

## St. Marks' Historical Highlights

1966 – Some twenty men, women and children begin door-to-door surveys, general meetings and some home social hours to plan for what was to become St. Marks' United Methodist Church. The name is chosen by the New Church Development Committee, National Board of Missions in Philadelphia prior to the establishment of this church.

December 1966 - St. Marks becomes a mission church, supported by nine other Methodist churches. Services are held in a restaurant on Midlothian Turnpike just west of Courthouse Road.

June 1967 – The Richmond District purchases a parsonage in the Shenandoah sub-division.

December 1967 – The Richmond District purchases five acres of land for future construction of St. Marks. Services move to a theater located at the corner of Midlothian Pike and Buford Road.

1968 – Building plans are finalized and a \$65,000 construction loan was approved by the 49 members. Ground breaking takes place and construction begins. The Methodist Women receive their charter. Two Cub Scout Packs are sponsored. Services were held at Providence Middle School.



1969 – The first service is held in the new building on Midlothian Turnpike. Membership totals 86. A choir is organized. The Methodist Men's group is established. Boy Scout, Girl Scout and Brownie troops are sponsored.

1971 - Membership grew to 170 and the budget was \$15,600.

1973 – The first paid employee, a music director and accompanist is hired. Because of growth, the building is remodeled and two Sunday services are required. The Nursery School is founded.

1976 – St. Marks celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. Membership totals 300 active members.

1981 – Commercial growth along Midlothian Turnpike, and transfer of many dedicated members affects the church growth.

1981-1983 – Necessity for moving from Midlothian Turnpike becomes more apparent.

1985 – The church building is sold. Land is purchased on Luck Lane and plans made to build the current church.

June 24, 1986 – The last service is held at the "old church." It is the first service for new minister, Glen Evans. Services are held at Heritage Child Development Center during the summer while the new Luck Lane building is under construction.



September 1986 – The first service held in the Lucks Lane Education building.

December 1986 – First worship service in the Lucks Lane sanctuary.

March 1987 – Seventeen families join St. Marks on Sunday of dedication of the stained glass window.

1987 – 1990 - St. Marks grows, adds programs in keeping with its outreach to the community. Plans are made to build additional classroom space and the first phase of the Family Life Center.

June 1991 – Additional rooms were added to the Education Building and the new Fellowship Hall was consecrated.

1994 – Property adjacent to the church was purchased for additional meeting space. Staff was increased to include a full time secretary and youth director.



1996 - The sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and office space were expanded. All the buildings are now connected.

1998 – Staff further increased with full time director of Christian Education and Children’s Ministry.

1999 – A third worship service is added and the Director of Music became a full time position.

2000 – 2002 – Membership and attendance continue to grow averaging 600 for worship on Sunday. Visioning for needed space began with plans for a Community Life Center. Staff increased to part-time employees as Financial Assistant and Administrative Youth Assistant.

Summer 2003 – Construction began on Community Life Center which would double the space at St. Marks UMC. A second full time youth director and part-time Office Assistant were added.

September 2004 – First time the Community Life Center was used for worship. Staff positions now include a part-time assistant in Children’s Ministry and Music and a part-time Director of Congregational Care. A full time Property Manager was hired.

2005 – Present St. Marks continues serving God through its many ministries to children, youth, and adults. Missions have become a primary focus with mission teams serving locally, nationally and internationally.