



August 10, 2017

What's Your Plan?

It's happening. Like it or not. Summer seems to end sooner every year as schools inch closer to a year-round experiment, but the end of Summer is now right around the corner. Sigh!

Even if you don't have school-aged kids in your home, the school year still manages to dictate the general inhale and exhale of our year. When students return to school, we return to our 'school year selves' and we have to re-establish our routine again. As you re-establish your routine, I would imagine most of you can relate with a couple elements of my routine:

- With one kiddo in school, my routine will undoubtedly be impacted (at least partially) by the school calendar: school day start times, parent-teacher meetings, extra-curricular activities, off days, etc..
- As the weather chills, we'll all start spending less time outside and spend fewer late nights.

This time of year is similar to New Year. Most of us look forward to New Year because it's like a clean slate. We make resolutions and we set our minds and hearts on starting new habits and getting a good start on the clean slate.

With those similarities let me encourage you to look at this time of year as just that...a fresh start. What happened last year that you'd like to improve on? What would you like to accomplish, and how can you get a start on it? What habits do you need to drop?

Now that you're thinking in that vein, Where are you spiritually? What goals would you like to accomplish in your faith?

It's a hard admission, but the Church is terrible at helping people set spiritual goals. I would propose that's because goal setting requires assessment of some type. So, when is the last time you assessed your spiritual

life? Not likely any time recent. In fact, not likely any time at all.

As you look at establishing a new routine and I encourage you to include spiritual practices in that routine, maybe it would be helpful to provide some sort of assessment. So...I guess I will. I have a paper evaluation you can use to discern your spiritual strengths and weaknesses, which would be a great first step for including spiritual goals into the 'school year you'. By the time this is published, I intend to have an online version of the form on our website (stmarksumchurch.org) for those who prefer an electronic version. You can take the assessment and it will give you some idea of strengths and weaknesses. Then, you can make some choices about how you'll focus your efforts into a new routine.

Once you've taken the assessment, if you have questions or need help connecting with ideas and resources to help develop an area, I would LOVE to talk with you about those things. Call, email or text and we'll set up a time to sit down and talk about opportunities, tools and resources.

So...Summer is almost over. That means a new routine is about to settle in. What's your plan?

Pastor Chris

Did you know...



You can update your family and contact info on a form at the Information Table, on the website or the St. Mark's app?



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

Donna Bailer
Amber Mills
Calli Wallace
Dan Butcher
Linda Clark
Scott Mills
Donnis Phillips
Brandon Wiseman

Carolyn Marbaugh
Cynthia Engle
Abbey Martin
Don Egley
Miranda Lockwood
Lisa Nash



Ron Joumay
Aaron Teeter
Cindy Heimann
Carey Zurcher
Rachel Gerber
Lillie Hunt
Imolu Lenhart
Sue Anderson

Alan Martin
Stephanie Bixler
Martie Butcher
Eli Hunt
Alan Miller
Ruth Harvey
Jaime Macklin
Dave Reynolds

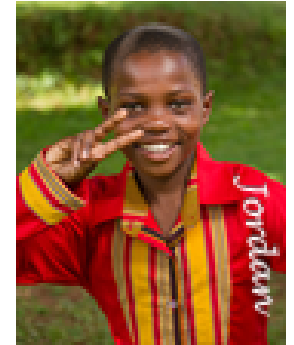
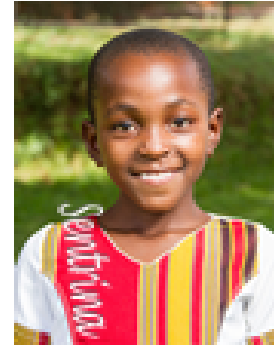
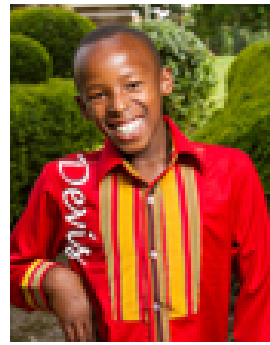
The next newsletter is scheduled for
September 7. Article deadline is August 30.

