

MARK TIMES NEWS & NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2023

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Monday 11/20: 11:00AM Jim Jolley funeral service at Renner-Belleville
2:30PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor

Thursday 11/23: 9:00AM St. George's Thanksgiving Service - chapel

Friday 11/24: *Office closed*

2024 Budget Presentation TODAY

Today during the **Adult Forum hour**, we will hold a presentation regarding the **2024 Church Spending Guide/Budget that will be voted on at the Annual Congregation Meeting** on Sunday, December 3. This is to both answer questions and make tweaks to the budget so it can be approved at the Church Council meeting on November 27. Please plan to attend so that budget questions can be kept to a minimum at the Annual Meeting, thus keeping it shorter and more efficient.

Pumpkin Palooza TODAY!

It's the '**Great Pumpkin**' Palooza TODAY Sunday, November 19! Our **bake sale** is between and after all three services and the proceeds **benefit our combined Food Pantry**. **Bake, shop and join the fun** for a very important ministry – and satisfy your sweet tooth in the process!



Pastor at Continuing Education

Pastor Brian is out of town **through Sunday, November 19** to attend the Bible & Archaeology Fest in San Antonio. In case of emergency, please contact **Fr. Mark Ohlemeier** of St. George's at **785-220-5528**.

We welcome **Pastor S. Blake Duncan** as our guest presider and preacher!



Choir Notes

The chancel choir is already rehearsing for Advent and Christmas and we'd love to have you singing with us! **We especially need ladies**, and the only requirement is that you can *more or less* carry a tune. A solo voice is not necessary.

Also **we could use two or three more bell players**. If you can read music and would love to play, talk to Carol Kugler – we'll teach you how!



Thanksgiving Day Service



St. George's Episcopal Church is offering a **Thanksgiving Day worship** service at **9:00AM** in the **chapel** on **Thursday, November 23**. This is not a joint service, but interested St. Mark members are welcome to attend!

Advent Communion Service & Soup Suppers return **Wednesday, December 6**. Plan to come enjoy a hot meal of soup and salad at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall before joining us in the church for an evening service of Holy Communion.

Get a group together and host one of the soup suppers! A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

Mastectomy & Port Pillows from the Fiber Arts group are in the Welcome Area for anyone in need.

Angel Tree Project

We continue our St. Mark and St. George's tradition of participating together in the Angel Tree Project Christmas Drive through Lutheran Child & Family Services to provide Christmas gifts to especially needy families. Monetary donations may be made for those who prefer not to shop. Sheets with the children's names and wishes are on a table in the narthex/Welcome Area. You are not asked to provide everything on the child's wish list - a \$50 limit per child is recommended.

Please take and complete a gift tag from the "Christmas Tree" and gently attach it and the Child's name and Wishes sheet to the UNWRAPPED gift and **return by December 10**. Gift wrapping and/or gift bags may also be donated.

Please contact Sherri Foppe 618 791-6148 cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann Martens 618 530-8679 if you have any questions.

SHARE THE WARMTH Project

Inspired by Phillip's Wish in the movie *5000 Blankets*, our collection of **GENTLY USED or new blankets, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. for the homeless in our community will run November 19 thru January 31. Check your closets to see how many blankets/quilts you have that will help keep our homeless a little warmer this winter!

The Evangelism/Social Ministry team has set a goal of 125 blankets! The blankets, etc., will be given out throughout the project period so donation numbers will be provided periodically. A collection can will be in the Narthex/Canterbury Room starting November 19.

Do you have the talent of knitting and/or crocheting? FREE yarn is available to anyone (member or non-member) to make hats, mittens, gloves, scarves for this project. Contact Peggy Anderson 618 791-0992 for your FREE yarn.

The movie also reminds us that children can help us see what we don't want to see and inspire us to make a change. Check out <https://www.phillipswish.com/> to learn how his wish continues years later.

The movie is available on to watch on several streaming services, or contact Sherri 618 791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com to borrow her DVD.

Seizure Awareness Class

The **Joint Safety Committee** of St. George's and St. Mark is sponsoring a class to educate and prepare us for the safe and correct care of a person exhibiting any type of **seizure** activity.

All **members** of the **Joint Safety Committee** and our respective **Safety Volunteers** are encouraged to attend this **free class** on **Saturday, December 2, 2023**, from **10:00-11:30am** in the **Parish Hall**.

To ensure we have the correct number of handouts and materials, it is important that you sign up on the sheet on the St. Mark table in the Narthex. **The last day to sign up is Tuesday, November 28**. For more information, please contact Mark.Bearth@gmail.com or text him at (618) 767-6543.

Christmas Flowers

Proclaim Christ's birth with flowers! Anyone wishing to donate should fill out the front portion of a special envelope in the pews and return it, with a check/cash, to the offering plate or the office by 12/20. *Online donations may be made through VANCO. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

St. Mark Offerings for 11/12: General Fund: **\$5,184.11** (*incl. online offerings received by 11/17*)