# 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 2019

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.or

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

Dear Members and Friends,

February is the month I begin looking at all the seed catalogs to determine what I will order and grow in the Spring. That process has helped to make this the corniest newsletter article I have ever written for so far at St. Marks. However, one of the things I love about Jesus' teachings are the parables, because I love a great story! I Love when I am challenged to think about something until it drives me crazy. (I do the same with worry...UGH!!) I came across a story that made me think about how we deal with others. I am going to call it, The Corny Parable.

"There was a farmer who grew excellent quality corn. Every year he won the award for the best grown corn. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew his corn. The reporter learned that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors, and the reporter asked, "How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" "Well," said the farmer, "Don't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn, too."

What are you thinking about right now? (other than Pastor Ed **IS** corny.) Here is what I got out of the story... if you want to live meaningfully and you want to live well, then enrich the lives of others. If you want to be happy, help others find happiness. For it is true that the quality of our lives is bound up in the quality of the lives of those around us. The more I seek to make a difference of good in the life of someone else it seems like the more goodness I find in my own life. Jesus was right when He said, "You reap what you sow." He was right when He also said, "The most important thing you can do beyond loving God is to love your neighbor." Remember, if you are going to grow good corn, you need to help your neighbor to be corny and to grow good corn as well.

Blessings Always,

Pastor Ed

Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Supper March 5, 2019 5pm to 7pm Fellowship hall
Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019 6:30 pm, Chapel

### PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING

**Bob Burris,** 8305 Mueller Drive, on his birthday, January 6th.

**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.

**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 aniversary.

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

**Hannah Alnutt**, 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

<u>Sarah Stoner</u> by Jean Everngam, Jim & Shelia Scott.

Mort Reed by Ray & Gini Appler, Jim & Sheila Scott.

Eudora Fischer by Wade & Janice Dudrow.

Mary Bell Callahan by Bill & Betty Fleming.

<u>Jim Covey</u> by Jim & Sheila Scott, Bobbie & Paul Ayers.

Darlene Baldwin by Jim & Sheila Scott.

Les Chance by Jim & Sheila Scott.

William Gunther, Jr. by Jim & Sheila Scott.

### GIFTS IN HONOR OF

<u>Chad, Angie, Haley & Sarah Nestel</u> on their performance in "Annie" by Della Andrew.

### LET US PRAY FOR

<u>Candlelight Cove</u> - Joy Kyak, Mary Rabenhorst

**Londonderry**- Liz Lechthaler

Heartfields-Jim & Wanda Denny

<u>Bayleigh Chase</u> - Gardens, Don Casson, Gloria Lindquist, Lois Dabbert, Ted Lewers, Elva Eareckson

<u>Homestead Manor</u> - Ruth Pippin, Lee Walker

<u>Lakeside</u> — Dave Stavely

### AT HOME

Nettie Robinson Bruce Hotchkiss Ruby Carter Cathy Tull Phyllis Carroll Pat (Charlotte) Higgins

### SERVING IN THE MILITARY

GySgt. Harold S. Brice/USMC CPT. Jacob Shores/ U.S. Army











### **OUR GLOBAL MISSIONS**

Wings of Caring, Central Congo
Paul Lee Webster, Missionary
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
Central Congo Partnership

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GOOD WORK! We have had a positive response to our recent call for Coffee Fellowship volunteers. A sincere thank you goes out to all of you who provide hospitality each week! This wonderful ministry can be enjoyed by attendees at all three services & Sunday School classes. It is also a warm way to welcome visitors to St. Mark's. The month of March will be covered by our UMW Circles, but we will need more people to get involved in April & May. Please consider signing up to serve. It doesn't have to be fancy or complicated - all of our hosts seem to just enjoy the experience of bringing people together. A sign-up sheet & basic guidelines are available in the Gathering Area or you can call Kathy Miller at 443-235-0256.

