



# St. Mark's Remarks

1008 Franklin Rd. SW • Roanoke, VA 24018 • (540) 344-9051

November 2018

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT & REFUGEE SERVICES OF COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mark your calendars for St. Mark's eighth annual Carols By Candlelight, featuring the St. Mark's Choir and Roanoke Chamber Brass. We look forward to sharing this glorious service of lessons and carols, which has become a tradition for many throughout the greater Roanoke community, ushering in the Christmas Season.

We want to celebrate the gift of our Savior not only with beautiful words and music, but also by remembering those in need. This year we are partnering with Commonwealth Catholic Charities to support their ministry to immigrants and refugees. The scriptures teach us, "When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God." -Leviticus 19:33-34. According to Matthew's Gospel, the holy family became refugees after the Lord's birth (Matthew 2:13-14).



For more than thirty-five years CCC has been providing resettlement services that help these individuals achieve stability and equip them with the skills and guidance they need to begin their new lives in the United States. Their work is well-respected in the Roanoke community and beyond. In addition, they are one of only nine resettlement agencies with a cooperative agreement with the Department of State. The refugees assisted by CCC are fully vetted by the Department of State in coordination with the U.S. security agencies and have undergone rigorous background checks.

Refugees come with great need, having left their homes, possessions, and often even their families in search of safety and a new start. They arrive in America with hopes for a brighter future. The need for comprehensive and credible immigrant and refugee services is greater than ever. Please know that one-hundred percent of the offerings received at the service will be given to support the immigration and refugee services of Commonwealth Catholic Charities.

Carols by Candlelight is a worship service which takes tremendous planning and resources. We are recruiting volunteers to help in a variety of ways. Sign-up sheets are posted in the bulletin board near the doors to the nave. Your generous financial support is needed, too. Prayerfully consider how you may wish to support this worship service and help St. Mark's continue to grow in mission. You are encouraged to complete the sponsorship form below and send it to the church office. Thank you for your continuing support of the mission and ministry at St. Mark's.

### **Detach the form and return it to the church office by Dec. 2.**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church • 1008 Franklin Rd. SW • Roanoke, VA 24018

### **Carols By Candlelight 2018**

I would like to support this year's Carols by Candlelight, music & flowers for Christmas at the following level:

Sustainer (\$500 and above)  Benefactor (\$200-\$499)  Patron (\$100-\$199)  Sponsor (\$50-\$99)  Friend (\$25-\$49)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, you may list my name in the bulletin as a donor.  No, please do not include my name in the bulletin.

Make my gift to the glory of God  in honor of:  in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to "St. Mark's Lutheran Church."*

## OUTREACH OUTLOOK

### THE FOOD PANTRY

During the month of October, the Food Pantry distributed food to feed 91 individuals. Thank you to the October volunteers:

**Caleb, Scott, Luke, McKinley, Melissa, Ralph and Sandy Anders, Clara Chitty, Laura Bolton, Suzy Bubnell, Judy Adkins, Shon & Jessica Thompson, George Kegley, and Martha Eddleman and Connie Watkins.**

Thanksgiving Food Bag Delivery



### THANKSGIVING FOOD BAGS

Mark your calendars now for St. Mark's annual delivery of Thanksgiving food bags and boxes.

Volunteers are asked to be present on Tuesday morning, Nov. 20th at 8:30 to deliver fifty (50) bags and boxes of food to hungry households throughout the Roanoke community. With enough volunteers, we should be through in two or three hours.

St. Mark's partners with Roanoke Social Services to select the families and individuals who receive these holiday food bags. If you have not participated in this ministry in the past, this is a great time to start. Speak with **George Kegley, 366-4607.**



**Special Thanks to: George Kegley and Connie Watkins** for picking up 518lbs of food from the food bank and delivering it to St. Mark's Food Pantry in October.



During the month of October the Clothes Closet provided clothing to a total of 70 (11 new) individuals. Thank you to the October Clothes Closet volunteers: **Gail & Sid Scott, Suzy Bubnell, Charlotte & Sonny Scholz, Linda Turner, Kathron Richards and Shirley Dyer.**

## FELLOWSHIP



### THANKSGIVING LUNCH

St. Mark's Congregation, family and friends are invited to the annual Thanksgiving luncheon to be held on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, in the fellowship hall immediately after worship. The Fellowship Committee will provide the meal and the congregation is asked to provide desserts.

