



# St. Mark's United Methodist Church

1110 N. Metcalf Street

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2019

Dear friends,

Previously I mentioned that in 2019 we will be talking a lot about prayer and how we can begin moving forward to becoming known as a praying church.

One of the consistent themes in the New Testament's teaching about prayer is that we can be assured that God will hear and respond to our prayers. The apostle John points to this when he says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (1 John 5:14 NIV). This is a wonderful message! It tells us that God knows our needs, and that God absolutely expects us to bring our needs to him through prayer.

An easy way to practice prayer is to follow the acronym "ACTS." It stands for Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication.

A prayer of **Adoration** is a prayer that praises God's goodness and majesty. In the Bible, we find prayers of adoration in the Psalms. For instance, Psalm 111:1-4:

*Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.*

A prayer of **Confession** is a searching prayer of the heart. When we confess, we bare our souls before God about our sins and shortcomings. Since all sin is sin against God, we are called to confess our sins to God. A key part of the good news of Jesus is that repentance can bring forgiveness and new life. Indeed, the Bible assures us that sincere confession before God will be met with forgiveness. We see this in 1 John 1:9 which says, "If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us



from all unrighteousness” (NRSV). So prayers of confession ought to be a regular part of our spiritual lives, as we become transformed into the people God would have us be.

A prayer of **Thanksgiving** is a prayer that recognizes the good things God gives us and offers thanks for them: our lives, our health, our families, and our faith. The apostle Paul told us, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thess. 5:16–18 NRSV). A part of what it means to live faithfully is to live out of a deep sense of gratitude for all that God has done for us. Prayers of thanksgiving help us to do that.

A prayer of **Supplication** is a prayer that lifts up requests before God. Supplications are often divided between those requests we make for ourselves and those requests we make on behalf of other people. We can turn again to the apostle Paul, who told us in Philippians, “Do not worry about anything, but with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (v. 4:6 NRSV). It is natural for us to ask God for the desires of our hearts, and we can be assured that God will answer our prayers. So, we feel the need to offer prayers on behalf of our family and friends, as well as those whose needs we know even if we do not know them personally. God does answer prayer, even if His answers to prayer are not always the answers we want Him to give!

Following the ACTS model of prayer is just one of several types of prayer we find in the Bible. In the months ahead we will explore other models of prayer. In the meantime please join me in praying the ACTS.

Blessings,

*Pastor Ted*



# WInGS



The ladies of Samaritan House would like to thank everyone at St. Mark's that donated to the needs of the women that reside at the Samaritan House. Alma said that we donated:

62 rolls of TP,  
2 jumbo laundry soap,  
7 cans of disinfectant spray,  
120 gallon zip lock bags,  
74 quart zip lock bags,  
11 large in wash odor defense,  
2 large Downy softener, and  
100 count gloves.

On behalf of the Salvation Army, please accept our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your participation in the Allen County Church Aid (ACCA) and your donation of \$795.00 to help those in need right here in Lima and Allen County.

We could not accomplish this mission without the caring support of the local church. Please know that we are an extension of you. As we reach out to others, you are reaching out to others through your gift.

Sincerely,

Carolee Austin

Bookkeeper/Receptionist



"Souper" Bowl Sunday will be February 3rd, 2019. Sign up in the hallway just outside the office if you would like to bring your favorite soup. And then everyone is welcome to stay after worship to fellowship and taste one or more of the homemade soups.

## December Photos



New Church Members



Christmas Tree Festival



Decorating for Advent



St. Mark's Christmas Party



Christmas Eve Service



## Emmaus/Chrysalis

Women's Walk  
February 7th @6:00 pm through  
February 10th @ 5:00 pm

Men's Walk  
March 14th @ 6:00 pm through  
March 17th @ 5:00 pm

## Gathering

The next monthly Emmaus Gathering  
will be Tuesday, February 19th  
from 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
St. Mark's UMC in Findlay  
800 S. Main St.



The Visitation Team is looking for another one or two people that would like to visit the shut-ins. We visit them as often as possible, would be able to visit more often if we had a larger group that would visit. If interested or if you have any questions let Nora or Pastor Ted know.

A note regarding Pete Martin from Mike:

I just wanted to give an update on my dad. In April 2018 we moved him to a memory care unit in Columbus, about one mile from my sister, Lori. He is doing as well as one would expect, within continued decline in his mental capabilities. Physically he is slowing down a bit, occasionally uses a walker. He is safe, well cared for and due to his location able to see family more frequently. Lisa lives in Marysville. The rest of us visit him as much as we can. Here is an address for anyone that would like to send a card.

