



Messenger

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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

Things to Remember:

- † Sunday, November 8th @ 3:00 PM - Church Conference
- † Children's Church - November 8th and 22nd
- † Tuesday, November 10th - Vouchers 9:00 -11:00 am
- † Friday, November 13th - SA Food Bank Truck
- † Saturday, November 14th - Prayer Vigil
- † Sunday, November 15th - Consecration Sunday with Dinner following worship
- † Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday - November 26
- † F-Troop - Sunday, November 29th @ 6:00 PM
- † Wednesday Night Fellowship and Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

All Saints Sunday - November 1, 2015

On Sunday, November 1st, we celebrated the lives of these St. Mark's Saints - our friends and family who have gone on before us. We give thanks for the life of each of these who have all touched our lives and hearts:

Frankie Armstrong
James Bissett
Eldora Carter
Bill Centeno
Pauline Denham
Andrea Dombrowski
Lorene Hollinshead
Gladys Johnson
Clay Laster
Howard Long
Marguerite McSpadden
Fran Meadows
Harry Meadows
Charles Mixon
Betty Pfeiffer
Donald Schmidt
Ed Sebera
Lessie Todd
Barbara Tucker
Reverend Merle Waters



Serving the Church / Pictures	2	Notes & Notices	7
Stewardship / Altar Flowers	3	More Notes & Notices	8
Message from the Pastor	4	Pumpkin Patch	9
Calendar	5	Bean Counters	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>

SERVING THE CHURCH

<u>Sunday School</u>	9/27	10/4	10/11	10/18	10/25
Children	1	4	1	2	2
Youth	5	4	6	5	6
Adults	28	37	38	32	26
Total SS	34	45	45	39	34
<u>Worship</u>					
Sunday	74	82	73	83	61
Wednesday Service			25	22	15

USHERS

- † Rob Remig
- † Joe Price
- † Stephanie Bercegeay
- † Billy Kiesel



Pictures from Around the Patch 2015!



CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES

\$2,450,000

PENSIONS & BENEFITS



Goal: Take care of those who care for the church

22.3 cents of every apportioned dollar goes to Pensions.

They gave their lives in ministry to the Conference churches. Now it's time for the 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.

*If the only prayer you said in your whole life was,
"thank you," that would suffice.
- Meister Eckhart*

2015 Poinsettias

Poinsettia sales for Christmas will begin soon! Watch your bulletin for announcements beginning 11/8. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the information in the bulletin, or call Patti in the church office. Poinsettias will be \$10 each.



Call Joanne Green - 210-690-5714 or
Patti in the church office - 210-344-8393
or email: stmarksumc@grandecom.net



From Our Pastor. . .

Last Sunday I got to worship at Floresville UMC as they celebrated their 140th anniversary! I was pastor at this church from 1993-2000 and was invited back to celebrate with them, along with Bob Ross who had been pastor there in the 1970's. It was a wonderful service, led by Rev. Peter Aguilar, the current pastor and by previous pastors, laity and our beloved District Supt. Carl Rohlf. It was a joyful and blessed time; we celebrated the past and present moment and looked towards the future with hope and enthusiasm. We also were challenged by Carl's preaching, which was on the story of blind Bartimeus. The irony of the story, as Carl reminded us, was that Bartimeus, though physically blind was able to see spiritually the reality of Christ and responded to his call... while the disciples, who could physically see, were spiritually blinded to Christ's call to serve, love and heal a world lost in darkness. Hmmm...Ann and I both said, sadly, that his message spoke to us powerfully. How many times have I found myself believing and considering myself a disciple of Jesus, and yet, being blind to His presence in some person or some situation that I find unlikable or unsettling! Carl quoted Mother Teresa's statement about ministering to the poor and seeing in them Christ "in one of his distressing disguises". We all have heard stories about St. Francis and the leper who was actually Jesus or remembering to be gracious to strangers for we may be entertaining angels (or God!) as did Abraham and Sarah. How many times have we turned our backs in disgust, impatience or anger on someone only to have missed a life-changing encounter with Jesus in one of his "distressing disguises"? We probably will never know in this lifetime, but Jesus tells us in Matthew 25: "whenever" we did...or didn't minister to the "least of these", we did...or didn't minister to him. Let us remember that the "least of these" is not just a term relegated to homeless or hungry, but to anyone who is a brother or sister God has appointed to our lives. So the next time we're tempted to judge or ignore our enemy, let us remember that this is actually Christ in one of his "distressing disguises" and let us pray that the Holy Spirit will allow us to see through it and be healed. God bless you and let the Son shine into our hearts and minds all ways!

Jay

November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">1</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Choir Daylight Savings Time Ends All Saints Sunday</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">2</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">3</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's 9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 7:00 PM Esther Circle 7:00 PM NE Community Choir (FH) 7:00 PM Order of the Arrow (SH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">4</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">12:00 PM Bible Study (YAMS) 1:00 PM Yoga (FH) 6:30 PM Praise Service</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">5</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">6</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">7</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL (LL) 11:30 AM ANA (Mary Jo) (FH)</p>																																																																																					
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">8</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Children's Church (LL) 3:00 PM Church Conference</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">9</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">10</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's 9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer 9:00 AM Food Bank Vouchers (HC) 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 6:30 PM Torres Admin Council (FH) 7:00 PM NE Community Choir (FH) 7:00 PM Order of the Arrow (SH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">11</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">12:00 PM Bible Study (YAMS) 1:00 PM Yoga (FH) 6:30 PM Praise Service</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">12</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 10:00 AM NL Deadline 1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Trustees (FH) 7:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">13</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:00 AM SA Food Bank Truck OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">14</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL (LL) Prayer Vigil</p>																																																																																					
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">15</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM WN Education 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Consecration Dinner (Yams) Consecration Sunday</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">16</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Finance Meeting (FH) 6:30 PM Admin Council (FH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">17</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">6:30 AM ROMEO's 9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 7:00 PM NE Community Choir (FH) 7:00 PM Order of the Arrow (SH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">18</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:30 AM Dorcas Circle (FH) 12:00 PM Bible Study (YAMS) 1:00 PM Yoga (FH) 6:30 PM Praise Service</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">19</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:00 AM NL Mailout (YAMS) 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 11:00 AM Nutritional Potluck 1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">20</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">8:00 AM -5:00 PM WN Team Meeting (FH) OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">21</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion 9:00 AM ESL (LL)</p>																																																																																					
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<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">29</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM F-Troop</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000; margin: 0;">30</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM Staff Meeting</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Oct 2015</p> <table style="font-size: 0.7em; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></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>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Dec 2015</p> <table style="font-size: 0.7em; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </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	29	30	31	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	31		
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Diabetes Awareness Month

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States. It can cause blindness, nerve damage, kidney disease, and other health problems if it's not controlled.

One in 11 Americans has diabetes – that's more than 29 million people. And another 86 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

The good news? People who are at high risk for type 2 diabetes can lower their risk by more than half if they make healthy changes. These changes include: eating healthy, increasing physical activity, and losing weight.

How can American Diabetes Month make a difference?

We can use this month to raise awareness about diabetes risk factors and encourage people to make healthy changes.

Here are just a few ideas:

Encourage people to make small changes, like taking the stairs instead of the elevator.

Talk to people in your community about getting regular checkups. They can get their blood pressure and cholesterol checked, and ask the doctor about their diabetes risk.

Ask doctors and nurses to be leaders in their communities by speaking about the importance of healthy eating and physical activity.

Harvest Pumpkin Soup

Nothing says fall like pumpkin soup! Pumpkin is lower in carbohydrate than other starchy vegetables, and is high in vitamin A and fiber. Serve this soup with a large salad for a complete meal. Prep Time: 15 minutes Nutritional Facts Serving Size: about 1 cup, Calories 80, Carbohydrate 13g, Protein 4g, Fat 2g, Saturated Fat 0.3g, Sugars 6g, Dietary Fiber 4g, Cholesterol 9mg, Sodium 485mg, Potassium 460mg

Ingredients

2 teaspoons canola oil
1 onion, diced
1 carrot, diced
2 celery stalks, diced
32 ounces reduced-sodium, fat-free chicken broth
1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon chili powder
½ teaspoon ground black pepper

