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Dear Parish Family:

**WE'VE BEEN LAUNCHED TO A NEW LEVEL OF BEING CHURCH**

Kathleen and I have worked full time for the church literally since we were first married in 1998.

In our 21 years of ministry in Michigan, North Carolina, and Georgia, we have seen miracles and been in awe of the work God has done in the hearts of His people, **but we've never seen anything like this.**

In every church where we've been blessed to serve, there have been faithful "pockets" of saints who carried the church through good times and struggle, **but we've never experienced what would happen if all the pockets were connected.**

It seems (perhaps you can feel it too) that the pockets have connected with each other and we've been **launched** to some new level of being church.



Just today (All Saints Day at the Healing service) we sung a hymn from page 93 of the Book of Common Prayer which echoes Revelation in trumpeting this sentiment: "**A Kingdom of priests to serve our God.**" Everyone in the priesthood of all believers seeking to know Christ and make Him known. Young and old. Rich and poor. White and brown. Democrat and Republican, "from every language, people, and nation, a Kingdom of priests to serve our God."

With each step we hiked last week because of the gift you presented to our family, we gave thanks to God for the wonderful honor and privilege it is to be in ministry with you for the last 10 years. The cabin in Blowing Rock and the gifts that made the journey possible were a blessing beyond words but indicative of a Kingdom of Priests to Serve our God. **THANK YOU!** See the attached picture taken before Harrison arrived.

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Further, we hope to have at least 3 bids to re-paint the exterior of the church by next week so that the vestry can make the right decision about painting our beautiful church. Some have wondered, since the exterior wash, whether we need to repaint at all? It really looks beautiful since being low pressure washed last month. (See the attached picture which shows the new roof systems) The short answer is "Likely Yes" because the re-paint has much to do with sealing from water intrusion as it does cosmetics. However, Mike Parrish and the maintenance team are intently focused on making sure every nickel raised from the capital campaign is spent wisely because **In YEAR 1 of 3, we are closing in on being 1/2 way funded for the total campaign.** The roof is completed, the painting slated, and debt retirement is coming well into focus as we aim for a strong 2nd year of our campaign.



Even further, we are almost finished with the 2o2o Stewardship Campaign "build your house on the rock" and it is already a record year for St. Mark's. Rogelio, Jonathan, Ava, Dan, and I have been joined by the rest of our vestry in writing thank you notes to all who have participated so far and we have been BLOWN away at the amazing response from Lions just like you. As of today (and we are still finalizing this week's response):

**117 total individuals and/or families committed to the 2o2o mission and ministry of St. Mark's or 97.50% of a goal of 150. \$434,721.00 in total financial commitments to the 2o2o mission and ministry of St. Mark's or 96.60% of a goal of \$450,000.00**

There are still approximately 24 families/individuals from 2019 who have not yet responded but we are working actively with the team and vestry to ensure that EVERY LION IS COUNTED AND VITAL.

This is what happens when everyone claims their priesthood. This is what happens when every lion matters. This is what happens when the whole becomes greater than the sum of its parts, the pockets of faithful saints connect, and we are launched into a new level of being the church.



**"And so, to Him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb. Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor. Forever and forever more."** How cool and ironic that this song from the Book of Common Prayer echoing the Revelation to John and in The Protestant Reformation is titled, "A Song to the Lamb"?

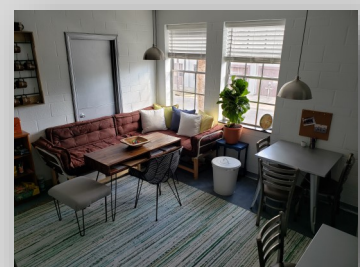
All of this is a song to Him sung by YOU his priests. And it is marvelous in our sight. Recent reception picture attached following worship.



# EY CROX Youth News



Pictures can say a thousand words...and the only words we have besides the pictures...are 'thank you'. Thank you to those who have made it a part of their ministry to support ours. From our EYC Youth Group to YOU...thank you for the 'new' space. If you have not had a chance to see the Youth Room lately...stop by & check it out...we now have 'wi-fi', a smart TV and plenty of space for hanging out, studying and planning our next EYC event! Study hall is every Thursday from 3.30-5.30 & snacks are provided.



