

SHARE
YOUR
GIFTS

CONNECTIONS FAIR

Sunday, September 30 | 9:15 - 11:30 AM



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Connections Fair

Sunday, September 30, 9:15 AM-11:30 AM

ROMANS 12:6—WE HAVE GIFTS THAT DIFFER ACCORDING TO THE GRACE GIVEN TO US.

God has presented you with wonderful gifts that are ready to be opened and shared for the growth of God's kingdom. We encourage you to explore the gifts God has bestowed upon you and find ways to utilize those gifts here at St. Mark's.

You are invited to complete a spiritual gifts inventory the week of September 24th before coming to Connections Fair on September 30th . A gift inventory will be available in hard copy at church and sent via email.

Find opportunities to live out your spiritual gifts by talking to people involved in various activities and areas of ministry.

Enjoy time in community including a light breakfast and chance to meet new people.

Questions—please contact Missi Koenig at mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org



News From the Pastors

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

Anyone who knows me knows that I love musical theater. And one of my very favorite Broadway shows of all time is South Pacific. I love this show in part because it is based on a set of Pulitzer Prize winning stories by James Michener entitled Tales of the South Pacific which address issues like love, war, and racism. I love some of the songs that relate to those themes but right now I am mindful of one of the more light-hearted songs in the show. Bloody Mary is singing to her daughter and to Lieutenant Cable encouraging their romance. She sings:



Happy talk, keep talkin' happy talk,
Talk about things you'd like to do.
You got to have a dream,
If you don't have a dream
How you gonna have a dream come true?

If you don't talk happy,
And you never have dream,
Then you'll never have a dream come true!

The wisdom writer in the Bible says that “where there is no vision, the people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18a, KJV) It is important for us as individuals and as a community of faith to dream God’s dream for our lives together. One of the ways that we do that is to talk about what God is doing in our lives and to talk about where God is leading us. George Barna, in his book *The Power of Vision*, defines vision this way: “Vision for ministry is a clear mental image of a preferable future imparted by God to His chosen servants and is based upon an accurate understanding of God, self and circumstances.” We need to seek to have that “clear mental image of a preferable future for our church.” It guides us into God’s future for us!

We are having many conversations about the vision of God for our congregation which includes our programs, our building, our mission projects, and every other aspect of life in our congregation. As we begin to move into the next phase of our life together it is my prayer that God may continue to lead us into new ventures and that we may, through the leading of God’s Holy Spirit, see new possibilities for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

In Christ’s service

Brian

News From the Pastors

Hello St. Mark's Family,

It is a joy to be writing to you again after my first month of serving with you. Some of you I've gotten to know a little better and I look forward to getting to know others more in the time to come. The hospitality that I have received as I settle into the role of associate pastor has been wonderful and reassuring. Thank you for your kindness!

During my final semester at Duke Divinity I took part in a CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) program at UNC Hospital Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I worked as an intern chaplain for the spring semester with several other intelligent and caring individuals (interns, residents, and full time staff included). It was a challenging and rewarding internship, with a few occasions where I stayed overnight at the hospital as the on-call chaplain and learned that nothing good happens at 3 in the morning.

My primary place of service as an intern chaplain, though, was in the pediatrics wing of the hospital. This was a challenging assignment, and yet it was the one that I felt the most drawn to. It feels a bit cliché to say that as a young woman I enjoy working with children, but it is true and I felt that working on my pastoral care skills in connection with children's health was where God was calling me.

The hardship that patients, parents, and staff experienced cannot be understated. It was an eye-opening and life-changing experience, but there were moments of joy to be found. There were a few patients that I grew particularly close to as for various reasons they required additional care. Figuring out what that additional care would look like was a...challenge. Researching the stages of childhood development and how to provide pastoral care to a three-month-old isn't something that's really covered in your average seminary class. But there were some things that felt natural: lifting up a child to look out the window and see fresh snow falling in February, holding a crying baby because their parents aren't available and the staff is rushing to care for the other patients with greater needs, even sitting and talking quietly so that a newborn will know that someone is close by and cares. In so many ways these were little moments and acts that were easy enough for me to accomplish and yet made a difference for the patients receiving care.

It's a truth that I think we can all struggle with at times, that the little things we do can make a huge impact, often in ways that we will never see or could ever imagine. Too often small and simple acts of kindness are disregarded or seen as unimportant. We like stories with big impacts, big drama, big hype. But the truth is plain that God is present in the silence and quiet just as much as in the rush. We may never see the impact of the love that we share, never know that what was a throwaway moment for us held impact for someone else. I pray that as you go about your daily life as ministers for Christ that you may do small acts of great love with joy and conviction. Your ministry makes a difference.

Blessings,

Julia

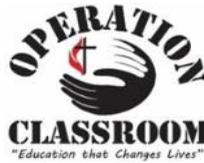


SEPTEMBER MISSION FOCUS

Operation Classroom

For 30 years, Operation Classroom Inc. has partnered with the United Methodist Churches of Liberia and Sierra Leone to improve Secondary Education. OCI has provided thousands of scholarships (allowing students who would otherwise be unable to attend school to get an education). Nearly 100 containers of school and medical supplies have been shipped to these two countries, and Volunteer in Mission Teams have been sponsored that have provided the opportunity for hundreds and hundreds of Hoosiers (and folks from other states as well) to have “hands-on” experience in mission.

