

ST MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER ♦ JANUARY 2018 ♦ VOL. 17, NO. 1



My St. Mark's Family,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe, happy, and blessed holiday season. We have celebrated Christmas and welcomed the Christ child into our lives and hearts all over again. Now the opportunity of a new year begins.

We are going to spend some time visioning for the future this winter and spring. Where is God calling St. Mark's in the near future? By 2025, what will our community look like and how will St. Mark's be prepared to serve our neighbors? What are our hopes and dreams for our future? And most importantly, how will we discern God's dreams for our church?

Please be in prayer and also be on the look out for ways you can offer your ideas! God's future is always brighter, greater, and more amazing than we can imagine. Our job is to have the faith to live into it!

Strength and Wisdom,

Pastor Justin

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January, 2019

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Another year older, another fresh start!! Whether you have had a year full of high points or low, I wish you well in the new one! As for me, I plan to risk doing as John Wesley proposed: “Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can!” Only **God’s LOVE** can heal this troubled world with the promise and hope that Jesus came to bring us. Let’s work together to share it. God bless us every one!!
Peggy Lootens, Lay Leader

WITH SINCEREST THANKS ...

All of us who serve as your St. Mark’s Church Staff wishes to express our gratitude to the congregation for the generosity of your Christmas gifts to us. It is a privilege to serve Christ here with you, and to be a part of so warm and caring a church family!

Peace,

Your St. Mark’s Staff

VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

There will be an Informational meeting held on January 13, 2019 at 12 noon following the 11 o’clock service.

You will learn of the work of the Foundation and Development Company and how you can participate in the mission of growing the church through this ministry.

Church Financing

Refinancing

Investment Products

Certificates of Deposit

IRA

Planned Giving

So... mark your calendar for January 13, 2019 at 12 noon following the 11 o’clock service.

For more information contact Hi Nicely or Justin White.

See you there.



A New Year’s Resolution that will enrich your life and serve Christ through serving the “Hungry”:

Consider making a resolution for the New Year that you can stick with. Is one of your resolutions to serve Christ more? If not, consider it one and join the TAME Ministry. TAME stands for That All May Eat. The ministry raises money and awareness for those that are hungry in our community and world. Join us for our planning meeting on Tuesday, January 8th at 6 pm.

MORE News from TAME (That All May Eat):

Join TAME for “A Taste of Winter” on Sunday, January 13th. Look for Hot Chocolate and goodies and “Jesus Loves You Snow Much” Smore’s to take home to prepare and enjoy. We will be set up in the Narthex from 9:15-12:15. Drop by after worship and support “That All May Eat” with a generous donation. Look for news about our “Souper Bowl” Sunday on February 3rd and a special “Lenten” Collection during Lent.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry and all of our planning, please consider joining TAME. Contact Susan Wagner at susanbwagner59@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

HANDBELL CHOIR

The Saint Marks handbell choir is looking to expand this spring! If you are interested in joining the handbell choir, we will begin our rehearsals on the second Wednesday in January. Please contact Michele Richardson to let her know of your interest. Music reading skills preferred, but not necessary!

GIRL POWER



February naturally sends thoughts of kindness, love and special relationships through our minds. Time teaches, both our Fathers love is unconditional. Our next event is, Be My Valentine, a father/teen daughter dinner and dance. This semi formal event is February 2, 6:00-8:00 in the FLC. Accept this special invitation by RSVP to reach2sky14@gmail.com

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Is one of your new years resolutions to get your finances in order? Let us help!

On January 24th at 6:30 pm St Mark's will be hosting the first class of a 9-week course which promises to give you the tools to help you master the art of budgeting, save money for emergencies, and pay off debt. The cost of materials is \$110 per household. Childcare will be offered for \$5 per child each week

RESOLVE TO USE YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS IN THE NEW YEAR!

Do you play an instrument? We would love to have you play for your church! Watch for an upcoming email or paper survey!

SAFE SANCTUARIES

On January 20th we will be having a Safe Sanctuaries class during the 11 o'clock service and directly after the 11 am service. This training will be held in the fellowship hall. If you have never been through Safe Sanctuaries or went through it three or more years ago and plan to work with our children and/or youth you must take this training in order to be compliant with our Child Safety Policy. If you cannot join us on January 30th please contact Erin Huddleston (StMarksErinH@gmail.com) to make a time to reschedule this important training.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Bible Study will finish up our study, **"The Miracles of Jesus"** in January. Our first class will be Tuesday, January 8th at 10 am in the Choir Room. We will finish this book on January 29th. We invite new women to study with us for our next study starting on February 12th. The title of this study has not yet been decided.

