

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Witness



Bypass Campus (BPC)



Rivers Street Campus (RSC)



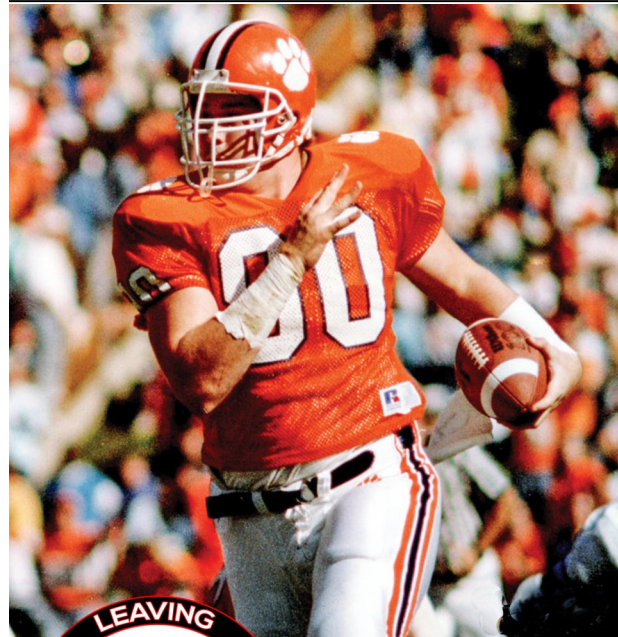
The Coronaca Campus (TCC)

St. Mark United Methodist Church

www.stmarkgreenwood.com

Volume 10 Issue 7

August 2018



UMM event
Tuesday, Aug.
21st, at 6:30 PM
in Wayne Goff.
Vance Hammond,
executive director
of the Boys/Girls
Club of the
Upstate, will be
the speaker.
Menu is Low
Country Boil.
Cost is \$10.
Space is limited.
Contact Paige
(864.229.5416 or
office@stmarkgreenwood.com) if you
are coming.
Reservations are
needed by 12:00
PM, Friday, Aug.
17th. All men are
invited to attend.



St. Mark UMM Fellowship Meal

Tuesday, August 21st - 6:00pm, St. Mark UMC's River Street Campus

Speaker will be Vance Hammond, Executive Director of the Boys/Girls Club of the Upstate
RSVP (864.229.5416 or office@stmarkgreenwood.com) if you are coming.

Reservations are required by NOON on FRIDAY AUGUST 17th!!!

Menu: Low Country Boil

PRAYER FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Father,
Bless the students who
are beginning another
school year. Give them
wisdom and strength
as they learn. Bless the
teachers as they instruct
and as they serve as
examples to their students.

Bless the parents as they let their children go,
whether for the first year of preschool or the
final year of college.

Amen





Greetings to the Saints of St. Mark!

58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." (Luke 9:58)

I don't know if you ever considered that the Son of God on earth was a homeless man. Even at His birth Jesus' delivery room was a stable in borrowed space. Before Jesus' second birthday, He would be taken by His parents to Egypt to escape the crazed efforts of King Herod to kill Him. There He would live as with His parents as refugees until His return to Israel. His family would settle in Nazareth in the region of Galilee where He would live until He was about thirty-years old. He would then left this home, and for the rest of His life, dwell among us living a life of homelessness, depending upon the providence of His Heavenly Father and others.

I remind you of this because our friend, Carroll Funhouser, was a homeless man who walked among us for the past few months. He recently left our area to head to Atlanta. He told me he hoped to get his teeth worked on there at a dental school that allows students to practice without charge on willing volunteers. We had not seen him for three weeks but he came by last Thursday to see me before he left. He wanted to tell me how much our church had meant to him, how welcome he felt, and that he was going to miss us.

Carroll had not had an easy time during his months in Greenville, He first came to our church after just getting out of jail for public drunkenness. He made no denials concerning his drinking problems. He told me he had been "kicked out of the state of Virginia at 18" and had been homeless ever since – some 36 years later. He would be in jail a couple of times since he came here and had been in jail for trespassing – "I would have moved out had they told me," Carroll explained, "but they just arrested me" – and without money, spent the three weeks in jail. During that time he thought about a trip to Atlanta.

I will miss Carroll and I know many of St. Mark will, too. Many remember with a bit of fear his first appearance at a Sunday service, sitting on the front row, laughing and interacting with the sermon he heard, and the anxious moment he reached into his backpack and pulled out . . . his Bible. Over time he would come to services and then to Sunday School, too. He appeared at other church functions, relaxed and honest, glad to be here and feel a welcome that showed we were glad he was among us.

