



Messenger

St. Mark's
United Methodist Church

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

Things to Remember!

- † Wednesday Bible Study (LL) @ 12:00 PM
- † Saturday, January 10 @ 9:00 AM - Admin Council Planning Meeting (FH)
- † Monday, January 19th @ 6:00 PM - Finance Committee (FH)
- † Monday, January 19th @ 6:30 PM - Admin Council (FH)
- † Tuesday, January 20th - Food Truck Vouchers 9-12 (GYM)
- † Thursday, January 22nd - Mobile Food Bank
- † Tuesdays at 9:30 AM - Drive Thru Prayer
- † Praise and Communion Bi-Cultural Worship Service Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

Thank you!

Our Food Pantry is full again, thanks to the generous people of St. Mark's. At the November 23 Food Drive, we received many bags of canned and boxed food, in addition to \$283.17 in cash. We will put your donations to immediate use to help our neighbors who need assistance during this time of the year. Thank you for caring!



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STATE OF THE CHURCH



<u>Sunday School</u>	11/23	11/30	12/7	12/14
Children	3	5	8	5
Youth	4	7	5	7
Adults	35	38	38	38
Total SS	42	50	51	50
<u>Worship</u>	83	96	85	102

USHERS

- † Carl Swatzell
- † Lynn Swatzell
- † Daniel Wilke
- † Zach Wilke

TAPE MINISTRY

- † Daniel Wilke

GREETERS

- † Kim & Jake Durick

Finance Committee Reflections: Sounds From the Bean Counters



It's hard to believe that Christmas is upon us. The warm weather certainly makes it hard to get into the Christmas spirit.

Contributions in November were slightly ahead of the budget as well as being \$2,000 ahead of last year. This November had five Sundays, which contributes to the higher donations. Year-to-date contributions trail 2013 by \$6,400 and are lower than budgeted by \$8,600.

Operating expenses in November were \$1,400 lower than budgeted and \$10,300 lower than November 2013. Versus the budget, Mission Giving (apportionments) and Trustee expenses were lower, while Council on Ministries, Pastor Compensation and Lay Personnel Compensation were higher than planned. Compared to November 2013, most expense categories were favorable with the most significant being Mission Giving which was \$8,800 higher last year.

Our year-to-date operating expenses are \$10,200 favorable to the budget and \$5,000 less than last year. Versus the budget, Trustee spending accounts for most of

the favorable variance. Compared to 2013, our Mission Giving is \$11,800 lower, partially offset by higher Lay Personnel Compensation.

Our apportionment spending continues to be ahead of the budget.

Our operating cash balance continues to be a great concern. At the end of November, our operating cash balance was a negative \$13,800. If we hadn't had funds in savings which we were able to transfer our problem would have been even greater as we recorded a cash outflow through November of \$31,560. It is extremely important that we enter 2015 with a positive operating cash balance. We appeal to you to show your generosity to St. Mark's this Christmas season. You have always met our financial challenges in the past and hope this will continue.

We would like to thank you for your contributions through November and thank you in advance for your December donations. We wish you all a very merry and blessed Christmas.



Stewardship Moment

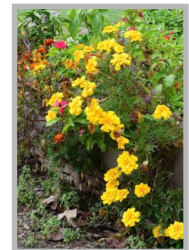
According to the United Methodist Church Communications, of each dollar that you give:

- † 83.2 cents stays in your local church for ministries and expenses
- † Less than 4 cents goes to United Methodist church wide 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 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.

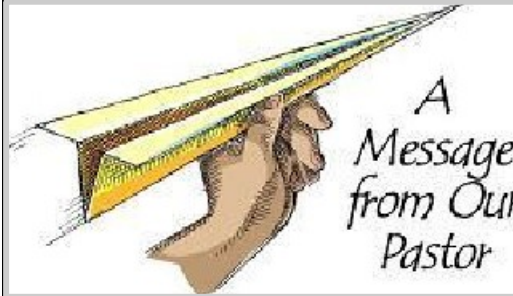


Community Garden - Spring is Coming!!

