

He is Risen!

**EASTER
SUNDAY IS
MARCH 27**

EASTER SUNDAY
WORSHIP:
9:30 + 11:00
EASTER EGG
HUNT + POTLUCK
BETWEEN
SERVICES



LENTEN EDUCATION
SUNDAY SCHOOL &
BIBLE STUDY



PANCAKE BRUNCH
MARCH 6,
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

SAINT MARK



Saying Grace from Pastor Roy

We are now deep into the season of Lent. I have enjoyed following the daily devotional writings of our members. I'm grateful for Ruling Elder Jennifer Carr for conceiving this project and bringing it to completion. This is a great example of Spirit and Service coming together in our community. Ordinary folks listening to the Spirit calling them to an idea that will benefit others, sharing that idea and bringing it into fruition for the benefit of all. This process creates a healthy congregation where all the members share their gifts for the service of Christ. At our recent leadership retreat we discussed how we can ensure that a culture of service (Christian discipleship) is sustained when there are so many demands on our members. Our first call is to offer ourselves to God in sincere worship, drawing near to Christ through the Spirit so that we may be his faithful disciples. The fruit of our worship is service to others; love for our neighbors. Lent is a time of self examination as we journey toward the cross of Jesus Christ. It's the time to consider your spiritual life. Are you seeking to know Christ and learn to follow him? Is there something you need to let go in order to grow in your

spiritual life? Be honest with yourself. You have nothing to lose but your burdens. As Brené Brown says, "Only when we're brave enough to explore the darkness will we discover the infinite power of light."

What's Happening: February & March

Worship Schedule

March 6- One service @ 9:30, ministry teams meet
Pancake Breakfast following worship

March 13, 20- Two Services, 9:30 & 11:00 with Christian Education at 9:30

Palm Sunday is March 20

March 24- Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm

March 25- Good Friday, time and location TBA

March 27- Easter Sunday! Two Services, 9:30 & 11:00. No Sunday school. Potluck Brunch between services.

April 3- One service @ 9:30, ministry teams meet

April 10, 17, 27- Two Services, 9:30 & 11:00 with Christian Education at 9:30

Pancake breakfast- March 6

The annual pancake breakfast is great fun and a great fundraiser! Come to eat some delicious breakfast and support our Saint Mark youth group on their summer mission trip and as they grow in faith at the Montreat Youth conference. These trips can cost over \$500.00. Participants pay part of the way and the rest is covered by fundraising, please consider making a donation to help us send the youth on these trips, they are crucial for faith formation!

Vacation Bible School: June 27-July 1

Surf's up! This summer we are going to catch the wave of God's amazing love! At Vacation Bible School students will play, dance, hear stories and learn about the Bible in new and fun ways.

We need lots of folks to make this happen! We need leaders for different parts of the day and so many hands on deck to help the kids! If you are able to volunteer please contact Heather Karakashian at hkara@comcast.net. Youth can get SSL hours and adults and youth can also register to volunteer on the website.

To register a child or volunteer visit this link:

<http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/SaintMark2016>

Vacation Bible School is appropriate for children ages 4-5th grade.

Faith in Public

Each month a small group gathers on the 3rd Thursday to study the Bible and discuss the bearing that scripture has on our life and our community. All are welcome to join, we meet at 6:30 for discussion and those who are able stay for dinner. We meet at Seasons 52. Contact Amie Orr (amieorr1@gmail.com).

Vacation Bible School will be June 27-July 1.



Vacation Bible School is a time of joy, enthusiasm and blessing for our church.

We need so many people to help this fun week happen for the children of our church and our community. We are looking for volunteers of all ages. Can you help us? Let us know!

*Holy Week begins with
Palm Sunday on
March 20.*



Lenten Study

Our Lenten Study continues Wednesdays during Lent (*Feb. 17-March 16*). Come for dinner and discussion, or just discussion. It will be a time to encounter God in scripture and have formative conversation with other members of our congregation.

We will explore the following themes:

temptation + Luke 4: 1-11

repentance + Luke 13: 1-9

grace + Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

sacrificial love + John 12: 1-8

the cross & reconciliation + Philippians 2 & II Corinthians 5

This will be an opportunity to join with a small group of your fellow members to discuss how we can apply these themes to every day life.

