

Wednesday Night Supper @ 5:00 pm in CLC

Volunteers are Needed and All Are Welcome! Please contact Thelma in Church Office to be added to our weekly volunteer schedule.

* Pre-Registration is Encouraged!

Please scan the QR Code to the right to Register for our Wednesday Night Supper:

-\$10 Adult Meals (6 grade & up), - \$7 Child Meals



*In lieu of Family pricing we have introduced a new option to Pre-Purchase for a Semester of Meals at a discount Adults \$120 & Child \$84. Please sign up early to get this special offer! We have excellent weekly menus!

Please consider Pre-Registering for Weds. Night Supper for 2025!

We look forward to seeing you next year!!!

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT: 10/31/2024	Yr. 2024
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$ 1,573,165.00
AMOUNT RECEIVED YTD	\$980,414.00
AMOUNT EXPENDED YTD	-\$ 1,085,505.00
Revenue Over/Under Expense	(\$105,091.00)

St. Mark's Shelby Giving

Please click on the QR code to the right with your smartphone to access the Shelby Giving application on your mobile phone. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mark's UMC. Ministries!



For end of year giving—if mailed, 2024 Contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2024 to count, or you can place contributions in offering plate Sun., Dec. 29 or bring contributions to the office by Tuesday, Dec. 31st at Noon.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
400 Grant's Ferry Road
Brandon, Mississippi 39047

Main Office: (601) 992-2131 Ext. 101

To Email: info@saintmarksum.org

To Request Prayers Email: Prayerrequest@saintmarksum.org

St. Mark's Home Page: www.saintmarksum.org

Facebook: St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Jon Kaufman..... Senior Pastor
 Ryan McGough.....Associate Pastor
 Sandra ThomasPastor for Worship & Music Arts
 Anna McGoughDirector of Children & Family Ministries
 Darlene Baker..... Music Assistant/Pianist
 Jason Boyd..... Music Assistant/Organist
 Thelma Lorentz..... Administrative Assistant

Mark Your Calendars...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:20 am Trad. Worship w/ Lessons & Carols (1)
 (Livestream on St. Mark's FB or Saintmarksum.org)
9:30 am Meet & Greet – Our new Youth Directors (4)
9:30 am Sunday School (1+2+3+4)
10:45 am Trad. Worship with Lessons & Carols (1)
 10:45 am 11th Hour Worship (5) (Greeters)
 (Livestream on St. Mark's FB or Saintmarksum.org)
3:00 pm Admin. Council Meeting (1-Choir Rm.)
 4:30 pm Driven Praise Team Practice (4)
 5:00 pm Handbells (1-Robe Rm)
5:30 pm Tween Night (3-Parlor)
5:30 pm Youth Caroling (bus)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (1-Choir Rm.)
5:00 pm Trendsetters @ Magic of Lights (bus)
 7:00 pm AA (2)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
 Tabitha Circle (will meet off campus)
 6:00 pm Youth Council Meeting (4)
 6:30 pm Ruth Circle (1-Robe Rm)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (1-Robe Rm)
 8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
10:30 am Trendsetters @ New Stage (bus)
6:00 pm Blue Christmas Service (1)
 7:00 pm 11th Hr. Praise Team Practice (5)
 7:00 pm Choir Practice (1)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
 10:00 am Bible Study (1-Robe Rm.)
 10:30 am Serendipity SS Class Christmas Party (3-Parlor)
 7:00 pm AA (2)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
4:30 pm Trendsetters @ Ballet Magnificat (bus)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:20 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
 (Livestream on St. Mark's FB or Saintmarksum.org)
 9:30 am Sunday School (1+2+3+4)
 10:45 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
 10:45 am 11th Hour Worship (5) (Greeters)
 (Livestream on St. Mark's FB page or Saintmarksum.org)
 2:00 pm Luminary Committee Mtg. (1-Robe Rm)
 4:30 pm Driven Praise Team Practice (4)
 5:00 pm Handbells (1-Robe Rm)