Spring is just around the corner and planting time will arrive quickly for our Community Garden. If you have not visited the garden recently, you will be surprised by the number of tomatoes and growing things. The frost a few weeks ago pitched us a fit, but with the help of lots of "cover ups", many things survived. If you are interested in a garden plot for the spring, please see Imogene and we will sign you up. We now have handicap beds which are up off of the ground so one does not have to stoop or bend over to plant and harvest. The fall flowers and vegetables have really put on a show for us and we have been proud of all of the produce that we have grown; however we need

help!!! The garden does require lots of work, as each of you know, and when the work falls to just a few, we play out and do not stay in good humor. Please put the garden in your prayers and if you feel so moved to help, speak up and we will use you. It seems like a "Godly thing" to use a portion of our property to grow veggies for His people's healthy eating. The garden does require regular watering and currently we do not have a water monitor, anyone willing to take on that job, please give me a ring. Thank you for all you have done all you will be.

Imogene



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 (at least it is not time for Pumpkin Patch!). 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. Actually, Epiphany begins on January 6th, and we'll have already had one Sunday that is still in the Christmas season; complicated, eh? Nevertheless, 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. Not exactly liturgically correct, but we want to do it this way, sooo... 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: Mario and Lettie Mercado, Susan Kosmich, Tiffany Wells, Julia Ybarra, Bob and Shelley Ross... thanks be to God for their presence in our lives!

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 one of the things we 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 (ie: Fun and games!) And what better way to begin a new year? What if we made worship every Sunday a priority and act of discipleship? The year would surely go a lot better and would be more meaningful! 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

January 2015

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																											
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Dec 2014</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Feb 2015</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">1</p> <p>4:00 PM Texas Tigers (HC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">2</p> <p>4:00 PM Texas Tigers (HC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">3</p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p>
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Wesley Nurse News - January 2015

PNEUMONIA VACCINES

If you are age 65 or older, ask your doctor for a shot (vaccine) to help protect you from pneumonia caused by a certain kind of bacteria. This shot is called, PPSV, or sometimes the pneumococcal shot.

Pneumonia is a serious illness that can sometimes lead to death, especially in older adults. The good news is that you can protect yourself from a common type of pneumonia by getting a PPSV shot.



The PPSV shot also protects you from other infections caused by the same type of bacteria, including, bacteremia (infections of the blood) and meningitis (infections of the covering around the brain and spinal cord.)

Who needs to get a PPSV shot?

If you are age 65 or older, get a PPSV shot. If you are under age 65, it's a good idea to get a PPSV shot if you smoke or have a health condition like a weakened immune system (from cancer or HIV, for example), Diabetes, Heart Disease, or Asthma.

New Pneumococcal Recommendations for 2014

CDC now recommends 2 pneumococcal vaccines for adults 65 years or older.

You should receive a dose of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13) first, followed by a dose of the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23), ideally 6 to 12 months later.

If you've already received any doses of PPSV23, the dose of PCV13 should be given at least 1 year after receipt of the most recent PPSV23 dose.

If you've already received a dose of PCV13 at a younger age, another dose is not recommended.

For more information on this topic, please visit the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Pneumonia/>, the Health and Human Services website: <http://www.healthfinder.gov/HealthTopics/Category/doctor-visits/shotsvaccines/get-a-pneumonia-shot>, or your Wesley Nurse.

Charges Flowers, RN
210-344-8393



Poinsettia Dedications ~ 2014

In honor of Jay and Glenn Austin ~ given by Malcom & Patti Austin

In honor of my daughters and their families: Becky, Devin & Brenna Dorsey; Melissa & Richard Fischer, Josephine & Julia ~ given by Virginia Barlow

In honor of my sister-in-law, Jean Barlow Graham ~ given by Virginia Barlow

In honor of Ramona & Jimmy Bissett ~ given by Nancy Beckcom

In honor of Blanche Pierce ~ given by Jimmy & Ramona Bissett

In honor of Megan, Garrett & Val ~ given by Jeff Brown

In honor of Ron & Imogene Brown ~ given by Steve, Debi, Jeff, Sarah Brown & families

