



# The Saint Mark Navigator

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

Volume 8, Issue 14

September, 2009

## *Saint Mark Web Site*

[www.saintmarkumcseneca.org](http://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.**

## **Church Family Night**

**Our Wednesday Church Family Night (CFN) series for the fall season begins September 9!**

Wonderful opportunities for fellowship and spiritual growth begin with a delicious meal at 5:30 pm, followed by classes or programs at 6:30 pm.

Prices for the meals are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children, and \$15 for family. Please be sure to either add your name to the Master List or contact the church office of your plans to attend each week. See inside for menus this month.

**The class offering for the first 6 weeks are:**

**Experiencing the Bible - An Introductory Study** - Steve Morgan

**Living the Questions** - Bud Search

**Forgiving Your Family** - Marla Fuller

**Keep Your Brain Alive and Active!** - Suzette Cross

**Exploring the Middle East** (begins September 16) - Jamie Gerber

**Practical Magic: Using Adobe Photoshop Elements** - Anna Baldwin

Hope to see you on Wednesday nights!

Wednesday  
Night  
Fellowship

## Bethlehem Christians



The Saint Mark Evangelism Ministry Team has invited **Amir Qumsieh**, the co-founder of the Bethlehem Christians organization to our church on **Sunday, September 27**. This ministry was recommended to us by the General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church and by Bishop Taylor.

This organization has two purposes. First, to maintain Christian presence in the Holy Land. Second, to provide steady employment to these Christians through the sale of olive wood crafts.

Mr Qumsieh will speak for a few minutes in each worship service to share the Bethlehem Christians story with us. The olive wood crafted items will be for sale following the services.

~ Nancy Evatt



**Youth and Children's Ministries**  
**Sailing Toward the Son**  
 Grades 1 - 12 with Donna



**MUSIC NOTES**  
 with David Wilcox



Summer was filled with fantastic times as we "practiced the presence of God" through Wing's tour, Salkehatchie, Special Friends, and many fellowship times. I look forward to a new school year as our children and youth continue to celebrate God's grace and witness for Jesus Christ.

**New Times for Sundays and Wednesdays**

To help with school "stress", we will begin Sunday youth activities and Wednesday night activities earlier this year.



Beginning Sunday, August 30  
 (Grades 7 - 12)

- 3:15 - 4:00 *In His Eyes*
- 4:00 - 5:00 *Wings for the Lord*
- 5:00 - 5:30 Snack Supper
- 5:30 - 6:30 *MYF/Impact*
- 6:30 - 7:00 Open Gym

Youth Breakfasts (Grades 7 - 12)

- 7 am - *Tasty Tuesdays* at Chick fil-A
- 7 am - *Thirsty Thursday* at West Union McDonalds

Beginning Wednesday, September 9

- 5:15 - 7:15 *CROSS* and *Son Shine Clubs*  
 (Preschool - grade 6)
- 6:15 - 7:15 *PEP for Youth* (Grades 7 - 12)



**Youth Sunday in September**

Sunday, September 20, will be our annual YOUTH SUNDAY. Youth and *In His Eyes* will lead in all three services. In addition *Wings* will present at 9:15 and 11:15.

**CROSS Club and Son Shine Club**

We begin *CROSS* and *Son Shine Clubs* for preschool through grade 6 on Wednesday night, September 9 from 5:15 to 7:15. Come and enjoy recreation, food, music, and learning more about our awesome God.



**Confirmation Class**



Our Confirmation class will visit a Synagogue and enjoy an overnight retreat on September 11 and 12. We will visit St. Paul's Catholic church on Sunday, September 27.

**WELCOME LISI!**

We are pleased to announce that **Lisi Campbell** will join our church staff as the Director of Preschool and Children's Education Ministry on Monday, August 31. She is already part of our church family. Please extend your welcome and support as she begins her ministry at Saint Mark.



Chancel Choir is off to a wonderful start with 57 singers enrolled. There is plenty of room for others interested in joining the choir. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:00 (September 2 rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30).

Saint Mark Ringers will resume rehearsal on Thursday, September 10 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

*CROSS Club for Kids* resumes Wednesday, September 9, 5:15-7:15 pm. I'll be introducing music to present in worship services and Christmas Eve.