*Celebrating an
Anniversary*



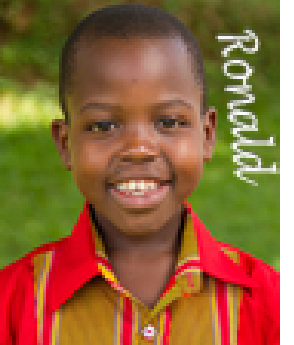
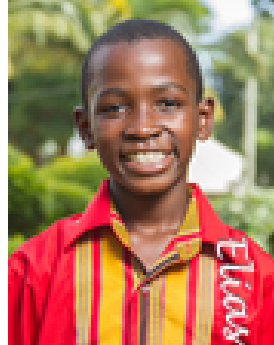
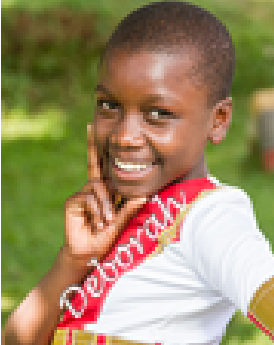
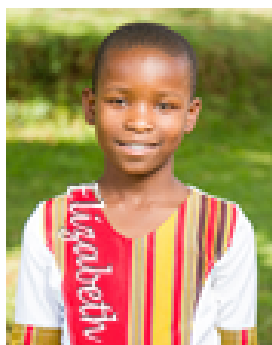
Scott & Kam Teeter
Phillip & Linda Clark
Jim & Nancy Teeter
Norm & Liz Koons
Myles & Jennifer Baczynski
Pat & Lisa Nash
John & Jeri Fahncke
Mark & Kathy Miller

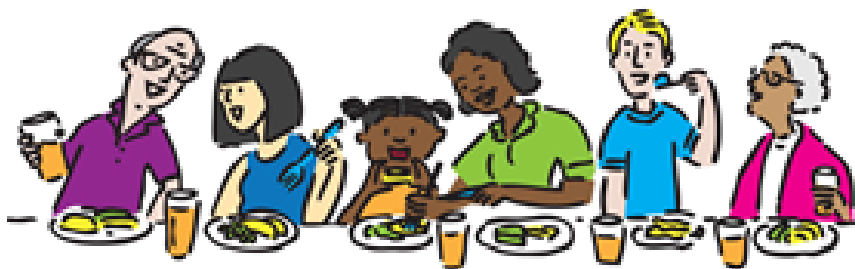
Dear Friends,
For your words of kindness, for your emails and prayers, for the many cards sent to Alan and the visits by Pastor Emie, for Pastor Chris' remarkably perfect eulogy & words of comfort - a very sincere and heartfelt thank you.
Mark & Kathy Miller



Many thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways when the Ugandan Kids Choir was here last month. Special thanks to the three host homes - Jim and Dianne Burk, Cindy Thieme, and the Webb family. Thanks to the Wings of Faith class, Cindy Engle, Missions Committee, and many church musicians for providing food for the kids and helping with the potluck lunch. Thanks, also to the Hopkins family for recording the service along with Pastor Emie, Gary Teeple, and Bob Coolman for tearing down the fellowship hall after the potluck, and to Arlette for designing/printing the cute placemats for the potluck. The kids truly enjoyed being at St. Mark's and they are thankful for the blessing you were to them with your generous love offering and sponsorships.

Sue





St. Mark's to host Community Dinner Wed., August 30

*Greetings, Thanks & Blessings to all.
Have certainly enjoyed your visits to our chapel.
May the Lord be with you as you bring your mes-
sages & songs to share. Keep up the good work.
Love & Blessings to all, Betty Hovenman*



A thank-you and welcome to the fall for the Praise Team and Choir is planned for Wednesday, September 6 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Menu: brats, hamburgers, baked beans, macaroni 'n cheese, chips, dessert

Would you provide food to serve 30 (at St. Mark's by 4:00 pm):

- ♥ 30 Hamburger buns
- ♥ 30 Hot Dog buns
- ♥ 30 Brats
- ♥ Baked beans
- ♥ dessert
- ♥ 30 Hamburger patties
- ♥ Chips
- ♥ Macaroni 'n cheese

Servants Needed:

- ♥ Set-up tables/chairs (4:30 pm)
- ♥ Serve choir (6:15 pm)
- ♥ Clean up after meal has been served (7:00 pm)

Sign up sheets are on the Information Table.

