



# Messenger

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church  
1902 Vance Jackson San Antonio, TX 78213  
210-344-8393

## Things to Remember:

- † Thursday, June 1 - 7:30 AM - End of School Bus Ministry Celebration
- † Thursday, June 8 - 12:00 PM - Bus Ministry Activities in the Gym
- † Sunday, June 18th Father's Day
- † Thursday, June 22 - Mobile Food Bank
- † Sunday, June 25th - 9:30 AM - Reception for Jay and Ann (FH)
- † VBS - June 26 - 29
- † Wednesday Praise @ 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall
- † **Psalm 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the lord my whole life long.**



## It's VBS Time Again!

June 26 - 30

5:30 - 8:00 PM

We start with a light meal at 5:30 and break into groups about 6:00 PM. Come join us as we Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love!!!

COLORS: Monday: Purple Tuesday: Green  
Wednesday: Red Thursday: Blue Friday: Orange

SCRIPTURE: Nehemiah 4:14B Remember that the Lord is GREAT and AWESOME!

If you would like to make a donation to VBS this year, it would be much appreciated!!! Check the bulletin for supplies that we will also be collecting.



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

## SERVING THE CHURCH

<u>Sunday School</u>	4/30	5/7	5/14	5/21
Children	1	1	0	1
Youth	2	3	3	4
Adults	19	15	15	19
<b>Total SS</b>	22	19	18	24
<u>Worship</u>				
Sunday	68	46	65	60
Wednesday Night	20	21	25	

### JUNE USHERS

**Daniel Wilke, Zachary Wilke  
Carl Swatzell, Mario Mercado**



#### Altar Flower Calendar Openings

June 18	1 Opening
July 9	1 Opening
July 16	1 Opening
July 30	2 Openings
August 6	1 Opening
August 20	1 Opening
September 3	1 Opening
September 10	1 Opening
September 17	1 Opening
September 24	2 Openings

### June Liturgists

June 4	Patti Gardner
June 11	Eddie Rodriguez
June 18	Leticia Mercado
June 25	Johnny Mendoza



## APPORTIONMENTS WE ARE CALLED. . .

ARE YOU A  
GOOD  
STEWARD?

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL:** As the church, the most fundamental gift entrusted to our stewardship is the good news that God, who created the world and grieves over its brokenness, is at work to redeem the world and restore it to wholeness. God's redeeming work has found its central focus in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and will be completed in the full restoration of God's reign over all the earth. The stewardship of the gospel is the prologue and the presupposition of all of our other practices as God's stewards. What we do and who we become in our use of God's gifts must always be understood as extensions of our response to the gift of God's redeeming work, which we are invited to share.

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION:** Our well-being depends on the whole of creation, and our stewardship of the earth's resources is foundational for our personal, social and economic life. Our very being and all those resources that enable our lives come as the gift of God's creation. Creation is relational in character. We experience the wholeness God intended in creation only when we are harmoniously related to God, to others, and to the earth itself with all of its plants and animals. As human beings, we are created in the image of God, which means that we represent the Creator in our dominion over the earth. This makes us stewards of the earth and not its masters.

Our well-being depends on the well-being of the whole of creation, and our stewardship of the earth's resources is foundational for our personal, social and economic life. In a culture that often idolizes self-sufficiency and ownership, our biblical faith calls us to recognize our interdependence on the whole of creation and our stewardship of resources that belong to God as true owner.



**WE ARE CALLED TO BECOME A COMMUNITY OF STEWARDS:** The world God created for wholeness and life has become characterized by brokenness and death. Although God is at work to redeem the world, God has also raised up a community as partners in this work: first, in the covenant community of Israel, and then, in the post-Pentecost church. These communities are called into being in response to God's acts of saving grace in exodus and resurrection. Out of their experience, these communities recognize the source of new life and restored wholeness in God's grace. In recognizing, receiving and responding to that gift of grace, the community of God's people becomes a community of stewards.

