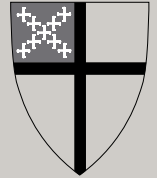




THE BANNER

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

March 2010



Heather Adams New Children's Ministries Director!

I am delighted to announce that Heather Adams has been hired as the part-time Children's Ministries Director for St. Mark's. She will oversee children's ministries from nursery through sixth grade.

Heather has been a Church School teacher, a "Tweens" leader, and member of the Children's Ministry Guild for several years. Heather and her husband, David (a St. Mark's High School Sunday School teacher) have attended St. Mark's for three years. She is a graduate of West Georgia College and a native of Dalton. The Adams have three children, Kate, Alice, and Julia.

"St. Mark's is such a warm, caring place," says Heather. "I look forward to working with this wonderful staff, and helping children learn about the faith in an organized, exciting way."

Stay tuned for more from Heather soon!

St. Marks Youth Programs

March 1 6-7:30

Dalton Middle Schoolers make cookies with Nick at Church bake cookies for random acts of kindness

March 2 Dalton Middle Schoolers hand out cookies to unfamiliar classmates at lunch

March 5 5:00-6:00

ZOOMBA!!, a mysterious latin dance workout that is sweeping across the U.S St. Marks for 5th-12th graders Leg warmers are required to attend.

March 7 10:00-12

Worship in the woods for 7-12 graders.

March 14 10:00

Breakfast at Shoney's 7-12 graders. Luminary sales after church

March 21 11:00 Youth Service.

On Sunday, March 28th, Palm Sunday, please return your child's mite box to Sunday school teachers. All monies collected will be donated to the Episcopal Relief and Development fund.

The lesson of the widow's mite is an enduring testament of faith. The mite box is one way to explore the meaning of Lent. Money is collected in the boxes then donated to a charitable organization. The children made these mite boxes during Sunday School.

March 27 The Tweens outing

an exciting trip to Lost Sea in Sweetwater, Tennessee

March 28 10:00 Sunday School:

A Random Act of Kindness 7-12 graders will be going out into the world to make someone's day happier.

Breakfast with Nick - every Monday 7:30 at Panera Bread for high school students

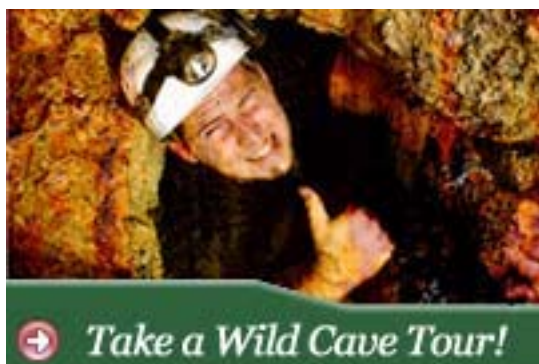
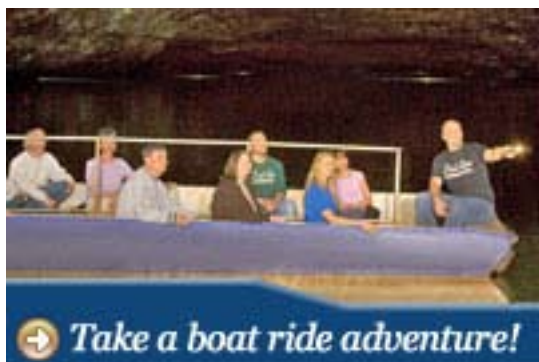
EYC every Sunday at 5:00

On Sunday, May 2nd,

Carol Burchfield and Beth Blackburn will present the play, **David and the Giants**. All children ages 3 and up are encouraged to participate. Play practice for all children will be held each Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm. For questions please contact Carol Burchfield.



