



The Saint Mark Navigator

A Newsletter for the Congregation and Friends of Saint Mark United Methodist Church

Volume 8, Issue 13

August, 2009

Saint Mark Web Site

www.saintmarkumcseneca.org

Saint Mark Weekly Devotion Line

882 - U R Calling Devotions (882-8723)

Telephone: 864-882-2603

NOTE: This is a Month-Long Issue.

Wednesday
Night
Fellowship

Church Family Night

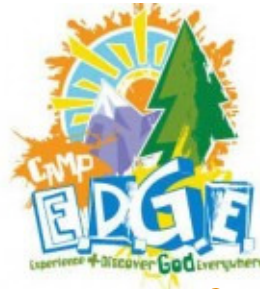
Our Wednesday Church Family Night is scheduled to start back on the 9th of September. We are excited about all the activities that are being scheduled. It is always an evening of food, fun, fellowship, and inspiration.

We begin at 5:30 with a delicious meal prepared by our own **Donna Jaynes** and her helpers. Our hospitality volunteer groups then serve you with a smile. At 6:15 announcements are made and clean up is encouraged before the programming begins.

The time and format of the evening has not changed but we do remind you that our **Master List starts over again**. Be sure and sign up using the yellow cards available at all services or call the church office. (882-2603)

Price will be unchanged. Adults (over the age of 14) are \$6, children \$3, and an immediate family of any size \$15. (no matter how many children – under 18 years of age – the price is only \$15) And --- it's still the best bargain in town!

So sign up or call today and don't miss the Saint Mark Church Family Night – every Wednesday in the Saint Mark Center.



Vacation Bible
School

Monday - Thursday

August 3 - 6

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Camp E.D.G.E.

Experience + Discover God Everywhere
For more information see page 2.

An Old Fashioned Singing Sunday, August 23, 6:00 pm - Supporting Missions -

When I was a boy my church would join together with other local churches for a Fifth Sunday Night Hymn Sing. It was quite an event with choirs from each church singing "specials" and folks in the congregation calling out their favorite gospel songs. And of course we concluded the evening with homemade desserts in the fellowship hall. I still remember Mary Nixon's marshmallow filled brownies!



You are invited to join me and the Saint Mark Quartet for a similar experience 6:00 pm Sunday, August 23 in the Sanctuary. I'll lead the service from the piano and at the conclusion we'll enjoy some fellowship over ice-cream in the Saint Mark Center. Hope to see you there.

This will be another in our 2009 Benefit Concert Series in support of local and global missions through our Service Ministry Team.

- David Wilcox

First Steps Ministry

Children Preschool-Kindergarten
with Ami Edwards



VBS- Camp E.D.G.E (Experience and Discover God Everywhere)



Things are in full swing for VBS beginning August 3-6th from 9:00am-12:00noon (Mon-Thurs). We are going to have a great time learning more about our faith, giving to others, and having fun! Our mission focus this year will be the Hope for Africa Children's School in Uganda. We also are taking up school supplies for the United Way (church wide), so those can be brought at VBS also.

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with Vacation Bible School. © We could not do it without you! The registration website is

<http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/saintmarkvbs/ce/>

Also the children will sing their VBS songs with us on Thursday, August 6th at 7:00pm in the Youth Annex. The songs with this theme are great, so all are welcome to join us!



Thank you!

This is my last *Navigator* article as the Director of First Step Ministries here at Saint Mark. My time as a staff member will conclude at the end of our Vacation Bible School. I will be starting a new job in August teaching third grade at Ravenel Elementary.

This position has been a truly rewarding one and I am looking forward to seeing our children's program grow! I am certain that our church family will support whoever comes on board next in this position.

Thank you! **Ami**

Women of Saint Mark

Please mark your calendar and come to a General Meeting of the United Methodist Women on **Saturday, August 8, 9:30 - 11:00 am** in the Conference Room. At this time the people who attended the School of Christian Mission in Spartanburg, which was held in July, will talk of their experience.

All women of Saint Mark are invited to attend.