In honor of our children's families ~ given by Ron & Imogene Brown

In honor of my sons, John & Russ Schertz ~ given by Louise Chaffin

In loving memory of Carrie Keynon ~ given by Louise Chaffin

In loving memory of Charles Codd ~ given by Joyce Codd

In loving memory of Dean Coley ~ given by Janice Coley

In honor of my children and grandchildren ~ given by Janice Coley

In honor of Evelyn Dullnig ~ given by Roland Dullnig

In loving memory of our mothers ~ given by Mel & Vee Davison

In honor of Virginia Barlow ~ given by Melissa Barlow Fischer

In loving memory of James E. Barlow ~ given by Melissa Barlow Fischer

In honor of Bea Kunkel ~ given by The Friendship Class

In honor of my mom, Billie Gabour ~ given by Patti Gardner

In honor of Clint & Katie Tucker ~ given by Patti Gardner

In honor of Carolyn Gardner & Jerry McDuff ~ given by Patti Gardner

In honor of Spencer, Liam and Jack Kiesel ~ given by Patti Gardner & Billy Kiesel

In loving memory of my parents, William & Margery Green ~ given by Joann Green

In loving memory of my grandparents, NH & Alma Greathouse and Emery & Ada Green ~ given by Joann Green

In loving memory of Nancy, Phil & Jimmy Harkins and Orpha Daugherty ~ given by Thad, Dee & Amy Harkins

In loving memory of my family ~ given by Violet Hinton

Poinsettia Dedications – 2014 (Continued)

In loving memory of Joe & Callie Jo Horner – given by Sue Horner

In honor of Tom Jack's 65th birthday – given by Kathy Jack

In loving memory of Clarence & Lucille Franke and Frank & Pauline Mace – given by Bob & Dorothy Mace

In honor of El Divino Salvador UMC's food pantry, who with the Lord's help and dedicated volunteers, faithfully served the community from 1996 through 2014 – given by Melinda Molina

In honor of Vanessa Pe'Vey – given by Susan Philbin

In loving memory of Bill & Virginia Pe'Vey – given by Susan Philbin

In honor of our children and granddaughter: Jeana, Kristin, Paul & Kyra – given by Joe & Mary Jo Price

In loving memory of our parents: Letha & Wes Price and Hazel & Tray Gaston – given by Joe & Mary Jo Price

In honor of the Ramirez Family – given by Cynthia Ramirez

In honor of our mothers, Laurel & Rosa – given by Eddie & Jessica Rodriguez

In loving memory of our fathers, Tom & Edward – given by Eddie & Jessica Rodriguez

In loving memory of Al & Virginia Rushton – given by Janice Rushton

In honor of our son and daughter-in-law – given by Jerry & Joan Schott

In loving memory of George Skinner – given by Joanne, Pat & Mike Skinner

In honor of Tom Jack's birthday and in loving memory of Ellen Vance – given by Sharon, Brianne, Brooke & Braden Somerville

In loving memory of Cheryl K Owens – given by St. Mark's UMC

In honor of our children and grandchildren – given by Lynn & June Swatzell

In loving memory of our parents: Carl & Vera Watson and Jere & Idalia Swatzell – given by Lynn & June Swatzell

In honor of Zachary, Jacob & Katie Wilke, Lynn & June Swatzell and in loving memory of Louis & Leola Wilke – given by Daniel & Sherry Wilke

In honor of all our children and grandchildren – given by John & Diane Williams

In loving memory of Bud & Loretta Voth, and Ralph Williams – given by John & Diane Williams

In loving memory of Kathryn Morgan and Jesse Morgan – given by Kathy Wilson

In loving memory of Ed & Margaret Wilson – given by Kathy & Dennis Wilson

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

TRUSTEES

<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>
Janice Rushton	John Williams	Don Schmidt
Bob Mace	Bob Bailly	Tom Jack
Joe Price	Jake Durick	Billy Kiesel

