



ST MARK'S  
Episcopal Church  
The Missive

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531 West College Avenue, Jonesboro, AR 72401

October 2016

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### A Message from Rev. Hannah....

Last month, I found myself in a wonderful conversation with a parishioner about prayer. I shared something that I have learned about prayer, and I would like to share it with all of you, as well. Often, prayer is much more formative for the person doing the praying, than for the people being prayed for - and this is one of the best and holiest things about it. In this way, parish stewardship is like prayer. When we give our time and our money and ourselves to our church, we are transformed so much more than our facility enhancements can testify to. St. Mark's needs our time and money in order to keep the lights on and the ministries thriving. But we need to give our time and money to St. Mark's in order to be formed into the Body of Christ that we are meant to be.

I will be the first to admit that I am, at times, discouraged at how little I feel the transformation when I write a check to the church that I could be writing toward something more fun or glamorous. But I know from experience, and many of you do as well, that the transformation sneaks up on us and surprises us in ways we never imagined. It is a transformation that is dependent on our faith in it.

This October, our Stewardship Committee, led by the visionary Scott Darwin, will be sharing with us how stewardship has shaped their lives, and how we utilize money and manpower here at St. Mark's. This is a perfect opportunity to ask questions about finances, to have conversations about projects and giving, and to spend time in prayer about our own stewardship contribution. I encourage one and all to be curious and open-minded about what the stewardship campaign might have in store for you this year.

Peace,  
Hannah +

## Shrimp Boil 2016



The Shrimp Boil is approaching. It's on **Saturday, October 22.** Tickets were mailed out on September 20. Please have your ticket money or unused tickets returned to the church office by the Sunday preceding the Shrimp Boil. While many positions have been filled, we will need a large number of workers to help at various places. At this time our needs include people to serve food, work the kitchen, and two crews to clean up, one for the hall and one for the kitchen. Even more important at this time is the need for someone to take charge and head up each of these five areas. If you're interested, there are volunteer sheets in the Narthex or you can contact me at [garylatanich@gmail.com](mailto:garylatanich@gmail.com), or call me at 870-935-0236. Remember. We're better together.

Gary

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## Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

A big thanks to all who contributed food items, money, or volunteer hours to the Food Pantry. In August the Pantry served 2028 individuals, 797 families, and distributed 30,599 pounds of food (13.9 tons) In August St. Mark's collected 459 pounds of food, we donated \$507, and volunteered 48 hours. Among the 62 non-commercial donors (grocery stores), our food contributions and monetary contributions placed us second in both categories. So congratulations to all who contributed. Keep up the good work. As we head into fall, vacations are still taking a toll on volunteers at the Pantry. If you would like to volunteer help distribute food, we would welcome your help. St. Mark's day is Tuesdays, from 10 to 2:00. If you're interested there are volunteer sheets in the Narthex or you can contact me at [garylatanich@gmail.com](mailto:garylatanich@gmail.com), or call me at 870-935-0236.

## Christian Education

Christian Education for school age children from 1<sup>st</sup> grade through sixth grade is now underway. Our teaching staff is in place and we now have commitments from St. Mark families to provide meals for the first semester of Christian Education. With a great deal of enthusiasm, we welcome our returning students and new families to St. Mark's Christian Education program.

A child's religious education is one of the most important components in building a healthy, lifelong relationship with God and with the community. More importantly it helps children form lifelong relationships with Jesus Christ. There are few gifts a parent can give to a child that are as valuable or as enduring as formal religious education sessions.

Christian Education sessions for children are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30pm. Community Time is from 6:00-6:30pm where children eat a meal together. Afterwards, kids go into their assigned classrooms for a lesson for the evening. If you would like to register your child, grandchild or a friend of the family please pick up one of the registration forms for Christian Education that are located in the narthex. If you would like more information, please contact Rose Mary ([rosemarylatanich@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarylatanich@gmail.com) or 935-0236).

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## St. Mark's Fall Festival: October 26



On Wednesday, October 26, our families from St. Mark will gather in the hall for our annual Fall Festival. Our festivities will begin with families first eating a meal together at 6:00pm. Afterwards, children (toddlers - 6<sup>th</sup> grade) will have the opportunity to safely "trick or treat" in their Halloween costumes from St. Mark's parking lot. We would like to encourage parents and parishioners to provide hotdogs and to bring treats that can be handed out from the trunks of their cars. To be festive, parents might want to dress in Halloween attire or to decorate their vehicles.