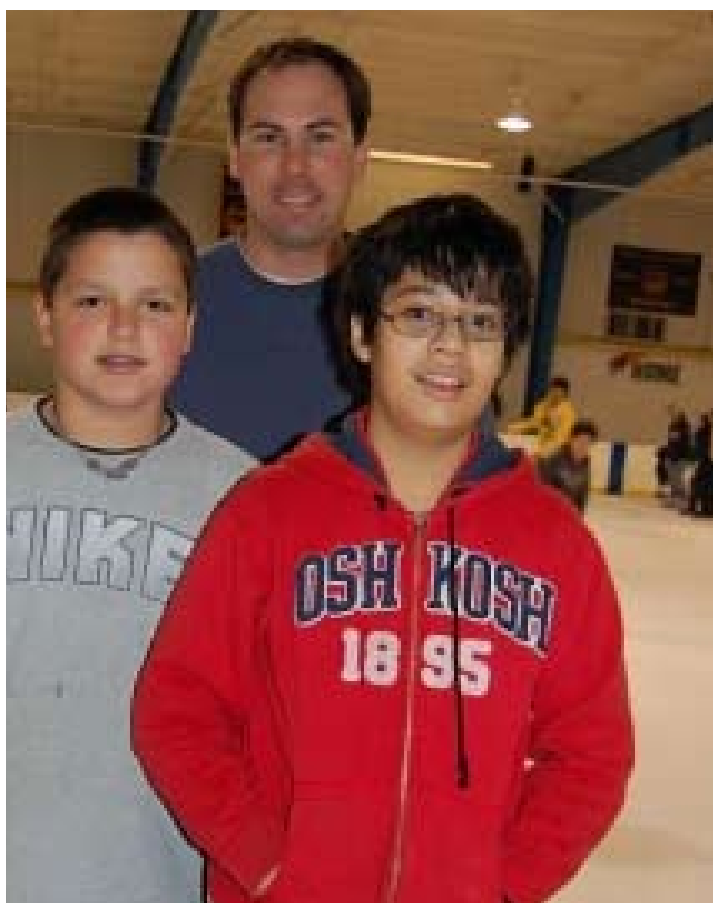
The Tweens outing for March will be an exciting trip to **Lost Sea in Sweetwater, TN on Saturday, March 27th.**



Stroll through an 18th century village, explore huge fascinating caverns, then float across America's largest underground lake!

It's an adventure that memories are made of!
Be sure to bring your camera and be prepared for an unforgettable experience!

St. Mark's TWEENS Ice Skating Outing





THANK YOU, Rick Powell & friends!

Many thanks to Rick Powell, who master-minded a perfectly wonderful Mardi Gras Pancake Supper! While the combined choirs of St. Mark's, Bethel AME, and others, and our own Mardi Gras Jazz Band "wowed" us all at the Jazz Service, Rick and his many helpers were in the kitchen cooking up and serving bacon, sausage, grits, and of course, pancakes. Thanks to the instrumentalists who made the service "come alive," and to Lizzie Baker, who began the service with a beautiful dance to an original piano composition by Angela Arthur. Thanks also to the Youth who helped serve, and to everyone who came and sang, clapped, and yes, "swayed" the night away! Thank you, all!

Wednesday Nights In Lent February 24 - March 17

The Shack:

Where Tragedy Meets Eternity

A group discussion led by Carol Burchfield, Rose Renfroe, and Ellen Andersen.

Library: Book Study:

Yoga as Attentive Prayer

Cindy Michaels

Parish Hall:

Prayer, Simply

Woody Mader and Jim Sneary

Middle School Room (downstairs):

The Sports Page as Gospel

A very informal discussion group led by Rev. Dean Taylor and class participants.

High School Room:

Lenten Series 2010, Sunday Nights in Lent

The Rev. Dr. Lee Humphreys — Christianity Before Constantin

SUNDAY MORNINGS at St. Mark's - for Youth

Hello parents of cherubs! Due to time constraints (teachers), and energy constraints (cherubs), cherub choir practice will move from Wednesdays nights to Sunday during Sunday School. Starting Sunday, March 7th, the new schedule will be, choir practice from 10:00-10:20 and Godly Play from 10:20-10:45. This is for cherub choir only.

10:00 am Sunday School classes for all youth

"Alleluia" Banner Marking The 40 Days Of Lent.

The St. Mark's Children's Sunday School classes decorated an "Alleluia" banner to mark the beginning of the 40 days of Lent. The banner was placed in a "tomb" and buried in the church courtyard. The site was marked by a headstone as a physical reminder that "Alleluia" can not be said during Lent. The children will resurrect the banner on Easter Sunday and it will be used during the Easter Service.

