



Messenger

St. Mark's
United Methodist Church

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

Things to Remember:

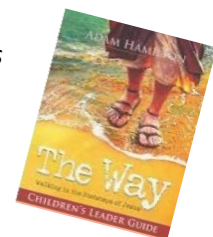
- † Esther Circle, Tuesday, March 6 @ 7:00 p.m. Green's home
- † Trustees Meeting, Thursday, March 8 @ 7:00 pm
- † Church Cleaning Day, Saturday, March 10 @ 9:00 am
- † Children's Church, Sunday, March 11 @ 10:45 am
- † Finance Meeting, Monday, March 19 @ 6:30 pm
- † Administrative Council, Monday, March 19 @ 7:00 pm
- † SA Food Bank, Thursday, March 22 @ 8:00 am
- † Children's Church, Sunday, March 25 @ 10:45 am
- † Praise & Communion Service every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

*"God's command to 'pray without ceasing' is founded on the necessity we have of his grace to preserve the life of God in the soul, which can no more subsist one moment without it, than the body can without air."
- John Wesley*



Mark your calendars!
Join the Lenten Class every
Sunday at 9:15 a.m. February 18 - April 1

The Children's Sunday School class has a special study, "The Way" Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus.



**IN THIS
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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> | 1/28/2018 | 2/4/2018 | 2/11/2018 | 2/18/2018 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Children | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Youth | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Adults | 17 | 14 | 16 | 17 |
| <i>Total SS</i> | 21 | 19 | 21 | 23 |
| <u>Worship</u> | | | | |
| Sunday | 55 | 42 | 55 | 61 |
| Wednesday Night | 9 | 15 | 37 * | |

* 2/14/18 Ash Wednesday (12 pm & 7 pm)

MARCH USHERS

Kathy Jack, Sue Horner, Susan Philbin, Sharon Somerville



Altar Flower Calendar Openings

March 11 2 openings
 March 18 1 opening

(Arrangement can be donated for only \$30.)

The Sanctuary will be adorned with Easter Lilies on Resurrection Sunday. Order form will be available soon. Cost \$11.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| March 4 | Joanne Green |
| March 11 | Dorothy Mace |
| March 18 | Melinda Molina |
| March 25 | Susan Philbin |



With Your Help The United Methodist Church is Making a Difference

YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS ON UMCOR SUNDAY HELPS ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING GOING ON THE ISLAND OF PUERTO RICO.

The 2017 hurricane season caused Puerto Rico unprecedented levels of destruction, devastating the lives of millions of people and leaving hundreds of thousands homeless and displaced.

The [United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\)](#) is in communication with the leaders of the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MCPR), and was invited by MCPR to travel to Puerto Rico to plan for relief and recovery programs.

As part of the [National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster \(NVOAD\)](#), UMCOR is pleased to learn of their collaborative success in sending medical supplies and other life-sustaining goods to Puerto Rico.

“UMCOR will continue to support Puerto Rico so that those who are served through MCPR not only survive, but thrive,” said Cathy Earl, UMCOR’s director of disaster response and U.S. partner relations. “We will be there for the long haul.”

UMCOR will find ways to support the MCPR to receive and direct volunteers. UMCOR has thousands of people who are praying, giving, and working to undergird those who are hurting. UMCOR also has connections with NVOAD, FEMA, and other partners to strengthen our efforts.

UMCOR received many calls from several of the United Methodist conferences, including [New York Annual Conference](#) and [Florida Annual Conference](#), who are seeking to respond to the influx of survivors from Puerto Rico. UMCOR anticipates supporting these conferences through funding and appropriate programs.

“The United Methodist Church stands in solidarity with Puerto Rico and the people of the Caribbean,” said Thomas Kemper, general secretary of Global Ministries. “We can actively respond and be hope in Puerto Rico because of our partners and the generous people of the United Methodist Church.”

In addition to our response following the catastrophic damage in Puerto Rico from Hurricane Maria, UMCOR continues to support the response of those impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina.

