

Volume 70
Issue 11

November
2023

St. Mark Connection

St. Mark Presbyterian Church
9999 Ferguson Road Dallas, TX 75238 214-321-6437
office@saintmarkchurch.org • www.saintmarkchurch.org



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reminders

- November 1**
All Saints' Day
- November 5**
Daylight Saving Time Ends
All Saints' Sunday
- November 11**
Mini Workday
- November 26**
Christ the King Sunday

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark,



I remember telling a coaching client who was taking a grand trip to Europe, "I know you are going on a vacation, but don't be surprised if God meets you there." How true this became for me on my recent trip to Scotland. We were walking back to our hotel from visiting the stunningly beautiful Glasgow Cathedral. We felt like maybe we had taken the wrong route. We had turned into a rough neighborhood and there was nothing much of historical value to see. As we hurried through the dodgy environs, I looked up from the GPS on my phone and a mural on the side of an apartment building stopped me in my tracks.

I don't know what other people see when viewing this art or what the artist intended, but what I saw made me immediately think of the classic song lyrics, "His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me." God in this mural is not kingly or stunningly beautiful, he looks like a homeless man. His love and care for this tiny creature is clearly evident. As impressed as I was by the grand cathedral, standing before this painting is where God met me on my vacation. I knew in that moment that God was with me, watching over me, caring for me, loving me—just like he does for the sparrows and everyone else.

Jesus taught, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matt. 6:25-26) How much energy and time have I wasted worrying about my life and hurrying through the uncomfortable moments? And yet, God has me perched on his finger feeding me with what I need. You will see that the same is true for you if you just look up from your concerns for a moment.

With gratitude,

Pastor Paul

Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

November 5th

All Saints Sunday
Celebration of The Lord’s Supper
“More than a Memorial of Stones”
Joshua 3:7-4:7, 1 Thessalonians 2:9-20

November 12th

“It’s Time to Make Your Choice”
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

November 19th

“Investing in Futures”
Matthew 25:14-30, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

November 26th

Christ the King Sunday
“Don’t Butt Out the Shepherd”
Ezekiel 34:11-24, Matthew 25:31-46

God Bless You on Your Birthday

November 2

John Wahl

November 4

Alan Aulenbach

November 7

Dorothy Moore

November 19

Cheryl Nowlin
Troy Simpson



November 20

Teri Brooks

November 21

Julian Oney
Andi Taylor

November 24

Vincent Oney

November 28

Robert Mounts

PCHS Annual Luncheon

The Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services Dallas Annual Luncheon will be held on November 9, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. at the Double Tree Hotel, 8250 North Central Expressway.

This special fundraising event will showcase the life-changing work that is being done in the community. You will hear inspiring stories from the staff and the families they care for. The theme this year is “Hope Grows Here.” Signup sheets are on the bulletin board next to the church office.



Time Change



Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 5th. Don’t forget to set your clocks **back one hour on Saturday night, November 4th.**

All Saints’ Sunday

Sunday, November 5th, is All Saints’ Sunday. During the 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, we will be honoring those members and loved ones who have joined the church eternal in the last year.



Jane Brabec
Martha Gracey
Pelham Swift
Dick Waters

Sock Tree 2023



We will be collecting NEW socks, warm gloves, and warm hats for all ages during November and December, 2023. The pricetags need to be attached to each donated item.

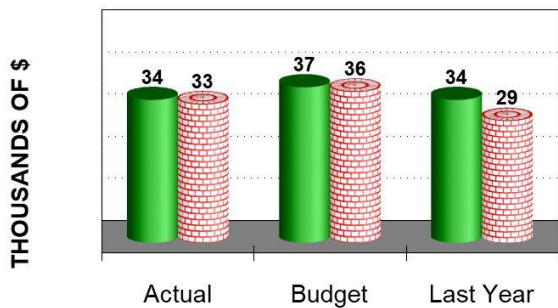
Donation baskets will be placed below the Christmas Tree in the parlor. Let’s fill lots of baskets for Christmas 2023!



