



The Call



May the words of our mouths and the mediations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord our strength and our redeemer.

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It's September...

and the church program year begins again marked with its usual heightened activity. Materials for Rally Day, scheduled first Sunday after Labor Day come rolling off the printer. Selected theme, bible study questions and pledge cards for the 2019 budget lie in stacks in the mailroom. A year's worth of Christian Formation curriculum for preschoolers through adults spill out of cartons. Checks come through the mail and offering plates along with cans of food for our ambitious outreach project, feeding fifteen middle school scholars 7 meals over the week-end for 32 weeks. Vestry members identify parishioners for task groups to make funding our new building a reality. Other vestry members commit to keeping our families connected to vision of the broader Episcopal church and the emerging Jesus Movement. With staff, they plan ways St. Mark's will address the three goals of creating Beloved Community-Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation and Care of Creation. Worship leaders meet and access what aspects of our corporate worship experience need adjustment to be more welcoming, more intentional, more inspiring.

It's September and there is much busyness and much readiness but as the program year kicks off, an important question remains unanswered. In early June, after the Feast of Pentecost when new red vestments and hangings are revealed, when the Sunday School lessons conclude, and the year's last fellowship brunch is celebrated, how will our spiritual lives be deeper? How will our walk with God be enriched? How will our understanding of Jesus active in our lives be elevated? How will our discipleship be bolder?

At the end of a school year, students are expected to demonstrate a proficiency of skills and knowledge. At the end of this coming church program year, what do you hope will have changed in your faith life? As a worshipping community, let's be explicit in our expectations and let's reach out to one another so no one is left behind in their desire to know Christ and make him known better. This is after all, the reason for all the activity.

Peace and blessings,

Sarah +



Rally Day September 9th

Come for **one service at 9:30** in our Sky Chapel
Stay to hear about what we have in store for the coming year.

Join us for lunch
Hospitality will provide the main course
Parishioners are asked to bring items by last name

A-H Hot Sides
I-P Cold Sides
Q-Z Desserts

9:30 Worship in Sky Chapel
10:45 Ministry Rotations
12:20 Lunch on the Grounds

SAVE
THE
DATE



OCTOBER
7th
AT 4PM

Our Blessing of the Animals is always a community service.
This year we will partner with rescue groups
and area vets at an offsite location.
Look for more information to come.

Join us for the
New Building Reveal
September 16th
at the 9:30 hour



Come hear about the new
building
Next steps
Ways you can be involved.
Member input is crucial



Christian Formation Classes for all ages resume on Sunday September 23rd. Classes begin at 9:30 and conclude at 10:50 every Sunday. The Christian Formation year ends on June 9th. Most sessions end with classes suspended for a parish brunch and discussion. During Christian

Formation Time, children 0-4 are supervised in the nursery, children Kindergarten through 5th grade are on the 2nd floor of the Parish House. Classes for Middle and High School youth are in the lower level of Founders Hall. Adult classes meet in Osborne Hall. Coffee, lemonade and cookies are available in the Gallery.

1st Formation Session

9/23-11/11

- *11/18 Financial Discussions at the 9:30 hour (Part I of the Annual Meeting)
- *11/25 Advent Wreath Making at the 9:30 hour with refreshments and music
- *12/2 Annual Meeting with brunch at the 9:30 hour (Part II)

2nd Formation Session

12/9-1/13

- *1/6 is Epiphany. Burning of the Greens at 9:30 followed by refreshments and discussion
- *1/20 Brunch (by Hospitality)

3rd Formation Session

1/27-2/24

- 2/17 Bishop's visit
- *3/3 Brunch (by Hospitality)

4th Formation Session

3/10-4/7

- *4/14 Palm Sunday (special program at 9:30 hour)
- *4/21 Easter (no Christian Formation, Easter coffee hour hosted by Hospitality)
- *4/28 St. Mark's Day Brunch (hosted by youth)

5th Formation Session

5/5-6/9

- *5/26 La Escuelita Preschool Sunday 11am
- *6/2 Youth Sunday
- *6/9 Pentecost

FORMATION INFO.

