

THE MARKINGS

MISSION: To share the love of Jesus with and through the people of Talbot County and beyond.

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 100 PEACHBLOSSOM ROAD, EASTON, MD 21601

JUNE 2018

Will you share your email address with us? If you have an email address and it is not registered with us or if your email address has changed, would you please share it with us by emailing churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org.

We are sending this and future issues to those of you with email addresses if you have so requested. If you are interested in receiving your issues by email and have not yet requested, please contact the church office.



Our Vision:

St. Mark's Church will inspire people of all ages through acts of love and service to know Jesus Christ.

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Well, this is it. . .time for goodbyes and time for hellos in The United Methodist Church. Many pastors are saying fond farewells to their congregations this month, while at the same time, preparing themselves to begin a new chapter in ministry with a different community of believers. It's a strange place to be, I am finding. Let me begin by saying "Thank You!" Thank you for accepting me as is, a work in progress, learning by the seat of my pants at times, and loving me on behalf of Jesus Christ. I have truly loved every moment that God has allowed me to be your pastor. I have seen the face of Christ on my neighbor during worship, at meetings, in Bible studies, at the hospital and care facilities, at times of deep sadness and in times of great joy. We have shared life together and what a privilege it has been to get to know so many of you and to grow together as the body of Christ. I will always be deeply grateful to St. Mark's for continuing to follow its vision and mission as we have seen great things happen here where lives have been changed and transformed by the love of Jesus. The leadership and staff of this church needs to be recognized for the outstanding work it does on behalf of God's people. Their tireless efforts to make a difference for God's kingdom is extraordinary and it has been a blessing to be a part of something so special. So, to my St. Mark's family, you will ALWAYS hold a special place in my heart and I will miss you terribly. God has a great plan and future for this church and I know without a doubt that you will love and accept Rev. Ed and his wife, Linda with open and gracious arms. May God's blessings be upon you and may you know that great is your reward!

In Christ's love,

Pastor Missy

**Sunday, May 27 at 9:45 a.m. Worship Service in Idlewild Park begins
Pastor Missy's Service, Sunday, June 17, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. on the church
lawn. See page 5 for more details.**

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible Camp

July 23-27, 2018—5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING

Buzz & Pat Jones on their 66th wedding anniversary, June 5th.

Pastor Missy & Phil on their 34th wedding anniversary, June 9th.

Don & Carolyn Shanks on their 60th wedding anniversary, June 14th.

Tom & Hannah Alnutt on their 63rd wedding anniversary, on June 26th.

Al Miller on his 89th Birthday on June 29th.

Dave & Jackie Dianich on their 56th wedding anniversary, June 30th

Bob & Anita Guenther on their 60th wedding anniversary, on July 11th.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Herby Andrew by Susan Divilio.

Jan Middleton by Dick Middleton.

JoSue Simpson by the Deborah Circle & Rita Stone.

THANK YOUS

Dear Denise and Prayer Shawl Ladies,

Did you see me Easter Sunday? I was wearing my lovely shawl over my sweater. Thank you so much. You do such a beautiful work. God Bless all of you.

Fondly, Eva Reeley

St. Mark's Congregation: On behalf of the Staff & Residents we wanted to extend our gratitude for the donation of altar flowers to our facility. One of the residents turned them into centerpieces for each of the tables in the dining room. We greatly appreciate this gesture and hope you will continue to keep us in mind in the future.

We are currently seeking someone to volunteer to lead a monthly church service in the Facility. If anyone in your congregation or clergy is interested we would love to have you.

Sincerely, Dianne M. Hill
Life Style Director
Candle Light Cove

**LET US PRAY FOR**

University of MD/Easton — Don Casson

Bayleigh Chase/Marvel Hall — Jim Denny

Bayleigh Chase — Gardens, Wanda Denny, Gloria Lindquist. Lois Dabbert, Ted Lewers, Elva Eareckson

