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## From the Executive Pastor

Church, Mount Juliet, where he has served a lengthy pastorate.

Dr. Goff has two children -- Michael, who is a student at Memphis University, and Paige, a student at Wilson Central High School. Our new pastor enjoys golf, playing the guitar, reading and jogging. He has a great sense of humor and enjoys people.

Dr. Goff will be in the office officially February 1<sup>st</sup>. He will join the United Methodist Men for breakfast on February 6<sup>th</sup>. I hope many of the men of our church will come out to meet him. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be February 7 at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Then a church-wide reception to welcome Dr. Goff will be held here from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on February 7<sup>th</sup>. I join your Staff in inviting everyone to wear his or her name tag to church and for the reception to help with introductions.

Finally, I join all of you in committing to working wholeheartedly with Dr. Goff as we move forward under his leadership as the people of God in this place. I believe God's vision, God's preferred future for this congregation, will unfold in many marvelous and wonderful ways.



Jim Clardy  
Executive Pastor

Bishop Dick Wills has appointed The Reverend Dr. Craig Goff as Senior Pastor of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Dr. Goff comes to St. Mark's from Cook's United Methodist

## Stewardship & Finance



The Stewardship & Finance team recently met to review several financial reports dated 12/31/09, which reflected a full year of budget activity.

We are pleased to report that our church is in good financial condition in spite of a very difficult economic climate. At one point during the year, giving to the General Fund was running more than \$100,000 behind the plan. But response to the call for help last fall was outstanding, and the shortfall was significantly reduced by year end.

*Thank you* for your very generous financial support of St. Mark's!

Even though we fell short of the annual giving goal, operating costs were also reduced. The net result was a small increase in our fund balances. We can all be very thankful for the fiscal responsibility that has been exhibited by Dr. Hembree and the other members of our church staff.

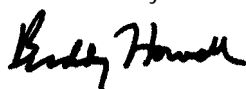
Giving to the Building Fund has been very generous over the years, and 2009 was no exception. At the end of the year, enough money had accumulated in the Building Fund to pay off the mortgage on our facility. In other words, *we're debt free!*

This good news is something we have been looking forward to for some time. We borrowed \$1,400,000 to fund construction of our current building. The payments were scheduled to pay off the loan in 20 years. We did it in 7-1/2 years! Thanks to everyone who has contributed so generously!

In summary, 2009 ended on an exceptionally positive financial note, and our future looks bright.

Let's not forget that financial support is only one way we can help make disciples for Jesus Christ. It takes our collective prayers, presence, gifts and service to keep St. Mark's a strong and vibrant church. Please be in prayer about how you will participate in the life of our church this year.

Thanks for all you do to make St. Mark's a great church!



Buddy Howell  
Team Leader, Stewardship & Finance

## Note of Thanks

Fred and Debbie would like to thank everyone for the wonderful reception on Sunday, and for the gifts and money tree.

*"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ"*



Carolyn Anderson, Peggy Barnes, Janie Blair, James Bolling, Jim Carpenter, Marge DeBoer, Pauline Ducker, Ryan Duncan, Bob Ellis, Carolyn Festervand, Eska Garrison, John Genet, Bobbie Goodman, Jerry Green, Dick Gregurich, J. B. Heflin, Jim Hill, Jessie Jackson, Margie Keith, Jane Lawell, Bil Lien, Gordon Manis, Blake McCormick, Abigail Moore, Lyn Newman, Earlene Pirtle, Bonnie Sanders, Bertie Siebert, Dot Smith, Mary Teeder, Whitney Tew, Joan Van Fleet, Jim Vandervort,

Marge Voorhies, Greta Whiteside.

Our prayers and sympathy are expressed to the friends and family of Marcia Manley, and to the Daniel family on the death of Fred's grandmother, Jeanette Williams.

### Older Adult News

On Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 9:00 A.M. the church buses will leave for the Button Willow Theater in Whitwell, Tennessee. The theater and shows have been chosen as among the top five attractions in the Chattanooga Area by The Travel Channel. The theater production is advertised as a moving two hour show all based on actual historic events. It is further described this way: "A brother and sister, meeting by chance during the war, set the story. He is a career Army Officer, a West Point graduate and a confirmed Unionist. His sister, a die-hard Confederate, shows up in his camp and reveals she is secreting medicines to the Rebels. Their encounter is full of drama, laughs, and a few tender tears. Their conversation will amaze and amuse you." The cost is \$32.95, which includes lunch at 11:15 a.m., the gratuity, and the show. There will be an additional \$3.00 donation requested for fuel costs. The meal includes baked chicken, trimmings and vegetables, cobbler and pan biscuits. Please register through the church office at 893-3455.

