



Messenger

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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

Things to Remember:

- † Tuesdays in July - 2:00 PM, YAMS Classroom - Prayer Beads (Shelley Ross)
- † Tuesday, July 21st - Vouchers
- † Thursday, July 23rd - SA Food Bank Truck
- † Thursday, July 23rd - Newsletter Deadline!!
- † F-Troop - Sunday, June 28 @ 6:00 PM
- † Wednesday Night Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

SA YOUTH

The summer of 2015 marks the first year that SA Youth is holding its summer program on the campus of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. In its 31st year of providing after-school and summer enrichment programs for San Antonio children age 5 through 15 years, the program focus continues to be: "To develop the character, strengths, talents and skills of San Antonio's high-risk urban youth through fun, safe experiences, positive learning environments, and holistic programs that inspire each individual to fulfill their potential personally and in the community."

St. Mark's is one of 12 sites across San Antonio that hosts the children and engages them in a safe place where they can participate in physical education activities and sports clubs, arts, reading, computer skills, math, and music. During the summer, the children are provided breakfast and lunch by the program.

This highly awarded and recognized program is sponsored in part by the Texas Education Agency, the United Way, and grants. The SA Youth provides its own staff, computers and learning materials, meals, and transportation for the children. There are currently 80 children enrolled in the summer program held at St. Mark's. SA Youth requires (1) that the parents attend regularly scheduled meeting; (2) the parents volunteer in the program one hour per week; and (3) that the child maintains an 80% attendance record.

For additional information about SA Youth, please visit their website, sanantonioyouth.org. Or you may contact Steve Neiheisel, Site Coordinator, at (210)223-3131, extension 239, or at steve@sanantonioyouth.org.

(See pictures on page 10)

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

STATE OF THE CHURCH

USHERS

- † Daniel Wilke
- † Lynn Swatzell
- † Zachary Wilke
- † Carl Swatzell

<u>Sunday School</u>	5/31	6/7	6/14	6/21
Children	1	2	3	2
Youth	6	4	6	4
Adults	37	34	34	25
Total SS	44	40	43	31
<u>Worship</u>	94	87	89	76

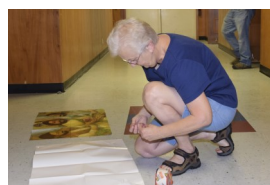
WHO IS JESUS?

ST MARK'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015 was once again a labor of love for the Lord and His children. This year we took a leap of faith and made several changes. Assembly was a creative script about the Shepherd and His flock. We introduced lessons which included much loved bible stories, and familiar songs that most of us grew up with, such as Jesus Loves the Little Children, and Lord , I Lift your Name on High. Our theme song, Jesus Loves Me/ Cristo Mi Ama, was sung in English and Spanish. Crafts followed the daily lesson, such as friendship bracelets on the day we taught that Jesus is our friend. Recreation replaced Discovery, making good use of our playground and gym. Even the food was different, it was served cafeteria style! In addition to the leaders of all these areas, we had men and women who helped publicize the event, handled the registration and decorated the different areas. Plus there were others who took the children from activity to activity. The adults had a class that included an introduction to the Bible and even a craft or two. The young teens once again had a class of their very own. Lessons, music, and other activities were planned especially for them. Our desire this year was to introduce who Jesus is and the different ways He can be a part of our everyday lives. With His help, we pray our students will begin a lifelong relationship with Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

"Go and make disciples....and teach them everything you have learned"

In His service,
Melinda Molina

Here are some pictures from our VBS Workday before it all began - check next month for pictures of the kids!!





General & Jurisdictional

The World Service Fund is the backbone of the Agencies of the General Church, whose aim is to flourish in the four ministry goals of the Council of Bishops.

Poverty - Fifty native leaders will be trained and placed with strategic mission partners in poor areas, with special emphasis placed on responding to the critical needs of women and children.

Global Health - Reduce by 66% the number of malaria related deaths of children under the age of 5 by working with international partners.

New & Existing Congregations - Recruit 1000 new church planters to "seed" 650 new churches in the United States specifically targeting 50% of those to be racial and ethnic congregations.

