

St. Mark United Methodist Church  
550 Hwy. 72 By-Pass NW  
Greenwood, SC 29649  
<http://www.stmarkgreenwood.com>  
Church Phone: 864.229.5416  
Kids' World Phone: 864.227.2776

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
GREENWOOD, SC  
Permit # 190

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# The Witness



Bypass Campus (BPC)



Rivers Street Campus (RSC)



The Coronaca Campus (TCC)

## St. Mark United Methodist Church

[www.stmarkgreenwood.com](http://www.stmarkgreenwood.com)  
Volume 9 Issue 8  
September 2017



You can help St. Mark, the Greenwood District, and the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church respond to hurricane Harvey by giving to St. Mark. You can give by check, with Disaster Relief in the memo line, or through the St. Mark mobile app or website. St. Mark will be working with the Greenwood District as they are putting flood buckets together to help those in need. The District is also preparing to send Emergency Response Teams into the area impacted by hurricane Harvey with our support. You can also go directly to UMCOR's web page for more information or give directly to them. Please be in prayer for the people affected by storm. Also be in prayer for those that are planning the relief efforts and those that will go and serve as part of the relief efforts.



**Greetings to the Saints of St. Mark,**

*<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:5)*

Wasn't the eclipse something? I hope you had a chance to see it. It was truly an amazing event in God's creation. Now, I'm not going to say it was a spiritual event, but it was spectacular. And it did underscore something very important about our life in God.

Someone asked me why it didn't get completely dark. During an eclipse, the moon moves in front of the sun and effectively blocks the sunlight that would directly fall on the earth. For those of us in Greenwood, SC who were in the direct path of the moon's movement in front of the sun, we experienced "the totality" (the total effect of the moon's blockage of the sun's light). But even "the totality" wasn't total. Those of us that saw it together commented on how it was kind of "8:30 PM in the summer" kind of dark but not pitch black. The reason is, of course, the sun's light is greater than the moon's ability to stop it.

You see, the sun sends its light out in all directions. The moon cut off the direct sunlight available from the front but there was all the other sunlight that kept going from the sides, the top and the bottom, and from behind. The eclipse kept the sun from being as bright as it could be but by no means did it shut the light out completely.

Along the same lines, while there is not complete darkness during an eclipse, the moon is completely black. Thankfully this is not normally the case or our night would be so dark. The moon shows its light second hand. It reflects the sun's light. It has not light in itself but depends on the sun's light for its light. When the moon gets in front of the sun, it can no longer reflect the sun's light. We see the moon's darkness when the sun cannot shine upon it. Does anyone notice a parable that God's creation seems to be telling us during an eclipse?

John's gospel describes Jesus as the "Light of the World." In his prologue, John tells us that this light, this Christ, comes into the world yet there are those in the world that would seek to blot out that light. We see the persons like the Pharisees trying to fight His light by their words and actions. We see the demonic realm push back against His light as He exposed and removed their darkness. Perhaps, there is no more dramatic illustration of this than when Jesus was executed on the cross. Then he was buried in the tomb and the great stone rolled in place. The Light of the World, the Son of God, was hidden behind the stone in that tomb. But it was only an eclipse. The Son did rise and His light overcame the darkness. Darkness cannot overcome the Light of the World. His Light is always stronger!

This same "parable of the eclipse" also reveals something of our lives as Christ-followers. Just as the moon depends on the sun for its light, we depend on Christ. We are not the light of the world; we reflect His light. When we come between others and Jesus by our hurtful actions, judgmental words, or less than pleasant and helpful behavior, we block Christ's light from shining in the world. We effectively eclipse God's love from shining by getting in the way of God's love and blocking its rays. Most of us know something of how dark we can be without God's light and love shining on us. Yet, when we do this faithfully in our words and actions, our attitudes and lives, we reflect His light. We aren't hindrances but reflections.

The eclipse reminds us that the sun is bigger than the moon and, ultimately, far more powerful. And the natural place for the moon is reflecting its light, not blocking it. It's what it was made for. I wonder, how are we doing at what we were made for?

With Joy, Steve



**Meetings this Month**

- Worship Committee will meet Sunday, Sept. 10th, at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Classroom at the Bypass Campus (BPC). Please enter through the double doors at the end of the education wing.
- Finance Committee will meet Tuesday, Sept. 26th, at 6:00 pm in the Library at the Bypass Campus. Please enter through the double doors at the end of the education wing.