Celebrate Anderson is a wonderful fun evening held at the Amphitheater Anderson Civic Center September 6. Gates open at 6:00 and the concert begins at 7:30. The event is free and will feature a symphony orchestra (I'm playing keyboard) and guest performers Seven Nations. A giant fireworks finale by Zimbelli will conclude the evening. For more information [www.celebratenanderson.com](http://www.celebratenanderson.com).

Thank you to all who attended the Gospel Hymn Sing on Sunday, August 23. My appreciation to **Sally Boggs, Bob Dobson, Marla Fuller, Phyllis Morgan, and Jim Redmond** for their musical contribution; and also to **Mike and Anna Baldwin** for their technical assistance. Approximately \$1,000 was received toward our mission outreach.

- David Wilcox



**Attention all college students**

Please get me your new and updated information for this school year as soon as possible.

Hope you have a blessed year. **Lynn Davis** 882-0924  
[donlynnedavis@bellsouth.net](mailto:donlynnedavis@bellsouth.net)



**Earth Stewardship Moment**

**Save on Electricity**

There are many ways to trim those electric bills. Wash your laundry in cold water instead of hot, line dry your linens, and use a toaster oven for small heating needs instead of a bigger electric stove. Open windows to let the light in, turn off unneeded lights and appliances, and unplug unused electronics to counter the 'energy vampire' effect.



**The deadline for submissions to the next**



**Navigator** will be Friday, September 18, 2009 at noon! Thank you for your help!

# Congregational Care Notes *by Jeff Childress*



## We Extend Our Sincere Sympathies to:

- **Chuck Smith** and his family on the death of his mother, **Linette Smith**. A celebration of her life was held August 22 in Chicago, Illinois.
- **The Roy Pressley family** on his death August 21. A memorial service is planned for August 30 at Saint Mark.
- **Ila Kittle** and her family on the death of her sister, **Nancy Hayward**. Her funeral service is planned for August 28 in Binghamton, New York.
- **Betty Fourspring** and her family on the death of her mother, **Elizabeth Parmenter**. Her memorial service is planned for August 29 in Seneca.

## Congratulations to:

- **Lou and Lois Hansen** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Dorothy Hanalei Hansen**, born July 22 to parents Ganelle and Matt Hansen.
- **Will and Denise Putnam** on the birth of their daughter, **Avery Lynee**, born August 18.
- **Dean and Carolyn Garland** on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 23.
- **Ron and Jeri Shoal** on the celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on August 30.

## Our Prayers go with:

**Chuck Henry** and his family as he departs September 8 for a year-long job assignment in Afghanistan.

## Personal Prayer Notes

**Joe Dalton** – Brother-in-law of Gaynell Evatt, continuing treatments for cancer which has metastasized

**Mary Dean** – Sister of Ruth Bond, under Hospice care at home in Walhalla

**John Gibson** – Improving following treatment and physical therapy for herniated disk

**Laura Harrison** – Sister of Herb Burrell, undergoing treatments for cancer

**Jamie Henry** – With recent diagnosis of Lupus and Fibromyalgia

**Melanie Dobson Hughes** – Daughter of Bob and Lynn Dobson, showing improvement and continuing under doctor's care

**Ruth Kirk** – Receiving rehabilitation therapy at AnMed Rehab Hospital

**Natalie Kristenson** – 8 year-old cousin of Ruth Bond, undergoing chemotherapy treatments for leukemia

**Connie Lathan** – Mother of Lilly Blue, hospitalized and recovering from multiple surgeries for ischemic colitis

**Fred Mappus** – Scheduled for double knee replacement surgery August 27

**Ray Nichols** – Continuing recovery at home following recent cancer surgery

**Jim Nisonger** – With good recovery following recent surgery at Emory University Hospital

**Leon Pressley** - Husband of Janice Pressley, scheduled to begin treatments for lymphoma melanoma

**Jeff Ritts** – Son of Paul and Dorothy Ritts, recovering from recent artery by-pass surgery

**Ray Schmelter** – Scheduled for hip replacement surgery September 21

**Betty Shrouder** – Friend of Herb and Cathy Burrell, in declining health with cancer

**Wally Storm** – With good report from recent heart catheterization

**George Taylor** – Undergoing radiation treatments for prostate cancer

**Graham Troline** – Grandson of Dolores Richardson, continuing recovery from salmonella poisoning

**Barbara Wade** – Neighbor of John and Martha Steele, under doctor's care for cancer

**Betty Wiese** – Back in the hospital and under doctor's care at Oconee Medical Center

**Jean Wilson** – Mother of Sandra Marrs, undergoing chemotherapy for advanced cancer in Arkansas

**Joyce White** – Continuing recovery at home following recent spinal surgery

**Terry Wilcox** - Mother of David Wilcox, hospitalized with health concerns in Mooresville, North Carolina

**Anne Winfield** – Daughter of Jean Hickok, recovering from possible stroke in Port Charlotte, Florida

# More THANKS!!!!

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your recent donation of money/school supplies to our Back to School Program here at The United Way.

