



Messenger

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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

Things to Remember:

- † Staff Meeting, Monday
Oct 1 @ 1:00 pm
- † Blessing of Animals, Saturday,
Oct 6 @ 10:00 am
- † Trustee's Meeting, Thursday
Oct 11 @ 7:00 pm
- † Children's Church, Sunday
Oct 14 @ 10:45 am
- † Finance Meeting, Monday
Oct 15 @ 6:30 pm
- † Admin Council, Monday
Oct 15 @ 7:00 pm
- † Children's Message, Sunday
Oct 21 @ 10:45 am
- † Children's Church, Sunday
Oct 28 @ 10:45 am
- † Praise & Bible Study every
Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

"It is good to renew ourselves from time to time, by closely examining the state of our souls, as if we had never done it before."
~ John Wesley

In November, we will gather for a Prayer Vigil and our annual Commitment Sunday. It's a time of reflection on how we can all renew the commitment to uphold our church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service.

St. Mark's is a generous, loving and blessed church who recently celebrated 65 years of ministry September 13, 2018. We give thanks to God for all that He has done these 65 wonderful years of ministry and service. Mrs. Virginia Barlow is always praying for St. Mark's and recently wrote in a card with her monthly giving, *"It is reassuring that the church is still functioning and serving the neighborhood as well as the church members. I send my congratulations and best wishes to all who have continued to work so hard during some very challenging times."*



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

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

SERVE

SUNDAY SCHOOL	8/19/2018	8/26/2018	9/2/2018	9/9/2018	9/16/18
Youth	2	2	2	2	4
Adults	15	16	15	11	16
Total SS	17	18	17	13	20
WORSHIP					
Sunday	52	49	52	42	46
Wednesday Night	4	4	35 <i>(Graduation)</i>	--	6



Rob Remig, Daniel Wilke, Mario Mercado, Johnny Mendoza



Altar Flower Calendar Openings

October 7 (1 opening) October 14 (2 openings)
 October 21 (2 openings) October 28 (1 opening)



October 14 - Lillian Herrera
 October 18 - Brianne Somerville



October 7 **Dorothy Mace**
October 14 **Melinda Molina**
October 21 **Susan Philbin**
October 28 **Cynthia Ramirez**

With Your Help The United Methodist Church is Making a Difference

MINISTRY LIVING OUT THE FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS BY
ENGAGING IN MINISTRY WITH THE POOR.



Elk Garden School Community Ministry.

Paul's* little girl is sick. He says he's barely slept, worrying about her high fever, and he has a complicated story about how the hospital sent her home too soon with the wrong medicine which made her sicker.

"If she was that bad off, it looks like they would help her," says Paul. More details spill out about how his other child is sick, too. Medicine and groceries are sorely needed at home.

The good news is, Paul came to the right place.

"Paul, if you will write your name here, we'll put you on the prayer list," says the Rev. Brooke Atchley, director of the [Elk Garden School Community Ministry](#). "The next time you go to the hospital, ask for the social worker and she'll call me so that we can help."

Patiently, while chatting with Paul about his family, Atchley connects him with a volunteer who will help him select food from the pantry. She hands a gift card to another volunteer with instructions for buying medicines at the store. Then she asks, "Paul, have you met my husband?"

Less than three years after Atchley and community members [transformed a 100-year-old school](#) into a ministry center, it's widely known in northern Russell County that people can go to Elk Garden School Community Ministry to get some of their basic needs met.

The ministry center is more than just a place to get food, clothes, furniture, utility assistance, or education, however. "The beauty of the way we do this is, we get to know folks," says Atchley.

Atchley is a deacon and [Church and Community Worker](#) who knows her stuff about the needs of the community she serves.

"We reach a segment of the population that's hidden and forgotten," she says. "One of the things we battle here is isolation, so we do anything we can to connect people."

Elk Garden School Community Ministry is totally supported by church and individual donations (75 percent) and grants (25 percent). About 60 percent of church groups that provide money, goods and volunteer work are Holston Conference members; the other 40 percent are from other United Methodist conferences or denominations, Atchley said.

