

St. Mark Connection

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April
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St. Mark Presbyterian Church
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THE PROMISE OF EASTER

CALENDAR REMINDERS

April 2 – Palm Sunday
10:30 a.m. Worship

April 6 – Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Worship with
Journey Church in the
Family Center

April 7 – Good Friday
7:00 p.m. Service of
Silence and Sorrow

**April 9 – Resurrection
Sunday/Easter Sunday**
9:15 a.m. Continental
Breakfast
10:30 a.m. Worship

Greetings in Christ!

In the late 1970s, Singer/Songwriter Dallas Holm wrote a song about our Lord's resurrection on the third day and his future return on the clouds of heaven. The song ultimately became a Song of the Year award winner. It had a simple title but a profound message, and it was "Rise Again".

The song was written in a way that Jesus was saying no matter what is done to keep him in the grave; it would simply be a futile effort in the end. He said those words as he spoke in an illustrative manner in John 2:19 (ESV):

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

It all became quite clear after Jesus rose from the grave, but at the time, it was so difficult to understand since rising from the dead was not something that happened every day!

John 2:21-23 (ESV) tells us:

But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing.

The promise of Easter was that no matter what is done to keep Christ down, it would all be defeated at the Resurrection. We now can look back and know that indeed the promise was kept! We believe the Word of God and know that Jesus not only rose from the grave, but he is alive even now, making intercession for his people.

Our world has been and continues to be going through challenging times. Yet, this same Jesus who kept his promise the first time will keep his promise and come again!

As we gather to celebrate Easter Sunday on April 9th, we will be sure to look back in appreciation, but look forward in anticipation! He is a Promise Keeper! Let's continue to keep our brothers and sisters around the world in prayer at this time as well. God knows and sees all!

He is Risen!

Blessings and peace!



Bulletin Board

Sunday Sermons

April 2
Palm Sunday – Holy Week Begins
Communion Sunday
Guest Preacher – Rev. Julie Riley

April 6
Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Service with Journey
Church in the Family Center

April 7
Good Friday
7:00 p.m. Service of Silence and Sorrow

April 9
Easter Sunday – Resurrection of the Lord
Guest Preacher – Rev. Judy Fletcher

April 16
2nd Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher – Traci Truly

April 23
3rd Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher – Rev. (Dr.) Richard W. Selby

April 30
4th Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher – Rev. (Dr.) Richard W. Selby



April Birthdays

April 1
Ann Gordon
Ann O'Neal

April 3
Thomas Munoz
Donna Simes

April 6
Souvenir Swift

April 8
Noylene Howard

April 9
Kathleen Arthur

April 10
Nikki Guinnee

April 11
Bruce Huckaba

April 12
Valerie Bassett

April 13
Doug Duncan
Mercy Shea

April 15
Alice McLean

April 20
Sandra Knapp

April 21
Anne Carlson

April 22
Patti Aulenbach
John Carver

April 28
Charles Shea

April 30
Bill Grayson



With Deepest Sympathy

Charter member and longtime dedicated St. Mark member, Martha Gracey, was promoted to glory on March 18th. A memorial service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 22nd. A reception will follow in the parlor. Please keep Martha's daughters, Barbara, Beth, Carol, Dotty, Jeanne, and Rebecca, and all of Martha's extended family and friends in your prayers for the loss of someone so dear.



NEW MEMBER

Welcome to our newest member, Debra Golden! Debra met with the Session on March 12th and was accepted into the full faith and fellowship of St. Mark Presbyterian Church by Reaffirmation of Faith. Debra's formal introduction and profession of faith was during the March 26th worship service.

EASTER FLOWERS

The Worship and Music Committee is taking orders for Easter flowers to decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. A form (with instructions) is enclosed and forms are also available in the narthex. The deadline to order is Sunday, April 2nd.



St. Mark Presbyterian Church exists to know Jesus and to make Him known.



Christians around the world will observe Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday on April 2nd (the 6th Sunday of Lent) and ending with Holy Saturday on April 8th. There will be four special services during Holy Week and Easter:



1. We will observe **Palm Sunday on April 2nd** in our 10:30 a.m. worship service with palm branches and music by our sanctuary and handbell choirs. Rev. Julie Riley will be our guest minister.
2. On **Maundy Thursday, April 6th** at 7:00 p.m., communion will be celebrated with Journey Church in the Family Center. Our choir will provide the communion anthem.
3. On **Good Friday, April 7th**, a special service of Silence and Sorrow will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Mark sanctuary with Journey as invited guests. This service will be a little different from our previous Good Friday services but will include music, scripture readings and candles.
4. **Easter Sunday, April 9th**, begins a new church season called Eastertide, when we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. The somber purples and blacks of Lent will be replaced with white paraments along with colorful flowers that will decorate the chancel. Easter day will begin with a continental breakfast hosted by the Fellowship Committee from 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. All are welcome! The Easter Sunday worship service will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. Our guest minister will be Rev. Judy Fletcher.

To make the journey of Holy Week the most meaningful experience, we hope you will consider, if possible, attending all the services leading up to and including Easter Sunday.