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, [UMCOR Sunday](#) calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to share God’s love with communities everywhere. The special offering underwrites UMCOR’s “costs of doing business.” This helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs. When you give generously on UMCOR Sunday, you make a difference in the lives of people who hurt.

www.umcgiving.org

From Rev. Soto's Desk

February 2018

The
Season
of
Lent



On Ash Wednesday we began our forty-day Lent journey, which ends the Saturday before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays). The liturgical color for Lent is violet (**purple**), the color of penitence. We are called to reflect on our mortality, our sins and our relationship with our Lord. It is an opportunity to deepen our spirituality with God.

We are reminded that we are dust and that we need to believe in the gospel. As Christians we are committed to prayer, fasting, daily scripture reading, self-denial, and works of love.

During the forty days of Lent we commemorate the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, enduring temptation by Satan before beginning his public ministry. The number **40** has many Biblical references:

- Moses spent **40** days on Mount Sinai with God. (*Exodus 24:18*)
- Elijah spent **40** days and nights walking to Mount Horeb. (*1 Kings 19:8*)
- God sent **40** days and nights of rain in the great flood of Noah. (*Genesis 7:4*)
- The Hebrew people wandered **40** years in the desert while traveling to the Promised Land. (*Numbers 14:33*)
- Jonah's prophecy of judgment gave **40** days to the city of Nineveh in which to repent or be destroyed. (*Jonah 3:4*)
- Jesus retreated into the wilderness, where He fasted for **40** days, and was tempted by the devil. (*Matthew 4:1-2, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-2*)



The season of Lent is an opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus all the way from Galilee to Jerusalem and, in so doing, experience the promise of resurrection and new life.

Rev. Maria R. Soto

HOLY WEEK SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Thursday, March 29 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 30 - Good Friday Service - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 31 - Holy Week Prayer Vigil - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt - 10:00 am

March 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Feb 2018</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</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;">Apr 2018</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <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> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</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 | | | | 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 | | | | | | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>1</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>2</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Office Closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>3</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p> |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>4</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:15 AM Lenten Sunday School</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:30 AM Worship</p> <p style="margin: 0;">11:30 AM Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>5</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>6</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM KAIROS Torres Council (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Esther Circle (Green's home)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>7</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>8</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Trustees (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>9</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Office Closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>10</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM Church Cleaning Day</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>11</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:15 AM Lenten Sunday School</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:30 AM Worship</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:45 AM Children's Church (LL)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">11:30 AM Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>12</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>13</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:00 PM Worship Committee</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>14</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>15</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Newsletter Deadline</p> <p style="margin: 0;">11:00 AM Nutritional Potluck (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>16</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Office Closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>17</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>18</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:15 AM Lenten Sunday School</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:30 AM Worship</p> <p style="margin: 0;">11:30 AM Choir Practice</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>19</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Finance Meeting (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Admin Council (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>20</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>21</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>22</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry</p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM SA Mobile Food Bank</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM Newsletter Mailout (YAMS)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>23</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Office Closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>24</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BBQ (Scouts)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>25</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">9:15 AM Lenten Sunday School</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:30 AM Worship</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:45 AM Children's Church (LL)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">11:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Noisy Offering</p> <p style="margin: 0; color: green;">Palm Sunday</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>26</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p> <p style="margin: 0; text-align: center;">Holy Week</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>27</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:00 PM SA Needlework Guild (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0; text-align: center;">Holy Week</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>28</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH)</p> <p style="margin: 0; text-align: center;">Holy Week</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>29</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>30</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">7:00 PM Good Friday Service</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Office Closed</p> | <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>31</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Holy Week Prayer Vigil</p> <p style="margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



I'm sure you've seen "I Love My Church" yard signs around town or on vehicle stickers. At St. Mark's we love our church, too! We love volunteering, encouraging, singing, offering our gifts and talents, painting, cooking, teaching, serving on various committees, gardening, praying for one another, folding bulletins, playing instruments, sending cards, donating food, repairing things around the church, cleaning, giving financially, driving those without transportation to church, distributing and buying food, ministering to children & youth, and **sharing the love of Jesus.** *"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17*

- ♡ Thanks to all who recently worked on marquee light fixture repairs.
- ♡ Thanks to Greg Molina, Jake Durick and Moe Molina for hanging the "Stars & Stripes" and a few sports banners in our gym.