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

Thank you so very much for the Christmas basket, I really enjoyed it. Thank you, Mary Miller

To St. Mark's, Thank you for the wonderful Christmas basket, May God Bless. From Esther Lednum

# Giving thanks

Words of Thanks from Dan Swann. I wish to give thanks & praise to God Almighty, our Heavenly Father, The Lord Jesus, our Precious Savior for any progress made in the rehabilitation of the effects of a stroke, I suffered last year; & I will look forward to any progress in the days, weeks & months to come, God's will be done. Thank you to all that have prayed for me, your phone calls, visits & cards. I will appreciate your continued prayers & also ask that you pray for my wife Pearl of 58 years (November 19, 1960) who has suffered from psoriatic arthritis.

To all at the church, I want to thank everyone for the Christmas basket. I appreciate it very much as I could use everything. It's really nice to have people like you. Again I say thanks. Bobbie Richardson

Dear Ms. Cunningham, Thank you so much for the beautiful shawl I received from Bob & Eenie Burris that you made as part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Many thanks, Linda Jefferson

A note to Thank you for your kindness means the world to me. From Blanche Walker Love you all very much!

Thank you for the wonderful thanksgiving

basket. Liz Gay

Dear Karen, Please pass my thanks on to all who help make our Christmas dinner so successful. The table decoration, the food, the impeccable service & the clean up crew! Then the band concert in a full house with the candle in the windows topped the evening off. What a joyous, wonderful way to celebration the very special birthday of Jesus. With love, Sara Crowder

Dear Fellow choir members, I can not thank you enough for your visit last week. It was the best Christmas gift Wand & I have ever received. For you to come out on a cold rainy night showed true love. I hope to be with you before long. I love each & every one of you. Love for the new year. Jim Denny

Thank you for everything. I truly appreciate everything once again Thank you and Happy New Year. Doris Woolford

A note to Thank you for your kindness means the world to me. From Blanche Walker Love you all very much!

Thanks to all who helped with the Christmas baskets for St. Mark's village, Truly appreciated. Betty Lester



# "Victories Don't Happen By Accident"

# Easton District / Conference & Leadership Training

Saturday, February 23, 2019 9:00am – 12:00pm

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

Check-in/Registration begins at 8:30am

### District Conference begins at 9AM for Clergy & Lay Members

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 4, 2019

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

[ ] Administrative Council—Small Membership Church Presenter: Rev. Gary Moore (Trappe/Bruceville Charge)	[ ] The Finance Committee Presenter: Mr. Lyn Witmer (Millington-Crumpton Charge, AA; Church Hill UMC, Treasurer)	[ ] Role of the Lay Leader/Laity Presenter: Carlene Phoenix (Easton District Lay Leader) and Mr. Jody Coursey (Easton District Director of Lay Ministries)	
[ ] Hospitality	[ ] Sacraments	[ ] The Trustee Committee	
Presenter: Minister Michele Nichols	Presenter: Rev. Dan Gedman	Presenter: Mr. Doug Collison	
(Lay Leader, Faith Community UMC)	(Union UMC, Federalsburg)	(District Trustee Chairperson, Local Attorney)	
EMAIL:			
CHURCH:			
CHARGE:			

## **Missions Committee Report**

Missions Committee The committee will meet next on January 28<sup>th</sup>. At that time we will review a rough draft of our 2019 budget; which we will review again in May and finalize in September. As I mentioned at our October meeting, our income was at that point down about \$8,000. so far in 2018 compared to last year from envelope giving. It is off-set a little; close to \$2,000., by an increase in the net profit this year over last year from the Thrift Shop. We were able to provide our Local Mission Partners and our regular foreign mission projects at the same level as previous years, because of a carry-over from 2017's income. However, in 2017 we sent \$6,000. to UMCOR Disaster relief and in 2018 we only sent \$250. And in 2017 we made one time donations the last week in December totaling \$8,813. and this year we made none. This does not bode well for 2019's envelope giving to missions.

I have emailed our Local Mission Partners asking them to update their profile forms and these are slowly coming in. At our meeting next Monday, each member of the committee with take a couple of these and arrange a visit with the agency. We use the profile form information as a base for gathering new information. We also request a list of the agency's advisory or managing board members and a most recent year ending profit & loss statement. When I receive the profile form along with these documents and notes on the visit from our committee member, I read all the documents. In July, we use the profile forms to create a booklet each year in place of the Markings. Rev. Moore started this when he was here.

