



Things to Remember!

- † Deuteronomy Bible Study begins April 10th @ 12:00 pm YAMS
- † Directory Pictures - April 16 - 20
- † Food Truck - Thursday, April 25th 9:00 am
- † Trustees - April 11th @ 7:00 pm
- † Finance - April 15th @ 6:00 PM
- † Administrative Council - April 15th @ 6:30 PM
- † Praise/Bilingual Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm (FH)

Crop Walk

This year's Crop Walk took place on Sunday, March 3 at 2:00 in the sunny afternoon. We walked the trails at Comanche Park #2. St. Mark's was well represented with a team of 17 walkers and



supporters. The walk was 3.2 miles long and there were walkers from all over San Antonio. It was a great afternoon. Our team consisted of Jay and Ann Brown, Tom and Kathy Jack, John and Diane Williams, Cynthia and Allison Ramirez, Deidra and Chance Henry, Brianne, Brooke, and Braden Somerville, Zach Wilke, Imogene Brown, Debbie Saldana, and Susan Philbin. Our team raised a total of \$1765.00.



WAY TO GO ST. MARK'S TEAM!!!

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STATE OF THE CHURCH

ATTENDANCE

<u>Sunday School</u>	03/03	03/10	03/17	03/24
Children	5	3	2	3
Youth	6	5	7	8
Adults	36	35	42	41
Leaders	1	1	1	1
Total SS	48	44	52	53
<u>Worship</u>	111	107	101	123

GREETERS FOR APRIL

- † Cynthia Ramirez
- † Diane Haag

TAPE MINISTRY

- † Daniel Wilke



USHERS FOR APRIL

- † Joyce Codd
- † Janice Coley
- † Mona Rosfeld
- † Dorothy Mace



Finance Committee Reflections:

Sounds From the Bean Counters

We hope everyone is doing well as we enter into Spring 2013. The weather has been beautiful, but we certainly need rain.

Contributions for February were \$326 less than February 2012 and \$915 lower than budgeted. This results in our trailing year-to-date 2012 by \$672 and the budget by \$802.

Our February operating expenses were \$2782 less than last year and \$4194 lower than budget. The trustees continue to keep our property in good condition in a cost efficient manner and spent \$1847 less than budgeted. Lay personnel compensation was favorable as a result of Choir Director salary and Secretary salary less than budgeted. We did not make our full month apportionment payment; therefore, we were favorable in that expense item. Year-to-date, we are favorable in the same expense categories. The Easter collection has been designated to pay apportionment expense. Your generosity will greatly help reaching our apportionment commitment.

For the month of February, we had a cash outflow of \$264, while year-to-date we are positive \$4781.

Through February, we have paid \$3115 towards our apportionments; however, this is \$4276 less than budgeted.

As of the beginning of February, our operating cash balance was \$10,584. We ended the month with an operating cash balance of \$9,900.

The financial condition of St. Mark's continues to look good. Our hope is that this will continue, and that we don't experience some unanticipated expenses. In either case, the financial condition is a result of the support from each of you. We thank you very much.



UMW Happenings...

April 3rd: Esther Circle 7:00 PM

April 6th: Wesley Auxiliary Style Show and Luncheon at the Wesley Community Center

April 17th: Dorcas Circle @ The Meadows (carpool from church at 9:00)

May 1st: General Meeting

Executive Committee 9:00 AM

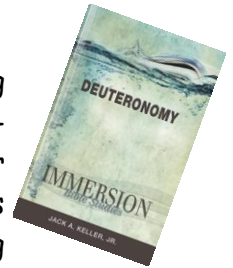
General Meeting 9:30 AM

Program Leader: Dorothy Dare

Salad luncheon hosted by Martha Circle

Mid-week Bible Study...

Join us as we continue our mid-week Bible Study with a new series beginning Wednesday, April 10th, running for 6 weeks. We will continue with the Immersion Series - Deuteronomy. Please contact Patti Gardner in person, by phone or email (830-431-3157 or email pjdgardner@aol.com) if you are interested. Books are \$6.50. We will continue meeting in the YAMS classroom at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch and join us for some delightful discussion!