Instructions

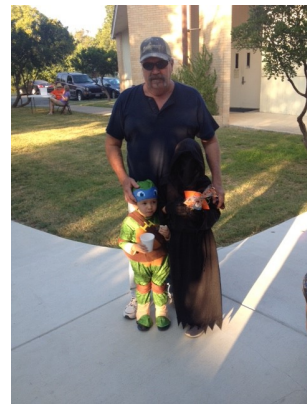
1. Heat the oil in a large soup pot over medium-high heat. Add the onion, carrots, and celery, and sauté for 5 minutes or until clear.
2. Add the remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil; reduce the heat and simmer for 15 minutes.
3. After the soup has cooled, transfer it to a blender and blend until smooth or use an immersion blender in the pot and blend until smooth.

For more information on this health topic, visit the American Diabetes Association's website: www.diabetes.org, <http://www.diabetes.org/mfa-recipes/recipes/2014-10-harvest-pumpkin-soup.html>, or saw your Wesley Nurse at 210-344-8393

Your Wesley Nurse,
Charzes Flowers, RN

NOTES AND NOTICES

*Pictures from our Party in the Patch
Sunday, October 11th*



Hi,

We fed 170 people at our September Food Truck. Thanks to all the wonderful people who helped.
The clients really enjoy the tacos and coffee.
We have a great team!

Our dates for November and December are:
Friday, November 13, 2015 and Monday,
December 21, 2015.

I hope to see you-all there.

Thanks again

Patti

Need a Good Handyman?
Johnny Mendoza
210-765-1869



a new
ADDRESS

Virginia Barlow
20302 Bulverde Road
Apartment 301
San Antonio, TX 78259
(210)765-5631

MORE NOTES AND NOTICES

COMMITMENT SUNDAY REMINDER

November 15, 2015

Our Prayer Vigil will be November 14, 2015. Please continue to pray about the future of St. Mark's.

The Commitment Sunday luncheon reservation cards will be in your Sunday Bulletin November 1st and November 8th. Please remember to turn them in so the YAMS Class will know how much meat to prepare. They will be serving also. You are asked to bring a salad or vegetable and a dessert.

During our worship November 15th we will turn in our Commitment Cards, then proceed to the gym for lunch.

Don't forget our Food Pantry!

1st Sunday - Can of Vegetables

2nd Sunday - Rice or Beans

3rd Sunday - Canned Meat

4th Sunday - Spaghetti Sauce

5th Sunday - Your Choice!



Noisy Offering - the last Sunday of every month!



Need a Good Handyman?
Johnny Mendoza
210-765-1869

Watch your bulletin for announcements regarding this year's Angel Tree Ministry! The Angel Tree will start November 29th - the first Sunday of Advent.





HAPPENINGS AROUND THE PATCH

My – how time flies when you're having fun!! By the time you read this, the Patch should just be a memory. Well, there might still be a little hay, some pallets and a few pumpkins lying around. Also, we have to wait for the Food Bank to pick up the left over pumpkins. As you know, it takes a while to dismantle everything, but we should be back to normal soon.

Lots of things went on in the Patch this month. The Children's Council threw a Party in the Patch for neighborhood kids. They had best costume contests, story time and refreshments. They all seemed to have a good time and some left with pumpkins. Kids came from Discovery School, Arnold Elementary School, Dellview Elementary School and a home day care for Story Time. Dorothy was dressed as Farmer Jones, Patti had a very fashionable witch costume (even had black and orange fingernails) and Imogene was Ms. Bee and was sporting a cute red fedora. Wes, both Bobs and Johnny helped with the readying of the Patch for Story Time. Kathy and Joyce passed out the treat bags as the children left the Patch. And, as always, Rob was there taking pictures of each class as they arrived.

Of course, there was the barbeque which brought more visitors to the Patch. Many of the barbeque customers also stopped by the Patch. So you can see, we had a whole lot going on at the church this month.

It was fun seeing folks at the Patch who have returned year after year. Some have moved away, but continue to come back to our Patch. Give yourself a pat on the back for continuing to do such a good job that they keep on returning.

And, just when you think the world is going to h--- in a hand basket, your faith in humanity is restored by the little honest things that happen in the Patch. Jay reported that one customer had received too much change and came back to the Patch to return the money. Customers that came while the Patch was closed were good enough to leave money to pay for pumpkins. Maybe a few pumpkins disappear, but the good by far out does the bad! (And, if any neighbors see someone taking pumpkins when the Patch is closed, they yell at them and tattle to us. I guess you could say the neighbors are out Security Guards.)

Some wondered if we took the pumpkins in every night. One girl said if they were her pumpkins she would! I think we probably would be out of the Pumpkin Patch business if we had to do that; however, they are SO surprised that they are left out totally on trust.

Yes, the Patch does bring in money for community outreach and special church projects, but most of all it is a good thing for the neighborhood and certainly brings joy to a lot of families. GOOD JOB, MY FRIENDS!!!

SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

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

Operating Cash balance at 8/31/15	4,129
Non-Designated Contributions - September	18,226
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	112
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	1,987
Administration Expense	330
Trustees	6,644
Pastor's Compensation	6,637
Lay Personnel Compensation	5,697
	<hr/>
	21,407
Other Income/(Expense)	<hr/>
	1,413
Operating Cash balance at 9/30/2015	<hr/> <hr/>
	2,361

Comments:

Contributions in September exceeded both the budget and 2014. However, included in the contributions were the garage sales and the BBQ which total \$3,400.

While our operating expenses are favorable to the budget, if our apportionment payments were current, we would be approximately \$3,400 unfavorable.

Apportionment (Mission Giving):

Through September, we have paid \$18,894 towards the amount we owe. Through September, we are behind nearly \$10,000.

Our ending operating cash balance was a positive \$2,361. It is important to remember that if we did not have the garage sale and BBQ, our operating cash balance would have been negative.

We ask that you keep St. Mark's in your prayers with hopes that our cash position will improve. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Please remember these
in your prayers

Jill Anderson
Willie Barnes
Connor Benjamin
Kylee Brown
Megan Brown
Margaret Broxton
Bucky Coley
Esdras Cuervo
Landry Dollahite
Cora Fischer
Gladys Johnson
Bea Kunkel
Alice & Ben Logan
Robert Flores Lopez
Michael Mendoza
Ann Payette
Cindy Payette

Gloria Reedy
Steve Reyes Sr.
Mike Ross
Will Schuetze
Doris Sinclair
Kirk Tomerlin
Abraham Wamah
Bob & Dorothy Mace
Raymond & Beatrice Canedo
Sylvia Ramon
Brian Putsche
John Moquin
Cy Houser
Karen Castellano
Fabian Gonzales
Family of Teresa Gonzales
Augustine Scutti

Barbara Klauer
Patricia Robertson
Jessica Leiva
Vanessa Woodall
Jacob & Irene
Jose Rivas
Deidra Hagdorn
Terry Whittle
John Kosmuch
Jean Newman
Stephan Aguilar
Tiffany Martinez
Nicholas Martinez
Martine Ponce & family



November 1
Don Jones
Diana Shiller

November 2
Megan Brown

November 6
Aaron Russo

November 8
Joyce Codd

November 11
Joe Price

November 12
Lamar King

November 18
Vee Davison

November 24
Charles Allen
Michael McMillian

November 29
Lois Gordon

November 30
Kathy Wilson



Gladys Johnson

Pat Williams

The Renaissance House

An Assisted Living/Personal Care Facility Since 1996

Regulated by the State of Texas and operated by a nurse, **The Renaissance House** is located at 227 Saratoga (off Vance Jackson), providing twenty-four hour care for up to six residents. This facility offers a home, loving atmosphere whose goal is to provide respect and the highest quality of care and assistance to the residents, allowing them to maintain their dignity and individuality. The staff works to stimulate the interest of the residents, which promotes companionship as well as physical and mental well being.

Give us a call at 210-348-9678 and come by to inspect the facility. **The Renaissance House** looks forward to you becoming an important member of the family. References will be provided upon request.

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

OFFICE HOURS
 9:00 am—4:00 p.m. Monday—Thursday
 CLOSED on Friday

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SECRETARY	Patti Gardner
WESLEY NURSE	Charzes Flowers
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CUSTODIAN	Johnny Mendoza