



# Messenger

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church

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

## Things to Remember:

- † Monday, September 7th - Office Closed for Labor Day
- † Saturday, September 12th Community Church BBQ at Dellview Park
- † Sundays, September 13 & 27 - Children's Church
- † **Saturday, September 19th - BBQ, Blessing of the Animals, Garage Sale**
- † Vouchers - Tuesday, September 22nd - 9-11 AM
- † Food Truck, Thursday, September 24th @ 9:00 AM
- † Pumpkin Patch Training, Monday, September 28th
- † F-Troop - Sunday, September 27th @ 6:00 PM
- † Wednesday Night Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

## *Thank You!!!*

Thank you, St. Mark's for your support of this year's school supply drive!

Thanks to you, we were able to donate to Arnold Elementary School:

- 6 Disinfectant Wipes**
- 10 Plastic Folders**
- 12 Kleenex boxes**
- 12 Composition Books**
- 31 Bottles of Hand Sanitizer**
- 50 Bottles of Glue**
- 54 Glue Sticks**
- 68 Spirals**
- 200 Markers**
- 288 Colored Pencils**
- 1248 Crayons**
- AND 44 School Uniforms (\$660)**



This is not possible without each of you and your continual generous support!! These items were blessed on Sunday, August 23rd in our worship service and will go on to be a blessing to individual students at Arnold. Thanks to Rob and Jeannette for helping to deliver all these items to Arnold!! And thanks to YOU for your generosity!!

## *In This Issue . . .*

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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>	7/26	8/2	8/9	8/16	8/23
Children	2	1	1	1	1
Youth	6	5	6	5	3
Adults	27	36	32	37	31
<b>Total SS</b>	35	42	39	43	35
<u>Worship</u>	72	75	76	76	71



### USHERS

- † Melinda Molina
- † Kim Durick
- † Jake Durick
- † Johnny Mendoza

### **ATTENTION: ST MARK'S**

Because our expenses are exceeding our income, your council and finance committees have decided to hold various "fundraising" projects. We would ask that you support these projects by encouraging your friends and families to participate in them. One project will be a "Garage Sale" (in our gym) on September 19, 2015 and it will be held in conjunction with a Barbeque whose profits will also benefit St. Mark's. I am requesting that you gather up your excess furniture, electric appliances, household goods (no clothes, please) or whatever you do not need anymore and give them to your church for the sale.



This will be a big undertaking so I am asking that you please hang on to you items until the second week of September for our storage area is almost nil. We will need help so volunteers would be appreciated. I know each of you are more than willing to assist your church in any way that you can. I am confident that God will bless our efforts for His church. Please remember that the Pumpkin Patch is just around the corner, also, and though we each enjoy working the "Patch", it is hard work and time consuming. It takes all available persons to make a successful "Patch". Thank you for all of your support for our church. If you have questions, call Imogene at 210-696-2180.



## Conference Benevolences

23.5 cents of every apportioned dollar is allotted for conference benevolences. The goal is to support:

- † Youth, Children & Older Adult Ministries
- † Midwinter & Summer Camps
- † Senior Christian Retreats
- † Spiritual Development & Worship seminars
- † Communications
- † Board of Ordained Ministry
- † The Program Office

### CAMPUS MINISTRY GOALS

Recruit and educate clergy

Provide scholarships for students at United Methodist Colleges and Universities in Texas

Support historically black United Methodist Colleges

To ensure a United Methodist presence on local colleges and universities, where young men and women are making decisions about careers, marriage and other life-changing issues

Higher education causes have always been a major priority of the Methodist DNA. In fact, the very first time a church in our conference reached 100 members, a Methodist College was started to educate the youth; that college eventually became Southwestern University.

## 2015 Altar Flower Openings

Would you like to sponsor the beautiful altar flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday morning? There are several opportunities in the coming months where you can purchase these flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion. Just sign up with Joanne or Patti and drop your \$25 donation in the offering plate with the designation "Altar Flowers".

