

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

MARCH 2019

Dear Members and Friends,

On February 3 a very special person to Linda and I passed away. At the memorial service the Pastor read these words from Isaiah 48 which says, "*The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of God stands forever.*" I think that is good news. Fads, feelings, books, people, cultures, ideas, notions, nations, opinions, money, stuff, markets all come and go. They do not last. They are changing all the time. Building your life on that kind of stuff is like building your house on sand. Only the truths of God are eternal, unchangeable, the same yesterday, today, and forever. Building your life on God's word is like building on a rock, solid, secure, eternal. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever. That is good news when things are falling apart around you. It seems this year has not started off well for some in our congregation, lots of illness, personal struggles and hospitalizations. In the past 9 months that I have been at St Marks you may have realize this Pastor loves a good story. I love good stories because they have a powerful way to draw us in, and make a point. That is why Jesus used good stories or parables to teach. Here is one I came across that has become my "CURRENT" favorite.

There was an elderly man who lived on a farm way back in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Every morning the grandfather was up early reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson wanted to be like his granddad and tried to imitate him every way he could, and one day he said to his grandfather, "I try to read the Bible just like you, but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I seem to forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?" The grandfather was putting coal in their wood burning stove, and he said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water." The boy did as he was told even though all of the water leaked out of the basket before he could get back. The grandfather said, "Well, I guess you are just going to have to run faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. The boy ran faster, but still all the water leaked out before he got back. He was frustrated, but his grandfather told him, "You go try one more time." He did, but the water was gone by the time he got to the house. The boy said, "Granddaddy, this is useless." The grandfather said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket, and for the first time he realized the basket looked different. Instead of the black on the inside from the dirty coal it was clean and spotless. The water had washed the inside. The grandfather said, "Son, that is what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand it or remember everything, but when you read it and believe it and stand on it, it will change you from the inside out."

In the times in which we live our culture is trying everything possible to persuade you to doubt God's word. We are in times when Christians are being beheaded because of their belief in God. I encourage you to continue to trust the wisdom of the infinite God over the limitations of human intellect. I believe that everything that we need to know for great living, for handling life's difficulties, for making wise choices, for knowing what is right and what is wrong is found in God's word. You can choose to reject it, ignore it, criticize it, and not read it. You can say it is old fashioned and out of date, but perhaps our daily prayer should be Psalm 119:73, "*You made me, you created me, now give me the good sense to follow your instructions.*" Remember, "*The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of God will stand forever.*"

Peace, *Pastor Ed*

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.

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.

PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING

Betty Meyerle on her 80th birthday, March 17.

Bob & Judy Lawrence on their 54rd wedding anniversary, March 20.

Lee & Benita Afflerbach on their 53nd wedding Anniversary, March 26.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Sarah Sutherland Stoner by Jack Stoner, Jackie & David Dianich.

Mort Reed by Julie Hopkins & Steve Holzhalf.

David Stavely Sr. by Susan Divilio.

Don Casson by Della Andrew, & Selina Moore, Raymond Harrison & family.

GIFTS IN HONOR OF

Sara Lou Casson by Selina Moore.

THANK YOU

Ann & ladies, Thank you so much for the wonderful luncheon you provided & the generous donations. We've received so many compliments for the food & service provided. Your support took a tremendous weight from our shoulders that day. The Baldwin Family

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry, Thank you for the beautiful lap blanket given to my father, William Bradshaw. It will bring him comfort & warmth as he regains his strength. On behalf of my father, Ray & I appreciate your concern & prayers. Barbara Kraeer

To All of you, with warmest thanks for the throw! It has truly helped in keeping me warm!! Thank you again, Phyllis Matthai

LET US PRAY FOR

Candlelight Cove - Joy Kyak, Mary Rabenhorst

Londonderry - Liz Lechthaler

Heartfields - Jim & Wanda Denny

Bayleigh Chase/Marvel Hall - Sharon Maisano, Pat "Howard" Higgins

Bayleigh Chase - Gardens, Gloria Lindquist, Lois Dabbert, Ted Lewers, Elva Eareckson

Autumn Lake Health - Nettie Robinson, Ruth Pippin, Lee Walker

Mallard Bay - Deborah Henry

AT HOME

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

Order your Easter Flowers



We would love your help in decorating to enhance our Sanctuary for Easter worship services. The form below will allow you to decide what you would like to do. All gifts will be acknowledged in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

*** Please note: Pastor Ed is allergic to lilies. ***

Name _____ Phone _____

Wish to make the following gift to enhance the Easter services at St. Mark's:

In honor of _____

(Name of living person)

In memory of _____

(Name of deceased person)

All 6 inch pots are \$10.00 each - colors will vary

_____ No. of Tulips

_____ No. of Hyacinths

_____ No. of Daffodils

\$_____ Donation Only, No flowers needed.

