

STATE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday School	02/03	02/10	02/17	02/24
Children	5	3	5	5
Youth	9	5	11	6
Adults	49	35	43	37
Leaders	1	1	1	1
Total SS	64	44	60	49
Worship 122		91	112	111

ATTENDANCE

GREETERS FOR MARCH

- Lynda Hubbard +
- Jerri Ecclestone

TAPE MINISTRY

Daniel Wilke +



USHERS FOR MARCH

- **Rob Remig**
- † Joe Price
- **Stephanie Bercegeay**
- Carl Swatzell



Finance

Committee

The Lord has blessed us with some beautiful weather for February. The days have been mild; however, we are not getting much needed rain. Let's hope rain will be in our near future.

Financially we have started the year off strong. January contributions were slightly lower than 2012, but were higher than budgeted.

Our January operating expenses were slightly higher than last year primarily the result of lower Pastor Compensation at the beginning of 2012. Versus the budget, we were extremely favorable. Trustee expenditures were nearly \$3,000 less than planned as the result of fewer repairs coupled with lower utilities resulting from the milder weather. Lay Compensation was favorable as a result of having the church offices closed over the holidays. Mission Giving was favorable **Reflections:** as we did not pay all of our apportionments.

Sounds From the Bean Counters For the month, we had a cash inflow of \$5,000 which is higher than the budget and last year. We started January with \$4,659 in our operating account, but as a result of the lower spending, we ended the month with \$10,504.

In January, we paid \$1,452 towards our apportionments which is \$659 higher than last year, but lower than the budget by \$2,243.

We thank each of you for your financial support in January and our hope is that this will continue.

UMW Happenings...

Wednesday, March 6th

7:00 PM: Esther circle will meet with Kathy Jack

Saturday, March 9th 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM: District "A Time Apart" Trinity United Methodist Gymnasium

Tuesday, March 19th 1:00 PM: Martha circle will meet with Mary Sue Mahaffey

Wednesday, March 20th

9:30 AM: Dorcas Circle will meet at the church and carpool to The Meadows

Mid-week Bible Study...

Join us as we continue our mid-week Bible Study with a new series beginning Wednesday, April 10th, running for 8 weeks. We will continue with the Immersion Series - Deuteronomy. Please contact Patti Gardner in person, by phone or email (830-431-3157 or email pjdgardner@aol.com) if you are interested. Books are

\$6.50. We will continue meeting in the YAMS classroom at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch and join us for some delightful discussion!



What: 2013 Vacation Bible School

Everywhere Fun Fair

When: June 17 - 21

Where: St. Mark 's UMC

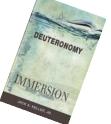
Monday - Friday

5:30 - 6:00 PM - Light Meal

6:00 - 8:30 PM - VBS









Last Saturday morning, Linda Cerda and I met at the church to walk the neighborhood to get to know our neighbors, offering prayers and invitations to worship. We began our walk, as always, with prayer; we asked for God to open the doors that needed to be opened and close the ones that needed to be closed. Thus, as we knocked on one door after another, with no one at home or unresponsive, we talked about how, for some reason, the doors were closed on this particular day. After a 30 minute walk down Freiling, only one door was opened...

and the person said they didn't need any prayers (unless we wanted to pray for the Spurs...which we did!).

I told Linda that there is a message here. Our Bishop had expressly told me to get people to join in the new various ministry opportunities; specifically, he said: "Don't you be doing this by yourself; you get someone to go with you! I mean it, now..." I think I understand what he meant by this...

If only a few of us are meeting with the school children after school or are knocking on doors, it really isn't a ministry of the church. It may indeed be my ministry, but it won't bear fruit. For our church to be a part of the neighborhood, to be inviting, to have open hearts and open doors and open minds we have to actually go outside and meet our neighbors, face to face. We have to get to know folks where they are, in their life experiences, in their space. It's what Jesus did, it's what the disciples did and I believe that it's what we need to do.