Thank you for encouraging our musicians!

For more information contact Sue Coolman, 260-820-1858



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 7 PM

St. Mark's will provide food and food service at 1st United Methodist in Decatur for the Community Dinner on Wednesday, August 30.

Menu: hamburgers, baked beans, macaroni 'n cheese, chips, dessert (cookies, brownies, or cake)

Food Needed (at St. Mark's by 2:00 pm):

- ◊ Hamburger buns
- ◊ Baked beans
- ◊ chips
- ◊ Cookies, brownies, cake
- ◊ Macaroni 'n cheese

Help Needed:

- ◊ Grill hamburgers at St. Mark's (1:30 pm)
- ◊ Transport food to 1st Church from St. Mark's (2:30 pm)
- ◊ Set-up tables/chairs at 1st Church (2:30 pm)
- ◊ Fill & prepare carry-out meals (3:30 pm)
- ◊ Serve people eating in the church building (4:45 pm)
- ◊ Clean up after meal has been served (6:00 pm)
- ◊ Return items to St. Mark's kitchen (6:30 pm)

Sign up sheets are on the Information Table. Thank you for your service!

For more information contact Cindy Thieme, 260-692-2716.

Kid's Sunday School



Kid's Sunday Hours

Children's Sunday School hour - 2nd Service 10:30-11:30am

5yrs. thru 5th grade meet in Room 19. Sunday School will be a combined classroom, we will add additional classrooms when attendance increases.

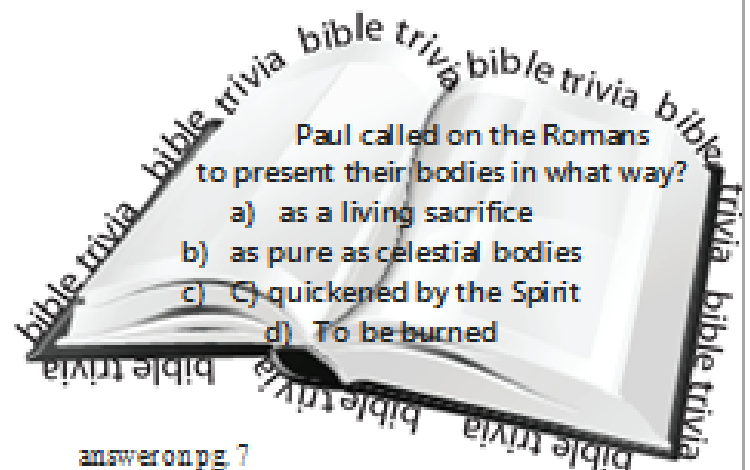
Nursery & Tinker Tots - Newborn thru 4yr olds

meet in Room 7 all three hours

1st Service 8:15-9:15am only

Nursery/Cry room: A separate space that gives parents the freedom, if they feel the need, to temporarily soothe their child outside the sanctuary. They can also watch the service through a television monitor so they don't miss anything. We will have one helper in the room at this time.

Adult Sunday School Hour 9:30-10:30am



answers on pg 7

YOUTH

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday School:

11:30 am-1:00 pm

High School

6- 8 pm - Sunday night

Middle School:

6 - 8 pm - Wednesday night

MISSION Matters

AUGUST

4th Sunday giving St. Mark's Missions

By the time you read this, 20 youth and 7 adults will have returned from a work camp trip to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky Sunday, July 30th to Sunday, Aug. 6th. More details of what they did will be shared in the September newsletter.

Another outreach program at the Pine Crossing Apartments will take place on Sunday, August 27th. This will be the third such event for the children and their parents who reside there. Many of our youth and several adults will be there to interact with them and share the love of Christ.

OPERATION HELP

(Decatur Ministerial Association Food Bank) will be using St. Mark's volunteers on Wednesdays during the month of September.

Please consider helping on September 6, 13, 20, or 27 from 1-4PM at the county offices (Old Jr. High) on Jefferson Street. We need two helpers each of those days.