This month St. Mark’s is raising funds for Operation Classroom. Our funds will help the Taiama Enterprise Academy (TEA) vision become a reality. The TEA is a comprehensive 5 year program designed to equip young men and women with the knowledge base, the skills, and the understandings needed to provide for themselves, their families, and their



communities. In a country where 50% of students graduating from high school and college can't find work of any sort, the idea behind the “Enterprise Academy” is to equip graduates to “go out and do it themselves” and not wait on a dysfunctional system to do it for them. The campus is undergoing renovations, the facilities are being equipped, faculty recruitment plans are being formulated, and the screening program to find 50 motivated work/study grant recipients is in the process for the start of school in September 2019. This is a very exciting time for Operation Classroom!

You can support the work of Operation Classroom by making a financial donation using the mission offering envelope on Sunday morning or online at stmarkscarmel.org/give. Your support for Operation Classroom makes a huge difference in the lives of the students, their families and the communities in which they live.

Sierra Leone Mission Trip

January 10-24

This is the experience of a lifetime! The team will be working at the Taiama campus in the mornings doing hands-on renovation work, and will engage in a range of cultural and community activities. Plus the team will make visits to churches, schools and hospitals. There will also be time spent in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone before and after the time at Taiama.

For more information or to sign up please contact Bob Coolman, OC VIM/TEA Coordinator at robert.coolman@inumc.org or 219-405-5821



Hamilton County Kids Coats

Hamilton County Kids Coats is a collaborative effort between many churches and community partners whose goal is to make sure all Hamilton County children stay warm this winter. This month and next we are collecting coats and winter-wear that will be given away in November. We need **clean** coats in good condition and in **all sizes** – from infant to adult XXL, as kids come in all sizes! If your child has outgrown his coat or if you are ready to pass your coat on to someone else, please wash it and donate it to HCKC. Coats may be dropped off at St. Mark's September 9-October 28



Habitat for Humanity

10/5, 10/13, 10/20, 11/10

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



St. Mark's build days are scheduled for Friday, **October 5**, and Saturday, **October 13**, Saturday, **October 20**, and Saturday, **November 10**.

Sign up now at stmarkscarmel.org/habitat. If you have questions, contact Joe or Diane Newton at joediane244@att.net or 317-288-4523.

Mark Your Calendar! SOUP'S ON! At Roberts Park

Sunday, September 9, 2018

The Roberts Park United Methodist Church Soup's On ministry provides a wonderful opportunity for us to carry out Jesus' command to "feed the hungry." Each Sunday, volunteers at Roberts Park serve lunch to 200-250 homeless persons and others in need in downtown Indianapolis. St. Mark's will be providing the meal on Sunday, September 9. Servers will meet at St. Mark's in Wesley Hall at 9:15 a.m., plan to leave at approximately 9:30, and return around 2:30.

How can **you** be involved?

- Join others from St. Mark's on September 9th and help serve lunch for those less fortunate. (23-25 volunteers are needed.)
- Provide food for the meal.

Sign up to help at stmarkscarmel.org anytime or at a Ministry Table outside the sanctuary. Our final serving of 2018 will be on Mission in Action Day, October 14.

Brightwood Community Center

Tuesday, 9/4 & 9/18, 4:00 PM

Don and Kirsten Turchan will be coordinating two dinners a month at Brightwood. For these meals to be successful they need 2-3 volunteers to serve the meals.

Please contact Kirsten at 317-698-7352 or pedsderm@yahoo.com to volunteer.

Changing Footprints

9/16-10/7

Our annual shoe drive begins on Sunday, September 16, and will culminate with



the packing of shoes on Mission in Action Day on October 14. Shoes will be donated to Changing Footprints, a local nonprofit organization that accepts shoes of all kinds and distributes them to individuals, organizations and agencies wherever there is a need, whether in Indiana, the United States or overseas. Changing Footprints was founded in 2005 and operates two warehouses right here in the Indianapolis area. For more information visit changingfootprints.com. Please bring your donations of new or gently-worn shoes to St. Mark's by October 7.

2019 Guatemala Mission Trip

July 20-July 28, 2019

Sign up now to serve on next year's mission team to Guatemala July 20-28, 2019. We will be hosted by Mission Guatemala in the highlands of Central Guatemala. Cost of the trip will be approximately \$1,500. Team size will be limited to 15. If you have an interest in going, there will be a brief information meeting on Sunday, September 23rd at noon. Please contact Joe and Diane Newton at joediane244@att.net or 317-288-4523 with questions.

Home Sweet Home

Thursday, October 4



Enjoy a wonderful dinner, silent auction, and dessert auction while supporting Family Promise at their annual fundraiser, "Home Sweet Home" on Thursday, October 4. Get tickets and more information at fpgi.org.

Habitat Mentor

Information Session

10/18 & 10/25 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GREATER INDY
3135 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis

Want to make a difference in a family's life by walking alongside them as they become a homeowner for the first time? Become a Homeowner Mentor! If you are interested in learning more about the mentor program, please attend the info session at the Habitat office. They will review the time commitment involved, examples of support you could provide to a homeowner and answer any questions you have about the mentor program. Sign up at indyhabitat.volunteerhub.com to attend.

Because You Give, St. Mark's Gives!