September 13	1 Opening
September 20	2 Openings
October 4	1 Opening
October 11	1 Opening
October 18	2 Openings
October 25	2 Openings
November 1	2 Openings
November 8	1 Opening
November 15	1 Opening
November 22	1 Opening

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





## *From Our Pastor. . .*

Thank you God, for all the wonderful blessings that you are bestowing upon St. Mark's UMC! We are experiencing such joy and abundance as the summer (which has been hot and hard!) comes to an end and a new season begins. First of all, Susan Philbin and Kim Durick along with the Children's Council held a Back to School Bash on the front lawn of the church; 30 kids from our neighborhood and about 20 parents enjoyed the fellowship and food that St. Mark's is known for. Also, San Antonio Youth, who have been conducting a successful mission and ministry in our Lovely Lane classrooms signed a new five year contract with us to host an afternoon after school program from 3pm till 7pm weekly, targeting Arnold Elementary and other schools in our neighborhood! Lastly, we have received into our church family James and Kathryn Wilson, who transferred their membership from Colonial Hills UMC and Diana Jean Shiller on profession of faith! It looks like the Lord is doing great things with us and is expecting great things from us; let's not disappoint him! I'm honored and humbled to be your pastor and look forward to what God is preparing us for; "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not evil, to give you a future and a hope!" Jeremiah 29:!!

God bless you!

*Jay*

The Dellview Neighborhood association (D.A.N.A.) invites area churches to participate in

**National Neighborhood Night Out at Dellview Park on Tuesday, October 6 from 6-8 PM.**

Hot dogs, drinks, door prizes and lots of meeting our neighbors. Please come!

*The September 19th BBQ will be for the benefit of the church. If you have been reading your church newsletter lately, you might have noticed St. Mark's funds could use a boost!*

*If each of our members would sell 2 tickets, it would help make a successful BBQ! Tickets are \$8 each.*

*If you can help serve between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm on that day, please call the church office.*

**Thanks!!**

# September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
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		6:30 AM ROMEO's 9:00 AM Drive Thru Prayer 10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:00 PM My Healthy Child (FH) 2:00 PM SIDS Class (FH) 6:30 PM Children's Council (YAMS) 6:30 PM TorresAdmin Council (FH) 7:00 PM Esther Circle 7:00 PM Order of the Arrow (SH) 7:00 PM Revival Study @ Imogene's	11:00 AM Bereavement Group (Parlor) 12:00 PM Bible Study (YAMS) 1:00 PM Yoga (FH) 6:30 PM Praise Service 7:00 PM Revival Study @ Kathy's	10:00 AM Exercise (FH) 1:15 PM Parenting Class (LL) 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	8:00 AM Saturday Morning Reunion																																																																																																																
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# Calling All Seniors!

Did you know being active:

- † Increases your strength so you can stay and remain independent
- † Improves your energy level and balance
- † Prevent the progression of some diseases and
- † Improves your mood

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends adults 65 years old and older to get at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity aerobic exercise (i.e. brisk walking) every week. There are four types of exercise to help you remain or become healthy: endurance, balance, strength, and flexibility.

St Mark's UMC has the answer for you! All four types of exercises are incorporated into the exercise regimen here at St Mark's UMC. If you want your "golden years" to be golden, join St. Mark's exercise class to help **YOU** get and stay fit. The class is located in the Fellowship Hall at St Mark's UMC and meets on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 10:00am. For more information about exercising and your health, please contact the Wesley Nurse, Charzes Flowers, RN at 210-344-8393 or visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services @ [www.health.gov/paguidelines](http://www.health.gov/paguidelines) and The National Institute on Aging Age Page *Exercise and Physical Activity: Getting Fit for Life* @ <https://d2cauhfh6h4x0p.cloudfront.net/s3fs-public/exercise-and-physical-activity.pdf>.

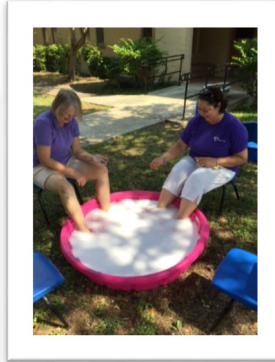
## Flu Clinic

It is that time again! St Mark's UMC Health Ministry Team is partnering with Walgreens Pharmacy to offer a flu clinic during the mobile food pantry on September 24, 2015 from 8:00am – 11:00am. All are welcome to attend. Flu vaccines will be provided free of charge by Walgreens Pharmacy to those without health insurance. For those with health insurance, do not forget to bring your insurance card. For questions, please contact Charzes Flowers, RN Wesley Nurse at 210-344-8393.

