



# may 2018 upcoming @ st. mark's

the monthly newsletter of St. Mark's United Methodist Church

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018



### DIG IT! CARING FOR CREATION

JUNE 4-7 9:30AM-NOON

CHILDREN:

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

YOUTH AND ADULTS:

SIGN UP NOW TO VOLUNTEER!

Come ready to get messy! We are going to dig up stories of God's love and the beauty of Creation while exploring themes of environmental stewardship. We will be planting native flowers in Prairie Pockets on the grounds at St. Mark's – good for the earth, the bees and Monarch butterflies, as well as the spirits of all who share our space!

Each day, children will explore these themes through story, song, art, and play. 4 th -6 th graders will have their own special activities. All activities will be age-appropriate and fun! The week will culminate in a special VBS worship service Sunday morning, June 10th, at 10:30am.

Youth are welcome to volunteer as leaders. Adult volunteers are needed, in all roles, to provide this program free of charge for all children. Participant registration and volunteer forms are available outside the Director of Children's Ministries Office in Garton Hall. Register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/u5V3fQ21aKg8KxzF2>, or via the link on the church website. For more information, contact Sarah Gettie McNeill at [sarahgettiemcneill@smumc.church](mailto:sarahgettiemcneill@smumc.church) or call 812-332-5788.



# announcements

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ST. MARK'S



NURSERY SCHOOL  
AND KINDERGARTEN

## OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS PROJECT-PHASE II: HELP US MEET OUR GOAL OF \$3000!

1. Buy a t-shirt for \$5 - We have red and blue school t's available, sizes 3 and 4 only. Buy a shirt for \$5 and help us grow our outdoor classrooms.
2. Buy a Leaf - Through the end of our school year, buy a leaf to add to our beautiful board and help grow our outdoor classrooms! Our suggested price is \$5 per leaf but any amount is welcome.

### HERE'S OUR PLAN FOR PHASE II:

On the Green/Purple/Kindergarten Outdoor Classroom:

- Plant 4 shade trees (2 small and 2 large)
- Assemble materials for a climber
- Add dry creek
- Expand loose parts area
- Increase mulched Onesies/Orange and Yellow Outdoor Classroom:
- Remove plastic and metal playground structure
- Build storage
- Build two small a-frames

### LOOKING FORWARD TO PHASE III WE WANT TO:

- Add features to Infant Outdoor Classroom (we are still determining the needs for this space)
- Add more plantings
- Install Rain Barrels
- Install water hand pumps
- Add more natural loose parts such as logs, stumps, tree cookies, etc.
- Install raised garden beds

MORE DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT  
[HTTP://GOO.GL/PS6CPF](http://GOO.GL/PS6CPF)



# announcements

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Below is the final year-end financial report for 2017. This statement is for the budgeted operations of St. Mark's, with the exception of the Nursery School/Kindergarten ministry and the current capital campaign (Project St. Mark's the Sequel). Following the school calendar, the Nursery School/Kindergarten operates on a different fiscal year and would skew the operational financial figures for the rest of the church budget. The Nursery School/Kindergarten is in good financial shape, and already has a strong enrollment for next year. The Sequel capital campaign is a two-year campaign for 2017 and 2018. The goal for the Sequel campaign is \$275,000 with \$207,160 currently pledged. Additional pledges and gifts to help reach the goal for the capital campaign are always appreciated.

Actual Pledged Giving received was \$479,007.74 compared to \$498,470.00 in pledges from 122 giving units. Unpledged Giving and other offerings totaled \$134,774.39. These two items total \$613,782.13. Thanks to the generosity of so many, actual 2017 revenues (income) exceeded the projected 2017 budget revenues (income) by \$41,110. Actual expenses for 2017 were \$31,137 higher than the projected budget expenses for 2017. That left a small shortfall (\$3,334.91), which was less than the expected budgeted loss of (\$13,137). Excess expenses were primarily due to unexpected repairs to the building and an increase in connectional giving.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
Revenue and Expense Statement  
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Budgeted Revenues	Actual	Budget
Pledges and Other Offerings	\$ 613,782.13	\$ 592,470.00
Designated	\$ 26,274.02	\$ 29,300.00
Other Revenues	\$ 57,023.85	\$ 34,200.00
Total Budgeted Revenues	\$ 697,080.00	\$ 655,970.00
Budgeted Expenses		
Ministry	\$ 44,841.24	\$ 37,240.00
Personnel	\$ 420,226.04	\$ 429,754.00
Trustees	\$ 125,971.80	\$ 118,350.00
Administration	\$ 53,092.51	\$ 45,768.00
Connectional Giving	\$ 56,283.32	\$ 37,995.00
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$ 700,414.91	\$ 669,107.00
Budgeted Revenue/(Expense)	\$ (3,334.91)	\$ (13,137.00)

Detailed financial reports are available through the church office.

