

# THE MARKINGS

**MISSION: To share the love of Jesus with and through the people of Talbot County and beyond.**

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 100 PEACHBLOSSOM ROAD, EASTON, MD 21601

FEBRUARY 2018

Will you share your email address with us? If you have an email address and it is not registered with us or if your email address has changed, would you please share it with us by emailing [churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org).

We are sending this and future issues to those of you with email addresses if you have so requested. If you are interested in receiving your issues by email and have not yet requested, please contact the church office.



## ***Our Vision:***

*St. Mark's Church will inspire people of all ages through acts of love and service to know Jesus Christ.*

## **A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR** Greetings Church Family!

I pray that you are feeling blessed and excited for what God has in store for our church this 2018! God has laid it on my heart to intentionally teach and preach about how we can become a "Blessed church", what that means and how we will intentionally live that out here at St. Mark's and in the places where we minister in the community and in our homes.

One of the ways that we become a blessed church is in our giving, of our time, our talents and our resources (our tithes and offerings). Did you know that you can never "out give" God? Did you know that God calls us into discipleship, not only through God's Word, through prayer and worship and our daily spiritual practices but also through our joyful obedience in our monetary giving? I remember when Phil and I first began to take that seriously in our own discipleship. We were a young family and finance were "tight", but we made the decision to give to our church even if things didn't seem to "add up" on paper! I can truly look back and see how God blessed us in so many ways as we learned to be obedient in God's calling. God always provided, our bills were paid (maybe not much left over!), and our faith grew by leaps and bounds as we learned to trust in God in ALL THINGS! Giving changed the trajectory of our lives!

St. Mark's is a wonderful place where lives are being changed and transformed every day! That is our mission as a church "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Your giving to the church has "eternal" consequences, "eternal" blessings, not just for you, but for people you may know and those you may never know this side of heaven. Remember that God does not want us to fail. God has awesome plans for this church in the coming year and for generations to come. I believe that with all of my being and will continue to lead the fight to become a blessed church SO THAT we may be a blessing to our community and to the world at large. Will you join me? Will you do what you can to advance the kingdom of God here on earth? Let's stand together to live out our mission "to share the love of Jesus with and through the people of Talbot County and beyond" and our vision "to inspire people of all ages through acts of love and service to know Jesus Christ."

Blessed to be a Blessing!

Pastor Missy

**February 13, 2018 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5pm to 7pm**

**Ash Wednesday Communion Service  
February 14, 2018 in Sanctuary  
12 noon with Bishop Violet Fisher**

**PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING**

**Jim & Wanda Denny**, 308 Mount Pleasant, on their 64th wedding anniversary, January 8th.

**Bob Gosser**, 7099 Traveler's Rest Cir., on his birthday, January 18th.

**Harry Jordan**, #107 1110 Healthway Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804, on his birthday, January 21st.

**Ruth Fulton**, 7054 Thomas Lane., on her birthday Jan. 23rd.

**John Wolcott**, 29829 Hillary Ave., on his birthday, January 26th

**Frank & Eleanor Polkinghorn**, 9187 High Banks Dr. on their 60th wedding anniversary.

**Mary Bell & Gordon Callahan**, 7903 Belle Aire Place, on their 64th wedding anniversary, February 14th.

**Nettie Robinson**, 411 Trippe Avenue on her birthday, February 16th.

**Hannah Alutt**, 28850 Jasper Lane, on her birthday February 22nd.

**Louise & Art Shelby**, 7338 Casey Ave., on their 65th wedding anniversary, February 23rd.

**Louise Shelby**, on her birthday, February 24th.

**GIFTS IN MEMORY OF**

**Melvin Clarke** by Steve & Gretchen Scherping

**Audrey Woolston** by David & Carol Richardson, Jim & Sheila Scott, Susan Divilio, Lori Riley, Margaret Brigham, Muriel Ewing, Wade & Janice Dudrow, Pat Visgaitis, George & Jane Wilson.

