



**HOLY
WALK**
THROUGH BETHLEHEM



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Arts and Crafts Marketplace

Saturday November 3 | 9:00AM - 4:00PM

featuring unique, handmade items
perfect for holiday gifting and decorating!



Painted Rocks



Handmade Jewelry



Quilted Purses



Doll Clothes



Knit & Crochet Items



Cloth Pumpkins



Super Hero + Princess Capes



Totes

Enjoy home-baked items and a light lunch at our Candy Cane Café.



ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

News From the Pastors

Dear Co-Workers in Christ,

In the world of performing arts there is an aphorism that says, "Timing is everything." It is a reminder that there are moments that are important and when they are past they sometimes cannot be recovered. In the book of Esther her uncle Mordecai reminds Esther in an important moment of her life of this principle and says to her: "Perhaps you were born for such a time as this." (Esther 4:14)

Shakespeare was aware of this concept as well. He has one of his characters call people to action by saying:

There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.
On such a full sea are we now afloat;
And we must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures. (Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*, Act IV. Scene III)

We are currently in the process of charting a future for St. Mark's United Methodist Church. We recently had over fifty leaders in the church gather to craft a strategic plan which will guide our efforts. Copies of the 2018 Strategic Plan can be obtained in the church office.

We are having conversations about improvements that we would like to make to our building which we hope will allow us to serve the mission of the church better, that is, we hope to be more welcoming, enhance people's ability to gather and grow in their faith, and expand our capacity to serve in worship and missions. The Trustees are currently inviting feedback on the plans and there are floorplans available in the church parlor for people to look at.

We continue to have opportunities for people to be a part of small groups, Bible studies, Sunday school classes, music ensembles, and other face-to-face gatherings. These are all ways to draw people into active fellowship and service at St. Mark's.

It is an exciting time of opportunity for us to worship and serve. In the next few weeks there will be an opportunity for you to help support these continued and new visions. Let us recognize the importance of this moment, what God is calling us to do, and how we can help make these dreams a reality by our gifts of prayer, time and resources.

In Christ's service,

Brian



News From the Pastors

Hello St. Mark's family,

Blessings and peace to you on this cold morning! As I write this I'm thinking of the frost that was on my car windows, the surest sign that fall is here even if all the leaves haven't started to change colors yet. The time of frigid mornings, warm blankets, hot cider, cold fingers and noses, rainy days, smaller amounts of sunlight, and the coming of final due dates is upon us. Fall can be a hectic time and this year even being out of school won't save me from deadlines and due dates. By the time this Jubilee

Newsletter is published I will have finished and submitted my paperwork as part of the process for being commissioned and later ordained as an elder in The United Methodist Church. Considering that my journey to ordination began almost ten years ago, seeing so many people move forward while I felt like I was standing in place at times, it feels a little impossible to finally be at this season in my life.

Do you ever feel like you're struggling with being impatient? That you've had moments in life where it seems like everyone is rushing past you in a race and you're struggling to move faster than a brisk walk? In Ecclesiastes 3:11 Solomon writes that, "God has made everything beautiful in its time. God has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." The ways of God are beyond understanding, and yet we are challenged to trust in God and wait when we are told to wait and move when we are told to move.

The theme of our stewardship campaign is Esther 4:14, "Perhaps you were born for such a time as this." As we enter the season of planning for the year ahead, I want to challenge you to listen for God's voice in this season for direction. In the United Methodist Church we believe in fulfilling our membership through our time, gifts, talents, and prayers. What are some areas that you feel need to wait and continue to grow in? What are some areas in your life where God is telling you that it's time to move forward in faith? You may just be surprised at what season God is calling you to enter.

Blessings,

Julia



NOVEMBER MISSION FOCUS

Local Food Pantries

This month St. Mark's is supporting the ministries listed below that are helping feed hungry people in our community:

Carmel United Methodist Food Pantry
Fletcher Place Food Pantry
Merciful Help Center

Financial contributions may be given using the white mission envelope in your Sunday bulletin; non-perishable food items may be placed in a bin at St. Mark's main entrance (Door #2).



The food pantries especially need:

Canned meats	Cereal	Crackers
Macaroni & cheese	Sugar	Pasta
Fresh potatoes	Soup	Oatmeal
Toilet paper	Rice	Peanut butter
Spaghetti sauce	Beans	Canned fruit (in juice)
Canned vegetables (low/no salt)		

100% of your donation will go to local food pantries. Please help stock their shelves - together we CAN make a difference in the lives of others .

IHN Needs Your Help for Christmas!

We have the unique opportunity this Christmas to support and share the love of Christ with homeless families as we help provide gifts for the Interfaith Hospitality Network guests at Christmas. Due to a gap week in scheduling a collaborative effort is being made by many congregations to support these families. Will you please prayerfully consider helping? St. Mark's will be providing Christmas presents for the families and gift cards for the parents to shop. It is a wonderful mission opportunity for the entire family. We won't know the make up of the families or their specific needs until closer to Christmas. If you are interested in helping sponsor the IHN families at Christmas, please contact Ali Lemberg at aleMBER@stmarkscarmel.org

Because You Give, St. Mark's Gives!

