

OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday & Friday

7:00 pm—Al Anon Meeting (Tues. only)
7:00 pm—AA Meeting

Friday, January 1st

Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 3rd

10:00 am—Worship Service
11:00 am—Sunday School

Wednesday, January 6th

10:00 am—Adult Bible Study
5:45 pm—Fellowship Supper
6:15 pm—St. Mark Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 10th

10:00 am—Worship Service
10:45 am—Church Council Meeting
11:00 am—Sunday School

Wednesday, January 13th

10:00 am—Adult Bible Study
5:45 pm—Fellowship Supper
6:15 pm—St. Mark Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 14th

10:30 am Leila Cofer Circle

Sunday, January 17th

10:00 am—Worship Service
11:00 am—Sunday School

Monday, January 18th

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 20th

10:00 am—Adult Bible Study
5:45 pm—Fellowship Supper
6:15 pm—St. Mark Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 24th

10:00 am—Worship Service
11:00 am—Sunday School

Wednesday, January 27th

10:00 am—Adult Bible Study
5:45 pm—Fellowship Supper
6:15 pm—St. Mark Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 31st

10:00 am—Worship Service
11:00 am—Sunday School

St. Mark United Methodist Church
2367 Washington Road
Augusta, Georgia 30904
Return Service Requested

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THE ST. MARK INFORMER

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OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS

Volume LXXII

January 2021

No. 1

Song of Emmanuel

The cantata performances on December 12 and 13, 2020 were superb! It was truly an Advent blessing to all who heard it. I received comments like “I have never heard anything so wonderful!” and “I know what heaven is going to be like now.” St. Mark United Methodist Church is so blessed to have a choir that is committed to doing things right. This church invests in the music program and it certainly paid dividends. I personally believe hiring a professional orchestra can elevate our performances to a height that is second to none. It was a little challenging having the orchestra literally all over the place, but based on the response from you, I believe it was a success.

What really matters is the effect it had on those that heard it. Rick Busby said he was moved to tears on many occasions during the service. Brett McGuire said he had never heard anything like it in his life. Sargent said there were over 1,000 hits on our social media. That is so wonderful. Other churches opted out of a choir special this year and many didn't have Christmas Eve Service. I believe we did the right thing. I believe our strategy at managing this pandemic has worked.

My prayers and wishes to all are a Happy 2021! We'll learn from 2020 and we will be stronger as a result. Praise be to God for all he has given us!

The Easter Cantata is going to be just as wonderful. Stay tuned.

Dr. Jay B. Aiken

MEETINGS

Church Council will meet briefly on January 10th, immediately following worship to vote on the 2020 budget.



The **Leila Cofer Circle** will meet on Thursday, January 14th, at 10:30 am. All ladies are invited.

MEMORIALS



A donation was made in Memory of **Hilda Davis** by Betty Pond, Dr. Keith & Joanne Taylor, and Adelle Posey.

A donation was made in Memory of **Leanne Lariscy** by Donald & Angela Hortenstine, David Lariscy, Andrea Carey, Fey Clements, Carol Counts, Mary Harbin, Steve Lariscy, and Betty Ley.

A donation was made in Memory of **Charlotte Van Horne** by Olden & Carolyn Ganus, David Lariscy, and Tony & Bert Westbrook.

A donation was made in Memory of **Joseph Pond** by Kenneth & Catherine Varnadore.

A donation was made in Memory of **Grover Hollowell & Lance Gilbreth** by John Hollowell.

A donation was made in Memory of **Betty Lariscy** by David Lariscy.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 18th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



2020 GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving statements for 2020 should be received by the end of the month. Please review your statement and contact the church office if you have any questions or did not receive one by the end of the month.

FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2021

The flower calendar for 2021 has been posted and is ready for reservations. Please review the flower policy below regarding placing flowers in the sanctuary on Sundays.



Policy Relating To Flowers Being Placed In The Sanctuary during worship

Beautiful flowers and live plants in the sanctuary not only help beautify the sanctuary, but also enhance the worship experience. Placing flowers in the sanctuary is a wonderful way to glorify God and to honor or remember a family member, friend, group or occasion.

If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary for a Sunday worship service, please sign up on the flower calendar that is in the hallway across from the Nursery. We ask that only one person or family sign up per Sunday. A notice will be placed in the

bulletin to recognize this wonderful gift. Please contact the church office with the information for the notice a week in advance.

It is the responsibility of the person placing the flowers in the church to arrange for the purchase of the flowers. The flowers must be at the church by 9:30 A.M. on Sunday morning.

If you wish, the flowers may be placed on one or both of the flower stands on each side of the Communion Table. One can use a live blooming plant or cut flowers. Artificial plants are **not** allowed. The flowers should be a minimum of 18" x 18" or a maximum of 30" x 30". These measurements include the container. Flowers cannot be placed on the organ or the piano.

During Advent and at Easter, members of the church will have the opportunity to place potted poinsettias and Easter lilies in the sanctuary. In this case, we ask that you allow the Altar Guild to purchase them, as we would prefer for them to be alike. If you have any questions concerning this policy, please contact the Church Office or the Altar Guild chairperson.

ST. MARK'S WI-FI



You may have noticed while we were closed last week that there was some changes made to our Wi-Fi if you typically use it. In the past our building ran off of many separate routers and now we run consistently from one

router using access points located throughout the building. If you would like to connect to the Wi-Fi network please use the **St Mark Guest** network and the password is faithful.

SUPPER MENUS FOR JANUARY

6TH — Chicken Casserole, Peas, and Tomato Pie

13th — Cheese Stuffed Shells & Salad
20th — Ham, Rice & Gravy, Corn, and Deviled Eggs

27th — Fried Chicken, Pasta Salad, and Green Beans

Bread, Dessert & Beverage are included with all the meals.

GENERAL FUND REPORT as December 31, 2020

Total Received to date for Dec.	\$ 25,988.
Amount Needed Per Week	\$ 8,090.
Rec'd for General Fund YTD	\$420,650.
Amount Needed YTD	\$ 420,680.
YTD Receipts vs. YTD Budget \$	(30)
YTD Receipts vs. YTD Expenses (thru 12 months)	\$ 46,301.

CHURCH STAFF

- Rev. Dr. Sargent Nelson..... Pastor
- Dr. Jay B. Aiken Music Director
- Mrs. Tricia Bowen Church Accompanist
- Mrs. Beth Heath Asst. to Minister of Music
- Mrs. Debbie Richards Nursery Attendant
- Mrs. Christie Glisson.....Church Admin.
- Mr. Kenneth Freeman Sexton