**Sonny Granger** by Della Andrew, Jim & Sheila Scott, Ann Fichtner, Deborah Circle, Arnold & Pauline Spicer.

**Rita Cover** by Wade & Janice Dudrow.

**Charles Sprinkle** by The Chancel Choir, Joan & Rodman Wolff, & Tom Barwick.

**Bill Elliott** by Traci Jordan.

**Wayne Lewis** by Jerry & Mary Lou Kyle, Bill & Lynda Norris, David Hill, Patricia Stein, Gary & Donna Kostens, Steven Satchell, Della Andrew, James & Sylvia Roe & Carol Armstrong.

**LET US PRAY FOR**

**Atria Senior Living**—Harry Jordan

**Bayleigh Chase**— Gardens, Gloria Lindquist. Lois Dabbert, Don Casson, Ted Lewers, Elva Eareckson

**Homestead Manor**— Lee Walker

**Envoy of Denton**— Eudora Fischer

**Lakeside**—Dave Stavely

**Cadia Rehabilitation**—Susan Horning

**AT HOME**

Dan Pritchett

Chuck & Pat Moon

Phyllis Carroll

Mort Reed

JoSue Simpson

Ruby Carter

Cathy Tull

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

Staff Sgt. Harold S. Brice/USMC  
CPL Sarah Jane Royer Golden/USMC  
P.O. 2nd Class Gary B. Granger, Jr./Navy  
1st Lieutenant Jacob Shores/ U.S. Army

**OUR GLOBAL MISSIONS**

Wings of Caring, Central Congo  
*Paul Lee Webster*, Mujila Falls Ag Centre Zambia  
Africa University, Zimbabwe  
Mulungwishi Seminary scholarship  
Lifetime Wells International, Kenny Wood  
Six Special U.M. Sundays  
African Leadership Resources, Rev. Labala

**Salvation Army Bell Ringers**

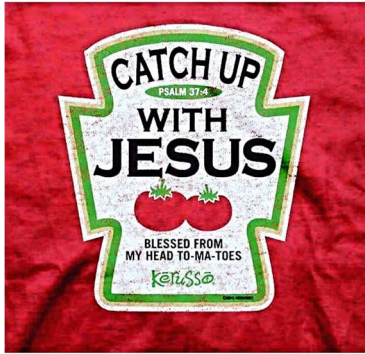
On December 16th St. Mark's staffed the Bell Ringers at Acme in Easton.

Thanks to the Smith Family, Hontz family, Laura Sydnor, June Billman & Seth, Jim & Sheila Scott, Murdoch family, Selina Moore & David Heistand.

Our goal matched last year's donation which amounted to \$1050.00

What a blessing it has been to personally experience the generosity of so many donors of all ages.

David Heistand, Coordinator



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

This year's Sunday School theme is "Catch-Up with Jesus" & all students will sit with their families at the beginning of the 9:30 service. There will be a short children's devotional, then students will go to their Sunday School classrooms. This will give our youth a chance to experience & participate in Sanctuary worship with their families....lettuce praise & relish Him!

*"Victories Don't Happen By Accident"*

**Easton District Leadership Training  
Registration Form**

Saturday, February 10, 2018  
9:00am - 12:30pm

Centreville UMC, 608 Church Hill Road, Centreville, MD 21617

Check-in/Registration begins at 8:30am

All New and/or Returning Chairpersons, Committee Members and Pastors are encouraged to attend.  
\$7.00 per person/One Registration Form per person

Submit your registration, with fee, to the District Office no later than February 1, 2018.

Make check payable to: PENNSULA-DELAWARE CONFERENCE  
Mail to: Easton District Office, PO Box 547, Denton, MD 21629

Please sign up for **ONLY** one class.  
Questions? Contact the District Office,

Forms to register  
are available in the  
Church office.

