



# Messenger

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church

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

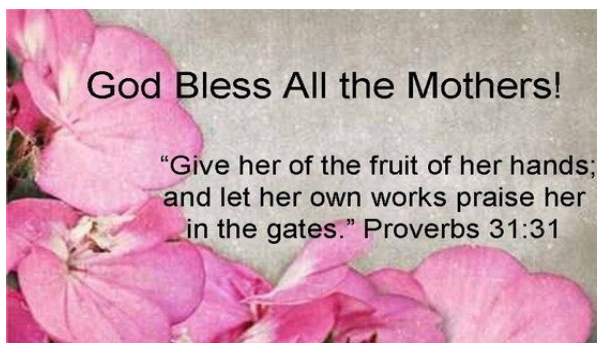
## Things to Remember:

- † Trustees Meeting, Thursday, May 10 @ 7:00 pm
- † Children's Church, Sunday, May 13 @ 10:45 am
- † BBQ Fundraiser, Saturday, May 19
- † Children's Message, Sunday, May 20 @ 10:45 am
- † Finance Meeting, Monday, May 21 @ 6:30 pm
- † Administrative Council, Monday, May 21 @ 7:00 pm
- † Children's Church, Sunday, May 27 @ 10:45 am
- † Praise & Communion Service every Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

*"All the blessings which God hath bestowed upon man are of his mere grace, bounty, or favour." ~ John Wesley*

## Mother's Day, May 13

Mother's Day in the United States is annually held on the second Sunday of May. It celebrates motherhood and it is a time to appreciate mothers and mother figures. Many people give gifts, cards, flowers, candy, a meal in a restaurant or other treats to their mother and mother figures, including grandmothers, great-grandmothers, stepmothers, and foster mothers.



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



SUNDAY SCHOOL	3/25/2018	4/1/2018	4/8/2018	4/15/2018
Children	2	1	2	2
Youth	3	6	2	3
Adults	12	16	21	17
<b>Total SS</b>	17	23	25	22
<b>WORSHIP</b>		"Sonrise" 21		
Sunday	66	87	66	61
Wednesday Night	No Service	11	9	9

Maundy Thursday 29    Good Friday 28



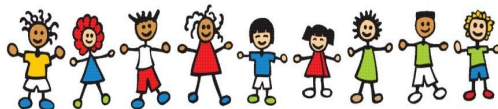
Tom Jack, Bob Bailly, Bab Mace, Braden Somerville



### Altar Flower Calendar Openings

May 6 - 2 openings                      May 13 - 1 opening  
 May 20 - 2 openings

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



Children's Church

May 13 - Deborah Molina

May 27 - Melinda Molina



**May 6**

**Dorothy Mace**

**May 13**

**Melinda Molina**

**May 20**

**Susan Philbin**

**May 27**

**Cynthia Ramirez**

**With Your Help The United Methodist Church is Making a Difference**  
HUMAN RELATIONS DAY OFFERING HELPS SUPPORT MINISTRIES  
AT BETTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

*The Youth Activity Center program at [Better Community Development, Inc. \(BCD\)](#) provides youth with opportunities and support within an exciting learning environment that not only emphasizes making good choices, but also enables them to feel secure and hopeful about their future.*

*Our two program sites (female and male) serve 50 youth, ages 12 – 18, each day, to provide positive alternatives to at-risk youth, giving them the chance to participate in constructive activities with peers, receive help in times of crisis, and develop healthy relationships with caring adults.*

*A year-round program, including extended summer program, is available for day and evening activities. A safe haven is provided for youth either at-risk or already involved in gang activity. Intensive case management is available. Staff is available 24/7 for emergencies and support for the entire family. Our youth programming uses the Youth Initiative Project (YIP) model, an evidence-based program utilized by the City of Little Rock.*

In February we celebrated an Open House Night. Charlie Bruce, YIP Coordinator, and BCD Activity Center staff held Open House for BCD's

YIP Program offering positive program for youth in the community. He spoke with parents and youth discussing opportunities available to youth through the program. Twenty-two children and parents attended the Open House.

This program services youth between the ages of 13 - 19 years old in the Midtown Community, our YIP site provides opportunities for young men to learn positive social skills including violence prevention, conflict resolution, and drug abuse education.

Along with education the program offers free activities which include: Movies, Skating, Bowling, basketball, video games, technology enrichment, trips, cultural enrichment, outdoor activities and much more!