Mini Church Workday
Saturday, November 11th
9:00 a.m.

Treasurer's Report

3 MONTHS THROUGH 9-30-2023



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME ■ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund — YTD unrestricted contributions are \$2,600 below budget, and \$6,600 below last year. YTD expenses are \$2,400 below budget, and \$4,200 above last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$600 cash positive, which is \$400 below budget and \$4,200 behind last year.



It's that time of year again so I am doing a little pondering about thanksgiving and gratitude. Here are some things I am thinking about.

It has been many years, so it is easy to smile about it now, but I am thankful that I no longer have to do "required crafts" for Thanksgiving. You may remember all the ones from early elementary school. You may have enjoyed them and that is great. However, I wasn't very coordinated so all the precise cutting and coloring between the lines was not fun. And then there was trying to get just the right amount of "school glue" on the paper. I think I always got more on me or the desk than on the paper.

I have heard the suggestion that a great way to end the day is to say out loud one thing that you are thankful for about that day. The idea is that even on your worst days you can find one thing for which to be thankful. Have you ever tried this? How did it go?

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We don't usually travel at Thanksgiving, but we did last year. And I am glad we did. We were pretty sure it would be my dad's last Thanksgiving and it was. My sister and I along with our spouses were there. Plus my sister's dog. And we had a great time. My dad really enjoyed it. So did my mom. My brother-in-law is a great cook. My sister and I took my dad on a long drive just to see the sights. He enjoyed a drive that didn't involve going to a doctor. It was a great holiday.

Do you have a favorite holiday story that brings you joy and a smile?

Ray Wylie Hubbard is a Texas singer songwriter. You may have heard of him. He has a song where he is looking back on parts of his life. This line is in that song: the days I keep my gratitude higher than my expectations, those are pretty good days. It's an interesting philosophy of life. What do you think about it?

That's enough for now. I hope you will ponder gratitude and thanksgiving a bit over coming days.

CRAFT FAIR – FUNDRAISER

BRYAN ADAMS BELLES

Saturday, November 4TH
9 AM – 2 PM

ST. MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
9999 FERGUSON RD.
DALLAS, TX 75228

Crafts ● Handmade Items ● Food ● Clothing

COME OUT AND SHOP AT THE CRAFT FAIR
WITH THE BRYAN ADAMS BELLES

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(from *Chalice Worship*)



Let us give thanks for all God's gifts so freely bestowed upon us:

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends;

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve;

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play;

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity;

For the communion of saints, in all times and places.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

To him be praise and glory, with you,

O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.



St. Mark Presbyterian Church

9999 Ferguson Road

Dallas, TX 75228

Non-Profit Organization



November



St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:45a Worship Service 4:30p Sandwich Sunday at Austin Street Center Reformation Sunday	30	31	1 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal All Saints' Day 	2 10:30a Bible Study 6:00p Zoom Yoga 	3	4 8:00a Bryan Adams "Belles" Craft Fair Fundraiser - St. Mark parking lot 
5 9:00a Carter Blood Drive 9:45a Worship Service Communion All Saints' Sunday Daylight Saving Time Ends 	6 6:00p Worship & Music Com Mtg	7 6:00p Fellowship Com Mtg	8 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	9 10:30a Bible Study 6:00p Zoom Yoga	10	11 8:00a Property Com Mto 9:00a Mini Workday 
12 9:45a Worship Service	13 6:00p Admin & Personnel Com Mtg	14 6:00p Stewardship & Finance Com Mto 6:00p Christian Educ Com Mtg	15 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	16 10:30a Bible Study 6:00p Zoom Yoga	17	18 8:00a Choir Retreat
19 9:45a Worship Service	20	21 6:30p Session Meeting	22	23 Thanksgiving - OFFICE CLOSED 	24	25
26 9:45a Worship Service  CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY	27	28 6:00p Mission & Membership Com Mtg	29 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	30 10:30a Bible Study 6:00p Zoom Yoga	1	2