<input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Leadership Presenter: Rev. Mark Farnell (Kent Island UMC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vital Worship Presenter: Rev. Lester Justice (Director of Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century)	<input type="checkbox"/> Role of the Lay Leader/Laity Presenter: Carlene Phoenix (Easton District Lay Leader) and Mr. Jody Coursey (Easton District Director of Lay Ministries)
<input type="checkbox"/> United Methodist Men Presenter: Bill Paxton (Easton District UMM President)	<input type="checkbox"/> The Finance Committee Presenter: Mr. Lyn Witmer (Millington-Crumpton Charge, AA; Church Hill UMC, Treasurer)	<input type="checkbox"/> The Trustee Committee Presenter: Mr. Doug Collison (District Trustee Chairperson, Lo- cal Attorney)
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Media in the Rural Church Panel Discussion Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Shirlyn H. Brown (Easton District Superintendent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacraments Presenter: Rev. Dan Gedman (Union UMC, Federalsburg)	

## St. Mark's United Methodist Church Launches Fundraising Campaign for HVAC Project

By Amy Blades Steward

Following a busy holiday season of music, pageants, and celebrations, St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Easton is embarking on a major fundraising campaign to update its HVAC system – a 55-year old system which will be replaced with a geothermal system to not only cool the church's Sanctuary, but also to provide heat.

According to Pastor Missy Rekitzke of St. Mark's UMC, "Over the past 55 years, the Sanctuary at St. Mark's has served as a sacred space for weekly worship for its members and visitors. It has seen its fair share of baptisms and weddings. It's been the place where young people have confirmed their faith in Jesus Christ. It has been a place of peace and comfort for many families during funerals and memorial services."

The Church is challenging its Church members and the community to support the project to assure that St. Mark's will continue to meet the needs of current and future generations. Its mission is to share the love of Jesus with and through the people of Talbot County *and beyond*.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church was created in 1952 from the merger of three Methodist churches in Easton – Ebenezer United Methodist Church, which was located at 17 S. Washington Street, Calvary Methodist Protestant Church, Washington and Bay Streets, and Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Goldsborough and Harrison Streets. In 1954, they launched a campaign to raise \$700,000 to build St. Mark's Methodist Church on Peachblossom Road in Easton. The three churches continued to worship in their separate buildings until the Sunday School Rooms and Fellowship Hall were dedicated in 1958. The three churches that joined together were then sold. After the dedication, the three churches joined together in their worship services in the Fellowship Hall until 1962 when the Sanctuary at St. Mark's Methodist Church was completed and dedicated.

Over the years, the Sanctuary at St. Mark's has seen many baptisms, weddings, funerals, concerts, graduations, and Baccalaureate services. In the 1970s, Easton Day Care Center was set up in the church school facilities. Today, the Church opens its doors to funeral homes, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Webelo and Wolf Groups, Girl Scouts, Board of Laity, 4-H, Child Loss Support Group, Homeowners Associations, Talbot County Public Schools, Hunger Coalition, Mental Health Association, Mid Shore Lyme Disease, Narcotics Anonymous, Overeaters Anonymous, Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity, Talbot County Health Department, Talbot County YMCA, and Temple B'nai Israel.

H. Hugh Dawkins, Chair of St. Mark's Administrative Board, adds, "Our church has been and continues to be a beacon in our community, as a church that is open to all and serves all of our community. We, as the stewards of this marvelous church, need to maintain it in the highest standards that were set by our founding members."

Rabbi Peter E. Hyman, Temple B'nai Israel in Easton, comments, "We have had a lovely close relationship, holding our high holiday services at St. Mark's for many years. It's always been comfortable for me to be in that sacred space. St. Mark's has been welcoming, gracious, cooperative and understanding of our needs and we are very grateful for the relationship. As a leadership institution in our community they have 'put their money where their mouth is'."