**"The Call"** is Coming

This September, we hope to launch a new way to help our St. Mark family and friends know what is going on. "The Call" is our new weekly email notice to be sent out on Tuesdays. This new email will serve as the official "voice" of St. Mark and replace any previous or current email notices. It is our intent that if you read The Call, you will know in brief what is happening in the life of St Mark, and you will know the what, when, where, and how of the important events and opportunities available for us. You can sign up by simply sending an email to Debra at [debra@stmarkgreenwood.com](mailto:debra@stmarkgreenwood.com).

**Charge Conference**

There will be a brief Charge Conference to be held on Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 AM on the Bypass Campus in Founders Hall. This Charge Conference will be to officially approve the sale of the former parsonage on the Coronaca Campus of St. Mark UMC. This is the only item of business and so we do not expect a long meeting. All are welcome to attend but only those members of the Church Council will have voice and vote in this matter.



**MEN'S COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST** is Friday, September 29th, at 6:30 AM. in Wayne Goff Hall (WGH) at RSC. The cost for the meal is \$3.00.

**The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Local churches provide the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs.**

**Record of Our Faithfulness**

Year-to-Date	
General Fund Balance	\$126,777.23
Contributions Year to Date	\$578,102.13
Expenses Year to Date	\$597,057.85
Net	(\$18,955.72)
<b>Capital Accounts</b>	
Master's Plan Year-to-Date from contributions and interest	\$10,557.12
Master's Plan Total	\$56,231.42
Sanctuary Fund Total	\$82,028.90
Chancel Furnishings Fund	\$182,398.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$320,658.52</b>

**Food Bank Sunday is September 3rd**

Shopping carts are placed in the education wing at the By-pass Campus. A collection bin is located in the welcome area at RSC. Items can be placed in the carts. Below is the current list of food items needed by the Greenwood Food Bank. Any and all items are appreciated. Popular items are: Canned Vegetables, Canned Meats, Pasta of any kind, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Canned or Powered Milk, Canned Fruit, Juice, Instant potatoes, Pop-Tarts, Manwich, Crackers, Soup of any kind, Dried Beans, Grits, Cornmeal, Cooking Oil, Applesauce, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, Salt and Pepper, Relish, Salad Dressing, Flour (2 lbs), Peanut Butter, Jelly, Sugar (2 lbs) Vinegar, Water, Rice, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Oatmeal. No Egg cartons are needed.



**Prayers of the Church**

**RESIDENTIAL LIVING**

**Brookedale Retirement Center**  
 (1408 Parkway Drive,  
 Greenwood, SC  
 Charlotte Koone

**Emerald Gardens**  
 (201 Overland Drive,  
 Greenwood, SC)  
 Fred Alewine  
 Mel Riley  
 Mary Ann Riley

**Morningside of Greenwood**  
 (116 Enterprise Ct, Greenwood,  
 SC)  
 Betty Pierce

**National Healthcare**  
 (437 E Cambridge Ave,  
 Greenwood, SC)  
 Verna Kennedy

**Wesley Commons**  
 (1110 Marshall Road,  
 Greenwood, SC)  
 Dick Eyman  
 Doris Eyman  
 Louise Mannion  
 Ada Stillwell

**Shut-In/Homebound**  
 Charlie Helms (864-227-6017)  
 109 Brookhaven Drive  
 Greenwood, SC 29646

Annell McManus (864.229.1596)  
 110 Northgate  
 Greenwood, SC 29649

Anne Snoddy  
 102 York Dr  
 Greenwood, SC 29649

Sara Sutton (864-223-7444)  
 450 Dogwood Drive  
 Greenwood, SC 29646

Jenny Valkenburg  
 (864-223-0987)  
 119 Creek Road East  
 Greenwood, SC 29646

**MEMBERS**

Jane West  
 Millie Worthington  
 Abbie Robinson  
 David Lightsey  
 Charlotte Koone  
 Tom Kilgore  
 Barbara Teeter

**MEMBERS CONT'D**

Traci Pruitt  
 Betsy Powell

**MEMBERS'S FAMILY**

Nancy Crocker (Cyndi Bruce's  
 mother)  
 Jimmy Cobb (Ken Cobb's brother)  
 Nora Price (Ray Price's mother)  
 Leeann Wells (Chris Watts's  
 mother)  
 Howie Crocker (Cyndi Bruce's  
 brother)  
 Kenny Andrews (Stephanie Frick's  
 father)  
 Jimmy Randell (Russell and Paige  
 Holley's brother in-law)

**MEMBERS'S FRIENDS**

Teri Savitz (Tracy Burke's friend)

**MILITARY**

(Please notify the church office  
 of any military personnel that  
 need our  
 prayers.)

