

St. Mark Connection

St. Mark Presbyterian Church

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*Pastor's
Corner*

A Prayer Full of Joy



Dear St. Mark Members and Friends,

It is with maximum joy that I write to you today. I am so very excited to begin ministry with you. I want you to know a bit about who I am as a pastor and what my calling is. From the very beginning of my ministry, I felt called to help churches grow in faith and in number (Acts 16:5). At one point early on in my ministry I was struggling with understanding my purpose, and I heard a still small voice say to me from within, "Paul, you help people to believe."

In a nutshell that is my purpose on this earth. What do I help people to believe? I help them to believe that with God all things are possible. I help them to believe they and all people are valuable in God's eyes. I help them to believe that God has a purpose for their lives. I help them to believe God gives them everything they need to fulfill that purpose.

How does helping people believe help a church to grow in faith and in number? God can do anything with people who believe anything is possible with God. Those who believe like that are not limited to what seems manageable. They are not daunted by the mission of the church to make disciples of all nations. They can love anyone and everyone and in doing so spread the love of God. God sends people in need to these kinds of believers. I can't predict how it will happen, but I know it will. God will connect us with people who need the Good News and Love of Jesus Christ. Our community of faith will grow to the extent of our belief in these things. Perhaps you are imagining having to knock on doors and accost people at the mall.

No. When we believe we will simply be open and ready for the people that God sends our way and begin loving them like they were members of our family until they become members of our family. God's family.

Former Prime Minister of the Netherlands and Reformed theologian Abraham Kuyper said, "The greatest gift a church can receive is to have a group of families who take their responsibilities with such Christian seriousness that they are willing to completely alter their lifestyle to raise up disciples for Jesus Christ." You may have thought the greatest gift you could receive is a great pastor, but Kuyper is right. It will be families in the church who are willing to sacrifice everything for the sake of the Gospel that will make all the difference in the future of St. Mark.

My role with you will be: 1) to take care of you (pastoral care), 2) to preach Spirit-led, biblical sermons that give you practical application for living out your purpose (preaching), 3) to teach the Bible for the sake of growing in faith (discipleship), 4) to equip you to reach out to others for the sake of connecting people to both God and our community (evangelism), and 5) to join you in discerning God's will and vision for the church (prophetic leadership).

The last thing I want to say is that this will be an adventure. When you are living in the flow of the Holy Spirit life is amazing and even fun. I will lead with a sense of imagination, curiosity, humor, and experimentation. We will be getting into all kinds of exciting adventures together. These adventures with the Holy Spirit will become our testimony. We will grow in our story telling about what impossible things God can do for, in, and through us.

I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you in the coming months and years. Let the adventure begin!

With great anticipation,

Pastor Paul

revpaulburns@gmail.com

214-930-9415

Sunday Sermons and Events

August 6

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
"Give Them Something to Eat"
Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21



FROM THE
Pulpit

August 13

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
"Walking Out of the Boat"
Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
"Even the Dogs"
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

August 27

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
"The Keys to the Kingdom"
Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20



Mini Church Workday

Saturday, August 5th
9:00 a.m.

Church Pantry

The church pantry needs a good quantity of:



Canned meat (Spam, ravioli, etc.), soups, tuna, ham or chicken salad kits, granola bars and water. Sacks and grocery bags and "clean up" kits (small towels, wet wipes, toothpaste and brush, soap, comb, tissues, etc.) would also be appreciated. The people who come to the church feel so blessed when they receive donated items from us. Thank you!



NEW WORSHIP TIME

Beginning Sunday, August 6, 2023, our worship service will begin at 9:45 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you!

