

JUBILEE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ST. MARK'S
United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 2020

faithful
hopeful
loving

Three stylized, teardrop-shaped leaf-like graphics in purple, blue, and red, positioned to the right of the text.

stmarkscarmel.org/pledge

Commitment Sunday
November 8, 2020

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 C.**

	Phase A Starting May 31	Phase B Started July 12	Phase C Started 11/1	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 M-W-F, 9 AM–12 PM 	<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, studies and Sunday classes Limited live gatherings must be scheduled with a facility request. 	<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. Phase B guidelines continue 	<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"> Limited in person meetings begin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule & Protocol TBD

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](https://www.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

Like most people in America, and in our world, my way of working and thinking about work has had to adapt to the new realities in which we find ourselves. It has been a reminder, however, that while some things have changed many things remain the same. While our methodology has had to make adaptations our mission remains the same.



Loren Mead, in reflecting on the historic church and the direction of the church today muses: “Where a sense of mission has been clear and compelling, the church has been sacrificial and heroic in its support of that mission.” (Loren B. Mead, The Once and Future Church, p. 28) The history of the church is filled with people who have given themselves completely to the spreading of the gospel but we somehow think of those folks as being lost in the past generations. “Surely God would not call us to that kind of sacrifice today,” we say. There are many lessons we may learn from 2020 but one might be a greater and more contemporary appreciation for the Biblical concept of living a sacrificial life. Mead continues:

The future church demands a new locus of theology, a change from the library and the university to the place where the baptized person encounters the world, the place I have called the missionary frontier. The future church demands a new actor in the work of theology: the baptized lay person. The future church demands a new kind of training center for theology: the local church. What seminary has been for ministry in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the local congregation must be in the twenty-first. (Loren B. Mead, The Once and Future Church, p. 57)

We have a unique opportunity to be in mission in the church. And just as we have had to change our thoughts in recent months about how we connect with one another we are called to reinvent how we lead people to connect to Jesus Christ. We are living in the mission field each day. We are the emissaries of God in the midst of the disease and confusion that we sometimes experience all around us. I like the words of one of our newer hymns:

Sometimes the church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning.
I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!

In Christ's service,

Brian

The Pastor's Place

Julia Gonzales, Associate Pastor
jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org

Hello St. Mark's family,

Every Friday Kyle takes our four-year old boxer mix, Addi, for a walk to the dog park at Clay Terrace, which has really helped to cement him as one of her favorite humans. The walk there is just under a mile and then Addi is free to run and socialize with other local pups. It only took two such walks for Addi to learn that when Kyle and I take her in the direction of Clay Terrace that she's in for a good time. We still have some work to do on her training, and when she's excited on the leash we definitely get an arm workout keeping her at an easy walk. If she had it her way we would sprint the whole way there! It makes for a nice break in the day, to see her so happy and excited. When I see her taking off in a full-body tail wag it's easy to imagine her response if I were to ask her, "What comes next?" Her response would be "Something amazing!"



This year the question "What comes next?" has run through my mind more than normal and the tone in asking has changed with every month. Sometimes the tone is one of fear or worry, sometimes it's asked with a little exasperation and sarcasm, because really 2020? But today, as I think about just how *joyful* Addi is, I feel reminded that this is the life we were called to live. Being a Christian was never meant to be easy, but none of us (whether Christian or otherwise) were meant to go through life in pain and fearful of the future.

This month we're talking a lot about stewardship and how each of us is called to use our resources in the kingdom of God. The future can feel big and uncertain, and after this year we may all experience a little more anxiety when we think too much about what comes next. But if we try to look to the future with excitement, to look forward and see the world through the eyes of faith, hope, and love maybe we'll be able to experience some peace.

Take care,

Julia

The Pastor's Place

Mary Ann Moman, Associate Pastor

mmoman@stmarkscarmel.org

MARY ANN'S MUSINGS

A month ago I decided to spend a couple of days at the church camp I went to as a kid. It is a place that holds many memories for me. I arrived early afternoon and was planning to hike, but it was raining. Instead of picking up one of the books I had brought with me, I started reading a history of the camp that was written for the 50th anniversary of the camp. It was a trip down memory lane.