So, I'm asking you to search your heart and see if you'd be willing to spend just 30 minutes one Saturday a week, walking with me prayerfully in our neighborhood. You don't actually have to do anything except just be a face besides mine that represents the outstretched hands and welcoming love of Jesus Christ. I'll do the knocking, the talking, even the praying...but we need for the face of St Mark's UMC to look like more than just me. I know, of course, as do you, that the church is far more than any one of us. None of us can really do anything effectively alone. We need the Holy Spirit and we need our congregation and it's leaders to lead. So...how about it? Will you join me? Our next walk will be on Saturday, March 16th from 10 till 10:30ish; just before our BBQ! What a deal...

food for the soul and for the body, as well. You'll be blessed and you will be a blessing!

Jay

See you on Saturday!

JOIN US FOR EASTER MORNING SERVICES SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST

YOUTH SUNRISE SERVICE AT 7:00 AM IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY A HOT BREAKFAST (NEW BEGINNINGS) SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:15 WORSHIP AT 10:30 AM

March 2013

Month ly Plan ner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 -OFFICE CLOSED-	2 8:00 AM Saturd ay Moming Reunion 11:30 AM Laity Luncheon (St. Andrews)
 ³ 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 2:00 PM Crop Walk (Commanche Park) 	4 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	5 6:30 AM Methodist Men/Cracker Barrel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Adv an ced Line Dancing (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tig ers (H 6:00 PM Torres (FH) 6:00 PM VBS Meeing (YAMS)	6 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 3:00 PM Cookies & Juice to Elementary Students 4:00 PM Tx Tig ers (H 6:00 PM Lenten Supper (FH) Ĵ;00 PM Praise/Bilingual Service 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	7:00 PM Choir Practice	8 -OFFICE CLOSED- 6:00 PM Quest Graduation	9 8:00 AM Saturd ay Moming Reunion 2:00 PM Possible Rental? (FH)
10 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	11 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	(FH) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Adv an ced Line Dancing (FH)	13 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 3:00 PM Cookies & Juice to Elementary Students 4:00 PM Tx Tig ers (H 6:00 PM Lenten Supper (FH) 7:00 PM Praise/Bilingual Service 7:30 PM Boy Scouts (SH)	Practice 7:00 PM Trustees	15 -OFFICE CLOSED-	16 8:00 AM Saturd ay Moming Reunion 11:00 AM Boy Scour BBQ Benefit
17 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	18 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (H 6:00 PM Finance Mtg (FH 7:00 PM Admin Council (FH)	(FH) 1:00 PM Martha Circle Q:00 PM - 3:30 PM	20 9:30 AM Dorcas Circle (Meadows) 1:00 PM MS Yoga (FH) 3:00 PM Cookies & Juice to Elementary Students 4:00 PMHeath Cabnet (FH) 4:00 PMTx Tigers (HC) 6:00 PMLenen Supper (FH) 7:00 PMPraiseBilingual Service (7)60 PMBoy Scouts(SH)	21 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC) 7:00 PM Choir Practice	22 -OFFICE CLOSED-	23 8:00 AM Saturd ay Moming Reunion
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	25 9:15 AM Learning Chapel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Tx Tigers (HC)	Men/Cracker Barrel 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Adv an ced Line Dancing (FH)	Juice to Elemen tary Students	28 HOLY THURSDAY 9:00 AM Food Truck 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 11:00 AM Exer/ PotLuck (FH) 9:00 PM Tx Tigers (H 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	29 -OFFICE CLOSED- GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	30 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM Pray er Vigil 8:00 AM Saturd ay Moming Reunion 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt
31 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 AM Sun rise Service 7:30 AM Easter Breakfast 9:15 AM Sun day School 10:30 AM Worship		February S M T W T 3 4 5 6 7 10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 24 25 26 27 28	F S 1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23	1 7 8 14 15	April F S 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30	

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WORLD SERVICE FUND BENEVOLENCES



The World Service Benevolence Fund is the primary mission and ministry funding of the connectional church. These funds go to the General Church to pay for national and worldwide mission and supports the Agencies of the General Church whose work is devoted to accomplishing the Bishop's four (4) areas of ministry focus.

POVERTY

One goal: train and place 50 native leaders with strategic mission partners in poor areas to respond to critical issues of importance to women and children.

GLOBAL HEALTH

One goal: Work with international partners to reduce by 66 percent malaria related deaths of children under the age of 5.

