



# The St. Mark Messenger

Monthly Edition

March 2009

*"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

Hebrews 10: 24-25

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## *Strengthening Ministries through Stewardship*

*"I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13 NIV*

In his letter to the Philippians (4:13), the Apostle Paul gives testimony of his miraculous faith! Following his conversion, his faith sustained him through incarceration and other adversities. Paul teaches us that adversity is a bridge to a deeper relationship with God. So it will be for the St. Mark Church family! The faith of our congregation will be the foundation of a year-long financial stewardship campaign of giving: **"Strengthening Ministries through Stewardship."**

Throughout the year, St. Mark members and friends will have an opportunity to contribute to four church-wide fundraising projects, **above and beyond** individual tithes and proportionate giving. Proceeds from these projects will be used to enhance ministries in the areas of **Outreach**, **Nurture** and **Witness**. Ministries supported this quarter include:

**Youth Activities and Registration fees**  
**Missions Support to Individuals and Families in need**  
**Power Hour (Sunday school)**  
**Christian Education**  
**Family Ministries**  
**Children's Ministries**  
**Worship and Music Ministries**  
**Conference Apportionment**



The first project, the **"Children of the World Celebration,"** will be held **Sunday, March 29, 2009, at 4 pm.** Over the next four weeks, 20 of the congregation's youngest members and "friends" will be soliciting your support for this campaign. And at the March 29 finale they will "demonstrate" their faith and take the stage, sharing their gifts and special talents.

During the Lenten Season and in the April issue of The Messenger, Pastor Watts will share with us the more comprehensive meaning of "stewardship."

## “CHILDREN OF THE WORLD” Contestants

Name	Age	Sponsor
Trinity James	1	Tyron &Ouwana James
Zimaria Martin-Miller	1	Kayla Martin
Tatiana Murry	1	Kristle Murry
Jamais Cline	2	Martina Cruell & Brandon Cline
Camren Goodwine	2	Sylvia & Rondell Watson
Tasiana Norris	2	Jermain Norris & LaToya Smalls
Niyah Quarles	2	Jason Quarles & Johann Benson
Thomas Bowman III	3	Mr. &Mrs. Thomas J. Bowman, II
Jahayla Henderson	4	Carlton & Tressa Henderson
Omni Kelly	4	Benjamin & LaToya Kelly
LeiAsia Frazier	5	Eleanor Murry
LaPayton Leggett	5	Anquania “Q” & Fred Leggett
Davin Moses	5	David & Jewel Moses
Delane Rosemond, II	5	Delane & Tonya Rosemond
Mckenzie Rickenbacker	6	Darren & Sekedra Rickenbacker
Jillian Garrison	7	Mark & Kelly Garrison
Faye Jones	7	Murrell & April Jones
Bernard Smith	7	Tomocha Byrd
Brooklyn Shumate	8	Tori & Peggy McKinney
Jasmine McMahan		Mr. & Mrs. Deltric McMahan
Deborah Madeline Stutz	3 months	Diane Talley

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## A WORD FROM PASTOR WATTS



### OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

Just as there are seasons in nature, there are also seasons of the Christian year. In the life of the Church, the seasons honor and celebrate the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This past Wednesday, we began our celebration of Lent with Ash Wednesday. “Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday...”

On Ash Wednesday, we used ashes, the burnt ashes of the palms from the previous year’s Passion/Palm Sunday. The ashes remind us of our mortality and repentance traditional in Jewish and Christian worship. As it regards repentance----repentance is that turning away from our sins and turning towards God.

While we sometimes think of “giving up” things for Lent. It can also be a time when we take on things, perhaps engaging in spiritual disciplines we have not participated in before. Spiritual disciplines draw us closer to God. Examples include prayer, worship, receiving Holy Communion, acts of service, reading and studying God’s Word.

Hear again these words from the invitation to observe a Holy Lent:

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church,  
To observe a holy Lent:  
By self-examination and repentance;  
By prayer, fasting and self-denial;  
And by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word..."

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## "FIRED UP AND READY TO GO!"

Here are excerpts from the Sunday, February 8 announcement by Shelia Bradley, Chairperson of the Council on Ministries, regarding the "Strengthening Ministries through Stewardship" Fundraising Campaign.