In the meantime, Elk Garden is growing and offering a multitude of ministries. In addition to a community garden and a nursing-home ministry, Elk Garden partners with county agencies to offer diabetes classes, drug-prevention "game nights," and cooking classes. This summer, [Camp in the Community](#), a program of Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries, will return to Elk Garden to offer a week-long experience for local children.

In 2017, 40,000 food items were distributed to 314 families, after the Elk Garden food pantry's grand opening in March. On a recent Tuesday afternoon, volunteers said they had run out of milk after distributing 50 gallons in one day. The pantry is now up to serving 220 families per month, often leaving the pantry shelves bare, Atchley said.

**Paul is not his real name.*

Annette Spence, *The Call*, Holston Annual Conference
One of seven apportioned giving opportunities of The United Methodist Church, the [World Service Fund](#) is the financial lifeline to a long list of Christian mission and ministry throughout the denomination. Through the Four Areas of Focus churches we are creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations and seek to invite people to follow Jesus Christ and grow together as disciples on a lifelong journey.

www.umcgiving.org

We pray for those in the path of storms



Photo "anchor holds" by Victoria Barlow, Berlin United Methodist Church

United Methodists join in prayer for those in the path of Hurricane Florence and storms around the world as well as those offering disaster relief.

From: Rev. Maria R. Soto

Greetings! I would like to take a moment and ask for your prayers for those struggling with natural disasters and everyone suffering with loss of life, family, jobs, resources, food, homes, emotional and/or spiritually.

Psalms 33:18-22: "18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;

19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. 20 Our soul waited for the LORD: he is our

help and our shield. 21 For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His Holy name. 22 Let thy

mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in Thee." Lord Hear Our Prayers! We thank God for UMCOR,

for their commitment to help and serve. PEACE TO YOU.



Current disaster response from
UMCOR USDR
US Disaster Response



Wildfires in California and Nevada



Hurricane Maria Relief Efforts



Flooding in Hawaii



Flooding in South Texas



Flooding in Michigan



Iowa Tornadoes and Flooding



Eastern Pennsylvania Flooding



Western Pennsylvania Flooding



Central Pennsylvania Flooding



Hurricane Florence North Carolina



Hurricane Florence South Carolina

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
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28	29	30	31	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">Sep 2018</th> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">Nov 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> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td><td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>		Sep 2018							Nov 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1						1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	30														
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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!



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.



Mission Accomplished!

Thanks to everyone who was able to donate school supplies and contribute toward the purchase of school uniforms for the students who attend Arnold Elementary School. Our friend Katanna Larralde was extremely excited to receive all the supplies, which will help many students during the 2018-2019 school year.

Bring your pets or just come enjoy the gathering. **Saturday, October 6th at 10:00 am.** We will be gathering in the garden so bring your lawn chair or just stand. It is always peaceful and enjoyable.



NOTES AND NOTICES

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!

Gertrude Johns
2134 Oak Creek
San Antonio, TX 78232



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



WALL CALENDAR

POCKET CALENDAR



CHRISTMAS CARD SET

GREETING CARD SET

Calendars and Christmas cards are now available at \$7 for each item.

See Susan Philbin or any of the young adults to purchase.

churchWIDE RUMMAGE SALE

A church wide rummage sale is being planned to benefit St. Mark's. Date: **October 27 from 9 am - 3 pm.**

Donations will be needed so start cleaning out your closets and get ready for drop-off instructions. We'll gladly take DVD's, furniture, books, CD's, housewares, toys, electronics, etc.

Can't donate? No problem. Volunteers will be needed before, during, and after the Sale.

Stay tuned...more details soon.

I ❤️ My Church!

We feel so blessed to have such a loving church family. Thank you so very much for your prayers for healing and all the care you have given us by taking over church activities, providing food, flowers, and transportation.

All you've done has helped and we are gradually improving.
Bless you.

