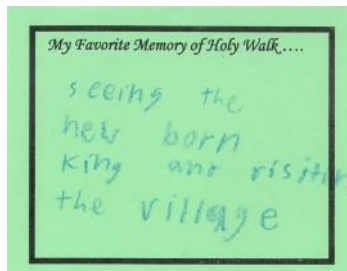
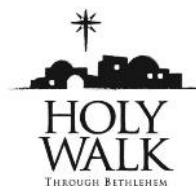
St. Mark's has one of the best preschools in town. Registration has begun.



Thankfully church families will again have priority placement because the preschool usually is filled to capacity. If you or someone you know (neighbor, grandchild) would like to learn more or tour the preschool, please contact Director, Jen Weixler at (317) 846-8941 or preschool@stmarkscarmel.org.

Thank You

Holy Walk 2021 was a success! Over December 3rd and 4th, we had more than 900 visitors participate in the Walk, which was blessed with wonderful weather. Many of our guests were people from outside the St. Mark's family, continuing the Walk's role as one of our largest mission activities. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the St. Mark's volunteers who made it possible, working in every position from bringing cookies to leading the families through. In a year with additional challenges, Holy Walk truly could not have happened without each and every one of you, and words cannot express our appreciation.



Upcoming Events

St. Mark's PRESENTS

Upcoming Concerts

The Carol Dennis Trio (Flute, Viola, Piano) | Sunday, 3/20 | 2:00 PM

Cello Recital with Lori Horner, Cello | Sunday, 5/15 | 2:00 PM

Chili Cook Off

Sunday, 2/27 | 5:00 PM— 7:00 PM

The Annual Chili Cook off will be held February 27 in Wesley Hall. Competitors need to bring at least 5 quarts of chili and any toppings that they prefer to serve with their chili. Hot dogs, chips, and cookies will be provided. Everyone will have a chance to vote on their favorite chili and prizes will be awarded to the winners. Signups available now online at stmarkscarmel.org/signups and at the Connection Table in the gathering area.



TALENT SHOW

Sunday, 2/13 | 2:00 PM

St. Mark's, we will host the St. Mark's Talent Show on Sunday, February 13. . Come and see our very own members of the St. Mark's family display their God-given talents! The concert is free and open to the public, however we ask that you please bring canned good/pantry items to donate. Please contact Eric DeForest , edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org with any questions.

"Sweets for the Sweet"

UMW Dessert Extravaganza

Sunday, February 13

The Dessert Extravaganza will be held on February 13. Stop by the UMW table between services to select the perfect treat for Valentines' Day. Desserts and treats are made by the wonderful bakers of our St. Mark's UMW, and proceeds go toward sponsored missions. Bring a few extra dollars to church on February 13 and pick up a Sweet for your Sweetheart!



Cornerstone Super Bowl Pizza Sale

Help Cornerstone Student Ministries raise money for their mission trips, Work Camp and Week of Hope while at the same time getting some awesome pizza that you can cook on Super Bowl Sunday or freeze for a later date. Pizzas range in cost from \$15—\$17 depending on type of pizza.

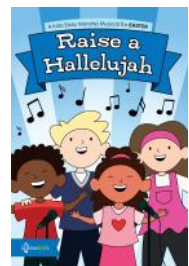
Cornerstone students will be taking orders for pizzas Please place your orders no later than February 5. On Super Bowl Sunday pizzas will be available for pickup.



Children's Lenten Musical

Sunday, 3/13 | 1:30 PM

All are invited to enjoy the Lenten musical, Raise a Hallelujah, performed by Kidz Music & Praise. Come enjoy an Easter musical filled with top worship songs such as "Raise a Hallelujah," "Living Hope" and "Jesus Messiah," arranged by Nick Robertson, Dave Clark, Gary Rhodes, and Cliff Duren and masterfully blended with new songs to tell the story of salvation. If you have questions, please contact Joyce Click, jclick@stmarkscarmel.org



Upcoming Summer Events

Save The Date

Club 56 Mission Camp

Monday, June 13—Thursday June 16

Incoming and outgoing 5th & 6th graders are invited to participate in St. Marks' annual Mission Camp. Youth will learn about the importance of mission outreach while safely serving others and having fun fellowship! Registration coming soon. Contact Stephanie Cohen with questions at scohen@stmarkscarmel.org

KMP Puppet Camp, Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Monday, 6/20-Friday, 6/24 | 9:45AM—11:25 AM

Children (Age 4-Grade 3) will make and use puppets to tell the stories of Jesus, play fun games and enjoy a snack daily. Cost \$20 with scholarship funds available. Friends are welcome and do not need to attend St. Mark's. Camp performance to be held at 11a on Friday, June 24th. Older students are invited to assist. Camp is directed by Joyce Click.

KMP Drama Camp, Dynamic Truths and Tales,

Monday, 6/20- Friday, 6/24 | 12:00 PM -2:30 PM

Students (Grades 1-4) will sing and act out dynamic stories from the Old Testament, play fun games, and enjoy snack daily. Cost \$20 with scholarship funds available. Friends are welcome and do not need to attend St. Mark's. Older students are invited to assist. Camp is directed by Joyce Click. There will be a drama camp performance at 2p on Friday, June 24th and a medley of songs will be performed on Sunday, June 26th at 11a.

Monumental VBS 2022,

Monday, 7/11—Friday, 7/15 | 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Go off-road at St. Mark's United Methodist Church for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the Southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids will form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead.

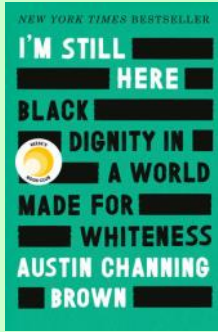


Social Justice Book Discussion

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 | 6:30-8:00PM

Hybrid online and Room J/K | Books \$9

As part of its 2022 emphasis on racial justice, the Social Justice Committee is providing a book discussion for study and self-reflection. Join the team in discussing Austin Channing Brown's memoir *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*.



Register at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups for either the on-site or Zoom portion of the meeting. Books are in the church entrance for \$9 and on the GROW Connection Tables. Email Jessica Stevens at jessicalynnestevens@gmail.com with any questions.



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Carmel, IN 46033
317.846.4912
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