

The Messenger
A Publication of
ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*From the
Pastor*



I want to thank everyone for the warm reception Sunday. The cards I received from the children during worship were particularly touching. It was a full and exciting day. It was great meeting so many of you and I look forward to getting to know you all and serving the Lord with you.

It has been an honor to begin working with the staff here at St. Marks. I have heard so many good things about them and they have graciously lived up to all I've heard. I have had meetings with the SPR committee, Trustees and United Methodist Men and am impressed with the health and vitality of this congregation.

The men's breakfast was especially well attended. I would like to take credit for the increased attendance over past meetings, but Bill did serve steak...

I want to invite everyone to a Lenten study group I will be leading the week following our Ash Wednesday service. The youth are helping with that service and hope everyone can make it that night. My class will be called "Embracing the Cross and Finding Life!" and will focus on how picking up our cross and observing a Lenten discipline can enrich our lives and help us to be more effective in serving Christ. It begins February 24th and will run 4 weeks.

Hope you can make it, look forward to seeing you soon. Thank you again for such a nice reception.

Blessings,

Craig

**Children's Coin Offering
Sunday, February 14**

For Domestic Violence

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Older Adults

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Upcoming Programs and Bible Studies

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Calendar of Events

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**JAM SESSION
PHAZER CRAZE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

3:00 Meet at Phazer Craze
(252 River Rock Blvd.)

\$12.00 per person includes

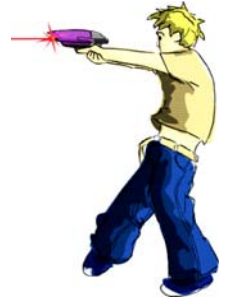
Three 20-minute Games of Phazer Craze

Bring Additional \$\$\$ for Snacks and/or Drinks

Wear Black Clothing and Athletic Shoes

5:00 p.m. Be Picked up at Phazer Craze

Open to all 5th and 6th graders. All Participants must have a 2009-2010 Jam Session Parent Permission Form on file. Please turn in your \$12 (and Form if needed) to Rev. Martha Touchton or Tammy Howell by Wednesday, February 21st Register Early - Space is Limited! - Parent Chaperones/Participants Welcome
Call Tammy at 895-2618 to Volunteer!



**St. Mark's Preschool
Fall 2010 Registration**

Members of St. Mark's who are not already a part of the preschool program, are invited to register for the 2010-2011 preschool year on Tuesday, March 2nd from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Click on the preschool link on our church website for more information, or call the preschool at 895-1803.

**AARP Driver Safety Program
at St. Mark's**

The AARP will sponsor a Driver Safety Program at St. Mark's on March 1st and 2nd from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. both days. Completion of the course may save you up to 10% on your car insurance. The cost of the program is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Payment is due on the first day of class.

For more information, or to sign up, stop by or call the church office at 893-3455.

"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ"



Peggy Barnes, Janie Blair, James Bolling, Jim Carpenter, Myrtle Draper, Pauline Ducker, Ryan Duncan, Vickie Fox, Eska Garrison, Dick Gregurich, Porter Gunter, J. B. Heflin, Jessie Jackson, Cranford Jennings, Abigail Moore, Earlene Pirtle, Bonnie Sanders, Dot Smith, Mary Teeder, Whitney Tew, Joan Van Fleet, Jim Vandervort, Marge Voorhies, Mary Wallace, Greta Whiteside.

Our prayers and sympathy are expressed to Mark and Nancy Phillips, on the death of Mark's mother, Patricia Phillips.

Older Adult News

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.

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.

Our next trip to the Cumberland Playhouse, Crossville, Tennessee is Thursday, April 8, 2010, to see "Annie," one of the top family musicals ever. The cost is \$21.00. Please pay this and make reservations through the church office (893-3455). There will be a \$3.00 donation for the bus fuel to be paid the day of the trip. The bus will leave at 8:30 promptly from the church. We'll take a rest break in Sparta, Tennessee. We will arrive at the Cumberland Mountain State Park Restaurant for lunch at 11:00 A.M. Then, it's on to the Playhouse in time for the 2:30 P.M. matinee. This is always a great trip. Please go ahead and sign up as soon as possible.

Get Ready, Get Set, Let's Cook!

Not a lot of time left at the end of your day? Want to learn some tricks to get that meal on the table quick? Join Tammy Howell for some good food, great fun and clever cooking tips that are easy and family friendly! Four Wednesdays beginning February 24, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Room 213.

UMW News

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

Monday, March 8th, 7:00 p.m.
Lois Shipp Circle at St. Mark's
Tuesday, March 9th, 10:00 a.m.
Jane Moss/Glenn Robinson Circle - BR

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.

St. Mark's Preschool Presents Kevin Kidd's

"Cowpokes Don't Poke Fun at Each Other"

Thursday, February 25, 2010
6:30 p.m.

