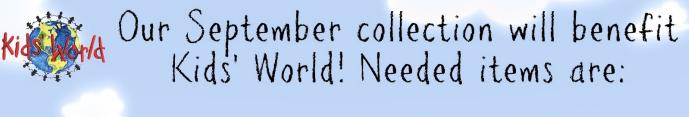
St. Mark United Methodist Church

550 Hwy. 72 By-Pass NW Greenwood, SC 29649

http://www.stmarkgreenwood.com Church Phone: 864.229.5416 Kids' World Phone: 864.227.2776

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid GREENWOOD, SC Permit # 190



Playdough Bubbles Rice Dry Corn Hand Soap Gardening Seeds
Cotton Balls
Clorox Wipes
Lysol Wipes

Febreeze
Pudding Cups
Cereal Bars
Puffcorn
Cheese Puffs

Please leave items in the black collection boxes at each campus.

## The Witness







Bypass Campus (BPC)

Rivers Street Campus (RSC)

The Coronaca Campus (TCC)

### St. Mark United Methodist Church

www.stmarkgreenwood.com Volume 17 Issue 8 September 2023



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### Jason's Journal

"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also so reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Years ago, a former District Superintendent said something at a district clergy gathering I have never forgotten. I later found out that she 'borrowed' this quote from Rick Warren. In my short tenure as a pastor at St. Mark, I hope that you have heard me repeat it. The quote is as follows: We're never more like God than when we give. I have often repeated these words either before or after the giving and

receiving of God's tithe and our offering, as they are suitable to the context of our financial giving to God's church. However, the quote also applies to various areas of living out our Christian faith. To me, when we reflect on the quote we're never more like God than when we give, it forces me to question other areas in my life when I have the opportunity to give. I ponder things such as: How am I giving of my time? How am I giving of myself? How am I giving forgiveness to others? How am I giving love to others? How is the giving in my life reflecting the character and nature of Jesus?

These questions and reflections surrounding this quote from Rick Warren led me to consider the above passage from 2 Corinthians. These words from the Apostle Paul to the Corinthian church are caught up in the context of financial giving. I also consider the other areas in life where we sow seeds of the Gospel in the world around us. Paul calls the reader to consider what type of harvest followers of Jesus would like to reap. He does so by basically stating, the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Or to simply restate, maybe we are not reaping much because we are not sowing much. Paul then continued by reminding his readers than in anything we give, we must give as we have made up our minds. When I consider these words from Paul about someone being responsible for making up their mind for how they give in various areas of their life, I think a lot of it comes down to our attitude.

A person's attitude is important. A person's attitude in any situation can bring good or bad consequences. Chuck Swindoll once wrote, The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past....we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you....we are in charge of our attitudes.

In closing, my daily prayer for St. Mark and every individual who is a part of this amazing church will strive for an attitude of giving - giving of ourselves, our time, our talents, our service, our resources, our love for God and others, forgiveness and grace for others. I pray this for us all daily because, we're never more like God than when we give.

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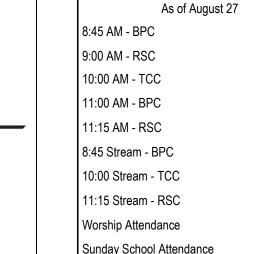
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449

116



KREW and EPIC Attendance School Year Average					
As of August 27, 2023					
KREW	71				
EPIC	86				
HSX	18				

**Worship Attendance Year to Date Average** 

The next copy of The Witness, the church's monthly newsletter, will be mailed on Thursday, September 28.

Deadline to submit information for the newsletter is Monday, September 18.

Copies of the September Birthdays list, September Anniversaries list, and Upper Rooms for September/October are located at the narthex/welcome area at each campus. You can find the birthday and anniversary list on the church mobile app as well.

### IN MEMORIAM

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

John 11:25-26

- \* Rick McClain
  - \* December 2, 1949 July 24, 2023

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

- Linda Yochem Sauerwein and her family on the death of her mother, Ruth Yochem, on August 4.
- Patsy Hannah and her family on the death of her mother, Ruth Yochem, on August 4.
- Marcus Moeller and his family on the death of his grandmother, Ruth Yochem, on August 4.
- Karen Cook and her family on the death of her sister, Andrea Green, on August 9.