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, [Human Relations Day](#) calls United Methodists to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with one another. The special offering benefits neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

[www.umcsgiving.org](http://www.umcsgiving.org)

**The 2018 Rio Texas ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held June 6-9 at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Texas.**

**PREPARING FOR EASTER** (Rob Remig)

St. Mark's was well prepared for Easter this year, including Johnny Mendoza giving the cross on the roof of the Fellowship Hall a much-needed, fresh coat of paint. Not shown in the photo but assisting Johnny was Bob Bailly. Thanks to both for the facelift!



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

## *From Rev. Maria Soto's Desk*

May 2018



Psalm 23 introduces us to God in the image of a shepherd and the people of Israel as the flock. Shepherding was a lowly occupation, it involved long hours in hard and dangerous work with modest pay. Sheep were not very smart and, absent good leadership, were inclined to wander away on their own. They were defenseless against predators such as lions or bears. They needed a shepherd to lead them to water and pasture--and to guard them against a host of dangers.

***"<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, **I shall not want.** <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake."***

The psalmist expressed complete confidence in God's care for him; ***I shall not want.*** He described all his wants in metaphoric language; "lie down in green pastures, leads me beside still waters, restores my soul and leads me in right paths," ***I shall not want.***

These three verses describe the satisfaction of physical and spiritual needs we find in The Lord, for He is **my** (personal) shepherd.

So in the midst of physical or emotional turmoil we need our lives restored. God is able to provide for **all** our needs.

*Rev. Maria R. Soto*

### **WALK TO EMMAUS FOR WOMEN - May 17 - 20, 2018**

The Northwest San Antonio Community is holding a Walk at Camp Capers, Waring, Texas. Emmaus is open to any members of a Christian denomination who have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives, may have unanswered questions about their faith, understand that being a Christian involves responsibility, and have a willingness to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner.

For more information, go to **[nwsaemmaus.com](http://nwsaemmaus.com)**. Applications are under the Documents and Forms tab. Contact Maritha Tate: [teachtate@hotmail.com](mailto:teachtate@hotmail.com) or 210-363-2546 or Chris Bunch: [chris@casabunch.com](mailto:chris@casabunch.com) or 210-410-1413.



## May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Apr 2018</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> </thead> <tbody> <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> </tbody> </table>	Apr 2018							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							<b>1</b> 6:30 AM ROMEO's  10:00 AM Exercise (FH)	<b>2</b> 1:00 PM Food Pantry (FH)  6:30 PM Cub Scouts (SH)  6:30 PM Praise Service (FH)	<b>3</b> 7:45 AM Bus Stop Ministry  10:00 AM Exercise (FH)	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b> 8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion  9:00 AM ESL Classes (LL)
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## "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME"

Children at St. Mark's UMC are very much a part of our worshiping community. Here are opportunities for age-appropriate worship, Bible lessons, activities, praise music, and fun!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in Lovely Lane Hall for children ages Kinder through 5th Grade.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays of each month at 10:45 a.m.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** on the third Sunday of each month during Sunday worship. All children are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a brief, simple message (or mini sermon) keeping our younger worshipers in mind.



### HELP WANTED! VOLUNTEER NEEDED! OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!

Kim Durick is stepping down shortly from the Elementary Sunday School position. Our thanks to Kim for her faithful service and ministry with children.

We have some very special, young members of our church family who need a teacher to fill Kim's vacancy. Perhaps there is someone out there just waiting to be asked. Is that you? It would be wonderful if there are several of you out there who are interested. This would make it much easier to ensure someone will be available every Sunday.

Please contact Susan Philbin for more information and details.





# NOTES AND NOTICES

## CHURCH GROUNDS

Love growing things and getting your hands dirty??

St. Mark's is looking for someone who would like to adopt one of four outdoor areas that need some TLC. You can work at your own pace, on your own schedule and help beautify our beloved church grounds.

Please contact Melinda or Pastor Soto for more information. Thank you.

## 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!**



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (by Patti Gardner) June 18-22 & Closing June 24

*Gosh, just a few short weeks until our little pint-sized super heroes invade St. Mark's! Vacation Bible School will be here and gone before we know it! We covet your prayers as we prepare for this special time with these kiddos.*

*We still need volunteers, so if you're willing and able to help in any capacity, please let Melinda know. We are having a workday in the gym on **Saturday, April 28th** beginning at 9:00 AM. We will be starting on our decorations. If you can help, please come! We'd love to have you! Also if you have any large boxes you'd like to donate to the cause, please let me know (Patti - 210-837-7527) and I'll coordinate with you.*

*Remember we will be having a food drive during this time to support our Food Pantry and we will start collecting the first of June.*

*Thanks!*

A heartfelt thank you to all who spent time in prayer during our Easter prayer vigil. We hope you were able to reflect on the true meaning of Resurrection Sunday and praise God for His gifts of grace and eternal life. We are especially grateful to our teams of angels for their faithfulness in assuring our time was peaceful and uninterrupted.





