



February, 2010

## **PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

*St. Mark Youth and Children's Ministries are sponsoring the Haiti Relief Project. They have selected the Baby Kit as their choice. Please help them fill up the barrels in the Narthex. Deadline: February 28*

### **Baby Kit**

- 6 - Cloth Diapers (May be purchased at Target or Sears)
- 2 - T-shirts or undershirts (No onesies)
- 2 - Washcloths
- 2 - Gowns or sleepers
- 2 - Diaper pins
- 1 - Sweater or sweatshirt
- 2 - Receiving blankets (One can be a hand-kitted or crocheted baby blanket)

*All items should be new and under 12 months in size. Our children will wrap items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with both diaper pins. Patterns are available for many of the components on the Church World Service web site.*



### **February 7 – Souper Bowl of Caring**

St. Mark youth will be in the Narthex after the 10:30 AM service collecting money and canned goods for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Donations will go to the Isaiah 58 Ministries. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national, youth-led event that takes place each year on Super Bowl Sunday.

## Small Group FAQ's

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**W**hat are Small Groups at St. Mark?  
Groups of 3-12 people agreeing to meet on a regular basis, most often in homes, in order to connect, learn, share, support and grow as Christians.

When do they meet?  
Beginning February 15...groups will meet on various days, at various times, in various places. (see sign up sheets in the Narthex)

How often do they meet?  
During Lent, many groups will meet weekly. After that, it will be up to each group to decide. Most will meet once or twice a month.

Are these Bible Study groups?  
A Lenten Study is being provided to get started; afterwards, each group will decide what type of study they will use. Meetings will include a balance of fellowship, and caring time, as well as study time.

How many Small Groups are there?  
10 individuals, so far, have felt called to be new Small Group leaders. There are other groups as well, such as PW Circles and Koinonia; contact the church office for a listing.

How do I join a Small Group?  
Please sign up at the Small Groups table in the Narthex.

What if I already belong to a Koinonia group; can I participate in a new group as well?  
Of course! We are expanding the opportunity for more St. Mark members to take advantage of Small Groups.

Is there a Biblical basis for this ministry?  
Yes, Jesus spent most of His earthly time with his Small Group: His disciples.

Why should I join?  
To meet new people who will become life long friends; expand your knowledge of the Bible; deepen your spiritual journey; strengthen your faith walk; to care for, be cared for, and reach out to others. To have fun!

What if I still have questions?  
Contact the Small Group Coordinating Team: Jan Boehme, Bruce Cranston, Glenn Knopf, Jerie Lukefahr, and Ginny Mitchem.

## Thank You

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**T**hank you for remembering me with Christmas cards. I miss you all very much.  
Bill

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear St. Mark friends,  
Thank you for all of your kind thoughts, prayers and expressions of sympathy extended to us after the passing of my father. A special thanks to those who prepared the food that Jim and Nancy were so kind to deliver to my house.

My family was very touched at the thoughtfulness of everyone at St. Mark. It is a great comfort to be part of such a loving and generous church family.

Sincerely, Carol

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear St. Mark Friends,  
Thank you so very much for the cards, calls, and expressions of concern.

With care and love, Jim & Ellen



Ash Wednesday Service  
February 17 at 6:30 PM

## Deacon's Table

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**D**o you know that the Deacon's table in front of Pastor Steve's office is used to collect things other than food for Circle of Concern?

We collect soda tab tops and give them to Boots Berry. She passes them along to help the Ronald McDonald House. We collect Campbell soup labels. Donna Bosenbecker gives these labels to a church and school.

The Deacons would like you to know that as the temperature goes down in the winter, so does our food collected. Next time you go to the grocery store, please remember to add a few things to your cart such as canned meats, peanut butter and jelly, or mac and cheese to drop off on our table for Circle.

## New Member Class

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On Sunday, February 14 and 21 classes will be held for those wishing to become new members of St. Mark. These classes cover an overview of St. Mark's past and present and a glimpse into where we are headed in the future. We will also talk about what it means to be a member of St. Mark with an opportunity to ask questions. The classes will be held from 9:15 until 10:15 in the Library (it is just down the hall from where we serve coffee). Please plan on attending both class sessions, if possible. Anyone wishing to attend these classes, please contact Carol Pfeil at 636-394-2233 so that we can be good stewards of our materials.