Homestead Manor — Lee Walker

Envoy of Denton — Eudora Fischer

Lakeside — Dave Stavely

Cadia Rehabilitation — Susan Horning

AT HOME

Doris Powell

Dan Pritchett

Chuck & Pat Moon

Ruby Carter

Cathy Tull

Mort Reed

George & Phyllis Carroll

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

GySgt. Harold S. Brice/USMC

CPL Sarah Jane Royer Golden/USMC

P.O. 2nd Class Gary B. Granger, Jr./Navy

1st Lieutenant Jacob Shores/ U.S. Army

OUR GLOBAL MISSIONS

Wings of Caring, Central Congo

Paul Lee Webster, Mujila Falls Ag Centre
Zambia

Africa University, Zimbabwe

Mulungwishi Seminary scholarship

Lifetime Wells International, Kenny Wood

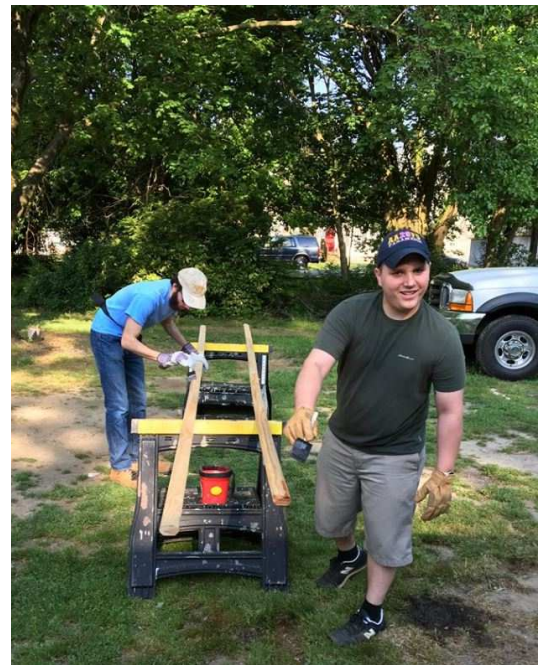
Six Special U.M. Sundays

African Leadership Resources, Rev. Labala

Youth Group News

On May 12 we completed our second wheelchair ramp build with Chesapeake Housing Mission. We had an awesome time & totally fell in love with Mrs. Pat & Mr. Joseph. We had 11 volunteers from St. Mark's & the Salisbury area come together to help make someone's life a little easier. This couple was so sweet & so grateful for our help that they had a yard sale to raise money to grill us hotdogs for lunch. They were an absolute joy.

We would love to have you join us for the next one this Fall!



Serving God, by serving others!



Worship notes

Summer is Coming! (which means so is our Park Service!)

This more casual service will start again on **Sunday, May 27th at 9:45am**, at the Idlewild park pavilion. Wear your shorts & bring your lawn chairs, blankets, & little people! Bring your neighbors too!

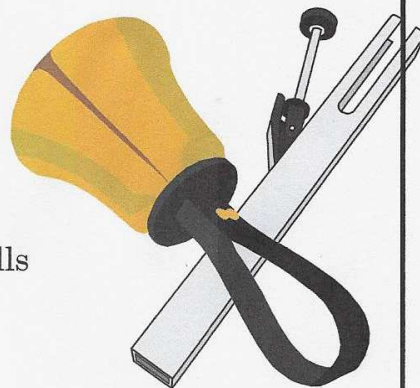
This worship service has grown a lot in the past few years, and as such, **we need your help to continue its success**. We need folks to serve as Ushers & Greeters, Communion servers, Worship leaders and Lay Readers.

We especially need some new folks to help with the sound system set up.

If you are not already involved with serving at the Park, please contact me. We would love to get more people on the schedule. Please call Scott Clausen, Director of Worship and Music at the church (410-822-0001), or email him at musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org

Come and Ring With us!

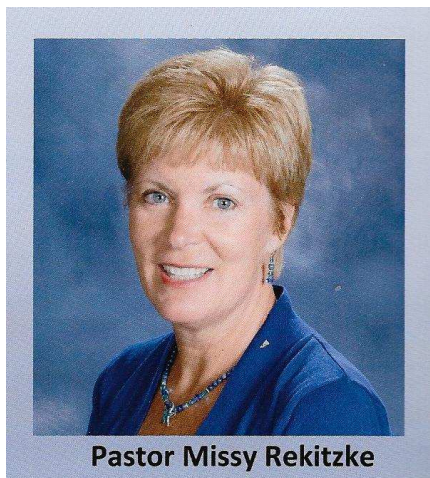
Are you interested, or curious, just in awe and wonder about playing in a bell choir? We are wanting to return our Bell Choir to a regular schedule, and we want you to be a part of it! If you have ever been a part of the bells (at our church or somewhere else), or are curious about trying something new, please let me know!



We welcome interested folks of **all** levels, from beginner to advanced. You don't have to have any prior experience with bells or a choir. What you do need is a willingness to learn and try something new, and a heart to make a joyful noise!!

If interested please call or email Scott at the church, 410-822-0001 ext. 306

musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org



Pastor Missy Rekitzke

PASTOR MISSY'S FAREWELL As we all know, Pastor Missy is moving to a new church beginning July 1. Her last Sunday preaching at St. Mark's will be Sunday, June 17. There will be one service held that day at 10:00 am. We will worship together under a tent on the front lawn of the church. Please dress casually. A picnic-style reception will immediately follow the service, which will include hamburgers, hotdogs, covered dishes, desserts and beverages. The UMM and UMW are coordinating the reception and will provide information on how the congregants can support this event.

We want this day to be a special time to share and express the love and gratitude we have for Pastor Missy & Phil. As such, we will be collecting a Love Offering the day of the service. If you wish to make the offering via check, please make it out to St. Mark's United Methodist Church, with 'Love Offering' written on the memo line. Contributions can also be made via cash or Push-Pay.

We are also asking everyone to write cards and letters, which we will collect at this service as well. Blank note cards and envelopes are available now on the table by the Chapel and in the gathering space for you to use if desired.

If you are unable to make the service on June 17, please feel free to donate to the Love Offering or drop off the card and letters in Karen's office, where boxes will be available to collect the items. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Reed or Frank Gunsallus.

Come to a Baptism Celebration!



Baptism is an outward sign of an inward means of grace at work in a person's life. It's an affirmation that we are incorporated into the Body of Christ, redeemed and forgiven of our sins. The water is a symbol of the cleansing that is going on inside of us through the grace of Jesus Christ offered to us as a GIFT! In The United Methodist Church we believe that God's grace is at work in us even as infants through prevenient grace. If you were baptized as an infant, thank God and remember your baptism and the covenant you share with God. IF you've never been baptized and feel

God's nudging to follow Him and be baptized, we have a great opportunity for you! **On Sunday, June 3rd at 4pm** at the home of Pete & Joyce Bailey's (27163 Bailey's Neck Rd., Easton) we will have a **water baptism in the pool!** Followed by a casual fellowship meal. Bring a snack or side dish to share if you'd like. We also invite everyone else to come and cheer on our sisters and brothers in the faith. Please let Pastor Missy know if you are interested or would like to sign up no later than June 30th.

And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name. Acts 22:16



Something to Think About

You have been hearing about the St. Mark's Thrift Shop since 1981. For those of you who are not familiar with the origin and purpose of the Thrift Shop let me give you a brief history.

At the suggestion of the pastor serving St. Mark's Church in 1981 a group of eager volunteers latched on to the idea of starting a Thrift Shop to raise money which would be used solely for Missions projects. The idea caught on immediately. The primary source of Mission money at this time was the mission envelope in our weekly giving packet. This was not nearly enough to meet the local and worldwide needs of the religious and charitable organization both at home and overseas. St. Mark's congregation has been and remains strongly committed to serving the spiritual and physical needs of those in our community and beyond.

Your generosity in supplying first class inventory for the Thrift Shop these past 37 years has made this Christian outreach program a glowing success.

Now this is **the something we all need to think about**. At the present time we are fortunate to have excellent leadership and a dedicated core of volunteers, however there is a serious need for women, men and young adults to step up and give some time to keep the Thrift Shop staffed.

The Thrift Shop is open to the public on Monday from 10am to 1pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. This calls for 8 volunteers each week to cover the sales desk. Additional volunteers work on Monday and Thursday sorting and pricing the items which have been donated. Without an adequate number of volunteer we are faced with the possibility of being unable to continue this Christian outreach which has provided funding for our many Mission projects.

In the past we have had male volunteers who have helped with vacuuming the floor and doing handyman chores. This is a tremendous help; please see if you might fit this job. (You can choose your own hours.)

Starting in June our scheduling volunteer has asked to be replaced (after a job well done). This position is vital to the success of the operation of the Thrift Shop. She/he would be responsible for assigning the volunteers on a monthly calendar after the volunteer has agreed on the time they can give.

Please give this your prayerful consideration and call Lee Royer, the Thrift Shop manager at 410-829-8189. Lee will be happy to describe your commitment as a volunteer at the Thrift Shop.

Stewardship Moment

The first time I started hearing about tithing was when my husband Gary and I were members of a Baptist church in Arlington, Virginia. The finance chairman talked to the congregation about tithing. He encouraged those who were not giving 10% to consider at least “stepping up” their giving periodically. For example, if you were currently giving 3% of your income, start giving 4%, then 5% etc. until you had reached the 10% goal.

After we went home that Sunday Gary said “Let’s give that a try. I think we can step it up and in a few years start tithing.” As the family bookkeeper, I remember clearly saying to him, “Are you kidding? We can’t possibly give any more than we are now. We have two kids, a big mortgage, I’m only working part time, we need to start a college fund, we are aren’t saving enough....”

I was a lot like Peter in the fifth chapter of Luke. Jesus tells him to drop his fishing nets in the water and the first thing Peter does is protest: “we’ve worked hard all night, and haven’t caught anything.” But Peter obeys.