SCRAPBOOK FELLOWSHIP

If you are a veteran scrapper or a beginner who has never scrapbooked, we invite you to join the fun of scrapping and fellowship. Our first scrapbooking fellowship will be Thursday, January 17th from 9:00am-2:00pm. There will be a kick-off brunch that morning, so please RSVP to Susan Wagner at susanbwagner59@gmail.com if you plan to come.

WATCH FOR JOYFUL JOURNEY TRIPS IN 2019

- 1 Wohlfhart Haus
2. West Va. Riding the Rails - 3 days and 2 nights Sept. 25-27
3. Christmas in New York City featuring the Rockettes and the 911 memorial and inside museum Dec. 9-10
- 4 a spring trip to be determined

Wohlfhart Haus is already paid in full for those who had paid reservations this fall



St. Mark's

United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

UMW NEWS

During Christmas, the UMW Adopted a Family with two children. We shopped for the children and were able to provide Christmas gifts, gift cards and clothing. The family was most appreciative for making their Christmas a joyous one.

Our annual UMW Christmas Party and Potluck Dinner was held on December 17 (*a week later than usual due to the snowstorm*). Lively conversation and great food made for an enjoyable time. Several of our members participated in our annual cookie/candy exchange and Christmas decoration exchange and we wrapped the gifts for our Adopted Family children. Our members also provided \$5 McDonald's and Hardee's gift cards to be given to residents at Rescue Mission Ministries. We collected 21 cards and delivered them to the Rescue Mission the week before Christmas.

Looking Ahead:

Our first meeting of the New Year will be Monday, January 14, at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program is our annual observance of **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Service** entitled, **"Building A Thriving Generation of Children and Youth Worldwide"**. Our scripture reading will be Mark 10:13-16. Each year, United Methodist Women's observance of A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial gives us an opportunity to reflect on the gospel of Christ, pray together and designate funds for ministry on a particular mission focus. In response to God's love and grace, of-

(Continued on page 4)

ferings support mission with women, children and youth. This year we look at the difficult circumstances children and youth face around the world and will focus especially on working for equal opportunities for children and youth and for their well-being.

A short business meeting will follow along with refreshments to be served by our Executive Committee.

ALL WOMEN are invited to join us and learn more about United Methodist Women and the many mission projects we support.



ST. MARK'S BLOOD DRIVE

**Saturday, January 12th
10 am - 2 pm**

Please consider stopping by to donate a pint of blood.

◆ CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES ◆ CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES ◆

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

JUMP INTO FROGS AND TADPOLES IN JANUARY

Our Charlie Brown Christmas Pageant has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 6th at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary! The pageant will be followed by a Potluck dinner in the Family Life Center. Paper products and drinks will be provided. Please join us for this fun ending to the Christmas season!



FROGS and Tadpoles will resume on Sunday, January 27th from 5 to 7 pm! That night will be **PAJAMA NIGHT!!** Wear your pajamas, robe and slippers that night to our meeting!! Tadpoles are preschool aged children, ages 3 and 4. FROGS are Kindergarteners through 5th graders. This program will be held the second and fourth Sundays of the month and includes Children's Choir practices, dinner and a lesson/mission project. If your child was registered in the fall, there is no need to fill out another form, unless your information has changed. Please come and bring a friend!

FROG and Tadpole Leaders please note that you may pick up information about the Winter/Spring semester of FROGS and Tadpoles at the beginning of the Safe Sanctuaries Trainings at 11 am and 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 20th. Please don't forget our first meeting, January 27th will be Pajama night!

St. Mark's Adverse Weather Policy

At the prospect of inclement weather please note that St. Mark's posts delays and closings on WDBJ7. You may check them either by watching channel 7 or by going to WDBJ7.com. Please check your email for specifics.