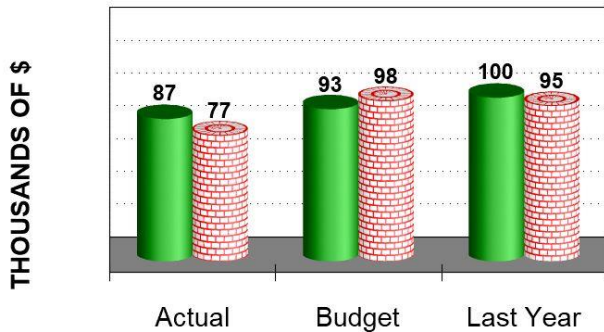
St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga	27	28	29 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	30 6:00p Zoom Yoga	31	1
2 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga 12:00p Fellowship Com Mtg Palm Sunday 	3 6:00p Worship & Music Com Mtg	4	5 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	6 7:00p Maundy Thursday Service with Journey in the Family Center 	7 7:00p Good Friday Service 	8 8:00a Property Com Mtg 9:00a Mini Workday
9 9:15a Sunday School 9:15a Easter Brunch 10:30a Worship Service Easter Sunday 	10 6:00p Admin & Personnel Com Mtg	11 6:00p Stewardship & Finance Com Mtg 6:00p Christian Educ Com	12 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	13 6:00p Zoom Yoga	14	15
16 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga 12:00p Mission & Membership Com Mtg	17 6:30p Session Meeting	18	19 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	20 6:00p Zoom Yoga	21	22 11:30a Martha Gracey Memorial Service
23 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga	24	25	26 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	27 6:00p Zoom Yoga	28	29
30 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga 4:30p Sandwich Sunday at Austin Street Center	1 6:00p Worship & Music Com Mtg	2 6:00p Fellowship Com Mtg	3 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	4 6:00p Zoom Yoga	5	6

TREASURER'S REPORT

8 MONTHS THROUGH 2-28-2023



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME ■ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are \$5,000 below budget, and \$18,000 below last year. YTD expenses are \$21,000 below budget, and \$18,000 below last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$11,000 cash positive YTD which is \$15,000 better than budget and \$5,000 better than last year.



CARTER BLOODCARE BLOOD DRIVE

May 28, 2023

The lives that can be touched and saved by giving a pint of blood are countless, so save your blood!

The Carter BloodCare Bus will be at St. Mark on Sunday, May 28, 2023, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Please mark your calendars!

SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING

EASTER OFFERING

One Great Hour of Sharing

Spring is here and Easter is coming on April 9th, so it's time to turn our hearts toward our annual Easter Offering. This year, St. Mark will be contributing half of our Easter Offering to the One Great Hour of Sharing which supports many of the works of the Presbyterian Church, a fourth to Turkey and Syria Earthquake Relief, and a fourth to First Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, Texas. Please prayerfully consider your donation to these wonderful causes.

Thank you.



AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE



St. Mark needs volunteers to serve as liturgist. We are all blessed with certain gifts, and if you are able to speak loudly and clearly to a medium sized group to people, this may be an opportunity for you. Liturgists have an outline to follow and are given the prayers of adoration and illumination to read. If you are nervous, remember that you will be speaking before a loving and forgiving congregation. Mistakes happen to everyone, and here they are treated with grace, compassion, and understanding. For more information, please contact Leigh Taylor.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session, February 20, 2023.

- Motion passed to partner with Journey Church for a joint Ash Wednesday worship service.
- Motion passed to elect Bill Grayson as chair and Leigh Taylor to be on the Nominating Committee.
- Motion passed that the Easter Offering goal be set at \$4,000 with half the proceeds going to the One Great Hour of Sharing, a fourth to Turkey and Syria Earthquake Relief, and a fourth to First Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, Texas.
- Motion passed to partner with Journey Church for a joint Maundy Thursday worship service.
- Motion passed to discontinue information about Covid 19 and mask mandates for the St. Mark Thursday email and the St. Mark website.
- Motion seconded and passed to elect Dee Huckaba and Christi Malouf as commissioners to the Stated Presbytery Meeting on March 4, 2023.

A full set of Session minutes are available to read on the Session bulletin board.



St. Mark Presbyterian Church
9999 Ferguson Road
Dallas, TX 75228
Non-Profit Organization



EASTER FLOWERS – ORDER FORM



The Worship and Music Committee is taking orders for Easter flowers to decorate our Sanctuary during the Easter morning service.

This year, instead of the traditional Easter lily, we are going to decorate our sanctuary with a variety of flowers and spring colors. The 6-inch potted flowers are \$12.00 each which includes the foil sleeve. Hybrid lilies are also available but are priced at \$15.00 each. We will try to honor your first choice of flowers but will have no choice in the colors. Your flower will be labeled with your name so you can pick it up after the Easter service.

If you would like to place an order, please complete the form (one for each flower ordered) and place in it the offering plate at the back or front of the sanctuary or return it to the church office. Please make your check payable to: St. Mark Presbyterian Church and mark for Easter flowers. Additional forms are available on the narthex table or in the church office.

THE DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd!

Please select a first choice of flower and indicate a second choice in case the first is not available.

Fill out a separate order form for each flower ordered.

Name: _____

I wish to order:

1st choice _____

2nd choice _____

Select from the following (all in 6-inch pots) at **\$12.00 each**.

Cineraria
Calandiva/Kalanchoe
Mum
Rieger Begonia
Cyclamen
Gardenia

Select the Hybrid Lily at **\$15.00 each**.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

In celebration of _____

Other _____