Thank you for your generous support of the missions of St. Mark's. We had a fantastic Mission in Action Day! We have also given to:

- Brightwood Community Center: served 3 meals to the children and provided ongoing homework help
- Hamilton County Kids Coats: 25 coats, 1 pair snow pants, 3 gloves, 12 hats, 1 vest, and 15 scarves, 1 set of leg warmers, 3 earwarmers
- Merciful Help Center: 12 bags of food
- Operation Classroom: \$7438
- Team World Vision Let's Eat Out at Old Spaghetti Factory: \$110.58
- World Communion Sunday: \$240
- Because of our partnership with The Society of St. Andrew, Terry Swagger (with the assistance of Dave Martin) has been able to deliver 9000 pounds of apples to local food banks and pantries: Bread of Life, Carmel UMC, E. 10th Children & Youth Center, Fletcher Place Community Center, Geist Christian Church, Grace Church, Mama's Cupboard, the Merciful HELP Center, Third Phase, Sheridan UMC, Sheridan Greenhouse, and White River Pantry.
- You also donated the following school supplies that were used to pack UMCOR school kits, Red Bird Mission, & given to Good Samaritan Network: 213 boxes of Crayons, 1764 pencils, 314 pencil sharpeners, 228 erasers, 235 eraser heads, 129 scissors, 161 rulers, 190 notebooks, 224 pens, 468 boxes of colored pencils, 500 boxes of markers, 32 containers of glue, 25 packs of colored paper, 4 notepads, 12 folders

Brightwood Community Center

11/6 & 11/20

Dinners at Brightwood have been a wonderful success! We will be serving on Tuesday, November 6th and Tuesday, November 20th at 4:30 PM. For these meals to be successful they need 2-3 volunteers to serve the meals with them. If you are willing to serve, please contact Kirsten at pedsderm@yahoo.com or 317-698-7352.

Brightwood is so thankful for all the tutors that St. Mark's sends each week. If you have a heart to help the children at Brightwood by tutoring, we would love to have you join the group.

Please contact Diane Newton at joediane244@att.net or 317-288-4523.

East 10th Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

Thursday, November 15

The 13th Annual Dinner & Silent Auction is Thursday, November 15th. Any

help with auction items or sponsorship would be greatly appreciated. For more information please visit, east10th.org/events/annual-dinner/



Holiday Assistance Needed

GOOD SAMARITAN NETWORK

Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County aids families in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year, St. Mark's has been asked to help with gifts for the children and teens that are often forgotten. We will be collecting new and unwrapped items through **Sunday, December 2nd**.

Suggested donations:

- Toys for boys and girls 6-12
- Nail Polish
- Male and Female shaving items
- Diaries/Journals
- Gifts for Teens

FLETCHER PLACE CHRISTMAS

During November we are collecting *new* items that will be given to the Fletcher Place Community Center for their Christmas shopping service. This service is provided to parents living in poverty who have been qualified as needing assistance with Christmas food and gifts. This year we have been asked to help with certain food items and the 6-10 age group around gift items, clothes, games and art supplies. Last year, 70 children in that age group were served. Please bring your donations to St. Mark's by **Sunday, November 25** and place them in the Christmas boxes located in the narthex.

Suggested donations:

- Food items - Canned veggies (carrots, corn, green beans) and beans (pintos, black beans, and lentils)
- New clothes and gifts/toys for ages 6-10
- New games and art supplies for ages 6-10

To help deliver donations and set up. To help on distribution day (December 2) or with clean up on Dec. 4 please contact Ali Lemberg at 317-846-4912 or ALemberg@stmarkscarmel.org.

Team World Vision

We are so proud of the St. Mark's runners and walkers that raised funds and will participate in the Indianapolis Monumental Marathon and Half Marathon on Saturday, November 3rd. Thank you for representing St. Mark's, and for being a wonderful representation of how to be the feet of Christ.



Interfaith Build

Saturday, 11/10

St. Mark's is partnering with others from the Indianapolis faith community to work alongside the Dycus, Jimison and Turentine families to build their homes. The families have been working hard to complete their requirements, including 300 hours of "sweat equity."



We have one build day left, **November 10**. Sign up now at stmarkscarmel.org/habitat. All volunteers need to be 16 years of age or older. If you have questions, contact Joe or Diane Newton at joediane244@att.net or 317-288-4523.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness, and to making adequate affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

November 4-10

Interfaith Hospitality Network is a ministry of Family Promise that provides emergency food & shelter, offers individual skill development & rehabilitation, advocates for economic stability, and strives to end homelessness for the families it serves. IHN partners with congregations in the Indianapolis area including St. Mark's.

St. Mark's will host IHN guests the week of November 4th and guests will be with us each night that week. The role of volunteers is fundamental to the IHN program and many are needed each time we host, offering dignified and compassionate assistance to families who are struggling with homelessness. Volunteer needs include:

Dinner hosts (5:00-8:00 p.m.) Share a prepared meal with our guests, provide companionship & help with clean up.

Meal preparation - Prepare part of a meal for 15 - 20 people and deliver it to St. Mark's.

Provide food - Provide prepared foods for lunch & breakfast (milk, lunch meat, etc.).

Overnight hosts (8:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.) - be part of a team that spends the night at St. Mark's and is on-hand to assist guests.

Set up, tear down and clean up - Help set up beds and rooms on Sunday, November 4, and/or help remove beds and clean up on Sunday, November 11.

Transportation - Drive the van between St. Mark's and the IHN Day Center.

Donate - New pillows, new or gently-used twin blankets, children's underwear, diapers & pull-ups, toothbrushes.

This is a wonderful mission opportunity for the entire family. Please prayerfully consider how you can help. Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/ihn or at a Connection Table on Sunday mornings. Contact Jeff Keyt (shellcreek5@gmail.com or 239-201-8207) or Ali Lemberg (alemberg@stmarkscarmel.org or 317-846-4912) if you have questions.

Mission in Action Thank you

Thank you to everyone that came together to share God's love and blessings at our 10th annual Mission in Action Day on October 13 & 14!! There were 278 people that cleaned, packed, sorted, organized, trimmed, painted, shared, cared & more! The charities and individuals that we served are very appreciative of the work that was completed & of the commitment made to them. Hopefully you were blessed, as well, as you worked alongside other members of our church family living our motto, *Where Mission is a Way of Life*.