# EYCROX *Month News con't.*

## Advent Kick-off Event for EYCroX

Saturday, November 30th—after the Wreath-making event and shared meal...we will re-group at the Redanz home for our annual bon-fire...

...bring your musical talents, a bag chair and a gift (no more than \$10). Gift-game will be announced at the event to keep it real.

Please rsvp via the 'Group Me' app—hope you can make it!



## BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Prayer, Study & Service

### Morningstar Prayer Ministry Kick-Off: November 21<sup>st</sup>

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will be kicking-off its Morningstar Prayer Ministry at our General Meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Brothers will be volunteering to pray for an individual child at Morningstar on a daily, continuing basis. Only the child's first name will be used and each person who volunteers to pray for a child will be provided with a short, daily prayer card. Questions, please contact **Baxter Pepper @ 412-491-5989**.



### Work ½ Day @ Honey Creek: Saturday; Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>

The Brotherhood is facilitating a ½ Work Day at Honey Creek on Saturday: November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00am-Noon. If you have basic yard clean-up skills, you are already qualified to participate and help out the conference center!!! Further details are developing. If you are interested in participating in this fun filled 1/2 day call or text Bill Turner @813-503-9027.



The next General Meeting of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in the Parish Hall @ 6:00pm.

We'll have a quick dinner, a brief business meeting, a short worship service and conclude with a study session regarding the Psalms facilitated by Gareth Allcott. ALL MEN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED!!!

Have an Abundant Month!!!



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN . . .

November 2019

### Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King from the Diocese of Georgia meet twice a year and recently met at Honey Creek. Diocesan Assembly President Suzanne Harrow presided at the retreat and Rev. Amy Bradley presented the program and celebrated the Eucharist.

The theme for the weekend was welcoming young God bearers into our communities just as Elisabeth welcomed Mary. Our understanding of community grounded in prayer and bound by Christ's love provide a much-needed alternative to the "unfollow" culture that has become so pervasive in our society today. The Daughters have chosen to emphasize fostering community and building connections as one of our goals.



At our October meeting Julia Garret spoke to us about faithful Love, a program she is involved with that provides help rescuing women from sex trafficking and providing hope.

Judy Lyons

### Giving Garden News



The Saint Marks Giving Garden is off to a great start with fall crops coming on strong! We have carrots and cucumbers, planted by our precious preschoolers, as well as broccoli, squash, cauliflower, onions, potatoes, cabbages, and collards! And, to our delight, 250 new baby compost worms have arrived safely to take up residence in our raised beds! We welcomed these newborns this week and plan to raise them to be healthy, happy adults! St. Marks' Preschool recently planted carrots. The small lime tree produced 19 limes. Next week our first crop of sweet potatoes planted last May will be harvested. The coffee grounds from Mixon Hall were used in our two compost bins which "cooked" well. They produced plenty to use on all our fall vegetable plantings. The new hardy kiwi vines have reached the top of the pergola and will go dormant for the winter. Thanks be to God for His blessings!

**GARDEN NEED:** Anyone have an old baby scale or postage meter gathering dust in your attic? We need one to weigh our vegetables, please. Happy fall y'all!

The Garden Ladies

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### **St. Agnes Guild**

St. Agnes Guild had their monthly meeting on Thursday, 17th of October in Mixon Hall at 3 pm. After opening with prayer about a friend is a gift from God, we discussed various action items. It was the group decision to continue taking plastic container or individual bag of various items to the International Seafarers' Center for their Christmas at Sea Project. We also discussed what each would bring to St Agnes Guild fellowship hour Sunday, November 17th. After a Christian program, the meeting closed with holding hands and saying the Lord's Prayer.

