



# Messenger

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church

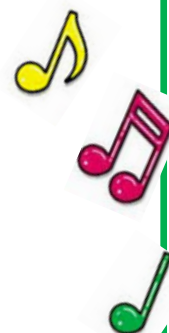
1902 Vance Jackson San Antonio, TX 78213  
210-344-8393

- † May 1-3 Confirmation Class for High School & Middle School
- † May 7th - Combined Day of Prayer (Dellview Park)
- † May 8-10 Confirmation Retreat
- † Sunday, May 10th - Mother's Day
- † Tuesday, May 12th - VBS Meeting (LL) 6:00 PM
- † Saturday, May 16th - BBQ (Boy Scouts)
- † Monday, May 25th - Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed
- † Thursday, May 28th - SA Food Bank Truck
- † 5th Sunday Potluck - May 31st following worship
- † F-Troop - Sunday, May 31st
- † Wednesday Night Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

## In the Garden



I come to the garden alone  
while the dew is still on the roses,  
and the voice I hear falling on my ear,  
the Son of God discloses.  
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,  
and he tells me I am his own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there,  
none other has ever known.



Because it is our desire for everyone in our congregation to enjoy what God is doing in the Dellview Community Garden, our entire congregation is invited to walk to the garden for our closing hymn and our benediction at the close of our service on May 31, 2015. Following our singing and praying, we will share a Pot Luck Dinner served in our gym. God is at work in our garden producing many vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers and cactus. There are still a couple of raised beds left that are in need of someone to plant and care for them. Will you be the one who answers that call? When one spends time sitting in our beautiful arbor meditating and praising God, you have a special treat feeling the Lord very close to you. Among the lush plants, beautiful flowers, many growing things (even weeds), and birds singing, we do, indeed, walk and talk with our God. You will receive a blessing by participating in this special day in our garden!

### In This Issue . . .

State of the Church	2	UMW/Thank You's/Food Pantry	7
Stewardship / Yoga / Altar Flowers	3	Children/Youth Update	8
Message from the Pastor	4	Notes & Notices	9
Calendar	5	VBS/Sonrise Service	10
Wesley Nurse	6	Prayers, Birthdays, Anniversaries	11



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>	3/29	4/5	4/12	4/19
Children	4	4	3	4
Youth	5	14	5	9
Adults	44	43	35	45
<b>Total SS</b>	53	61	43	58
<u>Worship</u>	114	129	70	102

<u>USHERS</u>
† <b>Rob Remig</b>
† <b>Joe Price</b>
† <b>Stephanie Bercegeay</b>
† <b>Billy Kiesel</b>

<u>TAPE MINISTRY</u>
† <b>Daniel Wilke</b>

<u>GREETERS</u>
† <b>Susan Philbin</b>
† <b>Brooke Somerville</b>



## Finance Committee Reflections: Sounds From the Bean Counters

We hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the wetter than normal weather.

apportionment payment in March; therefore, we were favorable to last year and the budget.

March contributions were nearly \$21,000 which exceeded last March by \$2,800 while falling short of the budgeted amount by \$1,200. There were five Sundays in March which resulted in the higher contributions for the month. Year-to-date contributions are \$4,600 higher than 2014 and trail the budget by only \$300.

Year-to-date, our operating expenses are favorable versus both last year and the budget. This is primarily due to our lower Mission Giving payments through March.

We had a cash inflow of \$674 in March, reducing our year-to-date cash outflow to \$2,800.

Total operating expenses are \$2,300 higher than last year while being \$1,300 lower than budgeted. Council on Ministries spending was \$100 negative as a result of making adjustments from Loving Services and Pantry transfer liability accounts. Pastor Compensation was higher both versus last year and the budget. This is primarily the result of the new associate pastor position. Lay Personnel compensation was higher as a result of higher maintenance salary expense. We did not make an

As a result of lower Mission Giving expense, our apportionment payments are \$8,400 less than last year and \$4,800 less than budgeted.

Our operating cash balance is a negative \$4,007 at the end of March, a slight improvement versus last month.

We continue to be grateful for your financial support to St. Mark's. God bless you all.



**\$2,450,000**

**Pensions and Benefits**

Goal: Take care of those who care for the church. 2.3 cents of every apportioned dollar goes to Pensions.