Pictured is Alex burying the Alleluia Banner



SUNDAY MORNINGS at St. Mark's - for Adults

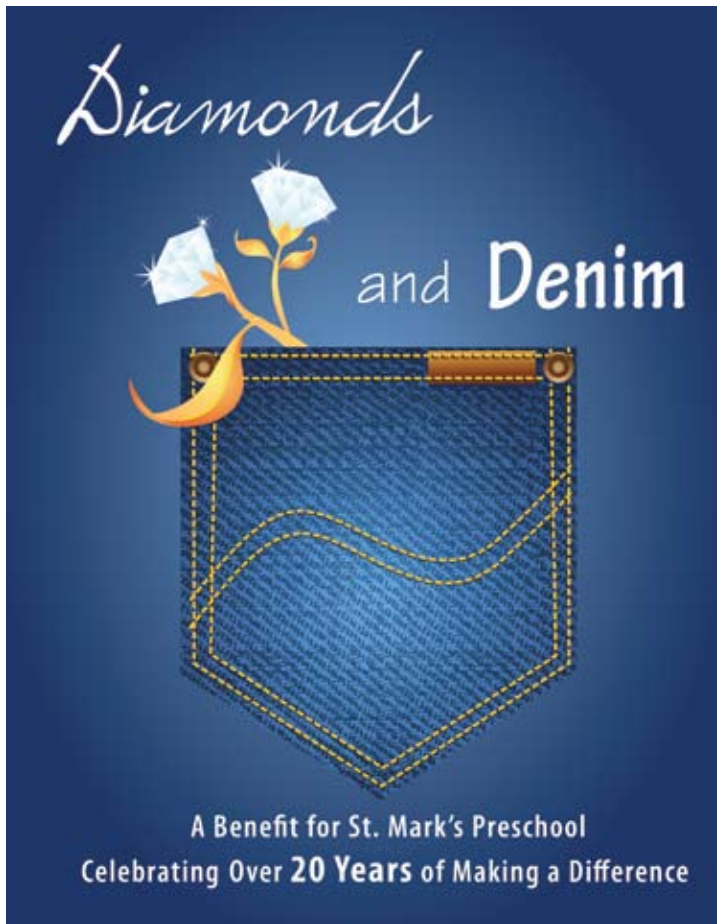
10:00 am Parish Hall - "Religion and Ethics Weekly" This informal discussion class will watch excerpts of the highly acclaimed PBS weekly series "Religion and Ethics Weekly" (aired each Sunday morning on PBS at 6:30 am) and will discuss the news events of the past week from the perspective of faith and religion.

Coffee Clutchers, Office Foyer - This very informal gathering of adults will discuss issues of their life and upcoming events of the week.



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at St. Mark's

- 5:00 Handbells
- 5:30 Supper (no reservations required)
- 6:00 Music Rehearsal for Upcoming Youth Service
- 6:30 Play practice for David and the Giants
- 6:30 Lenten Mini Classes
- 7:30 St. Mark's Choir Practice



SAVE THE DATE

A Benefit for St. Mark's Preschool

- THE BAND WITH NO NAME
- LIVE AUCTION
- SILENT AUCTION
- FOOD, BEVERAGES, BEER, WINE

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 6:30

\$15 per person

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Tickets go on sale March 15

If you have an auction item you would like to donate - please contact Ellen Andersen at the church 278-8857 or Kathi Reisz @ 226-9714 or pkreisz@gmail.com



Congratulations to St. Mark's and supporters of Heifer Day!

We reached a contribution of **\$5000.00** to Heifer International.

This qualifies St. Mark's for an ark.

Especially, thank you to Nick Hull and the youth of St. Marks for making this such a success.

St. Mark's Dr. Rob Rodriguez on Medical Mission trip to Haiti.



Locks Have Been Changed at St. Mark's

All exterior door locks have now been changed—this includes the Church and the Parish Hall. For many who have been used to carrying one key there will now be two. Some may even have three. The goal for changing locks was to provide additional security to the St. Mark's Campus and safety for those who work and volunteer here.

Our Church is unique in that we have many guilds and volunteers who need access to our facilities. The changing of the locks will not change this. Hopefully, in a few weeks we will realize that we have made significant improvements in providing access to those who need it.