*"Good morning church and thank you Pastor Watts for allowing me this opportunity to introduce the Council on Ministries' goals for 2009. Will the members of the Council on Ministries please stand? Church, we are "fired up and ready to go!" You may be seated. We are excited because we believe God has brought us to a place and time where we can clearly see how great He is. We are excited because we believe the Holy Spirit boldly exists and is awaiting an invitation from all of us so we may together experience His goodness. We are excited because God is revealing through the Holy Spirit the work he requires of us.*

*During our recent Stewardship Workshop, members of our Council, along with council members from other congregations across the district, were reminded that a clear sense of purpose, nourished by the Holy Spirit, opens the door for us to live a life of gratitude and responsibility. Ultimately, we are to thank God for His endless gifts and then do what we can for each other, our church and the world. Therefore, we vow to accomplish the following goals this year.*

*First, we reaffirm our commitment and bind our hearts to be in prayer individually and collectively. Council members have established prayer partners and have vowed to pray with and for each other and our church. Every Saturday Morning, Intercessory Prayer will be conducted here at the church at 7:14 am. Second, we vow to work together to enhance all ministries of the church. Through a more concerted effort, rooted and ground in faith, supported by prayer, we will stand true to our mission to ministries "united" to make disciples for Jesus Christ.*

*Finally, we have united with the Administrative Board to launch a twelve month financial stewardship fundraising campaign: Strengthening Ministries through Stewardship. This campaign will include four church-wide projects; and the first project --- Children of the World" --- will feature the gifts and talents of our children. Details are forthcoming.*

*Thank you, St. Mark. On behalf of the Council on Ministries we look forward to working with each of you this year as together we strengthen the ministries of our church through stewardship."*

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# Power Hour

**Engaging God's Power to teach the people, reach the people and to leave our Mark on the world**  
Every Sunday - 10am to 11am

Do you want to understand more about the word of God and His call upon your life? Do you want to spend study time with fellow believers? Do you want to make a difference in the community and world? If so, "Power Hour is the answer. Power Hour, 60 minutes to teach the word, reach the people and leave a mark on the world.

## Power Learning Room

Take a tour of "The Power Learning Room" a special children's area designed to enhance their learning of the Books of the Bible, the Beatitudes, the Ten Commandments, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalms and much, much more! The Learning Lab will be open every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday during Power Hour.

## Coins for Caring

It's never too early to become a good steward. Each Sunday, two "Coins for Caring" --- one for youth and one for children---will be placed in the Educational Wing. The children and youth will be encouraged to deposit their coins in care of others. At the end of each quarter coins will be counted and donated to our mission ministry. Parents, we need your support too!

## Who Am I?

Youth, do you know your Black History? Each Sunday this month, information about a well-known African Americans will be posted on the Education bulletin. Think you know the answer? Email your response to [powerhour@bellsouth.net](mailto:powerhour@bellsouth.net) by the following Wednesday @ 4:00pm for a chance to win a prize. The winner will be announced at the end of Bible Study on Wednesday and their name posted on the board.

## Adult – Classes

**"One Month to Live"** – *If you knew you only had one month to live what would you do to make what's left of your life really matter?* This six-week session will give you eye-opening insights and soul- inspiring truths that will challenge you to live each day to the fullest. If you are ready to learn how to Live Passionately – Love Completely – Learn Humbly and Leave Boldly then I encourage you to participate. The classes are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Room 108. All adults are welcome

Power Team Leaders: Ruby Lewers & Robert Gregory

**"Serious Answers for Hard Questions"** – This class is designed for **men** who want to study and find the answers to the unique challenges and questions life presents them. In this thought-provoking and inspiring course, ten leading scholars, world experts in their fields and people of faith, address ten issues that present serious obstacles to many both in and outside of the church. This class will be held every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Room 108. **Sorry ladies; this course is for men only.**

Power Team Leaders: Chris Thompson & Mack Culbertson

Of course, traditional adult classes are offered every Sunday in the Fellowship Hall for traditional study.

Power Team Leaders: Aaron Fuller & Mack Culbertson

**"4<sup>th</sup> Sunday"** – This class is designed for young adults 19 – 35 years. This class meets monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Room 108 and is led by Power Team Leader Rodney Dinkins.

For more information contact Power Team (Sunday School Superintendent) Leader Penny Henderson @ 244-0139 or [pehenderson@bellsouth.net](mailto:pehenderson@bellsouth.net)

**“Power Hour Team Training”** – Training for The Power Team (All Sunday School teachers) will be held **Saturday, March 28, 9am to 12:30 pm** conducted by Kathy Jones, Conference Congregational Specialist and her “team.”