He never asked for anything but he gave us a lot. He helped us put into practice a lot of things we've been taught about acceptance, treating others with dignity and respect, and the wonder of love and grace. He was a model of one who prayed, and knew its struggle. It is something to hear a man like Carroll pray "give us this day our daily bread" and "deliver us from evil" with an urgency of need many of us don't. He even emptied his pockets of all the money he had (the empty pocket stayed out when after his hand had reached in) one Sunday to put in the offering plate because God wanted him to. He helped bring out the best of us as followers of Jesus and challenged us to welcome the stranger and the different. He told me as he left on Sunday, he often talked to God a lot and cried. I think we could learn a thing or two about honest prayer from Carroll, too.

As he stood at my office door to say good-bye, he lingered. I could tell he didn't want to go. He thanked me again and again for our graciousness to him. The homeless man said he found a home among us and he was grateful. I prayed for him and blessed him. We hugged and cried and said goodbye. He said he'd be back in about two or three months. He was hopping a train to Atlanta. Given the nature of his life and the fragileness of life itself, I'm not sure if we will see him again. I hope so. I think we all do. And so we pray for him and committee him to the One who knows Carroll best. But either way, my life is better and I'm growing a little more in God's grace. Because Jesus sent a homeless man to dwell with us . . . and he chose to make a home with us.

With Joy, Steve



Meetings this Month

- Kids' World Committee will meet Tuesday, Aug. 7th, at 5:30 PM in the director's office at the Bypass Campus.
- Finance Committee will meet Tuesday, Aug. 7th, at 6:00 PM in the library at the Bypass Campus.
- Sending Forth Committee will meet Sunday Aug. 19th, at 2:30 PM in the library at the Bypass Campus
- Church Council will meet Sunday, Aug 19th, at 3:30 PM in Founders Hall at the Bypass Campus.
- Instruct Committee will meet Monday, Aug. 20th, at 6:15 PM in the library at the Bypass Campus.

Record of Our Faithfulness

Year-to-Date	
General Fund Balance	\$269,761.17
Contributions Year to Date	\$623,804.04
Expenses Year to Date	\$536,535.01
Net	\$87,269.03
Obligations Report	
Apportionments	
Budget	\$123,329.00
Paid to Date	\$61,664.52
Sending Forth	
Original Budget	\$92,457.00
Paid to Date	\$38,020.22

ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER SIGN-UP

If you are interested in serving as an Acolyte (3rd grade and up) or a Crucifer (5th grade and up), you are invited to complete the form below and put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Let the office know if your child wishes to no longer serve too. **Please return the form no later than August 21st.**

We plan to do all the training at the BPC. Also, we would like to request that at least one parent attend the training. That way they will know what to do if they have to supervise. Training dates will be announced in August.

ACOLYTES (circle which services)

- Yes, I would like to be an Acolyte
8:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:15 AM
- Yes, I would like to continue as an Acolyte
8:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:15 AM
- No, I do not plan to continue as an Acolyte

Name _____ Phone # _____

Parent's email address _____

CRUCIFERS (circle which traditional service)

- Yes, I would like to be a Crucifer
8:45 AM or 11:00 AM
- Yes, I would like to continue as a Crucifer
8:45 AM or 11:00 AM
- No, I do not plan to continue as a Crucifer

Name _____ Phone # _____

Parent's email address _____

Prayers of the Church

RESIDENTIAL LIVING

Emerald Gardens
 (201 Overland Drive,
 Greenwood, SC)
 Charlotte Koone
 Mary Ann Riley
 Joe Worthington

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

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

**Richard M. Campbell Veterans
 Nursing Homes**
 (4605 Belton Hwy, Anderson, SC
 29621)
 Bill Wedeking

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

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
 Barbara Teeter
 Traci Pruitt
 Dawn Sease

MEMBERS' FAMILY

Nancy Crocker (Cyndi Bruce's
 mother)
 Jimmy Cobb (Ken Cobb's brother)
 Howie Crocker (Cyndi Bruce's
 brother)
 Kenny Andrews (Stephanie Frick's
 father)

MEMBERS' 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
 Banner Peksa - Army
 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.)

Anderson University:
 Aylah Burton

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

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

COLLEGE STUDENTS CONT'D

Columbia College:
 Meredith Bledsoe and Sara
 Grace Chrisley

Creighton University:
 Ele Geoly

Davis and Elkins:
 Asa Stallworth

Iowa State University:
 Brett Kelly

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

LSU:
 Rylan Pitts

Mercer University:
 Abbie Robinson

MUSC
 J. C. Elmore

PTC:
 Ryan Ebert, Izaiah Holmes, and
 Reed Templeton.

