

# 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 2020

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.*

Dear Members and Friends,

As I was reading the Scriptures, I came across something I hadn't recalled seeing before. The first person described as being filled with God's Spirit was not one of the Bible's superstars like Abraham, Sarah, Jacob, Joseph, or Moses. But instead was a common, ordinary worker whose name was Bezalel. He was a lay person, and the scripture says of him in Exodus 31: 1-3, "... that he worked with his hands to serve the people and he was filled with the Spirit of God." We have been talking about growing in our faith, and using the gifts/resources God has given us to do his work in the world during worship each week. It occurred to me that we do NOT have to be a "Superstar," but instead be a "Bezalel".

In over the 26 years in ministry, I think it is true to say that the real heroes of faith are the unnoticed men and women who do the quiet work of the kingdom of God. The real heroes of faith are God's servants: greeters, nursery workers, small group servers, worship ushers, kitchen servants, nursery servants, children servants, youth servants, music servants, choir servants, mission servants, and the list goes on and on. These are the folks who make the realities of heaven the realities of earth. I don't know where any church would be without the unnoticed men and women who are filled with the Spirit of God and serving Him faithfully. It is a privilege to be in a church like St. Marks UMC where there are so many spirit-filled servants. It is a privilege to serve a church where one of its core values is that every member is a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I want to thank all of you for your spirit-filled service to the Lord, and I am excited about what is on the horizon at St. Marks UMC. Each quarter at St. Marks we are providing a volunteer list that will celebrate what God is doing in our church family and the difference that is being made because of how we serve together. This quarterly volunteer list will provide more frequent opportunities for people to learn about ways to get involved in serving inside and outside the walls of the church and getting connected to using their gifts for God. We are excited about welcoming new people to our serve teams and helping all of our teams to grow. Come and serve with us.

Please join us starting on March 18<sup>th</sup> for a 5-week study on understanding and activating the Team Gifts. Answers to Questions such as: What is a Spiritual Gift and What is a talent? Can you abuse the Team Gifts? Why should every Christian know their Spiritual Gifts, and much more.

Peace,

*Pastor Ed*

**Spring Forward March 8th!**

**Sunday, March 29 Cantata One Service at 10:30 a.m. no Sunday school**

**PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING**

**Betty Meyerle on her 81st birthday, March 17.**

**Bob & Judy Lawrence on their 55th wedding anniversary, March 20.**

**Lee & Gary Royer, on their 56th wedding anniversary, March 21.**

**Lee & Benita Afflerbach on their 54th wedding Anniversary, March 26.**

**GIFTS IN HONOR OF Barbara Friedman**  
by June Billman.

**GIFTS IN MEMORY OF *Dr. Bill Wharton***  
by *Linwood & Barbara Hansen.*

*Jane Barton* by *Susan Divilio, Monica Lee & Michael Dipaolo, Gail Lewis, Joseph & Rebecca Carrico, Meadowdale, Wally & Judy Leight, Reinhardt & Karen Sahmel, Agnes Foster, Brenda Crabbs & Ellen S. Rajacich.*

***Frank Mackert, Sr.*** by *Betty Mackert.*

**THANK YOU** Thank you so much for the beautiful shawl! Marie Chance

Dear St. Mark's Church , Thank you for your prayer shawl & support for my husband, Frank Mackert, Sr. Who passed away in 2019. Knowing you were there was not only a big comfort to him but also to our entire family. Please accept this in his loving memory.

Sincerely, Betty Mackert

St. Mark's Family, Words cannot express my sincere thank you for all the prayers in the months prior to surgery, my stay in the hospital and recovering time at home. Your concern and caring shown in so many ways have been overwhelming. I am so blessed that the test results showed that no other treatment is needed. God Is Good!

Fondly, Ann Yingling

**LET US PRAY FOR**

**Candle Light Cove** - David Dianich, Jim Delaney, Joy Kyak, Mary Rabenhorst

**Londonderry** - Liz Lechthaler

**Heartfields** - Jim & Wanda Denny

**Bayleigh Chase - Gardens** - Art & Louise Shelby

**Bayleigh Chase** - Elva Eareckson/Marvel Hall, Lois Dabbert

**Autumn Lake Health** - Nettie Robinson

**Homestead** - Ruth Pippin, Lee Walker

**AT HOME**

Betty Fleming      Ruby Carter  
Phyllis Carroll

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

LCPL. Alexander White

GySgt. Harold S. Brice/USMC

CPT. Jacob Shores/ U.S. Army

Sgt. Sarah Golden/USMC

**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

## WOW! What a Year 2019 Was!!!

Beginning in January 2019 the church debt was \$1,013,916.07. Through the efforts of the St. Marks congregation we have lowered it by three quarters. As of January 31<sup>st</sup> the debt stands at \$ 218,469.01. THAT IS AMAZING!!! THANK YOU MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF ST. MARKS!!!!