Danbury Senior Living Columbus  
2870 Snouffer Rd. Apt 153  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

**Valentine's Day**, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, originated as a church holiday on February 14th to honor martyrs of the faith - saints whose names were Valentine or Valentinus. It is believed that the first heart valentine note was sent by a Valentine who was in prison for a girl he loved. Valentine notes have been recorded for as far back as the Middle ages. While the meaning and celebrations of Valentine's Day has changed, it has remained as a special day to shower with love those we hold close.

Valentine's Day can create a variety of emotions for different people. For some it creates great satisfaction celebrating the love you have between you, your spouse, and your friends & family. For others it can cause feelings of loneliness. Whether you are single or in a relationship, let these Bible verses encourage you to celebrate, for God has unconditional and indescribable love for us. No matter your age or stage in life, Valentine's Day can be celebrated because of God's great love.

1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love, does not know God, because God is Love.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Colossians 3:14 And over all these virtues put on love which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Genesis 29:20 So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends

Psalm 37:4 Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.

For 100 Years We have Been Making  
Disciples of Jesus Christ for the  
Transformation of the World

**1919-2019**



St. Mark's  
United Methodist  
Church

We need your help!! This is the year of St. Mark's 100th anniversary. If you know of photos or stories that could be used during this year long celebration, please send them to the office. We will scan them and return to you. Each month we will focus on one item of St. Mark's history. Such as sports, music, Easter, youth, Sunday School, VBS, Women's groups, Fall activities, and Christmas. If you have photos from other holidays we could use them also.

If you could write a small article regarding ...I Remember When.... We will use in the newsletter during the year and maybe during Sunday services.

# Resource Center News

## Resource Center

### Newsletter

2019 has started out busy for the Resource Center. We are averaging 25 people a day in the food pantry. With the recent government shut down we are anticipating a greater need in our area. Clients were issued their SNAP benefits early and are not guaranteed anymore benefits until the government is up and running again. The West Ohio Food Bank has been diligent in keeping us informed of the impact the government shutdown may have. Most of the food we purchase through the West Ohio Food Bank comes from USDA. USDA has informed them that after January 31<sup>st</sup> they will no longer receive the funding to operate the food bank. This issue becomes two-fold for the Resource Center. We are anticipating a greater client need, the West Ohio Food Bank is not guaranteeing USDA food, and the Department of Job and Family Services will suspend our workers after February if the benefits for March are not released. We are asking that you say an extra prayer for the stability of the Resource Center.

On a happier note the All in Community re-entry Ministry is starting a program called Hope Letters. The purpose of HOPE Letters is to give hope through regular correspondence to men and women who are incarcerated. We agree to send two letters or cards each month for six months. Our letters offer encouragement, non-judgmental relationship, faith sharing, and mentoring. We will be having an informational meeting on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the lounge. We hope to see you there.

Women's Emmaus is February 7<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Jessie Roark will be sponsoring Tracey Howard.

The Northside Neighborhood Association meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7pm at St. Mark's UMC.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Northwest Plains District Leadership Day.

Food Pantry item of the month is household items such as toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, etc.



### Pop cans for Resource Center



### Eye glasses for the Lion's Club

### Chief receipts for Resource Center



Reminder... Please let the church know should you be admitted to the hospital or are having surgery. The hospitals no longer call without you saying you want the church or pastor called.



#### Birthdays

##### January

2 -Diane Bailey	7 - Elaine Joubert
9 -Laurie Zickfoose	16 - Barbara Coffey
18 -LaDonna Kindle	19- Marian Bowerman
25 -Lloyd DeWitt	27 - John D. Keller

Sorry we missed the January birthdays and anniversaries

##### February

1 - Ed Klingler	5 – Robert Howard
8 - Pamela Oden Whitlock	14 - Charles Ansley
15 - Brittany Koza	15 - Sarah Koza
17 - Dave Kuhlman	20 - Carol Ward
21 -Jessie Roark	23 - Nancy Berney
25 - Barbara Duval	



#### Anniversaries

##### January

26 – Dave & Marsha Smith

##### February

1 - David & Donette Roosenberg  
14 - Mike & Pat Ireland



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