Thank you for your generous support of the missions of St. Mark's. Since our last newsletter, we have given to:

- Central Indiana Blood Center: 29 units of blood
- Fletcher Place Community Center: 12 bags of food and 25 Health Kits 3 bags of clothing
- Good Samaritan Network: \$5000 & 16 bags of donations for their Christmas giveaway
- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis: \$5,750
- Hamilton County Kids Coats: \$1000
- Peace with Justice Sunday: \$50
- We sent a team of 10 to work at Redbird Mission

Blood Drive

Sunday, September 23
8:00 AM-12:00 PM



Every two seconds, someone needs blood and every day, approximately 40,000 units of blood are used throughout the country. You can help save a life by donating blood at St. Mark's on Sunday, **September 23**, 8:00-Noon. Healthy individuals, age 16 and older can lend an arm to help. Sign up will begin September 9th. Contact Greta Carroll at 317-705-0362 or gcarroll1@indy.rr.com for more information.

Team World Vision

Saturday,
November 3



Do you believe everyone should have access to clean water?

Can you imagine walking over 30 minutes or more one way to get water to drink?

Can you imagine carrying 40 lbs of water in a dirty fuel container over 30 minutes with your kids in tow every single day?

Over 1 million people do this each and every day. They do this to survive. It breaks my heart,

TRAINING UPDATE

Our St. Mark's Team World Vision Team has 48 members, and they are working hard to bring clean water to those without. Would you like to help them?

Please sign up to support our half marathon and marathon walkers and runners as they do their longest training effort before race day. You can help on Saturday, October 13th by participating in a cheer group or water stop.

*Please join our team at teamworldvision.org and/or contact **Ali Lemberg** with questions at alemberg@stmarkscarmel.org*

adult music

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

Join the Choir

Join us this Fall. Choir practices Wednesday, 7:30 PM-9:30 PM. Contact Dr. Eric DeForest for more information at edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org. First Rehearsal is September 5.



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/5 Choir & Bells Rehearsal Begin
9/30 Orchestra Performs
10/17 St Marks Presents
 Nemanja Ostojic, guitar and
 Haruka Ostojic, piano. 2pm.

Join the Orchestra

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

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

Bell Rehearsal

Bell Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 5th.

Can You Help Once a Month?

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



kids ministry

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

Education

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING



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

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

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

Kidz Music & Praise— Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord during this fun-filled hour each week. After a worship time with Kidz Learn & Grow classes, children participate in this high energy class that incorporates music, drama, art & puppets. During the 11 service, this class will begin preparing the Christmas Musical on 9/16.

Club 56

Club 56 weaves together Bible instruction, some theology, service projects and relationship building. All 5th & 6th graders are welcome to come join the fun! Feel free to invite friends, grandchildren, and neighbors!



Sunday programming each week in the basement den at 9:40 AM

Coming Up September 21-22 Lock-in at SMUMC from 6 pm on Friday through 12 PM Saturday.

Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/youth.

SUMMER INTERNS

A huge thank you to our three summer interns. Anna Koenig, Caleb Cohen, & Sammy Bonnet did an excellent job planning summer fun and learning more about working in a church setting.

Kidz Kick Off Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 9 10:45 AM-11:00 AM or 12:00 PM -12:15 PM

All are welcome! Please join us in praying over the upcoming year, learning about our exciting Kidz Church programs and upcoming events, and discovering St. Mark's plan for spiritual development from birth through confirmation (and beyond). If you only come to one meeting a year, this is the one you should not miss!

Volunteer Recruitment

Come join the fun and impact a child's life!

Please prayerfully consider how you can be involved in this critical local mission—our own St. Mark's children. We need assistants to help during 9:40 & 11. Training and materials are always provided, and you will have partners to help so you can just come and enjoy time with children. Contact Ramie to get involved at rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org.

Attention 3rd Graders

Sunday, 9/23 9:40 AM & 11:00 AM

The United Methodist Women of our church will gift *New Revised Standard Version Bibles* to current 3rd graders on **Sunday 9/23 at both the 9:40 and 11 services**. Parents, please register your child(ren) by emailing a recent picture in a jpeg format to rcooney@stmarkscarmel.org. We would like to include all our children, even if your family is unable to attend in person.

Kidz Music Lunch & Learn

Sunday, September 16 12:00 PM-12:45 PM

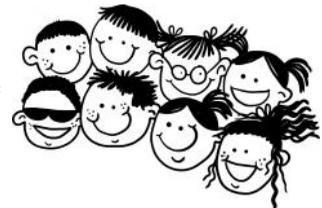
Parents and children are welcome to come explore Magic & Creative Dramatics. Sack lunches provided. Please sign-up at stmarkscarmel.org/kidzfellowship



Kids Night Out & Parents Night Off

Friday, 9/14, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Kids have fun while building community and developing relationships with the youth of our church. On September 14, children ages 4-10 years-old are invited to play from 6-9 PM at St. Mark's. Parents drop off their children who will enjoy activities, games, a movie, and a (nut-free) snack throughout the evening as they are supervised by Cornerstone Youth. Parents are asked to sign-up at stmarkscarmel.org and contribute \$15 per child (or \$30 per family) for youth mission trips and retreats. Contact Ramie at rcooney@stmarksumc.org or (317) 846-4912 for more information.





Cornerstone Fellowship

SUNDAYS, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM

All grades gather from 5:00-5:45 PM for worship. Senior High & Middle School will meet from 5:45-6:30 PM.