In earlier comments we have explained the reasons for this change. We want to emphasize again that during this transition period, some may not have access to the Church or Parish Hall. Just call Bill Weaver (706-278-6817) and he will provide you with your keys. We thought we would need about 50 keys. Well, we were wrong. We have ordered more and are in the process of distributing them. Basically there are now two keys—a key to the Church and a key to the Parish Hall. Please remember that we did not change the interior locks in the Parish Hall except for the offices and the copy room. Therefore some may want to keep the keys they now have to the various closets and storage areas unique to specific activities within the Parish Hall. Again we wish to emphasize that all who need a key will be provided with the appropriate key (s).

Our original intention was to request a deposit for keys. We will not be doing this. Those who have issued checks will have their checks returned. There will be a charge for replacement keys.



A COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

Thank you for all the prayers, food, phone calls, flowers and visits that you have given me before and after my surgery. I know it helped me recuperate! I feel so blessed to be a part of St. Mark's.

Doris Shoemaker

I feel so blessed to be a member of St. Marks. I felt your prayers and blessings during my recent illness. Thank you so much for the cards, visits, flowers, phone calls, and gifts of food. You cannot know how thankful I am for each of you.

Love and Prayers,
Rose

"Dear Friends,
George and I moved from Dalton to Graton, California the first of the year. It was difficult for me to leave St. Mark's Church and Dalton after fifty years. So many major events in my life took place with you—baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals. While there, I was blessed with healing and recovery from life threatening illness. We leased our home and plan to return some day. This new adventure is an answer to my prayer for George to be hired by a church to preach and teach. Please come visit. We are in a beautiful place - Sonoma County. Our address is:
George and Alicia McCormick
2907 S Brush St., Graton, CA 9544
Phone: 707-827-3088; email akmcc25@hotmail.com

Love in Christ,
Alicia Kemp McCormick"



Outreach

OUTREACH COMMISSION: The Outreach Commission voted to appoint Sally Addis as co-chair with Mary Squires. Sally is in the process of learning the details about our outreach ministries so she will be "up to speed" when Mary rotates off the Vestry at the end of 2010. At that time, another co-chair will be appointed to help Sally. This process should ensure continuity and smooth transitions from year to year. Thank you, Sally, for your willingness to serve!

DEO CLINIC: At a recent meeting of DEO Clinic volunteers, it was decided we would have a medication-packaging session after the 11:00 service every first Sunday of the month. This is an effort to supply the medical staff with small, labelled containers of over-the-counter medicines that are given out each week to clients.

If you would like to donate over-the-counter medicines, we need Benadryl, Claritin, and other antihistamines and decongestants; generic versions are fine.

Thank you to Anne Blaylock and Martha Wassum who are doing a great job of assisting our medical volunteers with the administration and organization of the Clinic.

FAMILY PROMISE: Once again, we will welcome homeless families to stay at St. Mark's the week of March 21-28. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down the rooms where the families will stay, spend the night at church, and prepare evening meals. If you are interested in helping, contact Joann Williams (mjpw@optilink.us) or Mary Squires (mysquires@aol.com).

FOOD PANTRY: The Outreach Commission has approved our food pantry becoming a recipient of food items from the Atlanta Community Food Bank. These groceries will be purchased at a discount through the State Nutrition Assistance Program and will be given out only to families with children. We will continue to purchase food from the Chattanooga Area Food Bank as well. Bernadette Smith and David Blaylock have generously agreed to serve as our Food Bank representatives. Don't forget to pick up an extra jar of peanut butter to donate to the pantry!



**Second Sunday Potlouck
March 14 after the 11:00 service**

FINANCE UPDATE

As of 2-23-2010 giving for February

Plate: \$3,614.93
 Pledge: \$20,996.00
 Total giving: \$24,610.93
 Budgeted Giving for February: \$28,142.91
 Short For February: \$3,531.98

Year to Date Pledge Received: \$46,043.00
 Year to Date Budgeted Pledge: \$50,926.16

Year to Date Plate Received: \$6,658.93
 Year to Date Budgeted Plate: \$5,359.66

Total to Date Giving Received: \$52,701.93
 Total to Date Budgeted Giving: \$56,285.82

We are \$3,583.89 short for the Year to Date.