J.C. Elmore - Army  
 Kolby Gantt - Marines  
 Quae Howard - Marines  
 Trey Kennedy - Marines  
 Caity White - Army  
 Parker White - Army

**COLLEGE STUDENTS**

(Please contact Paige in the  
 church office with the mailing  
 address of your college student,  
 the college name and their birth  
 date or if your college student is  
 not listed.)

Aylah Burton - Anderson  
 University  
 Abby Buckshorn - Appalachian  
 State  
 Meredith Bledsoe - Columbia  
 College

Ele Geoly - Creighton University  
 Asa Stallworth - Davis and Elkins  
 Harrison Marcengill - Embry-  
 Riddle

Kathryn Garren - Emory  
 Lizzy Coyle - Furman  
 Brett Kelly - Iowa State  
 University

Rylan Pitts - LSU  
 Abbie Robinson - Mercer  
 University

J. C. Elmore - MUSC

**COLLEGE STUDENTS CONT'D**

Ryan Ebert - North Greenville  
 Drayson Youngblood - University  
 of Georgia  
 Leeann Pundt - Wofford

Aurora  
 Hayden Harwood and Jacob  
 Stockman.

College of Charleston:  
 Brock Wilson, Harriet Ward,  
 Jacob Schultz, and Jessica  
 Clark.

Clemson:  
 Alex Guareschi, Andrew  
 Patterson, Blake Lindler, Brig  
 Sparks, Chris Huss, Grant  
 Alexander, Grayson Glanton,  
 Jacob McLaughlin, Jessica  
 Steepy, Maddie Coyle, Mae  
 Furman, Mathis Brewington,  
 Patrick McGovern, Rachel  
 Crawford, Ryan Templeton,  
 Steven Crowder, Sydney Case,  
 and Will Bettis.

Lander:  
 Caroline Carver, Hannah  
 Elmore, Jordan Lovett, Kendall  
 O'Quinn, Kya Brownlee, Madison  
 Tripp, Peyton Leopard, Taylor  
 Johnson, Trey Clamp, and  
 Thomas Dalton.

PTC:  
 Izaiah Holmes and Reed  
 Templeton.

Southern Wesleyan:  
 Brandon Pruitt, Emily Corriher,  
 and Haley McLaughlin.

The Citadel:  
 Blayne Garren, Jake Campbell,  
 Nick Long, and Sam Rice.

University of South Carolina:  
 Carson Strom, Carter Rhodes,  
 Gavin Henderson, Hunter  
 DeLoach, Jordan Bradley, Megan  
 Pruitt, Robert Addy, Will  
 Buckshorn, Wesley Fender, and  
 Zach Beale.

Winthrop:  
 Anna Grace McLaughlin and Sara  
 Grace Eaddy.



Let me just say it has been a busy summer for our church and for many of our families. We have seen a new Senior Pastor arrive, Rev. Steve Brown. We have seen a great VBS with over 350 children in attendance. We saw our people go and support five different Salkehatchie camps, including all the work our people did to serve at Emerald City Salk. I could go on and on about what you did through all of those and what we have seen God doing in the lives of those people involved. It truly is amazing watching all of it. I want to tell you about the big project at our Coronaca Campus, The Connection.

We have been working on a partnership with Rice Elementary School; it is the closest Elementary school to our Coronaca Campus. The goal is to help the staff at Rice Elementary to carry out their mission to educate and care for children. We are trying to help them by serving, giving, praying, and building relationships at Rice

Elementary so that we can show them the love of Christ. Rice Elementary has 530 students, 75 staff, plus all the district employees and parents we can impact by serving there. Let me share with you some of what we have been doing over the summer. We sorted and delivered all the books to the classrooms. Several of our people painted a new school logo and several other college logos throughout the main halls. We delivered gift bags to the staff and personalized gift buckets with school "stuff" to the teachers and aids. Every gift had a handwritten note saying that they and their school had been prayed for. We held a prayer walk at the school one night before the teachers reported. It was great to look around and see a few people from every service and campus represented as we were giving our instructions. We also fed the whole staff the last day before students reported. Several of us have been on campus since classes started back helping as the new school year has begun. A personal highlight for me was helping one of the kindergarten classes during the eclipse. I was able to help those kids see what God was doing, and keep them safe. Yes, I am still smiling about that afternoon.

How will this partnership progress? We invited the entire staff to come and worship with us Sunday, August 27, so that we may pray for them and the school year. We are working with the administration to provide opportunities to help children: mentoring, eating lunch, helping with special activities, reading, or listening to the children read. Plus, we will offer encouragement through activities for the staff, and we will meet the needs of children as we go throughout the year.

People ask me how this will impact the school and the community. I don't know the exact outcome. What I do know is that when we walk into that school with our tee shirts on, people already know who we are even if it's our first time there. I know people are talking about what is happening. I received a note from a church member and teacher at Rice. I want you to hear two sentences from that note about the impact so far and what is to come.

"Dear Pastor John & Connection Members,  
 ...The teachers have been saying wonderful things about how much we are showing God's love....I look forward to watching God's work!"

What I know is that by people going and serving and giving of themselves, we are seeing people receiving the love of Christ and opening up to that love. It is going to be a fun school year watching God work!

Peace,  
 Pastor John



A man went to the doctor and said he wanted to live to be 100. The doctor said, "Well, give up anything you enjoy; do not eat any meat, have nothing to do with women, do not eat any sweets, go to bed early, get up early, work hard, and take no vacations." The man said, "Will I live to be 100 then?" The doctor said, "Not necessarily, but it will certainly seem like it!"

I wrote briefly about this in last month's newsletter, but I think it's important, and I don't think we take it seriously.

Deuteronomy 5:12-15 "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you. You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and

daughters, your male and female servants, your oxen and donkeys and other livestock, and any foreigners living among you. All your male and female servants must rest as you do. Remember that you were once slaves in Egypt, but the Lord your God brought you out with his strong hand and powerful arm. That is why the Lord your God has commanded you to rest on the Sabbath day."

"Remember the Sabbath day - keep it holy." This is the one commandment that we think it's okay to break. As a pastor, Sunday can't be my Sabbath day - I have to work. As a bi-vocational pastor, I'm working Monday-Friday as well. Saturday is my Sabbath day. Asking me to work on Saturday is equivalent to asking me to cheat on my wife. It's that important.

Why is it that you can't get everything done you need to get done in 6 days? In 2015, Chick-Fil-A had \$6.8 billion in sales nationwide. As a franchise, they added 100 new restaurants nationwide in 2015. And they're closed on Sundays. Chick-Fil-A is not #1, but they do come in ahead of Pizza Hut, Panera Bread, Domino's Pizza, Chipotle, Sonic, KFC, Carl's Jr./Hardee's, Arby's, Dairy Queen, Little Caesars, Jack in the Box, Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, Papa John's, Panda Express, Jimmy John's Sandwiches, Whataburger, Zaxby's, Five Guys, Culver's, Bojangles', Steak n Shake, Papa Murphy's, Church's Chicken, Wingstop, Checkers/Rally's, Qdoba Mexican Eats, El Pollo Loco, Krispy Kreme, Del Taco, Tim Hortons, White Castle, Jersey Mike's Subs, Firehouse Subs, Jason's Deli, Moe's Southwest Grill, Boston Market, In-N-Out Burger, Baskin-Robbins, McAlister's Deli, Captain D's, Auntie Anne's, & Jamba Juice.

Chick-Fil-A is topped only by McDonald's, Starbucks, Subway, Burger King, Taco Bell, Wendy's, and Dunkin' Donuts. And if you look at average sales per individual restaurant, no one touches Chick-Fil-A. It's not even close. How do they do this? How are they wiping the floor with the competition working only 6 days a week while everyone else is working 7? From Chick-Fil-A's website: "Our founder, Truett Cathy, made the decision to close on Sundays in 1946 when he opened his first restaurant in Hapeville, Georgia. Having worked seven days a week in restaurants open 24 hours, Truett saw the importance of closing on Sundays so that he and his employees could set aside one day to rest and worship if they choose - a practice we uphold today."

It doesn't make any logical sense. I don't think there's a magical formula. I don't think Chick-Fil-A has some secret they aren't telling anyone. But I do think it's the principal of rest. Rest gives you a chance to reflect, to reset, and to refocus on what's important.