EVERYWHERE FUN FAIR

Where God's World Comes Together

June 17-21, 2013

5:30 PM-8:30 PM

Plans for this summer's Vacation Bible School are officially underway! A well attended meeting of volunteers was held on March 5. We were happy to see familiar faces as well as brand new ones!! Most of our leaders are in place; however, we can use more help - especially if we are blessed with the large number of children we had last year!

This year's theme will cover several countries, customs, and will be presented in a carnival atmosphere! It's a true blessing when we work together as the body of Christ, planting the seeds of faith.

Please join us in prayer as preparations continue.

In the service of Christ,
Linda and Melinda





If you want to know what Easter means, come check out Monday morning chapel time at St. Mark's UMC! The kids will be quick to tell you it's about Easter eggs; they're not too sure what Easter eggs have to do with it, but they know that there is a connection. My guess is that this is the message that they have gotten from the world and home. Plenty of advertisements about Easter eggs, candy, bunnies, great bargains and savings at the stores, plenty of restaurants open for Easter Sunday lunch, but be sure to get your reservation in soon. Not a lot of information about why, though...

How would you tell a child about what Easter means? How would you tell anyone? When was the last time that you did? Most of us probably run in the kinds of social circles that we assume everyone we know already gets the message and that there is no need to further educate someone who presumably already gets it.

I wonder, though, if we are missing opportunities to share something incredibly powerful and life changing. Charles Alkula posted on Facebook a chaplain friends credo: "What do I know?"..."Who else needs to know?"..."Have I told them?" Well, what is it that we know? Christ has risen from the dead; because He lives, so do we! Not just in heaven, but right now, we can live a full, abundant and meaningful life. Who needs to know this? Just about everyone we come in contact with; including our own families and closest friends. Have I told them? Well...I'm not so sure. Sometimes my actions don't match up with my words. And sometimes my words are silent, not spoken, for various reasons.

If Christ has indeed risen, and I know this and have experienced this truth in my life, the greatest gift that I can give to the Risen Lord and Savior of the world is the hope and assurance that resurrection holds. Please, God, grant me the strength, discernment and commitment to tell somebody today, in word and deed that Christ is Alive!

Happy Easter... and share this powerful gift of life!

See you Sunday,

Jay



Thanks so much to the Esther Circle, the youth, and a myriad of other volunteers who helped out at this year's Easter Egg Hunt. Without you we could not hold this event. A special thank you to

Kathy Jack who single handedly stuffed over 1200 plastic eggs. You surely must be part chicken to handle that many eggs.



The youth of St. Mark's presented a lovely Sunrise Service this year. A lot of work went in to making this service so special. Let's give them a big round of appreciation!

April 2013

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
	<i>1</i> Easter Monday- Office Closed 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	<i>2</i> 6:30 AM Methodist Men/Cracker Barrel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Advanced Line Dancing (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 6:00 PM Torres (FH)	<i>3</i> 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 3:00 PM Cookies & Juice to Elementary Students 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Esther Circle 7:00 PM Praise/Bilingual Service 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	<i>4</i> 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 2:00 PM My Healthy Child (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<i>5</i> -OFFICE CLOSED-	<i>6</i> 8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM Kairos Outside (FH)																																																																																																									
<i>7</i> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	<i>8</i> 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	<i>9</i> 6:30 AM Methodist Men/Cracker Barrel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Advanced Line Dancing (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	<i>10</i> 12:00 PM Bible Study (YAMS) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 3:00 PM Cookies & Juice to Elementary Students 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Praise/Bilingual Service 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	<i>11</i> 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 2:00 PM My Healthy Child (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting (FH)	<i>12</i> -OFFICE CLOSED-	<i>13</i> 8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion																																																																																																									
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Administration Fund

In the local church the least glamorous money is spent on the custodian, maintenance and utilities.