Thank you to our team leaders that helped to plan and organize the projects:

Jim Campbell: Changing Footprints (329 pairs of shoes)

Becky Mills: Christmas gift bags for Soup's On clients (100 bags)

Greta Carroll & Linda Schenk: E. 10th UM Children & Youth Center Fall Festival

Doug Brown: Cemetery Clean up

Marge Patterson: Hamilton County Kids Coats

Lamar Ziegler: Home repair project

Cecil Salter: Hamilton County Humane Society

Trisha Stanearth: Soup's On - served meal

Ann Radkte: Society of St. Andrew bag making (1000 bags)

Beth Montag: Open Doors food & clothing pantry in Westfield

Stephanie Solesky: Christmas gift bags for Redbird Mission (123 bags)

Steff Mabe: Brookdale Memory Care visit

Dave Martin: Potato Drop (42,000 lbs. of potatoes & 927 lbs. of apples)

Mike Bultemeier: Camp Belzer Clean up

Jane Fecht: Outdoor Clean up at St. Mark's

Julia Pritchett & Susan Jacques: West Park Clean up

Janet Brown: The Mustard Seed

Becky Bultemeier: School kit packing for UMCOR (100 bags)

Josh Harpe: The O'Connor House clean up

Kirsten Turchan: Brightwood Community clean up

Gail Lee, Craig & Trey Lemberg, and Nyla Johnson: donation sorters

Bill Fecht: Coffee and Hospitality

Greg Binder: AV

Lynn Akerhielm: Greeter and Hospitality

Joe Garrison & Coffee 'n Cameras: Photography of all of the projects

Carolyn Campbell: Office & donation sorter



adult music

stmarkscarmel.org/music
Eric De Forest, Director
edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org

Join the Choir

The Chancel Choir has begun preparing for the Christmas Cantata, *Sing Christmas!* and we would love to have you join us. If you have ever thought about joining the choir, come and sing with us through the Advent season and see if it's for you. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00pm in the Sanctuary. Come make a joyful noise with us!



Join the Orchestra

Orchestra is open to all ages 10-100 who want to glorify God with music. Performances once a month (August–April) Rehearsals are the Wednesdays prior to the performance.

Contact Ed Rowell or Dr. Eric Deforest for more information.

Bell Rehearsal

Bell Rehearsals practice Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/11	Bells Play
11/18	Orchestra Plays
12/16	Cantata
2/16	St Mark's Talent Show
3/17	St. Mark's Presents Clare Longendyke, pianist

Can You Help Once a Month?

We are looking for team members to join our AV Ministry on Sunday mornings. Team members run the soundboard, LiveStream, lights and/or computer presentations. No experience needed and your commitment would be once every 4-5 weeks. Hands on training is available. contact Justin Vance at jvance@stmarkscarmel.org or 317-846-4912 .



kids ministry

stmarkscarmel.org/kids
Ramie Cooney, Director
rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org

Education

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING



Nursery & Toddler Care

Staffed by experienced, caring adults and teens, our nursery is here to help care for your kids at all of our Sunday Morning Services.

Kidz Learn & Grow Preschool

Children have fun singing, learning Bible stories, eating snack and making fun crafts. Bible discovery and exploration is integrated in every lesson by our fantastic volunteer team.

Kidz Learn & Grow Elementary

Kids entering kindergarten through 4th grade have a blast learning about God at Kidz Church beginning with Worship followed by lively & age-appropriate activities (including games, crafts, and creative play) to accommodate various ways kids learn. Our fantastic Kidz Church leaders follow the Revised Common Lectionary and classes also include discipleship development following UM principles.

Kidz Music & Praise

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord during this fun-filled hour each week. After a worship time with Kidz Learn & Grow classes, children participate in this high energy class that incorporates music, drama, art & puppets. During the 11:00 service, this class is preparing for the Red Letter Christmas Musical on 12/16 at 2pm. There will be a dress rehearsal and pizza party on 12/2 so mark your calendars now!

Club 56

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!



Sunday programming each week in the basement.

Upcoming Events:

11/25 Laser Tag

ATTENTION 3RD, 4TH, 5TH & 6TH GRADERS

Be sure to bring your Bible to church each Sunday to be eligible for a weekly prize drawing. We use the NRSV translation for Kidz Church and Club 56 classes.

Check out our new St. Mark's Kidz weekly flier which summarizes what's happening in Children's Ministries and provides an overview of the Sunday Kidz Church lesson.

ST.MARK'S PRESCHOOL

Preschool tours are beginning in November. Call (317) 846-4941 to schedule a tour and learn more about our quality preschool program. St. Mark's families can begin preferential registration from January 8-January 21, 2019

ST MARK'S MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)

MOPS has a few openings for mothers and moppets. Learn more at mopsatst.marks@gmail.com. MOPs meets twice monthly on Wednesday 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!

Kidz Music Lunch & Learn

Sunday, November 11 12:00 PM- 12:45 PM

Parents and children are welcome to come listen to patriotic and seasonal hymns, learn about English Handbell and Choir Chimes, and join along in a Ring-A-Long. Refreshments will be served in the Narthex.

Christmas Musical

Sunday, December 16 2 PM

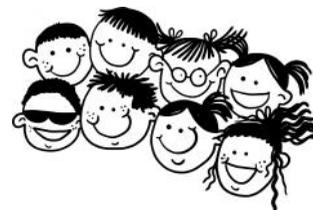
Practices begin Sundays at 11:00 AM for the Christmas Musical. We will be performing a Red Letter Christmas which brings the story of Christ's birth alive with every color of the season.



Kid's Night Out

Friday, November 16 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Children ages 4-10 years-old are invited to join the fun on the second Friday of each month from 6-9 pm at St. Mark's. Parents will drop off their children and children will enjoy activities, games, a movie, and a (nut-free) snack throughout the evening as they are supervised by Cornerstone Youth. Sign-up at stmarkscarmel.org/sundaykids and contribute \$15 per child (or \$30 per family) which will serve as a fundraiser for youth mission trips and retreats.