There were pictures of people I hadn't thought of in years. There were stories about the beginning. The purchase of the land. The first leaders. Building of cabins and other buildings. These were the memories I held.

The camp is very different now. The cabins have been rebuilt with heat and air and a bathroom. The dining hall has been expanded and there is a commercial dishwasher. The toboggan run is lined with carpet and there is a list of rules for the safety of the campers. The trails have been expanded and there are markers with information about the trees. The fen is alive and well because of the care of the staff and volunteers.

The camp has come into the 21st century because of the stewardship of so many people in its now 70-year history. I could have never imagined as a child that there would be a time when we didn't have to walk out to the bathhouse shared by six cabins of girls or that we wouldn't have to wash the dishes in basins at our tables.

Over those few days I created new memories. I rediscovered the beauty of the land. I met new staff leaders and enjoyed learning about the ministry. On the drive home I thought about the ways those few days were a microcosm of the experiences we are having now.

I want to go back to the days when things were "normal". But my "normal" days were not good for everyone. Memories are not the same for those in poverty or those who are still victims of racism. We are a divided people. The writer of Ephesians reminds us that: "There is one body, one spirit, and you were all called into one and the same hope....And each one of us has been given his own share of grace as Christ allotted it. (Ephesians 4:4, 7) Each of us has a portion of grace. We are called into hope.

We are all loved in spite our of differences and our mistakes. Hope. Possibility. Resurrection. Jesus always moved the people toward relationship. It seems that today we give more credence to being right than being in right relationship.

I think that camp has flourished over these years because people have been in relationship with each other, their neighbors on the lake, the natural world around them and with God. As you might guess it has not always been an easy journey.

We are one body and share one spirit and are called into hope.

So may it be, Mary Ann



November Mission Focus

Stephanie Cohen, Mission Coordinator
scohen@stmarkscarmel.org

Local Food Pantries



Third Phase, Inc.
15755 Allisonville Road
Noblesville, IN 46060
(317) 773-5100
www.thirdphase.org

Did you know?

- Local Food Pantries help feed hungry people in our community.
- This month we are supporting three local pantries:
 - ◊ Carmel United Methodist Food Pantry, Carmel, IN
 - ◊ Open Doors Food & Clothing Pantry, Westfield, IN
 - ◊ Third Phase Food Pantry, Noblesville IN

How can I help?

- Financial donations may be made online at stmarkscarmel.org/giving
- Mail or drop off a check to the St. Mark's office.
- Donations of non-perishable food items may be placed in a bin at St. Mark's main entrance. (Door #2) on Monday-Friday, 9 AM- 4 PM. The following foods are especially needed:

beef stew	canned chicken	canned peaches	pasta
snack crackers	baked beans	canned chili	macaroni & cheese
chili beans	refried beans	cereal	rice a roni
canned vegetables			

Please help stock their shelves-together we can make a difference in the lives of others.

For more information, contact Stephanie Cohen, scohen@stmarkscarmel.org or visit stmarkscarmel.org/missions.

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 October newsletter we have given to:

- **Changing Footprints:** 15 large bags of shoes
- **E. 10th Children & Youth Center:** Fun Fall Packs for 85 children
- **Fletcher Place Community Center:** 50 sack meals, 7 Oatmeal containers, 3 bags of food, 6 bags household supplies
- **Hamilton County Kids Coats:** 41 coats
- **Midwest Mission Distribution Center:** \$2651.85; packed 7,200 meals and 50 personal dignity kits for disaster relief
- **Roberts Park UMC:** 175 sack meals to go
- **Servants At Work (SAWs):** \$1500 for wheelchair ramp
- **Society of St. Andrew:** \$4135 and 40,000 pounds of potatoes
- **UMCOR (Various Funds):** \$4775
- **Prayer Shawls, Prayer Squares, Hand knitted scarves and hats, Care Cards:** countless; for shut ins, homeless shelters, community centers in need

St. Mark's Blood Drive

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

Sign up now for the next Blood Drive! People Need People. Can you help save a life and roll up your sleeve?