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## POPCORN & A MOVIE NIGHT

**Movie:** “FIREPROOF”      **Time:** 6:30 pm

**Starring:** Kirk Cameron and Erin Bethea

**Rating:** PG

**Synopsis:**

Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never leave your partner behind. Inside burning buildings, it's his natural instinct. In the cooling embers of his marriage, it's another story.

After seven years of marriage, Caleb and Catherine Holt have drifted so far apart that they are ready to move on without each other. Yet as they prepare to enter divorce proceedings, Caleb's dad asks his son to try an experiment: The Love Dare.

While hoping The Love Dare has nothing to do with his parents' newfound faith, Caleb commits to the challenge. But can he attempt to love his wife while avoiding God's love for him? Will he be able to demonstrate love over and over again to a person that's no longer receptive to his love? Or is this just another marriage destined to go up in smoke?

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## GREETERS ANYONE?

Part of a vital congregational and community ministry is determined by the way we welcome everyone entering our doors. Do we encourage our guests to return? Better yet, do we encourage them to become members? Beginning Sunday, January 4, we will re-introduce our “Greeter’s Ministry.”

To volunteer, contact Bobbie Jones, chairperson of Worship at 268-7088. “Special” thanks to those who have agreed to serve through March and to those who serve throughout the coming year!

## DOES ANY OF THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?

“What time is that meeting?”      “Who is supposed to attend?”      “Am I on that committee? Am I supposed to be there?”  
“Call Karen – I don’t know what room we’re in?”      “I forgot to submit my announcement! Oh well, I’ll slip a note to the announcer or better yet, I’ll just tell the preacher!”  
“Wonder when they are going to update that website?”  
“Karen, have you printed the Newsletter? I have just one more thing!”

Communication is very important to the life of a thriving congregation. Obviously, and thankfully St. Mark is blessed with many important ministries, programs and services. And these activities require accurate planning and scheduling that must be communicated to the congregation and community in a timely manner. If not, our work and activities will be spiritless, ineffective, and not very well attended. So, to ensure the success of all our ministries the communications committee is soliciting a few dedicated volunteers to serve as writers, editors, and website technicians.

Requirements: Writer/editor

**1. A heart for God!!**

**2. A heart for the accurate and effective communication of all the ministries of St. Mark.**

3. Computer access (preferred not required)
4. Limited access to the internet to send and occasionally receive email communications (preferred not required)
5. Willingness to meet deadlines
6. Willingness to attend quarterly meetings

Requirements: Web-Technician

**1. A heart for God!**

2. A heart for a importance and benefit of a presence on the worldwide web
3. Access to a laptop or computer with high-speed internet access
4. Working knowledge of Micro-soft Office software
5. Access to "Adobe" or "Picture-It" Software
6. Familiarity and comfort with the internet
7. Familiarity and (perhaps) access to a digital **video** camera, "up-loadable" to the internet

Two important training sessions are scheduled this month.

**Website Training  
Saturday, March 28, 2009  
12 – 2 pm**

**Conference Room**

(Please bring a laptop with wireless access)

Please Gena Garrison, [gena140@charter.net](mailto:gena140@charter.net) or 864-770-5461 to reserve your place at this training or for more details.

**Newsletter Writer/Editor Training  
Saturday, March 28, 2009  
2 – 4 pm**

**Conference Room**

Please contact Juana Slade, [juana.slade@anmedhealth.org](mailto:juana.slade@anmedhealth.org) or 864-277-2142 to volunteer and to reserve your place.

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## **7:14 INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

*If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*  
*II Chronicles 7:14*

Corporate prayer is an essential part of church life here at St. Mark. Each Saturday morning the 7:14 Intercessory Prayer Group meets to pray for wisdom, guidance, direction and blessings for our church. Now is the time to lift up the needs of our church and community. It is also a time to join with fellow believers in a time of thanks and praise for all of the things God has done.

Please commit; make the sacrifice. We need you there at 7:14 am.

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**WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

There will be an important worship committee meeting **Monday, March 2, 6 pm in Room 104**. A representative from each of the following groups is asked to attend: Stewardship Committee, Ushers, Lay Speakers, Communion Stewards, and each choir.

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## FLOWER FUND

Help beautify the sanctuary, contribute to the "Flower Fund!" For a \$50 donation, flowers can be placed on the altar in honor, memory, or celebration of a loved one or special event. Orders must be placed, **paid for** in advance, and all checks should be made payable to St. Mark UMC. For more information, contact the Church Office.