Emphasis for this year is "Listening"

Cornerstone Open Gym

Thursdays, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

Students currently in grades 7-12 are welcome!

The purpose of these gatherings is simply to spend time together in an environment where students feel confident to invite their friends.

Activities will vary each week, including basketball, gaga ball, volleyball, Nuke'Em, 9-Square, and Dodgeball.

Fall Retreat

Friday, 10/5- Sunday 10-7

DIABETES YOUTH FOUNDATION CAMP

Any student in **grades 7 through 12** are welcome!

Retreat weekends are designed to be a time of faith and friendship with an emphasis on seeking personal relationships with Jesus!

The cost is \$75/student. DEADLINE to sign up is September 30, 2018!

Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/retreat

Third Street Rehearsal

Wednesday, 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

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

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

adult education

stmarkscarmel.org/grow
Lydia Fourman, Director
Lfourman@stmarkscarmel.org

What an exciting time of year! The Christian Education opportunities at St. Mark's are heating up and I am hopeful you will step into a Grow Group, a Study Group, or one of the other many ways to connect in the name of Christ Jesus.

I hope you will come to a gathering we are calling "**Catch the Vision**" to learn more about being part of a Grow Group. Grow Groups are small groups of 5-12 people who gather regularly to care and get to know one another better, study/learn about how God may be calling him/her, and to reach out together in discipleship and service.

Stay tuned for more upcoming Study Groups and Educational opportunities, including a Family Bible Study and an Evening Study Group.

With love in Christ,
Lydia Fourman

Sunday Small Groups

9:40 AM

VENTURE

This group meets in room B to share and listen to "The Great Courses" a varied series on religious and theological studies presented by reputable professors via DVD. On alternate weeks, they watch and discuss Rick Steve's Travelogue Series sponsored by WFYI. They gather early, 9:15 - 10:30 am, to share joys and concerns, before their studies begin. All are welcome. Jean Douglass facilitates.

OPEN DOORS/OPEN IDEAS

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

CUTTING EDGE

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

FOUNDATIONS & FRIENDSHIPS

Share and discuss Christian themes through various authors. They are currently reading and discussing *Fear of Other* by W. Willomon. Doug Brown and John Flora facilitate, with classmates sharing leadership too. All are welcome.

11:00 AM

JOURNEY

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

REEL SPIRITUALITY

View and discuss Christian themes and life values through movies. Together they watch 30-40 minutes of a movie, then discuss it, continuing the movie to completion for 3 to 4 weeks. Upcoming movies include *Beyond the Mountains*, *the Greatest Showman*, and *Race: the Story of Jesse Owens*. Lydia and Terry Fourman facilitate. All are welcome.

Study Groups

WEDNESDAY

6:30-7:15 AM EARLY AM BIBLE STUDY

Galatians: 10 Studies for Individuals and Groups

by N.T. Wright (9/12-12/12) The Apostle Paul's project, he often says, is building--not building with bricks and mortar but rather with people. He lays the foundation with the shockingly good news of one true God who raised Jesus from the dead, in order to build a new family with no divisions, all of whom can call God Father. In a world of widespread ethnic rivalry and trenchant divisiveness, Paul's strong corrective message in Galatians demands to be heard and reheard. In these studies by Tom Wright, we hear once again what remains shockingly good news. Pastor Brian White will facilitate.

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

Galatians: 10 Studies for Individuals and Groups

by N.T. Wright (9/12-12/12)

9:30-11:30 AM BIBLE STUDY

Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today

by Adam Hamilton (9/12-10/24) The world's most-loved, most-read, book is also one of the most confusing. Rev. Hamilton discusses his ideas using this book and DVD sessions. He invites readers to a discussion that permits readers to think again and faithfully about the Bible. Lydia Fourman facilitates.

THURSDAY

9:30- 11:00 AM

Moses by Adam Hamilton (9-6-10-11) It doesn't get much more dramatic: rescued baby, life in the courts of Pharaoh, parting the Red Sea, leading his people out of Egypt...Moses' life was one challenge after the next, but although he resisted God's calling, by the end of his life he successfully fulfilled the role he was given. Join author Adam Hamilton as he travels from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea, and the

wilderness exploring the sites of Moses' life. You will gain a better understanding of Moses' significance in your life today, and you'll discover how you, too, can turn your own reluctance into boldness. Judy Woempner facilitates

FRIDAY

9:30- 11:30 AM

Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season

Melissa Spoelstra. (8/24-9/28) Elijah's life was a string of seriously mountain-top high and bottom-of-the-pit low events, and yet he did extraordinary things for God. In *Elijah*, you'll learn the spiritual stamina secrets that helped this great prophet hold on and persevere in faith, including practical habits related to making decisions, caring for the soul, accepting circumstances, mentoring, and finishing well—He doubted and struggled just as we do, but he chose to believe God through it all. Jackie Rowell facilitates

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

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

Small Groups/Grow Groups

ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

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

Wednesday evenings (twice a month) Becky Mills facilitates.

