



MARKSMAN



Mission Statement:

Celebrating God's love and forgiveness, we serve others.

Core Values:

Prayer, Accessibility, Service, Communication, Education, Worship, Youth, Healthy, Relationships

Our Vision:

Following Jesus' example "we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, nurse the sick, and visit the imprisoned as we see Jesus in the faces of those we serve. "

July 2009

A friend of mine opened my eyes to a new understanding of being the Church.

He asked me, "Have you ever rented a car?" - Sure I have; lots of times when I travel.

"O.K.", he said, "do you ever rotate the tires of the car you rent?" - Never.

"Have you ever washed the car?" - Not once.

"Have you ever changed the oil?" - I've never given it a thought.

"But have you done any of those things with the car that is sitting in your garage?" - Sure I have, many times.

"Why?" - Because; one I'm just using, but the other I have an investment in.

My friend wasn't done with me yet.

"Does your church have mostly 'renters' or 'owners'?" - I looked at him real hard. I was trying to make the connection. He saw the blank look in my eyes.

"You know, do you mostly have people who use the church for their convenience, or do you have mostly people who are committed to the church?"

Tough question to ask; harder question to answer.

Are you a renter or an owner?

A renter goes to church (when convenient); an owner see the importance of regular worship.

A renter has ministry done to them; an owner does ministry for others.

A renter quits when they get tired; an owner never gives up.

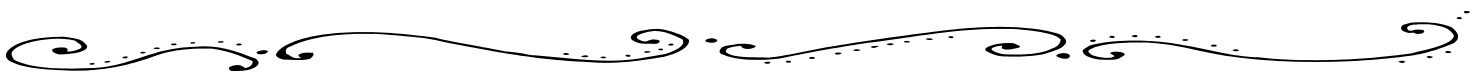
A renter complains when things aren't going their way; an owner prays to have God change their heart.

A renter (occasionally) gives their money; an owner gives their life.

These are just a few things that, in my opinion, separate renters from owners. And truthfully I don't know if we have many renters (I'm sure we do) or if we are mostly owners (I pray we are). The point is God is inviting us, through Jesus, to be owners; to own the faith that He gives us, to own the cross we are to carry, and to own the ministry we have been made to do.

May we continue to be blessed, as we take fuller ownership of our ministries here at St. Marks.

Pastor Ron



Hello From *the upper room!*

Let me begin by thanking everyone in the St. Mark's family for your warm welcome, and also extending my appreciation for your support of our new youth program at St. Mark's!

I know that the Spirit of our Lord is at work at St. Mark's. In the past few weeks I have been able to witness a wanting sense of revival, and love for God! It is my intent to animate that same Spirit in our Youth. From being active in community service projects like, "Adopt a Block", to a weekly energized, gathering for worship and teaching, to retreats, and more!

The Youth Group at St. Mark's, now known as *The Upper Room*, will be a group of vibrant, captivated, counter-cultural kids who are on fire for Jesus.

I have seen youth groups across the world, that have effected immeasurable amounts of change in service of building the Kingdom, and I know this group can and will do the same. I know they are capable of nothing short of a "Kingdom Revolution."

I am inviting everyone who reads this, and anyone you may be in contact with, to be an active part.

We welcome you to *the upper room*, and strive for honest closeness within the community of St. Mark's. Whether you drop by for some heart moving worship, spread the word to everyone you know- of all ages-volunteer time, or show love in your own special way-the message is clear... we welcome you to the *upper room*, where we "*Love God and others, in the rhythm of Jesus*"

Grace and Peace to each of you,

Jonathan Breslow
Youth Director
St. Mark's Church

Project Hand is an Emergency Assistance Food Pantry, located at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Chula Vista, where food and hygiene items are provided to hundreds of individuals each month. We need support from churches in the area all year long, especially during these times of great unemployment. Thank you for your willingness to assist in helping these families. Following is a list of suggested items. Think nutritious, filling foods and meals when picking up food items.

Food Items

Breakfast

- Oatmeal and Cold Cereals
- Powdered Milk
- Pop Tarts
- Dried Fruits, Canned Fruits and Applesauce

Juices

Lunch or Dinners

- Bread
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Soups
- Saltine Crackers
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Spaghetti/Pasta Sauces
- Pasta
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Meats (Chicken, Tuna, etc)
- Casserole makings – add the cream of soups, peas or canned vegetables and pasta/rice along with the canned meat
- Beans (any size - can be divided)
- Rice (any size - can be divided)
- Non-perishable boxed items
- Prepared canned meals
- Top Ramen soups

Misc.

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Baby Food and Formula
- Plastic Grocery Bags

NOTE: **Please** no outdated items or dented cans

Non-Food Items

- Diapers
- Wipes
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Bath Soap
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Shaving Cream and Disposable Razors
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towels
- Feminine Hygiene Items
- Combs and Brushes

Let us do the shopping for you!

St. Mark's has a pass through account, so that we can accept money for Project Hand.

This is for those that cannot do their own shopping or would rather donate money.

We will have volunteers, that like to shop, that will do this for you. Your money will go farther, as shopping in larger quantities can be done.