With your help and that of many others, we were able to provide supplies for 320 needy children so that they could start school this week equipped and prepared to learn.

Thank you again for your support of these students. In these tough times, it takes all of us working together to keep our community strong.

Sincerely, **Sandra Pruitt**, United Way/DSS

Thank you **Steve** and **Jeff** for your concern, and also for the many friends at Saint Mark who also expressed their concern with phone calls and cards after my bout with breast cancer. We have lived in a number of different areas due to Warren being transferred in his position with his company, and we have never felt the compassion present at Saint Mark.

Thank you all! **Betty Wiese**

A huge thank you to **Steve** and **Jeff** for your prayers of support and phone calls. This was so comforting for Paul and me. Jeff even called while on vacation.

Our son Jeff had three very stressful delays for surgery in Charleston S.C. Each surgery delay was a waiting period of six days. Finally the surgery took place and was successful.

The surgeon was able to find the blood clot right away and left it out. Because of this only one artificial vein was needed instead of two in his right leg. The operation was successful and Jeff is back home in Greer S.C. and thanks everyone for the much needed prayers he received.

The Church prayer list is so wonderful too, and we are so grateful.

Thank You so much, **Paul & Dorothy Ritts**

Dear Friends at Saint Mark,

Niles and I want to thank you for your prayers, visits and all the thoughtful things you have done. The "flower girls" that bring the bud vases to him on Monday morning and visit and cheer him up. Thank you **Steve** and **Jeff** for your visits and prayers. It's such a comfort to know that we have your prayers.

Please continue to pray for us and continue to visit when you can. We realize there are many people that are ill and need your visits also. God Bless, **Margaret and Niles Workman**

# Steve's Log

Dr. Steven Morgan, Senior Pastor



## A Miracle

I'm reading a book now about miracles – well, really, it's just about a miracle. The book is *The Miracle of Dialogue* by Dr. Reuel Howe.

Do you remember a time of greater polemical and adversarial rhetoric than now? Is our world going to be torn apart? Is there no middle ground? It seems we need a miracle!

In this book Dr. Howe says there is just such a 'miracle'. It's called *dialogue*, and it's available for the [mutual] asking.

Dialogue is the opposite of monologue. Monologue is "telling people what [I think] they ought to know," as in "I tried to tell them;" "I've told you a dozen times;" "They wouldn't listen to me;" "There's no need in trying to tell them." Dr. Howe says, "In monological communication the speaker is so pre-occupied with himself that he loses touch with those to whom he is speaking." Dr. Howe says it seems that most people confuse their monologue with real communication.

Real communication, he says, is *dialogue*, which is the [hard and transformative] work of *disciplined* listening-speaking-listening-etc. between differing persons or groups.

Monologue, he says, is self-centered and ultimately destructive personally and corporately. Dialogue, he says, is the life blood of community and relationship. "Only through dialogue are we saved from enmity." "When dialogue stops, love dies and resentment and hate are born." Says Dr. Howe, through dialogue we open ourselves not only to one another but to God's very life-giving and redeeming self.

I think God's "Pearly Gates" question for us today may not be related to feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the imprisoned, [see Matthew 25] but

*Why couldn't you all just talk to one another  
instead of at one another?*

Blessings,  
Steve

## Faith Matters for August 2-23, 2009

### Attendance, Sunday, August 2

Sunday School .....	217
Worship 8:15 am Traditional .....	104
9:15 am Celebration .....	166
11:15 am Traditional .....	198

**Total Worship .....468**

### Attendance, Sunday, August 9

Sunday School .....	236
Worship 8:15 am Traditional .....	104
9:15 am Celebration .....	158
11:15 am Traditional .....	150

**Total Worship .....412**

### Attendance, Sunday, August 16

Sunday School .....	215
Worship 8:15 am Traditional .....	88
9:15 am Celebration .....	174
11:15 am Traditional .....	142