Contact Ramie at rcooney@stmarksumc.org or (317) 846-4912 for more information.

Children's Ministry Book Fair

11/14-12/4

We are excited to host a Family Christian Book Fair offering books from Sparkhouse Publishing. Christian-themed books, devotionals, Bibles stories, and Bibles will be available for viewing with ordering to begin on November 14-December 4. Books will be delivered to the church and available for pick-up on December 21st. Parents & Grandparents, this is a great way to add some Christian cheer to your Christmas this year!

SALE



Cornerstone Fellowship

Sundays, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM

For all students in grades 7-12

Middle School and High School meet separately from 5:00 - 5:45.

All grades gather from 5:45 to 6:30 for worship and a meal.

Cornerstone After Hours

Sundays, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

For all students in grades 7-12

After Cornerstone Fellowship, the gym will be open for various activities.

The purpose is simply to spend time together where students feel confident to invite friends

Third Street Rehearsal

Wednesday, 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Students currently in grades 7 - 12 are welcome!

Third Street is Cornerstone's Praise Band and is always seeking singers and instrumentalists to join us! ALL are welcome!

Rehearsals will take place weekly, with the goal of leading worship at retreats, some meetings, and Cornerstone Sundays!

Student Leadership Academy

Friday 11/16- Sunday 11/18

UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

Students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible to attend, but must be selected by Cornerstone Leadership. This weekend retreat is designed to emphasize God's call in a student leader's life both now and in his or her future vocation.

Youth Sunday

Sunday, November 25

Cornerstone Sunday will take place on Sunday, November 25, 2018 during all three services - 8:15, 9:40, and 11:00 am. There will be no Cornerstone AM that morning, and we will need all hands on deck. We will need students to serve as speakers, readers (liturgists), ushers, and all of Third Street. Contact DKB for details or questions.

Life is moving along at a very fast tempo for many people. Too often we forget that kindness matters. There are many many great things happening around us, but we don't always notice, or be grateful for those good people doing good things. Bob Goff writes in his book, *Love Does*, a good note to us:

...In a world driven by self-promotion and spin, Jesus modeled something different for us. Jesus was saying that instead of telling people about what we're doing all the time, there's a better way. One that doesn't require any [superhero] capes that can snagged on something--something like ourselves. Maybe Jesus wants us to be secretly incredible instead. That was his plan for self-promotion. Secretly incredible people keep what they do on of God's best kept secrets because the only one who needs to know, the God of the universe, already knows.

I pray we try to be kind to all and live the way Jesus shows us. It's a huge thing—but every little way truly does matter.

Lydia Fourman

An invitation and reminder: St. Marks has four fun and meaning ways we can GROW in our Christian Adult Education opportunities:

- Sunday Morning Study Groups that meet at 9:40 and 11 before/after worship
- Weekday Study Groups-classes meet on a regular basis throughout the year
- Grow Groups-5 to 12 people who gather as a small group throughout the year
- Themed Study Groups-classes that form around a specific chapter of life for a 4-8 week support

Sunday Small Groups

9:40 AM

VENTURE

This group meets at 9:15 to share concerns and listen to "The Great Courses" a varied series on religious and theological studies and Rick Steve's Travelogue Series Jean Douglass facilitates.

OPEN DOORS/OPEN IDEAS

Share and discuss various Christian and life themes through authors, studies, and movies. This group shares leadership.

CUTTING EDGE

Uses the Common Lectionary for Bible discussions & lessons. A 3 year program that cycles through old and new testament verses of the Bible. Steve Click facilitates.

FOUNDATIONS & FRIENDSHIPS

Share and discuss Christian themes through various authors. Currently reading and discussing *Discernment* by Henri Nouwen. Next discussion will center around one of Pastor Rob Fuquay's books Doug Brown and John Flora facilitate, with classmates sharing leadership too.

11:00 AM

JOURNEY

Share and discuss the Bible scriptures from the Old and New Testament and Psalms based on the Revised Common Lectionary. Jonathan Barclay facilitates.

REEL SPIRITUALITY

View and discuss Christian themes and life values through movies. Together they watch 30-40 minutes of a movie, then discuss it, continuing the movie to completion for 3 to 4 weeks. Upcoming movies are **Beyond the Next Mountain** and **For the Life of the World** Lydia and Terry Fourman facilitate.

November Study Groups

SUNDAY

6:00 –7:00 PM

Blue Christmas: Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness by Todd Outcalt (11/25-12/16) This Advent study addresses that this time of year magnifies loneliness, anxiety, grief, and despair even though it is often associated with joy, love, generosity, and unity. This daily devotional meets people where they are—in their hurts, fears, and disappointments—and offers hope through the birth of Jesus Christ. Once a week we will meet to discuss and highlight the lessons of the previous week's devotions. All are welcome. The book cost is \$8.

WEDNESDAY

6:30–7:15 AM EARLY AM BIBLE STUDY

Galations: 10 Studies for Individuals and Groups by N.T. Wright (9/12-12/12) Pastor Brian White will facilitate.

9:30-10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study

Galations: 10 Studies for Individuals and Groups by N.T. Wright (9/12-12/12)

9:30-11:30 AM BIBLE STUDY

Blue Christmas: Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness by Todd Outcalt. See Sunday for description. Lydia Fourman facilitates

THURSDAY

9:30– 11:00 AM

No Other God by Kelly Minter (10/25-12/20) This 8-week study asks, "Is God the God in your life?" hoping that the journey through the study will help us make room for God by confronting the modern-day idols that clutter and claim our hearts. Book cost is \$13. Judy Woempner facilitates.

FRIDAY

9:30– 11:30 AM

Ruth: Loss, Love, and Legacy by Kelly Minter (10/20-11/16) Ruth's journey of unbear/able loss, redeeming love and divine legacy -comes alive in this 6-week study. Book cost is \$13. Jackie Rowell facilitates.

