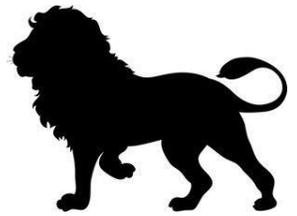


The Messenger



Monthly Newsletter of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 2019

From the Pastor



We are halfway through our calendar and fiscal year as well as our liturgical calendar. On June 9, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday and move into the liturgical season known as "Ordinary Time," or "Time after Pentecost." The color for the season is green, and we will remain there until we begin again in Advent. The Time after Pente-

cost is a season of growth (hints the color green). It is a season of renewing and growing in faith, retelling the stories, miracles, and parable of Jesus. It is important for us to remember what Jesus has done as we reflect and mature in faith, realizing what Jesus is doing now and promises to do through each and every one of us. It can be too easy for us to narrow in on the specific tasks, committees, or ministries within which we each participate, and therefore not always be aware to what else is going on. So, it seems to me that the June newsletter is a perfect time to give a quick update on the many exciting things happening at St. Mark's and, if so moved, consider getting involved in new ways.

Invite Team - committed to the ministry of hospitality, welcoming our many guests and making them feel at home. This team is evaluating and updating the signage at St. Mark's, including a new banner in the front yard. They continue to work on new visitor packets for guests, welcome bags for new members, worship bags for children, and name tags for membership. The Invite team is responsible for the church's online and social media presence and content. We are always seeking to build and foster relationships.

Celebrate Team - committed to empowering the worship life of our community. This team continues to (re)evaluate our worship and liturgies, brainstorming new approaches to worship (like stations during Lent), and the aesthetics of worship (you like the white and red banners). Currently, this team is

developing a Junior crucifer program, creating new chrismons, and scheduling Fall concerts and events. The Celebrate team is responsible to the Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and all worship opportunities.

Nourish Team - committed to enriching and strengthening the faith of our community. Commitment starts with our sunbeam children's Sunday school and extends all the way to our Adult Sunday school. The Nourish team is planning for the fall, including back to school Sunday, Adult Sunday school opportunities, a study on Revelation, a 9-week, faith-based financial workshop, and a seminar for end-of-life preparations.

Send Team - committed to partnering with community organizations to carry out the mission of the church. The Send team collected Diapers for the Ark and Lutheran Social Services as well as basic needs for the Florida Bahamas Synod Assembly Service Project. The Send team works with Family Promise, OneBlood, UCOM, LSS, Novus Way, and many more community partners. There are always opportunities for service and community partnerships.

Fellowship Committee - committed to fostering relationship through social events and receptions. This committee provided dinners for Lent, Easter breakfast, and the Jack Mixer Fish Fry. This fall, they will host Oktoberfest (10/19) and Trunk-or-Treat. The Fellowship committee is also responsible for coffee hour, Supper club, Lion's pride, and all church receptions.

Property Committee - committed to the care of our property and facilities. Our Men-in-mission, along with the St. Mark's Property committee continue to tackle a punch list of deferred maintenance items at the church. They are committed to both the beauty and long-term sustainability of St. Mark's facility. Most recently they replaced nearly 90% of our light bulbs with LEDs. Next, they will replace the blinds in the Ark, as well as beautify the front lawn of St. Mark's. There are plenty of opportunities with the Property Team to use your gifts on behalf of the church.

We are in an exciting time for not only the life of the Christian church, but St. Mark's as well. This is your church, and if you have interest in becoming involved in a new or different way, please contact Pastor.Daniel.Locke@gmail.com. I would be excited to talk with you.

Lastly, thank you so much to each and every one of you for sharing your gifts with our community of faith! God is good.

— **Pastor Daniel Locke**

From the Council President

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's,

Our next Council meeting will be held on June 24 at 6:00 pm. Any member is welcome to attend that meeting. If you would like to address the Council on any subject, please contact me by email at least one week in advance of the meeting. In the meanwhile, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me. Your Council is here to serve you!