Other business at our meeting includes an update on the use of our Needy Fund, news from our foreign mission people/projects, and our multiple program/projects reports—anything from our food pantry to Board of Child Care, Eastern Shore Campus, etc.

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. Mostly we have between 2 to 5 boxes of various types of breads and sometimes sweets. It used to be that 4 was a minimum, so the change has been good. Edith Hayman at Asbury U. M. Church is back to being able to use a couple of boxes, which she gets on Sunday morning. If there are sweets and the church can use them in the gathering area, they go there first. If not used there, they go to a variety of places. Any left-over boxes of bread, Bob Gosser takes to the Chesapeake Center on Monday morning.

Della Andrew



# February Worship Notes

8:15 Traditional in the Chapel 9:30 Contemporary in the Sanctuary 11:00 Traditional in the Sanctuary

# We need some help...

Worship is a weekly time for us to connect with each other and with God. But it is also an opportunity to serve, to use our gifts in new and varied ways, and to enrich our Sunday morning experience.

"Many hands make light work" is the saying, and we are always looking for additional "hands" at each of our services to:

- •Welcome and greet new-comers as well as regulars
  - •Read ,and pray ,and help lead our worship
    - •Serve communion
- •Assist with the "techy" side of things (i.e. the A.V. systems)
  - •Be a part of the music ministry through special music,

our choir, or band

The Altar Guild and worship design

As you think about your spiritual gifts and where God may be calling you, consider starting out on Sunday mornings!

For any questions or just to start a conversation about where you might like to serve, please call or email Scott at the Church

Scott Clausen, Director of Music and Worship, can be reached at:
Music Office (410) 822-0001, ext. 306
musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org

# Youth Group News!

Our Youth Group had a great time starting the new year at the Annual Young People's Ministries Youth Rally in early January. This year, not only did we fill up the church bus, but also 2 additional vehicles filled with youth and chaperones. Our destination point, along with several thousand other Pen-Del region youth, was the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, Maryland.

The theme for this year was "Protector" and HE is just that, our Protector! During the event, the youth group had the opportunity to attend breakout sessions that helped them to answer todays tough questions tackled in a fun, upbeat, creative what that was infused by the Holy Spirit. Several of our Youth and leaders also participated in a Scavenger Hunt where they searched endlessly to capture selfies with members of the Conference Council on Youth Ministry (CCYM). They listened to several personal testimonies and faith journeys from: Inspirational Speaker and Illusionist Tom Coverly; Christian Speed Painter, Lance Brown; as well as Actress/Producer Karen Abercrombie best known for her role as Ms. Clara in the movie War Room. The weekend was also filled with Christian music by musical artists: DJ Promote; Up Close & Personal; Stars Go Dim; Tauren Wells; and the weekends feature headliner Blanca!

Throughout the weekend, the group recited the Rally's focal bible verse from Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers; they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." This verse is such a beautiful reminder that we are never alone and that HE is always there for us. The event closed with a Holy Communion with Bishop Johnson and the call for today's youth to make lasting friendships and grow in their faith along the way.

Attending the Youth Rally is just one of several events that our St. Mark's UMC Youth Group attends throughout the year. If you have a child, or know of a child in Grades 6-12, we welcome them with open arms to join us for our regular meetings on Sundays from 2:00-4:00pm in Room 201. Please contact: Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Education at <a href="mailto:christianed@stmarkseaston.org">christianed@stmarkseaston.org</a> for more information.







# UMW February Circle Meetings:

Esther Circle - 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 5 at Bayleigh Chase

<u>Tabitha Circle</u> - 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 4 in Fellowship Hall (Holy Yoga)

<u>Mary Circle</u> - 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 5 at the home of Helen Pritchett

<u>Sarah Circle</u> - 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February12 in the Gathering Area

### **New Member Class**

Thinking about joining St. Mark's? To join the church you are required to attend a new member orientation with Pastor Ed. The orientation lasts for about 1 ½ hours. You will learn about the basic history of Christianity, Methodism, St. Mark's history, different ministries in the church and last but not least what is expected from you as a member.