## BRO Layette Drive

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During the month of February, Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a Layette Drive for BRO. Last year BRO distributed over 400 complete layette sets to mothers of newborns who are recommended by social agencies in the St. Louis area. Requested items include baby quilts (40" X 50"), receiving blankets (36" X 36"), sleepers, bibs and sweater sets with a cap and booties. Monetary donations are used to purchase cloth diapers, diaper pins, plastic pants and onesies. For those who like to knit or sew, patterns will be available. A playpen will be set up in the narthex to receive donated items. For additional information, contact Shirley Boeker or Louise Grothe .

## Attention All Chili Connoisseurs

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Our annual Chili Cook-off will be held on Sunday, February 21 following the 10:30 church service.

Chili chefs and tasters, please sign up in the Narthex beginning January 26.

Chili tasting will be \$3.00 per person with a \$10.00 family limit. A hot dog with chips will also be available for \$1.00. Dessert and drinks are included.

A beautiful trophy will be presented to our Chili Cook-off winner. Come join the fun, vote for your favorite chili and enjoy a great time of fellowship.

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring this event with proceeds going to our All-Church Picnic in June. Questions contact Sally Shepherd .

## MIDWEEK TOPICS

### FEBRUARY

Religious Study

#### 2-03-10 The Popes – Ron Goff

Nearly 900 million human beings, the largest single collective of people the world has ever known, look to the Pope as their spiritual leader. His office symbolizes the rule of God himself over their hearts and minds and consciences. Let's look at the 2000 year history of the Papacy with its saints and sinners.

#### 2-10-10 Try a Small Group – Small Group Team

During and after dinner we will engage in intentional conversation, brief Bible study, and intercessory prayer.....all while remaining seated at your favorite table in Gleason Hall. Please join us for a unique and fun sample of a Small Group experience. Sponsored by your Small Group Team: Jan Boehme, Glenn Knopf, Ginny Mitchem, Bruce Cranston and Jerie Lukefahr.

#### 2-17-10 Ash Wednesday Service

#### 2-24-10 What is the Holy Spirit? – Bruce Cranston

Discovering the third member of the Holy Trinity. Is the "Holy Spirit" a thing or a person? Can we know or understand the Holy Spirit? Or is it simply a kind of feeling of "good will" like a "spirit of generosity" or the "spirit of Christmas"? Handouts are available in the church office to be read before the seminar.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

March Issue

February 19

April Issue

March 19

E-mail Newsletter & Bulletin materials to  
cpfeil@discoverstmark.org

E-mail Items for the website to:  
cschindler@discoverstmark.org

# Questionnaire to Congregation to Assist with 2010 Strategy Development

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Please fill out this survey to assist the Deacon's Presbyterians for Earth Care in developing their 2010 strategy. You can leave it in the Deacon's mailbox or place it in the collection plate on Saturday night or Sunday morning. Thank you for your participation. Contact Clarice Hutchens or Lynn Laux for further information.

Presbyterians for Earth Care [formerly Presbyterians for Restoring Creation (PRC)] was founded in 1995 as a national, grass-roots organization to support people of faith working towards "environmental wholeness with social justice." PRC participates in every Presbyterian General Assembly through an exhibit booth and issue advocacy - to educate about restoring creation concerns and to strengthen the church-based eco-justice community. See [www.prcweb.org](http://www.prcweb.org) for more information.

Revelation 22:1-2 describes a verdant tree that bears abundant fruit and leaves that are for the healing of the nations. Congregations can be like green pastures and verdant trees when they help to nourish and heal people who are hungry, sick, and marginalized. Congregations can also extend their nourishing gifts to God's broader creation—to all living things which God declares as very good, indeed (Genesis 1:31) By extending their circle of compassion to include all creation, greening congregations can address the foundations of injustice. The color green signified growth, new vitality and strength through religious tradition.