They gave their lives in ministry to the Southwest Texas Conference Churches. Now it's time for the Southwest Texas Conference Churches to give back.

This apportionment subsidizes current health benefits for pastors. The pension apportionment pays 50% of the cost of the coverage for each full time pastor appointed to one of our churches, while the remainder of the cost is paid by the church and the pastor.



*Come to Relax + Get Fit*  
**Gentle Yoga for People Living with MS & Their Caregivers**  
 (learn at your own pace)

(Gentle Yoga) is designed to ease patients back into activity with range-of-motion, balance and stability exercises. These classes are appropriate for patients using wheelchair, walkers, canes and any adaptive devices. The use of movement and breath will help increase muscle tone, improve balance, coordination and overall body control.

Cheryl Alexander, Instructor  
 210-883-8234

**Weekly on Wednesday Afternoons - 1:15 - 2:30 PM (No cost)**  
**St. Mark's United Methodist Church - Fellowship Hall**

**Upcoming Altar Flower Opportunities**

May 17	1 Opening
June 7	1 Opening
June 14	1 Opening
July 5	2 Openings
July 12	1 Opening
July 19	2 Openings
July 26	1 Opening



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





## *From Our Pastor. . .*

"May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: Rejoice!" As I prepared to write this month's newsletter, my attention focused on this saying from Philippians 4:4 from the apostle Paul, who wrote it from prison! Good advice for this Monday morning, or any day or time or circumstance. How can we not rejoice? We have been given the gift of life, of salvation, of a relationship with Jesus Christ and with each other. Times and circumstances come and go; changes for the better and for the worse appear unbidden and unlooked for; yet one thing remains the same today and every day forever: God is God, Jesus Christ is His Son and our Savior, and the Holy Spirit comes to us every moment offering us peace, power, pardon and protection. Again, how can we not rejoice, knowing all these things?

We are in the season of Easter. All around us are signs of Jesus' resurrection and our own. We've had life giving rain; everything is green and growing. Yes, spring will give way to summer, with it's heat and dry conditions but we focus on today and are heartened and gladdened by Paul's reminder to rejoice in the Lord. Summer will give way to autumn and autumn will usher in winter and life will go on; seasons change but one thing remains the same: God is God, Jesus Christ is Lord, the Holy Spirit moves among us enabling life and love to be experienced and expressed. Rejoice!

So, if you are troubled today, count your blessings and rejoice in the power and presence of the Lord! If you are peace and all is well, give thanks and rejoice in the Lord! "May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: Rejoice!" Happy Easter! God bless you,

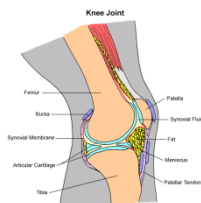
*Jay*



# May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <table style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="7">Apr 2015</th></tr> <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>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <table style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="7">Jun 2015</th></tr> <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>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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	Apr 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	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			Jun 2015							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">1</div> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">2</div> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM AMESL (LL)</p>
Apr 2015																																																																																											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																					
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																																																																																							
Jun 2015																																																																																											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20																																																																																					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																																																																																					
28	29	30																																																																																									
<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">3</div> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">4</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">5</div> <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 TorresAdmin Council (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM Esther Circle</p> <p>7:00 PM NEISD Choir (FH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">6</div> <p>12:00 PM Bible Study (LL)</p> <p>1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Community Choir Concert</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Praise/Bicultural Service</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">7</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:15 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p> <p>Combined Day of Prayer (Dellview Park)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">8</div> <p>6:00 PM Confirmation Class (HS &amp; MS)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">9</div> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM Confirmation Class (HS &amp; MS)</p> <p>9:00 AM AMESL (LL)</p>																																																																																					
<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">10</div> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>12:30 PM Confirmation Class (HS &amp; MS)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Mother's Day</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">11</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">12</div> <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>6:00 PM VBS Meeting (LL)</p> <p>7:00 PM NEISD Choir (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM SPRC Meeting (FH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">13</div> <p>12:00 PM Bible Study (LL)</p> <p>1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Praise/Bicultural Service</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">14</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:15 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FH)</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 PM Trustees (FH)</p> <p>7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">15</div> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>Confirmation Retreat</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">16</div> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM ESL (LL)</p> <p>BBQ</p>																																																																																					
<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">17</div> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">18</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:45 PM Finance Meeting (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:15 PM Admin Council (FH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">19</div> <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>7:00 PM NEISD Choir (FH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">20</div> <p>9:30 AM Dorcas Circle (Meadows)</p> <p>12:00 PM Bible Study (LL)</p> <p>1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Praise/Bicultural Service</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">21</div> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>10:00 AM NL Deadline</p> <p>11:00 AM Nutritional Potluck</p> <p>1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">22</div> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">23</div> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM ESL (LL)</p>																																																																																					
<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">24</div> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Pentecost</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">25</div> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">MEMORIAL DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">26</div> <p>6:30 AM ROMEO's @ Cracker Barrel</p> <p>9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer</p> <p>9:00 AM FoodBark Vouchers (HC)</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>7:00 PM NEISD Choir (FH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">27</div> <p>12:00 PM Bible Study (LL)</p> <p>1:00 PM Yoga (FH)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>6:30 PM Praise/Bicultural Service</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">28</div> <p>9:00 AM NL Mailout (YAMS)</p> <p>9:00 AM SA Food Bank Truck</p> <p>10:00 AM Exercise (FH)</p> <p>1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL)</p> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">29</div> <p>6:00 PM Texas Tigers (Gym)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">30</div> <p>8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion</p> <p>9:00 AM ESL (LL)</p>																																																																																					
<div style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">31</div> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>11:30 AM 5th Sunday Potluck (Compañeros de Cristo)</p> <p>6:00 PM F-Troop</p>																																																																																											

## Wesley Nurse News - April 2015



### May is Arthritis Awareness Month

Arthritis affects millions of Americans each year and can be very debilitating. There are different types of arthritis:

- ◆ Osteoarthritis – also known as Degenerative Joint Disease – is the most common type of arthritis, affecting approximately 27 million Americans.
- ◆ Rheumatoid Arthritis – is a disease of the immune system. This type of arthritis causes the immune system to mistakenly attack healthy cells. It affects approximately 1.5 million Americans.
- ◆ Fibromyalgia – is a condition, not a disease that causes widespread chronic pain, fatigue, memory problems and mood changes. It affects up to 4 percent of the U.S. population and affects women more than men.
- ◆ Gout – a form of an inflammatory arthritis. It develops in some people who have high levels of uric acids in the blood, causing sudden, severe episodes of pain, tenderness, redness, warmth and swelling.

Arthritis can lead to other health conditions like depression, diabetes, heart disease, insomnia, and obesity. What can you do to ease arthritic pain?

- ◆ Reduce stress – stress makes arthritic pain worse. List the stressors in your life, then work on the ones you can control.
- ◆ Simplify housework – spare your joints by being more efficient when doing housework.
- ◆ Get organized.
- ◆ Anticipate pain – it is easier to treat pain before it starts.
- ◆ Be creative with exercise – opt for exercises that have low impact on the joints.

For more information, please see the Arthritis Foundation's website: <http://www.arthritis.org/about-arthritis/>; National Institute on Aging's Age Page: "Arthritis Advice" - <http://www.nia.nih.gov/health/publication/arthritis-advice>; or contact the Wesley Nurse for additional information at 210-344-8393.



*Charizes Flowers, RN*  
*210-344-8393*

## Attention High School Seniors and College/Technical School Students!

St. Mark's United Methodist Women will be awarding two scholarships this year. These scholarships will be awarded to members of our church who will be either a graduation senior or to someone who is currently enrolled in college or technical training school. Applications are available in the church office. The applications must be completed and turned in to the church office by May 10, 2015.

If you have an questions, please contact Dorothy Mace at 210-492-8483.



**APPLY NOW**



Well, this year's Easter Egg Hunt has come and gone but there was a good time had by all. The weather was great, after several days of sweltering humidity and high temperatures we had cool breezes and threats of rain. This year there were so many volunteer helpers that we sat two to three to a table - if only that happened every year!

The children showed up, about 60 of them, and they went right to making all the Easter crafts they could get done in the time limit. This year we stepped into the past and had a "tree" where the children could hang some of the crafts to be enjoyed Sunday morning by all who attended the different services.

thank  
you!