Peace,  
Andrew



### Happy Birthday!

- Sept. 1: Evan Keller, Malone Leopard
- Sept. 2: Abbey Sears, Debbie Strickland
- Sept. 3: Jeannie McCallum, Gwen Molenda
- Sept. 4: Jonsie Alexander, Cary Bishop, Josie Garrett
- Sept. 5: Margie Fellows, Patsy Price, Kaye Sears, Mike Tabor
- Sept. 6: India Brock, Russell Holley, John Mancini, Walker Vickery
- Sept. 7: Paige Hodges, Faye Reighley
- Sept. 8: Susan Bentley
- Sept. 9: Betty Crane, Bob Daniels, Brad Jones, Louise Mannion, Sam Tolbert
- Sept. 10: Ken Cobb, Jean Griffin, Hannah Harrison, Beth Kelly, George Martin
- Sept. 11: Angela Ebert, Russ Hamilton
- Sept. 12: Tanner Strickland, Kinsley Trasak, Tara Winchester
- Sept. 13: Jacob Evans, Tiffany Pollard, David Tompkins
- Sept. 14: Robert Addy, Jason Arnold, Maddie Coyle, Terri Nicoletti, Harriet Ward, Erin Saylor
- Sept. 15: Tammy Marshall
- Sept. 16: Dorman Brock, Stephanie Cobb, Evelyn Fennell, Johnny Leopard, Allison Tolbert
- Sept. 17: Cheryl Bell, Patsy Hannah, Nolan Hudgens, David Knight Billy Joe Lindley, Ronnie Millender, Cindy Trammell
- Sept. 18: Ralph Layland, Katelyn Timmerma
- Sept. 19: Jacqueline Braid, Brett Clark, Jasmine Creswell
- Sept. 20: Dick Fennell, Coleman Robinson, Helen Watkins
- Sept. 21: Beth Beale, Jack Boyd, Jean Burch, Rhett Lindler
- Sept. 22: Elaine Bedenbaugh, Dan Crawford, Dick Hull
- Sept. 23: Daniel Bouknight, Cooper Frick, Robin Templeton
- Sept. 25: Barb Brogan, Marvin Christenson, Peter Manning, Kristy McKellar
- Sept. 26: Blake Beauford, Matthew Bishop, Sharyl Connor
- Sept. 27: Brad Knott, Ella Cate Moeller, Lauren Powell
- Sept. 28: CJ Johnson
- Sept. 29: Danny Ball, Richard Ball, Steven Crowder, Bobbie Fair, Audrey McDaniel

### Happy Anniversary!

- Sept. 1: Bob and Melanie Forste; Jim and Lee Kruzan
- Sept. 3: James and Mary Anna Evans
- Sept. 4: Andrew and Wendi Young
- Sept. 6: Frank and Kelly Addy; George and Allie Franke
- Sept. 7: Tom and Kim McLaughlin
- Sept. 8: George and Diana Gravlee; Buck and Jean Griffin; Al and Jane West
- Sept. 9: Tommy and Patty Burton; Charles and Helen Watkins
- Sept. 10: Jerry and Sandra Meints
- Sept. 11: Rick and Nancy Henderson
- Sept. 12: David and Vicki Whitaker
- Sept. 19: Wayne and Amy Bartley
- Sept. 20: Ty and Rollins Babb; Brad and Vicki Knott
- Sept. 21: Bill and Carolyn Wedeking
- Sept. 22: Junior and Bobbie Arnold; Michael and Kathy Genevie
- Sept. 25: Calvin and Teresa Lake
- Sept. 26: Jeff and Beth Young
- Sept. 27: Elbert and Bobbie Bowers
- Sept. 28: Carroll and Deb Burch; David and Robbie Trasak, Kenny and Paige Walden
- Sept. 29: JJ and Lara Hudson; Mark and Kim Koncki; Tom and Paula Stanton





### St. Mark UMC Fellowship Supper

Wednesday, September 20th - 5:30pm - 6:30pm, Wayne Goff Hall/ RSC

Cost: Children age 3 and under - Free, Children age 4-12 - \$3  
Age 13 and up - \$5. No family pays more than \$15

RSVP (864.229.5416 or [office@stmarkgreenwood.com](mailto:office@stmarkgreenwood.com)) if you are coming.

**Reservations are required by Monday September 18th!!!**

Menu: Country Style Steak, whipped potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert, drink.  
Hot dogs will be available for children.

The Wednesday night Fellowship Suppers will resume September 20th in Wayne Goff Hall at our Rivers Street Campus. Come early and stay late, but the serving time will be 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

We are looking for volunteers, Sunday school classes, men's groups, women's groups, etc., to help with the serving and clean up. St. Mark is ONE church with 3 campus and four worship services. We all work, worship, and fellowship together.

### Empty Bowls Filled by a Caring Community

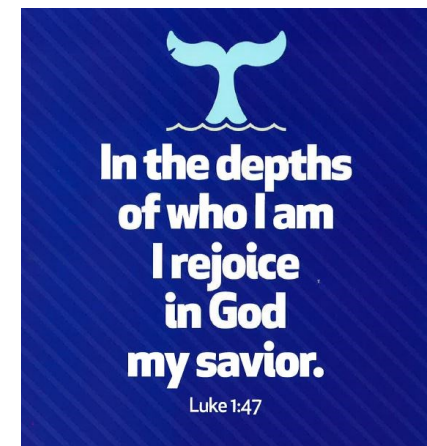
Please join us for our Ninth Annual **EMPTY BOWLS** fundraiser and dinner on **Thursday, October 12th** at the Greenwood Soup Kitchen, located in the United Center for Community Care, 929 Phoenix Street.