**Your Wesley Nurse,  
Charzes Flowers, RN**

# NOTES AND NOTICES

*On Saturday, August 15th, we entertained neighborhood children and their parents with water games, corn dogs and ice cream for our Back to School Bash! Watch for more events from the Children's Council coming soon!!*



Thanks to all the volunteers who helped last month. Our workload was a little lighter because the SA Food Bank Buddies helped us. We had 15 wonderful people helping us. I am hoping they come every month.

There will not be a Food Truck delivery in August due to the excessive heat. It is too hard on the volunteers

God bless,  
Patti

## Blessing of the Animals

September 19<sup>th</sup> is the date this year for our annual Blessing of the Animals. The Blessing is at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall so bring your pets of all kinds to be blessed. If you have lost a beloved pet this year bring a picture and Jay will bless them also. All pets must be on a leash or in a container please for everyone's safety. Plan on staying afterwards for the Fund Raising BBQ and Garage Sale. Proceeds will go towards the Church this month.

## Youth Fund Raiser

The calendars and greeting cards have been ordered so look for the Youth to be selling these items soon. We tried to buy more puzzles but it was the same puzzle as last year (boo) so we passed. If you have a large order contact Susan Philbin to hold your order when it arrives. Look for someone to start selling at the BBQ.

## Teacher Appreciation / Pot Luck

August 30<sup>th</sup> was a special day as St. Mark's once again showed their appreciation to those who volunteer their time and energy to lead our Sunday School classes. Each teacher received a token of appreciation and were recognized in front of the congregation. We followed the service with a wonderful Pot Luck that was enjoyed by all.

## Bible Presentations

It has been several years since we had young people available to present bibles to. This year we presented 2 bibles to Spencer Kiesel and Allison Ramirez. It is wonderful to have young people in the church to grow in spirit and faith. The bibles were sponsored by Imogene Brown and Janice Rushton. If you are interested in sponsoring a bible in the future please contact Susan Philbin.

# MORE NOTES AND NOTICES

August 12, 2015

Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, cards and concern before and after my recent surgery. Pastor Jay and Imogene, I appreciate both you visiting and praying with me before the surgery. I am blessed by each of you - my friends at St. Mark's.

God bless you,  
Dorothy Mace

To the Loving Service Group,

Thank you all so much for what you did for our family. The United Methodist Women was so important to Fran, to my mother Hazel, and to Daddy as well.

We do appreciate your service to the church and your community.

Sincerely,  
The Gerring & Wood Families

Our family offers sincere gratitude to the wonderful ladies who provided for the reception following Frankie Armstrong's Celebration of Life service: Mary Sue, Doris, Joanne, Sue, Susan, Marilyn and Imogene. They offered comfort and fellowship opportunities to many family members and friends.

Blessings,  
Gae Bjork

Dear St. Mark's,

Thank you so very much for the lovely lunch you generously served to our family and friends. We all appreciated and enjoyed your thoughtfulness and kindness showed to us after the funeral of our mother, Marguerite McSpadden. Having the opportunity to relax and visit was an unexpected blessing for all. We weren't able to thank each one of you, but know our hearts were full of joy after our sad day was over.

We are blessed to have a church family like you.

Thank you again & bless you all,  
The McSpadden Family

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

We are so grateful for all the support you gave us as we went through the hardest time in our lives. My Dad loved his family, church and friends. And everyone showed their love for him. His service was beautiful and the reception was so nice. The food was wonderful. The Ladies did a wonderful job.

Thank you all for everything.

God Bless You All,  
The Centeno Family

Need a Good Handyman?

**Johnny Mendoza**  
210-765-1869

Help Wanted

Do you enjoy working with elementary school aged children? Are you interested in helping our children's ministry get started? We are looking for a Children's Ministry Director to work with our Children's Council. If you are interested, please contact Patti in the church office for more details.

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

## 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!





## SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

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

Operating Cash balance at 6/30/15	(14,407)
Non-Designated Contributions - June	15,424
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	1,923
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	2,012
Administration Expense	289
Trustees	6,014
Pastor's Compensation	6,037
Lay Personnel Compensation	8,146
	<hr/>
	24,421
Other Income/(Expense)	<hr/> 1,440
Operating Cash balance at 7/31/2015	<hr/> <u>(21,964)</u>

### Comments:

July contributions were lower than both the budget and 2014.

Personnel Compensation was higher due to higher than budgeted maintenance overtime. Other expense categories were in line.

