



Things to Remember!

- UMW Executive Meeting
January 2 @ 9:00 AM
- UMW Call to Prayer and
Self Denial - Jan 2 @
9:30AM
- Starting Jan 2 - 12:00 -
1:00 PM YAMS Class
Bible Study - Exodus,
Leviticus and Numbers
(Bring your lunch!)
- Epiphany Potluck Jan 6 -
immediately following
worship (HC)
- Praise Worship Service -
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
(Sanctuary)
- Spanish Worship Service
- Wednesdays at 7:30
PM (Fellowship Hall)

REPORT FROM THE PUMPKIN PATCH

Give yourselves a pat on the back and a round of applause! Because of all of your hard work, the Pumpkin Patch was very successful and not in just a monetary way. There were a total of 420 children visiting the Pumpkin Patch for story time, which is the most we have ever had. Not to mention, the number of children that visited the patch during regular hours!

After all the bills were in, the Pumpkin Patch had a net profit of \$4,131.60. This year the Pumpkin Patch committee is recommending that a portion be used to clean and wax the gym floor and to mulch and seed the church lawn with rye grass. For community outreach, we will be recommending that donations be made to Roy Maas Youth Alternative and the Food Bank at El Divino UMC. The youth from Roy Maas assisted with the unloading and representatives from El Divino volunteered in the Pumpkin Patch.

Every job involving the Pumpkin Patch was important. Without the efforts of St. Mark's, the staff and the involvement of the community, it would not have been possible.

Thank you once again for all you did towards the success of the Pumpkin Patch.



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STATE OF THE CHURCH

ATTENDANCE

<u>Sunday School</u>	2-Dec	9-Dec	16-Dec	23-Dec	30-Dec
Children	4	4	1	N/A	N/A
Youth	8	9	5	N/A	N/A
Adults	28	43	41	N/A	N/A
Leaders	1	1	1	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	41	57	48	N/A	N/A
Worship	106	102	106	N/A	N/A

GREETERS FOR JANUARY

† Bob and Dorothy Mace

TAPE MINISTRY

† Daniel Wilke



USHERS FOR JANUARY

† Tom Jack
† Jeff Brown
† Bob Mace
† Bob Bailly



Finance Committee Reflections



We hope that everyone is ready for the holidays and the start of a new year. As we sit back and reflect, we wonder where 2012 went!

The November financial results have our contributions being less than 2011 and the budget. Through November, we are nearly \$15,500 lower than last year and nearly \$16,000 behind the budget.

Fortunately, our operating expenses have been lower than last year and the budget as well. This is the result of the vacancy in the Christian Formation position and our failure to be current on apportionment payments. With one month remaining, we need to pay \$14,070 to achieve our apportionment commitment. With amounts in our designated account, interest from our TMF endowment fund and an additional transfer from our TMF Parsonage account to cover the second half of 2012, we find ourselves over \$5000 short.

At the end of November, our operating cash balance is \$6,060.

Your generosity throughout 2012 is so appreciate, not only your monetary contributions, but also the time and talent so many of you donate. Without the support of so many, the financial condition of St. Mark's would be negatively impacted. At this time, please remember that Christmas is about Christ. Please be as generous as possible so we are able to meet our apportionment commitment.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

UMW January Dates to Remember:



Wednesday, January 2

9:00 AM Executive Meeting, YAMS Classroom

9:30 AM General Meeting, Fellowship Hall "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial"
Leader: Patti Austin

7:00 PM Esther Circle

Tuesday, January 15:

1:00 PM Martha Circle—Home of Margery & Joanne Green

Wednesday, January 16:

9:30 AM Dorcas Circle — The Meadows (meet at church and carpool)

ALL THREE CIRCLES WILL FILL OUT PLEDGE CARDS AT THIS MONTH'S MEETINGS

Saturday, January 19:

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Leadership Development Training for Local Leaders
St. Matthew's UMC



To the family of George Pasterchick

To Patsy Rolirad and family in the loss of Patsy's great-granddaughter, Pierce Mayfield

To Melinda Molina and family in the loss of Melinda's nephew, Mark

Dear Church Friends-

Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards and phone calls during my recent surgery. I also appreciated Pastor Sharon, Imogene Brown and Dorothy Mace coming to the hospital. It is very comforting to have the love and support of your church family.
In Christ,

Joyce Codd

From our Pastor

I hope that everyone has been enjoying the holiness and delight of this Christmas season! It seems so odd to be writing about a new season while we are still enjoying Christmas carols and the treats that accompany this special time of the year...but...ready or not, a new year approaches! Happy New Year everyone! Hey, life at St Mark's is just fast! Blink and a new year is already here (or at least the newsletter is here!).