To sign up for Adult Bible Studies register for stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups.

Childcare is available with registration 72 hours in advance online at stmarkscarmel.org

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Family Bible Study is being re-scheduled for 4 weeks in the near future—stay tuned for details!

Hey busy families! Are you looking for ways to introduce your elementary-aged kids to the concept of a Bible study group? Join us for a four week Family Bible Study as we use the book, I Can Learn the Bible by Holly Hawkins Parent(s) and children will have the opportunity to share ideas and build fellowship among other elementary, K-5th Grade, families, while also getting the inspiration you need to launch your own efforts at home. Leslie Babione will facilitate. Register online or on the connection tables behind the sanctuary. Book cost is \$15 - one book per family.

ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Specifically address the needs and support wanted when caring for parents.

Wednesday evenings (twice a month) Becky Mills facilitates.

Sunday mornings once a month. Susan Jacques facilitates

GROW GROUPS/SMALL GROUPS

Grow Groups meet throughout the week/month at various times.

Today there are 8 Grow Groups meeting throughout St. Mark's. More groups are always encouraged to form. If you wish to participate or facilitate a group, please contact me, Lydia Fourman, at LFourman@stmarkscarmel.org

gatherings

Second Saturday Breakfast Meetings

We meet the second Saturday of every month at 7:30AM-9:00AM in Fellowship Hall.



Saturday, 11/10 Mental Health Discussion
(Part 1 of 3 Sessions)

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, please check out the UMM Bulletin Board in the Narthex near the coffee area, contact Dean Solesky, email umm@stmarkscarmel.org or call a UMM Board Member. You can also see what's going at: stmarkscarmel.org. Come and join us!

PRAYER HUDDLE

Join us at the back of the sanctuary before the traditional services at 8:15 AM and 11:00 AM for a brief prayer in support of our worship leaders

MARKSMEN

The MarksMen is a community of career and family focused men seeking to develop authentic and intentional relationships while we unplug from the daily stress and craziness that life can bring. We aim to grow closer to Christ through Service and Outreach, Enrichment and Education, Friendship and Fellowship.

PRAYER & SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, 11/8 6:00 AM

We meet at 6:00 AM every other Thursday morning at Einstein Bagels (116th Street) for our prayer and support meetings.

HOLY WALK CONSTRUCTION

Saturday, 11/17	8:00 AM-12:00 PM
Thursday, 11/29	Various Times
Friday, 11/30	Various Times

Signup to help with Holy Walk set up. There is something for everyone. For more information contact marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org or go to the stmarkscarmel.org website and follow the links to signup genius.

ROMEO's Lunch Group

Wednesday, 11:00 AM

LE PEEP RESTAURANT

12213 N. Meridian Street

All men are invited to join the ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for a weekly Wednesday lunch. They meet at 11:00 AM. For more information or questions contact Don Mehl, 317-844-0789.



Monthly Meetings

Tuesday, 11/13 9 AM & 7 PM

All women of St. Mark's are invited to United Methodist Women's gathering Tuesday for coffee, conversation, devotion time & special interest groups. We look forward to seeing you!

Find out what great things are in store for the 2018-2019 year. Questions Contact umw@stmarkscarmel.org.

Childcare provided. To register for childcare, please click on the signup genius link from St. Mark's website and go to Serving our Children. Registration must be made 48 hours in advance.

Morning Groups

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The group will be studying **Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living** by Jessica Stonecypher. This study will explore our relationship with creation, others and ourselves. We will engage in conversations with Biblical texts, current realities and possible ways to respond. Mary Ann Moman facilitates.

BOOKWORMS

UMW morning book discussion group. The book selected for October is **Hillbilly Elegy** by J.D. Vance. Readers should think about the roll of grandparents in the family as they read this memoir. While the books are seldom of a religious nature we will ask the question, "Do you see God's grace or redemption at work in the book?" Facilitator Gail Lee

MAKE IT AND TAKE IT

We will be making a colorful Tom Turkey wreath. Please bring scissors if you have them and come join the fun!! No particular artistic expertise or creative ability required. Kathy Dycus and Marilyn Roberts facilitate.

SAMS (SCHOOL AGE MOMS)

SAMs (School Age Moms) will meet two Tuesdays a month. There will be a discussion group for the UMW morning and evening gatherings, and then we will meet the last Tuesday of the month. We will be using "Where Mom's Connect" as our guide. Facilitator: Ali Lemberg.

Evening Groups

BOOKMARKERS

Join us at BookMarkers, the evening book group discussion. We read anything and everything, and enjoy a lively discussion, fellowship and support. Please come, even if you haven't had a chance to read the book. We add an extra meeting in May and in the summer. The book for November is: **Killers of the Flower Moon** by David Grann . Contact Deb Skinner, dskins25@hotmail.com or call 317-574-1997 with any questions.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

Applying Biblical study to our everyday lives. This group uses a series of videos and study guides to help us apply the teachings of Jesus to our life challenges. We will be using the DVD **Israel's Mission** by Ray Vander Laan which explores welcoming strangers and prodigals the Lord longs to embrace. Facilitator: Beth McGill.

SAMS (SCHOOL AGE MOMS)

See Morning Group for description

Arts and Crafts Marketplace

Saturday, November 3, 9 AM-4 PM

All our UMW profits will help to sponsor our missions in the area including:

- Lucille Raines Home
- Lebanon Children's Home
- Ascent 121
- Hope Center Indianapolis
- Brightwood Community Center and MORE

Help us help these agencies with your visit to the Arts and Crafts Marketplace!