Healthy individuals are needed to donate blood today! The donation process itself poses no risk of infecting a donor with coronavirus, and Versiti staff are following CDC recommendations on how to properly defend against COVID-19. Visit versiti.org to learn more about the continued importance of blood donation, and the steps Versiti takes to keep donors safe. For more info contact Mindy Davis at Melinda.kay.moore@davis@gmail.com. Sign up online at stmarkscarmel.org/signups.

Brightwood Community Center

COMING BACK STRONG!

There are exciting changes happening with Brightwood Community Center, including the relocation of their programming Annex behind Scotts UMC at 2140 N Arsenal Ave. A start date for resuming the afterschool programming is hopeful for January 2021.



New volunteers can contact LaRae Troutman, 317-546-8200 or brightwoodcc@gmail.com. An increase in volunteers will be needed. Our youth and families are counting on each one of us to make this year and years to come IMPACTFUL for them.

If tutoring is not your interest, please contact Diane Newton at joediane244@att.net for other ways to be involved.

Fletcher Place Christmas Program

In November we are collecting *new* items to be given to Fletcher Place Community Center for their Christmas Program. This has been a shopping service for parents living in poverty who have been qualified as needing assistance with Christmas food and gifts. IT WILL LOOK DIFFERENT, like many things in 2020. This year Fletcher Place will be assembling the gifts for each family, and thus targeting a specific wish list for respective families.

Please visit stmarkscarmel.org/signups for the link to select specific food and gifts needed. Donations should be NEW and UNWRAPPED and may be dropped off at our donation bins inside door #2, between Monday-Friday, 9-4, **by Monday, November 23**. Info on volunteers to help at the event coming soon. For more info contact Stephanie Cohen at scohen@stmarkscarmel.org.

Shoe Drive

Changing Footprints needs our help to get shoes out to those who have none! The blessing is they are backed up with many donated shoes. The challenge is needing more help to sort them, to keep up with the demand of requests. Changing Footprints has recently moved



to a nearby location with larger accommodations, allowing for safe social distancing (with masks) while sorting and organizing. If you or your small group are interested in serving this mission, contact Stephanie Cohen at scohen@stmarkscarmel.org to schedule a time.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

The holiday season brings back the family friendly mission project of bell ringing for the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign. Each year, the Salvation Army will serve more than 25 million people across America - including many here in our community. That means 55+ million meals for the hungry, 10+ million nights of shelter for the homeless, and countless Christmas gifts for children who may otherwise go without.



This year signups will be available directly through Salvation Army, with shifts beginning on November 27. Sign up at registeroring.com.

Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County

Good Samaritan Network is pleased to once again provide holiday assistance to families of Hamilton County. Visit gsnlive.org to apply online for receiving



Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday

Sponsorship, or to find

volunteer opportunities for the various events.

United Methodist Student Day Sunday, November 29

The United Methodist Student Day offering raises funds to help more than 300 scholars through scholarships and loans, for students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities. Your contribution helps rejoice with and for students who are being raised in a loving faith community and to give in support of their dreams and career goals. When you give generously on United Methodist Student Day, you support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. Donations may be given at stmarkscarmel.org/give.

Mission in Action Day 2020

Safely serving our neighbors!

Not even a pandemic could keep St. Mark's from putting mission into action! The love extended to our brothers and sisters in Christ, serving both physical and spiritual nourishment, is beyond measure. A big thank you to everyone who participated in and helped with Mission In Action Day and the Potato Drop on October 10-11. We had safe, fun, and fruitful success! We had 87 volunteers in person to distribute 40,000 pounds of potatoes, pack 7,200 rice meals, pack hygiene kits for disaster relief and goodie bags for E. 10th children, sort and prep coats for upcoming coat distributions, and to complete outdoor clean up and improvement on St. Mark's grounds. We had over 20 families working on at home mission projects: packed 225 sack meals for homeless, handmade prayer squares and shawls, care cards for shut-ins at home and at assisted living centers, and praying for all of us as well as those whom we serve.