With that said we would like to keep this excitement going as we become a debt-free church. We have been talking about our “Shave or Save Campaign.” Several members from the congregation and I are “willing” to have our hair, beards, and mustaches shaved off after the Easter Morning Service if the debt is paid off by April 11<sup>th</sup>. Those people are Tom Barwick, Scott Clausen, Bill Gunther, and myself. But that all depends on our congregation!

This is how it will work. All money marked for “Debt Reduction” will go to our mortgage payment. If you write “Save” on your check the hair will NOT be removed. If you write “Shave” on your check the hair WILL come off, and it will be ugly (for at least 4 people) Again, ALL money collected will go to paying off our debt. So mark your checks as “Save” or “Shave.” This is just a fun way for our church to become debt free. As of January 31<sup>st</sup> “Shave” had 2,815.00 and the “Saves” had \$6,650.00 accumulated. Whether you want Shave or Save let’s get this debt paid off.

As Pastor, I would love to see our church remain debt free for at least 2 years during which time we will provide funds for more mission work to be done and save for future building and growth opportunities.





Don't forgot we **SPRING FORWARD**  
in just a few weeks

## **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)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation Only, No flowers needed.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Tulips

\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Hyacinths

\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Daffodils

\_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* New Choice this year!! \*\*\*Hydrangea (4 or 5 bloom) \$20.00 each



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 Flowers2020

**ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020**

# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Have you been considering becoming a member of St. Mark's? Pastor Ed will be holding New Member Orientations Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 10 am to 11:30 am Or Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. If you are interested see the sign up sheet in the Gathering space!

**We have FOUR very nervous gentlemen wondering if they will be EGG-heads after Easter Services**



**Make YOUR donation TODAY to SAVE or SHAVE!**

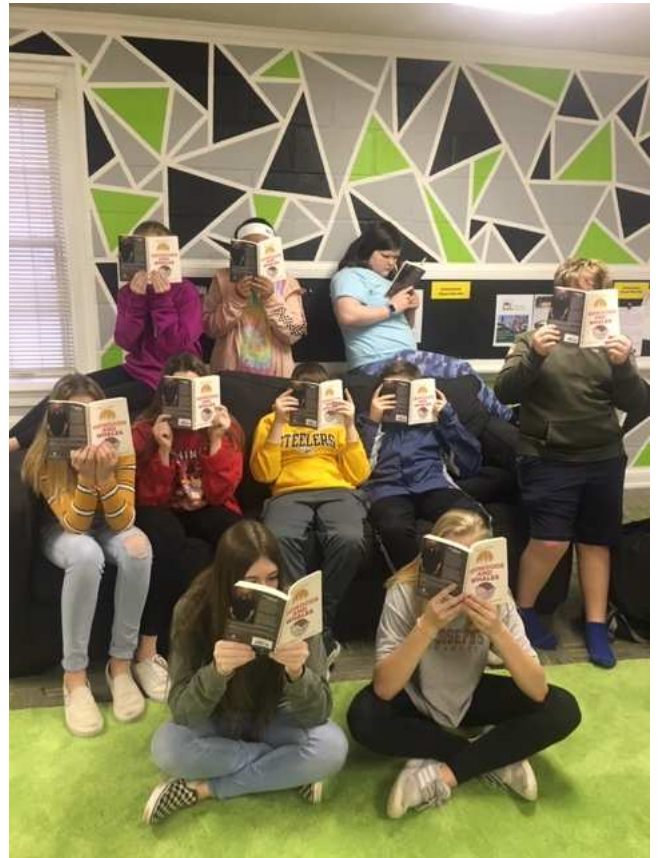
Operation Christmas Child Donations

Did you know that we collect shoebox filler items all year long for Operation Christmas Child? There is a collection basket in the Gathering Space for monthly item requests. **March's Item: Accessories** (hats, gloves, scarves, jewelry, sunglasses, etc.) If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Avey in the church office.

## “Redwoods and Whales” Youth Book Study

During the Pen-Del Youth Rally in January, our Youth Group Discovered that the lead musician of Zealand, Phil Joel, wrote a new book titled “Redwoods and Whales.” In February, they were excited to start reading his new book together.