Any member who will be donating craft items to the UMW Arts and Crafts Marketplace should get them to St. Mark's as soon as possible so the items can be priced and ready for set-up on Friday, November 2nd. Please place donations in the back church office with Ada Hoffmaster's name on them. Please note your own name and any suggested price for the items donated. All hand-made donations are greatly appreciated. A thank you letter with a list of donations and approximate value will be sent out afterward.

World Thank Offering &

2019 Pledge Service

In this season of "thanks-giving" UMW members can thank God through our prayers, pledges and offerings. At the November UMW meeting we will be accepting World Thank Offering boxes during our 2019 Pledge Service. Use the World Thank Offering boxes to collect change. Your 2019 Pledge will help support the numerous mission programs of St. Mark's UMW.

Through the UMW channels of mission giving we can give hope and help provide security to the marginalized people both locally and beyond.

We are thankful for the enthusiastic, involved members of St. Mark's United Methodist Women.

November UMW Mission

During the month of November, the UMW will be collecting items for School Break kits for Ascent 121. You can place the items in the red tote during our November meetings or bring them on Sunday mornings. The following is a list of items that we need: Board games for 8 and over (new or wrapped in plastic), card games (UNO, Skip Bo, Mad Libs), puzzle books for young people, coloring pages, markers/crayons, DVDs of recently released PG movies, individually wrapped microwave popcorn and/or store-bought snacks. These items will be assembled into kits and delivered before winter break.

Thank you for your continuous support of all of the missions supported by St. Mark's and the UMW.

Brightwood Dinner

Thursday, November 15

UMW will serving a Brightwood meal in November but we will be providing a meal for the Brightwood after-school tutoring kids on Thursday, November 15. Sign-ups will come out on Sign-up Genius about a week before the date. For questions, please contact Kathi Hall, khall7401@sbcglobal.net or (317) 816-0518.

Coffee 'n Cameras

Monday, 11/5 & 11/19

9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Do you enjoy photography? This self-help camera group meets for conversation about photographic art and technique. Bring your camera & your questions or your latest work to share with the group.

Contact Bob Wiens, 317-402-5617 or wiens@iquest.net, with questions.



The Page Turners Book Group

Tuesday, November 20, 7 PM

Uncommon Type: Some Stories by Tom Hanks

No December Meeting

If you enjoy good books, interesting discussions, and a shared evening with new/old friends. Start reading now. Join us for our next gathering where we will be deciding on the next 12 books to read. To sign up to lead a book discussion or to be added to the email list for this group to go stmarkscarmel.org. Contact Marcia Flora, 317-670-9976 or mflora1950@yahoo.com, with questions.

Career Curve

Mondays @ 10:00 AM

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. Contact Jim & Chuck, coordinators at careercurve@stmarkscarmel.org, if you would like more information.

Craft & Hobby Group

Thursday, 11/15 & 12/136:00 PM– 9:00 PM

Friday, 11/16 & 12/14 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

Join us for a time of fun and fellowship as we each enjoy our craft or hobby.

Registration deadline to attend is Monday, 11/12 and 12/1. Child care is available for children 5 & under. Childcare must be requested at least 72 hours in advance by registering.

Contact Kathy Bartel, 317-294-4908 or krbartel@gmail.com, if you have any questions. Register to attend Craft Days at stmarkscarmel.org/crafts/

JULIETS

Thursday, November 8

Thursday, December 13

Ladies, join the JULIETS (Just Us Ladies Into Eating Together) for lunch! We meet the **2nd Thursday of every month**. The group meets at a restaurant for lunch, laughs, and fellowship together. All women are invited, young or retired, stay-at-home or working - whatever stage of life you're in! Check the website to find out which restaurant we will be visiting.



Please sign up by 11/4 at the Connections Table behind the sanctuary. If you have questions, please contact Kat Howe, chattykat52@att.net or 317.431.6295

special events

Mission Craft Sale

November 18 & 25

UPAVIM's mission is to support the women of La Esperanza in their fight for better economic, healthcare and educational opportunities for themselves, their families and their community. They carry out this mission by providing access to education, employment opportunities, daycare services, health care, and programs for personal and professional development. They create products to sell for income to generate funds for their programs and salaries.

The Red Bird Mission Crafts program creates economic opportunity by teaching business skills and providing a market for those who produce quality Appalachian crafts in southeastern Kentucky. Being able to sell their crafts provides a realization of self-worth, as well as financial stability to these artisans.

Crafts from these groups will be available for purchase at St. Mark's on Sunday, November 18 & 25 from 9:00-Noon. By buying their products, you greatly help these persons break out of the poverty cycle. Please take a moment to stop in the parlor and support these missions.



All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 18 5:30 PM

Plan now to share a traditional Thanksgiving meal with your St. Mark's family. The turkey & trimmings will be provided. Donations of desserts requested.

This is a family event. All ages are welcome to share in the meal.

While there is no cost to attend, reservations are required.

Sign-up before Sunday, November 11 at the Connection Tables behind the sanctuary or sign up genius.



Mental Illness Book Discussions

Saturday, November 10 7:30 AM

Looking at Recovery through the Rear View Mirror: A Bipolar's Story by Norman Newman and John P Sheehan

Saturday, February 2 9:30 AM- 11:00 AM

First, We Make the Beast Beautiful-A Journey Through Anxiety by Sarah Wilson

Saturday, March 16 9:30 AM-11:00 AM

The Noonday Demon- An Atlas Of Depression by Andrew Solomon

You are invited to a series of three book discussions related to mental illness to be held at St. Mark's . Each book provides a perspective from individuals who live with bipolar disorder, anxiety or depression. Please feel free to share this information with others. The first discussion will take place on November 10 at 7:30 AM and will highlight Looking at Recovery Through the Rear View Mirror: A Bipolar's Story.

Pecan Sales

Sunday, November 11

Remember those delicious cooking pecans and chocolate covered pecans the UMW sold last Fall? Well, we will be selling them again starting Sunday, November 11. We will share more information as we get it.