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:1-2

BIG THANKS to Midwest Mission Distribution Center for leading the food pack, and to the following MIA weekend leaders:

Potato Drop: Wayne Uhl

Forklift and equipment: Jeff Salsbery

Rice Meal Food Pack: Gail Lee

Fall Fun Packs: Trisha Stanearth

Personal Dignity Kits: Barbie Schmenner

Church Outdoor Clean Up: Jane Fecht

Prayer Shawls: Judy Bonnet

Prayer Squares: Becky Mills

Set up and prep: Janice Presley, Gail Lee, Donna Schwartz, Wayne Uhl

Photography: Don Mehl, Bob Wiens

MISSION IN ACTION DAY



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Mission In Action Day



November Programming

SUNDAY 9 AM SERVICE

In-person programming returns to the building on Sunday, November 1. Children's Ministry is excited to offer a combined Kidz Church and Kidz Music and Praise Sunday hour at 9 am with Bible stories, experiments, modern day parables, art, drama, and music (no singing at this time).

New Check-in Process. Families will enter door 3 of the education wing and check in younger children upstairs, older children in the lower level and Club 56ers in the lower level den using our new Church Center electronic system. All St. Mark's Reopening Plan Safety Precautions will be followed and can be found at stmarkscarmel.org/reopening-plan.

SUNDAY 11 AM SERVICE

Kidz Music & Praise Rocking 11 am meets weekly on Zoom. Children are currently preparing for the upcoming Advent musical on December 13. Contact Joyce Click at jclick@stmarkscarmel.org for log-in information. It's not too late to participate.

Families are invited to attend in person worship services in the sanctuary together. (Make sure to get a Kidz Kits for each child.)

ONLINE RESOURCES

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.

Club 56 Social

Sunday, Nov 8 & 22 | 5:00 PM



In addition to Bible study sessions to explore faith development (9AM Sundays, Club 56 Den), Club 56 prepares 5th and 6th graders for Cornerstone Youth by including regular team-building fellowship activities. Each month 5th through 6th graders are invited to gather for fellowship and fun and to invite their friends and neighbors. For more info or questions, contact Don Broad or Ramie Cooney at kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org.

Third Grade Bible Recognition

Thank you to the UMW for their continued generosity and support of St. Mark's kids. UMW gifted 17 NRSV Bibles to the third graders of St. Mark's at a Third Grade Bible Party. (If your third graders couldn't attend last month's party, their Bibles can be picked up in the church office.)



Service Opportunity

Do you have an hour a month to give? Please prayerfully consider how you might help model God's love for the next generation of Christians as we begin in-person programming. All materials are provided so you can have fun with a teaching partner. We use safe church practices along with social distancing and COVID safety precautions for volunteers and kids. Please email Ramie or Jackie at kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org to sign up.



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, NOVEMBER 1 | 5:00 PM

Family Drive Thru Adventure

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



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 1 PM

Mystery Adventure

Details will be sent via email by 11/14. Sign up required.



Fall Retreat at Teter Retreat Center

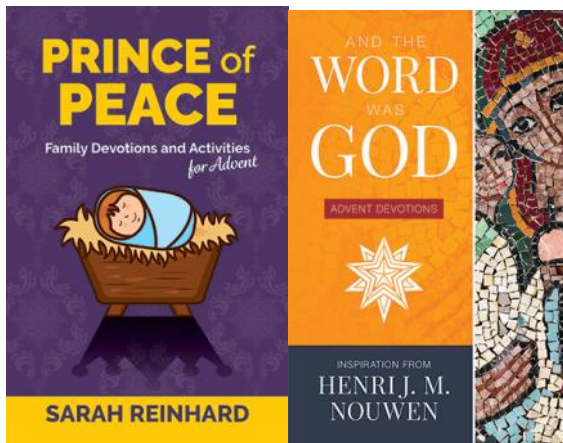
Saturday, November 14 | 9 AM—8 PM

We will gather at 9:00 am on Saturday, November 14th at Teter Retreat Center, 10980 E. 221st Street, Noblesville, IN for a one-day Fall Retreat. We will be spending the entire day (9:00 am through 8:00 pm) outdoors using the large picnic shelter and fire rings. Students will need to dress warmly and bring a mask, chair, and sack lunch. Dinner will be provided. Cost for the retreat is \$35 and a sign-up will be active on the Church website soon.



