



THE MARKSMAN

May 2009

Celebrating God's Love and Forgiveness, We Serve Others

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

When I came to St. Marks a little over a year ago, I made a point of sharing my desired method of doing ministry; open communication, transparency in all that we do, growing and maintaining healthy relationships, revising and strengthening our policies and procedures, defining our mission, vision and core values... all the while, praising God and reaching out to serve others.

In other words, move from passively going about the business of the church, to actively doing the work of the church; seeking God's will for St. Marks, then enabling, empowering you, the members, and offering opportunities for everyone to fulfill their role in doing ministry here.

While we can never consider ourselves "done", we are well within sight of completing our first phase. In this newsletter, in our bulletin and on the wall surrounding the St. Marks Prayer Quilt, you will see what your Refocus Team, with the help of the Prayer Team, have discerned as God's direction for our congregation.

Please take the time necessary to become familiar with those statements. They will serve as our guiding principles as we step out in faith, into the future God has laid out for us. Your leadership desires that you be freed to do the ministry you feel called by God to do, without hindrance and challenge. We simply ask that you prayerfully consider how your ministry ideas and focus, line up with how we believe God is leading us into the future.

Working together with a common mission and goal, moving in unison in various ministries, will allow us to accomplish a great deal more, than if we all simply go our separate ways. God created us to, and desires that we, work as a team. With God's help, we can accomplish any task placed before us.

In the very near future you will be given opportunities to Celebrate God's love and forgiveness while serving others. My prayer is that each of us will pray diligently, offer our time and resources generously, work together as a team, as the Body of Christ, and that our efforts will make and impact on not only the members of this congregation, but also the communities we've been placed in and given by God to serve.

Blessings, Pastor Ron

From your Council President:

I thought it was time to look at what our congregation has accomplished in the months since Pastor Ron's Installation as our pastor on 3-30-08.

In this past year or so he has...

- brought a new vitality to members and staff alike
- definitely enlivened worship
- given us a plan to assist us in moving toward being a more healthy church
- given guidance to the Refocus Team as they determined our Mission/Vision/Core Values
- helped us to accept many positive changes (Not an easy task with Lutherans!)
- also taught us that change is a process, it takes time
- empowered leadership
- brought an awareness of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst.

I would say the Call Committee did a great job and that we are blessed!

Nancy Dreesen

Reports from some busy Council Committees:

1. Congratulations to the Property Committee for acquiring a \$2500 grant from the water company to help update our sprinkler system with new heads & controllers. They have also ordered 75 signs to help visitors and members alike find their way around our campus. They have installed brass kick plates on church doors. And thanks to Herb & Dorothy Geier & Lois Masterson, the women's bathroom near Jacobson Hall has been painted. Four pipe posts were installed for our exterior banners.
2. The Stewardship Committee is going to publicize and begin a sign-up drive for the Thrivent "Simply Giving" program. They will be giving us more information soon.
3. The Worship Committee is busy with usher training, new banners for Weds. night Praise Worship and the children's musical, obtaining pew Bibles, reviewing various video system proposals, dealing with near future staffing needs.
4. The Youth Committee has revised the youth director job description, posted it in several locations, and has been interviewing candidates.
5. The Social Concerns Committee is determining their areas of emphasis for this year, as well as becoming more informed and active in regards to Project Hand. Please keep the work of the Committees in your prayers.

As most everyone knows by now, our youth director, Carl Harris, resigned in March. With another full time job, the hours required for a growing youth program were becoming difficult for him to spare. Carl has always had an abiding concern for the youth of St. Mark's and has always done his best for them. We are so fortunate to have been afforded the opportunity to enjoy the services of such a fine man. Naturally, replacing such a talent is no small feat. As a matter of fact, attempting to find a replacement has been a primary concern for several weeks now.

The Youth committee spent many hours discussing our present as well as our future and were able to craft a newly revised job description for our future youth director. With that in place, the process of job posting began and the committee members contacted various local colleges, publications and web sites to get the word out. Members of the congregation and their friends and family were also invited to apply. All in all, we received over two dozen responses. This has required many interviews, and at the writing of this article, the interview process was in full swing.

The goal of the committee is to find someone who is exactly what St. Mark's needs. Although we would like to fill this role as quickly as possible, there will be no compromise made in meeting the standards we have set forth. The final decision will be an important one and I ask the members of the congregation to please pray for all of those involved. With God's guidance we will certainly find the right person to lead our youth. As always, if you have any comments, questions, ideas or concerns please contact me.