Lights of Love Mission donation forms can be found in church office, drive-thru entrance & CLC

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY, DEC. 15
 Zephaniah 3:14-20
 Isaiah 12:2-6
 Luke 3:7-18
 Philippians 4:4-7

MONDAY, DEC. 16

Isaiah 11:1-9
 Numbers 16:1-19
 Hebrews 13:7-17

TUES., DEC. 17

Numbers 16:20-35
 Acts 28:23-31

WEDS., DEC. 18

Micah 4:8-13
 Luke 7:31-35

THURS., DEC. 19

Psalms 80:1-7;
 Jeremiah 31:31-34;
 Hebrews 10:10-18

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

Isaiah 42:10-18;
 Hebrews 10:32-39

SAT, DEC. 21

Isaiah 66:7-11;
 Luke 13:31-35

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

Micah 5:2-5;
 Hebrews 10:5-10;
 Luke 1:39-55

KEY:

- 1 – Sanctuary building
- 2 – Wesley – adult education
- 3 – Asbury – children's education
- 4 – SWH – youth building
- 5 – CLC – Christian Life Center

Saint Mark's

United Methodist Church

www.saintmarksum.org

Third Sunday of Advent
 December 15, 2024

+Please stand if you are comfortable doing so

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Acknowledging the Light of Christ in our midst

+Introit and Opening Hymn Choir & Congregation
O Come, All Ye Faithful from "Christmas Canticles"

Lighting of the Advent Candle 8:20 am Budd Family
10:45 am Dumas Family

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

+Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* # 94

"Christmas Canticles" by Benjamin Britten
 Presented by The Sanctuary Choir and a String Trio
 Daniel Jones, Leslie Wood, Emily Baker

Joey Hibbert and Betty Wheat, narrators

Suite 1: The Announcement

Suite 2: The Promised Coming
 Darlene Baker, solo

Suite 3: The Child in the Manger

Suite 4: The Light of Christ

+Closing Hymn *There's a Song in the Air* # 249

+Benediction

Holy Communion immediately follows 8:20 service, except on first Sundays.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. If you wish to unite with our church family today, please come forward during the singing of the last hymn; or you may speak with one of the ministers following the benediction.

Nursery is available ages up to and including two (2) years of age.

Prayer Concerns...

In Sympathy to Family & Friends of:

Jane Becker, on her passing, Weds., Dec. 4th, former member of St. Mark's "One In Spirit" SS Class before moving to North Carolina.
Shanna Case Lee, on her passing, Nov. 29th (Twin Sister of Shane Case)

Members Needing Prayers:

Sandra McGee	Glenn Thomas	Bill & Lanelle W	Pat & Gerald White
Carolyn Phillips	Dave Thompson	Weems	Cindy Wilkens
		Lanelle Weems	Johnnie Yakstis

Family & Friends --- June – Dec. 2024:

Anthony (Darlene Baker)	Julie Hebert (Michael & Jo Hebert)
Dorothy Ashby (Clyde Payne)	Donna Hill (Sandra McGee)
Sally Beam (Alicia Beam & Beth)	Carolyn Hughes (David Thompson)
Denise Bigoney (Gary & Nancy Ladd)	Jerry Kirkland (Lois Minchew)
David Brewer (Arlene Pettus)	Nate & Sondra Kraak (Tonda Riley)
Allen Brown (David Allard)	Janet Lawing (Jo Hebert)
Larry & Margie Case (Lynette Conklin)	David Leach (Lance Wilson)
Baby Rainer Clark (Karen Reed)	Haley & Jessica McIngvale (Jane Mapp)
Elizabeth Cloud (Arlene Pettus)	Shani Meck (Mike & Linda Kennedy)
Zach Cooley (Gary & Nancy Ladd)	Josef Pettus (Arlene Pettus)
Kristen Cox (Beth Cox)	Tommie Pittman (Hewitt & Ann Pittman)
Debbie Fesmire (MaryBeth Fesmire)	Ana Maria Price (Mayita Price)
Ashley Freeman (Ann Pittman)	Alaina Reed & Family (Karen Reed)
Bryanna Frisbee (Beth Cox)	Sabrina Roberts (Ann Pittman)
Mrs. Fomby (Sandra Haskett)	Stanley Salter (Ryan McGough)
Cecil Givens (Misty Simmons)	Mally & Ian Seale (Katie & Blair Baker)
Beth Haggerty (Beth Griffith)	Sara M. Smith & Martha J. Smith (Martha Toombs)
Beth Hall (Karen Reed)	Kate (Zachow) Stina (Chris & Steve Zachow)