Episcopal Outreach Camp was a wonderful experience for all. Our youth welcomed Ranson Teachers back by grilling hotdogs for them. Many of our youth helped with a facelift for Galilee East. Others learned valuable cooking skills with the help of Sue Bartlett! Others still, sorted clothing and served at Loaves and Fishes. All of this and much more was done within the context of a few questions. "Who are the least of these Jesus was referring to?" "Why does it matter that the church talk about racism, poverty, immigration, welcome, service, and education?" We worshiped. We worked. We grew. It is my hope that our churches continue to ask these questions of itself. Why does the church need to talk about these things?



Important Dates:

Rally Day - Sept. 9

Christian Formation Begins - Sept. 23

Film School - Youth

Connecting to Jesus - Kids 4yr-5th grade

Weekend Food Back Pack Shopping List

The school year has started and it's time to stock the pantry.

Please consider adding a few items to your grocery list each week to help us stock the pantry in preparation for the school year. Suggested items are listed below. **Of course monetary donations are also welcome.**

Canned meals with pop tops(mac and cheese, franks and beans small size, spaghetti etc)

Individual fruit cups and applesauce

Cookies (individual packages)

Milk cartons (lunch box size)

100% Juice cartons

Granola Bars

Individual tuna packets

Fruit snacks

Individual cereal boxes

No time to shop. Check out the weekend food backpack wish list on amazon and have items shipped directly to the church.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/145KZYJSR1993/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist

Please contact Marsha Phillips with any questions mbp1936@carolina.rr.com



Many thanks for all of the school supply donations for Ranson IB Middle School. Outreach has delivered everything to the school in time for the students to arrive.

Everyone's generosity is very much appreciated.

Outreach





La Escuelita SAN MARCOS

La Escuelita San Marcos is getting ready for another busy year of learning and fun.

Teachers Ms. Laura, Ms. Saray, and Ms. Anabel are busy preparing to meet their new classes of 2, 3, and 4 year olds.

Students will start on Tuesday, September 4.

Look for opportunities to become involved on Rally Day, September 9.



R.I.S.E (Raiders in Support of Equity)

Mark your Calendars
The next RISE meeting will take place
on

September 4th at 5:30pm
Ranson Middle School

Come and find out where we go
next.



Buildings and Grounds Invites to you make a gift or memorial

You can help us to
revitalize the serenity garden
(the area behind the church entrance).

Funds will be used to purchase specific plants in memory of
a loved one.

Buildings and Grounds has developed a specific plan that
lays out the placement and plant types for the area.

This would be a beautiful way to honor a friend or loved one.
Donations can be made out to St. Mark's

(note B&G gifts and memorials in the memo line and advise the who the memorial is for)

BODY OF CHRIST

Is there a member of St. Mark's you haven't seen in a while?

Chances are you're not the only one that's noticed someone missing. Help us reconnect with our St. Marks families by letting Pastoral Care know!

Who have you missed?

Name(s): _____

See What is New in the Pew.

Pastoral Care invites you to help them identify any church members you have not seen for a while or have noticed are missing.

You will find cards like the one shown here in the pew racks. Simply list the name of the person or people you are missing. Place the card in the offering plate for Pastoral Care.

It takes a village to help keep track of our flock. Let's all help to make sure our community is being cared for.



WELCOME TO BREEZE

On Rally Day
 St. Mark's will roll out information on our new Church App.

Members will receive instructions and an invitation to download our app.
 No smart phone? No worries.
 Breeze accounts can also be made from your laptops or desktops.

Have access to an online pictorial directory
 Access the church calendar with the touch of a button
 AND MUCH MORE!

See you on Rally Day!



Birthdays

Fiona Brown - 9/1
Scott Brett - 9/2
Judy Finn - 9/5
Sarah Thompson - 9/6
Jennifer Klebaur - 9/7
Kayla Michel - 9/7
Mandy Self-Sparrow - 9/7
Lianne Scholz - 9/8
Lucy Young - 9/9
Camdyn Addington - 9/11
Andrew Blythe - 9/12
Madeleine Fisher - 9/12
Kevin Haas - 9/12
Mary Kendrick - 9/12
Ian Doolittle - 9/13
Owen Mach - 9/13
Avery Gambill - 9/14
Angela McDowell - 9/14
John Milholland - 9/15
Willie Scholz - 9/15
Julia Weeks - 9/15
Lynn Plummer - 9/16
Donna Osborne - 9/19
Delia Roberts - 9/19
Eric Savage - 9/21
Billy Black - 9/24
Libby James - 9/24
Rachel Touchstone - 9/26
Maggie Fahey - 9/27
Kennedie Hewalt - 9/27
Susan Neumann - 9/30