Entertainment this year was provided by Patti Gardner, Billy Kiesel and Jay Brown with special guest, Matt Harpman, on the harmonica. I would like to go on record saying that harmonica was rocking.

A short skit was performed by Helen Brock and Susan Philbin about the meaning of Easter and a gasp was heard through the crowd and a simple piece of paper was turning into a cross. The eggs were hidden and searched for and devoured. I believe that this year's hunt was a great success.

Christ is Risen, Risen Indeed!

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!!!





## YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### IS GETTING READY TO HIT OUR COMMUNITY!!!

This is an exciting time to be involved at St. Mark's UMC! Looking around our neighborhood and exploring the different schools and 'hang out' places for youth and children in our mission field has been awesome. We have been busy bees preparing our facilities for youth and children's ministry with volunteer youth from our sister church's "As You Are" Youth Ministries (AYA) at Jefferson UMC.



The Lord has blessed us with these hands to help clean, dust, mop and scrub the game and hang out areas in the gym; and even cleaned the shower stalls to help prepare for our impromptu youth lock-in, where several youth from our neighborhood were invited to interact, share in a devotional and play basketball for as long as they could. They also helped create a new multi-purpose office space in

Lovely Lane where youth and children can meet and fellowship at times that our gym is being used or when they need a more intimate setting. Not only have the AYA youth helped with preparing space, but they have agreed to be connectional with St. Mark's UMC and help jump start our efforts to reach out to youth in our community and create an inviting, welcoming, and connectional youth ministry here in our own backyard. AYA has a warm reputation of being a diverse open doors connectional mission-based youth group serving multiple churches and service programs within our Rio Texas Annual Conference. We are so blessed that one of the AYA youth members has found a happy home here at St. Mark's - welcome Jacob Johnson!!! So please thank the youth from AYA for all their hard work and helping hands when you see them around campus.

Middle School and High School aged Youth are invited to participate in Confirmation Classes May 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> here at St. Mark's UMC and a Confirmation Retreat May 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> (out of town location to be announced). This is a joint confirmation class (with multiple churches), so if you know of a youth who would be interested in attending, please let us know and we will gladly welcome them. Youth who are not from St. Mark's UMC are welcome to join us here for their confirmation ceremony or they can return to their home church for their confirmation ceremony.

Children's ministry is making plans to take off with summer time family events, Vacation Bible School, Sunday Kid's time, and connectional outreach within our community and our forum. A "CREATIVE TEAM" made up of people who would like to volunteer with children and youth ministry and their events is being formed to help shape the ministries and encourage forward movement and growth. Our first CREATIVE TEAM meeting is Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> right after church....If you are interested in getting involved or supporting these ministries, please come to the meeting or contact our new Director of Youth & Children's Ministries Janie Rose Alejandro at (210) 849-4912 – feel free to call or text, whichever you are comfortable with...Thank you so much and we hope to hear from you!





# NOTES AND NOTICES

Welcome to our newest member -

**Jacob Johnson**

We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us!!



A special "thank you" to each of you who participated in the Prayer Vigil. We will probably never know all of the benefits that prayer does for our church, but I am confident that without it we would quickly feel its need. Seventy four of you were active participants, there were five who called in sick, two were "no shows" and two were scheduled to pray at home. When we make that extra effort to set aside time from our busy schedules to lift our church and our needs to our Lord, I know He is listening and will answer. Again I say "thank you" and blessing to each of you!

*Imogene*

Thank you to all the many volunteers that helped at last month's food truck! We served 185 families.

SPOTLIGHT: One of the recipients, an elderly lady on social security, unexpectedly got custody of two teenage boys (grandchildren). She has told me she had forgotten how much teenagers eat! The food truck has been a real blessing to her because she is on a small social security pension and now has two hungry boys to raise. This is a good example of the help we provide. Thank you all!!!!



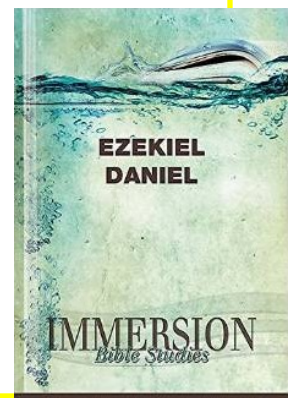
Patti Austin

The Wednesday Lunch Bible Study will start back on Wednesday, May 6th through Wednesday, June 10th. As we continue our progression through the books of the Bible, we find ourselves in Ezekiel and Daniel.

