



# Messenger

## St. Mark's United Methodist Church

1902 Vance Jackson San Antonio, TX 78213  
210-344-8393

### Things to Remember:

- † "Son"rise Service & Breakfast, Sunday, April 1 @ 8:00 am
- † OFFICE CLOSED, April 2
- † Children's Church, Sunday, April 8 @ 10:45 am
- † Children's Message, Sunday, April 15 @ 10:45 am
- † Trustees Meeting, Thursday, April 12 @ 7:00 pm
- † Finance Meeting, Monday, April 16 @ 6:30 pm
- † Administrative Council, Monday, April 16 @ 7:00 pm
- † Children's Church, Sunday, April 22 @ 10:45 am
- † 5th Sunday Potluck, Sunday, April 29 @ 11:30 am
- † Praise & Communion Service every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

*"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, as long as ever you can." - John Wesley*

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### A REPORT FROM YOUR FOOD PANTRY

The numbers are in for the Year 2017 regarding the St. Mark's Food Pantry. Those who work in the Pantry and assist our visitors receive bags of food wanted you to know how successful we were.

First, you gave \$1,078.35 in the "Noisy Offering" the last Sunday of each month in 2017. And you donated 1,203 pounds of food! With your money offerings we were able to purchase additional food items from the San Antonio Food Bank and from stores in the local community.

With the food and money you provided, we served the following numbers of people throughout 2017:

**Number of families served: 542**

Number of individuals: 712                      Children, age 0-5: 78  
Number of first-time requests: 92            Elderly, age 60+: 163

Our Food Pantry is considered an "Emergency Pantry," where our limited resources are shared with our neighbors to assist them for a few days while they make plans to become responsible to meet their own basic needs. Ninety-two of the 542 families requesting food (17%) came to St. Mark's for the first time asking for assistance. Yes, some people come every month to ask for food, but we are pleased that such a large number of visitors in 2017 came for the first time. And 241 people, or 34% of all who requested food, were in the most vulnerable age groups of 0-5 years and over age 60.

Thank you for your compassion and generosity. Please pray that we can continue to multiply the food we are given to share.                      ~ Rob Remig



Follow us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Marks-United-Methodist-Church/217072428313881?ref=hl>

# SERVE

SUNDAY SCHOOL	2/25/2018	3/4/2018	3/11/2018	3/18/2018
Children	3	-	2	2
Youth	4	4	2	3
Adults	18	21	20	17
<b>Total SS</b>	25	25	24	23
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Sunday	61	62	64	61
Wednesday Night	17	9	13	



Rob Remig, Daniel Wilke, Mario Mercado, Johnny Mendoza



### Altar Flower Calendar Openings

April 8 1 opening      April 22 1 opening  
 April 15 2 openings      April 29 2 openings

(Arrangement can be donated for only \$30.)



April 8 Patti Gardner

April 22 Brianne Somerville

April 29 Lillian Herrera



**April 1**

**Cynthia Ramirez**

**April 8**

**John Williams**

**April 15**

**Leticia Mercado**

**April 22**

**TBD**

**April 29**

**Patti Gardner**

**With Your Help The United Methodist Church is Making a Difference  
FROM AN ORPHANAGE AND SCHOOL TO A DEPOT DISPENSING RELIEF SUPPLIES  
ALL OVER THE WORLD.**

Sager Brown, now home to the [UMCOR](#) Relief-Supply Depot, celebrated 150 years of service to Baldwin, Louisiana, and the world in September. UMCOR Sager Brown's history began in 1867 when the site was established as an orphanage and school for African-American youth left homeless by the Civil War. It was launched by members of one of United Methodist Women's predecessor organizations. Through many years of financial ups and downs, Sager Brown persevered as a school. However, in 1978, the school closed its doors, and the property remained vacant for fourteen years.

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew tore through Louisiana and the Gulf Coast region. Despite the severe damage to surrounding communities, the Sager Brown facilities and grounds survived intact. In response to the disaster, UMCOR used the location as a distribution center to assist local communities affected by the hurricane. As a result, a partnership formed between the two institutions. UMCOR decided to maintain the campus as a location to assemble and deploy relief supplies to the world, and the depot was organized in 1996.