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

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

University of Oregon:
 Drayson Youngblood

University of South Carolina:
 Carson Strom, Carter Rhodes,
 Gavin Henderson, Hunter
 DeLoach, Robert Addy, Will
 Buckshorn, and Zach Beale.

University of South Carolina -
 Aiken:
 Jessica Clark

Winthrop:
 Anna Grace McLaughlin and Sara
 Grace Eaddy.

Wofford:
 Leeann Pundt

Food Bank Sunday is August 5th 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.



CRAVING AUTHENTICITY



Small talk. We all do it. It often happens when we first meet each other. It's the old way of introducing ourselves. Some of us liked it, others tried to avoid it like the plague. It seems the same questions always began the conversation. It went something like;

- So, what do you do?
- Are you married / what do you drive / Blah, Blah, Blah. One thing is for sure - small talk is only a conversation starter - in its essence, it's superficial and people today are demanding something more.

Authenticity Is What Younger Generations Crave Today

The business world is living and dying by it. Consumers are demanding authenticity and will accept nothing less. Plus, today's social media has the potential of exposing what is NOT authentic – LIVE online – instantly.

What does it mean for us at St. Mark? How can we be known, within our communities, as a church that creates authentic relationships?

Authentic Relationships Are What 'Church' Must Look Like As We Enter The Coming 'Post-Church' Era.

Clearly, authentic relationships are created - they don't just happen. We must be intentional in creating new spaces for gatherings where all people feel welcome. Where good conversations can begin with listening to each other's stories with genuine interest - an art that requires a greater investment of time than just engaging in small talk.

We have so much potential – to work together – creating group events that are interesting/fun and challenging – where people are treated as equals, not targeted as projects - Free to be themselves and welcomed - Respected for who they are – Dearly Loved by God.

It's what the apostle Paul called the "Mystery of Christ" hidden until Jesus came and revealed - God loves all his children. It's the Story Jesus told about the man with two sons - the religious one, as well as the other. The Father said, "I have always loved you both." (Ephesians 2and3 and Luke 15).

LET'S BE AUTHENTIC – Ordinary People, Doing Ordinary Things, With The Extra-Ordinary Love of God.

**See You in Church,
 Pastor Dan**

The next copy of *The Witness*, the church's monthly newsletter, will be mailed on Thursday, August 30th. **Deadline to submit information for the newsletter is August 21st.**

The Pastors and congregation extend Christian sympathy to the following members of our church family.

- Judy Simmons and her family on the death of her brother in-law, Jerry Crocker on July 2nd.
- Jonah Gonce and his family on the death of his aunt, LeeAnn Wells on July 9th.

Every week our leaders spend hours investing in kids and teenagers. Moms and dads hope their children will grow up with the kind of faith that transforms their decisions, enriches their relationships, and leads to a better future.. But in spite of the best hopes and intentions, many kids still grow up and miss experiencing God’s unconditional love and forgiveness.



Maybe they miss it because we missed something about...

- A preschooler’s brain development
- A child’s way of reasoning and relating
- A middle schooler’s basic emotional needs
- A high schooler’s most fundamental motive



Any leader or parent who wants to connect the message of God’s love and forgiveness to this generation of kids and teenagers needs to know two things:

1. They need to know God’s love and forgiveness personally.
2. They need to know kids and teenagers.

That’s why the Just a Phase Project was created. It is a collaborative, ongoing, effort assembling classic and innovative research, with practical application.



PHASE



PROMOTION SUNDAY is August 26th! All children and youth move up one grade level in Sunday school.

KREW Kicks off with a family picnic from 4:30-6:00 Sunday, September 9th at The Gathering Place!

EPIC kicks off with a cookout Sunday, August 26th, from 6:30-8:30 at The Gathering Place. HSX will resume for 9th-12th graders from 8:00-8:45 September 9th.

Salkehatchie Sunday will be August 12th. Come hear Salk stories at every worship service. You will be amazed at how God is changing lives through this ministry! Salk participants: Be sure to wear your Salk shirt to church that morning!



St. Mark gratefully acknowledges the following gifts:

- To The Organ Fund in loving memory of **Tom Kilgore** by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Waldrep.
 - To The Organ Fund in loving memory of **Bill Sease** by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Waldrep, Charlotte Koone.
 - To The Organ Fund in loving memory of **Millie Worthington** by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Waldrep.
- To The Organ Fund in loving memory of **Bill Sease** by John Davis.
- To The Masters Plan Fund in loving memory of **Millie Worthington** by Sara Anderson Sunday School Class, L.R. Foster Family, The Adult 1 Sunday School Class, Skip Heintzelman.