Journeys of Paul Cruise

Sunday, May 19- Thursday, May 30

AN INVITATION TO TRAVEL WITH PASTOR WHITE

Pastor White will be leading a group through Educational Opportunities Tours experiencing the "Journeys of Paul." This tour includes stops in Italy and Greece and will depart on **May 19, 2019** and return on May 30. For more information pick up a brochure outside the church office in the plastic holders, or available online at stmarkscarmel.org.



committees

2019 Stewardship Campaign

OPPORTUNITY KEEPS KNOCKING AT ST. MARK'S

Since our beginning as a church in 1979, St. Mark's has benefitted from a host of committed Christians who have identified various needs and have stepped up to translate those needs into active programs of our church. The stewardship campaign this year is shining a light on various opportunities that members of our church have seized in the past and also those opportunities that await us in the future, particularly those identified by our trustees.



All of us can help St. Mark's seize the opportunities that God sets out before us by providing the money that these opportunities inevitably require. By pledging, the church can plan and allocate its financial resources and not have to guess what its revenue might be. We can be better prepared to take advantage of whatever opportunities arise.

A pledge of any amount is helpful to the church. You can always pledge a lower amount and then give more than that if circumstances permit.

You will soon receive information on the St. Mark's operating budget, the Trustees Building Projects Fund, and a pledge card. Please consider thoughtfully what you can pledge. Commitment Sunday is November 11. Please bring your pledge card to church that Sunday or use stmarkscarmel.org/pledge to make your commitment electronically.

The Stewardship Committee will be following up during the next few weeks.

Social Justice Committee

SAVING MOTHERS' LIVES

CLEAN DELIVERY KITS FOR HAITI

In the United States 22 women die for every 100,000 live births – the highest rate of any developed country in the world. Haiti however, is the most dangerous country in which to give birth in the western hemisphere. In Haiti 380 women die for every 100,000 live births. Only 25 percent of births in Haiti are attended by a skilled provider.

Breath of Life Haiti is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Warsaw, IN whose mission is "to empower the people of Haiti through education, while fighting maternal and infant mortality by providing midwifery care and sharing the love of Christ."

One of the ways in which we can help is through providing CLEAN DELIVERY KITS. Items in the kits reflect the World Health Organization's six principles of cleanliness for birth including and each kit costs only about \$3 each. A list of needed items and a collection bin can be found at the Social Justice table behind the sanctuary. Financial donations can be made as well with "Breath of Life Haiti" in the memo line.

Church Council

VISION FOR ST. MARK'S...

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." (Proverbs 29:18)

Although the context of this verse is about centering life around keeping the law of God, the consistent unifying practice in the Hebrew Bible, it is just as important for us to remember that a common vision can help unify us in our efforts to serve Christ.

The Church Council, committee members & chairs, and St. Mark's staff gathered on Saturday August 25th to review our prior strategic plan and begin updating it for the next 5-7 years. This workshop was facilitated by Keith Wehmeyer and Roger Reeves. The demographics of our community were reviewed and caused us to "expand our neighborhood" from what we have historically focused on. Each committee reviewed & edited their "big idea" and updated their recommendations for the coming years. The final strategic plan was received at the October 15th Church Council meeting and will provide a consistent direction for the coming years.

Church Security Update

Several procedures have been implemented to increase our church security.

- Security cameras were installed at each door.
- Monday-Friday Door #2 (the main door) is the only entry unlocked. This secures the building and ensures the safety of preschool and staff.
- Staff participated in an in-house seminar to educate on safety procedures
- Several staff members attended a seminar that educated them on some additional procedures that could be implemented.
- A comprehensive Safe Church policy has been adopted
- A new security system with updated technology was installed in October.

The Big Picture Ideas



LIBRARY NEWS

Be sure to check out our online catalog by going to the St. Mark's website (stmarkscarmel.org) and using the Grow menu, then clicking on Library, and online catalog. Authors and subjects in red can be clicked to find additional related titles. You'll find this an easy way to explore library resources from the comfort of your own home with any of your electronic devices.

New Arrivals

[The Power of I Am](#) - Joel Osteen, author of seven #1 New York Times best sellers, will show you how to discover unique abilities and advantages you never knew you had, helping you to become who God made you to be.

[A Tapestry of Secrets](#) - Christian novelist Sarah Loudin Thomas, weaves a tale of two women, spanning generations, as they navigate relationships, family and faith in book three of her Appalachian Blessings series.

[The Turning Aside](#) - A collection of Christian poetry from many of the most spiritually insightful poetic voices of recent years - edited by D. S. Martin.

[Unshakable Hope: Building our lives on the promises of God](#) - In his newest book, Max Lucado reminds us of the promises to be found in the Bible which will help overcome the most difficult of circumstances.

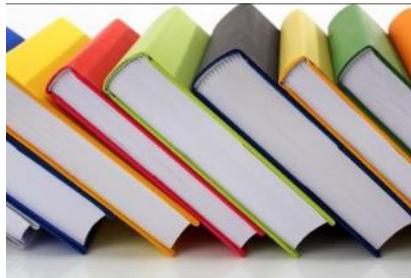
[Hope for the Future](#) - Shannon Daley-Harris's book makes a convincing case that the future will be brighter for all of us if we answer God's call to justice for our children. (UMW shelves)

[Chariot on the Mountain](#) - Jack Ford, noted legal historian, journalist and former trial attorney, tells a tale of a young defiant slave in rural Virginia of 1846, who sues a white man over her freedom.

[The Case for Christ](#) (DVD) - A film based on Lee Strobel's best selling book telling the true life story of his search for faith.

[To the Moon and Back](#) - Karen Kingsbury's latest story about hope, healing and what it means to survive in this unforgettable love story in the Baxter family collection.