The next meeting of the Older Adult Ministry Team is at 10:30 a.m. on February 18.

On Monday, February 22, 2010, our Older Adults will take a tour of the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville. The buses will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. There is no cost for this tour but you will be asked to donate a few dollars to help defer the cost of fuel for the buses. After the tour at 10:00 a.m. we will have lunch together before returning to the church.

The two-session AARP Refresher Driver Course is offered on Monday, March 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and on March 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The sessions will be held in the St. Mark's Banquet Hall. There's room for you. Please register through the church office (893-3455). Upon completion of the course you will receive a certificate which some insurance companies honor with a discount.

### Steak, Eggs, and Dr. Goff

The United Methodist Men of St. Mark's (UMM) will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30 a.m. in the Banquet Room. This special gathering will commence with a Steak and Eggs Breakfast, and will feature our new Senior Pastor, Dr. Craig Goff as speaker. As is customary for all UMM meetings, there is no charge for the breakfast meal. This meeting will be a wonderful opportunity for the men of St. Mark's to welcome Dr. Goff, and all men are invited and encouraged to attend. As a reminder, UMM membership is open to all the men of St. Mark's. We look forward to seeing you there.

### UMW News

Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.  
Lois Shipp Circle at Lane Ag. Center

Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.  
Jane Mose/Glenn Robinson Circle - BR

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.  
Women's Evening Fellowship  
Kathy Edwards, Program  
Pam Forrest, Hostess



*With Anticipation and  
Joy*

Let Us Welcome into Our Fellowship

*Dr. Craig Goff*

Sunday, February 7,  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Church-Wide Reception in the Narthex



### Stewardship Summary

As of January 24, 2010:  
Budget Need Each Week - \$20,454  
Budget Need YTD - \$81,816  
Received YTD - \$71,498  
Difference - \$10,318



**Lay Speaking  
Ministries:  
The New Basic  
Course**

Explore three aspects of lay ministry: leading, caring, and communication. 10 Sessions, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning February 3, led by Ann Benson. \$12 Materials fee, child care provided.



**VBS 2010  
Save the Date!**

June 21-25, 2010

Co-Directors:  
Tracy Ervin and Courtney Pack

### Divorce Support

Provides confidential support for persons considering or undergoing divorce, or in need of support after divorce. 12 sessions on Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.. Child care provided. Led by Dr. Keith Carlson.



## Wednesday Night Together

### Food, Faith & Fellowship!

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Church Family Dinner

*1/27/2010: Pork Loin, French Cut Green Beans, Sweet Potato Fries, Corn Bread, Salad Bar and Dessert*

*2/3/2010: Meat Loaf, Green Peas, Mashed Potatoes, Roll, Salad Bar and Dessert (Note: Menus are Subject to Change!)*  
*Reservations due by 12:00 p.m. Monday*

*\$5.00/Adult, \$2.00/Children 10 and under, \$15.00/Families up to 6 People*

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Childcare Available  
*Infants to Age 4 in Rooms 201-204*

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**For the Kids, Ages 4 - Grade 6:**

*Choir and Musical Rehearsals,  
Homework Help, Bookworms, and more!*

**For the Youth, Gr. 7 - 12:**

*"Shaped by the Story"*

*7th - 8th Grade Bible Study - Y.C.*

*9th - 12th Grade Bible Study - Y.C.*

**For the Adults,**

**NEW! "PICTURE PERFECT"** *Using technology to enhance and display your favorite images. Led by Summer Hillesheim in Room 207.*

*2/3 - Photo-Enhancing Software*

*2/10 - Movie Maker*

**Revelation Bible Study Resumes**

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>,**

*Room 402/404, Led by Dr. Bill Mullins*

**Moms on the Run:**

*Meet at the Preschool Door.*

Parent Chill and Chat: *Room 213.*

### Mommies of St. Mark's

The Mommies of St. Mark's will be hosting a Valentine's event at The Pottery Place in The Avenue on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The cost will be \$6 per person who paints. Any mommy and child (under 10 years old) are welcome. For more information, contact Rachel Holder (542-5696) or Jessica Duncan (525-6752).

### St. Mark's Women's Retreat 2010 March 5-6, Beersheba Springs Speaker: Rev. Sandra Griggs

Do you sometimes find it hard to manage the many transitions that present themselves in your life? New baby? Job change? Empty nest? Loss of a loved one? Managing work, your family and feeding your spiritual soul can be tough.

At the Women's Retreat, we will examine how we might make life's transitions less of an obstacle and find out how we can turn to God and each other for the help we need.

Join St. Mark's women of all ages for 24 hours of relaxation, laughter and yummy snacks while we figure out how to become the best women we can be!