The book discusses the stressful things that become more commonplace in today’s culture for teens who might be losing sight of who they actually are. Like a whale on a beach, too many of us are finding ourselves feeling stranded and alone. If we can cut ourselves free from the things that hold us back, we can catch a clear vision of the true character of God. And like a mighty redwood tree, we can choose to live healthy lives with purpose, growing confidently above the chaos. If we focus on the truth, we will discover that life with God is a whole lot bigger and more exciting than we ever imagined.



Any youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us on this new Christian Lifestyle book study. If you know a student who may be interested in joining us, please email Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Education at: [christianed@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:christianed@stmarkseaston.org) for more information.

**St. Mark’s Youth Group is open to all students in Grades 6 – 12. Gatherings are held every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 2:30-4:30pm in the Youth Room. Additional events are scheduled throughout the year. We are also looking for a few Adult Leaders to help this year. If you are interested in attending, volunteering or for a list of scheduled events, please email: [christianed@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:christianed@stmarkseaston.org)**

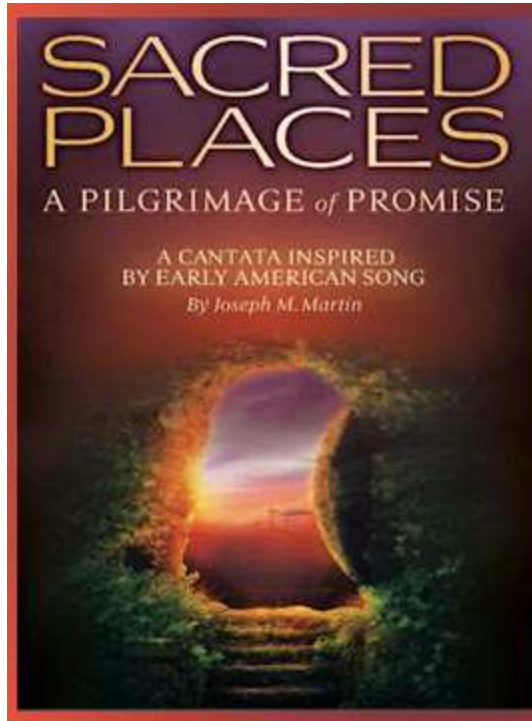


## March Worship Notes

8:15 Traditional in the Chapel

9:30 Contemporary in the Sanctuary

11:00 Traditional in the Sanctuary



### Cantata Sunday & 5th Sunday Celebration

**On March 29th at 10:30 am we will worship as one community in the Sanctuary. The festival choir will present *Sacred Spaces* by Joseph Martin**

*This message in music will reflect upon the differing ways we encounter Jesus upon his ministry journey, from miracles to holy week. We will explore how Jesus and God's love for us is revealed by these biblical encounters.*

### Save the Date!

On Sunday, April 5th at 3pm, St Mark's will once again host a community concert in coordination with the *Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition*. This biannual event brings to Easton some of the top young chamber music ensembles in the world. This year we have the great pleasure to host the **Colores Trio**, a percussion ensemble, from Zurich, Switzerland. More information will be coming in the weeks ahead. If you would like to know more about the group, follow this link.

<https://www.colorestrio.ch/>

### *Communion Servers for March*

8:15

Brad & Polly Watts

9:30 service

Gladys Makovsky  
Josh Cherry  
Robert & Julie White

11:00

Laura Sydnor  
Harry & Janice Nagel  
Lynn Lewis

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

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

**[musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org)**

# VBC Design Team Needed!

A lot of advance planning & hands-on work is needed to help create the visual sets for Vacation Bible Camp.



We are looking for adults who are interested in being a part of a Creative Design Team who would help bring to life our vision for this year's theme. Join us to find out how can help! For your convenience, we will have sessions that you can attend during the day or at night or both!

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00-2:30 pm**

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-7:00 pm**

If you have any questions, please contact

Wendy Avey: [christianed@stmarkseaston.org](mailto:christianed@stmarkseaston.org)



**Tuesday, February 25 – Shrove Tuesday**

**\*Pancake Dinner 5:00-7:00pm**

**Wednesday, February 26 – Ash Wednesday**

Service at 7:00pm

**Sunday, March 8 – Spring Forward**

Change clocks so you are not late for church!

