

This Week at Saint Mark

Sunday, November 26		6:30p	Midweek Retreat programming
9:00a	Morning Worship	6:45p	Handbell practice
10:10a	Christian Education classes	7:30p	Chancel Choir rehearsal
11:15a	Morning Worship	8:00p	Augustine Fellowship 3
12:30p	Advent decorating		
4:30p	ASCA group		
Monday, November 27			
7:15a	Augustine Fellowship		
9:00a	ESL classes		
10:00a	Finance volunteers		
7:00p	Sentimental Journey rehearsal		
Tuesday, November 28			
7:15a	Augustine Fellowship		
9:00a	ESL classes		
2:30p	Supper Club prep		
7:00p	Crystal Meth Anonymous		
Wednesday, November 29			
7:15a	Augustine Fellowship		
9:00a	ESL classes		
5:00p	Beth's study of the Bible class		
5:30p	fellowship dinner		
Thursday, November 30			
7:15a	Augustine Fellowship		
9:00a	ESL classes		
7:00p	Piedmont & 3rd HOA meeting		
7:30p	AGMC rehearsal		
Friday, December 1			
7:15a	Augustine Fellowship		
12:00p	Living Room holiday party		
Saturday, December 2			
9:00a	Breakfast Club		
9:00a	New South Festival Singers reh.		
10:00a	Crystal Meth Anonymous		
10:30a	Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Christmas parade		
11:30a	Open Doors		

Church Parking Update

Please do not park in the lot on the other side of the 805 Peachtree condominium building (located across 5th Street from the church). Instead, please park in either of the 2 church parking lots located directly behind the church or in the lot at 763 Juniper Street.

Congregational Care

Hospitalized		Karen Podett's husband Mike	
Alice Fuller	Kennestone Wellstar	Sam Vaught's mother Toni Vaught	Roseboro, NC
Will Mathews	Gwinnett Medical Center	Judi Verdin	
Bill Sanders' father Jim	Emory		
At Home		In Care Facilities	
Rex Burruss		Stephen Fifield	Foxglove, East Point
Judi Cheney's brother Sandy	Jacksonville, FL	Julie Jones' mother Shirley	Park Springs, St. Mtn.
Michael Collin-Smythe's father		Tom Lawson	Decatur
Myrna Dial		Jeff McMullen's mother Sandra	Milledgeville GA
Mickel Graham		James Stevenson	Lenbrook Square
Jennifer Hansen's nephew Edward Lehman	AL	In Military Service	
Susie Kezh's mother Beth Bice	Ellijay	Keith Hutcherson's nephew Parker Heagerty,	
Stacy Ladd's mother Sue Alexander		PFC, US Army, Syria	
Andrew Land's father Jerry		Al Thomas' grandson Cory Carter	Ft Bragg NC
Vanessa Meeks			Army, Washington, DC
Bill Murray			

Please contact Rev. Beth LaRocca-Pitts to notify the church of a death or illness. To reach a minister after office hours in case of emergency, call 1-800-673-0411.

Saint Mark United Methodist Church
781 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30308

(404) 873-2636 • www.stmarkumc.org

The Saint Mark Care Line (after hours emergency): 1-800-673-0411

The Reverend Doctor Beth LaRocca-Pitts	Senior Pastor
The Reverend Jennifer Hansen	Minister of Outreach & Missions
The Reverend Joshua M. Noblitt	Minister of Social Justice & Evangelism
Ms. Jess Cusick	Director of Youth Ministries
Mr. Jonathan Easter	Director of Fine Arts
Minister Sheila Stephens	Minister of Education & Spiritual Formation

Next Sunday at Saint Mark

Foundations class Advent study *Christmas Gifts That Won't Break*. Join the class for an Advent journey with beloved storyteller James W. Moore, exploring the spirit of Christmas. As you light the candles of your Advent wreath, reflect on the unbreakable gifts of hope, love, joy, and peace that God has given us - and remember God's greatest gift, who comes to us as a baby and leads us through all the days of our lives. The Foundations class meets in room 111 on Sunday mornings at 10:10am. All are welcome!