So after some debate, we decided to at least try giving 1% more. It was scary at first, but we made sure we wrote our check to the church before we paid any other bills each month. That way we couldn’t back out. Before long, it got easier—in fact we didn’t even give it any thought. And in just a few years of increasing our giving gradually we were tithing and have continued to tithe ever since. Instead of thinking of our tithe as a stretch, we realized it was the minimum God asks for – the first fruits of the many gifts He has given us. While I was worried that tithing would make it harder to meet our financial obligations, we have found instead that God has helped meet our needs and blessed us more generously than we ever could have imagined.

I like how 2 Corinthians, Chapter 9, verses 6-8 puts it: “Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. And whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

Jacqui Yeatman

Making
generosity
simple...



We are really excited to introduce a new, easy way to give! You can now give simply and easily using Pushpay for your tithes, offerings, special gifts & even dinners!

To start, text **STMARKSEASTON** to 77977 with your smart phone and you will receive a link to our custom giving page, visit our website and click on the **GIVE ONLINE BUTTON**.

Pushpay currently accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover, as well as ACH (bank account) gifts!



UMW June Circle Meetings

Deborah: Tuesday, June 5 @ 11:30 am
Tidewater Inn

Mary: Tuesday, June 5 @ 12:00 noon
Talbot Country Club

Ruth: Tuesday, June 5 @ 11:30 am
Bayleigh Chase

Sarah: Tuesday, June 12 @ 6:00 pm
Home of Pat Jones

Tabitha: Monday, June 4 @ 6:30 pm
Tidewater Inn



Congratulations to our 2018 Confirmation Class!

Carson Allen, Ian Branich, Ryan Chadwick

Courtney Fike, Riley Hontz, Kaylyn Lowery

Georgia Murdoch, Anna Roser, Jack Sydnor

Addison Thomas & Darby Thomas

St. Mark's United Methodist Church United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men of St. Mark's United Methodist Church meet every month on the second Tuesday, except July at 6:30 pm at the church. Our agenda consists of a monthly bible study & working on various projects to benefit the Church & its members, our United Methodist District & our local community. All men of the Church are considered members & we encourage all men to join us in fellowship & service to our Lord Jesus Christ. Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 13th at 6:30 pm in room 155 in the church.

The June 13th meeting is our last "official" meeting for the summer but there are several projects which we will be doing during the summer months until we meet again in August.

- Set up & take down tables & chairs for the Farewell Send-off of Pastor Missy & our brother Phil Rekitzke. We will meet on Saturday, June 16th at 9:00 am to set up seating for 250 under the tent for the reception & will need a lot of help as we will be moving the tables & chairs from the storage area outside. **WE NEED SOME YOUNGER MEN & BOYS TO HELP US!** Many of our men are retired and this move will need younger backs & legs. Please mark your calendars to lend a hand. We will put things back on Sunday afternoon at 5:00 pm. Thank you in advance for helping.
- The men will be cooking hamburgers & hot dogs for the luncheon to follow the June 17th service. We need three men to cook. If you like to BBQ & can help, please volunteer & let me know at earecksonr@yahoo.com or call me at 410-463-0558.
- We will be supporting the Vacation Bible Camp July 23-27 by helping to teach part of the program as we have done before. More to come about this at our June 13th meeting & by email as things come together for this program.
- Remember – Habitat For Humanity work day is Saturday, June 2nd at the Port Street project site, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Project is coming to an end before dedication & habitation so we are doing finish work. Fathers & sons welcomed! Be a part of the "crew" on the 2nd.

If you would like to receive email notices of our meetings & the projects we are working on, please email Roger Eareckson, President of the UM Men at earecksonr@yahoo.com & I will put you in our email bank so you will know what we are doing & how you can help.