Once again children of every age enjoyed themselves at this year's Easter Egg Hunt. Lots of amazing crafts, delicious snacks, exciting egg hunt, energetic music, and a few prizes.

Story tellers shared the Easter story to make sure we understood the "reason for the season." Thanks to everyone who took part in this fun event.



A few Sunday's ago Mel Amick gave a brief report and update about Project Transformation Rio Texas. We now have a better understanding what we can do to support it. St. Mark's will commit to the Three P's. PRAYER - prayer for the entire program. PROFIT - make a financial contribution or donate supplies. PEOPLE - provide volunteers and/or meals. More updates will follow on the status and progress. Questions may be directed to John Williams.



# April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

## 3 types of Distracted Driving

Visual: Taking your eyes off the road

Manual: Taking your hands off the wheel

Cognitive: Taking your mind off the road

## Ways to Avoid Becoming a Distracting Driver

- ⇒ Get plenty of sleep to avoid fatigue.
- ⇒ Beware of taking medication that may cause drowsiness BEFORE driving (or arrange alternative transportation).
- ⇒ Buckle up BEFORE you start the car.
- ⇒ Adjust your mirrors BEFORE you start to drive.
- ⇒ Secure objects, children and pets in your car that could fly away or fall and interfere with access to brakes BEFORE starting to drive.



- ⇒ Never answer your phone while driving.
- ⇒ Practice defensive driving! Beware of the “OTHER” driver!

Be Safe - Sandra Montes, Wesley Nurse

## Lenten Classes 2018



## SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

The following provides the financial overview for the month of March 2018.

Operating Cash balance at 2/28/2018	36,401
Non-Designated Contributions - March	14,752
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	649
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	10,299
Administration Expense	456
Trustees	5,436
Pastor's Compensation	7,233
Lay Personnel Compensation	6,967
	31,040
Other Income/(Expense)	16
Operating Cash balance at 3/31/2018	20,129

**Comments:**

March receipts were \$3,071 higher than budgeted, and \$922 higher than March 2017. Year-to-Date receipts are \$4,454 higher than budgeted, while trailing 2017 by \$5,447.

March operating expenses were \$7,267 higher than budgeted and \$11,969 higher than March 2017. In March we paid \$10,299 towards our 2018 apportionments. Other operating expense categories had offsetting increases and decreases versus the budget. Year-to-Date operating expenses are favorable to the budget by \$1,364 while unfavorable to March 2017 by \$10,195. This is due to our not paying as much towards our 2017 apportionments through March.

Other income in March was \$343, \$1,973 lower than budgeted. Year-to-Date other income is unfavorable \$808.

Our operating cash balance on March 31, 2018 was \$20,129.

It is promising to see our contributions higher than budgeted and our operating expenses less than budgeted.

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	Alice Logan	Helen Galloway
Jill Anderson	Michael Mendoza	Patti Austin
Kennedee Bailey	Eric Milette	Lupita Lara
Patty Braselton	Will Schuetze	Michelle Welch & family
Kylee Brown	Kirk Tomerlin	Children who are abused and neglected
Megan Brown	Kathryn Wilson	
Bucky Coley	Trent Miller	
Carol Crenwelge	Ramon Pacheco	
Esdras Cuervo	Mitch Pankin	
Sylvia Gonzales		

Louise Chaffin	May 2
Leticia Mercado	May 2
Laurie Sprowl	May 4
Lynda Hubbard	May 7
Wayne Adams	May 9
Edythe McKeown	May 9
Fran McMahan	May 12
Sue Horner	May 13
Brandi Horner	May 24
Misty Adams	May 25
Jessica Black	May 25
Virginia Barlow	May 27
Dennis Wilson	May 27
Carolyn McDuff	May 28
Jazzmyn Lopez	May 30
Melinda Molina	May 30
Bridey Anderson	May 31
Nancy Beckcom	May 31



**OPPORTUNITY TO HELP:**  
 Bill McMahan is looking for someone to take over updating the birthday board in the sanctuary. Please contact Bill or Lillian if you're interested in helping.



*May 5*  
*Joe & Claire Cobb*  
*69 years*



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, 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)

<b>PASTOR</b>	Rev. Maria Soto
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Lillian Herrera
<b>CHOIR DIRECTOR</b>	Carolyn Hahn
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Joseph Scutti
<b>WESLEY NURSE</b>	Sandra Montes
<b>CUSTODIAN</b>	Johnny Mendoza

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