# may events

SATURDAY,  
MAY 5

9:00AM-  
3:00PM

## HELP BUILD A CLIMBER FOR THE ST. MARK'S PLAYGROUND!

Come help work with others and be part of Phase II of the Outdoor Classrooms project led by St Mark's Nursery School & Kindergarten! St. Mark's families, with children of all ages, benefit from these wonderful outdoor spaces. We are in need of 2 - 3 people for the following teams - shifts could be split into a morning and afternoon slot:

- team decking
- team railing
- team climbing ladder/rope climber

Contact:

Sierra Roussos, Director of St. Mark's Nursery School & Kindergarten, at [director@smnurseryschool.org](mailto:director@smnurseryschool.org) or 812-333-4007.

Also needed are the following tools:

Drill/Drivers, Hammers, Speed Square, Level, Circular Saw, Miter Saw, Sliding miter saw? (useful for cutting the honeycomb angles), Jig Saw, Ladder, Post hole diggers, Shovel.

SUNDAY,  
MAY 6

10:30AM  
SANCTUARY  
WORSHIP

## CARE MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Join us in worship on Sunday, May 6, as we celebrate our Care Ministries, and particularly highlight one of them. Care Ministries is a way we organize ourselves as community to share gifts with each other in times of need. The sermon for that Sunday is titled "Giving food, Giving Heart: The Church's Meal and the Community It Creates," arising from Luke 24: 13-35. Kathryn Holden will offer a moment of testimony regarding our Home Care Meals Ministry, which seeks to respond with a few meals in homes for those who have had surgeries or other treatments, families with new babies, and other needs.

We will also share in Holy Communion together. Before and after worship, check in Garton Hall for a table with a display and information about all of our Care Ministries.

# may events

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TUESDAY,  
MAY 8

4:20PM-  
9:30PM

## TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE AT ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS

Join friends from St. Mark's for a road trip to West Terre Haute to attend another one of the monthly Taizé services hosted by the Sisters of Providence in their large and beautiful sanctuary. This time the theme of the service will be "The Lord's Table" which might just show us how independent and ecumenical these progressive Catholic nuns can be. There will be a few short readings and a time of silence, all mixed in with several meditative songs which the 150+ worshipers will prayerfully repeat with the help of talented musicians and two lead singers. The hour usually finishes with a silent processional ceremony for those who are so moved.

Our group will carpool from the south parking lot of St. Mark's at 4:20pm. We will stop in Terre Haute around 5:35pm for a light dinner before heading across the Wabash River to the serene campus of St. Mary-of-the-Woods for the 7pm service. For more information contact Charlie Matson at (812) 331-0413 or matsonhoosier@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY  
MAY 12

7:30 PM

## STAGE PLAY: CHURCH AND STATE

Be part of a group from St. Mark's going to the Ivy Tech Rose Firebay for a timely new play produced by the Jewish Theatre of Bloomington: Church and State by Jason Odell Williams. The script follows a candidate for the US Senate who has accidentally raised questions about his belief in God and how his devoutly Christian wife and his liberal Jewish campaign manager attempt to control the damage. The play will show us how religion, guns and social media are twisting our once proud political system with moments that range from comic to heartbreaking to uplifting. Ticket price for general admission is \$25 with a \$2 discount for groups larger than 4. Contact Charlie Matson at 812-331-0413 or matsonhoosier@yahoo.com or order your tickets directly at Jewish Theatre of Bloomington website <https://www.jewishtheatrebloomington.com/church-and-state>

# small groups

TUESDAY,  
MAY 8

5:30PM  
IN ROOM  
15

EACH FRIDAY  
IN MAY:

12:30PM  
AT BELL  
TRACE

WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 23

5:30PM  
GARTON  
HALL

WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 9

5:30PM  
7:00PM

## BUDDIES OF ST. FRANCIS

Buddies of St. Francis is a small group experience for those who love animals and believe that our spirituality is enhanced by their presence in the world and in our lives. This humans-only gathering will be a time to share stories, reflect, and consider opportunities for advocacy. Join us in Room 15. Contact Jimmy Moore for more information.