Sunday mornings once of month. Susan Jacques facilitates

Grow Groups meet throughout the week/month at various times. Today there are 8 Grow Groups meeting throughout St. Mark's. More groups are always encouraged to form. If you wish to participate or facilitate a group, please contact me, Lydia Fourman, at LFourman@stmarkscarmel.org or my cell: 317-850-2345. I am in the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays if you prefer to meet in person.

gatherings

Second Saturday Breakfast Meetings

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



Saturday 9/8 Colleen Scheu
Carmel Youth Assistance Program

Saturday, 10/13 Paul Dvorak
Secret Service

PRAYER HUDDLE

Join us at the back of the sanctuary before the traditional services at 8:15 AM and 11:00 AM for a brief prayer in support of our worship leaders. United Methodist Men provides a creative supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to seek daily his will.

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

MARKSMEN

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

PRAYER & SUPPORT GROUP Thursday, 9/13 & 9/27 6:00 AM

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

ROMEO's Lunch Group Wednesday, 11:00 AM

LE PEEP RESTAURANT 12213 N. Meridian Street

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



Monthly Meetings

Fall Kickoff Meeting

Tuesday, 9/11, 9 AM & 7 PM

Be Bold for Christ, as we Worship, Pray and Learn. It will be a great time to meet, greet and reconnect! Morning Brunch & Evening Salad Super. Members will pitch in. All other are our guests.

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

Morning Groups

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

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

BOOKWORMS

UMW morning book discussion group. Members select fiction or non-fiction works, but most of the books are fiction. While the books are seldom of a religious nature we will ask the question, "Do you see God's grace or redemption at work in the book?" Facilitator: Gail Lee

MAKE IT AND TAKE IT

A preview of the crafts that we will be making each month during the UMW season will be given at the Kickoff. All materials will be provided at a minimal cost. No special creative ability required! Come and join this fun group! Kathy Dycus and Marilyn Roberts facilitate.

SAMS (SCHOOL AGE MOMS)

New Interest Group this year! This fall as the school year kicks off, we will have a new group for Moms. SAMS (School Age Moms) will meet two Tuesdays a month. There will be a discussion group for the UMW morning and evening gatherings, and then we will meet the last Tuesday of the month. We will be using "Where Mom's Connect" as our guide. Facilitator: Ali Lemberg.

Evening Groups

BOOKMARKERS

Join us at BookMarkers, the evening book discussion group. We read anything and everything. We offer lively discussion (not always on topic), fellowship and support. Come even if you haven't read the book of the month. We add an extra meeting in May and summer. Ask for our list of "have reads" to get a flavor of the books we read. Contact Deb Skinner, dskins252@hotmail.com or [317-574-1997](tel:317-574-1997) with any questions.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

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

SAMS (SCHOOL AGE MOMS)

See Morning Group for description

Arts and Crafts Marketplace

Saturday, November 3, 9 AM-4 PM

Please begin now to prepare your crafts for the Market Place. Popular items in the past have included matching knit scarves and hats, aprons, ornaments, American Girl doll clothes and jewelry. Information on renting a table is available at stmarkscarmel.org

UMW Reading Program

Monday, October 29 7 PM

Every year the United Methodist Women's National Office recommends a diverse range of books with the intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts. This program organizes books into five categories. Our group selects a book from each of the categories and meets five times a year for fellowship and book discussion

There is one reading category and discussion left for 2018 :

October 29- Spiritual Growth

Example titles in the Spiritual Growth category found in our St. Mark's library are: [Praying for Strangers](#) by River Jordan and [The Well Women](#) by Ladine Housholder

A brochure is available in the church library on the UMW shelf that you can pick up or check out the website www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readinggroup.program.

Do not hesitate to contact Kathy Lentz at kathylentz@gmail.com or (317) 652-0487 if you have any questions.

Brightwood Dinner

Tuesday, September 25

UMW will be providing a meal for the Brightwood after school tutoring kids on Tuesday, September 25. We will leave church at 3:00 and return between 6-6:30. A sign-up sheet will come out on sign-up genius about a week before the meal. It will have a list of food that is needed. For questions or more information contact Kathi Hall, khall7401@sbcglobal.net or (317)816-0518.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Wednesday, 9/19 & 9/26

Momming is hard. You deserve a break! Join us twice a month September through April for MOPS-a community of women with young children who come together to



support and lift each other up. Email MOPSatSt.Marks@gmail.com for more information.

Coffee 'n Cameras

Monday, 9/10, 9/24, 10/8,, 10/22
9:00 AM-10:00 AM

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



Coffee 'n Cameras

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

The Page Turners Book Group

Tuesday, September 18, 7 PM

Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande

Tuesday, October 16, 7 PM

By Invitation Only by Dorothea Benton Frank

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

Contact Marcia Flora, 317-670-9976 or mflora1950@yahoo.com, with questions.

Craft & Hobby Group

Thursday, 9/6 & 10/4 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM

Friday, 9/7 & 10/5 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

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

Registration deadline to attend is Monday, September 3 and October 1. Child care is available for children 5 & under.

Childcare must be requested at least 72 hours in advance by registering.

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

Career Curve

Monday @ 10:00 AM

A support and resource group for those who have suffered a job loss, are unemployed or under-employed and seeking a change. The mission of Career Curve is to provide individual job search strategies, and informal counsel associated with the challenges of a job search. (Note Meetings will resume on Mondays after Labor Day. No Meeting the week of 9/3)

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

JULIETS Get Together

Thursday, September 13

Woody's Library
40 E. MainStreet

Thursday, October 11

Tina's Tea Room
30 N. Rangeline Rd



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

*Please sign up by 9/9 and 10/7
stmarkscarmel.org or at the Ministry Table
behind the sanctuary. If you have
questions, please contact Kat Howe,
chattykat52@att.net or 317.431.6295.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, September 18, 11 AM

This ministry uses the care and love of knitting and crocheting and combines it with a prayerful outreach to those in need of comfort and solace.