Earth Stewardship Moment

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before. ~ Robert Lynd,

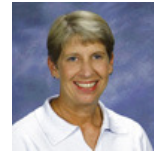
The Blue Lion and Other Essays



Youth and Children's Ministries

Sailing Toward the Son

Grades 1-12 with Donna



August (Youth and Children's Events)

August 3-6 – Vacation Bible School
(9 am – noon)

August 8-15 – Donna on vacation

August 16 – *Families with Children* swim

August 23 – Youth Group Kick off

August 29-30 – Family Retreat



Our Youth are Awesome



Special Friends Day Camp for special needs children and *Vacation Bible School* could not happen without the dedication of our wonderful youth who became counselors and teachers. Thank you for taking your time to serve in these wonderful ministries.

Sunday School Rally Day

We will have our promotion day for Sunday School on August 16. We will meet in the Saint Mark Center at 10:15 and then go to our new rooms. We are excited to promote our new seventh graders into youth group. Take advantage of all the times you can learn about and serve our wonderful Lord during your teen years.



Families with Children



Our *Families with Children* are invited to a swim time at the Stein's house, 822 Poplar Springs Rd, Westminster, on Sunday, August 16, at 2:00 pm. For more details, call **Donna** at 882-2603.

Youth Group Kick Off

We will begin our regular Sunday youth activities with "kick off" fun at Saint Mark on Sunday, August 23, from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Youth in grades 7-12 - bring your friends to join in a time of fun and fellowship.



Beginning Our Weekly Times Together



Sunday, August 30

4:30 pm – *Wings for the Lord*

5:30 pm – Snack Supper

6:15 pm – *UMYF/Impact*

Week of September 1

7:00 am - *Tasty Tuesdays* and *Thirsty Thursday*

Wednesday, September 9

6:15 pm - PEP for Youth

The deadline for submissions to the next Navigator

will be **Friday, August 21, 2009 at noon!**

Thank you for your help!



If you would like to receive the *Navigator* by e-mail instead of by mail, please let the office know either by e-mailing us at churchoffice@saintmarkumcseeca.org or calling us at 882-2603. Thank you!

Congregational Care Notes *by Jeff Childress*

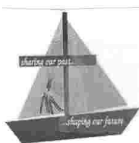


Congratulations to:

- **Harry and Melinda Nicholson** on the celebration of their wedding on June 27.
- **Andy and Jeanna Sevic** on the birth of their son, **William Bowman "Bo" Sevic**, born July 27. Proud grandparents are Jim and Sybil Sevic.

Personal Prayer Notes

Tom Christensen – Recovering at home following recent heart valve replacement surgery
Randy Collins – Scheduled for surgery July 31 in Cleveland
Joe Dalton – Brother-in-law of Gaynell Evatt, continuing treatments for cancer which has metastasized
Jane Day – Friend of Frank and Margaret Axson, undergoing treatment for cancer
Will Edgerton – Recovering from recent appendectomy surgery
Ruth Kirk - Hospitalized for broken leg at Oconee Medical Center
Connie Lathan – Mother of Lilly Blue, hospitalized and recovering from surgery for ischemic colitis
Ray Nichols – Recovering at home following recent eye removal surgery due to cancer
Caleb Pate – Recovering at home following recent knee surgery
Sarah Plyler – Recovering at home following recent surgery
Jeff Ritts – Son of Paul and Dorothy Ritts, facing future artery by-pass surgery
Ann Sires – Recovering at home following recent hospitalization
Pam Sisk – Daughter-in-law of Charles and Frances Sisk, with health concerns and undergoing medical tests
Trudie Sutter – Mother of Robin McMahan and Sandie Woodworth, receiving care at Seneca Health and Rehab Center
Graham Troline – Grandson of Dolores Richardson, hospitalized at Northside Hospital in Atlanta for salmonella poisoning
Barbara Wade – Neighbor of John and Martha Steele, under doctor's care for cancer
Rena Walden – With thyroid cancer diagnosis, and facing future surgery and treatments
Nancy Walker – Recovering at home following recent knee replacement surgery
Hellmut Walter – With good recovery following recent coronary stent implant
Sunny Weisse – Home after examination at Mayo Clinic for back pain
Joyce White – Recovering at home following recent spinal surgery
Ron Yonker – Home after treatment at Oconee Medical Center for bee stings



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

This is an update on our Building Fund Capital Campaign launched in 2006.

As reported, we as a congregation pledged to give **\$1,025,470** over the three years of the Campaign ending June 1 of this year. In that effort we received **\$793,102** leaving a balance of **\$232,368**. We understand there are several factors leading to this deficit.

I asked Faye Monk, our Operations and Finance Manager, to send a letter to those who have not completed their pledge. In that letter we are asking folks to prayerfully consider what we might expect concerning their pledges over the next six months or year.

Thus far we have received a response from 25% of those members contacted.

Other significant monies received for the building program over the course of the three years have been:

\$585,495 – non-pledged contributions
53,415 – Final Touches Program

In addition, as of June 1, **\$132,322** had been generously contributed to *Debt Reduction* of the mortgage related to the atrium and Saint Mark Center.

Our new loan is for **\$1,600,000**.

I would ask that we all seek God's direction in our giving of our time and other possessions to Saint Mark.

Yours in Christ,
Billy Boggs, Chairperson
Capital Campaign Committee

Hymnals for Saint Luke UMC



On July 7 a fire at Saint Luke UMC in Walhalla destroyed their sanctuary and its contents. In conversation with Saint Luke we learned that they had an immediate need for hymnals for worship. On July 19 an appeal was made to the congregation of Saint Mark to purchase 100 hymnals for Saint Luke. You responded by giving \$4,259. The hymnals have been ordered and the remainder of the money given will be used to purchase other worship needs for Saint Luke. Thank you for your generous support.

Nancy Evatt



Newspaper Recycling for Collins Children's Home

Saint Mark has a collection box for newspapers and circulars located to the left as you exit the South door of the Saint Mark Center. We encourage you to drop off your newspapers in this box for recycling. Please place them in bags or boxes for ease of handling.

If you are currently recycling as part of a community program or at your place of work for the benefit of the Home, we encourage you to continue that way as the Saint Mark collection box is of moderate size.

Thank you for your help!
Bob Schaadt

Steve's Log

Dr. Steven Morgan, Senior Pastor



There is no substitute, is there, for the experience of authentic Christian community? We have had that opportunity with the Michels Family, with whom we have been privileged to cross paths for the past year on their way to Salvation Army seminary training in Atlanta.

I gratefully share their letter to Saint Mark:

Dear beloved of St. Mark Methodist Church,

The Michels family would like to let you, our extended family at St. Mark, know just how much we have come to appreciate you. We would like to thank you for all of your support. You have made such a difference for us in so many ways.

You have made it possible for our youngest, Cami, to receive a quality education and a nurturing safe environment at the CDC, giving us parents the freedom to immerse ourselves in the ministry of The Salvation Army of this community. You have always welcomed all of our family in your various church programs, knowing up front that we would not be able to join your church as full members.

You have even allowed Mike to be a part of your choir for the performance of the "Messiah" at Christmas time. And all of this support was to our family individually, above and beyond your already abundantly gracious and generous support of The Salvation Army and its ministry to this community.

We have never been so blessed by a congregation outside our own church, and we want you to know that you have made a lasting and indelible impression on our family and our ministry. Our relationship with your congregation will be the high standard that we will try to achieve with other congregations and churches throughout our career. We only hope that we can help nurture our future churches into becoming as supportive and loving as you are at St. Mark.

We will be having our last Sunday services on August 2 at 11:00 am, with Mike's bringing the message, and we will be leaving on August 7 to report to The Salvation Army seminary in Atlanta. God willing, we will complete the seminary in two years and go back into the ministry. We would love for you to keep in touch with us as we continue this path that God has set us on.

*Cadets Mike and Cathy Michels, The Salvation Army SFOT,
1032 Metropolitan Parkway, SW Atlanta, GA 30310*

*Thank you again for all of your love and support,
Mike, Cathy, Lee, James and Cami Michels*

How gratified and privileged we are if we have served as a way-station on their journey of service. It is a model for us all.

Blessings,
Steve

Faith Matters for June 28-July 26, 2009

Attendance, Sunday, June 28

Sunday School.....	224
Worship 8:15 am Traditional	95
9:15 am Celebration	162
11:15 am Traditional	176

Total Worship..... 433

Attendance, Sunday, July 5

Sunday School.....	195
Worship 8:15 am Traditional	81
9:15 am Celebration	141
11:15 am Traditional	132

Total Worship..... 354

Attendance, Sunday, July 12

Sunday School.....	234
Worship 8:15 am Traditional	97
9:15 am Celebration	157
11:15 am Traditional	179

Total Worship..... 433

Attendance, Sunday, July 19

Sunday School.....	217
Worship 8:15 am Traditional	99
9:15 am Celebration	151
11:15 am Traditional	188

Total Worship..... 438

Attendance, Sunday, July 26

Sunday School.....	226
Worship 8:15 am Traditional	84
9:15 am Celebration	169
11:15 am Traditional	153

Total Worship..... 406

Tithes and Offerings

Budget	\$77,675.1
Capital Campaign.....	\$9,424.33
Debt Reduction.....	\$1,785.00
African Children's Choir.....	\$3,261.31
Saint Luke	\$4,259.00
Miscellaneous.....	\$640.00

Total..... \$97,044.74

2009 Budget..... \$1,151,752.61

Expected to Date..... \$664,742.63

Received to Date..... \$544,477.72

Over/(Under) Budget..... (\$120,264.91)

2008 Building Loan Balance..... \$1,668,117.69

1996 Debt Retirement Balance..... \$490,721.39

Mortgage Loan Balance..... \$76,931.69

Saint Mark UMC

616 Quincy Road
Seneca, SC 29678

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
SENECA, SC
PERMIT NO. 16



Education Update

Rally Day 2009



Once again, we are going to kick off our program year on Sunday, August 16 with a Rally Day Celebration for all Sunday School Classes from children through adults. During Rally Day, we will sing and celebrate what it means to be a follower of Christ. We will celebrate the promotion of our children and youth who will advance to their next classes. We will also introduce our new class of Confirmation students. Here is how the morning will go:

- † At 10:15 am, adults will go to their classes to take attendance and collect the offering
- † At 10:15 am, children will meet in the Saint Mark Center for refreshments and to find their seats.
- † At 10:30 am, all classes will meet and be seated in the Saint Mark Center for our Rally Day Celebration

“We Are Family” – A Retreat for Families with Children and Youth

In just about a month, families with children and youth from Saint Mark will pack up and head for the hills for a 24+ hour retreat – a time of fun, fellowship and learning. We still have some room if you want to join us. We will be staying at Table Rock Wesleyan Camp near Pickens, which has a breathtaking view of Table Rock. We plan to arrive at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 29 and will depart the next day, Sunday, August 30, just before noon. The housing is very affordable. If you would like to attend, you will find registration forms at the Welcome Center in the atrium. If you have questions, contact **Jane Barker** at 882-4489 or **Marla Fuller** at the church – 882-2603.



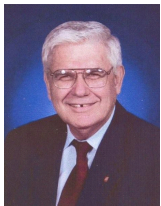
Confirmation Class of 2009-10

Our new class of 7th grade confirmation students will begin studies during the month of August. Our seven confirmands are: **Emma Baldwin, Sarah Baldwin, Georgia Childress, Kyle Darling, Taylor Daum, Ryan Hirt and Gabe Sanders.**

Spiritual Formation Update

Growing YOU Sunday Register for Small Group Studies

Growing YOU Sunday is an annual event at Saint Mark, sponsored by the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team. On this particular Sunday, it is our goal to remind everyone that as Christians, God expects each of us to grow and mature in faith. If we choose the path of complacency, we are not living into our potential as Christians or as human beings. We are planning a special worship service for that Sunday. Between services, you will also have the opportunity to sign up (in the atrium) for one or more of our great studies that will be offered during the Fall Quarter of our program year. Included in this *Navigator*, you will find a copy of the flyer and registration form for the 2009 Growing YOU Fall Quarter. To quote an unknown source, “*If you’re not growing, then you’re dying.*” Let’s be a congregation that isn’t just growing in numbers or facilities.



Fall Spiritual Renewal with Bishop Richard Looney

This year, we will welcome Bishop Looney as our featured speaker for a 3-day Spiritual Renewal event from Sunday morning, October 4th through Tuesday evening, October 6th. Please hold these dates on your calendar so that you don’t miss this opportunity to be spiritually renewed. Bishop Looney served as the Bishop of the South Georgia Areas for twelve years prior to his retirement in 2000. Then he served as the Episcopal Director of the Foundation for Evangelism until 2008. Bishop Looney is a towering figure of a man with a very big heart.

Come, Follow Me

The men (and women) who followed Him (Jesus) were unique in their generation. They turned the world upside down because their hearts had been turned right side up. The world has never been the same.
— Billy Graham



Calendar Events



MUSIC NOTES with David Wilcox



I will begin my fifth year of ministry at Saint Mark in August. Saint Mark is a nurturing place in which to serve. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to work with our wonderful staff and congregation. There are many exciting musical events planned for this new ministry year. I encourage you to include these events on your calendar.

August 23, 6:00 pm – *An Old Fashioned Singing*
November 22, 4:00 pm – *David Wilcox Organ and Brass Recital*
December 13, 8:45 & 11:00 am – *All Choirs Christmas*
December 16, 6:30 pm – *WINGS Christmas*
December 20, 4:00 pm – *The Many Moods of Christmas, Chancel Choir & Orchestra*
March 7 – *Foothill Chorale and Chancel Choir An Evening of Spirituals*
April 1, 7:00 pm – *Maundy Thursday – Seven Last Words of Christ – Chancel Choir, Soloists & Orchestra*

Chancel Choir rehearsal resumes Wednesday, August 19, 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the choir room. Please contact me 864-882-2603 or dwilcox@saintmarkumcse-neca.org if you'd be interested in singing with the choir this year.

- David Wilcox

Worship Matters for Sunday, August 2, 2009

Acolytes: Alex Baldwin, Leslie Lamson-Scribner (8:15 am); Graysen Morrison, Rebekah Wales (11:15 am); **Altar:** Lisa Kiser (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Mel Timmons (9:15 am); **Children's Church:** Pam Powell; **Communion Servers:** Gladys Chastain, Janet Kehl (8:15 am); Jack and Joanna Donegan (11:15 am); **Counters:** Vic Holley, Dean Garland; **Greeters:** Skip and Joyce Soderdahl (8:15 am); Chuck and Janna Smith (9:15 am); Betty Guest, Freida Phipps (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Janet Kehl (8:15 am); Bill Nelson (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Anna Baldwin (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Mary Ann Albert (9:15 am); **Sound:** Basil Carney (8:15 am); Russ Poston (9:15 am); Russ Poston (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Dick Thompson; **Ushers:** David Harshbarger (Head), Polly Harshbarger, Frank and Pam Lamson-Scribner (8:15 am); Gladys Chastain (Head), Jane Gelsomino, John Prescott, Greg Stephenson (11:15 am)

Worship Matters for Sunday, August 9, 2009

Acolytes: Anna Wilson (8:15 am); Emma Baldwin (11:15 am); **Altar:** Joyce Carney (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Kim Rogers (9:15 am); **Children's Church:** Ami Edwards; **Counters:** Bud Search, Dean Garland; **Greeters:** Bob and Carol Holmes (8:15 am); Andrea and Chase Pate (9:15 am); Paul and Dorothy Ritts (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Bud Search (8:15 am); David Schultz (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Adam Boggs (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Mary Barnette, Sarah Boylston (9:15 am); **Sound:** John Prescott (8:15 am); Bob Walker (9:15 am); Jeff Pearson (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Kathy Henry; **Ushers:** Scott Wylie (Head), Beverly Wylie, Jim and Jackie Hamilton (8:15 am); Gladys Chastain (Head), Jane Gelsomino, Dick and Joyce Thompson (11:15 am)

Worship Matters for Sunday, August 16, 2009

Acolytes: Casey Barker (8:15 am); Evan Cherry (11:15 am); **Altar:** Sheryl Cherry, Lilly Blue (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Jim Shull (9:15 am); **Children's Church:** Debbie Wallace; **Communion Servers:** Gladys Chastain, Janet Kehl (8:15 am); Jack and Joanna Donegan (11:15 am); **Counters:** Pat Barnes, John Wilson; **Greeters:** Joan Chittenden, Cile Cely (8:15 am); Ray and Ginny Lightfoot (9:15 am); Bob and Rena Walden (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Gene Snyder (8:15 am); Joanna Donegan (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Mike Wallace (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Judy Gasnier (9:15 am); **Sound:** Greg Wales (8:15 am); Basil Carney (9:15 am); Mike Baldwin (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Lynn Dobson; **Ushers:** Fred Mappus (Head), Hallie Mappus, Jim and Ilona Herd (8:15 am); Carl Kennedy (Head), Janis Kennedy, Jane Gelsomino (11:15 am)