But without these expenses, the church would not be a place where people want to come.

The same is true of the Administration Fund. No one really wants to support it, but it pays for services that hold us together and let us be a connection instead of many independent local churches. For instance:

- † the annual conference session
- † new clergy members or ordained and commissioned

† the life and ministry of pastors and their service in this world are remembered

† the service of ministers who are retiring is celebrated. We decide how we will be in ministry with one another. We are renewed by one another's presence and warmth.

The administration fund also provides for direct benefits to the local churches of the conference:

† Mount Wesley operations are directly supported through the administration fund

† the property and liability insurance program including workers' compensation, umbrella coverage, and directors and officers' coverage is provided at a cost, estimated to save the churches of the Conference more than \$1 million per year.



I have been in contact with most of you; however, we still have some appointments left for those of you whom we still need to see or talk to. The picture taking days are April 16-20, which is Tuesday through Saturday of that week. All settings will be taken in the Fellowship Hall. There is no

charge for having your picture in the directory and each of you will receive an 8 x 10 free of charge. There will be an opportunity for you to purchase more photos if you so desire. I have mailed cards to you if we do not have a phone number for you, so please return an answer to us asap. We don't want anyone left out. You may call me at 210.696.2180 for more information or questions.

Thank you, Imogene Brown

REMINDER High School Seniors or College Students:

St. Mark's United Methodist Women will be awarding one scholarship this year. It will be awarded to a member of our church who will be a graduating high school senior in the spring of 2013, or a person currently enrolled in college, or technical training school.

Applications are available in the church office and must be completed and turned into the church office or to Dorothy Mace by April 14, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Mace at 492-8483.



News from the Learning Center . . .

We started off this month by finishing up any crafts that were left undone from the month of March. Since Easter came early this year we will be focusing on other themes for the month of April, such as Spring and the many things that come with it. (Bees, Butterflies and of course the rain). The teachers have all begun tracing the children's hands so that we can make them into beautiful flowers for our hallway.

The BBQ Plate Sale scheduled for Saturday, April 20th will be benefiting the Learning Center. The earnings from our last BBQ plate sale went to furnishing our infant room with new cribs so that we could be in compliance with the new state regulations. This upcoming plate sale will be used to purchase toys throughout our classrooms. We are hoping to sell lots and lots of tickets in order to reach our goal.

Birthdays/Important Dates

April 5th	Sophia Moreno's Birthday
April 12th	Koa Bermea's Birthday
April 19th	Leila Rendon's Birthday
April 20th	BBQ Plate Sale 11 am - 5 pm



Hello Spring

(Sung to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star)

Spring has finally come to town,
 Blooming flowers all around,
 Birds are singing in the trees,
 Buzzing, buzzing are the bees,
 Spring has finally come to town,
 Blooming flowers all around.

A Child's Morning Prayer

Now, before I run to play,
 Let me not forget to pray
 To God who kept me through the night
 And woke me with the morning light
 Help me, Lord to love thee more
 Than I ever loved before,
 In my work and in my play
 Be thou with me through the day.
 Amen
 (Author Unknown)

Dear St. Mark's Family,



I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery. I am doing much better and have been "scooting" around the office. Our God is good.

I am so blessed to be a part of a church who truly cares about each other . . . I am honored to call St. Mark's my other "home."

With love and respect,
Mary
 Mary A. Parramore
 Church Secretary



From the Wesley Nurse

I must say that I have been very blessed.

The WN office takes in clients that come off the street, bridges and homes that need food.

I take them in sign them up as WN clients, talk to them, find out what they need, and try to give them their most important thing to keep them going.

At times it could be food, gas money, prayer, or just Items for hygiene. I collect all kinds of shampoo, tooth paste, and shaving items.

To me the urgency is to know if they know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord.

During this time, I offer prayer.