We are always looking for new members and are happy to teach anyone interested in learning and provide supplies if needed. Men are also welcome.

Requests to give or receive a prayer shawl can be made to jbonnet@stmarkscarmel.org. For more information, contact Judy Bonnet jbonnet@stmarkscarmel.org.

MOBS (Methodists on Bikes)

Wednesday, 9/12, 9/26 6:30 PM

Saturday 9/1 9:30 AM, 9/15 7:30 AM

St. Mark's MOB (Methodists on Bikes) will wrap up another season of group rides in September with some great outings.



Designed for adult recreational riders, this group meets at various locations on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month for 15-20 mile rides at a 13-15 mph pace. On the 2nd & 4th Wednesday, we leave from St. Mark's parking lot at 6:30 PM for leisurely 10 mile rides on trails and neighborhood streets.

Please join us on these upcoming dates:

Saturday, September 1 – Meet at the Cardinal Greenway in Muncie at a special time – 9:30 AM – and ride the trail east. Those interested will stop for lunch at a nearby restaurant before heading home

Wednesday, September 12

Saturday, September 15 – Meet at Smokey Row Elementary School (136th St. between Ditch & Spring Mill) for a 20 mile Zionsville Ride. Some roads, neighborhoods, a few hills. Pretty ride!

Wednesday, September 26

For more information, or to receive email updates, contact Nancy Canning at nancan01@gmail.com or visit Ongoing Groups on the St. Mark's Website & look for MOB

special events

The Water Project

Sunday, August 26 – Sunday, September 30

WATER IS LIFE.... And here at St. Mark', the Social Justice Team has been leading an effort to educate and engage our congregation and community on water conservation and the need for improved access to clean water. In addition, our congregation has partnered with Team World Vision to walk or run the Monumental Marathon in November and to bring clean water to those without. But our efforts don't end there! We are inviting each of you to participate in **The Water Project** beginning Sunday, August 26th.



So what is The Water Project? It's actually very simple. Choose a period of time – 2 weeks, 10 days, 3 days, or the whole 5 weeks of our campaign. During that time, make tap water your **ONLY** beverage. Set aside the money that you would have otherwise spent on beverages and use it to provide safe, clean drinking water to the thirsty. Jesus said that to give a drink to the least of our thirsty brothers & sisters is to give a drink to Him. Here's our chance!

There will be copies of "scorecards" available at our "Water is Life" Social Justice table behind the sanctuary. This will help you to keep track of your sacrifice and has a prayer on the back that we will be collectively praying during the next 5 weeks. Also, we have bracelets available for you to wear as a reminder of your pledge. On September 30th, we will be collecting your donations during worship services. All contributions will be donated to Team World Vision.

Holy Walk 2018 is Coming

Friday, November 30 & Saturday, December 1

Mark your calendars for November 30 and December 1 for Holy Walk 2018.

Online sign-ups begin September 30th but if you would like information prior to that date, please contact Lynn & Rob Akerhielm at holywalk@stmarkscarmel.org

Look for us at the September Connections Fair.

Many opportunities for lots of folks to help out in this epic St Mark's event.



Mental Illness Book Discussions

Saturday, November 10 7:30 AM

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

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

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

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

The Noonday Demon- An Atlas Of Depression by Andrew Solomon

You are invited to a series of three book discussions related to mental illness to be held at St. Mark's . Each book provides a perspective from individuals who live with bipolar disorder, anxiety or depression. Please feel free to share this information with others. The first discussion will take place on November 10, 2018 at 7:30 AM and will highlight Looking at Recovery Through the Rear View Mirror: A Bipolar's Story.

Save the Date

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 20

Mark your calendars for our Fall Festival . Food, games and fellowship.

Invite your neighbors and friends and plan on attending!



UMW Arts & Craft Sale

Saturday, November 3 9:00 AM-4 PM

Vendors will offer a variety of unique items including quilts, handmade jewelry, doll clothes, toys and more! Snacks and a light lunch will be available in the Candy Cane Cafe and homemade treats will be for sale in the bake shop!



Beyond the Broken Heart: A Journey Through Grief

Thursday, 9/20- 11/15 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM

How does the heart understand grief when it is broken by the death of a loved one? To survive and live forward, those who grieve must find answers. *Beyond the Broken Heart* is an 8-week support and ministry program for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Author Julie Yarbrough chronicles her personal experience combined with a deep love of Scripture and years of leading grief support groups to create an authentic and deeply personal exploration of the grief journey. The book, *The Will of God* by Leslie Weatherhead, will also be pulled into the discussions for some sessions. Sessions include: 1. Naming Grief; 2. Understanding Grief; 3. Yielding to Grief; 4. Responding to Grief; 5. Adjusting Through Grief; **Break on October 25th** to reconvene on Nov. 1st for week 6. Moving Forward in Grief; 7. Growing Spiritually Through Grief; 8. Living Beyond Grief. **Please register at the ministry tables or online, stmarkscarmel.org/grief.**

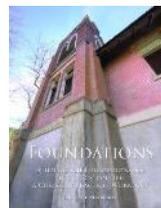
Foundations: An Introduction to Christian Practices

Tuesday, 9/4-10/16 7:00 PM-8:15 PM

Led by Pastors Brian White & Julia Pritchett

Growth as a disciple begins with a good foundation. We need to learn how to pray, how to begin reading the Bible, how to live in authentic relationships, how to have a devotional time, how to use the resources God has provided, how to discern our call to serve, and how to share out faith.