We hope you can attend our next membership class on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room.

A sign up sheet can be found in the Gathering space.

### St. Mark's United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men of St. Mark's United Methodist Church 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. All men of the Church are considered members & we encourage all men to join us in fellowship & service to our Lord Jesus Christ. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 8th at 6:30 pm in room 155 in the church. For this year, we are studying the Book of Proverbs.

We are once again hosting our annual Valentine's Day Luncheon on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please see the back page of the newsletter for more information.

We finished "in the black" for the Waterfowl Festival again this year. We don't make much but the joy of serving our Lord & the community makes the effort worth the time committed. We appreciated the church community's support of our efforts with the needed help in the kitchen & the support of the Scouting community. Well done again this year.

March 5<sup>th</sup> we will once again be sponsoring, preparing & serving the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to the church. Supper will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Pancakes, eggs & several breakfast meats including beverages will be offered free of charge as long as it lasts. A free-will offering will be accepted. All men are encouraged to help with this annual event.

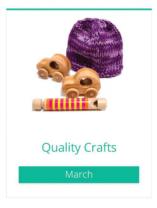
Spring will be a busy time for us. Plan to join our efforts & be a part of the United Methodist Men. We serve our Lord & church community. What could be better?

If you would like to receive email notices of our meetings & the projects we are working on, please email Roger Eareckson, President of the UM Men at <a href="mailto:earecksonr@yahoo.com">earecksonr@yahoo.com</a> & I will put you in our email bank so you will know what we are doing & how you can help.









Continuing our mission project with **Operation Christmas Child**, we would like to try something new this year at St. Mark's UMC. In addition to packing a shoebox on your own, we will be collecting **new** items to place inside shoeboxes throughout the year. Then in November, we will have a Church Packing Party!

Each month, we will follow the OCC's year-round gift ideas calendar & will be asking for specific donations. Themed items are strategically scheduled to a month when the items are normally on sale in stores. For example: January is Hats, Gloves & Scarves; August is School Supplies. Savvy shoppers know that they can impact more children around the world by looking for shoebox items throughout the year. It's also easier on the wallet, & less stressful then trying to fill a shoebox during the holiday season.

A child will probably only get one box in their lifetime & they deserve a box full of good, **new** items. A collection basket has been placed near the coat rack in the church lobby for donations. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Avey in the church office: (410) 822-0001 x305.

The United Methodist Women (UMW) Board of St. GONG GREEN Mark's UMC, while completing one of the requirements of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference Mission Criteria

for 2018 for going green, realized that St. Mark's could be more proactive in caring for God's creation, the earth He has entrusted in our care.

While investigating all the ways to "Go Green" we decided to expand St. Mark's recycling efforts by purchasing four 20 gallon blue recycling cans to be places in needed area around the church including a seven gallon can in the choir room. Easton's Public Works list of acceptable vs. unacceptable materials will be posted above each recycle can. Please empty containers of all food/fluid substances & quickly rinse if possible.

These cans have been placed at designated locations. Please join St. Mark's & the UMW by being environmentally friendly & recycle any items deemed recyclable.

Small Group Study - Join us starting in February for a new Bible Study offering, "Christian Doctrine & Apologetics." The multi-week course will be in the format of seminar discussions led by John Taylor on Thursdays, 1:00-3:00pm in Room 155 beginning February 7th. The main focus of this in-depth course will be "What do Christians believe?" The Christian doctrine (what we teach) tells us how & why what we teach has evolved from the ancient Israelites to Christ, to the Church Fathers, to modern Theologians. Apologetics (The logical defense of the Christian faith) tells us how best to use Christian doctrine to defend our faith from attacks by competing worldviews that seek to destroy our faith and culture. The sign-up sheet and copies of the Course Overview are available in the Gathering area. Copies of the book Mere Christianity are now available in the in the church office for \$10. Please contact John Taylor at: (703) 966-1699 if you have any questions regarding this course. Class will be held in Meeting Rm.

Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on March 6, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Chapel.

Join us for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 5pm to 7pm in 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.

**WESLEY YATER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES HAVE BEGUN** Spring series classes have started up again at 9:30 AM in the Chapel. Starting with readings from Ephesians Chapter 4, using the same classroom format as before. Volunteers will be solicited either prior by phone or on the day. Volunteers always welcome. For more information, please contact Bob Lawrence at 410-819-8029 or Marion Jackson 410-263-1799.

### St. Mark's Preschool

Please mark your calendars for February 9. We will hold our annual "All You Can Eat" Applebee's Pancake Breakfast. This is our BIG fundraiser for the year. Tickets will be on sale starting January 16, \$7 for adults, children under 2 are free. Please contact the preschool office for more information 410-822-0078 or <a href="mailto:starting-star

### **OPEN HOUSE**

St. Mark's Preschool will kick off registration for the 2019-2020 school year with an Open House on February 4 from 9:30-11:00. Please come ask questions, visit our classrooms, and speak to other parents. Our program is offered M/W or T/Th for our 2 year olds, M-Th or T,W,Th for our 3 year olds and M-Th or M-F for our 4 year olds. All classes are ½ days from 9-12pm. Don't miss out on the opportunity to enroll your child or grandchild. Our students enjoy chapel time, swim lessons, music, Spanish classes and much more. Class sizes are limited and will fill quickly.

Please contact 410-822-0078 or <a href="mailto:stmarkspreschooleaston@gmail.com">stmarkspreschooleaston@gmail.com</a> for more information and to schedule a tour. You can also visit our website <a href="www.stmarkspreschooleaston.net">www.stmarkspreschooleaston.net</a> for more details on our program.

We thank everyone for their continued support of our program! Many Blessings- Sarah Ewing, Director



# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ladies Circle					1	2
Meetings on						
Page 8						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion 2-4 Youth Group			6:30 New Member Class/conf			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Scout Sunday		7 pm UMM	1 pm Prayer Shawl			
12 p Valentine's lunch			Snawl			
2-4 Youth Group						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2-4 Youth Group		9:30a UMW				
24	25	26	27	28		
2-4 Youth Group		6:30 pm Trustees				

## Weekly Schedule

### **SUNDAY**

8:15 am 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

10:30 am Prayer Group in chapel

### **THURSDAY**

1:00 pm Christian Doctrine Course

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Staff

Rev. Ed Kuhling, Pastor
June Billman, Pastor of Visitation
Sarah Ewing, Pre-School Director
Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Ed
Scott Clausen, Director of Music & Worship
Dr. William F. Wharton, Organist
David Cherry, 9:30 Music Director
Karen Reed, Church Administrator
Erica Kirby, Bookkeeper
Bill Gunther, Building Superintendent

Fax: 410-822-0002
Email: churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org

Phone: 410-822-0001

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### ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY Luncheon

Annual Valentine's Dinner The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Valentine's Day Dinner, sponsored by the United Methodist Men will be held at the church Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 10, 2019 beginning at 12:15 pm. The \$40.00 per couple price includes salad, choice of entrée (petite filet, chicken breast or crab cake), baked potato, broccoli, beverage, rolls, butter & dessert. The dinner is open to all married couples as well as singles at \$20.00 each. Dinner will be catered by Old Mill Deli Catering. The UM Men's famous bible trivia will again be played. Sign-up in the Gathering Area by Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> with your names & entrée choice. Payment due the day of the dinner. Weather cancellation date is Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.



We are really excited to introduce a new, easy way to give! You can now give simply and easily using Pushpay for your tithes, offerings, special gifts & even dinners!

To start, text **STMARKSEASTON** to 77977 with your smart phone and you will receive a link to our custom giving page, visit our website and click on the **GIVE ONLINE BUTTON**.

Pushpay currently accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover, as well as ACH (bank account) gifts!