Just make out a check to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and designate it to Project Hand in the memo space.

Do you have a few of hours a month you would like to spend helping others?

St. Mark's Lutheran Church and Project Hand is looking for volunteers that would be willing to shop, stock shelves, sort foods for distribution, clean and pick up donated foods from suppliers.

If interested, please contact:
 Susan Connors at 619-427-6033
 or
 s.connors1@cox.net.

Look for the Grocery Cart at worship. You may drop your food donation any time you are by the church.

When in the grocery store remember those that are in need.

Thank you for helping.



Dealing with Elderly Parents

(by Pastor John)

I have some books that many of you with elderly parents (or those of you who are growing older) might find helpful. There are lots of questions about the kinds of problems that we face as we age and the types of care available. Most of us avoid thinking about or dealing with them until some crisis forces them upon us. It is better stewardship to prepare for those questions before they are thrust upon us.

With funds from a gift to my ministry I have purchased three copies of a very good book about those issues. It is called "Mom, Dad ... Can We Talk?". Written by a retired Eldercare specialist from the May Clinic, Dick Edwards, it discusses both the topics that many of us need to address and ways of talking about them with parents and one's children. Through short reports about how real people dealt with those issues,

Edwards also helps readers come to grips with the emotions and the range of family dynamics that arise when facing these problems. If you want to look at a copy, just let me know. The only obligation is to return when you are finished with it so that I can share it with others.

Special Meeting Report:

The vote on the video system recommendation occurred June 14. The majority of the votes were in favor of the purchase.

A special account will be set up. After paying the invoice for the feasibility and architectural assessment, the start-up monies identified by the Treasurer will be moved to the video system account. When the account reaches \$30,000; then the system will be purchased. Obviously, the more quickly the goal is reached, the sooner we can install the system.

Just a reminder...it will include 2 retractable, sound-permeable screens as well as an LCD monitor for the left side of the worship space.

We are such a blessed congregation!

Nancy Dreesen Council President

Over 70-1/2--IRA to Charity: 2009 is the last year of a tax break for older folks who give to charity.

For your charitable contributions, do this: have your IRA custodian send a contribution directly to the charity of your choice from your IRA.

You only pay tax on any additional distribution you take.

You don't even need to itemize your deductions--the amount sent to the charity is not treated as income.

You might have a "double win" here--the reduction in your income may cause less of your social security income to be taxable.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

PASTOR SEIBER (619) 575-7212

Pastor John Sieber is our Visitation Pastor, tending to the member and friends of St. Mark's who are homebound.

If you or someone you know has a need and would like a visit from Pastor John, please call the church office at (619) 427-5515.

Please keep these people in your prayers and remember that most of them might appreciate visits from you.

Rocky Beebe	Lonnie Malonne
Betty Burgess	Arthur Mosen
Kaho Chester	Clyde Supri
Helen Dearmin	Ken Voight
Carol Graham	Jack Wahlquist
Florence Harris	Verna Werstlein
Peter Honrud	Nora West
Esther Kort	Bob Whittier
Olive Kramp	

Church Attendance

	5/09	5/08
Week 1	189	263
Week 2	343	289
Week 3	398	296
Week 4	262	229
Week 5	<u>238</u>	<u>n/a</u>
Total	1430	1077

Tammy Lower Announces Foreclosure Workshop

July 16, 2009

6:30 pm in Jacobson Hall

A community Service Free of charge

J. Alan Enochs,

Attorney at Law - 619-694-4693

Workshop Highlights

Foreclosure Process - important Deadlines

Rights/Obligations - Alternatives

Evaluating Alternatives - Foreclosure Fraud

Tell a friend

Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are? **M. Lu-**

CIRCLES

If you are unable to attend your regular circle/Bible study meeting, you are welcome to attend any other circle/Bible study meeting that fits with your schedule at any time.

Also, if you do not belong to a circle / Bible study and would like to join, contact Jill McGrew for information and assistance. (619) 216-3801

UPDATE on TAPE MINISTRY...

TAPE Ministry will soon be going away.

It will be replaced by CD Ministry. We have advanced to the 20th century.

St. Mark's has purchased 10 new CD players

Thanks to Dave Wilcox we are now making CD recordings of the Sunday service. The quality of the audio recordings has been greatly improved.

If you know any St. Mark's members who are not able to come to Church and would like to receive a CD please contact

Dave or Betty Wilson: - - - - Phone 6563902.

Five families to pray for: July 2009

Bill & Rita Christo

Chuck & Jean Cole

Michael & Janet Collins

Ricky, Stacey, Jordyn, JC & Kaelyn Connors

Susan Connors

Prayer Quilting Corner

Roz Nelson

We are blessed to be a blessing to so many! We would like to invite you to join us on a Prayer Quilting Saturday - come check us out - no experience with sewing necessary! We need helping hands and hearts to put quilts together, iron, put in ties, sew and so much more.

We meet one Saturday a month for quilting and fellowship - from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Jacobson Hall. Lunch is provided.

Come for part or all of the time and bring a friend.

PRAYER QUILTING

SATURDAY DATES

put them on your calendar:

SAT., JULY 25th

Sat., August 22nd