At UMCOR Sager Brown, volunteers can put their faith into action by participating in the many outreach programs provided, including the opportunity for volunteers to assemble relief supply kits that reach vulnerable communities around the world. Equipped to house individuals and teams, the Sager Brown campus welcomes short-term mission trips for United Methodists and people of other faith traditions.

Last year, 4,000 volunteers served at both UMCOR depot locations, UMCOR Sager Brown and UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City, Utah. Between the two locations, volunteers gave 40,500 hours of their time, completing 119 community projects. Volunteer service enables this outreach ministry to have a tremendous impact on the world. In 2016, Sager Brown distributed \$6,023,591 in relief supplies domestically and abroad.

*Bella DiFilippo, program area liaison from Mission Engagement for Global Ministries.*

*One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, [UMCOR Sunday](#) calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to share God's love with communities everywhere. The special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business." This helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs. When you give generously on UMCOR Sunday, you make a difference in the lives of people who hurt.*

[www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org)

For those of you who are new, or semi new to St Mark's, **WELCOME!**

We sometimes take for granted that everyone knows what various activities listed in the calendar are. Here are a few explanations you may find helpful and wish to learn more about.

**ROMEOS...**Retired Old Men Eating Out. A number of our men, not necessarily old or retired, meet at 6:30 on Tuesday mornings at the Crackle Barrel restaurant on IH-10. All men are welcome! See John Williams for more information.

**Easter Circle...**These ladies are part of the United Methodist Women. This particular group meets regularly, usually every other month, and often do a service project for the church. A great opportunity of fellowship and service ladies! Contact Joanne Green to learn more.

**Saturday Reunion Group...**this is open to anyone who has experienced an Emmaus Walk. This time of reflection is a continuation of the disciplines practiced on the walk. The reunions are held at Denny's on IH-10, Saturday mornings at 8:00. Please see Dorothy Mace if you are interested in participating.





**WE BELIEVE!**

1 Corinthians 15 English Standard Version The Resurrection of Christ

*<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.*

We have no doubts about the resurrection of Jesus. We believe it. That is how we became Christian. That he died, was buried and was raised on the third day, is the foundation on which our faith stands. The Christian faith rests on the fact of Jesus' resurrection.

Jesus really died. That is the first point Paul is trying to establish. If Jesus was raised from the dead, he must first have died. Christ died for our sins. To repair the spiritual damage caused by sins.

The burial of Jesus' body is a confirmation of his death. *<sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.* This truth is confirmed by Old Testament prophecies; (Psalm 16:10; Isaiah 53:10; Hosea 6:2).

Every Sunday is a celebration of Jesus resurrection. I invite all of you to come and celebrate not only this coming Easter Sunday on April 1, but every Sunday as a celebration that He is Alive! **Our Lord Savior Jesus Christ is Alive!** We believe!

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES & ACTIVITIES**

Thursday, March 29 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 30 - Good Friday Service - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 31 - Holy Week Prayer Vigil - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt - 10:00 am

**Sunday, April 1 - "Son"rise Service & Breakfast - 8:00 a.m.**

## April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>1</i></p> <p>8:00 AM "Son" Rise Service &amp; Breakfast 9:15 AM Lenten Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship <b>Happy Easter</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>2</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH) <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>3</i></p> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's 10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>4</i></p> <p>1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH) 6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>5</i></p> <p>7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry 10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>6</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>7</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p>																																																																																																			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>8</i></p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Children's Church (LL) 11:30 AM Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>9</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>10</i></p> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's 10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>11</i></p> <p>1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH) 6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>12</i></p> <p>7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 7:00 PM Trustees (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>13</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>14</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p>																																																																																																			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>15</i></p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Children's Message 11:30 AM Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>16</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 6:30 PM Finance Meeting (FH) 7:00 PM Admin Council (FH) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>17</i></p> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's 10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>18</i></p> <p>1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH) 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH) 6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>19</i></p> <p>7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 10:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 11:00 AM Nutritional Potluck (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>20</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>21</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL) 11:00 AM BBQ (Baskin Scouts) 11:00 AM Health Fair</p>																																																																																																			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>22</i></p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Children's Church (LL) 11:30 AM Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>23</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>24</i></p> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM SA Needlework Guild (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>25</i></p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH) 6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>26</i></p> <p>7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry 8:00 AM Health Mobile 9:00 AM Newsletter Mailout (YAMS) 10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>27</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>28</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL) 9:00 AM VBS Work Day</p>																																																																																																			
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>29</i></p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Children's Church (Library) 11:30 AM 5th Sunday Potluck 11:30 AM Choir Practice <i>Noisy Offering</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; color: #800000;"><i>30</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ffffcc;"> <tr> <td colspan="7" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Mar 2018</td> <td colspan="7" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">May 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td style="text-align: center;">M</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">F</td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td style="text-align: center;">M</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">F</td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td><td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>					Mar 2018							May 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3				1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31		
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## "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME"