NEW AND EXISTING CONGREGATIONS

One goal: Recruit 1,000 new church planters to start 650 new churches in the US, targeting 50% of those to be racial and ethnic congregations.

DEVELOP CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

One goal: Increase by 2.5% the number of candidates for ordained ministry who are under the age of 35.

To our friends at St. Mark's,

It's people like you who make us stop and realize how much God spoils us!

Our love to you all, Maxíne Pasterchíck § famíly



Michael Card presents: Only His Wounds Concert

Sunday, March 24th at 6:00PM

Tickets are \$15 general admission \$25 limited reserved seating

Coker United Methodist Church 231 E North Loop Road 210-494-3455

sue.osborn@coker.org

News from the Learning Center . .

Greetings from your friends at the Learning Center!

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Lots of fun is in store for us this month. There are so many fun themes to cover, such as Dr. Seuss Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, Spring, and of course Easter.

We will be reading lots of our favorite Dr. Seuss' books, learning all about leprechauns and four leaf clovers, making many flowers to help decorate the hallway, and so much more.

For Easter, our teachers have planned a "Egg-citing" day for the children that will include arts and crafts, an outdoor egg hunt, cracking cascarones, and of course our classroom parties. This will all take place on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. We are all looking forward to all of the excitement and joy this day will bring!

## Birthdays/Important Dates: March 2nd - Dr. Seuss Birthday March 10th - Daylight Savings Time (Set clock ahead 1 hour!) March 12th - Kathryn Carpenter's Birthday March 17th - St. Patrick's Day March 20th - First Day of Spring March 24th - Palm Sunday March 28th - Classroom Easter Egg Hunts and Parties March 29th - Anali Contreras' Birthday March 29th - Good Friday - <u>CENTER CLOSED</u>

March 31st - Easter Sunday

# DR. SEUSS SNACK IDEA - WIGGLY FISH

This snack was inspired by "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish". Prepare several different colors of Jello according to package directions and pour each flavor into a shallow pan. Use a fish shaped cookie cutter to cut the Jello into fish shapes. (If you don't have a fish shaped cookie cutter you could also just cut fish shapes with a knife.) You can also add small pieces of fruit to the Jello mixture before it cools. This is a great way to sneak an extra serving of fruit into your child's diet. (Taken from kinderinfo.com)

<u>St. Patrick's Day Fingerplay:</u> I'm a Little Leprechaun (Sung to the tune of I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little Leprechaun (hands on hips) Dressed in green (point to shirt) The tiniest man (hold thumb and index finger about an inch apart)

That you ever have seen. (point to the other people)

If you ever catch me, so it's told, (make a motion like you're grabbing at a leprechaun)I'll give you my big pot of gold. (make a motion like you're giving something away)



# Old Irish Blessing:

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May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.

May all life's passing season's bring the best to you and yours!

From the Food Pantry

Even with the San Antonio Food Bank sending a mobile food truck to St. Mark's once a month, the demands of our little in-house Food Pantry have increased. We have not been able to keep up with the food requests by holding a food drive just twice a year, so we recently placed a trial order from the Food Bank to see what we could buy for \$45. And we were amazed! We went to HEB and priced the same items there to compare with the Food Bank price. Here's what we found:



| ITEM | HEB | FOOD BANK |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Peanut Butter, 12 jars | 28.32 | |
| Box Milk, 12 boxes | 18.00 | |
| Green Beans, 12 cans | 9.12 | |
| Whole Kernel Corn, 48 cans | 34.56 | |
| Energy Bars, 48 bars | 47.76 | |
| Egg Noodles, 12 bags | 18.48 | |
| Pinto Beans, 12 cans | 18.00 | |
| Long Grain Rice | 17.70 | |
| Spaghetti, 20 bags | 17.60 | |
| TOTAL | \$209.54 | \$45.00 |

Our next scheduled food drive is May 12, Mother's Day. We do not want to discourage anyone from bringing sacks of canned food to the church at any time, and especially at our scheduled food drives. However, our trial purchase from the Food Bank shows that for every \$1 we spend there, we get the same amount of food that would cost \$4.50 at the grocery store. So, please continue to check your home food pantry for items you would like to share with the St. Mark's neighbors, but please also consider making a monetary donation to the St. Mark's Food Pantry so we can extend those donations and buy even more food. We will gladly accept food and cash or check donations at any time. Thank you for your consideration of the needs of hungry people in our neighborhood!