**Total Worship .....404**

### Attendance, Sunday, August 23

Sunday School .....	233
Worship 8:15 am Traditional .....	90
9:15 am Celebration .....	176
11:15 am Traditional .....	178

**Total Worship .....444**

### Tithes and Offerings

Budget.....	\$126,730.59
Capital Campaign.....	\$3,907.83
Debt Reduction .....	\$385.00
Special Friends.....	\$200.00
Alms.....	\$436.00
Kairos.....	\$200.00
Pressley Family.....	\$2,170.00
Missions Program .....	\$1,006.60
Miscellaneous .....	\$250.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$135,286.02</b>

Budget Needed to Date .....	\$753,338.95
Received to Date .....	\$659,465.97
Expenses to Date .....	\$693,835.56

<b>2008 Building Loan Balance.....</b>	<b>\$1,664,478.58</b>
<b>1996 Debt Retirement Balance.....</b>	<b>\$483,179.04</b>
<b>Mortgage Loan Balance.....</b>	<b>\$76,664.17</b>

Saint Mark UMC  
616 Quincy Road  
Seneca, SC 29678



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### SPIRITUAL FORMATION UPDATE



#### Growing YOU - Fall Quarter Classes/Studies

This fall quarter, we have a wide variety of class options. Please get your reservations in, especially for the classes that will be offered on Wednesday evenings, and the long-term studies. The COMPANIONS IN CHRIST study is full. But there is still space in the DISCIPLES studies. If you misplaced your registration forms, there are copies in the literature display in the atrium. ARE YOU GROWING???

#### Fall Spiritual Renewal with Bishop Richard Looney

Please see the enclosed insert with details about this event.

#### “Circle of Friends” Womens’ Retreat

Ladies, we have become accustomed to a 24 hour retreat at Lake Junaluska. This year’s retreat will be different in several ways.

**Location:** Our retreat will be held closer to home at Diakonia Retreat Center, a ministry of the Greek Orthodox Church of Atlanta located in Salem, South Carolina. Here is the Diakonia website: [http://www.diakoniaretreatcenter.org/Diakonia\\_Center/Welcome.html](http://www.diakoniaretreatcenter.org/Diakonia_Center/Welcome.html)

**Date:** Saturday, November 14 from 10 am – 4 pm. Our goal is to make it more convenient for young moms who would like to join us but do not want to spend the night.

**Overnight option:** For those who enjoy the overnight experience, you are welcome to join us at Diakonia on Friday evening, November 13 for a more informal time of sharing.

**Advent Crafts:** During our day apart, there will be a time to create an Advent craft (advent wreath, ornament, etc.)

Our special guest speaker will be **Angela Ford Nelson** from Greenville, SC. Several of you have heard her speak at a UMW event. Watch for more details in the October *Navigator*.



#### *Come, Follow Me*

*Only by walking with God can we hope to find the path that leads to life. That is what it means to be a disciple. After all—aren't we “followers of Christ”? Then by all means, let's actually follow him. Not ideas about him. Not just his principles. . . . . Him.*

*--John Eldredge*

### SAINT MARK UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S CIRCLE SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Circle meetings will begin September 14 this year as Labor Day falls on the first Monday. If you are new to a circle and want directions, please call the chairperson of that circle.

**Circle 2** - chairperson - Diane Hirt - 654-8616 Monday, September 14 @ 3:00 pm  
Meeting place - Conference room across from the church office

**Circle 3** - chairperson - Elaine Swanson - 985-0246 Monday, September 14 @ 7:00 pm  
Meeting place - Home of Marlene Edlund 886-9166

**Circle 4** - chairperson - Nancy Evatt - 882-7504 Monday, September 14 @ 6:30 pm  
Meeting place - Conference room across from the church office

**Circle 5** - chairperson - Jean Rogers - 985-0422 Monday, September 14 @ 10:00 am  
Meeting place - Conference room across from the church office

**Circle 6** - chairperson - Patti Gobel - 888-1413 Monday, September 14 @ 6:30 pm  
Meeting place - Home of Sandra Stricker 882-8641

**Circle 7** - chairperson - Krissy Boggs - 886-9858 Monday, September 14 @ 7:00 pm  
Meeting place - Upstairs in the parlor (atrium)