— **Ray Booth, Council President**
(904) 673-0048 | RayBooth55@gmail.com

1. The repair of the leaking water main has been delayed because our contractor had previously scheduled jobs which were ahead of our job on the contractor's waiting list. We are hopeful that this will be addressed within the next 30 days.
2. Until the water leak is repaired, other maintenance items are on hold. While we have an estimate for repair of the water main, it is always possible that we will encounter unforeseen problems that will drive the cost over the original estimate.
3. The Constitutional Revision Committee should begin their work in the next month. If you have any ideas about areas which you think should be addressed, please present them to either Darryl Kendrick, or me.
4. The Council spent some time reviewing the Leadership Retreat and hearing from Kathy VanOsdol regarding a report on the current climate of the community surrounding Saint Mark's.
5. The date for the annual congregation meeting has been moved from December 8 to December 15.

From the Ark Director



I have often said that St. Mark's Ark and St. Mark's Lutheran is a married couple. Well, the Mark's couple has been enjoying working together, lately. A few examples include fellowship, working and learning together.

This year's Easter Egg Hunt was tons of fun. There were over 400 eggs for children of the Ark, the church and the community to find. The children's faces were painted by members of St. Mark's Youth while other youth helped engage children in Easter themed art.

St. Mark's Ark staff must have at least 10 continuing education hours each year. This year many of those hours were done on campus and taught by church members. Leslie Allen facilitated the Circle of Security eight-hour courses. For several weeks we stayed after work to learn about giving children enough space to learn and grow while making sure they felt secure. Leslie not only taught the class, she fed the class as well. We dined on lasagna, soup, salad and many other tasty treats. Jane Kilby taught two nights of the First Aid course. She was informative and thorough. Our staff was so grateful the classes being offered right here on campus.

Jenny and Mary went out into the community to collect donations for our annual silent auction. They work so hard to make sure that we have fun things for people to bid on. This year Dianne Marcotte donated a bit of nostalgia with a basket of Wizard of Oz items.

The night of the Spring Program and Auction is always full of fun, food and fellowship. But there are two people that I think have more fun than the rest of us. Ron Eckels works in the kitchen, takes tickets, talks to those who come through the line and taste tests the food. And, Mary Cusick bids on items, plays the raffles, and talks with our families. This year she won the 50/50 raffle and gave her winnings back to the Ark.

— **Patrice Roux-Neal, Director, St. Mark's Ark**

Music Notes

I write this article to voice my appreciation for all who have supported me on my quest to receive the Master of Arts in Church Music degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. You can read about the beginning of the journey on my blog at

<http://smljax.blogspot.com/2013/06/a-new-endeavor.html>.

Financial support from St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church was critical. This support came primarily through the line item for continuing education in the spending authorization. There were also several times when our Council approved extra money when the academic and financial load got a little heavy. Thank you to St. Mark's.

Also thank you to the St. Mark's Foundation for giving grants that helped me to complete my work.

Thank you to those who made additional contributions to the continuing education line item. Contributions to the Christmas purse over the last several years have also helped to pay for classes and books. Thank you to all of you for your financial and moral support.

You may be curious to know what requirements I had to fulfill to receive this degree.

Since the degree is actually a theological degree (rather than musical), there were several core theology courses: Systematic Theology, Introduction to Worship, New Testament, Old Testament, Lutheran Confessions, and Themes in Church History.

There were also some core classroom music courses: Music in the Contemporary Church, Music and Worship in the African American Tradition, Music and Liturgy, Leading the Church's Song, and Building Parish Music Ministries.

Liturgical Choir was an important summer course. This meant working with my colleague/classmates (and now dear friends) to provide musical support for the daily worship services at TLS.

Most of the above I completed on campus in Ohio during the three-week summer term. I did a couple via Skype during the regular academic year. Old Testament was not offered by Trinity at a convenient time, so I took it through Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC.

During the regular academic year, I studied "applied music" privately. This included three semesters of organ study with Dr. Laura Ellis at the University of Florida, voice lessons with Dr. James Hall of the University of North Florida, and composition with Bob Moore and John Carter.