Develop Christian Leadership - The church must recruit young people for ministry and provide them with the skills necessary to be effective in this new time of opportunity. That includes women and people of color the world over. Similarly, we must offer leadership training for lay people who are in ministry in countless ways.

Do you make the very best homemade ice cream? **PROVE IT!!!**



Bring your creation to the church on **Saturday, July 4th** and we will tell you who's is the best.

Do you have discriminating taste? **PROVE IT!!!**

Join us from **4—6 PM** to taste all the different ice creams made and determine which is the most wonderful!! It sounds to me like a lick-lick... I mean win win for everyone!

Upcoming Altar Flower Opportunities

July 5	2 Openings
July 19	1 Opening
August 2	1 Opening
August 30	1 Opening
September 13	1 Opening
September 20	2 Openings
September 27	1 Opening

Call Joanne Green - 210-690-5714 or Patti in the church office - 210-344-8393





From Our Pastor. . .

I've been really excited and pleased at the way that the Holy Spirit has been moving among us at St. Mark's in these last few months; we've had seven people join our church family in the month of June and others have come to join us in the previous months as well. Baptisms, confirmations and professions of faith, transfers from other churches....God has added to our numbers. It feels like a new Pentecost has come upon us; "people are hearing the word of God proclaimed in their own languages".

Praise God! One of the many things that I like about our church family is our willingness to welcome people into our midst. This is certainly God's will and Jesus' mandate; Matthew 25: "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, for I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you invited me in...". We have been focused on being better neighbors and reaching out into the community and God is sending us His children that we might be a blessing to them and to our Heavenly Father.

That being said, let us be challenged to go a little beyond our comfort zone by being even more intentional in worship to relate more deeply to the newcomers who worship with us. We routinely move around during our time of "passing the peace" and most make it a point to greet each person present with some kind of act; a handshake, hug, nod, wave and the spoken words of greeting. The challenge is this: consciously take 3 minutes at the end of the service to go to someone that you don't really know and just engage them for just a few minutes (three) and tell them what a blessing it was to you and our church to have been able to worship with them; ask them their name; ask them what they thought of the service etc... it doesn't have to be a long, drawn-out ordeal for you or them, just a conscious intentional attempt to make the contact a little more than just minimal. We're not trying to begin a counseling session or redo the whole service... just a sincere offer of welcome; a few words designed to convey our gratitude that they have graced us by their presence in worship.

Most people respond well to that kind of brief but intentional interaction. I believe that God will bless that conversation if we'll allow His Holy Spirit to guide us and be present in and through us. Let's give it a try and see how God will act through our deepening our discipleship! Until next time, God bless you and let us be a blessing to others!

Jay



New Address for Helen Brock:

Rev. Helen Brock
8150 7th Street
Somerset, TX 78069

July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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July is Eye Injury Prevention Month

Protecting your eyes from injury is one of the most basic things you can do to keep your vision healthy throughout your life. One of the easiest ways to protect your eyes is by wearing proper protective eyewear. According to a national survey by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, only 35 percent of respondents said they always wear protective eyewear when performing home repairs or maintenance. If you have suffered an eye injury, have an ophthalmologist or other medical doctor examine the eye as soon as possible. A serious eye injury is not always immediately obvious. Delaying medical attention can cause the damaged areas to worsen and could result in permanent vision loss or blindness.

Eye Injury Facts and Myths

Men are more likely to sustain an eye injury than women.

Most people believe that eye injuries are most common on the job – especially in the course of work at factories and construction sites. But, in fact, nearly half (44.7 percent) of all eye injuries occurred in the home, as reported during the fifth-annual Eye Injury Snapshot (conducted by the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Ocular Trauma).

More than 40 percent of eye injuries reported in the Eye Injury Snapshot were caused by projects and activities such as home repairs, yard work, cleaning and cooking. More than a third (34.2 percent) of injuries in the home occurred in living areas such as the kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, living or family room.

More than 40 percent of eye injuries every year are related to sports or recreational activities.

Eyes can be damaged by sun exposure, not just chemicals, dust or objects.