Please join the families of St. Mark's Preschool for an evening of music and fun, as we learn about using kind words. Admission is free. This program is geared for children through 3rd grade.

Come dressed as a cowpoke!

G.I.F.T. Class Invitation to Young Adults

The G.I.F.T. Sunday School Class of St. Mark's would like to invite any young adults not already affiliated with a Sunday School class to join them for a potluck dinner at the home of Jeffery and MaryBeth Baker, 181 Appaloosa Ln. in Woodbury, at 5:00 p.m. on February 21st.

G.I.F.T. stands for "Growing in Faith Together" and was formed for young adults beyond college, including singles and newly married persons starting families. We meet in Room 405 at 9:45-10:45 every Sunday. If you have questions, or need more information, call MaryBeth Baker at 464-2594 or Jessica Duncan at 525-6752.



Wednesday Night Together

Food, Faith & Fellowship!

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

2/17/2010: Lasagna, Broccoli Spears, White Kernel Corn, Garlic Bread, Salad Bar, and Dessert

2/24/2010: Chicken Breast Filet, California Blend Veggies, Baked Beans, Roll, Salad Bar, 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 Lenten Study led by Dr. Craig Goff
"Embracing the Cross and Finding Life!"

In today's culture, any reference to "bearing a cross" is almost always described in negative terms. In Scripture, however, to bear one's cross is a liberating experience. During the season of lent, Dr. Goff will be leading a Lenten study on the liberating nature of bearing one's cross and following Jesus. February 24th - March 17th in Room 403.

Basic Course in Lay Speaking
Room 504, Led by Ann Benson

Revelation Bible Study
Room 402/404, Led by Dr. Bill Mullins

Moms on the Run:
Meet at the Preschool Door.

Parent Chill and Chat: Room 213.

Coffee Talk: *In the Narthex*

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!

REGISTER TODAY! 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.



VBS 2010 Save the Date!

June 21-25, 2010

Co-Directors:
Tracy Ervin and Courtney Pack

Scout Sunday

St. Mark's will celebrate SCOUT SUNDAY this Sunday, February 14th. All Boy and Girl Scouts are encouraged to wear their uniforms to church!

Any Girl Scouts who would like to assist in collecting the Coin Offering are asked to see their Coin Offering Coordinator prior to the service this Sunday:
8:30 a.m. coordinator: Butler Touchton
11:00 a.m. coordinator: Renita Davis

Youth News



Join Us Sunday, 2/14 & 2/21/2010
9:45 a.m. SME Classes

Sunday, 2/14/2010
5:00 p.m. - Movie Night in the Youth Center

Sunday, 2/21/2010
5:00 p.m. - UMYF Youth Fellowship

Save the Date! April 25th - Youth Auction

Grades 2 - 5 Study "Peacemakers"

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Mt. 5:9

Throughout the Bible, we read stories of people who tried to bring peace and justice to all of God's people. Their stories inspire us and help us learn how to be God's peacemakers today!

During the month of February, children in Grades 2 - 5 workshop rotation classes will explore biblical stories which show how being a peacemaker of ten took courage and skill. The children will be encouraged to be peacemakers in their own homes school and communities.

Thanks to our volunteer workshop leaders:

Art: Tammy Howell
Computers: Brad Ganues
Music: Caroline Hensley
Games: Melanie Saylor

"Claim The Name"

6th 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 6th graders should register for confirmation! For more information, contact Rev. Martha Touchton.



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DATE AND TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

To be removed from the mailing list,
e-mail stmarks@stmarkstn.org

Calendar of Events	February 2010						
	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						

RECURRING EVENTS

SUNDAYS

- 8:30 a.m. Worship - WC
- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - WC
- 4:00 p.m. SONlight - WC
- 5:00 p.m. Christianity & World Religions-504
Disciple II - 506
Job and the Life of Faith - 402/4
UMYF Youth Fellowship - YC/BR
- 5:15 p.m. Chancel Ringers - WC

WEDNESDAYS

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Chapel
- 4:30 p.m. Carol Ringers - WC
- 5:30 p.m. WNT Dinner - BR
- 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, FEBRUARY 12

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group - 408

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - PRESIDENTS DAY

- Office and Preschool Closed
- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints Exercise - 405
- 4:00 p.m. Altar Guild - WC
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministers - 408
- 7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 398 at Eagle's Nest

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY

- 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship - WC

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 10:30 p.m. Older Adults team - 506

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group - 408

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 9:00 a.m. Gentle Joints Exercise - 405
- 5:30 p.m. Room in the Inn - 506
- 7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 398 at Eagle's Nest

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 6:30 p.m. Kevin Kidd Family Night - Narthex
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting - 408