Children at St. Mark's UMC are very much a part of our worshipping community. Here are opportunities for age-appropriate worship, Bible lessons, activities, praise music, and fun!



**SUNDAY SCHOOL** each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in Lovely Lane Hall for children ages Kinder through 5th Grade.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays of each month at 10:45 a.m. for children Kinder through 3rd Grade. Children move from the sanctuary to Lovely Lane Hall following the scripture reading and return during the singing of the last hymn.



**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** on the third Sunday of each month (beginning April 15) during Sunday worship. All children are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a brief, simple message (or mini sermon) keeping our younger audience in mind.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COMING SOON! *(by Patti Gardner)*

In just a few short months, St. Mark's will be **TRANSFORMED** into **HERO CENTRAL**! Our VBS kids will be transported into a whole new world of adventure with Super Heroes, Bible Stories, Crafts, Music and Recreation – not to mention a delicious, nutritious meal to fuel their energy for the evening!

For this VBS, we will be doing several things a little differently and here's where **YOU** come in. This year, we will be also incorporating a **Mission Project**! We will be asking the congregation and the VBS participants to bring non-perishable goods that we can donate to our St. Mark's Food Pantry. We will stack these goods up in the Fellowship Hall before and during VBS to add to our decorations. So please start saving those canned and boxed goods so we'll have towers of food to help simulate our skyline decorations.

Here are some **THINGS WE NEED** as we get ready for this event:

**VOLUNTEERS!** It takes a village! If you'd like to volunteer, please let us know. We will find YOU! Please prayerfully consider saying YES!!

**BOXES!** We need 2 or 3 really big boxes – like Refrigerator-sized. We would like other sizes, too, so if you have some boxes you'd like to be rid of, please donate them to our cause! We'll start collecting these in April before our first work day which is **SATURDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>** beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the gym.

**GIFTS!** Monetary donations designated for VBS are always appreciated, too!

**PRAYERS!** Last but not least, we could not do this without your prayers. We covet your prayers as we embark on HERO CENTRAL 2018!

Our VBS dates are **June 18-22** in the evenings, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. **This year, we will have our closing ceremony on the Sunday following VBS – June 24<sup>th</sup>.** We are planning a closing BASH so please plan now to attend and meet these kids that we are introducing to the love of Jesus Christ! I'm reminded of the Prayer of Jabez as we embark on this ministry – In 1 Chronicles 4:10, He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and expand my territory! Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain!" And God granted him his request.

**June 18 - 22 and June 24**

# NOTES AND NOTICES

**San Antonio FOOD BANK** Many of you have already heard the news. As of March 1, 2018, St. Mark's is no longer a distribution site for the San Antonio Food Bank.

THANKS to the many volunteers who were able to serve and help every month.

THANKS to Patti Austin for her outstanding leadership and the time she dedicated to this ministry.

Looking for a Handyman?  
**Johnny Mendoza**  
**210-765-1869**



**WOOD SOURCE**  
 The supply of wood for our 2018 BBQ fundraisers has run out. Looking for someone to donate or provide a wood source. If you know anyone who can help, please contact Sue Horner or Bobby Mace.

**Don't forget our Food Pantry!**

- ♥ Rice, Beans,
- ♥ Spaghetti, Pasta Sauce
- ♥ Macaroni & Cheese
- ♥ Cans of Tuna, Chicken, Spam
- ♥ Cans of Fruit
- ♥ Boxes or bags of Cereal
- ♥ Cans of Soup, Stew, Chili...
- ♥ Instant Mashed Potatoes
- ♥ Canned Vegetables
- ♥ Cooking Oil



*Noisy Offering the last Sunday of every month!*



**5th Sunday of the Month Church Potluck**  
**April 29, 2018**  
 (following morning Worship Service)

Fellowship ~ Food ~ Fun  
 Family ~ Friends

More information coming soon!