[Encyclopedia of Bible Crafts for Preschoolers](#) - A treasure chest of simple crafts that bring 75 major Bible stories to life for young children.



community news

Directory Updates

Kenny & Brynne Rogers
3535 Sheffield Park Ct.
Westfield, IN 46074

Charlie Russell
1335 S. Guilford Road
Apt #3807
Carmel, IN 46032

Mr & Mrs. Ron Gray
12130 Old Meridian Street
Apt 415
Carmel, IN 46032

Sympathies

To Bill Staples at the death of his mother, Mary.

New Babies

Colin Niles Canada was born on September 25. Colin is the son of Aaron & Sarah Canada, grandson of Roger & Linda Schenk, nephew of Jack & Becky McElhannon, and cousin of Sean McElhannon.

Emilia James Rossi was born on September 22. She is the granddaughter of Joann and Mark Burnett.

Ellis and Lilian were born on October 2. Parents are Nathan and Cassie Uhl; grandparents are Wayne and Debbie Uhl.

John Ezekiel Lorenzana was born on September 5. Parents are Benzon and Hazel; brother to Jacob and Rozanne.

Prayer Requests

This ministry provides prayer support on behalf of those in need. Requests for prayers can be sent to prayers@stmarkscarmel.org

If you would like to become a member of the prayer chain and provide prayer support for those in need, please send an email to staff@stmarkscarmel.org.

In Our Congregation

St. Mark's,
Thank you so much for the thoughtful baby gift!
The outfit and bib are adorable. We appreciate
the love and support as we are learning to navi-
gate life as a family of 4.
Blessings,
Jen, Matt, Blakely & Reese Reynolds

Dear St. Mark's family,
Our hearts remain overflowing with love and
appreciation for the support we received when
Griffin died. We are especially grateful for Brian's
compassionate leadership in helping us honor
our son and brother, and somehow get through
a tragedy that still feels unreal. For your
thoughtful cards, notes, emails and calls; the
flowers, meals and donations in Griffin's memory;
for the warm hugs and continuing prayers, we
are thankful beyond words. We also so
appreciated the kindness and logistic support of
the staff throughout the calling and service, the
beautiful time of fellowship with so many
delicious desserts, and the prayer shawls that
comfort us as our journeys of healing continue.

In times of joy, we are grateful for our church
family.

In times of despair, we are doubly so.
With love,
The Hayes Family

Dear St. Mark's,
You all are an incredible congregation! Thank
you for all that you do! Thank you for helping to
provide 42,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious
potatoes to those who are food insecure in your
neighborhood and beyond. Not mention all the
apples as well. Wow!

And thank you, too, for helping us cut and knot
1,000 produce bags as well. Those are vital for
our gleaning work.

Thank you for your generosity, kindness and
hard work! Continue blessings on your ministry
and glad to be partners alongside you all!

Dawn

Circle of Care

The Circle of Care list includes St Mark's
member 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	Barbara Frazer
Lois Hardin	Mary Hart
Betty Lachman	Ola Morrow
Jerry & Phyllis Delp	Bea Gilson
Mary Pielemeier	Charles Reid
Judy & Tom Hebenstreit	Don Ranck
Jean Smith	Vallie Williams
Leonard Sheats	Barbara Holcomb
Judy & Tom Hebenstreit	Kay Major



Friday, November 30 & Saturday, December 1

They say “it takes a village” and it truly does! Our biannual event Holy Walk is coming up soon and we need everyone to get involved. November 30 and December 1st are the dates, but there are opportunities to help can be prior to those dates as well. Please dust off cookbooks to bake or prepare cast food, start saving milk jugs for the luminaries, donate food, practice your piano or other instrument, help with sewing or rolling scrolls! Or perhaps you’ve always wanted to act! Now is your chance! The possibilities are endless! Please visit Sign Up Genius or the bulletin board in the hallway to see where you can fit in!

Contact Lynn or Rob Akerhielm at holywalk@stmarkscarmel.org for more information.



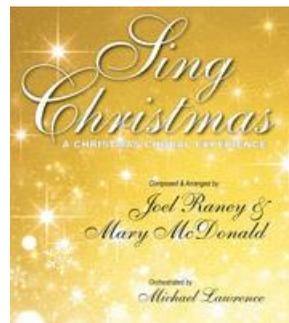
SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 16

SING CHRISTMAS! (A CHRISTMAS CHORAL EXPERIENCE) BY MARY MCDONALD AND JOEL RANEY

In this collaboration between two of the most popular sacred music arrangers in the country, Mary McDonald's exuberant, dynamic style blends seamlessly with Joel Raney's rhythmic and beautifully emotional music to provide a unique Christmas event that is sure to become the highlight of the season. The work comprises four stand-alone suites. Each movement includes original music combined with favorite carols, creating a perfect blend of familiar and new. The narration knits the suites into a thrilling and complete retelling of the Christmas story.



Blue Christmas: Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness

Wednesday, 11/14-12/5 (Lydia Fourman) 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Sunday, 11/25-12/16 (Pastor Brian White), 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

The Advent and Christmas season is often associated with joy, love, generosity, and unity. But for many people, this time of year magnifies loneliness, anxiety, grief, and despair. While others are enjoying celebrations with their friends and families, those who are hurting often feel even more lost, abandoned, and alone than ever.

"Not all Christmases are white; some are blue," Todd Outcalt writes. Blue Christmas is a devotional book for the 28 days of Advent and Christmas Day. Each devotion includes a scripture selection, meditation, prayer, and suggested Advent action. The book also features additional prayers, a "Blue Christmas" worship service, and reflection questions.

In these honest devotions, readers will find their fears and realities named and brought into the light of God's love. They will be led to sit with their experiences, acknowledge their losses, and remember Jesus' promise "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Blue Christmas reminds us that all of our Christmases, even the darkest ones, can be filled with honesty and hope if we are first willing to sit in silence and bring our deepest fears to God.