Tickets are priced at \$25 for adults and \$15 for children, with three sittings offered at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 pm. Take-out tickets are also available, any time from 5:45 to 7:30. Tickets will be available starting September 5th and should be purchased in advance at the Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Center (Federal Building) or call Norm Fawcett at 227-3421. We have sold out the past eight years, so don't be disappointed...tickets sell fast!!!! Your ticket includes a beautiful, hand-made, pottery or wooden bowl (which you will personally select and take home) and it will be filled with delicious soup prepared by local restaurants and accompanied by gourmet bread, home-made desserts and a cold beverage. If you already have enough soup bowls at home, remember, these hand-crafted bowls make GREAT Christmas gifts!! Those who attended last year will remember the new Bowl Room set-up in the United Center's gymnasium, which dramatically increased the bowl display space and was a BIG hit!! The new space also allows for potter, woodworker and basket making demonstrations while you await your dining room seating. **EMPTY BOWLS** is hosted by the Greenwood Area Studio Potters and the Greenwood County Medical Alliance, with all proceeds benefiting the Greenwood Soup Kitchen.

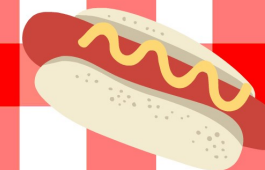


**JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!!! We have a class for all children! Contact Julie for more information, or just stop by any Sunday morning at 10:00 at the Bypass Campus!**

**K2-K4—The Wee Gathering Hall  
K5-3rd Grade—The Gathering Place  
APEX 4th-5th Grades Room 100**



## KREW FAMILY COOKOUT!



**Join us Sunday, September 10, at The Gathering Place at the BPC from 4:30-6:00 as we kickoff our FALL KREW SESSION! Bring your family! Come register for KREW, and join us for hotdogs hot off the grill with all the "fixings" and just an all around fun family time as we gear up for the fall!**

**We need volunteers! If you would like to help with KREW, please contact Julie at [Julie@stmarkgreenwood.com](mailto:Julie@stmarkgreenwood.com).**



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT auditions for K5-5th grade will be held at 5:30 at RSC Thursday, November 9. Rehearsals are Nov. 19, 27, 30 and December 4, 7. The pageant will be Saturday, December 9.







**EPIC KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 10!!!**  
We will be at the picnic shelter at the Bypass Campus from 6:30-8:00 September 10th. Come have a burger, play a little football or corn hole, and just hang out and see everyone again! Get ready for an amazing EPIC year!

The HIGH SCHOOL EXTRA BIBLE STUDY for high school students meets 8:00-8:45 immediately following epic. All high school students are encouraged to become a part of this small group environment. Look for much more info!  
HSX begins September 17th!!



EPIC STUDENTS will serve as buddies at the Miracle League Saturday, September 16th! Plan to be there at 9:45! You will be finished before noon. This is something you will not want to miss!  
NO baseball knowledge required!

THE PUMPKNS ARE COMING! WE need everyone to help unload Wednesday, September 27, at 4:00 pm! Remember—pumpkin participation is required if you plan to attend BigStuf or participate in Salkehatchie!



BigStuf 2018 is July 23-27! \$100 reserves your spot for one of the best weeks of the year! Registration opens September 10! The \$100 deposit and signed contract is required to register!



St. Mark gratefully acknowledges the following gifts:

- To *The Connection Fund* in loving memory of **Floy Brooks** by James and Frances Wicker.
- To *The Connection Fund* in loving memory of **Harry Earwood** by Charles and Harriet McDonald.



**Young at Heart News**

The 2017-2018 season for the Young at Heart begins on Wednesday, Sept. 13th, at 12:00 PM in Founders Hall. Our program will be presented by Donna Boozer, a retired Industrial Microbiologist. She will review the differences between natural and synthetic fabrics and how they can affect your health. Are you aware there are Biblical references to certain fabrics and rules for wearing them? This is a Pot Luck Luncheon - bring a casserole, side dish, or dessert to share. Everyone is welcome.

**September is National Recovery Month** and Cornerstone invites you to celebrate with us! This annual celebration began as a way to shine a light on substance use and mental health disorders and honor individuals and families who are in long-term recovery while spreading the message to those still struggling with substance use disorders that **recovery is possible**. In celebration, Cornerstone will host several events during the month and you are cordially invited to attend:

**Wednesday, Sept 6<sup>th</sup>** Cornerstone will host an **open house** in each of our four locations from 9-11am. Join us for light refreshments, tours, and information about services.

