



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.

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue - May 2019

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The Mission of La Escuelita San Marcos is to prepare Spanish-speaking children from low-income families to thrive in education systems, develop necessary social skills, and nurture life skills so they are successful in school and beyond.

La Escuelita supports students’ families with parenting and life skills workshops, empowers them to take leadership roles in the school community, and enables them to sustain and nurture their children’s education and social development.

La Escuelita was founded on the campus of St. Mark’s Church in 2013 with just one class combining 3 and 4 year old children. In 2014, a second class was added and in 2015 Hopewell Presbyterian Church joined in the Ministry. La Escuelita was moved to the Hopewell Education building at that point.

In 2016 La Escuelita joined with Caterpillar Ministries to serve the Hispanic children of the Huntington Green area. Working together with Caterpillar, the decision was made to disband their own once a week preschool program and instead provide van transportation and tuition support for 10 students per year to attend La Escuelita.

In January of 2018, at the request of parents, a 2 year old class was added for children who would benefit from the extra year in order to thrive. The class follows the same curriculum themes as the other classes, with age appropriate modifications, and the students take the first guided steps toward literacy, numeracy, and socialization in a smaller, 3 day per week setting.

The mission has evolved and developed over the years to better serve the needs of the families. In 2018 La Escuelita moved to a co-operative model, helping parents to take a more active role and develop leadership skills within the community. Parents serve as “Mamas Maestras” – “Teacher Moms” twice a month in the classroom. Moms, Dads, or even grandmothers work with the teacher, helping the students with projects, lunchtime, and socializing, as well as helping keep the space clean and safe. Parents began their own fundraiser this year, the Super Bowl Snack Sale. Offering their delicious native foods to Hopewell and St. Mark’s parishioners, they raised over \$2000! They are hoping to make this an annual event.



Another key component to the program is the help of English speaking volunteers from St Marks and Hopewell. Some serve as readers, coming once a week, or on a rotating basis. Others adopt a class and come weekly to read, help with projects, and chat in English with their class. The volunteers are important for the children to adapt to a number of accents and pronunciations, all within the range of native speakers of English. Together with donations of school materials, financial support, and prayers for this Ministry, the community of St. Mark’s has built this into a thriving resource for Latino neighbors, one on which they can depend for loving help for their children and themselves. **Join us on May 26th at 11am for Preschool Sunday and Graduation.**

Images of HOLY WEEK



Formation Info

Why This Matters...

In today's world where we have over 100 different choices for what coffee we would like each morning, choosing to get out of bed or not, the choice to go to the soccer, softball, or swim meet, or just choosing to have waffles instead of coming to St. Mark's can be a difficult one. Here's yet another example of why consistently choosing St. Mark's matters.

One of our youth, who asked not to be named, for her 13th birthday did not ask for new shoes, a new phone, or new clothes. She asked friends and family for money. Money not to get her nails done. Money not to be spent at the mall hanging out with her friends. This money is going to be donated to Ranson Camperships. For her birthday, one of our youth is sending a Ranson Student to the McCrorey YMCA for the entire summer!

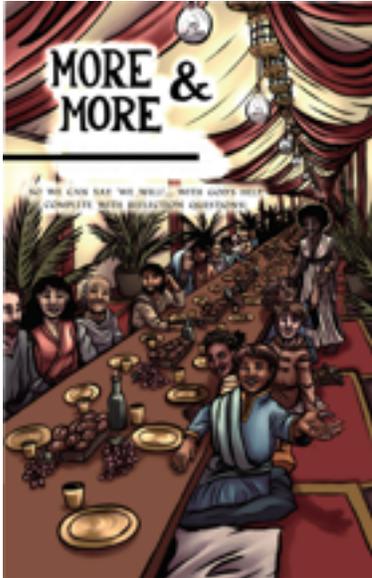
Without consistent active participation with her community of faith, it is very unlikely that a 13 year old would think of doing anything like this for her birthday. If we are honest with ourselves, how many of us would think like this for our birthday today?

Making the choice to come up the hill consistently matters. Making the choice to hold one another in prayer, matters. Feasting at the table each week to prepare ourselves to go out in the world as Jesus, matters. No where else in today's world do we hear the messages of expressive hope, kind justice, and deep love than in the church. When we are present to that message, we change the world for the better, and that matters.

**Save the Date!
June 2nd is Youth Sunday!**

What's happening next in Christian Formation?

May 5-June 9



Adults will take up a diocesan produced resource More & More: a bible study to expand the tent. Each participant will receive a free copy of the graphic study and we will explore God's evolving command to expand the welcome in God's kingdom. Weekly themes include made in the image of God, love your neighbor or love the stranger, who shows up in Jesus' family tree, ideal candidate or rabble-rouser, consorting with the enemy, I never saw it that way, how will I keep the promises?

La Escuelita San Marcos
Preschool Sunday and
Graduation
will be Sunday May 26th at
11am

Join us and our preschool families as we celebrate another year. Come worship, celebrate, enjoy fellowship & lunch.



Outreach will provide the main course. Members are asked to bring sides and desserts

Last names:

A-J warm sides

K-R cold sides

S-Z desserts

It's Teacher Appreciation Time

JOIN US ON MAY 5th at 5pm for Cookie Decorating.