Registration forms available at the Welcome Center or in the Church office. Call Patti Daws (849-3507) for more information. See you there!

### St. Mark's Mission to Haiti

Thank you for your terrific response to the disaster in Haiti. To date, 550 UMCOR Health Kits have been assembled for transport to the UMCOR Depot in Sager Brown, Louisiana for distribution in Haiti. In addition, more than \$5600 has been collected for disaster relief efforts in Haiti.

**AN ADDITIONAL NOTE:** The Rev. Sam Dixon, top executive of UMCOR, and the Rev. Clinton Rabb, executive with the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries, both died in the Haiti earthquake from injuries received while at the Hotel Montana of Port-Au-Prince. Please remember their families and co-workers upon this loss.

### Pirtle Reception

Members of St. Mark's are invited to attend a reception in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Sam and Earlene Pirtle on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the church.

### New Arrivals

Blake Harrison Long - January 22, 2010  
Son of Kevin and Allyson Long

## Youth News



Join Us Sunday, 1/31/ & 2/7/2010

9:45 a.m. SME Classes

No UMYF on January 31<sup>st</sup>

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - Super Bowl Party 5:00 p.m. in the Youth Center

### The Super Bowl Solution

Let the Boy Scouts of Troop 398 take care of your cooking on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. We offer you several selections of our own smoked pork or turkey BBQ packaged for pick up after church (9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) in the Fellowship Hall. We will deliver party orders! Your choice of pork for \$8/pound and/or turkey for \$9/pound (order extra and freeze it for a treat later on!) We will also offer 16 ounce sides of Cole slaw and baked beans for \$4 each. Back by popular demand are our sauces: 12 oz. Humming bird (mild) and Screaming Eagle (spicy) for \$5.

Please place your orders in advance, since only limited quantities of meat will be available for sale on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> - Tickets are currently on sale by troop members. Scouts will have tickets for sale in the Narthex on Wed. nights and on Sundays thru Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are also available in the Church Office or call or email Scoutmaster Mike Warren 896-1994 / [mike11345@aol.com](mailto:mike11345@aol.com).

### "Claim The Name"

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes are now in session during the Christian education hour, Sundays, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., under the leadership of Patti Daws, George Faulk and David and Lindsey Gagnon.

All 6<sup>th</sup> graders should register for confirmation! For more information, contact Rev. Martha Touchton.



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<b>January 2010</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<h1>Calendar of Events</h1>	<b>February 2010</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
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**RECURRING EVENTS**

**SUNDAYS**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship - WC
- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - WC
- 5:00 p.m. Christianity & World Religions-504
- 5:15 p.m. Chancel Ringers - WC

**WEDNESDAYS**

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Chapel
- 4:15 p.m. Beginnings Bible Study - 408
- 4:30 p.m. Carol Ringers - WC
- 5:30 p.m. WNT Dinner - BR
- 6:00 p.m. G.R.A.C.E Dance - WC
- 6:30 p.m. WNT Program
- Youth Bible Study - YC
- Children's Choirs - 209, 212, 304
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
- Wesley Covenant Group - 408

**THURSDAYS**

- 6:15 a.m. Youth Bible Study - YC
- 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - 402/404
- 11:00 a.m. Bible Study - 408
- 5:30 p.m. Strength Training - Narthex

- 6:00 p.m. Walking Exercise
- 6:30 p.m. Divorce Support Group - 504
- Financial Peace Univ.- 402/404

**DAILY EVENTS**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 29**

- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints - 405

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group - 408
- 9:00 a.m. Chorister's Guild Trip
- Rehearsal - 503

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31**

- 5:00 p.m. Disciple II Orientation - 506
- 7:00 p.m. "Job" Orientation - 402/404

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints Exercise - 405
- 7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 398 at Eagle's Nest

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

- 5:30 p.m. Strength Training - Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. Walking Exercise

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

- 7:00 p.m. "Created By God" - YC

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints - 405
- 7:00 p.m. "Created By God" - YC

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

- 9:00 a.m. "Created By God" - YC
- 7:00 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group - 408

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

- 1:00 p.m. Reception for Dr. Goff-Narthex
- 4:00 p.m. SONlight - WC
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Super Bowl Party - YC

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints Exercise - 405
- 5:30 p.m. Room in the Inn - 506
- 6:00 p.m. UMW Lois Shipp Circle at Lane Ag Center
- 7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 398 at Eagle's Nest

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

- 10:00 a.m. UMW Moss/Robinson Circle-BR
- 5:30 p.m. Strength Training - Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. Walking Exercise

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

- 4:00 p.m. Altar Guild - WC