These basic foundational spiritual disciplines are presented in an easy to understand and very practical format in “Foundations”.



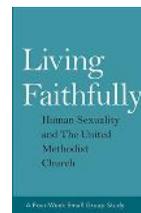
Living Faithfully: Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church

Sunday, 9/9-9/30 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Led by Pastors Brian White, Julia Pritchett and Mary Ann Moman

There is deep disagreement about what The United Methodist Church should teach about homosexuality, same gender marriage, and the ordination of LGBTQ persons. In 2019, a special session of General Conference will be held to consider these issues and how they will be addressed by The United Methodist Church in the future.

Living Faithfully is designed to help you understand the shape of this debate and what it means for the present and the future. Each chapter includes background on the Bible, Christian theology, history, stories from diverse viewpoints, and United Methodist structure and practice to guide reflection and conversation. You'll also find definitions of key terms and information about upcoming events.



committees

Social Justice Committee

WATER IS LIFE

According to the United Nations (unwater.org/water-facts/climate-change/) “water is the primary medium” through which we will feel the effects of climate change. Water availability is becoming less predictable in many places, and increased incidences of flooding threaten to destroy water points and contaminate water sources. In some regions, droughts are making water more scarce. Ensuring that everyone has access to sustainable water and sanitation services is a critical climate change mitigation strategy for the UN in the years ahead.

As Christians and United Methodists, our starting point for positions on any social issue is scripture. Genesis 1:10 reminds us that *“God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together God called the Seas. And God saw that is was good.”* The United Methodist Book of Resolutions goes on to state that *“Water is an integral part of God’s radical expression of God’s love for all humanity. Water cannot be monopolized or privatized. It is to be shared like air, light and earth. It is God’s elemental provision for the survival of all God’s children on this planet”* (1020).

As Christians and United Methodists, we are called to be sound stewards of the earth. Prayerfully consider how much water you use each day and ways in which you could contribute to conservation and clean water. Consider donating your water bill savings to St. Mark’s Team World Vision as they run for clean water on November 3 (stmarkscarmel.org/water). Today is the day!

SPRC Committee

Mission Coordinator Hired

We are excited to report that Ali Lemberg has accepted this new challenge!! Ali is known at St Mark’s for successfully planting new mission programs. She first organized Salvation Army Bell Ringers, then MOPS (Mothers of Preschool Children) and most recently Team World Vision for clean water in Africa and underdeveloped countries around the world. She started August 1 first of August .

LIBRARY NEWS

It's back to school time for our young St. Marker's and a good time to check out the many books available in our church library for every reading level. Bibles for toddlers through teens and a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction books are shelved in the Children's Corner and on the Teen Reading shelves.

Have you tried our electronic catalog?

Available anytime...anywhere, the catalog can be accessed from your phone, computer or other device. Search the collection by title, author, or subject at stmarkscarmel.org, and click on Grow>Library>Electronic Catalog. Instructions and video tutorials are available on the News and Message screen

New Arrivals

Catch a Star - WNBA star Tamika Catchings tells her story of overcoming adversity on the way to becoming a champion with the Indiana Fever team.

Take a Chance on Me - Award winning author Susan Warren's Christy Award winning novel where faith and family meet real life.

Case for Faith for Kids - Lee Strobel answers questions about faith that even adults often struggle to answer. (Children's shelf)

Unafraid - Adam Hamilton applies practical Biblical wisdom and also from his years as a pastor for living with courage and hope in uncertain times.

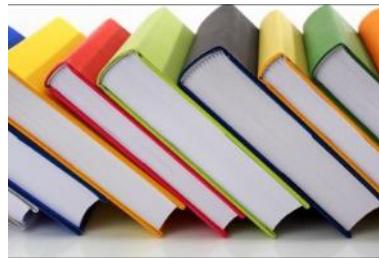
In This Moment - Karen Kingsbury's new Baxter family novel dealing with the nuances of religious freedom and its cost.

All Saints (DVD) - The inspiring true story of a salesman-turned-pastor, the tiny church he was ordered to shut down, and a group of refugees who risked everything to save it.

Born on Third Base - Chuck Collins offers bold new solutions to bridging the economic divide and re-engaging the well-off in rebuilding communities for the future. (UMW Shelves)

Until the Harvest - With this sequel to "Miracle in a Dry Season" author Sara Thomas takes us on a journey of broken souls restored.

One Well: The story of water on earth - Strauss's richly illustrated book provides valuable perspectives on the sources of water, it's value, present threats, and constructive suggestions for water conservation. (UMW Shelves)



community news

Directory Updates

Wayne & Debbie Uhl
8657 Meridian Square Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Michael & Tiffani Benson
1609 Obara Court
Carmel, IN 46033

Greg & Melissa Smith
18803 Abigail Circle
Noblesville, IN 46062

Julie & Ryan Bowman
11328 E. Lakeshore Drive
Carmel, IN 46033

Mr & Mrs. Todd Snow
11876 Esty Way
Carmel, IN 46033

Hermann & Ingrid Fitschen
12926 Dewhurst Circle
Carmel, IN 46032

Justin Amber
5494 N.Drexel Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Sympathies

To Sarah Zadny at the death of her step-mother, Judy Pettit.