We will be decorating cookies for the Ranson Middle School Teacher Breakroom in celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week. If you love to decorate cookies or just wanted to learn how we will meet at St. Mark's on Sunday May 5th at 5pm to prepare beautiful treats for the RMS teachers. No RSVP necessary. Please contact Debbie Heggen if you need additional information.

cuteandcabulous@gmail.com



Birthdays

Brett Rhinehardt - 5/1
 Mike Tinsley - 5/2
 Blake Michael – 5/3
 Brian Pouliot - 5/4
 Savannah Self - 5/4
 Betty Gluyas - 5/5
 Nate Heggen – 5/7
 Rev. Sarah D. Hollar - 5/11
 Bella Rhinehardt - 5/11
 Bob Weeks - 5/16
 Lauren Siegel - 5/22
 Tom Lenardson - 5/23
 Michael Havens – 5/25
 Werth Roberts – 5/25
 Rae Deicke - 5/26
 Doug McDowell - 5/26
 Debbie Heggen – 5/28
 Leo Brett - 5/30
 Maura Melear – 5/30
 Debbie Plummer – 5/30
 Emma Middleton - 5/31

Anniversaries

Rev. Sarah Hollar & Peter Macon - 5/1
 Jeremy & Dawn Michael - 5/3
 Kevin & Jessica DuBois - 5/17
 Matt & Jennifer Addington - 5/19
 Tom & Lorraine Lenardson - 5/21
 Willie & Lianne Scholz – 5/27
 Michael & Molly Thompson - 5/28

Prayers for continued healing:

Willard Osburn	Richard & Mary Beth Masline
Saunders & Billy Black	Martha Ann Springer
Bob Egan	Phyllis Barnwell
Mike Wilson	Ellie Rose
Elena Michel and her family	
Rev. Ty Smithdeal	Genny Hinkle
Brett Rhinehardt	

New Members:

Richard & Teresa Reale

Panera Bread Pick-Up

Mark & Lacy Hamilton – 5/3
Mark & Lacy Hamilton – 5/10
Andrew & Libby James – 5/17
Alan & Lesli Kathman – 5/24
Jeff & Janine Marek – 5/31

M A Y 2 0 1 9
Get to Know our Members



The Steins
Rick, Bridget, Rowan & Cora

We are originally from Michigan but currently live in the Mountain Island area of Charlotte. We have been at St. Mark's for 4 years.

We came here for the outstanding children's program; powerful and relevant messages; and the welcoming community that helps our church feel like a small-town.

We love hiking, and visiting nearby parks and breweries.

We are super into Halloween and try to come up with creative family costumes each year.

The Hines
Emily, Jonathan, Thomas and Emma

Emily is originally from Bennetsville, SC and Jonathan is from Cincinnati. We have been coming to St. Mark's off and on for a few years but officially became members this past year. We like the size of St. Mark's.

I like to cross stitch and Jonathan enjoys woodworking. Emily is also a member of MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) and DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution)





Join the men of the church for

"Thirstday", Thursday

(A testosterone friendly answer to WINE.)

May 9th at 5:30pm

We will gather at

Parry's Pizza - 6851 Northlake Mall Drive, Charlotte

We will be joining RMS teachers and staff this month for food and fellowship.

Ask for the St. Mark's Group. Please note the time change.

For additional information please contact David Fahey 704-562-7587.

W.I.N.E.



Women in Need of Entertainment

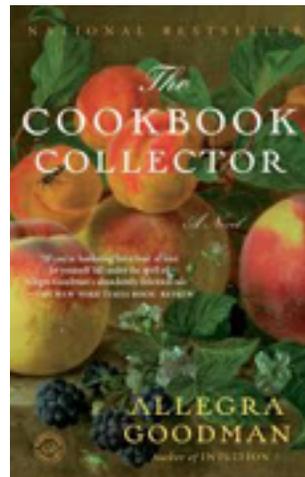
May 20th @ 6:30pm

at the home of

Myra Southwell
14110 Bramborough Rd.
Huntersville, NC 28078

**Bring 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



St Mark's Muses Book Club

Join us on Thursday

May 9th

@ 10am

in the Parish Hall

at St. Mark's

We will be discussing

The Cookbook Collector

by

Allegra Goodman

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

2019 Stewardship Update

	2019 Budget	March 2019 YTD Actual
Current Pledge Total	\$342,390	\$110,193
All other anticipated income		
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$20,000	\$6,671
Other Income (use of space by outside groups)	\$17,000	\$2,750
Sales Tax Refunds	\$5,000	\$4,145
Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	<u>\$33,360</u>	<u>\$ 8,340</u>
Total Budgeted Operating Income	\$417,750	\$132,100
2018 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry		
Staff	\$264,950	\$64,530
Diocesan Support	\$40,512	\$10,128
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$55,447	\$ 8,888
Office Administration & Other	\$27,450	\$ 6,704
Youth & Christian Formation	\$12,190	\$ 1,848
Outreach & Escuelita Support	\$14,400	\$ 4,457
Parish Life, Pastoral Care, Stewardship & Parish Retreat	\$ 7,100	\$ 1,056
Worship & Music	\$ 2,765	\$ 257
%4 pledges unfulfilled based on historical average	<u>\$13,596</u>	
Total 2018 Budgeted Expenses	\$438,466	\$97,959
Current Excess/ Deficit of receipts over disbursements	\$20,760	\$34,141

***Year to Date Pledge Fulfillment 32%**

**136 pledge cards were sent out. 97 pledge cards have been returned.
71% return rate with an average pledge of \$3,530**