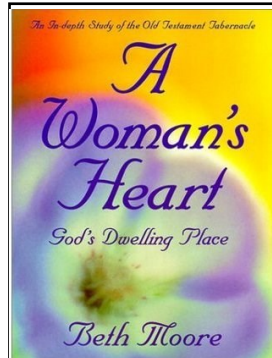
- Greenwood**- 1612 Rivers Street
- McCormick**- 504 N. Mine Street
- Edgefield**- 603 Augusta Rd
- Abbeville**- 112 Whitehall Street

**Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** – join us for an evening of fun and celebration starting at 7pm at our **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Recovery Comedy Show**. The show will be held at RSC. Admission is free but donations are welcome. Tickets are required and can be picked up at any of our locations. You don't have to be in recovery to enjoy this show but it is recommended for ages 14 and up. Light refreshments compliments of First Citizens Bank.

**Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** – join us as we continue the celebration with a **free hot dog luncheon** at the Greenwood Cornerstone office from 11:30-1pm. This event is for anyone who is proud to say "Hot Dog! I believe in spreading hope and I believe in Recovery!"

Hope to see you in September!

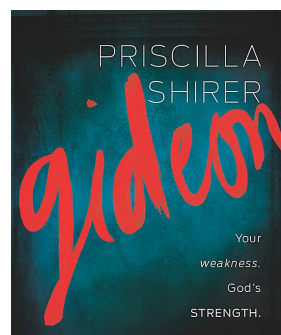




**The Women's Morning Bible Study** will start back Tuesday, Sept. 12th, with *A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place* by Beth Moore. We meet from 8:30 am to 10:00 am in the church library at the By-pass Campus. Cost of the workbook is \$16.

To sign up please contact Sharon Manning at 864.554.0777 or sharonmanning82@gmail.com. All ladies are welcome!

**The Women's Evening Bible Study** will be doing *Gideon: Your weakness. God's Strength*, by Priscilla Shirer. It will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 12th, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at The



Coronaca Campus. This is a 7 week study. The cost of the workbook is \$15.00. To sign up please contact Kay Elmore and let her know if you need a workbook and if you would need child care. We are currently trying to arrange child care and need to know a possible count. Kay's contact information is [kayjelmor@gmail.com](mailto:kayjelmor@gmail.com) or 803.804.5029. All ladies are welcome!

**Southern Christmas Show**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at *The Park Expo & Conference Center in Charlotte*. The cost is \$45.00 per person (fee is transferable but not refundable) Surround yourself with the beautiful sights, joyful sounds, and scrumptious tastes that make the **Southern Christmas Show** the South's favorite holiday tradition. A charming Olde Towne, extraordinary crafts, decorating ideas galore, and more than 500 festive merchants create a can't-miss event for the entire family; all under one roof and waiting to welcome YOU - the 50th annual Southern Christmas Show. Reserve your seat on the charter bus with a check issued to **Greenwood County FCL** and mailed to **106 Clark Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29649**. The fee includes ticket to the show, charter bus transportation and light refreshments on the way to Charlotte. The bus will leave Greenwood at 7:00 a.m. (earlier departure time) and return by approximately 7:30 p.m. Call 554-4740 for more information.



For many who have participated in the Walk to Emmaus, that experience of our hearts burning within us has been very profound and one we would like to share with you. If you are interested in attending a Walk to Emmaus weekend or would just like to learn more about it, please

contact Cathy Trevino at [cathyt24@yahoo.com](mailto:cathyt24@yahoo.com) or 992-2228. The next walks will be October 5 - 8, 2017 for the men and October 12 - 15, 2017 for the women. Emmaus is not strictly for United Methodists. Although it is sponsored by the Upper Room Ministries is it Non-Denominational. The purpose of Emmaus is to strengthen leaders in the local church and to grow our relationship with God through Christ. You can check it out on their website [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org) under community. There is a short video you can watch also.