### Welcome to the St. Mark Family

Join the staff of St. Mark in welcoming our new church member: Bailey Campbell.



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# Mulligans Fore Missions Golf Tournament October 9th, 2023 \$125 per player/\$500 per team \$100 Hole Sponsership Deadline to register is October 2nd. FORE MISSIONS Make checks payable to St. Mark UMC.









Greeting St. Mark Family,

"Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

I recently read an article on Forbes.com titled "A Dog Walks Into A Hotel Lobby: The Greatest Hospitality Story Ever Told" by Micah Solomon. Micah was a guest at an extended stay hotel while on a business trip. While at the front desk of the hotel, Micah witnessed something extraordinary. A dog comes to the front desk. The desk attendant leans over and tosses a rolled up newspaper into the dog's mouth. The dog then jogs from the front desk and down to a guest's room and drops the paper at the door. Micah is intrigued by what he just witnessed. It turns out that the dog belongs to a resident who

recently sold her home and was waiting to close on her first empty-nester home. So to help their resident maintain a sense of normalcy in her life, as she waits for a new season of life to begin, the hotel staff allows the guest's dog to come get the newspaper and take it back to their room, just as the dog did when they lived in their old home. When Micah asked why the hotel goes above and beyond for this resident, the Senior Vice President of the hotel said, "Because somebody who is in an extended-stay situation is likely out of sorts. The recently divorced. People on long job assignments away from their families. People whose houses have sold and their new home isn't ready yet." The senior vice president goes on to say, in these moments "service-hospitality-like this can shine."

Micah's story is an important story of us as followers of Christ, as it challenges us to ask who are the ones out of sorts in our communities? It challenges us to ask are the ministries and the missions of St. Mark meeting the needs of our community. It challenges us to open our doors and share a loaf of bread to those out of sorts so they may receive the bread of life. St. Mark, let's stand together and say challenge accepted! St. Mark go and be beacons of shining hospitality!

Pastor Joey





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### Hello St. Mark Family!

hope you are having a great week! Over the last several weeks during our worship services, we have watched videos of some of the amazing things that have been happening at our church over the summer. These videos have been awesome, because they have shown some of the amazing opportunities and ministries that we have here at St. Mark. Watching the videos reminds me of how blessed we are as a church. Seeing a video where youth and adults are working on homes across our state as a means of service is inspiring. Seeing a video with 400 kids and adults filling our sanctuary and facilities for VBS is breathtaking. Watching a video that highlights our youth in Florida worshipping with 7,500 other teenagers their age, or a video showing how impactful our

Kids' World Ministry is in our community, really lets us see how blessed we are as a church.

Many times, we see all these ministries, all the opportunities, and think that we are grateful for them and what they do, but we can't truly be a part. We feel like if we cannot be there in person, we cannot help, and I get that. We want to be present, and being present is important, but it's not the only way to help. There are many times where we can help and not actually be there for something. All the ministries at St. Mark take a lot of effort and a lot of funds. When we give to St. Mark, we are doing more than just paying a light bill. Our giving supports people all over our community and all over our state and even the world. We have long reaching arms at St. Mark, and through your faithful giving, we are able to leave a mark of Christ in many different places and in many different ways.

So, when you feel like you want to be a part of a ministry but can't be there remember you are a huge part of it through your giving. Our giving is our opportunity be a part of ministries all over the world, even when we don't realize it. What a great way to serve others, serve God, and love on people that we might not ever meet. It's our way to make an impact in our community and change the lives of people around us. So, thank you St. Mark. Thank you for loving people the way you do. Thank you for caring for our community the way that you do. Thank you for giving so that the long reaching arms of St. Mark can impact people all over the world. Always remember that your giving does make a difference and that you are changing the world.