Worship Matters for Sunday, August 23, 2009

Acolytes: Will Edgerton (8:15 am); Anna Holley (11:15 am); **Altar:** Beth Keener (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Bart Sauer (9:15 am); **Children's Church:** Christa Booker; **Communion Servers:** Gladys Chastain, Janet Kehl (8:15 am); Jack and Joanna Donegan (11:15 am); **Counters:** Sandi Garland, Betty Rogers; **Greeters:** Bud and Mary Search (8:15 am); Betty Bryant, Van Fair (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Bob Holmes (8:15 am); Gene Snyder (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Bob Dobson (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Connie Pond (9:15 am); **Sound:** Jack Davis (8:15 am); Russ Poston (9:15 am); Basil Carney (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Bobbi Diussa; **Ushers:** Steve Figueroa (Head), Marlene Edlund, Bob Alexander, Nancy Evatt (8:15 am); Carl Kennedy (Head), Janis Kennedy, Jane Gelsomino, John Prescott (11:15 am)

Worship Matters for Sunday, August 30, 2009

Acolytes: Casey Baldwin (8:15 am); Corinne Stephenson (11:15 am); **Altar:** Sheryl Cherry, Lilly Blue (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Basil Carney (9:15 am); **Children's Church:** Pam Powell; **Counters:** Sandi Garland, Betty Rogers; **Greeters:** Bob and Joan Gray (8:15 am); Deryl and Carolyn Keese (9:15 am); Dick and Joyce Thompson (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Frank Lamson-Scribner (8:15 am); Jane Johnson (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Basil Carney (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Kelly Pew (9:15 am); **Sound:** Russ Poston (8:15 am); Russ Poston (9:15 am); John Prescott (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Andrea Paulson; **Ushers:** Al Diussa (Head), Bob Holmes, Skip and Joyce Soderdahl (8:15 am); Carl Kennedy (Head), Janis Kennedy, Jane Gelsomino, Greg Stephenson (11:15 am)

Spotlight on Members and Group Events



Welcome To Saint Mark!

A warm Saint Mark welcome to our newest members, **John, Kathleen, Jacob and Joseph Gibson.** They transfer to Saint Mark

from Englewood UMC in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Contact information: 303 Summer Walk Court, Seneca, SC 29678; 864-247-7385; gibson7@nctv.com or kroupp@hotmail.com. Welcome to our church family!

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

Do you love food? Do you like to help others? Do you get along well and work well with others? Do you like to have a good, clean time? If the answer is “yes” to any of these questions, a Church Family Night Hospitality Team is looking for you.

If you would like to become a part of one of these great teams, call **Sybil Sevic** (882-1588) or the church office (882-2603) and we can sign you up today! One of the fun components of this evening is the fellowship of the Hospitality teams who so willingly help serve and clean up each week. Don't miss out on this great way to serve your church - because Church Family Night is scheduled to begin again on the 9th of September.



Thank You!!!!

I would like to thank the members of the Saint Mark's community for the prayers, support, and encouragement you have given me this last year in my experience with cancer and its treatment. With God's help, your prayers and **Cynthia's** support, I have survived this year. I have just finished the planned chemotherapy and my recent tests have been favorable. I know I am not “out of the woods”, but with God's help I look forward to serving Him each day.

My special thanks to **Steve** and **Cathy** who have been our rocks at the time of our crises. This experience has made me a better person and physician. I will continue to marvel at God's ability to sustain and heal us.

In His Service, **David Bush**

Thank you for the kindness that was expressed for my mother, **Betty Hornick**. I do believe that, in a time of sorrow, the support of friends makes a difference. It certainly has made a difference to have so many caring members of my church family surround Roy and me with their love.

Ginny Murdock

I appreciated so much the visits and flowers from the Caring Ministry, friends, and visits from **Steve** and **Jeff** while I was in the hospital. I also want to thank everyone for the beautiful cards I've received and for the get well wishes by phone. I am continuing to improve each day, and hope I'll soon be back into normal everyday activities.