To John Cooney at the death of his uncle, Jim Cooney.

To Lynn Donnelson at the death of her mother, Marilyn Fraser.

To Rey Delaplane at the death of his wife, Millie.

To Matt Roberts at the death of his mother, Barbara Roberts.

To Leonard Sheats at the death of his wife, Mickey.

To Nyla Johnson and Jenny Rundle at the death of their son and brother, Russ Johnson.

To New Babies

Nathaniel Charles Ross was born June 3. Parents are Christine and Greg Ross.

Brigham Alexander McDonald-Smith was born July 11. Parents are Kelli and Alex MacDonald-Smith. Grandparents are Tom & Becky Beckman.

Reese Olivia LeAnn Reynolds was born on August 13. Parents are Jennifer and Matt Reynolds; sister is Blakely; Grandparents are Don and Liz Rix

Prayer Requests

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

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

Sustainable Living Seminar

Wednesday, 9/12 6:30 PM

CARMEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Will be viewing Tony Seba's presentation of **Clean Disruptions of Energy and Transportation**

For more information visit carmelgreen.org.

In Our Congregation

St. Mark's Family,

Thank you for the beautiful azalea in memory of my mother. The prayers and kind words made a difficult time more bearable and provide comfort and peace as our family moves forward without her.
Lynn Donnelson

Dear St. Mark's

Thank you very much for the use of St. Mark's for Troop 04296 Girl Scout Meetings. The basement was very conducive for our meetings and we very much appreciate the use of your space for the 2017-2018 school year.

Sincerely,

Rachael Bridenstine

Dear Friends, Staff & Congregation,

I want to thank everyone for everything done to make it easier for John and I and your expression of sympathy. Thank you for the lovely flowers. Anyone who knew Susie knew she loved flowers. Thank you to the many members of St. Mark's who were Susie's friends. Susie was a very loving and caring person and her friends were special to her.

John and I would like to give special thanks to:

- Brian, Ross, Michael and Justin for the service, you met all of Susie's wishes.
- The office staff who worked so diligently to put everything together to include the service program.
- The Methodist women who put together a wonderful dinner and spread for my family, friends, and visitors.

Susie gave it a good fight. Susie enjoyed volunteering at the organ donation group and visiting with other heart patients at St. V's. Susie felt that she was giving back in some way. I am thankful that Susie's physicians were able to give her a few extra years.

Jack & John Armstrong

St Mark's Family,

Thanks to all the church who participated in the memorial service for my wife Millie Delaplaine.

The services were beautiful. The lunch was wonderful. Everyone made everything run smoothly. I am very proud of our entire church. Thank you all again.

Rey Delaplaine

Dear St Mark's,

Thank you for providing so much perfectly done hospitality for Ron Montgomery's memorial service.

To St Mark's,

Jenny and I want to thank all of you in our St Mark's family for the prayers, visits, food, cards and love you have showered us with during our son/brother long illness. Russ fought right up to the end in his battle with cancer and now he is at peace with our Heavenly Father. God is good, all the time. Blessings to all.

Nyla Johnson & Jenny Rundle

Circle of Care

The Circle of Care list includes St Mark's member and friends who are homebound or in a care facility. Your prayers for these brothers and sisters in Christ mean so much to them and to their families. Please remember:

Annette Dunlap	Barbara Frazer
Lois Hardin	Mary Hart
Betty Lachman	Ola Morrow
Jerry & Phyllis Delp	Bea Gilson
Mary Pielemeier	Charles Reid
Judy & Tom Hebenstreit	Don Ranck
Jean Smith	Vallie Williams
Leonard Sheats	Barbara Holcomb
Judy & Tom Hebenstreit	Kay Major



St. Mark's
Kidz



MISSION IN ACTION DAY



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mission in Action Day

Sunday, October 14

Mark your calendar & plan to join us for a day of caring and serving –actively living our motto: *“Where Mission is a Way of Life”*.

A variety of outreach projects will be offered as part of MIA Day, a day when we worship through serving beginning at 9:00 a.m.

OFFSITE

Assisted Living Visit
Cemetery Clean Up
Fletcher Place Community Center
Hamilton County Humane Society
Home Repair
Park Clean Up
O'Connor House
Soups On Roberts Park
The Gleaning Garden

Camp Belzer
East 10th Children & Youth Center
Hamibatat for Humanity (Saturday)
Hamilton County Kids Coats
Open Doors food & clothing pantry
The Mustard Seed
Ronald McDonald House
Team World Vision (Saturday)
The Mustard Seed

ST. MARK'S

Shoe Packing for Changing Footprints
UMCOR school kits
Society of St. Andrew Produce Bags

Gift Bags for Roberts Park “Soups On”
Christmas Gift boxes for Red Bird
Potato Drop (Saturday)

Sign up beginning September 16 at stmarkscarmel.org or on the bulletin board outside the office.

We are also collecting the following items for MIA Day projects: Socks, Bottled water, Toiletries, Hard candy, Chap Stick, Granola bars, Puzzle books, Small toys, Wash cloths, 3x5” note pads, pens, Toothpaste & toothbrushes. If you'd like to donate any of these items, please bring them to St. Mark's by **October 7**.