Faith Seekers class Advent study Robert Giacomini will lead the class in an Advent study using Adam Hamilton's new series *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*, showing Christmas through the eyes of Joseph, a person about which very little is written in the Gospels but who had a profound impact on the life of Jesus. The Faith Seekers class invites you to join them in room 205 on Sunday Mornings at 10:10am.

Newcomers classes Beginning next Sunday, December 3 our class series for newcomers will meet Sunday mornings Dec. 3, 10, and 17 at 10:10am in the parlor. If you are new to Saint Mark or considering joining the church, we invite you to attend. To learn more, contact Rev. Josh Noblitt at jnoblitt@stmarkumc.org. On Sunday, December 17, participants will have the opportunity to join the church during Morning Worship.

The New South Festival Singers proudly present *Candlelight and Carols*, a concert at 3pm in the sanctuary featuring beloved carols, timeless holiday classics and the story of Christmas. Ticket prices range from \$5 to \$40. For more information, visit <https://www.festivalsingers.org/concerts>.

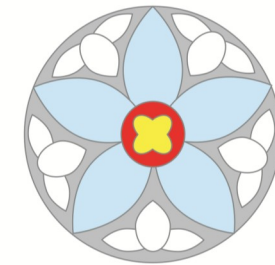
Called Church Conference Sunday, December 10

Church members are encouraged to attend a called Church Conference immediately following the 11:15 worship service on Sunday, December 10 to vote on signing a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the developers with whom we have been in conversation about the church property located at the corner of 5th and Juniper Streets. At the meeting we will see a presentation from the developers and have an opportunity to ask questions about their proposal. Real estate attorneys and advisors representing Saint Mark will also be present. Please contact Rev. Beth LaRocca-Pitts at bethLP@stmarkumc.org with any questions.

Help *Pride* for Parents Spread the Joy of Christmas!

Once again this year Saint Mark will collect toys for *Pride for Parents*, a program that operates a toy store where parents can shop for toys for their children at greatly reduced cost, giving them the dignity to provide for their children at Christmas instead of receiving a handout. We will collect new unwrapped toys to be sold in the *Pride for Parents* store. This is a unique giving opportunity at Christmas, providing: 1) The gift of a toy for a child, 2) The gift of parents' ability to provide for their families, and 3) The gift of a job for those employed in the store. We invite you to donate any toy that you think a child would enjoy receiving this Christmas. **Please deliver your toys to church by Sunday, Dec. 10.** We will bless the toys during worship and deliver them later that week. Contact Rev. Jennifer Hansen at jhansen@stmarkumc.org with any questions or check out the *Pride for Parents'* Amazon wish list for gift ideas.

**WELCOME HOME
TO**



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, November 26, 2017 - 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
Last Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King Sunday

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Enter to Fellowship ✠ Sit to Pray ✠ Stand to Worship ✠ Leave to Share

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

* - Where indicated, those who are able, please stand.

We sing from 2 hymnals during Sunday morning worship. The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) is the large red hymnal in the pew racks. The Faith We Sing (TFWS) is the smaller black hymnal found in the pews.

WE GATHER

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Jennifer Hansen

Leader: We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.

Many: Thanks be to God!

CONCERNS

Leader: For all these persons and all who are in need.

Many: Hold your people near, O God.

JOYS

Leader: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Let us take a moment to center our hearts on God.

PRELUDE AND CHIMES

Come Ye Thankful People Come - Greg Howlett

*INTROIT *When the Poor Ones*

UMH No. 434, stanzas 1 & 4

EL CAMINO

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 95*

Sheila Stephens

One: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

Many: Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

One: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

Many: And raise a loud shout to God with psalms.

One: For the Lord is a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

Many: In God's hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are God's also.

One: The sea is God's, for God made it, and God's hands have molded the dry land.

All: Come, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker, for we are the sheep of God's hand.