Among all eye injuries reported in the Eye Injury Snapshot, more than 78 percent of people were not wearing eyewear at the time of injury. Of those reported to be wearing eyewear of some sort at the time of injury (including glasses or contact lenses), only 5.3 percent were wearing safety or sports glasses.

Steps to take if you have an eye injury

For all eye injuries:

- DO NOT touch, rub or apply pressure to the eye.
- DO NOT try to remove the object stuck in the eye.
- DO NOT apply ointment or medication to the eye.
- See a doctor as soon as possible, preferably an ophthalmologist.

If your eye has been cut or punctured:

Gently place a shield over the eye. The bottom of a paper cup taped to the bones surrounding the eye can serve as a shield until you get medical attention.

DO NOT rinse with water.

DO NOT remove the object stuck in eye.

DO NOT rub or apply pressure to eye.

Avoid giving aspirin, ibuprofen or other non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs. These drugs thin the blood and may increase bleeding.

After you have finished protecting the eye, see a physician immediately.

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

If you get a particle or foreign material in your eye:

DO NOT rub the eye.

Lift the upper eyelid over the lashes of your lower lid.

Blink several times and allow tears to flush out the particle.

If the particle remains, keep your eye closed and seek medical attention.

In case of a chemical burn to the eye:

Immediately flush the eye with plenty of clean water.

Seek emergency medical treatment right away.

To treat a blow to the eye:

Gently apply a small cold compress to reduce pain and swelling.

DO NOT apply any pressure.

If a black eye, pain or visual disturbance occurs even after a light blow, immediately contact your Eye M.D. or emergency room.

Remember that even a light blow can cause a significant eye injury.

To treat sand or small debris in the eye:

Use eyewash to flush the eye out.

DO NOT rub the eye.

If the debris doesn't come out, lightly bandage the eye and see an Eye M.D. or visit the nearest emergency room.

For more information about this subject, visit the American Academy of Ophthalmology's website: <http://www.geteyesmart.org/eyesmart/living/eye-injuries/preventing.cfm> or call the Wesley Nurse for further information at 210-344-8393.

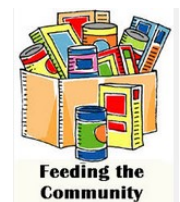
**Charzes Flowers, RN
Wesley Nurse**



**WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY TO
FRIENDS & FAMILY OF DONNIE SCHMIDT
BOB & SHELLY ROSS AT THE LOSS OF BOB'S SISTER**

Please remember our food pantry each week when you do your grocery shopping!

- 1st Sunday: A can of vegetables
- 2nd Sunday: 1 pound bag of rice or beans
- 3rd Sunday: A can of meat (chicken, tuna, spam)
- 4th Sunday: A can of Spaghetti Sauce
- 5th Sunday: Surprise us!!!



A "Noisy" offering will be taken on the last Sunday of every month - Save your coins!!!

Sounds from the Beancounters

The following provides the financial overview for the month of May.

Operating Cash balance 4/30/15		(7,192)
Non-Designated Contributions - April		20,630
Operating Expenses:		
Council on Ministries	1,306	
Special Mission Giving	0	
Mission Giving	7,087	
Administration Expense	503	
Trustees	5,152	
Pastor's Compensation	11,045	
Lay Personnel Compensation	9,356	
		34,449
Other Income/(Expense)		<u>13,799</u>
Operating Cash balance at 5/31/2015		<u><u>(7,212)</u></u>

Comments:

May contributions were higher than last year as the result of 5 Sundays in 2015 compared to 4 Sundays last year. Pastor Compensation and Lay Personnel Compensation were both higher as the result of new unbudgeted positions (Associate Pastor and Youth Coordinator). Mission Giving was higher as a result of our paying \$6500 towards our apportionments. This payment was possible due to Easter contributions which were designated to apportionments. Other income was higher due to recording the Easter contribution and the impact of the reversal of the payroll entry made in April.

Apportionment (Mission Giving):

Through May we have paid \$13,871 resulting in us being \$2,174 unfavorable to the budget.

Year-to-Date:

	Actual	Budget
Contributions	101,492	97,816
Other Income	<u>20,799</u>	<u>29,535</u>
Total	<u><u>122,291</u></u>	<u><u>127,351</u></u>

We continue to have a negative operating cash balance. Your financial support to St. Mark's is appreciated and greatly needed.