In the community's gathered life, the experience of God's grace is remembered, celebrated and proclaimed. In its ritual and its symbols, the community of stewards acknowledges the One they serve and the redeeming tasks into which God has invited them. For the church, this gathered life focuses in doxology, word and sacrament. Beyond its gathered life, the community seeks to live as God's stewards in the world. The community holds its members accountable for this mission in covenant with God and with one another. This covenant as God's stewards creates an alternative community to the communities of the world and their self-serving goals.

Source: [UMCGIVING.ORG](http://UMCGIVING.ORG)



## *From Our Pastor. . .*

I have been enjoying the El Aposento Alto, the Upper Room Devotional that is written in Spanish. It keeps me on my toes as I try to translate from Spanish into English what the author has been inspired to write. What I love about the Upper Room is that it is a witness to the reality that everyone has a story to tell! One of my favorite hymns is "I Love To Tell The Story"! That song reminds me that I do have a story about God's love and faithfulness and that I do love to tell that story. I say "that" story, but really "that" story is told in many, many ways and through the use of many, many stories. When I preach on Sunday mornings for instance, I start with the Gospel story and speak about how and why it was written and what it means and why it matters. It's one story of many about God's redeeming love in Jesus. I also use my own stories as illustrations about the sermon for that day; I tell my story in this story! I use my story to give examples of what the gospel in this particular instance means to me; how I've responded to it; why it mattered to me or not. Hopefully, my story connects with my audience through the grace of the Holy Spirit so that it's not just my story, but all of our stories that connect with the old, old story that we hear from that Bible.

I share this to encourage all of us to develop our own stories as a way of sharing the Gospel wherever we are or whenever we have a chance to share our witness with someone who may really need to hear the good news of Jesus. Using the Upper Room devotions as an example, we can see on any given day how someone tells about their particular hobby or interest or passion; or they share a frustration or time of struggle; or an example of God's revealed presence in nature or a relationship or an experience in the work place, etc. Each story is real; it's unique to the person but it is almost always something that I can relate to! I can laugh or cry with the author in their sharing of their story and find myself in the words that they have shared. And one person's story-shared literally around the world- is God's story that has become our story of salvation and God is glorified!

So, let us begin to look at life's daily lessons as part of the overall story of God's presence in our lives, giving us multiple opportunities to tell the old, old story in a new way! May God continue to bless us on our journey as we seek to live out our discipleship in service to God and each other.

God bless you,

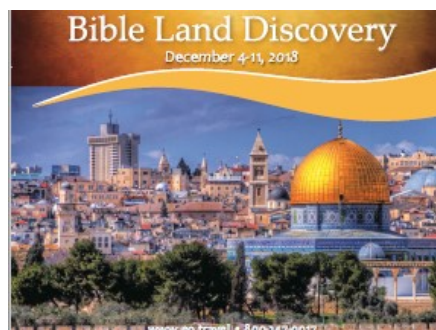
*Jay*

## June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																									
<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">May 2017</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></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="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Jul 2017</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></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	29	30	31						<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">7:30 AM Bus Ministry Celebration</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">6:30 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><b>2</b></p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">6:00 PM SA Choppers BB (Gym)</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small; margin: 0;">Office Closed</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><b>3</b></p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">8:00 AM DANA (Gym)</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Johnny Mendoza (FH)</p>
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Is a trip to Israel on your bucket list?

Plan now for a trip in 2018!



There are brochures in the office and in the Foyer - Please feel free to take as many as you'd like. Here's an abbreviated agenda for the trip:

**December 4, 2018:** Depart the USA

**December 5:** Arrive and Transfer to Bethlehem. Have dinner and spend the night in your Bethlehem hotel.

**December 6:** Visit the Herodion, the fortified palace and final resting place of Herod the Great. In Bethlehem, gaze out over Shepherds' Field and visit the church of the Nativity.

**December 7:** Visit Kasr el Yehud, the traditional site of the baptism of Jesus. Stop in Jericho, the oldest known inhabited city in the world. Visit Qumran, site of the Dead Sea Scroll discovery. Make a stop at the Shores of the Dead Sea for a quick dip in the salt and mineral-laden waters. Spend the night in Bethlehem.

**December 8:** Jesus' Ministry in Galilee - Explore the Church of the Fish and the Loaves at Tabgha, traditional site of the feeding of the 5,000. Visit the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, and visit the synagogue built on the site where Jesus taught. Cross the Sea of Galilee on a special boat ride, complete with an onboard worship service. Spend the night in Jerusalem.

**December 9:** Visit Mt. Zion and stand in the Upper Room. Walk through the ancient rooms of Caiaphas the High Priests' house beneath the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. Visit the Temple Mount and pray at the Western Wall. Sit on the Teaching Steps where Jesus Taught.

**December 10:** Stand atop the Mount of Olives as Jesus did and enjoy a remarkable view of the "Golden City" of Jerusalem. Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. View the Pool of Bethesda. Sing in the Church of St. Anne (known for its amazing acoustics). Visit Herod's Antonia Fortress, Walk the Via Dolorosa and stand in reverence at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Visit the Garden Tomb.

**December 11:** Return Home with a new understanding of the Bible, the land and the life of Jesus!

The price from San Antonio is \$2646 and includes your airfare, entry fees, first class hotels, breakfast and dinner each day, transportation, tour guides, and more... Contact Patti in the church office if you are interested, or pick up a brochure and sign up online!

# NOTES AND NOTICES

F-Troop went back to Medina Lake in April and, even though it was windy and the water was a little bit rough, it was cool and lovely to sit out and enjoy God's creation on a Sunday afternoon! Here are a few pictures from the afternoon. . .



## 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



***Don't forget our Noisy Offering the last Sunday of every month!***

## REPORT FROM YOUR FOOD PANTRY

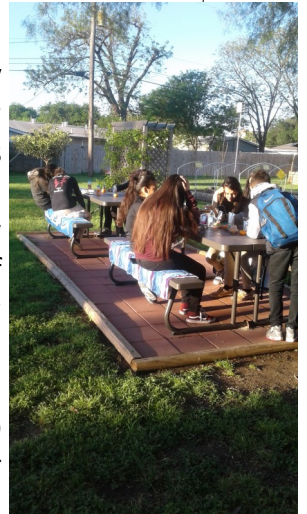
Thanks to your continued generosity, the following information summarizes the activities with the St. Mark's Food Pantry over the past three months, from February through April. During that period of time, you donated 287 pounds of food and \$320.25 through the "Noisy Offerings" with which to purchase additional food items from the San Antonio Food Bank and local grocery stores. With your donations, we were able to serve 68 families who sought assistance during difficult times in their lives. The average family we see consists of four people, so you were able to have a very personal impact on the lives of 272 people! The Family Bag of food we give weighs 15 pounds and is designed to feed a family of four for two days while they make other plans for their basic needs. Thank you for continuing to reach out to your neighbors!

Special Thanks to Rob Remig for organizing our Senior Driving Safety Course!



## Bus Stop Ministry

Taco Tuesday? Nope – at St. Mark’s we have “Breakfast Taco Thursday.” Every Thursday morning as students from Whittier Middle School wait for their school bus, they are treated to breakfast tacos and other goodies. This outreach for the 2016/2017 school year began November 2016 and will end June 1, 2017. Wow! Time goes by fast when you’re having fun, meeting really terrific teenagers, making new friends, and sharing the love of Christ. A total of 23 students have checked out our Thursday gathering; some more regularly than others. We’ve also met a few of their family members.



A big breakfast and celebration is planned for the students. If you would like to join us, be at the garden area at 7:45 a.m. Thursday, June 1. We will honor those who are graduating from Whittier and moving on to high school. We will also recognize several students who are having birthdays this summer. Summer...YAY!



Thanks to everyone for your prayers, support and encouragement. It’s been a blessing and a blast. PRAISE GOD from whom all blessing flow.

Lillian Herrera



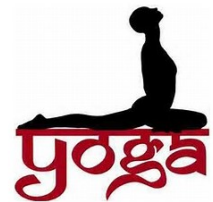
Don't Forget!! We are making plans for our next directory!!  
The pictures will be taken September 7-9. Expect a call in the next  
couple of months to schedule your sitting!

Do you like to barbecue? Call Sue!  
She's looking for volunteers to help  
the BBQ committee!!  
210-342-6662

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



Are you interested in  
Yoga?



Joe Rivera from Jefferson UMC leads a  
Yoga class for gentle to intermediate on  
Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 at  
Jefferson UMC. This class is open to all!  
You can reach Joe at 210-381-1722 for  
more information.





## Playground Revitalization

Look what a dozen people armed with paint, brushes and a determined attitude can accomplish. Fueled by some good music, some delicious donuts, and some great weather, our volunteers really made a difference!!!! Thank you so much to those that came out to help, those who helped offset the cost of the project, and those who encouraged us through words and prayers.



The revitalization of the playground began with two men Hubert (Moe) Molina and Bob Bailey. In three days time, they had realigned the fence and altered the playground perimeter. It made the area look so much bigger!

A picture is worth 1000 words!! Thank you everyone!!



Melinda Molina

“And all things work for the good of those that love the Lord and have been called according to His purpose”



## SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

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

Operating Cash balance at 3/31/2017	(4,127)
Non-Designated Contributions - April	17,798
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	683
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	405
Administration	
Expense	0
Trustees	2,865
Pastor's Compensation	4,265
Lay Personnel Compensation	5,495
	<hr/>
	13,713
Other Income/(Expense)	<hr/>
	453
Operating Cash balance at 4/30/2017	<hr/>
	411

### Comments:

April contributions were \$340 lower than budgeted while \$3,034 higher than April 2016. Other income was \$911 lower than budgeted and \$881 less than 2016.

Operating expenses were \$8,148 favorable to the budget and \$9,260 favorable to 2016. Expenses were favorable primarily due to lower Trustee Expenses (lower Electricity and repairs and maintenance), and Mission Giving as we did not make a payment in April.

April had a cash inflow of \$4,375. Our operating cash balance increased to a positive \$411. We had Easter Contributions of \$2,345 which helped our cash position coupled with the lower operating expenses.

The Finance Committee thanks your continued support during 2017. Please keep the Finance Committee in your prayers as decisions impacting the finances of the church are made.

God Bless you all.

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



Bob Ailerson  
 Jill Anderson  
 Connor Benjamin  
 Patty Braselton  
 Kylee Brown  
 Megan Brown  
 David Cavazos  
 Bucky Coley  
 Carl Crenwelge  
 Esdras Cuervo  
 Sylvia Gonzales  
 Alice Logan  
 Kerri Luker


Michael Mendoza  
 Eric Milette  
 Gerald Morriss  
 Steve Reyes, Sr.  
 Will Shuetze  
 Kirk Tomerlin  
 Kathryn Wilson  
 Nora Ramirez  
 Rudy Ramirez  
 Laurie  
 Rich Burchfield  
 Dana Burchfield  
 Jose Rivas

Joe Saucedo  
 Robert Saucedo  
 Esther Lopez  
 Brett Codd  
 Rosie Martinez  
 Maggie Dominguez  
 Gregg Lewis  
 Fielding Fromberg  
 Family of Wally Crow  
 Family of Jimmy Gabour



*Happy Birthday to  
 Nancy Beckcom on May 31st!!*

06/10 Dallas Horner	06/20 Evelynn Rodriguez Spencer Kiesel
06/11 Robert Mace	06/21 Jake Durick
06/12 Joanne Green	06/26 Braden Somerville
06/15 Rosa Rodriguez	06/30 Mario Mercado
06/19 Mary Norman Helen Smith	



06/04 - Dennis & Kathy Wilson  
 06/12 - Kenny & Betty Black  
 06/18 - Joe & Mary Jo Price  
 06/22 - Jacob & Katie Wilke

*Our sincere sympathy is extended to Janice Coley  
 and the family of Wally Crow*

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, 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



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

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

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

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