Checks can be mailed or dropped off at the church office, or placed in the offering plate. Please make checks payable to:

St. Mark's UMC

100 Peachblossom Road

Easton, MD 21601

Memo line: Easter Flowers

Orders must be received by Sunday, March 31, 2019



In addition to packing a shoebox on your own this year, we are collecting **new** items to place inside shoeboxes throughout the year. Then in November, we will have a

Church Packing Party! For the month of March we are collecting **Handmade Quality Crafts** for Operation Christmas Child. A child will probably only get one box in their lifetime and they deserve a box full of good, **new** items. A collection basket has been placed in the Gathering Area for donations. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Avey in the church office: (410) 822-0001 x305.



Quality Crafts

March

#OCCitemofthemonth 



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible Camp at St. Mark's UMC

July 29th - August 2nd



February Worship Notes

8:15 Traditional in the Chapel

9:30 Contemporary in the Sanctuary

11:00 Traditional in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 6 at 6:30pm

March 17th, reception of New Members

This morning we will celebrate as we receive new members into the congregation at all three of our services

5th Sunday celebration, March 31

We will worship as one community together at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

April 7th, Lenten Cantata Sunday

We will worship with music and scripture as the Choir presents

“A Love So Wondrous”

A movement of Word and Song

This cantata will highlight the Lenten journey of reflection and repentance as we consider the steps the path that Jesus undertook towards the cross for the redeeming of the world.

Scott Clausen, Director of Music and Worship, can be reached at:

Music Office (410) 822-0001, ext. 306

musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org



United
Methodist
Women

**UMW March Circle
Meetings:**

Tabitha Circle - Monday, March 4,
7:00 - home of Amy Steward

Esther Circle - Tuesday, March 5,
10:00 - Bayleigh Chase

Mary Circle - Tuesday, March 5,
10:00 - Gathering Area

Sarah Circle - Tuesday, March 12,
7:00 - home of Mary Ann Hicks

**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

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 and working on various projects to benefit the Church and its members, our United Methodist District and our local community. All men of the Church are considered members and we encourage all men to join us in fellowship and 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 hosted our annual Valentine's Day Luncheon on Sunday February 10th. We hosted the event at the church and it was catered Old Mill Deli Caters. 46 people attended the event which was our largest gathering in the four years we have held the luncheon. We will be making plans to host year five next February and hope others will join us for this church-wide sault program focusing on marriage and responsible singles in our church.

On Tuesday, March 5th we will once again be sponsoring, preparing and serving the church-wide Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Dinner will be served 5:00 to 7:00 pm and the menu includes pancakes, eggs and several breakfast meats with appropriate 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.

Circle April 13th and 21st on your calendars as these dates are two important dates to the UM Men and the church in general. The 13th is Pecometh Camp and Retreat Center's annual volunteer day and the men and women of the church gather at Camp Pecometh in Centreville to clean and repair the St. Mark's Cabin in the woods for the upcoming summer camp season. The 21st is Easter Sunday and the men will be cooking and serving breakfast beginning at 7:30 am until 10:00 am. All your breakfast favorites will be served and this is offered free of charge to the church. More on these in the April edition of the "Markings".

If you would like to receive email notices of our meetings and the projects we are working on, please email Roger Eareckson, President of the UM Men at earecksonr@yahoo.com and I will put you in our email bank so you will know what we are doing and how you can help.



March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Ladies Circle Meetings on Page 8 </div>						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion 2-4 Youth Group		5p Shrove Tuesday Pancake/FSH	6:30 p Ash Wednesday/ Chapel			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2-4 Youth Group Spring Forward!		7 pm UMM				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2-4 Youth Group 5:30p St. Patrick's Day Parade		9:30a UMW	1 pm Prayer Shawl			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
2-4 Youth Group		6:30 pm Trustees				
31						
10a 5th Sunday Combined Worship						

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**

NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE PAID
 EASTON, MD
 PERMIT NO. 239

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

Phone: 410-822-0001

Fax: 410-822-0002

Email: churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org



Don't forget to mark your calendar for

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 5th in Fellowship hall 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m. Chapel

**Making
 generosity
 simple...**



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!