Dinner: 6:30-7:15, Discussion 7:15-8:30.

Sign up to help with dinner by contacting Amie Orr or Tina

Manik: amieorr1@gmail.com, flantina@yahoo.com

Congregational Retreat

We have an all-church retreat coming up in September (3-5, Labor Day weekend), at Meadowkirk Retreat Center. That will be here before we know it! It will be a great weekend of fellowship, connecting with church members, and talking about the future of our church. The last time our whole church gathered in this way was 2012, it's time to do it again!

Pastor Shelby is putting together several teams for the retreat. If you can serve on any of the following teams, please let her know:

- theme and overall planning of the schedule of retreat
- promotion/registration

- activities for kids/families (i.e. games, crafts)
- activities/discussions for adults (could also include games and crafts!)
- worship
- hospitality/welcoming at the retreat

Adult Education, 9:30 on Sundays

March (Lent)

Bill May, our soon-to-be Parish Associate, will lead a Bible study for adults on the lectionary texts of Lent. You can find the Lectionary Texts here: <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu>. A handout will also be available in the church office.

Quill of the Clerk

The Session of Saint Mark Presbyterian Church met on Feb. 16 and took the following actions:

- The Session heard a report from Elder Alison Dewey on Global Mission Ministry activities.
- The Session approved distribution of a \$1500 "Angel gift" - \$500 to our Youth Group with the charge to them that it be designated for families in need and \$1000 to families in need yet to be identified.

- The Session approved the General Facilities Use Agreement with Global Community Mission Church (Korean) pending the approval of an attorney from our congregation. This was subsequently signed by both parties February 21 and will be in effect March 1.

Global Mission Culture Church Partnership

On March 1 Saint Mark will enter into a partnership with a new congregation. Global Mission Culture Church is a newly formed Korean congregation that has been meeting at various homes in our neighborhood and will begin to meet at Saint Mark starting March 6. The session approved the contract on Feb. 16 and it was signed by both congregations on Feb. 21. The GMCC will meet on Saturdays from 11:00-3:00 in the music room and room 110. They will worship in the sanctuary on Sundays from 1:30-3:00 and have education downstairs from 3:00-4:30. Please say hello to our new partners as you see them on Sundays!

Saint Mark Ministry Teams 2016

This list denotes elders and deacons serving on ministry teams for 2016. Teams are made up of elders, deacons and members of the congregation.

Moderator/Pastor – Rev. Roy W. Howard

Associate Pastor – Rev. Shelby Etheridge Harasty

Clerk – Mary Casper

Moderator of Deacons – Jean Muir

Secretary of Deacons – Gina Vitale

Local mission – Mike Lutz + Dorothy Alexander

Finance – Michael Lai (Rachel Zutshi)

Global mission – Alison Dewey + Felicite Nkonabang

Christian Formation - Jennifer Carr + Carey Stipe + Heather Karakashian

Welcoming – Diane Wirono and Teddy Ferguson + Bebel Delgado

Nominating – Teddy Ferguson + Meisie Roberts (those elected by congregation) + Carey Stipe

Personnel – Diane Wirono and Stephanie Laguna

Stewardship - Meisie Roberts + Mariechen Breschler

Property – Bill Merritt + Jeremy Fleisher + Andy Keller

Worship - Karl Kaufmann (Jane Karakashian) + Guy Roberts + Gina Vitale

Parish Life – Tina Manik (Amie Orr) + Antonia Sandoval

**

Environmental Stewardship - Alison Bennett + Amie Orr

Planned Giving - Lee LaRoche

Memorial - Sarah Milholen

Name in parenthesis denotes ministry team convener.

Saint Mark Prayers

Joys

Madeleine Sillers, daughter of Jessica and Andrew Sillers was baptized at Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church on Sunday, Feb. 14. We rejoice with Jessica and Andrew. Madeleine will be welcomed at Saint Mark on Sunday, Feb. 28.

Concerns

Homebound members- Please pray for all our members who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Gordon Dibble, Lucy Eastham, Jim Wright, the Ransahoffs, Alice Miller and others.

Other prayers- Milt Johnson, Emmett Barkley, Jim Wright, Kaufmann family.