God Bless You on Your Birthday

August 5

Charlene Taylor

August 9

Katie Moore

August 10

Michael Bell

August 11

Finn Shea

Susie Miller

August 15

Cecilia Grayson

Samantha Moore

August 17

Stephany Brown

August 18

James Carver

August 19

Charlene Ramsay

August 23

Duncan Guinnee

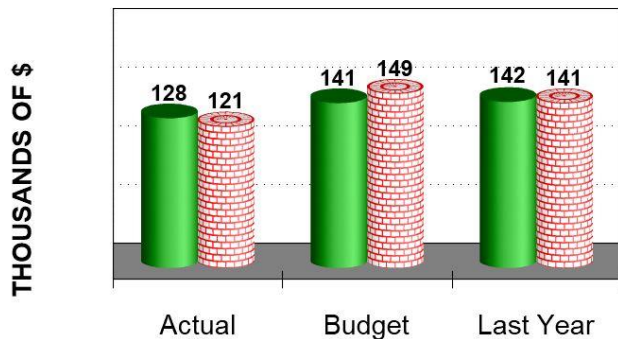


BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY



Treasurer's Report


12 MONTHS THROUGH 6-30-2023



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME ■ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are \$12,000 below budget, and \$23,000 below last year. YTD expenses are \$27,000 below budget, and \$20,000 below last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$7,000 cash positive, which is \$15,000 better than budget and \$6,000 better than last year.



Dear St. Mark Family and Friends,

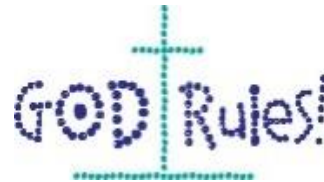
Thank you all so much for your prayers, concerns, and well wishes for John during and following his recent hospitalization. He is doing much better with home oxygen prescribed.

Sheila and John

ST. MARK AND CLUSTER FACEBOOK GROUPS

Rev. Randall McGee has created a Facebook Group called “East Dallas Presbyterian Cluster.” The link to access the group is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/630604268837895>



YOUR CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session has four newly installed Elders and one newly commissioned Trustee.

Ruling Elders – Class of 2026: Diane Llywelyn, Bill Oney and Charlene Taylor.

Ruling Elder – Class of 2024: Lorraine Stephen

Trustee – Class of 2026: Allison Curry

During the worship service on July 23rd, Bill was ordained and installed as an elder. Diane, Lorraine, and Charlene were installed as elders. Also, during the July 23rd worship service, Allison Curry was commissioned as trustee for the Class of 2026.

The Session meets on the third Monday of each month. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact any of the active elders listed below.

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Kathleen Hale	Bill Grayson	Diane Llywelyn
Susie Miller	Daniel Robinson	Bill Oney
Lorraine Stephen	Leigh Taylor	Charlene Taylor

The Session bulletin board is in the hallway across from the parlor and kitchen. Look for approved Session minutes and other Session related information to be posted on the bulletin board.

Thank you to the Class of 2023 elders: Bruce Huckaba, Dee Huckaba, and Marily Jackson; Class of 2024 elder: Christi Malouf (retired) and Class of 2023 trustee: Alan Aulenbach for your hard work and dedicated service on the session.



MEET AND GREET WITH REV. PAUL BURNS

Please join us in the Parlor at 9:00 a.m. on August 6, 2023, for a continental breakfast and fellowship time as we welcome our new pastor, Rev. Paul Burns.

Rev. Burns will be formally introduced during the 9:45 a.m. worship service.

We hope you can be with us on this special day!



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







St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

August 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10:30a Worship Service 4:30p Sandwich Sunday at Austin Street Center	31	1 6:00p Mission & Membership Com Mtg	2 6:00p Fellowship Com Mtg	3 6:00p Zoom Yoga	4	5 8:00a Property Com Mtg 9:00a Mini Workday 
6 9:00a Welcome Continental Breakfast with Rev. Paul Burns 9:45a Worship Service 	7 6:00p Worship & Music Com Mtg	8 6:00p Stewardship & Finance Com Mtg 6:00p Christian Educ Com Mtg	9	10 6:00p Zoom Yoga	11	12
13 9:45a Worship Service	14 6:00p Admin & Personnel Com Mtg	15	16	17 6:00p Zoom Yoga	18	19
20 9:45a Worship Service	21 6:30p Session Meeting	22	23 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	24 6:00p Zoom Yoga	25	26
27 9:45a Worship Service	28	29	30 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	31 6:00p Zoom Yoga	1	2