Long Term Prayers:

Carole Bell	Joanne Humphries	June Miracle
Tinker Colwell	Jerry Klomprens	Jonnie Norton
Bernie Drowne	Sara Meeks	Janette Thomas
Camille Dumas	Joel Melton	Linda Thomas
Barbara Glasscock	Dixie Miller	Frances Upchurch
Martha Gower		Mike & Connie Weaver

Mally & Ian (Katie Baker)	Tanya Lofton (Megan Howe)
Amanda Hearn Biek (Karen Williams)	Larry Marquez (Karen Reed)
Hunter Burkhalter (Amanda Doby)	Marie Nichols (Gwen Robertson)
Larry Case (Lyn Smith)	Jennifer McBeth Payne (Sharon Womack)
Danielle (Susan Weatherholt)	Garner Peacock
Gina McGraw Duffy (Vicki Phillips)	Tommy Pittman (Hewitt Pittman)
Leon Elzey (Sandra Bates)	Kerri Puckett (Cindy & Tim Puckett)
Victoria Farr (Carolyn Farr)	Russ Robbins (Beth Robbins)
Davis Fox (Kathy Roberts)	Jeannette Rodriguez (Vicky & Kim Rohr)
Russell Gaines (Linda Jennings)	Luke Shappley & Family (Sara & Rodney Meeks)
Ruby Galmore (Beverly McClure)	Emily Grace Shields (Becka & Richard Shields)
Renea Griffith (Russ & Beth Griffith)	Will & Marti Sorey (Dennis O'Neal)
Jason Heins (Linda Breedlove)	Lovie Thomas (Cynthia Morgan)
Luanne Hitzelberger (Chris Zachow)	Leslie Toombs (Robby Toombs)
Donna Hill (Sandra & Mac McGee)	Temple Tynnbaris (Clarene Reynolds)
James Walker Hodge (Charlinda Hall)	Mimi Watts (Melissa Bolland)
Don Jacks (Cyndi Morgan)	Lane West (Betty Wheat)
Bud Lambert (Suzan Watson)	Hubert & Vicki Wright (Linda Finley)
Gale Landry (Vicky & Kim Rohr)	

Serving our Country:

Jason Attaway, Ethan Avent, Cameron Barr, Justin Cox, Leon Davis, Noah Duncan, Jay Ellzey, Cody Howrigan, John Kibble, Boston Little, Cooper Little, Drew Little, Nathan Muirhead, Donna Phillips, Frank Porter, Casey Powell, Joshua Schmitz, Mark Sills, Eric Spellman, Brad Suggs, TJ Riley.

Upcoming Events, Mission & Volunteer Opportunities...

Sunday, Dec. 15th Traditional Service of Lessons & Carols
"Christmas Canticles" Sanctuary Choir & String Trio at 8:20 & 10:45 am

Wednesday, Dec. 18th "Blue Christmas" at 6 pm in Sanctuary
A service of healing and hope during the holidays



Christmas Eve Services ~ Tuesday, Dec. 24th

We are offering two services in St. Mark's Sanctuary to allow for all people to come and enjoy a special time of celebration Christmas Eve.