Sincerely, **Claudia Smith**

Dear Saint Mark Family, Since my recent back surgery, I have become more aware of the Saint Mark family's love and concern for others. Thank you for the flowers, visits, food, calls and cards that each time received was another reassurance that God was (and is) at work. God bless you and I hope to be back in church soon.

Love, **Joyce White**

Our family would like to express our sincerest thanks to the **SMURFs** for building and installing a ramp for our sister and aunt, **Donnie Dean**, during her illness. The ramp was truly a blessing, providing much needed assistance. We send our thanks to each of the dedicated and caring volunteers who participate in this wonderful ministry. You make a difference in the lives of many!

Sincerely, **Beverly Wells, Cindy & Doug Rothell, Don & Penny Wells, and Hugh & Peggy Wells**

Around the Church and Community

Cyber Connections

Technology has made it so much easier to get the latest up-to-date information – almost as it happens. Saint Mark wants to stay connected with you. We have an email system that gets information out to you between the distribution of our newsletter, the *Navigator*.



1. **The Grapevine** sends out information, requests and announcements to keep you informed about what is going on at Saint Mark
2. **Fruit of the Spirit** is a tool of the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team to send out information intended to help you grow in faith and as a disciple of Christ. Each week we send out "Prayers of the People" to guide you during your prayer times. Other emails might include seasonal or formational information, reflections, and devotions.

If you are not receiving **The Grapevine** or **Fruit of the Spirit** and would like to be connected, please contact **Marla Fuller** at the church office (882-2603) OR, email her at mfuller@saintmarkumcseeca.org.

Saint Mark Call-in Devotion Line



If you have been accustomed to using our weekly Call-In Devotion line, you may have noticed that it has not been updated on a weekly basis as it was in the past. We plan to correct that beginning next Monday, August 3. There will be a new devotion each Monday. To listen to the weekly words of hope and inspiration, call 882-8723.

Clemson Area International Friendship (CAIF) Friendship Partner Program



offers Clemson area residents the opportunity to become friends with Clemson University's international students. Being a friend involves an informal relationship in which you help a student become adjusted to life in the Clemson area by inviting the student to share a meal, go to a movie or take part in any number of other activities available in this area. Many new students will be arriving in the next few weeks and will be eager to make friends in the community. Please come to the Welcome Reception to meet and greet these bright young

people on Friday, August 21, from 7-9PM at the Clemson Alumni Center.

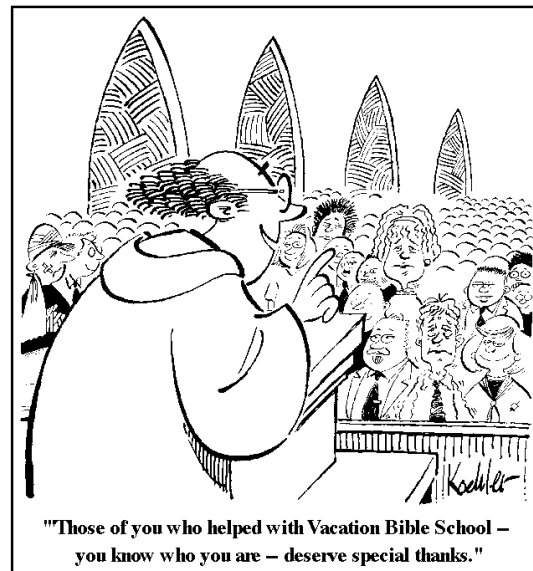
Interested individuals, couples or families may call **Carol Spitzer** at 885-9405, **Margie Spangenberg** at 654-1352 or **Louis Bregger** at 656-0437 for more information.



National Alliance on Mental Illness Will Offer Free Classes

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, will offer a FREE 12 week course to first degree relatives of an adult with a major mental illness. Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons in Clemson on August 16- November 1, 2009. Class size is limited, and pre-registration is required.

For more information contact: **Michelle Ready**, 882-5131, michelleready@hotmail.com, www.namiaop.org



"Those of you who helped with Vacation Bible School – you know who you are – deserve special thanks."