Joe, Mary Jo and Jeana Price




After an extremely hot summer, and then the wettest September in recorded history, our gardeners are hoping for a successful autumn season. It's time for winter veggies such as spinach, okra, and black eyed peas. There are also some original areas that need some TLC, such as the flowers around both mesquite trees. If you are interested in a bed to do some planting, or wish to help with the common areas, please contact me for further information.

Happy fall y'all!
God bless, Melinda Molina

OCTOBER



All God's People in
All Places,
And in
All Times,
Are Called to Love
And to Serve.



Ministry of the Laity

OCTOBER 21, 2018



Charge Conference NOVEMBER 6, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.



Congratulations to Pastor Maria Soto for completing the Course of Study 2018 basic courses this summer at SMU Perkins School of Theology. St. Mark's UMC is proud of our Pastor's accomplishment and hard work!



SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

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

Operating Cash balance at 7/31/2018		6,292
Non-Designated Contributions - August		12,917
Operating Expenses:		
Council on Ministries	873	
Special Mission Giving	0	
Mission Giving	3,299	
Administration Expense	51	
Trustees	7,327	
Pastor's Compensation	6,234	
Lay Personnel Compensation	4,840	
		22,624
Other Income/(Expense)		2,501
Operating Cash balance at 8/31/2018		(914)

Comments:

August receipts were \$1,236 higher than budgeted, and \$2,137 lower than August 2017. Year-to-Date receipts are \$9,341 higher than budgeted, while trailing 2017 by \$7,288.

August operating expenses were \$98 higher than budgeted and \$3,053 higher than August 2017. In August, Trustee expenses were higher than budgeted as a result of performing service on our emergency equipment (extinguishers, lighting, etc.). This higher expense was offset by lower Lay Personnel compensation as the result of two vacancies (Music Director, Organist).

Through August our apportionment payments are higher than budgeted by \$358.

Other income in August was \$354, \$1,962 lower than budgeted. Year-to-Date other income is unfavorable \$8,060.

Our operating cash balance on August 31, 2018 was a negative \$914. While we did transfer \$4,500 from the parsonage account at TMF, our monthly income was \$1,962 unfavorable to the budget. Also there was a \$1,000 bank error which will be addressed.

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 | Michael Mendoza | Diane Haag |
| Jill Anderson | Eric Milette | Patricia Barnes |
| Kennedee Bailey | Will Schuetze | Joyce Codd |
| Kylee Brown | Kirk Tomerlin | Mary Jo Price &
Family |
| Megan Brown | Kathryn Wilson | Rudy de los Santos |
| Bucky Coley | | Warren Dunetz |
| Esdras Cuervo | Rosalinda Cavazos | Those affected by
hurricanes & floods |
| Sylvia Gonzales | Ashley Johnson | |
| Alice Logan | Don Murley | |



*To the Family of Judy Miller on the passing of
Judy's beloved father, Oren Heim. (09/18).*

*To the Family of Mary Sue Mahaffey on the passing of
Mary Sue's beloved son, Bob.*

"We would like to thank all of our friends at St. Mark's for the kind, wonderful words, cards, thoughts, and prayers that were offered at my Mother's passing. None of us want to go through the loss of friends and family, but it's a part of life that we can't avoid. I am comforted knowing that Mom was a Christian and she has faith in Jesus' promise of eternal life. Your kindness has made this time a lot less painful."

John and Diane Williams



- | | |
|--------|-------------------|
| Oct 6 | Patrick Schmidt |
| Oct 10 | Helen Setterfield |
| Oct 16 | Malcolm Austin |
| Oct 16 | Kim Durick |
| Oct 18 | Susan Philbin |
| Oct 25 | Irma Swatzell |
| Oct 27 | Neale Freeto |
| Oct 28 | Jim Horner |

On your birthday, may you be filled with peace, joy and laughter all year round!
Through the years, as you go on with your journey in life,
may you continue to strengthen lives and bring glory to our God!

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
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NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
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 PERMIT NO. 1632

Current Resident Or:

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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

PASTOR Rev. Maria Soto
SECRETARY Lillian Herrera
CHOIR DIRECTOR Carolyn Hahn
ORGANIST
WESLEY NURSE
CUSTODIAN Johnny Mendoza

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

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