Anniversaries

Don & Debbie Siegel - 9/1
Martin & Donna Osborne - 9/6
Homer & Jan Sanford - 9/13

Prayers for continued healing:

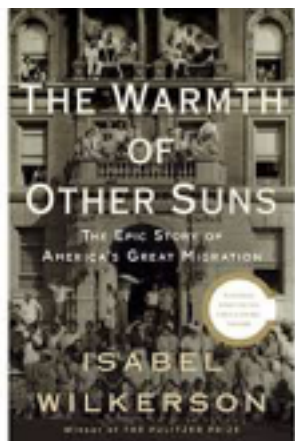
Richard & Mary Beth Masline	
Saunders & Billy Black	Martha Ann Springer
The Mason Family	George Ann Beam
Bob Egan	Pat Pagola
Joe Brown	Phyllis Barnwell
Vivian Edgerton	Mike Wilson

New Members:

Kay Knosby

Panera Bread Pick-Up

**Tom Lenardson - 9/7
Mark & Lacy Hamilton - 9/14
Andrew & Libby James - 9/21
Ian & Liesel Doolittle - 9/28**



St Mark's Muses Book Club
Resumes in September
Join us on Thursday **September 13th @ 10am**
We will meet at the home of
Amy Weeks
9906 Avon Farm Lane
Charlotte
704-516-1313

We will be discussing
Warmth of Other Suns

Join us even if you haven't read the book. New bookclub selections will be given out at this time.
For more information please contact Genny Hinkle for more information.

gnvhinkle@yahoo.com or 704-595-7957

W.I.N.E.



Women in Need of Entertainment

September 17th 6:30pm
at the home of

Allison Rhinehardt
12516 Morning Creek Lane
Charlotte, NC 28214
704-609-23-8

Bring a a bottle of WINE or a dish to share.
If you don't have time for either, just bring yourself.

Please contact Allison Rhinehardt allibrett@gmail.com
or Dawn Middleton dawnmiddleton@bellsouth.net
with any questions



Join the men of the church for
"Thirstday",
(A testosterone friendly answer to WINE.)

For the month of September were are meeting the
3rd Thursday of the month

September 20th at 6:30pm

We will gather at
Peculiar Rabbit, at 1212 Pecan Ave
Charlotte

We will have a brief biblical reflection, food,
beverages and some prayer.
Look for us in the outdoor seating area.

For additional information please contact
David Fahey 704-562-7587.
No RSVP required but texts are welcome.

2018 Stewardship Update

	2018 Budgeted	July YTD Actual
Current Pledge Total	\$344,175	\$218,143
All other anticipated income		
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$20,000	\$11,155
Other Income (use of space by outside groups)	\$17,000	\$ 9,305
Sales Tax Refunds	\$2,000	\$ 557
Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	<u>\$32,750</u>	<u>\$ 19,104</u>
Total Budgeted Operating Income	\$415,925	\$258,264
2016 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry		
Staff	\$263,804	\$152,631
Diocesan Support	\$43,454	\$25,348
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$53,012	\$ 32,512
Office Administration & Other	\$26,515	\$ 14,492
Youth & Christian Formation	\$12,380	\$ 3,371
Outreach & Escuelita Support	\$12,300	\$ 5,972
Parish Life, Pastoral Care, Stewardship & Parish Retreat	\$ 7,100	\$ 2,276
Worship & Music	\$ 3,500	\$ 863
%7 pledges unfulfilled based on historical average	<u>\$24,092</u>	
Total 2017 Budgeted Expenses	\$446,157	\$237,466
Current Excess/ Deficit of receipts over disbursements	\$30,232	\$20,798
2018 pledge notes	100 pledge cards of 143 have been received	
	Average Pledge \$3,477	

***Year to Date Pledge Fulfillment 63%**



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