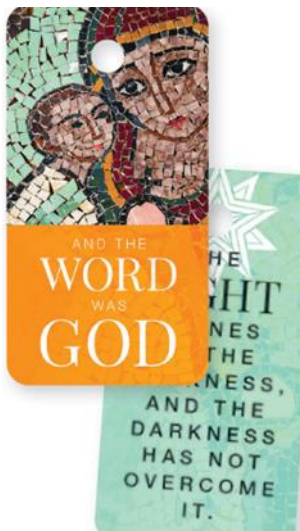
Adult Discipleship

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



Advent Begins November 29

For the Advent season of waiting and preparation, pick up keytags, bookmarks, and devotionals in the church entrance. Spend a couple of minutes each day with a short scripture passage and reflection for practical, everyday wisdom to change your day for the better. Pick up your Advent devotionals for adults (*And the Word Was God*—based on writings of Henri Nouwen) and kids (*Prince of Peace*) to become closer to God and find hope in the promise of Christmas.



Churchwide Advent Study

St. Mark's will be joining churchwide in a new 4-week Advent study from Adam Hamilton in Nov-Dec (see next page). If your small group wants to join in studying *Incarnation*, or if you would like to help facilitate either an online or in-person study of the book (materials provided), please contact Jennifer Cloud-Buckner at grow@stmarkscarmel.org.

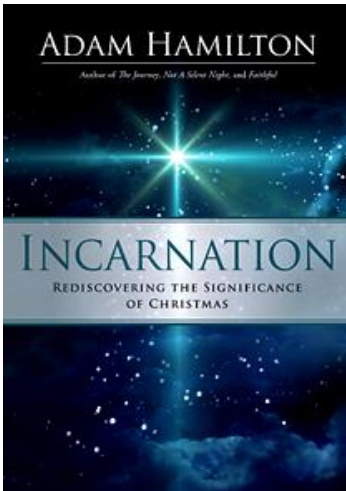
Requesting On-Site and Hybrid Meetings

With our next reopening phase, church classrooms are marked with new room capacities that allow for at least 6' of space between attendees, and group leaders will monitor the attendance to not exceed room capacity. We are testing new camera and microphone technology (from a Center for Congregations technology grant) to accommodate "hybrid" meetings with up to 12 on-site, masked attendees simultaneously meeting with online attendees on Zoom.

Groups wanting to return to on-site meetings must submit a facility request form for staff consideration. If your meeting is approved (pending room, technology, and staffing availability), Jenny Rundle will let you know your room assignment and max meeting size.

To request an on-site meeting, please see the new room capacities, hybrid meeting guidelines, and room request form at stmarkscarmel.org/facilityrequest.

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



Advent Study: *Incarnation*

Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference He makes in our lives this Christmas. His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the gospel writers' names of Christ and the historical and personal significance of his birth. This Advent season brings us together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty, Christians reclaim the Christ child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ child for our lives and world today.

Books are \$12, available in the church entrance Mon-Fri, 9:00am-4:00pm and Sunday mornings.

Studies of *Incarnation*

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Foundations & Friendships (9:40AM) Sunday class will discuss online in mid-November. Email Doug (dthbrown@gmail.com) to connect.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

11/29-12/20, 6:00 PM - 7:00PM

Led by Pastor Brian White online.

THURSDAY AM STUDY GROUP

9:30-11:00 AM, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3-12/17

Led by Judy Woempner and Karen Whitaker | Hybrid online + room B/C

The 11/12 meeting is a welcome back social to practice the hybrid meeting format. *Incarnation* study will be 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17. Contact Judy and Karen if you'd like to attend in Room B/C (limit of 12 attendees on-site).