We begin a new Church liturgical year with Epiphany Sunday on Jan. 6, 2013. We will celebrate this particular season with themes of light and God's manifested love (ie. "epiphany") with the first Sunday in the new year. After our worship service, we'll gather for a pot-luck dinner in the gym and eat black-eyed peas (in case you missed them on New Year's Eve) and honor the folks who joined our congregation last year. We will welcome and honor: Betty Pfeiffer; Roland and Evelyn Dullnig; Lucille Montgomery; John, Anthony and Halie Kosmich; Jerri Ecclestone; Ann Brown; Robert and Helen Smith; Silas Turner; Melinda Molina; Linda Cerda; and Christine Freeman.

What a joy to have these folks sharing their gifts of loving service with St. Mark's. We look forward to having a meal with them (that's what Methodists do!) as we begin a new year in the life of the church. You will surely want to be present on this special day. Not only will we eat and meet together, but we'll engage in some Epiphany activities that Susan Philbin has in store for us! And what better way to begin a new year? What if we made worship every Sunday a priority and act of discipleship? We could do a lot worse; it would surely be time well spent.

So, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and any other holidays that you want to throw in there! Let this holy season be a blessing to us all; and let us be a blessing to God and our world! See you Sunday!

God bless you,

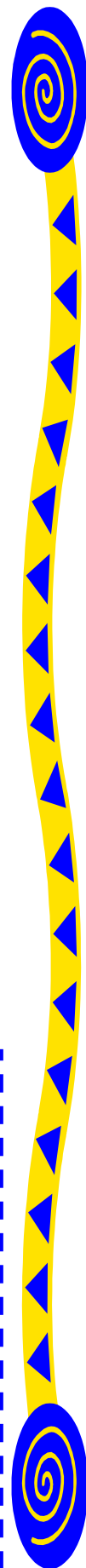
Jay

Epiphany Potluck

*Sunday, January 6th
In the Highsmith Center
Immediately following Worship*

Welcoming New Members over
the last year!

*Betty Pfeiffer
Roland and Evelyn Dullnig
Lucille Montgomery
John, Anthony and Halie Kosmich
Jerri Ecclestone
Ann Brown
Robert and Helen Smith
Silas Turner
Melinda Molina
Linda Cerda
Christine Freeman*



January 2013

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
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According to the United Methodist Church Communications, of each dollar that you give:

- *83.2 cents stays in your local church for ministries and expenses
- *Less than 4 cents goes to United Methodist churchwide missions, salaries, and administrative costs
- *12.8 cents goes for regional ministries in your annual conference and jurisdiction.

To paraphrase John Wesley's words: Do all the good you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can.

One way to accomplish this task is through apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the general church budgets to conferences (which subsequently apportion to local churches). This method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition and a personal lifelong commitment.

Together, through connected congregations, United Methodists accomplish what no single church, district, or annual conference ever could hope to do. In this way, each individual, each family, each congregation gives a fair share for the church's work.

www.umcsgiving.com

LAYMAN'S 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout the journey.
2. So why is a Car's WINDSHIELD so large and the Rear View Mirror so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look Ahead and Move on.
3. Friendship is like a BOOK. It takes a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.
4. All things in life are temporary. If it's going well, enjoy it, as it will not last forever. If it's going wrong, don't worry, it can't last long either.
5. Old Friends are Gold! New Friends are Diamonds! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a base of Gold!
6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"
7. When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems HE has faith in your abilities.
8. A blind person asked St. Anthony: "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied: "Yes, losing your vision!"
9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them, and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.
10. WORRYING does not take away tomorrow's TROUBLES, it takes away today's PEACE.

Needed: A couple of warm-hearted animal folks to serve on planning committee for 2013 event!

See Jerri Ecclestone or call 342-5099



News from the Learning Center . . .

Greetings from your friends at the Learning Center! 2013 is finally here! We are all excited and looking forward to what the New Year will bring!

BIRTHDAYS/IMPORTANT DATES

January 1st New Year's Day (CENTER CLOSED)
January 3rd Paisley Saenz turns 3
January 13th Melani Peralta turns 5
January 14th Mrs. Theresa & PennyLane Medina turns 5
January 17th Mrs. Cynthia
January 20th Khloe Flores turns 3
January 26th Julian Rodriguez turns 5
January 31st Gavino Carlos turns 3

KIDS SNOWFLAKE CRAFT

(paper and safety scissors for young children)

Instructions:

- 1) Fold the paper diagonally so the top-right corner meets the left side of the paper. Cut the 2 1/2 inches off the bottom, with the scissors, that falls below the fold. The paper will now look like a triangle.
- 2) Fold the triangle in half to form a smaller triangle.
- 3) Fold it in half again to form an even smaller

triangle. The triangle will have a side with one fold, a side with three folds and a side with three openings.

4) Make a cut in to the sides of the triangle. For younger children, making triangle cuts is the easiest; older children can make round, square or squiggly cuts.

5) Unfold the paper to see the unique snowflake you created.

FIVE LITTLE SNOWFLAKES

One little snowflake with nothing to do. Along came another, and then there were two.
Two little snowflakes laughing with me. Along came another, and then there were three.
Three little snowflakes looking for some more. Along came another, and then there were four.
Four little snowflakes dancing a jive. Along came another, and then there were five.
Five little snowflakes having so much fun. Out came the sun, and then there were none!

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

In your hands, Oh God, we feel the touch of your guidance. Keep us safe in your care and may your gentleness always be there.
Amen

SPECIAL NOTE

As the year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their love and continued support with our Learning Center. 2012 was a very busy and fun-filled year and we couldn't have accomplished the things we did without the help of friends like you. We now look forward to making 2013 an even better year! THANK YOU SO MUCH!



2012 Poinsettias Honorariums and Memorials

Virginia Barlow in honor of Melissa and Richard Fischer, Josephine & Julia and Becky Dorsey and Devin and Brenna

Virginia Barlow in memory of Jim and Valerie Jean Barlow

Nancy Beckcom in honor of my parents: Ramona & Jimmy Bissett

Nancy Beckcom in honor of my son: Christopher Beckcom

Ramona & James Bissett in memory of my mother (Blanche Pierce)

Jeff Brown in honor of Megan, Val, Garrett and René

Ron & Imogene Brown in honor of our children: Steve, Debi, Jeff & Sarah and their families

Steve, Debi, Jeff and Sarah Brown and families in honor of Ron and Imogene Brown

Louise Chaffin in memory Ruby Sebera & Bell Posey

Joyce Codd in memory of my parents (Martin & Erie Tomerlin)

Janice Coley in memory of Dean Coley and our parents

Friendship Class in honor of Bea Kunkel

Friendship Class in honor of Louise Chaffin

Patti & Johnny Gardner in honor of our children: Katie, Clint, & Carolyn

Patti & Johnny Gardner in honor of my mother: Billie Gabour

Joanne Green in honor of Margery Green

Joanne Green in memory of William Green

Margery Green in honor of Joanne Green

Phil Dee, Thad and Amy Harkins in memory of Nancy & Jimmy Harkins and Orpha Dougherty

Violet Hinton in honor of Lanette

Homemakers Sunday School Class in memory of Lora "Bell" Posey

Sue Horner, Jimmy Horner & Tina Stone in memory of Callie Jo Horner

Sue Horner, Jimmy Horner & Laurie Sprowl in memory of Joe Horner

Doris Karnwie in honor of my son: Christopher Johnson

Dorothy & Bob Mace in honor of our children and their spouses and our grandchildren

Charles & Veleta Mixon in honor of their daughter & son-in-law (Brenda & Dwayne Oldfield)

Melinda Molina in honor of Linda Cerda's birthday

Susan Philbin in honor of Vanessa Pe'Vey

Susan Philbin in memory of Robin Hawkins



2012 Poinsettias Honorariums and Memorials (continued)

Joe & Mary Jo Price in honor of their children: Jeana, Kristin Bayer, Paul & Kyra Price

Joe & Mary Jo Price in memory of Les & Letha Price, Tray & Hazel Gaston

*Rosa Rodriguez in honor of Edward A. Rodriguez, Jessica L. Rodriguez & Jessica's mother
(Laurel Baggenstos)*

