

Things to Remember!

- † Sundays in February -Toiletry Drive
- † February 13th Trustees @ 7:00 pm
- † February 17th Finance @ 6:00 pm; Church Council @ 6:30 pm
- † February 20th March Newsletter Deadline!!
- † February 23rd F-Troop
- † February 27th SA Food Truck
- † Tuesdays at 9:30 AM -Drive Thru Prayer
- † Praise and Communion Bi-Cultural Worship Service Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm (FH)

ST. MARK'S WELCOMES NEW WESLEY NURSE!



Charzes Flowers has been selected by Methodist Healthcare Ministries as the new Wesley Nurse for St. Mark's. Charzes graduated from Hattiesburg High School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, made the Dean's List and joined the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Fraternity at Pearl River Community College, and went on to earn her Nursing Degree at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, MS in 1993. She holds a Registered Nurse li-

cense administered by the Texas Board of Nursing, and is a Certified Case Manager under The Commission for Case Management Certification.

Charzes has been an RN for 20 years, having worked for 9 years as a staff nurse in various hospital settings, including Southeast Baptist and The Methodist in San Antonio. She also worked for 2-1/2 years as a school nurse, and for 8 years as a utilization nurse/case manager.

Charzes has been married for 20 years and is Mom to a son who is a senior in high school and a daughter who is in the 8th grade. She has worked with people who have had a wide variety of health conditions and is looking forward to assisting the members of St. Mark's and our neighbors manage their medical concerns and live healthy lifestyles.

Welcome, Charzes!

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STATE OF THE CHURCH



Sunday School	1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26
Children	2	3	4	4
Youth	4	8	11	5
Adults	45	43	47	47
Total SS	51	54	52	56
Worship	83	91	98	90

USHERS

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

TAPE MINISTRY

Daniel Wilke

GREETERS

- † Joan Schott
- † Kathy Wilson





Finance Committee Reflections: Sounds From the Bean Counters

We are now in the month when we must all learn to put 2014 on the checks we write!!

First and foremost, we would like to congratulate you for the Church's success in 2013. Apportionments were paid in full!! While our contributions were lower than the prior year and the budget, we were able to manage our finances and ended the year with \$7,054 in our operating account. It is important to recognize the Trustees for the great job they did in 2013. Trustee expenses were almost \$9,000 less than budgeted and \$11,000 less than 2012. We are hopeful this will continue, but understand that when you facilities that continue to get older, things do happen.

We had a cash outflow of approximately \$23,000 for the year; however, as a result of \$14,000 in cash transferred from the Day Care when it was closed, coupled with funds transferred from our TMF accounts, we were able to maintain a positive cash position.

For 2014, our apportionments are \$33,489. The good news is that we have \$7,194 designated for apportionments at the end of 2013. This means will be able to pay over 20% in January.

As we start off the New Year, we ask for your continued financial support to St. Mark's. The St. Mark's budget for 2014 has no cushion in it and points out that we need \$295,000 to staff and maintain the facilities, and meet our apportionment commitments. On Commitment Sunday, we received \$175,000 in pledges. We recognize that not everyone is comfortable in pledging, as historically we have always received significantly more. However, this points out the importance of your financial support.

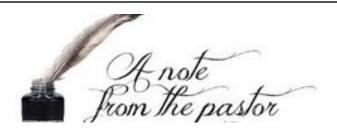
We will you all a healthy, prosperous and blessed New Year. God bless you all.

COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE PRESENTATION

Because we have ample space on our church campus, your Administrative Council has okayed a Community Garden located behind Lovely Lane, where the old Castle used to be. What would be needed from you, the congregation, is first of all prayers and support. Beyond that the needs are limitless.

- A) We need a name for our garden and we're asking you to submit a name and from them one would be chosen. We suggest that St. Mark's or United Methodist Church <u>not</u> be a part of the name because our aim is for community participation and do not want anyone thinking it is for the church only.
- B) We will be associated with Green Spaces Alliance who furnishes ideas, guidance and some funding. You have probably seen gardens at churches many places in the city and most are sponsored by Green Spaces Alliance.
- C) Also, any of you who would like to play in the dirt, watch seeds grow and marvel at their produce can request a 4' x 4' area for your own. All beds will be raised beds with good growing soil in them.
- D) We will be building two handicapped benches where you (who are in or out) of walkers can sit down and plant, weed, cultivate and care for you very own flowers or veggies.
- E) Our goal, of course, is to grow fresh veggies for not only ourselves, but for folks who are in need, also! Our long term goals are to even plant a few fruit trees as time and/or success of the project continues.
- F) Of course, we need workers and you don't need to call me to tell me you are physically unable to plant or hoe or water or gather produce. We are very aware that many cannot physically participate, but as I began this presentation, we do need your prayers and support of this project.
- G) We are planning a "Building Blitz". The date will be announced soon, so please watch for it. The materials, soil and a plan will be laid out so that we can prepare and be ready to plant in March. Since we are starting from scratch, we need to ask you to bring your own tools, wheelbarrows, rakes, etc.
- H) This project is going forward because we feel called by God to proceed—If you have any questions, Lucille or I probably can't answer them, but we will consider what ever. There will be "bumps" along the way that we will solve as we come to them.