I hope that you have an amazing September and that during this month, you find new ways to make a difference. I pray that you find ways to make an impact in our community, in our church, in our world, and in the lives of those that you encounter. I pray that you realize that through your giving, you are changing the world and those around you. I pray that you have a great September and that I we will see you in church!

I look forward to seeing YOU at CHURCH! BRING A FRIEND!

Robby

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### September Church Meetings

Kids' World - Tuesday, September 12 Bypass Campus, Room 104 4:00 P.M. Trustee - Sunday, September 17 Bypass Campus, Room 104 12:30 P.M. SPRC - Thursday, September 21 Bypass Campus, Room 104 6:00 P.M. Worship - Sunday, September 24 Bypass Campus, Room 104 1:00 P.M.







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The United Women of Faith and the St. Mark Women's ministry would like to thank everyone who donated books and other items, helped set up and take down and purchased books at our Annual Books and Bargains sale. We were able to raise almost \$1,000

for missions. Because of you we are able to be the hands and feet of Christ. Thank you.

### St. Mark Congregation,

Words are not enough to express our gratitude over the prayers, love, and support that were poured out on the campers of Emerald City Salkehatchie. Their lives were changed forever along with the lives of the homeowners we were able to serve.

The mission of Salkehatchie is to make homes warmer, safer, and drier. And our campers work so hard to do that (plus make it a little prettier too!). The bonus outcome of camp is the relationship that the youth develop with the homeowners and with each other. We are growing servants.

Your support in the form of time, meals, and donations make this all possible. We are so fortunate to have you as a congregation! We are looking forward to next summer already!

Thank you again, Holley and Frank Coyle, Billy Lybrand



September 17 & 24, 2023 at Main Street UMC

Registration deadline is September 1. Cost is \$35 per course.

For more information: www.umcsc.org/greenwood/ greenwood-district-lay-servant-ministries/





(864) 993-2957 for more information or to regisgter.

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### SEPTEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE AND SCRIPTURE

This month we continue our journey together in the Gospel of Matthew. As we open up these words and stories of Jesus as Matthew records them, we will be challenged to consider our own lives in these stories as followers of Jesus. When we reach the end of the month, we will be reminded of how deep and wide the grace of God is. I pray as we all continue in our journey together that we are all challenged, convicted, and changed by Jesus' words to his disciples and actions for others. I hope you will take time each week prior to worship to read and reflect on the Scriptures' for each Sunday.

Rev. Jason Wilson

### September 3 - Matthew 16:21-28

- Rev. Jason Wilson at the Bypass campus 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM
- Rev. Joey Gambrell at the Coronaca campus 10:00 AM
- Rev. Robby Lybrand at the Rivers Street campus 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM

### September 10 - Matthew 18:15-20

- Rev. Robby Lybrand at the Bypass campus 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM
- Rev. Jason Wilson at the Coronaca campus 10:00 AM
- Rev. Joey Gambrell at the Rivers Street campus 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM

### September 17 - Matthew 18:21-35

- Rev. Jason Wilson at the Bypass campus 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM
- Rev. Joey Gambrell at the Coronaca campus 10:00 AM
- Rev. Robby Lybrand at the Rivers Street campus 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM

### September 24 - Matthew 20:1-16

- Rev. Jason Wilson at the Bypass campus 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM
- Rev. Joey Gambrell at the Coronaca campus 10:00 AM
- Rev. Robby Lybrand at the Rivers Street campus 9:00 AM and 11:15 AM

### Join us online for worship!

8:45 Traditional Worship Service, 10:00 Blended Worship Service, 11:15 Contemporary Worship Service

All services will be livestreamed at www.youtube.com/c/StMarkUMCGreenwood



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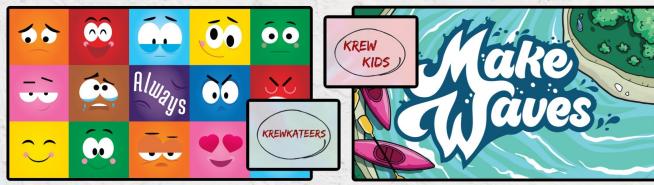
## ST. MARK BRIDGE KIDS

### KREW!

It's not too late to be a part of KREW! Ages K2-5th grade. Sundays, 4:30-6:00.

Register today at www.stmarkbridgekids.com









### Prayers of the Church

Prayer requests will remain on this list for three weeks unless we are notified differently.

### **RESIDENTIAL LIVING**

Emerald Gardens (201 Overland Drive, Greenwood, SC) Charlotte Koone

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

Shut-In/Homebound Mary Ellen Anderson (864.223.5275) 1830 Alexander Road W Greenwood, SC 29649

Danny Bearden c/o Khristy Lee 2419 Lafayette Street Winterville, NC 28590

Jean Bedenbaugh Lexington Medical Center Extended Care 815 Old Cherokee Road Lexington, SC 29072

Mary Anna Evans 5800 Old Providence Road Apt 4310 Charlotte, NC 28226

Charlie Helms (704.535.7848) c/o Teena Williams 4600 Crofton Ct. Charlotte, NC 28205

Annell McManus (864.229.1596) 110 Northgate Greenwood, SC 29649

Gary Roper 301 Fairway Lakes Road Greenwood, SC 29649

Jenny Valkenburg (864-223-0987) 119 Creek Road East Greenwood, SC 29646

### MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDEES

Barbara Jean Smith Ed Brown Mary Frances Anderson Tom McLaughlin Dorman Brock Kevin Anderson Jeannie Price

### MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDEES CONT'D

Jim Conley Dodie Conley Rev. and Mrs. Milton and Betty Moss McGuirt

### **MEMBERS' FAMILY**

Mike Bartley
Ken Talley
Nancy Jordan
Tony
Donna Keck
David Burton
Tom West
Our children's school year
Grandmother
Sandy Gray
Shannon Peeler

### **MEMBERS' FRIENDS**

Johnny Vickers
Tegan Fairey
Randy and Denise Dennin
Russel Dautor
Bob Collin
Kathy Bernard
Nancy Kacedan
Russell's daughter
Holly Strickland
Kevin Bright
Tyler Ryan
Sandy Wilkie
Jim Herbert and family
Sandy Wilkie
The family of Kathy Genevie
Walker Family
Alexandra Ashley

### **MILITARY**

Jack Boyd - Army
Dr. JC Elmore - Army
Brycen Fleming - Army
Randall Geddings
Joshua Goff - Marines
Dr. Caity Jarrio—Army
Mackenzie Latham - Air Force
Banner Peksa - Army
Parker White - Army

### **COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Clemson:
Adam Prince, Caleb McLaughlin,
Caroline Addis, Clary Pederson,
Conner Pederson, Dawson
Hudson, Emma Arnold, Jasmine
Creswell, Josh Godwin, Juila
Creswell, Laila Monda, Lexi
Layland, Rebecca Bell,
Savannah Farmer, Taylor Case,
Trevor Brewington, Will
Godwin, Wyatt Prince, and Zach

College of Charleston: Olivia Murray

Robinson

Lander: Caroline Alexander, Caroline Rhodes, Dylan DeLoach, Jeramiah Holmes, Rhianna Philcox, and Ryan Latham.

Mars Hill University: Sarah Ellen Johnson

Midlands Technical College: Parker Boggs and TJ Freeman

Piedmont Technical College: Andrew Tripp, Dylan Gambrell, Evan Boggs, and Savannah Mallon

Presbyterian College: Beatty Murray

The Medical University of South Carolina: Mae Furman

University of Georgia: Haley McLaughlin

University of Kentucky: Julia Goff

University of South Carolina: Caroline Bell, Carter Rhodes, Jordan Mapes, Meg McGovern, Olivia DeTreville, and Sadie McCrea.