You can reserve your PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION now

- Dates are August 11 and 12 (Bypass Campus)
- August 18 and 19 (Bypass Campus)
- August 26 (at Coronaca)
- Cost is \$10.00 which includes a free 8x10.

Blissful Photography will take family and individual pictures if you want. Later you will receive proofs to order more if you like. You will choose which one goes in the directory at that time.

THERE IS NO OBLIGATION TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PICTURES. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SCHEDULE YOUR TIME.

Copies of the August Birthdays and Anniversaries are located on the table outside of the church office and on the information stand at RSC.

Mulligans Fore Missions Golf Tournament

October 22, 2018

12:15 registration/1:00 p.m. shotgun start

The Links at Stoney Point

\$100 per player/\$400 per team

Registration deadline is October 15, 2018

Make checks payable to St. Mark UMC

Sponsored by the Wesley Class of St. Mark UMC



David Whitaker in Concert

(Former Choir Director/pianist/organist)

August 19 at 5:00 p.m.

St. Mark Bypass Campus

David will be presenting some of his favorite hymns. David grew up in Bamberg, SC and started piano lessons at the age of 4. He currently serves Trinity UMC in Bamberg and is also serving as director of the Bamberg County Chorale.

A love offering will be collected.



AUGUST WORSHIP



You've seen the blockbuster superhero movies this summer! Now come and hear about God's superheroes, average people just like us but have power that comes from their relationship with God Himself. See how they use the powers God gives them to overcome Doubt's Assaults, shatter Disobedience's Shackles, conquer Fear's Monsters, and escape from Compromise's Shadow. They are superheroes in the battles of life we all face as we seek to live for God. Their stories are marvels, not from comic books but the pages of the Bible. These stories were not written to entertain but inspire and encourage us in our own stories as God's saints – Agents of F.A.I.T.H. in the world today.

In August we will be celebrating our youth and children's ministries as well. We will be celebrating our won "heroes" who used their powers to serve families in need this summer on Salkehatchie Sunday, August 12. Also, Promotion Sunday for the children will be shared on the last Sunday of August.

August 5 – Abraham and Sarah – Dynamic Duo of Super Faith

Communion at all campuses and services

Pastor Steve at Bypass 8:45 AM and Rivers Street at 11:15 AM

Pastor John at Coronaca 10:00 AM

Pastor Dan at Bypass 11:00 AM

August 12 – Gideon – the Man with Super Obedience

Salkehatchie Sunday celebrated at each campus and service

Pastor Steve at Bypass 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM

Pastor John at Coronaca 10:00 AM

Pastor Dan at Rivers Street 11:15 AM

August 19 – Esther – Warrior Princess of Courage

Pastor John at Bypass 8:45 AM and Rivers Street 11:15 AM

Pastor Dan at Coronaca at 10:00 AM

Pastor Steve at Bypass 11:00 AM

August 26 – Daniel and Friends – The Fantastic Four of I.N.T.E.G.R.I.T.Y

Pastor Dan at Bypass 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM

Pastor Steve at Coronaca 10:00 AM

Pastor John at Rivers Street 11:15 AM

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Worship Services are: Traditional: 8:45 am & 11:00 am Blended: 10:00 am Contemporary: 11:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am</p>	<p>Church office hours are: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm</p>		<p>1 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>2 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study</p>	<p>3 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class</p>	<p>4 Greenwood District using Wayne Goff Hall all day</p>
<p>5 1:00 Founders Hall in use 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service</p>	<p>6 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 West Side AA</p>	<p>7 12:00 Wayne Goff Hall in use 5:30 Kid's World Committee Meeting 6:00 Women on My Journey AA 6:00 Finance Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>9 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study</p>	<p>10 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 12:15 Founders Hall in use 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service</p>	<p>13 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Women's Ministry Meeting</p>	<p>14 6:00 Women on My Journey AA 6:00 Parkinson's Support Group</p>	<p>15 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 11:00 Davis and Proctor Circles in Founders Hall 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>16 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study</p>	<p>17 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 2:30 Sending Forth Meeting 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service 3:30 Church Council Meeting 5:00 David Whitaker's concert</p>	<p>20 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 West Side AA 6:15 Instruct Committee Meeting</p>	<p>21 Information for the newsletter is due to the church office 6:00 Women on My Journey AA 6:00 UMM Event</p>	<p>22 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>23 10:00 MOPS 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study</p>	<p>24 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Promotion Sunday 3:00 Hispanic Worship Service</p>	<p>27 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 11:00 Wayne Goff Hall in use 5:30 Westside AA</p>	<p>28 6:00 Women on My Journey AA</p>	<p>29 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>30 9:00 Newsletter Labeling 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 Hispanic Bible Study</p>	<p>31 6:30 Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class</p>	