

February 15, 2023

Join us this Sunday for worship at St. Mark's. Randy will be continue his series called "What Not To Do". This week his message will be "Do Not Give What is Holy to Dogs", the scripture reference will be Matthew 7:6.

All Sunday school classes will be at their regular time and area. If you don't attend a class drop by one and try it out.

Sunday School classes: 8:30 New Life Rm. 18, Sonshine Rm. 17

9:30 Books of the Bibles Rm 17,

Disciple Rm. 18,

Young Adults Rm. 5

10:45 Faithbuilders Rm 18,

Good News Choir,

R.O.C.K Rm. 19

Traditional services are at 9:30 am and Modern services are at 10:55 am. If you are not able to attend Worship services there will be a live streaming of worship. To watch the life stream, you can join us at

9:30 am Sunday morning at: <https://youtube.com/live/AIFhWQhEBVk>

or 10:55 at: <https://youtube.com/live/tGsi-Xjme6w>

Grateful Hearts Dinner Highlights





Ash Wednesday Services - February 22

In preparation for Lenten season we will have a special Ash Wednesday Service. The service will be at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. This is a special service that includes the sign of the cross and a call to seek God in spiritual disciplines through Lent.

No children or youth programming following (others check with leaders).

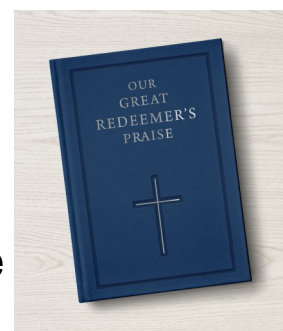
Genesis 3:19b "dust you are and to dust you will return."



Saturday, February 18th, at 6:30 –8:00 pm St. Marks will be having our annual Daddy Daughter dance. This has always been a special event for dads, grandads, uncles, older brothers and others to honor daughters in the family with a special night out. The event will feature a DJ, snacks and great photo opportunities. A \$5 per escort donation is suggested (no additional cost for multiple dates!) Make your plans now to bring that special girl to this great memory making event.

New Hymnals In

We are now using our new hymnal put out by Seedbed. The new hymnal goes back to our Wesleyan roots and will be a blessing. Due to cost we have only purchased a limited number as all the words will continue to be on the screens. If you prefer a hymnal in hand you can pick one up at the back of the sanctuary on your way in.



Sidenote on old hymnals. If you have an old hymnal dedicated or in honor of someone we want to give you the chance to pick it up in the office. You are welcome to take an old hymnal for your library, if you would like one.

There is a table in the narthex with hymnals available.

DAWN - Dinner & Worship Night

Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

Schedule:

5:30-6:15 Meal (family style)

6:00-6:30 Prayer Team

6:15-7:30 Children's & Student Ministry

6:15-7:30 Adult Bible Studies

6:30-8:00 Choir Practice



Adult Bible
Studies
TBA



Lenten Bible Study Wednesday afternoon 130 pm Starting Feb. 22 (Ash Wed.)



This will be hands on experiences with different things we encounter on a daily basis that will encourage us to remember different areas of scripture on Jesus's journey to

the cross. Come, share the memory making experiences! Sign up on counter or contact Kathi Fisher.



St. Mark's Bethany Women

Want to thank all who gave to the Willow shower this past Monday. We were also blessed to hear from Ray Merchant from Willow.

112 clothing items, 3 boxes & 4 packages of diapers, 36 books plus many more items were given. St. Mark's is so generous and caring. **THANK YOU!**

You can continue to give in the box near west door





Photo: John Wesley's prayer kneeler – The birthplace of Methodism.

Each morning at 4 a.m., John Wesley would kneel in prayer in his London home. It was in this place that the fires of Methodism began. As we seek to reconnect to our Wesleyan heritage, it seems the best place we can begin is in prayer. Join us in our monthly prayer series: The Way to the Kingdom.

**The Way to Glory
By: David F. Watson**

The way to glory is the way of the cross. "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus," Paul writes (Phil 2:5). The mind of Christ is the pattern for the Christian life. Paul then tells us what this pattern entails in the *kenosis* (emptying) hymn of Philippians 2:6-11:

"[T]hough he was in the form of God, [Christ] did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

There is a deliberate parallelism in the hymn: Christ had the form of God, but he took the form of a slave. His obedience to God was not coerced. He emptied himself. He humbled himself, and therefore God highly exalted him.