Due to limited space, please do not bring anything requiring refrigeration or needing to be baked. **All are invited!!**

### ST. MARK'S WOMEN

The regular monthly meeting of St. Mark's Lutheran Church Women will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, in the Community Room at Brandon Oaks. All women are invited to attend. Please note that, as in the past, our December meeting (on the 11th) will be a luncheon, also at Brandon Oaks, and the cost will be \$15.00. If you plan to join us at that luncheon, please bring your payment to the November meeting. Hope to see you there!

### Looking for a chance to create your own fall floral arrangement?

Join us on Saturday, November 10 at 10 am for a flower arranging class. We'll talk about some design basics, learn a little about flowers, and have fun doing it. The cost for materials is \$25.



If you're interested, please let Jacob Gordon know by October 31. You can speak to him after church or email him: **jrgordon79@gmail.com.**

## IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

### November Baptismal Anniversaries

We give thanks to God for the gift of new life through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. In November we give thanks and celebrate with:



- 11/8 Chi Chi Ugochukwu  
11/25 James Armentrout  
11/27 Nan Keenan

### November Birthdays

Members of St. Mark's family celebrating birthdays in November are:



- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 11/2 Mo Nelson        | 11/13 Jessica Thompson |
| 11/4 Briana Merritt   | 11/14 Haley Merritt    |
| 11/5 Tim Jones        | 11/16 Trinti House     |
| 11/6 Andy Stowasser   | 11/18 Danny Wade       |
| 11/10 Ashley Cason    | 11/20 Renate Kemp      |
| 11/12 Ron Adkins      | 11/23 Aliene Walker    |
| 11/13 Jennifer Sutton | 11/24 Patti Mills      |

## PRAYER MATTERS

The following individuals and families were named in prayer in worship during October. Let us continue to keep them in prayer. We pray: O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants the help of your power that they may experience the healing power of your Holy Spirit. We pray for:

**Russell & Nancy Dyer, Norman, Butch, Mike & Brittani, Sidney & Wanda Miller, Shirley Aynes, Shirely Simmons, Nolan and Carter, Teresa Kincer, Tom & Jean, doris Eakin, Jeff Howard, Family of Lloyd Wood, Ann Al Nelson, Cindy Shockley, Angela & Allison Dudley, Alma, David, and Shawn Wertz, Christy Scott, Roberta Werts, LeighAnn Duncan, Jo Keeton, Steve Gordon, Jackie, Dylan Davis, Lisa Mayfield, Erick Johnson, Mark, Katrina Koiner, John Holt, Brittany, Marilyn Holzschuh, Ron Adkins, Steve Thompson, Judy Adkins, Betty Grange, Jenny Keenan, Sandara Lee, Sally's Family, Sonja, Clark & Mary Family, Lenore Trout, Cindy Schockley, Glorine Largen, Nancy Duncan, Teagan, Sutton, Jonathon Ugochukwu, Tom Oliver, Pam Taylor, Lea Williams, Toni, Brenda, Patsy, Jordan Bryant, Family of Reverend Philip Gaines, Julie Kizer Family, Denise Capito, Steve Weaver, Dax & Sheri, John StClair, Bill Triplett, Kavanaugh Family, Aliene Walker, Chris, Kim Reedy, Sue Hayes, Nolan, Brenda Rechtman, Robert Wertz, David, Jim & Rick Reese, Jasper, Harlee King, Denny Barbour, Amanda Houff & Family, Guntlaw Family, Lee Colls, Caroyl S., Sherry R., Family of Dale Catrter, Linda Minnix, Ann, Sue, Jamie Jackson, Sandra Lee, and Calvin and Arbutus Compton through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Welcome New Members

**Janet Shaner** came to St. Mark's by affirmation of faith. The daughter of a Lutheran pastor, she enjoys gardening / yard work, spending time with her three-year-old beagle and being engaged in faith-formation and outreach ministries. Janet and her husband, Bill, live at 5931 Brethren Rd., Roanoke, VA 24014. She can be reached by phone at (540) 467-5108 or email, [janetshaner@gmail.com](mailto:janetshaner@gmail.com)