## CONVERSATIONS ON LIFE MEN'S GROUP

Conversations on Life men's group meets on Fridays to share in conversation about topics of interest often based on literature selected by the group. The group meets in the private dining room, at the basement level on the west side of the main building of Bell Trace. Visitors are always welcome.

## EXTRA YEARS OF ZEST (XYZ) DINNER AND PROGRAM

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

All are cordially invited to the May XYZ dinner and program. If you would like to have supper at XYZ, please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Supper will begin at 5:30pm and the program will begin at 6:20pm. The program and presenter will be announced in the weekly email newsletter.

## MEAL SHARE FOOD REPACK

Each month, St. Mark's volunteers go to Hoosier Hills Food Bank to repack donated food for agencies that provide food for families.

For more information, contact Glenda Murray at [glmurray@indiana.edu](mailto:glmurray@indiana.edu).

# small groups

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SUNDAY,  
MAY 6

6:30PM  
LOCATION TBA

TUESDAY,  
MAY 8

6:30PM-  
8:30PM

TUESDAY,  
MAY 22

6:30PM

TRAILHEAD  
PIZZERIA

MONDAY,  
MAY 7

10:30AM

GARTON  
HALL

## PARENTS OF YOUTH NIGHT

Enjoy some food and conversation with other folks raising teens. If you have questions, or would like to be on a contact list for future gatherings, contact Dawn Walters at [dquillen@indiana.edu](mailto:dquillen@indiana.edu) or the church office. All parents of youth (and grandparents/other loving adults caring for pre-teens and teenagers) are welcome!

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer Shawl Ministry now meets once a month, on the second Tuesday at 6:30pm. We invite those who knit or crochet to help provide prayer shawls for those experiencing grief, change, and life joys. We also make baptism blankets and special projects.

## PUB THEOLOGY

Need a place to relax with food and beverage, and talk a little theology? Try Pub Theology, a welcoming small group experience hosted by St. Mark's. This month, we will meet at Trailhead Pizzeria (4303 S. State Rd. 446), have a beverage and snacks, and reflect on a sermon by Nadia Bolz Weber "Lord, Save Me: a Sermon on Christianity and White Supremacy". Plan to come at 6:30pm to order your food and drink, and we'll start discussion at 7:00pm. To indicate your intention to attend, and receive the reading, contact Jimmy at [jimmymoore@smumc.church](mailto:jimmymoore@smumc.church), or contact the church office. The sermon text can be found at this link: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/nadiabolzweber/2017/08/lord-save-sermon-christianity-white-supremacy/>

## SHOEBOX PROJECT

Each month, the Shoebox Project of St. Mark's meets and assembles shoeboxes filled with hygiene products and toys for kids. The shoeboxes are donated to local agencies such as Middle Way House and Monroe County United Ministries. Everyone is welcome to come and to join the fellowship and fun. We are always in need of washcloths, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, small toys, coloring books, hotel soaps/ shampoos, pencils, crayons, etc. You can place your donations any time in the basket in Garton Hall located beneath the United Methodist Women bulletin board.

# small groups

WEDNESDAYS  
IN MAY  
1:00-3:00PM  
IN ROOM 10

## ST. MARK'S QUILTERS AND CRAFTERS

Bring your quilting or crafts to Room 10 and spend time with others who enjoy these activities. All skill levels are welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact Patti Wright, or the church office, with questions.

MORNING  
CIRCLE:

TUESDAY,  
MAY 15TH,  
9:30AM  
ROOM 8

SUSANNA WESLEY  
CIRCLE:

TUESDAY  
MAY 15TH, 1:30PM  
ROOM 8

CHARLENE MARTIN  
CIRCLE:

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 16TH  
7:00PM  
BELL TRACE

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!

All the women of St. Mark's, whether members, regular attenders, or visitors, are invited to join one of the three St. Mark's UMW circles which meet each month. The UMW of the United Methodist Church is a group of women who provide total support for 109 missions for women and children around the world. We have a circle which meets at a convenient time for you to attend.

## ADDITIONAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S GROUPS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO JOIN:

Shoebox Project

Monday, May 7th, 10:30am in Garton Hall & Room 12

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, May 8th, 6:30pm Garton Hall Parlor

THURSDAYS  
IN MAY

11:00AM-  
1:00PM

## WOMEN OF WONDER AND FAITH

A group of faithful, journeying women meeting weekly to read and discuss books on various topics of faith. Through April and May, Women of Wonder and Faith is reading *Called by Community: The Life Jesus Wants for His People* edited by Charles Moore. Please join these women at any time as they move along the faith journey, collectively and individually, as well as build valuable friendships to support each other through life's many challenges and joys. Contact the facilitator, Maria Schmidt ([marschmi@indiana.edu](mailto:marschmi@indiana.edu)) with questions, and to let her know you are coming.