Ruth Kent

### **United Thank Offering**

Thank you for your support of the Fall Ingathering of the United Thank Offering. While the amount given (and it's not too late to give) is not as significant as the hands that offer thankful coins and the hearts that are so thankful for God's blessings, we are reminded to "give thanks in all things". You can pick up a blue box from the Narthex, place it where you can see it every day and then discover the joy of daily remembrances of God's blessings.



Judy Lyons

### **St. Margaret's Guild**

Several members helped with Manna House lunch on October 30<sup>th</sup>, and decorated Mixon Hall for the ECW&M Luncheon in late September. We are also planning to host the Mixon Hour on November 10.

Trisha Perry

### **St. Mary's Guild**

Seventeen St. Mary's Guild members presented guild aprons to our two newest members and greeted one guest and then had a great time serving BBQ Dinner to the residents of St. Mark's Towers on October 15th. At our brief meeting afterwards, we discussed ideas for making Christmas bags for International Seafarers and Christmas craft ideas for the St. Mark's Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 7th. Our guild will host the 10:15 reception on Sunday November 3rd.

Debby Stubbs



ECW&M enjoyed a delicious lunch and great fellowship on September 28. Thanks to all who joined us and learned about our ministries at hello Goodbuy, Morningstar, Backpacks for Burroughs Molette, and with the altar flowers after services.



A D V E N T



## Advent Wreath-Making Event

This year we are planning an afternoon event to prepare for the Advent season. You are invited to make your own Advent wreath for your home. Join us in the parish house on November 30th from 2-5pm as we make Advent Wreath's together. This event is a free event and all supplies will be provided (containers, greens, candles, etc.). Please bring your own garden clippers. Will share a meal from 5-6pm, after making wreaths. Please bring a hot or cold covered dish to share—ovens & hot plates will be available. This event is sponsored by the Children's & Youth Ministry, please call Lynne or Shirley if you have any questions.

## Advent Wreath Sale

This year our EYC youth group will be selling Advent Wreaths. Our beautiful Hand-made Wreath's featuring pine, cedar & holly will be available for pick-up on Sunday, Dec. 1st in the Parish Hall and all sales benefit the projects and events of the EYCrox Youth Group. The Pre-sales event starts on Nov. 3rd through Nov. 17th before & after the 10.15am service. If you are interested in purchasing a wreath, but not able to get to St. Mark's at those times, please send a check into the church office and in the notes section write 'Advent Wreath order'. We will set aside a wreath for you. If you need your wreath delivered, we have a Wreath Delivery Service. There is no charge for delivery, but please include a note that you will need the wreath delivered and note the address so we can make your delivery. If you would like to 'gift a wreath' to a friend, please let us know & we can help you with that as well. We offer a full service Advent Wreath Sale Experience, the only thing we can't do is water your wreath :)

## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**'making Christmas a little brighter for others' \***

FOOD · FUN · FELLOWSHIP · CHILDREN'S CRAFT TABLE · SANTA

**Saturday, December 7th from 9am until 4pm**



Don't miss the *White 'Elfant'* Sale or the *Scrumptious Christmas Sweet Shoppe*. Get a jump on your holiday Baking as we offer an impressive variety of Homemade Cakes, Cookies, Sweet Breads, Candies and other sweet treats. We will offer a *'Best Christmas Making Wreath Contest'*. Create a wreath to win a \$50 cash prize!!

Vendor Fee: \$25 per table; please contact the church office for a table reservation form or e-mail [georgeanne@honeycreek.org](mailto:georgeanne@honeycreek.org). . **\*Any donations received towards this event will be used to make this Season 'the Best Time of the Year' for our local families in need.**



## hello, Goodbuy - The Monthly Scoop

***"Let us not Love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" 1 John 3:18***

The Cycle of Giving continued on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Gary Jackson, who led a moving testament of God's work through the hello, Goodbuy Outreach Ministry and all of the organizations receiving funds who continue that work out in our Community.