**Mary & Clark Swiers** Joined St. Mark's by affirmation of faith. Mary's early years were spent at St. Mark's. In fact, she was confirmed during the final Palm Sunday service at St. Mark's previous building before the congregation moved to the current location. Mary and Clark have recently moved back to Roanoke from the lake and enjoy bridge, board games and reading. They live at 4825 Glen Ivy Ln. #208, Roanoke, VA 24018. They can be reached by phone at (540) 297-4731 (Mary) and (540) 529-8546 (Clark) or email, [clark.swiers@gmail.com](mailto:clark.swiers@gmail.com) and [mary.swiers68@gmail.com](mailto:mary.swiers68@gmail.com)

**Jacob Gordon** came to St. Mark by transfer from St. John Lutheran Church in Mars, PA. Jacob, as you may know, is our organist & choir director. What you may not know is that Jacob is also works for Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania) as the Manager, Systems and Analytics. Jacob lives at 743 Spruce St., Vinton, VA 24179 and can be reached by phone at (412) 980-1781 and email, [jrgordon79@gmail.com](mailto:jrgordon79@gmail.com).

## FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

### SIMPLY GIVING®

We continue to offer electronic fund transfers as an alternative to using your offering envelopes on Sunday. Participants may specify that offerings be transferred weekly on Monday or monthly on the 1 or 15.

Making electronic payments can be a helpful way to keep your giving current especially when you are able to be present for worship.

The program is free to participants and the church. Member enrollment forms for new participants are available in the church office.

Those already participating do not need to complete another enrollment form, but should notify Financial Administrator Kathy Bryant if they wish to make any changes to their current giving.

### Strong Start Envelopes:

Everyone is encouraged to use the Strong Start for Mission envelope to help our ministries have a great start at the beginning of the year. Our goal is to have 100, generous \$52 gifts.

We are reminded that regular use of offering envelopes assists the financial secretaries with their record keeping. Those who give electronically are reminded of the special offering envelopes throughout the year.

## GENERAL INFORMATION



Did you know? That you can donate to the church just by using your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card. Go to [kroger.com](http://kroger.com) to sign up today.

Kroger Community Rewards -Giving More Back to the Community!  
Kroger is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations will earn millions of dollars through Kroger Community Rewards. Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy.. All you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Sign In or Create an Account to Enroll. Once signed in you can enroll or update your Community Rewards under your Account Settings.

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

For December are due in the church office by Wednesday, November 21. Please submit articles by email (preferably) or in written form!

### FINANCE COMMITTEE & CHURCH COUNCIL

The Finance Committee and Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 13th. Finance at 5:45pm, and council at 6:45 p.m.



The church office and preschool will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The annual congregational meeting for St. Mark's Lutheran Church will be on Sunday, December 2, 2018 immediately following worship. We will be electing new church council members and approving the 2019 spending plan for mission and ministry.

## Worship & Music Notes

### Worship Leaders for November

Date	Acolyte	Crucifer	Communion Assistant	Lector	Greeters	Coffee Hour
November 4	Ben Armentrout	Abby Trout	Jerry McDaniel	Wanda Miller	Ginny McLelland	Sid & Gail Scott
November 11	Jonah Trout	Caleb Anders	Mary Ann Snider	Connie Parsell	Sandy Anders	Sharon Huff & Blake Medding
November 18	Lebron Parsell	Haley Merritt	Sabina Ugochukwu	Eric Mills	Carl & Carol Jensen	Thanksgiving Lunch
November 25	Rilee Rodgers	Eric Armentrout	Patti Mills	Nan Keenan	Sid & Gail Scott	Carl & Carol Jensen

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16th at 5:00 p.m.**  
**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT!**

### St. Mark's to Celebrate 150 Years!

In 2019, our congregation will celebrate its 150th anniversary. In honor of this momentous occasion we will be publishing tidbits of St. Mark's history. Thanks to **George Kegley** for this historical contribution.

#### A Bit of History from St. Mark's

##### World War I Armistice celebrated at St. Mark's

When the armistice was signed ending World War I on Nov. 11, 1918, St. Mark's had a role in the celebration of the "greatest war in history." The United Synod of the South was holding a convention at St. Mark's to disband after it was formed at St. Mark's 32 years earlier. The convention was held at the brick church on Campbell Avenue.

When news of a big parade on Jefferson Street in downtown Roanoke was received at the convention, the meeting adjourned and Dr. M.G. G. Scherer, United Synod president, and the Rev. J. Luther Sieber, St. Mark's pastor, carried flags in the parade.