**"TO HELP MEN GROW IN CHRIST, SO OTHERS
MAY KNOW CHRIST"**

Local Mission Partners of St. Mark's Church

TALBOT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

AND

TALBOT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

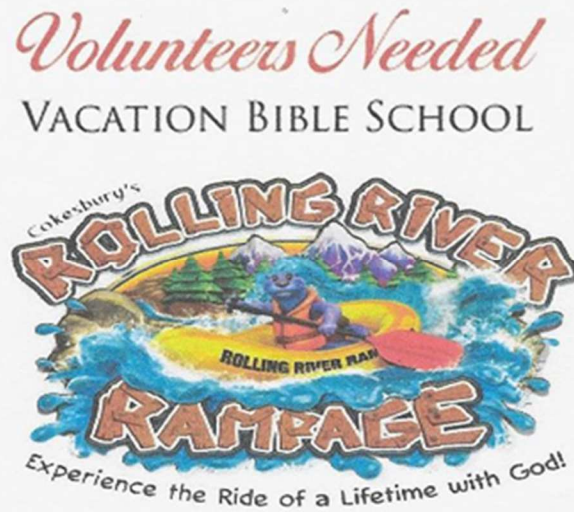
Both of these government agencies each have a small fund where community partners like our church can help them help more people. Linda Webb, Director of TCDSS explained: "When an individual or family comes into the Department of Social Services seeking assistance, we screen them for eligibility for all government programs first. If they qualify for a government program, we will use those funding sources to meet the emergency or other need." The TCHD operates the same way. They provide their clients with a comprehensive assessment to identify the available formal services that can help meet the family or individual's needs. If there is not a specific program that the client qualifies for or if the program they qualify for is out of funds, then they can use funds from their community fund.

Both agencies provide our missions committee each year with information on how these community donations are used—not for whom they were used but for what. The following are some of the types of help from their reports: eye glasses, wheelchair repairs, dental surgery, prescription co-pay, hand held shower, car seat, ensure, utility disconnect prevention, eviction prevention, gas for transportation, car repair, groceries & personal items, etc. Sometimes even a small amount of money can help a person or family meet a need (i.e. gas to get to work).

In addition, these agencies know of others agencies/organizations in our community that can help in specific ways. For instance, Neighborhood Service Center has government funding to help with rent, electricity, and temporary over-night shelter. Also, the Talbot Interfaith Shelter can provide more long term shelter to help people, who qualify, get back on their feet. In this way, the agencies work in partnership with one another to help people who truly need help—plus the agencies have the staff and systems in place to verify the family or individual's status; by helping those with needs who are willing to verify their situation. Some of those who call or come to our church asking for help simply want money or other types of assistance without verifying their situation. When they do complete an intake form, it can take a lot of volunteer time to check out what they have given us; nor do we have the access to information from all entities that TCDSS and TCHD have.

This concludes the articles in the Markings on our Local Mission Partners over the last one to two years. I hope that these articles have helped our congregation know more about how the funds provided through envelope giving to missions and the net proceeds from St. Mark's Thrift Shop are used. I also hope that anyone with a passion to help people will volunteer to serve on our missions committee by letting our church's nominating committee know of your interest. Let it not be said of St. Mark's: big church, big steeple, little heart.

Della Andrew



“Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God” this summer!

July 23-27, 2018

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

But why should the kids have all the fun this summer?

Adult Volunteers are needed to serve and lead our “Rafters & Campers” on this awesome experience during Vacation Bible School Camp here inside St. Mark’s church this summer! Do you have an hour or two to spare? If you do, there are so many ways you can help minister to our children this summer.

- Planning & Publicity Team
 - Decorating Team
- Dinner & Snack Station
 - Station Leaders

If you would like to help with any of these areas, or have any questions, please fill out the volunteer form available in the gathering area or please contact:

Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Education

(410) 822-0001 x 305 or christianed@stmarkseaston.org





June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ladies Circle					1	2
Meetings on Page 8						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:45 Park Service						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:45 Park Service		UMM 4pm to 8pm				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
One 10:00 Service on front lawn of church			1p Prayer Shawl Rm. 155			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:45 Park Service						

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

8:15am Worship Chapel
9:45 am Worship Idlewild Park Pavilion
11:00 am Worship Services Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY

10:30am Prayer Group in chapel

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
100 Peachblossom Road
Easton, MD 21601

**RETURN SERVICE
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Staff

Rev. Missy Rekitzke, Pastor

June Billman, Visitation Ministry Leader

Sarah Ewing, Pre-School Director

Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Ed

Scott Clausen, Director of Music & Worship

Dr. William F. Wharton, Organist

David Cherry, 9:30 Music Director

Brooke Christensen, Youth Director

Karen Reed, Church Administrator

Erica Kirby, Bookkeeper

Bill Gunther, Building Superintendent

Phone: 410-822-0001

Fax: 410-822-0002

Email: churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org



St. Mark's UMC

Proudly Announces...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CAMP

JULY 23 – 27, 2018

At Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School Camp, students will discover an interactive, energizing, Bible-based program that will give them an opportunity to experience the ride of a lifetime with God.

Children ages 3-12 can come Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God, and explore how to serve God and God's mission for their lives.

Come join us Monday, July 23rd – Friday, July 27th, 5:30 – 7:30pm.

Participating children can also enjoy a free dinner each night from 5:00 – 5:30pm.

Participant and Volunteer registration will be starting soon.

Come take a rafting adventure with us!