### Memorial Bricks Update

Plans are being made for another order of commemorative bricks in memory of or in honor of someone. Cost per brick \$50. Thanks to Bob Bashaw for laying bricks at no cost to St. Mark's. The bricks were laid at the center point of the planter in front of the Fellowship Hall. Contact Bob for more information.



# GARDEN NEWS

Garden work day was a great success! Thanks to all who came out to help on a beautiful Saturday morning to get our garden ready for spring! We had twelve adults, two helpful young girls, and two well behaved dogs!

A great BIG WELCOME to our five new members!

Special thank you to John, Tom, Braden, and Moe for repairing the second faucet; Jake for getting us some new soil; and Johnny for having the area cut, trimmed and looking so nice.

We invite you to visit this very special piece of holy ground and enjoy the beauty of Our Father's world.

To God be the Glory!  
Melinda Molina, DCG steward





# Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

**Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States**

**Colorectal cancer usually starts from polyps in the colon or rectum. Precancerous polyps and early stage colorectal cancer don't always cause symptoms! If you are 50 or older, getting a colorectal cancer screening test could save your life**

### Types of screenings

**Colonoscopy:**  
*Recommended every 10 years*

**High-Sensitivity Fecal Occult Blood Test:**

**You receive a test kit from your doctor and collect the stool specimen at home and return test to your doctor or a lab. Recommended once a year**

Your risk for colorectal cancer may be higher than average if:

- You or a close relative had colorectal polyps or colorectal cancer
- You have inflammatory bowel disease
- You have a genetic syndrome such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer
- You have type 2 diabetes

**No butts about it, Colonoscopies saves lives! – Sandra Montes RN**

## Colon Cancer (Colorectal Cancer)

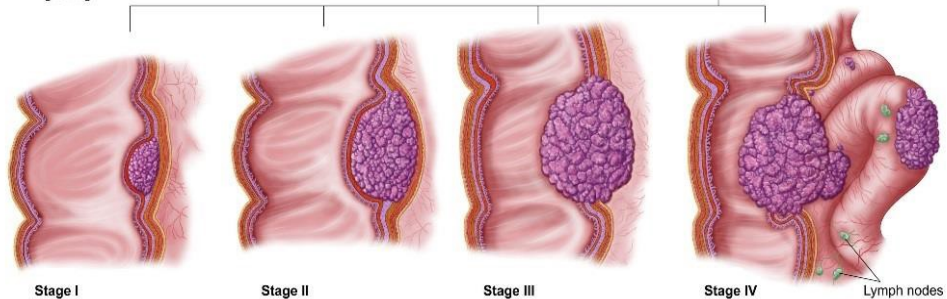
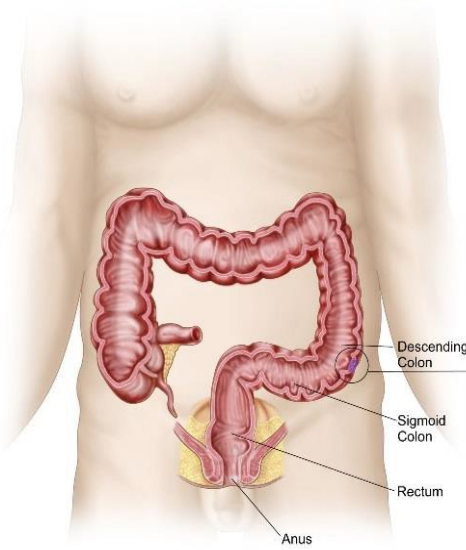
**Signs & Symptoms:**  
Colorectal cancer may not cause any symptoms in early stages. The following signs should raise suspicion:  
\* Change in bowel habits: Diarrhea or constipation or a change in the consistency of stool.  
\* Narrow, pencil-thin stools.  
\* Rectal bleed or blood in stool. Persistent abdominal discomfort such as gas, pain or cramps.  
\* Feeling bowel does not empty completely.  
\* Unexplained weight loss. Constant fatigue.

**Stage I:**  
Cells that line the colon are very active, constantly dividing and creating buds, known as polyps. Most polyps are small, benign growth that eventually stop growing.