Please contact the church office, Cindy Thieme or Sandy Brown if you can help.

Anyone wishing to help serve Hospitality on Sunday mornings, please contact Cindy Heimann at 223-1024 or email Cheimann@centurylink.net.

Cookies, coffee, and juice are all purchased for you to serve. If you wish you could add something home baked.

OR, donations of baked treats are always welcomed. Just mark your package "SMF" and leave on the kitchen counter under the serving window or on the freezer top shelf.



Part of Pastor Chris's sermon on July 23rd had a direct connection to what we do in missions. He confessed, as we should too, that all of us are really control freaks, looking for something that WE can control in our lives. We are turning to something, to anything, that WE can control. We will often say that we are not afraid, that we trust, but our actions say something else! Our lives, IF we are really living for God, should "leave a trail behind us that point others.....not to US, but TO GOD". And this is what Missions is all about.....reaching out to others.....to not only meet their various needs, but to also share the Gospel of Jesus with them. So Pastor challenged us by asking, "Where and what are we turning to?" if we're not turning to God. We need to turn to Jesus - Trust in Jesus - Turn to Jesus - and in so doing, help others turn to Jesus too! That's what we try to do in missions.

Effective August 1st, Cindy Thieme and Sandy Brown assumed the leadership responsibilities as Missions Co-Chairs for St. Mark's (pending Council approval). Sue and Craig are temporarily relocating to West Lafayette, IN to help their son and his growing family. It has been an incredible pleasure, honor, and privilege for us to serve in this capacity for the last 21 months. Cindy and Sandy have been a part of St. Mark's missions for a long time and are very knowledgeable about all that goes on. They each have a wonderful servant spirit, and a heartfelt passion for helping others and sharing the love of Christ. St. Mark's Missions will be in VERY good hands!

The St. Mark's Sweet Chariots Car Show on July 1st was again very successful. Well over 100 restored automobiles were on hand! The weather was perfect, the crowds were large, and the Missions Committee made over \$4,000 to support upcoming programs.

Thanks to so many who not only helped that day, but also spent several months planning the event.

WORSHIP SERVANTS SCHEDULE

DATE	LITURGY 8:15	SCRIPTURE READING 10:30	USHERS 8:15	GREETERS 8:15	GREETERS/USHERS 10:30
8/13	Cindy Thieme	Megan Baczynski	John & Cindi Heilmann, John & Lori Barkley	Howard & Julia Jones	Dean Fuelling & family
8/20	Dennis Buhm	David Mlere	John & Cindi Heilmann, John & Lori Barkley	Alan & Abbey Martin	Craig & Cathy Coshow
8/27	Dianne Burk	Jane Drummer	Jerod & Rebecca Dailey, Linda Adams, John McCullough	Alan & Abbey Martin	Craig & Cathy Coshow
9/03	Joe Baker	Jaime Macklin	Jerod & Rebecca Dailey, Linda Adams, John McCullough	Dale & Janet Gagle	Troy & Kari Burkholder



Upcoming Messages AUGUST

- August 13
Matthew 8:23-27
"Come on Down"
- August 20
Matthew 15:21-28
"What up, Dog?"
- August 27
Romans 12:1-8
"What Does a Priest Do?"

Thank you so much for all the support and prayers the Church has provided me with my entire life. Thank you so much for the scholarship!
Riane Wyatt

*To my Church family, Thank you all for the gifts, flowers, and prayers during my lengthy hospitalization. Pastor Ernie's visits brought strength. The lap robe reminds me of the strength and depth present in our congregation. God's grace grants me progress that is slow and sure. My heart-felt thanks to the Saint Mark's Congregation. In Christ's love,
Barbara Zimmermann*

Church Calendar

Pastor Chris Gadlage's day of rest: Friday
cell/text 810-882-1463
email: pastor@stmarksumchurch.org