Brett Perkins

St. Mark's Mission, Core Values, Vision Statement

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

<u>Core Values</u>	Prayer	Service	Education	Youth
	Accessibility	Communication	Worship	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. "

Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2009

A Christian Youth Director is wanted 25 hours a week at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Chula Vista to provide opportunities and activities for the youth of the church.

Shall have interest in young people, be able to interact and have past experience working with youth from grades 4-12.

Will direct and coordinate activities in the life of the church and beyond regular worship.

Will listen, guide, create, plan and publicize.

The starting wage is \$12. - \$15. / hour depending on experience.

For more information please call Brett Perkins at **619-931-8048**

The Worship Committee will be looking to replace Danya soon, also.

Prayers for good candidates and God's guidance in the process.

Budgeted Income and Expense (Excludes Loan Repayment Activity)

	03/31/09 <u>Year to Date</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>
Total Income	\$99,380	\$437,799
Total Expenses	<u>84,974</u>	<u>437,799</u>
Net Income	\$14,406	0

Note: Subsequent to this report, payments were made in April for the annual insurance premiums (\$13,510) and the quarterly benevolences (\$8,310) in addition to ongoing expenses.

<u>Loan Repayment Fund</u>	03/31/09 <u>Year to Date</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>
Donations	\$110,774	\$100,800
Principal & Interest Paid	\$119,720	\$100,800
Loan Balance December 31, 2008	\$791,857	
Loan Balance March 31, 2009	\$681,814	

Note: A gift of securities was liquidated during the first quarter allowing us to make an additional principal payment of approximately \$95,000 on our loan, substantially reducing the balance owing. We do remain responsible for the monthly principal and interest payments of \$8,277.

Thank you, members of St. Mark's, for your continued generosity!

Diane Flint Wages, Treasurer

*Katie Antis, daughter of Jean and Steve, auditioned for the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts last month. She was recently notified that she was accepted into the high school by merit of her flute skills.

*Congratulations to St. Mark's member and Hilltop High alum, Mark Flint, who has been named Lancers head football coach. He is also a teacher at Hilltop High.

Thank You

I am so very thankful for all of the Prayers for me from all of you.

I'm now at home and back on line to e-mail to all of you again !!! Don has just updated some of my computer here. So I have lots of new things to learn.

Gladys Myers

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We are so grateful to all who made Ken's memorial so meaningful to our family.

Denise for arranging all the music, playing the piano and the bell solo, Barbara for your beautiful voice and flute, Sandi for the ASL, and the Bells, you were wonderful ... Pastor John, for knowing Ken, Pastor Ron for knowing me.

My circle, Karin and Kay and others who made things happen, and to all who came to share Ken's memory with us.

Your generous gifts and time meant so much to us, I cannot express it all.

I, we, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

the Hultenius family...

Prayer Quilting Corner

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., MAY 23rd SAT., JUNE 20th SAT., JULY 25th

Tammy Lower Announces Foreclosure Workshop

May 14, 2009 at 6:30 pm in Jacobson Hall

J. Alan Enochs, Attorney at Law
619-694-4693

Please contact Pastor Ron directly if you anticipate an upcoming hospital stay.

His phone number is **(619) 632-7709**

His email address is **rhovick@cox.net**.

Wednesdays are FUN at St. Mark's!

COME AS YOU ARE

LIVE BAND WORSHIP WED. 7 PM

5:30 pm Light Meal

6:00 pm Education Hour

Children's Music and Activities

7:00 pm Worship Service

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

jmcgrew1@cox.net

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.

Pastor Sieber is currently calling on the following shut-ins. Please keep these people in your prayers and remember that most of them would appreciate visits from you as well.

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| Al Bryd | Gene & Olive Kramp |
| Betty Burgess | Lorrie Malonne |
| Kaho Chester | Jack Walquist |
| Helen Dearmin | Verna Werstlein |
| Florence Harris | Nora West |
| Peter Honrud | Bob Whittier |
| Esther Kort | |

Church Attendance

	3/09	3/08
Week 1	277	301
Week 2	258	255
Week 3	294	237
Week 4	299	418*
Week 5	<u>314</u>	<u>252</u>
Total	1442	1463

*2008 Easter Services

- Five families to pray for
May 2009
- Frank & Jeanette Baranov
Al Byrd
John & Mary Frances Callan
Waver & Dorothy Campbell
Earl Carlovsky

Reminder

Thursday Quilters request help for LWR
Thursday quilters would appreciate your help gathering items for the Lutheran World Relief Health Kits.
May---a comb, preferred wide tooth, a metal nail clipper with file and 6-Band-Aids 1/2 - 3/4 inches.
Lutheran World Relief blue boxes will be in the narthex and the lower level
More information contact: Betty Cunningham