Line of Credit is: \$5,000.00

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Upcoming Dates in April:
 April 1 Maundy Thursday at 7PM
 April 2 Good Friday Service at 12 noon
 April 4 Easter Sunday Services 8am, 9:15
 and 11:00
 April 11 Second Sunday Potluck
 April 24 "Diamonds and Denim" Fundraiser for
 St. Mark's Preschool

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- March 1 David Fleming
- March 2 Jim Sneary, Claudio Leysens
- March 3 Don Wright
- March 4 John Knight
- March 6 Peggy Cantrell, Ana Rodriguez,
John Kenemer, Justin Witt
- March 7 Marion Allen, Brad Britton,
Cecilia Rodriguez
- March 8 Stephen Callaway
- March 10 Jean Corbin
- March 11 Mary Ellen Andersen
- March 12 Norman McCoy
- March 13 Nancy Johnson
- March 14 Paul Anderson
- March 15 Garrett Hamby
- March 16 Kristina Wagner
- March 17 Anna Johnson, Lara Blackburn,
Connie Blaylock
- March 20 Sara Houston
- March 21 Mackenzie Creswell, William Alderman
- March 22 Megan Hull
- March 23 Marsha Treadwell, Jon Burchfield,
Cookie Cook, and John Boykin
- March 24 Gayle Williams
- March 26 David Blaylock
- March 27 Debbie Jones, Jim Prater
- March 30 Rose Renfroe
- March 31 Erin Witt

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- March 12 Bill and Virginia Weaver
- March 13 David and Kay Phillips
- March 16 Jack and Amanda Setters
- March 23 Jack and Katheryn Smith,
Ralph and Teresa Noble
- March 27 Jim and Susan Jaconetti
- March 31 Jim and Tina Jennings

PASTORAL CARE



PRAYER LIST

Rosemary Adams, Marion and James Allen, Carrie Andersen
David Blackburn, Idawee Bowen, Marge Bradshaw
Charlotte Bryant, Betty Carlson, Carey Craig, Jane Harrell
Cathy and John Houser, Josephine Jaconetti, Janet Johnson
Phyllis Jordan, Julia Lansing, Joan Lidderdale, Gwen Manly
Alicia Kemp McCormick, Alice Oosterhoudt, Patsy Rains
Glenn Smail, Katheryn Smith, Meg Smith,
John & Patricia Sportiello, Jean Tinsley, Virginia Weaver
Andrew Wood, David Wycherley

Please help keep the Prayer List current. If you have new prayer concerns or are aware of any that have resolved, please contact the church office so that we may keep the list up-to-date. Thank you.

PASTORAL CARE

The St. Mark's Pastoral Care Committee would appreciate your assistance with updating the church staff of any pastoral needs among our congregation. During regular business hours, please contact the Church office at 706.278.8857. For after hours needs please contact Dean Taylor, Rector (706-226-2345 home, 706-264-2345 cell)

PRAYER CHAIN

The St. Mark's Prayer Chain continues to actively serve the prayer needs of our parish community. If you have a prayer request, contact the prayer chain leader, Barbara Yarbrough (706-226-4147)

BIRTHS

Congratulations to John and Marilyn Hutcheson on the birth of their grandson, Ethan Jacob Collett, born January 31 in Las Vegas, Nevada. His parents are Ned and Ginger Collett.

Congratulations to Ty and Whitney Gay on the birth of their son, Luke Connor Gay, born February 15th in Dalton.

St. Mark's Staff

The Reverend C. Dean Taylor, Rector

dean@stmarksdalton.org

Nicholas Hull, Youth Minister

nickahull@gmail.com

Heather Adams, Children's Ministries Director

adams.hr@gmail.com

Mrs. Nancy Bell, Parish Administrator

secretary@stmarksdalton.org

Ms. Sally Huggins, Financial Secretary

financial@stmarksdalton.org

Mrs. Ellen Andersen, Preschool Director

ellen@stmarksdalton.org

Mrs. Judy Presley, Banner

secretary@stmarksdalton.org

We hope you enjoyed this edition of The Banner. Contact the church office if you're having trouble receiving the newsletter. Also, check our website at www.stmarksdalton.org to keep up to date on St. Mark's news, calendar, and Master Schedule.

Do you have friends who might be interested in what's going on at St. Mark's? Great! Anyone can receive The Banner online. To sign up: Go to the link for signing up for the newsletter on the St. Mark's website.

Submissions for The Banner are always welcome. Please contact the church office for deadlines and submission instructions.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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