



**SAINT MARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 1109 WEST HENDERSON STREET  
 CLEBURNE, TX 76033-8794  
 (817) 641-3311

February 4, 2020



# St. Mark Messenger

*By Grace Transformed...*

Well, Punxsutawney Phil emerged from his burrow on Sunday and did not see his shadow, which, of course, means absolutely nothing. But it looks like winter will be here on Wednesday this year. Maybe it will return a few times over the next few weeks. Either way, I always like this the first few months of the year. As the days get longer, the weather gets warmer, and the trees come back to life, it reminds me of the new life that comes through a growing relationship with Christ.

I'm almost finished reading a novel called *Home to Harmony* by Philip Gulley. Gulley is a Quaker pastor and this book is a humorous look at life as a pastor in a small town. I don't know if it would appeal to everyone, but as a pastor, I am finding it very entertaining. The stories of ministry in a Quaker church are not that different from the experiences I have had in the Methodist church. In my genealogical work on my family, I found that I have some Quaker ancestors. Reading this book and learning about my ancestors made me interested in what exactly Quakers believe, so I purchased a book last week to find out more. I am intrigued by their style of worship. Some have worship services that are similar to ours and other are quite different. What they have in common is an extended period of silence where the worshipers listen for God to speak.

While I am not wanting to add an extended period of silence to our worship service, I do think periods of silent contemplation in the presence of God can help us grow in our relationship with Jesus. Reading scripture and really trying to hear God speak to us through the reading and through the contemplation can help us go deeper and allow us to experience Christ in profound ways. In our busy lives, it is easy to put off these times of quiet solitude. We forget that even Jesus sought time to be alone with his heavenly father.

Tomorrow will be one of the coldest days of the year. Most of us won't want to leave the house. Maybe that will be a good time to start a new spiritual practice. Take time to sit alone with God, waiting for God to speak. You might be surprised what God has to say.

In Christ's Love,

*Andy*

*.....reaching upward to God and outward to God's people*

**Donut Fellowship for February**  
**Fidelis Class**  
**Flower Ministry for February**  
**Wesley Class**

**2019 Financial Information**

Income	\$244,019.73
Expenses	\$253,565.15

**2020 Financial Information**

January: Income	\$ 15,517.27
Expenses	\$ 23,962.88

**Our Staff**

*Rev. Andy Tyler, Senior Pastor*  
 pastor@stmarkcleburne.com

*Becky King, Children's Ministry Coordinator*  
 stmarkchildren@sbcglobal.net

*Loren Milam, Youth Coordinator*  
*Kathryn Stallings, Choir Director*

**Web Site**  
 www.stmarkcleburne.com  
**Church Office Email address:**  
 stmarkcleburne@sbcglobal.net



# WELCOME New Members

Please be sure to meet our newest members!



Timothy and Carissa Emery



Joe and Bobbie Schwartz-Frizell



Vickie Slaughter



*Eat Good Food  
Make New Friends  
Worship Jesus  
Wednesdays at 6 pm*



We extend our deepest sympathies to these church families.

Bennie Jewett's father passed away in January.

Kenneth Gott, brother of Perry Gott, passed away January 25 and services were held in Lubbock.

Please continue to remember these families in your prayers.



**Breadbasket** given in honor of *St. Mark Friends, Happy Valentine's Day*, by Gayle Anderson

In memory of **Kenneth Gott** given by Sue Childress

**St. Mark Ministries** given in memory of **Bob Childress** by John & Vickie Brozovic



**Vacation Bible School**

**May 31-June 4**



**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 26**

**Services at 6:45 in the sanctuary**

**Immediately following**

**The Friendship Table**