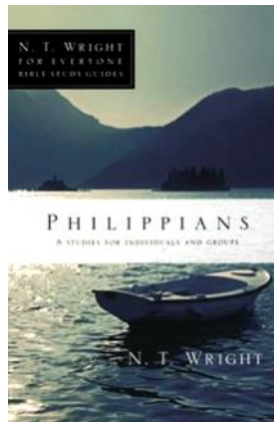
FRIDAY AM STUDY GROUP

9:30 AM-11:30 AM, 11/20, 12/4-12/18

Contact Stephanie Cohen if you'd like to attend the on-site meeting in Room B/C (limit of 12 attendees on-site).

New Wednesday AM Study

WEDNESDAYS, 10:30AM-11:45AM *NEW TIME!*
Philippians by N.T. Wright, 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9



Led by Lydia Fourman | Hybrid online + Room B/C | Books \$8

Paul's letter to the people of Philippi is only 4 chapters long in the Bible. It was on Paul's 2nd missionary journey, about AD 52, that Paul first came to Philippi after being urged on by the vi-

sion of a man of Macedonia with his appeal to come over and help him. This story is written in Acts 16. Contact Lydia Fourman if you'd like to attend the on-site portion of the hybrid meeting.

Open Groups

UMW Meeting

Tuesday, November 10 | 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM



Our November 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 November *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict. Gail Lee facilitates.

Spiritual Growth—The group is 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 in the church entrance. 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 November 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. We will be making ribbon Christmas trees!

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 *Invisible Women* by Caroline Criado Perez in November. Debbie Skinner facilitates.

Spiritual Reflections—Spiritual Reflections is studying *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit: Growing in Christlikeness* by Christopher J.H. Wright. Books are available in the church entrance for \$10 or can be mailed to you upon request. To receive a book, contact Holly Moore, holly.e.moore693@gmail.com.

UMW Reading Program

Monday, November 30 | 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. 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, November 14

November 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

November 5 & 19 | 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, November 17 | 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Second Suns by David Oliver Relin. 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

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.

Committee News

Finance Committee

September has come and gone, so it must be back to school and back to normal... right? Far from it, the BIG 10 has yet to kick off its first football game. All kidding aside, September was a tough month for the finances for St. Mark's.

Donations were 22.7% down from our running six-year average and \$25,400 below budget; we lost \$8,500 against our normal trends.. we ended up with a net deficit of \$14,600 for the month, the fifth consecutive month of double-digit deficits and an accumulation of \$70,700 of deficits.

Year to date, against budget, we are still FAV against budget by \$51,373; yes, the first four months were over \$122,000 FAV to budget. Is it that we had that many more donors give their one-time donations in the first two or three months of the year and we are just now breaking even? Or are headed to a situation where we can not meet our contractual obligations going forward? We just look for HIS guidance. I am now thinking about 2021.

Let me also remind everyone that we did not budget any conference tithes nor have we paid any so far this year; had we done so, our net YTD operating deficit position would exceed \$38,400 - this is alarming. Yes, on a proforma basis, our conference tithes would total \$89,800 or 11% of contributions.

We continue to live in uncertain times. Brian and I continue to believe "it will work itself out." Expenses are FAV to budget YTD by over \$47,800: the staff continues to be very diligent with anything they spend. Also recall that YTD results do not consider any one-time

PPP funds we received in May. We continue to meet ALL our obligations: we continue to serve the community. We continue to maintain all staff positions. We continue to be blessed. We will be okay for 2020.

We have entered the period where we will begin to budget for 2021. **As of this moment**, the finance committee's intent is to essentially maintain the 2020 budget, with minor adjustments (after all, we don't have any credible actuals on which to base a different budget). The Stewardship committee has begun their program and your pledges will determine the final budgeted numbers. I thank you for your continued faithfulness.

Right now, our main focus is the balance of 2020; I continue to pray for our church, our staff, our missions, our congregation, our... anyone we influence. Our fourth quarter is upon us; I ask that you each reflect and remember St. Mark's. Feel free to contact me should you need further information.