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## MUSIC NOTES

With five choirs, a praise team and a 28-member orchestra, music is one of our congregation's most vibrant and active areas of ministry. If you have an interest in this ministry, please contact Margaret Grayson, director of Music at 864-322-0595.

- Every Sunday: The Vessels of Praise (Praise Team)  
First Sunday: The Chancel Choir, Anthony Jackson, Musician  
Second Sunday: The Voices of Hope (Youth), Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
The Inspirational Choir (Contemporary Gospel), Dwight Woods, Musician;  
Ruby Lewers, Director  
Third Sunday: The Chancel Choir, Anthony Jackson, Musician  
The Inspirational Choir, Dwight Woods, Musician; Ruby Lewers, Director  
Fourth Sunday: The St. Mark Orchestra, John DeVore, Conductor  
The Children's Choir, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
Fifth Sundays 2009  
March: The Male Chorus, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
The Children's Choir, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
May: The Male Chorus, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
The Voices of Hope, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
August: The Male Chorus, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
The Children's Choir, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
November: The Male Chorus, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician  
The Voices of Hope, Brenda Benson, Director and Musician

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## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

What do teenagers, children and adults have in common? They are all invited to come out to

**Family Fun Night**  
**Saturday, March 7**  
**6 pm**  
**St. Mark Fellowship Hall**

There will be games for all ages, entertainment, and an old fashion "Pot Luck" Supper! Family Fun Night is sponsored by the United Methodist Women.

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## FIRST, THE WORD!

*"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*  
*2 Timothy 2:15 (King James)*

Bible study is an important aspect of Christian life. God charges us to be "workers" for Him; so we should build His word into our lives. "The Word" alone tells us how to live for Him and serve Him. Consistent and diligent study of God's word is vital; otherwise we will be lulled into neglecting God and our true purpose for living.

There are three options for weekly Bible Study on the St. Mark – St. Matthew Charge:

**Tuesday, 10 am, St. Mark – "Companions in Christ"**

**Wednesday, 1 pm, St. Matthew – Bible Study**

**Wednesday, 6:30 pm, St. Mark – Bible Study**

Please pray God's blessings on the study life of St. Mark and our "sister church" St. Matthew

## NEW MINISTRY!!!

Beginning March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Evangelism team will be in ministry to the residents of SpringBrook Behavioral Health Residential Center every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. This ministry will consist of a bible study to various groups: children ages 7-11, teens, young veterans from Iraq, and adults.

SpringBrook BHC is excited about this new ministry to their residents and the Evangelism team is excited about the opportunity for God to use them this way. Please be in prayer for the success of this ministry and that they will win souls for the Kingdom.

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## THE MONTH AT-A-GLANCE.....

*Stay informed! Post "St. Mark on the Move" on your refrigerator, message board or any noticeable location. See you there!*

### Week of March 1

#### **Sunday**

8 am	Praise & Worship	
8:15 am	Morning Worship	
9:45 am	Power Hour – Traditional Class	Fellowship Hall
	Power Hour – "Serious Answers for Hard Questions" (Men Only)	Room 108
10 am	United Methodist Men	Conference Room
4 pm	United Methodist Women's Meeting	Fellowship Hall

#### **Monday**

6 pm	Worship Committee Meeting	Room 104
6:30 pm	St. Mark Orchestra Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall

6 pm 7 pm	Children of the World Committee Inspirational Choir Rehearsal	Conference Room Rehearsal Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>		
10 am	Companions in Christ	
<b>Wednesday</b>		
5 pm	VOH Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
6:30 pm	UM Youth Meeting	Rehearsal Hall
6:30 pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
<b>Thursday</b>		
11:30 am	Website Deadline	
6 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
<b>Saturday</b>		
7:14 am	7:14 Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary
10:30 am	VOH Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
<b>12 pm</b>	<b>“Children of the World Luncheon”</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
5 pm	Inspirational Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
<b>6 pm</b>	<b>Family Night</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b><u>Week of March 8</u></b>		
<b>Sunday</b>		
8 am	Praise & Worship	
8:15 am	Morning Worship	
9:45 am	Power Hour – Traditional Adult Class	Fellowship Hall
	“One Month to Live”	Conference Room
9:45 – 10 am	Family Ministries Meeting	Sanctuary
<b>Monday</b>		
6 pm	Missions Committee Meeting	
6:30 pm	St. Mark Orchestra Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>		
10 am	Companions in Christ	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Power Team (Sunday School Teachers)	Room 104
<b>Wednesday</b>		
6:30 pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
<b>Thursday</b>		
11:30 am	Website Deadline	
<b>Saturday</b>		
7:14 am	7:14 Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary
12 pm	Vessels of Praise Rehearsal	Room 104
5 pm	Inspirational Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
<b><u>Week of March 15</u></b>		
<b>Sunday</b>		
8 am	Praise & Worship	
8:15 am	Morning Worship	
9:45 am	Power Hour – Traditional Class	Fellowship Hall
	“Serious Answers for Tough Questions” (Men Only)	Conference Room