*HYMN *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

UMH No. 66

LAUDA ANIMA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament Lesson *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

Phil Hulst (9:00)
Dale Becker (11:15)

THE GIFTS OF AND FOR OUR YOUNGER CHURCH

Jess Cusick

*HYMN OF PRAISE *When God Restored Our Common Life*

TFWS No. 2182

RESIGNATION

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:31-46

Beth LaRocca-Pitts

SERMON

"Best Be a Sheep"

Beth LaRocca-Pitts

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jess Cusick

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

The Invitation

Jess Cusick

Offertory *Rejoice, the Lord is King* - John Rutter

Rejoice, the Lord is King; your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;

When he had purged our stains He took his seal above;

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n,

The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n,

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come

And take his servants up to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

*The Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH No. 95

OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING AND DEDICATION OF PLEDGES

Jennifer Hansen

WE ARE SENT FORTH INTO GOD'S WORLD

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND MEMBERSHIP

Jennifer Hansen

*HYMN OF DEDICATION *Lead On, O King Eternal*

UMH No. 580

LANCASHIRE

*BENEDICTION AND TRINITY CHIMES

Beth LaRocca-Pitts

POSTLUDE

C Major Prelude - J.S. Bach

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Today at Saint Mark

Stewardship Season at Saint Mark We continue our focus on opportunities to be good stewards of our financial resources, time and talents. Look for the *Time and Talent* insert at the end of your pew along with the pledge card in your bulletin to pray over, fill out and place in the offering plate once you are ready to make your monetary pledge.

Combined Faith Seekers / Interactions classes Today at 10:10am in the Interactions classroom (room 206), Robert Givens will discuss Saint Mark's 2017 international mission trip to Costa Rica and share about his upcoming, more permanent entry into the mission field in Central America.

Calling all elves! If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary and the chapel for Advent (hanging wreaths, banners, and decorating the Chrismon tree), plan to stay after church today! We would appreciate any and all who want to help. We will order pizza for lunch. See you there!

Pledge progress!

As of last Sunday, we have \$376,183 in total pledges toward the 2018 budget! If we add to that the \$386,466 that we anticipate getting in non-pledged income (which comes in from weddings, other payments for use of the building, and loose plate offerings) that means we have gotten nearly 50% of next year's budget of \$1,144,802 covered! We still have a ways to go, but that is a great beginning! Pledge cards will remain available at services and as always you can go online at the website (www.stmarkumc.org) or use the Church Life phone app to make your pledge. Thank you so much for supporting Saint Mark and its ministries!

The updated Mission Giving Report can be found on the back of the enclosed poinsettia order form in your bulletin today.

CHOA Christmas parade This Saturday, December 2

This Saturday, December 2 the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Christmas parade will come down Peachtree Street and end right in front of Saint Mark! The parade begins at 10:30am and ends at noon. The timing coincides with our weekly Open Doors open house, providing us with an opportunity to offer the spectators some Saint Mark hospitality. Join us to watch the parade or come to welcome visitors on behalf of Saint Mark!

Midweek Advent Worship

Join us for brief weekly Advent services in the chapel every Wednesday at noon (December 6, 13, and 20). Services will include readings, prayer and music led by Rev. Steve Fazenbaker. Stop by the chapel and enjoy a time of peace and reflection during this busy season.

Welcome, Visitors!

We're so happy you have chosen to worship with us today! Please stop by the Visitor's Center in the narthex (near the front doors to the sanctuary) before you leave - we have a special gift for you!

If you would like to provide fresh flowers in the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship, please contact Christia Holloway in the church office.

Assisting in Worship Today

Soundboard: Kale Wright & Deanna Dennis
9:00 Greeters: Eric and Joyce Norman

Usher Team: Jon Atteberry, Head Usher; Julie Arms Meeks, co-captains; Roger Brown, Val Blankenship, Jeff Cain, Barbara Green, Jeff Hamil, Jason Hardman, Todd Kimball, Gary McClelland, James Mullen, and Bruce Roaden

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