Additional degree requirements called for 13 hours of electives, Boundaries Training, and a Racial Awareness Seminar. Finally, I was required to demonstrate musical competence through the completion of two "juries." My juries included composition and keyboard/organ performance.

Several people have asked me, "What's next?" I'm fairly certain that my formal academic education has come to an end. I look forward to spending some time living with what I have learned and putting it to deeper practice. I'm considering a certification program through the American Guild of Organists. Mostly, I am looking forward to becoming active again in the AGO and the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

I am honored to have received this degree and feel a great sense of accomplishment. I hope St. Mark's shares this feeling with me because I could not have done it without you!

– Tony Cruz, *Cantor*

Diapers & Wipes Drive

In honor of Mother's Day, we had a new service project this year. We collected diapers and wipes drive during the month of May. Thank you to everyone who donated diapers and wipes. We were able to divide up the donations to support St. Mark's Ark Preschool, at our church, and the Refugee Program at LSS. Wow!

SEND Team Updates

Don't forget... The first Sunday of the month, you will continue to see special offering envelopes on the pews for UCOM donations. Every dollar adds up so please give a little extra if you are able. Our red food cart is located by the front door of the church and you can drop off any food items for distribution.



God's Work. Our Hands.

Sunday, September 8, will be God's Work. Our Hands. day at St. Mark's and at ELCA churches across the US. This is always a wonderful day filled with worship, fellowship and service together.

Now is the time to reserve your yellow God's Work. Our Hands. T-shirt. If you have one from a previous year, you can wear it again. If you do not have one or need another size (sometimes the washing machine shrinks our clothes), be sure to sign up on the sheet in Hart Hall. There is no cost to order a shirt. We just ask that you wear it proudly. Orders for additional T-shirts will be placed July 10, so do not miss out. We love seeing everyone in their yellow shirts on this special day.

If you are interested in serving on the planning committee, leading a station or have an idea for an outreach, please contact Tracy Williams at tracyb78@yahoo.com or 904-655-0049.

Save the Date!

2019 SEND Team Events

- ◆ UCOM Dollar Sunday: June 2
- ◆ Synod Assembly Mission Project Collection: June
- ◆ Family Promise Host Facility: June 30 – July 7
- ◆ School Supply Drive: June 23 – July 21
- ◆ Gods Work. Our Hands.: September 8
- ◆ Trunk or Treat: October 30
- ◆ Birthday for Christ: December 11

Synod Assembly Service Project

We will be collecting items for the 2019 Synod Assembly Service Project through June 2. Special thanks to Tom Serdar for leading our effort to collect the items and connecting with Thrivent for additional support.

The Florida Bahamas Synod Assembly is coming up in June and you can help support the Synod Assembly service project. This year, the Community Hope Center of Osceola County was selected as the community agency to support. The First Coast Conference has been asked to donate Q-Tips, toothbrushes, tooth paste, mouthwash, individual packets of goldfish and individual packets of fruit roll ups. Please help fill the plastic storage bin in Hart Hall with these items. Pastor Daniel will take the bin and all the goodies to Synod Assembly. You can donate from now until June 2.

The Community Hope Center's mission is to provide assistance to all those in need in Osceola County. They secure a "no wrong door" policy and are committed to providing resources or referrals for those who are actively searching for assistance and who are willing to forge a path towards self-sufficiency. They currently serve over 1,100 homeless and low-income families (25,000 + individuals, of which 5,000+ are children). Nearly all adults whom they serve have jobs but can't even make it living paycheck to paycheck.

St. John's School Supply Drive

Be on the lookout for an opportunity to donate school supplies to St. John's Lutheran Church. This is always a favorite event for many of our members. Many years ago, Pete Armstrong, started this mission project and we are proud to keep it going even after Pete moved. We partner with St. John's Lutheran and they in turn connect the needed items to students and schools in Duval County. It is a great partnership between our two churches.