9:45 am	Usher's Meeting	Sanctuary
<b>Monday</b>		
6:30 pm	St. Mark Orchestra Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>		
10 am	Companions in Christ	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Council on Ministries	Conference Room
<b>Wednesday</b>		
5 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
6:30pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
<b>Thursday</b>		
11:30 am	Website Deadline	
<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Male Chorus</b>	<b>Rehearsal Hall</b>
<b>Friday</b>		
<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>POPCORN &amp; A MOVIE NIGHT "Fireproof"</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>Saturday</b>		
7:14 am	7:14 Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
12 pm	Vessels of Praise	Rehearsal Hall
12:30 pm	Brownie Troop 462 Meeting	<b>Room 104</b>
<b>9am – 1 pm</b>	<b>Colorectal Health Seminar</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>

**Week of March 22 – ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

<b>Sunday</b>		
8 am	Praise & Worship	
8:15 am	Morning Worship	
9:45 am	Power Hour – Traditional Class	Fellowship Hall
	Power Hour: "One Month to Live"	Conference Room
4 pm	Greer/Taylor's Choral Union Anniversary	Sanctuary
<b>Monday</b>		
6:30 pm	St. Mark Orchestra Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>		
10 am	Companions in Christ	
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>5 pm</b>	<b>Children's Rehearsal</b>	<b>Rehearsal Hall</b>
6:30 pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
<b>Thursday</b>		
11:30 am	Website Deadline	
<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Male Chorus</b>	<b>Rehearsal Hall</b>
<b>Saturday</b>		
7:14 am	7:14 Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary
<b>9am – 12:30 pm</b>	<b>Power Hour Team Training (Sunday School)</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
10:30 am	Children's Choir	Sanctuary
12 pm	Male Chorus	Sanctuary
12 – 2 pm	Web Training	Conference Room

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**2 – 4 pm****Communications Workshop****Conference Room**

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**Week of March 29****Sunday**

8 am	Praise & Worship	
8:15 am	Morning Worship	
9:45 am	Power Hour – Traditional Class	Fellowship Hall

**Monday**

6 pm	Age Level & Family Ministries	Room 104
6:30 pm	St. Mark Orchestra Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday**

10 am	Companions in Christ	Fellowship Hall
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**Wednesday**

6:30 pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
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**Thursday**

11:30 am	Website Deadline	
6 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
5 pm	V.O.H. Choir Rehearsal	Rehearsal Hall
6 pm	Finance Committee	
7 pm	Administrative Board Meeting	Conference Room

**Saturday**

7:14 am	7:14 Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary
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## **AROUND THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY**

*“Keeping you in touch with key events and activities”*

<b>March 7</b>	<b>12 pm</b>	<b>Children of the World Luncheon</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>March 7</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Family Night</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>March 20</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Popcorn and Movie Night</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>March 21</b>	<b>9am – 1 pm</b>	<b>Colorectal Health Seminar</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>4 pm</b>	<b>Greer/Taylor's Choral Union Anniversary</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>March 29</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Children of the World Celebration</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>April 5</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>April 12</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Resurrection Sunday (Easter Service)</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>United Methodist Women's Seasonal Tea</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>

If you have information that you would like to share with the St. Mark Church family, please submit all information to the church secretary or any member of The St. Mark Messenger staff no later than the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Items will be printed at the discretion of The Messenger staff.

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*Betty J. Canada  
and  
Frank L. Garrison  
Request the honor of your presence  
at their marriage  
Saturday, the eleventh of April  
Two thousand and nine  
Three o'clock in the afternoon  
Mayfield Chapel Baptist Church  
1065 Rogers Bridge Road  
Duncan, South Carolina*

*Reception immediately following ceremony  
In the Church Social Hall*

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## BRIEFLY SPEAKING

St. Mark United Methodist Church salutes the brave men and women in the armed forces and around the world. We remember them in our prayers. These are the members of SMC in active duty.