Frank Meyerle, Chair of St. Mark's Board of Trustees, explains the current HVAC Project, "Engineering consultants, Gipe Associates, Inc., conducted a feasibility study to compare the option of replacing the existing system with an air-cooled chiller system or installing an expansion of the Geothermal heat pump system that has to date successfully served the Chapel and office spaces in 2007. The Board decided that the Geothermal heat pump system was the appropriate choice."

Geothermal Heat Pump Technology takes advantage of one of nature's wonders—the earth's nearly constant underground temperature of 45 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit—to provide year-round heating and cooling. Geothermal systems exchange heat with the earth using an underground network of pipes filled with water or refrigerant. In winter, the fluid will pull heat from the ground and transfer it to the Church through a heat exchanger. An indoor fan system will circulate air through the Sanctuary. In summer, the system will deposit heat from the Sanctuary into the earth and bring cool air back in – an efficient and eco-friendly approach.

The time line for the HVAC Project includes sending out requests for bids in mid-January and awarding a successful bidder by mid-February. Construction for the Project will begin in early April. By June 30, 2018, a substantial portion of the Project will be completed and the system will be operational in the Sanctuary. The Project will be completed by July 30, 2018.

The community has always rallied around the Church. An interesting quote from St. Mark's history about the current church site, states, "The present site of the church was found by the architect to be about six feet too low and as a result much top soil was needed. The men of the church organized truck and land owners with a plea for all the dirt they could give and haul. When the effort was completed, 3500 loads had been hauled and spread without a penny cost."

Pastor Rekitzke adds, "Our wonderful Sanctuary has been a place of blessing, comfort, peace and joy to so many people, not just those who call St. Mark's home, and for that we are truly blessed. Just like in 1962, we need to do the hard work and have persevering spirits to forge ahead with a new heating and air conditioning system that will help our church continue to be a beacon of hope in the heart of Easton and Talbot County."

Please make checks payable to St. Mark's United Methodist Church or you can contact the church at 410-822-0001 to arrange auto payments by ACH or use PushPay on St. Mark's website [www.stmarkseaston.org](http://www.stmarkseaston.org), then click on the GIVING tab at the top of the display. Donations for the HVAC Project can also be sent to St. Mark's UMC, 100 Peachblossom Road, Easton, MD 21601.

**Caption: Pictured are the three plates representing the merger in 1952 of three Methodist churches in Easton – Ebenezer United Methodist Church, which was located at 17 S. Washington Street, Calvary Methodist Protestant Church, Washington and Bay Streets, and Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Goldsborough and Harrison Streets. The result of the merger was St. Mark's UMC on Peachblossom Road in Easton. The Church is embarking on a major fundraising campaign to update its HVAC system – a 55-year old system which will be replaced with a geothermal system to not only cool the church's sanctuary, but also to provide heat. (See pictures top of next page)**



## Missions Committee

**Missions Committee** The missions committee distributed a total of \$38,500 to our Local Mission Partners in October and \$15,750 to our eight foreign mission projects/people in November. In addition we approved donations to the T.C.P.S. Care Packs, Board of Child Care Eastern Shore Campus, Central Congo Partnership, Mid Shore Recovering Veterans Group, Marie Harkowa Fund, Kenny Wood's Lifetime Wells International, Rev. Labala's Partners for Leadership Resources, the Kairos in Maryland prison ministry, the Bay Hundred Community Volunteers Inc., and Talbot Goes Purple. We received \$5520 for the hurricanes in the Texas/Florida area and sent a total of \$6000. to these UMCOR recovery efforts.

Within 2017, we gave financial support to the South Carolina Disaster Relief and the Kent Island Disaster Aid. We also provided support for the Conference's pledges: BOOM Scholarship, Abundant Health Ministry, and the Congo Partnership. And finally, in addition the missions fund pays \$8,700 to the conference, which is the missions' portion of our church's yearly apportionment dues.