Rosa Rodriguez in memory of Edward P. Rodriguez & Tom Baggenstos

Ima Roselle in memory of Lora "Bell" Posey

Mona Rosfeld in memory of "Monty" Rosfeld & Sheryl Nilsson

*Janice Rushton in memory of Al & Virginia Rushton, Ma & Pop Rushton, Joe & Mary Willie
McMahon*

Joan Schott in honor of my family

Ed & Doris Sebera in honor of their children and grandchildren

Joanne, Mike and Pat Skinner in memory of George Skinner

*Herb & Marilyn Snook in honor of Mary Krwawicz from her children: Marilyn Snook & Bonnie
Pope*

Brianne, Brooke & Braden Somerville in honor of Sharon Somerville

*June & Lynn Swatzell in honor of their new granddaughter: Katie Sargent Wilke & new great
grandson: Logan Jackson Leavitt*

June & Lynn Swatzell in memory of our parents: Vera & Carl Watson and Idalia & Jere Swatzell

Lynda Swatzell in honor of the Swatzell, Wilke and Leavitt Families and Blake & Logan Leavitt

*Lynda Swatzell in memory of Jere & Idalia Swatzell, Carl & Vera Watson, Clint and Rity
Borchardt*

Silas Turner in memory of Annie Louise Turner

Daniel & Sherry Wilke in honor of Zachary, Jacob & Katie Wilke and Lynn & June Swatzell

Daniel & Sherry Wilke in memory of Louis & Leola Wilke

Diane Williams in memory of Loretta Voth

Dennis & Kathy Wilson in honor of Jesse Morgan

*Dennis & Kathy Wilson in memory of Kathryn Morgan and Ed & Margaret
Wilson*

YAMS Sunday School in honor of Imogene Brown



*Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.*

Psalm 100:4

**Please join us Wednesdays
for intimate Worship**

Contemporary 7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

**Servicio en Espanol a las 7:30 p.m.
(Fellowship Hall)**



**You are WELCOME and INVITED
To the YAMS Sunday School Class
(**Y**oung **A**dult **M**arrieds and **S**ingles)**



**Bible Study - Putting God's Word into Action in
our Lives**

Classroom off the Fellowship Hall

9:15 - 10:00 AM

Class activities:

- * Support an orphan in Uganda, Africa**
- * Caring for two Christmas families**
- * Support Food Pantry and Mobile Food Truck**
- * Serve Pot Luck dinners for SMUMC**
- * Class Holiday Party - December 28th, 2012 @ 6:30 PM**

ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Jill Anderson	Family of George Pasterchick	Comfort Quesnell
Megan Brown	PeryWaynePeryman	Family of Monte Tomerlin
Margaret Broxton	Gloria Reedy	Family of Lee Williams
Bill & Isabel Centeno	Steve Reyes Sr.	Michael Mendoza
Bucky Coley	Mike Ross	Martha Troop
Esdras Cuervo	Ed Setterfield	JoAnn Watts
Gladys Haas	Will Schuetze	Sy Turner
Gladys Johnson	Kirk Tomerlin	Fynboe Family
Mary Krwawicz	Abraham Wamah	Bud Voth
Clay & Irma Laster	Deborah Sanborn	Family of VD Shockey, Jr
Charles Mixon	Pastor Cheryl Owens	Family of Willie Perkins

Happy Birthday	January 12 Clayton Laster
January 1 Diane Haag	January 16 Bob Bailly
January 5 Robert Contreras	January 17 Ann Brown
January 6 Patsy Perryman Donna Rodgers Virginia Thornton	January 18 Mary Jo Price
January 7 Bea Kunkel Charles Mixon Lynda Swatzell	January 19 Daniel Wilke
January 9 Patti Austin Carl Swatzell	January 20 Mary Krwawicz
January 10 Hunter Hoffman	January 28 Stephen Reyes, Jr
	January 29 Phil Harkins
	January 29 Mary Kathryn
	January 31 Susan Thornton

Jay & Ann Brown - January 1

Ralph & Patsy Perryman - January 21

Tom & Kathy Jack - January 23

What kind of church would my church be if every member here was just like me?

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR.....Rev. Jay Brown
 SECRETARY.....Mary Parramore
 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@mhm.org

Website: www.stmarksumcsa.com



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

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NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
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St. Mark's United Methodist Church
 1902 Vance Jackson – San Antonio, Texas 78213-4455
 (210) 344-8393
stmarksumc@grandecom.net