# opportunities to serve

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SUNDAYS:  
MAY 6  
&  
JUNE 3

(THE FIRST  
SUNDAY  
OF EACH  
MONTH)

WEDNESDAY,  
JUNE 6  
  
4:00PM-  
CLOSING  
  
BUCCETO'S

## BACKPACK BUDDIES FOOD COLLECTION

On the first Sunday of every month at the 10:30am worship service, you are invited to bring food items for the Community Kitchen Backpack Buddies program. Through this program, each Friday, approximately 400 children in need from local elementary schools are sent home with a backpack of food. Children are also provided food during Summer Break. These backpacks help meet basic weekend food needs of their families. A list of items requested is below. Please place the Backpack Buddies offering on the altar in worship on the first Sunday of every month, or you may leave your items during the week in the collection box in Garton Hall.

### Backpack Buddies Food List

- Individual fruit cups (applesauce, tropical fruit, pears, etc.)
- Instant Oatmeal (individual portions)
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Small boxes of cereal
- Easy-to-prepare food items (instant mashed potatoes, dried soups, beans, meal helpers, rice or pasta meals, etc.)
- Granola/fruit/cereal bars
- Dried fruit (raisins, cranberries, cherries, tropical fruit, etc.)
- Canned or pouch chicken or tuna
- Small bread mixes (cornbread, muffin, biscuit, etc.)

## ST. MARK'S NURSERY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN DINE AT BUCCETO'S:

When you dine in or carry out from either Bloomington Bucceto's between 4pm and closing, mention St. Mark's Nursery School and Kindergarten. 20% of the total you spend will be donated to the Nursery School and Kindergarten! Can't make it this month? No problem. This "Dine and Donate" opportunity occurs the first Wednesday of each month.

# opportunities to serve

PLEASE  
LEAVE YOUR  
DONATIONS  
IN THE  
LABLED BOX  
IN  
GARTON  
HALL.

## THRIVING CONNECTIONS. DONATE NEW TOILETRY ITEMS AND CLEANING SUPPLIES

Thriving Connections meets each Thursday at St. Mark's and "provides support by making the personal and community connections that are important for successful life change." Thriving Connections Leaders are individuals or families who are motivated to get out of poverty. Allies are community members who form a supportive friendship with a Team Leader. Please leave your donations in the labeled box in Garton Hall.

Below is a list of requested items.

- Toilet Paper,
- Soap (bars or bottles)—hand, face, or body, shampoo and/or conditioner,
- Tooth Brushes/Toothpaste,
- Small first aid items—band aids, antibacterial cream, etc.,
- Personal Items: deodorant, sponges/loofahs, combs, razors, shaving cream, hair gel, hairspray, body lotion, feminine hygiene products,
- Other: laundry soap, fabric softener/dryer sheets, cleaning supplies—Pine Sol, Comet, Windex, bleach, dish soap, trash bags, scrubbers/sponges,
- foil/Saran Wrap/parchment paper

Thank you!

# opportunities to serve

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## SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our breakfast event each Sunday continues to grow in popularity. It has become a great way to start the morning, to meet new people, and to provide a deep welcome to all who come our way. It is also a great way for those groups who help provide breakfast to receive free-will donations for their own mission effort or a cause they value. Sign up today in Garton Hall to provide breakfast on a future Sunday. Contact the church office or our breakfast coordinator, Christine Conrad, at 812-961-2959 or [silent2hear@gmail.com](mailto:silent2hear@gmail.com)

## TEACH! WITH THE 2ND-3RD OR 4TH-5TH GRADE FAITH DEVELOPMENT CLASSES!

Spend one Sunday a month with a group of inquisitive children encountering Bible stories through science experiments, art, mission activities, games, or by making yummy treats! Engage the world through the eyes of a pre-teen learning to navigate relationships and deepening faith as they experience the Bible stories in a more mature way. (They also make crafts and love to cook and play games!). With either group, you'll join an excellent team of teachers and get to know some of our church's awesome children and families. A curriculum is provided, along with a brief orientation to volunteering in Faith Development at St. Mark's. For more information, please contact Sarah Gettie McNeill, Director of Children and Family Ministries.