FROGS/Tadpoles Winter/Spring 2019 Schedule

**** Intergenerational fun and fellowship activities for the entire family!**

- January 5:** Make-up Pageant practice for the Charlie Brown Christmas Pageant 10 am
- January 6:** The Charlie Brown Christmas Pageant at 5 pm in the Sanctuary, followed by Potluck dinner in the Family Life Center **
- January 20:** Safe Sanctuaries Training at 11 am and at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall
FROG/Tadpole leader information given out
- January 27:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm PAJAMA NIGHT (FROG store OPEN at 7 pm)
- February 10:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm
- February 24:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm (FROG store OPEN at 7 pm)
- March 3:** FROGS/Tadpoles sing during the Ecclesia Worship Service at 9:15 am
- March 10:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm
- March 24:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm (FROG store OPEN at 7 pm)
- March 31:** Fifth Sunday Fellowship Event and Lunch after the 11:00 Worship Service**
- April 14:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm
- April 28:** FROGS/Tadpoles 5-7 pm (FROG store OPEN at 7 pm)
- May 12:** FROGS/Tadpoles sing during the 11:00 am Worship Service

YOUTH EVENTS AND NEWS:

January Shipyard Newsletter

Shipyard Youth had a fun and festive month preparing for the Holiday Season. They Practiced for the Charlie Brown Christmas Program. They also had their Youth Christmas party, where they decorated gingerbread houses, made balloon reindeer antlers out of pantyhose, did a White Elephant Gift Exchange and enjoyed each other's company embracing the Reason for the Season.

In January we will have a busy schedule as we prepare for Youth Sunday on January 27th!

January 2nd there will be No youth that evening.

January 6th there is Sunday School, The Charlie Brown Christmas Program has been rescheduled to 5 pm in the Family Life Center! Come out and support the hard work that the Youth and Children have put into this production!

January 13th There will be Sunday School in the Morning at 10 am. We will have Youth from 5 to 7 pm. We will be practicing and preparing for Youth Sunday!



January 20th There will be Sunday School in the Morning at 10 am. We will have Youth from 5 to 7 pm. We will be practicing and preparing for Youth Sunday! We will be putting the final touches on Youth Sunday!

January 27th There will not be Sunday School at 10 am we will be in the Sunday School room with Snacks and giving you all a break from the 3 services! We will not have youth that evening! Enjoy the hard work you have put into Youth Sunday and leading the church in worship!

We have a very exciting and rewarding month in Youth Ministry ahead of us, and we cannot wait to begin. I want to personally thank everyone who has helped with the youth through volunteering, prayers, donations, and support. Your dedication and love of the youth is changing their lives and shaping them in the church. Thank you to everyone who has done extra while I have also been out. I am extremely grateful, and I know the kids love to have others involved in their spiritual journeys!

We love and are thankful for you all, We hope you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



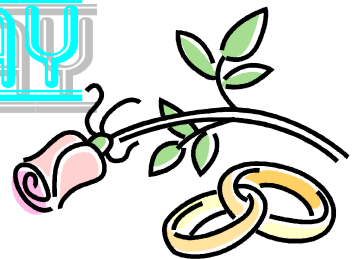
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AND

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

TO ALL WHO

CELEBRATE THIS MONTH!



Newsletter Deadline is the 20th of each month
Bulletin Deadline: Thurs. 9 AM

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January 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm New Year's Day Church Office is Closed	2 Midweek Service 11 am Adult Fellowship Luncheon 11:30 am Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	3 Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	4	5
6 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am Girl Power 12:30 pm Christmas Program and Potluck Dinner 5 pm <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	7 NarAnon 6:30 pm SPRC 6 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	8 Women's Daytime Bible Study 10 am Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:30 pm TAME Mtg 6 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm	9 Midweek Service 11 am Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	10 Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Trinity Outreach 5 pm <i>(Norman's Team)</i> Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	11	12 Red Cross Blood Drive 10 am-2 pm
13 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am TAME "Taste of Winter" 9:15-12:15 (see ad) VA UMC Foundation Informational Session 12 noon <i>(see Ad)</i> Youth Group 5-7 pm <i>First Sunday After Epiphany</i>	14 UMW 6 pm UMM 6 pm NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	15 Women's Daytime Bible Study 10 am The Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm	16 Midweek Service 11 am Handbells 6 pm Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	17 Scrapbook Fellowship 9 am (see ad) Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	18	19
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27 Youth Sunday! Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am FROGs and Tadpoles 5 pm NO Youth Group <i>Third Sunday After Epiphany</i>	28 NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	29 Women's Daytime Bible Study 10 am The Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm	30 Midweek Service 11 am Handbells 6 pm Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	31 Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Prayer Shawl 1 pm Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Financial Peace University 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm		

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