**US Army**

Kiersten Shumpert

**US Marines**

Marshall Grayson

**Army National Guard Reserves**

Willie P. Rowe

**US Navy Reserves**

Bryant Simmons

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## DID YOU KNOW?

- **Did you know** that March is Colorectal Awareness Month?
- **Did you know** that according to the National Cancer Institute of the U.S. Institutes of Health, in 2008 there were **108,070** new cases of colon cancer and **40,740** new cases of rectal cancer diagnosed in the United States? A total of **49,960** deaths resulted from both colon and rectal cancer.
- **Did you know** that African Americans are disproportionately affected by colon cancer, particularly men and women over 40 years of age?

**March is Colorectal Awareness Month** and the members of the Health and Welfare Committee are hosting a health seminar to provide information about this important health issue. This seminar featuring Cancer Specialist **Dr. Brian McKinley** will be held **Saturday, March 21, 9am – 1 pm**, in the **Fellowship Hall**. Light continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Other providers will be on site also to discuss “Aging and Dementia” and the social, economic and cultural challenges specific to African Americans.

Registration forms and information will be provided by the Health & Welfare Committee, Cynthia Thompson, Coordinator.

For more information on colorectal and other types of cancer visit [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

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## BIG THANKS & CONGRATULATIONS

We salute these members of the St. Mark United Church family for their personal accomplishments, recognitions and contributions. May God continue to their endeavors.

### Big “THANKS” to...

**The supporters who contributed** to the Children’s fellowship to the UniverSoul Circus  
**Chris Thompson**, certified February 22 by the Greenville District Committee of Ordained Ministers.  
Congratulations, reverend!

**The Voices of Hope and Children’s Choir and their parents; the United Methodist Youth Fellowship and coordinators; the Power Team; Brenda Benson; Brandon Coleman; and Pastor Janice Frederick-Watts** for their inspiring February 22 production of “Lift Every Voice and Sing: A Tribute to James Weldon Johnson. Bravo!!

### Big “CONGRATULATION” to...

**Solomon Bradley** for his article published in the December issue of *The Journal*, the official publication of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Solomon’s article was about his history-making trip to South Africa

**Louie Golden** husband of Betty Golden for his recent induction into the Claflin University Athletic Hall of Fame

**Juana Slade** on her appointment to the position of Vice President of United Way of America’s National Women’s Leadership Council

**The United Methodist Youth Fellowship** on their presentation at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth and Family Convocation, February 28 in Atlanta, Ga. The youth spoke about the importance of community service beyond the “walls of the church.”

**McKenzie Weston** and the Southside Lady Tigers, Region 2 AA Basketball Champions

**Nelson Weston** for his performance as “Ed Devery” in the production “Born Yesterday” performed by The Shoestring Players of USC Upstate

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## HERE’S TO YOUR HEALTH

### Safety Seat Inspections

Free safety seat inspections for children ages 13 and under are available at several locations throughout the Upstate by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 454-1109 or go to [www.safekidsupstate.org/inspection\\_station.php](http://www.safekidsupstate.org/inspection_station.php)<[http://www.safekidsupstate.org/inspection\\_station.php](http://www.safekidsupstate.org/inspection_station.php)>. Inspections take 20 to 30 minutes per seat and include teaching caregivers how to install the car seats correctly.

### Activate Upstate

Sign up at [www.activateupstate.org](http://www.activateupstate.org)<<http://www.activateupstate.org>> for this free, year-round healthy living program of health talks, counseling and monthly weigh-ins. The goal is to get 30 minutes of exercise a day, five days a week.

### Spring Training

Walk the Greenville Drive's warning track at Flour Field at the West End between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (non-game days only). One mile equals 4.5 laps!

