Volume 70

Issue 7

July 2023

# St. Mark Connection

St. Mark Presbyterian Church

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### **CALENDAR REMINDERS**

July 2 – Worship and Communion

July 4 – Independence Day Church Office Closed

July 8 – Mini Workday @ 9:00 am

July 30 – Sandwich Sunday Austin Street

# Awesome Wonder

The hymn writer famously wrote, "O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works thy hands have made. I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!" Have we lost a sense of awe and wonder in this world? For most of us, a normal day of life doesn't leave us in awesome wonder. We pass by trees and grass, see the sun and moon every day, but they are altogether ordinary, not awesome to us.

The Scriptures teach us that the natural world is not only God's creation, but God's revelation. Psalms 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." In Romans 1:19-20, "For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse."

Have you ever wondered why God created everything in this world from the smallest ant to the Appalachian Mountains? The natural world is not merely the result of random, unguided processes, but is the masterpiece of God. The Bible tells us that every created thing reveals the glory of God. It is a sort of language by which God communicates with people that he exists and that he is glorious. We ought to be moved to worship, seeing God's goodness, grace, power and creativity in the things around us. Nothing is ordinary in God's world.

The next time you take a walk in the forest and smell the dead leaves, sink your teeth into a delectable cheeseburger, stare out the window at the sparkling snow, play with your dog, or listen to the gentle chirping of crickets in a summer night – stand in awesome wonder and let your soul sing, "How great thou art!".

Blessings and peace!



# **Sunday Sermons and Events**

July 2

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Celebration of The Lord's Supper Guest Preacher – Rev. Julie Riley



July 9 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Guest Preacher - Traci Truly

July 16 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Guest Preacher - Rev. Dr. Richard W. Selby

July 23 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Guest Preacher - Rev. Dr. Richard W. Selby

July 30 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Guest Preacher - Rev. Dr. Richard W. Selby

## **God Bless You on Your Birthday**

July 12

Lacey Zuretti Willetta Jones

July 18 Linda Youmans

**Allison Curry** 

July 15

July 19

BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

July 31 **Trevor Crawley** 

# SANDWICH SUNDAY - July 30th



July has five Sundays! That means St. Mark once again has the opportunity to serve the clients of Austin Street Center.

Sharing the bounty that our Lord has provided us with those who are less fortunate is one of the ways we give thanks for our many blessings. The Church provides the chips and fruit, and we ask the congregation to provide sandwiches, snack cakes or cookies. Signup sheets are in the narthex.

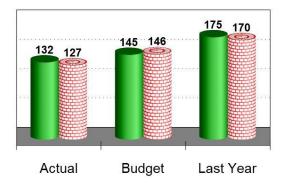
Thank you for your continued dedication and support to St. Mark's Mission!

Mission and Membership Committee

# **Treasurer's Report**

### 11 MONTHS THROUGH 5-31-2022

THOUSANDS OF \$



### **OPERATING FUND**

■+INCOME ■-EXPENSE

Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are \$11,000 below budget, and \$22,000 below last year. YTD expenses are \$26,000 below budget, and \$18,000 below last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$9,000 cash positive YTD which is \$15,000 better than budget and \$4,000 better than last year.

# **Church Pantry**



The church pantry supply needs a good quantity of:

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

### MAY 28, 2023 BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS



The May 28th Carter BloodCare drive was successful! We had 17 people attempt to donate, with

14 whole blood donations and 1 double red donation. Several members of the community were among those who donated. Thank you all!

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# St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

9:15a Surday 10:30a Worsi 11:30a Annu Congregation	9:15a Surday 10:30a Worsi	9:15a Surday 10:30a Worsl 12:00p Missio Membership 0	9:15a Sunday 10:30a Worst Communion 11:30a Cong Meeting	9:158 Surday 10:30a Worsl 12:00p 70th / Luncheon	Su	
	8	8			ınday	
24	630p Session Meeding	6.00p Admin & Personnel Corn Mg	ω		Monday	
25	18	6:00p Stewardship & Finance Corn Mig 6:00p Christian Educ Corn Mig	Independence Day - Church Office Closed	27	Tuesday	
7:00p Choir Refreersal	7:00p Choir Refreensal	7,00p Choir Rethearsal	7,00p Choir Rethearsal	7:00p Choir Refriearsal	Wednesday	טעוץ בטבט
6:00p Zoom Yogas <b>27</b>	6:00p Zoom Yoga	13 6:00p Zoom Yoga	6:00p Zoom Yoga		Thursday	
	21	14	7		Friday	
			8:00a Property Com Mtg 9:00a Mirri Workday	_	Saturday	
	25 750op Choir Rethearsal	16 17 18 7.00p Choir Refresersal 19 6:00p Zoom Yoga 20 21 23 24 25 7.00p Choir Refresersal 26 6:00p Zoom Yoga 27 28	10   10   10   11   12   13   14   14   15   15   15   15   15   15	2   3	25   26   27   28   29   30   30   30   30   30   30   30   3	Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday respectively Services 25 control 25 control 26 control 27 ratio Croid Releases 28 cotto Friday Saturday respectively Services and American Se



Well, the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is behind us. It was a lot of fun to see old friends and look at old pictures. It was inspiring to sing songs and hear music that has been important to St. Mark through the years. It was great to hear old stories and to be reminded of all the congregation has done. A lot of people put in a lot of time to make the celebration happen and I am so thankful for their work. It was a privilege to be a part of the day.

It was great to look back and remember. That's a key part of the Christian story. But the Christian faith also always looks forward at the same time. We don't live in the past, but we seek to build on it.

So, as I was thinking think about St. Mark's call to "know Jesus and to make Him known," I had a few more "I wonders" come to mind.

- I wonder what opportunities those of us connected with St. Mark will have to grow in our knowledge and relationship with Jesus in the coming days?
- I wonder who we might encounter in coming day who may be hungering to know Jesus?
- I wonder what we might be able to do (with God's help) to help ease that hunger?

So, what do you think?



The Session calls the congregation to meet Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, immediately following worship to elect three members of the congregation to serve on the Nominating Committee and receive Annual Reports from each committee.



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