4:30 PM Candlelight Service with Children's Message

6:00 PM Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday, Dec. 29th at 8:20 & 10:45 am Traditional Service

Christmas Memories...The service will focus on Christmas memories - If you have family pictures from the present or past that you would like to share, please scan and email to the church. (whatever email you prefer to send to Thelma). We will prepare a video of pictures to present during worship on December 29. Make this a casual after Christmas worship experience. Be comfortable, wear your slippers, bring a blanket and come prepared to make new Christmas memories together. **We need the pictures by Dec. 15 in order to have time to put the presentation together.**

Coat Drive 2024 New or Gently Used: Child & Adult Coats & Jackets
 Please bring donations to St. Mark's UMC office now to end of the year.
 Questions: Contact Karen Reed at 601-940-4022

Trendsetter Opportunities - for anyone 50+

Join our St. Mark's UMC Senior Adults! ...

Mon. Dec. 16 – "Magic of Lights" drive-thru lights at Brandon Amphitheatre (5pm - 8pm); Hot cocoa, coffee or ice cream after!

Million Dollar Quartet Christmas - Weds., Dec. 18 Lunch at Eslavas then show at New Stage. Leave church at 10:30 am for lunch then on to the show at 1:00 Back by 4pm. Cost is \$50 for ticket and bus. Lunch on your own.

Fri. Dec. 20 – Ballet Magnificat "Light Has Come" Performance (4:30 pm – 9:30 pm); contact Sandra Thomas for details.

Fri., Dec. 27 Mannheim Steamroller "Christmas" Performance at Mississippi Coliseum (5:30 pm – 10 pm); contact Sandra Thomas for details.

For further opportunities & a complete list contact or stop by the church office... Sign Up in Church Office: Contact Rev. Sandra Thomas or call Church Office for more details regarding Trendsetter & trip opportunities! 601-992-2131 or email Sandra@saintmarksum.org

St. Mark's Youth Ministry...

DRIVEN Youth

For all students in 6th-12th grades



*****Note: We need adults for each of these events to make them possible.**

Sunday School (Rush Hour) every Sunday @ 9:30 am in SWH
MS Guys/Gals & HS Bible studies!

MERGE - Sunday - Join us (5:30 – 7:30 pm) in the Youth Building (SWH 100). Dinner is provided! Please plan to join us for a special MERGE tonight...

Sunday, December 15th will be Soup and Singing where we go to various group homes to sing Christmas Carols for our church members and others.

FUEL – Wednesday Nights (6 pm – 7 pm) in the Youth Building (SWH 100).

Winter Youth Retreat is set & it is going to be AMAZING! This retreat is open to all Youth (6th to 12th grade) and Tweens (3rd to 5th grade). Anna McGough has put this together so you know it will be great. **A signup will be up soon.** Cost for Youth will be \$170 per student. (It costs a little more for the Youth because there is one more activity for them than the Tweens.) Scholarship funds can be used for the retreat cost. **If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Anna at anna@saintmarksum.org.**

Summer Camp plans. Our Youth will be going to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina on July 3rd through July 6th for the M28 Summer Camp. We have already had some adults express interest in chaperoning but if you are interested, please let us know. Registration is required. **Contact: Ashley May for details and to Sign Up!**

Children & Family Ministries...

Sunday, December 15, 2024

All activities are for PreK through 5th Grade

Acolytes @ Traditional & 11th Hr. Services &

Sunday School @ 9:30 AM (3 - A102/A104)

Children's Church (Does not meet on Communion Sundays.)



[Wednesday Night Supper & Bible Studies.](#)

[You can sign up to eat here](#) and even prepay if you would like for the meal or the semester.

December 15 - Tween Nite - Asbury Hall - 5:30 - 7:30 PM

December 22 - Kids Christmas Nativity Play - CLC - 9:30 AM (during the Sunday School Hour)

JANUARY - WINTER RETREAT SIGN UPS:

This retreat is open to all Youth (6th to 12th grade) and Tweens (3rd to 5th grade). reach out to Anna McGough, anna@saintmarksum.org

Please Contact **Anna McGough** for all Sign Ups at: 601-992-2131 (Ext.109)
 Or email Anna@saintmarksum.org for more info.