**Sunday, March 29 – 5<sup>th</sup> Cantata Sunday**

One Service at 10:30am, No Sunday school

**Thursday, April 9 – Maundy Thursday**

Service at 7:00pm, Soup Dinner 5:30-6:30pm

**Friday, April 10 – Good Friday**

Service at 7:00pm

**Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday**

Sunrise Service at 6:30am

**\*Breakfast 7:00-11:00am**

Traditional Services at 8:15 & 11:00am

Contemporary Service & Sunday school at 9:30am

**\*A free will offering is being accepted**



### *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

*What is a Prayer Shawl? Throughout the ages, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Since the inception of the Prayer Shawl Ministry in 1998, the members of this ecumenical organization have lovingly donated their time and talents by creating hand-knitted and crocheted shawls for those in need. What started as a grass-roots movement has quickly grown into an international cause, with countless numbers of shawls being given to grateful recipients around the globe.*

*The Ministry's message of caring is simple, universal and enduring. And we have seen time and time again that the creation and presentation of a prayer shawl, like all acts of generosity, enriches the giver as well as the recipient.*

*St. Mark's Prayer Shawl Ministry was started in 2010 by Carole Shadle. In addition to shawls we make lap throws, children's blankets, Prayer Bears (teddy bears) for children and white baby blankets which are given to a baby at his/her Baptism at St. Mark's. We also supply white Angel Blankets to the University of Maryland Shore Medical Center at Easton for parents of a still-born baby or baby that passes shortly after birth. We have made chemo hats for the cancer center and taken shawls and wraps to Bayleigh Chase and Dixon House. Nancy Harrison took some throws and shawls on her mission trip to the Ukraine several years ago, Denise Quinn sent some to Quilts of Comfort for flood victims in Ohio.*

*The items we make are for **you** to give to a family member or friend - someone who is ill, is going through a difficult time, or just needs a 'hug'. Recipients do not have to be St. Mark's members, just someone you think would benefit from knowing that St. Mark's cares. You can stop by the office anytime, and Karen will gladly get one for you. Watch for a display March 15 in the Gathering Space.*

For the month of March St. Mark's is again collecting items for the local CarePacks program. We are collecting fruit cups, granola bars, & oatmeal packets. Nearly half of all Talbot County Public School students receive free breakfast & lunch at school. For many there is a nutritional gap on the week-ends. Thus the CarePacks is a way to fight that week-end hunger. Each CarePack contains 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 snacks and fresh fruit. Any student in the Talbot public school system who is considered "food insecure" is eligible for this program. The mission committee thanks you for your support.



If you would want more information you can go to [carepackstc@gmail.com](mailto:carepackstc@gmail.com)



## UMW March Circle Meetings

Tabitha Circle - March 2, 7:00 pm at  
Amy Steward's home

Mary Circle - March 3, 10:00 am  
Room 209 at church

Esther Circle - March 3, 10:00 am at  
Bayleigh Chase

Sarah Circle - March 10, 7:00 pm  
Room 209 at church

## 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, Marcy 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in room 155 in the church. For this year, we are studying the Gospel of Luke.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will once again sponsored, prepared and served the church-wide Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The menu included pancakes, eggs and several breakfast meats with appropriate beverages. The dinner was free of charge to attendees as long as it lasted. A freewill offering was accepted. The United Methodist Men are glad to support this church-wide ministry.

Easter Sunday is April 12<sup>th</sup> and the men will once again be cooking and serving Easter Breakfast for the church beginning at 7:00 am and continuing until 10:00 am. Eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage biscuits and scalloped apples highlight the breakfast menu along with appropriate Sunday and plan to attend any one of our four services that day.

We are planning to once again construct our Easter Tomb on the front lawn of the church. We didn't get it done last year and it was missed so we are planning to assemble it this year. It will be up for Holy Week.

As you can see, we are always looking for ways to serve our Lord and the church community. We need men to step forward and volunteer to help us. If you feel the urging of the Holy Spirit to get more involved in the church, we are the outlet for that calling. To receive email notices of our meetings and the projects we are working on, email Roger Eareckson, President of the UM Men at [earecksonr@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

**"TO HELP MEN GROW IN CHRIST, SO OTHERS MAY  
KNOW CHRIST"**





# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Communion	<b>2</b> 6:30p Finance	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30p Questions God asks us/Chapel	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30 p UMM/155	<b>11</b> 2p VBC Design 6:30p VBC Design	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1p Prayer Shawl/155 6:30p Spiritual Gifts/206	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30p Trustees	<b>25</b> 6:30p Spiritual Gifts/206	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> One Worship service at 10:30a No Sunday School	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

## Ladies Circle

Meetings listed on

Page 10

## Weekly Schedule

### SUNDAY

8:15 am Worship Chapel  
9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary  
11:00 am Worship Services Sanctuary

### WEDNESDAY

10:30 am Prayer Group in Chapel  
6:00 pm Bell Choir

### 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**

**Ranee Reitz, 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](mailto:churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org)**



We all know the ending of this story..... But will it be the case with the **SAVE** or **SHAVE**?? Or Will their hair be **SAVED** by a **HARE**?