## How much interest do you have in the following?

Learning about:

- a. Biblical and other faith perspectives on caring for God's Creation  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- b. What Presbyterians have to say about creation awareness and care  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest

Participating in:

- Book Club for "Living Simply" on Sunday morning  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Forums with speakers on creation awareness  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Children's educational programs and/or service opportunities  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest

Support for church/lifestyle environmental changes:

- Recycling more comprehensively and implementing composting of kitchen waste, to include food waste, food-soiled paper, and compostable food service ware. (on-site or send to commercial facility)  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Approaching capital projects with green building principles (e.g., energy efficient measures such as weather-stripping, solar powered external lights, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Implementing landscaping techniques that are more creation-friendly and worker-friendly such as natural pesticides and fertilizers, planting native flowers, grasses, etc. which require less irrigation and are self-sustaining; plant rain gardens to capture rainwater to avoid storm water runoff.  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Supporting local community supported agriculture at [www.localharvest.org](http://www.localharvest.org) and [www.pca.org/food](http://www.pca.org/food), which support local farmers and require less transportation to deliver  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Purchasing products that minimize environmental impacts, toxics, pollution, and hazards to workers to the greatest extent possible  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest
- Purchasing products that include recycled content, are durable and long-lasting, conserve energy and water, use agricultural fibers and residues, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, use unbleached or chlorine free manufacturing processes, are lead-free and mercury-free, and use wood from sustainably harvested forests  
\_\_\_\_\_ much interest \_\_\_\_\_ some interest \_\_\_\_\_ no interest

If you are interested in becoming active with other members of our congregation and Presbyterians for Earth Care, please provide your name and contact information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/email \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

## St. Mark Roots

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Here are a few more of our St. Mark Roots friends from Illinois and Indiana. BARRY and MIKE were both born in Mt. Vernon, IL. BARRY graduated from Mt. Vernon Township High School and attended Mt. Vernon Jr. College. MIKE graduated from Libertyville HS, IL and also Univ. of IL-Champaign-Urbana, and Washington Univ. in St. Louis.

MIKE has also lived in Orchard Lakes, MI, Matawan, NJ, Palatine, IL, Chicago, IL and St. Louis City.

JAN graduated from W. Aurora HS, in Aurora, IL. She also attended Denison Univ., Northwestern and UMSL.

FRANK & CHARLENE are both from Granite City, IL. They have also lived in St. Albans, W. VA and Harbert, MI.

KARL was born in Harvey, IL, but graduated from Munster HS in Munster, IN. He also attended Purdue-Calumet, IN, Indiana Univ. and Webster in St. Louis. KARL has lived in Munster, Hammond and Schererville, IN.

KARL'S wife, DEBBIE was born in Hammond, IN and graduated from Munster HS in Munster, IN. DEBBIE attended Purdue in Calumet, IN and Univ. of MO in Columbia.

SUSAN's high school years were at Glenbard West in Glen Ellyn, IL and Kenston in Bainbridge, OH. She attended the Univ. of IL and Aurora University. SUSAN has lived in Bainbridge, OH, Glen Ellyn, IL, Euclid, OH, Kirtland, OH, Mentor, OH, Sumter, SC, Kilmarnock, VA and Mehlville, MO. ANNIE was born in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, China.

JACK was born in Chicago and went to Rogers Park HS and Sullivan HS in Chicago. Jack's college was Western MI in Kalamazoo. JACK also lived in Cincinnati, OH.

Watska, IL is JON'S hometown. JON attended Kankakee Comm. College and Univ. of IL. JON has lived in Greenville, SC and Chamblee, GA.

MILLIE grew up in McLeonsboro, IL and graduated from McLeonsboro Township High School. She attended Lockwood Business school in Evansville, IN and has also lived in Chicago, IL and Cincinnati, OH.

BARB has lived in Colorado Springs, CO, Breese, IL and Effingham, IL. She was born in Carbondale and graduated from Carbondale Community HS, SIU in Carbondale and Eastern Il in Charleston, IL.

Crawfordsville, IN is the birthplace of SALLY. SALLY graduated from Southwest HS in St. Louis and attended William Woods in Fulton, MO, Univ. of MO in Columbia and St. Louis Realtors School. SALLY has lived in Louisville, KY and several small towns in Indiana.

Indianapolis, IN is SUE ANNE'S hometown. SUE ANNE graduated from Ladywood-St. Agnes HS in Indy. Her colleges were Ball State in Muncie and Purdue in Indianapolis. She has also lived in Marion and Greenwood, IN.