NOTES AND NOTICES

Be sure to welcome our newest members!



The Kiesel Family - Billy, Spencer, Liam & Jack

Esther Lopez & Rose Johnson

Tommy Pehl

(pictures to come!)

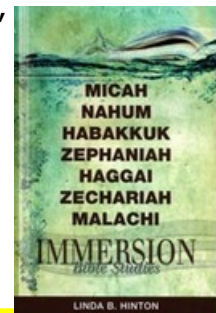
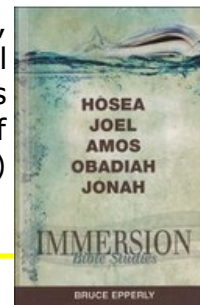
Senior Sunday

On Sunday, May 31st St. Mark's honored 3 graduating high school seniors. These young people are all remarkable in their own way and have great futures ahead of them. Zach Wilke is graduating from Johnson High School and has been accepted at Texas A&M with plans to become an engineer. Carl Swatzell is graduating from Smithson Valley High School and has also been accepted at Texas A&M to study engineering. Kaleigh Horner is graduating from Johnson High School and has been accepted at Abilene Christian University to study nursing and plans to become a Neonatal Intensive Care nurse caring for the sickest of babies. She has also been accepted on the cheerleading squad. When you see these young people please congratulate them and give them your best.

5th Sunday Pot Luck

On Sunday, May 31st the community garden was celebrated and we followed with a fabulous pot luck. Jay's and Ann's classes set up and served and cleaned up and they had a great time. The next pot luck is August 30th and we will honor our St. Mark's teachers. Jay and Ann have volunteered their classes once again and I just know it will be great.

The Wednesday Bible Study group will begin a new series on August 26th. There are two more studies left in the Old Testament! The first - Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah and Jonah - will run 8 weeks - from August 26th through October 14th. The second - Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi - will run October 21 through December 16th. Each study is totally independent - if you would be interested in either of these - or both, please just let Patti (in the church office) know! Books are \$10 each.



June Snapshots



Around St. Mark's



By Rob Remig



ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .




Please remember
these in your prayers

Jill Anderson
Willie Barnes
Connor Benjamin
Kylee Brown
Megan Brown
Margaret Broxton
Bill & Isabel Centeno
Bucky Coley
Esdras Cuervo
Cora Fischer
Gladys Johnson
Bea Kunkel
Alice & Ben Logan
Robert Flores Lopez
Michael Mendoza

Charles Mixon
Ann Payette
Gloria Reedy
Steve Reyes Sr.
Mike Ross
Will Schuetze
Doris Sinclair
Kirk Tomerlin
Abraham Wamah
Landry Dollahite
Jonell Chaney
Olivia Page
Angie Erickson
Jean Newman
Schmidt Family

Bob Cermin
Justin Easterling
SA Youth Program
Ralph & Patsy Perryman
Jamie Haid
Ann Breed
Beth Stewart
Harry Meadows
John Kosmich

	July 9 David Allen	July 20 Doris Karnwie Olga Sidusky	July 26 Joan Schott
	July 11 Howard Long	July 21 Mary Sue Mahaffey	July 27 Marilyn Snook
	July 13 Joe Cobb	July 22 Dakota Adams	July 30 Janice Coley Liam Kiesel
	July 1 Matt Alejandro	July 15 Chance Henry Gertrude Johns	July 31 Charles Brown Helen Elkins June Swatzell
	July 2 Damian Leija	July 18 Claire Cobb	July 25 Maxine Pasterchick Delores Seay
July 5 Mona Rosfeld			



Happy Anniversary!

July 11th - Joan & Jerrold Schott

July 13th - Kim & Jake Durick

July 22nd - Bob & Mary Bailly

July 25th - Bob & Dorothy Mace

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
 1902 Vance Jackson – San Antonio, Texas 78213-4455
 (210) 344-8393
 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

Website: www.stmarksumcsa.com
 Email: stmarksumc@grandecom.net
stmarkspastor@grandecom.net

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

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