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The St Marker

"Bible Fed and Spirit Led"

Special Edition

December 2019

Vision
Transform Our Lives
Revitalize Our Faith
Influence Our Community

Ushers 95th Anniversary

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We ❤️ our

Ushers

Thank you for using your gift of hospitality in being an Usher in our church.
May God Bless you greatly

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On Sunday December 8, 2019 the Ushers of St Mark celebrated their 95th Anniversary. It was indeed a milestone warranting celebration and celebrate they did.

Gone too soon but remembered with the glow of candle light and prayer were former members Ida Adams, Richard Eldridge, Betty Watts, Mary Martin and Marion Simms. A family member/friend of each was presented with flowers to honor their memory. Recognition was given to Ms. Inez Thomas who was presented with a huge bouquet of red roses for her contribution and just always being there when needed. Mr. Willie Epps was honored for his diligence, patience and willingness to help whenever and wherever he could to include providing photography and audio video service. Other honorees for the evening were senior ushers who reached that golden age of 80+. A surprise presentation came when St. Mark's Minister of Music Regi McClurkin presented the Ushers with a Certificate of Appreciation from his production company, Oyez Productions.

Music for the evening was provided by the very energized and talented Hall UMC choir, led by their Minister of Music, Mr. Joshua Summerfield. To the delight of the audience the very talented Mr. Summerfield relinquished the keyboards to Mr. McClurkin and showcased his vocal skills (great range) when he sang His Eye is On the Sparrow.

Guest speaker for the evening was Rev. Harry E. Smith, Jr., Hall UMC. Though Rev. Smith described himself as a preacher and not a speaker, his message was loud and clear. There were several points that he made that would cause one to pause and think such as: "The Bible is the manual for everything you need to deal with in this life; God is not going to bless your raggedy lifestyle; God made heaven for himself and earth for us."

Ushers from various church's throughout AACO came out to support the St Mark Ushers. After the blessing and benediction was given by St Mark's Pastor Watson, the congregation adjourned to the fellowship hall for dinner. Thanks to President Wayne Sewell, Chairperson Lisa Collins and all others who assisted with the program.

by H E. Brown

UMW Joint Meeting



The last meeting of the year for the UMW was held on the evening of December 12. The Unit and the Circle came together for their annual holiday joint meeting. On the business side minutes were read, pledges were collected, joys and concerns were shared, a new Planning Committee was formed, officers were voted in and Wanda Eldridge was awarded the UMW Gold Cross Christian Service Pin. Following business came fellowship, fun and feast. Mary Dailey provided several fun games that made you tax your brain and work up an appetite for the very delicious meal that was served. As always it was a very productive and fun evening for all.

Community Pantry #5

For the 5th time in 2019 St Mark was once again spreading goodwill throughout the community by being the host site for the Community Pantry. Partnering with the Maryland Food Bank and Partnership for Children, Youth and Families a much needed service was provided to families in need.

It was a rainy and foggy morning but that did not deter volunteers from showing up to greet the food-truck when it arrived at 7:30am. It was full speed ahead to get the food from the truck and inside as quickly as possible. However, some leafy vegetables had to remain outside for a heavenly washing.

Ms. Elizabeth Matienzo-Bray, Community Health Advocate was on hand to provide information about health care as provided by Priority Partners (PP), which is a Managed Care Organization (MCO) authorized by the State of Maryland. Many interested parties stopped by her table for information. Free bags were given to those who did. The bags came in very handy for packing food items. For more information on PPMCO go to <https://www.ppmco.org>. You may also call 1-800-654-9728 (TTY 1-888-232-0488)

Community Pantry #5



The Christmas Story



On the evening of December 21, the story of Jesus was told in spoken word and song. The opening song was Old Come All Ye Faithful with cast and congregation joining together. There was a little twist to this performance as family members sang together. Jean Fugh with her daughter Alveta Poole and granddaughters Kayla and Kourtney Poole who sang What Child is This and John Hawkins with his grandsons Kayden and Mason sang We Three Kings. Youth was paired with the more mature adults such as Dorothea Hebron and Aubrey Scott who sang Away in a Manger and Cheryl Diggs with her nephew/godson Jamison Washington who sang O' Holy Night. Cheryl also paired with Dorothea Hebron to sing Do You Hear What I Hear. At the end All joined together to sing Joy to The World. Min. Michael R. Simms, Sr. gave accolades to the cast followed by prayer. Light refreshments was served in the fellowship hall.