Contact Imogene Brown or Lucille Armitage for questions or further information!



I hope everyone has survived the mountain cedar allergies, flu and any other adversities, aches and pains that seem to have characterized this first part of our new year! It has taken me awhile to get back to some semblance of normalcy, but all seems to be going well, praise God! One of the things that has me feeling back to my old self is a new ministry that began this last Food Truck distribution. I have always had a passion for cooking and I wanted to use this talent more for the Lord (rather than just increasing my own girth!) and I think that I have found a really neat outlet for my culinary creativity. I bought 200 tortillas, 15 dozen eggs, a big 3 lb bag of bacon ends and pieces, 10 lbs of chorizo, a big sack of shredded cheese and a quart of salsa. On the day that the Food Truck came, as people waited in the gym on that cold, drizzly day (remember?) we fed them 140 tacos. I cooked it all on that big griddle in the gym kitchen and Malcolm and Johnny rolled them all up into tacos and wrapped them up and placed them in a couple of big pans. Tacos and hot coffee on a cold January morning hit the spot! They were gone within a half hour! What amazed me was how affordable it all was; only about \$62...and I have enough eggs and chorizo left for about another 80 tacos next month. So, really, for about \$30 we were able to feed 140 people a substantial, nutritious, delicious (hey, I'm just sayin'...) breakfast. The money and the cooking really is not an issue, but I can imagine that Malcolm and Johnny would gladly exchange their spot on the assembly line if God is calling you to assist in this ministry; just once a month for about 30-45 minutes (of course, it is early...like about 7a.m.) How about it? I'm telling you, there's a real joy that comes in offering a free gift to others. There's a spiritual reward and a tangible, physical reward (one or more tacos!) as well. I encourage you to give some prayer time to this or another ministry as we all seek to enlarge the Kingdom of God for the cause of Christ.

God bless you,

Jay

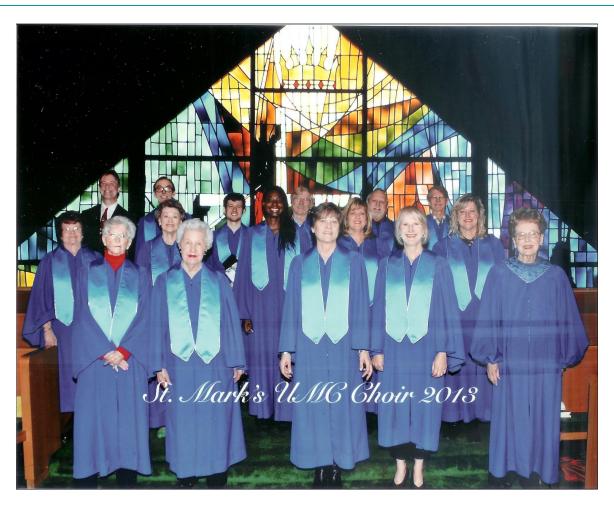
February 2014

Month ly Planner

Sunday	Monday	. Tues day	W ed nes day	Thursday	Friday	Mo nth ly Plan n
o anau,	January S M T W T	F S 2 3 4 9 10 11 5 17 18 3 24 25	S M 2 3 9 10	March T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	, may	8:00 AM Saturday Morn- ing Reunion
2 To iletry Drive 9:15 AM Sunday Schod 10:30 AM Worship	3 10:00 A M Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	4 6:30 AM ROME Os @Cracker Barrel 9:00 AM Drive thru Praye 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 6:00 PM Torres (FH)	4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	6 10:00 A M Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	7 -OFFICE CLOSED- 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	8 Annual Conference 8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM KOSA Coundi Reunion (FH)
9 To iletry Drive 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	10 10:00 A M Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	11 6:30 AM ROME O's @Cracker Barrel 9:00 AM Drive thru Praye 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	13 10:00 A M Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustee Mtg (FH) 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)		15 8:00 AM Saturday Morn- ing Reunion
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23 To iletry Drive 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM F-T roop	_	25 6:30 AM ROME Os @Cracker Barrel 9:00 AM Drive thru Praye 9:00 AM Food Vouchers 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) r7:00 PM Praise/ BiCultural Service	27 8: 45 AM SA Food Truck 9: 00 AM NL Mailout (YA MS) 10: 00 A M Exercise (FH) 4: 00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7: 00 PM Choir Practice 7: 30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	