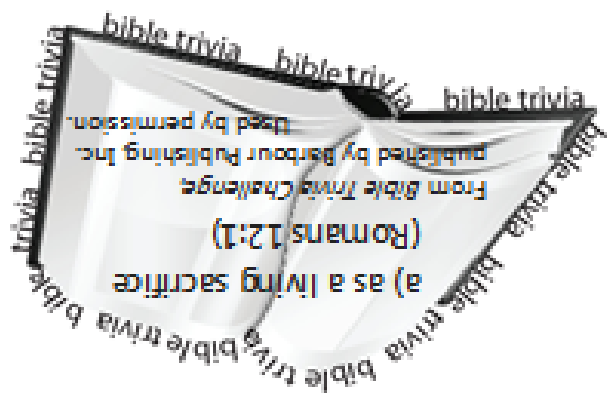
- Regular Sunday activities:
8:15 & 10:30 am - Worship
All morning: Nursery for infants through 4 yrs.
9:30-10:25 am - Adult Sunday school
10:30 am - Children's Sunday School
11:30 am - MS & HS Youth Sunday School
6 pm - High School Youth
- Regular Monday: 9 am - Sewing/Quilting Group, Rm 24
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday activities: 12:30 pm - Staff Meeting
- Regular Wednesday activities:
5:30 pm - Praise Team, Sanctuary
6 pm - Middle School Youth
6:45 pm - Women's Bible Study, Room 1
7 pm - Choir Practice, Music Rm
8 pm - Bells Practice, Sanctuary

Food Pantry @ 906 N 10th St.
Worship & Food Distribution - 1st & 3rd Tuesday - 4:45 pm
Afternoon packing - 2nd Tuesday - 2 pm
Evening packing - 4th Tuesday - 6:30 pm

- ⇒ Sun., Aug. 13 - Woodcrest Communion Service - 4 pm
- ⇒ Thurs., Aug. 17 - Finance Committee, Room 13a - 7 pm
- ⇒ Mon., Aug. 28 - Church Council mtg., Room 22 - 7 pm
- ⇒ Wed., Aug. 30 - Newsletter Article deadline
- Choir rehearsals begin - 7 pm
- ⇒ Mon., Sept. 4 - Labor Day Church building closed
- ⇒ Thurs., Sept. 7 - Newsletter prep - 9 am

Check the full calendar at stmarksumchurch.org

Hospitality will resume September 3.



August 10, 2017



Saint Mark's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

...making disciples of Jesus Christ...

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
546 W. US Highway 224
Decatur, IN 46733-7547

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U.S. POSTAGE

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Return Service Requested

St. Mark's United Methodist Church · 546 W. US Highway 224 · Decatur, IN 46733

Contact us: mail@stmarksumchurch.org

Phone (260)724-7183

Facebook: Decatur St. Mark's UMC

www.stmarksumchurch.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8:00-4:00 & Fri 8:00-12:00

Worship: Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 am Every other Tuesday 4:45 pm

Adult Sunday School 9:30 am. Children's One Room School Hour (ages 5-5th grade) - Sundays 10:30 am

Youth Sunday School (grades 6-12) - 11:30 am

High School Youth - Sundays 7:00-9:00 pm

Middle School Youth - Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 pm

1st & 3rd Tuesday - Worship: 4:45 p.m. Food Pantry: 5:15-6:15 pm

Senior Pastor - Rev. Chris Gadlage (Ext. 305) or

E-mail: pastor@stmarksumchurch.org Parsonage: 260-301-9292 Cell/text: 810-882-1463

Associate Pastor - Rev. Ernie Suman (Ext. 310) or

E-mail: ernie@stmarksumchurch.org Cell/text: 260-706-1558

High School Pastor - David Mere david@stmarksumchurch.org

Middle High Pastor - Terry Thieme terry@stmarksumchurch.org

Music Director - Sue Coolman sue@stmarksumchurch.org

Praise Leader - Jaime Macklin jaimie@stmarksumchurch.org

Organist - Dona Longbons dona@stmarksumchurch.org

Children's Ministry Director - Jody Helmrich (Ext. 306) jody@stmarksumchurch.org

Preschool & Child Care Director - Lisa Nash 724-8082 lisa@stmarksumchurch.org

Office Manager - Arlette Graeffin (Ext. 301) mail@stmarksumchurch.org

Custodian - Norman Hirschy (contact the church office)