A few more local roots include:

Parkway West is the alma mater of PATTY, MAGGIE & CAROL. PATTY also attended Meramec Community and Southwest Mo State. MAGGIE was born in Dallas, TX and attended the Univ. of MO and MO Western. She has lived in Dallas, Beaumont, Corpus Christi and Houston -all in Texas; Lome ToGo (W. Africa), Columbia, Kansas City and St. Joseph, MO and Melbourne, FL. CAROL was born in Chicago, IL and attended Meramec Community College, Univ. of MO and Hickey College. She has lived in Springfield, IL, San Jose, CA and Jacksonville, FL.

AMANDA graduated from Marquette HS in Chesterfield and has attended St. Louis Community College, Meramec, Maryville and UMSL.

Rockwood Summit in Fenton is where JAMIE is a graduate. JAMIE also attended Jefferson College in Hillsboro, MO,

STEPHEN is a Parkway South grad. STEPHEN also has attended Truman State in Kirksville, MO.

SHIRLEY was born in St. Louis and graduated from Sumner HS and Wohl School of Laboratory Technicians.

DIANE & WRAY both graduated from Roosevelt HS in St. Louis. DIANA has attended Millikin Univ. and Univ. of MO. She has lived in Kansas City, MO, Cheyenne, WY, Aberdeen, MD, Seaside, CA, Winter Park, FL and Fulton, MO. WRAY attended Westminster in Fulton and Washington Univ. in St. Louis. He has also lived in Aberdeen, MD, Seaside, CA, Fulton, MO and Regensburg, Germany.

DEBBIE & GEORGE are both Lindbergh High grads and attended Southwest MO State.

If you haven't turned in your orange "Roots" sheet, please do so ASAP. The forms are near the coffee table in the Narthex.

# Happy Birthday!!



to the following St. Mark members, celebrating "their" day during this month of February. If your name is not listed, please contact the church office.

2/1	Helen Anderson		Kristen Melter		Dina Buxton	2/21	Katie Fogarty
	Vicki Fevig	2/9	Janice Dixon		Olivia Viehland		Doc Koch
	Jim Schiro		Glen Feagan	2/15	Ivan Collier		Carter Lambie
2/2	Barry Holt		Tori Mikes		Jim Kinder		Isabelle Schrepfer
2/3	Art Boeckmann	2/10	Glen Keely		John Smith	2/22	Martha Dofter
2/4	Debbie Brown		Nicholas Seidel		Barbara Wilton		Carolyn Ground
	John Davis		Bob Staniforth	2/16	Nina Duke		Lynn Laux
	Cynthia Glassey	2/11	Maggie Johnson		Jonathan Michel	2/24	Walter Meyer
	Richard Preuss	2/12	Charlene Calkins	2/17	Laura Michel		Ralph Wuetherich
	Jerry Snyder		Jack Fogarty	2/18	Scott Collier	2/25	Dick Fuller
2/5	Chris Polak	2/13	Gracie Allen		Jake Lampe		Megan Humrich
	Kathy Wuestling		Lynne Dauve		Phyllis Maxwell	2/26	Tanner Meyer
2/6	Peggy Anderson		Tom Foote		Kerry Placeway		Luke Stahlberg
	Joyce Dressel		Marilyn McMillen	2/19	Brian Bartell	2/28	Barry Blackwell
2/7	Katherine Arthur		Dave Morgan		Paula George		Kelly Mohn
	Valerie Baber		Michele Noark		Ryan Noark		Colin Placeway
	Iris Hensley		Larry Schnelle		Sonja Stemme		Dennis Zurweller
	Sean Talley		Jordan Wipke	2/20	Jennifer James	2/29	Bruce Arthur
2/8	Alexander Karst	2/14	Phyllis Bascomb		Ann Reiter		

## Library Corner

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**B**ooks pertaining to Lent and Easter are on display in both Libraries. The following are some which might be of interest for the season:

Blessed Is She: Living Lent with Mary by Tim Perry presents a Mary who belongs to Lent as much as Advent - a Mary who shows what it means to die and live with the crucified and risen Jesus.

Thank God It's Friday: Encountering the Seven Last Words from the Cross by William H. Willimon looks solemnly and urgently at the gravity of Jesus' last words from the cross and reveals to us more of the depths of the heart of the triune God.

Once Upon a Tree by Calvin Miller - "Once upon a tree, the very Son of God willingly stretched His hands across the rough beams of death. And through His sacrifice, He brought meaning and hope to our lives."