A patriotic addition to Highsmith Gym!

I LOVE MY ST. MARK'S FAMILY — Rob Remig

When God came to me eight years ago and put on my heart that He wanted me to give a home to Tiffany and Stephanie, ages 17 and 15, survivors of Hurricane Katrina, I initially responded with a, "No!" But how do you say, "No" to God? He asked again. And, again, I came up with all sorts of excuses. And back again He came, saying, "These girls need a home and you have one." I finally relented and a journey that started eight years ago continues to be one of the most challenging and rewarding times of my life. When I first told those closest to me what I was about to do, one replied, "What! Are you nuts?" The second one said, "Well, don't get me involved in that." It wasn't until I brought this decision to my fellow-believers in Christ at St. Mark's that I received all the encouragement I needed. One couple even handed me a check, saying that they thought I might need it more than they do!

Thank you, my St. Mark's Family, for helping me listen to God's calling and follow His direction.

NOTES AND NOTICES



THANKS again to everyone who helps at the monthly Food Bank distribution. It is a blessing not only for those who receive assistance but for those who volunteer as well.

The next distribution will be **Thursday, March 22.**

Thanks again, Patti Austin

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
- ♥ Cooking Oil



*Noisy Offering
the last Sunday
of every month!*



Children's Ministry

"But Jesus called them to him, saying, 'Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the Kingdom of God.'" - Luke 18:16

Believe it or not, the Children's Council is already thinking about Vacation Bible School! *Hero Central* will be coming this summer to St. Mark's. Tentative dates: June 18 - 22, 2018 Closing Celebration June 24. Look for more details to follow.

"Do good! Seek peace and go after it!"
Psalm 34:14b (CEB)

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





NEW GATES

After being approved by the church council last fall, the double gates at the back entrance to the parking lot have been installed. This will hopefully deter so many vehicles using the parking lot as a street. A space was provided for regular pedestrian traffic, wheelchairs, bicycles, etc.

Gates will be open Sunday mornings and closed after worship service. It will also be open as necessary and subject to change. Questions may be directed to the Trustees.



GARDEN NEWS!

Spring is coming and our Dellview Community gardeners are looking forward to another great planting season. A work day is taking place February 24. There are currently a couple of raised beds available for anyone that is interested in growing their own veggies, herbs, or even flowers.

Please contact Melinda Molina if interested.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

We have a new lending library on the church property near the Boy Scout Hut and community garden. Mr. Mel Amick with Project Transformation has placed a free neighborhood library at St. Mark's and at several other churches. Mr. Amick built the structure and provided the first supply of children's books. It works on the honor system.



The purpose is to offer books for anyone in our community to take home to read and enjoy with their families. Anyone can borrow a book and anyone can add books. We know that some of the books will disappear as in the course of time. We hope that others will be willing to replenish the supply with suitable reading materials as the need arises. Take a minute to look it over the next time you are at the church. It will be a blessing to the neighborhood.

FEBRUARY

HEART AWARENESS MONTH



WHAT IS HEART DISEASE?

Coronary heart disease (CHD) is the most common form of heart disease

A heart attack usually happens when an artery becomes blocked, preventing oxygen and nutrients from getting to the heart. If blood flow isn't restored quickly, the section of heart muscle begins to die.

DO YOU HAVE RISK FACTORS FOR HEART DISEASE?

Risk factors are conditions or habits that increase the chances of developing a disease or having it worsen.

Risk Factors

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Smoking | High blood pressure | High blood cholesterol |
| Physical inactivity | Unhealthy eating patterns | Family History |

HEART ATTACK WARNING SIGNS

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Chest Discomfort | Discomfort in other area of the upper body |
| Shortness of breath | breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness |

STROKE WARNING SIGNS Spot a stroke F.A.S.T.:

- **Face Drooping** Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile.
- **Arm Weakness** Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- **Speech Difficulty** Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?
- **Time to call 9-1-1** If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately

Other Symptoms You Should Know

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the leg
- Sudden confusion or trouble understanding
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, severe headache without cause
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination

Love y' all. Sandra Montes RN, The Wesley Nurse 

February is Black History Month

Black History Month is a time to celebrate the historical contributions of African Americans to the worship life, mission and ministry of the church. While February does indeed celebrate progress made, it also reawakens us to continuing issues of poverty, discrimination and inequality.