Faithfully yours,

Bill Nicolai

Library

Welcome back to our church Library!



Going forward we will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 AM-12 PM The book return box will remain just inside Door #2 . Books will be quarantined on return before they are re-shelved.

Welcome back St. Mark's readers!

Stewardship

**FAITHFUL, HOPEFUL,
LOVING**



As you can see from this newsletter, there is more to St. Mark's United Methodist Church than just what you see on Sunday morning! All these things are planned and prepared by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to share. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does take money to provide these spiritual things!

Your decision to give a gift is the response to an invitation—a choice—but as a follower of Jesus, it really isn't an option! Based on what we have received, we are encouraged to give: out of thanksgiving for what God has done and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good things that God is continuing to do in our world. We have the gift of Jesus and we are invited to respond to what God has given us with our own generosity.

As a congregation, we are entering a time of discerning what we will contribute monetarily in the coming year. The practice of exercising financial stewardship is a spiritual discipline and a way to grow our faith. There is joy in practicing generosity and it begins with a simple step of a commitment to contribute.

My prayer is that you will be in worship either in person or online during the remaining weeks of our reflection on what it means to be Faithful, Hopeful, and Loving. Your response to this invitation and the gifts that we all bring will make good things happen. Thank you for being a part of it.

Trustees: Kitchen and Storage Project Update

The kitchen and storage project has moved from planning to contracting with the general contractor and the kitchen equipment supplier. The staff and volunteers packed material from the kitchen and storage and moved it on to protective floor covering in the Fellowship Hall. We have state approval and should have a Carmel building permit by the end of October. Once we have that, the contractor will begin demolition as the first step in remodeling the area.

The kitchen will be expanded in size with a new dishwasher and warming oven, new cabinets, new ceiling, new lighting, and new floor covering. The carpet in the area next to the kitchen will be taken off the walls and floors. Walls will be finished like Fellowship Hall, and the flooring will be like the hard flooring in the new entry gathering area.

The storage area on the other side of Fellowship Hall will have new permanent walls with double doors to the material storage area, where the chairs and table currently are located. The middle storage area will also have double doors and will house the tables, chairs, music risers, and roll-around panels. The audio-visual booth will be enclosed and have an entry door from fellowship hall. The furnace room at the end will be enclosed and no longer have any material storage in it.

The work is estimated to take three months. With a late October contractor start we should be complete by the end of January.

Thank you for your continued support of the Building Fund, which is separate from the church operating budget.

Community News

Directory Updates

Mark and Greta Carroll
5079 Saddle Creek Lane
Noblesville, IN 46062

Jackie and Ed Rowell
1938 Spruce Drive
Carmel, IN 46033

Dick & Joyce Landis
334 S. Cherry Street, Apt 122
Westfield, IN 46074

Sympathies

To Rosaland Thornton at the death of her husband, David.

To the family of Vallie Williams at her death.

Births

Olivia Karolyn Turchan was born September 16. Her parents are Hilary and Tyler Turchan; big sister, Grace; Grandparents Greta and Mark Carroll and Kirsten and Don Turchan.

Chelsea Paige Moorse was born on October 12. Her parents are Anna and Patrick Moorse, sister Jillian, and grandparents Lydia and Terry Fourman.

Winny Alice Mardis was born October 14. Her parents are Audra and Steven Mardis; brother Felix, and grandparents Brian and Michelle White.