### Apportionment (Mission Giving):

Through July we have paid \$16,395, which is lower than both 2014 and the budget.

Our negative operating cash balance is not improving and is becoming a great concern. We are currently funding operations with cash from the designated accounts. We transferred \$4,500 from our Parsonage account at TMF in August. This will help, but is not a solution.

Through July our average monthly expenses have been \$25,196. Our average monthly Contributions have been \$22,408. We have not had a month this year where contributions were \$25,196. We continue to look for ways to increase our monthly receipts. If anyone has any suggestions, we welcome your

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. God bless!



# CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!

It's hard to believe but we are fast approaching time for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Mark's Pumpkin Patch and that means that it is time to start signing up for various jobs. I know, I know - it seems like we just finished with the last one, but here we go again!

Please review the list below and determine the various ways that you will be able to assist.

- Pick up and unload hay
- Unload pallets
- Set up canopy and install lights
- Unload pumpkins
- Remove rotten pumpkins from the Patch
- Furnish candy (Candy collection begins September 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Volunteer to be a prayer warrior
- Volunteer to work in the Patch

Contact: Bob Bailly, 524-9376, to assist with hay, pallets, canopy and lights  
Imogene Brown, 696-2180, to work in the Patch

The following list denotes the areas in which help is needed for Story Time:

- Read to the children that come to Story Time
- Wash small pumpkins for Story Time
- Stuff treat bags with candy
- Put dirt & pumpkin seeds into small cup
- Uncover Story Time hay before the children come
- Check boxes for rotten pumpkins
- Police the Patch for trash before children arrive (8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.)
- Assist in getting wagons filled with treat bags and pumpkins (After Story Time is over)

Contact: Dorothy Mace, 492-8483, to assist with Story Time

For questions or for any additional information, contact Joyce Codd, 824-5782.

So, come on, put a smile on your face and sign up. If you don't, Penelope Pumpkin will be looking for you. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!

## REMINDER:

**THERE IS PUMPKIN PATCH VOLUNTEER TRAINING  
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH AT EITHER 1:30 PM  
OR 7:00 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL!!**

# ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Please remember these  
in your prayers

Jill Anderson  
Willie Barnes  
Connor Benjamin  
Kylee Brown  
Megan Brown  
Margaret Broxton  
Bill & Isabel Centeno  
Bucky Coley  
Esdras Cuervo  
Cora Fischer  
Gladys Johnson  
Bea Kunkel  
Alice & Ben Logan  
Robert Flores Lopez  
Michael Mendoza  
Charles Mixon

Ann Payette  
Gloria Reedy  
Steve Reyes Sr.  
Mike Ross  
Will Schuetze  
Doris Sinclair  
Kirk Tomerlin  
Abraham Wamah  
Augustine Scutti  
Edie McKeown  
Judy Fields  
Joanne Green  
Dora Salinas  
Angie Erickson  
Jean Newman  
Family of Kara Yocom

Dennis Wilson  
Charles Mixon  
People in danger from  
wildfires  
Nora Garcia  
Jeff Jones  
Sylvia Gonzales  
Deidra Hagdorn  
Tucker Family  
Family of Royce Blair  
Raymond  
Michael Stockwell



September 4  
Violet Hinton  
Jack Kiesel

September 5  
Nancy Sutton

September 8  
Ashley McMillian

September 11  
Kathy Jack

September 12  
Candy Baird

September 13  
Veleta Mixon

September 16  
Susan Kosmuch  
Gloria Reedy

September 18  
Elizabeth Schott

September 20  
Sharon Somerville

September 23  
Betty Black

September 25  
Carolyn Hahn

September 27  
Ron Brown



*Happy Anniversary!!*

*September 17 - Charles & Veleta Mixon*

*September 22 - Don & Jean Jones*

Please welcome our newest  
family members!

Diana Shiller

James & Kathryn Wilson



*Our Sincere Sympathy is extended to  
the family and friends of:*

*Bill Centeno  
Marguerite McSpadden*

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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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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

**PASTOR** Rev. Jay Brown  
**SECRETARY** Patti Gardner  
**WESLEY NURSE** Charzes Flowers  
**CHOIR DIRECTOR** Carolyn Hahn  
**ORGANIST** Joseph Scutti  
**CUSTODIAN** Johnny Mendoza

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

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