In the last week of December, the bookkeeper gave me an income & expense statement for the year. At that point, she had not recorded the income from December 24<sup>th</sup> and of course did not yet even have the income from the 31<sup>st</sup>, so I simply had to estimate based on previous years, where we would be at the end of the year. With this in hand, we disbursed checks totaling \$8813.20 to the following, which we had approved at our September meeting if we had money from 2017: to a fund at Paul Webster's center toward the education of a assistant in training's education. Meals on Wheels in T.C., Miriam's Table, Friends Helping Friends, Board of Child Care Eastern Shore Campus, Barratt's Chapel, Choices Pregnancy Center, T. C. Senior Center's endowment, Neighborhood Service Center's renovations of the donated house at 36 West St. into shelter housing, and Talbot Interfaith Shelter's mortgage principal.

**UMCOR Disaster hygiene kits:** We have temporarily stored these kits. As we get back into the hurricane season, we will again put out a request for our congregation to put together more of these. Judy Leight is taking care of this project for missions.

**Church Pantry:** Once again our congregation responded to requests through the brown bags for the various foods for the holiday baskets for residents of St. Mark's Village. Lee Royer and her helpers created & delivered 25 baskets at Thanksgiving and 25 at Christmas, with these food items and roasting chickens purchased by missions. The residents are always so thankful.

**Panera Bread:** We are continuing to pick up the left over Panera Bread's baked goods on Saturday evenings between 9 and 9:15 PM. Dick VanGilder helps me on Sunday mornings at 7:30am to get them ready for use by others. We send 2 boxes of breads to Asbury U. M. Church that day for use in their weekly soup kitchen and by members of their congregation. If there are sweets that can be used in our gathering area, we leave them there to be put out for our church's fellowship times between the worship services. Then any left over boxes of breads, we label to be delivered on Monday morning by Bob Gosser to the Chesapeake Center. If we have a large amount of sweets, Bob takes them to the T. C. Senior Center—small amounts I occasionally take to the Easton Fire Dept. & other locations on Monday morning. I have put out a new list for people to sign up for picking up the baked goods on Saturday evenings. Please volunteer if you are able to help with this missions' project.

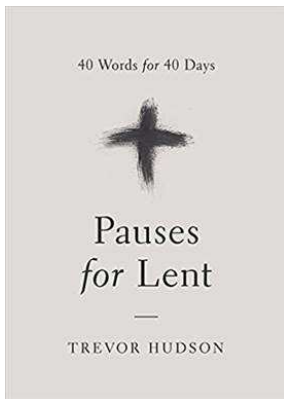
Della Andrew

## Youth Group News!



### Youth Rally 2018

Well we braved the freezing cold and had another fantastic weekend in Ocean City with thousands of our closest friends! There was great music, we always got great seats, and I think we all took away something meaningful. Thank you so much to everyone who was there! Did you miss out this year? Have no fear! Next year's theme is Protector and you can already put it on your calendar! We always go the first weekend in January (Jan. 4-6, 2019)



Join us for a 40-day study, *Pauses for Lent* by Trevor Hudson. The class, facilitated by Amy Steward & Wendy Cadell, will be held on Monday nights in the Chapel beginning February 19 through March 26 from 6 to 7 p.m. Hudson gives us 40 words, one for each day, to meditate on, along with a daily reading & simple doable daily practice. The class will begin with study & end with meditation like the *Pauses for Advent* class that Amy and Wendy led before Christmas. Approach Lent a little differently this year, come learn the transforming possibilities of Jesus' death & resurrection. Bring a friend & take the journey together as you share how God is working in your life. The study book costs \$ 6.49 each & is available in the Church Office. Call Wendy Avey at 410-822-0001 ext. 305 to register & pick up your book before February 19. Books can also be purchased thru Pushpay!

Last chance! We have several unclaimed dishes and containers in the kitchen. Please claim by February 15th. Any still unclaimed will be donated to St. Mark's Thrift Shop. Thank you.