Donating is simple. You can grab a tag off the presentation board in Hart Hall and drop off the items in the basket. You can also make a donation to this mission project by writing a check out to St. Mark's Lutheran Church and making a notation of school supplies in the memo line. Look for the presentation board on June 23 in Hart Hall.



Spring Supper Club

Please join in the fun of getting to know your fellow congregation members during a casual dinner! The final large group gathering for the Spring Season of Supper Club will be held at the home of Larry and Joyce Wertz on Friday, **June 7 at 6:00 pm**. Sign up for this "Potluck" Dinner on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Place a check by your name on the sheet if you plan to attend and indicate on what dish you would like to bring. (Please bring your own drink.) And, add your name to the list, if you are new to the group. Contact Alice Trainer (tra12017@bellsouth.net) with questions. Hope you'll join us at 2127 River Road for this entertaining evening.

Women of the ELCA



Circle Meetings:

Deborah Circle – Tuesday, June 11 at 9:30 am in Hart Hall

Priscilla Circle – Thursday, June 22 at 11:30 am @ JJ's Bistro de Paris

Lion's Pride



The June Lion's Pride Lunch will be meeting on Friday, June 14, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Clara Echerer (904-737-4480) to confirm your attendance!

Did someone say adventure?

Tour Information and Interest Meeting – June 23

Have you ever wanted to take a tour of the Holy Land in Israel and Palestine, retracing the footsteps of Jesus and the early church? Have you ever wondered where Martin Luther grew up, studied, and served as pastor in Germany? Have you ever wanted to follow the footsteps of Paul across Turkey or Greece?

Well, there is no time like the present! There are a variety of opportunities for us to experience these pilgrimages as a Christian community. On June 23, following worship, we will gather in the library for anyone interested in discussing the possibility of taking a church trip in either 2020 or 2021. If you cannot attend the meeting but you are interested in such a trip, please contact Pastor via email, Pastor.Daniel.Locke@gmail.com.

Library Renewal Project Update

The St. Mark's Library Renewal committee continues to move forward as we prepare to unveil the updated library. We have organized the current materials into a data base and identified nine categories of books. Our policy, procedure and mission statements are in the final stages of development and we hope to present them to church council at the June meeting. We have created the materials wish list and are coordinating with the San Marco Bookstore to process orders soon. A mural design was agreed upon, and there are plans for an open house as well as a book fair in the coming months. Please stay tuned to see specific dates and times

as we finalize these details. Updates will be shared in the weekly ROAR as well as on the website and Facebook page.

In the coming months we will need volunteers to help paint the mural. If you are interested, please contact Rachel Mumford at ramumford@att.net. Additional volunteers will be needed to help with the open house and book fair. Please contact Kathy VanOsdol at tkvano1@comcast.net or 317-459-9766 if you are interested in helping with these activities.

Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and talents to get the project to this point. It is truly a team effort!

Chrismon Ornaments

The Chrismon Team is starting soon on the beading of additional ornaments and we need donations of the following items:

- Any gimp in Gold/White/Ivory/Cream
- Any cording in Gold/White/Ivory/Cream
- Any other trim for edges in Gold/White/Ivory/Cream
- All form of buttons in Gold/White/Ivory/Cream

There will be a box in the Narthex labeled "Chrismon Team" where you can drop these items off on Sundays. Thank you in advance! The first meeting is on **June 8, at 10:00 am**, in the Library. Please bring a sewing needle size 12-13, a needle threader, a little tub for the pearl beads (size of a margarine or yogurt tub with a lid). Looking forward to seeing you all!

– *Monika, Celebrate Team*

THANK YOU

Many thanks for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls from Pastor Locke and fellow congregants. They were most uplifting and energizing in this challenging time.

God Bless,
Carl Weidenmier
C/O Marsha Watson
5301 Providence County Club Drive
Charlotte, NC 28277

Sending Well Wishes...