12 Organizations Received a total of **\$37,220**: Brunswick Chapter of Links, Inc, Hospice of the Golden Isles, Heather House of Glynn, Rebuilding Together, Faithworks – The Well, Habitat for Humanity, The Remedy Project, Foster Love Ministries, Goodyear Elementary, Newpoint Partnership, Inc, Hope1312 Collective, and Children in Action Sports

### **BRINGING OUR TOTAL GIVE BACK TO +\$930,000!!**

Be sure to check out the Photo Album on our Facebook Page to see details on what each group plans to do with their funds. The next round of applications are due on November 15<sup>th</sup> for local Charities & Community Organizations in Glynn Co.



We are currently looking for 2 very special people to become a part of our family! Please Check in to see if these opportunities are still available!

- 1) **Part-time Cashier:** Qualifications include familiar with working a cash register, excellent customer service, friendly & welcoming attitude, good work ethic, willing to work Holidays and weekends, trustworthy, pass a background check
- 2) **Pick-up/Processing Clerk:** able to lift heavy furniture; flexible schedule, good work ethic, friendly, comfortable in driving a box truck, pass background check. This position is mainly helping us pick up furniture/items at people's homes

Please send resume to [hellogoodbuy@saintmarksepisopal.com](mailto:hellogoodbuy@saintmarksepisopal.com) or stop by store to fill out application. Any questions, call 264-8181 and ask for Barbara.

**Stop by the store @ 1523 Glynn Ave on the Corner of Gloucester & Hwy 17 OR  
Call us at (912) 264-8181**

**ANSWER YOUR CALL TO SERVE TODAY**

**\*\*Remember to Like, Follow, and Share our posts on Facebook & Instagram\*\***



### **SUPPORT THE ST. MARK'S CHILDRENS MINISTRY**

The children will be selling advent calendars before the 10:15 service each Sunday before Advent. These sales benefit the children's ministry! Yay kids! Thank you for your support!

## 2019 Vestry

Sr. Warden – Dan Burr	435-559-0222	burr@d@mountainwest.net
Jr. Warden – Mike Parrish	404-805-3450	mikeparrish@comcast.net
Ava Bokker	479-903-4984	Avabokker1@gmail.com
Rosalind Crowder	980-721-4113	rcwbds@yahoo.com
Owen Dorsey	404-668-4880	oed@oedorsey.com
Clerk - Julia Gerrett	912-242-2044	juliagerrett46@gmail.com
Edith Gross	704-466-6633	millstonecabin@gmail.com
Jonathan Havens	912-230-7346	jonathan@h2ocreativegroup.com
Rogelio Quintinar	912-223-5391	Rogelioq@gmail.com
Baxter Peffer	412-491-5989	baxterpeffer@gmail.com
Jessica Snyder	404-457-6609	Jessica@coastalmellow.com
Brooks Thompson	912-223-9124	Brooksthompson86@outlook.com
Rev. Alan Akridge	912-222-8746	<a href="mailto:aakridge@saintmarksepisopal.com">aakridge@saintmarksepisopal.com</a> Rector
Wallace Harrell		Chancellor of the Vestry
Joel Arline		Parish Treasurer



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY!

Charlotte Mullikin	1	Ron Adams	9	Beverly Dembowczyk	18
Heaven Bryan	1	Linda Mahoney	10	Albert Schlander	19
Carole Nolan	2	Hugh Breslin	12	Mark Conway	22
Susan Van Brunt	3	Gareth Allcott	12	Joan Roberson	23
Elliott Youngner	4	Elisabeth Jones	14	Ginger Hodges	23
Mary Helen Branch	4	Stephen Lyons	14	Cherry Chambers	25
Barbara Ekberg	5	Alden Gaines	14	Lauren McGill	26
Kristin West	5	Owen Swaney	14	Edith Gross	28
Myra Braswell	6	Faith Joyce	15	Sherry Youngner	29
Bob McGuire	7	Mary Butin	17	Cathy Swaney	29
Marion Nelson	8	Molly McIlvaine	17	Luke West	30
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Kel & Erin Quartman	18	Pat & Carole Nolan	22		
John & Edith Gross	20	Ed & Bobbi Williams	23		
Ralph & Beverly Dembowczyk	21	Dustin & Erica Cathey	24		
		Hugo & Mary Anne Briseno	29		