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## March 2009 At-A-Glance

### Worship Support

#### Sunday, March 1

##### Greeters

Linette Hodge-Sawyer  
Rosylin Weston

##### Announcer

Rosylin Weston

##### AV Technicians

William Marshall  
Faurtina Martin  
Calvin Slade  
Sharie Smith

##### Nursery Attendant

#### Sunday, March 8

##### Greeters

Peggy Munroe  
Tanya Dillard

##### AV Technicians

William Marshall  
Faurtina Martin  
Calvin Slade  
Sharie Smith

##### Nursery Attendant

#### Sunday, March 15

##### Greeters

Tony Ballenger  
Mack Culbertson

##### AV Technicians

William Marshall  
Faurtina Martin  
Calvin Slade  
Sharie Smith

##### Nursery Attendant

#### Sunday, March 22

##### Greeters

Beverly Byrd  
Margaret Grayson

##### Announcer

Lasonia Williams

##### AV Technicians

William Marshall  
Faurtina Martin  
Calvin Slade  
Sharie Smith

##### Nursery Attendant

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## TAKE NOTE

Take note of the Trustee's Weekly Schedule. For more information contact Margaret V. Freeman at 244-0673

Monday	<b>Royce Freeman</b>	244-0640
Tuesday	<b>CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE</b>	
Wednesday	<b>Twana Cruell</b>	268-7476
Thursday	<b>Margaret V. Freeman</b>	244-0673
Friday	<b>CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE</b>	
Saturday		
Sunday		

*\*\*For special access on Tuesday or Friday contact Margaret V. Freeman at the number listed above.*

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## Sick & Shut-Ins

*Please remember our sick and shut-in members with your prayers, cards, telephone calls, and visits. **Contact the church office administrator at 848-7141** with information regarding all church family illnesses and bereavement.*

<i>Mr. Harold Cheeks – Belaire Place, 23 Southpointe Drive Rm. # 115, Greenville 29607</i>	<i>234-9542</i>
<i>Rev. Oliver N. Greer – 317 Garrett Street, Mauldin 29662</i>	<i>234-7341</i>
<i>Mrs. Minnie Louther – Residence Unknown</i>	
<i>Mr. Donald Talley – 3204 Culpepper Crossing, Duncan 29334</i>	<i>486-9472</i>
<i>Mrs. Ella Mae Whiteside – 202 Frank Street, Greenville 29601</i>	<i>271-1537</i>
<i>Mrs. Lillian McKinney- 5501 Hwy 101 North, Taylors, 29687</i>	<i>895-1933</i>

### **MARCH BIRTHDAY'S**

3/1 Lloyd Cephas  
3/2 Robert Gregory  
3/2 Elliot Simmons  
3/5 Wanda Rowe-Titus  
3/5 Stacy Atkins  
3/5 Leslie Jenkins  
3/5 Jan Chappelle  
3/6 Robert Martin  
3/7 Keyla Edwards  
3/7 Jewel Moses  
3/9 Linda Jones  
3/9 Ronnie Jones  
3/10 Eddie Dennis  
3/11 April Lewis, Sr.

### **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

3/5 Margaret & Herman Freeman  
3/7 Tonya & Delane Rosemond  
3/10 Vanessa & Sterling Harris  
3/14 Gwendolyn & James Mayes  
3/16 Brenda & Billy Benson  
3/19 Diane & Ray Martin

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3/16 Gregory Owens  
3/17 Billy Benson  
3/17 John-Paul Freeman  
3/19 Daven Moses  
3/19 Pauline Foster  
3/23 Rodney Dinkins  
3/24 Willie Dodd  
3/25 Courtney Crawford  
3/25 Twana Cruell  
3/26 Kayla Martin  
3/27 Erin Dillard  
3/27 Calvin Slade  
3/28 Rev. Joyce Chiles  
3/28 Lakishia Dinkins  
3/31 Chauncey Crawford

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## GETTING YOU CONNECTED!

All student recognitions, achievements, and other accomplishments will be announced on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday only. Parents and students please get this information to the Church office by Thursday before the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

If you're interested in receiving church information via the **Internet** please e-mail your request to [stmarkkc@charter.net](mailto:stmarkkc@charter.net).

**DEADLINES! Don't forget---the deadline for newsletter articles is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in each month. Articles may be submitted to any member of the Messenger Staff, and we respectfully reserve the right to review and edit all copies.**

Church news at your finger tips. Visit the new **St. Mark Info Line**. This telephone service features voicemail, weekly activities and Sunday school updates. Simply dial the church's main number, 864-848-7141, and follow the prompts.

Visit St. Mark United Methodist Church on the web [www.stmarktaylorssc.com](http://www.stmarktaylorssc.com)  
Web News:

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## PRAYER

Just call---someone will answer. The Upper Room Prayer Center is only a call away. Call anytime/anywhere and someone will pray with or for you.

**1-800-251-2468**