These books are available on the cart in the Adult Library.

COME IN AND CHECK US OUT!

## Spinnakers

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**S**t Mark Spinnakers will host a Potluck Dinner and business meeting on Friday, February 19 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. ALL members of St. Mark are invited to attend.

Please sign up at the Spinnakers sign in the Narthex. Sign up sheets will be provided on a clip board.

Come enjoy great food for the body and great fellowship for the soul. Take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to socialize with and meet people who share your desire to serve the Lord



## SAINTS SPRING SCHEDULE!

(3RD, 4TH & 5TH GRADES)

Parental involvement is encouraged, and parents are needed to chaperone at all events. Please reserve the **second Sunday** of the month for Saints, excluding the Mound Ridge weekend. Our schedule is as follows:

- February 14**    **2:00-4:00P.M.**  
**Valentine's Day Swim Party—**  
**The Pointe**
- March 14**     **1:30—4:30 P.M.**  
**Science Center**
- March 28**    **Jerusalem Festival**
- April 11**     **Arch Tour**
- May 1-2**     **Mound Ridge Work/Play Week-end**

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY!

Please update your calendars now with these important dates for February!

**Youth Group will continue to meet on Sunday evenings throughout the year unless a special activity/event is planned for that day.**

- February 7    **Fellowship**  
(MS 6-7:30; HS 7-8:30)
- February 14   **Fellowship**  
(MS 6-7:30; HS 7-8:30)
- February 21   **Fellowship**  
(MS 6-7:30; HS 7-8:30)
- February 28   **Fellowship**  
(MS 6-7:30; HS 7-8:30)

## St. Mark Military Personnel

Presbyterian Women would like your assistance in providing us with names and addresses of military personnel now serving our country. If you have a member of your family or know of someone currently deployed, please place this information in the brown envelope located on the PW table in the Narthex. Shortly we will be putting together boxes to be mailed to our soldiers. More information regarding items needed will be in future newsletters. If you have questions, please call Sally Shepherd or Laurie Dolson.

## CD Players Needed

The Caregiving Committee needs your help. Each Sunday caregivers deliver tapes and CD's of the Sermon to our shut-ins. Audio tapes are being phased out so there is a need for new CD players. Your donations of CD players with external speakers, not ear buds, are desperately needed. You can leave the players on the food collection table outside Pastor Steve's office. For further information, please contact Betty Taylor or Jean Steward.

**YOGA**

Join us for Yoga practice in Rooms 17/18, Tuesday, February 9 and 23 at 9:30am-10:30 am. (bring your mat)



The Tooth Fairy came to Claymont Preschool to teach the three pre-kindergarten classes about dental hygiene

### St. Mark Financial Information

	December Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Offerings	\$98,362	\$789,399	\$807,887

DATED MATERIAL Return Service Requested

*Transforming Lives in Jesus Christ*

ST. MARK  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
ST. MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
601 CLAYMONT DRIVE  
BALLWIN, MO 63011



NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BALLWIN, MO  
PERMIT #11

## A Book Review: *The Life You can Save: Acting Now to End World Poverty* by Dr. Peter Singer

Around the world, a billion people struggle to live each day on less than many of us pay for a bottle of water. Ten million children die unnecessarily each year. The people of the developed world face a profound choice: We can turn our backs on one fifth of the world's population, or we must become part of the solution.

This is the right time to ask yourself, "*What should I be doing to help?*"

In *The Life You Can Save*, philosopher Peter Singer, named one of "The 100 Most Influential People in the World" by *Time* magazine, uses ethical arguments, helpful examples, and case studies of charitable giving to show that our current response to world poverty is insufficient and indefensible.

Singer contends that we need to change our ideas about living an ethical life. To help us play our part in bringing about lasting change for "the distant poor," he offers concrete suggestions which anyone can adopt.

The broad areas are personal philanthropy (how much to give and how best to give it), local activism (sharing these ideas with others), and political awareness (contacting elected officials to ensure that foreign aid is really directed to the world's poorest people).

Singer makes the powerful argument that generous, well-directed giving will make a huge difference in the lives of others, while also enriching our own. This book is an urgent call to action, suggesting that we combine Christian compassion with fresh commitment to lift others out of despair. If you only read one book in 2010, please consider *The Life You Can Save*.

*Cathy Yost, Mission Committee*