University of South Carolina, Sumter: Braeden McDonald

Winthrop: Carlie Pundt

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### Kids' World News

As summer comes to an end and we reflect, we are so thankful for God's blessings. This year we had to say

goodbye to our graduating K-4 class. While we will miss them, we hope and pray that they soar like eagles! This summer was full of laughter and fun! We kicked off the start of our school year on August 14th. Our teachers have so many fun activities planned to help our children grow and learn. Please continue to pray for them as shaping the minds of



children is such a huge responsibility.







### St. Mark gratefully acknowledges the following gifts:

- To The Masters Plan Fund in loving memory of Frances Corley by Gavnell Wade
- To *The Masters Plan Fund* in loving memory of **Fred Teeter** by Wanda Hill, Larry and Susie Barker, American Legion Post 20, Jerry and Claudia Jennings, Fellowship Sunday School Class, Office of Regulatory Staff, Ronnie and Brenda Millender, Eagles Springs UMC, Bob and Mabel Templeton, The Blake Family Oak Tree Neighbors, Dwayne and Jennifer Blaker.
- To The Masters Plan Fund in loving memory of Fred and Barbara Teeter by Ed and Brenda Munnerlyn.
- To *The Masters Plan Fund* in loving memory of **James Evans** by Fred and Elaine Clinkscales, George and Michelle Kennedy, Larry and Adrienne Richardson.
- To The Masters Plan Fund in loving memory of Charles Poore by Chris Poore.
- To The Masters Plan Fund in loving memory of Doris Howard by Bob and Mabel Templeton.
- To The Backpack Meal Fund in loving memory of Joyce Dean Eunice by Janice McMahan.

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### STUDENT MINISTRY WWW.STMARKEPIC.COM



EPIC IS A CHRIST-CENTERED MINISTRY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12. EPIC MEETS FROM 6:30-8:00. ALL YOUTH ARE INVITED! BRING A FRIEND! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT EPIC!

HSX, our High School Extra Bible study, meets after EPIC. 9th-10th Graders are led by Haley McLaughlin in the Attic. 11th-12th graders are led by Julie McLaughlin in the High School Room.









THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING! LOOK FOR SIGN UPS TO SELL COMING SOON TO **WWW.STMARKEPIC.COM** 







September 29th

For details and to sign up, visit www.stmarkepic.com/lockin

## September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Services are: Bypass Campus:8:45 am & 11:00 am Rivers Street Campus: 9:00 am & 11:15 am Coronaca Campus: 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am					1 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:00 Founders Hall in use	<b>2</b> Founders Hall in use all day
3	4 Labor Day Church Office is closed Kids' World is closed 5:30 West Side AA	<b>5</b> 4:30 Stroke Support Group 6:00 Women on My Journey AA	6 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Blend Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 West Side AA 6:30 Girl Scouts	8 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 3:00 Founders Hall in use	9
10 1:00 Founders Hall in use 4:30 KREW - BPC 6:30 EPIC - BPC 8:00 HSX	11 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 11:00 Staff Meeting 5:30 West Side AA	12 4:00 Kids' World Committee meeting 6:00 Parkinson Support Group 6:00 Women on My Journey AA	13 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Blend Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice	14 7:00 Men's Bible Study 9:30 Founders Hall in use 5:30 West Side AA 6:00 SPRC meeting	15 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class	16
17 12:30 Trustee Committee meeting 4:30 KREW 6:30 EPIC 8:00 HSX	18 Information due for the church newsletter 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 West Side AA	19 9:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Women on My Journey AA	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Blend Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 Men's Bible Study 5:30 West Side AA 6:30 Girl Scouts	22 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 7:00 Trivia Night Mixer and Popcorn at Coronaca Campus	23
24 1:00 Worship committee meeting 4:30 KREW 6:30 EPIC 8:00 HSX	25 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 5:30 West Side AA	26 9:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Women on My Journey AA	27 6:30 Men's Bible Study 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 6:30 Blend Band Rehearsal 6:30 Chancel Choir Practice	<b>28</b> 7:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Newsletter labeling in Founders Hall 5:30 West Side AA	29 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 Fit 4 Ever Exercise Class 8:00 EPIC Lock -in begins at RSC	<b>30</b> 7:00 EPIC Lock-in ends at RSC