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>
Sue Horner	Linda Cerda	Susan Philbin
Eddie Rodriguez	Lynn Swatzell	Brett Codd
John Williams	Janice Coley	Mario Mercado

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>
Bill McMahon	Mary Jo Price	Janice Rushton
Lucille Armitage	Lynn Swatzell	Nancy Beckcom
Joe Price	Melinda Molina	Kathy Jack

MEMORIAL/PERMANENT ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>
June Swatzell	Mary Jo Price	Herb Snook
Diane Haag	Imogene Brown	Louise Chaffin

NOMINATION COMMITTEE (Pastor is Chairperson)

<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>
June Swatzell	Imogene Brown	Patti Gardner
Diane Haag	Sue Horner	Herb Snook

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 Schmmidt

NURTURE

Education:	Susan Philbin
Congregational Outreach:	Joyce Codd
Loving Service:	Imogene Brown/Sue Horner

NOTES AND REMINDERS

Reminder: The Wednesday Bible Study group is taking a break in December, but we will start back up on Wednesday, January 7th - Chapter 4: Prophecies of the Messiah.

San Antonio Food Bank Truck schedule is back to normal for January! Vouchers on Tuesday, January 20th and the truck on Thursday, January 22nd.

With the new year comes a new flower calendar! The flower calendar is wide open for 2015.

If you would be interested to sponsor the altar flowers on any Sunday in 2015 in honor or memory of your loved one, please call Joanne Green or the church office.



Flowers are \$25. Just put your donation in the regular offering, with the notation "Altar Flowers".

Please
Welcome
Our Newest
Members!

Bob & Shelley Ross



Our sincere sympathy is extended to the families of:

*Pauline Denham
Henry Holman
Betty Pfeiffer*

ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Please remember
these in your prayers

Jill Anderson
Connor Benjamin
Kylee Brown
Megan Brown
Margaret Broxton
Bill & Isabel Centeno
Bucky Coley
Esdras Cuervo
Gladys Johnson
Bea Kunkel
Clay Laster
Alice & Ben Logan
Michael Mendoza
Mendoza Family
Charles Mixon
Ann Payette
Gloria Reedy
Steve Reyes Sr.

Ella Reyes
Mike Ross
John Parramore
Will Schuetze
Kirk Tomerlin
Abraham Wamah
Ida Gonzales
Tony Corrales
Cora Fischer
Family of Betty Pfeiffer
Kevin Yarger
Pat Prihoda
Pat Zimmer
Scott Thomas
Barney O'Farrell
Family of Leta Robinson
Louise Black
Willie Barnes

Ofelia Ojeda & Family
Norma Williams
Family of Bill Hendricks
Paula
Steve & Jamie Haid
Family of Ann Taylor
Lessie Todd
Larry Adams
Randy Stevens
Alvin Mann
Family of Mike Warren
Charlie Daniels
Olivia Page
Michael Mendoza



January 1
Diane Haag

January 6
Patsy Perryman
Virginia Thornton

January 7
Bea Kunkel
Charles Mixon

January 8
Wayne Adams, Sr.

January 9
Patti Austin

Carl Swatzell

January 10
Hunter Hoffman

January 12
Clay Laster

January 16
Bob Bailly

January 17
Ann Brown

January 18
Mary Jo Price

January 19
Daniel Wilke

January 28
Stephen Reyes, Jr.

January 29
Mary-Kathryn
Schmidt

January 31
Susan Thornton



Jay & Ann Brown - January 1
Ralph & Patsy Perryman - January 21
Tom & Kathy Jack - January 23

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

OFFICE HOURS
 9:00 am—4:00 p.m. Monday—Thursday
 CLOSED on Friday

Rev. Jay Brown	PASTOR
Patti Gardner	SECRETARY
Charzes Flowers	WESLEY NURSE
Carolyn Hahn	CHOIR DIRECTOR
Joseph Scutti	ORGANIST
Johnny Mendoza	CUSTODIAN

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