Rev. Missy, Rev. Moore & the congregation at St. Mark's. Words can not express on how to thank you for all that you have done for me during Sonny's illness, many hospital stays, and hospice. The visits to the house, the hospital, the phone calls, and cards meant so much. I appreciate everything that you have done. It's so nice to belong to a caring wonderful church.  
Mary Granger

"Many thanks to the St. Mark's Community for their thoughts, cards and most especially their Prayers during my Kidney Transplant Experience. I received a healthy, strong Kidney from my wonderful Daughter-in-Law and we are both recuperating very nicely. My expectation is to be home later this week where I will go thru an extensive recuperative period. Once again, Thank you to all of my Christian Brothers and Sisters for their Love. John Hurt

I want to express my great appreciation to Calvin Yowell, Marion Jackson & Tommy Barwick for serving on the Staff Parish Relations Committee as their term ended on December 31, 2017. Their efforts and dedication while serving is greatly appreciated.

Best regards, Frank Gunsallus, Chair SPRC

## UMW February Circle Meetings:



United  
Methodist  
Women

**Ruth Circle:** Monday, February 5,  
10 a.m. at Bayleigh Chase.

**Deborah & Mary Circles:** Tuesday,  
February 6, 10 a.m. in Rm. 155.

**Sarah Circle:** Tuesday, Feb 13, 2018  
6:30 pm Gathering Space

**Tabitha Circle:** Monday, February 5,  
7:00 p.m. Home of Amy Steward, 27871  
Villa Road, Easton.

### UMW Officers for 2018-2019

June Billman - President

Cindy Brinsfield- Vice President

Ann Yingling -Secretary

Pat Jones- Treasurer

Ruth Higgins - Nomination Chair  
& Social Action

Barbara Friedman - Spiritual  
Growth

Sharon Maisano- Nurture, Out-  
reach & Membership

Judith Light- Program Resources

## St. Mark's United Methodist Men

The UM Men of St. Mark's meet every month on the second Tuesday, except July at 6:30 pm at the church. Our agenda consists of a monthly bible study & working on various projects to benefit the Church & its members, our United Methodist District & our local community in general. All men of the Church are members & we encourage all men to join us as we meet in fellowship & service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Put Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> on your calendar as that is the Saturday we furnish the man-power for Habitat for Humanity & work on the Port Street house from 9:00am to 12 noon. When we last met in December, 11 men took part in the building project & all had a great time. You don't need special training, only a willing spirit. Tools are provided, just bring yourself & a pair of work gloves. If you can help, please let Jim Scott know.

The annual Valentine's Day Spouse's Luncheon, sponsored by the UMM, to be held on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at **The Barn of Easton**, 8249 Teal Drive, beginning at 12:30 until 2:00 pm. \$25.00 per person includes choice of entrée, salad, baked potato, green beans, dessert & choice of non-alcoholic beverage, tax & gratuity. Entree choice of sirloin, salmon or Crab & Shrimp Alfredo is included in the price. A fun bible-based activity will proceed the luncheon. Sign-up in the gathering area by Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.

The UMM will once again be cooking & serving the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> in the church's Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Pancake Supper consists of breakfast staples including pancakes, eggs, breakfast meats, breads & beverages. The dinner is free to all that come & we are only asking for a free-will offering. All in the Church & community are invited. Many thanks to Hugh Dawkins & the "Hugh Crew" for preparing this meal for our members & guests.

On Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> the men will also be cooking & serving the annual Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall following the "Sunrise" service & continuing to serve until 10:00 am. A traditional breakfast fare will be served, just like on Shrove Tuesday & all are invited to attend. A free will offering is all that is requested for this time of food, fellowship & rejoicing in our Lord's resurrection.

We have been working on a making & erecting a 25 foot cross at Pecometh. More on this project & dedication service in March.