"The Book of Ezekiel tells the story of a priest, prophet, and street preacher called by God to address both the personal and social crises of this community. A large part of that message recounts the many ways in which people sinned against God and were led astray by various leaders. After years in exile, the people finally heard from God through Ezekiel, whose ultimate message of hope and restoration gave them confidence in the future.

The Book of Daniel is much more personal and intimate. Daniel highlights a pervasive theme in Israel's history: Humankind's power is no match for God's power. That we find ourselves in intimidating external circumstances does not mean we must abandon our belief in God and forgo a living faith. Daniel's life experience provides lessons in how to live with these tensions and how to be true to self and God while serving those in power over us."

Come Study with us!!!





It's hard to believe, but ready or not, here comes summertime. That means hot days, cold watermelon, and VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!!

St Mark's team of dedicated volunteers works hard each year, sharing their various gifts and generous hearts to bring this ministry to life and are ready to do it again. Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 12 at 6:00 PM. We hope to see both familiar and new faces there, eager for this awesome opportunity to spread the love of Jesus to children and youth. Please join us as we plan for the week of June 22 - 26!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Melinda Molina

Easter morning broke cool and crisp. The youth arrived in their Easter attire by 6:30 AM ready to practice one last time.

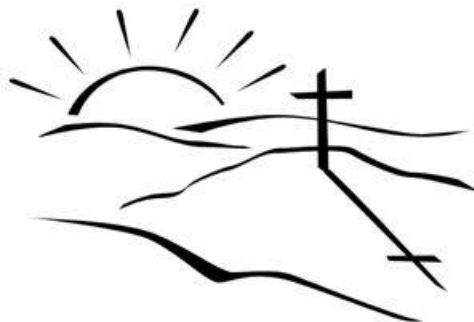
The service opened with the song "Morning Has Broken" played by Cat Stevens on a recording and beautifully signed by Brianne Somerville.

An Easter poem was read and a skit performed. The skit was about the women who returned to the tomb to cleanse Jesus' body and what they found.

Easter scripture was offered and received.

Thanks be to God for all the people who participated and attended this short but important service to the church.

A delicious pancake breakfast was offered to all immediately following the service by the New Beginnings Adult Sunday School class.



# 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  
Alice & Ben Logan  
Michael Mendoza  
Mendoza Family  
Charles Mixon  
Ann Payette  
Gloria Reedy  
Steve Reyes Sr.  
Ella Reyes

Mike Ross  
Will Schuetze  
Doris Sinclair  
Kirk Tomerlin  
Abraham Wamah  
Ovalle-Arvida-Morales-  
Hernandez families  
Roxanne Walker  
Jay Austin  
Sindy Payette  
Clay Laster Family  
Susan Thornton Family  
Louise Chaffin & Family  
James Bissett Family  
Herb Snook  
Landry Dollahite  
Kairos Torres #32  
Lonnie Miller Family

Barbara Klauer  
Gabe Ortiz  
Baby Sage Black  
Angie Erickson  
Family of Louise Black  
Dennis Mael  
Ann Breed  
Gene Orsack  
Joshua



May 2  
Louise Chaffin

May 4  
Laurie Sprowl

May 7  
Lynda Hubbard

May 9  
Edythe McKeown

May 11  
Lois Starr

May 12  
Fran McMahon

May 13  
Sue Horner

May 21  
Mel Davison

May 24  
Brandi Horner

May 25  
Jessica Black

May 27  
Virginia Barlow  
Dennis Wilson

May 28  
Jay Brown

May 30  
Jazzmyn Lopez  
Melinda Molina



*Our deepest Sympathies  
are extended to the family  
and friends of*

*James Bissett  
Eldora Carter  
Clay Laster  
Susan Thornton*



*Joe & Claire Cobb*

*May 5*

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 P A I D  
 SAN ANTONIO, TX  
 PERMIT NO. 1632

Current Resident Or:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 |\_\_\_\_\_  
 |

**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](http://www.stmarksumcsa.com)  
 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