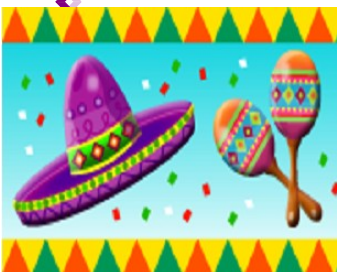
Another new class is called "Top Ten Advance Line Dancing Class" I only facilitate this class I do not dance. (Even though I too need to lose weight-I know that already)

The exercise classes are still meeting every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday in the Fellowship hall @ 10 am.

Please Join Us!



Linda





Missions

Thanks to all of you who donated toiletries for the homeless students. The items were delivered to Cooper Middle School. They were so appreciative and could not believe how generous St. Mark's members were. Thanks again!

We served 170 people at last month's mobile food pantry. Thanks to all the many volunteers who helped!

Come join us again at 9:00 am the Fourth Thursday of every month. It is a lot of fun and a wonderful opportunity to volunteer in our community!



Coming Soon...

Imagine a place to grow fresh vegetables, working side by side with our neighbors – Imagine a place where children might have their own opportunity to learn to love gardening, and to sample new vegetables that they have grown themselves! Imagine using our own campus to start a blossoming ministry that helps to bring knowledge and better health to our members and our community... The possibilities are endless when we all work together to the Glory of God!

St. Mark's is going to be cultivating a garden on the plot of land behind Lovely Lane Hall. There are still tons of details to be worked out, but if you think you would be interested in supporting this ministry with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness - all will be needed!



Contact Ann Brown

830-857-5793

annlacknessbrown@gmail.com



ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Jill Anderson
 Megan Brown
 Margaret Broxton
 Bill & Isabel Centeno
 Bucky Coley
 Esdras Cuervo
 Gladys Johnson
 Mary Krwawicz
 Clay Laster
 Michael Mendoza
 Charles Mixon
 Pastor Cheryl Owens,
 Comfort Quesnell
 Gloria Reedy
 Steve Reyes Sr.
 Mike Ross
 Ed Setterfield
 Will Schuetze,

Kirk Tomertlin
 Abraham Wamah
 Rebecca Hernandez Vasquez
 Family of Lisa Ecclestone
 Col. Bill Blakenship
 Gwen Harris
 Charlene McClure
 Family of Perry Wayne Perryman
 Cheryl and Andrew Odom
 Karen Williams
 Deborah Sanborn
 Robert Hahn,
 Susan Philbin,
 Eldora Carter
 Doris



April 1
 Phyllis Gaiser
 April 4
 Stacy Reed
 April 9
 Caisey Hoffman
 April 10
 Robert Smith
 April 13
 Ralph Perryman

April 14
 Brooke Somerville
 April 15
 Ann Payette
 April 17
 Bertha King
 April 21
 Earnest Knepp
 April 22
 John Sidusky
 April 24
 Barbara Freeto
 April 27
 Dorothy Mace

April 28
 Isabel Centeno
 April 29
 Janice Rushton
 April 30
 Halie Kosmuch
 Angela Moss



*We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the families and friends
 of Perry Wayne Perryman,
 Lisa Ecclestone
 and Christopher Odom*

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MISSION STATEMENT

- TO HELP ALL PERSONS DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST
- TO NURTURE THEM IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP, WORSHIP, AND STUDY
- TO STRIVE TO IDENTIFY AND SERVE THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL TO LIVE IN THE WORLD AS CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR.....Rev. Jay Brown
 SECRETARY.....Mary Farramore
 WESLEY NURSE.....Linda Jimenez
 CHOIR DIRECTOR.....Carolyn Hahn
 ORGANIST EMERITUS.....Ruth Foerster
 ORGANIST.....Joseph Scutti
 DIRECTOR OF LEARNING CENTER.....Julie Aguilar
 CUSTODIAN.....Johnny Mendoza

OFFICE HOURS.....9:00 am - 4:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday
 CLOSED on Friday
 PHONE.....(210) 344-8393

Email: stmarksumc@grandecom.net
stmarkspastor@grandecom.net
linda.jimenez@mhmc.org
 Website: www.stmarksumcsa.com