# Focus on Volunteers

## SAINTS IN SERVICE AT SAINT MARK

God has gifted each and every one of us to serve. Where will you use your gifts, talents and passions in service to God and His church? Look below for some upcoming opportunities to serve:



### † Will You Plug In? – Sunday School Teacher for Special Needs Class

Do you have a heart for people with special needs? We have a Special Friends Sunday School Class, currently with one student. We need teachers to be part of a rotation of teachers to teach this class at 10:15 am on Sunday mornings. This gives his parents a chance to participate and fellowship with their own class. Would you be willing to help? Please contact **Sue Pulliam** at 882-6308 or email her at [suepulliam@aol.com](mailto:suepulliam@aol.com).

### † Will You Plug In? – Sunday School Teacher for 4 and 5 Year Old Children

We need Sunday School teachers for our Sunday School class for our four and five year old children. There are four to five students in this group. The curriculum is easy to use. If you enjoy this age group and would be willing to help, please contact **Pam Lamson-Scribner** at 654-1551 or email her at [lamsonscribner@bellsouth.net](mailto:lamsonscribner@bellsouth.net).

**Event and program leaders**, if you need *Saints in Service* and want to place an “ad” like this in the *Navigator*, please contact **Marla Fuller** at the church office – 882-2603 to place your “ad”.

## Worship Matters for Sunday, September 6, 2009

**Acolytes:** Hayley Pearson, Courtney Johnson (8:15 am); Tara Taylor, Melissa Cason (11:15 am); **Altar:** Lisa Kiser (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Mel Timmons (9:15 am); **Children’s Church:** Linda Skene; **Communion Servers:** Gladys Chastain, Charlie Argue (8:15 am); Don and Penny Little, Doug and Charlotte Hirt, Gary and Jody Gaulin (9:15 am); Bobbie Rebell, Fran Harper (11:15 am); **Counters:** Sandi Garland, Betty Rogers; **Greeters:** David and Polly Harshbarger (8:15 am); Chuck and Janna Smith (9:15 am); Winifred Abercrombie, Herb Reed (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Jean Rogers (8:15 am); Jane Johnson (9:15 am); Jane Johnson (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Anna Baldwin (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Mary Ann Albert (9:15 am); **Sound:** Jeff Pearson (8:15 am); Russ Poston (9:15 am); Greg Wales (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Paul Agnew; **Ushers:** Warren Wiese (Head), Betty Wiese, Ray Lightfoot, Andy Kehl (8:15 am); Bob Walden (Head), Betty Jane Fourspring, Mike and Barbara McGrey (11:15 am)

## Worship Matters for Sunday, September 13, 2009

**Acolytes:** Erin Garland (8:15 am); Mike Walker (11:15 am); **Altar:** Joyce Carney (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Bart Sauer (9:15 am); **Children’s Church:** Ami Edwards; **Counters:** Sandi Garland, Betty Rogers; **Greeters:** Dick and Marlene Edlund (8:15 am); Bob and Jan Carlson (9:15 am); Lucius and Julia Uldrick (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Gene Snyder (8:15 am); Ryan Keese (9:15 am); Barbara Smith (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Mike Wallace (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Mary Barnette, Sarah Boylston (9:15 am); **Sound:** Mike Baldwin (8:15 am); Bob Walker (9:15 am); Jack Davis (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Hallie Mappus; **Ushers:** David Harshbarger (Head), Polly Harshbarger, John and Martha Steele (8:15 am); Bob Walden (Head), Betty Jane Fourspring, Mike and Barbara McGrey (11:15 am)

## Worship Matters for Sunday, September 20, 2009

**Acolytes:** \_\_\_\_\_ (8:15 am); Chaz Henry (11:15 am); **Altar:** Sheryl Cherry, Lilly Blue (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Jim Shull (9:15 am); **Children’s Church:** Debbie Wallace; **Counters:** Joyce Ogg, Pat Barnes; **Greeters:** El and Kathy Henry (8:15 am); Ray and Ginny Lightfoot (9:15 am); Betty Jane Fourspring, Jim Morrison (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Janet Kehl (8:15 am); Ryan Keese (9:15 am); Gruber Sires (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Adam Boggs (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Judy Gasnier (9:15 am); **Sound:** Basil Carney (8:15 am); Basil Carney (9:15 am); Russ Poston (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Wally Storm; **Ushers:** Alan Van Heusen (Head), Gene Snyder, Robert Gray, Charles Sisk (8:15 am); Charles Fox (Head), Mary Ann Fox, Mike and Barbara McGrey (11:15 am)