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Dear St. Mark's,

I would like to thank you all for the flowers Bill received for his birthday. He was so excited and happy, and it sure made him feel special all day!

Thank you for remembering him on his birthday!

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Our family extends our appreciation to
 many of you that spent time with our Mom,
 Gladys Haas. Over the years you visited, lis tened and prayed with Mom. Every birthday
 she received a cheerful floral arrangement.

To all of you, we give thanks for holding our family in prayer at this time of loss. Please accept our gift to honor Mom's memory and celebrate a life well lived.

St. Mark's was Mom's church and our family's home church since moving to Texas in the 1960's. I have many fond memories of growing up in the church, MYF and especially youth choir.

ξ God Bless your mínístry, ξ Karen French

From the Wesley Nurse

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What can I do to protect myself from getting sick?

There are vaccines to protect you from the flu. The problem with vaccines is that it doesn't cover all the germs that northern winds blow in. There is illness everywhere in our country; however, there are everyday actions that can pre vent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illness.

Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you sneeze and cough. Alcohol-based hand cleansers are also effective.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of fever reducing medicine) Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from making others sick.

Other important actions that you can take are:

Follow public health regarding school closures, avoiding crowds and other social distancing measures.

Be prepared in case you get sick and need to stay home for a week or so; a supply of over- the- counter medicines, alcohol-based hand rubs, tissues, and other related items might be useful and help avoid the need to make trips out in the public while you are sick and contagious.

What is the best way to keep from spreading the virus through coughing or sneezing?

Always remember that good hand washing techniques is the best way to decrease spreading germs.

Good hand washing after each sneeze or cough.

The hand sanitizer is good for only a short while. You must wash your hands with water and soap as soon as you can.

Do not forget to dispose of those used tissues in the trash as soon as you can.

If I have a family member who is sick should I go to work?

Employee who are well but have an ill family member can go to work.

These employees should monitor their own health and wash their hands frequently and take precautions.

If they should become ill they should notify their supervisor and stay home.

Employee who have other underlying medical condition &/or pregnant should call their physicians and get advice. They may need antiviral drugs to prevent illness.

What should I do if I get sick?

It has been mentioned several times. If you get influenza-like symptoms, including fever, body aches, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, you should stay home.

You should also know your body enough to see if they are seasonal allergies or an infection.

CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone.

You should not leave your home except if you are seeking medical attention. This means not to go out to store, avoid normal activities, including work, school, travel, shopping, social events and public gatherings.

CDC recommends that you wash your hands—with soap and water—that you wash for 15-20 seconds. When soap/water is not available, alcohol-based disposable wipes or gel sanitizers may be used.

If you are using gel, rub your hands until the gel is dry. The gel does not need water to work; the alcohol in it kills the germs in your hands.

Maybe this information is boring, you already know this, or you just do not want to hear this anymore. This is very important during these days of allergies, flu-like symptoms or upper respiratory discomfort.

Please be a good person and keep your germs to yourself.

Linda

2013 Committee Members

TRUSTEES

Class of 2013

Class of 2014

Janice Coley John Williams **Bob Bailly**

Don Schmidt Tom Jack Susan Philbin Class of 2015

Janice Rushton Bob Mace Joe Price

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Class of 2013 Virginia Barlow Janice Coley Lynn Swatzell, Sr.

Class of 2014

Tom Jack Patti Gardner Joe Cobb

Class of 2015

Sue Horner Eddie Rodriguez John Williams

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Mary Jo Price Cynthia Ramirez Lynn Swatzell, Sr. Class of 2014 Janice Rushton Nancy Beckcom Kathy Jack

Class of 2015

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Class of 2014 Herb Snook Debra Nolle

Class of 2015 June Swatzell **Diane Haag**

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WORSHIP Carolyn Hahn Sue Horner Patti Gardner

Joanne Green Kathy Wilson

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Laura Leija Julie Aguilar **Rob Remig Bob Bashaw**

Tom Jack

Don Schmidt

WITNESS/OUTREACH

Mission/Outreach Chairperson: Patti Austin Emmaus/Kairos:

Don & Mary-Kathryn Schmidt

NUTURE

Jay Brown

Linda Jimenez

Education: Visitation Chairperson: Loving Service:

Susan Philbin Joyce Codd Imogene Brown/Sue Horner



ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Jill Anderson Megan Brown Margaret Broxton **Bill & Isabel Centeno** Bucky Coley **Esdras Cuervo** Gladys Johnson Mary Krwawicz Clay Laster Michael Mendoza Charles Mixon **Pastor Cheryl Owens** Peny Wayne Penyman Comfort Ouesnell Gloria Reedy Steve Reyes Sr.