It's coming folks! Get ready for 2014 Vacation Bible School! Planning is already beginning... Be ready to volunteer! If you have any questions or want to be one of the first to volunteer, contact Melinda Molina! Watch your newsletter in the coming months for dates and announcements and prayerfully consider where you might be willing to help with this growing ministry to our community!





MISSIONS OFFERING

Africa University

Purpose: To support a Christian University in Africa where Christian leaders can be trained.

The Christian Church is growing faster in Africa than in any other continent in the world. For many years, The United Methodist Church has helped Africans to meet Christ through

our missionary efforts. Now local leaders are being trained in the Africa University to lead the Church.

Africa University is a place where Africans from across the continent can come together to learn about Christ, to learn about the church, to learn about leadership. A place where they can share with each other successful methods of reaching their own people for Christ.

Ethnic Ministries

Purpose: Support ethnic ministries in Southwest Texas.

Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso has historically provided most of the pastors to Spanish speaking congregations in Texas. Ethnic Local Church funds provide direct grants to local churches who are initiating ethnic ministries to to ethnic congregations who need special assistance. Our sister conference, the Rio Grande Conference receives direct support for its clergy candidates through scholarships.

Most of our members are Anglo, but we live in an area that is increasingly made up of persons whose ethnic background is Hispanic, Black and Asian and we need to reach out to them.

There is one Christ and one table at which we all share bread and wine. Through this apportionment, we work to reach out to our neighbors and bring them to Christ and into our churches.



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 2014 or a person currently enrolled in college or technical training school. Applications will be available in the church office on February 3, 2014 and must be completed and turned into the church office by April 14, 2014. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Mace at 492-8483.



Angel Tree Ministry

This picture is from the December 20, 2013 delivery of Angel Tree presents given by the congregation of St. Mark's for selected children at Arnold Elementary School. Pictured are from left to right: Rob Remig, Pastor Jay Brown, Stephanie Bercegeay, Melinda Molina, and Dorothy Mace.

20 children were blessed to receive two gifts each - one of clothing and one of "other".

Thank you again for your support of this wonderful mission!

Dear St. Mark's Methodist Church,

Happy New Year to all of my church friends. I am wishing each one of you a Happy, Healthy 2014.

God Bless you.

Sincerely,

Lucille Montgomery

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, calls and prayers, Imogene Brown and Louise Chaffin for prayers and visits, and Sue Horner for the good food.

God Bless You!

Violet Hinton

"GOD BLESS YOU"!!!!

"God bless you!" "God bless you!" "God bless you!" That's all I heard for about an hour on January 23 when St. Mark's hosted its monthly San Antonio Food Bank food distribution in the church parking lot. I was asked to work "traffic control" and stand at the end of the food tables while our guests drove down the line and our volunteers put bags and boxes of food put in their cars. I accepted a few of those "God bless you's" from our guests for myself because I needed God's blessing, but I want to pass on that message of blessing from our guests to all of the volunteers: to Patti Austin who coordinates the event, to all those who help the guests get registered, to the people who stand out in the sometimes cold and rain to make sure the guestsreceive their food, to Raul and the San Antonio Food Bank, and to the Texas Diaper Bank who pays our bill to the Food Bank to bring the food to St. Mark's. And we send one of those blessings to Pastor Jay who prepared breakfast tacos and coffee for the guests to enjoy while they waited for the truck to arrive. We can always use more volunteers to register guests, help unload the food truck, set up the food tables, and put food in the cars. There's a job for everybody. And if you ever get the opportunity to hand out the food and speak to the guests, I guarantee their appreciation and blessings will fill your soul! See you in the parking lot every fourth Thursday of the month around 8:30 a.m.!

Rob Remig

Health Corner

Flu Fighting Foods

(Handout from the San Antonio Food Bank)

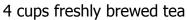
Cold and flu symptoms are caused by viruses and cannot be treated by antibiotics. The only thing that can fight against a cold or flu is the body's immune system. It is important to consume healthy foods that will help boost and maintain the immune system to keep it effective in fighting colds and flu.

Flu like symptoms: coughing, sneezing, runny nose, headache, tiredness, weakness

Flu Fighting Foods:

- ♦ Garlic
- ♦ Ginger
- **⋄** Citrus Fruits
- ⋄ Vegetables
- Probiotics (good bacteria)
- Warm thin soups
- ♦ Hot Teas
- Protein (animal or vegetable)

Hot Spiced Tea



1/4 cup honey

- 4 cinnamon sticks
- 4 whole cloves
- 4 lemon slides (optional) OR 4 orange slices (optional)

Combine tea, honey, cinnamon sticks and cloves in large saucepan; simmer 5 minutes. Serve hot. Garnish wih lemon slices, if desired.



COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

TRUSTEES

Class of 2014Class of 2015Class of 2016Don SchmidtJanice RushtonJohn WilliamsTom JackBob MaceBob Bailly

Joe Price Jake Durick

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Class of 2014Class of 2015Class of 2016Tom JackSue HornerLinda CerdaPatti GardnerEddie RodriguezLynn SwatzellJoe CobbJohn WilliamsJanice Coley

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Class of 2014Class of 2015Class of 2016Janice RushtonBill McMahonMary Jo PriceNancy BeckcomLucille ArmitageLynn SwatzellKathy JackJoe PriceMelinda Molina

MEMORIAL/PERMANENT ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Class of 2014Class of 2015Class of 2016Herb SnookJune SwatzellMary Jo PriceDebra NolleDiane HaagImogene Brown

NOMINATION COMMITTEE (Pastor is Chairperson)

<u>Class of 2014</u> <u>Class of 2015</u> <u>Class of 2016</u>

Herb Snook June Swatzell
Debra Nolle Diane Haag

NON-ROTATING MEMBERSHIP:

WORSHIP

Carolyn Hahn Joanne Green Tom Jack Sue Horner Kathy Wilson Don Schmidt

Patti Gardner

WITNESS/OUTREACH

Mission/Outreach Chairperson: Patti Austin

Emmaus/Kairos: Don & Mary-Kathryn Schmidt

NURTURE

Education: Susan Philbin

Congregational Outreach: Joyce Codd

Loving Service: Imogene Brown/Sue Horner

ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S

Please remember these in your prayers



Kylee Brown Megan Brown Margaret Broxton Bill & Isabel Centeno **Bucky Coley** Esdras Cuervo Gladys Johnson Mary Krwawicz Bea Kunkel Clay Laster Alice & Ben Logan Michael Mendoza Charles Mixon Gloria Reedy Steve Reyes Sr. Ella Reyes,

Jill Anderson

Mike Ross
Will Schuetze
Kirk Tomerlin
Abraham Wamah
Peggy Robinson
Michelle's family
The family of David Miller
John Parramore
Pam Cline
Myrtle Barnhill
The family of Lauren Bump
The family of Juan Morales Marissa
Morales



February 9 Greg Moss

February 13 Mary Bailly Xavier King

February 15 Mildred Hood February 18 Zachary Wilke

February 22 Sarah Tencate

February 26 Jeff Brown

February 28 Gladys Johnson



Gloria Reedy has moved and would love to hear from you!

The Forum at Memorial Woods 777 North Post Oak Road Gloria Reedy, Room #213 Health Care Center Houston, TX 77024

Or you can send in care of Gloria's daughter,

Ann:

Gloria Reedy 375 Tynebridge Lane Houston, TX 77024



Our Sincere Sympathy
is extended
to the family of
Fannie Grafton

Note that Steve Reyes has also moved:

San Pedro Manor 515 W. Ashby Place San Antonio, TX 78212

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

Website: www.stmarksumcsa.com PHONE

PHONE

Stmarkspastor@grandecom.net

Email: stmarkspastor@grandecom.net

Stmarkspastor@grandecom.net CLOSED on Friday OFFICE HOURS 0:00 am - 4:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday PASTOR Rev. Jay Brown SECRETARY Mary Parramore CHOIR DIRECTOR CHOIR DIRECTOR CHOIR DIRECTOR CHOIR DIRECTOR CHOIR DIRECTOR CHOIR DIRECTOR Cuth Foerster ORGANIST Choreph Scutti COSCONIST C

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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