## Worship Matters for Sunday, September 27, 2009

**Acolytes:** Leslie Lamson-Scribner (8:15 am); Brittany Pope (11:15 am); **Altar:** Beth Keener (9:15 am); **Chairs:** Kim Rogers (9:15 am); **Children’s Church:** Christa Booker; **Counters:** Joyce Ogg, Pat Barnes; **Greeters:** Bob and Nancy Walker (8:15 am); Alan and Roxann Van Heusen (9:15 am); Joe and Sandy James (11:15 am); **Lay Readers:** Bob Holmes (8:15 am); Mack Cason (9:15 am); Joyce Ring (11:15 am); **Projectionist:** Bob Dobson (9:15 am); **Refreshments:** Connie Pond (9:15 am); **Sound:** John Prescott (8:15 am); Russ Poston (9:15 am); Jeff Pearson (11:15 am); **Stephen Minister:** Jane Hughey; **Ushers:** Clyde McCall (Head), Dean Garland, Carolyn Kohlenhoefer, Jack Peck (8:15 am); Bob Walden (Head), Betty Jane Fourspring, Lucius and Julia Uldrick (11:15 am)

# Spotlight on Members and Group Events

## REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATUS

As Chairperson of our Saint Mark Stewardship/Finance Committee, I want to update you on the status of our finances and to thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of our church, especially during this time of downturn in the economy.

### BUDGET STATUS

Following is a summary of where we stand after 07/31/2009:

Budget Needed: \$604,408.56  
Budget Received: \$559,062.80  
Budget Actually Spent: \$589,198.34



We are attempting to hold back spending as much as possible; however some things must be paid such as mortgage payments, power bills, insurance bills and our conference apportionments to name a few. We are continuing to pay 100% of our apportionments to the conference. We at Saint Mark are surely grateful in being more fortunate than many other individuals and many other congregations during this particular time.

Has your pledge come back from Summer Vacation yet? In 2007 and 2008 we didn't have a significant slow-down in giving through the summer months. However, this year as of July 31, 2009 – compared to 2008 giving at week 31, we are behind \$35,125.28. We realize that some of this may be due to current economic conditions. Some in our church have lost jobs or value in their retirement funds. If you've just taken the summer off, we ask that you get caught up on your pledge.

### DEBT REDUCTION

David has planned a *Debt Reduction Concert* for Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend. We continue to receive payments from individuals giving above and beyond their pledge to help retire debt. Can you join the ranks and help reduce our debt? Following is the current balance on our existing mortgages:

Description	Balance	Balance Date
Atrium & Saint Mark Center Mortgage	\$483,179.04	07/31/2009
Parsonage Mortgage	\$76,614.17	07/31/2009
Sanctuary/Choir/Annex Mortgage	\$1,664,478.58	07/31/2009

Sincerely - **Mike Wallace**, Chairperson of Stewardship/Finance Committee

## CELEBRATE THE END OF SUMMER AT THE METS PICNIC!

Let's all welcome the new church year with our annual METS\* picnic. Be sure to put **Thursday, September 24** at 11:00AM on your calendar. We will once again be at the Biggerstaff Conference Center on Ebenezer Road.

We have a real treat this year--**Fred Mappus** and **Bruce Phillips** are going to prepare BBQ for us! Be picking out your favorite go-along veggie or dessert to serve with the BBQ. METS will be furnishing drinks. You should also bring your own table ware.

We are having an old favorite back for our entertainment--the Four D's will keep our feet tapping with their song stylings. And don't miss the chance to catch up with the Summer doings of our old friends.

We hope everyone has had a fun and safe Summer so far. See you on September 24.

~ Jay Price

\*Meet, Eat, Travel and Serve - primarily for ages 55+



## WORLDWIDE COMMUNION - OCTOBER 4, 2009

Worship Ministry is planning a special presentation of breads for World Communion Sunday. These breads will be displayed in all services on our Lord's Table in the Sanctuary, and on our Altar in the Celebration Service. Each will represent a Continent of the World. If you will be willing to become involved with this special celebration by volunteering to bake, please contact **Gladys Chastain** at 638-5500 or at [ilovebelle@mindspring.com](mailto:ilovebelle@mindspring.com). Types of breads and recipes will be provided.