## HVAC/Geothermal Project Update

### Board of Trustees (BoT) – Frank Meyerle, Chairman

In April of 2017 the BoT signed a contract with Gipe Associates, Inc. (GAI) to initiate the design and contract administration phase of the project of which includes conducting development of all specifications, RFP, review of bid responses, recommendation to the BoT of best bidder and continuing administrative involvement including quality assurance oversight to project completion. GAI is now in the position to proceed with the following defined project schedule:

January 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Bid Invitation Sent out to Selected Contractors;
January 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Pre-Bid Meeting in Church Conference Room, 9:00 am;
February 7 <sup>th</sup> .	Contractor Bids Due to GAI.;
February 14 <sup>th</sup> .	Award of Contract to Successful Bidder;
April 9 <sup>th</sup> .	Sanctuary existing heating/cooling systems will be off-line;
June 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Substantial Completion of Project (This means the Sanctuary would be ready to use after this date);
July 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Final Project Completion;

As of the January printing of the February Markings issuance the Geothermal workgroup met with GAI's program manager on January 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the logistics that relate to the HVAC project schedule, will discuss strategy at our scheduled BoT meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and on the 24<sup>th</sup> the Geothermal workgroup along with GAI representative (s) will participate in the Pre-Bid meeting to be attended by 5 or more prospective bidders. Between February 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> GAI will make their recommendations to the BoT from the bid responses. The BoT will inform Church membership of our decisions reached in the March Markings newsletter.

Please note that once the project is awarded to the successful bidder they will be starting in late February or early March, weather permitting, on drilling 40 boreholes in Wellfield 1 & 2. It must be noted at this time that the Church overflow parking area (gravel parking area = Wellfield 1) will not be available for the duration of the project as this area will be dedicated for contractor use only. Proceeding under contract to drill 50 additional boreholes in Wellfield 3, located in the area behind the pre-school play-yard, will ultimately be dependent on available funding for further project expansion. Also, it should be noted that between April 9<sup>th</sup> and before June 30<sup>th</sup> Church membership may have to accept flexible Sunday worship schedules that possibly means use of the Chapel and/or Fellowship Hall for services during a portion of that time frame.

Thank you for your understanding and continuing support.

### Steering Committee (SC) – John Hurt, Chairman

Greetings and Happy New Year!

On behalf of the fourteen members of the Steering Committee charged with raising funds for the St. Mark UMC HVAC Capital Project, I bring you glad tidings and a report on the progress we have made as of January 5, 2018.

-Fifty-Six Families have supported the Project thus far.

-\$290,000.00 has been Pledge

-\$135,000.00 Cash Remittances toward those Pledges has actually been received

Most of the Pledges have been made over a three-year period and obviously, we have a way to go to totally fund the Project. We would welcome your participation if you have not already committed or if you might wish to increase your Pledge. An easy way to participate would be to sponsor a bore hole with a \$4500.00 Pledge over a three-year period. To those who have made a commitment, please accept our heartfelt thanks and be aware that anyone participating in an event in our Sanctuary this coming summer will be doing so in comfort.

Yours in Christ!

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner



*Tuesday, February 13, 2018  
5 pm to 7 pm  
Fellowship hall*

The United Methodist Men will once again sponsor the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in Fellowship Hall of the Church. Dinner will be served from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. A free-will offering is encouraged. The menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, scalloped apples & beverages.



Join us for our Ash Wednesday Communion Service at 12:00 NOON on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 in the Sanctuary.

Bishop Violet Fisher will be officiating.

### After "Souper" Bowl Soup Sale

The Tabitha Circle will be selling both VEGETABLE BEEF and VEGETABLE SOUP on Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

The cost of a quart of soup and 2 biscuits is \$10.

Please place your order by Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 by either emailing: [soupsalesmum@gmail.com](mailto:soupsalesmum@gmail.com) or calling Juanita Wimbrow at 410-924-0743.