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

Mary Pielemeier

Don Ranck

Hilda Meyers

Judy & Tom Hebenstreit

Staff Contact Information

Staff Name	Extension	Email
Amy Adams	223	aadams@stmarkscarmel.org
Don Broad	241	dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org
Jennifer Cloud-Buckner	214	jcloud-buckner@stmarkscarmel.org
Stephanie Cohen	215	scohen@stmarkscarmel.org
Ramie Cooney	221	rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org
Eric DeForest	226	edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org
Kody Emrich	260	kemrich@stmarkscarmel.org
Julia Gonzales	216	jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org
Elizabeth Goodenough		egoodenough@stmarkscarmel.org
Missi Koenig	222	mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org
Juan Mercado	231	jmercado@stmarkscarmel.org
Becky Mills	251	bmills@stmarkscarmel.org
Mary Ann Moman	224	mmoman@stmarkscarmel.org
Jackie Rowell	221	jrowell@stmarkscarmel.org
Jenny Rundle	210	jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org
Stephanie Solesky	213	ssolesky@stmarkscarmel.org
Shaw Wang	212	xwang@stmarkscarmel.org
Brian White	217	bwhite@stmarkscarmel.org



Help decorate St. Mark's for the holidays with your purchase of a poinsettia:

- In Honor Of
- In Celebration Of
- In Memory Of special persons or groups in your life.

A donation of \$8.00 per recognition is requested to cover the cost of the poinsettia and other greenery that make the Advent season so special at St. Mark's. Please note all Poinsettias this year will be White.

Please fill out the form online at stmarkscarmel.org/poinsettias or email your

order to staff@stmarkscarmel.org. Orders must be placed no later than December 13.

Names will be listed in the December 20 Bulletin.

UMW FUNDRAISER

UMW Pecan Sale

UMW will be selling Pecans again this year, but differently due to Covid-19. Place your order online at stmarkscarmel.org/pecans or call the church office and we will mail a form to you. Your order will be prepacked and will be available in drive-thru manner at given times. The candied pecans are packaged in an attractive foil bag, suitable for gift giving. Bags are still selling for \$10 each, and as always proceeds go to the missions UMW supports. Check payment can be mailed to St. Mark's UMW, note in memo line: UMW pecans. Quantities are limited, order early for best selection. Pick up dates TBA.



Pecans are available :

Pecan Halves (12 oz)

Milk Chocolate (12 oz)*

Pecan Pieces (12 oz)

Dark Chocolate (12 oz)*

Caramel Pecan Clusters (10 oz)*

Cinnamon Glaze (10 oz)*

*in foil bags

Questions? Call Linda Mitchell-Powell at: (317) 460-7831 or Susan Salter at (317) 848-1194

UMW Card Sale

The St. Mark's UMW will offer handmade, 3-D cards. These beautiful, keepsake cards are made by UMW members from high-quality cardstock with charming accents and will include a custom envelope. They should be considered keepsake cards for all who receive them. Options consist of 4 designs: two of Christmas design, one birthday, and one all-occasion. Christmas card orders will be available by December 11th. The cost per card will be \$8.00. Orders will be taken through November 23rd, prepaid by check (Please make your check payable to St. Mark's UMW, note in the memo line: UMW Cards). These cards will be made according to the orders received. No extra cards will be made. Order soon from the online form, stmarkscarmel.org/cards, as there is a limit to the quantity which can be produced.



If you wish to see details of the cards, there will be samples at the St. Mark's library, and also photos on St. Mark's UMW Facebook page.

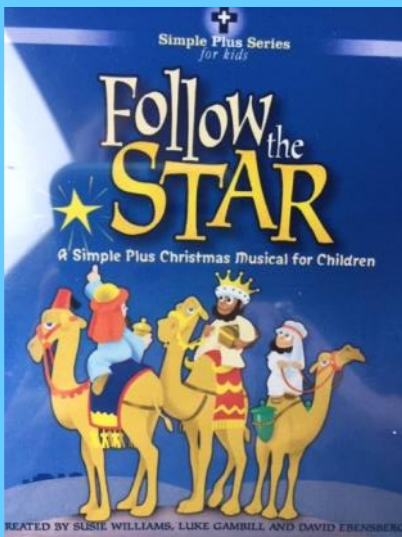
Please contact Peggy Nicolai if you have any questions regarding orders: panicolai@aol.com or 513-374-1371.

Children's Christmas Musical

Sunday, December 13 | 2:00 PM

Follow the Star is planned for the Holiday season and will be available to watch on December 13, 2:00PM.

The children began practice October 4 on Zoom. Details on how to watch will be available in December.



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

ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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