## RECEIVE OUR NEW **BEACON** - a Weekly e-Newsletter

- ☞ **What Is It?** It's a new, concise, communication tool. It will contain any new or updated announcements since the last *Navigator*; as well as serve as a reminder of upcoming events.
- ☞ **When Will I Get It?** Starting soon, you will receive the **BEACON** every Tuesday afternoon.
- ☞ **How Do I Sign-Up?** If you receive *Grapevine* updates, you will automatically receive the **BEACON**. If you do not receive the *Grapevine*, please send your e-mail address to: [churchoffice@saintmarkumcseneca.org](mailto:churchoffice@saintmarkumcseneca.org).

# Around the Church and Community

## SAINT MARK WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

A warm Saint Mark welcome to our newest members, **Steve and Judy Cottingham**.

They transfer to Saint Mark from Lawrence Chapel UMC in Central, South Carolina.

Contact information: 203 Shipmaster Drive, Salem, SC 29676; 864-719-0123; steve@cottingham.us and judy@cottingham.us. Welcome to our church family!



## KAIROS COOKIES

The next men's *Kairos* weekend at McCormick Correctional Institution will be held September 16-20. Six thousand dozen homemade cookies are needed for the weekend. A large portion of the cookies come from UM churches in the Anderson district.



If you would like to make cookies for *Kairos*, please make them approximately 2" in diameter. **Cookies can be any kind but please do not use powdered sugar topping.** Cookies should be packed by the dozen in zip loc bags and brought **to the church office no later than noon Tuesday, September 15**. As you bake the cookies, please pray for the prisoner who will eat them. Baking homemade cookies for *Kairos* tells the prisoners that someone cares about them.

- Mack Cason

## OUR DAILY BREAD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS



Lee Molz, Volunteer Coordinator for *Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen* called me asking if any of the Saint Mark volunteers would like to volunteer on days other than the fifth Friday. Lee said they are needing more volunteers to help Monday-Friday since more people are coming to the soup kitchen.

If you could volunteer on additional days, please call Lee at 864-985-0855.

Thank you.

**Claudia Smith**

## SAINT MARK HOSTS BOBCATS

We were privileged recently to host the Seneca High School football team to a breakfast before one of their (hot) August practices before school began.

We will be providing them a supper on Friday, September 4 before their first home game. (Thank you, **Donna Jaynes!**)

Best wishes to the Bobcats toward a winning season!



## Church Family Night Saint Mark Center

Wednesday, September 9 at  
5:30 pm -



- **Adult and Children's Menu:** Pizza, Salad Bar, and Dessert
- **Small Group Studies begin**
- **Hospitality Group B serving**

Wednesday, September 16 at 5:30 pm -

- **Adult and Children's Menu:** Baked Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Rolls and Dessert
- **Small Group Studies**
- **Hospitality Group C serving**

Wednesday, September 23 at 5:30 pm -

- **Adult and Children's Menu:** Baked Chicken, Side Salad, Seasoned Baked Potatoes, Rolls and Dessert
- **Small Group Studies**
- **Hospitality Group D serving**

Wednesday, September 30 at 5:30 pm -

- **Adult and Children's Menu:** BBQ Pork Sandwich, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Chips and Dessert
- **Small Group Studies**
- **Hospitality Group E serving**

Nursery available from 6:30 - 7:30 pm.  
(Menus are subject to change)

# THANKS!!!!

Dear Fellow Members, the generous donation of \$418 to Homebound Mission is greatly appreciated. The church's continuing support is a true blessing.

Sincerely, **Mary Ann Fox**,  
Corresponding Secretary, HBM

I would like to thank the Caring Ministry for the many visits they make weekly to my mother, **Marion Riggs**. Mom is getting stronger each day, and is so appreciative of the lovely flowers she receives each week. It really starts her week off on a bright note! Sincerely, **Jan Jerome**

Dear Friends, thank you for your donation to Golden Corner Food Bank. The number of families seeking our help continues to grow. We appreciate your commitment to feeding the needy in Oconee County.

Thank you, **Richard Kulper**, Director

Ray and I want to say thanks to the church, **Steve, Jeff**, the Caring Ministry and our KITS group for your prayers, cards and visits. It has all meant a lot to us. Ray is improving and we feel blessed.

In Christian Love, **Ray and Peggy Nichols**