# adult sunday school

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## BIBLE BANTER

The Bible Banter class uses the Scripture text for the morning's sermon as a discussion-starter. Looking at the passage in its larger context, and sometimes exploring a bit of Bible-writing history, we offer thoughts on what the morning's sermon might look like, based on the Scripture the pastor has selected. We leave time to discuss implications of the Scripture on our own lives, and often find ourselves delving into topics that wind up far afield from the morning's original topic. You are invited to bring some coffee/breakfast from Garton Hall into Room 11 at 9:30am and join the conversation.

## NOMADS

The Nomads class is a generally progressive group which meets each Sunday at 9:15am in Room 10 for fellowship and discussion of selected readings on issues related to faith, spirituality, or social justice. Nomads will select literature to read and discuss for May. All are welcome with no preparation required.

## PILGRIMS

Pilgrims continues the video lecture series titled Jesus and His Jewish Influences by Doctor Jodi Magness, Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In May we are discussing:

- How the foretelling of the destruction of the First Temple by earlier prophets foreshadowed Jesus' prediction that the Second Temple would be destroyed.
- The schism between the Jews and the Samaritans.
- The Jewish communities in Assyria, Babylonia, Persia and Egypt.
- Alexander the Great's impact on the Jews.

Pilgrims now meet in Room 12 at 9:15am on Sunday mornings and welcome any and all, at any point in the lecture series, for the presentation and the resulting discussion.

# our regular sunday schedule

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BREAKFAST	9:00am- 10:15am	Garton Hall
<b>ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>		
Pilgrims	9:15am	Room 12
Nomads	9:15am	Room 10
Bible Banter	9:30am	Room 11
INFANT & TODDLER CARE	9:30am- 11:30am	
Infants & Toddlers		Room 24
		Room 25
<b>CELEBRATION!</b> For Children, Family & Friends of All Ages	9:30am- 10:15am	Garton Hall
SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30am	Sanctuary
<b>CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>		
Preschool		Room 27
Kindergarten- 1st Grade		Room 28
2nd-3rd Grades		Room 4
4th-5th Grades		Room 9
Youth: 6th- 12th		Room 3

# special events in may

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## SUNDAY, MAY 13, 10:30AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Children and Youth are welcome to be part of worship leadership any Sunday. They are especially invited, this month, on Sunday, May 13. Children and youth are invited to serve by greeting/handing out bulletins, lighting candles (acolyte), drawing a picture for the bulletin cover, reading scripture, leading a prayer, sharing a musical or artistic talent, helping the ushers, etc. Please contact Mary Beth Morgan if your child(ren)/youth would like to participate in worship leadership and which role(s) are of interest. Thank you!

## FRIDAY, MAY 18 5:30-7:30PM AT KARST FARM PARK PICNIC WITH ST. MARK'S NURSERY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

Celebrate another great school year at the annual St. Mark's Nursery School and Kindergarten Picnic! Bring your own family's dinner (no nut products, please), place settings, blankets, and toys. We'll bring the drinks and dessert!

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upcoming @ st. mark's is published each month as an information resource and guide to the activities and events within and around the St. Mark's church community. Copies are distributed at the beginning of each month along with the Sunday worship bulletin. Additional copies are available at the Welcome Center Desk, at the main entrances to the building, or by contacting the Church Office. An online copy of upcoming @ st. mark's can be downloaded from our church website ([www.smumc.church](http://www.smumc.church)). To submit articles for publication, please contact the church office.

# ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PASTORS	REVEREND JIMMY MOORE REVEREND MARY BETH MORGAN
LAY LEADERS	ANDY CRON & TRINA MESCHER
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES	CONTACT MARY BETH MORGAN
YOUTH MINISTRIES	RODNEY LONG
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES	GERRY SOUSA
CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MUSIC	AARON COMFORTY
ORGANIST	PAMELA FREEMAN
FINANCE DIRECTOR	NATALIE LEBEAU
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	CLAIRE SCHAFER
CUSTODIANS	DENNIS MORGAN, JEFF WYATT, TERRY HAMM

## ST. MARK'S NURSERY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

DIRECTOR	SIERRA ROUSSOS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	ROBIN COLE
OFFICE MANAGER	AMY WEGER



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA  
IS AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY BRINGING CHRIST-LIKE LOVE, HEALING AND HOPE TO ALL.  
WE EMBRACE THE UNITED METHODIST IDEAL OF OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS AND OPEN DOORS  
BY WELCOMING THOSE OF ALL RACES, CULTURES, FAITH TRADITIONS,  
SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS, AND GENDER IDENTITIES.

# ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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