Zachary Yudin, grandson of Paul and Judy Eggen, just underwent a bone marrow transplant. He will be in the hospital with his mom for many weeks. If you would like to send cards, the address is: *Levine Children's Hospital, 1000 Blythe Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28203, 11th Floor.*

Worship Assistant Schedule for May 2019

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Altar Guild
Saturday, June 1	Kathy VanOsdol	Neil Daraskavich	Ginger Hudson & Marieanne Prokop
Sunday, June 2 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	Ellen Olson	Alonzo Batson	Mary Cusick & Francine Baker
Sunday, June 9 <i>Day of Pentecost</i>	Jane Kilby	Karl Koepke	Mary Cusick & Nicki Hassell
Saturday, June 15	Loree Mueller	Jennifer Treat	Ginger Hudson & Marieanne Prokop
Sunday, June 16 <i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i>	Ron Eckels	Judy Batson	Rachel Mumford & Mary Cox
Sunday, June 23 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Gary Pudimat	Kathy VanOsdol	Volunteer
Sunday, June 30 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Steve Hicks	John Viescas	Volunteer

Date	Altar Flowers	Order of St. John	Nursery Volunteers
Saturday, June 1			
Sunday, June 2 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	Sue & Bill Rust	Kamm Eckels	Angie Powell & TBD
Sunday, June 9 <i>Day of Pentecost</i>	Festival Stands: OPEN	Tahiana Rakotomandriandra, Gina Olson, Debora Koepke & John Viescas	Angie Powell & TBD
Saturday, June 15			
Sunday, June 16 <i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i>	Gwen Reiser	Miora Rambeloarisoa, Bridget Pudimat, Kevin Dial & Gary Pudimat	Angie Powell & TBD
Sunday, June 23 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Tracy & David Williams	Becca Jorn	Angie Powell & TBD
Sunday, June 30 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Jennifer Treat	Gina Olson	Angie Powell & TBD

Date	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday, June 1		
Sunday, June 2 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	Rachel & John Mumford	Patrice Jenkins & Mary Cusick
Sunday, June 9 <i>Day of Pentecost</i>	Rachel & John Mumford	Mary & Mike Award
Saturday, June 15		
Sunday, June 16 <i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i>	Rachel & John Mumford	Mary & Mike Award
Sunday, June 23 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Rachel & John Mumford	Judy & Alonzo Batson
Sunday, June 30 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Rachel & John Mumford	Judy & Alonzo Batson

***If you are unable to serve at your appointed time, please arrange for a substitute.**

Thank you for your service to St. Mark's!

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00 am Men-in-Mission Bible Study + Spring Cleaning 5:30 pm Casual/Contemporary Worship @ Nave
2 7th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Worship Service @ Nave 11:00 am Adult Sunday School @ San Marco Room		4 10:00 am Ark Chapel @ Nave 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall	5 5:30 pm St. Mark's Ringers Rehearsal @ Nave 6:30 pm Volleyball Group @ Fellowship Hall 7:30 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal @ Nave	6 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall	7 Youth Group Camping @ Ichetucknee 6:00 pm Spring Supper Club Noon Lion's Pride @ Fellowship Hall	8 Youth Group Camping @ Ichetucknee 10:00 am Chrismon Team Meeting @ Library
9 Day of Pentecost Youth Group Camping @ Ichetucknee 9:30 am Worship Service @ Nave 11:00 am Jack Mixer Memorial Fish Fry @ Fellowship Hall		11 10:00 am Ark Chapel @ Nave 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall	12 6:30 pm Volleyball Group @ Fellowship Hall	13 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall		15 Messenger Submissions Due 5:30 pm Casual/Contemporary Worship @ Nave
16 Holy Trinity Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service @ Nave		18 10:00 am Ark Chapel @ Nave 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall	19 Staff and Committee Reports Due @ Noon 6:30 pm Volleyball Group @ Fellowship Hall	20 6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting @ Office Suite 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall		
23 2nd Sunday of Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service @ Nave 11:00 am Tour Interest and Info Meeting @ Library 30 3rd Sunday of Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service @ Nave FAMILY PROMISE WEEK	24 6:00 pm Council Meeting @ Library	25 10:00 am Ark Chapel @ Nave 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall 7:00 pm Ark Board Meeting @ Library	26 6:30 pm Volleyball Group @ Fellowship Hall	27 6:00 pm Yoga @ Hart Hall		

Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Mission

We invite all people to our church home to celebrate God's many gifts. Nourished by Christ Jesus and led by the Holy Spirit, we send enthusiastic servants to proclaim the hope and joy of life in Christ.