**Stage II:**  
A tiny percentage of these polyps keep growing, sometimes for ten years or more. Various genetic mutations can transform them into cancerous tumors.

**Stage III:**  
As these tumors grow larger, they gather more mutations and begin to burrow deeper and deeper into the muscle wall that surrounds the colon.

**Stage IV:**  
Once the cancer invades the blood and lymph systems, malignant cells can break off and spread to other organs, such as the liver, lungs and stomach.



### LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Libraries as in two (dos). We have another lending library on the church property. In addition to the one near the Scout Hut, there is a new one in front of the sanctuary along Vance Jackson. If you would like to donate children's books for the libraries, please drop them off at the church office. Let's make it possible for children and youth around St. Mark's to read, read, read!



## SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

The following provides the financial overview for the month of **February 2018**.

Operating Cash balance at 1/31/2018	40,159
Non-Designated Contributions - January	12,020
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	342
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	1,299
Administration Expense	165
Trustees	4,663
Pastor's Compensation	4,909
Lay Personnel Compensation	5,429
	<u>16,807</u>
Other Income/(Expense)	<u>1,029</u>
Operating Cash balance at 2/28/2018	<u><u>36,401</u></u>

### Comments:

February receipts were \$339 higher than budgeted, while \$1,608 lower than February 2017. Year-to-Date receipts are \$1,383 higher than budgeted, while trailing 2017 by \$6,369.

February operating expenses were \$3,886 lower than budgeted and \$1,448 lower than February 2017. Lower Mission Giving and Trustee expenses resulted in the favorable spending. Year-to-Date expenses were lower by \$8,631 as a result of lower Mission Giving payments, Pastor compensation, and Council on Ministries expenses. Versus 2017, February expenses were favorable \$1,448 for the month and \$1,774 Year-to-Date.

Other income in February was \$1,323, \$993 lower than budgeted. Year-to-Date Other Income is favorable \$1,165.

Our operating cash balance on February 28, 2018 was \$36,401.

While 2018 is off to what appears to be a good start versus budget, it's important to realize that in 2018 we are budgeting a \$77,000 shortfall.

The Finance Committee asks you to review your level of support to St. Mark's, and ask that you keep St Mark's in your prayers.

God Bless you all.

# ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



- |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bob Ailerson    | Esdras Cuervo   | Family of Agnes |
| Jill Anderson   | Sylvia Gonzales | Reavis          |
| Kennedee Bailey | Alice Logan     | Patti Gardner   |
| Connor Benjamin | Michael Mendoza | Debbie Molina   |
| Patty Braselton | Eric Milette    |                 |
| Kylee Brown     | Gerald Morriss  |                 |
| Megan Brown     | Will Schuetze   |                 |
| Bucky Coley     | Kirk Tomerlin   |                 |
| Carol Crenwelge | Kathryn Wilson  |                 |



**We are delighted to receive  
Jim and Judy Miller  
as our newest members.**



- |                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| John Brown        | April 1  |
| Phyllis Gaiser    | April 1  |
| Max Harvey        | April 4  |
| Caisey Hoffman    | April 9  |
| Robert Smith      | April 10 |
| Wesley Wildman    | April 10 |
| Ralph Perryman    | April 13 |
| Brooke Somerville | April 14 |
| Ann Payette       | April 15 |
| Bertha King       | April 17 |
| John Sidusky      | April 22 |
| Dorothy Mace      | April 27 |
| Isabel Centeno    | April 28 |
| Janice Rushton    | April 29 |
| Brett Codd        | April 30 |

**OPPORTUNITY TO HELP:** Bill McMahon is looking for someone to take over updating the birthday board in the sanctuary. Bill would be really happy to hear from you!



*April 24      Jim & Leah Ware      46 years*


St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
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 stmarksumc@grandecom.net

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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, WORKSHIP, 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



**PHONE (210)344-8393 FAX (210)344-8397**

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[stmarkspastor@grandecom.net](mailto:stmarkspastor@grandecom.net)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday—Thursday  
 CLOSED on Friday

PASTOR	Rev. Maria Soto
SECRETARY	Lillian Herrera
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Carolyn Hahn
ORGANIST	Joseph Scutti
WESLEY NURSE	Sandra Montes
CUSTODIAN	Johnny Mendoza