**WORSHIP NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER**

*Worship is always a celebration at St. Mark. We are blessed with three campuses, four services, and three pastors. The following is the schedule for the month of September.*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd - Labor Day Weekend**  
Pastor Andrew Vickery is preaching at 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services.  
Pastor John Elmore is preaching at 10:00 AM and 11:15 AM worship services.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th - Communion at all campuses**  
Sermon theme: Church - Location  
Pastor Steve Brown is preaching at 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services.  
Pastor John Elmore is preaching at 10:00 AM and 11:15 AM worship services.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th**  
Sermon theme: Church - Community  
Pastor Steve Brown is preaching at 8:45 AM and 11:15 AM worship services.  
Pastor John Elmore is preaching at 10:00 AM worship service  
Pastor Andrew Vickery is preaching at 11:00 AM worship service.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th**  
Sermon Theme: Church - Unity  
Pastor John Elmore is preaching at 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services.  
Pastor Andrew Vickery is preaching at 10:00 AM worship service.  
Pastor Steve Brown is preaching at 11:15 AM worship service.



**St. Mark UMC Music Department**

Carol Jones, Minister of Music  
Matthew Miller, Pianist/Organist  
Kenny Price, Contemporary Services  
Worship Leader

The Chancel Choir returned to their regular scheduled rehearsals Wednesday night August 23rd. We are a lively and diverse group (coming from many backgrounds and experiences) who love the Lord and love to sing. If you love music and want to sing and glorify our Lord in song, please join us on Wednesday nights. No prerequisites required other than the love of singing.

Also we would like to encourage anyone in our church with an interest/love of restarting our Handbell Choir to contact Carol. This group will require a commitment to weekly rehearsals in the fall (September -December 1st) and spring (February -May 1st). Basic music reading skills are required for membership. Carol's contact email is [ccjones@embarqmail.com](mailto:ccjones@embarqmail.com).

Do you sing or play an instrument? Are you interested in using that talent to worship? The Blended and Contemporary services at our Rivers Street Campus and Coronaca Campus are looking for additional volunteers. Please contact our Contemporary Services Worship Leader, Kenny Price, at [krprice@gmail.com](mailto:krprice@gmail.com) if interested.



**IS THERE ROOM AT YOUR TABLE?**

The St. Mark UMC Backpack Ministry is looking for members of the congregation who would be willing to sponsor a child for the year. It costs \$30.00 a month to feed a child his weekend meals. If you don't feel you can sponsor a child for the year, perhaps you can make a donation to the cause.

If you would be willing to sponsor a child for the year, contact Debra Robinson at the church. She will assign you a child number (as we can't give out names). Monthly checks should be made payable to St. Mark UMC with Backpack Ministry in the memo line.

We appreciate your support in this ministry.

*<sup>15</sup>Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup>If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?*

--James 2:15-16

Backpack Meals will resume Tuesday, September 5th. If you would like to volunteer, contact Fran Brown at 864.341.4092.

# September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Services are: Sanctuary: 8:45 am & 11:00 am Blended: 10:00 am Contemporary: 11:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am	Church office hours are: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm				<b>1</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service	<b>4</b> Church Office is closed 5:30 Westside AA	<b>5</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Founders Hall in use 6:00 Women's AA	<b>6</b> 6:30 Men's Discipleship Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 4:00 Pastors Meeting 6:30 Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 Men's Bible Study	<b>7</b> 9:00 MOPS 5:30 Westside AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study 6:00 MOPS	<b>8</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 10:00 Charge Conference 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service 4:00 Worship Committee 4:30 KREW Kick Off 6:30 EPIC Kick Off	<b>11</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:00 Worship Center in use 5:30 Westside AA 5:30 Classroom #2 in use at RSC	<b>12</b> 8:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Women's AA 6:00 Parkinson's Support Group 6:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>13</b> 6:30 Men's Discipleship Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 12:00 Young at Heart 4:00 Pastors Meeting 6:30 Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 Men's Bible Study	<b>14</b> 5:30 Westside AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study	<b>15</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service 5:00 KREW 6:30 EPIC	<b>18</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 Westside AA	<b>19</b> Information for the newsletter is due to the church office 8:30 Women's Bible Study 8:30 Greenwood District using Puppet Theater 6:00 Women's AA 6:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>20</b> 6:30 Men's Discipleship Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 4:00 Pastors Meeting 5:30 Fellowship Supper 6:30 Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 Men's Bible Study	<b>21</b> 9:00 MOPS 5:30 Westside AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study 6:00 MOPS	<b>22</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service 5:00 KREW 6:30 EPIC	<b>25</b> 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 Westside AA	<b>26</b> 8:30 Women's Bible Study 5:00 United Way using RSC 6:00 Finance Committee 6:00 Women's AA 6:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>27</b> Pumpkins Arrive 6:30 Men's Discipleship Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 4:00 Pastors Meeting 6:30 Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice 6:30 Men's Bible Study	<b>28</b> 9:00 Newsletter Labeling 5:30 Westside AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study	<b>29</b> 6:30 Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	<b>30</b>