Our Vision

We strive to celebrate the rich diversity of God's people, welcoming all to be nourished in their faith journeys. We live to serve others and fulfill our relationship with Christ in service to community.

Ministry Teams and Committees

Invite: Bonnye Bell

Celebrate: Eric Olson

Nourish: Bridget Pudimat

Send: Tracy Williams

Stewardship: Jane Kilby

Property: Jim Dennis

Finance: Jane Kilby

Fellowship: Leslie Allen

St. Mark's Newsletters

St. Mark's has two newsletters. *The Lion's Roar* is distributed weekly and by email (E-Roar), and *The Messenger* is distributed monthly (primarily through email, but available in print upon request). The deadline for *The Lion's Roar* is by noon on each Tuesday, and *The Messenger* deadline is the 15th day of each month. If you have an article for either newsletter, please send it to stmarksjaxnews@gmail.com.

Birthdays

Finnegan Mitchell	June 1
Caitlyn Kendrick	June 3
Mark Eckels	June 4
Clay Birks	June 6
Kathryn Marlowe	June 8
James Dennis	June 9
Daniel Locke	June 9
Larry Tallman	June 10
Eliza Solie	June 11
DJ Royal	June 14
Lynn Mitchell	June 17
Patrice Jenkins	June 22
Marieanne Prokop	June 29
Ashlyn Kendrick	June 30

Anniversaries

Karen & Steve Kemp	June 2
Sue & Bill Rust	June 10
Lynette & Mark Weber	June 10
Arold & Mamy Rakotomandrindra	June 20
Mary Lou & Carl Weidenmier	June 21
Mary Jo & Frank Marjenhoff	June 22
Joan & Rusty Snyder	June 22
Mary & Jack Cusick	June 26
Ruth & Al Voss	June 27
Luann & Tom Moore	June 30

Worship & Office Hours

Worship Services:

Saturdays (Casual/Contemporary)

1st and 3rd Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sunday Morning at 9:30 am

Children are welcome in worship, but a nursery is available.

Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

The office is closed on national holidays.



Church Office

3976 Hendricks Avenue

Jacksonville, FL 32207

Office phone: 904-396-9608

Fax: 904-396-3515

Email: admin@stmarksjax.org (for office and council)

Web: www.stmarksjax.org



Facebook Page (Public):

www.facebook.com/stmarksjax

Facebook Group (Private/Request to join):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/94748356090/>



Instagram Page (Public):

www.instagram.com/stmarksjaxelca

Follow: @stmarksjaxelca

The Lion's Roar & The Messenger

Ashlyn Kendrick

Email: stmarksjaxnews@gmail.com



Contact Us

Ministry Staff

Pastor Daniel Locke *Pastor*

Phone: (828) 638-3280

Email: Pastor.Daniel.Locke@gmail.com

Tony Cruz *Cantor*

Office phone: 904-396-9608 x 103

Email: cantortonycruz@gmail.com

Congregational Council

Ray Booth *President* (2019)

Phone: (904) 673-0048

Email: RayBooth55@gmail.com

John Trainer *Vice-President* (2019)

Kathy Kleppinger *Treasurer* (2021)

Debora Koepke *Secretary* (2021)

Jim Dennis (2019)

Alonzo Batson (2020)

Bonnye Bell (2020)

Janet Linn (2021)

Loree Mueller *Financial Secretary*

St. Mark's Ark Preschool

Patrice Roux-Neal

Director of St. Mark's Ark Preschool

Office phone: 904-346-0404

Email: director@stmarksark.com

Web: www.stmarksark.com