Mike Ross Ed Setterfield Will Schuetze Kirk Tomerlin Abraham Wamah Nikki Garza Gene Pitman Lessie Todd Bea Kunkel Albert Isaac and **Desiree Everling** Family of Pablo S. Leija Family of Bill Simons Rebecca Hernandez **Restoration of broken** relationships

Sy Turner Pamela Cline Neil Crosier Charlean Brown B.J. Jackson Kassidy Glenn Page Susie Rosas Zachery Wilke Family of Jennifer Reynolds



March 5 Sarah Connor

March 8 Gloria Ramirez

March 12 Ima Roselle

March 13 Chase Black March 14 John Kosmuch Kaeleigh Horner March 18

March 17

March 15

Margery Green

Patti Gardner

March 20 Kim Hoffman

March 22 Nita Perdue Sherry Wilke

March 29 Herb Snook

March 31 Ernest Denham Anniversard

March 14th Sherry and Daniel Wilke

March 15th Fran and Harry Meadows

March 24th John and Olga Sidusky

March 29th Fran and Bill McMahon

We extend our Sincere Sympathy to . . .



John and Diane Williams for the loss of Diane's Father in January

Jennifer Reynolds and family for the loss of Jennifer's mother

To all of you at St. Mark's UMC:

Because our church directory is rapidly becoming outdated, we will be making a new one this spring. We will need the cooperation of each of you so that our directory can be as accurate and complete as possible. Sue and I will be contacting each of you to set up an appointment for your photo shoot. The dates will be April 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 and the hours for each day will be posted on posters throughout the church.

Please plan to be available at least one day during that time period. Each participating family will receive an 8x10 portrait and a new directory free of charge. The portraits will be ready for Mother's Day and the directory later in the summer as we anticipate celebrating our 60th anniversary.

We are excited about our mission and possibilities God is opening for us.

Praise His Name and Be Thankful,

Imogene Brown Sue Horner Pastor Jay



Please be a part of our new family directory program-we need YOU to make our new family album complete!

Let's put names with faces. We have chosen to partner with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our members and tell our story.

Convenient

- Lifetouch will photograph at our location.
- In your one-hour session you will:
- Check-in
- Be professionally photographed
- Immediately view your portraits
- Have an opportunity to purchase additional portraits

When was the last time you or your family had a professional portrait taken?

Portraits are valued family keepsakes. Watch for more information coming soon about the opportunity to schedule your portrait session.

We look forward to seeing you!

Rev 2/12 300-00072





Exciting products turn your portraits into cherished memories

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

| PASTOR | Rev. Jay Brown |
|--|---------------------------|
| SECRETARY | Mary Parramore |
| WESLEY NURSE | |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Carolyn Hahn |
| ORGANIST EMERITUS | Ruth Foerster |
| ORGANIST | Joseph Scutti |
| DIRECTOR OF LEARNING CENTER | Julie Aguilar |
| CUSTODIAN | Johnny Mendoza |
| | - |
| OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am - 4 | :00 p.m. Monday-Thursday |
| | CLOSED on Friday |
| PHONE | (210) 344-8393 |
| | |
| Email: <u>stmarksumc@grandecom.net</u> | earts open |
| stmarkspastor@grandecom.net | a peorts open mind |
| linda.jimenez@mhm.org | 8 7 3 ⁶ |
| | Nº YT |
| Website: www.stmarksumcsa.com | |
| | open doors |
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U.S. POSTAGE

NON-PROFIT ORG.

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, WORSHIP, AND STUDY
- TO STRIVE TO IDENTIFY AND SERVE THE NEEDS OF
 INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY
- AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL TO LIVE IN THE WORLD AS CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES