



# Messenger

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church

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

## Things to Remember!

- † Tuesdays @ 7:00 PM - Conversational Spanish (LL)
- † March 5th - Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FH)
- † Saturday, March 8th - Daylight Savings Time begins - SPRING FORWARD!
- † Saturday, March 21st BBQ (Boy Scouts)
- † Tuesday, March 24th - Food Truck Vouchers 9-11 (GYM)
- † Thursday, March 26th - Mobile Food Bank
- † F-Troop - Sunday, March 29th
- † Tuesdays at 9:30 AM - Drive Thru Prayer
- † Wednesday Night Lenten Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

## Dellview Community Garden

1902 Vance Jackson  
San Antonio, TX 78213



*The spring months are coming upon us very fast. In an effort to organize our Community Garden we are seeking persons who would be willing to plant, care for and enjoy the produce from the garden. We have cleaned up the beds, added some new organic soil, fertilized and applied a Nematode Control for pests in the soil. The Organic Garden can only be*

*successful if different persons will assume responsibility for a 4' by 4' plot. Our desire is for many persons to become active so that it will truly be a community garden. Planting time is very near, won't you please help us accomplish this goal? If you will participate, please call one of us and we will assign you an area and ask you to sign a Plot Adoption Agreement. Please feel free to tell your friends and neighbors about the garden. I will be anxiously awaiting to hear from you! Thank you for your cooperation!*



*Imogene Brown - 210-696-2180  
Lucille Armitage - 210-344-7196*

## In This Issue . . .

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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

<u>Sunday School</u>	1/25	2/1	2/8	2/15	2/22
Children	2	2	2	1	2
Youth	6	7	5	7	4
Adults	43	40	37	35	40
<i>Total SS</i>	51	49	44	43	46
<u>Worship</u>	100	83	90	75	79



### USHERS

- † Linda Cerda
- † Melinda Molina
- † Kim Durick
- † Jake Durick

### TAPE MINISTRY

- † Daniel Wilke

### GREETERS

- † Billy Kiesel
- † Johnny Mendoza

## Important Reminder:

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University begins March 5, 2015. Class will meet every Thursday from 6 – 7:30pm from March 5 - May 7th.

Cost is \$49, which is a 50% discount.

Call the church office at 210-344-8393 to register.



World Service: Allowing the Connection  
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 and Existing Congregations - Recruit 1000 new church planters to "seed" 650 new churches in the US, 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.

21 CENTS of every apportioned dollar is allotted for General and Jurisdictional

Africa University supports a Christian University in Africa where Christian leaders are trained. Africans from across the continent come together at Africa University to learn about Christ, and to learn about church leadership. It's also a place where they can share their successful methods of reaching their own people for Christ.

The Ministerial Education Fund provides financial support for the recruitment of and ongoing education of clergy at the general level and at the local annual conference including scholarships.

The Lydia Patterson Institute located in El Paso has historically provided most of the pastors to Spanish-speaking congregations in Texas.

Our sister conference - the Rio Grande conference - receives direct support for its clergy candidates through scholarships.

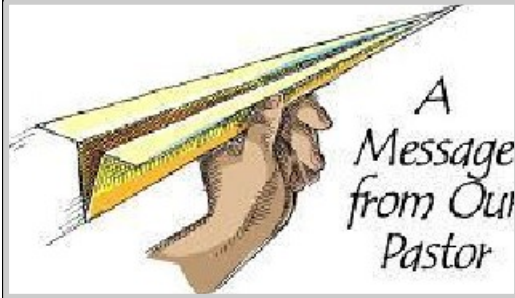
*The World Service Fund: Reaching Goals Together.*

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## Upcoming Altar Flower Opportunities

May 3	2 Openings
May 17	1 Opening
May 24	2 Openings





Dear Friends,

Happy and Blessed Lent to us all! As we enter this season of reflection and repentance, we also look for signs of change that reflect our sincere desire to grow in the life that Christ is calling us into. We are seeing some of those signs at St. Mark's already! First, we welcome Helen Brock, who is a pastor from the Rio Grande Conference, who will be working with us at St. Mark's for a few months, as she awaits an appointment with our newly formed Rio Texas Annual Conference! Helen will be working part-time, 20 hours a week, and will be using the front room, where our Food Pantry is kept, as an office. She is bilingual and will be helping with ongoing ministry tasks at the Church, with a whole range of opportunities: help with the Food Truck and vouchers, pastoral care with our neighbors from the community and our church, assisting as a liturgist in worship, preaching on occasion, helping in our Sunday Schools and generally just being the woman of God that she is! We welcome her to St. Mark's and look forward to working with her to advance the cause of Christ.

Another sign of growth and renewal that is beginning to bear fruit is our conversations that we are having with a person for the position of Child/Youth Minister. We are meeting as the SPPRC and developing a job description and salary to hire someone to work part-time in this area with the children and youth of our neighborhood and their families. Naturally, Kim Durick and Susan Philbin will continue, thankfully, to develop and enhance their own established ministries with the youth of our church. Our new Children's/Youth Minister will help us to engage in a broader and more deliberate and sustained outreach to the families in our neighborhood; specifically the ones from Arnold Elementary and the ones who attend VBS, Easter Egg Hunt, Pumpkin Patch and the like. The Metro Mission Board of the Las Misiones District has given us a grant of \$3,000 to "kickstart" this ministry, so we are indeed blessed. We pray that God will send a faithful servant to help us as we seek to bring the children, youth and their families to Christ and to St. Mark's UMC!

Be in prayer as we engage in these new opportunities for service and ministry. Let us rise to the challenge that the Holy Spirit sends to God's people to break out of conventional and established ways of life and go forth with conviction and courage to fulfill the mandates of the Great Commission to go out into all the world, baptizing and making disciples for Christ. Caminando en la luz de Dios! (We are marching in the light of God!)

God bless you,

Jay



# March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>7:00 PM Conversational Spanish (LL)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's@ Cracker Barrel</p> <p>9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer</p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:00 PM My Healthy Child (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Torres Admin Council (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM NEISD Choir (FH)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Wednesday Night Lenten Service (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM Esther Circle</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM ESL (LL)</p>																																																																																																		
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## COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Colorectal Cancer is a cancer that starts in the colon or rectum. It is the fourth most common cancer in the United States and the second leading cause of death of all the cancers. Most colorectal cancers develop over a period of years. Before a cancer develops, usually a polyp will form in the inner lining of the colon or rectum. A polyp is a non-cancerous tissue that can eventually develop into cancer. That is why it is so important for people over the age of 50 to have a colorectal screening, which includes having a colonoscopy. Polyps can be detected and removed during the colonoscopy procedure, therefore eliminating the likelihood of developing cancer. Some people may need to get screened earlier, depending on their family history. If people 50 years and older get screened routinely, 6 out of 10 deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented. See your medical provider about scheduling a colorectal screening.

For more information about colorectal cancer, see: your medical provider, the following websites: <http://www.healthfinder.gov/nho/MarchToolkit.aspx> and <http://www.cancer.org/cancer/colonandrectumcancer/detailedguide/colorectal-cancer-what-is-colorectal-cancer>, or your Wesley Nurse.

*Charges Flowers, WN*  
*210-344-8393*



Saturday, March 8th, 2015



## Finance Committee Reflections: Sounds From the Bean Counters

We are already well into 2015. Time just keeps marching on. After watching the weather news from Boston, it only reaffirms why I live in South Texas, and I suspect the same goes for you all as well.

January contributions were \$18,500 which was \$1,300 higher than last year and \$700 higher than budgeted.

January operating expenses were \$7,150 less than last year and \$4,500 less than budgeted. Mission Giving is the biggest reason for the favorable spending. Last January, we paid almost \$8,000 towards our apportionments. This year we only paid \$500. Versus the budget, Trustee spending was also favorable by \$1,500.

While our January contributions were favorable and our expenditures were lower than budgeted, it doesn't mean that our financial condition is strong. As you remember, we budgeted a large amount of






other income. In January, this amount was \$5,900. We were unable to achieve this amount and fell short by \$4,200. This resulted in our having a cash outflow of \$1,100 for the month.

Our apportionment payments to date trail the budget by \$2,700. In February, we will pay \$3,800 which will help, but we will still trail the budget after two months.

Our operating cash balance at the end of the year was a negative \$6,795. At the end of January, this improved to a negative \$1,670. Since we had a cash outflow for the month, this improvement was not the result of operations, but occurs since we transferred cash from our TMF account to offset Pastor's housing allowance and we received interest income earned on several TMF accounts.

We ask that you keep the financial condition of St. Mark's in your prayers. Our thoughts and prayers will be with each and every one of you. God Bless.

**LOST AND FOUND:** If you were a guest at Jay & Ann's Christmas open house and lost your Christmas brooch, please contact the church office!

<p><b>RFB</b> <small>www</small></p> <p><i>Presents</i> <b>COFFEE WITH JESUS</b></p> <p><b>Seize the Day</b></p> 	 <p>It started as a great morning, Jesus. I was feeling joyful, my heart was full of love, all was right with the world and I was ready to seize the day.</p>	 <p>And then...</p>	 <p>And then I got out of bed.</p>	 <p>Sometimes we seize the day, Joe; sometimes it seizes us. Never too late to seize it back.</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">© Radio Free Babylon</p>
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## Loving Service Wouldn't you like to help?

Many years ago, St. Mark's organized Loving Service Groups to furnish and serve receptions for the families of our members when a death occurs. We feel this is a vital part of our ministry when families and friends gather to share the life of their loved one, sharing stories and sometimes seeing folks whom they have not seen for a very long time. We celebrate the life that was lived on their journey toward eternity. This service is provided at no charge to the family, though some do make a voluntary contribution. When this happens the money is kept in a fund toward preparation for the next service.

Sue Horner and myself are currently co-chairs and we purchase, prepare and serve the reception (with the help of folks like Kathy, Dorothy and Joanne) asking different groups to help cover the cost. The groups are rotated and generally each group is asked to assist only once every 12-16 months. We cannot predict death so the schedule is not regular, operating on a "needs" basis.

The groups are made up of volunteers and currently our lists are very low due to the death or moving of many persons. I am appealing to any or each of you who would like to serve in this capacity - it will cost you about \$20.00 usually every year and a half. We currently have 7 groups, but the number of persons in several of our groups are very low and need to be replaced by "you"!!

If you would be willing to serve our Lord and your church in this capacity, please see or call me and I will add you to one of our groups. The time of transition from this life to the next will come to each of us and our church takes joy when we can assist each other in saying our "Good-byes" until we meet again.

I'll be expecting to hear from many of you. If you are already in one of our groups, you do not need to call me.

God Bless!!!

Imogene  
210-696-2180

**SERVE ONE  
ANOTHER  
IN LOVE**  
GALATIANS 5:13



Join us for prayer  
in the Sanctuary  
on Wednesdays  
from 12-1 PM  
during Lent.  
(Bring an empty  
cup with you.)



# NOTES AND NOTICES

Thanks to all the Food Truck Volunteers who braved the cold and rainy weather to feed the needy. We are like the Post Office motto: Neither cold nor rain shall keep the Food Truck Volunteers from helping the needy.

I was trying to come up with a nickname for the volunteers and I came up with the St Mark's Mighty Hunger Warriors. If any one has any ideas for a nickname let me know.

Thanks again to all the volunteers. God bless you all.

Patti Austin

Easter Egg Hunt  
Coming Soon!!



If you would like to help with the Easter Egg Hunt in any way please contact Susan Philbin or Kathy Jack.

We can always use volunteers and money.

Thanks for always supporting this mission project.

“We are constituted so that simple acts of kindness, such as giving to charity or expressing gratitude, have a positive effect on our long-term moods. The key to the happy life, it seems, is the good life: a life with sustained relationships, challenging work, and connections to community.”

— Paul Bloom

Many thanks for all the wonderful toiletries that were contributed to the Homeless Student Program. Malcolm and I delivered the items to Rhodes Middle School. We had 10 bags full! Mrs Arriaga and her aide could not believe it. They said the students would be so happy to receive these items. They couldn't stop hugging us and thanking us. I am passing along their hugs to each of you. Thank you so much for your generosity and love for others. It is a blessing to belong to St Mark's. God bless you one and all.

Patti Austin

**THANKS!**

## Duct Tape or Nails?

A man dies and goes to heaven.

Of course, St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates.

St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!"

"Three points?" he says.

"Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service."

"Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point."

"One Point!?!!"

"I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says.

"Two points!?!!"

Exasperated, the man cries: "At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God."

"Bingo, 100 points! Come on in!!!"

We often try to fix problems with WD-40 and duct tape.

God did it with nails.



# 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  
Will Schuetze  
Kirk Tomerlin  
Abraham Wamah  
Harry Clark  
Bobby Seiler  
Phyllis McLean  
Jason Hill  
Larry Robertson family  
Ed Griffith  
Henry Lopez family  
Erin  
Vicki Mayall family  
Hannah Putsche family  
Ed Kerr family  
Justin Zuniga  
Jean Newman

Hilda Scribner  
Tom Stolhandske  
Irma Brackman  
Lindsey Dollahite  
Olivia Page  
Natalie Franke Nelson  
Sherry Gaskill  
Pat Zimmer  
Jamie Haid

	03/12 Ima Roselle	03/20 Kim Hoffman	
	03/13 Chase Black	03/21 Linda King	
	03/14 John Kosmuch	03/22 Nita Perdue	
	03/05 Sarah Connor	03/17 Kaeleigh Horner	
03/07 Janet Brown	03/18 Patti Gardner	03/31 Ernest Denham	



March 14 - Daniel & Sherry Wilke  
March 15 - Harry & Fran Meadows  
March 24 - John & Olga Sidusky  
March 29 - Bill & Fran McMahon

*Our deepest Sympathies  
are extended to:*

*The Family of Lessie Todd*



*with  
sympathy*

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**

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 Email: [stmarksumc@grandecom.net](mailto:stmarksumc@grandecom.net)  
[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
WESLEY NURSE	Charzes Flowers
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Carolyn Hahn
ORGANIST	Joseph Scutti
CUSTODIAN	Johnny Mendoza