If you can help with Fall Festival festivities please contact Rose Mary ([rosemarylatanich@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarylatanich@gmail.com) or 935-0236).

Don't miss the EYC Haunted House! October 26



## October Birthdays

10/02 Sue McDoniel  
10/03 Olivia Joy Langford  
10/06 Cameo Watkins  
10/07 Andy Peeler  
10/09 Austin Zamora  
10/11 Jane Gary  
10/11 Rylee Dacus  
10/14 Leigha Woody  
10/15 Mindy Shields  
10/18 Maggie Ferguson  
10/19 Katherine Cole  
10/20 Susan Christian  
10/20 Darren Moore  
10/24 Sarah Gillis  
10/27 Mark Steed  
10/28 Adele Barnett

10/29 Ryan Boyd  
10/29 Jay Cunningham  
10/30 James McIntosh  
10/31 Thomas Smith  
10/31 Todd Welch

## October Anniversaries

10/07 Spencer & Maggie Guinn  
10/09 Greg & Hope Smith  
10/21 Mike & Jennifer Engelken



St. Mark's Day School

So much to look forward to in October! Cooler temperatures, leaf changes, playing outside, pumpkins, and of course Halloween! October is also Fire Safety Month. We will have a visit from our local fire department to discuss safety with the children and let everyone tour a firetruck. St. Mark's regularly practices fire drills as well as tornado and earthquake drills. We will also have other community helpers visit the school; police and paramedics will be here to talk to the children. Looking forward to a great month!

Peggy

## From the Diocese

### Arkansas Youth Event

The Arkansas Youth Event (AYE) is **Oct. 14–16, at Camp Mitchell**. This is our fall weekend retreat open to 6th–12th grade youth from across the state. The cost is \$110. Learn more and register on the EYC website. Partial scholarships are often available through your local church and may also be available from the diocese. Contact your church leader first and then the diocese for financial assistance. <http://eycarkansas.org/>

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### ECW Fall Gathering

The Episcopal Church Women's annual Fall Gathering will be held **Oct. 28–29, at Camp Mitchell**. The event will kick off with a gourmet dinner and wine tasting Friday evening. The Rev. Carey Stone, rector fo St. Luke's in North Little Rock, will present on the Lord's Prayer, and the Rev. Mary Helen Hedges will lead a Cowsmic Walk ritual. For more information and to register, download the brochure. <http://arkansasecw.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Fall-Gathering-brochure-5.pdf>

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### Mourner's Path Facilitator Training

A facilitator training school for “Walking the Mourner’s Path” is being offered at St. Mark’s in Little Rock on **Oct. 27–29**. The training is for those who would like to lead Walking the Mourner’s Path groups in their congregation. The early registration fee is \$350, or \$250 if two or more from a parish or organization attend. Group size will be limited. Visit the Mourner’s Path facilitator training web page for a registration form and instructions. You may also email the Rev. Joanna Seibert with questions. <http://www.mournerspath.com/facilitator.htm>

## Upcoming Events...

October



- Oct 1 Rev. Hannah's Ordination
- Oct 2 Blessing of the Animals  
Daughters of the King
- Oct 8 Episcopal Church Women
- Oct 10 Young Adults
- Oct 15 Fall Clean Up
- Oct 17 Vestry Meeting
- Oct 20 Men's Club
- Oct 22 Shrimp Boil and Silent Auction
- Oct 26 Trunk or Treat
- Oct 28 Salmon Slam
- Oct 30 Consecration Sunday and Luncheon

## Two Saints' Schedule

- Oct 1- Team 8
- Oct 8- Team 9
- Oct 15- Team 10
- Oct 22- Team 1



## Financial Update

	<u>September</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Pledges and Offerings Received	\$ 17,802	\$ 214,813
Needed to meet budget	<u>25,069</u>	<u>231,888</u>
Budget Surplus (Shortfall)	( \$ 7,267)	(\$ 17,075)
<b>Actual Expenses Paid</b>	<b>\$ 31,724</b>	<b>\$ 230,293</b>
<b>Actual (Shortfall)</b>	<b>( \$ 13,922)</b>	<b>(\$ 15,480)</b>
<b>Loan Balance</b>	<b>\$ 161,960</b>	