This month, take time to consider the words of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. "Can black people be embraced for the content of their character rather than the color of their skin?" Pray for an open heart, an open mind and open eyes to the injustices that continue to fester.

God calls us to make history by being peacemakers. Let it begin with us.

<http://www.umcgiving.org>

SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

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

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------|
| Operating Cash balance at 12/31/2017 | 37,845 |
| Non-Designated Contributions - January | 12,725 |
| Operating Expenses: | |
| Council on Ministries | (261) |
| Special Mission Giving | 0 |
| Mission Giving | 299 |
| Administration | |
| Expense | 175 |
| Trustees | 6,386 |
| Pastor's | |
| Compensation | 3,888 |
| Lay Personnel Compensation | 5,461 |
| | 15,948 |
| Other Income/(Expense) | 5,537 |
| Operating Cash balance at 1/31/2018 | 40,159 |

Comments:

January receipts were \$1,044 higher than budgeted, while \$4,761 lower than January 2017.

The higher January contributions are a positive sign.

January operating expenses were \$4,745 lower than budgeted and \$326 lower than January 2017. Lower Mission Giving (we did not make a January payment), Lower Pastor compensation (Housing allowance was paid in early February) resulted in the favorable spending.

January had a cash inflow of \$1,251.

Other income in January was \$4,474, primarily the result of clearing prior year outstanding checks and making adjustments to the transfer liabilities

Our operating cash balance on January 31, 2018 was \$40,159.

While 2018 is off to what appears to be a good start versus budget, it's important to realize that in 2018 we are budgeting a \$77,000 shortfall.

The Finance Committee asks you to review your level of support to St. Mark's, and ask that you keep St Mark's in your prayers. God Bless you all.

ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Bob Ailerson | Esdras Cuervo | Manuel Cadena |
| Jill Anderson | Sylvia Gonzales | Warren Dunetz |
| Kennedee Bailey | Alice Logan | Family of Basilio |
| Connor Benjamin | Michael Mendoza | Soto, Jr. |
| Patty Braselton | Eric Milette | Pastor M. Soto |
| Kylee Brown | Gerald Morriss | Barbara Klauer |
| Megan Brown | Will Schuetze | Kathy Yarger |
| Bucky Coley | Kirk Tomerlin | Pastor J. Brown's |
| Carol Crenwelge | Kathryn Wilson | daughter & family |

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

*to the family of BASILIO SOTO, JR.
You remain in our thoughts and prayers.*

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mar 1 Lillian Herrera | <p>A colorful graphic with the text "HAPPY BIRTHDAY!" in purple and blue letters, surrounded by various colorful flowers in shades of pink, yellow, blue, and orange.</p> | Mar 20 Kim Hoffman |
| Mar 4 Blake Lopez | | Mar 21 Linda King |
| Mar 7 Ella Reyes | | Mar 22 Nita Perdue |
| Mar 9 Devonte Williams | | Sherry Wilke |
| Mar 12 Ima Roselle | | Mar 29 Jean Jones |
| Mar 13 Chase Black | | Rosa I. Rodriguez |
| Mar 17 Kaeleigh Horner | | Herb Snook |
| Mar 18 Patti Gardner | | Mar 30 Billie Gabour |
| | | Mar 31 Ernest Denham |

March 14 Daniel & Sherry Wilke

March 15 Mario & Leticia Mercado

March 24 John & Olga Sidusky

March 29 Bill & Fran McMahon



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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



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 Email: stmarksumc@grandecom.net
stmarkspastor@grandecom.net

OFFICE HOURS
 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday—Thursday
 CLOSED on Friday

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| PASTOR | Rev. Maria Soto |
| SECRETARY | Lillian Herrera |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Carolyn Hahn |
| ORGANIST | Joseph Scutti |
| WESLEY NURSE | Sandra Montes |
| CUSTODIAN | Johnny Mendoza |