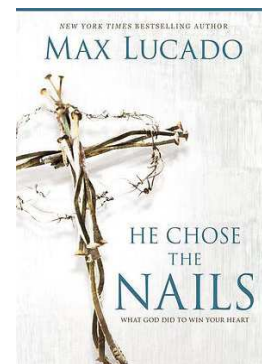
You can pick up your ordered soup in the "Meet and Greet" area between 9:15. -12:15 on Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

All proceeds benefitting missions for Tabitha Circle.



### "He Chose the Nails: Lenten Bible Study"

Every gift from God reveals his love, but no gift reveals his love more than the gifts of the cross. In this five-session video Bible study, we will explore the many gifts that Christ provided to us at his crucifixion. These include not only the gift of the cross, but also the gift of the thorns that pierced his brow, the nails that tore his flesh, the seamless robe that he removed for us, and the empty tomb where he forever defeated sin and death. These were gifts he didn't have to give. The only required act for our salvation was the shedding of blood, yet God did so much more. So, as we unwrap these gifts, we need to pause and listen for his voice. As we do, perhaps we will hear him whisper, "I did it just for you." Pastor Missy will be leading the study and offering 2 times (to accommodate schedules) beginning Wednesday, February 21st in the Chapel. There will be a class offered from 12-1 pm and then a class from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for our 5-week study. Join us as we contemplate the greatest gift of all, God's love through Christ's sacrifice!





# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Ladies Circle</b>				1	2	3
<b>Meetings on Page 8</b>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2-4 Youth Group				6:30p Disciple 3 6:30p Chancel Choir		Easton District Leadership Training Centreville UMC 8:30
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Scout Sunday 2-4 Youth Group	7pm Missions Committee/Conf rm	6:30 Sarah Circle Gathering space 6:30p UMM Rm 155	Ash Wednesday 12 noon w/ Bishop Violet Fisher	6:30p Disciple 3 6:30p Chancel Choir		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2pm Youth Group	6:00 pm Pauses for Lent	9:30a UMW	12p Prayer Shawl Rm. 155 Lenten Study 12-1 pm & 6:30-7:30 pm Chapel	6:30p Chancel Choir		
25	26	27	28	<b>MARCH</b>		
	6:00 pm Pauses for Lent	6:30 pm Trustees	Lenten Study 12-1 pm & 6:30-7:30 pm Chapel			

## Weekly Schedule

### SUNDAY

8:15am Worship Chapel  
9:30 am Worship Sanctuary  
9:30 am Sunday School for all ages begins in Sanctuary  
11:00 am Worship Services Sanctuary

### WEDNESDAY

10:30am Prayer Group in chapel

### THURSDAY

6:30 pm Chancel Choir

**St. Mark's United Methodist Church**  
**100 Peachblossom Road**  
**Easton, MD 21601**

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## Staff

**Rev. Missy Rekitzke, Pastor**

**June Billman, Visitation Ministry Leader**

**Sarah Ewing, Pre-School Director**

**Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Ed**

**Dr. William F. Wharton, Organist**

**David Cherry, 9:30 Music Director**

**Brooke Christensen, Youth Director**

**Karen Reed, Church Administrator**

**Erica Kirby, Bookkeeper**

**Bill Gunther, Building Superintendent**

**Phone: 410-822-0001**

**Fax: 410-822-0002**

**Email: [churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org)**



## ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY SPOUSE'S Luncheon

sponsored by the United Methodist Men, to be held on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at The Barn of Easton, 8249 Teal Drive, beginning at 12:30 until 2:00 pm. \$25.00 per person includes choice of entrée, salad, baked potato, green beans, dessert & choice of non-alcoholic beverage, tax & gratuity. Entree choice of sirloin, salmon or Crab & shrimp Alfredo is included in the price. A fun bible-based activity will proceed the luncheon.

**Sign-up in the gathering area by Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.**



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