Obedience to God is no easy task. "[T]he gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matt 7:14). We have to confront our own egos, our self-will, our need for control. It is a blessing to submit to the will of God, but it is also painful. God purifies us like gold in a refiner's fire. Through the Holy Spirit, we crucify the flesh (Gal 5:24) and are conformed to the image of the Son (Rom 8:29).

And when this happens, we realize that we are strangers and aliens (1 Pet 2:11). This world is not our true home. Our true King, Jesus Christ, sends us out as his ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20) to carry the Gospel into life's painful places, sometimes at great cost. The Gospel calls us into confrontation with sin, death, and all of their manifestations in the world. Despite the many peddlers of faith that look more like consumerism than Christianity, there is no true Christian faith without pain. When we confront that pain with the love and power of Christ, there can be healing. That is the way to glory—not the counterfeit glory of this world, but the true glory that comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

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A Suggested Pattern of Prayer

As you pray through the following prayer points, invite the presence of the Lord into your time of prayer. Each day's prompt has a Scripture reference for you to pray through. As you pray allow time to also listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. When you have prayed through the Scripture and prayer point, you may be led to add your own prayers. Pray and consider what action steps you might take in response to the Lord's leading. Repeat this prayer pattern weekly for the month.

Sunday: Praise God for his goodness and love. Offer him praise and thanksgiving for coming to us in Jesus Christ, who emptied himself and was obedient, even to the point of death upon the cross. (1 Cor. 15:57)

Monday: Pray that every clergyperson in the Global Methodist Church will receive the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2:14-16)

Tuesday: Pray that every layperson in the Global Methodist Church will receive the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 1:10)

Wednesday: Ask God to pour out a spirit of obedience on the Global Methodist Church. (1 Pet. 1:22)

Thursday: Ask God to teach us what it means to crucify the flesh, and to give us the will and wisdom to do it. (Gal. 5:24)

Friday: Pray that God will give us the strength to confront the powers of sin and death in this world, and to walk into painful circumstances and bring the healing love of Christ. (Eph 6:10-13)

Saturday: Praise God for the salvation we have in Christ, and for the glory we glimpse in the present but will know fully in the age to come. (2 Cor 3:18)

**"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."
(Philippians 2:5)**

The Rev. Dr. David Watson serves as Academic Dean and Professor of New Testament at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He is also the Lead Editor of Firebrand, an online magazine aimed at enlivening intellectual dialogue in various related traditions, including Methodist, Arminian, Holiness, Pentecostal, and others.



St Mark's Bethany Helping Hand Project

Need a ride to the doctor? Your battery need a jump? Need a few groceries? Let us help you. Please contact Pat at St Mark's (405-789-9033) or Elle Mysinger (469-323-1560).

Requests for help will be posted on the Helping Hand Project. Notification of the request will go out to the members of the Helping Hand Project. Whoever can help with the project will notify the group that they will manage the request and then reach out to the person who needs the helping hand.

We welcome anyone who would like to join the Helping Hand Project. Please contact Elle or Pat at the Church.

Interested in knowing more about the Global Methodist Church?



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

The GMC website (<https://globalmethodist.org/>) shares their vision, mission, governance structure, and beliefs. You can also read their *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. The Catechism Questions and Answers with scripture references can also be found here.

If you would like a weekly update and devotion from this Holy Spirit inspired movement, you can sign up here : <https://globalmethodist.org/connect/>

To help us intercede on behalf of the GM Church, they invite us to [subscribe](#) to a monthly prayer guide beginning this January written from a distinctly Methodist/Wesleyan perspective and distributed through email.

Facts and Figures

2023 Annual Budget	601,800
Rec'd toward Operating 2/12/2023	8,166
Year to Date 2022	
Rec'd toward offering (thru 2/13/23)	58,444
Expenses (thru 2/13/22)	51,119

Attendance

Sunday, February 12	Total	280
Traditional Worship		151
Modern Worship		67
Online Worship		62

Prayer Box

Cheryl Andrews'
Chris Brehm
Lavina Bonifield (DIL Margaret Bonifield)
Hank Brueggen
Jim Brown
Marty Croy
Jeff & Dianna Davidson
Jared Fenton (SIL Davidson's)
Bob Denton (Sandy Kelly brother)
Mary Desmukes
Cindy Wilkerson (DIL Wilkerson's)
Paula Galt

Norma & Dan Boland
Curtis Scott (SIL Jim Brown)
Tiffany Montesano
Rita Wurzer
Roger Pautsch
Mary Jane Svejkovsky
Dorothy Sipes
Bobbi Pinkerton
Ina Walker (sister of Bobbi Pinkerton)
LaDonna Mathews
Beverly Clark
Russell Jobe
Jan Johnson